

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

GIDEON'S TRUMPET MARCH 2021 VOLUME 13 #1

Other Side of the Mountain

It has been quite a year for all of us. But for me, I've made an entire year without visiting the emergency room. Thank You God, for protecting me from becoming a patient! I've done a lot of that during this year – praying yes, but also thanking God for dear friends staying well!

I've also learned a lot about electronic meetings and which ones are better than others for specific kinds of meetings. I've learned that I have some friends who rely on me to bring them a laugh or two or three. I have practiced what I call "Wellness Calls". I would recommend using that to stay in touch with relatives, friends both close and far and even ones you haven't seen or talked to for a long time. Email is great but there is nothing like hearing a dear friend or the voice of a loved one.

Over this year, my high school class president called me – I think it had been about 10 years since we had talked. Now before you say something about my "Wellness Calls", I have to admit she wasn't on my list. What she wanted was advice for what to do with the leftover funds from our last reunion. Our class decided after many emails, calls and even surface mail was to donate the funds to a community center/food bank. My classmates even made additional donations to increase the amount. The amazing thing about the community center was not only do they feed the body but they also feed the mind and spirit, through education, skills training and personal counseling.

What really intrigued me was God's timing of the call. When the phone rang, I had just found my yearbook a few days before and was reminiscing. I call these "God-incidents" as it gave me a chance to catch up, to help with a great project and to continue visiting although long distance with an old friend.

It is amazing what God provides us with during this time – I've had the opportunity to connect with old friends, learn the nuisances of electronic meetings and other technical secrets and be able to talk to God on a much more personal level. We all are connected to one another and God lets us know this in many, many ways. The key for me during this time is to remember to thank Him for every joy both large and small which before I might not have done enough. Thank You God, for all my blessings during 2020 – may the blessings continue for all of us during this new year

Love, Peace and Wellness!!!

Susan Darcy

From the Senior Warden

This past Sunday I watched the service on our Facebook page. It was comforting to share in the familiar ritual and to hear Father Frank's sermon. The upgrade to our internet system has proven to be a boon to our ability to broadcast out into the cyber world. One other person was on the site as well. I monitor Church of Our Saviour's Facebook site and the number of people who stop by to check it out and like it has increased dramatically. We have over 50 people following the postings on the site. I update information on a regular basis and all of the Lenten, Holy Week, and Easter services are listed. I will be adding new photos to the site. If you have photos of the church and church events you would like to share, please give me a call and I'll give you my email address. If you have my address, send me the photos. The Facebook page is part of our outreach to the community and the world. Please continue to support Our Saviour with your time, talents, and treasures. With love, Bitsy

Elizabeth-Sheffer-Winig

Outreach Opportunity at Christ Church Cocksackie

The Carpenter Shop Outreach Center was brought back to life in January 2015 when God put it upon the heart of one of our parishioners, Courtney Stickle. When Courtney gained custody of her nephew and niece (which brought her kid count to 6 little ones) I took over the reins. Being from a family that has always served God through volunteerism, I knew there was a great need in the community to continue Courtney's dream. Since then we have helped foster parents who have been given short notice that they were getting new foster children. We have helped families who have been granted emergency custody. We have helped domestic violence survivors and those who have had to start their lives over. We have helped newcomers to the area and those that have lost their homes and possessions to fire or natural disasters and we have helped those who are just down on their luck. What started out as a community coat drive with no place to store the donations, turned into a clothing outreach which serves the needs of our community throughout the year. We also network when there is a need for something we don't have such as furniture or household items. We connect people with other resources such as local food pantries and other services. Being an EMT, I am afforded the opportunity to see the needs of people who may not reach out for help. This allows us to leave anonymous care packages on doorsteps of people who are sick and can't get to the store, clothing and shoes for those that have none, and see where other needs can be met.

We are located at 70 Mansion Street (behind Christ Church) in Cocksackie. We are open from 1:00-3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays but are looking to expand our hours. We operate solely on donations and pride ourselves in only giving away clothing that is clean and free from stains, rips, or odors. We live by the motto, "if we wouldn't wear it, why should others have to?". New volunteers are greatly needed to help sort, launder, and display donations, deliver to those in need, and be at the Center so that people can come in and browse at expanded hours.

Jennifer Moore-Warren- Vestry Member

From the Junior Warden

Worship events Calendar:

Deacon Mass 3/7 8am, Morning Prayer led by Bitsy and Mary 3/14 8am, 3/21 8am Holy Eucharist led by Father Lockwood, we will send an email if this service will only be by Zoom.

3/28 Palm Sunday 8am

Maundy Thursday 4/1/21 7:30 pm,

Good Friday 4/2/21 Noon

EASTER DAY 4/4 8am in the church All services will be broadcast by Zoom, Facebook and Live unless otherwise noted.

Bible Study

March 11- No Bible Study

March 18 5:30 PM

March 25 7:30 PM

April 1 5:30 PM

April 8 5:30 PM

Altar Flowers: Anyone who wishes to give money towards Easter Lilies can complete the envelope on the table in the Hall or send your donation to the church with the people you wish to remember by March 28th. Spring flowers will be coming out by the end of April and if you have any you would like to donate to be used on the Altar please let Mary Young know 518-794-7538.

The Mass held for Bishop Love was beautiful, full of honor and recognition of our Lord and Saviour. He spoke about his call, how he saw the Lord leading his ministry and his view of the future. It is available on You Tube to be seen. I have ordered the book he recommended and once I have finished it I will let everyone know and put it in our church library for others to read.

