

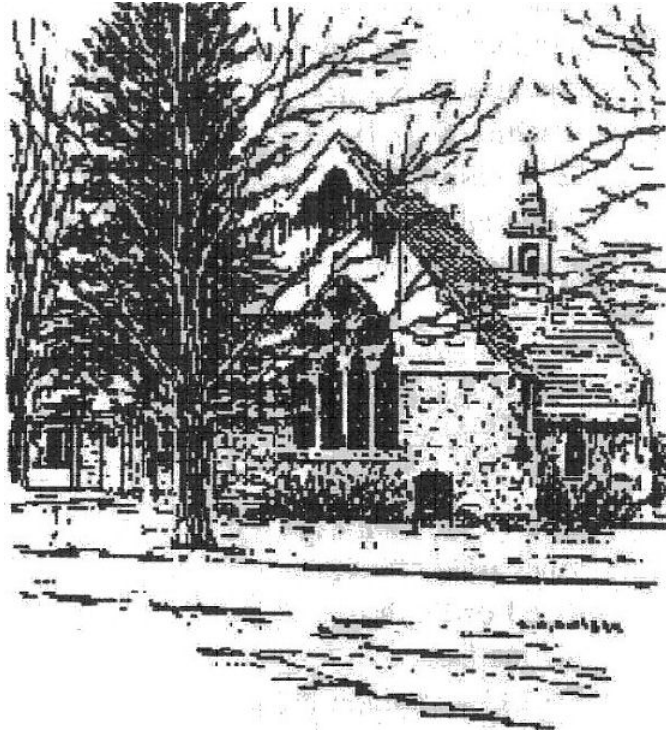
CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

GIDEON'S TRUMPET

Volume 9

December, 2018

Number 11



PASTOR'S PAGE

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Last night was our first significant snowfall. For a moment, all in the world went quiet. It is a reminder for me of what it is that is to come.

We are in the final stretches of the propers (post Pentecost services) in the liturgical calendar. The beginning of December marks the beginning of Advent for us and the start of a new liturgical year.

What is in store for us this coming year? I cannot say for certain.

We are not in a dis-similar situation as those shepherds who were sitting on the hillside sometime before 1 AD (as I grew up with) or now known as 1 CE. They were minding the flock unaware of what it was that awaited them. Like all good members of the Jewish (Hebrew) faith, they prayed regularly for the coming of the messiah as promised in the prophets. They longed and hoped for the restoration of the kingdom of Israel. They were completely unaware that this was about to be fulfilled....yet not in a way that expected.

As the angel announced to them the birth of their messiah, they marveled. To find him in a stable/manger was unexpected, but hey, the scripture did not say what kind of place he would be born in, only that he would come from Bethlehem. I am confident that this would have sparked their faith. They would now be awaiting the glorious triumph of the king of Israel as he leads his people and takes Jerusalem.

They never expected a time of darkness and suffering. They were not expecting that this babe would grow up, teach, lead, and ultimately offer up his life as a sacrifice. Yet, a sacrifice with one promise attached, "I am with you always".

As we move to and through Advent, let us continue to turn to the scripture and seek God's revelation through his Holy Word. Let us prepare a bride for the bride groom lest he catch us unaware or unprepared. Let us renew our faith and our hope in the person and faith of Jesus, son of Mary, son of Joseph, Son of God.

Blessings and peace to all!

Father Frank Lockwood

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

There is much to be thankful for as we celebrate Thanksgiving in a few days. The repointing of the church is going well. The window in the rectory has been replaced as well as one of the doors in the hall. The Vestry will be meeting to discuss what needs to be done in 2019 to continue the upkeep of the church, the rectory, and the grounds. Please turn in your pledge card and information sheet so Susan can start working on the budget and together, we can determine how best to use the talents that you all possess. Happy Thanksgiving and a blessed beginning to the holiday season.

