RECTOR'S MESSAGE

The Rev. Sunil Chandy

One of my favorite hymns in the Hymnal is The Church's One Foundation written by Samuel Stone in the 1860s. I always find that in hearing this Hymn sung in a church service with a full church and led by a choir, my spirit is lifted. I first listened to this Hymn, not in English, but in Malayalam, the language-specific to Kerala India, where I was born. I heard it as a young toddler in worship in church — the musical setting Aurelia, composed by Samuel Sebastian Wesley, being an instantly recognizable one. In my formative years, this Hymn both in Malayalam and in English reminded me that the church, with its faith in Jesus, would be sustained through challenges both great and small.
And further, it gave me hope that the church would use these challenges to forge an incredible victory for all God's people.

There is a fascinating history of this hymn. Fr. Stone composed the text as an answer to the divisions within the church. These divisions sparked him to draft a set of hymns based on the Apostles' Creed in 1866. He titled it, Lyra Fidelium; Twelve Hymns on the Twelve Articles of the Apostles' Creed. "The Church's One Foundation" is based on the ninth article, The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints. The Hymn describes the church's relationship to its "foundation" Jesus Christ. The church is represented as the collective Christian fellowship of the earth as it united by its savior, the son of God.

When I hear it in our liturgy at Christ Church, I think of our church and its mission to spread the Gospel to the world. A gospel that I have come to realize over these many years can change the life direction of people who engage with it. This hymn also reminds me of the importance of our community to model faith in our divisive and confusing world. Our church, as it nurtures the sacred, becomes a model to the world, bringing peace and unity out of division.

So I was pleased when our Stewardship Committee chose the stewardship theme for this year to be "The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord." The committee led by Marshall Mugge has come up with a creative program which includes stewardship presentations at our church services, beautiful inserts, and short but insightful sermons. All of this will be unveiled in
October, our stewardship month. The Committee and I are excited about the program because it will help us understand the needs of our church, especially as we have been faithful in our witness to God.

This year in stewardship, we will hear about the financial, spiritual, communal, and educational importance of our church's ministry in the life of church members. It will help us to be inspired by the hard work of our staff. It will also help us create a budget for 2020 which will expand our ministry.

We at Christ Church are at an exciting place in our history. We have almost completed a successful Capital Campaign; we are at the moment replacing a slate roof which we anticipate will last for over 125 years. We have experienced significant growth over the past five years, even during our Capital Campaign. The challenges, which we have faced with faith, have to lead us to be at a stronger position than ever. Indeed, the hymn, *The Church's One Foundation* bears truth that our faith in Jesus will always move us to firmer foundations!

Sincerely,

Sunil Chandy
Rector, Christ Church Westerly
NEWS FROM THE ALTAR GUILD

Just a reminder that flowers on the Altar and the Sanctuary Light are appropriate ways to memorialize our faithful dead as well as to offer thanks to almighty God for special blessings. They represent for us the Resurrection of our Lord and provide grace and beauty to his House.

You are invited to place flowers on the Altar or give the Sanctuary candle for weekend services during the year. Flowers that are placed in the church are taken to the sick or shut-ins or those who are celebrating a special event in their lives.

Opportunities are given at Christmas and Easter for everyone to share in memorial decorations for the church through special envelopes available several weeks before the feast.

Cards with envelopes have been placed in the Narthex and outside the office. We ask that if you wish to order, you fill out the card and place it in the envelope along with your check. Flowers or candles may be placed by more than one person or family on any given Sunday. The suggested cost is $30.00. With this in mind, additional donations are left to the discretion of the donor. Checks are to be made out to Christ Church Altar Guild and “Altar Flowers or Sanctuary Light” and the date(s) should be noted in the memo line. The envelope can be placed in the offering plate, dropped off at the office or mailed, two Sundays prior to the date.

During our October meeting, we will be pleased to have Lido Mochetti speak to us about the stained glass in Christ Church. Our meeting will be on October 9th at 12 noon and we would be very happy if you would like
Last month, we told you about the set up for Communion. This month, we will tell you about two special parts of our church, integral to Communion. The first is the **AUMBRY**, which is the cabinet located on the Gospel side of the church under the Sanctuary Light. The Aumbry is used to store the consecrated wine and wafers which may be used for communion and to take to the sick and shut-ins. The Sanctuary Light is continually lit as a symbol that the contents of the Aumbry are consecrated. The only exception to this is on Maundy Thursday when the contents of the Aumbry are removed and brought to the Tobin Chapel. A candle is placed on top of the Altar to designate that the wafers and wine have been consecrated. After these have been consumed at the first service of Good Friday, the candle is extinguished and no candles are lit until the Great Vigil of Easter.

The second cabinet is called the **TABERNACLE** and is actually located inside the top section of the Tobin Chapel Altar. We use the Tabernacle to house the unconsecrated elements that are used during the 8:00AM service. There is no candle burning above them. After the service, any consecrated wine and wafers are placed in the Aumbry.

