

PAXCHRISTI NEWS

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie November 2019

Heeding God's Mysterious Call

Getting to Know

Our Deacons

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LISTENING TO GOD'S CALL

Meet Pax Christi's New Leadership for 2019-2020



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Nursery available at all Sunday Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am.

Weekday Masses

Mondays 8:30am
Tuesdays 8:30am
Wednesdays 6:00pm
Thursdays 8:30am
Fridays 8:30am

Rosary prayed following weekday morning Masses.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

Saturdays 4:00–4:30pm

Mission Statement: As a community of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

Values: God-Centered, Justice, Inclusion, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, and Lay Leadership.

THE PAX CHRISTI NEWS IS PRINTED MONTHLY BY THE CHURCH OF PAX CHRISTI OF EDEN PRAIRIE. EMAIL COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS TO MELISSA NAULT, COMMUNICATION ARTS DIRECTOR, MNAULT@PAXCHRISTI.COM, OR 952-405-7221.



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Dear Friends
by Fr. J. Michael Byron



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Leadership for 2019–2020



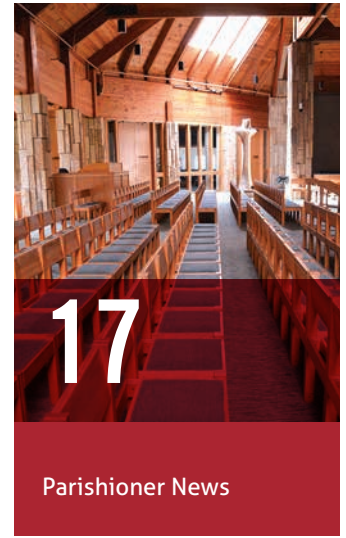
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Hospitality and
Community Outreach

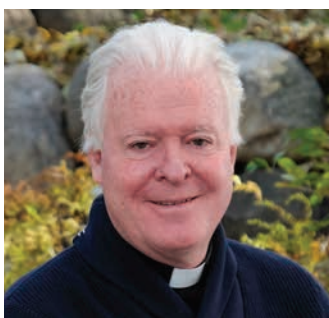


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Let Us Pray



DEAR FRIENDS...



Fr. J. Michael Byron
Pastor

CATHOLICISM is a religion that has an enormous esteem for tradition and traditions, which is why we really need to have a clear understanding about what those words mean. About a dozen years ago I was called on the carpet by our then-archbishop (who won't be named here but who is no longer in that office and is not deceased) because of an article I'd written in the parish bulletin about this topic. It is my opinion that "tradition(s)" is one of the most frequently misunderstood words in our Catholic communities, because so many of us just presume to think we know what we are talking about when we throw it in to religious conversations.

Tradition (with a capital T) actually has a very precise meaning in Catholic theology. It refers to the deep practices of faith and tenets of belief that extend back through the centuries to the earliest days of the Christian church. It includes the decrees of ecumenical councils (like

Vatican II, but going back as early as Nicea in 325 A.D.). It includes forms of liturgical prayer, creeds, sacramental rites, the witness of the great saints and theologians, and the constant religious convictions held by our ancestors. It is very unwise to tamper with this kind of Tradition.

But very often that's not what people are speaking about when they use that word in church. Instead we can tend to think of tradition (lower case t) as the things we remember from when we were young, or the things our grandparents were fond of doing in their worship and devotion, or the imagined glory of some "golden age" when all was in perfect form in church order and which should be frozen in time. In the strict sense, that is not Tradition at all. It is merely a personal, sentimental preference, or maybe a distortion of reality.

When some of the changes in church came about after Vatican II in the 1960s, many were upset that they were a betrayal of "tradition." Examples include the allowance for the celebration of Eucharist in local languages that people actually understand (rather

than Latin), the reorientation of the altar in the sanctuary so that people and ministers could face one another, the admittance of lay people into official offices of leadership, and the understanding of ordained people as servants rather than monarchs. But none of that is "untraditional" in the proper sense, unless one's sense of "tradition" begins somewhere between approximately the twelfth and sixteenth centuries. Even today we wrestle with some of these questions. For example, should priests be allowed to marry? The fact is that they did marry for about half of the "tradition" of our history, until the rules were changed about that in the thirteenth century. There is nothing "traditional" about that rule, in that sense. Should people in certain "irregular" situations of marriage be allowed to receive the Eucharist? Until medieval times, the Church never had any official investment in marriage as a sacrament at all. Should we allow only individual one-on-one practices of the sacrament of confession/reconciliation/penance? Well, we didn't do it that way for centuries after biblical times. There may be legitimate reasons for adhering to all of the above





constrictions, but you can't appeal to "Tradition" on that account. Which is why I was so startled to learn years ago that my archbishop did not seem to understand that. It's not really capable of dispute.

To name such examples is not my attempt to be argumentative. It is just to point out the facts of our past practice, and to distinguish the things that matter from the things that are more accretions of culture or unreflective habits. We should be resolute in our defense of the things that

truly fall under the category of Tradition, things about our faith and practice that must not change. But we need not be uncharitable in disagreeing about those things that are merely "traditions," things that not only can, but have changed over time...and may need to change again.

We are entering the time of late fall and winter holidays. These are occasions that are packed with nostalgia and traditions in many families. Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's—most of us have a memory or a preferred way of

observing all these holidays with loved ones. But all of us who are of a certain age are aware that no particular practice can endure the changes of age, circumstance, and shifting relationships. There is grief that comes with that, but it doesn't have to cause hardened declarations about what constitutes authentic "tradition." Our church, like any family, is a living thing, rooted in a shared history, identity, love, and commitment to be together. That's real "Tradition."

