

Christ Church **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

THE CHRONICLES MARCH 2018

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PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Church,

Back in January I spent a week in Arizona for my annual professional development with the New Generation Leadership Initiative – a group of 20-30 year old pastors whom the wider UCC has determined to be the “future leaders of the church”. I’m humbled to be considered a part of this cohort of clergy from around the country. This year we learned about something called “adaptive leadership” and I wasn’t quite sure what to do with it. I’ve been thinking quite a bit about the concept of “adaptive leadership” this week in the wake of the terrible tragedy in Parkland, Florida where a former student killed 17 people at a high school. I’ve been thinking about all this in the context of Lent and Easter.

Right now we find ourselves smack dab in the middle of Lent. For Christians this season tends to be dark. We observed Ash Wednesday and had black ash smudged on our foreheads. We tend to “give up” or “take on” some spiritual practices during Lent. Our worship tends to be a bit heavy liturgically. Our worship music is darker and the Scripture is inching closer and closer to the cross. In some ways our world seems particularly dark right now, especially in the wake of another school shooting.

Most people in our country want to come up with some solution to fix the problem of violence. “Gun control” has occupied a lot of airtime lately. What I have found to be particularly curious in this debate is the talk of arming individuals who work in places that have typically been gun-free zones, like schools, hospitals, and churches. This heated debate has made me reflect upon what I learned while at NGLI this January concerning adaptive leadership.

Adaptive challenges are many-headed beasts. They require a lot of work to correct and sometimes there isn’t a good fix. The surefire way to fail to effectively address an adaptive challenge is through a technical fix.

This is because a technical fix is temporary and it fails to address the larger issues at play. In the short term a technical fix is great. For the long term, a different approach to a problem is required.

When I think about the tragedy in Florida it seems like a lot of technical solutions have been offered up by folks on both sides of the aisles, but not so much in the way of adaptive changes (addressing larger societal, cultural, and systemic challenges). You might be wondering why I am sharing this. I don't want to talk about gun control or something like that, but I do think we as a church have adaptive challenges we will need to face together.

What might some of those adaptive challenges be at Christ Church? We might consider declining membership and downward trends with giving to be an adaptive challenge. Why aren't people coming to church as much as they used to? Why isn't church as central a place in people's lives in 2018? Are things different than they used to be or has our culture changed? A technical fix might be to aggressively ask folks to come back to church and give more, but an adaptive change might be to rethink what church could be. Might church be outside 915 East Oklahoma Avenue from 9:30am-10:30am on a Sunday morning? If giving is down or the budget isn't met – the technical fix might be to ask folks to give more money (pass the plate twice!). Perhaps an adaptive approach to this challenge might be for us to be more transparent about our needs and wants as a church so folks have an opportunity to give, creating a different culture of giving. Might another adaptive challenge be that our membership is “graying” and folks are getting burned out? How might we encourage younger visitors and members to get involved and head up committees and teams? We might also ask how God fits into all this. It has been a while since our church has clearly and articulately defined its mission. Do we have a clear mission? What might that be?

The bottom line is that technical fixes are temporary fixes. They don't get at the root cause of why a challenge or problem arises. Whether it is violence or budget shortages, a technical fix may solve things – but only for a while. Getting at the greater cultural, societal, and systemic issues that give rise to challenges is the true challenge. As we face into 2018 it is my prayer that we never ever face something like those students and their families did in Florida in February. It is my prayer, as well, that we, as responsible, Christ-hearted-and-minded people of faith, can contribute fruitfully to our national conversation about beating swords into ploughshares and protecting the vulnerable. I also hope that when a challenge arises within our church, no matter what it is, that we can be thoughtful and prayerful in facing these challenges together. Easter is right around the corner. May the life Easter brings be a light that shines in the darkness that the world finds itself in right now.

With respect,

Pastor Dan Stark

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The Circle of Life? Not So Fast!!!!

The Circle of Life It's a phrase that was brought to the fore front of popular culture by the story and the Disney movie *The Lion King*. The movie begins with sequences where Simba is taught many valuable life lessons by his father. The father dies a tragic death. His death leaves behind a void comprised of unmet needs for companionship, protection, nurturing and sustenance. Through the hard ships and trials of life, (many of which Simba brings on himself), he gains an appreciation for the life lessons taught by his father. As a result, the kingdom is better off, the lives of those who depended upon him are much improved and the kingdom is saved. It has such a classical flow to it. The elder person teaches the younger person. Then the elder exits the picture and the new “leader”, who has been so well prepared for the present realities of life, goes on to shape the new world order that somehow looks like an idealized picture of the past.

