

# CHURCH NOTES

*News, Events,  
and  
Notes of Interest*

*for the week ending*  
August 19, 2016



**CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES**  
170 Fairview Avenue  
Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

# CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES

*Evangelical Anglican*

*We are  
Christians  
who Worship  
in the  
Anglican Tradition.*

*Our Mission  
is to  
Obey,  
Follow  
and  
Bear Witness  
to  
Jesus Christ.*

Church of The Apostles is a member of the  
*Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.*



## Getting ready for September...

*Welcome Pastor Steve and Helen!!!*

The Reverend Dr. Stephen A. Gammon  
will begin his ministry at  
Church of The Apostles on  
**Sunday, September 11, 2016.**

On **Saturday, September 10th at 5:00 p.m.**  
there will be a welcoming Potluck Supper  
for Pastor Steve and Helen.  
Please join us for this time of fellowship.

*"This is the LORD's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes."*  
(Psalm 118:23)

## Christian Education

Christian Education Classes (for both children and adults)  
will resume on Sunday, September 11th at 9:15 a.m. See  
page 6 for more information on Christian Education.

## Make a Note of the Fall Service Times

Beginning Sunday, September 11th, we will return to the  
following Worship Schedule at Church of The Apostles:

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Christian Education for all ages
Sunday	10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
Sunday	12 noon	Sunday Brunch

## ***A Word from Pastor Steve ...***

### **On Coaching and Teamwork**

Do you like sports? I know some do more than others, but I have always been a sports fan. Raised in New England, I grew up on Red Sox, Patriots, Celtics and Bruins. I love when my teams win. One benefit of returning to New England that I am looking forward to is having access to local team coverage. I cheer for my teams win or lose, but I want them to win.

Did you watch any of the Olympics? Some of it is individual competition, but I am drawn to team competitions because working together as a team, and being coached in how to do so is beautiful to behold. The “Final Five” gymnastics team coached by Martha Karolyi won the gold medal. Coach Karolyi brought the best out of her team. Individual members of the team did not all have the same strengths, but they shared the same desire. They were laser focused on their shared mission. They cheered each other on, loved each other, listened to and trusted their coach, and disciplined themselves to improve. They accomplished something remarkable together.

Church life is like that but even better, because our shared goal is not transitory and our reward is not temporal. Our goal is the glory of God and our reward will be eternal. Church of The Apostles is a team God has put together. This team has a great history with remarkable accomplishments. You have had gifted coaching too. Some of you have been part of this team a long while and others joined more recently. Now the Lord Jesus, the Head of this team, is making changes.

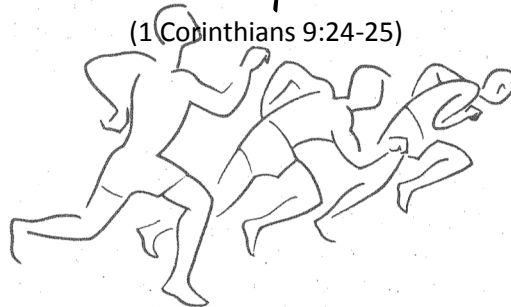
I thank God for every one of you, and for the sweet privilege God has given me of joining you. I view my responsibility as Superintendent as being comparable to a Head Coach. I have been praying for my team and every member of it. I look forward to knowing each of you. Our goal as team Church of The Apostles is to win gold at loving God, loving others, and making disciples for the Lord Jesus Christ as we go.

To state the obvious, we will not achieve this prize by cheering in the stands or from the sidelines. We will gather on the field together, determined to glorify our God, each of us determined to do our part to win together. Helen and I look forward to joining you all very soon.

In Christ's love and service,  
Pastor Steve

*"Do you not know that in a race  
all the runners run,  
but only one receives the prize?  
So run that you may obtain it.  
Every athlete exercises  
self-control in all things.  
They do it to receive  
a perishable wreath,  
but we an imperishable."*

(1 Corinthians 9:24-25)



## The Deacons' Corner ...

### Blessings Of Wisdom

*“My son, from your youth up choose instruction, and until you are old you will keep finding wisdom. Come to her like one who plows and sows and wait for her good fruits. For in cultivating her you will toil a little, and quickly you will eat of her produce. She seems very harsh to the uninstructed, a weakling will not remain with her. She will weigh him down like a heavy testing stone, and he will not be slow to cast her off. For wisdom is like her name and is not manifest to many... Come to her with all your soul and keep her ways with all your might. Search out and seek, and she will become known to you; and when you get hold of her, do not let her go. For at last you will find the rest she gives, and she will be changed into joy for you” (Sirach 6:18-22, 26-28 from the Apocrypha).*

