



CHRIST CHURCH

November/December 2021

“Beloved, let us love one another; for love is of God, and he who loves is born of God and knows God.” 1 John 4:7

Dear Friends,

November and December are months that often remind us of the Love of God. In November we give thanks to God for all our blessings and in December we celebrate God’s gift to us of Love in the form of Baby Jesus. God loves us, and it’s in accepting and receiving that love that we can love one another. A. Philip Parham writes, “when early printers, using hand-set type, received an order to print a collection of Alfred Tennyson’s poems, they immediately ordered hundreds of extra letters L and V for their presses. They knew Tennyson. He used the word LOVE so often in his poetry that the average set of type could not possibly supply all the necessary letters.” Our life as Christians requires the same saturation with love.

The Scriptures remind us over and over that unresolved anger, resentment, revenge and unforgiveness lead to our own destruction. On the other side, approaching one another in love with the spirit of God brings life.

Saint Paul writes in his letter to the Romans: “Owe no one anything, except to love one another.” It is my hope that as we celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas, you will receive the love of God and then you will share that love in the way Christ calls us to. Christianity is a religion of relationships. Our relationship with Christ is always strengthened or diminished by the love we show to one another.

In His Love,
Father Derik Roy

December 24 (Friday)		
Christmas Eve Services		
4:30PM	8:00PM	11:00PM
Christmas Day Service		
December 25 at 9am (Saturday)		

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SIGN-UP



Would you like to be a part of this year's Christmas Pageant? We are once again doing a pre-recorded pageant (like we did last year). This is open to ALL children in the Christ Church community. There are roles for speaking/reading, singing, dancing, quiet videos of your little ones in costumes, etc. You can be a shepherd, an angel, a wiseman, an animal, an innkeeper, Mary, Joseph or just yourself!

If you are interested in participating, **you must email Kristin McCabe** at McCabePianoStudio@gmail.com to get your name on the list. In that initial email please tell me the name/age of each child interested in participating and include whether or not they would like to have a speaking/reading part and also if they would like to sing or play an instrument. If your child is shy, or too young for a speaking part, you can still be involved! I will be writing the show to tailor to the people who are participating so it's very important that you email me as soon as possible. Parent participation is simple! If you have a phone that can record videos, you have all the equipment you need! I'll give you all of the information and technical help you need once you sign up!

Parts will be handed out soon to give you a few weeks to get the recordings done and back to me for editing. Looking forward to another beautiful production that we can all enjoy and be blessed by for years to come!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Virtual **Sunday School** is in full swing! We are so excited to be able to continue our Christian Education for our youngest Christ Church members. You can still register your child at any time. Kindly contact Katie at [mkcb.skane@gmail.com](mailto:mkcbskanes@gmail.com) with any questions.

DIOCESAN NEWS

This year's convention was held virtually once again. The 2022 convention will be in person at Silver Bay on Lake George in June. A Deanery meeting will be held November 10 at Christ Church at 7:00pm in the church. All are invited and you'll have an opportunity to meet our Assisting Bishop, Michael Smith. The process to elect a new Bishop has begun, but will take several months before an election takes place.



LESSONS AND CAROLS - DECEMBER 12 & 13

Ballston Spa's beloved "Festival of Lessons and Carols" returns this year after a pandemic gap. The musical event, featuring carols of Advent and Christmas from Celtic, African American, and Shape Note traditions, will take place on **Sunday, December 12 at 4:00 p.m. and Monday, December 13 at 7:30 p.m.**, at Christ Episcopal Church, 15 West High Street. Anchored since its 1994 inception by Greenfield residents John Kirk and Trish Miller, this year's guest performer will be Saratoga Springs' own Garland Nelson of "Soul Session." The event is free and open to the public.



November Birthdays

- 1 Sheri Popkoski
Chris Lehmann
- 2 Caleb LaRue
Luke Demling
Brandon Ruiz
Stephen Haggerty
- 3 Michelle Mattice
- 4 Marcus Vary
Ann Krupa
- 5 Jan Bornheim
Aaron Bogue
Alexandria Aquirre
Allison Ott
- 6 Suzanne Newton
Wendy Schmidt
Jacob Goertz
- 7 Justin Miner
- 8 Christine Martin
- 9 Brianna Collins
- 10 Taylor Russell
- 12 Donna Lanning
John Martin
Lily Jorgensen
Zachary Greenspan
- 15 Olivia Iannon
Kristin McCabe
- 17 Joseph Koster
- 18 Abigail Doud
- 19 Katie Krupa
- 21 Dawn Davis Marks
Andy Kitzman
Don Rohr
- 23 Lynne Crimi
Dorothy Quick
Donna Christensen
- 24 Donna Travis
Jeff Smith
- 27 Melayna Robinson
- 28 Joe King
Christine Osgood
- 29 Sarah Duchesne-Cook

December Birthdays

- 2 Ethan Dumovitz
- 3 Barbara Wood
- 4 Cheryl Bloomer
- 5 Joyce Reed
Daniel D'Amico
- 6 Katie Barno
- 9 Aiden Campbell
- 10 Jeanne Speer
Paula Ruiz
Mark Skanes
- 11 Garry Campbell
Amelia D'Amico
- 12 Molly Favour
Lori Peer
Jake Baker
- 14 Lily Livingston
- 16 Alvia Datillo
Tim Russell
- 17 Mariella D'Amico
Charlotte Skanes
- 19 Kaleigh Lanning
- 20 Sam Martin
Dominic Garrant
- 21 Kaleigh Izzo
- 22 Elizabeth Byrnes
Oliver McCabe
- 23 Donna Sausville
- 24 Hannah Cook
- 27 Jessi Rapelje
- 29 Sarah Thomas
- 30 Margaret Cook
Amanda Luger-Ivey
- 31 Adam Bonanno
Elaine Iannon
Amy Aguda-Tanah

Anniversaries

November

- 4 Ryan and Molly Favour
- 8 Danai and Stephen Haggerty
- 15 Rachel and Chris Montalbaro
- 20 Alan and Carla Greenspan
- 23 Al and Peg Moser
- 29 Chip and Sue Ann Dubois

December

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

Keep in Your Prayers

Margaret Anderson
Janice Baird
Mark Breslin
Garry Campbell
Margaret Cook
Judy Covey
Julia Duchesne
Erin Dumovitz
Barbara Grandin
Linda Hendricks
Tim Iannon
Deacon Bill Pearson
Salli Poltynski
Amanda Russell
Mabel Siler
Fred Sober
Nancy Wemple

CALENDAR

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00AM; 10:00AM & 5:00PM

Tuesdays 7 pm Woman's Lectionary Zoom Bible Study led by Rachel Norsworthy. Each week the upcoming scriptures for Sunday are discussed. If interested, contact Rachel at rachel.norsworthy@gmail.com

**Tuesday Nov. 2 at 7 pm and/or
Thursday Nov. 4 at 10 am. *The Chosen*,
Season 1 Workbook Study**

We will begin this program on "Come and See" and experience the most fascinating presentation of the ministry of Jesus. While Scripturally accurate, this program brings us close to what might have been! Please contact Jeanne in the church office or Bonnie Hall (518-322-8933) to reserve your seat, as Jeanne will need to order the workbooks.

Wednesdays 9:15am Morning Service
On Nov. 3 at our worship service, we will be celebrating All Saints Day and All Souls Day. At this service, we will be honoring loved ones who have passed away. If you join us in worship, we will include the names of loved ones you wish to honor. Please send in names to be included on the list to Jeanne either by phone 518-885-1031 or email; jspeercec@msn.com.

Wednesday Morning Study Group 10:00am
In November and December we will be looking at two different Andy Stanley series.
In November: *Address the Mess*. A look at how God, if we allow, can help us deal with difficult situations. In December we will be using the series *Who Needs Christmas*.

**Wednesday Evenings 7:00 pm
Men's Zoom Lectionary Study**
If you'd like to join our Bible Study via Zoom, please notify Father Roy, Noel Drindak or the church office. Each week we study the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday.

November 7 We will be welcoming new members at our **8 and 10 am Worship Services**. They are Linda Allen, Cody Germain, Susan Kaytar, Rosida Szumowski

Noah's Attic Annual Christmas Sale Thursday-Friday-Saturday November 11-12-13



9:30am ~ 4:00pm

The annual Noah's Attic Christmas Sale in the parish hall is a great place to pick up decorations for Christmas while supporting our church ministries. Decorations of all kinds. You will find something for everyone!!

Noah's Attic could use your help with set-up for the sale. Please call Wanda at 518-885-9455.

November 25 10 am Thanksgiving Day Worship Service

December 12 and 13 Lessons and Carols

December 19 Sunday Children's pageant will be displayed on the screen during the 8 and 10 am Worship Services and on our YouTube station.

December 19 Sunday Greening of the Church
Following our 10am worship, we will join the Altar Guild in decorating the church for Christmas.

December 19 - Deadline for Christmas Flowers

**December 24 (Friday)
Christmas Eve Services**
4:30PM 8:00PM 11:00PM

**Christmas Day Service
December 25 at 9am (Saturday)**

COVID 19 UPDATE

We are hoping to reopen our Nursery on Sunday December 5 for both the 8am and 10am services.

The nursery has been renovated to include new flooring, new TV, new pager system for parents and new toys.

We also are hoping to restart coffee hour after the 10am service on December 5.

CHURCH WORK DAY A SUCCESS!

On September 25th, about 20 volunteers worked at the church. It was great to see such help! This time we installed a camera in the back of the church, painted 2 sheds, mounted 3 tvs, washed windows, removed window ac units, cleaned up the church pews, walls, and altar, trimmed back some bushes and vines, fixed a leak above the parish hall kitchen, painted the nursery room door and trim, and washed the parish hall walls. Other stuff too, just too much to list. It's great to work together for a common cause.

I'm planning another one in the spring; please come and help if you can.

Thanks everyone!

Mike Luger

HELP AT NOAH'S ATTIC

Do you sometimes have free time on a Saturday? Want to help the church and the community? Come help at Noah's Attic! We need help putting clothes on hangers, bringing them upstairs, and putting them on racks for sale. Please consider helping on Saturdays from 9:30 to noon or noon until 2:30. For questions, call Noah's at (518) 885-9455.

FOOD PANTRY

The **Food Pantry** received a \$500 donation from SEFCU this past month. As a way to show their gratitude to new staff at SEFCU, during staff appreciation week, they randomly select a new employee to choose a charity of their choice to give a \$500 donation. Staff member Jim Alexson chose Christ Church Food Pantry. So we'd like to thank Jim as well as SEFCU for the donation.

We are in need of volunteers! If you feel called to help out the food insecure in Ballston Spa, please consider volunteering with us by emailing director Theresa Polson at theresapolson@gmail.com. Thank you for the continued prayer and support from the Christ Church community.

KIDSFIRST

The childcare center has received a wonderful grant through the State of NY to help cover the cost of payroll and our mortgage. With the extra money that we had, we were able to pay for the parking lot to be paved and redone. It really came out beautifully.

The preschool and pre-k children are back to chapel with Father Roy on Thursdays.

We have hired 3 new teachers. We are a long way off from getting back to where we need to be but this is an extremely helpful start to get things back to normal.

DOK UPDATE

As the church year begins, the Daughters of the King are starting a new triennium, or three year cycle of leadership. We appreciate the previous leaders for their dedication to the St. Agnes Chapter and look forward to continuing our faith journey together with new leadership perspectives and goals in place. We are proud to announce that Dc. Lynne Crimi has agreed to serve as chaplain for the St. Agnes chapter. During the first meeting in September time was spent reading Scripture, sharing prayer requests, and discussing plans for the next few months. All members of the chapter have been encouraged to participate in one of the study programs available at our church, including Dc. Lynne's book study. In October we were blessed with an outing to Bowman's Apple Orchard, planned and led by Donna Armer. After learning about the orchard, picking apples, and sharing a sweet treat, we enjoyed a time of reflection and thanksgiving for the bounty that the Lord has blessed us with. Next month, we are looking forward to a nature-based prayer walk designed to enhance our worship and communion with God. To fulfill our vow of service, members were encouraged to participate in the church clean-up day. We are also completing no-sew blankets that will be donated to the toy giveaway ministry, as well as preparing to share Christmas joy with people who are homebound or in nursing home care through our mug project. Any woman who is interested in learning more about the Daughters of the King ministry at Christ Episcopal Church is encouraged to contact Tammy Boyd at totallytb17@gmail.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Beverly Granger



Beverly Granger, 91, passed away on Thursday October 7, 2021 at her home. She was very active in various church activities throughout the years, including singing in the choir, sharing her talents on the flower and altar guilds and serving on the vestry. She was passionate about numbers and finances and was the treasurer at Christ Episcopal Church, Ballston Spa for 20 years, until 2020.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Christ Episcopal Church Organ Renovation Fund (15 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020), the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund (815 Second Ave, NY, NY 10017), The American Cancer Society or a charity of one's choice.

ADVENT RETREAT - Living in Hope

"May the God of HOPE fill you with all joy and peace in believing" (Romans 15:13)

Saturday December 4,

9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Deacons Lynne Crimi and Lynne Curtis are offering the Advent Retreat at Christ the King again this December. Come join us this Advent Season as we prayerfully prepare to practice HOPE, a HOPE firmly rooted in the person, work, and promise of God in Jesus Christ.

Registrations can be taken online at the Episcopal Diocese of Albany website or call: (518) 692-9550 and ask for Marian

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 - Deadline for Christmas Flowers

We will have beautiful flowers to ornament our sanctuary during the Christmas season. You may make a donation for Christmas flowers and designate your gift in memory of or in thanksgiving for someone. There will be Christmas flower donation envelopes in the Welcome Center or you may mail your donation and information to the church office:

Christ Church

15 West High Street

Ballston Spa, NY 12020

ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING BAG MINISTRY

Organized by the First Presbyterian Church of Ballston Spa

Last year we provided over 100 dinners to families in need. Families sign up through our local food pantries:

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

1 boxed dessert mix

DELIVER the bag and turkey to the First Presbyterian Church on SUNDAY, November 21 from 11:30am—2 pm
22 West High St., Ballston Spa

THANK YOU for your help as we seek to be a blessing to those in need this Thanksgiving!

TOY GIVE AWAY

December Mission offering will be dedicated to our annual Toy give-away. This year we, along with support from Toys for Tots and our local community, will once again distribute toys to those families struggling financially. If you would like, to help these are the ways:

Contribute money via mail, offering plate or online giving (under Missions) with your gift clearly designated for the Toy give-away.

Bring toys to the church

Volunteer your time to help the day of the distribution.

If interested, please contact Jeanne at the church office 518-885-1031

Financial Giving

Giving envelopes for 2022 will be available to pick-up in the Welcome Center in December.

If you are new to the church and need envelopes, please fill out the form below and mail or place on collection plate by November 30. Thank you

How 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. Please note that a small percentage of your giving goes to pay the online fee.

2022 Giving Envelopes

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

DEACON'S CORNER

Hello! I am Deacon Lynne Crimi. Father Roy asked me to tell you a little about myself. I have been a member of Christ Church for 22 years and was ordained a deacon in 2005. My husband Dennis and I have been married for 56 years. We have been blessed with three children and two grandchildren. Sadly, our daughter died in 2004 of a brain injury caused from a skiing accident. Our family knows that she is in a better place, but we still miss her terribly.

I graduated from Russell Sage College, received a Masters Degree in Social Work from Rutgers University, and worked at Morristown Memorial Hospital in the Cancer Center for 10 years. Working at the hospital enabled me to be trained by Dr. Herbert Benson of the Mind/Body Medical Institute. From him, I learned how to teach patients “the relaxation response” and various other coping skills as a means to help them maintain their health and to help treat stress-related illness.

I am a cradle Episcopalian, and as I was teaching people with cancer to meditate, I began to see amazing results. This led me to study and practice the healing effects of contemplative prayer for myself and others. In doing this, I was blessed by developing a deeper relationship with God. In 1999 I left the hospital, moved to Saratoga, and worked as a counselor for the Episcopal Counseling Service.

After years of discernment, and help from Father Roy, I felt that the Lord was calling me to become a deacon, and as a deacon, to use my skills to help others cope with life's difficulties. I am presently a spiritual director and have led many Bible studies and retreats. You may not see me on the altar every Sunday, as I'm spending more time with my husband. That being said, I would gladly reach out to you if you desire spiritual direction or want to join one of my classes. Please contact Jeanne, at the church office, if you desire my assistance.
Blessings, Deacon Lynne

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