

The Herald

St. Raphael the Archangel Episcopal Church

Vol 53 Issue 11

November, 2018



I enjoy Fall here in the US – the changing colors are beautiful, but the increase in activity after the lazy days of summer is stimulating. Following the lectionary, we are pulled towards the end of October when we celebrate All Saints (and our call to live as saints) and All Souls (and God's mercy for all) on November 1 and 2, preceded by Halloween, of course! Some may know that October 31 is also Reformation Day (when we remember those of our Protestant Christian heritage), and November 5 lives large in my childhood memories as Guy Fawke's Day and 'remember, remember the 5th of November, gunpowder, treason and plot...'

Yes, we follow in the footsteps of giants – named and unnamed, remembered and forgotten heroes and saints of the faith we profess and live into today. We give thanks for all those who have been part of our life and faith, who have taught us something about living, loyal service to one another in the midst of all that life brings. May the busyness, concerns of this season and needs of our neighbors not allow us to forget what it is all about as disciples of Jesus in this place and time.

Which brings me to our celebration of some amongst us at St Raphael's who will be taking a step of deeper discipleship with confirmation and reception into the Episcopal Church on November 11, the day that Bishop Mark visits us as well as the day we shall remember veterans. Christian discipleship is seen in lives given in service for others as well as in our celebration of those lives. A friend of mine wrote recently of a joyful event in his community, it was "a day of boundless celebration, profound depths, warmth and love.... a God so brimming with love among his people is surely not anxious!"



Rev. Canon Dr. Helen
Van Koevering

Let's join in and celebrate everything we do together this next month!

- Training for our pastoral care team Oct 28, Nov 4 & 25
- All Saint's service on Nov 4
- Bishop Mark's visit Nov 11
- Sage's lunch in the Undercroft on Nov 15
- Our Annual Parish meeting and potluck on Nov 18
- Eucharist service for Thanksgiving on Nov 21
- Greening of the church and ECW lunch on Dec 1

(details on our weekly bulletins)

See you there!
Helen

Senior Warden's Corner

Can you not see?
God's love and grace
Comes rushing like
the mightiest of rivers,
A flood that cleanses,
bears up the seeking heart
And carries off the sins
we mortals in weakness do commit,
Set free in wonder, awe and love
to pour out our joy in
thanksgiving for our blessings,
to use our hearts and hands,
In mission and in ministry
for Christ we find our hope,
Again, again and yet again
forgiven, cherished, nourished
In God's love we live.

November is the month of Thanksgiving, and not just one day of feasting and families gathering to share their love. December will bring the busy time in preparation for the coming of the Precious Babe.

We need November to think and pray and meditate about how generous God is to us and to give thanks for our blessings. We need to think and make decisions about how we can be generous to others who are our sisters and brothers in Christ at St. Raphael.

Our church family needs the hearts and hands of each of us, according to our abilities and situations, to keep our mission and ministry healthy and growing. Many hands make light work was what my mother often told me. I know that is true. Think about that. Be as generous with your time and talents as possible. You will find that being grateful and putting that feeling into action will reap rewards.

Happy Thanksgiving Month!

CC



Stewardship Report

Thanks for joining us again at the Stewardship Corner! This is the time of the year that the Lord speaks to every member of our Parish. Personally. On that subject we all love to dance around. Time to stop dancing and come to God's table with your version of Stewardship. A Pledge is just one part of that Stewardship, but it is the one that keeps the heat and air on and pays for the wonderful tutelage of our Rector, and so forth.

The Parish's Stewardship Pledge goal of \$160,000 has been presented to each of you on multiple occasions and in multiple delivery vehicles. Every dollar of that goes to support our Mission here at St. Raphael. We need for each one of you to discern what it is you can pledge to St. Raphael for 2019.

You have heard from multiple speakers on what Stewardship means to you. You have seen us kick off our campaign on the Generosity of the Segments of Life. Your life. Church life. The life of others who have not yet found us.

And amazingly in the last few years, we are no longer a "small" church. We have grown to the point where the old ways and processes are no longer sufficient. I know only some of you, and only some of you know me. However, we each know Jesus and his teachings (and he has many on stewardship).

Your Vestry, both the current one and the one that will be elected for 2019, THANK YOU. We are indeed a very GENEROUS church, and I am proud of each and everyone of us, including our Rector.

