



Our door is always open ...

The Trumpeter

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

www.churchholyspirit.org

November/December 2018

OUR MISSION: To know Christ as we serve others, proclaim God's love, and grow in The Spirit.



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From the Rector's Desk

We have no altar rails. I sometimes think we should have a section or two to assist those whose Eucharistic piety includes kneeling for reception of the Holy Mysteries. This is an important and meaningful custom indicating a person's humility and awe in the presence of the Holy. The notion of standing for the sacred meal is also meaningful and important, not merely a convenience. A standing meal references the one eaten by the Israelites as they prepared to escape captivity and flee to freedom. I love that we observe and respect varied customs of personal piety. That ongoing deep appreciation is heartening. The acceptance of a variation of practice indicates love. Let's keep going with love. That would be our best way forward.



When visiting a parish whose custom is kneeling, I generally observe local preference. As a man of action, it is good for me to be in a position of vulnerability and dependence now and again. What I don't like is that those same parishes have clergy that receive Communion at the altar where they stand but then have their parishioners kneel. That appears unseemly. Sure, the priest receiving first is a symbol, but of what? If it's, hey the king's food taster is showing that the food is not poisoned so come on down, well that's a mistake. If it's that the priest is now worthy to dispense it to others, it makes us wonder if the effect of Communion has an expiration date — it's all worn off since last time? If it's that the priest is being alter-Christus, in loco Jesu, the earthly representation of Christ's sacrifice, the local stand-in, we'd have to both giggle and weep. Giggle, because I know clergy and you all know me. Weep, because it both sets me up to fail and reduces parishioners to spectators. Who is the local representation of Jesus? Is not every Christian thus? Are not you?

There's plenty to deal with in this complicated world tilting more and more toward weirdness. But we, the Church, can and do focus on central and centering things, namely the dying and rising of Jesus Christ. The implication of Christ is the repeated and regular representation of that death and life in our own. Daily. Sit. Stand. Kneel. Whatever and all together. If it's Jesus we are working on imitating, we are well.

Philip+



Our dear Jean Wallace wasn't able to be with us at Blessing of the Animals at Pickell Park on October 7 (see Snapshots pages for photos). But she certainly was blessing Father Phil's own beautiful Scout at a recent visit to CHS — or was Scout blessing her? Father Phil photo

From the Deacon's Corner

[Dot's sermon Sunday September 16—Proper 19 Year B]



As some of us learned very early in Sunday school, the word “gospel” literally means “good news.” Yet this week’s gospel is full of words that sound like really bad news, words like: suffering... rejection... losing your life... and carrying your cross.

No wonder Peter tries to straighten Jesus out. Peter wants happy talk. He wants miracles. He wants a Messiah who acts like a macho-Messiah... who seizes power, crushes his enemies and rewards his friends. At least that’s what Peter thinks the Messiah ought to be doing. But Jesus has a different idea. Jesus is not the fulfillment of Peter’s fantasies. He is the embodiment of God’s love... *the Lamb of God*... here to save... here to serve.

His kingdom is not of this world and will not be won by the weapons of this world. Yet he is the greatest revolutionary the world has ever seen.

He will turn the established order on its head... changing lives, changing values, changing history... changing how we see ourselves and how we see each other... and most significantly, changing our entire relationship with God.

Poor Peter, what is he to think? Who wants a beaten Messiah... a humiliated Messiah... a crucified Messiah? You’ve got to be kidding.

That’s not what the world is waiting for. No... but that is what God sends us... a Jesus who will be beaten, humiliated and crucified... a Jesus who will suffer willingly... but a Jesus who will conquer death and rise above it all.

For our redemption, God sends us a loving, humble Jesus Christ... both God and man... to teach us how to live and how to die... and how to rise again. And if you haven’t figured it out by now... the life on earth that Jesus promises is not going to be a bed of roses.

Christ tells us that his way is the way of the cross. It does not lead to earthly triumph. It leads to sacrifice... and through sacrifice it leads to resurrection.

Jesus does not call us to follow him, to take up our cross, just to earn some bonus points towards our redemption. His cross has taken care of all that. He calls us to the cross because it is the essence of God’s unconditional love... the cornerstone of the new covenant.

And that is what he wishes for us... to live as he lived... and to rise again in his love. In this gospel, Jesus is calling us to be what we call today a “servant/leader.” It is what he has demonstrated over and over... in washing his disciples’ feet, in his compassion for the blind, the deaf and the lame, in his outreach to strangers, and ultimately in his sacrifice on Calvary. We are called to be disciples. And as disciples our lives must actively proclaim the love of Christ... not by street corner oratory... but by a life of service.

Like Jesus we must lead by serving. And in that context, leadership does not mean barking commands. It means example. It means inspiration. It means being a channel of God’s grace...witnessing the love of Christ in all we do and to all we meet.

Sacrifice and service... the words are easy to say... the life is hard to live. That is why Jesus accurately describes it as the way of the cross. In an increasingly what’s-in-it-for-me world, we are called to carry the cross of Christ against a rip-tide of secular cynicism. We are called to sacrifice and serve.

But we can answer that call with confidence: knowing that we’re not alone... knowing we’re going in the right direction... Christ’s way... the difficult way... the way of the cross... the way to eternal life.

That is the good news found in the tough words of today’s gospel. A suffering Jesus leads us to eternal happiness. A crucified Jesus conquers death... both his and ours.

The good news doesn’t get any better than that.

Peace, Dot

Musings from the Senior Warden

We have really hit the ground running at CHS this fall. The youth group and their parents did an outstanding job running the Spaghetti dinner in September. They more than met their goal to raise money for redecorating their room by earning around \$900.00. The fellowship of the evening was tremendous. We all really enjoyed the pictures from Phil's trip, as well as enjoying each other's company. We followed this with our community St. Francis Blessing of the Animals in Pickell Park. While the weather looked dicey at first, it held and we had a really nice event. Look for us to repeat that again next year. (See Snapshots section for photos of both.)



Looking forward, we have exciting news! With the rectory project finished and CO received, we were able to turn our attention to the long-awaited elevator. Bids and proposals have been reviewed and the winner accepted, and it is now officially in progress! We had hoped that there was a chance to have it in by Christmas, but manufacturing lead times, permits, etc., are making it look like January. We appreciate everyone's patience – it will be just a little bit longer.

We are entering the time of year for our stewardship drive. We are so fortunate in this community. We have talented and caring members who give freely of themselves. Our thanks to Fr. John Rollins for helping us out with Phil's illness. Thanks to Tricia Curtin, who will be helping out to cover for our Music Director, Chris Williams, during his recovery from surgery. And thanks to the many people helping with meals, laundry, driving, and other tasks Chris will need. We are truly a church family. I am asking you to keep these things in your heart as you consider your contributions for the coming year. Our special guest, Father Muller, will talk to us about financial contributions at Consecration Sunday, November 4th. We hope you can attend that Sunday to hear his words and join him for further discussion during a catered breakfast following both the 8:00 and 10:00 services. I am also going to ask you to consider your time. There are needs in the areas of Vestry, Stewardship, Sunday School – just about any ministry you can think of. It takes a lot of hands to keep this community going, and it is so worthwhile. It is enriching to get to know fellow members on a deeper level. Come join in and see what I mean!

Lastly, I wish you all a blessed Advent season as we prepare for the Savior's birth. Peace to you, my friends.

*People, look east. The time is near
Of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able,
Trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.*



Dave Dabour Photo

Cate Mattison, Sr. Warden

Oops! You missed the Directory Photo Week?



Yes, the photo directory photos were supposed to have been taken the week of October 8th...and only about 30 families made their appointments. Were you one of those who forgot? Did you think you had to pay? Did you just mess up? We still want you in the directory, so here's what you can do: Call Dave Dabour or email him at dave@dabourphotography.com or 908-995-7273. You can make an appointment with him and go to his studio (110 Birch Ln, Bloomsbury, NJ 08804). The photo for the directory and complimentary 8X10 are yours at no cost. Please call as soon as possible—no later than the Monday of Thanksgiving week (November 19).

Ed Note: There has been a misconception that if you don't have your photo taken this time Dave will use your older photo in the new directory. Not so. We adults have earned the gray hair and new wrinkles. Our children certainly have changed in four

Second Biennial Art Show—February 2019

If you are interested in working on a new art show sometime in February, please let us have your ideas and indicate what would be a good time for you to meet. Perhaps such an exchange will help to move us a bit forward and to settle on a new date for a working group meeting and a final date for the show. Our first display of creativity both within and without CHS was a great success and we look forward to another. Email me at bendahmane.robinson@comcast.net to be added to our mailing list for announcements.

Diane Bendahmane

Help Contribute to the Greening of the Church



Christmas flower envelopes for your donations towards Christmas flowers and greens for the "greening" of the church on December 23 will be available beginning November 18 on the table in the Narthex. **Donations are due by December 16** to ensure the names of the people for whom the donation is being made are included in the Christmas bulletin. To submit your donation:

- * On the envelope include your name and the name(s) for whom the donation is being made and whether it is a memorial or in thanksgiving. **Please write clearly.**
- * Put your donation (\$35 is suggested) in the envelope and place it in the collection plate on any Sunday, in the Altar Guild mailbox (in the hallway by the lower entrance) or return it to the office.

Greening of the Church

Join us after the 10 am service on **December 23** to help decorate the church for Christmas! The Altar Guild supplies the greens, wreaths, Poinsettia plants, bows and some guidance to decorate the sanctuary. You don't have to be an interior decorator to help; every pair of hands is welcome. We'll also set up the Christmas tree and the nativity scene. Come join the fun and be amazed at how beautiful our sanctuary looks when we have finished! And a reminder that we would be delighted to welcome new members of the Altar Guild. You have only to ask!

Sue Landgraf



Theology on Tap

The next selection for the Theology on Tap group is *Reaching Out* by Henri Nouwen. This is available from Amazon in both print (new and used) and electronic versions. Nouwen was a Roman Catholic priest and the author of more than 20 books — many are continuing best-sellers. He taught at the University of Notre Dame, Yale Divinity School, and Harvard Divinity School. He died in 1996.

As I understand it, *Reaching Out*, subtitled *Three Movements of the Spiritual Life*, deals with the development of a close relationship with God — where we are able to understand our own struggles and eventually reach out genuinely to others.

The plan as it now stands is to skip next week and resume our meetings on **Wednesday, October 31 (Halloween)**. However, John Rollins has pointed out that some might not want to leave their houses unattended on that day, and perhaps the restaurant (Lebanon's Fox & Hound) might be noisy with people celebrating the holiday. We may skip a week depending on the majority wish.

Whatever day we meet, please read the introduction and first chapter of the book (up to page 37). If you are not on the current email list for timely information about the meetings, please let me know by email and I'll be happy to add you (bendahmane.robinson@comcast.net). We'd be delighted to have you with us.

Diane Bendahmane

Important Dates in our Life Together

† Communion Class for 7—10 year-olds

Tuesdays from 4—5 pm: November 6, 13, 20, 27; December 4, 11

Communion Class Celebration Sunday, December 16



Tree of Jesse 2015

† Advent is Coming! (November 11—December 16)

Guest Spiritual Directors from our Convent in Mendham every Sunday of our expanded Advent, with a brief talk during worship; a fuller presentation at coffee time.

A quiet moment of spiritual practice at 11:30

+ Philip

Ed Note: Watch for news of our Formation plans for Advent and Christmas services and other special events. These will be coming to you on the website, in the regular Friday news blasts and by snail mail. Epiphany house blessings are also promised for January 5-6!



The
Trinity Chorale
Holiday Concert
December 2, 2018 - 4 pm

Featuring

- John Rutter's *Magnificat*
- Abigail Kempson, Soprano Soloist
 - John Rutter: *Magnificat* solos
 - Adolphe Adam: *Christmas Song*
- And Works by Jean Berger, Brad Nix and Moses Hogan

at

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

under the direction of

Chris A. Williams

A free-will offering will be accepted
to benefit the church's Pipe Organ Fund

Refreshments will be served in the Parish Hall following the concert



Ed Note: Abigail Kempson, featured soloist for this year's Trinity Chorale Holiday Concert, is from Wilton, Connecticut and studied voice (soprano) at Westminster Choir College in Princeton. She graduated in 2016 with a Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy. She now resides in Princeton. Chris Williams has arranged for us to hear her at the 10:00 service on November 25th. She will sing "I will extol Thee, oh Lord" from Eli by Michael Costa for the offertory and "I will sing unto the Lord a new song" from Judith by CHH Parry for the postlude.

