



Our door is always open ...

The Trumpeter

Church of the Holy Spirit, 3 Haytown Road, Lebanon, NJ

www.churchholyspirit.org

April-May 2022

OUR MISSION: *to become Christ as we serve others, proclaim God's love, and grow in the Spirit*



Sunset March 24, 2020 Dave Dabour Photo

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From the Rector's Desk

A story that speaks to the grumpy elder brother in the Prodigal Son of Luke's Gospel:

A Jewish story tells of the good fortune of a hardworking farmer. The Lord appeared to this farmer and granted him three wishes, but with the condition that whatever the Lord did for the farmer would be given double to his neighbor. The farmer, scarcely believing his good fortune, wished for a hundred cattle. Immediately he received a hundred cattle, and he was overjoyed until he saw that his neighbor had two hundred. So he wished for a hundred acres of land, and again he was filled with joy until he saw that his neighbor had two hundred acres of land. Rather than celebrating God's goodness, the farmer could not escape feeling jealous and slighted because his neighbor had received more than he. Finally, he stated his third wish: that God would strike him blind in one eye. And God wept. Only those who can celebrate God's grace toward others can experience that mercy themselves. (Culpepper On Gospel p. 248).

And another story about the younger son who lost his way:

A young lion cub was far from home and found her way into a group of goats. Lonely and lost, she began pretending to be one of them, gnawing on grass, snorting, and running with the herd. Finally, the Mother lion appeared and the goats scattered. The cub kept pretending to be a goat. The Mother picked up her cub by the scruff and plunked her down by the edge of a nearby pond. "Look into your reflection," the Mother said. "Who do you see?" The cub saw her own face right next to her mother's. The Mother said, "Now you know who you are and whose you are."

There are a lot of ways to get lost. Sundays are a time to be reminded of who we are and be restored into the image and pattern of our Maker. And that pattern celebrates grace and mercy bestowed on others.

Philip+



Looking Forward

GUYS' NIGHT OUT: THURSDAY, APRIL 28TH, 7—9 PM

Join me at the Sunken Silo in Lebanon for a gathering of guys, snacks and drinks (non-beer too!).

Our only agenda item is to plan cooking a Mother's Day Breakfast between the services on May 8th. Join me if you can, regardless of whether or not you are available on Mother's Day. It's time for some fellowship with the fellows.

Philip+

HOUSE BLESSINGS 2022

Here's Fr. Phil's wonderful video of his trip around the county and beyond this past Epiphany! We are indeed blessed in our creative [and energetic...] rector and I thank him for permission to include the link. — Ed.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/qdv0148rcye8s5v/Final%202022%20W3K%20Door%20Blessings%20-%20SD%20480p.mov?dl=0>

Treasurer's Report

As of the end of February our financial results for 2022 are as follows:

	YTD	Budget YTD
Operating Revenue	\$ 60,554	\$ 52,325
Total Expense	\$ 59,146	\$ 59,010
Net	\$ 1,408	\$ (6,685)



A couple of notes regarding our finances:

- ◆ Our revenue number includes the pre-paid pledges for 2022 that were made in 2021.
- ◆ We are currently entertaining bids for the replacement of both air conditioners, which should occur during the second quarter of 2022. These units service all of the building with the exception of the Parish Hall and First Step.

Thank you to all for your continued support. Many of you have given of your time and talent, as well. We are especially blessed at CHS.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.



Sally Bird

Aid for Ukraine

All of us are upset by what is happening in Ukraine, especially when we see some of the heart-wrenching photos of children and families fleeing their homeland which is being overtaken by another country.

[On our website are details](#) about three options for helping Ukraine: one from Janet Matts, one from Hunterdon Health Care, and one from Episcopal Relief and Development.



A Note from Our Senior Warden

My hope for all is a renewed sense of optimism as we move from the pandemic to endemic phase of our marathon journey with the COVID 19 virus. While the Easter season serves as an opportunity for our own spiritual and emotional renewal, I suspect that for many of us, this will be profoundly significant this year.

The CHS Vestry has resumed meeting in person and we've begun work on our strategic plans that support a spiritual, purposeful, and continued growth of our church community. There are many tenants to this plan and I will continue to update you throughout the coming months.

