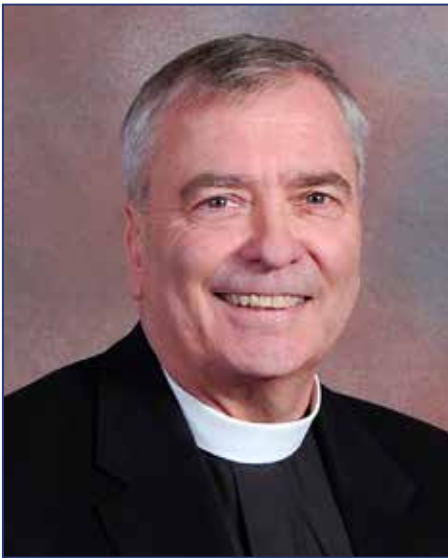




The
Epistle

May, 2018

A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

On the 50th day after Easter we welcome Pentecost, the longest season in the Church calendar and the season that invites us to incorporate the life and teachings of Jesus and make them our own.

It's one thing to remember. And it is not enough! Notice that our memories, all of them, are focused on the past. As such, they make no difference. What makes a difference in God's world is to remember the stories about Jesus, and incorporate them into our own lives. In a nutshell, our calling is to take these memories, which by themselves are "so what" and have them be the possibility of Jesus "showing up" in our lives. To take the "so what" of history and make it "what's so" in our lives.

If you notice, our commentary of scripture is like a football commentator. "That was a good play" or "he should have thrown the ball." As such, it doesn't affect the outcome of

the game, it just gives opinion about the past.

As we listen to these wonderful stories about Jesus throughout the season of Pentecost, ask yourself "what is the invitation for me?" Commentary (even understanding) about scripture makes no difference. Seeing the invitation does! One is about the past. Invitation is about what's in front of us.

Listen to the stories about Jesus from the perspective of "what's the invitation for me?" It will produce the kingdom of Heaven! I promise you.

Warmly

Father Stephen

April Vestry Meeting Highlights:

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, April 24, 2018. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The actions of the Little Lamb, Shepherd's Haven and the Thrift Shoppe Management Groups were ratified. The report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit.

-The Income & Expense Report for the period ending March 31, 2018 was distributed.

-Kerrie Alvarez-Mangan reported that the Christ Church Facebook page has 233 followers. The Sunday 9:30 Church service has been live-streamed on two occasions and has been very well received. Kerrie and her husband Sebastian will be working on a new Christ Church website that should be ready by September.

-The Auditors will be here in May to conduct the 2016 audit.

-Dave Christensen has been hired as Music Minister.

-The front doors of the Church will be sanded and stained on April 26.

-Father Stephen held a Lenten Book Study that was very well attended.

-May 19 is a special Diocesan Convention where the deputies of the Newark Diocese will elect our next Bishop. Our Christ Church deputies are Deacon Barbara Harriman, Sue Helm, Janet Furness, Father Stephen and Rudy Sellitti.

The minutes of the Vestry meeting will be posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall as they become available. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 22, 2018.

Christ Church Parishioner Honored

Debbie Onderlinde will be honored at the Diocesan ECW's "World of Women" luncheon on May 26, for her years of volunteerism, contributions of her time and talents, and her dedication to Christ Church. Congratulations Debbie! of our congregation and of those who are served by our ministries!



Dave Christensen – Minister of Music

We are very pleased to welcome David W. Christensen to Christ Church as our Minister of Music, effective May 1st. He has served as interim since February. David began keyboard studies at age six and at sixteen was playing in Episcopal churches. He played clarinet in college concert and marching bands and later studied music education, composition and arranging to earn the BA in Music. He has been choir director and organist in Bergen County churches for over twenty years. A certified teacher, he taught for many years before retiring. Recently, he has created a small, technologically savvy home recording studio where he spends time on his own compositions. He is excited to be here and we are delighted he is leading our music team.