We Care Group

Recently a few messages have gone out to those in our church family who are part of the We Care group. We are grateful to say that Jane P is healing well at home after her surgery and Ed F is home now after his surgery and rehab. Please remember them in your prayers and perhaps plan a visit out to Ed, who will be homebound for some time!



We are organizing help for our wonderful Chris Williams as this is being written. He has back surgery scheduled for October 29th to alleviate the significant pain he has been in for several months now. On the CHS website is a sign-up document for meals and other chores he needs help with. You don't have to be Emeril Lagasse to sign up to make and deliver a meal! A basic home-cooked meal is much appreciated! The Youth Group is organizing to assist with yard work thru the fall to relieve Chris of this. Transportation will be needed at later dates for doctor appointments, etc.

Chris will have a We Care Angel! So maybe this is a good time to review what this is. An angel is an organizer or coordinator between the person we are helping and the people wishing to help. The Angel finds out the specifics of what the needs are (be it meals, groceries, transportation, visits, babysitting, perhaps dog walking, plant watering etc.) then puts out a schedule to be filled in by volunteers. The angel keeps on top of the schedule as things move forward. It does not mean you fill in any slots that remain unfilled yourself! We all do our best, that is all we can do! Our group is wonderful to work with and rarely do we have difficulty providing the assistance that is asked for.

If you would like to be part of the We Care group or want more information about it please contact either Susan Kane or Sue Quinlan for more information.

Thank you all for all you do!

Sue Quinlan & Susan Kane

Are You Receiving CHSNEWS Every Friday?

If you are not getting this chock-full-of-news email each Friday, you could be missing some important information or a fun event.

CHSNews is sent weekly to anyone who is on the email lists maintained by our Webmaster, Jan Paxton. If you've not provided your email to Jan, you could be missing out.

CHSNews lets you know what to expect on Sunday, provides links to the Ministries, and includes an events calendar for activities at church and in our community with links for details.

Don't get left out in the cold! Subscribe now by sending your preferred email address to webmaster@churchholyspirit.org or sign up on the CHS website.

And, have you seen our website lately? Click on www.churchholyspirit.org for all the news from CHS.

P.S. Have an event you want published? Send that to webmaster@churchholyspirit.org and admin@churchholyspirit.org

Marge Keller

Filling the Red Wagon

Since the Open Cupboard continues to list cereal and canned soup among their most needed items, we will extend our concentration on them through November and December. Their website lists other needs: canned tuna, toilet paper, soap, shampoo. Our food collection gift suggestions also include ShopRite gift cards (your donation of gift cards enables the Pantry to purchase perishable items such as meat, fish, milk, eggs, cheese etc.) or you can access the pantry's website: <http://opencupboardfoodpantry.org/>. Click on the "Current Needs" tab for ideas.

Julie and Katie would like to thank the parishioners of CHS for their continued generosity. There but for the grace of God.....



Suzanne Higgins

Spirited Readers Book Club

We are currently reading Ernest Hemingway's classic, *For Whom the Bell Tolls*.

We will meet for discussion in the St. Julian Room on **Sunday, November 18** following the 10 o'clock service. This was the late Senator John McCain's favorite book and it seems especially pertinent given that the previous Sunday is Veterans Day, which this year marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I. The Spanish Civil War that this novel depicts followed less than two decades later.

Whether or not you have read the book, please join us and help choose our next selection.

Suzanne Higgins

First Sunday Breakfasts:

Our October breakfast was held on the second Sunday, as we were blessing animals in Pickell Park on October 7th (see Snapshots pages for photos of that lovely event). Judy Linger volunteered to coordinate her first breakfast at CHS and treated us to French Toast, spoon bread, ham, an egg/potato casserole, and copious amounts of fresh fruit. Katie Gnash and Vicki Brooks added bagels with fixings, a gluten-free egg casserole, special breads, rolls and Danish to the meal.

