

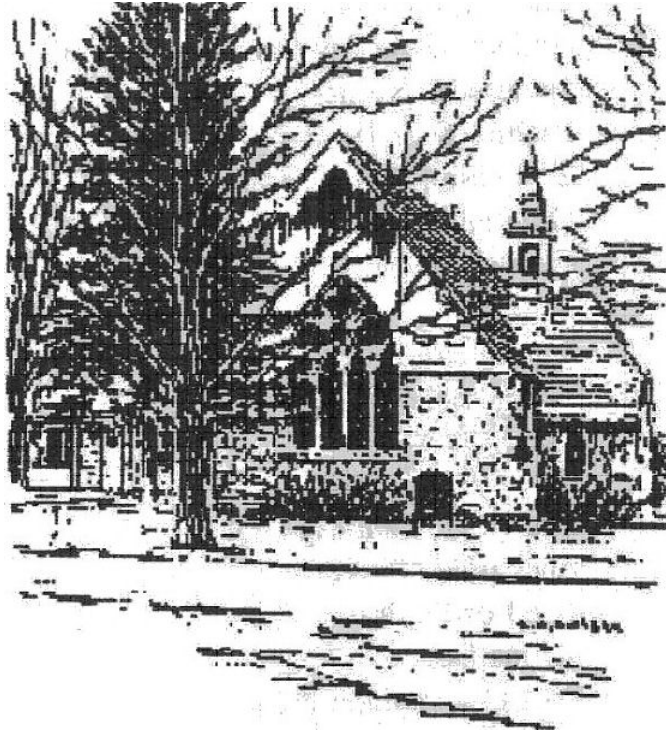
CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

GIDEON'S TRUMPET

Volume 9

November, 2018

Number 10



PASTOR'S PAGE

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I am sitting here in the rectory getting ready for our weekly celebration tomorrow and thinking on so many things that I have been asked about over the years. One question that seems to be the most common is: Why do I need to go to church?

Well, quite honestly, it is often said in less than a question and more of a statement: I don't need to go to church to believe in God. To this, I simply nod and agree, "No, you don't have to go to church to believe in God." They will sometimes smile that smile of someone who figures they have proven beyond a doubt what they want to believe to be true. I then typically follow up with, "but that's not the reason to go to church."

The next statements are mixed. Some will ask what I mean. Others will say how the church is just trying to get money. Yet others will respond with something to the effect of "I can't go to

church, the roof might collapse.” Or, something about a fire burning the place down or some other such.

Briefly, though, let me attempt to explain what church is for. The word that gets translated in the bible as church comes from a Greek word that transliterates ecclesia. That word was used to describe the status of a person regarding the city they have lived in. To be part of ecclesia would mean to be a member of that city with all the rights and responsibility that go along with that membership. As a citizen, you would be able to vote, have access to the courts, protection and other benefits.

The early believers adopted this to apply to all the believers who attended regularly at their services, spent time together, shared meals together and did the work of the taking care of others together. They prayed together, sang together and studied together. They even shared property together in some cases.

Throughout the week, the early church would have to spend their time hiding from authorities. They were often under persecution with penalties that would include numerous ways of execution. Weekly, they would come together to after going about their daily business in order to seek encouragement, spiritual refreshment and a refuge from the possible persecution. Through this weekly gathering, they would garner the spiritual strength they needed in order to make it thorough the next week.

Even after the “church” no longer faced persecution, they still gathered at least weekly. Why? Again, to come together for mutual encouragement, spiritually strength, sharing burdens, receiving encouragement and even seeking counsel at times. They would listen to teachings taken out of the scriptures and how these teachings might be applied to their everyday lives and perhaps even specific situations they were going through. They would share each other’s burdens in order to lighten loads.

In this modern day, the church, in its best form, is still about doing this same work. It is the coming together of believers to share burdens, receive spiritual strength, and be challenged to learn and grow in the faith and be about the work of the church. These are the reasons to come to church and participate in the faith.

Blessings and peace to all

Father Frank Lockwood

From the Senior Warden

Our Lord gives us many blessings. This September our family was blessed by the early arrival of Freya Mary Allard Walsh. Freya decided that she couldn't wait to meet her mom and dad and big sister Alora and the rest of her extended family. She arrived a tiny human but is growing by leaps and bounds. Tony and I were blessed to spend some time with Freya and family and helping with care. Holding this tiny being to whom God has provided so many blessings already, made me think again of the true miracle of life. Our family heritage, our DNA, our essence are all part of the life that this beautiful child has. God has truly blessed us with this little miracle and we give thanks for her health and her being.

