



CHRIST CHURCH

✝ BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ✝

November/December 2018

25th FOLK MUSIC LESSONS & CAROLS AT CHRIST CHURCH



If you love Christmas carols but are tired of Muzak, the “Festival of Lessons and Carols” in Ballston Spa might be just the thing. Carols drawn from Celtic, African American, and Early American traditions are the trademark of the concerts at Christ Church, Ballston Spa, on **Sunday, December 9 at 4:00 PM** and **Monday December 10 at 7:30 PM**.

The concerts are anchored by folk music legends **John Kirk** and **Trish Miller** of Greenfield Center with **Field Horne** and **Theresa LaGattuta-Bruno** of Saratoga Springs and **Kristin McCabe** of Charlton. This year’s special guests will include **Glenn McClure** of Geneseo.

While most of the songs are African American spirituals, Irish ballads, or Shape Note hymns, each

year some modern carols are included, such as Dan Berggren’s “Road to Bethlehem,” a nativity story about fatherhood, or Jim Boyes’ “Meadowhall Carol,” which explores the issue of homelessness at the holidays.

The ensemble has produced three compact disks which will be on sale at the performances. The national folk music magazine *Dirty Linen* called the first CD “a spirited collection of holiday songs that hail from off the beaten path. If you want different music to make things festive, this is the compilation for you.”

The concerts are free and takes place by candlelight at Christ Church, on the corner of Route 50 (Church Avenue) and Route 67 (West High Street). Everyone is invited to enjoy festive refreshments afterward. ●

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 AT 4 PM • MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 AT 7:30 PM

PASTOR'S LETTER

Photograph: Ken Rinary



THE REVEREND DERIK J. ROY, JR.

Dear Friends,

Life is already too busy; in the months of November and December it seems to speed up even more. Soon the Christmas rush is upon us, and... well, let's say it gets crazy.

What are we to do to keep us focused on what really matters? What can we do to keep sane?

Centuries ago, Martin Luther said at a time when his life was extremely busy and demanding, "I've got so much to do today that I'll have to pray an extra hour." When I first heard that saying years ago, I thought, how silly. Now I understand the deep wisdom.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson once wrote these words:

"More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice rise like a fountain for me night and day. For what are men better than sheep or goats that nourish a blind life within the brain, if knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer both for themselves and those who call them friend? For so the whole round earth is every way bound by gold chains about the feet of God."

Without voicing our prayers, we are indeed no better than sheep or goats. Without speaking out our hearts' desires, our feelings, and our thoughts to our Friend, we are, without a doubt, blind and dumb. Prayer is our lifeline to God.

The goal of all prayer is the goal of our life: God. The purpose and final objective of every prayer is to be in the loving embrace of God. To be with Him is our goal, our life, our all. Our prayers are the highways to heaven and Him.

What are we to do to keep us focused on what really matters? What can we do to keep sane? Maybe we need to take Martin Luther's wisdom to heart. Add some prayer time to your busy life. ●

—Faithfully yours,
Father Derik Roy

MISSION TRIP TO BELIZE UPDATE

Planning has been going well. The team members are finalized and plane fare is due to the airline about the time you read this article. The different tasks while we are in Belize have been identified and divided up among team members. Individuals are preparing for their work assignments. Preparation is also underway in Belize. Tools have been purchased and the shopping list for building materials is being completed. The schools are excited that we are providing first aid training to the staff and high school students. One of the team members is presenting a financial workshop for adults which teaches why it is dangerous, Biblically, to constantly borrow and use credit.

The response has been wonderful. Many people have participated in our fundraisers for the Mission trip to Belize in January. Andrew Cook has created a Go Fund Me page. The link to the page is: <https://www.gofundme.com/5hu9n-making-a-difference-in-belize>

The link is available if you'd like to donate or share with your friends and family so that they can participate. Kelley Howells has donated the proceeds from her jams and jelly sales. Bambi Becker organized a T-Shirt sale that was very successful. Kelley, Bambi, and Laura Face coordinated a Roast Pork Loin "Dinners To-Go" that also raised funds. Many thanks to all who have participated in these events. There is a jar outside of the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings with funds going to finance the trip. We recently had a beautiful quilt made and donated to the team. Raffle tickets will go on sale soon, with the drawing held at Lessons and Carols.