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MEET OUR NEW '19-'20 LEADERSHIP



Community Council

TOP ROW (left to right): , Mike Kennedy, Dale Nelson, Fred Baumer - Chair, Andy Leet, Cindy Schuh, Mike Schneider, Bruce Koehn - Trustee, Mary Frances Messer, Fr. Michael Byron - Pastor

BOTTOM ROW (left to right): Julie Tyler, Phyllis Olson, Jane Schmitz - Parish Director

NOT PICTURED: Nicholle Check, Ricardo Ortiz Nava, Dave Putrich, Carolyn Zucker - Trustee



Arts, Campus, and Gardens Council

TOP ROW (left to right):
Julie Tyler - Chair, Kevin Roth,
Ken Reineccius - Director of
Operations, Pat Nault

BOTTOM ROW (left to right): Mark
Lanners, Ann Higgins, Tish Osborn

NOT PICTURED: Mark Cox,
Matt Kleffner, Mike McCabe



Care and Support Council

TOP ROW (left to right):
Becky Debol, Jeanne Heikkila,
Carolyn von Weiss, Cindy Schuh -
Chair, Jean Thoresen - Director of
Care and Support

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):
Mary Lillcrap, Mary Boerner,
Diane Scott, Gerri Baumgartner

NOT PICTURED: Sheila Hannon



Communications Council

LEFT TO RIGHT: Sam Ramirez,
Nicholle Check - Chair,
Paige Nault, Brad Schleif,
Melissa Nault - Communication
Arts Director

NOT PICTURED: Ed Heil,
Kathy Piechowski





Finance and Development Council

TOP ROW (left to right):
Mike Evans, Mike Kennedy - Chair,
Jeff Schuh, Sue Fier - Parish
Financial Manager, Jerry Marick

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):
Renee Stapleton, Mike Larson,
Dave Faulise

NOT PICTURED: Mark Chronister,
Gary Lybeck



Hospitality and Community Outreach Council

TOP ROW (left to right):
Mike Schneider - Chair,
Stephen Robinson,
Aleata Madison, Kim Smith

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):
Lisa Cox - Community Life
Coordinator, Kate Rizo,
Cathy Ohser

NOT PICTURED: Hermes Cervantes



Justice Council

TOP ROW (left to right): Joan
Howe-Pullis - Director of Justice,
Wayne Ward, Anna Madison,
Jim Buckman

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):
Ricardo Ortiz Nava - Chair,
Pat Hanson, Jane DuBois

NOT PICTURED:
Cecelia Cervantes,
Leonarda Ledesma,
Terese Waters-McCabe

Lay Leadership Development and Engagement Council

TOP ROW (left to right):
Maura Schnorbach - Director of Development and Engagement, Eduardo Zimmermann-Ayala

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):
Cheri White, Dave Putrich - Chair, Kate Lohrenz

NOT PICTURED: Mary Jo Jeppesen, Clarissa Lobo



Lifelong Faith Formation Council

TOP ROW (left to right):
Mark Huschke, Andy Leet - Co-Chair, Karen Lamberty - Co-Chair, Gary Shipp

BOTTOM ROW (left to right):
Patti Christensen, Judy Owens, Scott Brazil - Director of Faith Formation

NOT PICTURED: Maddie Lenius, Barbara Truempi



Worship Council

TOP ROW (left to right): Mary Wood, Joe Meuwissen, Cecelia Morris, Peg Martin

BOTTOM ROW (left to right): Phyllis Olson - Chair, Donna Kasbohm, Director of Music and Liturgy, Mackenzie Kloempken

NOT PICTURED: Roger Hawkinson, Jacob Plourde, Jacque Zetting





PAX CHRISTI VALUES

GOD-CENTERED ~ We hold God as the center of our daily lives and provide a place for spiritual rest and rejuvenation.

JUSTICE ~ We advocate for the marginalized and act as catalysts for systemic change.

INCLUSION ~ We build relationships and create an inclusive culture through our attitudes, actions, and activities.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ~ We engage in a lifelong process of spiritual growth and continually learn how to live out our faith.

STEWARDSHIP ~ We acknowledge our God-given gifts and put them into action as we pray, serve, and share.

LAY LEADERSHIP ~ We co-lead and share in the responsibility of upholding the mission of the church.

HOSPITALITY AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH: INCLUSION AS A WAY OF LIVING

IMAGINE what it looks like when a family, an individual, a young adult, or even a teenager shows up at Pax Christi and finds a heartfelt welcome and an invitation to be part of a Catholic “village” becoming the best version of itself!

Our Council emphasizes hospitality, community, and creating a sense of belonging as we embrace the Pax Christi motto “All are Welcome.” We joyfully sing *All Are Welcome* periodically as part of our worship.

To that end, an important goal is to involve, engage, and invite our neighbors as well as our diverse “village” members to gather with us for worship, celebrations, events, and other experiences. In this way, the Pax Christi community can reach our community with new rituals, new traditions, and new celebrations in addition to the many long-standing treasured festivities.

Even though parishioners have arrived from diverse countries across the world, we share a connection to our Catholic faith through similar family experiences and meaningful celebrations and traditions from our home countries. Through our shared connections, we strengthen our sense of community with these common experiences.

Recently, a new event took place at Pax Christi. A gathering to celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Good Health created an opportunity to share a special feast and learn about the practices of faith communities in India.

Similarly, the December feast honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe is an event celebrated across the Americas by our Latino community. These are just two of the many examples demonstrating the Pax Christi commitment to ensure all feel welcome.

Celebrations, shared by all of us, form the strong, long-lasting, emotional community bond we strive to achieve. They create the connection threads, the sense of belonging that extends beyond our diverse differences and our shared Catholic faith.

Our Hospitality and Community Outreach Council wants to hear from YOU. What meaningful celebrations exist specific to your culture, your heritage, your country? Maybe you have an idea for an intergenerational celebration. You can initiate a new opportunity to bring people together for a shared experience, a greater sense of feeling included, and another occasion for outreach to demonstrate our commitment to “All are Welcome.” Let us know.

Imagine what it looks like.

*Written by Hermes Cervantes and Aleata Madison,
Hospitality and Community Outreach Council*

LET US PRAY...

