

The Chart

Christ Church

1351 Northern Boulevard - Manhasset, NY 11030

Phone: (516) 627-2184 - www.christchurchmanhasset.org

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From the Rector

Dear Friends at Christ Church,

With the passing of Christmastide and Epiphany, the Church's eyes begin to look toward the season of Lent and our preparations to celebrate the resurrection at Easter. At least, this particular clergy person's attention is beginning to be drawn that way, with Ash Wednesday rapidly approaching on February 18. (Christ Church will have services at 10:00 am and 7:30 pm.)

At its very core, Lent is a time of getting back the essentials of the Christian faith. While our minds will often turn to the traditional practice of Lenten fasting – and perhaps the practice giving something up during the Lenten season – the season is not one of self-denial for self-denial's sake. Rather, it's about clearing out the clutter in our lives that can too often stand in the way of our path of discipleship and following after Jesus Christ.

This Lent, I'd encourage you not simply to give something up, but to take something on. Take up a practice of prayer and bible study by using the Daily Office (an easy resource for praying the office may be found at <http://prayer.forwardmovement.org>). Take on a light-hearted daily discipline of study by following Lent Madness (<http://www.lentmadness.org/>) and learning about some of the saints and their lives of faith. Take on daily time for quiet, spiritual retreat. Rededicate yourself to being present at Sunday worship, and participating in the life of faith in community with others. Let prayer, study, and worship anchor your life this Lent so that you may find yourself strengthened to follow Jesus Christ, and walk in the paths our Lord sets before us.

When we get back to the fundamentals of our life of faith, we are often able to appreciate them in ways we never could possibly imagine. These fundamentals: prayer, study, and worship – anchor us. They draw us closer to God. They ground us in the story that belongs both to Jesus and to us. May this and every Lent offer you precisely this opportunity to draw closer to our Lord.

I'll see you in Church!



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The Wardens' Letter

The 2015 New Year is full upon us. As of the writing of this letter, we have had much to celebrate and be grateful for at Christ Church.

January 6, of course, marked Epiphany. And we were glad and blessed to bask in the light of the birth of Jesus Christ and the manifestation of His divinity with the visit of the three Kings in Bethlehem.

On January 10, the Vestry gathered for a full day retreat, officiated by Rev. Liz Tunney. The day was a productive one and planted the seeds for future growth of programs and worship at Christ Church. Good things lie ahead – and, thankfully, they do not pertain to buildings and grounds, as in the years past, but rather revolve around who we are and who we want to be as a parish, and in our extended community and what types of programs we will offer as we move more fully into 2015 and future years.

On Saturday, January 24, 2015, we celebrated the Institution of Father David C. Sibley as the 16th Rector of Christ Church. Notwithstanding the storm during the night prior, more than 110 parishioners and guests managed to push through and attend the festive service. (For those of you who had RSVP'd (we had 125 expected) but were detained because of the weather, we know you were with us, and more importantly, Father David, in spirit.) Bishop Lawrence Provenzano presided over the service. Also in attendance were a number of other priests from churches near and far, who came out to support David as he enters this new chapter in his life as a priest and our next chapter here at Christ Church. And Pastor Steve Pierce of the Community Reformed Church also joined us – having our friend, Steve, with us is always a special treat.

Rev. Scott Gunn delivered an inspiring sermon, which not only fit the day but also the work we have and are intended to do as children of Jesus Christ. You may recognize Rev. Gunn's name as he is the author of "Forward Day by Day," which "is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer." If you are not familiar with Father Gunn's writings, we encourage

you to pick up a copy – copies are in the back of our Church and they are FREE, ENLIGHTENING AND ENCOURAGING!

Also present at this joyous event were members of Father David's family, including his parents, brother and grandparents! The Sibleys were warmly welcomed during their stay, and they, in turn, warmed us with stories of David, his youth and his calling to serve God – giving us that much more of an opportunity to know David better.

The festive service included special music, flowers, and the giving of symbolic gifts, including a Bible, water, a stole, a special book, oil, keys to our Church, the Constitution and Canons of the Church, and bread and wine. Members of the parish or clergy of the diocese presented each symbolic gift to Father David at the altar.

A beautiful reception, organized by Oriana Cyprus and Valerie Siener, and with the support of others, followed the service. (We thank Pastor Steve Pierce and his congregation for permitting us the use of their Parish House, while ours remains under construction...more on that in a moment...) Parishioners and guests enjoyed delicious catered hors d'oeuvres, sweet treats and beverages and had the opportunity to visit with one another and congratulate Father David on this very special occasion. All in all, it was a glorious day, leaving those who participated feeling "full" in faith and spirit.