If you have not received a pledge card, or need another one, please contact the office and we will send you another one, or you can pick one up at the back of the church. We need your pledge statement as soon as possible in order to prepare for the annual meeting in November.

Roger L Kirk

A View from the Pew

IN THANKSGIVING

For what do I have to be thankful, let me count the ways. Thank you, God:

For awakening me to a new day, in a nice bed, with nice sheets, spreads and pillows, in a nice room, with the light of the sun and your Son pouring through the crescent window of my nice home;

For the habit of morning prayer, reminding me daily of the many reasons for gratitude—for my family, my friends, and for all the people who make my life meaningful; for my health and wealth, for the faith that you are working through me and others to heal the infirm, bring peace and justice throughout the world, no matter how slow or unsteady it may seem, for your forgiveness, hope, purpose and the tools to accomplish it all;

For the health to move, to exercise, to ponder, pray and proceed;

For the many tools, gadgets, machines and creature comforts from the beginning of my day to the end and beyond, for towels, running water, faucets, floors, soaps, shavers, brushes, toiletries; for slippers, coffeemakers—6 no less!—whole beans and burr grinder, clean water, rich brew, organic apples, laptop news, work and play, for a comfy chair, den, TV, and even for some road noise to remind me I am not alone in this world;

For clothes, enough to cover 20 or more of me, for a car and the means to keep it running, for a place and purpose to which it will take me, for your guidance throughout my days and nights;

For the many millions of people near and far without whom life would be unbearable, existence impossible, for me and for virtually everybody whether they realize and appreciate this fact (most don't) or not:

For those FAR—for the growers of crops we get when ours is out of season, for the planters, pickers, packagers, sorters, and shippers; for the makers of goods of every sort for every need, for drugs, necessities and luxuries, games, phones, stereos, ribbons and bows, and bells on our toes, for the land and resources, for the hands that unearth them, and for the hands that produce all that we so eagerly buy; for the infrastructure throughout the world that allows the movement of all this to us, and for us;

For those NEAR: for the folks who service my power, water, grounds, and the caring hands that clean my space, for the takers of my trash, the brewers of my cuppa joe, for the street cleaners, city engineers, construction crews, schools teachers, students, bus drivers, road crews; for store clerks, shelf-re-stockers, janitors, and for the managers and supervisors, and especially the owners—who shoulder the risks and responsibilities, and who hopefully provide good and fair working arrangements for their employees;

For the shippers, deliverers, mail men and women, the post office clerks, the food preparers--chefs, burger flippers and baristas; for servers, waiters, and dish washers; for the



theater owner, the popcorn and popcorn maker, and all the steps in between;

For police and firemen, watching even as I sleep, for doctors, nurses, orderlies, and those who visit, treat or tend to the sick, the imprisoned, the poor in body and spirit;

For the poor in body and spirit who not only provides me with opportunities to serve and to have purpose—when I am alert enough, bold enough, compassionate enough to put my own wants behind theirs—but who also serve as a reminder of just how much I have to be grateful for, there but for the grace of God go I;

For the engineers, architects, scientists, inventors, designers, and creators of all manner of product in all manner of lively packaging, that we use and enjoy;

For artists, for music and musicians, for actors, directors, stage hands, and the many essential roles in scrolls at the movies' end, and for the artistry of us all;

For the broadcasters, the greater good working through our government that put satellites in space, that wired the world and/or enabled it, that towered the world, and/or enabled it, to allow the stream of entertainment, news and information around the world and beyond—more than I could ever experience, for the producers, performers, crew, both on the set and in the studio without whom our screens would be blank;

For the athletes, coaches, trainers and teams that provide diversion and excitement, for the thrill of victory to lift our spirits, for the agony of defeat to keep us humble and put it all in perspective; For all that I am, for freedom, for truth, for love even and especially for adversity and adversaries, and for teaching your Way on the path towards resolution, peace and justice; for the understanding that you are in control, and for the peace of mind and joy follows this faith.

For this church and all churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, meeting houses, and for any space where anybody can find sanctuary, a measure of peace and solace when weary of their world;

For nature, for the sky and the stars, for trees and landscapes, for the crawling, flying, creeping, climbing, lurking, scampering, jumping, slithering, swimming, floating, leaping, sprinting, waddling, burrowing, barking, quacking, chirping creatures of the earth, the land and the sea, reminders of the power of now, of living in the present, of the awesomeness of the universe, of the humility that billions upon billions of creatures and humans exist oblivious to me and my little world, and for the certainty and security that:

“He's got the whole world in his hands, He's got the whole wide world in his hands, He's got the little bitty baby in his hands, He's got you and me brother in his hands, He's got you and me sister in his hands, He's got everybody here in his hands,

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS!”

