

CHRIST CHURCH

✝ BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ✝

January/February 2018



MEDICAL MISSION TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Our Diocesan team will be going on its 20th annual Medical Mission to the Dominican Republic in February. Susan and Noelle Olszewski will be part of the team again this year. Susan started with the team 14 years ago, and this will be Noelle's second trip.

Kelley Howell has been selling her delicious jams, jellies and sauces to help support the mission. In addition, the January Mission collection will be dedicated to the mission. The money collected on Mission Sunday will be used to purchase medicine, which we give to our patients at no cost during clinic. We see over 1000 patients in five days, and for many this the only time they see a physician all year.

You can help our mission by donating items on the list below. Place them in a collection box in the Welcome Center during the month of January. If you would like to make a financial donation, you may do so by putting it in the collection plate with the note "DR Mission" in the memo. Thank you as always for your generous support.

Items Needed for DR Medical Mission:

- Infant Ibuprofen
- Children's Tylenol, Children's Ibuprofen
- Prenatal Vitamins
- Children's Vitamins (*No Gummies!*)
- Small tubes of anti-fungal cream or triple antibiotic ointment
- Trial or hotel size soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, powder, mouthwash
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Washcloths
- Your prayers ●



LESSONS & CAROLS CD VOL 3

Purchase in the Christ Church Office

CDs are \$15;

Purchase a second, attractively gift wrapped!

For those who no longer have CD drives, we have

Download Cards for \$10;

All CD graphics and liner notes are available when you purchase the online access and download code.



Adirondack Nativity by Frank Orsini

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Photograph: Ken Rimarty



THE REVEREND DERIK J. ROY, JR.

“I want to live again!” George Bailey cried as he stood on a snow-covered iron bridge with the dark, swirling river below. With help from angel second class Clarence Oddbody, George had just discovered to his horror what life would be like had he never been born. Anyone who has watched the Christmas film classic *It's A Wonderful Life* knows Bedford Falls had become Pottersville; its main street a red-light district with loud music and garish, flesh-peddling neon signs; the transformation from Currier and Ives to Sodom and Gomorrah—all because George had never been born.

One person can make an enormous difference in the lives of others, in a community, or in an entire culture. In an article by Dr. D. James Kennedy called “What if Christmas had never happened?” he raises the question, what if Jesus had never been born? What difference would it have made in history or in our daily lives if a Bethlehem stable had not served as a makeshift delivery room 2017 years ago?

Historically, it would have made a huge difference. Jesus has changed virtually every aspect of human life. Much of what we take for granted finds its roots in Christ and his teachings. The greatest tragedy of the Christmas holiday each year is not so much its commercialization, but its trivialization. Without even realizing it, we live as if He had never been born.

In our hearts we know that if Christmas had never happened the implications for our world would be horrific. The same is true if Christmas never happens in our own heart. A life lived without Christ is tragic.

My prayer for you as you enter this New Year of 2018 is that Christ has been or will be born in your heart. Have a blessed New Year. ●

Yours in Christ,
—Father Derik J. Roy



KIDSFIRST NEWS

On December 1, KidsFirst staff and families participated in the Ballston Spa Holiday Parade. Our float had a candy cane theme. It was a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship.

Although we are at full enrollment, we are currently enrolling for summer and fall of 2018. Enrollment forms are available on our website, KidsFirst1.com.

You may have noticed that our school-age program is growing. We thank you for welcoming the children, and appreciate your patience as we integrate our program into the busy church schedule of activities and events.

Our little ones learned about Advent during their chapel time with Fr Roy on Thursday mornings. They also learned Advent and Christmas songs in preparation for their Christmas Service.

Our generous families and staff filled a huge box for Toys for Tots as our December service project.

The staff of KidsFirst wishes everyone a Happy New Year. ●

KidsFirst's float at the Ballston Spa Holiday Parade.





CHRIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Editors: **Bet LaRue**
Susan Olszewski

Layout: **Janet Marie Yeates**

NEXT DEADLINE:
NOON ON SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 10, 2018

Material should be submitted by e-mail to
Bet LaRue: luvbritlit@gmail.com 378-5110

Send high-resolution digital images (not
web files) to jmyeates@frontiernet.net

✠ Parish Anniversaries

January—

- 1 Kenneth and Julia Duchesne
- 27 Evan and Linda Hendricks
- 28 Brian and Bonnie Horrocks

February—

- 4 Noel and Mary Drindak
- 9 Jennifer and Merico Catallo
- 14 Joe and Theresa Bruno
Ed and Marcy Melander
- 23 John and Judith Bell
- 28 Eric and Gina Fajans

