



The Clarion

May 2012
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Christ Church on Quaker Hill

Pawling, New York

Inside this
month's
issue:

- Christ Church Singers present "Messiah" Parts II & III
- Sign-on for Christ Church's Holy Land Pilgrimage
- Youth Sunday
- Sunday School's Egg-ceptional Easter
- Nursery School Marks 1st Decade!
- Clarion Call!

Christ Church Commissions Stephen Ministers

On Sunday, April 22, Christ Church commissioned its first Stephen Ministers-- Ron Wozniak; Julie Spagnolo; Maggie Everett; and Patsy Cowie. Rev. Allan presented these caring Christians as members of our congregation who have received fifty hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care to help one make it through a crisis or help one through a difficult time.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." *Matthew 11:28*

Everyone goes through difficult times. Having someone to care, to listen, to share God's love with you, can help you get through the confusion, stress and loneliness you may be experiencing. God does not intend for you to struggle alone.

If you are in need of a caring Christian friend who will listen, empathize, encourage, pray, provide confidential care, and patiently support you as you work through a crisis or if you know someone who could benefit from this type of care, please contact our Stephen Leader, Rev. Allan.

Women's Retreat Set for Saturday, May 12

All women of the community are invited to attend "A Spiritual Feast for the Hungry" in Lankler Hall featuring guest speaker Salvation Army Major Lauren Hodgson. The retreat's focus will be on how women who constantly pour themselves out for others can find replenishment and serenity.

Major Hodgson and her husband both serve as Salvation Army ministers, parents, and soon-to-be grandparents (as in any time now!). They have served in Ohio, Rochester, NY, and the New York City areas. Major

Hodgson, an experienced workshop leader, now serves as Assistant Ambassador for Spiritual Formation of the Eastern Territory of the Salvation Army.

The day retreat, will start at 9:00 AM on Saturday, May 12, and conclude at 3:00 PM. Participants will not only go away feeling cared for and spiritually fed but, in true Christ Church Congregational Life Team fashion, will have enjoyed a lunch of soup and homemade bread to warm, comfort, and nourish their bodies.

Thank you to those who have signed-up. It's not too late to participate—come, BRING A FRIEND! You may pay at the door. The fee for the day is only \$20 (scholarships are available).



Clarion Call



New Orleans Outreach Mission Trip #6

Our volunteer workers will be in NOLA from May 5–12 to work with St. Bernard Project.

Fellowship Meals

This ongoing ministry brings a meal to members and friends of the congregation who are experiencing surgery or illness. Contact Nancy Reilly if you are interested in participating.

Driving Ms. Molly
If you can provide transportation for

Molly McLean from her home in Brookfield, CT, to church & back, please contact Liz Allen or the Church Office.

Help Make Our Coffee Hour Green

Please help with our sanitation/recycling removal--bring home any recyclable plastic, cardboard, glass, and aluminum that you may bring to the church.

Prayer Chain

You may request prayer for yourself, your family, a friend, for anything that is on your heart. Please e-mail Patsy: pwcowie@comcast.net or phone (845)855-5745.

Creative Blessing

*The regular monthly meeting for May is cancelled due to the concert bottom left.

Christ Church Singers Present



G. F. Handel's
Messiah
Parts II & III
Sunday, May 20
5:00 PM

The Christ Church Singers have been hard at work since the beginning of February rehearsing for a performance of parts 2 and 3 of Handel's "Messiah". This music is not heard anything like as often as part 1 - the so-called 'Christmas' portion of the oratorio. It is a major choral challenge and the Singers have taken it on with gusto, learning the notes on their own, for the most part, with the assistance of part-specific cd's. Rehearsal time is for pulling it all together and striving for a perfect choral blend.

We will be accompanied in performance by a string quintet and trumpet. Four professional soloists (soprano, alto, tenor and bass) will sing the airs and recitatives and join us on the finales of parts 2 and 3 - "Hallelujah" and "Worthy Is the Lamb".

We expect a full house so arrive early and join us afterwards for a wine and cheese reception in Lankler Hall where you will have the opportunity to meet folks you don't know and thank those you do

— Mary Jane Phelan

Creative Blessings Ministry

My personal experience with "prayer shawls" began in 1995 when a friend was diagnosed with

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. In addition to sending tons of cards (Maxine's philosophy was greatly appreciated☺), how could I support her? I happened on a card with a picture of a dejected Linus on the front. Inside was the question: "Would a blanket help?" and that was my answer. A weekend of crocheting and praying, and I was able to give Marie what she decided to call a "permanent hug," to be curled up with whenever and wherever. Since then I have had the privilege of knitting and crocheting permanent hugs to celebrate healing, friendships, wedding, births, and yes, even deaths.

Most fiber artists - including those who knit, crochet, weave, and quilt - instinctively know that handmade gifts provide comfort and warmth far beyond what the fiber and fabric alone of the garment would be able to provide. Handwork is tangible proof of the connectedness of all living things, and is often understood

to be a spiritual practice.

Our *Creative Blessings* goal this year is to donate our handmade blanket creations through the Dutchess County Chapter to Project Linus™. The requirements for these donations are that the blankets be brand new, handmade, machine wash and dry, and come from a smoke free, pet hair free environment. Blankets of all styles including quilts, tied comforters, fleece blankets, crocheted or knitted afghans, and receiving blankets in child friendly colors are all gratefully received. Suggested sizes include: 30"x30" square (receiving blanket); 40"x60" (crib size); 66"x90" (twin size).

**Creative Blessings* meets on the third Sunday of every month, from 4:00-5:30 pm in Lankler Hall. Whether a beginner or advanced fiber artist, all are welcome. If you wish to join in donating to Project Linus but are unable to attend these meetings, please speak with Barbara Vogel via email: vogelmusik@mags.net. For more specific information about Project Linus, please visit their website: www.projectlinus.org.

--Barbara Vogel

Making a Difference/ Using Our Gifts

Rev. Mark Allan

You have heard much about our new Stephen Ministry program over the past weeks. Having just commissioned Patsy Cowie, Maggie Everett, Julie Spagnolo and Ron Wozniak, I am excited about how this lay caring ministry will help and transform our congregation.

Stephen Ministry, I believe, will strengthen and broaden our ability to care for each other. It is a quiet, confidential, compassionate ministry, which offers a listening witness to the caring presence of Christ and his people. You can check our website for a link to learn more about this program.

But the other exciting thing I see in our beginning this program, is a great example of realizing what gifts God gives us and then, just as importantly, using them in service to others. These four new Stephen Ministers are a living reminder

of Jesus' statement to "love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" and to "love your neighbor as yourself." Jesus says that it is in living out this ideal, that we find what life is really about.

Each of us is given *different* talents and abilities to do this, but each of us is given *some* gift. Each of us is needed to offer some service that no one else can. We are, as Paul the apostle says, "members of one body" and each part of the body needs the other parts. And so we need each other. We need you!

Each week, in the bulletin, I put a quotation that ties into what we will be thinking about that Sunday. On the Sunday we commissioned our new Stephen Ministers I used a quote from Billy Graham that reminds us that "God has given us two hands -- one to receive with and the other to give with. We are

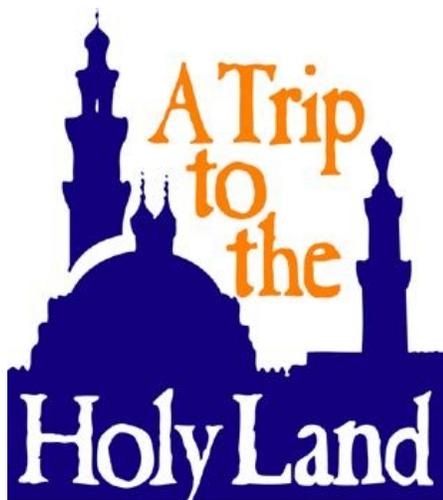
not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for giving." May we always be thinking about the gifts God gives us and the ways we can share them.

In His Name,

**...SERVE ONE
ANOTHER
WITH
WHATEVER
GIFT EACH OF
YOU HAS
RECEIVED.**



1 PETER 4:10



Christ Church Holy Land Pilgrimage

Many of you have inquired about the trip Barbara and I are leading to the Holy Land, and several have already signed up. The period for registering is fast approaching! If you would like to know more about this, pick up the brochure available in the Atrium and talk to Barbara or me.

We depart November 6 and the cost is \$2,798 plus tax and fees. We will visit such places as Nazareth, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. It will be a once in a lifetime experience that will touch your heart and deepen your faith.

Whether Barbara and I are able to offer this again is not certain, but taking this trip with your pastor and others from your church adds another dimension to what is already a deeply moving journey.

Please speak to me with any questions. Barb and I would love to have you join us!

Rev. Mark

Praise God from whom All Blessings Flow!



Worship Committee

The Christ Church Nursery School is celebrating its 10th Anniversary! We have the opportunity to show our gratitude and support during worship on May 6. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

May 13th is Mother's Day – definitely a day of gratitude as we offer thanks in worship for our mothers. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Our children will lead us in worship on May 20, which is designated as Youth Sunday. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

We are in the midst of the Memorial Day weekend in worship on May 27. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

All of these acts of praise and worship happen on Sundays. How do we praise and worship Monday through Saturday? Certainly, we can continue the prayers that were lifted up during the Sunday services. We have been praying for little Ty Campbell, one of

the CCNS students, and I recently began to follow his mother's blog at www.superty.org. The Campbell Family is living through the harsh reality of Ty's illness, and yet they continue to Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Speaking to the challenges of being pastors, Rev. Martin Copenhagen, and Rev. Lillian Daniel have co-authored *This Odd And Wondrous Calling*. As I was knitting along with Bob Abernathy on the PBS show [Religion & Ethics Newsweekly](http://www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics), Rev. Daniel got my attention as she said, "This is what drives me so

crazy about the 'spiritual but not religious' people who see God in the sunset. You know anybody can see God in the sunset. But what is remarkable is that you can see God in the committee meeting with other people who you disagree with, and that's to me the miracle."

(You can see the entire interview at www.pbs.org/wnet/religionandethics. Click on "Two Pastors.")

Especially in our committee meetings, we will Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

--Barbara Vogel



Springtime at Sunday School

As we begin the merry month of May, the students of Sunday school are preparing for Youth Sunday -- a celebration of the completion of the Sunday school year and an advancement ceremony for some students to a new class for the coming school year. This is also a time to thank our volunteer teachers. They have dedicated their time to preparing and leading classes each Sunday with few exceptions between early September and late May.

This year, our Sunday school adopted the Faithweaver curriculum from Group Publishing and presented lessons to the students ranging from Genesis to the New Testament. The curriculum is designed to address a wide range of Bible connections over a three-year period. At a recent Education Team meeting, our teachers voted to continue with the curriculum for the 2012-13 Sunday school year.

This is the time of year when we begin to make plans for the delivery of lessons in the coming year. Just as some of our students are preparing to move on to new classes, we find that some of our volunteer teachers find themselves preparing to make adjustments to their commitments for the coming year. To meet the needs of our students next fall we will need several adults from our church

community to come forward as teachers or substitutes. The Faithweaver curriculum offers easy to follow lesson plans including background for each week's Bible connection, activities and take-home messages. Potential volunteers are invited to visit one of our class sessions, review sample lesson plans and consider making a commitment to help our students weave faith into their daily lives. If you are considering offering your time and energy to helping with Sunday school, please contact Debbi Keesler or any of our teachers.

We hope that you will all be with us on Sunday May 20 as our students lead us in song and prayer and as our families assist with the celebration of fellowship following services.

An Egg-ceptional Easter
In the event that you missed the flurry of activity and giggles of glee coming from the playground on Easter Sunday, our students enjoyed an Easter Egg Hunt following services and lessons. Unlike the traditional candy-filled eggs of many Easter egg hunts, the plastic eggs our students found contained coins. Students we invited to share their treasure with the Christ Church NOLA team or the Pawling Community Resource Center. It was delightful watching the children seek eggs and even more so witnessing them emptying their eggs into baskets to support outreach activities. A total of \$ 18.20 was collected mostly in pennies, nickels and dimes.

--Debbi Keesler

CCNS to Celebrate 1st Decade!

The children at CCNS have been enjoying spring! We are busy planting seeds and learning about our environment. We have been so fortunate to spend so much time outdoors in our beautiful surroundings. We are getting ready for our 10th Anniversary Celebration

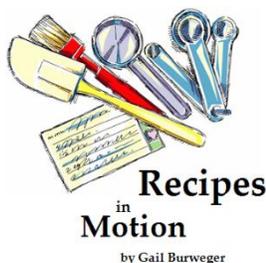
on Saturday May 19. It will be a Family Fun Day complete with games and activities for all ages. The parents are also getting ready for our Book Fair, which will be held the first week in May, and during coffee hour on Sunday May 6, church members are invited to visit the book

fair. Registration for the 2012-2013 school year is ongoing and classes are filling up very fast for September.

If you have any questions about the school, please feel free to contact me at (845) 855-7309 or christchurchnurseryschool@comcast.net.



Thank you for your support,
Camille Ludington



Recipes in Motion by Gail Burweger

EGGPLANT PARMESIAN a'la BURWEGER

SAUCE:

½ lb ground beef
½ onion, chopped
1 clove garlic, chopped
1 c. beef stock
1 c. tomato sauce
SAUTE & CARMELIZE:
onion in butter & olive oil
....add garlic before meat
to avoid burning.



ADD: Beef and cook till no longer pink
ADD: Stock and tomato sauce and cook while preparing eggplant

EGGPLANT:

'small' eggplant
Ricotta cheese - sm. container (15oz.)
Mozzarella cheese - 2 c.
1 c. flour
1 egg w/water
Oil & butter 9"x13" pan
Thinly slice eggplant and put on plate.
Place flour and egg in separate bowls.

In the meantime, heat up pan w/oil & butter. Flour each slice, then in egg wash and back again to flour, shaking off excess flour. Place on plate. **SAUTE** eggplant quickly (2 min. each side--medium heat).

Place on new clean plate after sautéing.

ASSEMBLE

PLACE sauce on bottom of pan, then place 8 pieces or so on top.

PLACE a scoop of ricotta cheese on each eggplant slice

SPRINKLE w/ mozzarella cheese
TOP with meat sauce
REPEAT until you run out of everything.
TOPPING w/ mozzarella cheese!
Bake at 400° for about 20 min. or until bubbling.

Serves about 4

Enjoy! (Sara took me to a cooking demonstration in NYC and we came back with this recipe! I'm not a big fan of eggplant, but this one I like....hope you do, too!)

--Gail

Nibbles & Scribbles from The church Mouse



"By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments."

I John 5:2

My Dear Ones,

The giggles and joys of spring have been quite evident in the church, churchyard and Thomas Center. The Sunday school children are readying for their Youth Sunday. Sweet voices are singing, chimes and handbells are ringing. Tulips and daffodils

encircled the fountain that Mr. Steve will soon have ready for Dear Ones to enjoy on a Sunday morning. Fresh fruits and vegetables will be in abundance at Coffee Hour. Oh, are you in anticipation of the Annual Strawberry Delight and a Founder's Day Picnic, too?

Let us celebrate these times, these gifts that come from the Father. So, Dear Ones teach their Dear children His

commandments and keep them. This honors our heavenly parent.

There are many lessons in the pews—learned and taught but most can be summed up in how we have learned to apply (or ignore) the basic rules God gives us for life here on our planet.

Happy Mother's Day to all our Moms. Thank you, Teachers. Thank you to all who have served in the Military. Humans will honor those who have died in service to their country on Memorial Day. This is May, another special

month for honoring Dear Ones.

Very truly yours,

Nonnie

Miss A Nonnie Mouse
Church Mouse

Squeak Outs to: My pal Mr. Owl's Mentor; Golfer Jon in stitches; Dr. D who'll be on the move; Bionic Brock; the CCS stalwarts; and to Ms. Camille and her teachers celebrating the tenth year of the Dearest Nursery School—ever.

E-mail Nonnie at:
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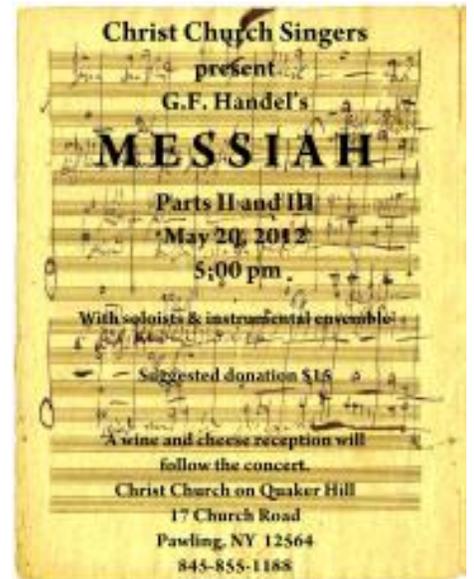
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About Christ Church on Quaker Hill...

Christ Church on Quaker Hill is an ecumenical Christian congregation, open to all persons on a journey of faith. Our worship follows the traditions of the Reformed Protestant Churches, centered on scripture and sacraments and enriched by music and prayer. The purpose of Christ Church is to provide a nurturing environment in which all people can grow in personal faith, discover their gifts, and use them to become living examples of God's vision through Jesus Christ. We hope you will visit us Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM



Christ Church on the Air

Sunday Morning Radio Broadcasts

6:00 a.m.: WDBY 105.5 FM

7:00a.m.: WPUT 1510 AM and WINE 940 AM

or listen online:

www.940espradio.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.ccoqh.org

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