

THE BEACON

of Christ Church, 20 N. American St., Philadelphia, PA 19106

Planning ahead . . .

MARCH 2010

- 7 Old City Music Concert 5PM
- 14 Daylight Saving Time begins
The Bridge Lunch & Discussion 12:30PM
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 Parish Work Day 8:00AM
St. Mary's 350 8:30AM
- 22 Old First Shelter Meal 6:00pm
- 28 Palm Sunday
- 29 Holy Monday Noon Eucharist and 6PM Evening Prayer
- 30 Holy Tuesday Noon Eucharist and 6PM Evening Prayer
- 31 Holy Wednesday Noon Eucharist and 6PM Tenebrae

APRIL 2010

- 1 Maundy Thursday Noon & 7PM Eucharist
Agape Dinner 5:30PM
- 2 Good Friday Noon to 3PM Service and 7PM Service
- 4 Easter Sunday
- 17 St. Mary's 350 8:30AM
- 18 The Bridge Lunch & Discussion 12:30PM
- 19 Old First Shelter Meal 6:00pm
- 24 Life at Christ Church Class 8:30 - 2:30PM
- 25 Parents' Night Out 5:00PM

MAY 2010

- 8 Volunteer Gardeners 10:00AM
- 15 St. Mary's 350 8:30AM
- 16 The Bridge Lunch & Discussion 12:30PM

2010

Baptism Schedule

April 4 (Easter Sunday), May 23 at 10AM (Pentecost), June 6 (Bishop's Visitation).

¡PRESENTE!

Years ago, I went to the funeral for Father Luis Olivares who had been pastor of La Iglesia de Nuestro Reina de Los Angeles, the first and oldest church in the City of Angels—a relative newcomer founded in 1784.

Before the funeral began, I approached the open casket to pay my respects. In his casket, pinned to both lapels of his jacket, were all of the buttons of the causes that he had supported in his long and distinguished ministry. "Fair Wages for Farmworkers," read one, and "Stop the War in El Salvador," another. There were buttons about the cost of buses, research for AIDS, better public schools, immigration rights, affordable housing, and access to jobs.

As I stood over his body, I wondered, "When my time comes to lay in a casket, will it be clear what buttons to pin on my lapel? What will my life stand for?"

As the service ended, in a true L.A. moment, rock star Jackson Browne, with whom Fr. Olivares had often marched in protest of one thing or another, sang his best known song, "Take it Easy," as the casket was borne from the church to the nearby cemetery. A large procession formed behind the casket, and songs of celebration were sung the entire way; though mourning, a great sense of joy flowed from the people.

But all fell silent when his simple wooden casket was lowered into the earth. So quiet, even with din of the freeways around us, all we heard was the sound of dirt hitting the casket as parishioners each took a turn filling the grave. When that was finished, there was only the roar of soft sobbing.

Then, one young man, with the heavy tattoos that marked him as one of L.A.'s notorious and violent gangmembers (who, I learned later, had left the gang at risk to his life, and Fr. Olivares had protected him in the church), shouted: "Father Louis Olivares."

And in a deafening roar, the crowd shouted, "¡Presente!" Three times, the former gang member shouted the name of the man whose body now lay in a grave, and three times responded that Fr. Olivares was still present in their midst. I learned later that the sense of the Spanish word *presente* at a funeral communicated the words of the assassinated Archbishop of El Salvador, Oscar Romero, who had said shortly before his murder, "They may kill my body, but the fight for justice will rise in the people and live on. I may die, but the struggle for justice will not stop."

Such is the meaning of Easter; such is the power of faith in the resurrection of Jesus. The forces of death and evil killed him, but the message of God's inclusive love, boundless mercy, compassionate justice and transforming forgiveness rose in his followers, and lives in us still, as long as we have the courage to pin the buttons of his radical, transformative message of peace and love of neighbor, in all its complex forms, to our lapels.

On Easter Day, we gather at 6 AM, 9 AM and 11 AM, to sing out, "Jesus Christ," and as a congregation of hope, love, transformation and courage, sing in response:

¡Presente!

Timothy Safford

FINANCIAL REALITY

Each year, for 315 years, Christ Church has faced financial challenges; this year will be no exception. The challenge that I am facing right now in administering and budgeting for Christ Church is not knowing what revenue we will have received by next December 31st.

