Recently I was trying to explain to a group of young adults why going to church is so important. In my earnestness, I extolled the benefits of church and religion. I told them the church is the place where a person can find meaning and hope. It is the place where we can learn about God's love of all people regardless of where they come from or what they have done or not done. It is the place where people can learn how to treat other people; with care, compassion, and respect for human dignity. But for every reason I gave, these thoughtful young adults gave a compelling counter-argument. They reminded me of the church's historical religious oppression; robbing people of meaning and hope. They argued that even in modern-day churches, people often feel judged and unwelcomed if they are different. Finally, they explained, that although church members articulately spoke and prayed about love, these
same people often dropped the ball. Pointing to the divisions and anger currently facing our society, they said that Christians, conservative or liberal, have trouble even being civil with one another, let alone loving.

Honestly, on many of their points, I had to agree. The church has not lived up to God's hope for us. It is because of us, the people who make up the church. We are broken and frail, prone to errors and arrogance. We have a knack to be judgmental and prejudicial. But if we hold a mirror modeled after the teachings of Jesus to ourselves, we become painfully aware that we are a community of sinners. There is a gift in this awareness. We can discern our failings and strive to be better followers of Christ. The gift of the church is that we don't have to do this alone. God's Spirit empowers us and encourages us to help each other in love.

One of my favorite songs about the aspirations for the church isn't in the hymnal, but its hopeful message is still meaningful. "Where Everybody Knows Your Name" is the theme song from the 80's TV series "Cheers."

Making your way in the world today
Takes everything you got
Taking a break from all your worries
It sure would help a lot
Wouldn't you like to get away?

Sometimes you want to go
Where everybody knows your name
And they're always glad you came
You want to be where
you can see the troubles
are all the same

You want to be where
everybody knows your name
You want to go where
two people know that people
are all the same
You want to go where
everybody knows your name

Although the song is about a community found in a Boston bar, it also describes the beauty of the experience. For me, a wonderful church community is one where everyone knows your name, and we're always glad you came. It is a place where people welcome each other, even the stranger as if they had always belonged. It is a spiritual home that gives people a pause from the worries of life to see God's perspective and have hope. It is in here that you are encouraged to be who you are and
know that you are loved. These experiences of hope and encouragement help make coming to church so important!

This coming September 8th is Homecoming Sunday. At the 10 am service, we welcome everyone home after the Summer break. This Sunday marks the beginning of our standard patterns of Sunday worship and education. At this service, we will commission our Sunday school teachers and register children for Sunday School (which opens the following week). We will also announce some new Sunday adult forum classes (education for adults). After the service, we will have a "Homecoming Fair" filled with music, food, fellowship, and fun on the church front lawn.

This year for Homecoming, we celebrate the ministry of the Choir. Our church for the past month has been hard at work inviting members and former members of the Choir to "come home" to be recognized for their contribution of music to our church community and the world. Our Choir Director George Kent intends to give silver Royal School of Church Music medals of recognition to members of the Choir past and present at the 10AM service. For many, the Choir has been and continues to be a place where God is experienced. Choir members nurture each other with love and acceptance while learning to sing! Like the church as a whole, it is a place "everyone knows your name and always glad you came."

Here is our Homecoming schedule. Please do join us!

6 pm: Saturday Homecoming Dinner and Compline
10 am: Sunday Morning Homecoming Service
with a celebration of the Ministry of Choir members

11:15 am: Homecoming Fair at the church including food trucks, face painting, music, games, Sunday School registration a "bouncy house," and of course, joyful fellowship!

Your priest,
Sunil Chandy+
NEWS FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

In June, we celebrated our 95th birthday with our Annual Picnic at the home of Linda and David Nolf. As always, Linda and David were wonderful hosts and a great time was had by all.

Although we did not formally meet over the summer, the Altar Guild has been very busy with our weekly duties as well as weddings, funerals/memorials and baptisms. We also hosted *Lemonade Under the Tree* on August 4th.

