

Parishioner

RECTORS REFLECTIONS

Silence

Growing up in my family, silence was the way we yelled at each other. Well, we yelled too because we were Italian, but if we were really mad, we shut each other out. I could go days without talking, avoiding eye contact. Silence was the way I punished others, protected myself, and pretended not to notice what was going on.

As I adopted more mature approaches to dealing with hurt, silence continued to carry a negative connotation for me - something to be avoided, something to be distracted from. When I was in seminary, contemplative prayer, or centering prayer, was in vogue. Behind it is the idea that we create space in our mind and our heart for God to abide. Not to communicate in words, just be with God. I tried it, sitting quietly with a timer for twenty

minutes trying to make the thoughts in my head vanish or at least pass by without chasing them. It never worked.

When I went on an 8 day silent retreat in April, I found that many people had questions. "Really, you're quiet for 8 days? What is that like?" I assured them that I did get to talk for 30 minutes each day to my spiritual director, which doesn't sound like a lot given there are 1,440 minutes in a day. Some imagined that it would be fantastic - the noise of their life quieted. Others imagined that it would be awful - alone with your thoughts for 8 days. Given my history with silence, I thought I would be in the latter camp. However, I have discovered that I am not; I have also discovered that silence is not silence. I have a lot of talking in my head. A lot of words come out in journalling. And God, given the space and attention, tends also to have a lot to say. In the quieting of the other distractions and

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JULY AND AUGUST WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

8am Contemplative Service
10am Worship/Children's Chapel/Nursery
Services in the Parish Hall

Why?

Sanctuary painting and organ installation require a move to the parish hall

and there are some logistical challenges with current service times

Earlier worship times tend to be more popular in the summer

Allows us to offer an early traditional service and a later musically

and liturgically vibrant multi-generational service.

SINCE WE LAST WROTE...



Photos include: the Palm Sunday service (featuring the Processional from Eastern Market); Easter Sunday services and the Egg Hunt on the front lawn; Children's Chapel; Bishop Mariann Budde's visit; Ash Wednesday/Ash Shrove Tuesday Service.

Our Good Neighbor family from Afghanistan are making tremendous progress already in the few months since they arrived. The father has passed his driver test and, thanks to a special donation from Capitol Hill Presbyterian Church and volunteers who worked with him to locate a suitable vehicle, has been able to buy a car. Secondly, and even more important, he has found a job. Hashmat is working full time as an intern/contractor with AdAstra, a company that connects foreign language speakers with interpreters for patients and others, primarily in the health area and concentrated in the Baltimore region (Johns Hopkins, etc.), with some work coming from DC as well. He reported that he had a wonderful first day meeting his colleagues and beginning to learn the work in his lovely new office in Silver Spring. His new boss took him to lunch!

These are critical steps toward independence for the family, with income and self respect generated by employment and a car that will allow them to go shopping, make and keep appointments, go to job interviews or work, transport children to and from school, and manage so many other family activities that we take for granted on their own.

At the April meeting of Good Neighbor, Kathy Tobias of Church of the Reformation reported that in its first four months, our Capitol Hill group has assisted five families at various levels of support -

one at Level 1, with full support for one year; another at Level 2 (furnishings, transportation and other help for six months), and three families at Level 4 (apartment furnishings only).

A Cheverly resident, Kathy added that the PTA at Gladys Noon Spellman Elementary School in Cheverly, where the family's older child is enrolled, has been assisting 25 Afghan and Syrian students from 15 families housed in or near Cheverly. Among otherthings, PTA volunteers have upgraded sparsely furnished apartments, assisted with driving family members to appointments, and provided uniforms for all the Spellman students. Kathy, Karen Getman of St. Marks, and Brendan Danaher of Capitol Hill United Methodist recently met by conference call with three of the Cheverly mothers to find out how they have been helping and what their families' needs are. The Cheverly community is looking for Arabic and Dari interpreters, summer tutors, some supplies, etc., and will continue to let Good Neighbors know how we can help.

