



The

JULY 2025

Trumpeter

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church

Weekly Schedule

Sundays

8 am - Holy Eucharist Service

10:15 am - Holy Eucharist Service

Thursdays

11 am - Prayer and Bible Study (in Person)

From The Senior Warden

Hello to all members! I am happy to report that our air conditioning and heating issues are once again resolved for the existing future. It turned out to be a switch that needed to be turned for the air conditioning and we also found that we needed to repair bearings on our heating system. It's a 25 year-old building.

It's good to know that Jerry has returned from his travel and we are happy to have him back. Please remember him and his family and their health challenges that will probably be affecting us in the near future. Many thanks to Mike Carr for pinch hitting for Jerry for the last two weeks of June. We are so lucky to have Mike and Don available to us as members and available ministers.

I'm happy to report that we have planted some new bushes along the south side of the property that will help delineate our space from the neighbors. We will continue to work on the bricks and their borders along the front of the church.

You will soon notice that the painting of the doors will begin with the welcoming color of red. This is a tradition for the Episcopal churches, and we are happy to begin the process of repairing the doors and painting them.

I'm also happy to report that the Ally Challenge contract has been signed and we will again be providing parking for the golf outing across the street at Warwick Hills. There will be a sign-up sheet for volunteers posted in the narthex soon. Please volunteer as you can. The Challenge will be August 21st through the 24th this year.

I will be coming around to the different church services to provide an update on our improvements to the building. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Thanks.

Chapin Cook, Senior Warden

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Staff

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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

July 6

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 66:10-14
Psalm 66:1-8
Galatians 5:(1-6) 7-16
Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

July 13

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-9
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

July 20

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:1-15-28
Luke 10:38-42

July 27

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15, (16-29)
Luke 11:1-13

August 3

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49: 1-11
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

August 10

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6
Psalm 33:12-22
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
Luke 12:32-40

Find the readings every week at
lectionarypage.net



The Priest's Desk

"Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. 4 Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 5 When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' 6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. 7 Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages [a] would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 9 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' 10 Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they [b] sat down, about five thousand in all. 11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' 13 So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. 14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.' (John 6:3-14, NRSV)

We sometimes wonder why Jesus just didn't come right out and tell everyone who he was. Why does he always want to keep his true identity a secret? Even after 2,000 years, we still fail to understand who Jesus was and is and always will be.

In this passage, we see Jesus having compassion on those who came to hear him speak. Quite the crowd. Jesus knows that the people are tired and hungry. So what does he do? He feeds them. He supplies everything that they need and there is an abundance.

Abundance is a word that means different things to different people. For some, enough is never enough. Society still seems stuck with the idea that more is better. Yet, we always still want more. Why? It is possible that we have listened to the world instead of listening to our God. The news, the magazines, everything is always about more. And yet, if things are the cause of our happiness, we have completely missed the mark on who Jesus is and what he provides.

"His eye is on the sparrow" has always been a favorite song of mine.

"Whenever I am tempted,
Whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing,
When hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him;
From care He sets me free:
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me;
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.
I sing because I'm happy—

Continued on Page 4...

FROM THE PRIEST CONTINUED...

I sing because I'm free—
For His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me.

In all of my life, I have had highs and lows. There is one thing that I am certain about. God has always carried me through. I have more than I will ever need. I sometimes get discouraged by the world around me. It is difficult. It is challenging. It is filled with negativity. However, I must always remind myself that God will always carry me through. God will never abandon me. I also need to remind myself that there is so much goodness in the world. People working to end poverty, injustice, hunger, homelessness, addictions, and the list could go on and on. This work comes from people following Jesus.

Jesus gives us the example of what we should do. We are called to care for those around us. We are to feed them, to shelter them, to provide whatever resources they need. We are called to be people of action, love, hope, forgiveness, peace, justice, generosity. These are the things we must focus on if we dare to call ourselves followers of Jesus.

If Jesus has provided for me, how can I refuse another human being of their dignity? Oh, we sometimes don't like what the Gospels teach us about following Jesus. We often try to make God in our image, rather than us being made into God's image. We use scripture however we want, most of the time, out of context. We choose to ignore the command of Jesus to feed one another. To heal one another. We want the safety of our lives to be continued.

It's not about us! It's about how we are to live. Sometimes, that means we must hear things we don't want to hear. Discuss things that we don't want to discuss. Look at things from a different perspective. If it leads us to excluding others, it is not from God. If it invites us into God's redeeming plan for the world, invites us to care for one another, invites us to feed and shelter one another, then we might be able to call ourselves followers of Jesus.

"His eye is on the sparrow." I know he watches over us all. How then, can we ignore the injustice in the world? Go. Learn. Feed. Listen. Understand. Love. Forgive. Accept.

If we do not want for everyone what we want for ourselves, then we don't love God. We love entitlement.

Blessings,

Jerry+





Please note that the next Healing Service will be held on Friday, August 1, 2025 at noon.



Thank you to everyone who hosted coffee hour in June... Chapin Cook, Ellen Safley, Ken & Myrtle Duck, Shirley Showler, Christine Jacob and Jane Yorks.

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.



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.



The next Men's Breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 12, 2025 at 9 am @ Hill Road Grille, 2160 W. Hill Road, Flint. Please sign up on the Kiosk.




Have you been looking for a way to get more involved at St. Christopher's? We are looking for individuals that would be willing to volunteer for our Altar Guild Team. If you are interested, please contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334.



The next Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, July 9th at 11:45 am at Social House, 5516 Fenton Road, Flint. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the kiosk or contact Louise McAra at (810) 287-4334.





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Worship Leaders for July 2025

	LECTOR / LEM	GREETERS	TECH	ALTAR GUILD	COFFEE HOUR	ALTAR FLOWERS
<u>July 6</u>						
8 am	Debbie Moses (LEM)/Jane Brewer	Neuman & Jan Convis	-----	-----	Available	Jane Brewer
10:15 am	Ellen Safley	Louise De- granges & Becky Stermer		Jane Brewer		
<u>July 13</u>						
8 am	Dave Butler (LEM)	Jane Brewer & Susan Arm- strong		-----	Available	Available
10:15 am	Flo Gjerstad/ Ken Duck (L)	Rod Pierson & Jane Yorks		Shirley Showler		
<u>July 20</u>						
8 am	Nancy Wells (LEM)/Susan Armstrong	Dale & Sharon Rice	-----	-----	Tom & Dianne Trevino	Shirley Showler
10:15 am	Linda Rathburn	Becky Stermer & Rene Carpen- ter		Mary Van Duyne		
<u>July 27</u>						
8 am	Nancy Wells (LEM)/Kay Van Natta	Neuman & Jan Convis		-----	Available	Available
10:15 am	Bob Luckey	Jane Yorks & Flo Gjerstad		Cindy Donner		