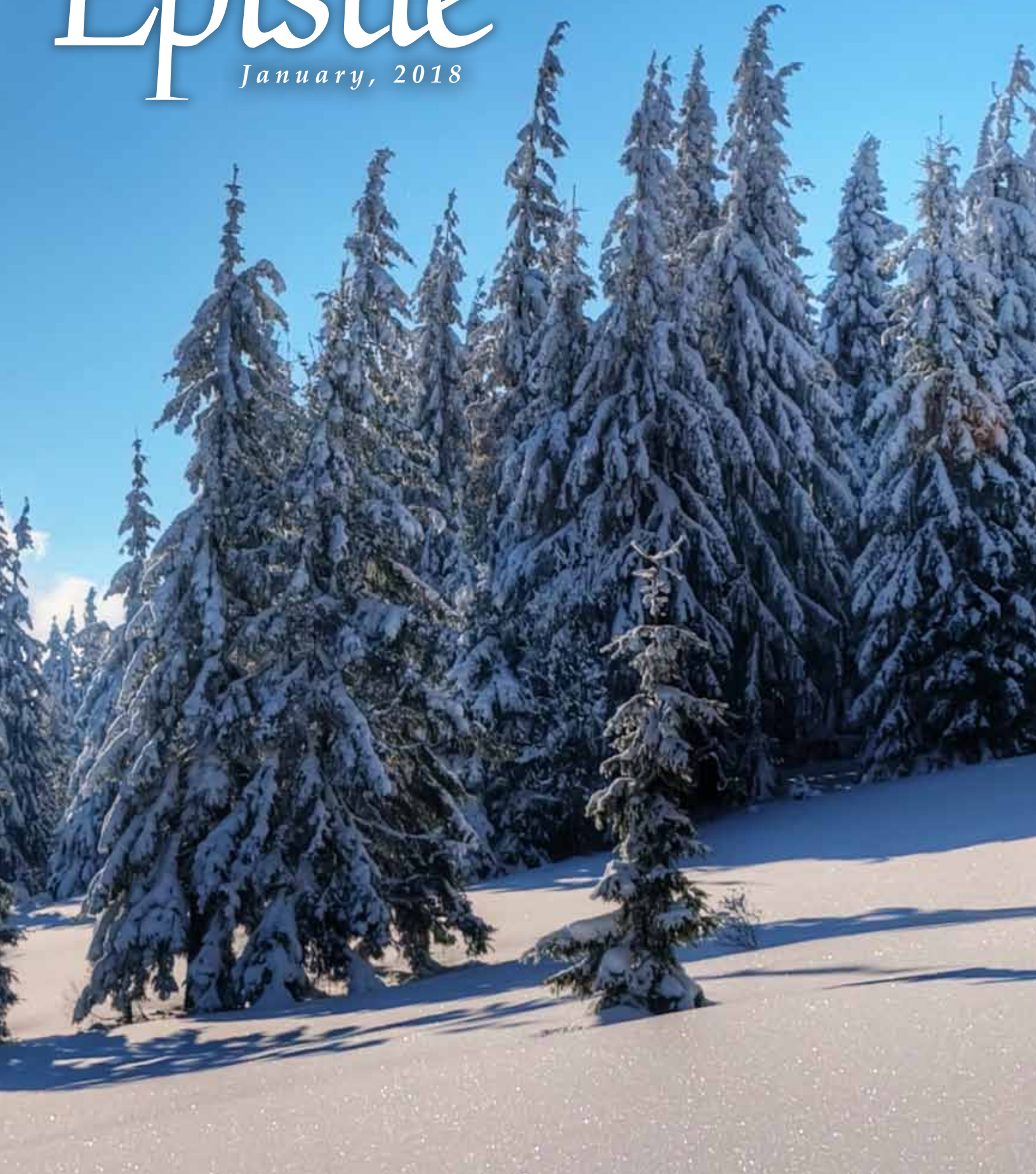
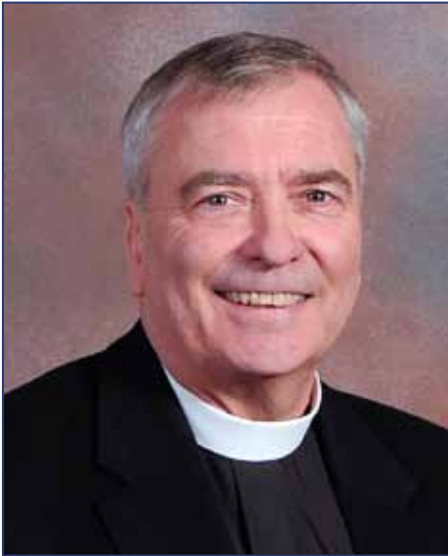


The Epistle

January, 2018



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

One of my favorite books is *Meditation with Meister Eckhart*, authored by Matthew Fox. Read it! It has some profound insights into the spiritual journey. I always quote Meister Eckhart at funeral services.