We are very pleased to announce that the CO, Smoke and Gas detectors have finally been installed. Four Smoke/CO units were installed in the undercroft hallways (classroom side) and the hallways in the lower Parish Hall. The two gas units were installed in the undercroft boiler room and the Parish Hall Kitchen. **MANY THANKS** to everybody for their purchases of the roses for Mothering Sunday in 2018 and 2019 which partially funded the purchase and installation. We are **very grateful** to several of our generous parishioners who contributed the rest of the funds needed to complete the project. The detectors are connected to our alarm system. Total cost of the project was $2,380.30.

During the remembrance of the 1938 hurricane victims from Christ Church on September 22nd, we will be using the refurbished chalice which was first dedicated in September of 1938 and was given by the Girls’ Friendly Society of the Parish in memory of Mrs. Andrew Pascoe. We will also be using the chalice gifted to us last year by
Father Jack Barrett. Father Jack provided us with the history of this chalice which was found in Weekapaug after the hurricane. Fr. Jack had it refurbished and gifted it to us.

Several people have asked us to include more information in our articles about the work of the Altar Guild. This month, we will focus on the Credence Table and how we set up for Holy Communion.
Over the years the setup has changed. However, the illustrations show the basic requirements. At Christ Church, we place the corporal in what is known as the burse and place it on top of the veil. We only use the Flagon at Easter and Christmas when we will need more wine than usual. The top right corner illustration in the second picture represents how we place the items in the Tobin Chapel for the 8AM service. The illustration on the left is placed on the Tobin Chapel Altar. For the 5 PM we put everything on the Credence Table. For the 10AM service, we place the break box (ciborium- another name for it) and one cruet of wine in the back of the church to be processed. The rest is placed on the Credence Table. We would welcome you to take a look at these set ups.

We look forward to resuming our regular meeting schedule which is usually the second Wednesday of each month at 12 noon in the Parish Hall. Our September meeting however, will be held on the first Wednesday.

As we resume our fall schedule, we hope that you might consider becoming a part of this vital ministry and becoming a member of the Altar Guild. It is a fulfilling experience and our group would be happy to have you join us. We are especially looking for members who attend the 5PM or the 8 AM services. Please contact a member of the clergy or Cheryl Leong or Natalie Pukas.
The first words I expect to hear when I pass through the gates of heaven are, “Welcome home!” After all, home is where the heart is, and love is of God. “Homecoming” at Christ Church is a joyous opportunity to celebrate and reflect. We do a fair amount of that around here, especially after a year of extraordinary work building the kingdom of God in and around our community.

This year we celebrate 125 years of our historic building with a new roof and some modern conveniences. Homecoming 2019 also celebrates and re-unite generations of choir members who have been the fabric of our history of musical excellence at Christ Church.

We also celebrate the 350th anniversary of the founding of the Town of Westerly with a memento of our historic church to be buried in a time capsule in September, and unearthed fifty years from now on the 400th anniversary. I suppose a hymnal and the BCP would take up to much room, and I wonder if they will even still exist in some recognizable form in the year 2069.

There are still many challenges and changes ahead of us. In this post-modern age, satellites beam the Word of God around the planet at warp speed. But it is the power of the Holy Spirit that breaks through hostility, converts hearts and souls, and inspires witness.

Fifty, and a hundred years from now people will proclaim the Gospel in ways that will reach deeper and wider into the universe. The message will be the same, and the Holy Spirit will be there on the cutting edge, giving glory to God with the “next new thing.” May it bring us a clearer vision of the needs of others, and more innovative ways of fulfilling them.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “Plans to prosper you, and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jer. 29:11)

Faithfully,
Anne
Rupert Baptism
Desaulniers Baptism
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Capital Campaign Update

I am pleased to say that the roof project is on schedule with no unexpected issues. We should have the Elm Street side done within two weeks, and you should see new copper on the roof within a week. As we move into the parking lot side, we have asked Eagle to be especially sensitive to several areas.