WE ALL HOPE for a perfect world, yet we live in a world full of pain, conflict, and suffering; we always have. The spiritual challenge is to hold on to hope and trust that God is with us and can work good from bad. How? Through love and connection found in prayer. Prayer is the building block to our relationship with Christ and to others. When someone tells you they will "hold you in prayer," it is not intended to be a casual phrase tossed around but rather a profound expression of care which creates an intimate connection that transcends time and location. We can hold in prayer those who are suffering from hurricanes thousands of miles away or gun violence right in our backyard. I don't have to know you personally to create this loving connection; I can create it by sitting and holding you, your situation, or your concerns in thoughtful prayer.

Listed are a few possibilities for you to be supported in prayer when needed and opportunities to hold others in prayer.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls are available as a gift for anyone you know who is suffering, or for happy events such as a wedding. Individuals who receive a handknit shawl can wrap themselves in the care and compassion prayerfully woven into each stitch by those who serve on this ministry. Feel free to stop in anytime to see the beautiful assortment of shawls available for a suggested donation of \$20.00. If you wish to join the ministry, contact staff liaison, Renee Reardon. Renee will walk you through the steps of picking out yarn, provide the pattern, share suggested prayers, as well as include you on a monthly invite to join the on-site knitting group, who meet the first Mondays of September through November, and January through May.



Prayer Line Ministry

Sixty people are active in our Prayer Line Ministry and receive notifications via Email or phone call to pray for members of our community, their extended family and friends, and larger world needs. Prayer requests can include things such as health concerns, marriage struggles, or difficult life decisions. To submit a prayer request or to become a member of this important ministry, simply call, email, or stop by in person to talk with Mary Ann Callahan. For individual intentions, only first names are used and all details are kept confidential. To respect each other's privacy, please ask a person's permission before you contact us. There is also a "Prayer" page on our website under Care and Support.

Prayer Corner

The Prayer Corner is found in the bulletin each week and is intended for those with long-term needs.

The name will remain on the list for as long as is needed, depending on the issue.



Prayers of the Faithful

Prayers of the Faithful are for recently deceased family members and read during our weekend Masses. Please let us know if you have experienced a death and would like your family member mentioned.

These prayers, offered in solitude or as a community, open us up for deeper intimacy with each other and allow us to create a bond that would otherwise be impossible. It also allows us to let go of control and let God do something creative with our suffering and brokenness. Let us pray...

Written by Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support

LISTENING TO GOD'S CALL AS A FAITH COMMUNITY

IN AUGUST of 2018, Pax Christi and 13 other Christian faith congregations in the United States and Canada were notified of being awarded a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. through the Collegeville Institute at St. John's University. This grant was specific in its hoped outcome: to design new projects or enhance existing ministries over the next three years to help Christians discover and deepen their sense of God's calling in their lives. This project, the Communities of Calling Initiative, seeks to accentuate the reality that vocation and a sense of living one's calling is at the heart of the Christian life.

While Mackenzie Kloempken, Fr. Mike, and I are the three "point people" for this project, attend the planning meetings at St. John's University in the summer, and frequently meet to orchestrate the planning project, the large portion of integration of the project's goals will be shared among staff and other leaders in the parish.

One of the exercises the three of us undertook in order to formulate the goals of the Communities of Calling Project was to first invite into conversation those who were founding members of the parish, and then to listen to their stories of the calling they re-ceived to create a church in this burgeoning community in Eden Prairie in the late 1970s, leading to its founding in 1981. Following



is a brief compilation of the founders reflecting on those days 40 years ago as they lived out their vocation as disciples:

Those early days of the parish were marked by a feeling of being a "pilgrim church." It was a small group, with no fancy sanctuary, so "we made do" with what was available. It was a "startup project with no baggage, it was starting new." At the beginning of the parish, it necessitated that risks needed to be taken and "the beginning was thrilling." People made a conscious decision to join and be a part of this journey. Because there was a bond of belonging in the early days, the bond stayed once there was a building. "We were always the church before the building was there." There was a sense that everyone was needed, and "being a Vatican II people meant that we were called." There was a feeling of aliveness because there was a sense of the priesthood of the faithful. There was a recognition of the intrinsic value and vocation of everyone. People felt at home at Pax Christi because they didn't feel judged.

As we journey forward to rediscover how we are each called to live out our discipleship, may we find inspiration, hope, and support within this faith community and with each other.

Written by Jane Schmitz, Parish Director

PAX CHRISTI IS GENEROUS!

PAX CHRISTI CATHOLIC COMMUNITY is a generous community that shares its abundance and blessings from God. It is a Christ-centered, belonging and believing community. Pax Christi welcomes all to experience God's love and mercy.

Joy, discipleship, and servant leadership are at the heart of all the work. We invite you to support Pax Christi by prayerfully considering a financial gift, sharing your passion and talent, and praying for our community.

Pax Christi is making a big impact, changing the world one visit at a time at care centers, hospice, and homes by offering presence, compassion, and sacred listening. Befrienders and visitors remind people that they are loved at every stage of life.

Pax Christi inspires children and youth through faith formation and youth ministry to live lives of character and virtue. They inspire classmates and friends by sharing, serving, and giving back, realizing that one day they will be called to lead in our workplaces and communities.

Pax Christi works to reduce poverty, hunger, and homelessness and erase the margins that separate us by building bridges of understanding, hope, and justice.

Pax Christi generously gives financial and material support as one of the largest donors to PROP. It offers counseling, housing resources, employment help, and a healthy food pantry. Pax Christi offers kindness, wellbeing, and hot meals for homeless or precariously-housed youth at YouthLink and The Launch.

Pax Christi is a maker of things beautiful. Members plant beautiful gardens to create pollinator habitats for bees and butterflies. We grow vegetables for our neighbors struggling with hunger in our Giving Garden. We sew love into homemade quilts for graduates at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School, and knit prayer shawls to comfort people who are sick or dying or need extra tender care.

We look for the sacred in everything. We seek the best in each other, honor each other's stories, heritages, abilities, and cultures. We make life long friendships at Pax Christi. We pray. We study. We make music. We share meals. We welcome the stranger, recognizing that the stranger brings us unexpected gifts, too.

