



# **The Bellringer**

**Christ Episcopal Church  
66 Middle Haddam Road/P.O. Box 81  
Middle Haddam, CT 06456-0081  
(860) 267-0287  
November, 2011**

**A welcoming community committed to worship, mission and Christian formation in today's world**

## ***Presiding Priest***

The Rev. Dr. Randall Balmer

## ***Assisting Priest***

The Rev. Dr. Catharine Randall

## ***Officers***

George Seitzer, *Sr. Warden*  
C.W. Currie, Jr. *Warden*  
Barry Edmonds, *Treasurer*  
Betty Fuqua, *Parish Clerk*

## ***Vestry***

Bud Briere  
Willie Fuqua  
Jerry Graham  
Paul Hunt  
Donna Hryb  
Dick Napoletano  
Patti Stannard

## ***Choirmaster & Organist***

Barbara Brundage

## ***Youth Director***

Kendra Dickinson

## ***Parish Administrator***

Susan Skoglund

## ***Sexton***

Roberta Edmonds

## ***Office Hours:***

*Tuesday: 3 pm - 5 pm*

*Thursday: 10:30 am - 2:30 pm*

## **Wardens' Report**

**By now, we hope everyone has put November 13 (Consecration Sunday) on their calendars and are planning to attend worship service and the celebration dinner following the service.**

**Please remember to attend the Autumn Leaves Fair on November 5. It will be a great opportunity to purchase all those items you need for the holidays, and don't forget to bring a friend and show off your church.**

**We still have some Christ Church sweatshirts left for sale; as the weather gets cooler, it's a good time to buy some for you or a friend.**

**Our mowing season went very well with our new grounds maintenance man, Jose Victoria. We had some trees taken down this summer, and there are a few remaining stumps that still need to be removed. Our stone wall is also waiting to be rebuilt, after it was hit by a car this summer.**

**Our finances are right up to par and will remain that way for the rest of 2011 because our pledges are coming in very faithfully. (You all have to yourselves to thank!)**

***George Seitzer and C.W. Currie***



**Autumn Leaves Fair**  
**November 5, 2011**  
**9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



The Fair is almost here and here are some of the things you will find at The Fair:

**Re-Gifting Table**—This year, our “New Table” (or we could call it the Re-Gifting Table) is for all the *new* items you may have received as gifts that simply don’t match someone’s décor or was not their taste. But they could be your taste!

**Silent Auction**

**Knitted and Crochet Items**—such as scarves, mittens, and hats

**Plant Table**

**Craft/Christmas Table**—Christmas ornaments, stockings, decorations; tree skirts; and many other holiday gift items such as hand-bags, coasters, placemats and napkins.

**Baked Goods Table**

**Our Kitchen Menu for the Day**—We are planning on serving: Hot dogs, hot apple crisp, with ice cream or whipped cream, coffee, tea, hot cider—and more!

The Parish Hall will be open on Friday, November 4, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for anyone wishing to drop off donations for the “New Table”, baked goods, or any craft or hand-made items.

**Any questions, contact**  
**Winnie Edmonds, (860) 267-6226**



# Consecration Sunday Is Coming

November 2, 2011

Dear Members and Friends of Christ Church:

You are by now surely aware that Sunday, November 13th, is Consecration Sunday for our congregation. We believe that you have sufficient concern for your spiritual growth and the mission and ministries of our congregation to attend the two special events of this day—Sunday morning worship and the Celebration Luncheon immediately following worship. This is a catered meal, so we need reservations for each person. If you have not finalized plans to attend these two events, please do so immediately.

Our goal is to have every member and regular worship attendee present. If you did not make a reservation during the last two weeks, please let us know that you will be present by calling Barry Edmonds, 860-267-6226; George Seitzer, 860-267-9204; or Ellen Little, 860-267-2730.

The effectiveness of our church's mission and ministries next year depends on your initiative and dedication. Please make whatever sacrifices are necessary to be present on November 13th.