It made a great movie, a block buster show on Broadway, with a feel good ending, but is that how things really are? I would propose that the answer is **NOT**. First, even though we have adult children and perhaps even adult grandchildren, I for one, am not dead nor quite ready to exit the picture yet. Second, we are living in a world that few of us had predicted, much less able to prepare others for or even navigate ourselves.

Certainly, a survey of today's rapidly shifting cultural landscape can plant the seeds of fear and uncertainty. Fads that come and go within nanoseconds, and trends that are present barely long enough to be perceived much less reacted to, can make any attempt at progress seem inconsequential. Where can we draw long lasting meaning, value and purpose?

A recent study of the Book of Revelation by our Adult Education Group provided a much wider lens through which to view the events of human history. We saw that since the time of the first human beings, God has desired to be known and loved. The principle means of accomplishing this goal is to make his presence known through his children. Teaching his children how to be the living example of His love in the world continues to this day.

No matter our chronological age, we are called to be intentional about both, our learning and developing a faithful life. As God's children we should be receptive to his ways by being passionate in our worship, radical in our hospitality, risk taking in our mission and extravagant in our generosity. We will always be God's children. As such, we need to always be eager and unafraid to learn new, more effective ways of accomplishing God's deepest desire - being known and loved.

One of your partners in His work,

Paul Mayeshiba
Church Council – President

OPPORTUNITY: ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is now a possibility! If you're in the pew and you'd like to give something other than cash or a check, you are encouraged to use your phone to visit www.christchurchbayview.org and tap the donate button at the bottom. You can pay with an existing PayPal account or with any credit card. It's easy and it saves your information for the next time you visit! Wondering what one of these weird scanny codes in the bulletin is? Give them a scan with a QR reader app on your phone and it will bring up the donation page! Want more information about online giving? See Pastor Dan or contact the church office at 414-481-3530.



OPPORTUNITY: A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER IS HERE

Have you ever showed up to church on Sunday and forgot about something happening that weekend? Maybe it was a special offering, donation, or event. Have you ever forgot that you signed up for something? We've all been there. Beginning in late September a weekly e-newsletter went out on Fridays via email to remind you about what's going on at church. You can also see who's signed up to read, greet, usher, or if there's a need for volunteers. If you're interested in receiving the *Christ Church Weekly*, contact the Church Administrator (christ-church@att.net) to be added to the list (414-481-3530). Sign up sheets are also available at the information areas at the church entrances, then just drop it in the collection plate. It's that simple.

OPPORTUNITY: DELIVERY OF CHRIST CHURCH SHARE AND CARE (SHUT IN'S) MEMBER EASTER BASKETS

*Need \$150.00 by March 11th – **Received to date \$156.00. Thank You!!!!!!!**

*Help delivering baskets the weeks of March 18th & 26th-Contact the church office to sign up.

Sponsored by the Social Concerns Committee: Debbie Behling (Chair),

Debbie Hansen, Mary Ann Mowery, Sandy Miksic, & Sara Rogers (Council liason)

OPPORTUNITY: OMG-OGHS! MARCH 11, 2018

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) on Sunday, March 11th, is the Lenten Offering of the United Church of Christ that supports disaster, refugee, and development activities.

Through this program we provide assistance to families and communities around the world, helping them to become stronger, healthier and better equipped to address hardships and catastrophes. When we give, as Christ Church, United Church of Christ, it means that we can stand strong, in the midst of considerable need whether it is nearby or far away. **WHEN GOD'S LOVE ABIDES IN US, WE ARE MOVED TO RESPOND WITH OUR OWN MATERIAL GOODS TO THE NEEDS OF OTHER MEMBERS OF GOD'S FAMILY.**

Make a Gift to the OGHS Offering! Financial donations make a difference in the lives of people through a generous gift to this offering. Donations support a variety of actions all geared toward improving life for people and communities, in the US and internationally. **Be part of a movement to change the world. Think in terms of Extravagant Generosity!**

In addition to Our Church's Wider Mission (Basic Support), the **United Church of Christ has 4 Special Mission Offerings (SMOs)**. These offerings exist to allow congregations and individuals to meet people at points of critical need in their lives. Though many options exist for direct support of these needs, the SMOs allow a common witness and make a collective positive impact. **Our church has identified four areas where these critical human needs exist:**