PARISH GIVING

September average was \$4935

October average was \$4723

November average was \$6046



Three-month average \$5235

To meet budget in 2017, \$5031

KNIT/CROCHET, TEA, AND PRAYER MONDAYS

Join us on the second and fourth Mondays, from 2–3 PM in the fireplace room for prayer, tea and needlework. Contact Margaret Cook, Nancy Cuddihy, or Cheryl Bloomer for more information. All are welcome! (Note: We will not meet on holidays.) ●

ALTAR FLOWERS

On most Sundays, other than during Lent and Advent, our church altar is beautified by bouquets of flowers. By signing up in advance on the bulletin board by the kitchen door in the parish hall, you can reserve a Sunday to have flowers put on the altar in memory of or in thanksgiving for someone. A member of the Flower committee will call you to find out your wishes. After that you may pay for the flowers (one vase is \$35 and two vases are \$50) by putting the money in an envelope in the collection plate. Make sure it is clearly marked “Altar Flowers” with your name, the date, and the amount enclosed. After the 10 AM service on the Sunday you have reserved, you may take the flowers home or designate them to be given to a special person or shut-in. ●

THE CHRIST CHURCH WEBSITE IS BEING UPDATED!

Please visit us at ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com. Follow the link in the upper right hand corner of the page that says “Members Area” to sign up and gain access to ministry calendars, an online copy of our directory, and other resources! Contact Jeanne in the main office with any questions or suggestions. ●



Watch for a new Facebook page for Christ Church in 2018!

Celebration Choir • 8 am service
Rehearses in church after 8:00 AM service; will sing first Sundays

Angel Choir • for Children K-6
Rehearses after 10 AM Service

Worship Choir • 10 am service
Rehearses in Choir Room on Tuesdays 7:30-8:30 PM

—Kristin McCabe

WED., JANUARY 3 • 10 AM

• **Wednesday Study Group Resumes**

We will be beginning a new study series called *Anxious for Nothing: Finding Calm in a Chaotic World* by Max Lucado. In this five session video Bible study we will explore God's treatment plan for anxiety, as found in *Philippians 4:4-8*.

SUN., JANUARY 21 • NOON-1 PM

• **Confirmation Instruction Begins**

If a person is baptized as an infant, and had no choice in being baptized, confirmation is the opportunity to take on the responsibility to confirm their baptismal vows. It's also a time when we ask for God's Holy Spirit to strengthen our walk. These classes will continue on Sundays (unless the group determines another time that works better) throughout the winter months into the spring. See Father Roy if you are interested or have questions. The confirmation service will be scheduled at a date to be determined when our Bishop is able to be present.



SAT., JANUARY 27 • 9 AM-3 PM

• **Parish Leadership Seminar**

This year, the Diocese and Bishop Love are inviting us to SLC for a workshop on lay ministry. The focus will be to help church members understand the call we all have to use our gifts, talents, experience, and time to serve and be the body of Christ. This ultimately is what gives purpose and meaning to our life. Everyone from our parish is invited and we hope to bring a large group.

SUN., JANUARY 28 • 11:30 AM

• **Annual Meeting**

Our Annual Meeting will be held in the Parish Hall following our 10 AM worship. The vestry will provide a soup lunch. The annual meeting is for everyone; childcare will be available. Only members may vote for vestry representation, convention delegates, and members of the chapel and columbarium board. Even if you're not eligible to vote, we encourage you to attend and to hear about the many wonderful things going on in and through our church. Please watch for nomination forms for vestry, convention delegates, and the chapel and columbarium board. These will be available the first weeks of January.

Those whose terms end are: Rachel Norsworthy, Michelle Mattice, Ann Wait, and Theresa Polson. Those who will continue to serve are Don Rohr, warden; Alan Greenspan, Christine Osgood, Greg Schmidt, Bonnie Hall, and Cathy Hughes.

Also there is a one year term open to fill a vacancy for Caitlin Jorgensen who had to step down.

TUES., FEBRUARY 13 • 5-7 PM

• **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Our youth (with help from some adults) will prepare and serve a traditional pancake supper. A free-will donation will be offered to offset costs.

WED., FEBRUARY 14 • 9:15 AM, NOON, AND 7 PM

• **Ash Wednesday Services**

WED., FEBRUARY 21 •

NOON-1 PM

• **Ecumenical Lenten Lunches Begin**

These luncheons will then continue for five consecutive weeks. More details to come but we hope you will join with us as we join with our brothers and sisters from the other churches in town. Each week a different pastor will share a meditation to help in this season of Lent to focus on Jesus as we celebrate his resurrection at Easter. The lunches will be held in our parish hall.