If you would like more information about the trip, contact John Boyd at jboyd1053@gmail.com or 518 330-2242 or Glen Face at glenface@gmail.com 518 441-6396. ●





CHRIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

NOON ON

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Material should be submitted by e-mail to

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

🎉 Parish Anniversaries

November—

- 8 Danai and Stephen Haggerty
- 20 Alan and Carla Greenspan
- 23 Al and Peg Moser ▲

December—

- 4 John and Christine Martin
- 18 Mike and Desiree Drindak
- 23 Sheri and Ted Popkoski
- 27 Curtis and Joanne Niemeyer ▲



PARISH GIVING

July average was \$5179

August average was \$5037

September average was \$5058



Three-month average \$5091

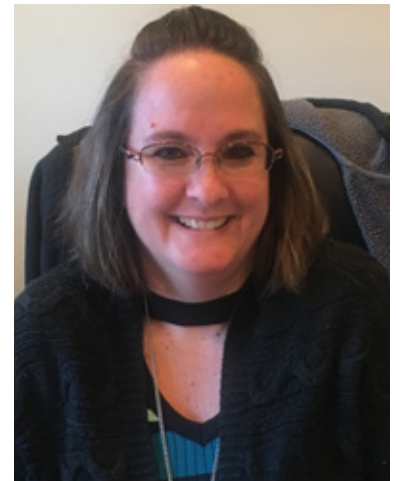
To meet budget in 2018, \$5232

KIDSFIRST NEWS

My name is Mary Malandrino. I have been working in child care for more than 20 years and I love working with children, families, and teachers. I was born and raised in Schenectady and am a mother of three children ages 24, 22, and 19, and a grandmother of a 4 year old.

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Early Education Administration and I am currently working towards my Master's in Early Education Administration.

I am excited about this wonderful opportunity and I can't wait to meet each and every one of you. Please feel free to ask questions and come to me with any concerns. I look forward to this great adventure. ●



Help us welcome our new director of KidsFirst, Mary Malandrino, at both November 4: services. Meet the KidsFirst staff at the 10 AM service and offer prayers for their work with the children and families we serve.

FIRST CHURCH WORK DAY A SUCCESS!

On Sept 8, about 35 volunteers worked at the church. It was great! We painted the trim and a couple of doors in the parish hall, washed the windows upstairs in the Sunday school classrooms, installed lots of light bulbs, landscaped everywhere, cleaned the church, repaired trim in the church, replaced aluminum trim outside the welcome center, repaired a hole in the brick in the church, finished painting the front of Fr Roy's office windows and trim, fixed the grandfather clock in the welcome center, repaired the siding at the welcome center entrance, and fixed concrete sidewalk in the front and in the back by the parish hall door. Thanks to everyone for the help; it's great to work together for a common cause.

The lunch was terrific, too.

I'm planning another one on Saturday, April 13 at 8 AM. I'll bring more donuts next time! ●

—Mike Luger

🎉 Keep in Your Prayers

Elaine Askew	Diane Carlson	Robert King	Mary Ortoleva
Janice Baird	Erin Dumovitz	Diane Lang	Jean Sleight
Evelyn Baxter	Phyllis Gottung	Bet LaRue	Gail Vacula
Bill Bernadt	Beverly Granger	Curtis Niemeyer	Nancy Wemple

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 Mondays 7:30-8:30 PM

—Kristin McCabe

THURS., NOV. 1 • NOON

● **All Saints Day Eucharist**

Join us on this special day to remember all the men and women who lived their lives for Christ and served as an inspiration and example of our faith. We will also take time to remember all our loved ones who have died.

SUN., NOV. 4 • 8 & 10 AM

● **KidsFirst New Director**

We will welcome our new director of KidsFirst, Mary Malandrino, at both services. At the 10 AM service welcome the KidsFirst staff and offer prayers for their work with the children and families we serve.

SUN. NOV. 4 • 8 & 10 AM

● **Mission Offering for Belize Trip**

THURS.-SAT., NOV. 15-17

9:30 AM-4 PM

● **Noah's Attic Christmas Sale**

This annual sale in the parish hall is a great place to find decorations for Christmas while supporting our church ministries. There are decorations of all kinds. You will find something for everyone!

SUN., NOV. 18 • 8 & 10 AM

● **Welcoming of New Members**

THURS., NOV. 22 • 10 AM

● **Thanksgiving Day Service**

SUN., DEC. 9 • 8 & 10 AM

● **Mission Offering for Toys**

For families who can't afford gifts for their kids, a giveaway will be on December 18.



