

# September 2011 Christ Church Chronicle

[the rev. dr. richard elberfeld, jr.](#), priest-in-charge

[shelley huston](#), editor



## Parish Picnic at Bicentennial Park 11:30 am on Sunday, 11 September

We will remember 9/11 during the liturgy then gather at the park for food and fellowship to remind those who would bring us down that we are a resilient people. Bring something to share. Food, frisbee, games, friends... Bicentennial Park is on the left just before the closed bridge on Arch (Mead) Street. Watch the blog for more information. Sign up on the easel by the office to tell us what you are bringing. If you forget to sign up, come anyhow. Meat will be provided.

## Priestly Ponderings

We in our diocese can be proud of the choirs of the Cathedral of St. Paul, which sang for all three major services at Washington Cathedral on August 21st. ( Our own Leah Elberfeld sings in the cathedral's children's choir.) Sadly the Cathedral was damaged (extent yet to be determined) less than forty-eight hours later by the earthquake. As I was driving in either West Virginia or Maryland at the time the quake hit, I missed it altogether.

The service on September 11th will include prayers for those who died, for our country, and for peace in the world. Following the service we will move to Bicentennial Park for a picnic - see the announcement above.

I will say more about this in our discussions following the Wednesday service and on the day itself.

September brings a rich fare of festivals, all of which either fall on or will be otherwise celebrated on Wednesdays: Holy Cross Day, St. Matthew, and St. Michael and All Angels. Join us in the Walker Room if you can - we have a regular and enthusiastic congregation for our midweek celebration.

Faithfully,  
Richard B. Elberfeld, Jr.

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## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY

10 AM Holy Eucharist  
(4th Sunday Healing Service)  
11:15 AM Vestry (Third Sunday)  
6:30 New Life Spiritualist Church

### TUESDAY

11 AM to 1 PM Church Office Open  
10 AM (Third Tuesday) Northwest  
Spinners & Weavers Guild  
Noon Open AA Meeting  
6:30 New Life Spiritualist church

### WEDNESDAY

12:05 Holy Eucharist  
Noon Open AA Meeting  
7:00 PM Choir

### THURSDAY

10 AM Soup Kitchen (First Thursday)  
Noon Open AA Meeting

### FRIDAY

Noon Open AA Meeting

### SATURDAY

9 AM (First Saturday) Northwest  
Spinners & Weavers Guild  
8 PM Saturday Night AA Meeting



## Soup Kitchen in September

10 am at Stone Church. All volunteers needed.

## Choir singers wanted

The first Choir rehearsal of the fall season will be on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM. At the moment we are a little thin on singers and would be elated to welcome new people. If you sing, please consider joining the Choir. If you know of someone who might be interested, please invite them to the first rehearsal or call Bill Witherup with their name, address, and 'phone number. Participating in the Choir is a rewarding experience and is a good way to give back to God.

## More on the cover photo

After hearing the story of the sycamore, [Steve] Tobin, who is best known for his bronze "Roots" sculpture, decided that he would use the roots of the sycamore as inspiration for a new sculpture. He envisioned the roots becoming a metaphor for the strength and connectedness of the ministry of St. Paul's in the aftermath of 9/11, and also wanted to honor the victims, volunteers and rescue workers.

The morning after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the Rev. Lyndon Harris, an associate of St. Paul's at that time, walked to the chapel assuming that it had been demolished as the towers fell. When he saw the spire rising through the dust and discovered that the chapel had not suffered any damage, he knew he had a mission.

Over the next eight months St. Paul's operated full time as a relief site for emergency workers, keeping its doors open around the clock in order to provide food, respite and sanctuary.

When asked at the time when St. Paul's would get back to being a real church, Harris responded, "I don't think we've ever been, nor will ever be, any closer to a 'real church' than we are right now."

The original article at Episcopal News Service is [here](#).

## Thanks to

- The family of Ruth King for the red maple tree planted in her memory.
- All who have watered the tree.
- Shelley Huston for additional memory for the office computer.
- Carol Teresi for serving on Vestry, Altar Guild and as an acolyte. She is moving to Erie and has applied for VA positions in Alaska. She will be greatly missed.
- Ruth Cummings for laundering the acolyte albs.
- Cat Collard for donating the two end tables in the Walker Room.

