

THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

A WORD TO THE CHURCH FROM THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S HOUSE OF BISHOPS

The Episcopal Church House of Bishops, meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska (Diocese of Alaska) approved and presented the following Word to the Church.

A Word to the Church from The Episcopal Church's House of Bishops Gathered in Fairbanks, Alaska, September 21-26, 2017

The bishops of The Episcopal Church came to Alaska to listen to the earth and its peoples as an act of prayer, solidarity and witness. We came because:

- "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers" (Psalm 24:1-2). God is the Lord of all the earth and of all people; we are one family, the family of God.
- "You are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are ... members of the household of God" (Ephesians 2:19). The residents of interior Alaska whom we met are not strangers; they are members of the same household of faith.
- People have "become hard of hearing, and shut their eyes so that they won't see with their eyes or hear with their ears or understand with their minds, and change their hearts and lives that I may heal them" (Matthew 13:14-15). We are blind and deaf to the groaning of the earth and its peoples; we are learning the art of prayerful listening.

What does listening to the earth and its people mean? For us bishops, it meant:

- Getting out and walking the land, standing beside the rivers, sitting beside people whose livelihood depends on that land. We had to slow down and live at the pace of the stories we heard. We had to trust that listening is prayer.
- Recognizing that struggles for justice are connected. Racism, the economy, violence of every kind, and the environment are interrelated. We have seen this reality not only in the Arctic, but also at Standing Rock in the Dakotas, in the recent hurricanes, in Flint, Michigan, Charlottesville, Virginia, and in the violence perpetuated against people of color and vulnerable populations anywhere.
- Understanding that listening is deeply connected to healing. In many healing stories in the gospels, Jesus asked, "What do you want me to do for you?" That is, he listened first and then acted.

What did we hear?

- "The weather is really different today," one leader told us. "Now spring comes earlier, and fall lasts longer. This is threatening our lives because the permafrost is melting and destabilizing the rivers. We depend on the rivers."
- The land in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge where the caribou birth their calves is called the "sacred place where life begins," so sacred the Gwich'in People do not set foot there. "Drilling here," people said, "is like digging beneath the National Cathedral."



THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

A WORD TO THE CHURCH FROM THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S HOUSE OF BISHOPS (CON'T)

- After shopping together, a native Episcopalian told one of us how hard it is to even secure food. "We can't get good food here. We have to drive to Fairbanks. It is a two-hour trip each way."

What we bishops saw and heard in Alaska is dramatic, but it is not unique. Stories like these can be heard in each of the nations where The Episcopal Church is present. They can be heard in our own communities. We invite you to join us, your bishops, and those people already engaged in this work, in taking time to listen to people in your dioceses and neighborhoods. Look for the connections among race, violence of every kind, economic disparity, and the environment. Then, after reflecting in prayer and engaging with scripture, partner with people in common commitment to the healing of God's world.

God calls us to listen to each other with increased attention. It is only with unstopped ears and open eyes that our hearts and lives will be changed. It is through the reconciling love of God in Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit that we and the earth itself will be healed.

A Prayer for Our Time and for the Earth

Dear God, Creator of the earth, this sacred home we share;

Give us new eyes to see the beauty all around and to protect the wonders of creation.

Give us new arms to embrace the strangers among us and to know them as family.

Give us new ears to hear and understand those who live off the land

and to hear and understand those who extract its resources.

Give us new hearts to recognize the brokenness in our communities

and to heal the wounds we have inflicted.

Give us new hands to serve the earth and its people

and to shape beloved community.

For you are the One who seeks the lost,

binds our wounds and sets us free,

and it is in the name of Jesus the Christ we pray.

Amen.



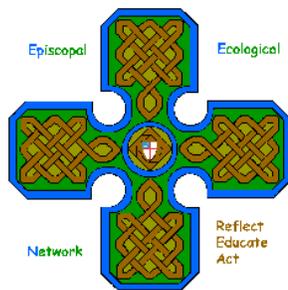
THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

CREATION CARE AT THE CONVENTION



The 2017 Diocese of South Dakota 133rd Convention occurs this week in Pierre. Creation Care will be having a larger than normal presence at the Convention with a new Creation Care Resolution, Convention Workshop, and Table-top Creation Care Poster Display. I will be reporting on the results of these events to Christ Church on October 1.

The Resolution

Chuck Berry, the Creation Care lead for the Diocese, drafted a resolution with support from other churches in the South Dakota Diocese Creation Care Network to be submitted to the convention for a vote. Christ Church of Yankton is a member of the Network. The resolution encourages lay and clergy leaders in the Diocese to more fully embrace the mission of Creation Care by using materials offered by The Episcopal Church for this mission, particularly:

1. The House of Bishops' Pastoral Teaching and Study Guide: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/episcopal-church-house-bishops-issues-pastoral-teaching>
2. The Genesis Covenant Project for greening individual parish/mission buildings: <http://www.webofcreation.org/archive-of-resources/513-greening-your-congregation-going-to-the-next-level>
3. The Catechism of Creation book and course: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/files/CreationCatechism.pdf>
4. Liturgical Materials for Honoring God in Creation (from 2015 General Convention): <http://www.bce-ecww.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/HonoringGodInCreationMaterials.pdf>

Creation Care Workshop

The Creation Care Workshop has been held for the last few years. Each year more parishes join the Network. This year the workshop agenda includes a discuss of the proposed resolution described above, sharing of the Creation Care activities completed throughout the year from each home church, and a discussion of ideas on how the Network can improve



THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

CREATION CARE AT THE CONVENTION (CON'T)

Creation Care Table-top Poster Display

Chuck Berry has put together the Table-top Creation Care Poster Display which I will be helping present during the Convention. Check out the Creation Justice.