SUN., DEC. 9 • 4 PM

MON., DEC. 10 • 7:30 PM

● **25th Lessons and Carols**

This is the 25th year of our very distinctive festival of Lessons and Carols for Advent from Celtic and American traditions. John Kirk and Trish Miller will anchor once again, with Field Horne and other friends. This is an ideal opportunity to invite a friend to church. A new CD, produced in 2017, will be for sale in the parish hall at the festive reception following the service.

SUN., DEC. 16

● **Deadline for Christmas Flowers**

We will have envelopes in the pews specifically for Christmas flower donations which provide beautiful flowers to ornament our sanctuary during the Christmas season. You may designate your gift in memory of or in thanksgiving for someone.

MON., DEC. 17 • NOON

● **Seniors Lunch and Christmas Party**

SUN., DEC. 23 • 10 AM

● **Christmas Pageant**

If your child, grandchild, neighbor or friend is interested, please have them come to the first rehearsal when parts will be handed out. Children Christmas Pageant rehearsals

First Rehearsal: Sun., Dec. 2 after the 10 AM service (noon)

Second Rehearsal: Sun., Dec. 9 at Noon

Third Rehearsal: Sun. Dec. 16 at Noon

Fourth Rehearsal: Sat., Dec. 22 from 10-Noon

Direct questions to Fr Roy or Kristin McCabe.

SUN., DEC. 23 • NOON

● **Greening of the Church**

Following our 10 AM worship we will join the Altar Guild in decorating the church for Christmas.

SUN., DEC. 24 • 4:30, 8, 11 PM

● **Christmas Eve Services**

MON., DEC. 25 • 9 AM

● **Christmas Day Service**

2019 Giving Envelopes will be in the welcome center for you to pick up in December. If you do not have envelopes, please ask the greeters for a form to fill out and to place on the collection plate or mail to the church office. ●

VISITATION TEAM

Do you have a little time to share with a person once a month? If you do, please speak to Fr Roy or Deacon Lynne about being a member of the Christ Church Visitation Team.

All you have to do is visit or call a person once a month. It would mean so much, and does not take a lot of time.

“Lord, when did we see You sick or in prison and go to visit You? The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for Me.’” (Matthew 25:39–40) ●

HELP SUPPORT FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS THANKSGIVING

First Presbyterian Church is once again organizing an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Bag Ministry and we invite you to be a part. Last year we provided over 200 dinners to families in need. Families sign up through our local food pantries: Baptist, Episcopal, and Methodist. Here’s how you can help:

Fill a bag with items needed for a basic and healthy Thanksgiving meal.

Here is a suggested list: \$10 gift card to a local grocery store, or an 8–14 pound frozen turkey; 2 boxes seasoned stuffing mix, 2 boxes instant mashed potatoes, 2 cans of gravy (no glass please), 3–4 cans of vegetables, 1 can cranberry sauce, and 1 boxed dessert mix

Deliver the bag and turkey to the First Presbyterian Church (22 West High St., Ballston Spa) on collection Sunday: November 18 from 11:30 AM–2 PM. Your donation is tax deductible if you save your receipts and attach them to a signed tax receipt that will be available on that day. Volunteer to help at the First Presbyterian Church on Distribution Monday: November 19 from 3–6 PM. Contact the church to volunteer. Thank you for your help as we seek to be a blessing to those in need this Thanksgiving! Questions may be directed to: First Presbyterian Church, 22 West High St., Ballston Spa, NY 12020, 518-885-5583, ballstonpres@gmail.com, ballstonpresby.org ●

THANK YOU

Melissa Miller has agreed to take leadership of our **Church Nursery**. We are so thankful to Greg Schmidt who has been the ministry leader for our church nursery for many years. Thank you, Greg, for your dedication and leadership.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our **Ministry Fair**. You may still sign up to join any of the ministries. Thank you, **Cathy Hughes**, for organizing it all.

Thank you to **Bonnie and Brian Horrocks** for taking care of the Christ Church lawns. ●

Dear Friends,

Your kind words, prayers, cards and presence were a comfort to me and my family at the time of Ralph’s passing. Thank you for being so compassionate to us in our sorrow. You were Jesus to me and I thank you for your support.

*—Yours in Christ,
Margaret Cook*



We are looking for volunteers on Wednesday afternoons or one Saturday a month. Please contact Wanda or Donna for more information.