WED., FEBRUARY 28 • 6 PM

• **Lenten Study Series and Potluck Begins**

Come join us for this five-week study called *Goliath Must Fall* by Louie Giglio

Topics to be covered are:

Week 1: Dead but still Deadly

Week 2: Fear Must Fall

Week 3: Rejection Must Fall

Week 4: Anger Must Fall

Week 5: Addiction Must Fall •

✚ NEWS AND NOTES ✚

YOUTH GROUP

Thank you to all who took part and attended the first (of what will be an annual) Chili Cook-Off and Dessert Auction. We raised \$443 and yes, the Greenspans won. We have some awesome cooks. The dessert auction went well. Peg made a pie (need I say more?). Everyone's donations were much appreciated, and we will be having more fundraisers in the future as the kids are looking forward to some cool events this year. We thank Stewart's, Blossom Photography, She Found Her Marbles, Delmonico's, and By George Food Specialties for their donations to the event.



We've decided to combine the Middle and High School groups for the remainder of the year. As the groups grow, we might change again, but right now it just makes sense. Meetings will be every Sunday from 2-4 PM. There will be no youth group on Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve, or January 7.

The next event is a Family CHRISTmas potluck at the Mattice's. Alumni and parents are invited on January 6 at 3 PM (until whenever we can chase out the kids). It will be the 12th day of CHRISTmas this year, Little CHRISTmas, otherwise known as Epiphany. Michelle is making a big pan of lasagna, please bring a side or dessert. Last year's game of Monopoly was very entertaining. Bring outdoor clothes if there's snow. There may be games with prizes, so it's sure to be fun. If you've never been to youth group and are in Middle or High School, this would be a great introduction. It's a fun day of eating, playing, and petting the new mascot, Minnie. Please RSVP to Michelle at m2mattice@outlook.com.

**NOAH'S
ATTIC**
Hours:



Sunday/Monday: Closed

Tuesday:
9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Wednesday/Thursday:
9:30 AM-5:00 PM

Friday:
9:30 AM-3:00 PM

Saturday:
9:30 AM-2:30 PM

Volunteers are needed for Wednesdays!
We also need on-call volunteers
for days on which others are sick.
TELEPHONE 518.885.9455

**GOOD NEWS! THE NEW PARISH DIRECTORY IS COMPLETED
AND SHOULD BE AVAILABLE BY THE FIRST WEEK OF JANUARY.
MANY THANKS TO JEREMY BAILEY AND MICHELLE MATTICE.**

✚ IN MEMORIAM JOHN M. BAKER, SR. ✚

John Baker, age 85, died at home surrounded by his loving family on Monday, December 4, 2017. He was born in Rock City Falls, NY. He was the son of the late Thomas and Eva Baker. John served in the U.S. Army and worked as a millwright for Cottrell Paper Company, Rock City Falls. He was a vestryman for many years at Christ Episcopal Church, Ballston Spa.

John is survived by his wife Beverly J. Baker who he married on June 14, 1952; his children John M. Baker, Jr, Cheryl Grugan, his sister, Enid Older; three grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, his daughter-in-law Anna Baker, sister-in-law Joanne Rogers, several nieces and nephews.

The family thanks the staff of Community Hospice of Saratoga for their caring and dedication. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to The Community Hospice, Foundation and Central Offices, 295 Valley View Blvd., Rensselaer, NY 12144, or Christ Episcopal Church, 15 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Our condolences to the family and friends.

✚ NEWS AND NOTES ✚

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY

Beginning this January, Christ Church is offering another prayer ministry in addition to our prayer chain, healing prayers, and corporate prayer.

Prayer request cards will be available in the pews. Simply fill out your prayer request and place it in the offering plate at collection. Prayers will be “lifted up” by Fr Roy before Eucharist, then collected after service and immediately prayed over in the Chapel by a prayer team. Prayers can be submitted anonymously, or by name. All requests will be held confidential.

We believe that God is interested in what matters to his children. It is our vision that, as we look for God to work for good in our faith community, He will receive your prayers, and answer with love and grace.

