



Our door is always open ...

The Trumpeter

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

www.churchholyspirit.org

September-October 2017

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

Mystagogy



We are all unfinished Christians. The journey begins at the bath. Our baptisms, be they infant or adult, are just the beginning. We only find perfection once fully and completely in the immediate and full presence of God with all the Saints who have gone before us. So while drawing breath, we remain unfinished.

The preparation for our initiation into the Kingdom of God through Baptism includes a time of reflection on the meaning of the Holy Mysteries, as we call the Sacraments. There is no reason to think the virtue of reflection ever comes to an end. The most powerful life-giving question a human can ask is simply this, "What does it mean?" What does it mean that this or that happened to me? What does it mean that I feel this way about this, that or the other? What does it mean? The Christian should become skilled in asking and ruminating upon that central question with some regular discipline.

Mystagogy is one of those words rooted in ancient practices of the Church which are seeing a recovery today. It comes from the word we use for mystery. Not the mystery of solving a crime or found in Agatha Christie. In this sense mystery is understood as something to solve. The mystery of our life in Christ is not solvable in that sense. The Divine Mystery is awe, wonder, silence, roar, and whisper; known and felt yet wordless and incomprehensible. In the ancient Church, the newly baptized entered the Great Easter period with a time of purposeful reflection on what had just happened, and happened to them. What did it mean to be baptized? What did it mean to be anointed? What did it mean to receive the Body and Blood of Christ? The seven weeks following the Feast of the Resurrection were an intensive time of reflection upon the encounter. What does it mean to be Christian?

One can imagine at Church of the Holy Spirit that after Easter, a new Christian would have a grand time of thinking about what it meant to be gathered around the bonfire as the great stories were read, what it meant to be walking back up to the waters of baptism, to go inside the church, to renounce evil, to shout our Alleluias, to sing and hug and laugh and pray and reach out to touch and taste. But reflection and asking the important questions are not just for the newly baptized and neither are they just for Eastertide.

I am wanting a weekly (or as often as possible) mystagogy: a moment of sitting together after worship with whoever would feel called to it, and just for several minutes. This would be a time simply to reflect upon what just happened. Where in the past hour or so did God speak to me? What word or note of music or action or mistake or greeting or piece of paper or smell or taste carried an encounter with God and how do I understand it so? It might or might not include a reflection on the sermon, or the anthem or verse of scripture or hymn. It might just be the conversation with a new parishioner, or the taste of the coffee, or the weather, or the light through a window. It might be the words of a prayer, a torn page in an old prayer book, a lector's intonation of a single phrase. After the postlude and some time to chat with folks in the Narthex, those remaining would sit down somewhere and quietly listen to each other offer their reflection upon the mystery of the Word made flesh that dwells among us. There's no outcome or advanced expectation here. This is not a critical feedback group so we can shape and market our worship to be more effective. Nor is it fishing for compliments. Neither is it a confidential support group. Nor is it a conversation. The last thing I want in a reflective space is a chat, an argument, or a need to agree. This is not trying to solve a problem or address an issue. Simply offering of what just happened. It is just a few unfinished Christians sharing how God was available in that moment of worship.

The virtue of mystagogy is a heightened awareness that our Guest has come, that what we do together gathered as the Body actually incarnates the very thing we hope, and that we might become wiser and more fluid in our capacity to give voice to that presence. I am thinking of shaping this to a real thing by All Saint's Sunday. No need to have it compete with coffee time, or choir rehearsal, and no need to have minutes taken or any leadership. Certainly open to all ages, especially all ages. In our true Anglican ethos, this is an open invitation, as in all may and none must. Come. Don't come. No worries.

From The Deacon's Corner

Deacon Dot's sermon on The Transfiguration, August 6, 2017: reproduced at the editor's suggestion for those who might have been away



In the early 1940s, a New Testament scholar named Rudolph Bultmann claimed that human knowledge and mastery of the world had advanced to such an extent through science and technology that it was no longer possible for anyone seriously to hold the New Testament view of the world. The spirits and miracles of the New Testament are unintelligible and unacceptable to the modern world. That was over 80 years ago.

In view of today's advanced technology what are we to say about today's Gospel reading of the Transfiguration of Jesus. Is this just one of those events in the life of Jesus that Bultmann would say is *"unintelligible and unacceptable to the modern world"*?