Happy Easter to all!



Marianne Van Deursen

Getting Back to "Normal?"

Between services in May, we'll be offering a refresher on Sunday am ministries such as LEM's, Ushers, Counters, Altar Guild etc. Look for the schedule in your weekly emails.



AND PART OF THE "NEW NORMAL": EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

Episcopal Community Services [ECS-NJ] is a new initiative that focuses on

- ◆ proactively addressing human needs, such as food and shelter, and
- ◆ relentlessly working against both social and racial injustice.

We will accomplish these goals by:

- ◆ providing grants to our ministries and projects,
- ◆ offering educational and training opportunities,
- ◆ opening up crucial connections and networks, and
- ◆ advocating for meaningful systemic change.

Holy Spirit is one of only a dozen Founding Parishes, making an initial three-year commitment to support this outreach program. Our decades-long commitment to our sister parish Cristo Rey, Trenton, is very much in the model of what ECS envisions to be statewide. More information to come!

Joyful Noise From the Junior Warden

Spirit of Jesus, give me the courage to take my heart and look it in the face! It is absurd to be surprised to see these cravings to be special, to be invulnerable, to dominate. Only if you deepen my awareness of your indwelling and the priceless gift of intimacy with the Father which is already mine can these desires give way to the truth that I belong to others and can serve and embrace them. — Rev. Martin L. Smith



This prayer—from *A Season for the Spirit: Readings for the Days of Lent*—concludes Smith’s commentary on Jesus’ temptations in the desert (Luke 4:1-15). Vicki suggested I consider writing a *Trumpeter* article to officially introduce myself to the congregation. I think that prayer sums it all up, but it probably isn’t what Vicki was expecting. So.....

I joined CHS the first week of extended Advent 2018. “Extended Advent” was not a thing where I came from. I was intrigued. Having served in Music Ministry for many years, Advent has long been my favorite church season—Advent has **The. Best. Music.** Walking in to CHS on Advent Week 1 (of 7!).... I took that as a sign that I had found my new church home.

For almost a year, Fr. Phil “strongly encouraged” me to join choir. I needed a break from the many years of Music Ministry already completed. I longed to be just a parishioner. “Join choir” “I need a break” Back and forth, back and forth. No surprise, he won. I joined choir when Alexei joined CHS in fall 2019.

Then came augmenting the choir and bringing in orchestra members for the Bach Oratorio for Christmas 2019. Then COVID barged in to everyone’s life. No in-person services. Fr. Phil preached, Deacon Dot assisted, I cantored. For many months, just the 3 of us in the building with mics, a man-lift, laptops, bright lights, and lots of cables strung all over the space. Then Zoom mass on Powerpoint. Next, Hybrid mass with a printed bulletin. During W3K driving this January, Fr. Phil named me Precentor (*a person who helps facilitate worship; a person who leads a congregation in its singing*) for CHS.

On Vestry, my focus is everything related to Worship. I’m eager to know your favorite hymn and receive any prose/poetry suggestions you have for the weekly bulletin front page. You can reach me at ladybassist@comcast.net.

Outside of CHS you can find me in the soprano section of the Bach Choir of Bethlehem (bach.org) or in a musical theatre orchestra pit (my **happy** place) either strapped to my bass (hence my license plate) or juggling several reed instruments. Weekdays, I am the IT Manager for Coffee Bean Direct (www.coffeebeandirect.com). (Ed. Note: *this has become my coffee of choice—and I am very particular about my java!*)

I live in Clinton with my son, Nathan—who is waiting for Germany to re-open its borders so he can attend the Free University of Berlin to earn his PhD in Physics—and our 2 cats, Ella (Fitzgerald) and Louis (Armstrong).

Meg McKenna

Food Collection for Cristo Rey

We are collecting (non-perishable **only**) food for delivery to Cristo Rey, our sister parish in Trenton. There will be a special collection box/basket in the Narthex near the Red Wagon for your contributions of canned and dry foods.

