

The Visitor



The Needful Thing



The Rev. Nicholas
Morris-Kliment, Rector

Thelma and Louise were taking me for a walk the other day. Keeping my eyes on the pavement in front of me, hoping to avoid tripping on their leashes, I saw a collection of colorfully painted stones at the base of a street sign. You can see pictures of those stones in this issue of the *Visitor*. Maybe you saw some yourself.

Written upon the stones were pithy, encouraging, and sometimes funny, aphorisms. My favorite that day was this: “Being an adult is like folding a fitted sheet: no one really knows how.”

In subsequent days, in other places on different streets, I saw more stones.

Another favorite, funny in a serious kind of way, and one that offered me some Spirit-filled guidance: “Do more things that make you forget to check your phone.”

That is my goal for this summer; and in fact, it should always be my goal.

Do more things like: offer gratitude for the gift of life; love my neighbor; pray for an enemy; forgive someone; come away for a while and rest; seek and serve Christ in all persons; respect the dignity of every human being; cherish the wondrous works of God; do the thing that’s most needful in the moment. Which, by the way, is almost never checking my phone. (OK, except for maybe checking the Women’s World Cup scores.)

The Sunday Gospel reading for July 21st features Martha and Mary, sisters who are disciples of Jesus. Jesus has arrived at their house, and Martha is working hard at being a good hostess. Mary is sitting at Jesus’ feet, being a good student, absorbing his every word. Martha expresses her resentment. Jesus opines, “You are distracted by many things. There is need of only one thing. And Mary is doing it.”

Now, the Marthas of our world too often get a raw deal. They do the hard work behind the scenes that allows the Marys to sit in contemplation. Then they get chastised for “busyness.” I can easily imagine some other scene, not captured in one of the Gospels, with Jesus saying to Mary, “Get up and pitch in. It’s Martha’s turn to sit at my feet and be refreshed.”

My summer hope is that we will know more and more in the moment what the needful thing is—to be like Martha, or to be like Mary. I hope doing the needful thing brings me, and you, closer to Jesus. If so, I bet we will forget to check our phones.

Faithfully,
Nick+



Open to the Spirit and Moving Forward

A message from Jeff Murphy and Stan Hitron, Wardens

Despite the unfortunate setback of losing our Associate, your Vestry has been steadily working on accomplishing the goals set at our annual retreat this March. We want to make sure that the parish understands how this transition has unfolded since parish meetings on May 12 and 19.

Our Diocesan leadership has been extremely supportive and has facilitated getting Scottie into residential treatment to work on her recovery. Her letter of employment with Christ Church ended on June 30th. In consultation with the Wardens and subsequently the Vestry, Nick has decided not to renew her contract. Given the Bishop's restriction on her practice of ordained ministry, and the associated uncertainty of her future status, we felt it best to move forward and begin exploring possible staffing arrangements to assist Nick with pastoral duties and to oversee ministries with children, youth and families. This staffing review will need to include a thoughtful assessment of our available financial resources. In addition, the Rev. Canon William Parnell, Canon to the Ordinary, will be coming to Christ Church to explain and answer questions about the Diocesan role in the situation with Scottie. Bill will join us Thursday, July 11 at 7pm, and then again on Sunday, July 21, when he will be our guest preacher, and stay for Lemonade Hour for questions and answers.

As part of our Vestry plan for 2019, a knowledgeable and experienced working group led by Phil Trussell and Joe Leghorn has been working to gain a better understanding of some zoning and building restrictions on our 61 Rosemary Street property and to determine how to best move forward with the possible disposition of this property. Several possibilities are being explored. A special Vestry meeting is being held on July 23rd to further discuss and consider the best course forward.

Another experienced working group, chaired

by Dusty Hecker and Joe Sweeney, is working on securing rental agreements for church space. Rental income has been a vital source of revenue to fund our operating expenses. We expect to have a contract with the Expressions After School program for the 2019-2020 school year and a contract with Total Eclipse Dance Studio for use of more space that will bring in more additional income than was originally expected for this year.

Work is proceeding on our buildings with funds received from the Walsh bequest. The Vestry has accepted our hard-working Property Committee's recommendations which have included replacing basement entrance doors, sections of the roof and flashing, as well as stucco and wood trim repair, painting on the main Church and Chapel, stained glass repair in the main Church, and installation of new oven and cooktop vital to our Shelter Cooking ministry in the Fellowship Hall kitchen.

Stay tuned for plans to celebrate the 125th Anniversary Celebration. In addition to the Bishop's visit on Sunday, October 27, a possible celebratory dinner/fundraiser, and a yearlong music and art program focusing on the historical development of these genres are all being considered. Ask Nick if you would like to be involved in this celebration, or to suggest further ideas.

Our critical outreach ministries continue this summer—see elsewhere in this Visitor for B-Safe and Shelter Cooking schedules for opportunities to love our neighbors in Boston.

We wish you God's grace and the blessings of a joyous and restorative summer.

Your Wardens,

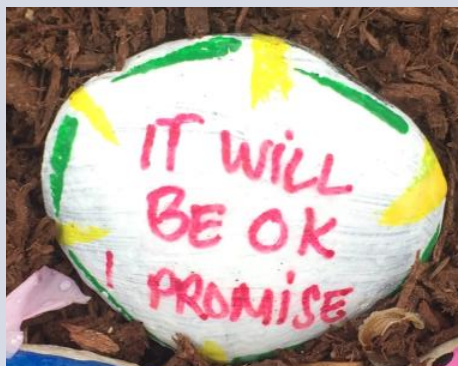
Stan Hitron & Jeff Murphy



Stan Hitron, Warden



Jeff Murphy, Warden



Nick's Vacation Schedule

Nick will be taking vacation and continuing education time from July 15 through July 18, and again from July 29 through Aug 4.