November's breakfast will be a catered affair on **November 4th** to be served following each service as part of our Consecration Sunday. We hope that you can attend to hear the guest speaker and enjoy a wonderful repast prepared by our Lebanon neighbor, Gourmet Expressions.

If you are interested in forming a group to arrange a future first-Sunday meal, check the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or contact Carol Crawford-Jones, the coordinator, for more information, at carolcj@prolog.net.



Clinton Bagel photo

Vicki Brooks

Y2Y Rocks! November 18, 2018 is Youth Sunday

Join us at the 10 o'clock service on November 18, the last Sunday of Advent, when our wonderful group of younger members (grades 6 and up) will be serving in all of the lay ministries. We are very fortunate to have so many of the millennial generation at Holy Spirit and they add great energy and enthusiasm to our worship together. We're hoping for a great turnout, and don't want to miss anyone. Look for the handout in the Narthex and return the form or let Trish Simpson-Curtin know what activities you are interested in. Email simpsoncurtint@yahoo.com or call (908) 210-2782 with your questions.

Knit & Chat

This lively group now meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm in the St. Martin Room. This ministry is open to all; men and women, experienced or novice. Prayer shawls, lap blankets and scarves are knitted or crocheted. We can teach, and you are welcome regardless of whether or not you are part of the CHS prison ministry. Contact Karen Murray at kjbmurray@embarqmail.com or 908-478-6032.

Pulse of the Parish

Welcome to the following families who have begun to worship with us:

Paul & Heather King of Whitehouse Station
 Kevin & Alissa O'Connell of Lebanon
 Alison & David Schnaudt of Whitehouse Station
 Karen Skillington & Kevin Kuzmen of Flemington

Congratulations to:

Dave Dabour and Dale Carney on the birth of their first granddaughter, Abigail Rae Tanhauser, on August 22nd.
 Susan and Joe Gerish on the September birth of Corey Lane L'Heureux, their first granddaughter.

Condolences to:

Judy Emmitt on the death of her brother, Thomas Palmer
 Andy Follansbee on the death of his younger brother, David Jr.



Vicki Brooks

Snapshots



Y2Y Spaghetti Fundraiser Dinner with Father Phil Travelogue. September 16, 2018. John Altom Photos (above)



Toddler Church September 2018 Jeff Gora photo



Family Promise Food Preparation October 1, 2018 Andra Taylor photo



Blessing of the Animals, Pickell Park, Whitehouse Station, October 7, 2018. Jack Daniels photos





Alison Schnaudt photo

Blessing of the animals at Pickell Park, Whitehouse Station, October 7, 2018
Jack Daniels photos (except as noted)



In the Spotlight: What are our young people's dreams and aspirations? This wonderful young lady wants to be a nurse specializing in helping Alzheimer's patients. Wow! Linda Canulette photo



Jon Babek shares his spiritual journey with us from Hong Kong, October 21, 2018
Eva Lesniak photo

HOLD THE DATES

OCTOBER

31 Theology on Tap

NOVEMBER

4 **Consecration Sunday (also All Saints)**

5 Culinary Angels

6 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

7 Theology on Tap

13 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

14 Theology on Tap

15 Vestry Meeting (**note special date**)

18 **Youth Sunday (10 am service)**

Spirited Readers Book Club

19 Culinary Angels

20 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

27 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

28 Theology on Tap

DECEMBER

2 **Trinity Chorale Holiday Concert**

3 Culinary Angels

4 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

5 Theology on Tap

11 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

12 Theology on Tap

16 Christmas Flower Donations due

17 Culinary Angels

18 Communion Class

Youth Group Meeting/Bible Study

19 Theology on Tap

23 **Greening of the Church following Lessons and Carols**

24 **Christmas Eve with three services**

25 **Christmas Day**

JANUARY

5-6 **Epiphany with Parish-wide house blessings**

27 ANNUAL MEETING—PLEASE JOIN US!!

Check the CHS website and the weekly Friday email news for updated information: churchholyspirit.org

Church of the Holy Spirit — Vestry and Staff

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The Rev. Dorothea N. Hospador, Deacon

www.churchholyspirit.org

**Check out CHS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/churchholyspirit>
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