

The Courier

Christ the King Episcopal Church
1224 North Jefferson Street
Huntington, Indiana 46750

MAY, 2023

A Few Words from Fr. Ted – WHY?

As anyone who has been a parent of a small child knows, one of the most annoying words in the English language is “why.” Children use it incessantly. “Why are they doing that? Why do I have to go to bed? Why do I have to eat my peas?” The questions are most annoying when we really do not have an easily articulated reason. That is when many of us resorted to the always available but rarely helpful, “Because I said so!”

Just yesterday, a post in a Facebook group I follow raised an interesting and annoying question of why. “Why do we still use candles in church?” The person posing the question said that they realized there were once practical reasons relating to the need to provide light. They made it possible for worshippers to see the liturgical action. Candles on the altar allowed the celebrant to read the words of the prayers from the Missal. The candles in the Gospel procession made it possible for the deacon to see the holy words. Now, though, they are really of no practical use. Electrical lighting makes it possible to see everything with much greater ease than was ever possible by candle light. (I realize the lighting in our nave is somewhat spotty, but some efforts will soon be made to address this, especially towards the back of the church.) So why spend the money on candles or the oil we now use in the oil candles we use?

The same “why” could be asked about much that we in the liturgical churches do almost without thinking. Why bow when the processional cross passes your pew? Why bow or genuflect to the Altar when entering or leaving your seat? Why make the sign of the cross at various points in the service? Why does the priest wear fancy, outdated and sometimes uncomfortable garments? Why? Why? Why?

In the Facebook discussion I was reading, a number of arguments were made for the continued use of candles at worship even though they were no longer needed to provide light. Tradition: we have always done it this way and burning candles connects us to the worship of the early church. Every candle is like the Paschal candle in reminding us that Jesus is the Light of the World. For the aesthetics – they add beauty to the space just as candles on a dinner table contribute to the experience of a fine meal. Any of these reasons could certainly justify our continued use of candles during our services.

Just as with the physical acts of piety mentioned earlier, the only good reason for continuing any practice – candles, bows, the sign of the cross – is because it is meaningful to us or aids us in being mindful of the worship experience. It is without question that many worship quite authentically without any of these things. Many modern churches avoid any of what we consider to be religious symbols. There are no crosses,



candles, or banners, yet the worshippers there find a meaningful connection to God. And we thank God for that. If we find value in candles, ceremonial, and colorful vestments, that is reason enough to continue their use. Whether because of tradition, symbolism or aesthetics, anything that helps us to feel a connection to Jesus and to glorify God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is worth continuing. Asking why we do things is good and helpful, but sometimes the answer, "Just because" is enough as well. Have no fear; we will continue to light candles to the glory of God.

Fr. Ted+

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE?

Thanks to the hard, hard work of Sue Jepsen, Christ the King has a beautifully redesigned website. It is attractive and easy to use. Now that the design has been updated, we need to think about what will make it someplace that you and others will want to visit regularly. Much of the valuable information about CTK that was on the previous website has been transferred over. A link to some additional historical information in the diocesan archives has been provided and the website provides easy access to the most recent newsletter and current service roster. Now the question is, what else would be useful? What content would you like to have available? Would a blog page be read? Would access to recent sermons be used? Would we want links to book reviews or national church resources other than those already available?

First, I hope each of you will visit the refurbished website at episcopalchurch-huntington.org, then let Sue know how much we appreciate all of her work and dedication, and let us know what more we could do with this resource both for the use of members of Christ the King and to be helpful to others who might look at it. Sue has done the hard work; let's make sure it was worth it!

Postscript: This new iteration of the parish website is only possible because John Jepsen originally created a CTK website and maintained it for many years. While we show our gratitude to Sue for the recent update, we should also let John know that we appreciate his past efforts. The Jepsens are quite a team, aren't they?

WHO WERE THEY?

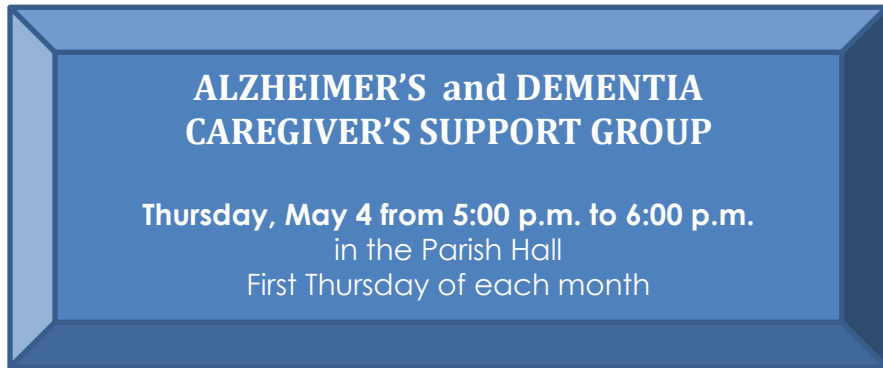


Beginning on May 7, 2023, the Adult Sunday School will begin a new series examining some of the women who are mentioned in the Bible. Some are well known; others may be new to you. We will place them in the context of their appearance in the Bible, examine their actions, hear what they may have said, discuss their importance to the Biblical narrative, and the lessons they might have for our own lives of faith.

