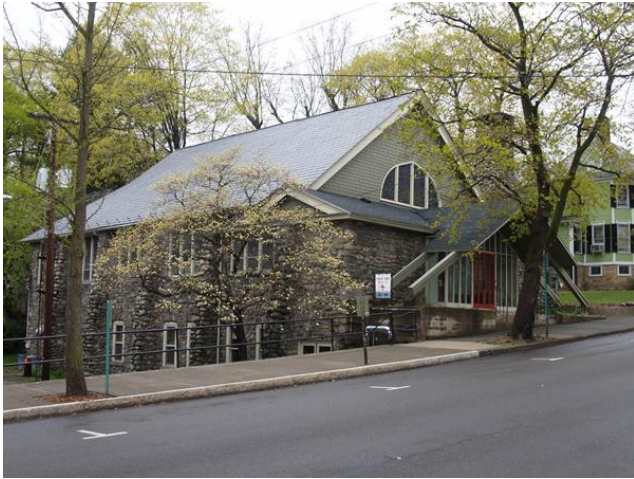


Christ Church Newsletter

April 2011



**WELCOME
TO CHRIST CHURCH**

***A WELCOMING,
COMPASSIONATE
AND HEALING COMMUNITY***

Service Hours:

***Wednesday: 12:00 Noon Holy
Eucharist & Healing Prayers***

***Wednesday during Lent: 1:00 The
Way of the Cross***

Saturday: 5:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 am Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 10:00 am Holy Eucharist

Children's Sunday school: 9:45 am

***Christian Education Hour for adults:
Sundays 9:00-9:45 am***

Phone: (570) 421-7481
www.christchurchstroudsburg.net

Inclement weather – Check Channel 13

A Message from Father Gaeta

To the Saints at Christ Church,



The Lord be with you!

This is written on the 3rd full day of Spring...as the snow falls here in Stroudsburg. The Festal Day of Resurrection could not come fast enough!

It's been a hard and cold winter and the evidence is that the weather still isn't finished with it! So, our desire for warmth as well as for the celebrations of Easter is heightened.

But, not yet! We remain in the Holy Season of Lent.

The Church carefully guides us through this Season so that we may recover ourselves as the beloved children of God, and rediscover

how God's love for us in Christ shows through our lives to others.

This is an important journey in our liturgical year. Why? 'cause in the daily journey we forget who we are and at times we live other than who we are. Please, it's not that we're bad people!

It's just that we are who we are...all of us...and we need the constant reminders of the fact that we are God's people. God called us out of the world to serve others in the name of Christ. Simply put...we often get in the way of this mission. We need time to remember.

Secondly, while the conclusion to Lent is the Festival of the Resurrection, the journey's climax is the Great Week – Holy Week. The week is Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday through the Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday).

On the Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday, we gather first to celebrate our Lord's triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem. We'll join the throngs of people who joyfully welcome "*the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*"

Then, the theme of the liturgy swiftly and dramatically shifts as suddenly we stand at the foot of the cross astonished at what we've done and to whom we've done it. Then, a few days later, the Paschal Triduum begins. The Triduum has one liturgy, but it's spread over three days: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The 3-day liturgy begins (Thursday) with the focal point of Lent – Jesus' command (John 15: 12)

This is my commandment, that you love one another, as I have loved you.

The whole Season of Lent guides us carefully to this point.

Now, and only now has the Spirit prepared us to hear this command with joy rather

than fear! Now, and only now do we realize *again* that this command comes to us only because Christ's love is already in our hearts! Now, and only now, in the grace God provides, are we prepared to continue our journey through to the great Festal Day!

The 2nd part of the Triduum liturgy (Friday) brings us to the foot of the cross. This time, our minds are filled with wonder. We sit on the edge of our seats ready to leap up with the shout of victory and that 'A' word that was hidden during Lent.

The 3rd part of the Triduum liturgy (Saturday) is the great Easter Vigil. This liturgy rehearses the history of salvation through all God's patient, merciful and loving work. Affirming the covenant of our Baptism (and welcoming a new child of God into our midst) we *finally* come to the victorious celebration of our Lord's Resurrection! The bells ring, the 'A' word sings, for the joy-filled day of our salvation is here. Life is restored in newness beyond comprehension.

May the Spirit guide you carefully through this Holy Season of Lent and bring you safely to the celebrations of the Festal Day.

Grace & Peace,

Gerard R. Gaeta+

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Worship during Lent

All liturgies (Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday) and times remain the same throughout the Season of Lent.

An additional liturgy is added to Wednesday at 1 PM - the Way of the Cross. This important Lent liturgy is scheduled for every Wednesday at 1 PM through Lent.



Holy Week at Christ Church:



Saturday, April 16:
**5 PM Blessing of
the
Palms/Eucharist**

**Sunday, April 17: Sunday of the
Passion/Palm Sunday -
8 AM Blessing of Palms/Eucharist
10 AM Blessing of Palms,
Procession/Eucharist
Note – meet in parish hall to begin this
Liturgy**

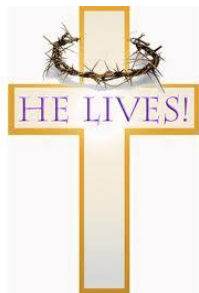
**April 21-23: The Paschal Triduum -
One Liturgy over 3 days**

**Thursday, April 21:
Maundy Thursday. 7:30 PM Foot
Washing/Eucharist**

**Friday, April 22:
Good Friday.
11 AM Community Stations of the
Cross
12 Noon Good Friday Liturgy at
Christ Church**

**Saturday, April 23:
Easter Vigil. 7 PM Vigil Liturgy –
Baptism/Eucharist**

**Sunday, April 24:
Festival of the Resurrection of our
Lord
8 AM Said Eucharist
10 AM Festival Day Celebration Sung
Eucharist**



A GIFT TO THE CONGREGATION

Christ Church has the unique opportunity to hear 1st hand the journey of one man from Baghdad, Iraq, to America.

