

**CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

2627 Atlantic St NE  
Warren, Ohio 44483  
Phone: 330-372-4998

**WORSHIP****Sundays**

*Traditional Services 8:00 & 10:00 am (Choir)*

*Christian Formation for Adults 9-10 am*

*Sunday School during the 10:00 service*

**Wednesdays**

*10:00 am Healing Service with Eucharist*

**ALL of the above are suspended at this time!**

We're on the web

[www.christchurchwarren.org](http://www.christchurchwarren.org)

Email: [secretary@christchurchwarren.org](mailto:secretary@christchurchwarren.org)



*First Class Mail*

*Or Current Resident*

Deadline for March  
Crossroads is Tue.  
February 23rd.

CHRIST *Episcopal* CHURCH  
WARREN - OHIO



# The Crossroads

## Ashes to Ashes...We All Fall Down

As I remember the children's game of 'Ring Around the Rosie', I would never have imagined we would still be in our pandemic protocols this February of 2021. I'm guessing you wouldn't have either. But here we are. The pandemic rages on as we begin a new year.

Nevertheless, we are the Church. We have survived world wars, plagues, and persecutions— always with new focus and vision. We will do the same with these current struggles and we will be stronger for it. We will continue to learn and overcome obstacles and trust that God will make all things right. After all, there must be a Good Friday before we can celebrate Easter—a Crucifixion before the Resurrection. Death before the hope of eternal life.

And so, we begin our yearly ritual of penitence, study of scripture, and fasting. We mark our calendars for the beginning of Lent. Like everything else in this pandemic, Ash Wednesday and the imposition of ashes, will look a little bit different.

As you will no doubt recall, the ashes used to mark our foreheads are made from burning last year's blessed palms used on Palm Sunday. They remind us that "we are dust, and to dust we shall return". We generally burn our palms on Shrove Tuesday or Mardi Gras (literally French for Tuesday Fat...Fat Tuesday for the English). This year because we are still unable to meet in-person, we will offer instruction on how to create your own ashes. Don't worry if you don't have any of last year's palms, some will be mailed to you. We will include in the mailing instructions on how to safely burn your palms and prepare them for imposition. There is a prayer to say and you will be able to impose ashes for yourself and those in your household. It will be easy and fun (even this old priest can do it!). And I will offer some pro-tips on how to clean up afterwards.

As Anglicans (the predecessor of the American Episcopal Church), Ash Wednesday was first celebrated in the Book of Common Prayer in 1549. The Church (before the Reformation) began regularly celebrating with the imposition of ashes between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries. The ritual now continues into the 21<sup>st</sup> century in a new way.

I long to be able to perform this ritual (it is not a Sacrament, per se), but I love you all enough to put your safety above my selfishness. We will survive this pandemic as the Church always does. God will ultimately have the last word and creation will be redeemed. And all of us will return to the 'Dust' without fear through the power and promise of the Resurrection!

"Ring around the Rosie, pocket full of posies, ashes, ashes...we all fall down!" And here's the Good News in that kid's game...we get up and do it all over again, and again, and again...

Please remember that I am lovingly yours in Christ,

Fr Jeff+



The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth Jr., Bishop

2230 Euclid Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115  
216.771.4815

INFORMATIO AND EVENTS: FOR MORE VISIT [DOHIO.ORG](http://DOHIO.ORG)

## Anti-Racism Trainings

**Anti-Racism training is required for all individuals in elected and appointed Diocesan positions, (Vestry) and it is also open to all members of the Diocese.**

The Commission for Racial Justice will offer this two-day training on the following dates:

**February 26 and 27-** Zoom video conference (Friday and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. both days)

**April 24 and 25 -** Zoom video conference (Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. both days)

The cost of the training materials is covered by the Diocese of Ohio. You must commit to attending the full sessions and to doing the off-line work. **Registration is required.** For additional information please email the Rev. Margaret D'Anieri at [mdanieri@dohio.org](mailto:mdanieri@dohio.org).