Our Vestry has accepted a budget for 2010 assuming that we will receive the same income as in 2009.

	2009 Actual	2010 Budget	Adjusted for actual pledges as of 2/28/10
Pledges	\$403,000	\$408,000	\$347,000
Offerings	\$85,000	\$65,000	\$65,000
Endowment and Rental Income	\$318,000	\$299,000	\$299,000
Other Income	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
Totals	\$836,000	\$802,000	\$741,000
Projected Shortfall			\$61,000

If we are not able to secure additional pledges to our operating budget in March and April, we will have to adjust our plans for Christ Church for the remainder of the year.

There is so much at stake; I trust that, as a congregation, we do not want that to happen. We want to call a full-time Director of Music to begin work September 1st; without additional pledges, that critical part of our strategy for worship and growth will be delayed. We have budgeted salary increases for a loyal, committed and extremely hard-working staff that have not salary adjustments in two years, and we want to honor our commitment to full coverage of medical insurance and pension.

I live out of a theology of abundance. Inspired by God's abundance toward us, I trust that the people of God, out of their abundance, will be responsible and faithful stewards of Christ Church; we all share in that sacred duty.

I am not discouraged, either, by the current results in pledges. Of the **168 pledges that we have received, 64 have made significant increases over 2009**. The reality is that many of our pledging members have had to reduce their pledges because of economic realities they are facing, and several have not renewed their pledges because of uncertainty about the future.

I am writing this to keep our membership informed of our current financial challenges. Wayne Christman, chair of the vestry committee responsible for stewardship, needs your ideas (waynechristman@comcast.net), as do I. We are all the stewards of Christ Church; God has entrusted us with that joyful responsibility; there are no others who will rush in and fill our coffers.

Each year, Lynn and I struggle mightily to complete our financial pledge to Christ Church, this year \$18,500. Right now, I even wonder if it is possible for this year. Then, I remember that I said that last year, and the year before. Each year, we are blessed in this way: that which first seems impossible becomes possible. As I let go of my concern, peace and joy take its place. We also know that if something changes in our life, we can change our pledge. We must strive to be our bravest and most faithful for the sake of God's work at Christ Church. Each year, when it comes to sharing money with Christ Church, I am reminded of a gospel truth: Where our treasure is, there our hearts will be, also.

Timothy Safford

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CHRIST CHURCH?

PEW CUSHIONS

"The Fence about the Church Burial Ground in Arch Street being quite out of repair and incapable of being mended...."

From the *Vestry Minutes*, Monday, October 23, 1769

241 years after the Vestry Clerk wrote these words, the Property Committee reports that some of the pew cushions are quite out of repair and incapable of being mended (or cleaned). We have ordered 21 desperately-needed new cushions at a cost of \$100 each, and are putting out the call to parishioners to help offset this expense by "buying" a whole, half, or quarter cushion. This translates to a \$100, \$50, or \$25 "purchase." The new ones should be here by Holy Week. Checks can be made out to Christ Church, with "pew cushions" on the memo line. Questions? Contact **Marcy Hasbrouck** at marcyh@verizon.net.

PARISH WORK DAY

Mark your calendars for our next parish work day, Saturday, **March 20**, 8:00A.M. to 2:00P.M. We'll gather as a community to clean and polish the Church and Neighborhood House in anticipation of the Parish Annual Meeting. Many hands make light work and even one hour of your time is helpful. So come and join your fellow parishioners for a community building day of light labor.

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

We will offer a special afternoon for our Church School children on Good Friday, **April 2** from noon to 3:00pm **Leza Kramarenko** along with volunteers will lead our Church School children (ages 4 and up) in a special "Last Supper" presentation in which they will act out the parts of Jesus and the disciples. Lunch will be included. Parents are encouraged to drop off children at noon so they may attend church. Registration is needed. Parent volunteers are invited to participate for any portion of the time. Please see Leza for volunteer sign-up. Childcare for infants to 3 years old will be available in the nursery. To register your child, please see **Leza** in the Atrium Church School or contact her at lezavetak@gmail.com.