The Transfiguration is a strange story. Dazzling white clothes – a conversation with heavenly figures – the appearance of Moses and Elijah – God's voice booming from the clouds – all of this is outside our normal experience. This was **way** outside the experience of those who witnessed these events.

What shall we do with stories in the Bible that take us beyond our own experiences: like raising people from the dead, the miraculous healing of lepers and epileptics, giving people back their sight and hearing, enabling people who are helplessly paralyzed to walk again, and in today's Gospel, the dazzling appearance of Jesus as he talked with two Old Testament heroes – Moses and Elijah?

Should we skip over texts like we have today and focus on what is real and possible in today's world? Of course, to do that would mean believing that miracles no longer happen.

There is a story about a young priest who visited an elderly lady who was very sick in a hospital. He entered the room and saw her lying on the bed, gasping for breath. He decided to have a short visit, so as not to tire her. He asked, "Would you like me to pray for you?" She nodded yes.

"What would you like me to pray?" asked the young priest.

"I want you to pray that I will be made well; that God will give me health", the old lady said.

The young priest gulped. But he prayed, praying something like, "God, if it be your will, restore this person to health. However, let us accept your will, so that whether she receives her health or not, she will know that you are still close to her."

When the prayer ended, the old lady's eyes flashed open. She sat up. She startled the priest by throwing her legs over the side of the bed. She stood up. She stretched out her arms. She turned around to the astonished young priest and said, "I feel better. I feel a great deal better. In fact, I feel like I have been healed!"

With that she walked out of the room, headed down the hall toward the nurse's station, shouting, "I'm healed!"

The young priest staggered out, went down the stairs, out the door of the hospital and into the parking lot. As he stood at his car, the young priest looked up to heaven and said, "Don't you ever do that to me again!"

Maybe you are a bit like that young priest -- you would like to believe in miracles but that sort of thing just doesn't happen these days.

On the other hand, have you experienced the miraculous?

Recently, a young person ran off a country road after passing an oncoming vehicle and was heading straight for a tree. Before hitting the tree, the car came to a stop – it had become caught up in a fence, thus slowing it down until it came to a stop. The injury that might have been caused was averted. Was that a miracle?

(continued)

From The Deacon's Corner (continued)

Some would say it was “good luck”.

Others might say that it was a coincidence.

With the eyes of faith, we can say that God's hand rescued that young person from harm. This was one of God's miracles. When it comes to the unexplainable in our Christian faith, like miracles, we are tempted to reduce our faith to what is rational and understandable. We feel that modern people just don't accept what is incomprehensible.

It has been said: “If we think that we can be Christians and deny the miraculous, we are mistaken.”

How can that be? This is why – the very fact that we are children of God is a miracle. In fact, as wonderful as being healed of a sickness or rescued from a tragedy might be, this is a far greater miracle.

Martin Luther, when explaining the work of the Holy Spirit said, *“I believe that on my own I can never come to Jesus Christ my Lord, or believe in him, no matter how hard I try. But the Holy Spirit has called me to Jesus by the good news about him. The Spirit has led me to know and trust Jesus, made me holy, and kept me in the Christian faith.”* This is the miracle of faith. Our relationship with God, our knowledge and trust, faith that believes that Jesus died *for us*, that he rose from the dead *for us*, is only possible through the miraculous working of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

The Holy Spirit creates in us the miracle of faith.

Jesus wants to give us his miraculous grace – he wants us to receive his powerful and unquenchable love for us. He wants to give us the miracle of forgiveness – to wipe away all the bad that we have ever thought, said and done. He wants to create in us the miracle of faith.

This is not just a once only miracle – but a miracle that God does every day.

Even when we offend God in the worst ways, even when we doubt that God cares for us, even when we feel that we are too weak to overcome our temptations and weaknesses, the Holy Spirit keeps coming to us in a miraculous way to remind us that we have a special place in God's heart and that he forgives us.

The miracles recorded in the New Testament changed people's lives. To an even greater degree the miracle of faith changes our lives and we find ourselves ready to serve. The holy and loving God claims us, sinful though we are, as rebellious as we are, to be a light in this world. Now that's a miracle!

Peace, Deacon Dot



From our Deacon in Training: Michelleslie Maltese-Nehrbass

Did you know that, as part of our outreach ministry, we partner with three other churches to bring the residents at Independence Manor in Flemington (behind BJ's) a Sunday service once or sometimes twice a month? Our own Greta Tump often accompanies on piano.

