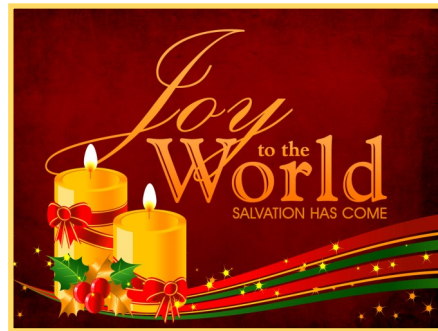


Footsteps of St. Christopher's December 2024



*Our Vision: "To know
Christ and to Show Christ"*

Important Dates for December:

Sunday Service Rite II at 9:00 am

Men's Breakfast at Perkins, Wednesdays at 8:30 am.

Holy Eucharist, Thursdays, 11:30 am-noon

Bible Study, noon-1:00

- December 5, *Last Bible Study, noon-1:00 pm*
- December 6, *First Friday Coffee, 10:00 am*
- December 7, *St. Elizabeth's Guild, 9:00 am*
- December 13, *DOK, 1:00 pm*
- December 16, *Newsletter articles due*
- December 18, *Vestry, 6:00 pm*
- December 24, *Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist, 4:00 pm*
- **December 25, Merry Christmas! (office closed)**
- December 30, *Newsletter mailing & out to lunch, 10:30*



Please note that there will be no Pizza and Prayer with a Priest this month.

See you in January!



The Cutting of St. Christopher's Christmas Tree!

On Saturday, November 23rd, Father Paul drove to the Snowy Range and on Sand Lake Road cut down the most beautiful Christmas tree for Parish Hall!



The youth of St. Christopher's will be decorating it on Tuesday, November 26th. If you're interested in cutting down

your own tree, permits are \$10 and can be bought online through the Forest Service. Beautiful, Father Paul!



Prayer, Service, and Evangelism

THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Daughters of the King is an order of Episcopal women that was started in Philadelphia in 1885 for the express purpose of Evangelism and daily praying.



Our Chapter, Bishop Talbot Chapter, was founded in 1892. We meet monthly at St. Christopher's where we share and culminate with Eucharist. Our next meeting will be **Friday, December 13th.**

If interested in joining please contact the church office at 307.632.4488.

Altar

Ministry

is open to everyone.

If you are interested in finding out about

what Altar

Ministry does, please join members during their post service duties in the sacristy after the 9:00 am service or ask any member.

Ruth Ferguson



First Friday Coffee at St. Christopher's

A friendly group meets the first Friday of every month at 10:00 am for coffee and fellowship. December's coffee will meet on the 6th at St. Christopher's.

All are welcome!



Men's Breakfast at Perkins

Mark you calendars for every Wednesday at 8:30 am for Men's Breakfast at Perkins restaurant!



Bible Study with Dolores Dionne

On Thursdays through **December 5th**, a dedicated group meets to study the Holy Scriptures which sustains the church and helps guide us in our daily lives. **Acts** is the book studied during this session.

All participate in sharing interpretations and life's experiences.

Some arrive at 11:30 to celebrate Holy Communion in the sanctuary and is administered by Father Paul Crips.

Study starts at noon and ends at 1:00 pm. All are welcome.

(Classes will resume again in February, 2025).



St. Christopher's Bazaar & Craft Show

A few words from Lynda Hardgrave:



"This year's craft show was Saturday, November 23rd and ran from 9:00 am till 2:00 pm. Lunch was served and was well



attended! Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's craft show. Again it was a big success and many thanks to all who volunteered; from the setting up of the tables and breaking them down, to the help in the kitchen as well as the ladies at the bakery tables!

Our congregation is amazing. The raffle basket is full of items from St. Elizabeth's Guild. There's still time to buy a raffle if you haven't already.



And this year we have a special raffle donation hand made by Father Paul. It's a beautiful jewelry box made from walnut. Drawing for



both items will be Dec. 1st after the church service. (\$1 for one and \$5 for 6). See me during the craft show or anytime before the 1st!" Lynda





The History of Advent Candles

Advent means “coming or arrival,” and the reason for the season is anticipation and preparation for the birth of the Christ child and His second coming. In the early church, however, it was a time for candidates to prepare for church membership. After the fourth century, it became a time for preparation for Christmas, and penitence was added as a standard for the whole church in the Middle Ages!

Now, many Christian churches are again shifting the emphasis of Advent from a penitential season, such as Lent, to a celebration of hope and anticipation. That in no means takes away from the fact that Advent is also a time of preparation and introspection.

In an effort to again distinguish between Advent and Lent, some denominations have changed the color of Advent to various shades of blue. Some Roman Catholic churches have changed to a blue violet. Although we, as Episcopalians, all grew up with purple and red violet, the early 12th century Black Canon of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre ordered black as the color for Advent! But, blue is by no means new to our church either. Before the 12th century, it was used in the Western Church.