I often think about wisdom and many times in my prayers I ask for it. Where does wisdom come from? Well, I think it comes from many different sources, Knowledge, of course; education will partially help us to gain wisdom; and yes, life's experience, if one learns from their failures and successes. Wisdom can come from seeking out the wise. But for the most part, wisdom comes from reading and living the Words found in Holy Scriptures. Wisdom (wise) is talked about numerous times throughout the Bible. It is one of the most desirous gifts we should hope to attain. That's why I pray so often that God would hear my prayer and grant to me this precious gift. James 1:5 says, *“If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.”* Sounds easy enough, does it not? But don't fail to read on. Verses 6-8 provide a small 'but'; *“But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”* Am I a doubter? Hence another prayer.

Your Servant In Christ,  
Bill Sexton

## Old Testament Survey — Part One

September 13 - November 22, 2016

Ten Tuesday Evenings 6:30 to 8:30

Instructor: Rev. Chuck Pierce

This ten-week course offered at Church of The Apostles will bring new light to your reading and study of both the Old and New Testaments. You will learn the general content of each of the first seventeen books of the Bible. You will gain insight into the history and culture that is key in understanding them. Finally, you will begin to grasp the unfolding purpose of God revealed in Scripture.

Registration forms are on the table in the Narthex. The fee is \$125. Make checks payable to: Ministry Training Network. Please give the forms and fee to Deacon Kathy Kettle.

*“So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.”*

(Isaiah 55:11)

### **The Men’s Fellowship Breakfast**

*will resume ...*

Saturday, September 10th

7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

Please join with your brothers in Christ  
to share food, fellowship and the Word of God.

Bring a friend!

For further information, please speak with  
Deacon Bill Sexton (726-4549).

## ***Christian Education Notes ...***

Sunday, September 11th, will be such a special day. Not only will we be welcoming our youth back to a new year in Sunday School, but also welcoming our new superintendent Pastor Steve and his wife Helen!

God has blessed us again with the same staff of dedicated teachers ready to share God's Word with our youth.

Linda Jones, Director of Christian Education

## **Let us Pray ...**

### *For the Care of Children*

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

### *For Young Persons*

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### *For Education*

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom: Enlighten by your Holy Spirit those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship you and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*(Common Prayer)*



## **ZIKA: The Basics of the Virus and How to Protect against It**

Zika outbreaks are currently happening in many countries and territories. The mosquitoes that can become infected with and spread Zika live in many parts of the world, including parts of the United States. Zika virus spreads to people primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito.

### **How Zika Spreads**

A mosquito becomes infected when it bites a person already infected with Zika. That mosquito can then spread the virus by biting more people. Zika virus can also spread:

- During sex with a person who has Zika to his or her partners.
- From a pregnant woman to her fetus during pregnancy or around the time of birth.
- Through blood transfusion (likely but not confirmed).

### **Zika Symptoms**

Many people infected with Zika won't have symptoms or will only have mild symptoms. The most common symptoms are fever, rash, joint pain, or red eyes. Other common symptoms include muscle pain and headache. Symptoms can last for several days to a week. People usually don't get sick enough to go to the hospital, and they very rarely die of Zika. Once a person has been infected with Zika, they are likely to be protected from future infections.

### **Why Zika is Risky for Some People**

Zika infection during pregnancy can cause fetuses to have a birth defect of the brain called microcephaly. Other problems have been detected among fetuses and infants infected with Zika virus before birth, such as defects of the eye, hearing deficits, and impaired growth. There have also been increased reports of Guillain-Barré syndrome, an uncommon sickness of the nervous system, in areas affected by Zika.

### **How to Prevent Zika**

There is no vaccine to prevent Zika. The best way to prevent diseases spread by mosquitoes is to protect yourself and your family from mosquito bites. The protection includes common sense tactics of avoiding mosquito populated areas, controlling mosquitoes inside and outside the home, wearing protective clothing, and effective insect repellents. The Summer Safety article in the June 24, 2016 issue of *Church Notes* (p. 11) contains detailed information on insect repellents.