- The beginning of Sunday School.
- Congregation safety: a path has been designated for the congregation to go from the parking lot to the church entrance.
- The church Boiler Room: we are in the final stage of having our new boiler running on gas for church heating this winter.
- It has been necessary for safety purposes to extend a small length of scaffolding into the Memorial Garden. The intrusion is minimal and only impacts the surface. Provisions have been made to minimize passage of workers or materials through the garden space.

We hope to have the Church lighting and sound repaired and back to normal operation. Evering Electric will put a team on this very complicated repair job in the next week.

Doug Lawrence
Chair, Property Committee.
Homecoming Sunday Celebrates the Christ Church Choir

Join us with glimpses of Christ Church Choir's past and present as we recognize the choir's contribution to its church family, its community, and to the world!
~ First Row Left to Right ~

~ Second Row Left to Right ~
Walter Krebs, Jessie Ahern, Fanny Sutcliffe, Pauline Stahe, Margaret Palmer, Robert Blake, Ethel Turner, Dorothy Krebs, Florence Jennings.

~ Third Row Left to Right ~
Eleanor Gill, Pamela McKenzie, Louise Carr, Gladys Holdsworth, Florence Larkin, Jessie Davidson, Isabel McKinzie.

~ Top Row Left to Right ~
Joseph Cousins, Frank Robertson, David Lowry, Mildred HigginBotham, Mollie Thavenet, Genevieve McKinzie, Richard Gill, Earnest Young, Royal Ellis, Andrew Menik, Rev. F.J. Cleveland, John Oppy, William Weeden, Harry Gill, Earl Saunders.

~ Crucifer - Clayton Dixon ~
March 2, 1956 - Florence Larkin retired as organist; 20 year old George Kent was appointed to take her place. He took his trebles to Camp Wind-in-the-Pines and soon added a girls' choir. Starting in 1965, the choirs went to Camp Ogontz, a tradition which continues to this day.

July 14, 1958 – The Rev. James E. Annand accepted the call to become rector of Christ Church.

Fall of 1959 – George Kent forms the Christ Church Concert Choir, which became the Community Chorus. Members of the church choir formed the nucleus of the group, which performed major choral works. The children of the choir sang alongside the adults, another tradition which still continues.

1961 – At the annual meeting, Fr. Annand was authorized to appoint a study committee to investigate the replacement of the Welte organ, which was in poor condition.

1962 – The $74,000 mortgage for the parish house is burned (in the parish house fireplace!).

1964 – With the help of Mrs. Helen Joy Lee, the church purchased Treasure Hill in Watch Hill for $61,000. It was sold in 1968.

1965 – The new organ, Fisk Opus 45, is dedicated on June 13 by George Faxon of Trinity Church, Boston.
~ Timeline Continued ~

1965 – The Colonial Building (formerly the Broad Street Christian Church) was purchased for $31,000. It was used for the curate’s quarters and for many community as well as parish activities.

1967 – The Christ Church Music Series began. This work has been carried on since 1991 by the Arts Commission.

1967 – The sanctuary of the church was remodeled extensively, with the altar made free-standing, a slate floor installed, and the walls of the church repainted. Construction of a slype between the church and the parish house was begun.

1996 – George Kent receives an Honorary Doctorate from General Seminary.

1999 – George Kent receives a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Alfred Nash Patterson Foundation.

2000 – George Kent receives the History Maker Award from the Rhode Island Historical Society.

2006 – George Kent receives the National Pell Award for Distinguished Achievement in the Arts.

October 23, 2016 – George Kent is honored for his 60 years as organist and choirmaster at Christ Church.

