

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

GIDEON'S TRUMPET MAY 2022 VOLUME 14 #3

CHURCH SCHEDULE – *All Regular Church Services Begin at 8:30 AM*

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| May 22nd, 8:30 am | Ascension Sunday Service |
| May 22nd, 3:00 pm | Bike Blessing – Come and get your wheels blessed. Hotdogs and Hamburgers served. |
| May 29 th , 8:30 am | Regular Service |
| June 5th, 5:00 pm | Pentecost Service with Music (no 8:30 AM service) |
| June 12 th , 8:30 am | Regular Service |
| June 19 th , 8:30 am | Regular Service (with Music) |
| June 26 th , 8:30 am | Regular Service |

COFFEE HOUR- We are now getting together after Sunday Service to have some coffee and tea and light refreshments (read breakfast pastries). So far this has been a great way to get together. Please try to join us!

TEACHING SUNDAY: We will have a Teaching Sunday once a quarter. I am excited to find new ways to express my love to the Lord using the old, the new, ours and others worship styles. Our next teaching Sunday is July 3. We will be doing an 18th Century Service- complete with costumes!

CLEANUP SATURDAY: This was held on April 16th. Trees were trimmed, branches moved, and general raking done. The grass is long enough that as of this writing it has been cut twice and looks good. Take a moment when you enter to Thank God for our beautiful property and the hands that care for it.

SUMMER PLANS: July 10th at 3PM – Church Picnic!

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES: Mary Young

Thank you to all who donate to our Food Pantry Ministry, Domestic Violence Shelter Ministry, the Pajama Drive, and the Feeding Program at St. Francis Mission.

New Lebanon Food Pantry: We have moved our pantry donations to the Stephentown Pantry for now as the New Lebanon pantry has an abundance. We will continue to support the New Lebanon Pantry Fuel Fund and will resume New Lebanon Pantry donations when needed.

St Francis Mission: Saturdays 9AM – 1:30 PM

Arbor Hill, Albany, NY

Help prepare & serve meals at this Arbor Hill Mission in Albany.

Mary reports that the feeding program at St. Francis is something she had never done before but was interested in. She helped set up bags of food to be distributed while others prepared meals to be served. The people of the area are given a meal and a bag of food and are allowed to go through the racks of clothes. 200 meals are served each week to 70 families who live in the Arbor Hill section of Albany, many on the streets. If you wish to participate, please let her know.

Shoebox Ministry: Mary Young received the following information from Samaritan's Purse: a total of 11,261 shoeboxes were collected from the Northeast part of New York. 7.5 million shoeboxes were sent in from the continental United States and 9.1 million from the entire world to be given out. Jesus loves all the children of the world. This year we will be collecting shoeboxes from 11/14/22 - 11/21/ 2022.

VESTRY NEWS

The Vestry met and decided to try a new Sunday Service time to encourage others to join us, to offer the opportunity of fellowship and to give Father Lockwood time to travel between churches. Our new time is 8:30 am. Music will still be the first and third Sundays of the month with Anne and Rich alternating playing. Share with friends and come join with us as we celebrate every week the opportunity to praise our Lord.

DIOCESAN CONVENTION:

Diocesan Convention will be held from June 3rd to the 5th which is Pentecost Weekend. **Our Pentecost Service will be June 5th at 5 PM.**

COVID:

As the COVID numbers rise again in Columbia County, the Vestry reviewed our COVID policy. Currently the County DOH is encouraging any indoor activities not able to do social distancing, to wear masks. We continue to have seating marked at 6-foot spaces and have hand sanitizer available and masks at the reception table and in the pews. Church of Our Saviour is continuing our present program which is, if you want to wear a mask, do.

LISTENING CONFERENCES:

The Bishop Search Committee is continuing to have Listening Sessions to obtain the desires of the diocese when selecting a new bishop candidate. There are a few left including a ZOOM one. See the diocesan website for the dates, places, and times.

The Session I went to was well attended and many suggestions were presented. The committee members wrote down the responses. Once all the sessions are completed, they will compile a list of characteristics and gifts we, the diocese, would like to have in our new Bishop.

From the many suggestions, I have compiled a few:

Faith Identity: Love - what is a Christian and how do we show trust in God's love for ALL people, embrace the diversity of cultures and show our Lord's inclusiveness.

Evangelism, Healing: Renewal of how to present Christ to all peoples and ages, bring people together, build bridges instead of division, good preacher.

What is so different about Christians: Believe Bible is Word of God, called by God, vision of the Church, skilled in mediation.

Spiritual gifts: Discernment, prayerful, compassionate, humble, generous, sense of humor, kind.

Administrative: Business sense, diplomatic, supporter of Vocational Deacons and Priests, team builder, is aware that there are things he does not know and look for people who have this knowledge

The committee will be putting together a profile and job description as well as information about the diocese with the goal to present this to the Presiding Bishop and if he approves, to start advertising by September 2022 with hopefully the selection vote to be held at Convention 2023. We will keep praying for this important work and the members of this committee.

From Father Frank Lockwood

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

I am writing this after having just finished our May Vestry meeting. There was much of the usual to discuss. We made plans for picnics and having a community presence. We also discussed concerns over the rising cost of fuel and what that will mean for us come the winter of 2022 to 2023. There were some correspondences that we reviewed as well.