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
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 Koepf | Richard Jones |
| Roberta Page | Kristen Thompson |
| Edgar LaCombe | Melissa |
| Vince Flanigan | Mark & Sue Bull |
| The Rev. Christian Agunwamba | Lois Johnson |

PRAYER CONCERNS (Cont'd)

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 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 |
| Janice C. | Bob Waters |
| Mahely | Beverly |
| Helen Gluchman | Nancy A. |
| Scott | Kenneth Godfroy |
| U.S. Military – Evan, KI and families | |
| Vestries and ministries of Christ Church Cossackie and Church of Our Saviour | |

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

John Spoto

VESTRY'S VIEWS

This has been a year of change at Christ of Our Saviour....New Priest....Building Repairs....Movie Night....New post for our Deacon (Congrats Randy). We continue our outreach programs with the help of Debi G.

We are now lucky enough to expand even more. December 1st at 6:00 p.m., we are holding a **Healing Service**. I urge all parishioners to attend this Non-Denominational Service. Dianne & Gary from Christ Church have graciously agreed to conduct this service...they have much experience.

The other expansion this year is a chance to get involved with Joanne's Christmas Feast in Coxsackie. This annual event starts at 1 PM on Christmas Day at Christ Church. I have attached the Flyer for the Christmas Dinner. Joanne says she needs **turkeys** as well as **aluminum pans** for cooking and serving the birds. Joanne also tells me **any monetary donations** are most welcome (and needed) to buy supplies. We can also help set up, serve, and clean up. This dinner last year served over 50 people...Father Lockwood & Joanne are hoping for many more attendees this year. A great way to reach out to those in need on Christmas Day.

Please remember to enjoy your Holidays...and live in gratitude for all that God has provided in your life.

Richard D.

DOLLARS AND SENSE

As lots of folks know, I'm a member of America's Boating Club of the Berkshires – a part of the United States Power Squadron®. I asked if it would be possible for us to use Friendship Hall to have a Pizza and Movie Night for not only the Club but also the parishioners. The Vestry said “yes” and it was on! Thank you, Vestry!

So on Tuesday, November 13, we had a very successful Pizza and Movie night. The weather threatened but stayed away until late. What did we have? Why lots of pizzas (all different kinds from vegetarian to meat lovers to plain cheese). We also had “make yourself” salads with lots of fixings and a varied amount of salad dressings. For dessert, we had cookies and pastries.

For the movie, there was lots of popcorn with melted butter and chocolate syrup for those inclined plus dishes of M&Ms and other candies. Oh, and the movie was a boating epic – “All is Lost” starring Robert Redford. All were glued although some remarked at the end, it would

be a while before they would go boating. My thought on that comment was: “Well it is almost winter!!” Even the parishioners who attended, seemed to have a good time!

Maybe, if the Vestry will let us do it again (maybe Spring?), you should try and make it, lots of food --the chairs are pretty comfy, and with the tables, there's plenty of room for the popcorn bowls and candy for the movie and it's free! The possible movies might be *Finest Hours* (US Coast Guard unbelievable rescue of the crew of a split in half freighter – my favorite) and *Hunt for Red October* (also a favorite – Sean Connery!).

Don't forget the wonderful free Community Christmas Dinner at our sister Church, Christ Church in Cocksackie.

Please join us some Sunday for the 8:00 a.m. service or after 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

Healing Service

We will be having a healing service on Saturday, December 1st in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m.. Members of the healing team from Cocksackie will be leading us. Healing is one of the gifts the Lord gives to us as members of his body. 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11. He uses members of the healing team as vehicles to allow his power to be given to those of us in need of healing. Usually the service is a time of music and sometimes a speaker telling the story of a healing that has happened in their life, then teams of 2 or 3 go to different parts of the church and are available to pray for people individually. All prayers and requests are kept confidential. The Diocese has a special ministry school for those called to this ministry at the Healing Center at the Spiritual Life Center in Greenwich, one of the few in the Anglican communion. I have experienced a healing from a healing service from something I had no idea was even a problem until the Lord revealed it to the team. After the prayer, within a few days the problem I was concerned about disappeared as well. Please come and encourage others to come and share in God's healing in this strife torn world.

Stewardship

Our stewardship campaign is coming to an end on Sunday, December 2nd, as Advent begins. The stewardship program gives you a chance to return a portion of what God has given to you to operate His church. Giving is both financial and of our time and talent. Please return your envelope by Sunday, December 2nd so that the Vestry can plan for 2019. God has given us all that we are and have, and in return he asks for us to love him with all our heart and soul and allow him to work through us in telling the world about him. He developed the church as a means to that end; you do not need to participate for God to show his love to the world but the joy of seeing what he can do through a group of people is amazing. Each generation needs the Lord and this parish has done this work for close to 250 years, telling the people of this valley of his love and sending them out to do great things in the world. Help us to continue his work.