September 8, 2018 – George Kent travels to Salisbury Cathedral in England to receive a Certificate of Special Service, one of several Honorary Awards conferred by the Royal School of Church Music Council on those who have made outstanding contributions to church music.
BRIEF BIOGRAPHY OF GEORGE KENT AND THE CHORUS OF WESTERLY

George Kent has consistently devoted his life to raising the artistic standards not only of his home community – Westerly – but also of Rhode Island (and New England) as a whole. The Chorus of Westerly, which he founded in 1959, is now widely known as a Rhode Island performing organization of reliable artistic excellence. George Kent has always believed in the ability of young children to learn the great choral scores of music literature and since 1959 he has been teaching to youngsters age eight and over such works as the Bach *B minor Mass*, Handel’s *Messiah*, Benjamin Britten’s *Spring Symphony*, and Brahms’ incomparable *Requiem*. Generations of children have, with George Kent’s training, developed a lasting love of music.

Since 1959 he has built the Chorus to over 200 voices, spanning the ages of eight to eighty-eight, has toured with the Chorus twice in Britain (1981 and 1995) and once in Italy (1987) and has performed in Providence and in Westerly. He has taught music at Rhode Island colleges and universities for over forty years. He served as Assistant Music Director and, in 1986, as Acting Music Director of the Rhode Island Philharmonic and during that tenure performed the orchestra’s Young Person’s Concerts as well as the regular scheduled classical and Pops concerts. In September, 1988, he was awarded one of Rhode Island’s coveted Governor’s Arts Awards. In 1995 the Chorus of Westerly earned the A&BC’s Jabez Gorham Award for excellence in the arts. He has also received the Award for Excellence in Music from the South County Center for the Arts (1998), the Lifetime Achievement Award from Choral Arts, New England (1999) and the History Maker’s Salute Award from the R.I. Historical Society (2001). More recently, Mr. Kent received the Arts & Business Council of Rhode Island’s Award for Individual Achievement (2004) and was named a distinguished alumni by New England Conservatory (2003). In May 2006, Mr. Kent received the prestigious Pell Award. The Pell Awards honor Senator Claiborne Pell and recognize artistic excellence both in Rhode Island and nationally.

continued on Page 19
With the Chorus of Westerly George Kent has, since 1982, performed nine first United States performances of major 20th Century British works for chorus and orchestra. On three occasions the Chorus brought the composers of those works (in 1984, William Mathias, *Lux Aeterna*, and in 1990 Paul Patterson, *Mass of the Sea* and again in 2001, his *Millennium Mass*) to lecture on their music both in Westerly and at Brown University and the University of Rhode Island.

George Kent has also brought to Rhode Island Britain’s most famous choral conductor Sir David Willcocks and has collaborated with him each summer since 1990 on an annual Choral Symposium held each July at the music camp facility, Camp Ogontz in Lyman, New Hampshire, owned by George Kent and his wife, Lynn. This summer program also includes a second Choral Symposium week with Richard Marlow and the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, England. Many Rhode Islanders attend these popular symposia and George Kent also directs at Ogontz an annual week-long August music camp for his own chorus children (who now number over eighty) to commence work on the program for the year to come.

George Kent has been Organist/Choirmaster at Christ Church, Westerly, since 1956 and, in May 1996, was awarded an honorary doctorate from New York’s General Theological Seminary for his outstanding contribution to church music in America.

The Chorus of Westerly’s historic performance hall (the former Immaculate Conception Church) at 119 High Street in Westerly, is an acoustically superb hall that has been carefully restored. Following its recent addition and renovation, the hall was rededicated as the George Kent Performance Hall in the Music Director’s honor. Westerly is becoming known in Rhode Island as an “arts community” and, thanks to George Kent’s vision, it now has one of Rhode Island’s finest performance halls as well. George Kent personally identified this home for the Chorus and has closely advised in its restoration.

Through its tours, year-round concert schedule and educational programs, the Chorus of Westerly continues to serve as a music teacher for its children, a creative family for its adults, and a cultural gem for the southern New England region.
Camp Ogontz 2019
A message from
Kristy Livingston...