- **One Great Hour of Sharing**—in places lacking health and educational resources and/or where disaster has struck;
- **Neighbors in Need**—within systems of injustice which oppress daily life and opportunity;
- **Strengthen the Church**—in the nurture of youth and congregations just beginning their lives of faith;
- **The Christmas Fund**—in the lives of church leaders without sufficient resources to live with dignity;

Last year Christ Church OGHS offering totaled \$728. Certainly, natural disasters, war, and poverty over the **past year have increased the need for an even greater response to truly Living out our Faith. YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, MARCH 11th, WILL BE DEEPLY APPRECIATED BY THOSE IN GREAT NEED.**

FFF EVENT: CHURCH MOVIE NIGHT "JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR"

MARCH 16TH 6:30PM

Pizza: at 6:30 PM Movie: 7:00 PM

Jesus Christ Superstar is a 1973 American musical drama film based on the rock opera of the same name. The film centers on the conflict between Judas and Jesus during the week before the crucifixion of Jesus. **The film will be introduced by our own Rich Tremarello, who as a musician, played in the orchestra for this Broadway play.** His insight will provide an interesting and entertaining backdrop to this film.

There will be an assortment of pizzas served with a mixed greens salad and beverages. A free will offering will be accepted. There will also be snacks for munching during the movie.

Signup is encouraged, but not mandatory, to better plan the amount of food needed for this event. Plan to add this event to your 2018 Lenten journey. See you there!

Questions: Jim and Randene Wick, Paul and Doris Mayeshiba, Joe Rogge and Madeline Norton.

OPPORTUNITY: CROCHETERS (AND KNITTERS TOO!)

The crochet group is starting a project and would like to invite any and all who crochet (and knit) to join in on the fun. We are making a blanket(s) made up of small squares. The colors and amount would be of your choosing. You can make one or one hundred. It is a great way to use up your scraps and small amounts of yarn. It must be #4 worsted weight yarn. We do have some yarn available if you do not have any of your own. Remember winter is long and cold and this would be something to do to keep you warm. We would like to have the squares finished by the end of April. So why not join in the fun! Please see Ken Klockow or Jill Unglaub for details.

OPPORTUNITY: ALL CHRIST CHURCH BOOK CLUB

Reminding all members of Christ Church and family and friends to join us for our next meeting of the Christ Church book club. We will be meeting Sunday April 8th after church to discuss "The Hiding Place" by Corrie Ten Boom. This book is a nonfiction autobiography of her life in the Netherlands particularly during the second world war. It details the story of how her strong faith lead her and her family to help friends hide from the Nazis. Books are available either at the library, Half Price Book or also online through Amazon. We hope you join us for fellowship and discussion of this great book.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Carol Borchardt, Carol Dohoney, Debbie Hansen or Mary Ann Mowery

OPPORTUNITY: DI-SOS (Sharing our Suppers) FRIDAYS IN JUNE

Christ Church will be the "host site" for Divine Interventions SOS program of feeding our local homeless all of the Fridays in June again this year. If you would like to participate by getting a group together and preparing, serving and cleaning up a meal on any Friday in June please contact Debbie Behling in the office at christ-church@att.net or 414-481-3530.

*5:30pm Receive guests

*6:00pm Serve and dine with guests (Use disposable or kitchen plates, cups, & silver)

*7:00pm Guests **must** depart per DI program guidelines

*Finish clean-up and secure the building when you leave

OPPORTUNITY: EARN POINTS THAT TURN INTO \$\$\$ FOR CHRIST CHURCH AT GFS (GORDON FOOD SERVICE)

Christ Church now has an account with GFS. GFS is similar to Restaurant Depot where they sell bulk foods and food related supplies and offer points when you make a purchase. Here's how you can help:

*Shop at any of these these locations: 6919 S 27th St., Franklin, 2064 Miller Park Way, Milwaukee, 1025 S. Green Bay Road, Racine

*When checking out ask that the points from your purchase go to Christ Churches account. (The cashier will look up our account and credit Christ Church with the points)

*If you're making a purchase for a Christ Church event contact Debbie in the church office for our member card and any cash on the account can be used towards your purchase.