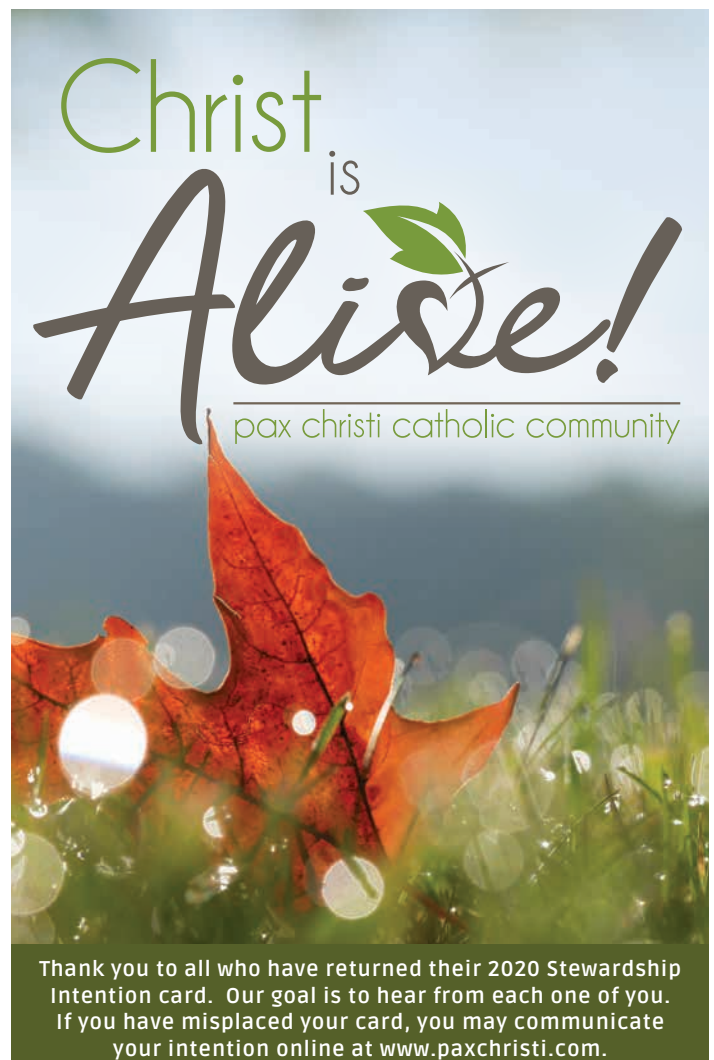
We are changed by the life of Christ. We enter into the liturgy with confident expectation that we will be called to the bigger life, transformed by God's grace. We believe that our commitment as disciples will bring hope, and healing to what is broken in ourselves and in the world.

We work for peace. We work for justice. We work alongside to make our world better. We realize that everything we have is a gift. What we share is our joy, abundance, and blessings in honor of God's generosity in all things.

Pax Christi stewards all gifts, uses best practices, operates with fiscal strength through the generosity of the community, offers over 100 vibrant ministries, and cares for our beautiful sanctuary, chapel, and 25-acre campus.

We greatly appreciate your consideration of supporting the mission of Pax Christi Catholic Community. Your generosity, your gift of any size makes a difference. Thank you.

Written by Maura Schnorbach, Director of Development and Engagement



Thank you to all who have returned their 2020 Stewardship Intention card. Our goal is to hear from each one of you. If you have misplaced your card, you may communicate your intention online at www.paxchristi.com.

HEEDING GOD'S MYSTERIOUS CALL

While deacons Terry Beer, Charles Bobertz, and Al Schroeder are all dedicated to serving the sacramental and pastoral needs of Pax Christi, each had a different reason for wanting to be ordained, as well as a distinct path to the permanent diaconate.



TERRY BEER

Terry Beer was ordained as a deacon in 1998, but his role in ministry began much earlier on the campus of Indiana State where he was active as a student minister. Post graduation, he served as a campus minister at the same Newman Center. After learning more about the Franciscans who served there, Deacon Terry decided to join them and spent six years as a seminarian. Deacon Terry's work in campus ministry then took him to Fresno State where he served for a few years before moving back to the Midwest and spending 10 years at the University of Northern Illinois in DeKalb.

In 1996 Deacon Terry decided that he was ready to expand his vocation beyond campus ministry and entered diaconate formation. He says that becoming a deacon was a sacramental way of indicating his service to the Church and also a way to acknowledge who he was as a minister. Because he already held a master's in theology and had an extensive background in ministry, his path to ordination was shortened from the typical four years to just two years.

Knowing several friends in the Twin Cities, Deacon Terry decided to move to the area in 2002. He has served as a deacon at other Catholic faith communities in the area, and has also worked at other parishes. Deacon Terry says that many people don't realize that although deacons are assigned by the bishop to serve at a parish, that a deacon may hold a job working in another capacity at a different church. While he has been assigned to serve as deacon at Pax Christi since 2013, he has spent the last four years working in his job as the Director of Faith Formation at St. Michael's in Prior Lake.

Deacon Terry's service at Pax Christi involves presiding at baptisms, weddings, funerals, and liturgy. He especially enjoys baptisms and weddings because it allows him to be part of those important life moments. A deacon's presence is also necessary when times are not celebratory, and that is when a deacon's genuine interest in people is needed most. Parishioners often need counsel in

facing challenges or during times when they are looking for that presence of church. He says being a deacon is most rewarding when he is explaining something to an individual or couple, and can help them see Church and life in a new and different light.

Deacon Terry says his background as a Franciscan—living simply in service to others, as well as an openness to creation and God being one with us—is something unique that he brings to the parish and his ministry. Living simply for Deacon Terry means spending lots of time outdoors, hiking, and going to parks—especially the trails of the North Shore and the metro area. He has two cats, enjoys basketball, auto racing, and baseball. Although he grew up as a St. Louis Cardinals fan, Deacon Terry has developed an affinity for the Minnesota Twins since moving to the area and enjoys seeing his “new” hometown team succeed.