We are looking for volunteers of all ages to help assist the residents throughout the service. Assistance could be helping them find the correct page (or just make sure they are on the correct page), going to a few of the residents' rooms to wheel them to the service, or assisting with the chalice. We have a schedule which can be found downstairs outside the office.

If you would like to join us, or for more information, please let me know. Thank you. The link to Independence Manor's website is reproduced here: <http://www.independencemanor.com/>

Michelleslie

Words from the Senior Warden

The Vestry typically does not meet over the months of July or August. However, this summer we have found it necessary to convene twice due to urgent property business, as you will glean from Junior Warden Jon Babek's update, contained on the next page.

We are very grateful for the conditional approval to progress with the rectory renovations. Once the conditions of approval for the church are cleared, we will also pursue permits to begin installation of the Wheelchair Lift (a.k.a. Elevator).

Following our September Vestry meeting, we will be able to provide the financial report — that would ordinarily be found in the Trumpeter — via our church website.

In parallel with all things Property, other key Vestry initiatives have also been progressing, which I find very exciting. Holy+Formed plans for the Hospitality, Harvest and Advent Formation modules are crystalizing rapidly. (See below). Web Guild plans to leverage the Google G Suite technologies to support church administrative needs are moving forward. And Outreach and We Care In-Reach ministries continue to be woven throughout the fabric that is recognized in our community of faith.

Our Vestry meetings are open to anyone who is interested or curious. I invite you to attend the next meeting, to be held on **September 19th at 7:30pm**.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Lesniak



Holy+Formed

Every week from now until the end of May, and even on High Holy Days and civic holiday weekends like Thanksgiving and Memorial Day, there will be a moment of formation (Sunday School programming) for all ages. Here's the ethos:

I hear and I forget -- I see and I learn -- I do and I understand

Our formation program happens every Sunday starting at 9:50 am with a "Black Bag" or "Rock Talk" with Father Phil at the Altar. Children will participate in directed Formation outside the Sacristy from 10:00 am through the Peace. On weeks when Father Phil is not preaching he will be with the children during this time. For each module, children will be participants one Sunday for the entire service.

Modules & Bible Story focus:

Welcome & Hospitality (September 10-September 24) : Prodigal Son

Harvest (October 1-November 5): Loaves and Fishes, Ten Lepers

Advent (November 12-December 24): Sheeps & Goats; Matthew 25:31-40

Charter Church & We Care January 7-February 11): Epiphany/Story of Three Kings, Good Samaritan

Lent (February 18-March 25): Passion Prediction & Transfiguration

Creation (April 8-May 20): Genesis 1

Our instructors and mentors are from across the whole parish and commit themselves to just one or two sessions of mutual passion and interest. Fr. Phil will be directly recruiting a few more mentors in the coming weeks. Why not listen to your heart and align yourself with the course outline and proactively volunteer? Text Fr. Phil @ 908-894-0090 if you think you can offer your talents to this very important time in the life of our young people.

Fr. Phil and Michele Marlow

Musings from the Junior Warden

To the Congregation:

The past few months have taxed our resources to fulfill the town requirements to receive our final approval for the church property. The end result of our efforts is that we have received conditional approval for the Church, and received the waiver required to begin work on the rectory.

To go into greater detail, we were able to cut a deal with the Board of Adjustment. In exchange for a conditional final approval, we have agreed to a laundry list of property upgrades. While most of these are superficial, like planting trees and moving parking signs, there is one that is significant.

The original parking lot was made of gravel, in accordance with the drawings at the time. While we had commissioned a stormwater report back in 1997 that dictated the size of the basin pond at the back of the property, we have been unable to find a copy of that report. From the best of our recollection, the basin was sized for a paved parking lot and, over the years, we have paved roughly two-thirds of the lot. The drawings show that the lot was to be made of gravel, and the town needs proof that the pond is large enough to handle a paved parking lot. To compound the issue, the stormwater rules have been changed since then.

All this leads up to our deal with the town: if we recreate the report and it shows that our building as it sits today satisfies the 1997 stormwater rules, they will give us final approval. If it does not, we will have to commission a new stormwater report and update the property to meet current code. We have asked Van Cleef Engineering to perform these calculations.

The good news is that by the time this goes to print, we will have received the building permits and will have started work on upgrading the rectory. We will also be well underway on the new stormwater report.

