

2025 January 2

Dear Ones,

Happy New Year!

I am taking a couple of days off, so this is being written way back in 2024 (better known as Tuesday). I am grateful to Br. Matthias for taking on preaching duties. I'll still be here to celebrate the Eucharist.

This change of year brings big changes to our Christ Church community. We sent Linda off with our love and hugs last Sunday. I will miss her very much, but I am so glad she and Pete have this chance to be with family in their retirement.

I hope you have a chance to meet our new parish secretary, Liz Hamilton, over the next few weeks. We are still finalizing her schedule, but it will be Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. We are shifting some job responsibilities around, so bear with us as we settle into a new routine. Good things coming!

In the meantime....*keep the faith*,
Nancy+

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-6 * Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14 * Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a * Matthew 2:1-12

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Carolyn Tanner (1/6)

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

SUN: 9:30 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM Eucharist In-person & online
After Church: vestry meet briefly
WED: 9:00 AM Eucharist/Bible Study
THU: 9:00 AM Christ Church Book Group/Zoom
7:15 PM Zoom Compline

CREATION CARE TIPS

What a Waste!

We're all a little guilty of wasting things – wasting time, wasting gas, wasting food, wasting money. But this is a new year, time to turn over a new leaf, break habits, or start over. We don't really need January 1 to try something new, though, do we? Every day is a new beginning. And we all want to waste less! Have you ever turned off the television – or walked out of the movie theater – and muttered, "What a waste of time and money?" Or idled your car while waiting for someone to get in or out of it? Or bought a cheap imitation and broke it in record time? We can't eliminate waste, but we sure can reduce it.

The native people of North America, before it was even named, knew how to reduce waste. We learned in elementary social studies classes how the indigenous people used every part of the deer and buffalo they killed, and after enjoying the whole fish cooked over an open fire, used the fish entrails and heads for fertilizer. I'm

not ready to follow step by step in their footsteps, but I would like to emulate their frugality and resourcefulness. Of course, as always, there's a catch.

What's the catch? The Indigenous people of North America did not have fluorescent lights, mercury halogen lamps, leaded crystal, or other glass items that contain hazardous wastes. And they didn't have prescription drugs that remain in drinking water after tertiary water treatment (the highest level of treatment, which we used to think would render sewer water pristine and potable). Nor turpentine, Turf-builder, weedkillers, or an aerosol can of Raid. So, if I were to bury my wastes, after removing all the recyclables from my waste stream, I would probably end up polluting my backyard. My solution, therefore, would be to send my wastes away from my home. Yup, NIMBY! Not In MY Back Yard! So, where does it go?

If you live in Buckfield, Minot, or Poland, or you have ABC Rubbish pick up your trash, your trash goes to Auburn, to Maine Waste to Energy, a company that "processes over 72,000 tons of trash per year, and helps reduce landfill volumes and greenhouse gas emissions by disposing of accepted materials at [their] facility." Their website says they reduce trash volume by 90%, while generating power and reducing pollution!

Here's a list of places in our area that trash goes to: (I'm listing them by web address, so it's convenient to look for more information, if you want to learn more)

www.ecomaine.org/ Portland, waste-to-energy facility "Maine's Leader in Sustainable Waste Management"

local.casella.com/Recycling/ME/Scarborough-ME

www.mainewastenergy.com/ Auburn, Waste Management for Renewable Energy

Are you interested in touring one of these facilities? There are tours available! Let me know; we could make a field trip out of it and be the first church in the area to do so!

Perhaps all of us can make the same new year's resolution – to reduce our waste and be sure it ends up helping more than it hurts the environment.

– Patty

Hurt not the earth—neither the sea—nor the trees. Revelation 7:3

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Report submissions due by January 19

January 25 1 PM Funeral for Marcia Pottle Volunteers to help with the reception, please speak to Rosemary Laban.

Nametags Please wear your nametag while you're here. You can leave it in the basket outside Nancy's office as you leave and it will be returned it to the board.

For ongoing and up-to-date information about diocesan activities and news, as well as news from other congregations, sign up for **the DioLog**. <https://episcopalmaine.org/newsletter/>

MINISTRIES LIST

This week:

Lector 1:	Jason Long
Psalmist:	Bella Long
Lector 2:	Tom Knight
Acolyte:	Doug Wall
Euch. Mi.:	Tom Knight
Chap. Shep.:	Sandy W. & Susan Glines
Usher:	Peter Hammond
Altar Guild:	Jan Wall
Coffee Hour:	Christine Hebert & Peter Hammond
Counter:	Tom Knight
Closer:	Tom Knight

Next week:

Lector 1:	Fran Martin
Psalmist:	Peter Hammond
Lector 2:	Rosemary Laban
Acolyte:	Evangeline Lehr
Euch. Mi.:	Peter Hammond
Chap. Shep.:	Sandy W. & Jen Lehr
Usher:	Rosemary Laban
Altar Guild:	Caroline Leonard
Coffee Hour:	TBD
Counter:	Peter Hammond
Closer:	Peter Hammond