If you are interested in being on a Sunday morning prayer team, please send an email to cecprays@gmail.com. If you are unable to pray on Sunday mornings after the 10 AM service, but are interested in other ways you can pray, please send your email to the same address, and let us know. ●

COUNTING ON YOU

We have a group of dedicated people who work in teams to count the Sunday offerings. The counting procedure can be a lengthy process which you can help to speed along by remembering a few points:

- Use your envelopes, and write your envelope number on your check.
- If you just don't want to use your envelopes PLEASE use the Envelope Number on your check
- If you don't have envelopes, put a note on the plate and Jeanne will see that you receive them.
- If you have your pledge automatically sent to the church from your bank, ensure your envelope number is on the check.
- Write the amount you've enclosed on the outside of your envelope along with “check” or “cash” as it pertains.
- If you miss church for a few weeks, you don't need to fill individual envelopes, but can put it all in one envelope.
- In your packet you will find envelopes for the building fund, which will be currently used for KidsFirst and can be filled anytime during the month.

A great big “thank you” from the counters!

Many people now have their bank automatically send a check for their giving. If this is something you would be interested in, or have questions about, please call the church office. ●

SCHEDULES

	Lay Reader	Lector	Greeters	Ushers	Nursery	Coffee Hour
Jan 7	Carla Greenspan	Ken Rossen Bet LaRue	Anne Walsh Cathy Hughes	Donna Travis Donna Christensen	Noelle Olszewski	Team 2
Jan 14	Mike Luger	Noel Drindak Jenn Catallo	Don Rohr Julie Rapelje	Donna Travis Donna Christensen	Zac Greenspan	Team 3
Jan 21	Paul Guilmette	Ann Baker Carla Greenspan	Don Rohr Julie Rapelje	Cathy Hughes Barb Wood	Joe Luger	Team 4
Jan 28	Mike Luger	Ken Rossen Bet LaRue	Polson Family	Cathy Hughes Barb Wood	Noelle Olszewski	Team 5
Feb 4	Carla Greenspan	Bet LaRue Bev Granger	Polson Family	Margaret Cook Cathy Roy	Zac Greenspan	Team 1
Feb 11	Mike Luger	Paul Cuddihy Ann Baker	Barb Wood Cathy Hughes	Margaret Cook Cathy Roy	Joe Luger	Team 2
Feb 18	Paul Guilmette	Ken Rossen Margaret Cook	Cook Family	Peg Moser Jayne Schmidt	Noelle Olszewski	Team 3
Feb 25	Lois McGee	Caitlin Jorgensen Peg Moser	Barb Wood Cathy Hughes	Peg Moser Jayne Schmidt	Zac Greenspan	Team 4
Mar 4	Paul Guilmette	Doug Mattice Ann Baker	TBA	TBA	Joe Luger	Team 5

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

We have had a great start to the Sunday School! The kids have learned about Joseph forgave his brother for selling him into slavery and how he understood, after all he had been through, that God had a purpose for him and how God was always with him.

We learned about the ten wise and ten foolish bridesmaids awaiting the bridegroom. We learned how to be always watchful for God, as well as the importance of being prepared.

We are learning the stories of the Bible, but more than just history and stories. We are learning about how these stories can give us tools for real life. Joseph understood that all the bad happened so that he could be in a position to save many because of God's wisdom!

We learned that being watchful and prepared are important if we want to be ready for God and what God will ask of us!

Our young can learn so much at this time. It is so important to instill the knowledge of God's word and how He has saved and helped so many. More importantly, if kids know our Holy God's word, they will know that God loves them and will never leave them.

We should be using all the tools we can to help our children. Sunday School is here for you and your children. Take advantage of it! It is fun and so important for our youngsters! ●

NOTES ON NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Please send Bet LaRue articles and photographs and announcements —as attachments— Word docs, JPGS or PDFs.

(For some reason I can't copy and paste from my email any more. There is probably some simple explanation of which I am ignorant. I haven't been able to figure it out.—Bet)

Photographs under 500K are not acceptable; this includes web files from web sites or Facebook. JPEG image files 1MB or larger are greatly preferred.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children's Church We are continuing with the Deep Blue Bible Study. Asia, Edgar, Kat, and Indigo are traveling around the world with the kids. We learn about different cultures and learn more about God in a positive way. Every week the kids will receive a "booklet" containing the week's reading and corresponding activity sheets. We watch the video and then read it in the Deep Blue Bibles. The discussions are priceless. Kids say the most amazing things and have some really deep thoughts. There is a free app available on your smart devices to watch the videos, play the songs, and play games to reinforce the main themes that we are studying at home.



Families are encouraged to pick up the Family Weekly Devotion in the back of the church. We have a magazine rack where we keep the last two weeks' booklets and corresponding weekly devotions. There is a file box next to it with older sessions.

Please help yourself to these and use them with your kids. If your kids are too shy or too young to come to children's church, the activity sheets are still fun for them. Also, the app has the videos, along with the family devotion sheet; they are a great way for you to teach your little ones all about God's love at home.