"If the only prayer you say in your entire life is 'thank you,' that would suffice."

Here's something else that Eckhart wrote worth passing on:

"As long as we perform our works in order to go to heaven, we are simply on the wrong track. And until we learn to work without a why or wherefore, we have not learned to work or to live or why."

"Some people, I swear, want to love God in the same way as they love a cow. They love it for its milk and cheese and the profit they will derive from it. Those who love God for the sake of outward riches or for the sake of inward consolation

operate on the same principle. They are not loving God correctly; they are merely loving their own advantage."

My comfort is poisonous in the spiritual journey. It is all about me being centered on me.

Warmly,
Father Stephen

December Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular meeting of the Priest in Charge, Wardens and Vestry of Christ Church, Pompton Lakes, was due to be held on Tuesday, December 19, 2017, but was cancelled. Not enough people could attend therefore there would not be a quorum.

A motion was made, via email, to follow the recommendation of the Finance Committee and pledge 11% of our Normal Operating Income to the Diocese in 2018, to be adjusted up or down based upon actual operating income. It was so ordered.

*"Promise me that you'll
always remember:*

*You are braver than you believe,
and stronger than you seem,
and smarter than you think."*

Christopher Robin to Pooh

submitted by Deacon Barbara

Annual Meeting Notice

The Annual Meeting of the Parish of Christ Church, Pompton Lakes, New Jersey, will be held following the 9:30 am worship service on Sunday, January 28, 2018, for the purpose of electing one Warden, three members of the Vestry and delegates to the Annual Convention of the Diocese of Newark; to hear reports, adopt the 2018 parish budget, and to consider any other business which properly may come before this meeting.

Father Stephen, Rudy Sellitti, Erica Stewart and Joyce McDiarmid are on the Nominating Committee. The nominees are Sue Helm, Warden, Debbie DeFreese, Scott Heck and Carole Turner, Vestry Members. If you would like to make a nomination, please see the instructions in the following excerpt from our By-Laws.

"Article 2.9 Nominations by Petition. Any six (6) qualified voting members may nominate another qualified voting member for any office to be elected by providing a signed petition to the Clerk of the Vestry (Sue Helm) seven days prior to the Annual Meeting. If the Clerk receives such nominations, she shall present to the Priest in Charge, the name/s of the nominee/s. After verification of eligibility of the candidates, the chairperson shall immediately post a notice of nominee/s on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall and email it to every household in the parish. NO NOMINATIONS shall be made from the floor."



News from the Sunday School

The wreath and centerpiece sale to raise money for service animals was a huge success! We were able to sell all of our items during a few Sundays, thanks to the help of our many parishioners who happily purchased these items. We were able to raise more than \$500 to donate to this worthy cause.

This year, as in previous years, we collected Christmas gifts for those who are less fortunate. We collected unwrapped gifts for children of all ages that are currently living in Eva's Village in Paterson. As always, this parish was generous with their gifts and we received loads and loads of gifts. There were so many gifts that the Hanania family could barely fit them in their car to deliver them! Thank you all for your kind and generous donations; we are certain they are well appreciated.

This year, the Sunday School children attended the December pasta dinner for some holiday caroling. This was planned as a sing-along, and song sheets were provided so everyone could sing! The children who attended did a great job singing holiday songs and sharing their Christmas cheer.

We hope you had a great holiday season!

*Karen Cahill, Louise Hanania
and Debbie Onderlinde*

Financial Clerks Needed

Volunteers are needed to be Financial Clerks, those who count and deposit the Sunday offering. If you are interested, please see Bruce Hetzel, or call him at 973-800-2725.

Treasurer's Note

In an effort to appropriate funds to the correct accounts, any checks intended for the Capital Campaign should be made out to Christ Church noting "Capital Campaign" on the memo line. Thank you for your attention to this detail.

