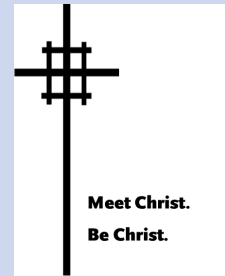


St. Christopher's

## e-Traveler

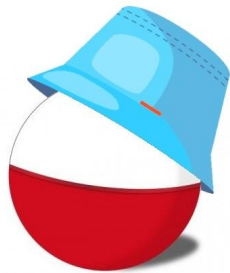


[Visit our Website](#)

*From the Editor:* Hello, St. Christopher's! Please remember that our emails are now sent with the "from" address as "office@stchristophers-mn.ccsend.com." Please mark this address as "safe" or "not junk" or "not spam," depending on your email provider, so you are sure to receive all of our communications.

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### From the Rector



**The Rev.  
Randy W. Johnson**

**Rector**

### **Faith, Hope, and Love** *by Fr. Randy+*

Ahhh...Love is in the beautiful early spring air! Songbirds are hooking up and staking out nesting territory in the wetlands near our home. Tom turkeys are flaring their intricate tail feathers and strutting their stuff for the gaggle of hens watching the spectacle. We have been struggling with a mother robin who is persistently building her nest over the door on our front porch. We tried and tried to discourage her construction project the past two weeks, but we finally relented to her maternal desires!

The local TV news has been featuring a story about a rustic wedding venue which unceremoniously and unannounced shut its doors to business--leaving many soon-to-be-married couples in a lurch over where to hold their weddings this spring! Thankfully, several other venues are stepping up to assist couples with emergency assistance in priding alternative options for their best laid plans.

*"And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love." (1 Corinth 13:13)*



Faith, Hope, and Love. We focus on Love...but, what about the other two? *"The just person lives by faith."* If the purpose of life is to know God, then faith is the only doorway. Faith is not knowledge, but offer access to it. As St. Paul says, only later will we *"see God face to face."* Faith means saying yes to God's revelation. It is accepting God's point of view, rather than your own. Faith is not merely passive acceptance of a vast array of religious information. To see with the eyes of faith is to see life whole and at once with the eyes of Godself!

Faith is not completely satisfying. Rather, faith constantly seeks understanding and confirmation.

Hope joins faith and love as one of the three God-centered virtues of the spiritual life. Hope is not naïve and sunny; it is realistic and patient. Our hope is rooted in the assurance that God is adequate to his needs and the needs of the world—tragedies and travails are not the final chapters. A lover's knowledge is preferable to a scientist's because it produces a bond rather than an insight. Love is the first and complete commandment *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your mind."*

God does not need to be loved. Within God's own Trinity, God is love. Humankind, however, needs to be loved by God, since we are insufficient to love ourselves. Love is not our creation, but God's. A follower of God does not try to summon love for God, rather, they allow God's spirit within the heart to expand and possess oneself.

All who have lived deeply can appreciate the value and the demands of love. Every human being feels inadequate as a solitary and individual, yet is frightened of the loving surrender to another that is the cost of ending that isolation. God, the divine lover, lacks the physical immediacy of a human love. But God alone can satisfy the longing of the heart, for God is not only the creator of love, but love itself.

*"...remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ."* (1 Thess 1:3)

*"God is Love, let heaven adore him; God is Love, let earth rejoice; Let creation sing before him and exult him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heavens above, God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love."*(Hymn 379; The Hymnal 1982)

-- Randy+

## Music Notes



**Karla Cole**

**Director of Music Ministries**

This could well be a “what did you do on your vacation?” piece, since I’ve been gone for a couple of weeks and I can’t think of anything else to write about just now. Our vacation was pretty spectacular, though — but skip it if you must. We started in Indiana for the total eclipse of the sun – little Shelbyville, right on the path of totality in a city park. The people were from all over and very friendly. Totally jazzed to be there, hanging out in a pretty park with a bunch of strangers for a maybe a once in a lifetime event. Matt saw a total eclipse in Winnipeg in 1979 and fortunately, didn’t freeze to death, so our whole family was able to gather in Missouri for the 2017 event, where we were pretty well socked in, but still enjoyed the camaraderie on the town square of Gower, MO, as the light dimmed and the air grew cold. So actually witnessing a total eclipse with perfect weather conditions was very cool – highly recommended. Your next opportunity will be in either Iceland or Spain in 2026. Book those hotels early! Or you can hang back and wait for it to happen in Minnesota if you’re feeling particularly healthy and persistent – it’s not until 2044.