DEACON CHARLES BOBERTZ

To say that Charles Bobertz has an interest in theology would be an understatement. He is a professor of New Testament and Patristics at St. John's School of Theology Seminary, holds multiple theology degrees (including a Master of Theological Studies degree from Harvard University, and M.A., Th.M. and Ph.D. degrees from Yale University) and recently authored the book, *Gospel of Mark*. It's not surprising that with such a passion for faith, and also an interest in pastoral ministry, that at one point Deacon Charles considered the priesthood. But he put the idea of priesthood on the shelf, pursued academic life, and eventually family life.

It was a life-changing event years later that led him to enter the diaconate. After having a debilitating illness, Deacon Charles made a miraculous recovery. Since God had spared his life, he decided that he owed his life to God and the Church. One day

he stayed after Mass to pray and reflect on whether or not to become a deacon. His family members, who were waiting outside, were stunned when he came out to tell them that his decision was yes. His wife Mary said that he would have her full support, but it wouldn't be a team ministry that is sometimes seen with other families.

With such an extensive education in theology, Deacon Charles' path to the diaconate was individualized and focused on counseling skills. He was ordained in the St. Cloud Diocese in 1997, and when he moved to the Twin Cities, Deacon Charles was initially assigned to St. Hubert's in Chanhassen before being reassigned to Pax Christi in 2015. Deacon Charles says that he is very happy with his role at Pax Christi, and is involved primarily with pastoral ministry, weddings, and baptismal classes. Most of all, he says, "I love the people of this parish."

Deacon Charles says that one thing he hadn't anticipated about being a deacon was just how rewarding it is. He says being a deacon is something that he loves as much as teaching and that he finds it equally compelling. The only downside is the occasional conflict that sometimes happens between ministry and family demands, such as when he has a baptism scheduled on the same day as a family commitment.

Despite the busy schedule, Deacon Charles still manages to pursue his other passions. He plays tennis at the Eden Prairie Tennis Club, has a Gold Wing motorcycle, and—with the exception of sitting on an ice covered lake—loves all other types of fishing, including lake, fly, and deep sea fishing. His favorite pastime, though, is being with family. His wife Mary, a former healthcare executive, currently works as a consultant. Their daughter Sarah lives in Oregon with their two grandchildren, and their son Thomas lives in the Twin Cities.



DEACON AL SCHROEDER

When Deacon Al was a child he felt he had a vocation to be a priest. During pretend play he even played the role of a priest saying Mass. And as someone who attended parochial school throughout his elementary and junior high years, this vocation seemed well within the realm of possibility. But it wasn't long after starting high school and meeting Mary Ellen, the girl who would become

his wife, that Deacon Al's plans changed. He and Mary Ellen were married shortly after high school and today they have four children, 15 grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

In the late 1960s, shortly after hearing about the return of the permanent diaconate as a result of Vatican II, Deacon Al immediately said, "Yes, that's me." But when he expressed interest, he was told that someone with a family of four should keep his focus at home. Deacon Al kept his focus at home while deepening his knowledge of the Catholic faith by going through the RCIA course at his parish and by becoming a faith formation leader for junior and senior high school students.

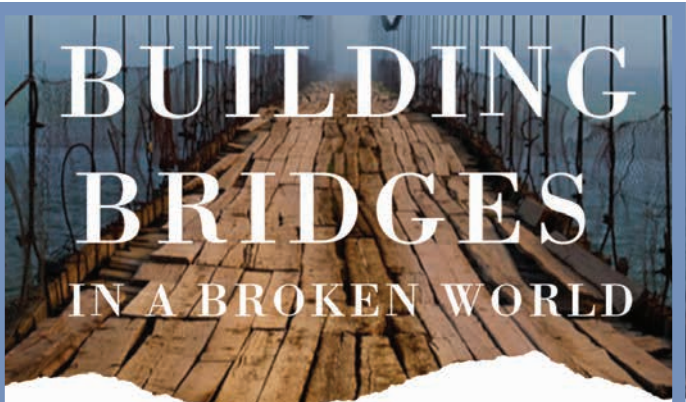


Years later, an individual also named Al Schroeder was ordained as a deacon within the archdiocese. Deacon Al said that he kept getting congratulatory messages, and his reply was always, "it's not me." After telling people enough times "it's not me," he started to think, "why isn't it me?" That prompted him to apply to the diaconate. He remembers the process of discernment, his letter of acceptance, and the many classes that he and Mary Ellen attended together. Along with studies, Deacon Al worked a full-time job in construction as he went through the phases of the formation program. Looking back, he says he wouldn't trade a day of it. He was ordained in 1998 and assigned to Pax Christi. Now that he's retired, Deacon Al will tell you his favorite pastimes are spending time with family, playing golf, and being a deacon.

Deacon Al said that becoming a deacon affirmed who he was as a spiritual being, and also gave him the freedom to speak about his faith. He says that many people associate deacons with weddings, funerals, and baptisms, but don't always identify them as those who preach. He has a deep attachment to the sacraments, but also enjoys preaching when he has the opportunity. He notes that preaching requires significant preparation, and for Deacon Al that means about two hours of preparation for every minute spent preaching.

Looking at the big picture, Deacon Al describes himself as the minister on the street. As a member of the diaconate he is a servant that represents the Church in the community. His goal is to accept people where they are at in order to restore hope, and assure them of God's love.

Written by Karin Poellinger, Staff Writer and Technical Editor



BUILDING BRIDGES IN A BROKEN WORLD

Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Celebration

SATURDAY, NOV. 23RD 2019
7:30PM
PAX CHRISTI, EDEN PRAIRIE

THE INTERFAITH CIRCLE of Eden Prairie extends an invitation to all in our community to gather with family, friends, and neighbors from various religious and cultural origins for the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration on Saturday, November 23, 7:30pm here at Pax Christi. The theme for this year's gathering is "Building Bridges in A Broken World." The gathering will encourage and celebrate actions and behaviors that strengthen and build bridges in all relationships, both local and global.

