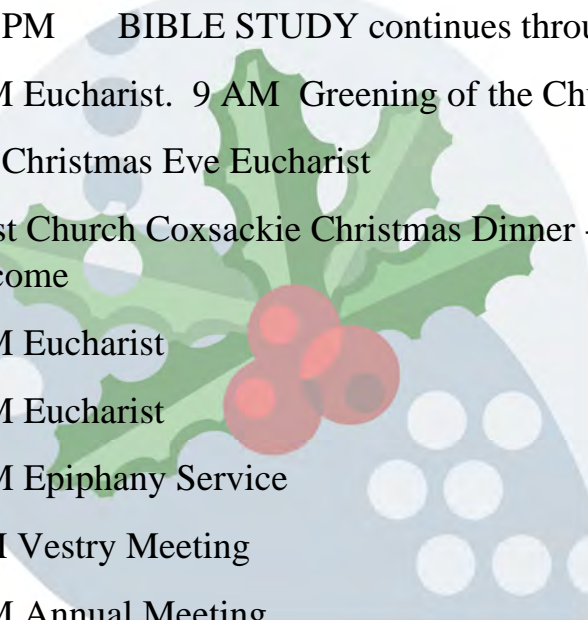


**CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR-
PO Box 827 Lebanon Springs, NY 12125**

GIDEON'S TRUMPET DECEMBER 2021 VOLUME 13 #6

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Nominations for Vestry members will be accepted until January 23, 2022



Thursdays	6:30 PM	BIBLE STUDY continues through the holidays
December 19	8 AM	Eucharist. 9 AM Greening of the Church
December 24	7:30	Christmas Eve Eucharist
December 25		Christ Church Coxsackie Christmas Dinner - \$ Donations Welcome
December 26	8 AM	Eucharist
January 2	8 AM	Eucharist
January 9	8 AM	Epiphany Service
January 12	6 PM	Vestry Meeting
January 23	9 AM	Annual Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Church Family lost a valued member this month.

Louis (Bud) Godfroy III passed away peacefully. There will be a Celebration of Life Service on January 8, 2022 at the New Lebanon Firehouse from Noon until 5 PM. Bud was a well loved citizen of the Valley and will be missed.

We are please to report that the Bell has been repaired . With the help of Tony Winig, we replaced the rope which had broken after many years

Masks are now mandatory in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. These are the most recent guidelines from the Diocese.

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER, Richard Dauchy

I think it is important to let everyone know all the outreach that we have done this year. Below is a list of all the donations our Church has made during 2021:

Anglican Frontier Mission: \$300

Partnering with members of the worldwide Anglican Communion and other Christians who live near or among unreached peoples, AFM equips and sends short and long-term missionaries.

Charlie's Pantry: \$300

Provides food and other supplies to the local community here in Lebanon Valley.

Diocese Youth Ministry: \$300

Supports the Episcopal Diocese Youth Outreach Shoebox Program: 9 Boxes of supplies have been sent out to needful families. The supplies have been donated by our members, including the \$90 shipping cost.

Toys for Tots:

Large amounts of school supplies have been donated to area schools. To date, the large box in the Sanctuary is half full.

Christmas Gifts: \$200 has been donated to the Town of New Lebanon.
\$165 has been donated to Coxsackie.

Back Pack Program: Over \$1300

donated to the Regional Food Bank to provide food filled back packs to area families.

We are truly a generous and giving family. Thanks so much for your continued support of all our Outreach efforts. God is Good...All the Time.

A letter written by Father Frank Lockwood to the Albany Diocese

To: The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Albany

From: Rev. Frank Lockwood

Dear Members of the Standing Committee:

First, please allow me to introduce myself to those who are unfamiliar with me. I am Reverend Frank Lockwood. I am priest in charge of both Christ Church in Coxsackie and Church of Our Saviour in New Lebanon. I have been a member of the Diocese of Albany nearly all my adult life. I was raised up out of Zion Episcopal Church in Hudson Falls towards the diaconate and later ordained priest while serving as the Deacon Vicar of Christ Church in Coxsackie.

