GOOD NEWS!!

Let us give thanks to God for the hope we have in him through Christ!

How do we love like Jesus on the streets of Atlanta?

Let us count the ways!

Our Common Soles program has **washed 695 pairs of feet** this church year so far. That's a lot of feet that have felt God's presence through the kindness of our volunteers and parishioners. And, there's still a couple of weeks to go!

Our church website has been visited by **people in 43 countries** in the world and **16 states** in the U.S. People in **21 cities in Georgia** have checked out our website. We must be telling the world some good stuff to have so many people want to know what we do and who we are.

We have poured more than **1,200 cups of coffee** during our hospitality time at Morning Prayer. Wow!

Fifteen churches in the Diocese of Atlanta have worshiped with us and shared fellowship and lunch on Sundays. Amen!

More than **600 bottles of water** have been provided to thirsty people wanting to talk about scripture at Bible study.

And…along the way we have remembered to have some fun, too! Like the time we were visited by **three fantastic trick-or-treaters** at Bible study on Halloween!

Finally, we could not do what we do without the **countless people** behind the scenes who have given financial gifts to our church, who have donated supplies, who have prayed for us in good weather and in bad, who have never forgotten that we are all God's beloved.

Thank you!

The November edition of the newsletter received editorial help from the following church members: **our Servant Leadership Team, our Advisory Committee, Windsor, Jen, Kenya, Bill Monk, and EVERYONE who ministers at Church of the Common Ground.** Thank you!

CHURCH of the COMMON GROUND *NEWS*

a church community on the streets of Atlanta www.churchofthecommonground.org November 2018

Common Gifts on Common Ground

It is my joy and privilege to attempt to share my gifts with you day in and day out as we gather on common ground in parks and on pavement, to pray and learn and serve. I, like you, try to bring who I am and what I have to offer to Bible Study, and foot clinic, and our times of fellowship. Many of you offer your humor, your grit, your willingness to get a bit messy, your love for God, and your compassion for one another.

On a good day, I attempt to do the same. On our bad days, each of us might come with more need, and we rely upon the gifts of others to carry us. This is true also broadly of our church, Common Ground. On good days, we are the church. We are Christ's body in the world, sharing our common gifts. We shine our light in the world. And we even welcome other visiting churches, who often remark that they encounter God in a new way after we have shared our gifts with one another. Church of the Common Ground relies on the common gifts, the pledges of support, financial and otherwise, of those who worship at Common Ground, and of those parishes throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta, who offer their support.

November 11 is "Common Gifts" Sunday at Church of the Common Ground. It is your opportunity, whether a regular at Common Ground, or a supporter who visits us on occasion, to offer your support, in time, talent, or treasure, of this ministry. I hope you will give. I have. When we share our common gifts on common ground, we continue to make Church of the Common Ground the beautiful community that invites our best selves, and our worst selves, to gather in Christ's name year round.

With gratitude,
Monica

(Photos of Sunday worship above and throughout this edition courtesy of Bill Monk.)

SUNDAYS: 1pm—Worship at Woodruff Park
MONDAYS: 10:30am—Morning Prayer Central Outreach
TUESDAYS: Pastoral Care | 9:30-11:30am Common Soles—Gateway
WEDNESDAYS: 10:30am—Morning Prayer at Central Outreach
2:30pm—Bible Study at Woodruff Park
THURSDAYS: Pastoral Care | 9:30am-1pm Theology From the Margins - at Central Outreach every other Thursday

Questions, comments, suggestions:
info@churchofthecommonground.org
404-873-7667

Follow us:

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https://twitter.com/ATLcommonground

http://instagram.com/churchofthecommonground

Church of the Common Ground takes photographs at church programs for use in our newsletter, on our website, and on social media. If you would rather us not use your image, please let a priest or staff member know.

CHURCH of the COMMON GROUND *NEWS* | *November 2018*

Birthdays!

Keith—November 6th
Eddie Conley—November 7th
Mary Wetzel—November 16th
Davis Lipsey—November 18th
Eddie Holmes—November 19th

"O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of this life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen."*

If you would like your birthday listed in the CCG newsletter, please make sure to let one of the priests know what date it is.

What A Liturgical Year It Has Been!

Our Servant Leadership group and the Advisory Committee at a joint meeting earlier this year

Our Advisory Committee

The Bishop's Advisory Committee for Church of the Common Ground helps us to build relationships with the housed churches in our area, and to apply for grants and other funding to support programs like Theology from the Margins and our annual retreat. The members of this committee volunteer their time, their professional experience and their hearts to helping our community grow. Those who have served this church year are listed below. ***We are so grateful!***

The Reverend Daniel Matthews, Jr.
Chair

The Reverend John Bolton
Canon Chaplain

Don Hackney
Holy Innocents Episcopal Church

Beth King
The Cathedral of St. Philip

The Very Reverend Monica Mainwaring
Vicar

The Venerable Carole Maddux
Archdeacon

The Reverend Canon George Maxwell
Cathedral of St. Philip

The Reverend Lee Peyton
St. Andrews Episcopal Church (retired)

The Reverend Canon Alicia Schuster Weltner
Canon to the Ordinary

Kerry Traubert
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

Joining our advisory committee this year will be:

Kei Breedlove
St. John's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Lynne Washington
Church of the Incarnation

Elliot Watts
St. Luke's Episcopal Church

So, What Exactly Is Diocesan Council?

Every year, the Bishop brings the whole diocese together—priests, deacons, as well as representatives and delegates from every worshipping community and church—to talk about who we are and what we do as God's people. Church of the Common Ground is sending its priests (Monica and Kenya) and also our friend Frank, who is our representative this year. He will be sharing what he learns after the Council meetings on November 9-10. ***Stay tuned!***

Servant Leadership

We have held so many great leadership meetings this year after Sunday worship. These meetings have helped us to better understand what we want as a community and to work together to bring those ideas into the world. We have seen a strong increase in leadership on Sunday mornings and we are grateful. If you've not tried your hand at leading already, you are welcome: at Common Ground we have an open leadership model.

Often, great leadership starts with taking the time to expand our knowledge. Our 2018 class of Theology from the Margins did just that. For several weeks they spent time together learning about God's way in the world with the help of seminarians from Columbia Theological Seminary.