Although Cristo Rey has notified us that they have a conflict with our Good Friday service day, the drive itself remains. We all are aware of rising prices everywhere. This is **especially impactful** when you live on a low or limited income. In the Cristo Rey neighborhood, there are no major grocery stores, only small mom-and-pop outlets, so shoppers were already paying higher prices for groceries before the current economic spike. Please be generous with your donations.



D. Dabour Photo

Soup, Beautiful Soup

We will be having soup suppers on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. These suppers generally include soup and bread, with perhaps some salad as an option.

Marge Keller is looking for volunteers to coordinate the Maundy Thursday supper (we already have a team for Good Friday). This would mean asking others to bring soup or bread (need about 5 soups each night to serve 8 each) and being present for service at 6:00 pm that evening. This is a **one-off volunteer** opportunity, as opposed to being a recurring event. If you can give a few hours of your time, it would be greatly appreciated. Tables and chairs will be set up by others, but if the team could recruit a cleanup crew (maybe someone would help with this if they are not into cooking). Contact Marge at 908-391-5078—text is fine.

And Speaking of Volunteers....

It seems that many businesses are seeking help, as the “Now Hiring” signs found everywhere make apparent. CHS and other volunteer organizations are no different. With the exception of our Rector, Music Director and (eventual) Administrative Assistant, everything else at CHS is done by volunteers. Below is a list of opportunities that are always in need of help. Check it out—there is something for everybody! Some of these items are longer term commitments; others are short-term or occasional needs.

- | | |
|--|---|
| Acolytes for 10:00 am | Help with Service Auction |
| Adult chaperones for Youth Group Saturday evening meetings | Help with spring yard cleanup |
| Altar guild members to set up services | Kitchen volunteers and cooks for Family Promise |
| Counters for post-service collections | Knitters/Crocheters for CHS Shawl Ministry |
| Driver volunteers for We Care recipients | Landscape Committee and members |
| Drivers for meals to Flemington Family Promise (twice a month) | LEMS (Lay Eucharistic Ministers) for services—8:00 & 10:00 am |
| Formation Leaders (1) for Adults and (2) for Youth | Singers for the choir and help with music ministry |
| Greeters for Sunday morning services | Readers for 8:00 & 10:00 am services |
| Help on Formation Committee | Serve on clean-up crew for dinners, auction, other special events |
| Help on Property Committee | Sunday School teachers (starting in the Fall) |
| Help for preparation and service of lunch at Mirota House | Teams to coordinate/prepare Sunday breakfasts |
| Help with special outreach activities such as parades | Tech team members to run Zoom and FB Live on Sundays |
| Help with CHS fellowship events | Vacation Bible School assistants (August) |
| Help with publicity to the community | Vestry members to fill partial or full terms |
| Help with Indoor Cleanup Day | |
| Help with Outreach Committee | |
| Help with various dinners/lunches through the year | |
| Help with setup for those dinners and other events | |

Easter Flower Memorials: Deadline April 10

Donations for the flowers that surround the altar at Easter are now open. You may do so online or drop a payment off at the church. Flowers may be donated *In Memory of* (a loved one we no longer see) or *In Thanksgiving for* (someone or special occasion, healing, good health, our parish family). You must include this information when you pay online or in a note submitted with your payment. A suggested donation of \$35 per memorial/occasion is requested though any amount is appreciated.



You may also send the information to admin@churchholyspirit.org. Please put "Easter flowers" in the subject line. Please submit your payment to Payable to CHS, marked Easter flowers and submit no later than **April 10th**.

NOTE: If you would like to have flowers at the altar on any Sunday, you may make the request online, in person or via email. Please include any specific reason [In memorium; In thanksgiving] along with the date you are requesting.

Information should be sent to admin@churchholyspirit.org. Please use "Altar Flowers" in the subject line. A suggested donation of \$35 per memorial/occasion is requested though any amount is appreciated. The information will be included in the Sunday bulletin and will be noted by Fr. Phil prior to the service of Holy Eucharist.

Mother's Day Breakfast (May 8th)

Father Phil is looking for a few good men to help prepare and serve Sunday Breakfast at 9:00 am on May 8th. See his announcement of a Boys' Night Out on **Thursday, April 28th** (page 2) or contact Marge Keller for more information or to volunteer if you can't raise a glass with Father Phil in April.