Richard Dawahare

Sages Holiday Luncheon

Sages Holiday Luncheon will be held on Thursday, November 15th beginning at 11:30 am at the church. The catered lunch will feature Roast Pork Loin, Green Beans, Smashed Potatoes, English Carrots, Rolls, a Garden Salad and Pumpkin or Pecan Pie for dessert.

The cost will be \$15.00 per person, plus gratuity. We can only accept cash for this luncheon.

Please RSVP by November 11th, to Paula Brockman. Your reservation must be paid prior to the luncheon, and no refunds will be made.

RSVP to Paula Brockman. 859-554-6055, or email nanapcb@aol.com.

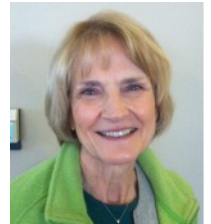
Welcome Lucinda England - Our New Nursery Attendant

Beginning Nov. 4th Lucinda England will be our new Nursery Attendant, replacing Marla Fox. Lucy has a great deal of experience in working with children, especially those with special needs, and we are very pleased that she has accepted the position. Lucy will be responsible for safeguarding the children from 10:00 to 12:15 pm each Sunday, and for other special events where child care is needed. She will also be responsible for supervising the volunteers who will be helping in the nursery.

We would like to have at least two volunteers available to work each Sunday, so that if one is unable to make it, the other can step in. We will build a rotating schedule so that the volunteers will not have to be in the nursery every week. There will be a sign up sheet on the downstairs bulletin board if you would be willing to help out in the nursery occasionally.

We are also asking parents to fill out an Emergency Contact Form that will include information about allergies and special needs care for each child.

Music Notes



November is an exciting month, musically speaking! The month begins with that most beautiful of feast days, All Saints' Day. There is an abundance of lovely music for All Saints' Day, and one day per year is not enough time to use even a small part of it. Not that we can't or don't honor the saints every Sunday, but November 1 is the day designated for those very special people who fought the good fight, and who now "from their labors rest." Since Nov. 1 falls on a Thursday this year, we will observe the feast day on the following Sunday, November 4. If you have loved ones whose names you would like to offer up for prayer and remembrance that day, a wooden box has been placed in the back of the sanctuary to receive those names.

Thanksgiving also makes November a very special month. This year, our priest, Helen, will offer a November 21 Thanksgiving Eve service. The Sunday music during the month will also stress the theme of thankfulness, with several anthems from our Anglican tradition: "Thou Visitest the Earth" by Maurice Greene (1695-1855); "Fear Not, O Land" by Wm.H. Harris (1883-1973); and "Praise, O Praise Our God and King" by Martin How (b. 1931).

Liturgically speaking, November gives hints of what is to come: Advent. This pre-Christmas season prepares us for the coming of the Christ Child, but also speaks to the second coming, when Christ will come again to judge the earth. Our November readings mention "war and rumors of war," and "nation rising up against nation." The choir will sing "And I Saw a New Heaven," by Malcolm Archer (b. 1952). This is an exceptionally beautiful piece, text from Revelation 21:1-2, 4, as John relates his vision of the Holy City, the new Jerusalem. We will sing this anthem on November 4.

Finally, November brings Christ the King Sunday, as our Lord is enthroned in heaven for all ages. The choir will sing "Above All Praise and Majesty" by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847) and "King of Glory, King of Peace" by J.S. Bach (1685-1750/Wm H. Harris).

Listen for some of our congregation's favorite hymns this month as well: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" (beloved by both children and adults), "For All the Saints," "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come," and "O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing." Come join us each week during November, then stay on for Advent and Christmas! I guarantee your spiritual life will be enriched by stellar sermons, beautiful readings and prayer, the visual beauty of our sanctuary, and lovely music for the season!

Blessings on our wonderful congregation and friends,
Melinda Storey, Organist/Choirmaster

Dessert & Coffee with Billie Stockton

Former member Billie Stockton will be visiting St. Raphael's on Tuesday, Nov. 27 at 7:00 PM and all are invited to come for dessert & coffee and a good visit. Billie will be visiting family here in the area for Thanksgiving and wanted to have an opportunity to see all her friends here at St. Raphael's.

