



# MANNA

Christ Episcopal Church, 824 Fairmont Avenue, Fairmont, WV 26554

November 2009

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Church Phone: 304.366.3471  
E-mail: [christchfmt@wvdsi.net](mailto:christchfmt@wvdsi.net)  
Website: [www.fairmontepiscopal.com](http://www.fairmontepiscopal.com)

The Rev. Siobhan Patterson, Rector  
Rector's Cell Phone: **304.368.8858**  
Rector's E-mail: [christchfmt.rector@gmail.com](mailto:christchfmt.rector@gmail.com)

Holy Eucharist is celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.  
A nursery is provided.

*Our mission is to...  
know God, love God, and serve others.*

*Rector's Message*

*Siobhán Patterson*

Dear Parish Family and Friends,

Because of the Thanksgiving Holiday, November is usually a time we remember to **give thanks** for the many blessings in our lives. We, as the Christ Church community, have a lot to give thanks for right now. The commitment to and energy level for our ministries and activities are high. I'd like to highlight a few things:

The **Christian Ed** teachers have wonderful classes going on for the youth and are seeing steady attendance among the youth. Adult Education classes are beginning to be offered on a regular basis. Currently, Jeff Greenly is offering a Lectionary based Bible Study at 9:30am on Sundays, and Dede Burnell will be offering a Bible Study at 9:30am on Sundays during the Advent Season.



The **Stewardship** Committee is planning monthly activities to help us engage stewardship as a year round practice and as a practice that has many facets – not just a once a year thing all about money. Please see the inside of the newsletter for a message from the Stewardship Committee and for information about December’s stewardship event.

The **Building Renovations** Committee is hard at work. As Gary Metheny, our Junior Warden, recently mentioned during the announcements at church, there is a lot of much needed work to be done, and it’s taking longer than, well, longer than we’d like. Although slowly, the project is coming along. The renovations revolve around and address the safety, usability, and accessibility of the building. They will open new possibilities for us and our ministry and will help us open the church to more and more people.

The planning team for the **Magnetic Church Conference** that we will be hosting here in April is also hard at work. Like the building renovations, the energy and ideas we will receive from participating in this conference will also open new possibilities for our ministry and help us open the church to more people.

Again, we have a lot to give thanks for as a church community. On a more personal note, I am also aware that *we* are coming up on a year together later this month. I give profound thanks for this year with you and for the privilege of serving as your Rector. I look forward to many more years in ministry with you!

In Christ,  
Siobhán+

### ***General Thanksgiving (BCP 836)***

**Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.**

**We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care A which surrounds us on every side.**

**We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.**

**We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.**

**Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.**

**Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. *Amen.***



A "Magnetic Church Conference" planning meeting will be held at 7pm on Wednesday, November 4, in the Rector's Office. Christ Church will be hosting the conference on the weekend of April 16 & 17, 2010. Please contact me or any vestry member if you are willing to help. Contact information is available on page 5 of this newsletter.

Attendance &  
Financial Report

**September 2009**

Week 1 ... 50

Week 2 ... 64

Week 3 ... 51

Week 4 ... 50

**Sunday Service Average - 54**

September Expense - \$15,637.31

September Offering - \$6,624.75

## Thoughts on Stewardship from the Stewardship Committee

### Finding Our Commitment to Christ in Ordinary Times.....

I offer all the prayers, works, joys, and problems of this day to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I unite myself in spirit and in prayer with all the Eucharists that will be celebrated this day in all the world. May the people of God witness the Good News of Christ in all times and in all places, now and forever.

**Evangelism:** Calls persons to commitment

**Worship:** Celebrates that commitment

**Christian Formation:** Teaches the meaning of that commitment

**Stewardship:** Is the practice of that commitment

*What is god's commitment to me?*

*What is my commitment to God?*



## **A Christian Steward**

- Continues in the apostle's teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in the prayers, attending services regularly.
- Participates in Christian formation programs that deepen faith.
- Works for peace and justice in their community.
- Joyfully responds with gratitude by making a generous commitment to financially support the church.
- Prayerfully remembers the church in their estate planning.
- Tells others about their faith and relationship with God.

## **A Simple Rule of Life**

### **At the beginning of the day**

Take a few moments to be still, quiet and present to God. Then pray: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God: Help me this day to love and serve you in everyone I meet and to rejoice in your promise to be with me always, as my savior and my Lord. Amen

### **Daily Discipline**

Generous and gracious God, help me to be aware of your continued presence that I may:

- Grow in my trust of you
- Give you myself more fully, and
- Serve others as a tangible expression of your own love for them.

