

The Trumpet

Volume 6

December, 2015

Number 11



THE DEACON'S NOTE

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In two weeks we will begin Advent. Advent starts the beginning of the church calendar and is a season of preparation for Christmas. Many of us search out our boxes of decorations, consider what gifts to give to family and friends, and perhaps cringe to see the Santas, reindeer, elves and other gaudy trappings that seem to show up in stores ever earlier each year. Yes, indeed, these are things that come to mind as we think about "preparation" for Christmas.

I would however suggest that instead we consider preparing ourselves spiritually. That we should be searching our hearts for where we err and continue to sin keeping us separate from His Grace. I would propose that we should be cringing at those sins and considering how we can give those to Him. We should be giving ourselves to Him instead of begging Him to give to us. We should ask ourselves "Have I grown closer to our Lord today, this week, this year or have I pushed Him away?" "Do I feel close to the Lord or is there something keeping me from having the relationship with Him that I would like?" "Am I bitter about something that has happened or toward someone and I cannot forgive that person?" These and many other questions of self examination may occur to you as you reflect on your life.

Bring these cares and concerns to Our Lord and allow Him to relieve you of these burdens. Then you can go forward light hearted and with a clear mind welcome His Salvation rejoicing that He has delivered you. And you will be at peace for He is the Prince of Peace.

May the Grace of Our Lord be with each of you while you prepare to celebrate His Incarnation.

Deacon Randy

The newsletter deadline for the January issue will be ***Tuesday, December 15th***.
If you have any news to share, please send it to: Susan Darcy at susan@darcy-systems.com
or Kris Smith at pioneer03@aol.com
or leave a note in the secretary's mailbox in the church office.

The deadline for the Annual Reports will be Sunday, January 3rd, 2016.
Please send them to: Susan Darcy at susan@darcy-systems.com or
Kris Smith at pioneer03@aol.com

PRAYER CONCERNS

United States Government
President Obama
Governor Cuomo
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Senator Kathy Marchione
Senator Charles Schumer
Congressman Chris Gibson
Supervisor Benson
Supervisor Elect Colleen Teal
Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
The Right Rev. William Love, Bishop
David Ball
Daniel Herzog
Rev. Canon Clinton Dugger
Deacon Randolph Lukas
Pastor James
Brother Bill
Pope Francis
Fr. John
Deacon Peter

Ann DeVost	Kimberly Harrington
John & Teri Koepp	Richard Jones
Roberta Page	Kristen Thompson
Edgar LaCombe	Melissa
Vince Flanigan	Mark & Sue Bull
The Rev. Christian Agunwamba	Lois Johnson
Ray Garrison	Nancy Mills
Florence Stock	Doug
Barbara Felter	Marie
Nathaniel	Malina
Beth	Michael D.
Sharon	Jayne Sawin
Pat Ruby	Sabina Terrades
Betty Hicks	James Cross
Heather Kromer	Hank Gallucci
Rose G.	Brenda Darcy
Aidan McGuire	Tim Laraway, Jr.
Church of Our Saviour Parish/Vestry/Prayer Table and Saturday evening contemporary service	
Scott	Frank Sullivan
Katrina	Bill Bourquard
Bennett	Shalayna and Aurora
U.S. Military – Ross, Evan, Anthony and families	
Madeline	May Collins
Charles	Carol
Janis	Jessi

Eric
Harry M.
Larry & Carol & Teresa
Dave & Cindy G and their family
Teri Whitman

Angela B.
Hans Bolewski
Jean F.
Lynne E.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-IN:

Florence Stock
27 Canna Drive
Freehold, NY 12431

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

14 – Jon Spoto

17 – Florence Stock

If you know of a birthday or anniversary that we haven't included in past newsletters, please leave a note in the church secretary's mailbox in the office.

Or, email Kris Smith at pioneer03@aol.com with your birthday or anniversary date so that I can update our list. Thank you!

VESTRY'S VIEWS

Advent is the time for preparation of the coming of our Lord and Christmas is the celebration of His birth. As our world is turned topsy-turvy we can use this time to reflect on the blessings we have in our lives. I am truly blessed with wonderful children, their spouses, my beautiful grandchildren, my husband, and the best dogs and cats a family could have. I pray for peace in this season that espouses peace.

I hope your Advent and Christmas are full of the blessings of life.

Bitsy

DOLLARS AND SENSE

As we enter the season of Advent, we anticipate the celebration of Our Savior's birth. I love the fact that Church of Our Saviour does the Giving Tree. When the Giving Tree is put in the back of the Church (Thank you Mary), I'm really glad I go to the early service. I get to actually choose from the names and ages. Since I no longer have teenagers to buy gifts for, sometimes it becomes a real challenge.

Last year, I chose a young man who was a skateboarder. The surprising thing to me was how much I learned about skateboarding AND sport stores. Up until shopping, I never knew that there were stores who only sold specific sports items. So for bicycles, you go to one store for skateboard items, another. No I didn't buy a skateboard but they had some other great gift items.

The things I'm learning that I didn't know! I may never use the information but it is fun finding out about life. God sometimes gives us opportunities for learning that we really don't even realize. Why with all the electronics we have, sometimes we don't spend any time actually talking to people.