Individuals who would like to contribute to the Spellman School PTA effort can send checks made out to GNS PTA to GNS PTA, 6423 Forest Rd., Cheverly, MD 20785. There is also a Pay Pal fund account for donations to support the refugee families at <https://www.paypal.me/SpellmanPTA>.



Master Dong Continues his Work Helping Refugees

After a brief visit to Washington, D.C., Master Dong has returned to Turkey to help Syrian refugees, where he has spent much of the past 18 months. During his visit to D.C., a number of

Home Do families and Christ Church parishioners supported a yard sale fundraiser in support of his work. Master Dong and many others were touched by the generosity and support shown by the community.

Master Dong focuses on engaging refugee children in Turkey, which expands on the aftercare and volunteer work he has done for many years in D.C. His "Baby Ali School" teaches young children to care for each other as well as others in the community. As part of the school, students help deliver diapers and milk to mothers and babies in the refugee camp.

Master Dong now also works with older refugee children in a nearby town. If you would like to learn more about Master Dong's work or make a contribution to his non-profit, Home Do, please contact Joel Spangenberg at joelspangenberg@hotmail.com.



activities though, I can turn to all of that in a way that lets me hear and absorb things in my heart and mind in a deeper way.

"Is it hard to return?" People asked. No, it's not. What I come to know in these silent retreats, I want to live and all the noise and distractions are a part of life. Belden Lane points out that Joseph, the father of Jesus, never says anything in the Bible. Thus, "the Word is the adopted son of silence." This has held true for me - I come to see God incarnate in my noisy life by being in

the silence. Also, having now practiced it, I find it easier to carve out 10 minutes of silence in my day-to-day life, and strangely, it's enough. Silence has become a different way, though not the only way, of getting me to listen and pay attention to God.

A week long silent retreat is a luxury that many do not have. A few retreat centers nearby offer silent weekends or shorter weeks (Bon Secours or the Jesuit Center in Wernersville). There is also the quiet that can be found on a trail, a yoga class, or a living room arm chair. Perhaps the silence has something to say to you as well.

Crab Feast, Saturday, July 22nd

The Fifth Annual Crab Feast is scheduled for Saturday, July 22nd at 5:30 p.m. Come enjoy this fun evening eating a local favorite (Chesapeake blue crab), corn on the cob, hot dogs, watermelon, & assorted beverages.

Look for more information and sign up sheets in late June.



2017 GOALS FOR THE VESTRY

Our church is governed by the Vestry and Executive Committee that serve similarly to a non-profit board. They are responsible for major financial and property-related decisions. Thankfully these responsibilities do not take all of the leadership's time, and they are also able to discern ways that the congregation can strengthen its structure and ministry. At our Vestry retreat in March, we revisited our five-year strategic plan (2012-2017). Some things had been completed, some ignored, and many goals had progressed some. Using the strategic plan, the Vestry set some goals to move forward on this last year of the plan.

The Vestry, Executive Committee, and staff members responsible are noted; if you feel motivated to offer your support, please do.

- Small Group Formation (Ruth Kroeger, Beth Mullin, Joe Smith, Cara Spaccarelli, & Serena Sides)
- Celebrate the new organ/sacredness of music (John Payne and Richard Thibadeau)
- Strengthen In-reach – support congregants with meals & rides (Anne Fletcher with Vicki Smith)
- Creation of a how-to manual for our fellowship events (Jennifer Baker Howard)
- Review of our Communications and Marketing (Amber Gove and Gregg Porter)
- Evaluate & strengthen our community partnerships (Carol Knight & Outreach Committee)
- Installation of a more robust smoke alarm system (Todd Litchfield & Property Committee)
- Painting and Plastering of Sanctuary (Todd Litchfield & Property Committee)
- Revive Planned Giving Program (Sid Neely)
- Evaluate Investments in the Church's Endowment (Sid Neely & Finance Committee)