## A Message from the Bishop

**Continued suspension of in-person gathering** for worship, governance, and formation In-person gathering will continue to be suspended until further notice. This includes drive-by Imposition of Ashes and Ashes-to-Go. The Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) stated this past week that we are entering the worst period yet in COVOD-19 contagion, and all metrics for Ohio confirm that reality. Therefore, we will continue to model safety for ourselves and others by limiting exposure from gathering for worship and Christian formation.

We are all weary of isolation and yearn for the companionship and presence of our fellow communicants. It is impossible, however, to estimate when it might be safe again to gather in person and what the real effect of vaccination will be. Please know that we monitor the data continually and evaluate our protocols weekly. The safety we model and provide to others is an essential element of loving our neighbor.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday: February 17, 2021. Easter Sunday is Sunday, April 4th.

40 Days

The Episcopal Lectionary <http://www.lectionarypage.net/>

## THE CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOUNDATION DIRECTORS

January 2021

**Director Ex-Officio** The Rev. Jeffery Baker, Rector

[Bakerspax@aol.com](mailto:Bakerspax@aol.com)

### Directors

W. Griswold Hurlbert, **Chmn** (2020 -1<sup>st</sup>)

[wghurlbert@aol.com](mailto:wghurlbert@aol.com)

Carter P. Lewis, **Treasurer** (2023-1st)

[carter@ldc.cc](mailto:carter@ldc.cc)

Kevin Knowlton (2022 – 1<sup>st</sup>)

[Kevincarnut@aol.com](mailto:Kevincarnut@aol.com)

Eric T. Doan (2020 – 1st)

[edoan@neo.rr.com](mailto:edoan@neo.rr.com)

**Of Counsel** – Ned C. Gold, Esq.

[Cockadoo@aol.com](mailto:Cockadoo@aol.com)

### Directors Emeritus

Donald Scarmuzzi

[dscarmuzzi@aol.com](mailto:dscarmuzzi@aol.com)

David Lynn

Southern Pines, NC 28387

## 2021 Vestry of Christ Church

Fr. Jeff—Rector

Carol McMichael—Sr. Warden

John Panagis—Jr. Warden

Carole Lewis—Treasurer

Linda Day—Clerk

Don Scarmuzzi

Mark Peteritis

Heather Shimko

AL Novak

Deb Murphy

Sandee Skoveran

Laura White

### Pastoral Care

Fr. Jeff Baker— 740-624-4850

Faith Scarmuzzi—330-856-1819

### General office hours are M-Th 8-2

Please call before coming to the church to assure someone is in the office. Should you need immediate assistance and no one is in the office, please call or text Melanie at 330-980-3181 or [secretary@christchurchwarren.org](mailto:secretary@christchurchwarren.org). **Please note ...**

**I do not answer emails on the weekend unless it's an emergency. Thank you!**

Dr. Ned Underwood (2021 – 1<sup>st</sup>)

[holly060907@yahoo.com](mailto:holly060907@yahoo.com)

Dan Mason (2023 – 2<sup>nd</sup>)

[garda32@aim.com](mailto:garda32@aim.com)

Linda Day – (2022 – 1<sup>st</sup>) **Secretary**

[lindabday@aol.com](mailto:lindabday@aol.com)

Dr. Lee Snelson, DDS (2020-1<sup>st</sup>)

[LASnelson@aol.com](mailto:LASnelson@aol.com)

## Staff of Christ Church

The Rev, J. Jeffrey Baker—Rector

[bakerspax@aol.com](mailto:bakerspax@aol.com)

Melanie Garman—Parish Administrator

[secretary@christchurchwarren.org](mailto:secretary@christchurchwarren.org)

Laurie Tonn—Finance Secretary/ Bookkeeper

[finance@christchurchwarren.org](mailto:finance@christchurchwarren.org)

Carole Lewis—Treasurer

Jamie Shiell—Director of Music

[music@christchurchwarren.org](mailto:music@christchurchwarren.org)

Brian Garman—Sexton/ Housekeeping

[bgarman518@gmail.com](mailto:bgarman518@gmail.com)

Paul Keriotis—Director of Formation

[formation@christchurchwarren.org](mailto:formation@christchurchwarren.org)



**Vestry and Finance****\*NO FINANCE REPORT GIVEN****January Vestry Highlights**

CEC Foundation Board Members – The Vestry approved the Foundation’s recommendation of second terms of four years for Gris Hurlbert, Eric Doan and Lee Snelson.

Endowment #2 Pledge to Christ Episcopal Church - The Foundation’s recommendation to the Vestry for the 2021 Endowment #2 pledge was approved for a quarterly distribution from Endowment #2 of \$7400.

Diocesan Directives – The cancelation of in-person services remains in effect for both Sunday services and upcoming Lenten services.

Payment Protection Program (PPP)– Requests for forgiveness filed. There has been no response to date. CEC is not eligible for the 2021 PPP.

Stewardship Campaign - Received to date 59 pledges totaling \$111,485 (last year \$117,224). Two prepaid 2021 pledges received for a total of \$2700 and 15 non-pledgers. Pledges continue to be returned.



**Thank you to Steve Watts for your service as our Sr. Warden. Your dedication and commitment was greatly appreciated. Thank you to all who serve on our Vestry. Your work is important to running our Parish.**

As of February 1, 2021 we welcome our new Sr. Warden, Carol McMichael and our new members to the Vestry. (Deb Murphy, Laura White and Sandee Skoveran)

*We all look forward to working together!*

**REMINDER: 2021 Pledge cards**

**2021 Envelopes are ready to be picked up in the office. Please call before coming to be sure the office is open.**

**The Rev. Lloyd O’ Keefe 1939-2020**

Fr. O’Keefe passed away peacefully this past August with his wife Roberta by his side. Fr. O’Keefe was ordained in 1967 to the Episcopal Church. He served for a time at Christ Church, Warren and Grace Church in Ravenna. Most of his work was within the Kent community. He also served as the executive director at the Diocese of Ohio Community Services Foundation and became the assistant to the Bishop for Peace and Justice. Fr. O’ Keefe was an advocate for Social Justice.

Sadly, the last 5 years of his life were spent at the Kent Health Care Center suffering from Parkinson’s disease. For a few years our Craft Ladies and our regular Wednesday service parishioners would send cards with well wishes. Roberta, said he loved receiving these cards for old friends.

*If you wish to make a donation in Rev. Lloyd’s memory they are to go to Grace Episcopal Church.*

240 W. Cedar Ave, Ravenna, Ohio 44426

**Lincoln School —Warren Family Mission****Food Pantry Update**

On January 21<sup>st</sup> children at Lincoln school returned to in-person learning to find the Pantry almost bare. A call for food went out and once again the call was answered. Peanut butter, jelly, juice boxes, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti, pasta sauce, chicken ramen noodles, soups (chicken and tomato) and fruit cups were delivered to CEC. In addition, there is a need for clothing. However, due to increased health concerns only new clothing with TAGS ON is being accepted. Now that the children are back in school again and the weather has turned cold warm winter clothing like sweat pants and tops is needed.

Lincoln was most appreciative to receive the delivery of food and clothing.

**A New Lincoln School Request...**

Up until now the Blessing Box focus has been on the children of Lincoln School but there is another group who are also under great pressure and emotional stress - The Lincoln School Teachers.

**Lincoln Teachers Need "A Pick Me Up"**

Teaching during Covid times is difficult and challenging - preparing for the virtual classroom one day and then turning around and preparing for in-person classes all in the same week, knowing the children are struggling not only with school work but with the loss of contact with school friends, concerns about the lack of support at home knowing there are children falling behind and are at greater personal risk now. They are wondering what is it going to take to make up for the losses, to make the children whole again and will there be permanent damage for some children?

Let’s give Lincoln teachers a Pick Me Up! A Hip Hip Hurray! A Virtual Hug! A Thank You!

Our added Blessing Box effort is recognition for the efforts of Lincoln School teachers. Ideas were solicited from Shaina, Lincoln School Liaison, and teachers our own Melanie Garman, Sandy Zaso – my sister and Nikki Day – my daughter-in-law. Their brainstorming results: Gift cards to allow teachers to buy a coffee/bagel/donut on the way to work (Panera, Dunkin”, Starbucks); purchase a new novel to read (Walmart); buy a meal (pizza shop, Giant Eagle, Chick-fil-A, Walmart, Chipotle, Panera); flowers (florist, nursery, Walmart, Marcs, Giant Eagle); wine glass personally decorated ( my sister received one with a smiley face to go with the bottle of wine left in her car - Marcs, Giant Eagle, Walmart) and special homemade goodies in a pretty container and in addition perhaps a call from a parishioner to a teacher to hear from the community a positive message and a thank-you.