Christmas Memorial Flowers

Anyone wishing to donate money to the Flower Fund is asked to submit any names they wish to be listed in the Christmas bulletin by Sunday, December 16th. Envelopes will be included in the bulletins on Sunday, December 9th and Sunday, December 16th, or you may mail your names to the church.

Gift Tree

In the sanctuary is a Christmas tree with ornaments on it for gifts for children of New Lebanon Central School who are in need. On each ornament is the description of the student and some of their wishes. Please choose an ornament, buy some gifts, wrap them up, place them in a bag and tie the ornament on the bag. Return the bag to the church by Sunday, December 16th and we will deliver them to the school on the Monday, December 17th.

Newsletter Deadline

The newsletter deadline for the January issue will be **Saturday, 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.

Annual Meeting is January 27, 2019

All annual reports are due on Sunday, January 6, 2019.

Thank you to:

Thank you to all who participated in the shoe box ministry for Samaritan's Purse. Church of Our Savior sent 16 boxes packed with gifts of love to children in need throughout the world.

Stone work repair continues on the outside of the church as long as the weather agrees. A big Thank you to the company doing the work. It looks wonderful and will keep our Little Stone church standing for years to come.

Thank you to Eugene Browning and his team for the great carpentry work in replacing the back door to the Fellowship Hall and the bay window in the rectory. Gene continues to use the gifts that God has given him in this area to improve the homes of others.

Thank you to Tom Stone and the Richard's as their gifts which are used to keep the water flowing in the church and the driveways plowed during the winter.

Ministry areas in need

The Altar Guild is looking for members of the parish who would be willing to give up an hour on a Saturday morning on an alternating schedule to set up the sanctuary for Sunday service. We also set up the Altar for special mid week services as well - those are few. You would share the duty with someone else - "many hands make light work", as Grandma said. If anyone is interested please mark your talent paper and return it to the church.

Vestry has two seats whose term expires in January. The Vestry is the governing body of the church and takes care of the physical plant and finances of the church. With Father Lockwood here, the spiritual portion of the planning is led by him and the Vestry is involved in helping carry the plan out. The Vestry tries to meet the third Sunday of each month after service. Email is used in between and sometimes in place of a meeting if schedules do not permit a face to face meeting. Please pray about this opportunity for ministry. You must be a baptized Christian and a confirmed member of the Episcopal church and a member of Church of Our Saviour. Please contact Bitsy Winig, if you are interested.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

All services are OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Saturday, December 1 –

6:00 p.m. Healing Service in the church. Healing teams will be present.
(NO Bible Study this evening)

Sunday, December 2 – *First Sunday of Advent*

Stewardship tithes and talents forms due

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Saturday, December 8 –

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, December 9 - *Second Sunday of Advent*

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Saturday, December 15 - *Newsletter deadline!*

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, December 16 – *Third Sunday of Advent*

Gifts due for students of NLCS

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. Vestry meeting

Saturday, December 22 -

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, December 23 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Greening the Church after worship service.

Brunch at the Richards' home after the decorating.

Monday, December 24 – *Christmas Eve*

7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service

Tuesday, December 25 – *Christmas Day*

10:00 a.m. Christmas Day service at Christ Church in Cocksackie

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Community Christmas Day Meal at Christ Church in Cocksackie

Saturday, December 29 –

5:30 – 7:00 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, December 30 – *Sixth day of Christmas*

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

COMING UP:

Saturday, January 5 –
5:30 p.m. Evening prayer and Bible Study

Sunday, January 6 – *Celebration of the Epiphany*
All annual reports are due
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 27 – *Annual Meeting with Pot Luck Brunch*
8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Annual Meeting with Pot Luck Brunch

Free Christmas Dinner

70 Mansion Street Coxsackie
Christmas Day



Come to Christ Church for a
free

Community Christmas Dinner
served between 1 pm and 5 pm
Take out will be available as well

This is for the community, bring your family,
your friends, but come and share the
Christmas Spirit together.

Any questions call:
Joanne (518) 791-3676