The Altar Guild is seeking new members and would be very happy to talk about our group and its important ministry and work at Christ Church. Please contact Fr. Sunil, Cheryl Leong or Natalie Pukas if you would like to know more.
The prayer we have come to know as the Serenity Prayer, attributed to American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr, comes to our aid in the present moment, a time when we are faced with much that is unacceptable, and asked to accept it as “the new normal.” In essence it says:

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;  
Courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.  
Living one day at a time;  
Enjoying one moment at a time;  
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;  
Taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;  
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;  
That I may be reasonably happy in this life and supremely happy with Him  
Forever in the next. Amen.

The words to the Serenity Prayer have special meaning for those seeking peace at a time of turmoil, despair, or uncertainty in their lives. This prayer has become closely associated with 12 Step programs, offering strength and calm to those in the throes of disorder and confusion.

The prayer speaks of acceptance, courage, and wisdom. It all comes down to surrender, and asking and allowing God to give us these things. It reminds us to trust that God will work things out, that we don’t have any real control over hardships in this imperfect world, or the actions of others.

Jesus Christ is faithful. We can trust him; living one day at a time, savoring each moment of his presence. We don’t always need to understand the “why” of things that happen, but if we recognize that Christ is truly the only one who can bring us inner peace regardless of chaotic circumstances, we will have serenity. In our times of weakness, we learn to rely on God’s strength.

The challenge is in knowing which things we can and should change, and which we can’t and shouldn’t. The way forward is to connect with the Truth, to seek the kingdom of God and ground ourselves in his love. From whence comes the wisdom to discern, the grace to accept and the courage to make changes.

The first step towards building the kingdom of heaven on earth is to admit our powerlessness and humbly ask God for the tools and guidance we need to make the world a safer and holier place. Then, go and make a difference.

Faithfully,
Anne
Capital Campaign Update

As you read this, we are about a month away from the completion of our roof restoration project: a major effort, of which we should all be proud. It is the culmination of more than a decade of study, planning, fundraising and physical effort on the part of so many of our parishioners and friends. Congratulations!

As the scaffolding comes down on the Elm Street side, the members of the various committees felt it would be fitting to allow each of us to have a personal role in the final stage of this project.

Following the five o'clock service on Saturday, October 12, and the eight and ten o'clock services on October 13, (Columbus Day weekend) we will all have an opportunity to sign the backs of the last slates to be nailed up on the building.

Slates will be left in the parish hall, along with special pens for your use. Sandy Niles has graciously agreed to oversee this effort.

We hope as many of you as possible will take part in this celebration of parish life and work. One-hundred and twenty-five years from now our great-grandchildren will appreciate our efforts!

The Property Committee
Christ Church Choir Reunion
Homecoming Sunday
Sneed Baptism
Barbara Whitford's Retirement Party (with surprise guests!)
Peace Pole
Blessing of the First Responders
A message from Kristy Livingston...

Christian Formation is the lifelong process of growing in our relationship with God, self, others and all creation. Within our Christian Formation at Christ Church, our Sunday School Programs off to an exciting start for 2019-2020! We had a great time at Homecoming Sunday, earlier this month, packed with face painting, bouncy house, crazy balloon animals, food, music, and fellowship fun.

Looking ahead, this fall will be a busy one for all kids and families:

· On October 6 most families enjoy an annual fall outing with pumpkin picking, hayrides, and food. Does yours? Well, this year bring the teeny ones, the toddlers, 5-10 year olds, tweens & teens... bring grandparents and friends. Bring the whole family to Clark Farms. This will become an annual kids and family parish event.

· On October 26th the Men’s Club will join us in preparation and celebration for our annual Halloween Spooktacular.

For our ever charming teens:

· On September 29, ten of our teens will begin preparation for receiving the Rite of Confirmation for the bishop’s visit in June. Evening classes are scheduled for every other week from 6:15 - 7:45. In addition, an overnight stay at St. John’s Cathedral, NYC, and at Christ Church will be scheduled with dates to be announced. Throughout the year, these twice-monthly gatherings will include local Service Projects, Hands-on-Activities and Fellowship Experiences.

· Youth Group- This group includes all high school and middle school kids at Christ Church. Expect to participate in new and some familiar such as zip lining, Ropes Course, bowling, skating and any additional trips we have not yet scheduled.

This year is sure to be filled with fun and fellowship as together, we learn more about our paths following Christ. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or ideas.

Kristy

"Celebrating October Saints"

1. St. Francis of Assisi is observed on October 4th. Describe a few events in his life.

2. St. Teresa of Avila is observed on Oct. 15. Who was she?

Answers on page 16
OCTOBER 2019

For more detail please navigate to: [https://www.christchurchwesterly.org/eventcalendar/](https://www.christchurchwesterly.org/eventcalendar/)
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. He was the son of a rich merchant, and as such enjoyed a good life for one of his station, but this changed by the time he was 20. During a border dispute, he was captured and imprisoned for a while, and after his release, he returned home and then became seriously ill, which caused him to reevaluate his lifestyle, and he decided to devote himself to prayer and service of the poor. By the time he was 30, he had accepted the call to leave all and serve the Lord, and soon after he had a band of followers, and drew up a rule of life, based on the Gospels, which was approved by the Pope during a trip to Rome in 1209-10. This would be the beginning of the Franciscan Order. The order grew, and by the time of his death in 1226, he was revered enough that Pope Gregory IX canonized him in 1228, less than two years after his death.