The Daughters of the King will provide the desserts and coffee, so please take time to stop in and see Billie while she's here.



November Birthdays

Harwell F Smith	November 1
Tony LoBianco	November 2
Kris Olson	November 2
Fernie Williams	November 07
Luna England	November 08
Roger Kirk	November 11
Alaina Whorley	November 11
Benjamin Mudd	November 20
Nancy Christiano	November 21
Ann Rogness	November 22
Michael Christiano II	November 24

November Anniversaries

Steve & Ginger Garvin	November 11
Frank & Whitney Curci	November 29
Patty Bond & Jack Supplee	November 30

Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, Nov. 21st at 6PM we will celebrate our National Thanksgiving Day Holiday with a service of Holy Eucharist. Please join us in offering our prayers and thanksgivings for our many blessings.

Decorating the Church for Christmas begins with Advent

Nov. 30 Following the 11AM service we will begin decorating for Christmas. The Chrismon Tree and Advent Wreath go up first, and we need some help getting everything upstairs. Please take a few minutes to help! Many hands make this a whole lot easier!

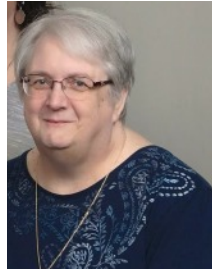
Datebook for November

Nov. 3 Crafters Circle 10:00 am
Nov 4 All Saints Day - 2 PM Pastoral Care training
Nov. 7 Noon Eucharist at 12:00 pm & Evening Service at 6:00 pm followed by Faithful Conversations
Nov 11 **Bishop's Visit & Confirmations**
9:30 am - Property Committee
12:30 pm Daughters of the King
Nov. 13 6:30 pm Stewardship Commission
Nov. 14 Noon Eucharist at 12:00 & Evening Service at 6:00 followed by Faithful Conversations
Nov. 15 Sages Holiday Luncheon at the Church 11:30 am
Nov 17 Crafters Circle 10:00 am
Nov. 18 **Annual Parish Meeting One Service at 10:30**
Service with meeting during service. **Potluck lunch after.**
Nov. 21 Noon Eucharist at 12:00 & **Evening Thanksgiving Service at 6:00**
Nov. 25 2:00 PM Pastoral Care Training
Nov 27 7PM Dessert & Coffee with Billie Stockton
Nov. 28 Noon Eucharist at 12:00 & Evening Service at 6:00 followed by Faithful Conversations
Nov 30 Begin Decorating Church for Advent -
Dec 1 10:00 AM Decorating church Phase II
12:00 ECW Luncheon at Joseph Beth Bookstore

Vestry Candidates

Dana Berry

Dana has been a member of St. Raphael's for the past five years, and is a lifelong Episcopalian. She has served on Vestry's in Iowa, Ohio and here at St. Raphael's. She served as Sr. Warden four times in Iowa, Secretary twice in Ohio and once here at St. Raphael's. Dana has led the Christian Education Committee for the past five years, directing the children's Christmas Pageant, and helping with teaching classes. She is also a member of the Choir. Dana holds a BA in Theatre, English and Secondary Education, an AA degree in Paralegal Studies and a MA in Organizational Management.



Jesus Huertas

Jesus Manuel Huertas is a native of PR and is a graduate from the University of PR. At age 19 he joined the Navy and served four years active duty and four years a reservist. He was ordained an elder in the Christian and Missionary Alliance and eventually became a Chaplain with the US Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons. In 2012 Jesús retired from the Bureau as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Chaplain. In 2000 Jesús Manuel was ordained a deacon and presbyter in the Traditional Episcopal Church. In 2011 he married Myriam I. Meléndez and they have four children. Myriam and Jesús Manuel arrived in KY in December 29, 2017 when Myriam became the Clinical Director at the Federal Medical Center in Lexington.



Peggy Oaks

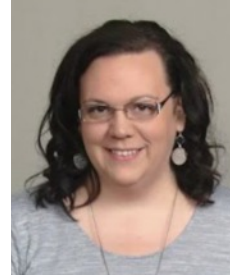
Peggy has been at St. Raphael's for three years and during that time she has assisted in the church office, answering phones, folding bulletins, and has also played the piano for services with Melinda, and when Melinda has been on vacation. She has served on the Vestry in her previous parish in MS, and led the Children's Choir there. She offers private studies piano lessons to students. Peggy has also served on the board at the North MN Symphony



Orchestra, as well as the Green Tree Museum of Art. She graduated from Penn State University and attended Warren County (PA) Conservatory of Music.

