

Hello, St. Christopher's Community!

Please keep your eyes open about construction closures of Highway 36. As of this morning, no closure is posted on the MN DoT website, *but* the SIGNS on Westbound 36 around Fairview say there is a weekend closure.



Traditions *by Fr. Randy+*

Completely covered...I mean completely covered by scraps of paper and dog-eared index cards, clippings from colorful magazine pages, and note paper splashed with the remains of meal preparations from years gone by. Kim has taken on a project for the ages—taking time to organize some of the favorite family kitchen recipes lovingly collected from family and friends over many decades. Some are rather new, but others—others have been passed along from generation to generation. When we looked at many of these olden time recipes, we not only remembered the heirloom food item itself, but alongside came the stories which became legend when we spoke of these most beloved and special meals.

It is interesting to ponder the beginnings of some of the food items that had become such revered staples in family celebrations. Some of the foods reserved for special holidays or celebrations were brought from the “old

country”—the countries of our family origins. We giggle that the foods we hold with highest honor were actually the foods of the most humble and poor immigrant people. That is the only food they knew, but it was never eaten by those living a life of privilege. They are tradition—and there they will stay, as if in a time warp that never allows for adaptation or change for the better.

Tradition strikes a very strong cord for me—as an individual and as a leader in the church. As a leader, I respect traditions, but I have a greater respect for people. If a tradition is valid and helpful, I will use this tradition for the greater good of the community.

Jesus did this in many ways, using traditions that glorified God to help the people understand him and his will. Yet, Jesus was careful to brush aside traditions that were onerous or nonsensical and did not reflect the nature of God. Discerning the difference is critical.

A real leader—like Jesus—understands that tradition can be good, often unifying and energizing. Valuing these traditions are useful in making people better and in making things better for people.

But traditions that inflict unnecessary burdens on people should always be a target for discernment—*“We’ve always done it this way”* is not a validating concept for a healthy life.

Tradition in and of itself is neither good nor bad. Wise leaders—especially in established agency—must use the past, but not be shackled by it. Tradition can sometimes become a chain if it keeps us from doing what needs to be done, which is what Jesus meant when he said, *“The Sabbath was made for man and not the man made for the Sabbath.”* (Mark 2:27)

Whether our area of leadership is in a home, school, civic organization, church, or even a kitchen, how one handles traditions that exist there will help demonstrate who we are as leaders, and whom we choose to honor and follow.

Recipes are made to be massaged, caressed, modified, creatively improved upon, and made more healthful and tasty. In Jesus, the old things have passed away, the traditions of value are preserved, and with God’s help, all things have become new. *Randy+*



Music Up Next

If there are any Francophiles among us, you will know that Sunday is Bastille Day. Ordinary French citizens protesting the inflationary cost of bread (and living in general) as well as the hubris of King Louis XVI, grabbed their pitchforks and became insurgents storming and overpowering the soldiers at the Bastille. This marked a turning point in the struggle and unrest that had been going on for some time. As we all know, there was much more strife and bloodshed to come, but the people saw that if they banded together, they had power. Thus was born the French Revolution.

Inspiration abounds for French music on Bastille Day, so we will have a few pieces from the enormous canon of French organ music. Our organ has actually 4 different organs programmed in, and one of them is French! We Episcopalians tend to use English and German registration most often - all those Anglican hymns we sing and all of that Bach, Handel and Buxtehude that provide preludes and postludes. So let's see if we can hear the difference. If you've ever heard the French language, you might find it more nasal than English. The musical sounds will be, too. Think woodwinds - like oboe and bassoon - sometimes they're kind of honky sounding. Also, the French organ composers loved the sound of the strings and you can listen for those as well.

See you Sunday!
Karla Cole

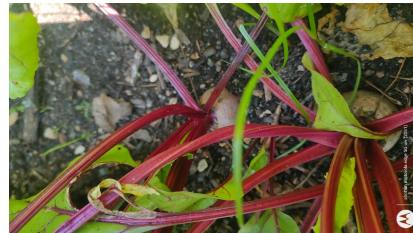
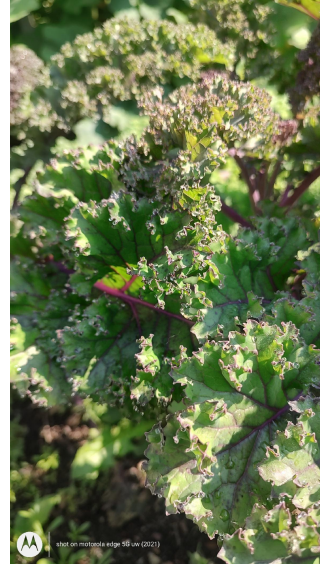
Vacation Bible School

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 THIS 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).
- 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.

Giving Garden Progress

Wow! Lots of growth! And Apples on the Apple tree, too!!!



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+.

"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 14: 8th Pentecost, Proper 10

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

July 21: 9th Pentecost, Proper 11

Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

Sunday Ministries July 14

9:30 AM

Nursery - Jean C, Tom L

Lectors - Tom M, Pat A

Intercessor - Roland K

LEM - Don S, Mike S

Ushers - Cindy L, Pete L

Altar Guild - Julie S, Robert W, Jean H

Crucifer - Don S

Coffee Hosts: Pat A

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.

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Thank you for keeping your pledge up to date.

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

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