



The Herald-Star

Newsletter of Christ the King-Epiphany Churches
Wilbraham, MA

April 2018





Contact Information

Christ the King-Eiphany Church
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*(Please call ahead, as there may be
 scheduled events or pastoral emergencies.)*



Church of the Epiphany

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Senior Warden | Judith J. Phillips attyphillips@gmail.com |
| Junior Warden | Ginny Ziobro ginzio20@gmail.com |
| Treasurer | Teri Tousignant husky415@comcast.net |
| Clerk | Madeleine Barnes madeleinebarnes20@comcast.net |
| Safe Church Coordinator | Judith J. Phillips attyphillips@gmail.com |
| Parish Nurse | Marianne Wagner reewagner@charter.net |
| Pledge Treasurer | David Vivian vivian.david1@gmail.com |

Other Vestry Members:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| Steve Lewis | lewissjs@aol.com |
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| Ken Wagner | kjwagner@charter.net |

Christ the King Officers

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Council President | Kevin Hinkamper akhink@yahoo.com |
| Council Vice President | Judy Kane-Zelek jkzelek@cs.com |
| Treasurer | Peter Van Beaver PVanBeaver@massmutual.com |
| Secretary | Cindy Schultz cynschultz@charter.net |
| Financial Secretary | Melissa Springer melissaspringer@charter.net |

Other Council Members:

| | |
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| Kriste Raymond | kristeraymond@gmail.com |
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| Paula Wilke | paulaw412@gmail.com |

LETTER FROM PASTOR NATHANIEL

Dear People of Christ the King-Epiphany,

As I sit down to write this, my final newsletter article, I am overwhelmed with feelings of gratitude. Arriving in Wilbraham as a 26-year-old freshly ordained pastor I did my best to make it seem like I knew what I was doing. In reality, the transition from seminary learning to real life ministry is quite the shock.



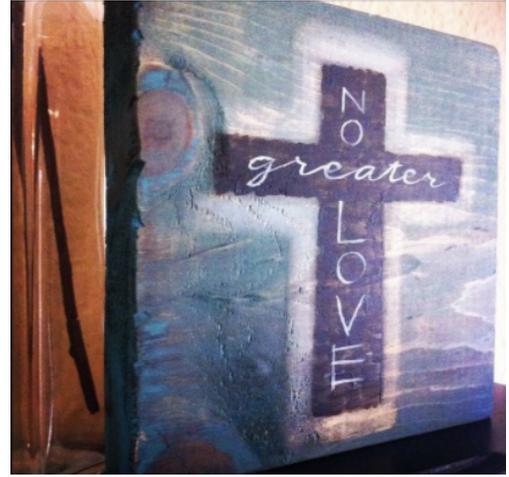
Yet amidst some fumbles and learning on the fly, the people of Christ the King embraced me and Carolyn. You showed us what love, service, and mission really look like.

In our ministry together as Church of the Epiphany and CTK, again and again I experienced this same generosity, patience, and nurturing. Navigating a different liturgy in a different place with different customs, it was learning on the fly all over again. Yet in the same way, you people of Epiphany welcomed us into your lives and into your church as together we praised and served our God and our Lord Jesus.

When I accepted this new call at St. John's I thought it made sense to have my last day be April 1 and my first day in Williamstown be May 1. Sounds like a nice, clean calendar plan. Of course, I quickly realized that Easter was April 1 and that ending on that day would not be appropriate.

It wouldn't be appropriate for obvious reasons. On this most important day of the Church year we celebrate our Lord's resurrection. To take time for good-byes could distract or confuse. And really, if we stop and think about it, the primacy of Easter, the importance and focus of Resurrection in our lives, must demand our attention and allegiance at the expense of everything else. This may be an important lesson for this parish as it moves toward the future.

If we are to think about what is the most important thing, the overarching and central reason why we are a parish in the first place, it is this: Jesus Christ, crucified



and risen. Everything else is secondary and must be in service of this profound truth—that our gracious and loving God sent his only Son into our world of pain so that we might have life and have it abundantly. In the cross of Christ we see the lengths to which God will go to reconcile humanity to himself. In the empty tomb we see the full extent and power of the resurrection promise.

Our two congregations have various customs and traditions. Our Lutheran and Episcopal manifestations of Christ's Church have their liturgies and teachings. But in the end, it all comes down to Easter. Our Lord Jesus Christ is alive, and his resurrection makes possible eternal life and salvation for all people. Alleluia!

In the future, whatever building we are in, whatever liturgy we use, whatever pastor or priest serves in this place, keep in mind what is ultimately important. Together, Church of the Epiphany and Christ the King can and must be an Easter people, committed to loving and serving in Jesus' name—and going wherever God may call.

My prayers and hope for your continued life and ministry will remain with you always.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Nathaniel

Please see page 7 for an additional letter from Pastor Nathaniel. It regards the covenant for pastors at the conclusion of a call.



REMINDER: WORSHIP SCHEDULE

We now hold our 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services each Sunday at Christ the King, with Fellowship Hour at 11:00 a.m. A Parish Breakfast is offered on the last Sunday of the month.

Sunday School Schedule

All classes at 10:00 at CTK

April 8 - Sunday School

April 15 - *No Sunday School (vacation week)*

April 22 - *No Sunday School (vacation week)*

April 29 - Sunday School

APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 8

8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Worship at CTK

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 Fellowship Hour

Sunday, April 15

8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Worship at CTK

No Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

Sunday, April 22

8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Worship at CTK

No Sunday School

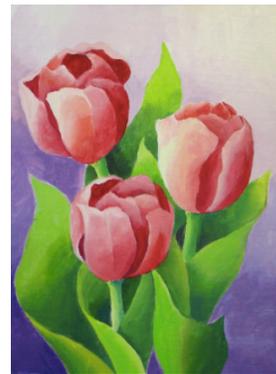
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour

Sunday, April 29

8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Worship at CTK

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Parish Breakfast



Memorial or Thanksgiving Flowers?

