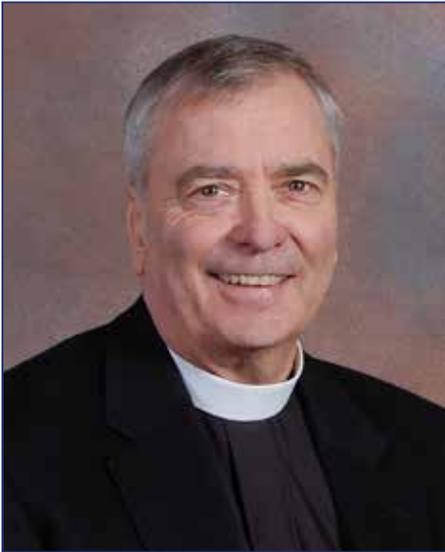




The
Epistle
May 2021

A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

To say that this past year has been 'heavy' is to say the least. We haven't been safely able to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries and other major occasions. My selection, below, is offered to counteract the heaviness most of us have experienced, and it speaks to an element often missing in Church, that of laughter and humor.

Enjoy,

Father Stephen

The Ox and The Mule

For many days an old farmer had been plowing with an ox and a mule together and working them pretty hard. The ox said to the mule, "Let's play sick today and rest a little while." But the old mule said "No, we need to get the work done for the season is short."

But the ox played sick and the farmer brought him fresh hay and corn and made him comfortable.

When the mule came in from plowing, the ox asked how he made out. The mule said, "We didn't get as much done but we made it all right, I guess."

The ox asked, "What did the old man say about me?" "Nothing," said the mule.

The next day the ox, thinking he had a good thing going, played sick again. When the mule came in again very tired, the ox asked, "How did it go?" The mule said, "Alright I guess, though we don't get much done." The ox also asked, "What did the old man say about me?" "Nothing to me," was the reply, "but he stopped and had a long talk with the butcher."

From the bulletin of the Berean Fundamental Church of North Platte, Nebraska

Treasurers Commentary for 3/31/21

- Expenses exceeded income this month by almost ~\$14,200..
- Regular income in March- \$12,500.
- Expenses in March- \$26,700



facebook

Sunday Service on Facebook Live at 9:30 am

Please join us on Facebook live at 9:30 am. If you haven't already "liked" Christ Church Pompton's Facebook page, you can go to www.facebook.com/christchurchpompton. It's the next best thing to being together in person!

In-Person Services at Christ Church

Christ Church is holding in-person worship services every Sunday at 8:00 am and 9:30 am. The 9:30 am service will continue to be available on Facebook Live. Reservation are required for in-person services. -Since the gatherings are limited in number, attendees will be required to make reservations in advance by email (christchurchpomptonoffice@gmail.com) or by phone (973-835-2207.) The maximum capacity will be strictly enforced, so no one will be allowed to enter without an advance reservation. - To optimize air circulation, the windows in the Church will be open. Please dress accordingly. - The Worship Service will include Communion. For everyone's safety, we will use pre-

Continued on the next page

Continued from previous page

filled, single-serving Communion cups.

- A bulletin will be sent by email in advance but will not be distributed at the service. You may print your own bulletin to bring with you and then bring it home with you. If you can access your email on your phone, you can follow along electronically.

- There will be a social distance between each family. Masks must be worn at all times.

As always, our highest goal is to safeguard the health and safety of our clergy and parishioners. As noted, our Facebook Live service will continue at 9:30 am, especially for those in high risk groups and for those who are not yet ready to gather in person.



The Thrift Shoppe is Now Open

The Thrift Shoppe, located at 420 Ramapo Avenue, has reopened! Put on your masks and come in to shop. The hours of operation are Tuesdays 3:15 - 7:00 pm, Thursdays 4:00 - 8:00 pm, Saturdays 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Sundays (second and fourth) 11:00 am - noon. Donations can be left in the shed in the church parking lot. For more information please call Florence at 973-962-6289 or 925-640-3421.