Thanks for being so patient through this process and we look forward to putting this all in our rear view mirror. If you have any questions, or wish to contribute to the ongoing dialog, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Yours in faith,

Jonathon Babek



See CHS Website for Details—a super tribute to a super guy who left us too soon.



Larry Helwig Memorial Golf Outing

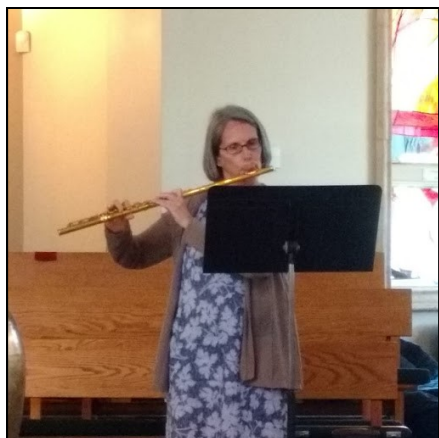
Monday, October 16, 2017

9am Shotgun Start

Tamarack Golf Course
97 Hardenburg Lane
East Brunswick, New Jersey

Proceeds will be used for scholarships to deserving SWMHS golf team players who display the ethics and traits Coach Helwig instilled in his students and players.





Jane and her golden flute
June 2017

How astonishing. The people of the Church of the Holy Spirit enveloped me in the love of God, wrapping me in arms of peace, helping me ride out the storm of despair in my soul. This is my prayer: thank you God for your people who share your love every day. May they be examples everywhere of what it looks like and feels like to follow Jesus. May your love continue to wash over us, cleanse us, and heal us. Us and Your whole world. Amen.

—Jane Stieglitz Roxbury

Ed note: I received this lovely prayer from Jane just in time to include as she wished — she is safely in Utah near her family and will be moving into her new home there before long.



*They who had scorned the thought
of any strength except their own to lean on
learned at length,
how fear can sabotage the bravest heart.*

*And human weakness,
answering to the prod of terror, calls:
'Help us, O God.'*
*Then silence lets the Silent Voice be heard,
bringing its message like a spoken word.*

Believe.

Believe in me.

Cast out your fear.

Oh, I am not up there beyond the sky,

but here,

right in your heart.

I am the strength you seek.

Believe.

Ed note: We remembered dear Jim Keller on Sunday, August 27th, the first anniversary of his passage into greater glory. Father Phil read this poem from "God is My Co-Pilot", a book and (later) movie from the 1940s, which he and Jim had shared in the weeks preceding Jim's passing. Marge suggested that it be included here. Given the current turmoil in the world, may we find it particularly comforting.

We Care

Just before our dear faith family member, Jane Roxbury, left for her new life in Utah, I was fortunate enough to meet with her for breakfast.

She was nervous and apprehensive about the upcoming changes in her life but I assured her once Theo (her grandson) wrapped his little arms around her neck she'd know she was going to be okay.

One of the things she wanted to discuss with me was our **WE CARE** program. She was overwhelmed, appreciative and moved by all the support she received after her terrible accident and wanted to know how it all worked.

Well...I explained to her that it was really a "work in progress"!

Jane felt it had been a wonderful support for her at a very low and tragic time in her life and thought she could perhaps pass it on.

We are very fortunate at CHS to have such a loving, caring, compassionate congregation. We often have more volunteers for any given situation than we need.

The Guardian Angel idea is really the only concrete structure we have in place. Every situation is different and unique but we are almost always able to meet the challenge.

Sue Quinlan and I have recently been joined by Vicki Brooks, who serves as our "man on the ground" when Sue and I are traveling. We asked Vicki if she would mind keeping her eyes and ears open for any needs she may become aware of and let us know. Ah, the wonders of e-mail!

Once a Guardian Angel is appointed it all becomes a little easier as that person then becomes the main contact for assistance. As I have said in the past, it does NOT mean the Guardian Angel does it all but simply helps formulate/coordinate the help required - rest assured, there's lots of it!

Jane listened carefully to all this and is hoping she may be able to establish a **WE CARE** program once she has found a new faith family.

We are ALL members of the group; nobody is excluded. Sometimes it's as simple as a hand-written note or a hug. We are very good at caring for each other and folks outside our faith community have told me they know this about Church of the Holy Spirit.

We are all truly blessed!