Bitsy

VESTRY

Sr. Warden	Elizabeth Sheffer-Winig	766-6343	(01/2020)
Jr. Warden	Mary Young	794-7538	(01/2019)
Members:	Eugenia Browning	794-8321	(01/2019)
	Tom Stone	794-7762	(01/2020)
	Richard Dauchy	794-0210	(01/2021)
Clerk:	Eugenia Browning	794-8321	
Diocesan Delegate:	Mary Young		

PRAYER CONCERNS

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
The Right Rev. William Love, Bishop
Daniel Herzog
Rev. Frank Lockwood
Rev. Canon Clinton Dugger
Deacon Randolph Lukas
Deacon Leslie Groneman

PRAYER CONCERNS (Cont'd)

Pope Francis
Fr. John
Deacon Peter
Metropolitans of Eastern Orthodox Churches
Bishops of Lutheran Synods
Archbishop of Canterbury
Missionaries
United States Government
President Trump
Governor Cuomo
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Senator Kathy Marchione
Senator Charles Schumer
Congressman John Faso
Assemblyman Jake Ashby
Supervisor Colleen Teal

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
Barbara Felter	Marie
Nathaniel	Malina
Michael D.	Pat Ruby
Kyle	Heather Kromer
Bennett	Rose G.
Scott	Katrina
Terry	Carolee Hearrel
David	Janis
Lynne E.	Jessi
Eric	Angela B.
George Ertel, Jr.	Martin
Peter Guiler	Adrian
Margaret	Rich
Bill Hanson	Ralph
Nancy Mills	Joanne Papucci
Courtney	Al & Jeanne Mayer
Carol Lukas	Mary Ann H.
Louis & Carolyn	Eddie
Carol	Nicki
Michelle, Hailey, Aiden	St. Mark's Church – Philmont
The Rev. Michael Shank	Storm Riders
Michael	Jane & Freida
Joanne Lockwood	Bishop Bena

Deb B.
Joan C.
Jean F.
Mahely

Janice C.
Bob Waters
Maya B.
Beverly

U.S. Military – Evan, KI and families
Vestries and ministries of Christ Church Coxsackie and
Church of Our Saviour

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 – Elizabeth Winig
3 – Jacob Gallucci
4 – Mary Young
17 – Anne Wever
21 – Janet Haley
24 – Rich Mayer
29 – Frank Tallett

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY

24 – Clinton and Virginia Dugger

VESTRY'S VIEWS

October is my favorite month. I get to eat all the candy corn I want. Not only that the weather normally gets much fresher and more pleasant this year we are having to wait longer than usual.

I thought it would be a good idea to update the Congregation.

We have had a busy year: we are blessed with a wonderful new priest/ we have started Bible Study again/ we have increased our mission outreach through several programs in conjunction with our Cookies & Crafts / we continue to make several improvements to the physical plant-including making the Rectory livable & repairs to the heating system. We are also starting the repointing of the Church in the next few weeks.

We are also blessed to now be joined by our friends at Christ Church Coxsackie...we have already shared fun events with them and look forward to many more. They are helping us reach out to even more people.

Rich & I were lucky enough to be in Belgium last month. We toured many great places...but my favorite was a 12th Century Abbey called Villers-La-Ville. This was a most wonderful place...it was in ruins...but amazingly complete. I took time out when I was there to thank God for all he has done for me. I felt a wonderful sense of serenity and gratitude. I still get a warm feeling just thinking about sitting in that cloister and feeling a true connection to our Lord.

The best thing...I don't have to be in a ruined Abbey or Grand Cathedral to feel that connection. I just have to pause and remember how lucky I have been in my life...and remember to live with gratitude. I pray that you can find your place of serenity and gratitude.

Respectfully,
Richard D.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

Yesterday, driving to Church (yes, this is late – doing this on the deadline) coming down Lebanon mountain, there was a layer of heavy white fog on the valley. It looked like a soft and fluffy comforter. Of course, looking around with the beauty of the valley I was surprised not to see all the colorful leaves they were talking about. Weren't we supposed to be at peak Lots of orangey browns with just touches of yellow here and there.

I remember a Fall poem my Mom used to actually sing by George Cooper. The lines started with:

" Come, little leaves, " said the wind one day,
" Come o'er the meadows with me and play;
Put on your dresses of red and gold,
For summer is gone and the days grow cold. "

After three more stanzas it ended with:

Dancing and whirling, the little leaves went,
Winter had called them, and they were content;
Soon, fast asleep in their earthy beds,
The snow laid a coverlid over their heads

What is the connection? The mention of the coverlid like the heavy fog on the valley. It is like I just woke up from a Summer nap it seems like Fall is almost over. Our lives are so very busy that sometimes we miss God's handiwork around us.

Promise yourself that preparing for our Winter season, you will take time to think about all the wonderful things God has brought to your life – maybe it was only a phone call, maybe a simple kindness, a winning smile, your families and friends, or the simplicity of life in the Valley.

Come to Church and see the shoeboxes we're sending to the Christmas Child program or come and help the team finish the new Christmas wreaths – no, you're right, I'm the box maker, the true gifted people Mary, Eugenia, Bitsy and others are led by our special crafter extraordinaire, Debi. Aren't a crafter, you can be a distributor – putting goodies into the shoeboxes – it's like putting 10 pounds of stuff into a five pounds sack (old Adage?). They always can use another set of hands since mine only count for a half!

Join us some Sunday for coffee or breakfast at Jimmy's after Church – great way to start your week!