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!

facebook

Christ Church is on Facebook

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

*When I heard the
learned astronomer,
When the proofs,
the figures, were ranged
in columns before me,
When I was shown the
charts and diagrams...
to add, divide and
measure them,
When I sitting, heard
the astronomer where he
lectured, with much applause,
in the lecture room,
How soon, unaccountable,
I became tired and sick,
'Til rising and gliding out
I wander'd off by myself
into the mystical, moist
night air and from
time to time,
Looked up in perfect
silence at the stars.*

by Walt Whitman
Submitted by Deacon Barbara

"I Like it When ..." There are Results!

The Worship and Music Committee has published a five-page report of two Town Halls held in 2017 to talk about worship and music at Christ Church. The report was emailed to everyone, and here's a snapshot of the input of about 50 participating members:

1. What did people say in response to "I Like it When...?"
2. What kind of solutions did they propose?
3. What has been done since to move in the desired direction?

Copies of the report are available in the church office, the Guild Hall, and during coffee hour. Some of the responses have been: adding a new confession to the liturgy; restoring the prelude and postlude to the 9:30 service; using a trained church organist routinely; and using the potential of the existing keyboard more fully. Christ Church welcomed a choir from another parish last summer, participated in a Community Thanksgiving Service, and now uses social media more fully. Father Stephen gears a specific portion of his sermon to the children on Family Sunday; alternate forms of the Great Thanksgiving bring variety to the Eucharist; and a Lenten book study led by Fr. Stephen allowed for greater dialogue and fellowship. Change takes time. The remaining suggestions will be addressed by various commissions of the vestry. Thanks to everyone who shared in this very positive and uplifting process!

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.



Parish Family Birthdays-May

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

- 1 - Matt Hanania
- 1 - Tammy Buginsky
- 2 - Shannon Stewart
- 6 - Joel Finger
- 6 - Kevin Elliott
- 7 - Don Bogert
- 7 - Tim Helm
- 7 - Alexis Braun
- 7 - Nicole Braun
- 9 - Amanda Wolfson
- 13 - Lori Spataro
- 16 - Sophia Novak
- 18 - Kirsten Shepard
- 18 - Grace Thornhill
- 20 - Kathy Shepard
- 22 - Cindy LoBue
- 22 - Trevor Elliott
- 23 - Patricia Kida
- 25 - Chrissy Wolfson
- 27 - Stephanie Conklin
- 9 - Alison Thornhill
- 30 - Jeff Cahill
- 31 - John Miller
- 31 - Florence Loscalzo

Looking ahead to June Birthdays:

- 1 - Randy Garb
- 5 - Ashley Tintera Garb
- 5 - Andrew Conklin
- 6 - Kim Pugsley
- 8 - Dylan Thornhill
- 9 - Kevin Gottheiner
- 11 - Hailey Conklin
- 13 - Kurt Wagner
- 14 - Nathan Hanania
- 14 - Caitlin Liston
- 15 - Dawn Milligan
- 17 - Karen Cahill
- 18 - Krista Lilienthal
- 20 - Priscilla Elliott
- 23 - Jessica Schmidt
- 23 - Olivia Elliott
- 24 - Keith Porter

Tent Rental Reminder

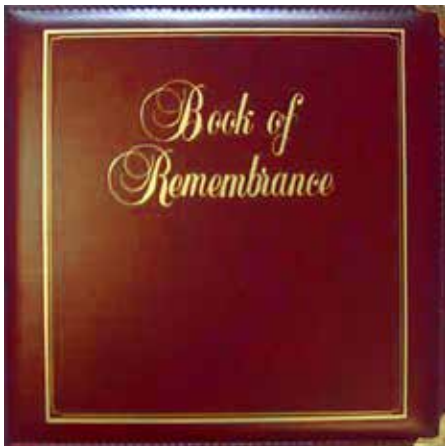
Just a reminder to book your tent early for any upcoming Spring and Summer outdoor events. Call the church office for availability and associated fees. The dates get booked quickly... so don't get left standing out in the rain!



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.



News from the Sunday School

In March, due to the Easter holidays, Family Sunday was celebrated early, on March 18th. It was a joyous Family Sunday with great participation and the singing was wonderfully led by Samantha Hanania.

After the 9:30 service on March 18th, we had many activities related to our Fundraiser for Seeing Eye Dogs/Service Animals. For one, the dogs came for a visit. They did bring along their trainers. We arranged for a visit from the Foster Parents for the Seeing Eye Foundation, who came with a variety of dogs of different breeds and ages. They explained how they train the dogs for approximately 18 months, getting them prepared to be placed with a blind or seeing impaired person. But then they have to return their dogs so they can become service animals, which is truly an amazing sacrifice. It was a great visit and the children and adults were fascinated.

During the visit, the Sunday School had a snack sale and sold delicious baked goods along with chocolate covered strawberries and fresh fruit. We raised a few hundred dol-

lars for the cause! Be sure to look for the dog house and doggie made by the talented Helm family and drop in a few dollars when you can. Karen Simone also had a successful Easter candy sale for this cause which ended on Palm Sunday.

On Easter Sunday, the children again attended the Family Service and there were some new faces in attendance. Many were brave and willing to sing with the Cherub choir, which was delightful to see! We hope your families all enjoyed a wonderful Easter season.

We are beginning our Early Communion classes and Early Communion will be celebrated in May. We look forward to this wonderful event.

Your Sunday School
Co-Superintendents:

*Karen Cahill, Louise Hanania
and Debbie Onderlinde*

Two-Year Planners for Sale

We are selling two year planners for the years 2017 and 2018. The cost is \$3.00 each and they can be purchased through Erica Stewart or the Parish Office.





Neighborhood Initiative

You are the reason for the Neighborhood Initiative. When life happens, it means a lot to have a neighbor nearby who is connected to your parish community and ready to serve you. Increasingly, Christ Church participants are finding this true. One of the joys of serving each other and our communities is that needs, small or large, brief or over a long-term, can be addressed through the network of neighborhoods created by the Outside In/Inside Out Commission of the Vestry. Neighborhood Leaders cross-reference resources with each other and are building a web of compassion. Here is the current list of Neighborhood Leaders who meet quarterly to discuss and plan how best to serve our 15 neighborhoods. Please let us know if your town is not represented. Feel free to call your Neighborhood Leader just to say hello or thanks for being there!



- **Bloomingtondale** - Karen Bogert - 973-634-0190
- **GlenRock/North Haledon/Totowa** – Marianne Taylor - 201-741-8825
- **Haskell/Wanaque** - Joyce McDiarmid - 862-262-0719
- **Oakland/Wyckoff/Franklin Lakes** - Geri Sheehan - 201-337-7395
- **Pompton Lakes, Christ Church area** - Nancy Dalzell - 973-202-7704
- **Pompton Lakes, Colfax** - Matt & Louise Hanania - 973-616-1604
- **Pompton Lakes Hamburg Turnpike North** - Alison Thornhill - 973-886-9728
- **Pompton Lakes, Hamburg Turnpike North** - Mary Ann Salerno-Fitzgerald - 973-835-6553
- **Pompton Plains/Pequanock** - Megan & Kat Menezes - 201-575-9459
- **Ringwood** - Joan Van Splinter - 973-856-4978
- **Ringwood** - Sue Helm - 973-856-2129
- **Riverdale** - Bette Davis - 973-809-1384
- **Wayne** - Packanack Lake, Preakness - Cindy LoBue - 973-694-7813
- **Wayne** - Sheffield - Barbara Hazelwood - 973-696-4966
- **West Milford/Stockholm/Oak Ridge/Hewitt** - Barbara & Karl Schinke - 973-557-5465
- **Foreigners & Travelers** (SW Morris Cty/Somerset County/Princeton and beyond) - Andy Shaw - 973-927-0202

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.

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.



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.

Florence Loscalzo

Baptisms

April 22

Adrian Christopher
Van DeVoort

April 29

Brody Charles Scott

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*

Please contact Andy Shaw for a prize if you were able to read this!



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*

May 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.

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