

**CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR-
PO Box 827 Lebanon Springs, NY 12125**

GIDEON'S TRUMPET JUNE 2020 VOLUME 12 #6

Other Side of the Mountain

Another **BIG THANK YOU** to all our first responders – they are awesome, and I pray for them every day. **THANK YOU!!**

Another short observation, living in Massachusetts has given me a different perspective – we are a very classy state. Take our mandatory masks – a lot of the masks have style – color, design, patterns. My masks (and yes, I managed to get a few), have stars, and I even have a Boston Red Sox one. I do have kind of plain ones, pale green and orangey yellow.

I have seen a beer mask with lots of full steins of beer. I couldn't find the beer one or I would have it too! One guy had a mask with a big mouth painted on it where his mouth would be. Sort of looked like he was saying something. Some humor in a very critical situation

Below is a quarantine definition from a friend's Pastor. I've included it since it is thought provoking.

Love, Peace and Wellness!!

Susan Darcy

The Meaning of the Word Quarantine

The Latin root of the word "quarantine" is "forty".

So what does the Bible say about 40?

The flood lasted 40 days. 40 years Moses fled Egypt.

40 days Moses stayed on Mount Sinai to receive the Commandments.

Exodus lasted 40 years.

Jesus fasted for 40 days.

Lent is 40 days. 40 days for a woman to rest after giving birth.

A group of theologians thinks the number 40 represents "change". It is the time of preparing a person, or people, to make a fundamental change.

Something will happen after these 40 days. Just believe and pray. Remember, whenever the number 40 appears in the Bible, there is a "change".

Please know that during this "quarantine" rivers are cleaning up, vegetation is growing, the air is becoming cleaner because of less pollution, there is less theft and murder, healing is happening, and most importantly, people are turning to Christ. The Earth is at rest for the first time in many years and hearts are truly transforming.

So, during this time, enjoy it with your loved ones and return to the family altar together. Family prayer is a great blessing. Through prayer you will see the changes God can work in you and in your home. Christ promises us that everything works together for the good for those who love God: Romans 8:28!

Remember we are in the year 2020, and $20 + 20 = 40$.

Also, 2020 is the year of the United States Census. Jesus Christ, the savior of the world, was born during a census.

Lastly, 2020 is perfect vision. May our sight focus on the Lord and living according to His perfect vision for us knowing He holds us in the palm of His hand.

May these days of "quarantine" bring spiritual liberation to our souls, our nation, and our world. The best is yet to come. Trust in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry
Daniel Herzog
Deacon Leslie Groneman
Rev. Randolph Lukas
Father John
Missionaries
Bishops of Lutheran Synods

The Right Rev. William Love, Bishop
Rev. Frank Lockwood

Pope Francis
Deacon Peter
Metropolitans of Eastern Orthodox Church
Archbishop of Canterbury

US Government

President Trump
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Senator Charles Schumer
Assemblyman Jake Ashby
Supervisor Tistrya Houghtling- and her family Stephen Julian Kaitlyn Harley

Governor Cuomo
Senator Daphne Jordan
Congressman Anthony Delgado

John & Teri Koeppe
Richard Jones
Debbie McLaughlin

Kristen Thompson
Lois Johnson

Levi Guimarra
Nathaniel
 Kyle
Heather Kromer
Rose G
Terry
Jessi
Martin
Ralph
Mary Ann H
St Mark's Church Philmont
Michael
Sue H
Theresa Hoffman
Martin
Karen McKeon
Gail S
Rich D
Dave F

Marie
Michael D

Katrina
Janis
Angela B
Margaret
Al & Jeanne Mayer
Eddie
Storm Riders
Janice C
Cliff Myers
Jamie
Carol & Beth
 Scott Larabee
John
Kenneth Duchazme
David Curran

Special prayers for the family of Rev Clinton Dugger

US Military

Vestries & Ministries of Christ Church Coxsackie and Church of Our Saviour

Special Prayers for all who are suffering from the COV19 virus & Those essential workers who are putting so much at risk for all of our sakes

From the Senior Warden

As a kid in Hudson, NY, Memorial Day was a day of parades, picnics, and family. It was also a day of going to the cemeteries where my ancestors rest. There my mother and I would plant flowers near the gravestones that told the synopsis of some ancestors' life. William Shaffer, 1826-1895, 20th NYS Militia, Company G, served in the Civil War and was severely wounded on Day 3 of the Battle of Gettysburg. By God's grace, he survived the horrid battlefield hospital conditions and returned home to marry my great-grandmother Louisa Slater, have my grandfather William, which led to my father Elmer, and to me. Not many people are three generations away from the war which led to the start of Memorial Day or Decoration Day as it has been known. My family was blessed that no one who served in the armed forces from Colonial Wars to Vietnam were killed in battle. But we all know someone who paid the ultimate sacrifice for his or her fellow man. It is those heroes whom we honor on this day.

There is a beautiful hymn that was written for the recessional of President Ronald Reagan's funeral called, "The Mansions of the Lord", based on scripture John 14: 1-4

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. **2** My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. **4** You know the way to the place where I am going.”

To fallen soldiers let us sing
Where no rockets fly nor bullets wing
Our broken brothers let us bring
To the Mansions of the Lord

No more bleeding, no more fight
No prayers pleading through the night
Just divine embrace, Eternal light
In the Mansions of the Lord

Where no mothers cry and no children weep
We will stand and guard though the angels sleep
All through the ages safely keep
The Mansions of the Lord

From Father Frank

Our Priest has been working full time during this difficult time....he has also been taking care of 2 parishes....He wishes all of us well...stay safe...stay well...Love one another

Father Frank has not been able to write an article this month

Excellent News

We will have our first in person service on June 28,2020
The service will be held in the Friendship Hall

REOPENING GUIDELINES

From Bishop Love

It had been my hope and plan to have the Diocese of Albany Guidelines for the Reopening of Churches completed and out to everyone by this past Monday. Unfortunately, while close to being finished, they are not yet complete. Once completed, they will then need to go to the Standing Committee for their comments and approval.