NEED: DIVINE INTERVENTION & LARRY UNDER THE BRIDGE

Most urgent needs are: Paper Towel, Toilet Paper, Kleenex and Laundry pods

NEED: BAY VIEW COMMUNITY CENTER COLLECTION SUNDAY MARCH 4TH

Canned proteins such as: Tuna, Ham, Spam. Canned fruits and vegetables.

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- March 1: Weekly announcement submissions by 10am, DI 5:30pm-Savages, Choir 7:00pm
- March 4: BVCC Food Pantry collection, Choir 8:15am, Adult Ed. 8:30am, Worship, Confirmation & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am, Confirmation Class 11am
- March 5: Dartball @ Calvary 7:30pm
- March 7: Staff Meeting 10:30am, Midweek Lenten Service 12:00pm, Praise Team 7:00pm
- March 8: Choir 7pm
- March 10: Crochet Class 10:00am
- March 11: "One Great Hour of Sharing" Offering, Adult Ed. 8:30am, Worship, Confirmation & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am, Confirmation Class 11:00am
- March 12: Make up Dartball @ Christ Church vs. Calvary TBD, Property Meeting 7:00pm
- March 14: Quilters 10am, Midweek Lenten Service 12:00pm, Praise Team 7:00pm
- March 15: Weekly announcement submission by 10am, DI-Warehams 5:30pm, Choir 7:00pm
- March 16: Chronicles Newsletter Deadline 10:00am,
FREE!! FFF "Jesus Christ Superstar" Movie Night 6:30 (Supper, Snacks & Movie)
- March 17: Happy St. Patrick's Day!
- March 18: Praise Team 8:15am, Adult Ed. 8:30am, Chapel Communion 9am, Worship, Confirmation & Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am, Confirmation Class 11am
- March 19: Dartball @ Christ Church vs. Greendale 7:00pm
- March 20: Council Meeting 6:30pm
- March 21: Chapel Midweek Lenten Service 12:00pm
- March 22: Weekly announcement submission by 10am, Choir 7:00pm
- March 24: Crochet Class 10:00am
- March 25: Palm Sunday, Adult Ed. 8:30am, Worship, Confirmation, Sunday School 9:30am, Coffee Hour 10:30am, Confirmation Class 11:00am
- March 28: Quilters 10am
- March 29: Choir 6:15pm, Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm
- March 30: Good Friday Service 7:00pm

SAVE THE DATE

April 1: Easter Breakfast 7:30am-9:00am, Choir 8:15am, Easter Sunday Worship 9:30am

May 6: Marion Consort Concert TBD



DARTBALL SCHEDULE

2018

3/5 @ Calvary

3/12 "Make up" game @ home vs. Calvary

3/19 Greendale @ home

LENOX STREET PARKING HELPER SCHEDULE

3/4 Don Antoniewicz	3/11 Mike Behling	3/18 Jim & Randene Wick	3/25 Paul & Doris Mayeshiba	3/29 Maundy Thursday Dave & Nancy Wareham	3/30 Good Friday Mike & Debbie Behling
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GREETER SCHEDULE

Oklahoma Street	3/4 Joan Amich	3/11 The Tremarello Family	3/18 Kathy Schroeder	3/25 Dave & Nancy Wareham
Lenox Street	3/4 Lori & Presley Pisarek	3/11 Marion Schoenfeld	3/18 Doris Piacentine & Joyce Neumann	3/25 Fritz & Maggie Jorgenson

USHER SCHEDULE

3/4 Joan Amich Julene Flanagan Katelyn O'Brien Chuck Terlinden	3/11 Debbie Behling Renolle Volz Danette Volz Volunteer Needed	3/18 Ben Clark Chelsea Clark David Porn Joyce Ziemann	3/25 Mary Ann Mowery Chuck Terlinden Mike Thomae Dave Wareham
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COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

3/4 Volunteer Needed	3/11 The Vails	3/18 Sara Rogers	3/25 The Gaeths
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PRAISE TEAM SCHEDULE

Rehearsals	3/7 7-8:30pm	3/14 7-8:30pm	4/4 7-8:30pm
	4/11 7-8:30pm	5/9 7-8:30pm	5/16 7-8:30pm
Sunday Rehearsal and Service	3/18 8:15-9:15am	4/15 8:15-9:15am	5/20 8:15-9:15am