NOAH'S ATTIC Hours:



Sunday/Monday: Closed

Tuesday:

9:30 AM–3:00 PM

Friday:

9:30 AM–3:00 PM

Wednesday/Thursday:

9:30 AM–5:00 PM

Saturday:

9:30 AM–2:30 PM

**NOAH'S ATTIC
TELEPHONE 518-885-9455**

✚ NEWS AND NOTES ✚

FOUR NEW PROGRAMS FOR DEEPENING THE FAITH OF OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY

■ Believe

- 1– What do I believe?** “What I believe in my heart will define who I will become.”
- 2– What should I do?** “Jesus faithfully lived in a purposeful way. We would do well to follow His example.”
- 3– Who am I becoming?** “We can learn to live in the vine of Christ and over time produce amazing fruit for all to see and taste.”

■ Disciple

This is an in-depth, 32-week course that covers the whole Bible. The class will require a couple of hours of work during the week and includes teaching and discussion at each meeting. Once you’ve completed the course you will have a deeper understanding of the entire Bible and how it applies to your life now.

■ Jesus in the Gospels

An opportunity to explore in depth who this man called Jesus is. A study that invites believers to encounter the Jesus who is both hard to ignore and hard to control, as portrayed in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

■ Community of Hope

We are beginning a new venture called Community of Hope. The mission of Community of Hope is to create within our church a community steeped in Benedictine spirituality, to serve others through compassionate listening. The training will include 14 modules to help us live out our life as servants of Christ using the Rule of St Benedict. This is open to anyone, but will be particularly helpful for people interested in visitation ministry, healing ministries, missions, Noah’s Attic and Food Pantry. We will do the first 7 modules this Fall and the second 7 modules after the New Year. Each module will be led by different clergy or lay person.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

Men’s Fellowship– The fellowship meets every Wednesday morning from 6:30–7:30 AM for breakfast, fellowship, study, and prayer. All men are welcome.

Wednesday Morning Study Group from 10:00–11:30 AM. Everyone is welcome. ●

SCHEDULES

	Lay Reader	Lector	Greeters	Ushers	Coffee Hour
11/4	Carla Greenspan	Paul Cuddihy Bev Granger	Cathy Hughes Anne Walsh	Barb Wood Jayne Schmidt	Team 3
11/11	Paul Guilmette	Bet LaRue Peg Moser	Cathy Hughes Anne Walsh	Barb Wood Jayne Schmidt	Team 4
11/18	Lois McGee	Paul Cuddihy Carla Greenspan	Desiree & Adrianna Drindak	Barb Wood Cathy Hughes	Team 5
11/25	Carla Greenspan	Don Rohr Julie Rapelje Rohr	Desiree & Adrianna Drindak	Barb Wood Cathy Hughes	Team 1
12/2	Mike Luger	Noel Drindak Jen Catallo	The Polson Family	Cathy Roy Margaret Cook	Team 2
12/9	Lois McGee	Sarah Ladopolous Paul Cuddihy	The Polson Family	Cathy Roy Margaret Cook	Team 3
12/16	Paul Guilmette	Ann Baker Bev Granger	Andrew & Kathryn Cook	Barb Wood Peg Moser	Team 4
12/23	Mike Luger	Bet LaRue Caitlin Jorgensen	Andrew & Kathryn Cook	Barb Wood Peg Moser	Team 5
12/30	TBA	TBA	Cathy Hughes Peg Moser	Barb Wood Cathy Hughes	Team 1

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Last year, the church went through the Consecration Sunday stewardship process, a process of celebrating all that God has given us, to give back to the Church at large, and to trust in His provision.

One of the ways we show this faith is by giving back the “First Fruits,” a tithe. The “First Fruits” are a portion that we return before we consider our needs or wants; before we take away rent money, or groceries or car payments. We put our faith in God to provide for our needs, and honor him with thanksgiving. At the same time, we acknowledge that we are to be wise with our talents, which requires us to be making good choices. For some of us, this may look like creating budgets or talking to a financial counselor.

To aid you in making wise financial decisions, the church will be hosting a 3-week seminar on budgets, taxes, retirement, college planning, social security, and more. The course will be offered by Thrivent, a Christian based financial institution. While you could say that all financial institutions are the same, it is comforting to work with a group that doesn't second guess your budget line for a church tithe.

The course will be held Tuesdays November 6, 13 and 27 at 6:00 PM at the Church. Our time will start with a provided dinner, followed by a topic presentation and a Q&A session. Childcare will be provided. There is no cost for the course. You may attend any or all classes.