### **What to do if You Have Zika**

There is no specific medicine to treat Zika. Treat the symptoms:

- Get plenty of rest.
- Drink fluids to prevent dehydration.
- Take medicine such as acetaminophen to reduce fever and pain.
- Do not take aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.
- If you are taking medicine for another medical condition, talk to your healthcare provider before taking additional medication.

To help prevent others from getting sick, strictly follow steps to prevent mosquito bites during the first week of illness.

For further information visit [www.cdc.gov/zika](http://www.cdc.gov/zika).

*~The Health and Wellness Ministry*

*“Health and soundness are better than all gold,  
and a robust body than countless riches.*

*There is no wealth better than health of body,  
and there is no gladness above joy of heart.”*

(Sirach 30:15-16)

## ***The Blood Drive Is Back!!!***

As many of you will recall, after several years of successful, regular blood drives in the church hall we were informed by the Rhode Island Blood Center (RIBC) that due to expensive tests for Vabiesiosis that have to be done to blood collections from New England to keep them safe for the public, smaller drives like ours would regrettably have to cease. We were encouraged to continue donating at local drives and/or to go to one of several RIBCenters around Rhode Island. I hope that some of you have continued to donate – it's such a wonderful thing to do to help our fellow man!

Recently I was contacted by Glenn Halvarson, Account Manager for the Get Centered For Life Program at the RIBC. This Program is contacting those of us who no longer have drives due to our small size. He is encouraging us to “rejoin” the RIBC and continue to give at the local Centers. As such, **September** will be designated as ***Church of The Apostles Month*** (along with several other organizations) and we are being asked to donate once again! Our name will be displayed on monitors throughout the Centers. Soon posters will be delivered to the church that will be put up as soon as received that will contain all the information you will need to donate and “credit” Church of The Apostles with your donation. Stay tuned!! The Goal for Apostles blood collections for the entire month of September is 10 donations. I KNOW WE CAN MEET THAT GOAL WITH YOUR HELP!! LET'S DO IT!! Did you know that the RIBC needs 200 donations per day to meet the needs of Rhode Island? YOU, all of you, can be LIFESAVERS!!!

Let's help the people of Rhode Island in one of the easiest ways possible. And when you go to the Center to donate, BRING A FRIEND! And if you know people who donate 'just because' and not in support of a certain organization, ask them to contribute on behalf of Church of The Apostles!!

Have you ever considered being a **Bone Marrow Donor**? Those of us who are 18 - 44 years old can easily get on the Be The Match bone marrow registry. Go to any RIBC Donor Center, fill out some paper work and give a swab of your cheek cells for

marrow typing. Simple, Easy and FREE to do! The RIBC is currently supporting and promoting a Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Donor Collection on behalf of an adorable little boy named Kaydin Almstrom. Kaydin has been battling Acute Megakaryoblastic Leukemia, an aggressive form of blood cancer, since he was *five months old*. After a brief remission, he *relapsed* in June. He now *needs a bone marrow transplant to cure him*. Because chemotherapy kills both bad cells and good cells, Kaydin's mom Kelly says, "He needs blood regularly, both platelets and red cell transfusions. He has needed them since the very first day in the hospital and will need blood until he is cured." Please, please consider being a hero to Kaydin and everyone fighting to stay strong and get well.

I have given you a lot of requests and information to ponder! Please call me if you have any questions [826-0784]. Also check out the RIBC website –[www.rIBC.com](http://www.rIBC.com) – and find the addresses of the various Centers throughout RI – the closest one to Apostles is, in the native language of Rhode Island, "where the old Apex used to be" on Greenwich Avenue, Warwick [#615 – Stop & Shop/ Lowe's Shopping Center]. You can get more information on Marrow donation on the site as well.

Things to remember: Appointments are STRONGLY encouraged and easy to make:

- 1) CALL or TEXT the RIBC at 401-453-8383.
- 2) Tell them the day, time and Donor Center which works best for you. There are 6 centers conveniently located throughout RI.
- 3) Lastly, be sure to mention you are donating on behalf of Church of The Apostles when you go in to donate.

Walk-ins are welcome, however appointments allow for a more enjoyable experience by minimizing your wait.

