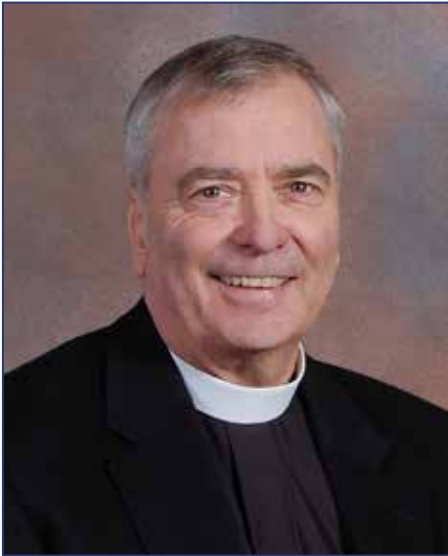


The Epistle

September, 2019



A Message from Your Priest in Charge



Dear Friends,

The Prayer of Saint Francis is one of my all-time favorites. We recite it every Sunday. Often, when something is familiar, I quit paying attention.

Lord, make me a channel of thy peace; that where there is hatred, I may bring love; that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness; that where there is discord, I may bring harmony; that where there is error, I may bring truth; that where there is doubt, I may bring faith; that where there is despair, I may bring hope; that where there are shadows, I may bring light; that where there is sadness, I may bring joy. Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted; to understand, than to be understood; to love, than to be loved. For it is by self-forgetting that one finds. It is by forgiving that one is forgiven. It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life. Amen.

Notice, first of all, that our prayer begins with being a channel of peace. Our upsets get in the way of being a channel of God's peace. They are focused on the

past, usually with the mentality of "I'm right and you're wrong."

Rather than react to the wrong, the prayer invites us into relationship by bringing forth forgiveness, harmony, hope, light and joy. The prayer is all about taking something that has happened and bringing forth the Spirit of God.

The prayer is also about focusing on the needs of the other, not my own; to comfort you, not me; to understand where you're coming from, not convincing you to understand me. To focus on giving love, not getting it. To let go of the past by forgiving.

Finally, St. Francis reminds us that when we die unto ourselves, that is to say focus on contributing to the other rather than waiting for them to contribute to me, we will experience the joy of eternal life already.

Post the Prayer of St. Francis in a conspicuous place to be reminded about something Jesus said in the Gospel. You find meaning in your life by giving it away.

Amen,

Father Stephen

May Vestry Meeting Highlights

The regular monthly meeting of the Priest in charge, Wardens and Vestry was held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The actions of the Little Lamb and Shepherd's Haven Management Groups were ratified. The report of the Treasurer was accepted subject to audit.

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

- Sue Godar presented an overview of the 2017 Audit. She made a few recommendations including combining some of the smaller checking accounts.

- As Carole Turner asked to step down from her position on the Vestry, a motion was approved that Lisa Fitzgerald fill the open position.

- A motion was approved to transfer \$1,500 from the TD Funds account into the Gift Cents account as "seed money" to purchase grocery gift cards as a fundraiser.

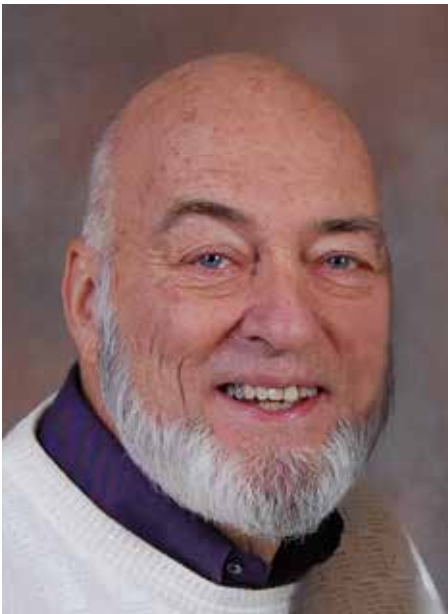
- A motion was approved to accept the gift of an organ from the Diocese and that money be made available to fund the transportation and installation above whatever donations are made.

- A motion was approved to use Vanco to manage online donations.

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, September 24, 2019.

Treasurers Commentary for May 31, 2019

- Expenses exceeded income this month by about \$9,500.
- Income (Year to date) is below budget by about \$200.
- Total Expenses are over budget (Year to date) by about \$12,900.
- Net (Year to date) is about \$-27,800



Thank You

On behalf of the Sondermeyer family, I would like to offer our deepest and most heartfelt thank you to the entire Christ Church community. My dad, Bill Sondermeyer, passed away unexpectedly on July 14. The incredible outpouring of love and compassion that was demonstrated to us through your hugs, prayers, cards, donations to the Bloomingdale Fire Department, floral arrangements, donations of food & desserts, Altar Guild help, Deacon Barbara, Father Stephen, Father Rollins, Maureen, the list could go on and on. It was overwhelming. "Thank you" does not seem adequate. They are the only two words though that I can think of at this time. With much love, Karen Bogert and family.



Shepherd's Haven Fundraiser "Musical Memories"

The annual musical show to raise funds for Shepherd's Haven will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 6 pm. It is called Musical Memories and will feature old standards as well as the great songs from Broadway musicals. Once again, the show will be directed by Joe DeSpirito. The cost is \$20 which includes a ticket for the show as well as a pasta buffet and dessert. It is a BYOB event. To arrange for your tickets, call Shepherd's Haven at 973-835-4747. Come and enjoy the music and the food.

Nursery Attendants

We are looking for volunteers to be attendants in the Nursery on Sunday mornings during the 9:30 am service. We are hoping to have at least four volunteers so that each person will serve one Sunday a month. Please see Alison Thornhill or call the Parish Office at 973-835-2207 if you are willing to help.

Grocery Gift Card Coordinator

We are looking for a volunteer to sell grocery gift cards on Sundays during the 9:30 am coffee hour. You will coordinate with Pat O'Conner who purchases the cards and sells them at the 8:00 am coffee hour. Please contact the Parish Office at 973-835-2207 if you are interested.

Flu Clinic at Christ Church

Rite Aid will conduct a flu clinic at Christ Church on Sunday, October 6 during both Coffee Hours, from 8:30 am until 11:00 am. There is a sign up sheet in the Parish Hall. Please be sure to bring your medical and prescription insurance cards.

Laying a fire

*Old newspapers rolled
into butterflies-
A black and white nest of them.
Then comes the kindling -
bits of this and that- gathered
and placed on the paper.
Last the logs.*

*The fire is laid and is
without flame.*

*So often I am waiting
like this, unlit,
longing for Your presence.
I can find the discipline,
by habit mostly, to lay a readi-
ness inside myself.
But until You strike the match
there is no passion, no heat.
Without You, I am a dark
thing, unkindled.*

*Let me be content to watch
for the stirring of your flame.
Let me learn to be ready, to wait,
to have no light.*

*Help me trust that this, too, is
obedience... That flamelessness
can also be a kind of burning...*

By Gunilla Norris.



Sunday School Update

Sunday School registration was in the beginning of September, but it is never too late to sign up! Please see Karen Cahill to register your children. We are looking forward to a great Sunday School year!

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

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.



Christ Church T-Shirts for Sale

T-shirts with a Christ Church logo are available to be purchased. Take a look at the shirt in the Guild Hall. It is a nice quality grey t-shirt 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 t-shirts that are \$25 each. You can give your payment to Sue Helm or Alison Thornhill, or leave it in the Parish Office labeled for t-shirts.

Sign Up for Confirmation

Anyone entering eighth grade or older is eligible to sign up for Confirmation. Classes will begin in mid-September and continue until Confirmation which will be in April 2020 (specific date to be determined.) To sign up, call the Parish Office at 973-835-2207, or see Fr. Stephen. You should also sign up if you are an adult and would like to be Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church.

Bookkeeper Needed

A bookkeeper is needed for Shepherd's Haven. It does not require a very big time commitment, in fact some paperwork can be done from home. Training will be provided. If you are interested in finding out more about this position, call Maureen in the Parish Office at 973-835-2207.



Christ Church is on Facebook

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

Girl Scout Troop Recycling Markers

Girl Scout troop #94889 are 7th grade students at Lakeside Middle School currently working on their Silver Award. They need to identify an issue they care about, think about how it affects the community and address the problem. They have decided to help eliminate plastic markers from our landfills by partnering up with the Crayola ColorCycle project. The Crayola ColorCycle takes all kinds of plastic markers (not just Crayola brand), whether they work or not, so they do not end up in the landfills. They accept dry erase markers and highlighters, too. They repurpose them to make asphalt and roofing shingles as well as to make electricity that can be used to heat homes, cook food, and power vehicles. Please support the Girls Scouts by placing your used markers in the receptacle in the Parish Hall.



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-September

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

2 - Paige LoBue

6 - Judy Loeb

18 - Louise Hanania

19 - Chris Thornhill

25 - Caroline Kearney

25 - Lyn Lowndes

25 - Rudy Sellitti

26 - Abby Novak

27 - Marian DeRemer

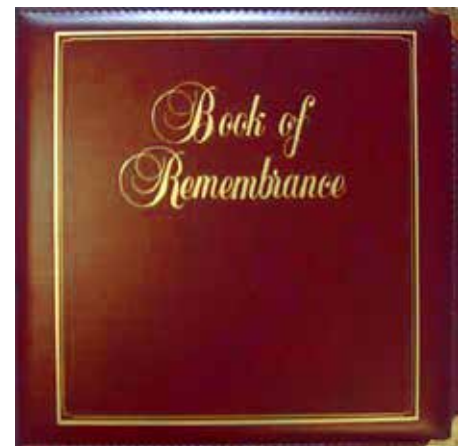
Congratulations to our Graduates - Correction

Kay Lynne Waltz did not graduate from college, as was indicated in the June Epistle. Kay Lynne Waltz, granddaughter of Pennie and Richard Waltz graduated from Newark Charter High School in Newark, Delaware in May. She attends the University of Delaware where she majors in Occupational Therapy. Congratulations to Kay, and best of luck.

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.





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** - Joyce McDiarmid - 862-262-0719
- **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



Blessing of the Animals

Bring your pets and join us in the Memorial Garden on Saturday, October 12, 2019 at 10:00 am, for a special blessing by Father Stephen. All are welcome!



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

Musical Memories

Saturday, September 28 at 6:00 pm



Tickets are \$20.

Pasta Buffet & Dessert • BYOB

400 Ramapo Avenue, Pompton Lakes • Call 973-835-4747 for tickets

A fundraiser to benefit Shepherd's Haven Adult Day Center

Baptisms

May 19

Antonio Frank Foglio

June 8

Emily Rose Westdyk

RJ Michael Westdyk

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!



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 Maureen Kilian in the church office during the week. 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*

September 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