Kids are also encouraged to bring their own Bibles. For every week that they do, their name is put in an end-of-year drawing; they could win \$50. To get another entry, bring a non-perishable item for the food pantry. If the children don't have their own Bibles, please let us know. We will make sure to get them one.

Thank you to Cathy Roy and Rachel Norsworthy who will be helping Michelle with Children's Church. If you would like to volunteer, please e-mail Michelle at m2mattice@outlook.com. ●

✝ *Keep in Your Prayers*

Elaine Askew	Erin Dumovitz	Gail Vacula
Evelyn Baxter	Phyllis Gottung	Janice Baird
Sallie Buttles	Diane Lang	
Ralph Cook	Mary Ortoleva	

Opportunities for Service

Interested? Call the Church office, 885-1031.

- ✚ Acolytes Mike Luger
- ✚ Alpha Caitlin Jorgensen
- ✚ Altar Guild Julia Duchesne
- ✚ Choir Kristin McCabe
- ✚ Coffee Hour Alan and Carla Greenspan
- ✚ Daughters of the King Christine Martin
- ✚ Decoration Lois Mitchell
- ✚ Flowers Lois Mitchell
- ✚ Food Pantry Jim and Jan Bornheim
- ✚ Healing Ministry Deacon Lynne Crimi
- ✚ Hunger for Healing Bonnie Hall
- ✚ High School Youth Michelle Mattice
- ✚ Junior Church Michelle Mattice
- ✚ Little Saints . Fr Roy, Ashley Horrocks-Bush,
..... Kathy Rooney
- ✚ Men's Breakfast Fellowship .. Noel Drindak
- ✚ Middle School Youth Michelle Mattice
- ✚ Missions Kathy Rooney
- ✚ Newsletter Bet LaRue, Kathy Rooney
..... Susan Olszewski
- ✚ Noah's Attic Wanda Closson
- ✚ Nursery Greg Schmidt
- ✚ Prayer Chain Christine Martin
- ✚ Prayer Quilts Margaret Cook, Joyce Reed
- ✚ Sunday School Christine Osgood
- ✚ Vacation Bible School Melissa Miller
- ✚ Visitations

Ongoing Programs

✚ ADULTS:

Men's Breakfast Fellowship Wed, 6:30 AM

Eucharist Wednesdays, 9:15 AM

Study Group Wednesdays, 10 AM

Daughters of the King

Second Sunday at 11:30 AM

Adult Sunday School Sundays, 9 AM

✚ CHILDREN:

Children's Sunday School 9-9:50 AM

Children's Church Sundays during
10 AM service

Little Saints 1st & 3rd Tuesday 3:30-5:30 PM

Middle School Youth Group (MSYG)

Sundays, 2 to 4 PM

High School Youth Group (HSYG)

Sundays, 2 to 4 PM

CHRIST CHURCH

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

15 West High Street

Ballston Spa NY 12020

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE

(518) 885-1031

Log on to: christepiscopalballstonspa.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10 • NOON



✚ Parish Birthdays

January—

- 1 Jim Rice
- 2 Claudia Roberts
- 3 Mark Breslin
- 8 John Bornheim
- 9 Kathleen Izzo
Gray Loyola
- 11 Madilyn Sausville
Ted Popkoski
- 12 Courtney Mancini
- 17 Deborah Guilmette
- 19 Linda Hill
Rachel Norsworthy
- 23 Just Whitt
Mindy Willey
- 24 Mary Drindak
Joseph Roy
- 25 Nancy Cuddihy
- 27 Evan Hendricks
- 28 Sandy Almy
Ruth Martin
Matthew Sleight

- 29 Sara Ladopoulos
- 30 Ethan Cook
Dennis Crimi
- 31 Jocelyn Osgood



February—

- 3 Celeste Jenkins
- 4 Ciena Cuzzo
- 5 Robert King
Eric Dowd
Zoe Rose
- 7 Noah Petty
Madison Rich
- 8 Erin Sausville
Avri Baker
- 10 Jeremy Bailey
- 12 Connor Garrant
Theresa LaGattuta-
Bruno

- 13 Dave Bush
- 15 Andrea Breslin
- 16 Terry Gardner
Bev Sleight
Carol Kugler
- 17 Gavin Horrocks
Angelique Peck
- 18 Kristen Petty
- 19 Joanne Niemeyer
- 21 Austin Izzo
Andrew LaRosa
- 23 Kelly Howell
Corey Ott
- 24 Mikaela Datillo
- 25 Wayne Rupert
- 27 Joanne Wood
- 28 James Barno
Erin Dumovitz