Graduation news...

We would love to share your news of your high school and college graduates as well as other milestones. Please contact Donna Vello for publication in the September issue of the Visitor.

donna.vello@gmail.com



Summer Worship Schedule:

June 16 – September 1

Worship Service in the air-conditioned Chapel—9:00am and 5:30pm each Sunday.

A Potluck meal will be shared after the 5:30pm service on Sunday, July 28 & Sunday, August 25

Weather permitting, services and Potluck will be held on the patio on these two Sundays.



Summer Guest Preachers:

Sunday, July 21

9:00am The Rev. William Parnell, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Massachusetts; Q and A forum to follow at Lemonade Hour

Sunday, Aug 4

9:00am The Rev. Nancy Gossling

5:30pm The Rev. Jennifer McCracken

SANCTUARY GARDEN CARE

Please consider volunteering a week or two this summer to help care for our lovely Sanctuary Garden. The tasks include light weeding, dead-heading and keeping walkways and benches clean.

No watering or lawn care is required. A sign-up sheet is posted in Upper Parish Hall. Please contact Winnie West at 781-444-8739 or wawest1@verizon.net with questions. Your help is much appreciated!



B-SAFE Summer Camp 2019

B-SAFE is in its 20th year helping to keep Boston kids safe and know that they are loved! Christ Church will be serving lunch on July 22 and 23 at Epiphany School in Dorchester. Volunteers are needed for this fabulous ministry.

Please contact Kathleen Kelly to offer your support. Monetary donations are always welcome if you are not able to attend. kathleen.kelly@verizon.net



July/August 2019 Calendar

July 1 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting

July 4 - Thursday

Independence Day - office closed

July 7 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:00am Shelter Cooking
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship

July 8 - Monday

9:30am Staff Meeting
MANNA Lunch - Cathedral

July 9 - Tuesday

9:30am Pastoral Response Ministry

July 11 - Thursday

7:00pm Forum with the Rev. Canon Bill Parnell, Canon to the Ordinary, Diocese of Massachusetts

July 14 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship

July 15 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting

July 21 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship

July 22 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting
B-Safe (Epiphany School, Dorchester)

July 23 - Tuesday

9:30am Pastoral Response Ministry
B-Safe (Epiphany School, Dorchester)
7:15pm Special Vestry Meeting (61 Rosemary discussion)

July 28 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship
6:30pm Potluck Supper (patio)

July 29 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting

August 4 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (chapel)
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship

August 5 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting

August 6 - Tuesday

7:00pm Property Committee

August 11 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (chapel)
10:00am Shelter Cooking
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship

August 12 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting
MANNA Lunch - Cathedral

August 13 - Tuesday

9:30am Pastoral Response Ministry
7:00pm Finance Committee

August 18 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (chapel)
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship

August 19 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting

August 20 - Tuesday

7:15pm Vestry Meeting

August 25 - Sunday

9:00am Holy Eucharist, Rite II (chapel)
5:30pm Simple Sunday Worship (patio)
6:30pm Potluck Supper

August 26 - Monday

11:00am Staff Meeting

August 27 - Tuesday

9:30am Pastoral Response Ministry



Thank you for Coffee Hour!

Many thanks to the ministries and individuals who have extended the Fellowship of Christ from the Eucharistic table to the Upper Parish Hall for coffee hour this program year.

Particular thanks go to Debby Rempis and Hope Anderson, and to Joanne Neale, who has been a coordinator this past year. Please contact Debby or Hope with any questions or to sign up for coordinating this vital ministry. There will be a sign-up in the Upper Parish Hall for Lemonade Hour after the 9am summer service.

Debby Rempis: dtr4430@gmail.com, 781-392-4555
Hope Anderson: handerson@minlib.net

Christ Episcopal Church

1132 Highland Avenue
Needham, MA 02494
781-444-1469
www.ccneedham.org

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Nicholas Morris-Kliment, Rector
nick@ccneedham.org Ext: 113

Pamela Goody, Music Director
pamela.goody@ccneedham.org Ext: 116

Kathleen Ganz, Parish Administrator
office@ccneedham.org Ext: 110

Charles W. Raines, Organist

Ken Cook, Sexton
facilities@ccneedham.org Ext: 111

Maryann Badejo, Bookkeeper
control@ccneedham.org Ext: 114

Officers

Jeff Murphy, Warden
Stan Hitron, Warden
Duncan Allen, Treasurer
Janet Haines, Assistant Treasurer
David Carnahan, Clerk

Vestry

Phil Bergen
Denise Degroff
Janet Haines
Bob Keener
Tim Lysaght
Ingrid Melvin
Stefano Migliuolo
Michael Niden
Annie Russell
Patty Smith
Phil Trussell
Linnea Wren

Summer Schedule:

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9am - 1pm

Nick is almost always present and available beyond posted office hours on weekdays; please call or email him to make an appointment to be sure.

Nick's day off: Friday

Staff Meeting:

11am Mondays
9:30am Second Monday of the month

Pastoral Response Ministry (PRM):

Tuesdays, 9:30am

Maryann Badejo, Bookkeeper:

Usually in the office on Mondays