Rental of Facilities at CHS

Skedda is an easy to use, web-based facility scheduling app and the way we now check availability and book use of the facilities. Check it out at <https://churchholyspirit.skedda.com>. If you are interested in using any of the rooms at CHS, you can check date and room availability at the website noted above.

Once you are ready to book your event, contact Admin@churchholyspirit.org. Please enter ROOM RENTAL as your subject line. Provide the date and time of your event and the room(s) you need to reserve.

You will be contacted shortly with information about requirements.

40th Annual Service Auction Rescheduled to September

Our 40th Service Auction date has been advanced to **Saturday, September 24th**. Please save the date and plan to attend this LIVE fundraising event. Details are not yet available but stayed tuned for more information in the CHSNews, on the website and in the Trumpeter. If you would be willing to help with planning this fun event, please contact Marge Keller or Eva Lesniak. Many hands will be needed to make this yet another successful auction.

For more specific information on any of the items in this article, call, text or email Marge Keller.

908-391-5078 marge.keller@comcast.net

Good Friday Day of Service

After a two-year hiatus, we are excited to bring back our Good Friday Day of Service, in which we volunteer for activities out in the community and at CHS. The day begins at 8 am with a continental breakfast. Our morning worship begins at 9:00 am [we expect the Rev. Ann C. Holt to commission us] and then we proceed to our assignments for the day.



OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE

When you sign up, please indicate both a first choice (1) and a second choice (2). You will be contacted via email early in the week after Palm Sunday with your assignment and any items needed.

Mr. Fixit – Opportunities to assist seniors in our area with outdoor cleanup, small projects outside. Items needed: rakes, garden gloves, etc. (inclement weather – will reschedule)

Good News Home for Women – Paint an office and move a couple items of furniture. Items needed: gloves (painting supplies provided) and old clothes. Contact: Dawn @ Good New Home

CHS and Rectory - Outside

CHS – weeding, spreading mulch, stack woodpile, shrub trimming, Memorial Garden cleanup

Rectory – weeding, planting, clean up branch debris

Items needed: rakes, garden trowels, gloves, large garden shears, wheelbarrow

Craft Projects (at CHS) – various craft projects for all ages. Many require no sewing. If you have an idea that requires sewing, bring your sewing machine. One project will be tying fabric to make blankets for children. Items needed: a ruler and sharp shears to cut fabric. Contact: Dale Dabour.

Altar Guild projects – wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Altar Guild. General cleanup needed in the Altar Guild room and Keller Sacristy. Repair needed for faucet and drawer. Contact Cecilie Bulcha.

CHS inside general cleanup – Organize the old Narthex, closets and hallway cupboard. Items needed – gloves, cleaning supplies. Contact: Marge Keller

Ukrainian outreach – Maersk Shipping near Newark airport. We will be helping to organize supplies donated for Ukrainian refugees. Carpooling suggested. Contact: Jane Paradiso



To ensure we have adequate volunteers for each project, please sign up as follows:

Sign up sheet on the table in the Narthex

Via Google forms - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1n4LA2SvzVooA-nE119hKPpjrcGL-8w1YQC9okE_pG6A/edit?ts=6235f2b0

Use this QR code which takes you directly to the google form . Thank you in advance for your support of this special day.

Sally Bird

8:00 am Breakfast — Dove Hall
9:00 am Commissioning Service
Hourly prayers on site in groups
5:00 pm Worship (hybrid)
6:00 pm Soup Supper — Dove Hall



Charcuterie Game Night — Saturday, April 23rd 7:00 pm to ??

Join us for an evening of friendship, fellowship and laughs!

Charcuterie (cheese and crackers, light meats, jams and jellies, snacks and other treats will be provided, as will soft drinks and iced tea/lemonade. Feel free to BYOB, and please bring a dessert to share — or not.

If you like, bring your favorite games to play. We may or may not get to play the game you bring, but the more we have, the more we'll have to choose from. (Group games would be best—all should be easy to teach, learn and play.)

Email or text either Dale or Tracy to let us know if you plan to come and how many will be with you.