EASTER MEMORIALS

At this time of year you have the opportunity to remember loved ones and to offer special thanks by making a donation to the Easter Flower Fund or to the Special Music Program. Donations to the Flower Fund will cover church decorating expenses for our Easter celebration. Donations to the Special Music Program will be added to the Special Music Fund which augments our special services, such as Easter morning, with additional instruments. Thank you for this generous gift. **Please use the enclosed envelope and submit your Easter Memorial by Monday, MARCH 22.**

TEA SANDWICH MAKERS NEEDED

Christ Church needs about 1000 tea sandwiches for our festive Easter Sunday reception after the 11:00am Service on **April 4**. One loaf of thinly sliced bread makes about 50 tea sandwiches, so we will need 20 or more parishioners to assist with this reception. If you are able to contribute and/or need a good tea sandwich recipe, please contact **Cecilia Wagner** at 215-922-1695, ext. 21 or cwagner@christchurchphila.org.

LIFE AT CHRIST CHURCH SPRING CLASS

Each Sunday, when we say, *"Whoever you are, and wherever you find yourself on the journey of faith, you are welcome here,"* we mean it. We pray that Christ Church is the right place for you to shape your faith journey. For each of us, the journey is different, but our destination is the same: to be fully alive in God and keenly aware that we are disciples of Jesus Christ. If this is the right place for you, then we hope you will become a member.

Our next Life at Christ Church class will be held as a one-day class on **April 24** from 8:30pm to 2:30pm in Neighborhood House. The class is an opportunity to ask any and all questions about Christ Church, the Episcopal Church, and your place in our community of faith. Breakfast, lunch and childcare are provided.

Please contact the **Rev. Susan Richardson** at srichardson@christchurchphila.org with any questions. To register for the class, contact **Cecilia Wagner** at cwagner@christchurchphila.org or 215-922-1695, ext.21. If you need childcare please let us know.

UPCOMING SERVICES & PROGRAMS

March 7 The Third Sunday in Lent

9:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
10:10am Rector's Forum & Journey to Adulthood & Atrium 2 Class
11:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
5:00pm Old City Baroque Concert

March 14 The Fourth Sunday in Lent Daylight Saving Time Begins

9:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
10:10am Rector's Forum & Journey to Adulthood & Atrium 2 Class
11:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
12:30pm The Bridge Lunch and Discussion

March 21 The Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
10:10am Rector's Forum & Journey to Adulthood & Atrium 2 Class
11:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon

March 28 to April 4

SEE HOLY WEEK and EASTER SCHEDULE ON PAGE 5

April 11 The Second Sunday of Easter

9:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
10:10am Rector's Forum & Journey to Adulthood & Atrium 2 Class
11:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon

April 18 The Third Sunday of Easter

9:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
10:10am Rector's Forum & Journey to Adulthood & Atrium 2 Class
11:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
12:30pm The Bridge Lunch and Discussion

April 25 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00am Holy Eucharist and Sermon
10:10am Rector's Forum & Journey to Adulthood & Atrium 2 Class
11:00am Morning Prayer and Sermon
5:00pm Parents' Night Out

AGAPE POT-LUCK DINNER ON MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Maundy Thursday, **April 1**, we will gather together for an Agape pot-luck dinner at 5:30pm in Neighborhood House. Please bring a dish to share in the tradition of the Middle East and Mediterranean regions.

EGG HUNT IN THE CHURCHYARD

Our egg hunt will begin Easter morning, **April 4**, at 10:10 A.M. in the churchyard. Don't forget to bring a basket! Atrium 2 church school (ages 7-10) will be closed on Easter due to the hunt. Atrium 2 children are warmly welcomed in big church during our 9:00am and 11:00am Services.

INSIGHTS FROM THE ATRIUM

The children were asked what peace means to them,

One child said, "When you drop a cookie on the floor and you don't eat it"

Another child said, "No fighting"

Another child said, "It is honoring God"

Another child said, "A land with no trash on the ground".

