

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

GIDEON'S TRUMPET MAY 2021 VOLUME 13 #2

From the Senior Warden

The other day Mary, Eugenia, and I culled through the filing cabinet in the church office, going through papers and documents from the last few decades. Some of the documents could be discarded as the time for keeping them has passed or they were not necessary to keep. The remaining papers were sorted and refiled. We then opened the bins which are the temporary homes for church records that must be kept. There was the original register in which the vestry members who established Church of Our Saviour signed their names. Minutes from the first vestry meetings are written in the beautiful hand common in the late 19th century. Registers recording marriages, baptisms, and burials held in the church or through the auspices of the church is a historical record of the Lebanon Valley and its residents. Eventually these records will be housed in a fire-proof and water-proof safe. Seeing names and some photographs of parishioners who are no longer with us brought fond and loving memories for us. Preserving the history of Our Saviour is an important part of our legacy.

With love, Bitsy

Elizabeth-Sheffer-Winig

Schedule

Ascension service 5/16/21 8am in the sanctuary

Pentecost service 5/23/21 8am in the sanctuary

All services will resume in the sanctuary with music on the first and third Sunday of the month. We will continue at this time to social distance and wear masks until the diocese changes the directions. Screening form will be on the table in the entry way.

Bike and Cage Blessing 6/6/21 3pm in the parking lot All wheeled means of transportation may be blessed at this service. Bring you bicycle, motorcycle, car, 4 wheeler anything you wish to have blessed.

Deanery meeting: 6/13/21 3pm via Zoom

From the Junior Warden

The vestry has authorized Larabee Fuel to work on the electrical system in the rectory and complete the work on the lights in the sanctuary.

Tom will replace the smoke/fire alarm system that has malfunctioned in the rectory.

Eugenia will contact our contractor to complete painting of trim on the church and to fill in the holes in the sidewalk.

Review of town assessor review of property: request to repair cracks in sidewalk to prevent falls, cover the exit sign leading into the yard behind the rectory if we are not going to shovel the area. We need to be sure that we shovel the area 3x3 ' outside of exit doors.

I recently attended the Episcopal Church Women Province II meeting via Zoom. It was so nice to see friends from all over New York and New Jersey and see how they have been doing this year. We did lose some members to the COVID epidemic from New York City. Most of the parishes have been in lock down just as we have and are using online services to maintain contact with their members. The dioceses are trying to continue their programs for feeding, education, clothing for women and children. The group decided to give \$500 to the Diocese of Long Island to assist with their woman's prison ministries.

Beaver Cross is having summer camp in person, see their web site for specifics, they have weekend, four day and week long sessions. If you need financial help contact Hudson Valley Deanery, Mary Young 14640 Rt 22 New Lebanon, New York 12125 for scholarship applications.

Book Review: LIVE NOT BY LIES by Rod Dreher

This book was recommended by Bishop Love during his last sermon at his retirement service. This book discusses the change in the United States which the writer believes is soft totalitarianism which he thinks will eventually persecute Christianity. The increase of technology such as smart phones and computers allows more and more people access to the personal information of the citizens. Having this knowledge gives them power over these citizens and the mass surveillance is being carried out by both state and corporate entities. The authors concern is that most of the population are willing to surrender their privacy and therefore their freedom for the sake of security and comfort. The author compares the changes occurring in the United States as the same changes that occurred in Russia and China prior to the Communist theology becoming the national political ideal. The author sees our culture as wanting comfort and not being willing or able to deal with any type of suffering in the short or long term. Americans also have no tolerance for dissenting opinions, when they occur the outcry is that these opinions are labeled hate speech and attack the perpetrators.

The author gives us a way to prevent this from happening. Strong family ties and values, strong faith in Jesus Christ and sharing those ideals. Coming together in small groups to discuss the word of God and

how it affects our day to day lives. Talk to our families about our past and how we survived and made this country great even with the problems we have.

This book gave me a lot to think about and I listen to the news with an ear to these ideas. I also have read the book of Revelation and know that the world will change to be filled with evil and a denial of God and his existence. There is a happy ending for those of us who accept that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Saviour. We need to continue to share our faith with those who would like to hear, yes we need to look at the news and the ideas being expressed to make the world a better place for all with the knowledge that God commands us to love everyone and care for everyone equally.