Parish Family Birthdays

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

May

- 1 - Matt Hanania
- 2 - Shannon Stewart
- 6 - Joel Finger
- 6 - Kevin Elliott
- 7 - Don Bogert
- 7 - Tim Helm
- 7 - Alexis Braun
- 7 - Nicole Braun
- 16 - Sophia Novak
- 18 - Kirsten Shepard
- 18 - Grace Thornhill
- 20 - Kathy Shepard
- 22 - Trevor Elliott
- 23 - Patricia Kida
- 27 - Stephanie Conklin
- 29 - Alison Thornhill
- 31 - John Miller
- 31 - Florence Loscalzo

Looking ahead to June

- 1 - Randy Garb
- 4 - Barbara Harriman

5 - Ashley Tintera Garb

5 - Andrew Conklin

6 - Kim Pugsley

8 - Dylan Thornhill

11 - Hailey Conklin

14 - Nathan Hanania

14 - Caitlin Liston

15 - Dawn Milligan

16 - Stephen Rozzelle

17 - Karen Cahill

18 - Krista Lilienthal

20 - Priscilla Elliott

23 - Jessica Schmidt

23 - Olivia Elliott

24 - Keith Porter

Please Give Us Your Blank and Birthday Greeting Cards!

Help honor

Christ Church birthdays

Do you have a drawerful of birthday or blank cards that you've received from a charitable organization that was seeking your support? Cards you didn't ask for--but didn't want to throw away? Or maybe you overbought cards at some point? We want them, please! The Birthday Card Gang has started sending birthday greetings to parishioners for whom the church knows a birthdate (month and day only - no year necessary). We'd like to do this as a low-cost project, so save your cards for us and drop them off in the Guild Hall. Thank you for your support!

December Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 via Zoom. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The Income & Expense Report for the period ending March 31, 2021 was distributed. The report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit

- The actions of the Little Lamb, Shepherd's Haven and Thrift Shoppe management groups were ratified.

- There is a program, offered through the Diocese, that may save us some money on natural gas.

- The Personnel Committee is looking into making some policy changes, as a result of the audit.

- The Buildings and Grounds Committee will get estimates to have the basement professionally cleaned out. They will also get estimates for a new cleaning company.

- Little Lamb applied for a grant through the federal government for day care centers. Members of the Shepherd's Haven management group will see if Shepherd's Haven is eligible for this grant too.

- Since Shepherd's Haven's expenses are exceeding their income by about \$4,000 per month, a motion was passed to loan Shepherd's Haven \$12,000, from Church funds, during this difficult time.

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 25, 2021.

A Message from Your Wardens

A message – this one from Jesus himself: "Where your treasure is, there is your heart also."

Your treasure is a necessity for the well-being of Christ Church. Please consider mailing your pledge or taking the required steps to donate online. Your pledges and donations are a vital part of the welfare of our Church. Your pledge can be mailed to the Church at 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. To make a donation on-line, click on this link to go to our donation page. https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?appver3=wWsk24ZW-JSTZKsGd1RMKlg0BDvsSG3-VIWOCPIJNNxD8upkiY7JIDa vDsozUE7KG0nFx2NSo8LdU KGuGuF396vbVZO8d9V69XD-rpX5QvPEWIBhHDN59kLZffwKfYERpOmkkwp8Xt5Crzq4gI3rKkOg=&ver=3

While we all are being inconvenienced in major ways, the love of God, the life of Jesus and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit will guide and sustain us!

Bishop Hughes' Messages

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



Prayers of Pandemic from the Diocese of Newark

Bishop Hughes has invited members of the diocese to write and share their own prayers during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prayers can be sent to Canon Wright at awright@dioceseofnewark.org for posting. Please include the name and town of your church. The following prayer is taken from the Diocesan website.

