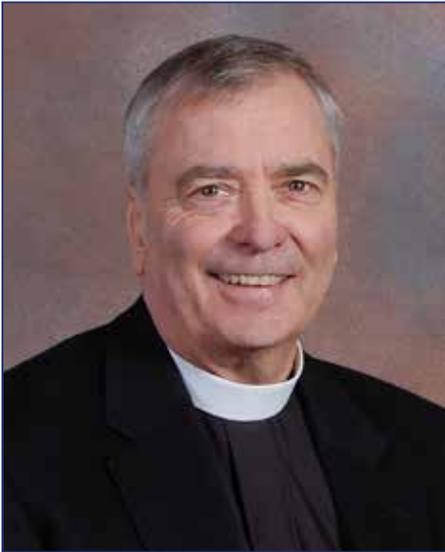


The Epistle

October/November, 2019



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

One of the most important things Jesus ever said in the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) is "I came to serve, not to be served." Every time he performed a miracle or did a good deed, he was praised. He didn't seek credit for himself, rather he acknowledged the source of his good works, the Father.

The mission of the Church is quite the same. It exists to serve the community with love and compassion. Our church services on Sunday mornings are intended to be the "huddle," a football term before the play when the team decides the next play. That's the purpose of worship. It is to recharge our batteries, to be inspired and enthused to bring forth God's love and compassion in the community.

Have you noticed all the wonderful projects that have been undertaken within Christ

Church recently? The narthex is welcoming! The Parish Hall is gorgeous. The outside landscaping speaks "welcome" to everyone entering our buildings. Our new organ is a serendipitous gift that will benefit the thousands of people attending future worship services. Every project that has been undertaken and every one that will be, represents the mission of Jesus and the mission of the Church, to serve those in our community. This is our calling as parishioners: to invite, to welcome, to embrace, to celebrate, to love, all in the spirit of serving.

Sometimes, in the course of events, we are uncomfortable with change. Notice that "uncomfortable" is self-serving. It is about you and me being the focus of a project. On one hand, we are appreciated for our interest, commitment and support of Christ Church. It is to be commended. Notice on the other hand, that discomfort is all self-serving, and, as such, gets in the way of the larger purpose of the church – to serve the community.

When Jesus said "I come to serve not to be served." He was extending an invitation to our ministry here in Pompton Lakes, personally and collectively.

Thank you, Jesus, for inviting us to focus on Church, to be a servant to our community. Jesus also emphasized the objective by saying, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Amen.

Warmly

Father Stephen

October Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, October 23, 2019. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The actions of the Little Lamb, Shepherd's Haven 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 September 30, 2019 was distributed.

- A schedule of fundraising and fellowship events was prepared. A Pizza Off with local pizza restaurants is scheduled for January 25. February 9 will be the Soup Off; March 15 will be the Wild Game Pot Luck Supper; March 20 will be the Trick Tray; April 11 is the Easter Eggstravaganza; April 25 is the Beefsteak Dinner

- There will be a Book Bin in our parking lot. We will receive a percentage of all of the books collected. No encyclopedias or magazines.

- A motion was passed to do the required maintenance on the An-sul Fire Suppression System in the kitchen, at a cost of \$1,576.83. The work will be completed in March of 2020.

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, Tuesday, November 19, 2019.



Christmas Memorials

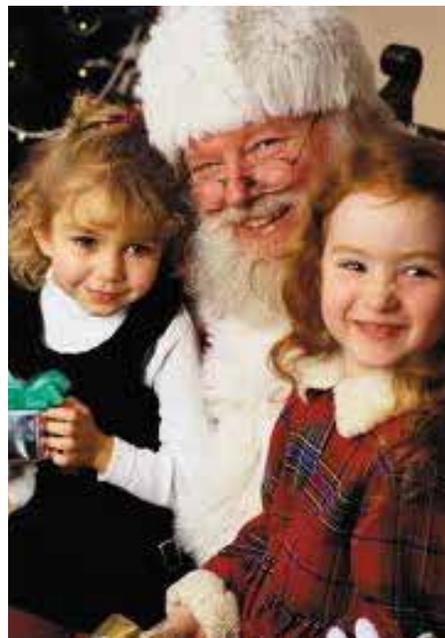
Christ Church is a beautiful church and is especially lovely at Christmas. We invite all members and friends of the Church to share in making beautiful the sanctuary for the joyful celebration of Christ's birth. You may want to offer your gift in memory of loved ones who have departed this life and you may also want to offer your gift in thanksgiving for some special blessing. If so, you may indicate your desires on the special offering envelope. Those of you who are on the permanent list may use the envelope to make your payment. The cost is \$5.00 per Memorial/Thanksgiving and must be received by December 8. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Christmas Pageant

Practices for the Christmas Pageant will be held immediately following the 9:30 services on December 1st and 8th. The Christmas Pageant will be held on Sunday, December 15 during the 9:30 service. Please see either Karen Bogert or Amanda Onderlinde for more information.

Breakfast with Santa!

Santa is coming to Christ Church on Saturday, December 7! There will be one seating at 9:00 am. Tickets are \$7 per person. Ticket price includes a pancake breakfast and a gift for each child. We will have a special Santa Shack (No Adults Allowed!) where the children can buy inexpensive gifts for their family and friends. We are looking for donations for the Santa Shack. We need small inexpensive gifts that would be good for siblings, parents, grandparents, etc. We are also accepting cash donations so that we can purchase some items. The children very much look forward to buying these gifts and the looks on their faces when they are finished making their purchases are priceless. For tickets contact Debbie Onderlinde at 973-271-6562 or nealndeb@aol.com or call the Parish Office at 973-835-2207.