626 miles later, after a stop in Charleston, West Virginia, to see the capitol and eat the awfulest hamburger of my life (not recommended at all), as well as a visit to Appomattox, Virginia, to see where Robert E. Lee met with Ulysses S. Grant and signed the terms of surrender, we finally arrived in Richmond. Our daughter is living there this year, and teaching at William & Mary in Williamsburg, so we had a small side of colonial history along with our Civil War studies. Her PhD is in American Politics, but specifically Race, Ethnicity and Politics, and Richmond has been a perfect place for her to be. It’s a charming city that respects its history and tries not to sugar-coat it. Geneva lives in the Shockoe Bottom neighborhood, where the slave auctions took place and there is a walking Slave Trail marked. The city has a committee presently working to make improvements on the trail – maybe an interactive component, or a museum. You might also remember the city generating national headlines by ripping down Confederate statues along Monument Avenue about 2020. This is also Geneva’s year of the trains – she lives right by the spot where there’s a famous and unusual triple crossing of the train lines. The Amtrak she takes to Williamsburg goes right by morning and evening. And the freight trains keep up a constant din. They don’t blow the horns much, so once you get used to the squeal of the wheels as they curve around her building, you can actually sleep pretty well.

Most of Richmond’s many restaurants and bars seem to feature seafood, and we attempted to eat our weight in oysters. There was a tiny restaurant in a

fancy neighborhood that only had seafood on the menu. And maybe a pork chop, but most of the menu started out swimming. And as if to make up for that horrible hamburger, I had the best cowboy beans (and maybe ribs, too) of my life at a BBQ joint run by Austin, Texas expats. There are several museums of note. Fine Arts and Science, of course, and the Virginia Museum of History and Culture is particularly well done, and also had a visiting exhibit of Julia Child's kitchen. The real one is in the Smithsonian, but this one was probably a lot more fun for the little girl that I watched stirring up an imaginary cake (with *lots* of sprinkles, she said) and putting it in the oven. If you haven't been to Richmond, it's also – highly recommended!

Geneva had been feeling a little homesick last fall and took herself to the nearest Episcopal church for Lessons & Carols. She says we need to up our game a bit – *their* reception featured champagne and caviar! But this church, St. Paul's, has money and lots and lots of history. Their pipe organ stretches all the way across the back of the nave and their choir features 12 paid singers and two music directors! And yes, the music was gorgeous and the service was a stately Rite 2, but it was reverent, not stuffy. We also stayed after the service for the tour, as this is truly an historic church. It had been the "Cathedral of the Confederacy" with many slave-holding members as well as prominent Confederate politicians and military men. In fact, Confederate President Jefferson Davis was in his pew when they came to tell him that Richmond was going to fall to the Union and it was time to leave. The church has had its share of *sturm und drang* over the years, but several years before the city of Richmond tore down its statues on Monument Avenue, the Vestry of St. Paul's voted unanimously to take down their own confederate memorials. There were two enormous Tiffany windows that had been dedicated to Lee and Davis that were kept, but all the plaques and confederate memorabilia were taken down and preserved, should anyone want to see them, in the basement. In addition, a new altar and chairs were fashioned in an elegant two-tone style from the old chancel flooring of light southern pine and a contrasting darker wood from West Africa. There are many such thoughtful, symbolic touches throughout the church. And though it is a monument to Richmond's past, it is obviously a vibrant, diverse congregation of people who are deeply concerned for their neighbors and worship with care and intention. If you go to Richmond, St. Paul's is, you guessed it – highly recommended!

After a quick trip through Appalachia to see Matt's youngest sister, a couple of distilleries and not nearly enough horses, we turned back toward home with suitcases full of dirty laundry and all the presents we couldn't resist for the grandson. After 3,000 miles, it's so nice to be back to our merely 97-year-old house and our only 75-year-old church here in Minnesota. Coming home is truly – highly recommended!

Karla Cole





**Marion Hunner**

**Children's Ministries Director**

**Sunday School** – In May we will prepare a presentation about Pentecost. Join us for that presentation on Sunday, May 12 at 9:15am in the Parish Hall. This will be the last Sunday of our program year.

**Lent** – Thank you to everyone who participated in our Lenten Calendar Project. We will choose items from the Heifer International Catalog and share our decision in June.

