

GOOD NEWS BRIEF

A Weekly Publication of Christ Episcopal Church

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday, March 8, 2020

8:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM Life Abundant Bible Study
10:00 AM Rite II Holy Eucharist
11:30 AM Coffee Hour
12:00 PM Street Chaplaincy

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

10:30 AM Rector's Aid
6:00 PM Life Abundant Bible Study

Thursday, March 12, 2020

7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 13, 2020

8:30 PM Compline

Sunday, March 15, 2020

8:00 AM Rite I Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM Life Abundant Bible Study
10:00 AM Holy Eucharist
11:30 AM Coffee Hour
12:00 PM Street Chaplaincy

Pick up a copy of a Lenten devotional calendar made by our very own Melissa Morrell! There are copies in the Undercroft on the piano.

Best Practices in a Viral Outbreak

The staff and Vestry at Christ Church are committed to keeping our beloved community as safe as possible.

- **1. If you have any cold or flu symptoms, please stay home.** This is the best way to make sure that you recuperate quickly and do not expose others to illness.
- **2. Our shared Eucharist will be restricted to bread.** While there is much scientific evidence to support claims that the shared cup is not an infection risk, our Bishop is asking us to suspend the common cup for the time being. The full benefit of the sacrament is available through the bread, and so that is how we will share it. We will still bless a small amount of wine, but it will be consumed by only the presider.
- **3. The clergy will be meticulous about hand washing and sanitizing before passing out the bread.** We will also do our best to not touch our hands to yours when we give you the bread.
- **4. We will ask you to refrain from touching other people at the Peace.** This is a big ask for a lot of us, but let's have fun with it. Try a solemn bow, a real smile, an air-high-five. Consider this part of our Lenten discipline, refraining from a joyful practice in order to experience it more fully at a later time.
- **5. We will continue to have hand sanitizer available.** If you have your own pocket version, bring it to use as well. As you may be aware, supplies are limited. We will also be extra vigilant about wiping down surfaces and sanitizing common areas.
- **6. Small groups - talk this through as well.** We will still hold our Abundant Life Bible studies on Wednesday evenings.
- **7. The baptismal font will be drained and lidded.**
- **8. We will not pass the plate at the offertory.** Please place your offering in the plate at the back of the church.



Do you want to add an event to the church calendar or submit an announcement to the newsletter? Email the church office at office@christchurchseattle.org. To make the week's newsletter please have all submissions emailed by 10am Thursday morning. Entries are subject to editing for length and clarity.

Abundant Life-Building Joyful Community Gatherings

We are looking forward to many of us participating in the Gatherings that are scheduled between March 11th and April 4th.

If you haven't selected a date and location for the meeting you will plan to attend please check the updated sign-up sheets before or after the 8 and 10 a.m. services or during coffee hour this Sunday.

If we haven't reached you by phone and if you cannot be in church this week please contact Gail Willis (206) 619-6779 / don-gail@comcast.net or Gail Shurgot 206-522-8265. We can answer questions you may have. Eight of the gatherings will be in individual homes where about ten participants can comfortably gather; two will be hosted at Christ Church which can accommodate many more comfortably. Hosts will offer light refreshments and there will be a Facilitator at each event with handouts and displays that will help us understand the process we are entering into. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with church friends, make new friends and enjoy light refreshment while learning about our dreams and hopes for making Christ Church God's home to all.

Women's Revival Potluck, SATURDAY March 14, 6pm Join the Fun!

This year we are experimenting with moving the Women's Revival Potluck to Saturday evenings and with an earlier start time. We hope to allow more people to attend with this schedule, and to avoid weekday traffic hassles.

Please join us at the next Women's Revival Potluck hosted by Ellen Ewald on Saturday, March 14 at 6pm. Location: 7508 43rd Ave NE, Seattle; Phone: (206) 297-8165.

The Women's Revival Potluck is a bi-monthly fellowship activity (second Saturday evening of odd months) open to all women of Christ Church and provides an opportunity to "revive" ourselves over good food and conversation. Please plan to bring yourself, something to share for the potluck, and a friend if you'd like.

