



The

FEBRUARY 2025

Trumpeter

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service

9:15 am Adult Formation

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service

Thursdays

11 am- Prayer and Bible Study (in Person)



COME JOIN US

for

**Pancake Day Celebration
(Mardi Gras)**

**Tuesday, March 4, 2025
6:00 PM at St. Christopher's Church
(Free will offering)**

The day before Ash Wednesday we will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday. It is also called Carnival (Latin for "remove meat"), Mardi Gras (French for "Fat Tuesday"), and Pancake Day (from the UK). Shrove is from the Old English word "shrift" and means to confess one's sins, but we will not be doing that as a group. We will have a party!

Join us on March 4th at 6:00pm for a pancake supper. We will have food, games, and music to celebrate the last day of Epiphanytide and transition to the season of Lent. We will have a free will offering.

Wear your purple (represents justice), green (represents faith), and gold (represents power) and come have a fun evening with us.

Any questions contact Karen Miller at 810-348-3886 or Flo Gjerstad at 810-210-6734.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
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(810) 694-3600
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Staff

The Reverend Jerry Lasley
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The Reverend Dr. Michael Carr,
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Vestry 2025

Chapin Cook, *Senior Warden*
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Rod Bytwerk, *Junior Warden*
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Louise McAra, *Clerk*

Jane Brewer, *Co-Treasurer*
Dale Rice, *Co-Treasurer*
Treasurer@stchrisgrandblanc.org

Myrtle Duck (2027) Dave Miller (2027)
Janice Convis (2027) Bill Hartley (2026)
Linda Rathburn (2026) Louise McAra (2028)
Jane Brewer (2026) Rod Bytwerk (2028)
Chapin Cook (2028)

Upcoming Lessons

February 2

Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 84

Hebrews 2:22-40

Luke 2:22-40

February 9

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13]

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

February 16

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Psalm 1

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Luke 6:17-26

February 23

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

Luke 6:27-38

March 2

Last Sunday after the Epiphany

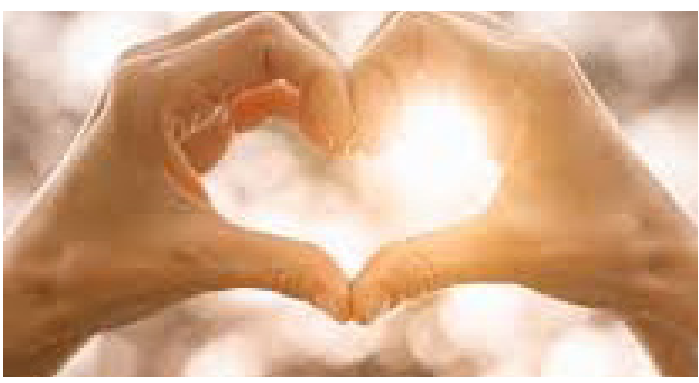
Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

2 Corinthians 3:29-35

Luke 9:28-36, [37-43a]

**Find the readings every week at
lectionarypage.net**



The Priest's Desk

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ!

As we step into this new season, I am filled with a profound sense of gratitude and hope for our church family. The journey we have embarked on together over the past years has been a testament to our faith, resilience, and unity. It is in times like these that we truly see the power of our fellowship and the grace of God at work among us.

Our church has always been a beacon of light in the community, a place where everyone is welcome and where love and compassion are the cornerstones of our ministry. As we look ahead, I am excited about the opportunities that lie before us to grow in our faith and to deepen our connections with one another and with God.

This season, let us focus on the theme of growth. Growth is not only about increasing in numbers but also about deepening our spiritual lives, enhancing our relationships, and extending our reach to those in need. Let us take inspiration from the words of 2 Peter 3:18, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen."

I encourage each of you to engage in the various opportunities for spiritual growth that our church offers. Whether it is through Bible study groups, the Learning More About the Episcopal Church Class, or volunteering in our community outreach programs, there is a place for everyone to contribute and to grow.

In the coming weeks, I urge you to participate and to invite others to join us in these endeavors.