As in past years, the event is a celebration of our common humanity. Representatives of various faith and spiritual communities will participate in a combined choral presentation. The event will also include interpretive dance, prayers, poetry, and sacred texts shared by people of various faith traditions and spiritual communities. Confirmed participants as of this printing include Buddhist, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Ecumenical Catholic, Hindu, Islamic, Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Sikh, and United Methodist communities.

Together we will extend care for our neighbors in need with monetary gifts for PROP, our local community assistance program. Refreshments and conversation with our neighbors will follow the group gathering. Anyone who wants to share a favorite sweet or savory refreshment should plan to drop it off in the Dorothy Day Hall between 7:00pm and 7:30pm.

All are welcome to attend this year's celebration! You'll find it to be a beautiful and meaningful way to begin your Thanksgiving holiday. It's a great opportunity to see other faith and spiritual traditions in action and to welcome and connect with our diverse friends and neighbors. We invite members of our Pax Christi international communities to come in your native dress.

For more information, visit interfaithcirclemn.org or find us on Facebook.

*Written by Mike Miller and Mary Wood,
Interfaith Circle Committee Members*



BEFRIENDER MINISTRY

A Listening Presence

BeFrienders is a lay pastoral care ministry here at Pax Christi. This listening presence ministry brings specially-trained people into a caring, confidential, one-on-one relationship with others during times of special need by visiting with them and offering emotional and spiritual support.

BeFrienders value God's presence in all relationships. They are present to care, not cure, and strive to be open and non-judgmental while they actively listen to your story.

If you are experiencing a challenging time or are in a transitional situation, BeFriender ministers are here to journey with you and listen with compassion and without judgment. Contact Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support Ministry, 952-405-7211 to be connected with a BeFriender minister or to learn more.



For additional information visit www.paxchristi.com/careandsupport.

READINGS FOR NOVEMBER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK NOVEMBER 3, 2019

Monday: Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14
 Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1bcde-3; Lk 14:15-24
 Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33
 Thursday: Rom 14:7-12; Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14; Lk 15:1-10
 Friday: Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8
 Saturday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9;
 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
 Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15;
 2 Thes 2:16 -- 3:5; Lk 20:27-38 [27, 34-38]

READINGS FOR THE WEEK NOVEMBER 10, 2019

Monday: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1b-10; Lk 17:1-6
 Tuesday: Wis 2:23 -- 3:9; Ps 34:2-3, 16-19; Lk 17:7-10
 Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19
 Thursday: Wis 7:22b -- 8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175;
 Lk 17:20-25
 Friday: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5ab; Lk 17:26-37
 Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43;
 Lk 18:1-8
 Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a; Ps 98:5-9; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

READINGS FOR THE WEEK NOVEMBER 17, 2019

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63;
 Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
 Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10
 Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk 19:11-28
 Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44
 Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11-12;
 Lk 19:45-48
 Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40
 Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

READINGS FOR THE WEEK NOVEMBER 24, 2019

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20; Dn 3:52-56; Lk 21:1-4
 Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45; Dn 3:57-61; Lk 21:5-11
 Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28; Dn 3:62-67;
 Lk 21:12-19
 Thursday: Dn 6:12-28; Dn 3:68-74; Lk 21:20-28
 Friday: Dn 7:2-14; Dn 3:75-81; Lk 21:29-33
 Saturday: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22
 Sunday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

PARISHIONER NEWS

SEPTEMBER BAPTISMS

Lucia Marie Peters	9/1/2019
Arthur George Ichiro Tashima	9/1/2019
Maxwell James Olson	9/8/2019
Lincoln Charles Schelitzche	9/8/2019
Grace Lynn Sheveland	9/8/2019
Conor Patrick Sejkora	9/14/2019
Gianna Gabriele Ceman	9/15/2019
Avery Rae Heck	9/15/2019
Grace Gemma Tangert	9/15/2019
Chizaram Naomi Onwuneme	9/22/2019
Ellie Jean Eicher	9/29/2019

SEPTEMBER WEDDINGS

Erin Holley & Matthew Swanson	9/7/2019
Katelyn Tobin & Jonathan Christians	9/13/2019
Katelyn McGuire & Samuel Glusica	9/28/2019

SEPTEMBER FUNERALS

Barbara J. 'Barbie' Schoenecker	9/4/2019
Etta Jane Belrose	9/5/2019
Marijan (St. George) Nelson	9/24/2019
Margaret Mary (McCarty) Nelson	9/26/2019

SEPTEMBER NEW MEMBERS

Peter Anderson and Virginia Marvin
 Linda Vanessa Ghomsi
 William and Bettie Hunchis
 Guillermo Loam Soto and Gabriela Hongo Moreno
 Gerald and Patricia Maher
 Fidele Ndjoumou and Michelle Ghomsi
 Joseph Schmit and Kristine Kriese
 Jane Marie Sulzle
 Alexander Wallerich and Jaisa Williams
 Vivi and Alexandrie Wandji



NOVEMBER

ALL SAINTS DAY MASS, HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Friday, November 1, 8:30am and 7:00pm in the Sanctuary

This is the time of year when our thoughtful remembrances belong to those whose lives have touched ours, yet no longer walk among us. May we never forget how blessed we are to have a heritage of saintly people, those officially proclaimed by the Church, and those whose sainthood lives within our hearts.

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, November 1, beginning with Holy Day Mass at 8:30am

Come and join other parishioners for Mass in the church at 8:30am, followed by coffee and hospitality. The event is sponsored by the Pax Christi Boomers and Beyond. All are welcome!

MEMORIAL MASS

Saturday, November 2, 5:00pm Mass

It is the church's tradition in November to celebrate All Souls Day, commemorating all those who have died. As a parish community, we set aside this evening to pray with those who have experienced the death of a loved one these past 12 months. Names of those whose funerals we celebrated at Pax Christi from November 2018 through October 2019 will be read during the Prayers of the Faithful at this Memorial Mass. All members of this community, especially those who have experienced the death of a loved one, are welcome to join us at this special Mass. You are invited to bring a picture of your loved one for our prayer table in the narthex.