Dale Dabour: daledabour@gmail.com, text 908-432-0697

Tracy MacGeorge: tracy.macgeorge@churchholyspirit.net, text 973-865-9272

Spring CHS Picnic! Saturday, June 18th, Duke Island Park, Bridgewater

Activities include the 'Blessings of Bikes and Feet' as there will be:

- biking trails and foot paths for walking...
- a Gazebo for rainy weather
- picnic tables, grills
- a child's playground...
- and lots of fun activities and games for children and adults!

Watch the weekly news blasts and Sunday bulletin for more details.



Janet Matts



Play Ball! — Somerset Patriots Ball Game Group Outing Saturday, July 9th, 7:00 pm

Ticket prices are \$9.50 each (no charge for children under 3).

Join our Fun Bunch when we go onto the field to sing *Take Me Out to the Ball Game* to the crowd

Enjoy fireworks following the game..

Submit payment to CHS [checks should be written to Church of the Holy Spirit or CHS and be sure to indicate "Patriots Game" in the memo field.]

Please email daledabour@gmail.com with any questions.

Dale Dabour

GRAB A CAN FOR THE RED WAGON!!



Your support makes it possible to help the numerous families in Hunterdon County who rely on the Pantry. Thank you so very much for your continued generosity. If you don't find it possible to shop for the Pantry, the Open Cupboard welcomes a donation instead. And a reminder that we are currently asking for food donations to be delivered to our sister parish, Cristo Rey. While we won't be with them on Good Friday, we will be thinking of them nonetheless. (See page 6). With blessings to you all,

Suzanne and Katie Higgins

BOOK GROUP RESCHEDULED TO APRIL 24

We had planned to have the inaugural return of the book group after church on Sunday, April 3rd, but have postponed until the Sunday after Easter. We'll meet after the 10:00 am service (and on Zoom). The first is, "The Soloist," by Steve Lopez, the true story of a journalist's discovery of a skid row violinist, who once was a classical bassist at Julliard. A movie was based upon this story and the book received very good reviews. If you didn't receive a copy from me before the original meeting date, please let me know. We might have one available from the library book kit.

Suzanne Higgins

KNIT/CROCHET AND CHAT IS BACK!

We meet Mondays from 1:00-3:00 pm at the church. Come for any part of that time and if you need assistance with your stitches, no doubt there will be folks available to help you. This is among our most appreciated outreach programs and while there are busy hands still at work regardless of the pandemic, there is always a need. Ask Deacon Dot or Susan Kane if you have questions. Come and check it out — we have extra yarn, needles and hooks.

PRAYER SHAWLS

To wrap yourself in a CHS Prayer Shawl during trouble and strife can be such a comfort. Not only because it is full of love and prayers but also because you know others are thinking of you.

We have many lovely shawls so if you know anyone who would gain strength from one, please let either Susan Kane or Deacon Dot know. The shawl will be blessed by Father Phil and delivered to you directly on Sunday or mailed to the recipient.

In times of trial and tribulation the prayers of others can be such a help. We who meet on Mondays at church to knit or crochet agree that the power of prayer can work wonders.

Feel free to join us as we work together to craft these items of warmth and care. If you don't feel that you want to start with a shawl, we also create scarves and hats for the Seafarers Institute in Newark. Just ask us for patterns or check out the Seafarers website: <https://seamenschurch.org/programs-services/christmas-at-sea/>



Susan Kane

CHSchool

A NOTE ABOUT CHSCHOOL OFFERINGS - all classes and events offered with Zoom meetings require registration. To register, go to the CHSchool page on the website. Each class has a unique registration. As soon as you register, a link should be sent to your email address - in a matter of seconds. If you can't find your registration, you can go back to the CHSchool page and register again to get the link. If you have any problems, please contact Wendy Hallstrom at whhallstrom@gmail.com.

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

We are putting together a team of parishioners to plan and run Adult Formation offerings. Help is needed for both planning and presenting/facilitating offerings. Participation can be ongoing, or as you are available. If you are called to help with either — or both — needs, please email whallstrom@gmail.com.