Food for Friends

The second Sunday of each month is the traditional day to receive your contributions of canned or packaged food stuff and for personal hygiene items for distribution through our Food for Friends program. Items may be placed in baskets at the baptismal font or in the Children's Chapel. You may also bring items any time during the month and leave them by the box in the Guild Hall.



Soup Off!

It's time to think about The Soup off! It will take place on Sunday, February 11 at 5:00 p.m. Advance tickets will be available during the coffee hours or the Christ Church office. Please visit the sign up sheet in the parish hall since donations and help are needed.

Capital Campaign Offering Envelopes

Capital Campaign Offering envelopes are available for your convenience, and can be found on the table in the Vestry Room or in the Parish Office.

A Reminder

If you have not already done so, please renew your commitment to our Christ Church ministries by filling out and returning a 2018 Pledge Card. Extra pledge cards are available in the Vestry Room and in the Parish Office. You can put your card in the collection plate on Sunday, or bring it or mail it to the Parish Office, 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. Thank you very much for your stewardship of our congregation and of those who are served by our ministries!

Choir Fund Raiser

Do you have old cellphones, ink cartridges or other small electronic devices such as games, MP3 players and Ipods? Don't toss them in the trash!! Bring them in and leave them in our box in the church office. The choir can recycle these items and receive cash for them! It's a win, win...the choir can buy more great music and you can help the environment at the same time.



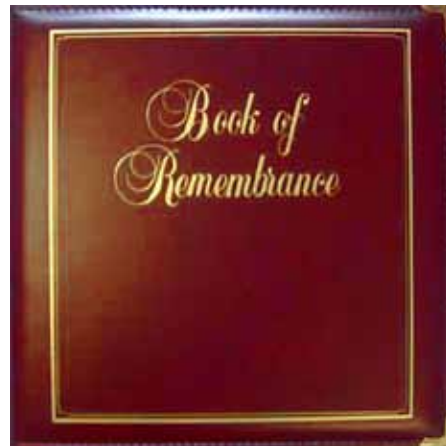
Openings for New Clients at Shepherd's Haven

We would like to cordially invite you to come and spend time with us at Shepherd's Haven. We are a nonprofit activity and social center, where there is good food, great conversations and a lot of laughs. Our clients are great at trivia, enjoy painting, bingo, gardening, cooking, and games of skill and so much more. Come and meet some new people, our fabulous volunteers, and excellent staff. We are offering you a free day, with no obligations. We would love to see you and share with you a fun filled day. We are open Monday through Friday until 3:30pm. Call Leigh at 973-835-4747.

Book of Remembrance

You may have noticed the red book on the Prayer Desk on November 2, and when the Lay Reader read the Prayers of the People, names you haven't heard in a while were read along with the names of those in whose memory altar flowers were given, or who were recently deceased. Once a year, on All Saints' Day, or the Sunday after All Saints' Day, names added to the Book of Remembrance over the past 5 years or so are read.

If you would like a loved one's name inscribed in the Book of Remembrance, which normally resides in the case on the wall to the right of the Baptismal Font, please see Erica Stewart or any one of the Altar Guild members. The person's name, as you would like it to appear (for example, with or without a middle initial or name, etc.), and their birth and death year, will be inscribed in the book and read aloud next year during the Prayers of the People on All Saints' Day. A \$5.00 donation to the Altar Guild is requested.



Parish Family Birthdays- January

If you have not yet informed the parish office of your birthdate, please call Maureen at 973-835-2207.

- 1 - Marianne Taylor
- 1 - Anthony Simone
- 1 - Fran Kamer
- 2 - Joy Liston
- 3 - Bill Conklin
- 4 - Linda Daly
- 6 - Shirley Van Dunk
- 8 - Wendy Simone
- 11 - Bill Calcagno
- 11 - Rachel Gasataya
- 11 - Jackie Beveridge
- 12 - Carol Earl
- 15 - Paul Steberger
- 23 - Justin Milligan
- 17 - Amanda Shepard
- 20 - Ashley Caffery
- 21 - Nicholas Coleburn
- 23 - Sven Lilienthall
- 23 - Joyce McDiarmid

Bishop Search

As you may know Bishop Mark Beckwith has announced his retirement. Read about the search for the XI Bishop of Newark at www.dioceseofnewark.org/bishop-search.