Nearby street parking should be available. Maps and driving directions will be available at the back of the church on Sunday. If you would like a ride (or are available to give a ride to others), please contact Kathy Chamberlain at (206) 595-1226 or klc@u.washington.edu.

Life Abundant - Building Joyful Community Bible Studies are starting soon. Bible studies will be held on Sundays at 9 AM and Wednesdays at 6 PM of Lent and there will be an All Church Bible Study on Palm Sunday April 5th after the 10 o'clock service. Lessons will be the same on Sundays and Wednesdays. If you have any questions contact Ellen Ewald at ewaldce@yahoo.com or 206 450-2594.

Barbara and Nick Alfeo are about to welcome their third child! Let's bless them with meals, especially helpful after Nick returns to work in mid-April. The link to the Mealtrain signup: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/d3ld56> Contact Betsy Voelker (betsy@eelfang.com) if you have any questions

Elizabeth Gregory House Current Needs

Elizabeth Gregory House is in need of the following items:

- Body wash
 - Unopened panties (sizes 7-10)
 - Backpacks and/or small rolling suitcases
 - Brown or white sugar, powdered Coffee-Mate creamer
 - Dish and laundry washer pods
 - Feminine hygiene products
 - Pads or depends. (size L)
 - African American hair care products
 - Sweat shirts and sweat pants (sizes L-XXXL)
 - Blankets
 - Bras (all sizes)
 - Raincoats and rain ponchos
- There is still a green bin in the Undercroft for these donations as always.

Want to know what to read next? Over a dozen new titles have been added to our church library! Come browse them, as well as a selection of great Lenten reads, in the library in between the chapel and Wilson Hall kitchen. Also watch for news on an upcoming book sale. Contact Betsy Voelker or Sean Hudspeth for more information!

LETTER FROM THE RECTOR

Hi friends,

This has been a busy week! We have spent a lot of time managing the hourly updates about corona virus, and hopefully you saw the separate update about that as well. Sunday I was at all three services. Monday I took a half day off and had some family time, but also managed some phone calls and e-mails. Tuesday was a full day of meetings, including ones about pastoral care needs, building committee and architects, land use lawyers, and finally the first wardens meeting with our new Vestry. Wednesday was Campus Ministry all day and interacting with the diocesan response to COVID-19. Thursday will be sermon preparation from home. As of today, I have issued blanket permission for Christ Church staff to work from home during this time of outbreak.

If you weren't in church last Sunday, and are not on Facebook, you may have missed the announcement that Aaron and I are divorcing. Below is the statement that I read, with some modifications:

I am up here today to tell you that my marriage is ending. Aaron and I are getting divorced. We love each other a lot. We are best friends. This is a joint decision and fully amicable even though it's still really, really sad.

It's been a slow decision: we haven't rushed ourselves to this point, we have discerned carefully and over a long time. It turns out we agree: the thing we've spent twelve years building together has turned out to be a powerful and deep friendship instead of a romantic marriage, like we thought it would be when we first started out. We tried really hard to make that work. We did all the things you're supposed to do. We went to multiple counselors together, and several more as individuals. Neither of us bailed-- including through some very, very hard times. We both gave this thing our best shot. And we know we are uniquely lucky, in a way, to have reached this decision mutually and at the same time.

Moses is our shared top priority and always will be. We don't know precisely what our next steps are for rearranging our home life, because right now we have the added responsibility of helping my dad transition to living someplace where he can be better cared for and his needs can be better met. Eventually we will need to move. We are not in a rush, as we are still happily co-parenting and will travel together as a family during my sabbatical.