The Sarum Rite was the original basis for the liturgy of the Anglican Book of Common Prayer and where blue was used for the color of Advent. It was often specified that it be an indigo to represent the darkness before the birth. Early art shows church leaders in ornately decorated blue robes. Shades of blue symbolize royalty, the coming of the King, hope, the night sky before the dawn, the sea before creation, and Mary. Remember early dyes were made from nature. Some historians suggest that northern European dyes were made from berries that produced blue while southern Europe was able to make purple dyes.

Tradition puts the rose-colored candle in the Advent wreath---not to symbolize Mary, but to reflect the lessening emphasis on penitence, the nearing of the end of the fast, the pending birth, and the second coming. Rose or pink represents joy. The 3rd Sunday in Advent marks the halfway point, and we are allowed to be excited for the coming event. In the Roman Catholic tradition, it is called Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin for “rejoice.” It takes its name from one of the traditional readings from Philippians which begins, “Rejoice in the Lord always.”

The dark blue was chosen to represent the night sky before creation. The four stripes represent the four weeks of Advent with the 3rd rose-colored stripe indicating Gaudete Sunday. The tau cross is referred to as an anticipatory cross, and it is one of the traditional symbols for Advent. The design was kept simple to reflect the tone of the season.



Found in a church bulletin:

“Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones”.

St. Christopher's Committees

<i>LITURGICS</i>	The Rev. Kristin Lee, The Rev. Paul Crips
<i>ALTAR MINISTRY</i>	Ruth Ferguson
<i>DOK</i>	Karen Boehner & Judy Cuthbertson
<i>BIBLE STUDY</i>	Dolores Dionne
<i>ST. ELIZABETH'S</i>	Lynda Hardgrave
<i>GIFTS AND BEQUESTS</i>	Ruth Ferguson
<i>FINANCE/BUDGET/AUDIT</i>	Alex Bowler
<i>GARDEN</i>	Gene Williams
<i>BUILDING AND GROUNDS</i>	Gene Williams/Lynda Hardgrave



The Ministries

VESTRY

- Gene Williams—Senior Warden
- Lynda Hardgrave —Junior Warden
- Marla Norman—Treasurer
- Mary Beth Crips—Clerk
- Louisa Vigil
- John Sullivan
- Trapper Harris
- Alex Bowler
- Janet Osborn
- Dorothy Stevens
- The Rev. Paul Crips and The Rev. Kristin Lee



STAFF, CLERGY, AND CONTRACT WORKERS

- Organist/Music Director—Alaina Neiman
- Treasurer—Marla Norman
- Administrative Assistant—Trudy Soland
- Priests—The Rev. Kristin Lee & The Rev. Paul Crips

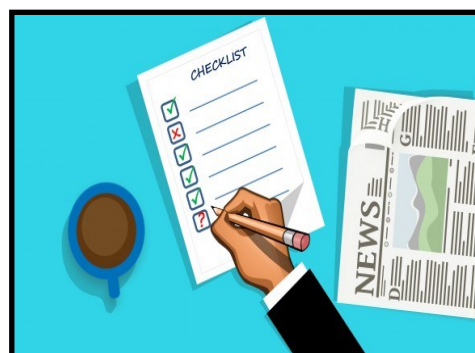
DIOCESAN DELEGATES

- Bonnie Gonzales
- Randy Hardsocg

ALTERNATES

- Janet Osborn
- Amy Sullivan

Treasurer's Report for St. Christopher's Church October 2024



Checking	\$ 5,944.05	
Savings	\$ 1,028.37	
Money Market	\$ 75,214.53	
SSGA	\$ 33,788.78	
Total	\$115,975.73	
Pizza, Prayer, Priest	\$ 5,106.51	
Total St. Christopher's Fund		
\$110,869.22		

December Birthdays: May each Celebrant have a Blessed Day!



December 2 Ken Chance
December 3 Claudette Pesicka
December 4 Nick Lewis
December 9 Louis Ferguson
December 29 Tom Lee

The Birthday and Anniversary list needs to be updated, so any changes and/or additions please let the office know at 632.4488, thanks!

Father Paul's Corner

Science and the Star of Bethlehem



As many of you know, I am passionate about astronomy. Being a former NASA Solar System, and Christa McAuliffe Fellow, I've been blessed with working alongside other researchers and educators who have the same passion.



Being supplied with good equipment, such as a large aperture Newtonian Optical Tube Assembly, and now a Schmidt Cassegrain OTA, the hunt for those celestial objects goes beyond simply looking up at the night sky with the unaided eye.