### **At the end of the day**

*Reflecting on your day*

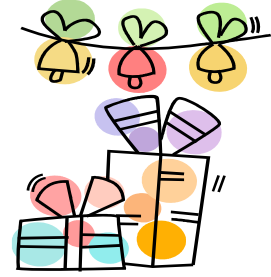
- Where or by whom did Jesus come to me today?
- When and how was I a Christ-bearer to another?
- For what am I most grateful to God?

### **Concluding Prayer**

Almighty God, I thank you for all you have given me and for all you have forgiven: for your hidden blessings and for those which in my negligence I have passed over; for every gift of my human nature or of grace; for the power of love; for all you have yet in store for me; for everything, whether joy or sorrow, whereby you are drawing me to yourself through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*



# GREAT GIVEAWAY



**The Stewardship Committee** Is excited to announce the first annual (ever) GREAT GIVEAWAY, under the leadership of Laura Withers-Boyles. We will be holding this giveaway at our church on December 5th. We are soliciting new/good quality gifts of toys, clothes (especially winter apparel....especially for children), linens, shoes and boots. We will be offering light refreshments for all guests. The items can be delivered to the church during normal business hours beginning Oct. 26th, please call the office ahead of time. If anyone is unable to deliver and needs their items picked up, please contact Laura, Lisa Baker, Ann Heim or Mike Lawson. Of course, this will be an opportunity to grow in Christ by assisting, so please do not hesitate to let us know how you can help in helping our neighbors.

Stay tuned for the Stewardship Committee's January activity...inspired by a church in Michigan and Jesus' Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 19:12-28).

### Vestry Contact Information

*If you have any issues you would like to discuss, please feel free to contact one of the vestry members.*

<i>Vestry Member</i>	<i>Phone Number</i>	<i>Email Address</i>
<i>Kent Brown</i>	<i>304-366-9445</i>	<i>wbrown6@ma.rr.com</i>
<i>Toni Balenger</i>	<i>304-363-7825</i>	<i>nonatoniwv@yahoo.com</i>
<i>Kyle Hamilton</i>	<i>304-366-5148</i>	<i>kyle@wilsonfordlm.com</i>
<i>Neal Hamilton</i>	<i>304-677-1779</i>	<i>neal@mountain.net</i>
<i>Gary Metheny</i>	<i>304-366-2033</i>	<i>garymetheny@comcast.net</i>
<i>Sally Tennant</i>	<i>304-694-0107</i>	<i>sjotennant@aol.com</i>
<i>Carla Wood</i>	<i>304-363-7938</i>	<i>carla414@msn.com</i>
<i>Jeff Wallace</i>	<i>304-594-1436</i>	<i>jeffmwallace@yahoo.com</i>
<i>Laura Withers-Boyles</i>	<i>304-363-2295</i>	<i>dds1910@aol.com</i>

### ECM Report

*Kyle Hamilton*

The next scheduled volunteer date for the Soup Opera is Saturday, November 21. We invite and encourage any parishioner to join us each month in this ministry.



## Christmas Mini-Bazaar

Barb Barkley and Louise Starr have announced that there will be a Christmas Mini-Bazaar and coffee hour on Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, after church. They are asking that everyone bake their favorite Xmas cookies, bread, or anything special. There will also be Strawberry Jam for sale. Anyone who would like a "special order" of jam (6 or more jars), should let Barb know in advance. Let's everyone pitch in and make this the best bazaar ever!



## A Note of Thanks...

Dear Siobhán and the good people of Christ Episcopal Church,

Thank you so much for your most generous gift to Elewana. Your donation of \$20,000 will help sustain and support young Kenyans as they seek to improve their education. This is a wonderful effort on your part, and we greatly appreciate your support and interest. Hopefully, some of you will visit Zach in Kenya and see the fruits of your generosity.

Gratefully yours,  
Sarah Drennen  
Secretary

## and An Update from Zach...



My time in Kenya for this year is kwisha (finished!), and my last few weeks were nothing short of a mad rhino charge to tie up loose ends before melting into an exhausted puddle on the long flight home.

On my last weekend there, I attended the Diocesan Synod, a biannual affair similar to a diocesan convention back in the States. I had wanted to attend, if only to compare it with those in the U.S and represent the Elewana Project to the visiting dignitaries. Most astounding was its brevity: I had assumed, given the interminable length of Kenyan church services, political rallies, and available download speeds, that the synod would take weeks (2-3 days is the norm in the U.S.) I had blocked out the whole month on my calendar. It lasted three hours (shorter than the average Sunday service). I couldn't believe it. Who knew a parliamentary body could get through extensive introductions, 9 elections, 12 resolutions, a Bishop's charge and Holy Communion and be out by lunch. On a lark, I went outside to check for flying pigs.