Ministries website at: <http://www.creationjustice.org>. People always ask "What has Creation Care got to do with religion? The Green Bible themes help to answer this question. Our stewardship responsibility is rooted in the Bible as summarized in the following ideas:

1. God made all things, declared them good.
2. God is present in and through Creation.
3. Humanity has an interconnection with God and Creation.
4. Creation care is an act of social justice toward humanity.
5. Creation harmed by human sin; disconnects us from God.
6. Creation is to be restored in God's plan for redemption.

Another website for more information is: The South Dakota Diocesan Creation Care website at: <https://www.diocesesd.org/ministries/creation-care-network/> If you are interested in learning more about Creation Care or how you could participate, please contact me, Carol Smith after church or at: 605-661-5001 or casmith2013@yahoo.com.



THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

BANQUET 2017

The Banquet celebrated its 20th anniversary this year and Christ Church has been a part of this ministry since its inception. Christ Church was the third group to serve The Banquet on September 11, 1997. Our Youth Group was the first to serve for Christ Church and our members have helped provide a meal each year since that time.

This year we had the privilege of providing our traditional chicken dinner on Thursday, September 14th. 260 guests were served. This included 36 children and 78 take-out meals. We had 21 volunteers and several others who provided wonderful baked goods for dessert.

A heartfelt thank you to all who helped with this community outreach opportunity by providing desserts, monetary donations, or help with preparing, serving, greeting guests, or cleaning up after the meal.

Please mark your calendar for Thursday, September 13, 2018 for our next opportunity to serve The Banquet.

***A special thank you to Kathy Wright
for her dedication to this banquet.***



THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

TODAY'S HALLOWEEN TRADITIONS

The American Halloween tradition of “trick-or-treating” probably dates back to the early All Souls’ Day parades in England. During the festivities, poor citizens would beg for food and families would give them pastries called “soul cakes” in return for their promise to pray for the family’s dead relatives. The distribution of soul cakes was encouraged by the church as a way to replace the ancient practice of leaving food and wine for roaming spirits. The practice, which was referred to as “going a-souling” was eventually taken up by children who would visit the houses in their neighborhood and be given ale, food, and money.

The tradition of dressing in costume for Halloween has both European and Celtic roots. Hundreds of years ago, winter was an uncertain and frightening time. Food supplies often ran low and, for the many people afraid of the dark, the short days of winter were full of constant worry. On Halloween, when it was believed that ghosts came back to the earthly world, people thought that they would encounter ghosts if they left their homes. To avoid being recognized by these ghosts, people would wear masks when they left their homes after dark so that the ghosts would mistake them for fellow spirits. On Halloween, to keep ghosts away from their houses, people would place bowls of food outside their homes to appease the ghosts and prevent them from attempting to enter.



THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017

Celebrating
Birthdays

HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY

October

- 1 Tre Hayes
- 2 Letrell Hayes
Mary Ann Anderson
Tonya Lambertz
- 7 Teresa Luke
- 8 Edward Meng, Sr.
- 10 Sandy Cope
- 12 Father Jim Pearson
- 13 Barbara Lyle
Jackie LaCroix
- 23 Lisa Newland
- 27 Lavonne Lorenzen

October

- 8 Norm & Kathy Wright

Celebrate!



*If your birthday or anniversary was left off our list,
please contact Somer Bares at 665.2456 or email churchsec@iw.net*



THE CHRIST CHURCH CONNECTION

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE MOTHER CHURCH OF THE DAKOTAS

BOO!

OCTOBER 2017



Prayers of the People

I ask for your prayers for:
Kate, Elmo, Carolyn & Bonnie





October 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9 am Serenity 10 am Holy Eucharist, Healing Prayer & Sunday School	2 1:30 am Centering Prayer (Olde Rectory)	3 5 pm Fermenting Faith @ Ben's 1-5 pm Somer	4 Fr. Jim Conference 4-8	5 1-5 pm Somer	6 1-3 Office Somer	7
8 9 am Serenity 10 am Morning Prayer & Sunday School	9 1:30 am Centering Prayer (Olde Rectory)	10 5 pm Fermenting Faith @ Ben's 1-5 pm Somer	11 5 pm Special Vestry Meeting	12 7 pm Meditation 1-5 pm Somer	13 1-3 Office Somer	14
15 9 am Serenity 10 am Holy Eucharist, Sunday School & Potluck	16 1:30 am Centering Prayer (Olde Rectory)	17 5 pm Fermenting Faith @ Ben's 1-5 pm Office Fr. Jim & Somer	18 1-5 pm Office Fr. Jim	19 1-5 pm Office Fr. Jim & Somer	20 1-3 Office Somer	21
22 9 am Serenity 10 am Morning Prayer & Sunday School	23 1:30 am Centering Prayer (Olde Rectory) 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	24 5 pm Fermenting Faith @ Ben's 1-5 pm Office Fr Jim & Somer	25 1-5 pm Office Fr. Jim	26 7 pm Meditation 1-5 pm Office Fr. Jim & Somer	27 1-3 Office Somer	28
29 9 am Serenity 10 am Holy Eucharist & Sunday School	30 1:30 am Centering Prayer (Olde Rectory)	31 5 pm Fermenting Faith @ Ben's 1-5 pm Office Fr. Jim & Somer				