EASTER SEASON BOOK STUDY WITH FR. PHIL - HYBRID EVENT

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm: May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Join Father Phil on the 5 Tuesdays in May to delve into *Falling Into Grace, Exploring our Inner life with God* by John Newton. "Jesus was quite clear that we must lose our life before we find it. This book gives a hopeful and realistic look at what losing our life entails, articulating how "growth" in the Christian life is not our ascent to God but the process by which our eyes are opened to the beauty God has already given to us. It is a book about descending into God, and into our own inner depths, about the deep waters of the Christian faith.



"We live in a world that values productivity and success, and we vainly imagine that God expects us to be spiritually productive and successful, too. It doesn't matter how much we talk about grace, our conversation is often narrowly focused on what we need to do for God — so much so that we often block the work God longs to do in us. This book does not articulate God's work as a process by which we become spiritually strong, but rather as the process by which we embrace our weakness as the place where we most fully experience God's perfect strength."

The Easter Book Study will be hybrid — we will meet both in person at church and via Zoom — your choice. **Everyone should register for the Zoom link**, "just in case" something comes up and you want to join virtually for a session or two. Copies of *Falling into Grace* will be available for purchase for \$20 each in the Narthex, or you may order a book through churchpublishing.org or your favorite bookstore. Ebooks are also available.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Are you an adult caring for aging loved ones? Are you looking for support from others doing the same? A new support group to help adults caring for aging parents and loved ones held its first meeting April 4th via Zoom. The group aims to provide emotional and mental support to navigate the challenges and transitions required in that support. Based on the first meeting, we have decided to go forward. Look to the weekly news for information about upcoming meetings. Deacon Michelleleslie will facilitate the group. If you were interested in participating, but couldn't make the meeting this past Monday, please email Wendy Hallstrom at whhallstrom@gmail.com to be included in future communications. Please register on the CHSchool page on the website to receive the Zoom link.

Wendy Hallstrom

Around the County



FRIENDS OF THE HUNTERDON COUNTY LIBRARY BOOK SALE APRIL 23—25

South County Fairgrounds, Lambertville

For information about the deadline for donations, to volunteer, and hours for the sale itself, please access our website: <https://www.churchholyspirit.org/events/library-book-sale>

Or the HCPL website: <https://hclibrary.us/friends/booksale.htm>

BOX CITY FUNDRAISER FOR FAMILY PROMISE MAY 21-22, 2022

It's back live! This year, Box City returns in the fresh air at Hunterdon Central High School. Conceived 12 years ago as an event to draw awareness to the issue of homelessness in Hunterdon County, Box City's volunteers promise a night of food, fun, and entertainment as they sleep in cardboard boxes and reflect on the blessings of having a home and living without instability.



To learn more about Box City, click [here](#) or contact Cyndi Mayer at (908) 782-2490 or email her at cyndi@familypromisehc.org.

GOOD NEWS HOME GOLF CLASSIC, BEAVERBROOK COUNTRY CLUB, MONDAY, MAY 23RD

A benefit for the Good News Home in Flemington, the "Rev. Ernestine Winfrey Memorial Golf Classic" returns. For details and to register, visit goodnewshome.org and click on the Events menu.

Reminder: Sanctuary Tech Team Members Wanted



You don't have to be a geek to join us... AND WE WILL TRAIN YOU!!! Are you curious about the Sound board, Cameras, Audio equipment, and Video production technology that CHS uses to "broadcast" our Sunday services on Zoom and Facebook Live? If you think you might be interested in learning how to run it, call or email the church office at 908-236-6301 or email admin@churchholyspirit.net. The more the merrier!

Eva Lesniak photos

Left: Tech Team "War Room" (behind the organ)
Right: Ron Schroeder with his two grandsons in the Pray-Ground area of the sanctuary.