And...then there were the resolutions that are being proposed for the 2022 Convention of the Diocese of Albany.

I will not go into what specifics were discussed, nor will I even go into what was decided. Instead, I want to convey to you all how proud of your Vestry I am. As a whole, they are loving, caring, have genuine concern for each other and are not afraid to show it. Yet even more impressive; they take the time to listen to each other. They respect each other's opinions and perspective on issues. They actively consider what someone else might say on a topic before they respond. Even in situations where emotions may run high, they still take the time to consider each other and the parish and God's will for it all.

I am truly proud to serve alongside them. You should be proud to have them working on the needs of this church/parish/family.

Not all places have such a body of individuals looking out for them. I have seen some very negative situations in parishes over the years. I even served on one. It left me hurting for the parish and what was to eventually come.

Here, I do not have a sense of that at all. Quite the opposite. I remain truly hopeful that the future of Church of Our Saviour is a wonderful one.

In the love of Christ,
Fr Frank

From the Senior Warden – Elizabeth Sheffer-Winig

This morning, my meditation was about the abundancy of God's love. I look around me and see that abundancy every day. God has blessed us with six beautiful grandchildren. The two older grands are living the best lives 20-somethings can. This week Tony and I celebrated with our granddaughter Olivia as she performed in her school's spring concert. I am happy to report that she has the gift of song, which warms my heart and her saxophone playing is the best. Olivia beamed with joy. Tony and I were witnesses to our granddaughter Evelyn's triumphs during the Berkshire Special Olympics track and field meet. She ran her best, jumped her highest, and threw a softball with great oomph. Evelyn garnered three gold medals and a celebratory walk around her school when she returned. Her entire class was at the meet to cheer for her and a classmate. They brought signs and yelled their kindergarten loudest for their friends. What blessings they are for Evelyn and for each other. In June we will head to Boston for Freya's dance recital and then to Providence for Alora's performance in "Seussical, the Musical. Alora and Freya are blessed with theatrical talents. God's abundant love surrounds me through family and especially through the grandchildren. May His abundant love surround you.

From the Treasurer- Richard Dauchy

As Father Lockwood said in his article, the Diocese is having their Convention in a couple of weeks. All indications point to a bitter debate regarding Canon law and how it applies to Same Sex Marriage in the Church. Both sides are convinced they are right...and we all know how that works out. On a personal note, it is 10 years ago that Rich and I were married. Even though we could not be married at the Church, it felt like we were in Church. I can say that because virtually all our wonderful guests came from Church of Our Saviour. We felt such joy from this fellowship. Susan Darcy was our wedding planner and she did a great job. Thanks

again Susan for making our day so special. Our Church is all about how we love and support each other. Once again I realize how truly lucky we are.

One other (rather sad) note. Tom Stone is moving to Virginia. Tom is one of the first people we met when we came to the Valley. He has always been an integral part of our Church...and over the years has done so much to help in the leadership and maintenance of the Church. I cannot tell you how many times the Vestry has turned to Tom for his expertise. He has always been available to work on the building and help out with maintenance. Tom- you will be missed.

Money Needed for Sanctuary Repairs

We are planning repairs and painting to our Sanctuary in 2022. Please think about donating to our Building Fund. Also, as we all know, the price of Fuel Oil has increased, so please keep that in mind. Thanks again for all your generosity during 2021. With your help we are continuing to provide worship and fellowship in these difficult times.

Church Service Zoom information-

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82194417424?pwd=am4vekJsNHIVMWhYNDIxS2FOYXpjZz09>

Meeting ID: 821 9441 7424

Passcode: 414642

One tap mobile

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+13017158592,,82194417424#,,,,*414642# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 821 9441 742

Passcode: 414642

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82194417424?pwd=am4vekJsNHIVMWhYNDIxS2FOYXpjZz09>

Bible Study – Thursday @ 6:30 Topic: Bible Study

Time: Jan 13, 2022 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Thu, until Dec 22, 2022, 50 occurrence(s)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZEpcO-urzwsHNaG4UIgE42Ayoovl6fGHtS2/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGtqjwsHNWSth-FRpwMBo_CM-7zmGZdgo1cu0vQKid2NIHXL-1NJL4pFv_4

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85476617662?pwd=OXh5OXdYYlhuNjFtTDdzL09wc0c3UT09>

Meeting ID: 854 7661 7662

Passcode: 029694

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 854 7661 7662

Passcode: 029694

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/k148aWil5>

Prayer in a Time of Transition

Heavenly Father, we praise and thank you for this, your diocese of Albany. Inspire and sustain us in this time of transition.

Incline our hearts to do your will, and so direct us in your ways that the leader you are raising up to be our Bishop will find here joyful disciples, making disciples, united in faith, unflagging in hope, and steeped in mutual charity.

In your mercy, accept our repentance, and grant us peace; look with patience on our enthusiasms; and pour rich gifts and grace upon all who are entrusted with the ongoing work of your church; so that, with diligence and charity, we may discern correctly and walk righteously in your ways.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.