

The Beehive

Vol. 34, Issue 8 * September 2018 * Christ Episcopal Church, Norway, ME 04268 * 207-743-6782

Dear Ones,

This summer I've been reading *The Overstory* by Richard Powers. It's a novel in which trees play an important role in developing both the plot and the characters. I have been forcing myself to read it in sips rather than gulps, in order to appreciate it on all its levels. One character plants a chestnut in the Midwest which survives the blight that wipes out the variety on the east coast, and he commits himself and descendants to photographing the tree month after month for years. Another character does experiments which lead her to conclude that trees communicate with one another and protect each other, even across species. Several meet each other as they attempt to protect an old-growth forest slated for clear-cutting. It's a beautiful and at times heart-breaking novel. As I type this I have about 50 pages left and I am already dreading coming to the end!

Pulsing beneath the entire narrative is a question about how we are connected to each other, to nature, and—although this is not a 'religious' book—to the Divine. How do our actions in one part of the ecosystem impact the whole? What difference does my small action make in the wider world—for good or ill? With whom is it difficult for me to acknowledge this connectedness, and why?

Interdependence is a deeply Christian concept. Jesus speaks of it in Matthew 25 (whatever you do to the least of these you do to me), Paul expresses it through the metaphor of the Body of Christ. It is challenging to our very American independent spirits to accept that we *need* each other, and that our differences can be celebrated rather than feared. Each person brings gifts to the good of the whole, as long as each person is willing to share what they have and accept what others offer. We have all been taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive—but there *is* a certain kind of grace in making space for someone else to make a contribution, even if it means changing 'how we've always done it.' It is a lesson I had to learn when, week after week, one of our Chapel Kids would make a point of offering me a cracker at coffee hour. It took me a while to notice the look of disappointment when I declined the gift. Finally I realized that these children were offering me the gift of *communion*, which they had just experienced at the altar rail. I have since learn to accept it with gratitude, even if it is really too sticky or crumbly to be eaten, and reaffirm that we are all connected.

And I thank God that they didn't give up offering it just because I was being too dense to understand what they were doing. We could all learn a lot about how to be good evangelists from those little kids!

Blessings,

Nancy+



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MILE OF PENNIES

We continue to collect pennies. Please bring your pennies to church and deposit them in the jar on the shelf outside the office.

They will benefit the Church Periodical Club to provide grants for books and materials for children.

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

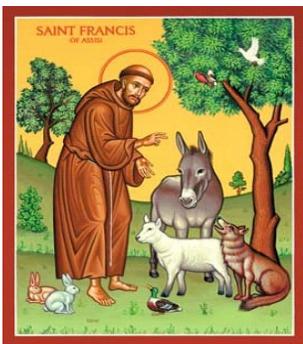
- 05 11:30 A.M. Roundtable/Bible Study
- 09 10:45 A.M. Blessing of the Backpacks
- 12 10:00 A.M. "Embracing the Silence"
- 11:30 A.M. Roundtable/Bible Study
- 13 11:30 A.M. Eucharist at Christ Church
- 16 11:30 A.M. Vestry
- 19 11:30 A.M. Roundtable/Bible study
- 23 10:45 A.M. Baptism: Malaikah & Kioko Mulandi
- 26 10:00 A.M. "Embracing the Silence"
- 11:30 A.M. Roundtable/Bible Study
- 27 11:30 A.M. Eucharist at Trinity Lutheran Church



Just a note to say thank you to everyone for all his/her support during the last few months. The cards and prayers were appreciated. A special thanks to those who attended the visiting hours or service and for helping with the reception. I am blessed to be part of a caring church.

- Susan Glines

DON'T FORGET!!



Animal Blessing

Thursday, October 4th at 4:30 P.M.



Do you want to get your Beehive by email? Just let us know!

SUNDAY WORSHIP—10:45 A.M.

EUCCHARIST—Wednesday at 9:00 A.M.

2018 CHRIST CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

Rector: The Rev. Canon Nancy L. Moore

Deacon: The Rev. Lanny Wenthe

Parish Secretary:	Linda Caradonna	743-6782	<u>Members of the Vestry</u>	
Warden::	Barbi Tinder	928-3603	Mary Bickford	515-1521
Warden:	Sue Emerson	743-5406	Bonnie Trundy (2021)	890-4038
Treasurer:	Tom Knight	743-8629	Kelley Wallace (2020)	890-4288
Clerk:	Jen Lehr	333-0661	Bruce Watts (2021)	973-800-6116

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Henry Stewart
- 08 Rachel Brennan
- 09 Wesley McFarland
- 10 William Gates
- Malaikah Mulandi
- 11 Peter Bickford
- Br. Matthias Tanner
- 12 Barbi Tinder
- 30 Scott Bickford



ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER

- 04 Br. Matthias & Carolyn Tanner
- 09 Mike & Sue Morin
- 16 Sandy & Audrey Luke
- 29 Ted & Bernice Kehn



Keep current with events at Christ Church.