And now on to more day-to-day topics...

The Parish House continues to be in the final throes of renovation. Of course, we had hoped to be "in" by now, but alas, we have not reached that goal quite yet. In sum, that day is "coming soon." Much thanks is owed to Warden Bill Siener, Oriana Cyprus and Father David for their ongoing attention to this project.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 1, 2015 – yes, Super Bowl Sunday. (We are considering a possible modification of the date for future years, but at least for 2015 the Big Game will follow the meeting. Do not worry – we plan to stay on task and allow folks enough time to reach game-watching destinations.) On a serious note, we *urge* all members of the parish to attend this important meeting when we will discuss a number of critical topics relating to our Church as we enter our next chapter together, and induct new members of the Vestry, including a new Warden. This is the time when parishioners can share their ideas, questions and concerns with one another and engage in a thoughtful discussion. With Father David now in full service as our rector, we are very hopeful that you all will join in the discussion and celebration of our life at Christ Church.

To the extent that you have not submitted your 2015 pledge card, please try to do so as soon as possible. We are working to finalize the 2015 budget. In order to best plan for programs at Christ Church, it is important that we know what parish giving will be for the year. Pledge cards are available at the back of the Church or from the Church office.

Peace and blessings,

Ariana Tadler Paterson
Senior Warden

William Siener
Junior Warden

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A Short Note from Ariana Tadler Paterson

Finally, this marks my final Wardens' letter to you all. During my tenure, many tasks have served as focal points, including the Parish House renovation, working with our Interim Rector (the wonderful Charlie Colwell), the Affirmative Inquiry Process, the selection of the Search Committee, the review of the final rector candidates, and, of course, the calling of Father David. It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve Christ Church as a Vestry member and as a Warden. I am extremely grateful to so many people who lightened the load, including the Vestry members who served throughout my terms, especially Pattie Gallatin and Bill Siener, our various Committee Chairs who do so much for Christ Church, and so many of you who offered words of encouragement throughout the journey. I am also thankful to my family, immediate and extended, for their support and relentless and inspiring commitment to Christ Church. I am confident that Christ Church has a very bright future ahead, and I look forward to contributing as best I can, albeit it from the Tadler/Paterson pew for a while. ☺Ariana

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Parish Notes:

A Message from our Director of Spiritual Formation

Finding God in the Darkness

I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

Isaiah 45:3

Living in New York City, the one thing I never experience is darkness. This is the city that never sleeps, with neon signs, glowing billboards, store windows and apartment lights illuminating the city at all hours. If this is not enough, there are always an extraordinary number of people, animals, buses and cars that add noise and chaos to this non-

stop brightness. If God is in the midst of the city, I can't quite find Him amongst all of this craziness!

I think this does something to me, as a city dweller, who never experiences the silence and stillness of total darkness. It disconnects me from God and feeling His presence in my life. It also disconnects me from those things that challenge or scare me. Whether the physical darkness of what's under the bed or around the corner, or the spiritual darkness of unknowing, confusion, worry and doubt, my fear is often great yet unchallenged. In the city, I need not worry about these things. There is always something bright, shiny and loud to distract me!

Barbara Brown Taylor, one of my favorite authors, talks about her journey into darkness and what it taught her along the way: *Darkness is shorthand for anything that scares me – either because I am sure that I do not have the resources to survive it or because I do not want to find out. If I had my way, I would eliminate everything from chronic back pain to the fear of the devil from my life and the lives of those I love. At least I think I would. The problem is this: when, despite my best efforts, the lights have gone off in my life, plunging me into the kind of darkness that turns my knees to water, I have not died. The monsters have not dragged me out of bed and taken me back to their lair. Instead, I have learned things in the dark that I could never have learned in the light, things that have saved my life over and over again, so that there is really only one logical conclusion. I need the darkness as much as I need light.*

Taylor is stating what I have learned myself: Darkness holds divine mystery; it is a spiritual teacher that leads us to wisdom, courage and purpose, and enlightens us to what we most need to know. God gave us darkness so that we can know Him better. As Isaiah 45: 3 exclaims, it allows us to find the true treasure, which is *the Lord, the God of Israel, who calls us by name*. It's no wonder I feel God's presence so greatly when I'm sitting at the Cape Cod shore or on Oman's Wahiba Sands. In the darkness of those places, God's presence is undeniable, and I am able to truly feel Him, hear Him and allow Him fully into my life.