I know several clergy and parishes have been making plans to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost this coming Sunday. Because Pentecost is only four days away and the Diocesan Guidelines are not yet complete, I am making a special dispensation for those parishes that are planning a Pentecost Service, provided the following condensed version of the guidelines are followed:

- 1) All inside services must abide by the NYS government mandated group size of 10 people or less per service. Multiple services are authorized, provided the worship space is cleaned properly between services.
- 2) All inside services must provide adequate space for safe social distancing of at least six feet between individuals or family groups.
- 3) Outside services to include lawn and parking lot services may be held. Larger groups than 10 are authorized, provided each individual or family group maintains safe social distancing of at least 6 feet or more from one another.
- 4) The congregation for both indoor and outdoor services must wear masks.
- 5) The clergy must wear masks when in close proximity to others, to include, the Procession, distribution of communion and recession. The celebrant is NOT required to wear a mask while at the altar, provided they are by themselves and the bread and wine are covered with a linen or pall. Nor are the clergy required to wear a mask while proclaiming the Gospel or preaching, provided they are at least 10 feet away from the nearest person. The Gospel should be proclaimed from the front of the church instead of the aisle as is customary in many parishes.
- 6) Hand sanitizer must be used by all people when they first arrive at Church and again right before going to receive communion, whether inside or outside. I recommend each parish have someone assigned to hold the container of hand sanitizer as each person has the cleaning agent poured in their hands. The person must use the hand sanitizer first before helping others. They must also wear a mask and stand at a distance from the person they are ministering to.
- [Type here] 7) Altar guild members and clergy must use hand sanitizer before setting the altar. Clergy must also clean their hands with hand sanitizer before distributing communion.

8) Communion will be received in only one kind (the host/bread). It will be placed in the hand of the recipient, not on their tongue. Care needs to be taken when placing the host in the person's hand in order not to physically touch them. I would ask that communion wafers be used, rather than other forms of bread. The celebrant will consume the consecrated wine on behalf of the people.

9) Communion will be received while standing, (not kneeling), preferably at the head of the center aisle, or it may be taken to people while in their pews or seats. It is important to maintain appropriate social distancing while people come to receive communion.

10) Blessings will be offered over the person while not physically touching the head of the person being blessed.

11) If there are any baptisms, the clergy must cleanse their hands before and after the baptism as well as wear a mask. The Baptismal water will be poured outside following the service. It will not be saved for the use as Holy Water.

12) The Peace will need to be shared by means other than personal physical contact.

Handshakes and hugs are not allowed at this time.

13) Choirs are not allowed at this time, due to social distancing requirements. One or two people may lead the music, provided they are at least 10 feet away from anyone around them. Some congregations may opt not to allow singing during the coronavirus pandemic. The wearing of masks by the congregation should help reduce the potential of spreading droplets while singing.

14) Lectors may remove their masks while reading the lessons, provided they are at least 10 feet from anyone in front of them. If the church space doesn't allow for proper distancing, the lectors need to wear masks.

15) The collection plate should not be passed, but rather be placed in a location that parishioners may access to make their offering.

16) The bread and wine should be placed on the credence table by the altar guild prior to the start of the service, and not brought up at the time of the offertory.

17) Congested areas need to be avoided, especially as people are trying to enter or leave the Church, as well as the communion line and other times when people tend to bunch up. Again, social distancing is very important. Clergy may stand to the side following the service out of the flow of traffic if someone needs to speak to them.

[Type here] 18) If possible (especially during the warmer weather), keep the windows and doors of the Church open to improve air circulation with fresh outside air.

19) To cut down on potential cross contamination, parishes may want to print out the service for everyone to have their own copy, or use overhead projections if they have the means of doing so, as an alternative to the use of Prayer Books and Hymnals. If Prayer Books and Hymnals are used, they will need to be sanitized in between use.

20) Holy water fonts must be emptied and removed.

21) If people are not feeling well, running a fever, coughing, etc., or have been in contact with someone know to have the coronavirus (even if not showing symptoms), they should not attend Church, until they are well, or have completed self-quarantine. This is for their sake and everyone else's.

22) There will be no coffee hours or other social gatherings at church during this time. Many parishes are hosting "virtual coffee hours" that are going well and have been well received as an alternative to in-person coffee hours. Worship together and then go home and visit one another online in the safety of your home.

23) Virtual online, recorded and live-stream services should be continued if possible, even after in-person services resume. Not everyone is able to return to church at this time and countless others who we have not effectively reached before, are now being ministered to in very powerful and life changing ways. Keep up the good work!

While there are many more things that can be added to this condensed list of guidelines, I offer this in the interim, until the official guidelines are finished. I ask that everyone cooperate with these guidelines in an effort to provide a safe environment for our parishioners and visitors to come and worship our Lord this Pentecost Sunday. Your cooperation is in fact an act of love for each member of your parish family.

CALENDAR- JUNE 2020

In person service 8 AM...June 28,2020

This service will also be on Zoom

Last Bible Study (Zoom) 6-13-20

Bible Study Zoom info- Saturdays 5:30 PM

Meeting ID: 860 7057 7019

Password: 829171

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,86070577019#,,1#,829171# US (New York)

Sunday Services Zoom info- Sundays 8 AM

Meeting ID: 814 3303 2574

Password: 786465

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,81433032574#,,1#,786465# US (New York)