Dear God - For this day, help me to keep my heart open

Help me to observe the beauty around me; to appreciate all that I see.

Help me to notice the blessings in my life, and to ignore those things that do not measure up to my expectations.

Guide me dear God to be of service to others, and to go through this day with humor and grace, and no regrets.

Through Jesus Christ, our Lord we pray. Amen.

*Joyce Hart
St. George's Maplewood*



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. It's a win-win. They get recycled and we get some cash for new music. Please leave your items in the Parish Office. Thank you!



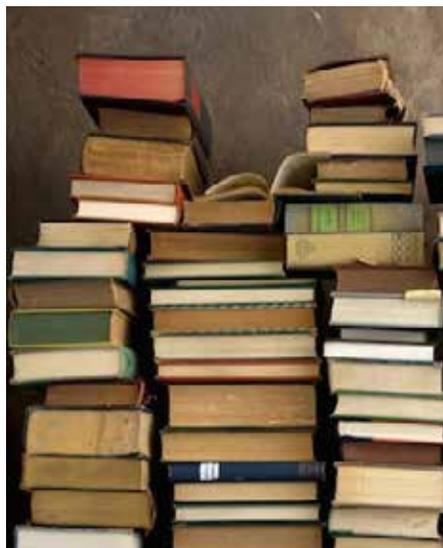
Sunday School

We are well into our 2020/2021 Sunday School year and we are having a lot of fun! The class runs from 9.30 am to 10. If you do not already have the log-in information, please contact Parish Office. Logging in is very easy and

you can do it via phone, computer or tablet. We are happy that modern technology has allowed us to continue this very important service so that the children can stay in touch with their friends while continuing their studies. As always, we thank you for the opportunity to be a part of your child's Christian education and welcome any new students.

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!



Parish Classifieds

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





Sunday School Update

The Sunday School started out the year with a few hybrid classes, with students attending in-person or via Zoom. In November, by necessity, the classes were changed to only Zoom classes. These classes are taught and organized each week by Amanda Onderlinde and Sue Cook. While we all miss seeing each other and eagerly await the time we can return to regular classes, we are thankful for the technology which allows us to stay connected and continue to grow and learn.

In December, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we were not able to enjoy all of our holiday traditions. We were able to hold a holiday gift collection, which was for Immaculate Heart of Mary School in Wayne. This was organized by Kristina Smith and despite a relatively short collection period, our parishioners, as always, were extremely generous and made this gift collection very successful.

Usually in December we bake cookies, with the help of the Sunday school children and distribute these to individuals who cannot get out of the house and who may be socially isolated. This was not possible this year, since we could not distribute baked goods made at the church. But it seemed es-

pecially important to remember those people, so the Sunday School Superintendents purchased and donated many delectable store-made goodies and made gift bags with beautiful holiday cards. These were delivered, with help from members of our Vestry, to more than 25 of our church friends, and to individuals and families in Pompton Lakes and surrounding towns for a little extra Christmas cheer.

Sunday School classes continue on Zoom. Amanda and Sue are doing a great job and the children are enjoying keeping connected with friends.

*Superintendents: Karen Cahill,
Louise Hanania and
Debbie Onderlinde.*

Pop Up Youth Ministry Paint Party

The Diocesan Pop Up Youth Ministry is continuing to meet via Zoom. All youth in grades 6-12 are invited to participate. We will have a Pop Up Paint Party on Sunday, June 6 from 3-4 pm. Go to jotform.com/PopUpYM/june2021 to register in advance for this event. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the event.

If you need assistance with getting materials for the paint party, please reach out to us at popupym@dioceseofnewark.org by Sunday, May 30 to let us know.



facebook

Christ Church on Facebook

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



A plaque, dedicating the organ to and honoring the memory of Dave Christensen, was placed on the organ in time for the first anniversary of Dave's passing on April 1.

