

The Courier

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

JUNE, 2025

A Few Words from Fr. Ted

JUNE BRIDES

June has always been thought of as the Bridal Month. As I reflect on that, I am struck that only two couples in our family actually were married in that month. June, though, does seem like a good time for such an occasion. Coming in the late spring, the weather is usually warm and the spring rains are less frequent. For those finishing high school or college, those events are past. And it is a good time to travel for those having the time and money to celebrate with a nice honeymoon. In the northern hemisphere, at least, the regreening of the earth symbolizes the new beginning that is a reality for those entering into a nuptial relationship. June is a great time to get married for both practical and figurative reasons.

It is also a good time to recall that the Church exists as the "bride of Christ." This phrase is found nowhere in the Bible, but allusions to such a relationship are evident throughout scripture. In that problematic passage from the Letter to the Ephesians, the Apostle Paul urges mutual submission in a marriage relationship "out of reverence for Christ." (Ephesians 5:21) In the Gospel of John, the Baptist likens himself to "the friend of the Bridegroom." (John 3:29) Jesus himself in Mark's Gospel refers to himself as a bridegroom when defending his disciples for picking grain to eat on the Sabbath, "The wedding guests cannot fast while the bridegroom is with them, can they? As long as they have the bridegroom with them, they cannot fast." (Mark 2:19)

What does it mean to see the Church as the bride and Christ as the groom? It casts the relationship as one of love, mutuality, and sharing. Before going any further, I think we need to agree that Jesus is not married to an institution. His relationship is with those who make up the Church – us. Within that connection, the ultimate act of caring is to join with another in a life-long commitment of fidelity. So much in life is transitory. Many of us have come to realize that even deep friendships may ebb over time. Circumstances can mean moving away from beloved homes. And even children grow up and leave to create their own lives. The ideal of marriage is that the partners will experience such vagaries together, providing support and stability as found nowhere else. This is the permanence found in the love of Jesus for the Church



and the loyalty of the Church to him. When all else seems insubstantial, Jesus is there for the Church and for us.

Those in a marriage also pledge mutual fidelity and primacy in the relationship. In the Marriage Rite as found in the Book of Common Prayer, the first promises made by the couple are to love, honor and keep each other in sickness and health, <u>forsaking</u> all others. (Emphasis mine.) This is what Jesus gives to the Church and its members, and what we are bound to return to him. Human bonds may fail, but Christ's promises given to and through the Church will never fail. As members of the Church, that should be our intent as well. Where Jesus' promises are sure, as humans we will at times not remain as faithful as we want to be. Jesus, though, in love will accept us back time and time again.

In healthy marriages, the partners care for each other in many ways. When one is happy the other rejoices; when one hurts, the other provides comfort; when one is endangered, the other provides protection. Whatever is experienced by one is experienced by both. The two are as one. Just so, Jesus is there for us always and everywhere.

The great good news is that we are each invited to the "wedding feast of the lamb" (Rev. 19.9) not as mere guests but as the beloved of Christ. Fr. Ted +

A DUTY FULFILLED

A rubric in the Prayer Book Rite for "The Thanksgiving for the Birth or Adoption of a Child" reads:

"The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."

Most of us at Christ the King are beyond the point where we have children who are dependent on us for financial support and care. It is still prudent to make clear provision for how you wish your assets to be distributed at the time of your death. Countless family squabbles could have been avoided if one who died had made clear their wishes and had designated who was responsible for carrying out those wishes. Don't just make a will; discuss its contents with your heirs. And as the rubric reminds us, bequests can have a remarkable effect on the viability and work of the church or other charitable organizations.

There, I have done as the rubric directs me to do. You will find a copy of a Funeral Arrangement Form following the address page of this issue of *The Courier*. Feel free to print it out, or ask for a copy at church.

From Your Senior Warden

What's Next? An Interim Report

Since no one is asking, I'll ask it for you: What progress are we making with preparing for "life after Fr Ted?" His announced retirement date of February 28, 2026, is now less than a year away.

The Transition Committee is working with Mtr. Terri Bays. So far, there is no word on priest availability, so the Vestry is planning for a lay-led congregation for some time. Of course, we will continue to look for a new priest. Lay-led means that without a priest our Worship Leaders will guide us in Morning Prayer on Sundays. If we have a supply priest on some Sundays, that person will celebrate the Eucharist for us. There are currently four licensed Worship Leaders and one more ready to train. There are three of us that are studying to become licensed Lay Preachers. Other parts of the Worship Committee are functioning as they should.

We are also making progress behind the scenes. So far, the changes are mostly at the organizational level where the changes aren't obvious to the parish as a whole. The Vestry has added three new committees to our structure to carry the duties that Fr Ted is shedding. (He really does give us more than 100%!) Those committees are populated by a mix of Vestry members and non-Vestry parishioners. The Vestry plans to keep the congregation updated more frequently and transparently as the year progresses.

Three things are priorities this year – our worship together, our fellowship, and our outreach.

So, what do we need from the congregation?

- Your prayers. Pray for the Parish and for the Vestry.
- Your questions, comments, and concerns. We need to know what you are thinking. Talk to us.
- Your attendance and participation, especially at worship but also at events and fellowship opportunities. And please say "yes" if you are invited to serve on a committee or take on a task or you may volunteer at any time.

The Parish participated prayerfully in strategic planning and we are working with the results of that planning. We have faith that the Holy Spirit will guide us forward step by step into our future together.

Marguerite Wire, Senior Warden

Choir practice will remain on Tuesday at 4:30 pm during the summer. We will be singing next on June 29.

Thanks for your dedication! (says Sue Nunemaker to the choir) – and in turn, we thank her for her dedication to having a choir!