Once again thank you for caring and in this instance recognizing the lives and work of teachers as important and deserving of “A Thank You”

Gift cards can be dropped off at the Office or mailed to CEC. Interested in making homemade goodies or a “Thank You” call please call Melanie and let her know.



**As of the end of January, we have been made aware of an urgent need for NEW or GENTLY used blankets for some of the school children at Lincoln. It is heartbreaking to think that these kids are cold at home and have no blankets. Please, if you are able...bring you donation to Melanie in the office ASAP. Thank you!**



### **Warren Family Mission**

Delivery of food and necessity items continue as does the need. There is a new request. There is currently a need for laundry detergent, disinfectant and cleaning supplies. 2020 statistics – 146,213 meals served and 20,368 households received food bags. The Mission is still not accepting clothing due to the limited number of volunteers and the increased health risk for the public.



### **Happy February Birthday**

3 Gage Tomko  
4 tom Eastman  
8 Paul Keriotis  
11 Janet Schweitzer  
13 Nellie Doan  
16 Tod Pippenger  
18 Anne Martin  
20 Bob Shroder  
23 Pam Brown  
***And to all others who may have not been included...***



### **Thank You**

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards and well wishes. I opted not to have any surgery after several opinions. I will be non-weight bearing until the end of February.

Love to all,  
Mel



### **Meet Your New Sexton**

Hello, I am Brian Garman. I am a 1986 graduate from Champion High School. I played varsity golf all 4 years and was the State Champion in '86 for golf. After graduation I went on to play golf for YSU as a starter and graduated with a degree in marketing and finance. My early career was in golf. I worked at both Trumbull Country Club and Avalon as a golf pro and teaching pro. I ventured to Florida to play in the mini tours, but ultimately landed back in Warren. (I was good, but there were a lot more players better!) After some time, and a conversation with a friend I decided to attend fire school which led to being hired by the Warren Fire Department after scoring in the top 5. I retired in January of 2020 as a Lieutenant after serving 26 years with the city. I have over 30 years of construction experience and I am a licensed home inspector.

In addition to Mel's 3 kiddos, I have 2 grown children, Ashley (who is married and expecting my 2nd grand baby) and Tyler who lives in Colorado and runs I.T for a large school district.

I am honored and excited to have been given this opportunity to serve you and Christ Church as your new sexton. Feel free to reach out to me at anytime.

Many thanks, Brian

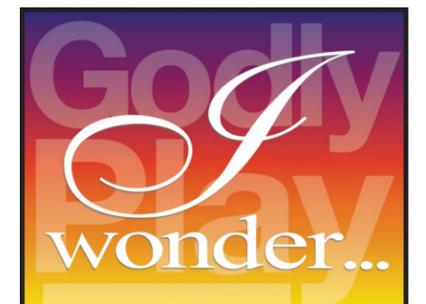
<b>4th Week</b>	Monday Isaiah 14:24-32 Genesis 8:21-9:7 Proverbs 11:19-12:6 Tuesday Isaiah 25:1-9 Genesis 9:8-17 Proverbs 12:8-22 Wednesday Isaiah 26:21-27:9 Genesis 9:18-10:1 Proverbs 12:23-13:9 Thursday Isaiah 28:14-22 Genesis 10:32-11:9 Proverbs 13:19-14:6 Friday Isaiah 29:13-23 Genesis 12:1-7 Proverbs 14:15-26
<b>5th Week</b>	Monday Isaiah 37:33-38:6 Genesis 13:12-18 Proverbs 14:27-15:4 Tuesday Isaiah 40:18-31 Genesis 15:1-15 Proverbs 15:7-19 Wednesday Isaiah 41:4-14 Genesis 17:1-9 Proverbs 15:20-16:9 Thursday Isaiah 42:5-16 Genesis 18:20-33 Proverbs 16:17-17:17 Friday Isaiah 45:11-17 Genesis 22:1-18 Proverbs 17:17-18:5
<b>6th Week</b>	Monday Isaiah 48:17-49:4 Genesis 27:1-41 Proverbs 19:16-25 Tuesday Isaiah 49:6-11 Genesis 31:3-16 Proverbs 21:3-21 Wednesday Isaiah 58:1-12 Genesis 43:26-31; 45:1-16 Proverbs 21:23-22:4 Thursday Isaiah 65:8-17 Genesis 46:1-7 Proverbs 23:15-24:5 Friday Isaiah 66:10-24 Genesis 49:33-50:26 Proverbs 31:8-31

