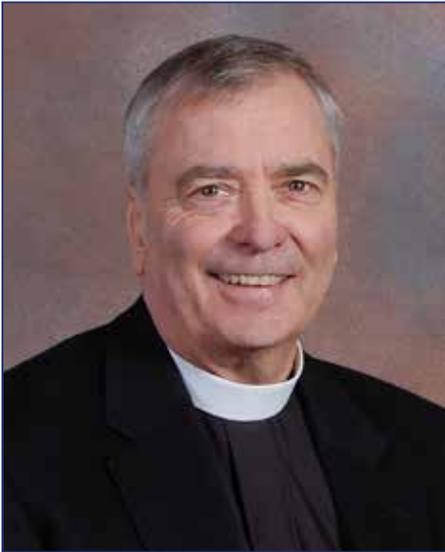


The Epistle

February, 2020



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

Last Sunday's Gospel was about the Beatitudes. In case you've forgotten, the Beatitudes are teachings from Jesus about life. "Blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are the meek," etc. The Beatitudes occur for me as looking at life "upside down." Is meekness a desirable quality? What about being "poor in spirit?"

Maybe there is virtue in looking at life upside down! When I feel depressed there is too much concern for myself, too much attention. "Upside down" would be a way to take "depressed" and contribute to the well-being of someone else.

Every once in a while I get exasperated with my circumstances. I wish I could change them. If my circumstances changed, then I'd be a little happier. Wait a minute, following the wisdom of Jesus, looking at my circumstances upside down would mean to come from being blessed, not

have blessed be a result of my circumstances. Upside down would mean bringing the state of being blessed to every occasion, every one, every circumstance, not to have my circumstances dictate the quality of my life.

Wow! That's "upside down" for sure. I don't hear that measure by worldly standards, which is something like "you will be blessed when you...."

If there is any dissatisfaction within your being, maybe the wisdom of Jesus is found in the Beatitudes.

Instead of the quality of my life being dictated by the circumstances, let me be the one who brings quality to my circumstances. Coming from "being blessed" not having it be dependent on "out there."

How do I do that? By living life upside down.

Warmly

Father Stephen

January Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, January 28, 2020. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The actions of the Little Lamb and Thrift Shoppe Management Groups were ratified. The report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit.

- The Income & Expense Report for the period ending December 31, 2019 was distributed.

- Preparations have begun for the Spring Gala Tricky Tray. Donation request letters were mailed. Lots of help and donations are needed to support this major fundraiser.

- One of the boilers will need to be replaced before next winter. The Board of Public Utilities offers a grant. They may fund 50%. Application is being made.

- A motion was passed to fix the sound system in the Church to correct the problem with interference, at a cost of \$785.

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, February 25, 2020.

A prayer is to be said

*when the world has
gotten you down.*

And you feel rotten.

And you're too doggone

tired to pray.

And you're in a hurry.

*And, besides, you are
mad at everybody.*

Help.

Submitted by Deacon Barbara



Ash Wednesday

The penitential/preparatory season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26. Traditional services – including the Imposition of Ashes – will be held at 10:00 am and 7:30 pm. Both services are celebrations of Holy Communion. At the 7:30 pm service hypoallergenic incense will be used and the choir will sing.

Spring Gala Tricky Tray

The Christ Church Spring Gala Tricky Tray will be held on Friday, March 20, 2020 at 7:00 pm! Please mark your calendars and start to think about what you can donate. We'd love to have themed baskets, or monetary donations. Do you have any Christmas gifts that you don't know what to do with? We'll gladly take them and use them in one of the baskets. Please consider asking your employer for a donation too. We love gift certificates to any business. If you have any specific talent, consider how that could be used ... maybe you needlepoint, crochet, draw or paint, make something for us! Donations are accepted any time between now and the Tricky Tray.

Lenten Fellowship

will add meaning to our Spiritual Journey.

Beginning on Wednesday, March 4th at 6:30 p.m., and continuing on Wednesdays in Lent, join Fr. Stephen and friends in our parish for soup-for-supper and spiritual discovery! We'll be reading Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in the Everyday Life by best-selling author and Anglican priest, Tish Harrison Warren. Framed around one ordinary day, this book explores daily life through the lens of liturgy, small practices, and habits that form us – making the bed, brushing our teeth, even losing our keys! Warren opens a practical theology related to a spiritual practice and our Sunday worship. Janet Furness will facilitate our conversation. You will find Liturgy of the Ordinary at Amazon for \$14.40.

Used Book Collection

Looking for a place to donate your well-read and loved books? Please consider our new book bin in the parking lot on Ramapo Avenue. We accept books with ISBN numbers. That is the 13 digit number following the letters ISBN on the book near the bar code. No magazines or encyclopedias please. The books are resold and redistributed. They are only recycled if they are in very poor condition. This is a fundraiser for Christ Church, as we will receive some money for the books collected. Thank you for your support!

Christ Church: A New Creation!

Experience the joy and inspiration of sharing your treasure as part of Christ Church: A New Creation! If you haven't already done so, please make your generous financial pledge to Christ Church by returning your 2020 pledge card. You can put your card in the offering basket or bring it or mail it to the Parish Office, 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. Thank you very much for your care of our congregation and of those who are served by our ministries!



The Wild Game Pot Luck Supper

On Sunday, March 15, at 5:30 pm, a pot luck supper will be held in the Parish Hall. Bill Calcagno will be providing the featured foods with a wild game theme. Please bring a side dish or dessert. A sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall so that you can indicate what you are bringing and how many will attend.

Join the Pompton Lakes Women's Club

Pompton Lakes Women's Club members are volunteers dedicated to enhancing the lives of others through civic and outreach programs that impact communities. The Pompton Lakes Women's Club meets on the first Thursday of the month in October, November, December, February, March, April, May and June at Christ Episcopal Church at 7:00 pm. Many of our events and services are on our Facebook page. If you are interested in becoming a member or have questions regarding the organization, please contact Membership Chair, Judy Manegold at 973-809-5654.

Invitation from Pompton Reformed Church

The Fellowship Committee of Pompton Reformed Church extends an invitation to join them on a bus trip to the Sight & Sound Theater on Saturday, October 3, 2020 to see the brand new production of "Queen Esther" followed by an all-you-can-eat home style dinner. The cost is \$145.00 per person (\$90.00 for children under 12), which covers everything including gratuities. If interested, or for information call Rick Pierce at 973-513-9353 (home); or 973-800-3499 (cell).



Introductory Tai Chi Class

Come join instructor Jody Rubel as he introduces the community to the ancient practice of Tai Chi on Saturday, February 15 for an introductory class, in Christ Church's Parish Hall from 11:00am to 12 noon. Tai Chi's health benefits have been garnering recognition in the scientific and medical community over the past decade. The Harvard Medical Guide to Tai Chi by Peter Wayne offers scientific evidence to support the long standing claim that Tai Chi can promote a healthy body, strong heart and sharp mind. In addition to helping alleviate the symptoms of health issues such as diabetes, coronary heart disease, arthritis, bone density loss and chronic lower back pain, Tai Chi can help reduce anxiety and absolutely leads to more vigor, energy, greater flexibility, balance and mobility and an improved sense of well-being. We will touch upon some basic Tai Chi steps and alignment cues and explore how these movements affect balance in the body and mind! Class is open to all levels and ages. Loose, comfortable clothes are recommended. There will be no fee for this event, but you must sign up on the sheet in the Parish Hall.

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.

Treasurers Commentary for 12/31/19

- Income exceeded expenses this month by almost ~\$6,300.
- Total Income (Year to date) is below budget by about ~\$2,800.
- Total Expenses are under budget (Year to date) by about \$4,800.
- Net (Year to date) is about \$-64,000



Bishop Hughes' Messages

Bishop Hughes posts regular messages, including videos, online at dioceseofnewark.org/bishops-vlog.

Choir Fund Raiser

We still want your electronics! The choir is still collecting electronics to recycle. We need old phones, Ipads, Ipods, hand-held games and of course used printer cartridges. The phones bring the most return but please remember to *wipe them clean* before you turn them in to us. We don't want your personal information to be vulnerable. Just bring in the old stuff and drop it in our box in the office. It's a win-win. They get recycled and we get some cash for new music.



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 non-profit 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-

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

February

- 8 - Cayla Coleburn
- 13 - Emily Hoeflinger
- 13 - Lip Siang Eng
- 16 - Samantha Hanania
- 18 - Pat Sondermeyer
- 22 - Kristen Finger
- 27 - Bruce Hetzel
- 28 - Matthew Buginsky
- 29 - Brian Buginsky

March

- 3 - Catherine Shaw
- 3 - Deborah Onderlinde
- 6 - Lehman Mann
- 7 - Max Helm
- 7 - Zigi Zacs
- 8 - Karen Porter
- 8 - Kyle Conklin
- 13 - Brianna Lilienthal
- 13 - Val Rusinko
- 16 - Layne Swansen
- 19 - Bette Davis
- 19 - Melanie Liston
- 20 - Rebecca Lilienthal
- 21 - Jimmy Novak
- 21 - Gregory Schmidt

- 22 - Sue Helm
- 22 - Dave Kida
- 24 - Dan Hoeflinger
- 27 - John T. Tintera
- 28 - Nora Reynolds

Electronic Giving Now Available to Christ Church!

Electronic Giving is a convenient, consistent way to help Christ Church year-round. Consider making a contribution or scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today! It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received. Get started today! Visit the Christ Church website at www.christchurchpompton.org and look for the DONATE button on the lower right side. If you have questions, see Bruce Hetzel or call the Parish Office at 973-835-2207.



Christ Church is on Facebook

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





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!



- **Bloomington/Butler/Kinnelon** - Karen Bogert - 973-634-0190
- **GlenRock/North Haledon/Totowa** – Marianne Taylor - 201-741-8825
- **Haskell/Wanaque**
- **Oakland/Wyckoff/Franklin Lakes** - Geri Sheehan - 201-337-7395
- **Pompton Lakes, Christ Church area & Colfax** - Matt & Louise Hanania - 973-616-1604
- **Pompton Lakes Hamburg Turnpike South** - 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/Wanaque** - Joan Van Splinter - 973-856-4978
- **Ringwood/Haskell** - Sue Helm - 973-856-2129
- **Riverdale** - Bette Davis - 973-809-1384
- **Wayne** - Packanack Lake, Preakness -
- **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

Open Enrollment at Little Lamb Children's Center

Little Lamb Children's Center is now accepting enrollment for all ages, 3 months to Kindergarten. Little Lamb, open all year from 7:00 am to 6:30 pm, provides a safe and caring learning environment for your children. We are a State licensed, air-conditioned facility with an enclosed outdoor play yard. For information, registration forms and rates contact the director at 973-835-2236 or littlelambcc@gmail.com

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 the Dominican Republic

Luxurious accommodations await you at a fabulous resort in 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 3:15 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

Tenth Annual Wild Game Pot Luck Dinner

Sunday, March 15 at 5:30 pm



Baptisms

January 11

George Paul Trumbower

January 26

Mila Gabriela Grieder

February 1

Hailey Grace Roach

Wedding

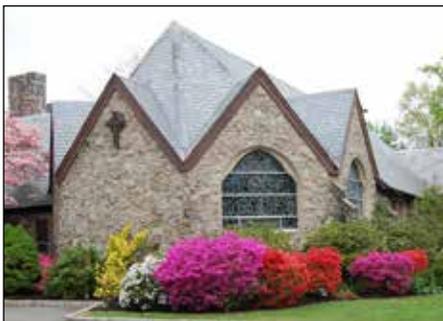
January 19

Savannah Rose Ross

Cameron Philip Ernest Wood

Craig's List for Christ Church

If you have an item you would like to sell or donate, you can post it on the bulletin board on the wall outside of the kitchen door entering the Guild Hall. It's like a Craig's List for Christ Church! Remember, one man's trash is another man's treasure!



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

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



Prepaid Grocery Cards

A free donation

When you buy a prepaid card for ShopRite or Stop & Shop, Christ Church receives a donation of 5% of its value. Yet you still receive the whole face value of the card – you're donating for free! Like any prepaid card from a specific company, there are no additional fees and you don't have to use the entire card at one time. Don't shop at these grocery stores yourself? Since everyone has to eat, the cards make good gifts – including to Shepherd's Haven or Food for Friends. \$25 and \$50 cards are available from Pat O'Connor during the 8:00 coffee hour and Sue Pikaart at 9:30 coffee hour. Please purchase with a check or exact change. Thank you!

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*

February 2019

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