Here is the agenda:

- **Financial 101: Tuesday, November 6**
Retirement Accumulation
US Tax Reform
- **Retirement and College: Tuesday, November 13**
5 Keys to Fearless Retirement
College Planning
- **Your Legacy: Tuesday, November 27**
Social Security: Timing is Everything
Your Legacy: Family, Church, Charity. ●

ADVENT RETREAT

Give yourself a gift this year! Come away to beautiful Christ the King Center for a time of peace and relaxation. Discover the true meaning of Christmas and prepare your heart for Christ's coming. Deacons Lynne Crimi and Lynne Curtis are again leading the retreat which will begin on Friday, November 30 at 1:00 PM and will end at 3:00 PM on Saturday, December 1.



The retreat includes: Overnight lodging, dinner on Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday

Rates are: Double Occupancy—\$110 per person, Single Occupancy—\$ 145, and Commuter—\$35 per day. To register, call 518-692-9550 ext 201. ●



❄ Christmas Eve Services ❄

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

AT 4:30, 8, AND 11 PM

❄ Christmas Day Service ❄

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

AT 9 AM

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** Bambi Becker
- ✦ **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, Kelly Howell,
..... Kathy Rooney, Josh Bush
- ✦ **Men's Breakfast Fellowship** .. Noel Drindak
- ✦ **Middle School Youth** Michelle Mattice
- ✦ **Missions**
- ✦ **Newsletter** Susan Olszewski
- ✦ **Noah's Attic** Wanda Closson
- ✦ **Nursery** Melissa Miller
- ✦ **Prayer Chain** Christine Martin
- ✦ **Prayer Quilts** Margaret Cook, Joyce Reed
- ✦ **Sunday School** Christine Osgood
- ✦ **Vacation Bible School** Melissa Miller
- ✦ **Visitations** Deacon Lynne Crimi

Ongoing Programs

✦ ADULTS, Year-round

Eucharist Wednesdays, 9:15 AM
Friday, NOON

✦ ADULTS, September through June

Men's Breakfast Fellowship Wed, 6:30 AM

Adult Sunday School Sundays, 9 AM

Study Group Wednesdays, 10 AM

✦ CHILDREN, September through June

Children's Sunday School 9-9:50 AM

Children's Church Sundays during
10 AM service

✦ CHILDREN, September through May

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

Middle School Youth Group (MSYG)
Sundays, 3 to 5 PM

High School Youth Group (HSYG)
Sundays, 3 to 5 PM

CHRIST CHURCH

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

15 West High Street

Ballston Spa NY 12020

CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE

518-885-1031

ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 • NOON



✦ Parish Birthdays

November—

- 1 Sheri Popkoski
- 2 Caleb LaRue
Luke Demling
Brandon Ruiz
Stephen Haggerty
- 4 Marcus Vary
Ann Krupa
- 5 Jan Bornheim
Aaron Bogue
Alexandria Aquirre
Allison Ott
- 6 Suzanne Newton
Wendy Schmidt
- 7 Justin Miner
- 8 Christine Martin
- 9 Brianna Collins
- 10 Taylor Russell
- 12 John Martin
Lillian Jorgensen
Zachary Greenspan
- 15 Olivia Iannon
Kristin McCabe
- 17 Joseph Koster
- 18 Abigail Doud

- 20 April Mattice
Dana Sleight
- 23 Lynne Crimi
Dorothy Quick
Donna Christensen
- 24 Donna Travis
- 28 Joe King
- 29 Sarah Duchesne-Cook



December—

- 2 Ethan Dumovitz
- 3 Barbara Wood
- 5 Joyce Reed
- 6 Katie Barno
- 9 Aiden Campbell
- 10 Jeanne Speer
Paula Ruiz
- 11 Garry Campbell
- 12 Molly Favour
Lori Peer
Jake Baker

- 14 Lily Livingston
- 16 Melvin Hatley
Alvia Datillo
Tim Russell
- 20 Sam Martin
Dominic Garratt
- 21 Kaleigh Izzo
- 22 Elizabeth Byrnes
Oliver McCabe
- 23 Donna Sausville
- 24 Hannah Cook
- 25 Mary Ortoleva
- 27 Jessi Rapelje
- 29 Sarah Thomas
Susan Olszewski
- 30 Margaret Cook
Amanda Luger
- 31 Adam Bonanno
Elaine Iannon
Elizabeth Bennett
Amy Aguda-Tanah ▲