Susan Kane



Knit & Chat and Shawl Ministry

Note from the Editor: Don't be intimidated by the artistry of this wonderful blanket that one of our participants at Edna Mahan recently created. Jenny T. has a remarkable talent that helps to sustain her during the long days in Maximum Security (and she only has four hours a week to work on her art). Some of us, whether or not we volunteer at Edna Mahan, try to meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at CHS to knit or crochet and exchange ideas and support. We welcome all, regardless of

your experience in the needle arts; there will be expert hands to assist you and lots of yarn to spare. If you are interested in volunteering for the life-changing experience that is Shawl Ministry at Edna Mahan, we can give you information. Call me at 908-752-3062 or email me at gracehappens@centurylink.net if you have questions.

Thanks. *Vicki*



Put Your Mettle to the Pedal

Holy Spirit Peddlers! Love to bike ride? Would you like new friends to ride with? Want to explore the area on two wheels? A new biking group is forming, led by parishioners Dale Dabour and Eva Lesniak! We will try to meet once a month in the nicer weather. Our first ride will be on **Sat. Sept. 16th at 9:30 am with a rain date of Sun. Sept. 17th at 1:30 pm** on the Columbia Trail. The trailhead for the Columbia Trail is located on Main Street in High Bridge. We will ride for about 10-15 miles

depending on the ability levels that are present. Our second ride will take place on Sat. Oct. 14th. Time and place TBD. If you are interested in joining us, please email Dale Dabour at daledabour@att.net. All ages and ability levels are welcome!

(Painting by Whitney Wetherill; reproduced with permission)

Filling the Red Wagon

Katie Higgins and Julie Schmidt are continuing the collection of food donations for Clinton's Open Cupboard Food Pantry. The special request for September is Back To School Snacks: juice boxes and appropriate snacks - eg. goldfish crackers and granola bars.. [Thanks to Judy Linger for the suggestion.]

For October, we would suggest canned soups. Katie and Julie appreciate, as always, your generosity to those who are less fortunate.

Please do not leave any donations in the Parish Office/Undercroft. Please put them in the Food Pantry Cart in the Narthex.

Suzanne Higgins



Spirited Readers Book Club



The Book Group will meet on **Sunday, September 17th**, following the 10 am service, to discuss "The Devil in the White City." I am determined that we meet to discuss this wonderful description of true events during the 1892 Chicago World's Fair.

Our next book selection will be decided at the September meeting; watch the Friday emails and the website for details.

Suzanne Higgins

Music at Holy Spirit

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord! Have a reserved seat and refresh your spirit.

Calling all Volunteers

Senior Choir: we began September 3th at 11:30 am

For teenagers and adults. Rehearsals 9:30-9:45 am and 11:30-12:15 pm on Sundays. Various styles of music are sung and special services include Advent Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve, and Easter. Only one skill is required: be at rehearsals. If interested, contact our director, Chris Williams (email: music@churchholyspirit.org)

Junior Choir: we begin Wednesday, September 13th 6:45-7:45 pm

For ages 7 - 14. Younger children are welcome if they prove to be good readers. Rehearsals are held weekly and Wednesday evenings. During this time, practical singing skills, music reading skills, unison, two-part music and handbell instruction are taught. Children sing at the 10 am service once a month. Please fill out and hand in the form available on the website. www.churchholyspirit.org

Trinity Chorale

Trinity Chorale begins its 35th season with the first rehearsal on **Thursday, September 14th**. The Chorale is made up of singers from both our local communities and Pennsylvania. Our first event is the traditional gala holiday concert and reception on **Sunday December 3th at 4:00 pm**.

Peter Griggs Guitar Concert: October 29, 4 pm, at CHS

"500 Years of Music For Guitar" -- a chronological tour of the guitarist's repertoire from the Renaissance to the Contemporary (also including Baroque, Classical, flamenco, jazz and Brazilian music).

There is no admission charge. Offered as a part of the Jane Self Burnham Scholars Program; freewill offerings will be accepted to benefit the Hurricane Harvey Relief Fund.

Peter Griggs is a guitarist and composer from New York City. Over the past fifteen years he has presented literally hundreds of concerts in churches large and small throughout the USA and Europe, and has come to appreciate the special atmosphere, acoustics and fellowship such concerts offer. The program includes music by J.S. Bach, Gaspar Sanz, Bartolome Calatuyud, Django Reinhardt, Thelonious Monk and Baden Powell - as well as the artist's own compositions.



Chris Williams, Director of Music



First Sunday Breakfasts — Use your Culinary Skills!