Change Your Clock

Don't miss the Services on Sunday **March 14** as Daylight Saving Time begins and we spring forward one hour.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Palm Sunday, March 28

9:00A.M. Liturgy of the Palms, the Passion and the Holy Eucharist

10:10am Procession of the Palms

11:00A.M. Liturgy of the Palms, Reading of the Passion, & Sermon
(No Eucharist)

Holy Monday and Holy Tuesday, March 29 & 30

12 noon Weekday Eucharist

6:00 P.M. Evening Prayer

Holy Wednesday, March 31

12 noon Weekday Eucharist

6:00 P.M. Tenebrae

Maundy Thursday, April 1

12 noon Weekday Eucharist

5:30 P.M. Agape Potluck Supper with traditional Mediterranean foods

7:00 P.M. Liturgy Commemorating the Institution of the Lord's Supper, the ceremonial Foot-Washing and the Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 2

12 noon to 3:00 P.M. Good Friday Meditations on the Cross in the Church
with a Children's Program in Neighborhood House

7:00 P.M. Haydn's *Seven Last Words of Christ* for string ensemble with narrative

Easter Sunday, April 4

6:00A.M. The Great Vigil of Easter at Sunrise

9:00A.M. Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Resurrection

10:10 A.M. Egg Hunt in the Churchyard

10:30 A.M. Festive Music with choir, brass, percussion and organ

11:00A.M. The Festival Eucharist for the Feast of Resurrection



OUR LIVING HISTORY

Patriots and Heroes, a theme which explores the military heroes and patriots associated with Christ Church, is the focus of our tours at the church and burial ground in 2010. Neil Ronk and John Hopkins have researched and written new tours, and unearthed interesting stories with connections to Christ Church and the Christ Church Burial Ground.

The church tour will emphasize the military contributions of General John Forbes at Fort Duquesne, and of Benjamin Franklin and the Associators. It will cover the Naval heroes of the War of 1812 and relate stories of the Civil War as seen through Christ Church members. The burial ground tour will focus on the contributions of Captain Jesse Roe, General Jacob Morgan and Colonel Edward Buncombe who fought during the Revolutionary War; Naval heroes, Commodores William Bainbridge and Thomas Truxton; and Doctor Barnabas Binney, a physician during the Revolutionary War.

Christ Church resumes regular tourism hours on March 1. Hours are Monday-Saturday from 9 AM-5 PM and Sunday from 1-5 PM. Please note that we close from 9-11 AM on Tuesdays and Thursday for organ rehearsal. Tours are given throughout the day at the church.

Christ Church Burial Ground also reopens for another season of tourism on March 1. Hours are Monday-Saturday 10 AM-4 PM and Sunday 12-4 PM, weather permitting. Tours are on the hour, last tour at 3 PM. Admission fee is Adults/\$2, Students/\$1, Groups up to 25 people/\$10.

The Christ Church Museum Shop is open. Be sure to visit for a unique selection of gifts. All proceeds from the gift

shop support the preservation of Christ Church.

A SEASON OF MINISTRY

Do the names Charles Sober and Robert Snead ring any bells?

It is easy to forget, given Christ Church's venerated history, that the people who founded the church in 1695 were *not* signers of the Declaration of Independence, financiers of the Revolution, or radical abolitionists. They were ordinary people who came together despite an uncertain future in an unfamiliar place to build a church home.

It is also easy to forget that the small brick and wooden structure that stood on the site of the current church was modest. (Not only was there no heat but it is believed that its lack of windows may have rendered it unusable in winter during the late 1690's.) Yet the congregation that grew out of these humble beginnings would become instrumental in the founding of our country and would sustain the lives of its parishioners for 315 years.

I cannot help but wonder if those founders had any notion that their deeds would have the lasting impact that they had?

For slightly different reasons, it is often easy to forget that building Christ Church is a process that has not ended. Christ Church has three Services a week, a renowned music program, and numerous programs to interest parishioners with diverse interests. The church building is architecturally stunning, and visitors come from all over the world to see it. On holidays its flowers look and the Choir sounds incredible. It can seem complete.

At Christ Church, it may seem like every "I" is dotted and every "T" is crossed without anyone ever needing to lift a finger. But this is very far from the truth—the Church depends on the volunteer efforts of its parishioners.

As you may be aware, Christ Church has launched its first "Ministry Season" this Lenten season. Each parishioner—new and old—has been invited to enter into ministry or become involved in a Church program.