I have watched as several factors have, I feel it fair to say, ravaged our diocese. I have watched the exit of our former bishop and the pain, anger, and several other emotions that this has caused. I have seen the national church go through their changes and the effect that this has had not only on our diocese but on the Anglican Communion and our relationships through it.

Recently I participated in our electronic version of our annual convention. I saw the proposals that came through including the request to match the canons of the national church. I was relieved that we duly voted against changes to canon or constitution while in an electronic format. I did plainly hear that some were nervous about speaking in a face-to-face meeting and that they would have been more comfortable debating the issues in the electronic format. I certainly can identify with that type of anxiety.

To that is what I would ask you to consider: the setting up of a moderated round table discussion, perhaps to be recorded, that would be limited in attendees to begin a dialogue. The statement made during convention is that our Diocese needs to heal. I absolutely agree with that. However, I do not believe that there is only one side of "the issue" that needs the healing. I believe that the various sides of the various issues that we as a church face in this post church world has led to deep wounds for many. Healing is needed.

To initiate that process of healing, I would suggest that it would begin by first establishing a framework in which others would actually hear each other's viewpoints and perspectives. That we would seek to find the common ground for us all to stand upon as we look towards the future of our spiritual journey together. Scripture directs us to this end. I would point towards the council of Jerusalem and the "issue" about admitting non-Jews into the faith. Clearly the apostles modeled a time of listening, prayer and seeking true guidance from the Holy Spirit. If they had not, we all would be far more fluent in Hebrew and many homes would no longer be having their shellfish on Christmas eve.

I am not suggesting that this be done with the intent of changing canon or constitution. The intent of this type of gathering/round table discussion would be to allow for expression, listening, hearing (yes there is a difference between listening to someone and truly hearing them), reflection, prayer and coming back for another discussion.

There is no "good time" for such a thing to take place. There never will be. So, now is as good a time to consider this as any.

Thank you for "listening". May God have mercy on all of His children.

In His Service,

Reverend Frank Lockwood

PS: my cell number is 518.791.3640

The Response from the Standing Committee

Thank you, Frank+. I will be sharing your extremely thoughtful letter with the SC on Monday.

FYI - We have begun to plan the PLCs and are taking this type of approach. You have provided us with both affirmation regarding our plans thus far, and further ideas.

Advent blessings to you!

In Him, Kathy Coons+

FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN, Mary Young

Do you know a senior who lives in Columbia County and is homebound? There is a new program available in Columbia County to help these citizens stay safe in their home. For further information call EverHome Inc. 877-730-9666 and speak with Nora.

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN, Bitsy Sheffer-Winig

When December comes around I think of the holidays spent as a child, encircled by my mother and father, brothers and their families, extended family, and the warmth of my childhood home. Over the years I knew I couldn't recreate my childhood Christmases, but I hoped to make new traditions and joy for my children. Next week the clan will gather in their childhood home as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and give thanks for all we have and for a joyous and prosperous 2022. I may not be able to decorate with the same fervor as previous years, but the twinkle lights and love that will surround my home will stay with my family for days and weeks to come. Tony and I wish you all the peace of Christmas, the blessings of a new year, and joy in the love we have in Jesus Christ.

LENT IS COMING -- ASH WEDNESDAY IS MARCH 2, 2022

Father Lockwood has offered to lead a Liturgy Study during Lent- This would be an overview of our Eucharist Liturgy -where it comes from- how it came to be. Please let us know if you would be interested

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK

The Vestry is considering moving our Sunday Worship time to 9 AM...We would do this during Lent . Father Lockwood has agreed to move the service to 9 AM on a trial basis. Please let us know your thoughts. We think that a later start time might help us reach out to more people.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

THANKS TO ALL FOR A GREAT 2021!

Our Church continues to serve the community and provide a spiritual home