Luxury Vacations in Mexico and the Dominican Republic

Luxurious accommodations await you at fabulous resorts in both Mexico and the Dominican Republic. Prices are extremely affordable. Dates and accommodations are quite flexible. Advance planning is advisable. For pricing, availability, and accommodation details please see or call Cheryl Finger at 973-723-5044.



Personalized Cards

If you are looking for a convenient way to send out cards to friends, family, and/or business relations...look no further!

Order personalized cards with your name or signature printed directly on the card and return address printed directly on the envelope! This is a huge time-saving convenience!

Best of all, these cards are offered at a 20% discount and, in addition, Christ Church receives 7% back on the order...making your order a win-win for everyone.

The entire line of cards are available online for perusal at www.graphicinnovations.carlsoncraft.com. On the website, you will be able to select a stock verse or create your own, select typestyles, and personalize it

further by adding your name.

There are cards available for all budgets – go on, have some fun! Call Cheryl Finger with any questions or if assistance is needed at 973-616-0309.

To preview products online:

www.graphicinnovations.carlsoncraft.com

Our Communal Kitchen

There are many of us who use the kitchen at the church. Those who do should bear in mind the following guidelines:

- Leave the kitchen the way you found it. Everything should be cleaned, hand-dried, and put away. The counters and work surfaces should be clean and free of clutter. It's really nice to come into a clean kitchen.
- If you use cloth towels it would be greatly appreciated if you can bring them home, add them to your own laundry, and return them.
- Make sure the refrigerator doors are completely closed.
- Lock all lockable cabinets before your departure.
- Your help with maintenance is greatly appreciated since there is no particular person in charge of our kitchen; therefore, we all are. Thank you in advance!



The Thrift Shoppe

at 420 *One Step Up*

The Thrift Shoppe would like to invite you to visit our page on Facebook and on Yelp. We are in the process of trying to find new ways of advertising and are hoping to get you to help. If you are on Facebook or yelp, please visit our site and give us a review and Like our page. Please share our page with your Facebook friends. Our volunteers work very hard for an amazing cause and we want everyone to know about us!

The Thrift Shoppe is open Tuesdays from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm, Thursdays from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm, and Saturdays from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Donations can be left in the shed located in the church parking lot to the right of the permanent storage shed. It is clearly marked with a sign for Thrift Shoppe drop-offs. The Thrift Shoppe is always in need of shopping bags. For more information please call Florence at 973-962-6289 or 925-640-3421.

Christ Church is on Facebook

Christ Church is now on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com/christchurchpomp-ton to become a fan.

facebook

SOUP OFF!



Sunday, February 11 at 5:00 pm. Get your tickets now!

Baptism

December 9

Ethan Thomas Alvarez-Mangan

Just a Reminder

We recycle at Christ Church. Plastics, glass, and metal cans should be placed in the large white plastic containers with the red tops, near the dumpster outside the kitchen. Paper and card board should be flattened and stacked neatly in the blue wire cart, also outside the kitchen, next to the dumpster.

Your help with these items is greatly appreciated since there is no particular person in charge of these tasks, and they shouldn't accumulate in the kitchen. Thanks in advance!



*Give God what is right,
not what is left*



Grocery Gift Cards

The painless fundraiser!

When you buy Grocery Gift Cards today, you'll have a good feeling knowing that Christ Church receives a Nickel for every dollar you spend! Grocery gift cards are available from ShopRite, and Stop & Shop in \$10, \$25, \$50 and \$100 denominations. All of the cards will carry any unused balance until you use it up. Perhaps you would consider donating a Shop Rite gift card to Shepherd's Haven or to Food for Friends. Cards are available from Joe Blauvelt, Linda Meyer after the coffee hours and Maureen Kilian in the church office during the week.



Cards of Remembrance

Cards of remembrance are for those who, on the death of a friend, desire to send a memorial offering to Christ Church, instead of sending flowers. The cards are available through the Parish Office.

The Episcopal Diocese of Newark Mission Statement

*Equipping congregations...
Empowering people...
Engaging the world...
...with the hope and
justice of Jesus*

The Epistle

*The newsletter
of Christ Church,
Pompton Lakes, New Jersey
973.835.2207
www.christchurchpompton.org*

January 2018

Please submit all copy to Maureen Kilian, Parish Administrator in a typewritten format or e-mail to office@christchurchpompton.org by the 15th of each month.

*The Epistle is designed by
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www.graphinn.com*

Visit the parish calendar at the website at www.christchurchpompton.org