Sunday Breakfast Teams Needed. The sign-up sheet for 2017-18 is now available in the Narthex. We already have a team signed up for April, but the other months (November through June) are still available. The more, the merrier! Being on a breakfast team is a great way to get to know other parishioners - just pick a month, then approach others to join your team. It works! Let's see how quickly we can get all the months covered. Plain or fancy - it's the fellowship that counts. Questions? Contact Carol Crawford-Jones at carolcj@prolog.net.

Carol Crawford-Jones

Veteran's Haven North

The State of New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs operates Veteran's Haven North in Glen Gardner, a halfway house for homeless veterans. The house is in constant need of consumable items which are presented to each new resident as they enter the program.

The following is a "Wish List" of their current most acute needs:

Shower shoes (flip flops) in all sizes for men and women; NEW Twin XL bed linens; AM/FM Alarm Clocks; USB thumb drives; Single-use Laundry Pods (Laundry Detergent); Fabric Softener Sheets; NEW clothing in all sizes for men and women; Reusable laundry bags.

There will be a box in the church narthex labeled Veteran's Haven North for our donations to these men and women who have served. Thank you for your help.

Any questions can be directed to Judy Linger at judy.linger@gmail.com or cell (772) 321-4885.

Judy Linger



Christmas at Sea

If you are traveling for business or pleasure this fall, please consider bringing back any hotel toiletries you don't use. [Ed note: An extra trick: if you're at a hotel for more than one day and don't feel uncomfortable saving the daily horde of goodies so that you get replacements the next day, that would be great — the more the merrier! After all, this is for a good cause! And if you want to join us at Knit and Chat on the first and third Mondays of each month, we have patterns to create warm winter scarves. We can supply the yarn, too!]

In November we'll be making ditty bags for mariners as part of Seamen's Church Institute's **Christmas at Sea** project, and small toiletries are included in the bag. There is a basket in the Narthex to collect them. Thank you.

June Filipski

CHS is Taking It on the Road!

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT INVITES YOU TO
THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST FRANCIS

This is a community event open to all pets and their owners. For your pets' safety and comfort, please use appropriate leashes, carriers, containers, etc. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket for sitting during the service.



We will be collecting pet supplies for the offering. Along with food, litter, etc., you can bring used towels and blankets. These will be given to shelters who are caring for animals displaced by Hurricane Harvey.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2017
SERVICE BEGINS AT 10:00 AM

PICKELL PARK
515 MAIN ST
WHITEHOUSE STATION, NJ 08889



This event is an outreach of the Church of the Holy Spirit, Episcopal. People of all faiths are welcome. Please check our website for updates.

 Church of the Holy Spirit
Our door is always open
3 Haytown Road - Lebanon, NJ 08833
<http://www.churchholyspirit.org/>

As part of our Harvest module, we are moving our traditional St. Francis day Blessing of the Animals service to Pickell Park in Whitehouse Station. This event will be open to all, so please invite your friends, neighbors, anyone who loves their animals to join us in this celebration. We will be collecting pet needs to donate to the local shelters that have been accepting animals displaced by Hurricane Harvey. In addition to food, cat litter, etc, shelters also need towels, blankets and other comfort items. These do not need to be new, just clean. Posters will be available in the Narthex for sharing throughout the community. Please spread the word! Thanks!

Cate Mattison

Pulse of the Parish

Congratulations: To Eli Jones on his induction as an Eagle Scout. The Court of Honor was held at CHS on June 24th.

We welcome into the household of God: Mary Quinlan, daughter of Amy and Missy Quinlan, granddaughter of Sue Quinlan, baptized at CHS on July 23rd.

Birth: Daisy James Emmitt, granddaughter of Judy and Richard Emmitt, in August.

Weddings: Scott Henry and Elena Smirnova at CHS on June 30th. Scott is the son of Pat and Norm Henry, longtime parishioners who both passed away recently.

Austin Carr-Jones, son of Father Philip and Janmarie Carr-Jones, and Erin O'Connor on August 5th Father Phil performed the ceremony in Mystic, Connecticut.

Deepest Sympathy: Evan Michael Kelly, son of parishioner Vanessa Kelly and James Kelly, in July. The funeral was held at CHS on July 19th.

Ray Murphy, father of Liz Cannizzaro, in August

Jessica West, sister of Jim West, also in August

A memorial service was held at CHS on July 15th for Polly Treut's mother, Mary Painter, who passed away last fall.

