



CHRIST CHURCH CHRONICLE

Produced by the congregation of Christ Church Episcopal in Sheridan, MT

May 10, 2021

Actions Speak Louder than Words

Deacon Steve DeHart

From the Deacon's Den . . . Actions speak louder than words.

Each day I learn a little more of what it means to be a Deacon in God's church. Every day I am reminded that I am not so much one of Christ's shepherds in the church, as I am one of Christ's sheep out in the world. For me, the doors to Christ's Church serve not as a safe entry into a quiet holy space away from the world, but as an opportune exit inviting me "to go forth into the world to love and serve the Lord." Outside those church doors lies a crazy, fast, and noisy world filled with hurt, needs, concerns, and hopes. That world is my workshop, and it is never dull. Deacons are really big on doing, not so much on talking. Few on words, they are a people of action called in our Book of Common Prayer, "to a special ministry of servanthood." They are not particularly good preachers or cut out to be priests, but they serve as examples of faithful servants to all people, particularly the poor, hungry, homeless, weak, sick, lost, and lonely. As servants they cross social boundaries and go into places few people seldom choose to go. For me, it is in that world where I hear and see God the most. There I see Christ in the eyes of sad, lonely, desperate people in need of love and mercy. Here I can meet, learn and practice loving my neighbor as myself.

So, how about you? What do you see outside the church doors? If Jesus were among us here in Sheridan today, what do you suppose Jesus would be doing? More importantly, what would his church be doing? Every Christian is called to follow Jesus where there is need. In that we are all Deacons. Jesus never stayed in the confines of a synagogue. He went out into the world. It was out there, in a world surrounded by overwhelming need where you could find him. You would not have to look hard because overwhelming need was everywhere. And Jesus seemed to find where he was needed most. As followers of Jesus, we too are called to go "out there" beyond the security of our church walls to follow after him. You will not have to look hard for him. The need is still everywhere. Our task? We are to look for Christ in all others, being ready to help and serve can meet and practice, and practice, and practice loving our neighbors as ourselves. It is there where our actions, not our words, matter most.

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Giving Thanks for Life - Coming and Going, A Photo Essay

Sandra Baril

These first three days of May were busy for our Christ Church community. On May first we celebrated a new life soon to arrive, the first baby of Caleb and Bri Harbor, due in a few weeks. Bri and Caleb are some of the younger, newer, and very active members of Christ Church. On May third we celebrated the life Polly Todd, a life-long and active member of Christ Church; with a burial service followed by a reception in the Parish Hall. In between those events we celebrated Eucharist.



Moose, Bri, and Caleb opening baby gifts



Janet checking out the prize Alice won for winning the Baby Gift Bingo

ADVICE FOR THE NEW PARENTS FROM RON TUSSING

- 1 Power washing is quicker than bathing
- 2 It is illegal to sell a problem child
- 3 "Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about" rarely works
- 4 Babies love rock and hate rap
- 5 Never name a boy Sue
- 6 Don't let your babies grow up to be cowboys



Bri, Bob, and Mary



So many onesies!



Julie and Natasha at Sunday Service

Giving Thanks for Life - Coming and Going, A Photo Essay, cont.

Sandra Baril



The Sanctuary set up for Polly's service



Part of the Todd family at the service



Beautiful food at the reception



Polly's Children



Friends and family at the reception



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Bible Study
Wednesdays 7pm Zoom
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Sundays 10am In Sanctuary
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INVITE people into our midst
INCLUDE people in the life of the church
INFORM people about past events that shape our present,
and current events that shape our future
PROCLAIM the gospel in thought, word and deed
REJOICE in a new life found in Christ Jesus.

Mission Statement

To be formed as the body of Christ, seeking to love and serve one another and those in need.

Vision Statement

To be Christ's continued presence in the Ruby Valley by welcoming those who seek Christ, offering varied forms of services, reflecting our diversity while maintaining our Episcopal identity.



Julian of Norwich
May 8

Service Leaders for May/June

Upcoming Service Leaders for February/March

9 May: Rev. Janis Hansen
16 May: Rev. Janis Hansen
23 May: Deacon Steve DeHart
30 May: Rev. Janis Hansen
6 June: Rev. Janis Hansen
13 June: Rev. Janis Hansen

Upcoming Lectors for December/January

9 May: Ron Tussing
16 May: Sandra Baril
23 May: Robert Brown
30 May: Jane Ingle
6 June: TBA
13 June: TBA