INDOOR LABYRINTH WALK

Tuesday, November 5, 7:00–8:30pm **RSVP**

A labyrinth is a walking meditation that integrates mind, body, and spirit in prayer. Pax Christi has an outdoor labyrinth which is self-directed and available year-round. Indoor labyrinth walks are available monthly. RSVP details are online.

PARISHIONERS' ART EXHIBIT ARTISTS NEEDED!

We invite you to display your artwork at this year's Parishioners' Art Exhibit! The exhibit will run November 24 through December 15 in the Pacem in Terris Gallery. The guidelines and registration forms are available on the parish website, www.paxchristi.com/artexhibits. **The registration deadline is November 20 and the drop-off date is November 24.**

A NOTE ABOUT EVENTS AT PAX CHRISTI

If an event indicates **RSVP**,
you may register/RSVP online at
www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration.
Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

WINE, WOMEN, & SCRIPTURE – SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, November 8, 7:00–9:00pm, \$20 **RSVP**

All women, ages 21 and older, are invited to join us for an evening of faith and friendship. Utilizing the reflections of Sr. Joan Chittister from her book, *The Friendship of Women: The Hidden Tradition of the Bible*, we will explore how women in the Scriptures serve as models of wisdom for our relationships today. Refreshments and wine (including non-alcoholic options) will be served. Be sure to register as soon as possible as last year's event was a sell-out.

MOMS ROCK: SPEAKER MARY KELLET

Wednesday, November 13, 9:30–11:30am, Room 212, \$10 **RSVP**

Mary will share the story of her son Peter and the positive impact he had on their family and friends. She will share how Prenatal Partners for Life got started and the work their ministry does. Moms ROCK welcomes all parents, parents-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining. Gatherings include brunch and relaxing social time, followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

MEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

What the Bible Teaches About Male and Female

FEATURING DEACON CHARLES BOBERTZ

Wednesday, November 13, 6:30–8:00pm, Room 212 **RSVP**

In his letter to the Galatians, Paul writes, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (3:28). All men of the parish are invited to hear the perspectives of Deacon Charles, who will help us deepen our understanding of what this means for us today. Register online.

MOMS ROCK: SPEAKER DEACON CHARLES A. BOBERTZ

Wednesday, November 20, 9:30–11:30am, Room 212, \$10 **RSVP**

As a deacon for Pax Christi, Deacon Charles' ministries include regular preaching, baptisms, weddings, funerals, and adult education. Gatherings include brunch and relaxing social time, followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS AND WEEKEND

Mass Thursday, November 28, 9:00am in the Sanctuary

Please note there is no Mass on Friday, November 29, and the building and parish office will be closed for the day. Also note that there will be no hospitality served at weekend Masses and the nursery will be closed for the entire holiday weekend.

MAKE PLANS NOW

HOLIDAY TEA

Saturday, December 7, 9:00am–12:00pm

Single tickets are available on a limited basis. Contact Lisa Cox, Community Life Coordinator, 952-405-7204, or lcox@paxchristi.com for additional information.

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Saturday, December 7, 9:00am–3:00pm

Start your holidays in style at our annual boutique and bake sale! This shopping extravaganza is for the whole family featuring a variety of handcrafted items from over 50 quality crafters and artisans, a bake sale, and a luncheon. Come and shop for the perfect holiday gift for everyone on your list. This event is free and there is plenty of parking available. Don't miss out on this annual holiday tradition!

BAKE SALE: BAKED GOODS NEEDED

Drop-off: December 6, 4:00–8:00pm or December 7, 7:30–8:45am
Bake Sale: Saturday, December 7, 9:00am–3:00pm

Bake your favorite cookies, breads, pies, and bring them to the bake sale. Baked goods can be dropped off at the church in Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Room 111, in the lower level Friday or Saturday at times posted above. Proceeds will be used to purchase an Air Hockey table for the youth room as well as some large outdoor games for our summer Bible Camp!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT LOCAL CARE CENTERS

Sunday, December 15, 2:00–4:00pm *RSVP*

Save the date! Come join the fun and brighten the day for our senior friends and neighbors. Faith Formation and Care and Support Ministries are joining together to go Christmas caroling and distribute handmade cards at local senior care centers. ALL ages are welcome. Watch for more details in the coming weeks.



TWELVE BASKETS ANNUAL THANKSGIVING MEAL DRIVE

Start your holiday season with a gift from the heart for our friends at Northside Extension Services in Minneapolis and Little Earth of United Tribes Resident Association — and thank you for your generosity!

CHOOSE FROM ONE OF THESE OPTIONS:

1) CUB FOODS GIFT CARD "EARLY BIRD" OPTION

Let us shop for you! Donate a Cub Foods gift card in ANY AMOUNT and Twelve Baskets volunteers will shop for the meal items. **Please drop off at Pax Christi NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 17 so we can shop in advance.**

2) THANKSGIVING MEAL OPTION

Purchase any or all of the items listed below. List is also available online or at entrances 1, 3, and 4. **MUST DROP OFF November 23 between 10:00am–5:00pm or November 24 between 8:30am–12:00pm.**

GROCERY LIST: (ANY OR ALL OF ITEMS BELOW)

- Cub Foods gift card \$20-\$25 for recipient to purchase a turkey
- Cub Foods gift card \$50-\$100 for additional groceries
- 1- 30 oz. canned pumpkin pie mix (spices already in it)
- boxed pie crust mix (not frozen or refrigerated)
- apples, oranges, onions, potatoes (bagged)
- aluminum roasting pan (disposable)
- roasting bag (optional)
- aluminum pie tin
- packaged bread cubes for stuffing
- 1- 5 oz. can of evaporated milk
- 2 packages turkey gravy mix
- 2 cans chicken broth
- 2 cans cranberries
- 2 cans fruit or fruit cocktail
- 2 cans corn
- 2 cans green beans
- coffee / tea
- vegetable oil
- brownie or cake mix
- Jello
- salt and pepper
- 5 lb. flour
- 4 lb. sugar