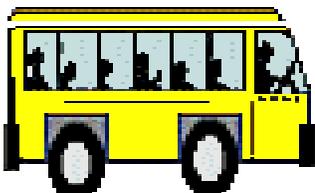
Website: www.christchurchnorway.me

Facebook: Christ Episcopal Church- Norway, Maine

Sing, sing a song...

Some of you were present for my sermon on August 19, when I talked about singing as a spiritual practice. I won't repeat myself here, but I want to propose an idea regarding choir. The 'regulars' will continue to sing every week (and anyone can become a regular!) but once a month will be 'special' choir Sunday, when those who join for special events but can't commit to every week will be encouraged to sing with the choir. This will help us prepare for January when the Lutherans will be worshipping here for a month. There are several singers in that congregation who might be willing to temporarily join the choir, if they know that's a pattern. Please speak to Susan Glines, our music minister, to indicate your interest.

LET'S PACK THE BUS



We are once again gathering school supplies for the local **"Pack the Bus"** program. This program was launched locally 19 years ago, and items collected are divided among all the local schools and distributed to students whose parents cannot afford items necessary to begin the school year. All items are greatly appreciated—whether backpacks for K – 12 students, or notebooks, pens, erasers, crayons, pencils, dividers, lunch bags, etc. There are collection boxes in the Guild Room. We will continue the collection until the end of September.



STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

I am a subscriber to the Plough Quarterly, a publication of the Bruderhof—"an international community of families and singles seeking to follow Jesus together." There are a number of issues in the church library, and I encourage you to explore them. Each issue is a visual delight, and a spiritual and intellectual challenge

Overall, the publication is about stewardship, of our response to the gifts GOD gives us, and about a life lived from the breadth and depth of a relationship with GOD that is the basis of all else. Every issue comes at such a life from a particular concern. The latest issue, Summer 2018, is entitled "The Soul of Medicine," a look at the spiritual dimensions of the practice of medicine, especially in relation to matters of living with terminal illness, severe disability, addiction, the potential for "designer babies," physical and emotional suffering.

A recurring motif in this issue that struck me, sticks with me, is the contrast between a view of human life that regards our bodies from a utilitarian prospective, and one that regards our bodies and souls as gifts of GOD. The first view takes any evidence of human frailty or suffering as obstacles to be overcome if at all possible, as an unacceptable harm to the value of a human person. When these cannot be overcome, there is an inclination to cut short the suffering by cutting short the life. The second view, much rarer these days, recognizes first the eternal value of human life, and then addresses the need for us to cherish it, guard it, and allow it to unfold as it is given to us. We are encouraged to search out all the ways of physical and emotional healing we can find, look for all the ways to prevent illness of any sort.

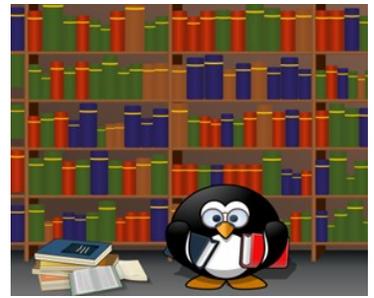
But in all circumstances, our own or the particulars of those we love, and in the lives of strangers, we are called to look for that of GOD in them and cherish it, regardless of their condition, regardless of what they are able or unable to do. We are called to be caretakers of our own lives and those of any and all others...to be stewards of human life itself.

- Br. Matthias Tanner, O.S.L.

TIME TO CHECK OUT THE **CHURCH LIBRARY**

A great selection awaits you.

This month's suggestion: -



Sometime within the past few months someone left a stack of Plough Quarterly magazines on a bookcase shelf in our church library. I was interested in seeing them because back in the late '70's I subscribed to this magazine. The reason I subscribed was because of our interest in the Bruderhof community which publishes this magazine. On a visit back to see my parents, we had stopped to visit the Bruderhof community near Walden, New York, a few miles west of where I went to high school. We were given a tour which included a visit to their children's furniture and wooden toys ("Community Playthings") operations.

The Bruderhof is a worldwide religious denomination with an Arminian theology. The group originated in Moravia (a part of Germany northeast of Bavaria) back in 1920 and is an outshoot of the Hutterites who are mostly settled now in the western Canadian provinces. They (the Bruderhof) practice adult baptism, non-violence, pacifism, proclamation of the Gospel and full community of goods (no private property): see Acts 2 and 4. Since their founding, the members have spread to great Britain, Paraguay, Australia and the United States. According to one source, there are now 13 Bruderhof communities in the U.S. According to a kind of mission statement in the front of their magazine, they are "committed to a way of radical discipleship in the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount."