Amanda Vance

While Amanda Vance has only become a member of Saint Raphael's in the past year, she is a life long Episcopalian, as well as a mother to three girls, an army wife, and the Instructional Designer for the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation. Amanda has dedicated herself to adult professional education for 15 years. Amanda holds an Associate's Degree in Business, and a Bachelor's Degree in Business Communications from Western International University and the University of Phoenix respectively.



Christopher Young

A native of Harrodsburg, Kentucky, Chris attended the University of Kentucky. He enjoys playing the piano and organ, cooking, and has an immense love for animals.



Before coming to Saint Raphael in 2016, he attended the Baptist and Christian churches where he held many leadership positions in music and educational ministries. Chris feels that we have the ability to continue to grow and expand our ministries here at St. Raphael's, while keeping our family atmosphere. He looks forward to serving our Lord and community together for many years to come.

There are four open positions for election; one of which is to fill the remaining two year term of a vestry member who resigned. The other three positions will serve a three year term.

Lexington “Yankees” in Queen Elizabeth’s Court!

Worship: U.S. vs U.K.

The red door. The red Book of Common Prayer. The blue Hymnal. Attend any Episcopal church and the service will be the same. I am not sure where I first heard this. I think maybe it was at an Inquirer’s class early on in my St. Raphael experience. When it comes to the Church of England, however, that universality curiously doesn’t seem to apply.

Now, granted, we have attended only three different churches during this visit to the U.K., not a statistically significant sample. But none of the three have had a red door. Instead, the doors have been of varnished dark wood with iron hardware, over a hundred years old if a day.

The “Cathedral and Metropolitan Church of Christ, Canterbury” did have red prayer books (different from the U.S. BCP) for Sunday Sung Eucharist, with words to the hymns printed in the bulletin. They had the red prayer books and red hymnals, lyrics only, available for Evensong. St. James in Colchester hands worshipers a different hymnal, green, with the bulletin, which contains the readings and other parts of the service. The ushers at St. Peter’s, also in Colchester, welcome everyone with a bulletin including hymn lyrics. The Gospel reading was the only reading, and congregants were directed to open Bibles in their pews to follow along.

Music varies from place to place. The Cathedral’s organ is undergoing a two-year renovation, but the interim organ sounded just fine. Their choirs were superb. All the hymns which the congregation was invited to sing were ones also in our blue hymnal, such as “Alleluia, Sing to Jesus, his the scepter, his the throne.” St. James has an organist but no choir. One of the hymns was familiar. St. Peter’s had the radio on before the service as people gathered. They used both their organ and piano during the service, with a mix of old and more contemporary music.

We have been a little surprised by the variation between services here. One thing that has been common among them, different from home, is that the Prayers of Penitence come very early in the service, before the Collect. This order of service is similar to “A Penitential Order” in the Book of

Common Prayer. One might think that this would inject a penitent tone early that would last through the service. Instead, I have found the effect to be more like getting the somber bits out of the way, like eating your vegetables first so you can get to the main dish and dessert.

—Amy Smereck

Daylights Savings Time Ends Nov. 4, 2018



Angel Tree tags

The Angel Tree Tags for this year’s Christmas Season of Giving will be available to our parishioners starting Sunday, November 18. See Michael Summers for more details!

St Raphael Episcopal Church
1891 Parkers Mill Rd
Lexington, KY 40504
Rev. Canon Dr. Helen Van Koevering, Rector
Phone: 859-255-4987
Email: Office: bonnie@sreclex.org
Website: www.sreclex.org



The Herald is a monthly publication of St. Raphael the Archangel Episcopal Church, 1891 Parkers Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40504. Phone 859.255.4987. Our newsletter is mailed or e-mailed free of charge to approximately 250 members and friends. If you have someone whom you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, please notify the Church Office and have them added to the list of friends.

Articles and news information for September must be submitted by **Friday, Nov . 22, 2018** to Dana Berry at danabruceberry@gmail.com

Sunday Services

8:30 am Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Nursery provided from 10:45am to 12:15pm

service for children: infant to 2nd grade

11am Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

Wednesday

10:30 am Book Club & Cookies

12 Noon Holy Eucharist with Unction

6:30 pm Evening Prayer with Unction (healing prayers)