I have put the book in the church library if anyone would like to read it.

Mary Young

From Father Frank

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Well, starting with a quick confession, Richard has had to ask me several times to get this submitted for The Trumpet. It isn't that I don't like writing articles. Truth is I can be a bit of a procrastinator. Bad habit that developed in high school.

Anyways, here we are.

Yesterday I attended a Deanery meeting that outlined the potential process for the election of a new bishop diocesan for the Albany Diocese. It has not yet been approved so I am unable to share in detail the process but can share that we are at the very least 17 to 18 months away from a new bishop.

What does that mean for us? Well, it means that we will have the Standing Committee of the diocese leading us for now. We are also exploring having pastoral support of some other bishops in the meantime. As details of that are revealed/finalized, I will share with you all.

Spiritually this means that we will have to live by faith for a while as we face the unknown/uncertain. I know many around the diocese who have decided that they are not going to "risk" what may be to come so they have left. Others have left out of anger over what transpired with our former bishop. There are opinions across the board. They range from anger to celebration and all shades in between.

Please allow me to share mine.

I am hurt about what I see taking place in the diocese as well as in the church as a whole. In Genesis God creates man (and woman) out of a desire for companionship. He comes from heaven to spend the evening with Adam and Eve in the garden (although the story picks up with the “Fall” having already occurred). He desires togetherness. In no greater way is this represented than in the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is at unity with Himself in all ways. Time and time again throughout history God works to bring humans back into relationship with him. He does this through layers of covenants, prophets speaking His heart, angelic visitations and more.

It is the enemy that works to divide. It is the work of the enemy to create strife and division between creator and creation. This starts at the Tree and continues throughout scripture. Humans do a pretty good job even without the help of the enemy throwing numerous obstacles between them and God in order to separate themselves even further. In studying this topic, I have often said “that which is sin is whatever gets between us and our relationship with God”.

The polarization of social and political issues within this country have become just that. They carry us, albeit it willingly, to such extremes that we allow these to divide us, taking our toys and leaving the sandbox when we disagree with someone because, obviously, if you disagree with me you must hate me. This is painfully immature thinking and it is destroying us. We must learn how to agree to disagree, focus on identifying with others and in that identification find the means by which to still come together, worship together and minister together. The Pharisees spent their time and energy arguing over the minutia of Torah and attempting to prove who was right. How well did that work for them? How well is it working for us?

I pray that we as a Church universal would close our mouths, open our eyes and see each other and the church through God’s eyes from his perspective. Then, prayerfully seek His guidance before we open our mouth the next time.

Please, join me in prayer that the church would reunite.

Blessings and peace to all

Father Frank Lockwood

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-Justin Welby
Diocesan Standing Committee	Dean's Committee
Vestries of Church of Our Saviour & Christ Church Coxsackie	

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	Richard Jones
Kathy Lepore	John & Teri Koepp	Dave Filosa
Sharon	Packy Root	Dean & Rachel McCann
Shirley Vickery	Michael D	Al & Jeanne Mayer
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	Kristen Thompson
Richard L	Nancy & Peter Quinn	Ed & Jill Curtin

U.S. MILITARY

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR ALL WHO ARE SUFFERING FROM COV 19

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS

puzzle 120
 GALATIANS 5:13-26

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S	C	S	S	B	L	X	Q	S	I	V	R	Y	O	I	U	D	I
M	S	J	S	N	A	T	U	R	E	T	A	R	V	G	E	I	N
T	Y	E	E	I	Y	N	E	X	A	T	V	E	E	I	H	M	O
J	C	U	N	Y	N	H	B	L	T	A	E	E	F	J	O	M	M
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| AMBITION | FREEDOM | LUSTFUL |
| ANGER | FRUIT | NATURE |
| CONCEIT | GENTLENESS | NEIGHBOR |
| CONFLICT | GOODNESS | PASSIONS |
| CRAVE | HOSTILITY | PATIENCE |
| CROSS | IDOLATRY | PEACE |
| CRUCIFIED | IMMORALITY | PLEASURE |
| DEMONIC | INHERIT | QUARRELING |
| DESIRES | JEALOUSY | SELFISH |
| ENVY | JOY | SERVE |
| EVIL | KINDNESS | SINFUL |
| FIGHTING | LOVE | |