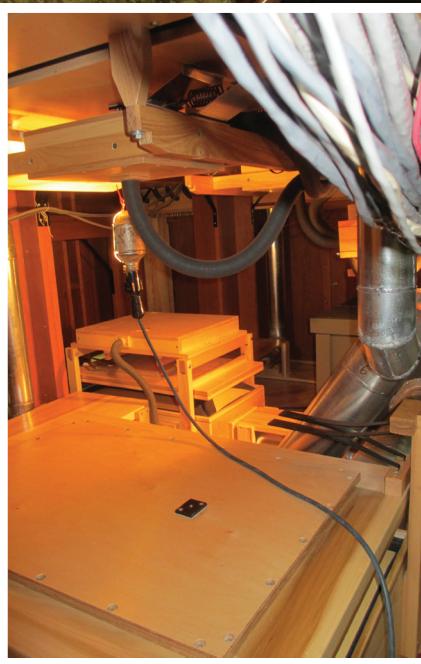
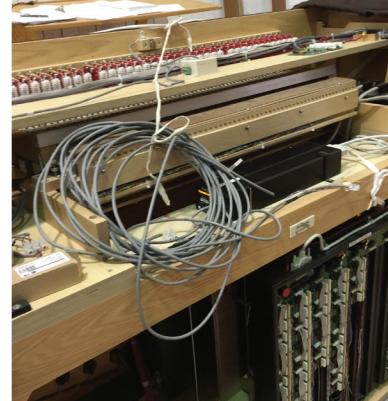
In hibernation during the renovation, the Christ Church Book Exchange is open again in a new location, at the back of the Parish Hall next to the window in the conference room area. Thanks to Lisa Nickerson and Nelson Rimensnyder, who stored some of the old collection in the interim and provided a new bookcase. Once again, the upper shelves will house adult fiction and nonfiction, while the lower shelves will be for teen and tween literature.

The exchange works best when everyone who takes a book also brings a book. If you don't have another book to contribute, just bring back the book you borrowed when you are finished with it. The most popular items are recent best sellers or by best-selling authors that have been reviewed in the New York Times or the Washington Post. If you have older or other books that are personal favorites and think other parishioners would enjoy them, you are encouraged to leave a brief note in the front telling why you loved the book.

Please do not bring old text books, or other overly dense or heavy tomes that no one is likely to read, just to get them off the shelves at home – we do not have room. Such books can be dropped off anytime in the bin by the handicapped entrance at the SE Library for their community book sale held the second Saturday of each month.

Parents, please encourage your young readers to inspect the book exchange shelves regularly. In addition to recently published books, there are classics in the collection that might have been among your favorites at their age. Mutually loved books are a great source of conversation with our kids.

OPUS 3914: the Christ Church Casavant Organ to be Installed August 2017



Follow along as we join Linda, David and Richard on their journey to Casavant Feres in Saint Hyacinthe, Quebec which was established 1879 to see the production of the new Christ Church Washington Parish organ.

Photos are setup left to right with captions:

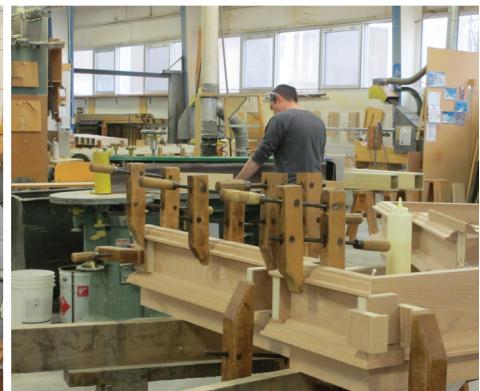
#1 David, Richard, and OPUS 3914—OUR NEW ORGAN