What is your relationship with darkness? Do you often deny its beautiful power, like I do? Do you seek the courage and commitment to find the treasure in the dark? No matter where you are, I hope you'll use the long days (and nights!) of winter to explore this topic with me with intention and purpose. I believe it will yield great blessings for all of us, as we see how to find God – or let God find us –in the deepest parts of our lives.

New Year's Blessings to you! I look forward to finding the darkness and light with you in this brand new year!

Lesley Mazzotta

Director of Spiritual Formation

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Upcoming Events and News

ANNUAL MEETING – Sunday, February 1, 2015

The Annual Meeting and Elections will be held on Sunday, February 1, 2015, following the 10:00 am Eucharist in the Church Sanctuary.

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of nominees to serve as Church Warden and Members of the Vestry beginning in February, 2015:

Church Warden (2 years, Until 2017): Andrew Phillips
Vestry Member (3 years, Until 2018): Michelle Deosaran
Vestry Member (3 years, Until 2018): Thomas Gallatin
Vestry Member (3 years, Until 2018): Laura Pavlovich

Additional nominations to serve on the Vestry or as Warden may be made by petition. A nomination petition must contain the signature of a nominating parishioner, a seconding parishioner, and the written consent of the nominee. Nominees for Vestry must be baptized and a communicant in good standing of this church; Nominees for Warden must be confirmed and a communicant in good standing.

THANK YOU!

A thank you to those volunteers that helped to make Fr. David's installation a success. Many parishioners gave up their time to make this day a memorable event for Fr. David. A special thank you to Valerie Siener, Oriana Cyprus and their families in helping to set up the CRC Fellowship Hall for the reception and for providing the delicious hor d'oeuvres. We would also like to thank Pastor Steven Pierce for allowing Christ Church to use their facilities for the reception while Christ Church is awaiting the completion of the Parish Hall.

PRAYER LIST

The Parish Office maintains a prayer list of names for the intercessor during the Prayers of the People. You may put the name of a person who is sick or who has passed away. You may also put the name of a person for clarity on making a decision or in need of support. If you would like to include someone's name, please contact the office by telephone or email with the person's first name. Their name will stay on the list for one month, unless specified differently.

ECUMENICAL WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Second Annual Spiritual Book Club

Tuesdays, February 3, 10 (17 as a snow day, if needed!)

6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m., The Community Reformed Church, Manhasset

Join a wonderful group of women for food, fellowship, meaningful conversation and personal reflection on Anne Lamott's new book, *Small Victories, Spotting Improbable Moments of Grace*. *This book club is presented by a collection of Long Island churches committed to celebrating and inspiring women's lives.* For more information, contact Lesley Mazzotta at 917-623-4554, or lesleymazzotta@gmail.com.

FEBRUARY SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

Now until Sunday, February 22

Families have been asked to provide refreshments and serve **coffee, tea and juice** to both adults and children following the 10 a.m. service in the Church. Beverages will be provided by the Church. Each coffee hour team will be responsible for bringing food items of

their choice for **30** people (i.e. cookies, coffee cakes, donuts or bagels), and 2 quarts of milk. If the edible goodies you supply would be best served on paper plates or large napkins, we ask that you provide them as well. **The coordinator of each team should contact the other team members to coordinate refreshments.**

The following people are scheduled to host Sunday Hospitality.

| DATE | COORDINATORS | | OTHER TEAM MEMBERS | |
|---------|-------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| Feb. 8 | Gloria & John Ryan | 883-2718 | Marge Trapp | 627-0267 |
| Feb. 15 | Patti & Tom Gallatin | 484-9484 | Elizabeth Giacomia | 944-9760 |
| Feb.22 | Jane & Jeffrey Lightcap | 365-8821 | Volunteer Needed | |

If you are unable to host, please email Kathy Bindert at Kathy.Bindert@gmail.com or 365-1772.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Kathy Bindert is looking for a volunteer to co-host Hospitality on Sunday, February 22. If you are interested, please contact Kathy at Kathy.Bindert@gmail.com.

ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

Our 2015 Annual Giving Campaign is well underway! Your financial pledge to Christ Church supports our work of mission and ministry: from Sunday School to Worship, from Fellowship to Outreach, your generosity in pledging is what makes our ministry happen. We ask you to prayerfully consider the place of Christ Church in your life, and the many ways that your life has been enriched by the ministries we share here - and to then respond by making a pledge in order to make that work possible for others.

Pledge cards were mailed on November 21 - and additional pledge cards and letters are available at the back of the church. Completed pledge cards may be returned in the Sunday offering plate, dropping them by the parish office, or by mailing them to the church office at 1351 Northern Boulevard, Manhasset, NY 11030. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Should you have any questions concerning your 2014 contributions to date compared to your 2014 pledge, or have questions about making a pledge, please contact Donna Cullinan-Gillis at the Parish office at 627-2184 or admin@christchurchmanhasset.org.

Thank you for your generosity!

PARKING

We kindly ask that all parishioners please park in the Parish House parking lot on Sundays for service and on weekdays when visiting the office.

CHRIST CHURCH ADDRESS CHANGE

With the anticipated move into the Parish House, our new address will be 1351 Northern Blvd., Manhasset, NY 11030. Please note this address change in all of your correspondence.

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship is an important part of the Christ Church community. With our newly renovated Parish House opening this year, it will be a great space to have many more functions like the men's and the women's dinners, family parties and cocktail parties. If you have ANY suggestions or IDEAS please send them to Kathy Bindert at Kathy.Bindert@gmail.com or call her at 516-365-1772

HELPING HANDS

There are times when some of our Christ Church family need assistance, whether it is to have a meal provided for them or to be driven to an event, a doctor's appointment or to Church. If you would like to join this group of volunteers or if you have a need for a "helping hand", please let us know or talk to the Rector. Thank you in advance.

Contacts: Holly Melichar at hbm10078@gmail.com and Carol Allen at GoCarol26@aol.com

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY - Fourth Food Sunday, February 22

The Long Island Council of Churches Food Pantry (450 N. Main Street, Freeport, 516-868-4989) fed more than 1400 people each month in August and September just from their Freeport pantry. In recent months there has been a growing number of requests for assistance from working families who have had their SNAP (food stamps) benefits reduced due to Congressional budgets cuts.

This would be a great time to donate unopened food, particularly:

**Canned tuna, chicken, salmon (in water), canned stew, canned ham*

**Nuts (low salt), Peanut Butter (low salt)/jelly*

**100% fruit juice*

**Complete Pancake Mix/Syrup*

**Pasta, rice, canned beans*

**Infant Formula Powder, Enfamil w/Lipil or Similac Advance*

**Shampoo, Soap, toothpaste, brushes, toiletries*

**School Supplies (notebooks, pens/pencils, crayons, rulers, calculators)*

**grocery bags*

**Canned vegetable/ soups (low salt/ low fat)*

**Canned/ dried fruit*

**Dry milk/ Parmalat*

**Hot/ cold breakfast cereal*

**Tomato/ spaghetti sauce*

**Diapers (size 3-5)*

**Paper towels, Toilet Paper*

**Clothing - Fall/ Winter*

Donations may be left in the back of the Church. Monetary donations to support the emergency food centers would be greatly appreciated. These donations should be sent to The Long Island Council of Churches, 1644 Denton Green, Hempstead, NY 11550. You can also donate on-line through www.LICCDonate.org.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

CHAPEL (CHILDREN'S) CHOIR No rehearsal until further notice.

YOUTH LENTEN SUPPER AND SERVICE EVENING

Saturday, February 28, 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

We'll be joining with other Christian youth in the community for a Lenten supper celebration at Rev. Lori Burgess' home, 90 Country Club Drive, Port Washington. We will enjoy a delicious meal, share in conversation, fellowship and fun and participate in a local service project TBD

SIGN UP NOW!

SUMMER YOUTH MISSION TRIP, WEST VIRGINIA

Sunday, July 19 – Saturday, July 25, 2015

Pipstem, WV. Our home for the week is the Appalachian Folklife Center, which provides acres of a beautiful campground, a nearby lake, recreational facilities, cabins with bunk beds, and plenty of outdoor adventures. We will work six hours a day restoring and repairing homes for at - risk and vulnerable homeowners. We will participate in our own worship services, educational programs and social activities around our service experience. Please let Lesley know if your youth is interested.

NURSERY CARE (NEWBORN - AGE 4)

All children, newborn through age 4, are welcome in the newly renovated and fully-operating nursery at Community Reformed Church, open every Sunday, September - June, from 9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. There, they will be greeted by our teacher, Lydia Jeong, who works with parents to ensure that their children feel welcomed and comfortable in our space. All toddlers and young children are offered a creative and engaging Bible lesson that helps them play, imagine and explore God’s love in all of creation!

SUNDAY SCHOOL (KINDERGARTEN - 6TH GRADE)

Our Sunday School classes for Kindergarten to 6th grade are offered from September – June at 9:50 a.m. in Community Reformed Church's Education building. Our children join the children of CRC for a Gospel-focused program that highlights stories, arts, crafts and group discussion. The children meet their families in church for the end of the service. For more information, please contact **Heather Bennett** at aualka51@gmail.com.

BAGELS AND BIBLE (7TH - 9TH GRADES)

The B&B class for the 7th, 8th and 9th grade students explore what we know and what we don’t know about the Bible through group discussion and creative activities. The class meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 9:50 a.m., in the CRC education building. On the remaining Sundays, students are involved in service opportunities during church worship. C’mon and join us - What could be better than conversation, friends and food!!!

MARCH SAVE THE DATE

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Youth Leadership Lab

Saturday, March 28, 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. (includes travel time) *RSVP due by February 15*

Join us for our Third Annual Youth Leadership Lab as we head into NYC to work with YSOP (Youth Service Organization Project, NYC - <http://ysop.org>) and do direct service with homeless and hungry people. YSOP is a pioneer in the field of service-learning, leading thousands of young people and adults in programs to encourage community participation and engaged citizenship. The fee for the day is \$50, which includes breakfast, lunch, the service project and a t-shirt. Students will be responsible for paying for a round trip LIRR ticket as well. ***This leadership lab is limited to students in 7th grade and older only.*** Please **RSVP by February 15** if you are interested in participating. Remember friends are welcome and encouraged to attend. We look forward to a meaningful day as we learn more about homelessness in our state.

Girl Inspired Film Chat: Girls in Popular Music

Friday, March 6, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Our fourth FNFC will explore the portrayal of women and girls in popular music – the songs, the lyrics and music videos that dominate our culture. All inspired girls should come with a list of their favorite songs, and we’ll listen and learn together over dinner. At Monica Pierce’s home, 11 Mason Drive, Manhasset. *Girl Inspired's "Friday Night Film Chats" provide a safe space for girls, ages 12 - 17, to engage modern culture and relevant life issues through film, media and entertainment while developing new friendships through inspired discussion and fellowship.*

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Calendar for the Month of February 2015

- Sunday Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. in the Church.
- Tuesday Chapel (Children’s) Choir at 5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
(On hiatus until further notice.)
- Wednesday Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m. in the Chapel.
- Thursday **Chancel Choir & Schola Cantorum** at 6:45 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Liturgy with Holy Eucharist - February 18 at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 pm

- February 1 Annual Meeting at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School
Bagels & Bibles
Sunday School Valentines for Vets
- February 3 Spiritual Book Club at 6:30 p.m. in the CRC Lounge
- February 8 6th Annual Pajama Sunday
Sunday School
- February 14 Valentine’s Day
- February 15 Sunday School
Bagels & Bible
Sunday School Mardi Gras Coffee Hour
- February 16 Presidents Day
- February 18 Ash Wednesday
- February 22 First Sunday of Lent
Family Service
Fourth Food Sunday
- February 28 Youth Lenten Supper and Service Evening

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Sunday Readings

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 1, 2015

Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Dr. Abdallah Mishrick by the Cyprus Family.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 8, 2015

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-12,21c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Donald Tsakis by Christiane Tsakis.

THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY, FEBRUARY 15, 2015

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

Altar Flowers are given in thanksgiving of our Grandchildren
by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Henahan.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

Joel 2:1-2,12-17; Psalm 103; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6-10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT, FEBRUARY 22, 2015

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-9; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

We are please to congratulate these friends and parishioners who have birthdays during this month...

Jeff Lightcap (1), Senetta Koch (6) Karyn Sherwood (12), Natalie Bindert (18),
Carole Beinecke (22), Lori Kelly (23), Elizabeth Kelly (23), Vincent McGill (23),
C.J. (Carole) Sevely (23), Will Ivers (23), Jade Blocker (25), Thomas Allen (27).

We are please to congratulate these friends and parishioners who have anniversary during this month...

Angus Stopford and Jeannine Daly (19)

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