Your servant in Christ,

*Barry Edmonds, Treasurer*

## Consecration Sunday Reservation Card

I (we) will be present for morning worship and the Celebration Luncheon on Sunday, November 13:

Yes  No

The number of persons attending from my household will be \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



# *“High Notes & High Tea”*

*October 23, 2011 at 4 P.M.*

Praise Members of the New England Chamber Choir, under the musical direction of Richard Wm. Donahue, gave an awe-inspiring opera concert, *Handel: The Choice of Hercules*, on Sunday, October 23, to the delight of some 80 in attendance at Christ Church.

Mr. Donahue accompanied the choir on the harpsichord and organ, as well as singing the part of Hercules. His son, Richard F. Donahue, sang the tenor as Attendant on Pleasure, which was sung by soprano Anna Cairduff. Rounding out the solo parts was Christ Church's own Linda Napolitano singing the mezzo soprano as Virtue. An elegant High Tea reception followed in the Parish Hall as Chairperson Betty Fuqua and her main helpers, Donna Long and Kathy Olson, served tea and punch. A number of others donated food and help in setting up what proved to be a most successful reception.



## **From the Desk of the Treasurer**

Each week in the Sunday bulletin, we publish an update of our year-to-date pledging. Here is what was printed last Sunday, October 30: As a parish, we have pledged \$1,555.00 per week for an annual total of \$80,875.00 to support the mission of Christ Church. On Sunday, October 23, we received a total of \$1,358.00 from you. YTD Pledge Budget: \$66,865.; YTD Pledge Actual: \$68,466. Thank you for keeping pledges current.

I decided not to send out pledge statements at the end of September. If you need to know where you stand with your pledge, please give me a call or email; and I can give you that information. I will send out statements in mid-November to those that may need a reminder. Naturally, 2011 end-of-year statements will be sent before the end of January.

Thank you.

*Barry Edmonds, Treasurer/Bookkeeper*  
Phone 860-267-6226; Email: [bwedmonds@comcast.net](mailto:bwedmonds@comcast.net)

## **Property Report**

- \* Fall fertilizer has been spread on the Church grounds; lime will be put down soon.
- \* Vine trimming near the tenant's house has been completed.
- \* Installation of new carpeting in the Church Office will occur during the first week of November due to mold and mildew damage to the existing carpeting.
- \* Barry Edmonds recently replaced a non-working overhead lighting fixture in the Church Office.
- \* A thermostat was replaced by Peterson Oil in the Sanctuary on October 27.
- \* A plumber needs to be scheduled to repair a leaking zone valve in one of the pipes in the Church Office ceiling.

Does someone have the Parish Hall key that was hanging on the Key Board in the Church Office? If so, please return it. Thank you!

*C.W. Currie, Property Manager*



For healing and recovery: April Eckert from Evelyn Kemp  
For healing and recovery: Laurie Gypson from the Congregation  
For consolation to the Garofalo and Currie families upon the  
passing of Guy Garofalo, son-in-law of Dottie & C.W. Currie  
For recovery from a heart attack: Louis Schluntz, brother-in-law  
of Kathy Schluntz  
For healing and strength: Peter Nicholas from Chris & Denise Hamel

A prayer for strength, comfort, and healing: Sandra L. Read from Bobette Reed Kahn  
For healing: Ralph Little from Ellen Little  
For healing and strength: June Wylie from daughter Trever  
For comfort, strength, and guidance: Amy Garofalo and family from Dana Vick  
For healing of Winston and Anthony: the power of Jesus Christ to touch their lives  
providing them with the knowledge of God's mercy from Veronica Tate  
For strength, comfort, healing, and guidance: Claudia White from Dana Vick  
For healing: Claire Megan, niece of Kathy Megan  
For healing and comfort from chemo: Bob Owen from Ellen Little  
For healing: Clive Connor, from the Missions' Team and the Congregation  
For healing/strength while awaiting transplant: Anna Bauer from Kathy Godwin  
For healing/strength: Frank Wadsworth, father of Mary Boretz  
For strength and comfort of Mary Ayers, mother of Geri Cecilio