May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in Peace

Life is short and we do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us; so be swift to love and make haste to be kind. God bless,

Barbara Burton

HOLD THE DATES

SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER
10 Parish Picnic after later service (Hospitality Module begins)	5 First Sunday breakfast
17 Book Group meets	6 Knit & Chat, 7 pm
18 Knit & Chat, 7 pm	11/19 Consecration Sunday with special guest speaker at both Services. Catered breakfast/lunch at both services
19 Vestry Meeting, 7:30 pm	20 Knit & Chat, 7 pm
OCTOBER	21 Vestry Meeting, 7:30 pm
1 Blessing of the Animals, 10 am, Pickell Park	DECEMBER
2 Knit & Chat, 7 pm	3 First Sunday breakfast
16 Knit & Chat, 7 pm	3 Holiday Chorale Concert and Reception, 4 pm
17 Vestry Meeting, 7:30 pm	4 Knit & Chat, 7 pm
29 Guitar Concert, 4 pm	

A Thank-You Note to God

Call me old-fashioned, but I am a firm believer in the lost art of thank-you notes. You remember — the ones on stationery written with ink, sealed and stamped.

As a child, my feelings were quite different. I would roll my eyes at the mere suggestion of writing a proper thank-you note for a gift, but with my parents' perseverance the act became second nature. I think the real joy came when I received a beautiful hand-written thank-you note. Wow. It made me feel so appreciated.

In this world of fast-paced technology with emails, texts and tweets, it's a real treat to open your "actual" mailbox and find a sweet note.

I pray to God to do his good work through me and it all stems from a grateful heart. I try to count my blessings every day. Sure it's difficult some days and even more of a downright challenge on others. But let us be inspired to share gratitude with others. My mom often said when you're feeling down, the simple gesture of doing something nice for another is just the right medicine. And she was a nurse!

Even a small act of kindness can allow us to share God's love with the world. His love abides in all of us. Set some of it free by brightening someone's day with a heartfelt note.

Why not start with a thank-you note to God himself? What would you write?

With a thankful heart, *Tracey Bergstrand*

Ed Note: Tracey is a member of the vestry at St. Thomas' Alexandria. This piece appeared in their June newsletter and is reproduced with permission.

Dove Hall

Need a hall for a party, meeting or get-together? Cooler weather is coming, so Fall barbecues might have to wait for next summer if you don't have sufficient inside space. Dove Hall might be the ideal solution for your upcoming event. With the recent purchase of new tables, we can comfortably accommodate up to 80 people for a sit-down meal.

Whether using the hall during the day, with its windows ushering in natural light, or in the evening with its softly lit wall sconces, "The Dove" sets the stage for a successful event. Speaking of stages; the hall boasts a raised dais to highlight your entertainment or speaker, or for use as a head-table area to seat the bridal party/guest of honor.

With its own entrance under a covered portico, "The Dove's" entryway is perfect in case of inclement weather and is step-free and handicapped accessible. Whether your banquet is catered or home-cooked, we also have a large, fully equipped kitchen which can be utilized to prepare/reheat/serve a full meal onsite.

If you require space for a pre-reception cocktail party or to host a smaller event, please consider the Narthex (entry hall). We also have ample parking and are convenient to Routes 78 and 22 as well as several hotels, restaurants and shops within a few miles.

Contact the Church Office to inquire about space availability or to request a tour: support@churchholyspirit.net, or call 908-236-6301.



Summer Snapshots : Pentecost



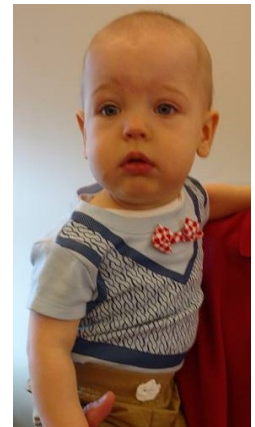
Thanks Marge Keller for the new red sashes!.