**Mark your calendars for  
Vacation Bible School 2024:**

*Hero Hotline*

**July 15-19** 9 am - noon

Invite your family and friends to join you!

**Participants** are Age 3 – 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade

**Youth Volunteers** have completed 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Adult Volunteers** are...well, older than that!



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## **Bridging Opportunity!**

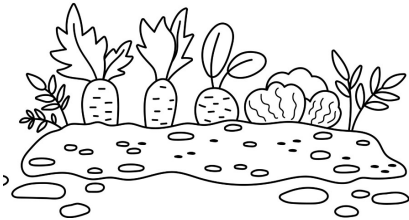
Join Hearts and Hands as we participate in Bridging! Barb Jordahl, a long-time St. Christopher's member, has volunteered at Bridging for some time. Bridging is a non-profit organization "*empowering people to thrive in their homes by providing furniture and household goods for those pursuing housing stability*". The greater St. Christopher's family will have the opportunity to contribute "soft" items on Sunday, May 5 & Sunday, May 12. This includes **gently used or new** sheets, blankets, mattress pad covers, pillows, and towels. All sizes accepted. Questions? Call Sally Brown (651) 483-8232, or Connie Hendrick (612) 306-0182.

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## **Hearts and Hands were at Second Stork on April 18th!**

Here are a few photos of the Hearts and Hands during their time volunteering!





## Green Team

Do you like to get your hands dirty? Being outside in the fresh air? Then come join the Green Team as we begin yet another garden season. In the upcoming weeks, we will be planting a garden full of fresh vegetables that will benefit those who are served by local food shelves. We are always looking for people who like to plant, weed, water, or harvest! No need to make a long-term commitment. Come join a member of our team and try it out. Last year we provided over 800lbs of veggies to the community and are looking to harvest even more this fall. Many hands make light work. Reach out to a Green Team member: Sally Brown, Jeff Jensen, Larry Jones, Jean Crow, Joan Hoium, Leslie or Joel Norton, or Karen Hartman, or simply email Karen Hartman at [kjskhart@gmail.com](mailto:kjskhart@gmail.com) for more information.

## Join Us for BBQ!



Come join us for a **BBQ Dinner on Friday May 10**, in the Parish Hall. Social time begins at 5:15 pm, with dinner at 6:00 pm.

If you missed your chance to sign up during the Event Fair, it's not too late. Price per person \$15. Please contact Cheryl Warkentien at (612) 991-9940 to sign up.

## What is OUR biggest May Sunday?

May 5<sup>th</sup>? – No, that's Wisconsin Fishing Opener

May 11<sup>th</sup>? - No, that's Minnesota Fishing Opener (aka Mother's Day)

May 26<sup>th</sup>? - No again – that's Memorial Day weekend

**May 19<sup>th</sup> – YES!!**

**St. Christopher's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Fund Raising Pancake Breakfast!!!!**

**In the Parish Hall following both 8 and 10:30 services.**

Pancakes (gluten free available), Sausage, Fruit, Juice, Coffee

Bring your extended family, friends and neighbors.

**Free will donations gratefully accepted.**

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is hosting this event to help defray some of the expenses for **Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>** when we celebrate our **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**.



**EPISCOPAL NIGHT**  
**ECMN** with the Minnesota Twins

 vs. 

Minnesota Twins      Kansas City Royals  
**Wednesday, May 29, 6:40pm at Target Field**

Reserve your tickets today at [episcopalmn.org/events](http://episcopalmn.org/events)

### **ECMN Night at the Twins**

Join our fellow Minnesota Episcopalians to cheer on the Twins on **Wednesday, May 29**. Marion will purchase a block of tickets for St. Christopher's if you would like to sit together. Please [click on this link](#) to sign up with St. Christopher's (or email [marion@stchristophers-mn.org](mailto:marion@stchristophers-mn.org)). Tickets are \$35. You will either pay Marion directly or pay the church for your tickets.

**Sunday, May 5 is the last day for this option.**

Otherwise, feel free to [click on this link](#) and order your own tickets in the ECMN section.

### **Pentecost Presentation**

Sunday, May 12 at 9:15am. The children will offer a presentation about Pentecost at 9:15 in the Parish Hall – all are welcome! Pentecost is the following Sunday.