CHOIR SCHEDULE

Rehearsals	3/1 7-8:30pm	3/8 7-8:30pm	3/15 7-8:30pm	3/22 7-8:30pm
	4/26 7-8:30pm	5/3 7-8:30pm	5/24 7-8:30pm	5/31 7-8:30pm
Sunday Rehearsal and Service	3/4 8:15-9:15	Easter Sunday 4/1 8:15-9:15	5/6 8:15-9:15	6/3 8:15-9:15
Special Rehearsal and Service	Maundy Thursday 3/29 6:15-6:45			

LITURGIST SCHEDULE

3/4 Randene Wick	3/11 Diane Bingheim	3/18 Dick Gaeth	3/25 Dean Kothrade
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WEEKLY SCRIPTURES

3/4	Exodus 20: 1-17	Psalms 19	1Corinthians 1: 18-25	John 2:13-22
3/11	Numbers 21: 4-9	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2: 1-10	John 3:14-21
3/18	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalms 51:1-12 or Psalms 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
3/25	Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16 Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalms 31:9-16 or Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, 40-47
3/29 Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12:1-4, 5-10, 11-14	Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19	1Corinthians 11:23-26	John 13:1-7, 31b-35
3/30 Good Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	Psalms 22	Hebrews 10:16-25 or Hebrew 4:14-16; 5:7-9	John 18: 1-19:42
3/31 Holy Saturday	Job 14:1-14	Lamentations 3:1-9, 19-24	Psalms 31:1-4, 15-16 1Peter 4:1-8	Matthew 27:27:57-66 or John 19:38-42

BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to all these wonderful folks!

MARCH 1

Joyce Jakimczyyk

MARCH 5

Neil Feest

Jerald Veit

MARCH 6

Darren Stezala

MARCH 7

Dan Crass

Ken Klockow

MARCH 8

Kay Rollert

MARCH 10

Elizah Antoniewicz

MARCH 11

Judy Borkowicz

MARCH 14

Benjamin Pfeifer

MARCH 15

Sandra Blackwood

MARCH 16

Gloria Konkel

MARCH 17

Gloria Henke

Jackson Stezala

MARCH 18

Samuel Rondorf

MARCH 20

Robert Engstrom

Brooke Goedel

MARCH 21

Nathan Scheske

MARCH 23

Marcia Craig

Nicholas Wegner

MARCH 24

Maria Porn

MARCH 25

Isabelle Berger

MARCH 27

Lorraine Zabler

MARCH 30

Dean Mowery

MARCH 31

Madelyn Spidell

THANKS:

We accept with appreciation and thanks donations to the Christ Church Roof Fund in memory of Dan Crasses father, Clyde Crass, from Judy Borkowicz and Jim and Randene Wick.

Thank you's were received from Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church for our \$2,000.00 Endowment grant to the Divine Intervention program and for our Sisterhood Saturday donation of \$480.00 to Divine Intervention. Jerry Watkins states, "Your gifts are much appreciated and we gratefully acknowledge Christ Church's ongoing support! With your support this has become a broader community program, so you are a partner in our mission work".

A thank you was received from Kayla Steinke, Outreach Manager of Interfaith South Shore Regional, for Christ Church's year end contribution of \$1,250.00. Kayla states that our support allows them to provide critical services that promote independence, health, and high quality of life for older adults in our region.

A thank you was received from the Bay View Community Center for the 17 bags of food donated from our monthly food drive. Linda Niefert, BVCC President/CEO states, "This is truly appreciated at the beginning of the month when it is so busy. We truly appreciated all you do for others".

Thank you all for the cards, prayers and thoughts during my health issues. They are so appreciated. I have an uphill road ahead of me but know with my Church family behind me that road will become straight.

Hugs, Noelle Simons

REMINDER:

Lost and Found: Located in the church office on the front counter. Currently there are some gloves, a sweater and small fabric purse. Please come and check it out if you've misplaced something.

CHRIST CHURCH MEMBER NAME TAGS: If you haven't received a name tag or lost yours please contact the church office and one will be made for you and placed on the name tag rack near the gallery (in alphabetical order). Thank You, Debbie Behling, Office Administrator

CHRIST CHURCH
United Church of Christ
915 East Oklahoma Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53207

**ADDRESS SERVICE
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DATED MATERIAL

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THE CHRONICLES

MARCH 2018



YES...I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE
THE "CHRONICLES NEWSLETTER" VIA EMAIL

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THE "CHRIST CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER" VIA EMAIL

YES...I NEED THE NEWSLETTER MAILED

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____

(Please submit this information to the church office)



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