Admittedly, Bishop Zak had been in a hurry. He had asked me a couple days prior if I would attend his friend's enthronement as Bishop in a nearby Ugandan diocese. I was honored...and suspicious. I suspected that while he wanted to show me a part of Uganda I had not seen and introduce me to his friends in attendance, what he really wanted was a ride. In any case, the second the synod was over we high-tailed it across the border and into the central Uganda, arriving hours later with just enough time to grab a quick bite and collapse into our beds. The following morning's consecration was a grand outdoor affair, though I couldn't help but notice that what time we had gained in the previous day's synod was quickly squandered at the day-long event. We started promptly at 10:00 (as advertised) and, to his credit, the MC kept things moving at a brisk pace. But any soirée involving a multitude of clergy within arms reach of a microphone is likely to drag on...and so it did.

Though I may have nodded off a time or two throughout the morning, I did perk up when the President of Uganda, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, showed up to take his place as the guest of honor under his own heavily guarded pavilion. As 'chief guest', he was expected to say a few words at the end of the day's festivities. His rant on current farm policy lost my attention, but he roped me back in with his analogy between a Bishop and the Church and the shepherd; his flock. Being a shepherd, said Museveni, requires a lot of walking, which requires a good pair a sandals, less thorns get stuck in one's feet chasing after the flock. Thus, he continued, a new Bishop requires a good pair of sandals to chase after his sheep. About this time, he presented the bishop with a new pair of shoes: a newly minted 4WD SUV. I should mention at this point that the shameless mixing of Church and State is a preoccupation of Western sensibilities, not African.

Guns were everywhere in Uganda, even in our discussion on the way back to Kenya. Perhaps attributable to the Presidential appearance, but never had I had seen so many soldiers casually leaning on M60 machine guns. To which Bishop Zak added his rather startling editorial comment : "Careful what you say and do around here - Ugandans won't think twice about killing you. Killing is nothing to them." Which reminded me of my thoughts during Kenya's post-election violence in early 2008: Somehow life just seems cheaper here, more expendable. Hell, Idi Amin was responsible for 300,000 deaths alone. And that brings me back to one of my most powerful and tangible experiences of Africa: it makes one feel



Alive and Exposed. The security of race, class, gender, and education don't amount to a hill of beans in front of a machine gun or machete. Even in times of peace (which Kenya currently enjoys), life in Africa is simply more real, present, tangible, raw, dirty, and dangerous than our normal existence. Such an experience is a powerful emotional and spiritual stimulant. As is always the case, the good and the bad of Kenyan life come mixed in the same stewpot, and the many blessings of living here come at the cost of having to be more alert, attentive, active, AWAKE. And yet that itself is a blessing. It ain't pretty, but it is real, and maybe that's why I can't stay away...and why I want you to come give it a try next year. Christ said, 'I give you life', and what is the point of that if we live it half-asleep?

I'll be back in the US until January, and I hope I get a chance to run into you on my travels. As always, I love to hear about what you're up to. As soon as I get this e-mail out, I'll try and load a new video on the webpage – a video tour of Moding Secondary School, created by Paul Blake, senior at Episcopal High School and recent visitor to Amagoro.

As Always, Mad Love,  
Zach

P.S. Land Rover Update: Only Mostly Dead.

The Rev. Zach Drennen  
The Elewana Educaiton Project  
[www.elewana.org](http://www.elewana.org)



### *Important Dates to Remember*

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<i>Sunday, November 1</i>	<i>22nd Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m. Service of Holy Baptism celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson Baptism of Alex Walker Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service 5:30 p.m. "All Hallow's Eve dinner and fun event for ALL in the Parish Hall</i>
<i>Sunday, November 8</i>	<i>23rd Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>
<i>Monday, November 9</i>	<i>Vestry Meeting - 7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Sunday, November 15</i>	<i>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>
<i>Saturday, November 21</i>	<i>10:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Soup Opera (Need Volunteers) Call Kyle Hamilton at 366.5148.</i>
<i>Sunday, November 22</i>	<i>Last Sunday after Pentecost - Christ the King 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>
<i>Thursday, November 26</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed</i>
<i>Friday, November 27</i>	<i>Office Closed</i>
<i>Sunday, November 29</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist celebrated by The Rev. Siobhán Patterson</i>



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION UPDATE

### Christian Ed – Keep on Coming!

Christian Education classes continue to meet weekly in the classrooms. Participation has been steady! Continue to bring your family to participate in classes for all age groups. If anyone has the time and desire to produce a Christmas program, please contact Siobhán to coordinate plans.