### **But wait there's more...**

Second, consider writing a reflection on the pandemic. I know we are all over it for now. Imagine the insight this writing could provide for the next generation. This could be personally cathartic and could be a resource in our library, be it digital, or in actual print. What if you had a first-hand account from your family as to how they coped with the Great Depression. It could explain a lot about the development of family dynamics and relationship to the greater community. We all have heard sad and amusing stories. Maybe like the scripture of old we could offer the next generation and each other, insights we've learned, that we could share for the greater good, as a monument and punctuation of what we've gone through.

### **Now for the Youth...**

Currently in our Godly Play, we are opening up more presents from Christmas- The Parables. I Love working with the parables whether they describe Jesus or the Kingdom of Heaven, they are new and refreshing EVERY TIME.



## YOUTH and FORMATION

It feels like we have been “doing” Lent now, for more than a year. I am encouraged by people who have wisely used their time of sheltering in place, not just binge-watching TV, but finding time to improve themselves, be it education, self -help, exercise, or simply facilitating better relationships with those in our bubble.

I offer three suggestions for your edification during this year’s preparation for Easter- and The Resurrection of Our Lord, Ourselves and Our World. Imagine how your soul could blossom into a more beautiful and fragrant Flower by focusing on and being nurtured by the church and her teachings. First, Daily Scripture Readings. A curated list of Three Daily Readings from Genesis -humanity’s history and our relationship to God and God’s relationship to us, a Prophetic Reading,- Isaiah which has the message of salvation as its central theme while presenting both the blessings and judgments of God's covenants with Israel, and finally Wisdom Literature- Proverbs, which were a collection oral stories from generations of godly people and invite us to consider the complexity and simplicity of living wisely.

We may include this list of weekday readings on the church website with links to each scripture to facilitate the ease of doing the readings which start on Monday February 15th before Ash Wednesday. Let’s think of this year’s beginning of Lent as a postlude of Valentine’s Day, with the true lover of humanity, our Trinitarian God!

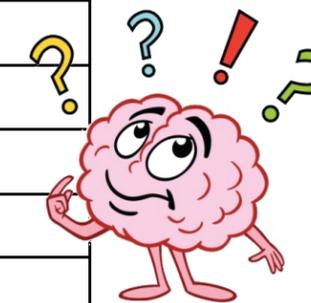
- 1st Week**
  - Monday Isaiah 1:1-20 Genesis 1:1-13 Proverbs 1:1-20
  - Tuesday Isaiah 1:19-2:4 Genesis 1:14-23 Proverbs 1:20-33
  - Wednesday Isaiah 2:3-11 Genesis 1:24-2:3 Proverbs 2:1-22
  - Thursday Isaiah 2:11-21 Genesis 2:4-19 Proverbs 3:1-18
  - Friday Isaiah 3:1-15 Genesis 2:20-3:20 Proverbs 3:19-34
- 2nd Week**
  - Monday Isaiah 4:2-5:7 Genesis 3:21-4:7 Proverbs 3:34-4:22
  - Tuesday Isaiah 5:7-16 Genesis 4:8-15 Proverbs 5:1-15
  - Wednesday Isaiah 5:16-25 Genesis 4:16-26 Proverbs 5:15-6:4
  - Thursday Isaiah 6:1-12 Genesis 5:1-24 Proverbs 6:3-20
  - Friday Isaiah 7:1-15 Genesis 5:32-6:8 Proverbs 6:20-7:
- 3rd Week**
  - Monday Isaiah 8:13-9:7 Genesis 6:9-22 Proverbs 8:1-21
  - Tuesday Isaiah 9:9-10:4 Genesis 7:1-5 Proverbs 8:32-9:11
  - Wednesday Isaiah 10:12-20 Genesis 7:6-9 Proverbs 9:12-18
  - Thursday Isaiah 11:10-12:2 Genesis 7:11-8:3 Proverbs 10:1-22
  - Friday Isaiah 13:2-13 Genesis 8:4-21 Proverbs 10:31-11:12