Thank You For Your Help

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped at the shredding event and Guild Hall cleanup on March 27. We were finished in record time! A special thank you to Dylan Thornhill and members of the Pompton Lakes High School Zonta Club for helping to carry the heavy boxes. An extra special thank you to Grace Thornhill and her good friend who woke up early on a Saturday morning to help. Thanks girls!



Please pray for those who are homebound or have a long term illness

Sue Contos *Pat Giannone*
Christine Tafuri Lewis *Pat Giannone*
Kim Hetzel *Bruce Hetzel*
Nora Reynolds *Debbie DeFreese*
Joe Stewart *Erica Stewart*
AJ DiGennaro *Carol Egan*
Daniel Bevilacqua, Sr. *Carol Egan*
Tony DiGennaro *Carol Egan*
Mike Egan *Carol Egan*
Philip Prekel *Cathy Prekel*
Suzanne Braun *Liz Kostyn*
Pablo Fallas *Javier Fallas*
Tom Filipi *Andy Shaw*
Timothy Falk *Tom Falk*
Dale Garafalo *Carol Egan*
Dinah Zacs *Zigi Zacs*
Rebecca Hough *Stephen Rozzelle*
Richard Russinko *Valerie Russinko*
Kathleen Caputo *Romilly Liloia*
Bill Brouhle *Cheryl Finger*
Richard Greco *Pat Giannone*
Donna Cook *Pat Giannone*
Roxanna Parker *Shirley Van Dunk*

Alice Schmelzer *Carol Egan*
Jim Hester *Carol Egan*
Liz Unger *Natalie McCabe*
Joseph Hynes *Natalie McCabe*
Andrea Lentz *Wilma Ciaburri*
Anya Neugebauer *Cathy Prekel*
Jason Trovy *Barbara Hanenberg*
Mary Babb *Parish Care*
Scott Stoveken *Denise Pugsley*
Mike Abriola *Parish Care*
Rosemary Claeys *Parish Care*
Selma Schwartz *Elizabeth Kostyn*

Please pray for those serving in the military:

FCA2 Peter Brower *Leigh Brower*
Master Sgt. Robert Preston Mason
Scott Heck
Chaplin Bill Kapr *Abby Novak*
Captain Ryan Tintera *John Tintera*
Petty Officer 1st Class Jake Smith
Abby Novak
Lt. Col. Andrew M. Niebel
Karen Bogert
1SG James Rivera *Carol Egan*
Major Matthew Getty
Florence Loscalzo
1st Lt. Daniel Wagner
Chris Kenyon
Richard Chambers
Patti & Jeff Mitchell

Offering Envelopes Ready for Pick Up

The offering envelopes are ready and can be found in the Guild Hall. They can be picked up Monday through Friday from 7:00 am until 6:00 pm. Look for the box with your name on it. There are extra boxes available. If you take one of the extra boxes, please be sure to write your name, on the list provided, next to the number of the envelopes you are taking.

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.

A Reminder...