LUNCH AND DISCUSSION

Those in their 20s, 30s, and 40s come together for shared journeys, justice work, and discussion in the group called The Bridge. **March 14 at 12:30** is our next gathering. Come have some lunch provided by the church, check in with each other, and get to know those newer to the community. Copies of our discussion book, *Money and Faith: The Search for Enough* will be on hand. To get a copy ahead of time, or with questions or rsvp, check with the **Rev. Susan Richardson**.

While planning this season, the Incorporation Ministries Committee examined how many parishioners were already participating in programs or ministries. We are proud to report that approximately 200 parishioners regularly volunteer or participate in a program outside of attending worship. The numbers are simply amazing.

So what might this call to ministry mean for you?

For many of us who have been active in Christ Church, we ask that you take this time to reflect upon your involvement during this Lenten season and invite others to share it with you. For the newcomers to Christ Church, we want to assure you that all doors to the church—literal and figurative—are open to you. And to those somewhere in between the newcomers and the longstanding parishioners, we ask that this Lent you take the time to find some ministry or program and deepen your commitment to it.

Or maybe you feel that there is some initiative missing from Christ Church. The church wants to encourage entrepreneurial efforts, so with a consultation with the clergy, it may be possible to launch something new. Just this past year, several parishioners have undertaken amazing projects: Andrew Phillips started the highly successful Parish Work Days; Ken Frantz shot, edited and posted our first video on YouTube; and Joan Bedell and Dan Pohlig started a pilot program to promote inner-congregation dialog within specific neighborhoods. And there is so much that could be done.

During this Lenten season, we hope you will make a commitment to become more deeply involved in the life of Christ Church. Let us remember...We are the Church.

Charlie Moleski

Incorporation Ministries Committee

THE BRIDGE

MORE 2010 DATES: April 18, May 16, June 13

JUSTICE WORK WITH THOSE STRUGGLING WITH HOMELESSNESS – ALL WELCOME

Christ Church parishioners of all ages gather once a month at the homeless shelter at Old First Reformed, corner of 4th and Race Streets, 6 to 8 p.m., to create unique, excellent meals, and eat and enjoy fellowship with the men. Plus, we need help the day before to buy fresh ingredients – go local, go green! It's great to help those in need and to enjoy each

other. The next dates are **March 22 and April 19**. Can you help, even for a few minutes? For more info on shopping, cooking or serving the food, contact **Nick DiPatri** at

ndipatri@gmail.com or **Anne McAteer** at ackoerner@yahoo.com.

FELLOWSHIP and CELEBRATIONS

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Our next Parents' Night Out of the season is **April 25, 5-7:30 p.m.** Parents and caregivers gather in Neighborhood House for excellent food and company. Kids and youth will be upstairs for pizza and a movie. Childcare is free; suggested contribution of \$10 per adult for dinner. Please RSVP to Cecilia Wagner, cwagner@christchurchphila.org, by Friday April 23 with the number of adults and kids. Please bring whatever you'd like to drink - and bring along a new family to join in the fun.

SANDWICHES FOR THE HOMELESS

Come join the crew of sandwich makers who monthly make 350 bologna sandwiches for the shelter at St. Mary's. We gather next on **March 20 and April 17, 8:30-9:30am**. Kids love to help, too! Questions? Please contact **Wayne Christman** at waynechristman@comcast.net.

WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Aiden Francis Chimicles, son of **Marissa Jimenez & Greg Chimicles**
James Richard Newton, II, son of **Katherine Newton**

CELEBRATE WITH BRIDE AND GROOM

Carrie Saracen and Erik Kerney, married February 5
Mitzi Ng and Jeff Clark, married February 6

PARISH BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to our parish family members celebrating birthdays these next two months:

March 1, **Philip Krone, Bill Rogers, Henry Vega**
March 3, **Graham Gleason, Elizabeth Maltby**
March 4, **Luke Brown**
March 6, **Peggy Bailey, Dexter Lanctot, Corinne Miller, Zachary Robinson**
March 7, **Ashleigh Bond**
March 8, **Sonty Lanctot**
March 9, **David Fletcher, Eugene Frohlich, Jr., The Rev. Tim Safford,**
March 12, **Anne McLaughlin**
March 13, **Paige McMeekin, Mike Rickels, Charlie Rotunno**
March 14, **Janee DeAndrea, Owen DeAndrea, Andre Stephano**
March 15, **Donna Ennis, Charles Grobelny, Franklin Lane**
March 17, **Linda Knox, Ben Lawless**
March 18, **Greg Staton**
March 19, **Davis Haines, Jr.**
March 20, **Dan Maltby, Emma Staton**