#2 Our movable organ console

#3 Console inner workings

#4 Close-up of the organ front panel

#5 Inside the organ case



#7 David playing the new organ

#8 Each pipe made to exacting standards

#9 Soldering the lead and zinc pipe—easy goes or there will be an unwanted hole

#10 “voicing” the pipe—making each pipe sound just right

#11 The wood working shop—different woods are used for specific purposes

#12 Many holes of the exact right size need to be in the exact right place

#13 Casavant’s illustration of how OPUS 3914 will look when installed



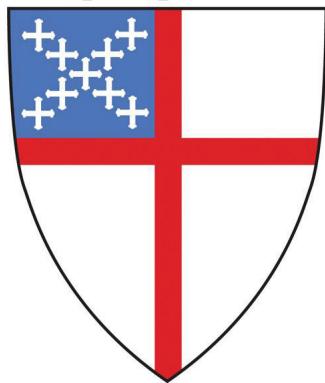
WELCOME OUR NEW ASSISTANT PRIEST



The Reverend Serena Sides will join Christ Church as Assistant Rector on June 5. Serena will be responsible for our Children and Family Ministry and, along with Cara, will lead our liturgy and preaching and will develop adult faith formation in small groups. Serena is currently a Deacon in the Episcopal Church and graduated this May with her M.Div. from Virginia Theological Seminary. She will be ordained a priest on June 17 at the National Cathedral and all are welcome! Many of you know Serena from her year and a half serving as our seminarian. Born in Washington, DC, Serena spent her childhood and youth in DC

and Connecticut. She received her B.A. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, majoring in political science and minoring in Russian. Serena spent a winter season skiing in Alta, Utah, before attending and graduating from Harvard Law School with her J.D. She practiced corporate law for 12 years in New York City and Washington DC, specializing in financial transactions and regulations. She also did a two year stint in national security, mostly working as a staff member of the National Commission on Terror Attacks upon the United States (the “9/11 Commission”). When asked about her transition to the priesthood, Serena says that it took about 18 years to “put all the puzzle pieces together” to figure out what God was calling her to do. Serena is married to John Sides, Associate Professor of Political Science at George Washington University, and founder and managing editor of The Monkey Cage blog at the Washington Post. They have two children, Ethan (age 9) and Hannah (age 7), and the family lives in the Tenleytown neighborhood of DC, near American University. Serena loves reading, running, yoga, playing tennis, practicing her Spanish, cooking, biking and hiking with her family, and playing board and card games with her children. She is excited to be joining Christ Church!

The Episcopal Church



The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde of Washington will ordain Serena Sides to the Sacred Order of Priests in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church on Saturday, June 17, 2017, 10:00 a.m. at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and St. Paul Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenue, Northwest Washington, District of Columbia

WELCOME OUR NEW SEMINARIAN

*To the good folks of Christ Church;
Greetings from Northern California.*

My name is Paula Lorraine Pavanis and your rector Cara has kindly agreed to have me as apprentice from Mid-June through September 1st. We have agreed on my preaching schedule, working with a small group/book study, adding my name to the rota for liturgist, teaching kiddo yoga for VBS, and other jobs as time and needs allow.

As you might note from the photo,I am the grandmotherly sort of theology inquirer, and am blessed to be mama to three lovely adults and nana to one darling 5 year old boy.

My trusty beagle-mix and sidekick Sadie and I will wend our way East in our trusty Honda Civic.

I have just finished my academic work for a Master's Degree in Christian Leadership at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, where my primary interests was Spiritual Formation. Ignatian Spirituality has, is , and most likely will remain a source of inspiration, sustenance,



and strength for me almost 2 decades running. I look forward to worshipping together during the summer, getting to know you, and participating in the work Christ Church does in spreading the Good News of Christ's Love.



Special Service on **July 2nd** in celebration of Independence Day:

In honor of Independence Day, our 10 a.m. Sunday service will be crafted with hymns and readings that highlight the positive influence of faith in the development of our country.