2. She was educated by Augustinian nuns and entered the Carmelite monastery at Avila in 1535, when she was 20. After converting to a life of perfection in 1555, her mystic life began, and by 1560, she had Divine locutions, her first ecstasy, and an intellectual vision of Christ. She reached a state of "spiritual marriage" in 1572, and died on Oct. 4, 1582. She is best known for reforming the Carmelite Order and for her spiritual writings and mystic experiences. She was the first to give a scientific description of the entire life of prayer, from meditation of "mystic marriage." She was canonized in 1622.
Fall Service Hours

Wednesday
7am & 10am Eucharist Service
(Chapel)

Saturday
5pm Rite 1 Spoken Eucharist

Sunday
8:00am Spoken Eucharist
10:00am Choral Eucharist
with Children’s Chapel

Nursery Care Provided
Christ Church
Harvest Dinner & Silent Auction

Saturday, October 5th 6pm

$25 per person

Tickets available for purchase, in the office during the week or online.

Wine available for donation/purchase night of event.

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 $)
Bring your four-legged, furry, winged, scaly, slithery and stuffed friends to church for a celebration of them! Treats will be available for dogs, cats, and humans on the lawn after the service, thanks to our friends at Wood River Animal Hospital!

Please keep pets in carriers or on leashes.

DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2019
TIME: 2:00 PM
PLACE: 7 ELM ST., WESTERLY
Opioid Use: Education, Prevention and Support in our Community

October 9, 2019  
6:30 – 8:30 pm

Christ Church Parish Hall  
7 Elm Street, Westerly, RI

A panel will present facts about opioid use and prevention (there will also be educational about vaping and marijuana).

- Law enforcement and recovery counselors will speak.
- Family members impacted by opioid use will share stories.
- Attendees will be shown how to use Narcan and each faith community will be given a dose of Narcan.
- The panel will offer to come to your house of worship and make a presentation at a coffee hour or other congregational gathering.

Light refreshments will be available.

All are welcome and invited to come.

This program is provided by the Pastoral Care Commission of Christ Church.
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 is required to reserve your space.

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.
TRIVIA NIGHT!

WHAT: Join the Christ Church's 20s/30s group for trivia
WHERE: Brazen Hen (4 Canal St, Westerly)
WHEN: October 24 at 7:15 (trivia starts at 7:30)
WHY: Meet new people and have fun!

Contact: jsmith.ridar@gmail.com or 401-569-0197
CHRIST CHURCH YOUTH GROUP & MEN’S CLUB PRESENT

TREATS & EATS
AN ALL HALLOW’S EVE SPOOKTACULAR
SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 26
6:00 - 7:30PM

* TRICK OR TREAT HALLWAY
* PRIZES FOR COSTUMES
* PUMPKIN BOWLING
* GAMES
* ACTIVITIES
* DECORATE A COOKIE STATION
* DJ & HALLOWEEN PARADE

Suggested donation
$5 per person/$15 per family

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

A beautiful sung service of Compline will take place in the church at 7pm. Before the service, we will have a pot luck supper in the parish hall at 6pm. All are welcome.

Compline is the monastic hour service sung traditionally at 9:00 p.m. By the end of the 4th century the hour services were in place in European and Middle East monasteries. Monks traditionally sang hour services originally started at 3:00 a.m. and Compline, a very beautiful service was the last service for the blessings of the day and to anticipate God’s gift of a new day.

Sunday, October 27
Sunday, November 24
6pm Potluck Dinner
7pm Service of Compline

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(401) 596-0197 • Fax: (401) 596-6529
Email: christ-church@verizon.net
ChristChurchWesterly.org
TV star FRANK RUNYEON
in:

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

“STUNNING!”
THE REV. DAVID JOSLIN A.H.B.
BISHOP
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEW JERSEY

“BRILLIANT!”
Trinity English Lutheran Church
Fort Wayne, IN

“POWERFUL!”
The Union Baptist Church
Mystic, CT

followed by:
Hollywood vs. Faith: The 3 Other Beatitudes
Using hilarious anecdotes from his years in Hollywood and his own family’s life, Frank helps all ages to laugh at the way the media portray the world.

Saturday, November 9th at 7 pm
At Christ Church, Westerly
Reception to follow

Tickets available during coffee hour or from
Christ Church office

Tickets: $20 per family
Or $10 per person

FRANK RUNYEON has starred in over 1,000 television shows over the last 20 years...

PEOPLE MAGAZINE says “REMARKABLE!”

WWW.FRANKRUNYEON.COM
Service Hours

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Holy Eucharist spoken service
Sunday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist spoken service
Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Choral Eucharist
w/Children’s Chapel and Nursery Care

Wednesday 7:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 10 a.m.
Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 10:45 a.m.
Bible Study

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

COME JOIN US!

7 Elm Street | Westerly, RI 02891
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christ-church@verizon.net