



Hello, St. Christopher's Community!

Happy Independence Day!



We've Only Just Begun *by Fr. Randy+*

*We've only just begun to live
White lace and promises
A kiss for luck and we're on our way
(We've only begun)*

*Before the risin' sun, we fly
So many roads to choose
We'll start out walkin' and learn to run
(And yes, we've just begun)*

*Sharing horizons that are new to us
Watchin the signs along the way
Talkin' it over, just the two of us
Workin' together day to day
Together*

Sorry for initiating this “musical brain worm” by the multi-talented Karen and Richard Carpenter—pastel-colored fashionably-flowing dresses, wide-lapelled suit jackets, and lots and lots of big hair! Summertime is prime-time wedding season, and I had the great honor of officiating at the wedding of a dear family

friend of ours. Kim and the groom's mother were figure skating buddies as they grew up together, and remained close friends as adults. We used to babysit Joe and his older brother Dan when they were little kiddos, and have been blessed to remain a presence in their lives as they grew up, attended university, and now are married and pursuing meaningful careers. One of God's greatest gifts to us is that of sustaining beloved relationships with dear family and friends.

And now, a new and different relationship has begun in Joe and his lovely bride Siera's lives. As lovers of the outdoors, they had chosen a beautiful, rustic apple orchard as their outdoor wedding venue. Nearly 130 guests from across the country were invited to join them, as they exchanged sacred vows and rings, as God consecrated their marriage.

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you; the Lord mercifully with his favor look upon you, and fill you with all spiritual benediction and grace; that you may faithfully live together in this life, and in the age to come have life everlasting. Amen. (BCP p. 431)

We've only just begun, indeed.

We did not have to look too far to understand more deeply exactly what the lyrics to this Carpenter's hit song attempts to capture. And mere words and music cannot completely encapsulate its full truth. You see, a mere seven years earlier, Kim and I officiated at Joe's older brother Dan's wedding to Katie in Seattle. WA. In a blink of an eye—just seven years ago—Joe and Dan have exchanged places--being grooms and best men for each other.

And, oh, how things have changed—how things have become new. Dan and Katie are now proud parents of three gorgeous young girls—living a life of quantum change, and joy, and love. New and stunningly rewarding and challenging things!

“And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”
(Rev 21:5)

All things new... I sat silently alongside Kim inside the open walls of the celebration tent in the middle of the sprawling apple orchard. Cardinal pairs were flitting between the apple trees holding immature fruit, brown bunnies bouncing among the clover with noses twitching and sniffing, and little kids attempting to capture hopping frogs and baby toads as gifts for their mothers!

All things new...

And perhaps the most encouraging and heart-warming experience of all, watching Kim tenderly hold Dan and Katie's youngest daughter, Winnie, as she gulped down nutritious milk from her bottle and we absorbed all of the scents and sounds and jaw-dropping beauty and joy of God's marvelous creation—*right here and now*—unfolding right before our eyes.

And when the evening comes, we smile

So much of life ahead

We'll find a place where there's room to grow

And yes, we've just begun

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Amen.*Randy+*

Source: [LyricFind](#)

Songwriters: Paul Williams / Roger Nichols

We've Only Just Begun Lyrics © Kanjian Music, Tratore, Universal Music Publishing Group, Warner Chappell Music, Inc



Vacation Bible School

We have a few requests, to help with VBS July 15-19.

- Mark your calendars – we will need lots of hands to help us set up following the service on Sunday, July 14. And if you are available at noon on Friday, July 19, we would appreciate your help with tear down.
- Newspaper – we need lots of newspaper to put down when we tie dye. Please do not send in the glossy advertisements. There is a basket outside Marion's office (down the stairs by the funeral doors).
- Tie Dye Rinsers – on Wednesday, July 17, at about 9:30am, we need 3-5 people to rinse our tie die projects. This requires standing at the sinks in the kitchen and rinsing until the water runs clean. Please reach out to Marion if you can help with this.
- Old Telephones – we are setting up a "call station" and we want old telephones. They will be props, and no one will be playing with them. Please contact Marion if have one that we can borrow.

Book Club Invitation

Greetings and Blessings Beloved Community,

We are interested in starting a book group here at St. Christopher's. Are you interested in participating in a book club?

We'd like to try it out! **Let's meet on Wednesday, July 24 at 5:30 at church** and discuss "The Book of Longings" by Sue Monk Kidd. We'll also discuss when and where to meet in the future, and pick our next book(s). Feel free to bring a snack and a beverage.

Questions? Contact Angela Robinson, angela.robinson.elohim@gmail.com or

Marilyn+.

[The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd](#)

"I am Ana. I was the wife of Jesus."

Raised in a wealthy family in Sepphoris with ties to the ruler of Galilee, Ana is rebellious and ambitious, a relentless seeker with a brilliant, curious mind and a daring spirit. She yearns for a pursuit worthy of her life, but finds no outlet for her considerable talents. Defying the expectations placed on women, she engages in furtive scholarly pursuits and writes secret narratives about neglected and silenced women. When she meets the eighteen-year-old Jesus, each is drawn to and enriched by the other's spiritual and philosophical ideas. He becomes a floodgate for her intellect, but also the awakener of her heart.

Start a new, fun project

We would love to have you join us for recorder-playing! St. Christopher's has 2 groups - one made up of people who've played an instrument before. And another made up of people who've never played an instrument before, or it was a looong time ago. We're going to start a review session, which is the perfect opportunity for you to join us without feeling behind.

See Karla at coffee hour or give her a call. Day and time yet to be determined.

Prayer List Requests

Have you noticed a "Prayer Requests" button on our website? This is a very short form to add a name to our prayer list! Requests will be monitored Monday through Friday and added to the list published on Fridays. You may, of course, still call the office to add or remove a name from the list. AND, you can use this QR Code to go right to the website!



Upcoming Lectionary Readings

July 7: 7th Pentecost, Proper 9

Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13.

July 14: 8th Pentecost, Proper 10

Amos 7:7-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29.

Sunday Ministries July 7

9:30 AM

Nursery - Connie H, Rich P

Lectors - Sue T, Don S

Intercessor - Kathy A

LEM - Kathy A, Millie W

Ushers - Carol K, Don S
Altar Guild - Karen H, Jill E
Crucifer - Alexander K
Coffee Hosts: Bruce & Cheryl W

Are you receiving this email forwarded by a friend?

You can now sign up to receive the weekly Parish Mail and monthly *e-Traveler* in your own inbox. A sign-up form is now on the main page at our website. Just go to www.stchristophers-mn.org.

www.stchristophers-mn.org



Thank you for keeping your pledge up to date.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church | 2300 Hamline Ave N | Roseville, MN 55113 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!