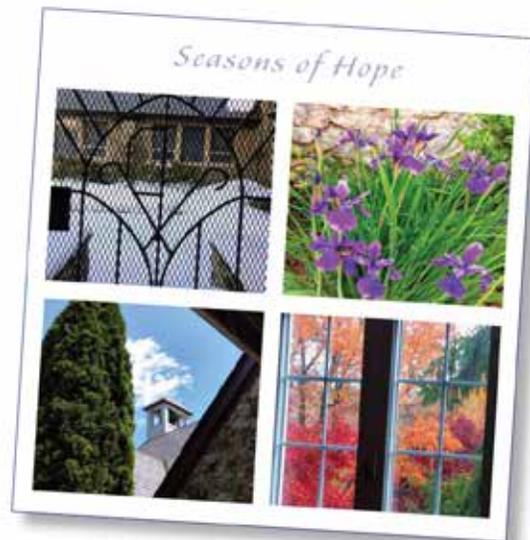
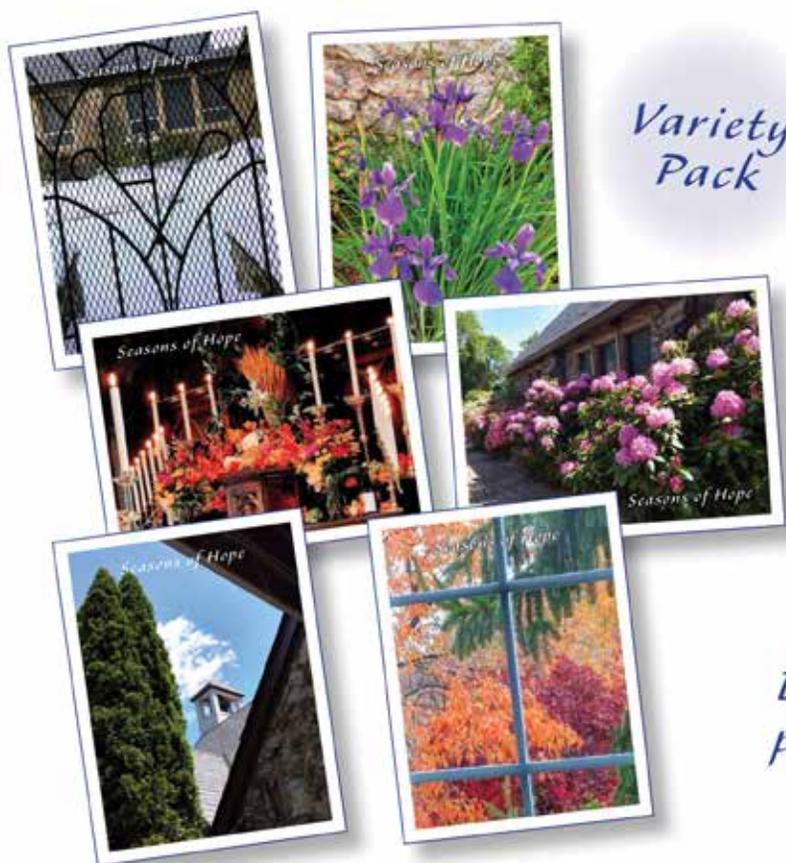
Let's have our stewardship to the parish be a reflection of living with a spirit of gratitude! If you have not already done so, please renew your commitment to our Christ Church ministries by making a generous financial pledge to Christ Church. Please fill out and return a 2021 Pledge Card to 400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. We are grateful for your stewardship of our congregation and of those who are served by our ministries!



Seasons of Hope Greeting Cards

(6) 5.5" X 6.5" cards, no inscription inside, including matching envelopes

(6) 5.5" X 5.5" cards, no inscription inside, including matching envelopes



Both sets of cards include photos of places in and around Christ Church

A Christ Church Fundraiser

Available now. Perfect as holiday gifts.

Featuring the harmony of nature with our lovely Christ Church property.

Package of 6, Four Seasons cards, blank inside, \$12 per package.

Variety pack of 6 cards, blank inside, \$12 per package.

Place your order by sending an email to the Parish Office at christchurchpomptonoffice@gmail.com or by calling the office at 973-835-2207. Checks can be made out to Christ Church or, to pay on-line, click on the link to go to our donation page, select "other" and specify greeting cards.



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!

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

- **Bloomington/Butler/Kinnelon** - Karen Bogert - 973-634-0190
- **GlenRock/North Haledon/Totowa** - Marianne Taylor - 201-741-8825
- **Haskell/Wanaque**
Sue Helm - 973-856-2129
- **Oakland/Wyckoff/Franklin Lakes** - Geri Sheehan - 201-337-7395
- **Pompton Lakes, Christ Church area & Colfax**
- **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 - Janet Furness - 585-734-0374
- **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

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 2021

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
Graphic Innovations
www.graphinn.com*

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