NOVEMBER

See page 18–19 for details
or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 ALL SAINTS' DAY MASS FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL	2 PAX PETS DOG WALK MEMORIAL MASS
3	4	5 LABYRINTH WALK BAPTISM CLASS	6 TOT-TIME OPEN GYM	7	8 WINE, WOMEN, SCRIPTURE CONFIRMATION RETREAT	9 NEW MEMBER SIGN-UP WEEKEND
10 NEW MEMBER SIGN-UP WEEKEND	11	12 LEADERSHIP MEETINGS	13 MOMS ROCK BOOMERS LUNCH AND THEATER EVENT MEN'S MINISTRY EVENT FIRST RECONCILIATION	14 COMPASSIONATE CARE LISTENING CIRCLE	15	16 FIRST RECONCILIATION ENGAGED COUPLES RETREAT
17 DEADLINE TO DROP OFF CUB FOOD GIFT CARDS	18	19	20 MOMS ROCK	21	22	23 INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE
24 DEADLINE TO DROP OFF GROCERY ITEMS FOR THANKSGIVING DRIVE	25	26	27	28 THANKSGIVING DAY MASS	29 BUILDING CLOSED	30





**PAX CHRISTI
CONTACTS**

PASTOR

Fr. Michael Byron 952-405-7219

DEACONS

Al Schroeder 952-405-7205
Terry Beer 952-405-7231
Charles Bobertz 952-405-7239

PARISH DIRECTOR

Jane Schmitz 952-405-7238

PARISH FINANCIAL MANAGER

Sue Fier 952-405-7202

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Maria Miller 952-405-7217
Andrea Ward 952-405-7207
Sally Bergum 952-405-7229

COMMUNICATION ARTS

Melissa Nault 952-405-7221

CARE AND SUPPORT MINISTRY

Director	Jean Thoresen	952-405-7211
Care Ministry Specialist	Mary Ann Callahan	952-405-7227
Care Ministry Coordinator	Renee Reardon	952-405-7200

FAITH FORMATION

Director (Adult Faith, RCIA, Preschool)	Scott Brazil	952-405-7230
Grades 1 through 5, CLOW	Reneé Dignan	952-405-7212
Grades 6 through 8	Evan Bierer	952-405-7213
Grades 9 through 12	Jessie Johnson	952-405-7210

JUSTICE

Director	Joan Howe-Pullis	952-405-7247
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OPERATIONS

Director	Ken Reineccius	952-405-7250
Building Services	Terry Lee	952-405-7233
Building Services	Todd Nelson	952-405-7233

DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Director	Maura Schnorbach	952-405-7220
Community Life Coordinator	Lisa Cox	952-405-7204
Nursery and Hospitality Coord.	Janell McBeain	952-405-7242

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Director	Donna Kasbohm	952-405-7240
Liturgy and Funeral Coord.	Joan Howe-Pullis	952-405-7247
Teen Choir	Angie O'Brien	952-405-7243

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Fr. Michael Byron, Pastor
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Fred Baumer, Chair
Nicholle Check
Mike Kennedy
Andy Leet
Mary Frances Messer
Dale Nelson
Phyllis Olson
Ricardo Ortiz-Nava
Dave Putrich
Mike Schneider
Cindy Schuh
Julie Tyler

PARISH TRUSTEES

Bruce Koehn
Carolyn Zucker

FINANCE COUNCIL

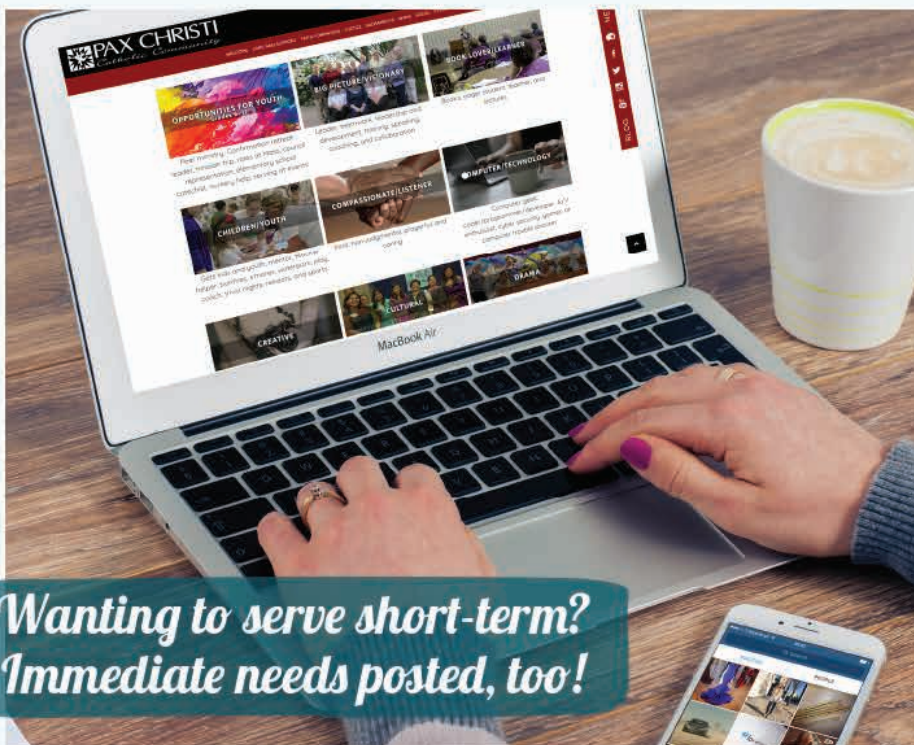
Mike Kennedy, Chair



Church of Pax Christi of Eden Prairie
 12100 Pioneer Trail
 Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208

NON-PROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE
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 PERMIT NO. 30681
 TWIN CITIES, MN

**PLEASE DELIVER
 BY OCTOBER 31.**



Check out
 "SERVE" at
paxchristi.com
 and find a
 way to SERVE
 that's right
 for you!

*Wanting to serve short-term?
 Immediate needs posted, too!*