- To the ladies of the Missions' Team—Mary Boretz, Clive Connor, Donna Long—for their effort and dedication every year in shopping for, collecting, and putting together all of the school supplies and backpacks for the annual Backpack Drive. Many local kids have been able to start off the new school year with needed supplies due to these ladies' efforts.
- To all of our crafty and handy parishioners who donated monies, time, and their skills to making items and baking goodies for our Autumn Leaves Fair.
- To all our volunteers who make our weekly service come together!
- To all of our Altar Guild—Kate Grant, Laurie Gypson, Denise Hamel, Kristin and Tracy Shumbo—who make our church look good every week!
- To all of our weekly counters for all of their behind-the-scenes efforts.
- To all who donate food for the East Hampton Food Bank.
- To all of our Fellowship Hosts for making Sunday mornings even brighter!
- To our Choir and Barbara Brundage for bringing us beautiful music!!
- To Kate Grant and Ellen Little for their work planting flowers and beautifying the front Church grounds.
- To Barry Edmonds for replacing the overhead light fixture in the Office.
- And to everyone whose efforts make Christ Episcopal Church wonderful!

## Missions' Team Report



Our Missions project this month is providing Thanksgiving baskets for four of our Covenant to Care families. A sign-up sheet for needed items will be posted in the Parish Hall. We will also accept cash donations (payable to Christ Church, "Missions-Thanksgiving" in the memo line). The due date for all gifts for the Thanksgiving baskets is November 20.

Thanks in advance to our parishioners for your continued generosity to this important program.

We will be receiving the information about our Covenant to Care Christmas wish list soon. Information will be shared as soon as we get it, and we'll post information on the Parish Hall bulletin board.

Our next meeting will be November 17 at the home of Donna Long at 6 pm. If you wish to join us, please contact Mary Boretz at 860-267-0365, Donna Long at 860-467-6278, or Clive Connor at 860-267-7813.



***"Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy-laden,  
and I will refresh you" —Matthew 11:28.***

Some days, it just seems like the struggle is too much. Too many responsibilities, too many things to do, too many hours to work, too many obstacles to overcome, and still...not making progress. It's like trying to run on marbles – the harder you run, the quicker you don't get anywhere!

I love this verse that we hear every Sunday in church: "I will refresh you". It's just what we need and it always happens, exactly as promised. Yes! We are refreshed by the Lord, by the power of the love that we are given, by forgiveness, by encouragement to carry on because we are His chosen ones and we will be rewarded. It is good news to all of us!

And we are reminded of that and refreshed again every time. It's a wonderful blessing that we all receive in our hearts by the end of the service. The organ swells, our voices are happy and alive again! We can go out again, renewed and full of hope and promise!

And this gift is available to everyone. The beauty of the Episcopal Church is that we are open to all. No restrictions, no limits, no nonsense. It's freely given – all we need to do is open our hearts and minds and receive it!

It is great to be an Episcopalian!

*Submitted by Paul Hunt*

## November Calendar

### Wednesday, November 2

6:00 pm      *Crafty Kids with Miss Kendra*

### Saturday, November 5

9:00 am- 5:00 pm      *Autumn Leaves Fair, Parish Hall*

### Sunday, November 6—All Saints' Sunday

8:30 am      *Choir Rehearsal*

9:45 am      *J.A.M. and Nursery School*

10:00 am      *Holy Eucharist*

11:00 am      *Community Time/Refreshments*



### Sunday, November 13—Consecration Sunday

8:30 am      *Choir Rehearsal*

9:45 am      *J.A.M. and Nursery School*

10:00 am      *Holy Eucharist*

11:00 am      *Celebration Luncheon*

### Tuesday, November 15

6:30 pm      *Vestry, Parish Hall*

### Thursday, November 17

6:00 pm      *Missions' Team Meeting, Donna Long's Home*



### Sunday, November 20

8:30 am      *Choir Rehearsal*

9:45 am      *J.A.M. and Nursery School*

10:00 am      *Holy Eucharist*

11:00 am      *Community Time/Refreshments*

### Sunday, November 27—The First Sunday in Advent

8:30 am      *Choir Rehearsal*

9:45 am      *J.A.M. and Nursery School*

10:00 am      *Holy Eucharist*

11:00 am      *Community Time/Refreshments*



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