If you would like to have memorial or thanksgiving flowers during the month of April, please contact Liz Tousignant at 413-204-2650 or ltousignant@facil.umass.edu.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

PERSONAL CARE KITS

Thank you to all who donated items and money for the Personal Care Kits and to all who helped to assemble them! We had so much money donated that we will be buying more items and assembling more kits in April! We will have a final count of all the Care Kits we will be able to donate to share with you in May. Many thanks!!

APRIL UNDIE SUNDAYS

The Springfield Rescue Mission is in need of men's medium underwear! To help them, we will be designating our Sundays in April as "Undie Sundays" – which simply means that we are asking members to bring in new packages of Men's medium (sizes 32-34) underwear during the month of April. There will be a large collection box outside the sanctuary during the month of April. Your help and support is greatly appreciated!

Your support is greatly appreciated!

QUILTING MINISTRY

**Our next quilting meeting will meet on
Wednesday, April 11, at 9:00 a.m. at
Christ the King.**

KNITTING & CROCHETING MINISTRY

**The Ecumenical Crocheting and Knitting Ministry will meet on Saturday, April 7, at 9:00 a.m. at
Epiphany Church.**

The Community Survival Center

Thank you to all who contributed to the Easter food drive for those in need through the Community Survival Center in Indian Orchard.

Many food bags were delivered recently, and were very much appreciated. Also, the collection for Easter hams yielded a total generous monetary donation of \$640.

Please consider shopping for canned meat, such as chicken or tuna, when you are at the grocery store. Please place all donations in the basket in the Fellowship Hall.

CALENDAR — APRIL 2018

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|-----|---|
| Apr 1 ● 8:30am Worship at CTK ● 10am Worship at CTK ● 7pm AA Meeting | 2 ● 7pm Men's Glee Club | 3 (highlighted) | | 5 ● 10am Loaves & Fishes ● 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 6 | 7 ● 9am Knitting & Crocheting |
| 8 ● 8:30am Worship at CTK ● 10am Worship at CTK ● 10am Sunday School ● 7pm AA Meeting | 9 ● 7pm Men's Glee Club | 10 ● 6:30pm Finance Meeting | 11 ● 9am Quilting Ministry | 12 ● 12pm Bible Study ● 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 13 | 14 |
| 15 ● 8:30am Worship at CTK ● 10am Worship at CTK ● 7pm AA Meeting | 16 ● 7pm Men's Glee Club | 17 | 18 ● 6:30pm Vestry/Council | 19 ● 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 20 | 21 |
| 22 ● 8:30am Worship at CTK ● 10am Worship at CTK ● 7pm AA Meeting | 23 ● 7pm Men's Glee Club | 24 ● 4pm Loaves & Fishes | 25 | 26 ● 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 27 | 28 |
| 29 ● 8:30am Worship at CTK ● 10am Worship at CTK ● 10am Sunday School ● 7pm AA Meeting | 30 ● 7pm Men's Glee Club | May 1 | 2 | 3 ● 10am Loaves & Fishes ● 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal | 4 | 5 ● 9am Knitting & Crocheting + (highlighted) |

Dear People of CTK-Epiphany,

All of us are familiar with situations where resigning or retiring pastors did not appropriately separate themselves from their former parish, causing distress and conflict for their predecessors. I've heard stories of retired pastors remaining members of their former congregations. They would hold court during coffee hour talking about what the "new guy got wrong" in that morning's sermon. I've had colleagues walk into the church to find a retired rector secretly baptizing a baby. Or even clandestinely presiding over a funeral or wedding. I want you to know that I am committed to not acting in such inappropriate ways.

I do this not because I don't care. On the contrary, I will always love you all deeply. You have supported me and Carolyn in all of life's high points and during our darkest hours. The affection and care I hold in my heart for each of you will remain. I will continue to pray for you and hold high regard and concern for you. But I will no longer be your pastor. And because of my hopes and dreams for the future of CTK-Epiphany, and with regard for the next pastor/rector, I wholeheartedly commit myself to the Covenant for Healthy Transitions in congregations.

The covenant itself will be posted on the bulletin board at Christ the King. It is fairly straightforward. The most important part is prayer—that we pray for one another in our continued life and ministry. But the other part, the part that can be difficult, is to acknowledge that I will not be able to return to CTK-Epiphany to provide pastoral care, to baptize, or to officiate at weddings or funerals.

HEALTHY TRANSITIONS
RESOURCES FOR HEALTHY TERMINATION OF CALL

Covenant for Congregations

It's a small Synod/Diocese. If we run into each other at a church event, please say hello! I will love to hear about what is new with you and your families and friends. I would expect, however, that we would not discuss the details and questions before CTK-Epiphany. And while we will not be far away in Williamstown, making a habit of visiting my new parish for worship would likely not be beneficial for the life and ministry of CTK-Epiphany.

I have such high hopes for the future of this parish. And I am confident that some incredible pastors/priests will be drawn to consider a call to serve as your next pastor/rector. I want to do everything I can to ensure that the next called clergy person in this place is given as much support and trust as I was blessed to know.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Nathaniel

SERVE THE LORD

The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany
Christ The King Lutheran Church
758 Main Street, Wilbraham, MA 01095