Let us also remember to support one another in prayer. Prayer is a powerful tool that connects us to God and to each other. As we pray for our church, our leaders, and our community, let us also pray for those who are struggling, for those who are seeking, and for those who have yet to experience the love of Christ. Let us pray for unity in our country where our differences are celebrated and honored.

Together, we can make a difference. Together, we can grow in grace and in knowledge, becoming a stronger, more vibrant church that reflects the love of Christ in all that we do. Together, we can create a space where every single individual is welcome, excluding none. We are all members of the one Body of Jesus Christ.

We must rise above the hate, the anguish and the selfishness that infects our world today. We must look for and find Christ in ourselves and in one another. As Bishop Curry states, "If it's not about love, it's not about God." We must be a people of love, acceptance, and selflessness.

Thank you for your unwavering faith and dedication. May God bless each of you abundantly as we continue this journey together.

In His Service,
Fr. Jerry+

FROM THE MUSIC ROOM..



Greetings from the Music Room!

Yes, we can really call it a music room, as just yesterday we did hold our 'before service' rehearsal in there, and I had to laugh---we were all tripping over one another, and too, sounded as though we were singing in a coat closet!! ---and then, Voila! The moment we started to process up the aisle during the opening hymn, our voices meshed and a glorious sound started to unfold. Truly, the acoustic in the nave is quite magical. Everyone re-gained their musical equilibrium and could let their voices ring from the rafters.

Well, as it is February, Black History Month begins---and believe it or not, I do actually remember when this became an official celebration---it was in 1976 (that was the same year I had the great honor of singing for President Ford at Interlochen), and well, when you are a high school kid and something cool like that happens in your life, you tend to remember it!

So, while sitting down at my desk, I thought this might be a good opportunity for me to learn a little bit more about Black History Month and how it came to be. What I have learned is this: Waaaay back on February 7, in 1926, a brilliant American historian, Carter G. Woodson, started a celebration which he called "Negro History Week", (which ultimately evolved into Black History Month)---and this was initially created to help all African-Americans learn more about their history and scholarship. Who was Carter G. Woodson, you ask? Well, Carter G. Woodson was a Harvard educated (Berea College & University of Chicago) historian, journalist and author who founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. He is cited as one of the first scholars to study the history of the African diaspora, which includes African-American history. He was born in 1875 and lived until 1950. He did not live to see Black History Month become a national celebration, but he certainly was instrumental in helping this February celebration come to fruition. Quoting essayist, Daryl Michael Scott, "... Woodson selected February to encompass the birthdays of two great Americans who played a prominent role in shaping Black history, namely Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglas, whose birthdays are the 12th and the 14th, respectively".

I just wanted to mention that we celebrate African-American composers with the music we sing at St. Christopher, not just during the month of February. One great example of this is the music we sing regularly from our 1982 Hymnal. Many of the service music compositions we regularly sing are compositions of the incomparable musical titan, Dr. David Hurd. S-124, "Holy, Holy Holy Lord", and continuing, S-50, 77, 79, 81, 83, 84, 86, 100, 108, 124, 150, 151, 154, 161, 176, 216 and 277 are all Hurd compositions. Too, lest we not forget hymn settings, H-35, H-41 (Compline), H-104, (Anjudar), H-268, H-322, H-395, H-459, H-463, H-503, H-507, H-549, H-629. Dr. David Hurd is a composer and concert organist, choral director and educator. He attended the High School of Music and Art, the Juilliard School (alma mater of our own G. Donald Kaye) and Oberlin Conservatory (from where both Judy Conyers and Jeffrey Walker graduated). David Hurd is one of the world's most visible and successful classical organists who is African-American. He also has written a work for Saxophone and Organ...(Ken Duck, we are going to have to take a look at this!) "Sonata for Saxophone and Organ", commissioned by the Hall-Powers Duo, and premiered in Ljubljana, Slovenia, at the International Saxophone Congress in 2006.

Please, as this month unfolds, let us remember and celebrate the many gifted African-American musical geniuses who have touched our hearts---Florence Price, Margaret Bonds, Scott Joplin, William Grant Still, Wynton Marsalis, George Walker, Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, Undine Smith Moore, Julius Eastman to name just a few.