Current plans are to spend five sessions each of the on selected women found in the Old and New Testaments respectively. I hope you can join us.

GAME NIGHT RETURNS!

We've scheduled our next evening of fun and games for **Wednesday, May 17**. Evening prayer will begin at 5:30, followed by a supper provided by Sue Nunemaker. Then we'll play – whatever Carmen comes up with for us! Please bring a dish to share (chili and oyster crackers will be provided).



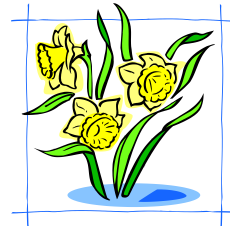
For questions, call Nancy Heasley at 260-450-7077, Fr. Ted, or Meg Moss.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

4 Wendy Yaste
8 Rose Holtrey
9 Dorothy Bodi
18 Paul Dolby
21 Ron Frischman
21 Kade Boxell
22 Susan Rice
26 Jennifer Hibbard
28 Phyllis Schultz

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

16 Fred & Nancy Heasley
29 Mark & Diann Parker



Please send revisions to
sljepsen@yahoo.com Thanks!

The choir continues to rehearse on Thursday afternoon at 4:30. We will be singing next on May 21st. We appreciate the support of the congregation!
Sue Nunemaker



BOOK CLUB

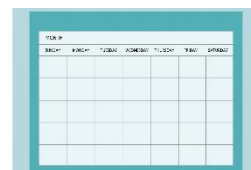


We'll meet on May 1 at Sue Jepsen's home to discuss *It Ends with Us* by Colleen Hoover. Julie Harrell will lead the discussion. "*It Ends with Us* is a heartbreaking tale about domestic abuse and violence with a heartbreakingly necessary ending," noted one reviewer on Goodreads.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Join us if you can.

Plan ahead!

The annual **RUMMAGE SALE** at Frischmans will take place June 1, 3 – 6 p.m.; June 2, 8 – 5; and June 3, 8 – 12 noon. Please plan to come help with cleanup at noon on Saturday!



Our check from Kroger for the first quarter was for \$28.49; only 14 households are participating. It's easy to get signed up so that Christ the King gets a tiny percentage of what you spend through their Community Rewards program; our organization number is AU707. This money goes to outreach, as do the rummage sale profits.

SERVICE ROSTER MAY, 2023

	7-May	14-May	21-May	28-May
		Love INC Ingathering		Little Blessings Ingathering
Reader (OT & Epistle)	Dick Wire	Marguerite Wire	Alex Klausung	Sue Jepsen
Intercessor	Marguerite Wire	Dick Wire	Bill Oswalt	
Server 1	Dixie Harrold		Dixie Harrold	Carmen Oswalt
Server 2	Paul Wilson			Paul Wilson
Crucifer	Kory Boxell		Kory Boxell	
Oblations				
2 Counters:				
Vestry member		Sue Jepsen		Sue Jepsen
Non-vestry			Alex Klausung	
Altar Guild	Sue Jepsen	Alex Klausung	Marguerite Wire	Carmen Oswalt
Transport Marlene & Shirley		Wire	Wire	
Coffee Hour	Parker	Wire	Frischman	Jepsen

REMEMBER TO SIGN UP FOR NEXT MONTH !



Christ the King Episcopal Church
1224 North Jefferson Street
Huntington IN 46750
MAY, 2023

VESTRY

Britina Boxell 2023
Sue Nunemaker 2023
Linda Beatty 2024
Marguerite Wire 2024
Sue Jepsen 2025
Nancy Heasley 2025

PHONE NUMBERS

Church:
260-356- 3570
Sr. Warden:
260-359-0746
Little Blessings Childcare:
260-359-1161

SERVICES at CHRIST the KING

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.: Holy Communion
Thursday, 9:00 a.m.: Morning Prayer
Thursday, 5:30 p.m.: Evening Prayer

WEB PAGE:

www.episcopalchurch-huntington.org

EMAILS :

Treasurer:
markpark823@gmail.com
Newsletter: sljepsen@yahoo.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Fr. Ted, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Thursdays

PERSONNEL

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Theodore Neidlinger
Bishop/Rector: The Rt. Rev. Douglas Sparks
Sr. Warden: Gary Beatty
Jr. Warden: John Jepsen
Treasurer: Mark Parker
Music Director: Sue Nunemaker