Now that VBS 2019 has drawn to a successful close and this lioness has had a chance to regroup and reflect, I am in awe of the tremendous week we had! By far the largest group of campers and volunteers in my tenure as VBS director, with 100 altogether signed up to celebrate God's goodness, it was a week of music, drama, Bible stories, sports, experiments, crafts and safari snacks! We all learned the important life lessons that no matter what life throws our way, God is good! I am so thankful for the outpouring of support from our Parish family with donations towards this exciting week! We could not have provided the experience for these children without your generosity. We still have a few CDs available for purchase! :-)

"Holy Cross Day"

1. On the church calendar, September 14th is Holy Cross Day. What are its origins?

2. Also on the calendar is the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels on September 29th. What are its origins?

3. A follow-up to the stained glass window questions in the last Cornerstone...

Answers on page 16
# SEPTEMBER 2019

For more detail please navigate to: [https://www.christchurchwesterly.org/eventscalendar/](https://www.christchurchwesterly.org/eventscalendar/)

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<td>10/10th Balancing</td>
<td>Team Living Workshop 10am-1pm</td>
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For more event details, please visit the website provided.
MEALS TO HEAL
A good home-cooked meal can heal the soul as well as nourish the body. If you or a loved one has recently come home from the hospital, had a death of a loved one, experienced a trauma, just delivered a baby, etc., call us and one of our committee members will bring you a fully cooked dinner! We are looking for more cooks, as well. Contact the office at 401-596-0197.

PRAYER LIST
Please help us keep our prayer list current! Please take a look and send any updates to the secretary.christchurch@verizon.net. Please also contact us if you would like to be placed on the Thanksgiving List of Healing. Thank you, The Pastoral Care Commission.

TRIVIA ANSWERS
(from previous page)

1. Also known as The Exaltation of the Cross, this observation dates back to the 7th century, to commemorate the exposition of the supposed True Cross relic at Jerusalem in 629 by the Emperor Heraclius, after his recovery of it from the Persians, who had possessed it since 614. Even though some say that this event actually occurred in the spring, Sept 14th became the date that it has been observed on over the course of time.

2. Also on the calendar is the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, on Sept. 29th. The observance of the archangel Michael, who slew the dragon (in the Book of Revelations), dates back to the 5th century, and by the Middle Ages, Michaelmas, as it is also known, had many celebrations associated with it, some involving the harvest, since it is in late Sept.

3. Take a walk around the church and see how many images are depicted—historical figures, angels, events, etc.. Get a copy of the leaflet that Lido Mochetti had written to help you with this. Notice how many images help tell the various stories of the Bible, and appreciate how even the illiterate people of that time could still learn from them, in addition to what the priests preached on. Think about other places you might have seen them as well, to appreciate their value as educational as well as being great art, and how preserving them for future generations is important.
Christ Church Choir Reunion
September 7-8, 2019

Saturday – 6pm Dinner, 7pm A Candlight Compline Service
Sunday – 10am Service

All Choir Alumni from Christ Church are invited! Did you sing in the choir at any point in your life? Then come on over! Do you remember Camp Ogontz? Then this one’s for you!

Saturday night we will have a choir camp style dinner in the parish hall complete with bug juice and cookies and a memory lane slideshow, followed by a Candelit Compline Service in the church.

Sunday, Choir Alumni will be honored by Mr. Kent who will give everyone who ever sang a medal!

So buddy up and come! You are always welcome at Christ Church.

For info and to RSVP, contact Meg Roy (Frost) megroy723@gmail.com
You are invited!
September 8th
HOMECOMING SUNDAY!

10am SERVICE

We invite everybody to come and we hope you will be a part of this great event!

The Rev. Sunil Chandy, Rector
The Rt. Rev. David B. Joslin, Bishop-in-Residence

Christ Church
7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI 02891
(401) 596-0197 • Fax: (401) 596-6529
Email: christ-church@verizon.net
ChristChurchWesterly.org

PARTY ON THE LAWN
SUNDAY SCHOOL, YOUTH GROUP AND ACOLYTE REGISTRATION

BOUNCY HOUSE!
FOOD TRUCK!
MUSIC!
DEL'S LEMONADE TRUCK!
FOLLOWING 10AM SERVICE
TRIVIA NIGHT!

WHAT: Join the Christ Church's 20s/30s group for trivia
WHERE: Brazen Hen (4 Canal St, Westerly)
WHEN: September 26 at 7:15 (trivia starts at 7:30)
WHY: Meet new people and have fun!

Contact: jsmith.ridar@gmail.com or 401-569-0197
On Sunday, September 29th after the 10am service, our church will celebrate the retirement of a dedicated staff member, Barbara Whitford. That day will make the 30th anniversary of Barbara's date of hire at Christ Church.

For those who worked alongside Barbara on staff, in the choir, or in any other ministry at Christ Church understand her as an inspiring woman of faith. Her quiet confidence, gentle spirit and compassionate heart has left an indelible mark on us.

Please join us as we celebrate Barbara!
Join us, September 29th, after church for the dedication and replanting of our *Peace Pole*, outside the Elm Street entrance to the Parish Hall. This *Peace Pole* is part of a grassroots movement to spread the universal message, “May Peace Prevail on Earth”, by planting *Peace Poles* around the world.

The Sunday School children will be singing a special song for your entertainment!

Thank you to the Social Justice Group for sponsoring this project.
Parish Family Fun Day
Sunday, October 6
Following Sunday School 12:00
Caravan with your Christ Church Family!!

Clark Farms
2984 Commodore Perry Hwy
Matunuck, RI 02879
Pack a lunch to eat there, or buy food at the farm!
Admission is $12.50
(Animal feed and people snacks extra $)
**Chaplains:** The Reverend Sunil Chandy and The Reverend Della Wager Wells

**When:** November 2, 2020 - November 16, 2020. Although a group of us will be leaving from Christ Church Westerly on October 31st to fly out of JFK Airport.

**Where:** Room and Boarding will be at St. George’s Seminary, an Anglican Seminary in Jerusalem.

**Cost:** About $3450/person plus $1200/person for travel. A $500 deposit will be due by Sunday, September 15, 2019.

**Description:** Our Pilgrimage lasts for 14 days and combines biblical and historical studies with pilgrimage to selected sites connected with Jesus’ life, ministry, death, and resurrection. It will focus on the historical context and culture in which Jesus exercised his earthly ministry. The trip will integrate contextual biblical study with theological and spiritual reflection, encountering the roots and traditions of Christian faiths East and West. We will also explore some of the contemporary issues in Israel and Palestine. Classroom mini-lectures prepare course participants for site visits.
Service Hours

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist spoken service

Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Choral Eucharist w/Children's Chapel
and Nursery Care

Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Contemporary Eucharist with Incense

Wednesday 7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 10:45 a.m.
Bible Study

COME JOIN US!

Christ Episcopal Church

CLERGY

The Rev. Sunil Chandy, Christ Church Rector
The Rt. Rev. David Joslin, Rector Emeritus;
Bishop in Residence
The Rev. Sandra Haines-Murdocco, Priest
Associate
The Rev. Erik Larsen, Priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Anne Burke, Deacon

STAFF

George Kent, Organist & Choirmaster
Jacquelyn Smith, Parish Administrator;
Wedding Coordinator
Dorothy Adams, Office Assistant
Barbara Whitford, Financial Administrator
Kristy Livingston, Director of Christian
Formation
Phillip Kurk, Sexton

Madeline Therrien and Sarah Poole, Childcare
Coordinators

VESTRY

Betsey Rice, Senior Warden
Caswell Cooke, Jr., Junior Warden
Sarah Starkweather, Clerk
Stephanie Blanchette, Treasurer

Fred Allardyce
Connie Annand
Barbara Capalbo
Mike Evering
Katherine Hoxsie
Lisa Kitchen

Paul Kuhn
Doug Lawrence
Emily Mugge
Natalie Pukas
Thomas Quaratella
Richard Roy

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