June birthdays and anniversaries



Honoring the acolytes for a job well done



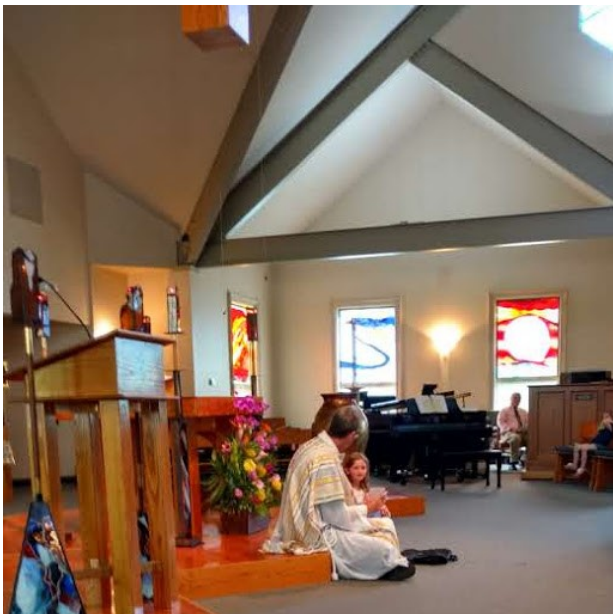
You're never too young to wear Red on Pentecost!

Ready for breakfast





Diocesan Choir Camp July 2017. Photo courtesy of the Diocese. See anyone you know???



What's in the black bag?



Fr. Phil gives Eli Jones a blessing prior to his departure for freshman year in college. Sue Quinlan photo

Summer Snapshots

Vacation Frisbee School August 2017

Kiki Mehner photos



In Our Community



PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBIT: Our own June Filipksi is one third of a trio of talented photographers whose work is on display at the North County Branch Library during the month of September. June invites us to a reception on **September 20th between 6:30 and 8:30 pm** to meet the photographers and hear about their passion for their art. If you're not available that evening you can view their work during normal library hours all month.

HARVEST HOME/FAMILY STYLE ROAST BEEF DINNER: Saturday, September 16th from 4—6 pm at Readington Reformed Church, 124 Readington Road. Adults, \$17, children 6-12 \$6; 5 and under free. Advance tickets for sit-down or take-out highly recommended. Call Pat at 908-526-8572 no later than September 13th to order. Activities will include a quilt show, crafters, and a bake sale. Proceeds benefit the preservation of this good neighbor's facility.

GOOD NEWS HOME FOR WOMEN presents its 21st Annual Fundraising Banquet, "Pearls of Wisdom" on **Friday, September 22nd** at the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal in Princeton, New Jersey, where we will be celebrating 30 Years of Service. Tickets are available from Robin Jackson at 908-806-7913 or robin@goodnewshome.net. CHS has been supporting this, the only women's recovery center in New Jersey, for many years. Jim Keller and Sandy Burton have both served on the board and we have sent volunteers to help with various projects for many Good Friday service days. — Marge Keller

ELDER CARE SEMINAR: Saturday, September 23rd from 9:00 am—1:00 pm at Cokesbury United Methodist Church, 230 Cokesbury Rd, Lebanon. The workshop will be led by Helen Hunter, a Certified Lay Minister, and is free of charge. A continental breakfast will be provided. To register call 908-236-6151.

A CULINARY AFFAIR GOES HAWAIIAN: Monday, September 25th from 6:00-9:00 pm at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse, 88 Rte 173 West, Hampton. Good food, good company, good cause! Proceeds benefit Hunterdon Hospice and Visiting Health and Supportive Services. Tickets, \$75 each. For more information, talk to June Filipksi or call the Events office at 908-788-6591. <https://hunterdonhealthcare.thankyou4caring.org/2017culinaryaffair>

FINAL VOWS: Friday, September 29th at the Convent of St. John Baptist, Mendham. Sister Victoria Michelle SCJB, will receive her final vows. Rt. Rev. Mark M. Beckwith, Bishop of Newark, will officiate. Father Phil will be participating. A reception follows. RSVP—973-543-4641 x3 or at sref@csjb.org if you plan to attend.

HARVEST FESTIVAL AND CRAFT FAIR: Saturday, October 7, 10:00 am —3:00 pm at Good News Home for Women 33 Bartles Road, Flemington. <https://www.goodnewshome.org/events-1>



Church of the Holy Spirit — Vestry and Staff 2017

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Worship Schedule	Ministry Scheduler Pro	(for assistance, Dave Dabour or Eva Lesniak)	
Youth Coordinator	Pat Egan	586-7003	pegan3@yahoo.com

The Rev. Philip B. Carr-Jones, Rector

The Rev. Dorothea N. Hospador, Deacon

www.churchholyspirit.org

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

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