Being familiar with cosmology and stellar evolution, there are many theories on what the star of Bethlehem was. This includes an alignment of both Jupiter and Venus that occurred at roughly the same time as Jesus's birth. Other scientists believe that a bright star, such as the dog star, Sirius in Canis Major was what the Magi, Gaspar, Melchoir, and Balthasar observed. Sirius is one of the closest stars, being only 7.5 light years away from our sun.

My own personal belief is that a supernova, or an exploding star is what the Magi observed. A supernova can be so bright that it outshines even the brightest of solar system planets, even when they are at conjunction, or closest distance from our planet. I back this up with a possible supernova that might occur soon called Betelgeuse, which is 650 light years away from earth. Betelgeuse, which is almost one-thousand times larger than our sun is so large that it would devour planets all the way out to the orbit of Jupiter from its massive size. If Betelgeuse supernova's soon it will be brighter than a full moon.



Regardless of the scientific perspective, my faith and belief in the Gospels is all the proof I need to know that the Bethlehem star was real, and it illuminated the most wonderful gift to all of mankind, the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Father Paul

Embracing St. Christopher's Family with John & Karen Boehner

John says, "Karen was born in Harrisburg, PA. and was baptized at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Easter, 1956 which happened to be April Fools Day!" Karen says, "When it was announced that the air force base where my father worked would be closed, my father began looking for another job. He was a Human Resources specialist. That took us to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. My father's career meant moves to Hampton, VA, Omaha, NE and Lakewood, CO. My parents returned to Colorado Springs after my father's retirement. I graduated from high school in Omaha then attended Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln. I remained in Lincoln after graduation and moved to Colorado Springs in March, 1981. My first job in Colorado Springs was at the Cadillac & Lake City Railway. It was there that I met John. I'm still in touch with friends I met during my tenure there. I moved to Cheyenne in November, 1987. A month later I was hired by the accounting department of DePaul Hospital; now known as the 'east building' of Cheyenne Regional Medical Center. I began and ended my career at that building, retiring in 2015. John was born January 22, 1952 in Orange, New Jersey and at that time my family and I resided in Montclair, New Jersey. In December 1953 we moved to the house my parents had just purchased in Little Falls, New Jersey where I attended Grammar School and High School. When I was 15, I would go to NYC by myself. "Outings" with friends took us to Philly and all around the Tri-State area and vacationing in the west in the 1960s by auto. ("See the U.S.A. in your Chevrolet!"). In September of 1971 we decided to pack up and move to Littleton, Colorado. John says, "After High School Graduation in June 1970, and taking the summer off, I hired on with Erie Lackawanna Railroad as an Extra Board Yard Clerk. The economy was not good due to winding down the Viet Nam war, and that job didn't last as long as I would have liked. My application for employment with Union Pacific was accepted and I went to work for them in April 1977. Qualifying as a Switchman, Brakeman, Conductor, then in 1998 Fireman and December 1998, Locomotive Engineer running between Cheyenne, Rawlins, and Green River. I retired on May 1, 2010 after 33 years of service. Karen and I were married October 27, 1989 in West Berlin, Germany; two weeks before the Berlin Wall fell. At that time, railroaders who got married were obligated to have the ceremony and "Party" at the Plains Hotel. 😊 Handwritten notices announcing the big event were posted in the Register Room and all inbound Train and Engine Crews were invited. The Groom would end up in the Bar with his co-workers. 😊 I had been to a few of these. No, we didn't want to do that. We didn't know anyone in West Berlin, so that seemed like an adventure. It sure was. I was Baptized at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in West Orange, New Jersey and attended church at St. Agnes Episcopal in Little Falls. I have been a member of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church since August 1981.

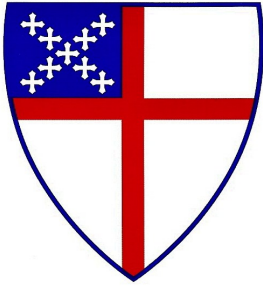
The photo was taken Easter Sunday 1960, in front of St. Agnes Episcopal Church in Little Falls, New Jersey.



My Mother, Dad,
Karen
my younger
Brother, Roger, and
myself.

Dad was a WWI
Veteran. I still like
to wear a "Sunday
Go To Meeting"
hat". 😊





Sent From:

Saint Christopher's Episcopal Church

2602 Deming Blvd, Cheyenne, WY 82001

Send to:

*The Reverend Kristin Lee, Priest
The Reverend Paul Crips, Priest
Gene Williams, Senior Warden
307.632.4488*

*Footnote Articles are due by the 3rd Monday of the month. Please email them to:
stchrischeyenne@outlook.com*

*Check out our website at:
www.stchrischeyenne.org*