The articles in their magazines are by no means reminiscences on the past. The editor's letter in the Summer 2017 issue speaks about the "fakeness" of today's American culture and rails against consumerist advertising, the dehumanizing of our present-day polarizing politics and the perils of multitasking. And how "a loss of inner integrity can have terrifyingly real results for entire nations." In other parts of the magazine re book reports, news important to Christians, essays such as "inwardness in a distorted age", "Activist Mystics", "Waiting in Silence" by a leader in the Quaker movements, "Saving Silence" (an article featuring a group of Roman Catholic monastics by the name of Carthusians), articles on the Benedict Option and sketches of three Roman Catholic priests working in Syria.

I may have been just lucky, picking up an issue that has so many good parts to it, but I rather believe that this high quality is due to a striving for excellence. I invite parishioners to borrow a copy from the library and make up your own mind.

- Ted Kehn

NOTES FROM NANCY:

The annual **Blessing of the Backpacks** will occur on Sunday, September 9. I know the kids will have already had a week in school by then, but it is still an opportunity for us to offer a blessing upon them as they begin the new school year. We welcome ANY child who would like to participate in this blessing--it's a great opportunity for our 'regulars' to invite a friend to church. Have them bring their backpacks with them to church that day (and if they don't use a backpack, any tote will do!).

We are collecting **school supplies** through the end of September, which will be distributed to the schools. Items that are particularly welcomed are: pencils (the plain yellow ones are preferred); small boxes of crayons (8 or 16 count); one-subject notebooks, composition books, glue sticks, blunt -end scissors, inexpensive headphones (on a band, please, not earbuds!), tissues, hand sanitizer...if it's used in school, I'm sure someone will find a use for it and appreciate the donation!

Thursday Eucharist/Communion

Our experiment of offering Eucharist/Communion one Thursday a month at each congregation continues through October, and resume it again next spring. We will continue our pattern of the second Thursday (9/13, 10/11) at Christ Church, the fourth Thursday (9/27, 10/25) at Trinity. Episcopalians: if you miss the Elizabethan English of Rite 1, this is your chance to hear it!

St. Francis Day Animal Blessing

St. Francis Day, October 4, lands in the middle of the week this year. Rather than move it to the nearest Sunday, we're going to try something a little different this year. We'll gather on Thursday, October 4, at 4:30 at Christ Church for an animal blessing, a time to remember animals who have died in the past year, and an ingathering of supplies for Responsible Pet Care. We'll do some advertising ahead of time to encourage the community to participate. It would be great to offer light refreshments, and how about a few games for the kids to play? I'd love to have a few people work with me to pull this together.



Ah, September! I enjoy this month for many reasons! Mostly for the changing of the seasons. Those long hot days of August on, in, or near the water are becoming less frequent. The pace of life changes from summer break to school days, vacation time has refreshed us or is refreshing us, The expectation in New England of the glorious burst of colors during the beginning of autumn coincides locally with the Oxford County fair. Growing up, I always enjoyed the fair as it was a reason to return to Maine and see my grandparents.

September is also a time of changing rhythms. Children starting their school year, changing weather temperatures, color beginning to show on deciduous trees, the beat of wings as birds start their travels to warmer climates, and the time of saying “good byes,” “safe travels,” and “see you next year” to our seasonal residents. The one change I try to put off acknowledging for as long as possible is the length of the daylight hours and its harbinger of what is ahead.

What continues are our connections with others, our abilities to continue or find what strengthens us and how we can reach out a hand to offer help or ask to receive help. With our diversity of: families with school age children, families with grown children close by or at a distance, families who are a couple and families that are one person locally and family members at a distance, how can our parish-wide family help and support one another?

As you go through September, I encourage you to look for the appearance of two trees on our bulletin boards and leaves that can be placed on the “giving trees.” The leaves would be for ways we can give of ourselves and ways we can collaborate to achieve an objective in the parish, neighborhood or community. Please be sure to include your name on the leaf so that groups may be able to created with similar interests to accomplish the objectives.

Keep an eye on the trees and watch them flourish with color, just like the fall foliage! Which one do you want to participate in! Let's connect with others that have similar interests.

- Barbi Tinder

YARD SALE SUCCESS!!

This year's yard sale was a huge success! We made over \$1700.00. Many thanks to everyone who helped us load up things at Dr. Harper's home last fall to store in our barn.