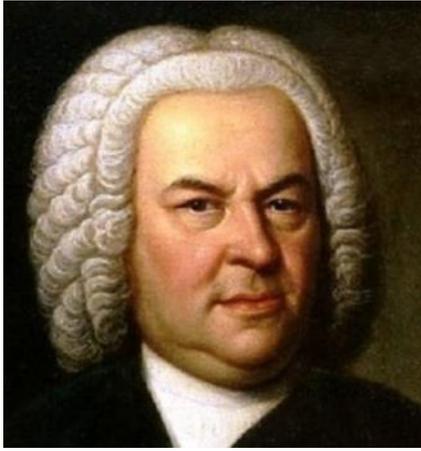
We wanted to break the news to you all first, before we go public with it later today, because this parish is a huge part of our family's life. You are the ones who kept us fed after Moses was born, who got arrested and went to jail with us with the Poor People's Campaign, who continue to support (and feed!) us as we navigate caretaking my dad. You are our family in Christ and we take family very seriously.

I am not leaving Christ Church. I am not done being your rector. Coming through the hardest parts of this decision, I questioned that. Having reached the other side of it, I feel very clear that God is not finished with me here, nor is God finished with the work we as a parish have left to do together. You will still see Aaron and Moses around, too-- maybe not quite as often, but this place continues to be a critical part of our whole family's community, and all three of us love you and love being with you.

I will end by tell you that after wrestling with this decision over several months, my decision was to delay telling you until after the capital campaign, because I believe in what we're doing together so much that I didn't want to risk 100 years of access to this space for all bodies just because I couldn't keep my mouth shut and my pain inside for a few short months. After talking about it with the bishop, and with Aaron, and praying through it, it seemed clear - and terrifying - that the thing to do is to tell the truth. That whatever happens in our common life happens in the middle of great joy and also great sadness. That we persevere together and life and death will keep happening. And it is critical to me as your rector to not keep secrets, in a congregation that has been hurt by so many secrets kept by priests and other leaders. I want us to find another way to be together. To be in pain and joy, to tell each other the truth when we are hurting and when we are rejoicing, to work together through everything life will throw at us.

We don't know what's coming. But we move toward love, and we move toward joy, and we move toward each other. I love you so much. I love my family so much. Like everything, we are in it together.

Peace,
Shelly+



BACH'S LUNCH

FREE Noontime Concerts at Christ Church

First Tuesday of the Month, October-May

12:10pm-12:50pm

Join Christ Church in celebrating the third season of this intimate concert series! Bring your lunch and enjoy great performances in the peaceful beauty of our sanctuary.

Tuesday, April 7 - THE GIRL FROM IPANEMA

Journey into the world of *modinhas* - 18th century art songs by Black composers from Rio de Janeiro

Natalie Ingrisano, *soprano* | Henry Lebedinsky, *fortepiano*

2020-2021 Vestry

Lou Cabeen

Mary Herdell, *Senior Warden*

Danielle Hope, *Junior Warden*

Gene Leonardson

Wes Ono

Ellen Perleberg

Eric Vegors

Todd Voelker

Kathleen Ward

Officers and non-voting members

Kathryn Chamberlain, *Treasurer*

Frank Van Dusen, *Chancellor*

The Rev. Shelly Fayette, *Rector*

Service Times at Christ Church

Sundays in the Sanctuary

8:00am Rite I, *no music*

10:00am Rite II, *organ and choir*

Fridays in the Sanctuary

8:30pm Compline, *a sung nighttime liturgy*

Second Sundays of the month in the Chapel

1:00pm Sensory Eucharist, *a non-judgmental safe space for children of all types and abilities*

Second Tuesdays of the month in the Chapel

12:00pm Eucharist, *an intimate weekday liturgy*

Christ Church Staff

The Rev. Shelly Fayette, *Rector*

rector@christchurchseattle.org

The Rev. Carla Robinson, *Associate Priest*

revcarla@christchurchseattle.org

The Rev. Chris McPeak, *Curate*

curate@christchurchseattle.org

Henry Lebedinsky, *Organist and Choirmaster*

music@christchurchseattle.org

Cara Peterson, *Parish Administrator*

office@christchurchseattle.org

Heidi Hansen, *Children and Youth Director*

kids@christchurchseattle.org

Our office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9am to 5pm.

For pastoral care, please contact a member of the clergy.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4548 Brooklyn Ave NE | Seattle, WA 98105 | (206) 633-1611

www.christchurchseattle.org