Donating blood is safe, simple and easy to do. Remember to eat and drink plenty of water before donating! **Also remember, *one donation can help save up to three lives!*** Be a **LIFESAVER!**

Thank you! ~Joan Clarke

## ***Thoughts on the New Testament Survey ...***

This past Spring, I participated in and completed the New Testament Survey course offered by the Ministry Training Network and taught by Pastor Chuck Pierce. To say I was a little intimidated about taking the course is an understatement! I have been out of the classroom for a long time and I heard about all the reading, homework, and TESTS! Yikes! What was I thinking? Well, taking the course was well worth the effort! After a couple of weeks I got into the swing of the work load and realized it really wasn't that bad. It just required a little discipline, something we can all use! The classroom time was both interesting and informative. Pastor Chuck has a wealth of information and his presentations were organized and easy to follow. The dreaded tests, while time consuming, reinforced everything we read and learned in the classroom. Surveying all the New Testament books and relating them to the historical, cultural, and geographical elements behind them provided me with some perspectives on the life and times of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, his disciples, and the first century church that I had not gleaned in the past.

I'll be registering for the Old Testament Survey! I hope you'll consider joining me along with some of your other friends from Church of The Apostles and some new friends, too.

Blessings on your journey!  
Barbara Bickerstaff

*“So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul,  
and when he had found him,  
he brought him to Antioch.  
For a whole year they met with the church  
and taught a great many people.  
And in Antioch the disciples  
were first called Christians.”*

(Acts 11:25-26)

## *In the Summer Mail Bag ...*

Thank you, Father, for giving us your Son, Jesus, with your Holy Spirit. Thank you for my recovery from my recent surgery. Thank you for watching over our family and friends. Thank you to our Church Family and for all the prayers and cards.



In God's Love,  
Arthur Addy



Dear Church Family,

Your prayers, thoughts, visits, caring and gifts during my recent hospital stay were so very appreciated. They really kept my spirits up and gave me the strength and will to do the work I had to do. The greetings from everyone at the Church Picnic on Saturday, July 16th, and at church on Sunday, touched my heart.

As Ed has written so many times lately: God is good all the time. All the time God is good.

Love and blessings to you all,  
Susan Farrell



Dear Friends,

Thank you for the prayers, cards, concern, and love you have shown me these past weeks following my daughter's automobile accident and passing. Thankfully, my granddaughter continues to recover.

With much love,  
MJ Burroughs



Dear Friends,

Thank you for the generous donation to the Station Fire Memorial Park.

Your support is truly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Ginna Russo  
President

*[At the May 19, 2016 Council Meeting, the Church Council voted to make an Outreach donation of \$500.00 to The Station Fire Memorial Park Campaign. \$300.00 came directly from the Outreach Fund and \$200.00 from the proceeds of a Ham Dinner that had been held earlier in May.]*



Ella Oliveira is in a residential program and will be for the next six to nine months. If you would like to send Ella a note or card, her address is:

Ella Oliveira  
c/o Fall River Deaconess Home  
P.O. Box 2118  
Fall River, MA 02722

Please keep Ella and her parents, Sara and Lou, in your prayers.

*“I can do all things  
through Christ  
who strengthens me.”*  
(Philippians 4:13)

## Mark Your Calendar ...

### **August**

Monday, Aug 22	7:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
Wednesday, Aug 24	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
Monday, Aug 29	7:30 p.m.	Handbell Rehearsal
Wednesday, Aug 31	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer

### **September**

Monday, Sept 5	Office Closed: Labor Day	
Wednesday, Sept 7	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
Saturday, Sept 10	7:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Saturday, Sept 10	5:00 p.m.	Potluck Supper
<i>Sunday, Sept 11 Service Time Changes to <u>10:30 a.m.</u> Welcome Pastor Steve and Helen!</i>		
Tuesday, Sept 13	6:30 p.m.	MTN Course
Wednesday, Sept 14	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
Thursday, Sept 15	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Monday, Sept 19	<i>Church Notes</i> deadline	
Tuesday, Sept 20	6:30 p.m.	MTN Course
Wednesday, Sept 21	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
Tuesday, Sept 27	6:30 p.m.	MTN Course
Wednesday, Sept 28	7:00 p.m.	Evening Prayer

### **October**

Thursday, Oct 27	Annual CareNet Banquet
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The inevitable  
finally occurred —  
Sunday Brunch with  
nothing but baked beans!