On Sunday, August 12 I announced in church that we needed help on Monday, August 13th. WOW! What a response! Several parishioners showed up, so we were able to move 99% of the items in the barn.

We set up on the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday before the yard sale, and it was nice to see several different parishioners show up to unpack, set up, price, wash and do anything else that needed to be done. Thanks for all your hard work. During one of the set up days, I learned a new way of pricing things. It is called “color coding,” and we will be using this pricing method in the future. Many Thanks to Mary Crane for this helpful tip!

Friday night Kelley and Christen spent the night setting up and baking. Nice job ladies!

Saturday came, we had a nice crew of parishioners helping. We had lots of fun and made a lots of cash!

Many, Many Thanks to all the **hard** workers! And thanks also to all of you who donated items for the sale!

- Christine Hebert

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 35 Paris Street, Norway, ME 04268



SEPTEMBER 2018

WORSHIP & OTHER PERSONNEL - SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 2018

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO SERVE ON A SCHEDULED DATE, PLEASE FIND A REPLACEMENT. LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW THAT PERSON'S NAME BY THE WED. MORNING BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED DAY.

Coffee Hour will be AFTER church.

	SEPT. 02	SEPT. 09	SEPT. 16	SEPT. 23	SEPT. 30
<u>EUCH.</u>					
<u>MINISTER</u>	Barbi Tinder	Sue Emerson	Mary Bickford	Tom Knight	Peter Bickford
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	Doug Wall	Carlyn Kroitzsh	Peter Bickford	Peter Hammond	Mary Bickford
<u>LECTORS</u>	B. Tinder –OT/Pr. P. McFarland.-Ps./NT	S. Emerson-OT/Pr. Br. Matthias-Ps./NT	M. Bickford--OT/Pr. T. Kehn.--Ps./NT	T. Knight.--OT/Pr. P.McFarland-Ps/NT	Peter B..—OT/Pr. Br. Matthias.-Ps./NT
<u>USHERS</u>	Martha Eaton Herb Somers	Tom Knight Wes McFarland	Peter Hammond Christine Hebert	Peter & Mary Bickford	Don & Cece Adamson
<u>COUNTERS</u>	Peter Hammond Carolyn Tanner	Tom Knight Carlyn Kroitzsh	Priscilla McFarland Peter Hammond	Carlyn Kroitzsh Peter Bickford	Carolyn Tanner Mary Bickford
<u>COFFEE</u>	Jeff Stuhr			JoAnn Somers Cece Adamson	Volunteer needed!
<u>HOURLY</u>	Holly Utt	Bernice Kehn	Kathy Parsons		
<u>ALTAR</u>	<u>Aug. 25—Sept. 07</u>	<u>Sept. 08-Sept. 21</u>		<u>Sept. 22—Oct. 05</u>	
<u>GUILD</u>	Jan Wall Merton Lord	Martha Eaton T. Cunningham		Mary Bickford Carlyn Kroitzsh	
<u>CHAPEL</u>					
<u>SHEPHERD</u>	Susan Glines	Martha Eaton	Jen Lehr	Barbi Tinder	Martha Eaton

	07 OCTOBER	14 OCTOBER	21 OCTOBER	28 OCTOBER
<u>EUCH.</u>				
<u>MINISTER</u>	Allan Crane	Mary Bickford	Barbi Tinder	Peter Hammond
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	Peter Hammond	Peter Bickford	Doug Wall	Priscilla McFarland
<u>LECTORS</u>	A. Crane—OT/Pr. T. Kehn-Ps./NT	M. Bickford-OT/Pr. Br. Matthias-Ps./NT	B. Tinder-OT/Pr. P. McFarland-Ps./NT	P. Hammond-OT/Pr. T. Kehn-Ps./NT
<u>USHERS</u>	Wes McFarland Martha Eaton	Rosemary Laban Tom Knight	Peter & Mary Bickford	Don and Cece Adamson
<u>COUNTERS</u>	Tom Knight Peter Bickford	Mary Bickford Carolyn Tanner	Tom Knight Peter Hammond	Mary Bickford Priscilla McFarland
<u>COFFEE</u>	Patty Watts		Volunteer needed!	Volunteer needed!
<u>HOURLY</u>	& a Volunteer	Rosemary Laban		
<u>ALTAR</u>	<u>Sept. 22—Oct. 05</u>	<u>Oct. 06—Oct. 19</u>	<u>Oct. 20—Nov. 02</u>	
<u>GUILD</u>	Mary Bickford Carlyn Kroitzsh	Bernice Kehn Bonnie Trundy	Jan Wall Merton Lord	
<u>CHAPEL</u>				
<u>SHEPHERD</u>	Susan Glines	Barbi Tinder	Jen Lehr	Martha Eaton