### **Event Fair Bulletin Board**

Have you found the bulletin board with photos outside the Parish Hall? Every two months, we add photos from Event Fair Events that have taken place. It is great fun to see our St. Christopher's folks in community with each



other. Photos from March and April events will appear sometime in May.



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## Vestry Shorts

Vestry Notes from April 15 meeting

Sally Brown and Barb Jordahl, representing Hearts and Hands, asked for support collecting soft household items for Bridging. The vestry endorsed this collection. Sally and Barb will post announcements in May.

The Green team will plant the giving garden on May 11, weather permitting.

The Green team did Hamline Avenue road cleanup on April 21.

Mission Opportunity Funding Grant. Jean Crow submitted a grant request for a Pride Flag and Banner. Both of them will be available for the 9 June Pride Evensong. The vestry approved.

The Finance committee suggested that we pay the \$43,000 balance on our annual pledge for diocesan Mission Ministry Support. This helps keep our checking account below the FDIC insurance limit. The vestry approved.

EMMA (East Metro Ministry Area) is meeting here May 18.

Pentecost is May 19. The 75th Anniversary Committee will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser for the 75th Anniversary celebration in October.

Shout Outs:

Clergy, Altar Guild and musicians for contributions to Holy Week services.

Lyn Lawyer for leading the Bible Study of Acts.

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## MAY Calendar

**1 Wednesday**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist** – Church

**3:15 PM Cello Book Recital** – Church (to 4 PM)

**4 PM Cello Lessons** - #218/219 (to 6:15 PM)

**6:15 PM Bell Choir** – Balcony

**6:30 PM Wednesday AA** – Gathering Room

**7:15 PM Parish Choir** – Music Room

**2 Thursday**

**9 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Library (to 10 AM)**  
**3:30 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 7:15 PM)**

### **3 Friday**

**2:45 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:45 PM)**

### **4 Saturday**

**9 AM Flute Lessons – Music Room**

**9 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Library (to 10:30 AM)**

**1 PM “Flash Mob” Event – Offsite**

**5 Sunday – Easter 6 – Collection for Bridging Begins!**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM Fellowship**

**9:15 AM Adult Forum-Gathering Room**

**9:30 AM Sunday School – Room 107**

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM Fellowship**

### **6 Monday**

**3:30 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:30 PM)**

### **7 Tuesday**

**8:30 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room (to 5 PM)**

**10 AM SG Peer Group –Library (to 12 PM)**

**4 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM**

**7 PM Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall**

### **8 Wednesday**

**10:30 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Library (to 11:30 AM)**

**10:45 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room (to 12 PM)**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist – Church**

**4 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:15 PM)**

**6:15 PM Bell Choir – Balcony**

**6:30 PM Wednesday AA – Gathering Room**

**7:15 PM Parish Choir – Music Room**

### **9 Thursday – Ascension Day**

**9 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room (to 10:30 AM)**

**10 AM Private Spiritual Direction – Library (to 11 AM)**

**3:30 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 7:15 PM)**

### **10 Friday**

**2:45 PM Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:45 PM)**

**5:15 PM BBQ Rib Dinner Event – Parish Hall**

### **11 Saturday**

**9 AM Flute Lessons – Music Room**

**12 Sunday – Easter 7 – Mother’s Day – Last Day Collection for Bridging!**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM Fellowship**

**9:12 AM Inter-generational Pentecost Presentation – Parish Hall**

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM** Fellowship

**13 Monday**

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:30 PM)

**14 Tuesday**

**1 PM** Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room (to 2 PM)

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM

**7 PM** Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall

**15 Wednesday**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist** – Church

**1:15 PM** Private Spiritual Direction – Library (to 2:30 PM)

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:15 PM)

**6:15 PM** Bell Choir – Balcony

**6:30 PM** Wednesday AA – Gathering Room

**7:15 PM** Parish Choir – Music Room

**16 Thursday**

**10:30 AM** Hearts and Hands – Parish Hall

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 7:15 PM)