Christmas Gift Collection

Thank you to all who chose a child. If you were not able to pick a tag, please feel free to buy anything you think a child (up to age 17) would enjoy. Please bring in the WRAPPED gifts (toys/clothes) labeled with the child's name, or the age appropriate for the gift, by December 1st. Thank you for your generosity.



Craft Sale at Breakfast with Santa

At Breakfast with Santa, on December 7, we will have a craft sale! In addition to our traditional "Santa Shack" where the children are able to shop, our craft sale will be a place where the adults can shop while waiting for the children. We are looking for people who would like to bring their crafts to sell. All proceeds will benefit Christ Church. Please contact Marianne Taylor (201-741-8825) or Zigi Zacs (973-865-5202) if you would like to participate.

Organ Dedication

On Sunday, December 8, the 9:30 am service will include the dedication of our recently installed Phoenix Digital Organ. A gift from the Diocese of Newark, the wonderfully versatile instrument was previously installed at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Vernon, NJ. When the church closed, it sat idle until the advocacy of Bishop Mark Beckwith and Mr. George Wesner, organist at St. Mark's Parish in Teaneck and

Radio City Music Hall, spurred Father Stephen into action to secure an instrument worthy of our sacred space. Dave Christensen played this instrument as organist at Vernon. Jim Caputo of the Diocese of Newark affirmed its accessibility and enabled approval of the gift to us. Installation was completed in September. On December 8, music from the organ and a Liturgy of Dedication and Gratitude will hold a central place in our worship. You will want to be here!



Donald and Jim Anderson of Phoenix Organ Company, their associate Mark, Christ Church Music Director Dave Christensen, Father Stephen and Nori pose for a celebratory photo as the organ experts completed their installation of the wonderful digital organ donated to Christ Church by the Diocese of Newark. The organ has tremendous versatility with four styles in one: English, French, German Baroque, and a 4th Specification voiced more orchestrally. A dedication of the organ will be held on Sunday, December 8th during the 9:30 service.



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!

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Christ Church will host an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service on Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00 pm. Our guests will be the Pompton Reformed Church and St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Everyone is invited to attend.

*Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

*Take my hands,
and let them move
At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet, and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.*

Hymn #408, first verse
Submitted by Deacon Barbara



Sunday School Update

We are enjoying another glorious year at Christ Church! As always, the Sunday School had many end of school year activities and a great Vacation Bible School (VBS) over the summer. Here is a short update of the end of the last school year and summer events. The Food Drive for Saint Mary's Food Pantry was completed on May 5th with the donations all dropped at St Mary's. This year we donated more than thirty bags of food and paper goods, along with additional monetary donations. In June we ended our annual Fundraiser, which was for American Asthma and Allergy Foundation. Through our various fundraisers and with generous support from many groups within Christ Church, we were able to raise more than \$5,000 to donate to this great charity! During the summer,



Sue Cook hosted VBS. The children learned all about creation and with Sue's guidance, they painted pictures and made a presentation entitled "In the Beginning" during the September 8th coffee hour. It was fantastic! Here is a photo of the children who made the presentation with Sue and Sunday School teacher Amanda! It is never too late to register for Sunday School, so please see Karen Cahill to register your child(ren). We are looking forward to a great Sunday School year!

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

Christ Church T-Shirts for Sale

T-shirts with a Christ Church logo are available for purchase. Shirts are grey with a black logo in the corner. Sizes small, medium and large are \$10 each. The extra-large size is \$12 each. There are also a couple of polo style shirts that are \$25 each. Contact Alison Thornhill for more information. (agard11287@aol.com)

Treasurers Commentary for October 31, 2019

- Expenses exceeded income this month by about \$8,300.
- Income (Year to date) is below budget by about \$11,000.
- Total Expenses are over budget (Year to date) by about \$6,700.
- Net (Year to date) is about \$-64,400

facebook

Christ Church is on Facebook

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

A sign outside of a church in Wisconsin

"It is possible that on entering this church, you may hear the Call of God. On the other hand it is not likely that he will contact you by phone. Thank you for turning off your phone. If you would like to talk to God, come in, chose a quiet place, and talk to him. If you would like to see him, send him a text while driving."

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.

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.

October

- 2 - Neal Onderlinde
- 7 - Nicholas Pugsley
- 10 - Emily Simone
- 15 - Adele Falk
- 19 - Sayyora Tintera
- 26 - Cathy Prekel
- 26 - Victoria Wagner
- 28 - Andrew Tintera
- 31 - Shakira Milligan

November

- 1 - Jim Birch
- 6 - Jim Witterschein
- 7 - Sue Cook
- 8 - Pat O'Connor
- 10 - Mary Ann Salerno-Fitzgerald
- 11 - Chloe Bogert
- 11 - Amanda Onderlinde
- 14 - Zachary Stewart
- 15 - Carol Egan
- 15 - Mario Tripaldi
- 19 - Barbara Hanenberg
- 20 - Megan Milligan
- 21 - Karl Schinke
- 25 - Gary Stewart
- 25 - Janet Furness
- 29 - Janet Gottheiner
- 30 - Shamiera Milligan

Bishop Hughes' Messages

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

Book of Remembrance

You may have noticed the red book on the Prayer Desk on November 3, 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.





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** - Joan Van Splinter - 973-856-4978
- **Ringwood** - 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

Baptisms

October 6

James Walter Storzum

October 12

Drew Spencer Burguillos

Weddings

October 10

Maria Music
Joseph Biondi

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.

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*

October/November 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
Graphic Innovations
www.graphinn.com*

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