## Notices ...

**Handbell Rehearsals** have resumed. They are scheduled to meet Mondays at 7:30 p.m. The next two rehearsals are August 22nd and August 29th. New ringers are always welcome. For further information, please speak with Organist and Music Director Marianne Salisbury (885-9814).

**Attention All Singers!** We are starting a mixed choir, men and women, this fall. Requirements are a willingness to learn music and availability on a week night. We may also have just a women's group for special occasions. If you are interested or want more information before jumping in, please see Barbara Miller (301-0867) or email her at [bermiller@gmail.com](mailto:bermiller@gmail.com). We know there are many nice voices out there. Please consider sharing them to bless us all!

**The Shepherd's Table:** Fall is almost upon us and again we have been asked to help by supplying a support team for the Shepherd's Table approximately once a month. The Shepherd's Table serves a meal each Wednesday night at 5:30 p.m. at Phenix Baptist Church (2 Fairview Avenue) to anyone who wishes to attend. They depend on the support of the area churches. Volunteers are needed to set up, serve, and clean up. Some of our past volunteers are no longer available, so any help would be greatly appreciated. There is a signup sheet on the table in the Narthex. A schedule is forth coming. Please consider helping out. For further information, speak with Ron Swanson (828-8229). *"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in"* (Matthew 25:35).

**Sunday Brunch** will be resuming on September 11th following the 10:30 a.m. Service. This Sunday tradition is a potluck mid-day meal that provides an opportunity for Congregants to gather and catch-up on the lives and events of other members of our church family and to meet and welcome new friends. There is no signup or schedule for the food, just a willingness to bring a dish to share. If you would like to **volunteer to help with brunch**

(about once a month), there is a signup sheet on the bulletin board across from the kitchen or you may speak with Barbara Bickerstaff.

**Have you been thinking “gold” lately?** Alfred and Janet Freniere will be competing in the New Hampshire Senior Olympics on Sunday, August 21st in Manchester, New Hampshire. They have already qualified to compete in the National Senior Olympics in Birmingham, Alabama in June of 2017 by earning gold in all running events in Maine and Rhode Island this year. If anyone is interested in more information about the Senior Olympics or has any questions, they may call the Frenieres at 885-4366.

**Church Notes:** The deadline for information for the next edition of *Church Notes* is **Monday, September 19th**.

### The Collect for Labor Day

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*(Common Prayer)*

*“You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;  
you shall be blessed,  
and it shall be well with you.”*

*(Psalm 128:2)*

## CHURCH OF THE APOSTLES

*Evangelical Anglican*

170 Fairview Avenue  
Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Church Office: (401) 821-7609

website: apostlesri.org • email: office@apostlesri.org

The Holy Eucharist	Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Breakfast	Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Evening Prayer	Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Morning Prayer	Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m.

### Church Staff

Superintendent-elect	The Rev. Dr. Stephen A. Gammon
Church Administrator	Erin Mead
Communications Officer	Barbara Bickerstaff
Director of Christian Education	Linda Jones
Organist and Music Director	Marianne Salisbury
Assistant Organist	Shyanne Slinko
Sacristy Minister	Barbara Battey
Sexton	Mike Edwards
Treasurer	Bob Bickerstaff
Clerk	Joan Clarke

### Board of Elders

The Rev. Rob Geoffrey	943-4661
The Rev. Blessing Jacobs	588-0006
The Rev. Chad Tvenstrup (Licensed Presbyterian)	
The Rev. Conrad Ruppert (Elder <i>Emeritus</i> )	
The Rev. Mark Galloway (Bishop-retired)	

### Ecclesiastical Dignitaries

Lady Linda Greco	228-3060
Lady Sue Pillsbury	884-2947

### Board of Servants

Archdeacon Bill Sexton	<i>Congregational Care Minister</i>	726-4549
Deacon Tom Bourn	<i>Servant Evangelism Minister</i>	294-4186
Deacon Kathy Kettle	<i>Outreach Minister</i>	573-0773
Deacon Deb Adams	<i>Stewardship Minister</i>	828-7998
Deacon Doug Stomberg	<i>Buildings and Grounds Minister</i>	397-5508
Deacon <i>Emerita</i> Cathy Morgan		

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**Church Notes**

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Edited by Barbara A. Bickerstaff,  
Communications Officer.

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