**17 Friday**

**2 PM** Carpet Cleaning – whole building

**2:45 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:45 PM)

**18 Saturday**

**9 AM** Flute Lessons – Music Room

**9 AM** East Metro Mission Area Gathering – Parish Hall, Kitchen (to 2 PM)

**2:30 PM** Pancake Dinner Prep – Parish Hall

**5:30 PM** Hawaiian Dinner Event – Offsite

**19 Sunday – PENTECOST**

**8 AM Holy Eucharist**

**9 AM** Fellowship – Pancake Breakfast!

**9:15 AM** Adult Forum-Gathering Room

**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**

**11:30 AM** Fellowship– Pancake Breakfast!

**20 Monday**

**9 AM** Private Spiritual Direction – Library (to 10 AM)

**5:30 PM** Finance Committee – Parish Hall

**6:45 PM** Vestry – Parish Hall

**21 Tuesday**

**8:30 AM** Private Spiritual Direction – Gathering Room (to 5 PM)

**10 AM** Tuesday O.A. - #218

**10:30 AM** Meals on Wheels – Offsite

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM

**7 PM** Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall

**22 Wednesday**

**12:15 PM Holy Eucharist** – Church

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:15 PM)

**6:15 PM** Bell Choir – Balcony  
**6:30 PM** Wednesday AA – Gathering Room  
**7:15 PM** Parish Choir – Music Room

**23 Thursday**

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 7:15 PM)

**24 Friday**

**2:45 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:45 PM)

**25 Saturday**

**9 AM** Flute Lessons – Music Room

**11 AM** East Metro Deacons Gathering – Parish Hall

**26 Sunday – TRINITY – Together at 9:30 Summer Worship Begins!**

**9:30 AM** Holy Eucharist

**10:30 AM** Fellowship

**27 Monday – Memorial Day**

**Office & Building Closed**

**28 Tuesday**

**June e-Traveler Deadline!**

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 – to 6:15 PM

**7 PM** Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band – Parish Hall

**29 Wednesday**

**12:15 PM** Holy Eucharist – Church

**4 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:15 PM)

**6:30 PM** Wednesday AA – Gathering Room

**6:40 PM** Episcopal Night at the TWINS! -Offsite

**7:15 PM** Parish Choir – Music Room

**30 Thursday**

**2:30 PM** Cello rehearsals - church - to 7 pm

**3:30 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 7:15 PM)

**31 Friday**

**2:30 PM** Cello rehearsals - church - to 7 pm

**2:45 PM** Cello Lessons - #218/219 (to 6:45 PM)

Please note that MOST of our outside groups have returned to meeting in the building. Those groups are now on this calendar (*in italics*) to avoid over-scheduling. Always check with the church office before scheduling a meeting.

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## **Last Words**

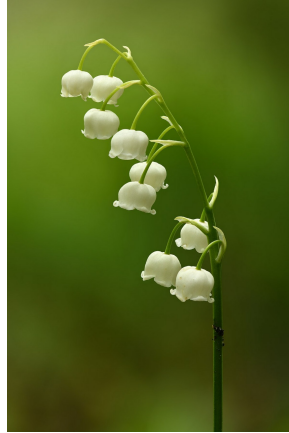
I hope you have enjoyed the May **e-Traveler!**

Spring has sprung! I'm watching the lilies of the valley in my front garden - a good inch-a-day growth on the edges of the patch, where the sidewalk holds the day's heat a little longer.



And when they come into bloom? I'll be listening for the fairies singing and the bells ringing. (Do you know the tune?)

Ruth Thillen  
Parish Administrator



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## St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

### **VESTRY:**

Barb Hovey, Sr. Warden; Josh Kattelman, Jr. Warden  
Robert Williams, Clerk; Bruce Warkentien, Treasurer

Kathy Ackerman; Cheryl Bailey;  
Darlene Cross, Madisen Crow; Eric Hedican;  
Rich Pieper; Ann Trapnell, Betsy Wesenberg

### **STAFF:**

Ruth Thillen, Parish Administrator  
Marion Hunner, Children's Ministries Director  
Karla S. Cole, Director of Music Ministries  
Rev. Christopher Haack, Deacon  
Rev. Marilyn Baldwin, Assisting Priest  
Rev. Randy W. Johnson, Rector

### **Our Schedule:**

*Recorded Sermons for each Sunday are on our website.*

#### **Sundays through May 2024:**

**8:30 AM Holy Eucharist**  
9:30 AM Fellowship  
9:15-10:15 AM Adult Forum  
9:30-10:15 AM Sunday School  
**10:30 AM Holy Eucharist**  
11:30 AM Fellowship

**Wednesday: 12:15 PM Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary**

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday 9 AM - 4 PM

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church | 2300 Hamline Ave. N.  
Roseville, MN 55113  
651-633-4589 | Fax 651-633-7361 | [www.stchristophers-mn.org](http://www.stchristophers-mn.org)

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