Pulse of the Parish

BIRTHDAYS

April

Blake	Masenoir	4	5
Patrick	Birdsall	4	6
Roberta	Maas-Wester	4	6
Rayleigh	Masenor	4	6
Brendan	Feeley	4	9
Kaylin	Feeley	4	9
Polly	Treut	4	9
Diane	Bendahmane	4	10
Aimee	Olsen	4	10
Joanne	Shallo	4	11
Dave	Dabour	4	12
Andra	Taylor	4	13
Jane	Anderson	4	15
Mollie	Gora	4	21
Bella	Shallo	4	23
Jane	Paradiso	4	24
Dot	Hospador		29
Sandy	Burton	4	30

May

Cynthia	Schneider	5	1
Colin	Gora	5	4
Debbie	Parker	5	4
Judy	Cahall	5	12
Matthew	Cagno	5	13
Peter	Wester	5	13
Joe	Gerish	5	14
David	Livingston	5	14
Chloe	Shive	5	17
Jake	Altom	5	20
William	Altom	5	20
David	Schnaudt	5	20
Alice	Hrebella	5	23
Gary	Scott	5	25
Katie	Higgins	5	27
Denise	Shaughnessy	5	27
Marianne	Van Deursen	5	27
Aubrey	Shive	5	31

We welcome into the household of God:

Logan Thomas Schettino, to parents Cherllin and Matt and grandparents Ron & Linda Schroeder. 2/7)
AJ (Anthony John) on Feb 21, to parents Keith and Jen Paradiso and grandparent Jane Paradiso

Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord

Nina Lelchuk, pianist and formidable teacher, "the single greatest influence" on Alexei Tartakovsky's formation.
Herbert Dorflinger, brother of Carol Dorflinger, Linda West's cousin
Pat Socha, mother of Jaime Lyn and grandmother of Mollie, Colin, Erin and Joseph
Lawrence Thompson, father of Stevan
Joseph Koterba, Friend of Jeff, Jane and Eric Anderson
Gil Quinton, long-time member of CHS
Jack and Carol Johnson recently lost Jack's mother, JoAnne, in Minnesota. (Jack and Carol continue to support CHS in many ways, though they now worship at Grace UCC in Flemington.)

May light perpetual shine upon them, O Lord, whom you welcome as your faithful servants into eternal peace.

Ed Note: If you have had a recent life event that you would like us to publish in *The Trumpeter*, please send it to admin@churchholyspirit.net. We can't publish what we don't know—we would rather have duplicate information than none at all.

And speaking of information, there is much available:. Check the website, www.churchholyspirit.org, make sure you are on the church email list to receive Thursday and Saturday news blasts, and the expansive service bulletin (included as a link in the Saturday mail and at Sunday services). Vicki

Hold the Dates

Sunday

April 10 — Palm Sunday (Request for Easter Flowers due)

April 14 — Maundy Thursday (with soup supper) — live only

April 15 — Good Friday — Day of Service returns (see page 8)

April 16 — Holy Saturday—Caregivers service at 10:00 am and Easter Vigil at 6:30 with Bonfire

April 17 — Easter Sunday

April 21 — Vestry meeting (hybrid) All welcome. Ask a vestry member for the link.

April 23 — Charcuterie Game Night, 7:00 pm

May 8 — Mother's Day breakfast, 9:00 am (the guys are cooking!)

May 22 — Cooking with Father Phil

June 18 — CHS Picnic at Duke Island Park

July 9 — Somerset Patriots Game 7:00 pm

September 24 — CHS Service Auction returns live!!!

Recurring Meetings

Mondays	**1:00-3:00 pm. Knit/Crochet at the church. See Susan Kane for details
Tuesdays	**6:00 am, Bible Study (zoom link on the website) **1:30 pm Daughters of the King Discernment Study (sign up with Wendy Hallstrom at whhallstrom@gmail.com .) **7:00 pm (in May) Easter Book Study (hybrid) (May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31)
Wednesdays	**3:00 — 6:00 pm Virtual Chaplaincy with Deacon Michelleslie Call 908-442-8063 (GIB TONE)
Thursday	**7:30 — 9:00 pm Vestry meeting, usually 3rd Thursday of the month. All welcome
Fridays	**10:15 am, Second Friday Prayers with CSJB **4:00 pm — 7:00 pm, Virtual Chaplaincy with Deacon Michelleslie Call 908-442-8063 (GIB TONE)
Saturdays	**7:00—8:30 pm Youth Group Meeting
Sundays	**8:00 and 10:00 am, Virtual or in-person services (Eucharist can be delivered at home if requested). **9:00 am on second Sundays—breakfast between the services **12:00 pm — 6:00 pm, Virtual Chaplaincy with Deacon Michelleslie. Call 908-442-8063 (GIB TONE)

Meetings are held in person and on Facebook Live and Zoom where noted. Links are posted on the CHS Website, by email in Saturday's CHS News and in the Sunday bulletin. If you have questions or information to share, call the church at 908-236-6301 or email admin@churchholyspirit.net. While you're on the CHS website, see what else is going on. www.churchholyspirit.org

'Help me to know when there is water in my bucket and which fire to throw it on.' — Nadia Bolz-Weber, Lutheran Minister

From Anne Lamott**

God, what a world. What a heartbreaking, terrifying freak show.