CHRIST CHURCH ON CAPITOL HILL

620 G Street SE | Washington, DC 20003 | 202.547.9300
www.WashingtonParish.org



June 2017

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July 2017

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August 2017

Sundays in June	
9:00 am	Holy Eucharist
9:45 am	Coffee & Refreshments
11:00 am	Holy Eucharist Children's Chapel
Noon	Coffee & Refreshments
5:00 pm	Children's Worship & Play
Monday	
7:30 pm	Quilters
Tuesday	
8:00 am	Spirituality Group
Wednesday	
7:30 am	Holy Eucharist Breakfast
Saturday	
9:00 am	Men's Spirituality Group

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 8 AM and 10 AM

- 4: Sandwich Making
- 4: Laundry Love, 1:30 pm - 5 pm
- 6: Property Committee, 3 pm
- 7: Liturgists, 6 pm
- 11: Vestry, 12:30 pm
- 11: Children's Worship & Play
- 14 Finance Committee, 7 pm
- 17: Serena Sides' Ordination, WNC
- 21: Grill & Chill Begins, 6 pm
- 28: CHGM Grill & Chill, 6 pm
- 4: Pentecost Sunday
- 4: Sandwich Making
- 2: Laundry Love, 1:30 pm - 5 pm
- 4: **4th of July Picnic**
- 5: Liturgists, 6 pm
- 9: Children's Worship & Play
- 12: Finance Committee, 7 pm
- 12: Grill & Chill, 6 pm
- 16: Vestry, 11:30 am
- 19: Grill & Chill, 6 pm
- 22: Crab Feast
- 26: Grill & Chill, 6 pm

SUNDAY SERVICES AT 8 AM and 10 AM

- 1: Property Committee, 3 pm
- 2: Liturgists, 6 pm
- 6: Sandwich Making
- 6: Laundry Love, 1:30 pm - 5 pm
- 9: Finance, 7 pm
- 12: Vacation Bible School, 9 am - 3 pm
- 13: Children's Worship & Play
- 20: Vestry, 11:30 am

Celebrate our country's birthday!
4 pm.
Bring a dish to share.

4th of July Picnic

Grill and Chill
June 21, 28
July 12, 19 & 26
6:00 pm

Water activities for kids.
Hot dogs on the grill.
You bring the sides.
Join us! We'll move inside if the weather is bad.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
Saturday, August 12
9 am to 3 pm



The Quarter in Numbers

Offerings:

Offerings Budgeted 2017 - \$139,811; Received 2017- \$143,099
2016-2018 Capital Campaign: \$803,224 Received of \$978,385 Pledged
St. Patrick's Fundraiser: Net Profit \$5,026

Easter Attendance

6:30-89, 9:00-208, 11:00-240

Average Sunday Attendance 9am: 60, 11am: 106 Monthly 5pm:23
Laundry Love Loads Washed: 264

Grill & Chill Wednesdays Beginning June 21, 2017

Are back for another fun-filled way to relax with your fellow parishioners and Hill neighbors on Wednesday evenings beginning June 21, 2017. We will host the event, rain or shine, and move inside if the weather is bad. This year we will begin with a short communion service on the front lawn at 6pm. For those of you travelling lots of weekends this summer, it's a great way to get weekly worship in! For a complete listing of dates, please check the 3 month calendar located on page 10



Capitol Hill Group Ministry
Grill & Chill, 6:00pm - 8:00pm



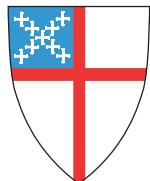
On Wednesday, June 28, please join fellow parishioners and families from our community partner, Capitol Hill Group Ministry, for a special Grill & Chill. We will have crafts and activities for the children. Please plan to bring a little extra food (side dish, food to grill, or dessert) for our guests. We will host the event, rain or shine, and move inside if the weather is bad.

The Parishioner is published by Christ Church

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Rector
Assistant Rector
Music Ministries
Parish Life and Office Manager
Layout

The Rev. Cara Spaccarelli
Serena Sides
Richard Thibadeau
Jennifer Baker Howard
Gaye Whyte



striving to be a welcoming, diverse, thankful, and joyous Episcopal community of faith
committed to nurturing its members and neighbors through worship and service

Parishioner

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

The *Parishioner* is now available online. If you would prefer to read it online, please let us know and we will not send you the paper version. Email us at office@WashingtonParish.org or phone 202.547.9300.