Our readings over the last few Sundays have given us a glimpse of the role Jesus had and has in our lives. We spoke about the change in his identity as he went from a child to a man, from the Messiah, King of the Jews to Saviour and ultimately Redeemer on Easter Sunday. My brother sent me a Lenten Study which talks about how we grow and develop in our Christian walk. The vignettes are about two minutes long and give some ideas on how to grow and ideas for prayerful meditation. The program is called Best Ever Lent and is sponsored by the Dynamic Catholic and can be found on the Web site by the same name dynamiccatholic.com. We often do not see and share the love we have with our brothers and sisters in Christ because of differences in how we worship God. Do not be afraid to check this out, I think you will enjoy the meditations.

Music: Does anyone have any CD's they would like to share to be heard at service, the first and third Sunday are when we usually have music.? I have the CD player and am willing to run the remote. Let me know if you do? Mary Young

(Junior Warden Cont)

Vestry Update: Next Vestry meeting is 3/25 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall, we will change to the fourth Thursday for a few months as Bitsy has another commitment. Services will continue to be held in the Fellowship Hall with the exception of Easter 4/4, Ascension 5/16 and Pentecost 5/23 which will be held in the sanctuary. In person service is going well with a full house many Sundays, we are continuing to Zoom and use Facebook for services as well, with over 100 views. We are reaching people for Jesus Christ and hopefully are Disciples Making Disciples as well. Our mission projects are continuing, we have not heard back from anyone our shoeboxes went to but do know they were sent to Malawi and Ukraine. Our food pantry gifts continue and we have restarted our Women shelters collections of personal hygiene products with our first delivery scheduled for 3/22. One of our sisters from St. Luke's Chatham has agreed to transport our gifts to St. Luke's where they will be picked up. We are reaching out to Christ Church Cossackie to see if they could use some help with the Carpenters Shop so stay tuned as you start spring cleaning and need a place for those tired goods. Our church plant has

started to see some of the care it needs, the gutters were applied to the Fellowship Hall to help with redirecting the water from the roof away from the foundation. A spring clean up date will be decided upon so watch for the date in an email.

The Vestry would like to thank all of you for your ongoing generosity of your money in the form of tithes and gifts to the Capital Improvement Fund. It is wonderful to see God's people working together to benefit the kingdom.

Mary Young

From Father Frank

Hello Brothers and Sisters

Here we are in the beginning of March, a year into this pandemic. Reflecting back on the past year, though in my own broken humanity I see 2020 as an absolute disaster of a year, I also through my spiritual eyes see much hope.

Many of us have had to face numerous challenges as a result of the quarantines. Many have been through loss as a result COVID. Some of that loss has been financial but most of it has been emotional and quite personal. The sense of isolation, feelings of being cut off, the pain of having loved ones in hospital and yet unable to visit due to the rules of social distancing.

The list goes on.

Yet, as the risk of sounding like an optimist, I see also what we have gained through this crisis. We have begun to reach people across the country with our ministry from Church of Our Saviour. We continued to bless others through participation in numerous outreach opportunities.

This is truly the expression of the Christian faith. All of us, saint and sinner alike, go through the same challenges. Believer and non-believer alike face loss, grief, heartache and pain.

What difference does our faith make?

(Father Frank Cont)

It is in how we as Christians respond to these situations. Do we collapse under the pressure or do we more diligently seek God through prayer? Do we become embittered, or do we develop even compassion for others? Are we seeking the world's wisdom, or the wisdom offered in scripture?

Paul shares with us how it is that he faced the challenges he faced in ministry and remained faithful. His secret? To become content in all circumstances (Philippians 4:11-13) and, rather than struggle with worry, to make all concerns known to God (Philippians 4:6).

Oh, and by the way, this is exactly what we at Our Saviour have done. We have been there to pray with each other as one of us faced another piece of frightening news. We have reached out

to each other in prayer and support. We have continued to come together in worship and have become even more consistent in giving thanks to God for the blessings he provides.

As we continue into 2021, I am excited for how much more we will discover together. Especially as we come through such uncertainty within the Diocese of Albany. God willing, Our Saviour will continue to be a light sharing the Good News with our community.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of that.

Blessings and peace to all

Father Frank Lockwood

From the Treasurer

Many thanks to all members for their continued support of Church of Our Saviour. Your continued generosity has helped us maintain the physical plant and continue our Outreach Programs. We have a new opportunity in partnership with Christ Church Cocksackie- Please contact me if you want to help with their Carpenter Shop Outreach Center- It would be great if we could help them open up another day to increase their outreach in Cocksackie

Richard Dauchy

PRAYER CONCERNS

CLERGY

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry Deacon Leslie Gronemen
Rev. Randolph Lukas Pope Francis
Father John Deacon Peter Rev Frank Lockwood
Archbishop of Canterbury Diocesan Standing Committee
Vestries of Church of Our Saviour & Christ Church Coxsackie
Dean's Committee

GOVERNMENT

President Biden Governor Cuomo Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Senator Charles Schumer Senator Daphne Jordan Assemblyman Jake Ashby
Congressman Anthony Delgado Tistrya Houghtling- Supervisor

Mary Dodd Ralph Family of Patty Harper Richard Jones
John & Teri Koepf Debbie McLaughlin Marie Katrina
Dean & Rachel McCann Shirley Vickery Michael D
Al & Jeanne Mayer Rev William Love Joanne Lockwood
Ron Peterson Storm Riders Janice C Joe M
Theresa Hoffman Kristen Jamie Martin
Scott Larabee Gail S John Rich D Rich Mayer
Kenneth Duchhazme Dave F David Curran Lois Johnson
Kristen Thompson Barkat

U.S. MILITARY

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR ALL WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM COV 19

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS