

Vacation Bible School



Join us this summer for Rainforest Explorers VBS at Home! Although we can't meet in person for our 2020 Vacation Bible School program, we are delighted to share with you a VBS box with crafts, games and other activities to help kids explore how Jesus Leads the Way!

Register online at <https://vbspro.events/p/events/christepiscopalrainforestvbs>

The deadline to register is July 3.



Christ Episcopal Church
15 West High Street
Ballston Spa, NY 12020

Office Phone 518-885 -1031
ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com



July/August 2020



Dear Christ Church Family and Friends,

I pray that you are well and managing to remain hopeful and Christ-centered as we continue to deal with all the challenges and ill effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and unsettling unrest sparked by the killing of George Floyd and the deep need for justice and God-centered reform. So many people are hurting and filled with fear, anger and anxiety. More than ever we as a church need to live out our mission statement of being: *A loving community seeking to know Jesus Christ and make Him known.*

My purpose of this pastoral letter is to update everyone on a variety of things. Most exciting is our reopening of the church for worship. Again I hope and pray that you are well. I miss you all very much and look forward to seeing you soon.

Grace, peace and blessings,
Father Derik Roy

Our Reopening Plan for Worship

Date: June 28

Time: 8am; 10am; 5pm

Reopening will be a bit awkward at first, but we need to start someplace and as time moves forward, we will be able to remove more and more of the restrictions placed on our reopening by the Governor and Bishop. Our "Reopening Team" of Alan Greenspan (chairperson) Bonnie Hall, Megan Lovelace, Rebecca Grugan, Kristin McCabe, Deacon Bill Pearson and myself have been working hard to come up with a plan that complies with the restrictions given by the Governor and Bishop and most importantly to keep everyone safe.

These are some of the required restrictions as of this writing:

1. 25% occupancy - which means we can have 50-60 people. We do not anticipate a problem of having to turn people away at our 8am or 5pm service; however, the 50-60 people limit could be problematic at our 10am service, thus that service will be live streamed and any overflow will be able to view the service in our parish hall and receive communion.

2. Masks will be required. This is mandated by the Governor and Bishop. We will provide a mask if you do not have one.
3. Seating will be done by ushers who will be trained to seat folks honoring the 6 feet social distancing requirement.
4. NO singing. To begin, our music will be instrumental. Apparently singing spreads the potentially infectious droplets up to 27 feet.
5. The Prayer Books, Bibles and Hymnals will be removed from the church to prevent possible infection. The worship service will be displayed on the screen or you may bring in your own Prayer Book or Bible.
6. Offering - the offering will not be taken by passing the plates. Instead, an offering plate will be placed in the rear of the church near the baptismal font to accept your offering.
7. Peace Exchange – Sad for Peg and us all that the peace will be offered by word, but NO hugs or hand-shakes.
8. Holy water at the entrance will be removed for the time being.
9. Holy Communion – for now, only the Bread will be distributed for Holy Communion. No wine will be offered until that restriction is removed. To receive communion, people must disinfect their hands at their pew and then with their mask on proceed up the central aisle to the base of the steps (by the piano). You will then receive the communion in your hands, head back to your seat by the side aisles, and then lower your mask to consume the sacrament at your seat.
10. Exiting the Church – Both doors will be open. It is the committee’s hope that people will enter via the Welcome Center, and if possible, exit the door that is usually not used, the door to the right as you face the back of the church. People with physical limitations may still exit through the Welcome Center.
11. There will be volunteer cleaners who, after the 8 and 10am worship services, will come in to disinfect the Sanctuary, entrances and bathrooms.
12. Pastoral Concerns – If there is a pastoral concern you have and would like to talk with the clergy, one of the clergy will stand in the Welcome Center off to the side (sadly no greeting people as they leave) .
13. NO coffee hour or gathering in the parish hall.
14. NO nursery, but hopefully this will change soon.
15. Disinfectant, sanitizers and signs to help guide you will be throughout the buildings.

As I stated, this will be awkward and strange, but at least it is a start and hopefully these restrictions will be lifted sooner than later, but done only when we trust it is safe.

DIOCESAN UPDATE

1. Convention to be rescheduled for October. Date and place yet to be determined.
2. Beaver Cross will not open this summer. You can access the diocesan youth website for online studies, games and more.
3. Bishop Love’s trial for opposing the National Church’s Resolution B012, which allows for same sex marriages, was held on June 12. The panel that will decide the outcome of the trial has not as of this writing given its decision. The possible outcomes to the best of my understanding are as follows:
The Bishop could be exonerated and receive no discipline or judgement
The panel could find the Bishop in violation of his Holy Orders as a Bishop in the Episcopal Church and:
 - ◆ Have him removed
 - ◆ Place limits on him, restricting him from disciplining a priest for performing a same sex marriage.
 - ◆ The Bishop, if found in violation, could accept the discipline given him, or step down.
 - ◆ Either side could appeal, dragging this out further.

We all need to pray that God’s will be done in this matter, and regardless of where you stand on this issue, treat those not agreeing with you with love and respect. We also need to pray for anyone who has been hurt in anyway, being reminded of our baptismal vows that state:

-We are to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself

- We are to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being.

Good News

Paul Guilmette was approved to be ordained as a Deacon. After several years of training and education, Paul will be ordained in the near future (date not yet set). More good news... Paul has been assigned to serve our church. Paul is already a blessing, but will certainly be a gift to our church and the people He will serve. We will let everyone know when the ordination date is set.

Thank you

Always a danger when thanking people that someone will be forgotten but here goes:

Thank you to Bonnie and Brian Horrocks for mowing the lawn.

Thank you to Kathryn Cook for filling in several months as our treasurer

Thank you to Jeremy Bailey for providing all the technical support (even purchasing equipment himself) to make it possible to record all the services while we haven’t been able to gather for worship. Jeremy intends to live stream our 10am service once we reopen and that service will be recorded and available to watch for those not able or feeling comfortable to be in church yet.

Thank you to Deacons Bill, Gil, Al and Lynne for helping with our recorded services.

Thank you to Father Lehmann for helping with our recorded services and being a part of our ministry team.

Thank you to Kristin McCabe and her son Edison and daughter Claudia for providing amazing worship music for these past 3 months of recorded worship services.

Thank you to Julia Duchesne for taking care of all the Altar guild setting up and taking down and resetting for our recorded worship services.

Thank you to Lois Mitchell for providing beautiful flowers for Easter and the many weeks since.



July

- 2 Jane Greiner
- 3 Lois Fink
- 4 James Bornheim
- 6 Kathi Rabideau
Brenden Osgood
- 7 John Cairns
- 9 Max Bruno
- 10 Pierce Doud
John Mancini
Bradley Roy, Jr.
Cameron Bongo
- 11 Lois Mitchell
- 12 Reed Sutherland
Patrick Becker
- 13 Bridget Tuttle
- 15 Jennifer Catallo
John Izzo
Gregg Thomas
- 16 Curtis Rich
- 17 Laura Face
- 18 Noelle Olszewski
Mila Johnson
- 19 Reggie Cortese
Robert Mancini
- 21 Nancy Wemple
Mark Baker
- 23 Maggie Cuddihy
Cynthia Koster
- 24 Denise Charon
- 25 Denise Cudemo
- 26 Alice Hassell
Ann Baker
- 27 Mabel Siler
- 28 Brandon Russell
- 29 Conor Campbell
- 30 Janice Baird
Malika Aguda
- 31 Spencer Mancini

August

- 1 Deborah Bush
Annaliese Sleight
- 3 Megan Lovelace
- 4 Julie Rohr
Michelle Miner
- 5 Donna Hatley
Cody Izzo
Sandy Miller
- 8 Pat Barno
- 9 Jack Sausville
- 10 Aver Hemming
- 11 Bill Bernadt
- 12 Phoebe Popkoski
- 14 Andrew Cook
Linda Myers
- 16 Ethan Thomas
- 17 Bradlea Raga-Barone
Cameron Stasik
- 18 Ann Wait
Lillian Greenspan
- 19 Bailey Rich
- 21 William Paley
- 23 Cheryl Garrant
- 24 Peter Peer
- 24 Eric Newton
- 25 Christine Elliott
Wanda Closson
- 28 Gage Novak
- 28 Bonnie Hall
Abigail Norsworthy
- 29 Kathryn Cook
Tom Lansing
- 30 Richard Doud
- 31 Mike Patenaude

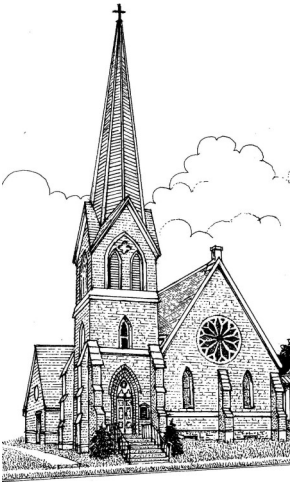


July

- 14 Charles and Karen Kubas
- 16 Rachel and Byron Norsworthy
- 23 Nick and Sara Ladopoulos
- 27 Tom and Eve Lansing

August

- 1 Fred and Elaine Iannon
- 2 Christine and Christopher Elliott
- 3 Doug and Michelle Mattice
Jacob and Meredith Goertz
- 4 Peter and Lori Peer
- 7 Dennis and Lynne Crimi
- 19 Tom and Donna Armer
- 22 Bert and Barbara Grandin
- 24 Russ and Sandy Miller
John and Courtney Mancini
- 25 Rich and Kristin McCabe
- 26 Tim and Diane Iannon
Paul and Nancy Cuddihy
Andy and Jane Kitzmann
- 27 Karl and Suzanne Newton
Fred and Betty Cable



Come Join Us to Pray for our Country at a Compline Service

In the church on July 8 at 7:00pm
Please join us for a compline service in the church for prayers for healing, peace and justice in light of the recent death of George Floyd.

Financial Update

At a time, when many feared financial disaster for the church, because of your amazing and generous contributions over the last three months and the PPP grant money we received, the church and KidsFirst are doing well financially. In fact, exciting news is money that had been borrowed from the food pantry account, memorial fund account and the chapel/columbarium account have all been paid back. What a huge blessing to have all those accounts restored and have all our bills (at the moment) paid. Again thank you, thank you, thank you, for your generosity and support of our church at a very difficult time.

New Bookkeeper/Treasurer

We are happy to introduce Laurie Engle, our new Bookkeeper. Laurie takes over this position as a part time paid staff person serving both the church and KidsFirst. Laurie has a vast accounting background and is excited to join our team.

Many, many thanks to Kathryn Cook who filled in for us after Beverly Granger retired and before we were able to hire Laurie. Kathryn helped for longer than she thought she would be needed because things were delayed due to the Covid-19 virus.

Keep in Your Prayers

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Janice Baird | Tim Iannon |
| John Boyd | Curtis Niemeyer |
| Garry Campbell | Mabel Siler |
| Judy Covey | Ann Wait |
| Erin Dumovitz | Claire Weaver |
| Bert Grandin | Nancy Wemple |

FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry has remained open throughout this time of pandemic. Many thanks to John and Theresa Polson, our Food Pantry directors, and to the many, many people who have volunteered. Many thanks also to the generous money and food gifts.

FOOD PANTRY HOURS

Monday	10:00am—Noon
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10:00am—Noon 5:00pm—6:00pm
Thursday	10:00am—Noon
Friday	10:00am—Noon

If you or someone you know is in need of food, please call the church office 518-885-1031

Please follow us!

Facebook:

Christ Episcopal Church Ballston Spa

Instagram: @cecbspa

Website:

www.ChristEpiscopalBallstonSpa.com

NOAH'S ATTIC reopened June 9.

Their hours have been reduced and they too have restrictions to follow: Face masks, limited people in the building and designated times to drop off items. Thank you to Wanda and her team for getting things ready and reopening.

On July 7 Noah's will return to normal hours:

Sunday & Monday Closed
Tuesday 9:30a.m.-3:00p.m.
Wednesday 9:30a.m.- 4:00p.m.
Thursday 9:30a.m.- 4:00p.m.
Friday 9:30a.m.-3:00p.m.
Saturday 9:30a.m. - 2:30p.m.

Restrictions will still be in place and donations are by appointment only.
518-885-9455



Congratulations to Edison Roberts and Jack Sausville, who are graduating from High School.

Financial Giving During this Time

People have been asking how they might continue to make financial contributions to the church. There are a number of ways you can do this:

Check – Send your check to:

Christ Episcopal Church
15 West High St
Ballston Spa, New York 12020

Bill Payment – Set up a Bill Payment through your bank, using the above address as the vendor. It would also be helpful if you include your envelope number. This option should be free for the donor and allows us to identify where the contribution comes from.

Give on-line. Please find the give online app at the top of the webpage. Click on that app and there are directions to tell you how to proceed. Please note that a small percentage of your giving goes to pay the online fee.

In Church starting June 28. An offering plate will be placed in the rear of the church near the baptismal font to accept your offering.

What's Happening at KidsFirst?



KidsFirst has remained open throughout the entire pandemic time. Our daycare has been considered an essential business, caring for children of essential workers. Mary, our director, has done an amazing job keeping things going. At one point we were down to 12 children. Our normal numbers are in the 80's. Thankfully, we are slowly getting back and now are up to 60 enrolled. With good management KidsFirst is financially doing great and fulfilling its mission to provide a loving Christ-centered care for the children and families we serve.

NO PARKING ZONE

Parking in front of church – the state has put a new turn lane in, directly in front of the church and parking is NO longer allowed in front of the office building or the church.

Emails needed

Please, if you have not received any of our emails sent out by the church, contact us by calling 518-885-1031 or emailing us at jspeercec@msn.com with your email so that we can update our addresses.