## Brain Teasers

**DIRECTIONS:** For each clue, find a corresponding word that starts and finishes with the same letter. There is one word for each letter of the alphabet except for i, j, q, u, v and z.

<b>Spend time in front of the mirror.</b>	<b>PRIMP</b>
<b>Intuitive inkling.</b>	
<b>Pioneer in photocopying.</b>	
<b>Bitterly sarcastic.</b>	
<b>Gas in some signs.</b>	
<b>Inuit transportation.</b>	
<b>Chinese medicinal root.</b>	
<b>Where a rubber duckie lives.</b>	
<b>Roll in the mud.</b>	
<b>Pleasure traveler.</b>	
<b>Temporary loss of memory.</b>	
<b>Deadly.</b>	
<b>Pizza herb.</b>	
<b>Very knowledgeable.</b>	
<b>Forty-eight hours before tomorrow.</b>	
<b>The most.</b>	
<b>Excessive.</b>	
<b>Feudal land.</b>	
<b>Trepidation</b>	
<b>Water storage area.</b>	



RESERVOIR	DREAD	FIEF	SUPERFLUOUS	MAXIMUM	YESTERDAY	ERUDITE	OREGANO	LETHAL	AMNESIA	TOURIST	WALLOW	BATHTUB	GINSENG	KAYAK	NEON	CAUSTIC	XEROX	HUNCH	PRIMP
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## Saint Valentine

Saint Valentine (born Valentine of Terni ) of Rome was a widely recognized 3rd-century Roman saint, commemorated in Christianity on February 14. From the High Middle Ages his Saints' Day has been associated with a tradition of courtly love. He is also a patron saint of epilepsy.

The first Valentine's cards were sent in the 18th century. Initially these were handmade efforts, as pre-made cards were not yet available. Lovers would decorate paper with romantic symbols including flowers and love knots, often including puzzles and lines of poetry... 'Tis but to be your Valentine. Don't forget your special someone!



## Prayer Requests

Even though we are not worshipping in person, we are still accepting your prayer requests. Just call Melanie in the office and we will add the person or persons to the next worship service. As always, we will not publish last names for privacy reasons. If you chose to share, you may give the reason for the prayer.



## Tower Lighting

During these difficult times with so much social distancing and memorial services on hold, donating to our Tower lighting is a wonderful way to honor a loved one. The cost is 50.00 for the month. If you are dedicating the Tower lighting to someone who is not your family member, we will send the head of the family a card to inform them of your gesture. All requests MUST be in to the office 1 month prior to the month you are requesting.

### Monthly Tower Lighting

Our February Tower Lighting is in Memory of **Joanne Green**

*From her loving husband Jim and Family*



### 2020 Necrology

- Lyndsey Shelly
- Ray Snyder
- JoAnn Green
- Helen Macchio
- Walter Carvin
- Pat Robertson
- Suzanne Franklin
- Carol Knowlton

**Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord and let the perpetual light shine on them. Amen**

## AMAZON SMILE

**Christ Episcopal Church of Warren is now set up to receive donations from Amazon Smile.**

**AmazonSmile** is a program that donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon to a charity of your choice. All you need to **do** is start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). (if you are a PRIME member, you will still receive your PRIME benefits) The donation will be made at no extra cost to you and you can choose from nearly one million public charitable organizations.

[Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

**To track donations or change your charity, simply visit Your AmazonSmile Impact page.**

**AmazonSmile has the exact same products, same low prices, and same convenient shopping experience as amazon.com, with the added benefit of generating donations for charity, at no additional cost to you.**

## Fr. Jeff has... PUPPIES... 8