### Keeping Warm OUTREACH Projects for November and December

In an effort to support our community projects, this year Christian Ed will sponsor two “Keeping Warm” outreach initiatives that we are asking the entire parish to participate in during November and December.

With cold weather approaching, we thought it would be nice to have a drive for personal warmth items - pajamas, socks, gloves, underwear, hats, etc. We encourage all to participate, and if you're not sure what to bring, we thought we could set up “suggested item” jars in the Narthex. The purpose of the jar is to pull out a card (or as many cards as you would like) and to purchase/donate what is on the card: pajamas, socks, gloves, underwear, hats. Typically folks enjoy contributing if you just tell them what you need, so this way you have a little reminder of what is needed. We will have a tote box available for your items when you drop them off.

For our food drive this year, we are suggesting items for donation to local agencies for each Sunday in November.

- November 1 – Boxed items: macaroni & cheese, hamburger helper, crackers, anything in a box
- November 8 - Canned good items: fruits, vegetables, canned meats
- November 15 – Paper items, napkins, towels, toilet paper
- November 22 – Personal Grooming items: soap, shampoo, toothpaste, etc
- November 29 – Donor’s Choice and delivery to one of our local agencies

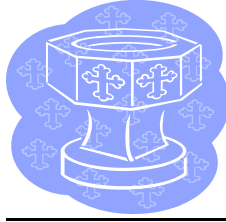


### Revised Common Lectionary

#### Appointed readings for:

- Sunday, November 1 – Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 Psalm 24 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44
- Sunday, November 8 – Ruth 3:1-5 Psalm 127 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44
- Sunday, November 15 – 1 Samuel 1:4-20, 2:1-10 Psalm 16 Hebrews 10:11-14 (15-18) 19-25 Mark 13:1-8
- Sunday, November 22 – 2 Samuel 23:1-7 Psalm 132:1-13 (14-19) Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37
- Sunday, November 29 – Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-9 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36





## **BAPTISM**

*Alex Walker, son of Stephanie and Michael Walker will be baptized during the service on November 1. A coffee hour will follow the service.*

## All Hallows Eve

Please join us for the Parish Wide “All Hallows Eve” Dinner and Fun! Join in on the fun at this Parish-Wide event. ALL are invited to attend, wear a costume, bring a dish to pass, and enjoy fellowship and Halloween games! Sunday, November 1, at 5:30 p.m. in the Church Parish Hall



## Yoga Community Outreach

Place: **Christ Episcopal Church**

824 Fairmont Ave., Fairmont

**Price: Donation Based**

**Donation Recommendation \$3.00-\$7.00**



With Instructors Sally Tennant and Lauren Hamilton

**Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. (November 7, 14, 21 & 28)**

**Contact Sally for more information**

**Sally Tennant: (304) 694-0107 or [sjotennant@aol.com](mailto:sjotennant@aol.com)**



## Liturgical Assistants Calendar

Date	Service	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Acolytes	Sacristans	Ushers *	Counters
11/1/09 22 <sup>nd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Baptism	C. Carlot N. Hamilton	C. Boyles B. Metheny	B. Metheny F. Tennant N. Greely	Team 3 All Season	Youth Ushers	N. Hamilton K. Hamilton
11/8/09 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	T. Steed K. Hamilton	J. Hamilton D. Nuzum	Alec W. M. Marsh Abby W.	Team 4 All Season	Baker Family	K. Brown J. Wallace
11/15/09 24 <sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	B. Hamilton D. Hamilton	D. Hamilton A. Patterson	C. Boyles B. Metheny N. Greely	Team 1 All Season	J. Burford L. Leon	T. Balenger G. Metheny
11/22/09 Last Sun. after Pentecost	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	B. Barkley M. Lopez	N. Hamilton J. Burford	N. Lopez L. Marsh F. Tennant	Team 2 All Season	K. Brown C. Colborn	N. Hamilton S. Tennant
11/29/09 1 <sup>st</sup> Sun. in Advent	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	L. Lawson J. Miller	C. Wood D. Burnell	M. Marsh Alec W. Abby W.	Team 3 Purple	Steed-Marsh Family	K. Hamilton C. Wood
12/6/09 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sun. in Advent	10:30 am Holy Eucharist	N. Hamilton C. Carlot	N. Lopez M. Marsh	N. Lopez C. Boyles L. Marsh	Team 4 Purple	Youth Ushers	L. Withers- Boyles J. Wallace

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