God's Love and Blessings to All!
Susan Darcy

CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Services

All services are OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Bible Study: Saturday 5:30 pm every Saturday. Subject, working through the Bible a chapter at a time.

Healing Service: Saturday, December 1st - 5:30 p.m. in the Church. Healing teams present.

Advent starts: Sunday, December 2nd – 8:00 a.m. service

Sunday, December 23rd - Greening the sanctuary after 8:00 a.m. service.

Brunch at the Richards' home after the decorating.

Monday, December 24th - 7:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve service

Tuesday, December 25th – 10:00 a.m. - Christmas Day service AT

COXSACKIE

Deanery Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Sunday, October 28th at 3:00 p.m. at Christ Church, Greenville.

Stewardship

The Lord asks us all to give to His work within the church and the community we live in. Here at Church of Our Saviour we give of our time, talents and treasure all of the time in many ways. This time of year, the Vestry develops a budget for the following year. We do that with your help by completing some forms which let us know what you are able to give of your time, talents and treasure. These are being passed out in the beginning of November and we are asking you return them by Sunday, December 2nd at the 8:00 a.m. service. There are needs for help on the altar guild, vestry, acolytes and any ideas you may have for our Church.

Movie and Pizza Night at Church of Our Saviour

America's Boating Clubs of Pittsfield – Berkshire Sail and Power Squadron is hosting a **FREE** spectacular **Pizza and Movie Night** at Church of Our Saviour on **Tuesday, November 13th** .

Showing: All is Lost: starring Robert Redford

After a collision with a shipping container at sea, a resourceful sailor finds himself, despite all efforts to the contrary, staring his mortality in the face.

Serving: Lots of Pizza, Salad, Lots of Popcorn with toppings and beverages

Time: 6:00 p.m. – Pizza and Salad

7:00 p.m. - Movie: **All is Lost**

Reservations **A MUST** (to make sure we have **ENOUGH PIZZA**, to Susan Darcy. Tell me on Sunday or eMail: **sldarcy@roadrunner.com** or phone: **413-637-2275**

Newsletter Deadline

The newsletter deadline for the December issue will be ***Thursday, November 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.

Acolyte Festival

The Acolyte Festival will be held on Saturday, November 17th at 8:00 a.m. at the Cathedral of All Saints. In addition to the instruction of the acolytes of the Diocese the festival will also have classes for the Altar Guilds of the Diocese. If you are interested in joining Mary Young let her know.

Missions:

The Church is involved in these mission projects this Fall.

Shoe Boxes for the Samaritan's Purse program, Christmas Child: This mission sends shoeboxes filled with gifts for children ages 1- 12 around the world, giving them information about Jesus Christ from Christians of the world. Watch the bulletin for the next work session. 15 boxes are in the making.

Domestic Shelters: Partnering with Christ Church we are collecting toiletries for the Domestic Shelter in Columbia and Greene Counties. There is a box at the back of the Church to place your donations.

Charlies Pantry: In the back of the Church there is a basket for your donations. The pantry is building holiday baskets for Thanksgiving and Christmas for the community so special food is always welcome.

School Gifting: we will have a tree in the back of the church on Sunday, November 25th and Sunday, December 2nd with an ornament with a student's information on it. We are asking that you buy a gift or gifts for the child on the ornament. Please return the gifts wrapped with the ornament on the package by Sunday, December 16th so we can deliver them to the school.

Toy drive for children of Cocksackie: This project has been changed to start next year due to the care they are giving families of their group who have suffered loss this Fall.

Community Christmas meal: Christ Church Cocksackie makes a Christmas dinner for the community every year, there is a need for help, kitchen duty starts at 10:00 a.m. after service, dining room is open at 2:00 p.m. and clean up starts at 3:00 p.m.. Everyone is invited to attend and help if you can.

BackPack Program: The church is accepting donations for supporting one or more children from New Lebanon Central School (NLCS) for a nourishment program giving children food for weekends and holidays. Write **BackPack** program on the memo line and Susan will send in a check the end of the year. A donation of **ANY** amount is wonderful! If you feel you are able to donate a complete **BackPack** for the entire year, the cost is \$167. This feeds a child on weekends and holidays during the year

Christmas Bazaar: Nickel Sale 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Philmont - offers lunch as well.

Christmas wreaths for the Sanctuary: The parish is making new wreaths for the sanctuary. We have 3 wreaths started and have 2 more to go. Watch the bulletin for the date of the next work session.

Thank you to our Cocksackie family for the great Fall barbeque, great to share with family.

We have received wonderful and sad news. Rev. Randy and Carol Lucas have been offered and accepted the Deacon Vicar position at St. Mark's in Philmont. What a wonderful opportunity for them. We give them thanks for all they have done through the time they have been here and want them to know that we will always be "**THEIR HOME**".

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Saturday, November 3 –
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, November 4 –
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Saturday, November 10 -
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, November 11 -
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Thursday, November 15 - *Newsletter deadline!*

Saturday, November 17 -
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, November 18 -
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Vestry meeting

Saturday, November 24 -
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, November 25 –
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist