



# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"THE LITTLE STONE CHURCH"

**JULY / AUGUST, 2019**

**NEWSLETTER**

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## **MESSAGE** **FROM OUR** **PRIEST:**

**"In the shadows  
of giants,  
in the footsteps  
of heroes"**

January 1960 began as a very strange New Year. It was the beginning of a new decade; a new Pope was in the Vatican and a new President was in the White House. None of this concerned me even in the slightest. I was just a boy, moving between home, school, church, parks, swimming pool and cinema.

However, that all changed that first January week when my father returned from work one night to tell us that we were moving from our home, as his job had changed. We were moving some 80 miles west to the coast, to a peninsula called The Wirral and to a small residential seaside town named West Kirby. For my younger brother and me it was an adventure. Our imaginations knew no bounds as we talked of the sea, secret islands, perilous cliffs, raging storms, smugglers and yes, pirate ships!

We soon discovered that The Wirral would vastly expand our horizons. West Kirby was not one town but a string of towns that occupied three sides of the peninsula: the west side was the

estuary of the River Dee that separated England from North Wales, the end of the peninsula faced the Irish sea, and the east side was the estuary of the great River Mersey. and far in the distance was the port of Liverpool. The center of the peninsula was all farmland and old disused Air Force Camps left over from the Second World War. The east side was relatively flat with long stretches of white sandy beaches; the west consisted of undulating hills, woody trails that ran down to the cliffs of Black Horse and Grange Hill. It was a heart's delight for any Peter Pan or Huckleberry Finn.

We now lived at the bottom of Black Horse Hill in a large house with way too much lawn and garden. School was five miles away, around two sides of the peninsula and you could travel by bus or train or bicycle. Within months, we were Boy Scouts, belonged to a brass band, served as acolytes in church, frequented the library, built our own bikes and raced them cross hill, shore and wooded dirt tracks, and played endless soccer games until darkness shrouded the field.

Through it all, there was one prevailing voice that rang out from the dying embers of the years that had gone before. It was unavoidable, deep and haunting. It was the voice of a wartime leader, so often quoted, but more often remembered by the sight of Spitfires,

Lancaster Bombers, and the remnants of war that dotted the countryside. Churchill's speeches and famous lines that sustained a nation in the darkest of hours were known by every schoolboy, inscribed in every war monument, and quoted in the thousands of war comics and books that we kids devoured on a weekly basis.

"The Battle for France is over. What is to come will be known as the Battle for Britain. We must defend our island home, whatever the cost may be. We will fight them on the beaches, we will fight them in the fields, we will fight them in the streets and in the hills, but we will never surrender. And if, the British Empire should go on for another thousand years, men will still say: 'this was their finest hour!'"

As little boys, these were our heroes. We learned of Douglas Bader, the Battle of Britain flying ace who had lost both legs before the war but flew with tin legs. We heard the tales of Guy Gibson who led the Lancaster Bombers in the so-called 'Dam Buster Raids.' There were the American Airmen who crossed the border into Canada and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and fought in Spitfires over the City of London. These were our heroes, our role models, their aircraft now adorning the lawns of the Air Base, never to fly again.

"Never in the field of human conflict, has so much been owed by so many to so few," Churchill wrote in that September of 1940.

I tell you all this because June 6, 2019, was the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day, the greatest seaborne invasion in world history. Hundreds of thousands of men crossed the English Channel and landed on five beaches in Normandy, France. On Omaha Beach, 90 percent of the soldiers died on that first terrible day. They fought and died that freedom might

live and that evil be destroyed. As little boys in the midst of school and play, we understood all of this. For those who came home from that great conflict and knelt with us each Sunday in church, they were our teachers, our scout leaders, and sometimes our priests. We were surrounded by heroes, soaked in their courage, taught by their sacrifice, and in awe of their deeds.

The world has rolled on since those long-lost years. The world has become a noisier place. Now we are shouted at by men who never in their lives carried a gun or stood to post. Now we are told that truth is a lie and that a lie is truth. We -- we who grew up in the shadow of giants and heroes -- we cannot and will not forget. For us, D-Day means something. As do the words Midway, Bastogne, Salerno, Anzio, and all the places where history is marked by the white crosses of the fallen, and their graves marked with flags of glory.

We played 'aps and Commandos' and assaulted the Cliffs of the River Dee as United States Marines! We fought through the jungle woods of Black Horse Hill, wooden machine guns in our hands, driving 'Gerry' back across the Rhine. We threw toy grenades, pretending it was the very coast of France, because that is what our heroes did! And we swore to live and die for the self-same flag for which our heroes fought.

As we pray and remember them, we know that they were the 'Greatest Generation.' But we have to ask: "who will remember when we, too, are gone."

Bless each grave, dear Lord, that those who rest beneath, will never have died in vain. Amen.

Enjoy your Summer,  
*Fr. Bill*



## **CHURCH MUSIC –**

It's just mid-summer, but we're already looking ahead to August and September. And, believe it or not, this is also a particularly happy time of year for me because I also start looking at Christmas music to begin planning what we are doing for Advent and Christmas!

Our choir practices will resume on Friday, September 6th at 1:30 pm at Christ Church. If there is a change in the time, it will be announced in the bulletin.

As always, we are constantly open to welcoming new choir members -- men and women of all talents. Music is such a special part of the service, and we would love to expand our choir.

If anyone knows of a friend or family member who has a particular talent but could only join us for a Sunday or two, please let me know. And if there is a potential new choir member out there who might have a conflict with our rehearsal time, we're very flexible in time and days. We also love to have guest musicians and/or guest singers – invite them to join us!

Do you know anyone who plays the flute, the harp, the French horn, trumpet, hand bells, or any musical instrument? Please put them in touch with me, too, so we can plan ahead to welcome them to join us on any Sunday. If there is anyone you know who plays the guitar, drums, keyboard, etc. who would be willing to play for our occasional guitar mass, we'd love to have them join us for that. We're always open to ideas, suggestions, and new experiences that would enhance our musical service.

In the meantime, have a wonderful summer; and please be sure to join us in song in the Fall (if not before then).

– Dawn Pentecost



## **EXPANDED MINISTRY –**

### **Ministries**

Do you need or want another prayerful shoulder to listen to a concern? Do you want to pray for someone ... or perhaps need some special prayers for yourself? Would you like to share and learn more about the Bible through its readings? Maybe you would like to learn how to play the guitar?

Working together to benefit both Christ and Trinity Churches, Fr. Bill has expanded his ministerial schedule; his mid-summer schedule follows. Stop by and join him for conversation and music! (With access to a quiet office at Trinity Church, private consultations will be held there.)

### **JULY**

- 3, Wed.: Trinity/Christ, 9-1pm
- 6, Sat.: Trinity, 9-2pm
- 10, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1pm
- 13, Sat.: Christ 9-2pm
- 17, Wed.: Trinity/Christ-9-1pm
- 20, Sat.: Wedding.
- 24, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1
- 27, Sat.: Christ 9-2
- 31, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1

### **AUGUST**

- 3, Sat.: Trinity 9-2
- 7, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1
- 10, Sat.: Christ 9-2
- 14, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1
- 17, Sat.: Trinity 9-2
- 21, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1
- 24, Sat.: Christ 9-2
- 28, Wed.: Trinity/Christ 9-1
- 31, Sat.: Trinity 9-2



## **NEWS from the PEWS**



### **Graduates among us:**

Best wishes and warmest congratulations to our own Laura Statkun who graduated on June 14<sup>th</sup> from Forest City Regional HS. We all wish you the very best in whatever life has to offer!

Congratulations also to Laura's sister Emily, who graduated *cum laude* from Jefferson University on May 10<sup>th</sup> with a degree in Industrial Design.

The sisters are the daughters of Kelley and Steve Statkun and granddaughters to Fern Cornall – and all are members of Christ Church !!

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### **A 'Lifeguard' is in our midst:**

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 7-yr. old Cora Seaman, attended a pool party in nearby Jermyn. There were numerous people there, including an individual who was acting as a lifeguard.

At one point during the party, Cora was outside the pool, casually watching the kids in the water. Suddenly, she happened to notice a 4-yr. old in the pool who was starting to panic and trying to stay above the water. No one else seemed to notice this, so Cora jumped into the pool and swam over to the little

girl. The little girl clung to Cora. The water wasn't that deep for Cora, so she was able to bring the smaller girl over to the side of the pool. The adults had noticed what was happening when they saw Cora grab the younger girl and came over to help them both get out of the water.

Everyone said that Cora saved the 4-yr. old because she was going under the water. They said they had all gotten engrossed in a conversation and weren't fully watching the pool. Cora has a habit of always watching the kids who are smaller than herself.

Hats off to Miss 'Life-saving,' Cora!

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### **Building Issues –**

Maintenance on our aging Christ Church building is on-going, and this topic bears repeating and reminding all

congregants.

Missing roof shingles were repaired in April. Painting of the outside of the church will be done this summer on a date to be determined. The lower level stairwell will be repaired, along with the wall at the rear of the dining hall.

After repairs are completed, the lower level will be painted. A properly sized dehumidifier will be installed in the dining hall to eliminate the wet floors that we experience during the summer months. We are also seeking plans and estimated costs for various handicapped access options for the outside of the building. Stay tuned.

And, as always, donations to the Capital Building Fund are greatly welcomed to help offset our many and varied ongoing maintenance costs.

Christ Church belongs to each and all of us ... please continue to keep the parish in



Susquehanna and St. Mark's, New Milford.

This year, Trinity Church will oversee the plans, and the accompanying church picnic will again be held at Merli-Sarnoski Park, just outside of Carbondale on St. Rt. 106. Hamburgers and hotdogs will be provided, but everyone is asked to bring a picnic dish to share (to serve 8), their own beverage, and a lawn chair. Set-up will begin at 9:00am, with Mass commencing at 10:00am, and the picnic fun will follow.

Be sure to come along, and don't miss our annual **FAITH-FILLED DAY OF FUN!!**

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**Maintaining the Weekly Schedule** is important to ensure our weekly Mass goes smoothly.

But to do this, YOUR help is needed on a regular basis.

If you have volunteered to help as an usher, reader, or server, your name and the dates of your volunteer service are regularly posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please note these dates and plan to be in attendance on the respective Sunday. It is important that everyone participate as they are scheduled. If you are unavailable to be at church on a given date, please contact Jack DeMark or Bob Schreiber the night before.

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**TWO-CHURCH YARD SALE,**

**July 20<sup>th</sup>** - An exciting day of FUNdraising will be

shared by both Christ Church and St. James-Dundaff when these sister parishes will share a yard sale, beginning at 9:00am. Held on the lawns of St. James at 2050 St. Rt. 247/Crystal Lake, the

funds earned at the end of the day will be shared.

As you've cleaned out your attic, closets, and garages during the past few months and set aside your discards (which turn into someone else's *treasures*), it's now time to box 'em up for the church yard sale. Yard sale items can be dropped off at Christ Church, or let Jack or Bob know what you have and they'll pick up items that can be easily carried. Please note that anything that is oversized (i.e., furniture), take a photo of it, include a full description and suggested sale price, and your contact phone number, then print the information on a flyer; any buyers for such items can make arrangements to pick up the items themselves. Also note that clothing, coffee mugs, books, and electronics will NOT be accepted for this yard sale.

Come along and join us for the day too. It promises to be fun and profitable for both of our sharing sister parishes!

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**ADDED NOTE:** We will also have a bake sale table during the yard sale, so please lend a hand by providing yummy home-baked items to sell too. And on Thursday July 18<sup>th</sup>, Emily will have a Welsh Cookie Bake Day at CC; bakers are asked to come out to join her at 9:00am.

*Upcoming* **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**Forest City Area Historical Society (FCAHS)** - Ever wondered what local treasures are displayed in the FCAHS? Stop by and check them out. The museum is open Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:00am-2:00pm; Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00am-6:00pm (FC's *Trail Town Days*); Sundays, August 18<sup>th</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> (Labor Day Weekend), September 15<sup>th</sup>, September 29<sup>th</sup>, and October 13<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00am-2:00pm.

Maybe out-of-town family or friends are coming to visit and you would like to take them to the museum? The FCAHS is always seeking new members, and a membership makes a great gift for those hard-to-buy-for friends and relatives. The Society also reminds anyone seeking genealogical information that can see Museum Curator Barb Klobucar during posted hours, or email her, [fagan@nep.net](mailto:fagan@nep.net). Please have the name of the person, birth date information, etc. available, and we will do our best to locate information for you.

On Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, Forest City will be alive with the **Trail Town** events. Note those below, and watch for updated information and details in the Sunday bulletins or the Forest City News.

August 2<sup>nd</sup>: Alumni Event, hosted by FCR at the school campus.

August 4<sup>th</sup>: Chicken BBQ at Kennedy Park, hosted by FC Boro Parks and Recreation

August 4<sup>th</sup>: Fishing Derby at Kennedy Park, hosted by the FCPD.

August 6<sup>th</sup>: "National Night Out" at Kennedy Park, hosted by the FCPD.

The folks at FC's PARKS & RECREATION (FCPR) need help from the community to make Kennedy Park a vibrant focal point of our community. The next meeting of the FCPR Board will be on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm. The Regular Monthly meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month. These are public meetings and all are welcome to attend. Please join us!

Anyone wishing to sponsor any of our events should contact us at [fcparksrec@gmail.com](mailto:fcparksrec@gmail.com).

## SUMMER AT ST. JAMES, DUNDAFF -



Our mission church opened for the summer months on Memorial Day weekend and will go through Labor Day weekend, September 1<sup>st</sup>. This summer, worship services will begin at 10:30am, followed by light refreshments on the lawn.

We will have two supply clergy supporting us this summer: Deacon John Davis will be with us through June and again on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Fr. Peter Pearson will join us July through September (except August 11<sup>th</sup>).

We welcome all to join us.



## The Stone Soup Kitchen at Christ Church

The Christ Church Free Community Lunch program continues to thrive and is usually held the fourth Saturday of each month. Everyone who attends has a wonderful meal plus the opportunity for social interaction.

My thanks always to all who come to assist in this outreach to our community. Please join us if your schedule allows ... you won't regret it.

Most months, it's such a blessing to see how our congregation steps up to help purchase ingredients needed for each month's lunch; once in a while, there may be an excess of items we keep in the freezer or in the cabinets that we can use for an upcoming meal so no index cards need to be plucked from the monthly board in the Narthex. This is rare, but it can happen from time to time.

When groceries do need to be purchased, the Christ Church folks are very generous and are more than willing to help provide whatever is necessary. We may be a small group at our wonderful church, but we get the job done, working together to provide what is needed.

We are blessed in so many ways.

*Thy Will Be Done*, and heartfelt thanks to all!  
-Susie Schreiber



### **SAFETY TIPS FOR SENIOR DRIVERS** -

Aging does not automatically equal total loss of driving ability. There are many things you can do to continue driving safely, including modifying your car, altering the way you drive, and addressing any physical issues that can interfere with driving.

For instance, stay on top of your health:

- Regular check-ups are critical to keep you in the best possible driving shape.
- Get your eyes checked every year. Make sure that corrective lenses are current. Keep the windshield, mirrors, and headlights clean, and turn the brightness up on the instrument panel on your dashboard.
- Have your hearing checked annually. If you need hearing aids, make sure you wear them while driving. Be careful when opening car windows, though, as drafts can sometimes impair a hearing aid's effectiveness.
- Talk with a doctor about how ailments or medications can affect

your driving ability. For example, if you have glaucoma, tinted eyeglasses can help to reduce glare.

- Get plenty of sleep. Getting enough sleep is essential to driving well. Ensure that you're sleeping well and talk with your doctor about the effect sleep medications may have on your driving.

***Find the right car and any aids you need for safe driving*** - If required, an occupational therapist or a certified driving rehabilitation specialist can prescribe equipment to make it easier to steer your car or to operate the foot pedals. Otherwise:

- Choose a vehicle with automatic transmission, power steering, and power brakes.
- Keep your car in good working condition with regularly scheduled maintenance.
- Be sure that windows and headlights are always clean.

***Drive defensively*** - In these days of smartphones, GPS devices, audiobooks, and digital music players, drivers are even more distracted than they used to be. This means you'll want to take extra steps to drive safely by:

- Leaving adequate space for the car in front of you.
- Paying extra attention at intersections.
- Making sure you are driving consistent with the flow of traffic.
- Avoiding distractions while driving, such as talking on the phone, texting, or consulting a map or GPS.
- Allowing sufficient braking distance. Remember, if you double your speed – say, from 30mph to

60mph - your braking distance does not become twice as long, it becomes four times as far, even more if the road is wet or icy.

**Know your limitations** - If a driving situation makes you uncomfortable, avoid it. Many of us voluntarily begin to make changes in our driving practices as we get older by:

- Driving only during daylight hours if seeing well at night is a problem.
- Staying off freeways and highways to avoid fast-moving traffic.
- Not driving in bad weather (rain, thunderstorms, snow, hail, ice).
- Planning the route before leaving to feel more confident and avoid getting lost.
- Listen to the concerns of others

If relatives, friends, or others express concerns about your driving, it may be time to take a hard, honest look at your driving ability. Have a comprehensive driving evaluation performed by an occupational therapist. Brush up on your driving skills by taking a refresher course. Talk to your doctor about your ability to drive safely.

- Donna Gasper, AAA Honesdale



## **HERE'S WHAT'S COOKIN' in OUR CHURCH KITCHEN**

It never ceases to amaze some of us as to how far our Christ Church newsletter travels and how many friends of our little parish enjoy it. As such, the current recipe is from a long-distance friend in Jacksonville FL, Thomas Burnakis (he receives our newsletter via email; and with his sister, Ivy, was raised in CC as kids!). Enjoy this special treat

this summer, and offer up a blessing of thanks to Tom!

All congregants and church friends ... please share some of your favorite recipes for future issues of our newsletter. Just drop them in the offering plate or contact a friendly Church Mouse. Thanks!

### **QUICK ONE PAN MEDITERRANEAN SUPPER**

(makes two generous servings)

#### **Ingredients**

10-16 oz Sirloin steak (purchase steak with a healthy portion of fat on the one side)  
2-3 cloves of garlic  
1 medium yellow squash  
1 medium zucchini  
10-12 small Roma or cherry tomatoes  
Small bunch of basil (8-10 sprigs)  
1 tbsp. wine vinegar (preferably red but white will do as well)  
Salt & pepper to taste

#### **Directions:**

1. Trim fat off of steak and set aside, Salt both sides of the steak and let sit for one-half hour at room temperature.
2. Slice garlic into thin slices.
3. Slice both the yellow squash and zucchini into quarter-inch "coin-sized" pieces.
4. Cut tomatoes in half and tear or cut half of the basil into small pieces.
5. Render fat from steak over medium-medium/ high heat on stovetop, When the fat has been rendered, discard the remaining gristle and cook the steak for two minutes on each side (for medium rare) in the rendered steak fat. Set the steak aside to rest.
6. In the same pan fry the garlic in the remaining fat and juices until it just starts to turn golden brown.
7. Toss in the squash and zucchini and sauté about 1-2 minutes until they soften slightly. Add in the halved tomatoes and cook another two minutes; remove from heat. Add the vinegar and chopped basil and mix into the pan ingredients

**To Serve:** Empty pan into a large serving dish, Slice steak into thin slices and arrange over top of the vegetables. Drizzle one tablespoon of virgin olive oil over top of steak and sprinkle with remaining whole basil leaves. Salt and Pepper to taste. Serve with a side of roasted potatoes or large pieces of crusty bread.





## CHURCH CHUCKLES

The Cleaning Woman:  
There was a little old cleaning woman that

went to the local church. When the invitation was given at the end of the service, she went forward, wanting to become a member. The pastor listened as she told him how she had accepted Jesus and wanted to be baptized and become a member of the church.

The pastor thought to himself, "Oh my, she is so unkempt, even smells a little, and her fingernails are not clean. She picks up garbage, cleans toilets - what would the members think of her." He told her that she needed to go home and pray about it and then decide.

The following week, here she came again. She told the pastor that she had prayed about it and still wanted to be baptized. "I have passed this church for so long. It is so beautiful, and I truly want to become a member."

Again, the pastor told her to go home and pray some more. A few weeks later, while out eating at the restaurant, the pastor saw the little old lady. He did not want her to think that he was ignoring her so he approached her and said, "I have not seen you for a while. Is everything all right?"

"Oh, yes," she said. "I talked with Jesus, and he told me not to worry about becoming a member of your church."

"He did?" said the pastor.

"Oh, yes" she replied. "He said even He hasn't been able to get into your church yet, and He's been trying for years."

- Thanks to <https://forums.catholic.com>

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## CLOSING THOUGHTS -

Eyes to See: Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.

- Ephesians 1:3

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With the warmer summer months now here, consider taking a "God Hunt" walk. Record what you see and hear. For each sight and sound, log a spiritual blessing. When you return home, thank God for each blessing on your list.

- K. Wingate, Guidepost Magazine



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## THE NEXT PARISH NEWS

will be for September/October 2019; article submissions are due by August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please email your newsletter sharings and photos to Karen Toolan, [kbtwrite@nep.net](mailto:kbtwrite@nep.net); or post them to 993 State Route 2029, Clifford Twp. PA 18470.

As always, if anyone from Christ Church would like to become one of our fun-loving, news-gathering, and photo-snapping fellow *Church Mice*, please contact the church office. More mice and more photos are always welcomed!

Until the next issue, be sure to get out there to enjoy the many fun happenings of Summer!

*The Roving  
Church Mice*