## Vestry vignettes

The vestry held an Executive Session on Sunday, 14 August. There will be an additional meeting on Wednesday, 31 August at 10:00 am. The regular September meeting will be the third Sunday as usual, 18 September 2011 after the liturgy.



## Handicapped Access now keyed

The ramp door can be opened with a key now. It has to be manually pulled open from the outside however. It also sticks and must be pushed shut when leaving.

## ALTAR SERVERS:

### Sep 4

EM: Shelley  
Lector: Shirley  
Crucifer: Dave

### Sep 11

EM: Shirley  
Lector: Alyssa  
Crucifer: Roxana

### Sep 18

EM: Ellen  
Lector: Rod  
Crucifer: Stephanie

### Sep 25

EM: Shelley  
Lector: Margaret  
Crucifer: Betty

## PRAYER LIST

Bill, Brenda, James,  
Larry, Jeri, Jonathan,  
Keith, Elizabeth,  
Jesse, Kathy, Peg,  
Richard, Rosie, Chris,  
Greg, Graham, Anne,  
Alfred, Wil, Ed and  
Lorna, Kathy, Lee,  
Jeanne, Bridgette,  
Ronelle, Harry, Carol,  
Joy, Tammy, Margaret  
and Joel,  
Plus those mentioned  
during the liturgy.

Please remember  
these people with  
ongoing need in daily  
prayer as well as on  
Sundays.

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Kayla Boehm  
4 Shane Thompson  
7 Sandra DelaPaz  
8 Gary Yaeger  
18 Jillian Gray

## Senior Warden Sez

In early August I met a woman who taught me lots I've ignored about battered women. She called the church requesting a sleeping bag because she expected to become homeless when her time at the shelter expired. I was able to connect with her at the shelter because she gave me her name and number which is very unwise. She was not allowed to have a sleeping bag but she was willing to meet me. I had no idea that a network for abused women is so extensive and connected all across the country. I was surprised by the level of security and now understand why. All it takes for a man to trace a woman is a friend or relative in police work and the men are relentless as well as cruel. The church provided a gift card from TOPS via the Alms Fund. And I gave her a huge hug. Unless she contacts the church, she has now disappeared. I pray she's in another shelter or, better yet, a more stable situation.

Please remember to bring canned goods and personal products – like toilet paper, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. – for Women's Services. There is a basket at the back of the church for your donations. We used to collect these items on first Sundays. Please save those hotel goodies when you travel and pick up a useful item or two whenever you shop then bring them to church every Sunday. Remember that these women often have absolutely nothing with them. The shelter also needs all the support we can provide.

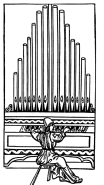
On a happier note, I enjoyed the discussions after the Wednesday eucharist on 17 August and at coffee hour the following Sunday. Two developments that resulted are the picnic and "gossip" in the Chronicle. I'd love to have people put "gossip" on the blog. Blogging is easy. All it takes is permission, a free gmail address (preferably) and a little instruction. The church blog isn't just for your senior warden. It is for everyone. As is the Facebook page. Yes, I know many of us are not online. That is what the Chronicle is for. Many of us do have internet access and we need to take advantage of it.

We have precious few opportunities to just gab about the church. I would love to have more. Any suggestions how we can do that?

In faith,  
Shelley Huston

## Recital, Sunday, 16 October 2011

Bill Witherup will play an organ recital on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM, assisted by Bronnie Bond and her silver flute. The selections will span the 16<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Please plan now to attend and to invite friends.



## Brief notes

- The Wednesday noon eucharists continue. Come and bring a friend.
- Soup Kitchen is this month on Thursday, 1 September.
- Please bring your pennies for the Mile of Pennies program. You might empty your pocket or purse into the glass block bank in the Walker Room on Sundays to keep the coppers from accumulating.
- Please support the Women's Center with groceries and other items the women can use. Save the hotel soaps, shampoos and other goodies when you travel. The basket at the back of the church is there for those items.



## Energy Conservation

Please turn the lights out when they aren't needed and do the dishes by hand after coffee hour!

## Finding the Chronicle online

There are links to the Chronicles on the left side of the Home page on the [church website](#).

There is a direct link to the most recent Chronicle on the right side of the [church blog](#).

You will need the free [Adobe Reader](#) or the appropriate browser plugin to read the Chronicle.