March 21, **Brian Knuettel, Don Smith**
March 23, **Tom Ringe, Jessica Schane**
March 24, **William Walker**
March 25, **Gina Rogers**
March 26, **Danny Yaros**
March 27, **Owen Knight, Paul Pickering**
March 28, **Gordon Leggett**
March 29, **Charlie Landreth, Schuyler McLaughlin, William McLaughlin, III**
March 30, **Bob Harper**
March 31, **Kathie Lanctot**
April 1, **Kai-Zu Boeckheler, John Ellis**
April 3, **Ysabel Sophia**
April 4, **David Auten**
April 5, **Mary Ann Kalb**
April 6, **Hawley Pruitt, Giavanna Rogers, Emma Rita Staton**
April 7, **Elizabeth Milford, Cindy Ringe**
April 9, **Allison Schoonover**
April 10, **Jane Frantz, Laura Tereshko, Emerson Tobia**
April 12, **Meredith Auten, Marianne Bond, John Chaudrue, Joni Maltby**
April 15, **Jason Tiefenback**
April 16, **Bob Celata, Dave O'Connell**
April 17, **Nathalie Bartle, Ulrich Boeckheler**
April 19, **Eleanor Bravo**
April 21, **Andrew McMeekin, Jr.**
April 22, **Deanna Pinel, Edwin Robinson**
April 23, **Blake Christoph**
April 24, **Jill Gill, Nicole Orr**
April 25, **Russell Hartge**
April 26, **Charles Brault, Craig Murray**
April 28, **Melaney McAteer**
April 30, **Allan Grobelny, Garcia Warren**

Did we miss your birthday? Please contact **Cecilia** in the church office.

BAROQUE CONCERT AT CHRIST CHURCH

Old City Music baroque ensemble is presenting their debut concert, "Inspired Bach!" on Sunday, **March 7** at 5P.M. at the beautifully charming and evocative Christ Church in Old City, Philadelphia. Old City Music comprises of local talents **Geoffrey Burgess**, oboe; **Eve Friedman**, flute; **Eve Millier**, cello; and **Leon Schelhase**, harpsichord. The exciting program will explore some well-known pieces and musicians that have inspired JS Bach, and whose works and lives he in turn has inspired. Admission is **free** and donations are very welcome.

Christ Church: A user's guide

9:00 AM Eucharist and Sermon

Rite II, celebrated with organ and hymns.

10:10 AM Christian Education

Adult education each Sunday in Neighborhood House. Education for Children and Youth on the second and third floors of Neighborhood House from September to June.

11:00 AM Eucharist and Sermon (see schedule)

Rite I or II celebrated, with organ and hymns, and vocal leadership from Christ Church Choir

11:00 AM Morning Prayer and Sermon (see schedule inside)

Nursery care for infants and toddlers is available from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM each Sunday.

Wednesdays

12:00 Noon Eucharist

Rite II, briefly and informally celebrated with a short homily. About 20 minutes, this liturgy is a perfect addition to relieve "hectic downtown life syndrome."

Visiting/Getting in touch

The Church, located on 2nd Street just north of Market Street in Old City Philadelphia, is open for visiting, prayer and meditation from 9am to 5pm daily.

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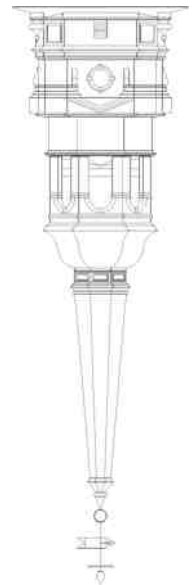
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The Beacon is published monthly for members, friends and supporters of Christ Church, the Rev. Timothy B. Safford, Rector. Deadline for the May/June issue is April 10. Please e-mail articles to cwagner@christchurchphila.org



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