I have a friend who is a medical examiner – not like TV's Quincy or even Ducky but a really cool guy. A few years back, I needed to get a speaker for a program I was chairing and was explaining to him my problem. Right there I was shocked to have him offer to do it for me.

What do you say to someone when you think they're going to discuss or show dead people? Luckily, I didn't put my foot in my mouth as imagine my surprise when he continued to talk about all the deep sea diving he had done and the underwater photographs he had taken.

God provided me with a wonderful program with beautiful scenery, colorful tropical fish, coral and a great presentation. How do we learn these things? Sometimes by simply listening to the people around us. I guess that is why I love going to breakfast after Church and getting to know my parish family.

You should try to join us and spend some time with the 8 o'clockers! We do laugh a lot, and talk about lots of things – trips, work (yes some do still work), life, and memories. What you'll find is that we like each other and enjoy spending time together. Since the Hitchin' Post closed, we've been deciding after service where we are going. Sometimes Jimmy D's sometimes, Gardner's in Stephenson. Do come, we would love to see you!

As we all know, ***God is good***, and with us: ***He is good all the time!***

Susan Darcy

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Advent

November 29, 2015 – December 20, 2015

The Altar Guild will be polishing this year, date to be announced, to be ready for Christmas.

Anyone wishing to donate money to the Flower Fund is asked to submit any names they wish listed in the Christmas bulletin by Sunday, December 20th. Envelopes will be in the bulletins on Sunday, December 13th and Sunday, December 20th, or you can mail your names to the church.

Mission Updates

The parish will be ministering to the community in various ways through Advent.

The Sunday School prepared four shoe boxes and sent them to Samaritan's Purse for **Operation Christmas Child**.

We will have a **Christmas Tree** in the sanctuary from November 29th through December 13th with ages of children within our town, who without assistance, would not have a Christmas. The children's information is given to us by the school and they ask that the gifts be back to them to distribute before school closes for Christmas break. We will ask that the gifts be back by Sunday, December 20th, so that we can get them to the school.

Charlie's Pantry is doing Holiday Food baskets, so please bring holiday fixings for our donation.

Community Bible Study

Bible study continues to meet on Thursday evenings from 7:00 -8:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will gather on December 3rd, 10th and 17th, then take a Christmas/New Year's break, beginning again on January 7th, 2016. This is a people-paced discussion of the Gospel of Matthew. There is no book with questions to be filled in and no homework (except for trying to apply what we read to our daily life). Everyone is encouraged to ask questions or express ideas. In the New Year, the discussion will begin with chapter 10. Think about adding this one hour a week to your schedule next year - we find it rewarding, and will welcome you warmly. For info, see Sally Langendorf.

Community Events

Saturday, December 5 –

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – NLCS craft fair at the high school

5:00 p.m. LVPA Tree lighting with carol sing at the New Lebanon Fire Station.
The NLCS Elementary Choir is featured this year.

Deanery News

Carol Lukas was elected to represent the Deanery at Diocesan Council. Congratulations, Carol. The Deanery is holding monthly youth events at Christ Church in Hudson. All youth are invited to attend. The next event will be held on Friday, December 18th at Christ the King. The January event will be held at Christ Church in Hudson. Date and time to be announced.

Wednesday, December 9 –

7:00 p.m. Taize Service at Christ Church in Hudson

Saturday, December 12 –

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Advent Quiet Day at Christ Church in Hudson. Fr. Burns is leading the program.
Lunch is included. Reservations – 828-1329.

Saturday, December 19 –

2:00 p.m. – Guitarist playing classical Christmas music at Christ Church in Greenville.

Sunday, December 27 –

Service of Lessons and Carols at Christ Church in Greenville. Time to be announced.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Thursday, December 3 –

7:00 p.m. Community Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 5 -

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – New Lebanon Central School (NLCS) craft fair at the high school

5:00 p.m. LVPA Tree lighting with carol sing at the New Lebanon Fire Station.
The NLCS Elementary Choir is featured this year.

6:00 p.m. Contemporary Service

Sunday, December 6 -

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. Vestry

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Search Committee

Monday, December 7 –

6:15 a.m. Morning Prayer

Thursday, December 10 –

7:00 p.m. Community Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 12 –

6:00 p.m. Contemporary Service

Sunday, December 13 –

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Monday, December 14 –

6:15 a.m. Morning Prayer

Tuesday, December 15 – **Newsletter Deadline!**

Thursday, December 17 -

7:00 p.m. Community Bible Study in Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 19 -

6:00 p.m. Contemporary Service

Sunday, December 20 –

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Greening of the Church and luncheon supplied by Bitsy

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

DECEMBER CALENDAR (Cont'd)

Monday, December 21 –

6:15 a.m. Morning Prayer

Thursday, December 24 – *Christmas Eve*

7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

Friday, December 25 – *Christmas*

9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Service

Saturday, December 26 –

6:00 p.m. Contemporary Service

Sunday, December 27 -

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Monday, December 28 -

6:15 a.m. Morning Prayer

COMING UP:

Sunday, January 3, 2016 – ***Annual Reports are due!***

Wednesday, January 6, 2016 – Christ Church in Greenville. Time to be announced.