In Christ, I am Yours,
Nada



HEALING AND EUCHARIST SERVICE



The next Healing and Eucharist Service will be held Friday, February 7, 2025 at Noon. All are welcome to attend.

COFFEE HOUR



Thank you to everyone who hosted coffee hour in January.

There is a sign up sheet in Fellowship Hall. Please consider signing up to host! You only have to make coffee/tea and perhaps provide a small snack or treat item if desired.



Family Coat Closet

FREE FREE FREE FREE FREE

Every Saturday!
October through March
10am - Noon



Join us for Sunday Services!
8:00am and 10:15am

9020 S. Saginaw, Grand Blanc, MI (810) 694-3600



Men's GROUP

The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 9 am @ Hill Road Grille, 2160 W. Hill Road, Flint. Please sign up on the Kiosk.



Church Financial Report

The latest Vestry Meeting Minutes and Financial Statement are located on the kiosk in the narthex for review.

As announced at the Annual Meeting, all funds given toward pledges received in the current calendar year must be deposited and posted to the same calendar year. We can no longer accept advanced payment of pledges for the next calendar year. Thank you for your understanding.



Ladies' Group

The next Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, February 12th at 11:45 am at Aubree's Pizza & Grill, 11501 S. Saginaw St., Grand Blanc. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the kiosk or contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT



Hello from Sunny, Florida, as your new Senior Warden I look forward to learning my job. Senior Warden emeritus Ellen will provide guidance for me, I am sure.

I look forward to working with the vestry board and the staff, Jerry and Angela to meet the challenges of the new year. I also expect to hear from you as members of the church to make sure that we are heading in the right direction. We have many challenges to build upon the tremendous changes made last year at the church.

That's it for now.

Chapin Cook
Senior Warden



FOYER GROUPS 2025



For 2024-25 we are modifying our groups slightly due to attrition and new participants. Of course, we'd like additional participants and would gladly add groups. So, if this is a new concept to you and you ask, what are Foyer Groups...they are small groups of 3-8 persons sharing simple meals and fellowship, usually at the home of one of the members, though sometimes the group may gather at a restaurant or other venue. The intention is to have fun and provide an opportunity for us to meet each other and to become better acquainted. Each group typically meets monthly for a simple meal and relaxed conversation and the meetings typically last two to two and one-half hours. Foyer Groups are not intended to do anything, but simply to be what Christians are: groups of people who gather together and love one another so that friendships may grow. Each month, one of the members hosts a gathering. Foyer Groups are not a study or prayer group and they have no agenda other than spending time with one another, which is important for the building of Christian community in our parish. The uniqueness of the Foyer Group is its lack of formal structure, its openness of communication, and its free access given to the Spirit. Since some of our parishioners no longer drive at night, ride sharing and some daytime meetings are encouraged.

If you are interested in participating in a Foyer Group, please contact Ken Duck at ken.ducksr@icloud.com or by phone at (571) 232-1827.

Worship Leaders for February 2025						
	LECTOR / LEM	GREETERS	TECH	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	ALTAR FLOWERS
<u>February 2</u>						
8 am	Debbie Moses(LEM)/ Jane Brewer	Dave & Melissa Butler	-----	-----	Tom & Dianne Trevino	Available
10:15 am	Frank Burger	Mike Latesky & Renee Carpenter		Mary Van Duyne		
<u>February 9</u>						
8 am	Dave Butler(LEM)/ Dave & Melissa Butler	Don & Nancy Wells		-----	Available	Bill Anderson
10:15 am	Ken Duck Steve Huber (L)	Rod Pierson & Bill Anderson		Cindy Donner		
<u>February 16</u>						
8 am	Debbie Moses (LEM)	Dave & Melissa Butler	-----	-----	Available	Available
10:15 am	Linda Rathburn/ Andrew Jacob (L)	Jan Taylor & Bill Hartley		Shirley Showler		
<u>February 23</u>						
8 am	Nancy Wells (LEM)/ Kay Van Natta	Jane Brewer & Susan Arm- strong		-----	Available	Jane Brewer
10:15 am	Rod Bytwerk	Becky Stermer & Bill Anderson		Jane Brewer		