It is completely ruining my birthday plans. I was going to celebrate how age and the grace of myopia have given me the perspective that almost everything sorts itself out in the end. That good will and decency and charity and love always eventually conspire to bring light into the darkest corners. That the crucifixion looked like a big win for the Romans.

But turning 68 means you weren't born yesterday. Turning 68 means you've seen what you've seen—Ukraine, Sandy Hook, the permafrost...Marjorie Taylor Greene. By 68, you have seen dear friends literally ravaged by cancer, lost children, unspeakable losses. The midterms are coming up. My mind is slipping. My dog died.

Really, to use the theological terms, it is just too frigging much.

And regrettably, by 68, one is both seriously uninterested in a vigorous debate on the existence of evil, or even worse, a pep talk.

So what does that leave? Glad you asked: the answer is simple. A few very best friends with whom you can share your truth. That's the main thing. By 68, you know that the whole system of our lives works because we are not all nuts on the same day. You call someone and tell them that you hate everyone and all of life, and they will be glad you called. They felt that way three days and you helped them pull out of it by making them laugh or a cup of tea. You took them for a walk, or to Target.

Also, besides our friends, getting outside and looking up and around changes us: remember, you can trap bees on the bottom of Mason jars with a bit of honey and without a lid, because they don't look up. They just walk around bitterly bumping into the glass walls. That is SO me. All they have to do is look up and fly away. So we look up. In 68 years, I have never seen a boring sky. I have never felt blasé about the moon, or birdsong, or paper whites.

It is a crazy drunken clown college outside our windows now, almost too much beauty and renewal to take in. The world is warming up.

Well, how does us appreciating spring help the people of Ukraine? If we believe in chaos theory, and the butterfly effect, that the flapping of a Monarch's wings near my home can lead to a weather change in Tokyo, then maybe noticing beauty—flapping our wings with amazement—changes things in ways we cannot begin to imagine. It means goodness is quantum. Even to help the small world helps. Even prayer, which seems to do nothing. Everything is connected.

But quantum is perhaps a little esoteric in our current condition. (Well, mine: I'm sure you're just fine.) I think infinitely less esoteric stuff at 68. Probably best to have both feet on the ground, ogle the daffodils, take a sack of canned good[s] over to the food pantry, and pick up trash. This helps our insides enormously.

So Sunday I will celebrate the absolutely astonishing miracle that I, specifically, was even born. As Fredrick Buechner wrote, "The grace of God means something like, "Here is your life. You might never have been, but you are because the party wouldn't have been complete without you." I will celebrate that I have shelter and friends and warm socks and feet to put in them, and that God or Gus found a way to turn the madness and shame of my addiction into grace, I'll shake my head with wonder, which I do more and more as I age, at all the beauty that is left and all that still works after so much has been taken away.

So celebrate with me. Step outside and let your mouth drop open. Feed the poor with me, locally or, if you want to buy me something, make a donation to [your favorite charity]. My party will not be the same without you.

******(*writer and popular lecturer, as seen in Facebook — Ed.*)

Church of the Holy Spirit — Who's Who

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www.churchholyspirit.org

**Check out CHS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/churchholyspirit>
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During the pandemic, when so much of our worship continues to have a virtual component, check the CHS website and the Thursday and Saturday CHS News for updated information. If you aren't on our email list, you'll miss a lot. Especially if you're new to our parish, make sure we know how to reach you! Don't assume that we do — nobody's perfect and there are no mind readers here! If we have your email and you aren't receiving the weekly CHS News and other announcements, you might want to check your Spam folder. Zoom and Facebook Live are simple to use. Ask if you need help. We want you with us!