ALZHEIMER'S and DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Will meet Thursday, June 5 at 5:00 p.m.
In the Parish Hall

Questions?
Call Nancy Heasley
260-450-7077



BOOK CLUB

Book Club will meet on June 23 to discuss *All Our Beautiful Goodbyes* by Julianne Maclean. A Goodreads reviewer wrote, "*All Our Beautiful Goodbyes* is a stand-alone historical novel . . . set on Sable Island, Nova Scotia spanning from the late 1940s to 1995. The overarching theme is

love: romantic, for your children and family, for yourself, and for your home. Britina Boxell will lead the discussion and Britina Sue Jepsen will host. Feel free to join us – even if you haven't read the book!. We meet at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

WELL DESERVED -

For so many years that we cannot count them (but around 30), Judy Frischman has hosted a barn sale and led fundraising activities (nut sales, Kroger cards – you name it). Originally, it was for the Growing in Faith campaign to pay off our mortgage. When that was done, the proceeds went to outreach. Through it all, Judy has helped raise thousands to benefit both our church and our community, and Carmen Oswalt prepared this award to acknowledge her hard work.

Thanks, Judy!



CHRIST THE KING JUNE, 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01	02	7:00 p.m. AA	04	5:00 Dementia Caregivers Group	06	07
9 a.m. Morning Prayer	09	7:00 p.m. AA	11	5:30 Holy Communion	13	Heritage Days Parade
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 Adult Study	16	7:00 p.m. AA	18	19 5:30 Evening Prayer	20	21
9 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 Adult Study	23	7:00 p.m. AA	25	5:30 Evening Prayer 5:30 p.m. Little Blessings Board	27	28
29 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 Adult Study	30	7:00 p.m. AA	02	03 5:30 Evening Prayer	04	05

SERVICE ROSTER JUNE, 2025

	1 June	8 June	15 June	22 June	29 June
		PENTECOST			
Reader (OT & Epistle)	Gary Beatty	Meg Moss	Marguerite Wire	Sue Jepsen	Marguerite Wire
Intercessor	Marguerite Wire	Sue Jepsen	Bill Oswalt		
Server 1	n/a	Marguerite Wire		Marguerite Wire	Dixie Harrold
Server 2	n/a	Jeff Roberts	Meg Moss	Meg Moss	Carmen Oswalt
Oblations					
Counter	Alex Klausing				
Altar Guild	Marguerite Wire	Linda Beatty	Sue Jepsen	Marguerite Wire	Alex Klausing
Coffee Hour	Parker	Jepsen	Heasley	Neidlinger	Wire

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Deb Daugherty
- 8 Amy Fisher
- 9 Chad Daugherty
- 12 Mark Parker
- 16 Britina Boxell
- 30 June Prezbíndowskí

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

14 Jeff & Lynn Roberts 25 Bill & Carmen Oswalt 25 John & Sue Jepsen

29 Kevin & Amy Fisher

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VESTRY

Sue Jepsen 2025 Nancy Heasley 2025

John Jepsen 2026 Paul Wilson 2026

Carmen Oswalt 2027 Sue Nunemaker 2027

PHONE NUMBERS

Church:

260-356-3570

Sr. Warden:

260-224-3835

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 2nd Thursday/month, 5:30: Communion

WEB PAGE:

www.episcopalchurchhuntington.org

FACEBOOK Page:

https://www.facebook.com/ctkhuntington

EMAILS:

Treasurer:

markpark823@gmail.com

Newsletter:

sljepsen@yahoo.com

PERSONNEL

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Theodore Neidlinger

Bishop/Rector: The Rt. Rev.

Douglas Sparks
Sr. Warden:

Marguerite Wire

Jr. Warden:

George Goedesky

Treasurer:Mark Parker

Music Director: Sue

Nunemaker

CHRIST THE KING EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Huntington, Indiana

Funeral Arrangement Form

			Date	
Full Name				
			Zip	
			night)	
Names, addresses	and phone numbers	s of family memb	ers:	
	Address	Zip	Phone Number	Relation
Names, addresses	and phone numbers	of significant fri	iends:	
	1 1	/ N - 1.1 - 1	1:11	
Name, address and	d phone number of p	person(s) with leg	gal right to handle your f	uneral arrangements:
		10		
What funeral hom	ne do you wish to ha	ve used?		
Have any pre-arra	angements been mad	le with them?		
Do you wish to be	e cremated if so wh	nat is to be done y	with your ashes?	
20 904 11011 10 00	c cremitated, ii 50, wii			

If you wish to be buried, are there instructions about the selection of a casket?	
If you presently own a cemetery plot, where is it and what is the lot number?	
If you do not presently own a cemetery plot, where do you wish to be buried?	
Are there any special instructions regarding your grave marker?	
Is there anything special you wish to wear or have buried or cremated with you?	
Where do you wish your funeral service to be held?	
Name, address and phone number of clergyperson(s)	
Do you want the Rite I or Rite II burial office? Do you want the Holy Eucharist to be offered at your funeral?	
What scripture passages do you wish to have read? (Suggestions are found on pages 494 and 495 in th Book of Common Prayer). Old Testament New Testament	e
Psalm(s) Gospel	
What music do you wish to have played, or hymns to be sung?	

Names, addresses and phone numbers of persons you would like to have as pallbearers:
Are there other special instructions regarding your funeral service?
Do you wish flowers to be sent or donations made in your memory, and where?
Is there any special information you wish to have included in your obituary?

A COPY OF THIS FORM SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE CHURCH, KEPT BY YOU IN A PLACE KNOWN TO YOUR FAMILY AND GIVEN TO THE FUNERAL HOME YOU WISH TO USE.