## New website for Christ Church Meadville

[Dave Stump](#) has graciously designed a more contemporary website for us. There will be more tweaking undoubtedly as we decide what works. Your comments and suggestions are most welcome. What might you see on an Episcopal church page that would invite you to attend?



The old website will remain online until the contract expires in early November.

[ChristChurchMeadville.org](http://ChristChurchMeadville.org) - the new pages. Note that it is now .ORG.

[ChristChurchMeadville.blogspot.com/](http://ChristChurchMeadville.blogspot.com/) - the blog where you will find announcements, new photos, etc.

Look for "Christ Church Meadville" on Facebook too.

## Safeguarding God's Children/People

There are currently two Safeguarding trainings scheduled, both including Safeguarding God's Children and Safeguarding God's People. Lunch will be served at both for a donation of \$6.00, payable the day of the training.

- Saturday, September 24th, 9:00 AM, St. Mark's, Erie. To sign up, please contact [Vanessa](#) at Diocesan House. Betty Reed is going.
- Saturday, October 8th, 8:30 AM, St. Joseph's, Port Allegany, To sign up, please contact [Pastor Joann](#).

Remember that all office staff, vestry plus everyone who works with children must take this training.

## Parish Tidbits

- Abe Finton is on a Navy hospital ship for a month. We expect stories when he gets back.
- Jeanne Markulin was spied in TOPS. The Elberfelds will bring her to church when she feels well enough.
- Lisa Bevevino and Aaron Wenzel, who visit when in town and were married at Christ Church in July, have moved to France where he will be teaching English.
- Gwen Thompson returned to Penn State Behrend for her senior year after spending a semester at sea with the University of Virginia.
- Garnett Persinger entered bunnies in the Crawford County Fair.
- Bronnie Bond took her Dandie Dinmont Terriers to Foxburg for the 3rd annual Scottish games. Look for them at the Ligonier games 10 September. Bronnie is a member of the [Dandie Dinmont Terrier Rescue League](#). Ask her about it.
- Elizabeth Yale ([Yoda](#)) is in seminary at [Sewanee](#).
- Betty Reed journeyed to visit her son in Selinsgrove, PA and attended St James Episcopal.
- The Fernandez family traveled to Italy. We expect pictures.



## Shredding for Big Brothers and Sisters

What: Looking for a safe way to destroy personal documents and important papers?

Who: The public is invited to bring up to 3 boxes/bags to be destroyed on-site with Shred-X of Erie's portable shredding truck.

When: Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Downtown Mall parking lot in Meadville.

Cost: Donations benefit Big Brothers and Sisters of Crawford County's local one-to-one mentoring program.

Why: All documents with personal information should be securely shredded. Do your part to fight identity theft!

## Earthquake damage to the Washington National Cathedral

The Cathedral's [website](#) has news, photos, links and tweets. There were fears about Hurricane Irene which occurred after the Chronicle was printed. Prayers for all affected by the weather in 2011. This has been a memorable weather year so far. What will fall bring?

# September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				10 am Soup Kitchen		
<b>11 Pentecost</b> 10:00 am HE	4 EM: Shelley L: Shirley C: Dave	5 	6 12:05 HE	7 Elfie Naud Kierkegaard, Grundtvig	8 9	10
<b>12 Pentecost</b> 10:00 am HE Parish Picnic	11 EM: Shirley L: Alyssa C: Roxana	12 	13 12:05 HE	14 Holy Cross Day	15 9 to 3 Allegheny Community Service Fair	16 17
<b>13 Pentecost</b> 10:00 am HE Vestry	18 EM: Ellen L: Rod C: Stephanie	19 	20 12:05 HE	21 Matthew, Apostle	22 23	24
<b>14 Pentecost</b> 10:00 am HE	25 EM: Shelley L: Margaret C: Betty	26 	27 12:05 HE	28 Rolfe/Hilton/Kempe, mystics	29 30	

HE=Holy Eucharist, EM=Eucharistic Minister, L=Lector, C=Crucifer, 1S=1st Server, 2S=2nd Server, ECW=Episcopal Church Women



Roots of a sycamore tree that fell in St. Paul's Chapel churchyard in downtown Manhattan on September 11, missing all the historic tombstones and the church itself, were returned May 5 to Trinity Church, Wall Street, New York, by sculptor Steve Tobin after casting a mold of the stump and its remaining roots to use in preparation for his sculpture honoring St. Paul's.