Abhas Khalaf left his family in Baghdad 5 years ago. His goal from the beginning is to bring them safely to America where they might resume their lives in safety. His journey has been difficult as well as long.

Mr. Khalaf's astounding journey is shared with us on Sundays, 10 and 17 April from 9 – 9:45 AM.

We gather in the 2nd floor class room for this unique opportunity as part of the Adult Forum program.

All are welcome!

Search Update

**Submitted by Patti Alleger
Search Chair**



I am happy to announce that the Vestry has given us the approval to call a full-time rector to Christ Church. With that decision made, our diocesan consultant, Rev. Canon Jane Teter will begin looking for candidates that we can interview and call to Christ Church. Rev. Teter will be leading the search committee in training to prepare for their work in the interview process.

The Profile is done and ready to post on our website. Things are starting to move along in the search process for the committee: Lisa Baatz, Keith Branch, Barbara Cramer, Robby O'Brian, Michael Shands, Julie Tom Wing and daughter Natori, Janet Ullo, Steve Whiteley and son Jake.

I would like to thank the members of the profile committee for all the wonderful work they did to put our best foot forward to the viewing public. A big **Thank You** goes out to: Howard Alleger, Louise Bach, Cheryl Cloke, Michael Hughes, Cynthia Leenerts, Steve McQueen, Christine Papa, Leigh Smith, and Olivette Taylor.

When the profile is published, copies will be available in the church office for review for those who do not have access to a computer.

Please keep the search committee and Christ Church in your prayers while our search goes forward.

Youth Mission Clothing Collection for Christophany 2011

Please drop off by April 1st in the Narthex.



Children and Youth (infant to 1): diapers, underwear, undershirts, solid color shirts, pants, sweatshirts, socks, pajamas, onesies, small, stuffed animals.

Women: socks, nylons, pantyhose, underwear, shirts, sweatshirts, pajama pants, camisoles.

Men: socks, underwear, t-shirts, sweatshirts, pajama pants, socks

Other: phone cards, fast food cards, gas cards, grocery gift cards (Weiss, Giant)

Thank you for helping the victims of violence in our diocese.

Easter Lillies

As in years past, Christ Church's members and friends are invited to place a lily plant in the Sanctuary for Easter Sunday services in memory of, or in honor of loved ones (or for yourself if you so desire).



Orders must be placed no later than Sunday, April 3rd by using the form that is included in the church bulletin or calling the church office.

The Cost is \$10.00.

It is also asked whether you wish to pick up your plant following the Easter Sunday worship service or to donate it to a shut-in.

Diocesan Training Day (April 2)

A day set aside for learning about opportunities and resources for ministry in congregations, and celebrating ministries we share. The training is held at St. Stephen's Pro-Cathedral, 35 S. Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA

Frank Coletta will be attending this event. If you are interested in attending as well, please contact the church office as soon as possible.

Christophany (April 8-10)

Who: All youth in grades 6-12

What: A weekend of acceptance, outdoor activities, and fellowship

Where: Pocono Plateau Camp and Retreat Center, Cresco, PA 18326

When: Friday, April 8, 7pm to Sunday, April 11, Noon

Why: To get to know Christ and one another in the Diocese of Bethlehem

Registration is now open. Don't forget to collect for victims of violence.

Blessing of Oils & Reaffirmation of Ordination Vows

Thursday, April 14th 2011 at 11:00 am

At the Cathedral Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem

Special Full Communion Partner Guests' Bishop Samuel Zeiser of the Northeast PA Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and The Rev. David Bennett, President of the Eastern District of the Moravian Church.

All Clergy will be attending this event and laity are most welcome and most cordially invited.

We have modest gifts for the parishes bringing the largest percentage of their ASA and for the lay people who have traveled the farthest. Lunch is provided.

Please call the church office by Monday, April 11th and let us know if you would like to attend. Perhaps we can car pool.



Share, Save, Spend Seminar



Saturday, April 16th

Joan Duckloe, Sharon Kessler & Chris Potter will be conducting a Share, Save, Spend seminar. It is designed to help parents, children and grandparents understand the relationship of money, values and habits in today's hyper-consumer culture and move toward financial sanity.

The seminar will take place in the Parish Hall from 9:30 until 3:30.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The cost of \$11.00 per person includes the workbook. Please bring lunch.

Jesus Loves a Growing Seed (May 14)

A workshop to help parishes become healthy and help them move from maintenance to mission.

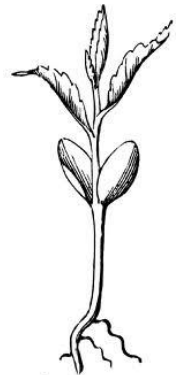
Keynote speaker is The Bishop of the Diocese of North Carolina - The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry.

Cost: \$10 per person

Cost includes Breakfast snacks, beverages and lunch.

Schedule:

8:45 - 9:30am - Gathering time
9:30 - 9:45am - Opening Prayer and Introduction
9:45 - 10:30am - First Talk
10:35 - 11:05am - Table Discussion
11:15 - 11:45am - Reflection on Table Discussion
11:45 - 12:00pm - Noonday Prayer
12:00 - 12:45pm - Lunch



12:50 - 1:30pm - Second Talk
1:35 - 2:05pm - Table Discussion
2:15 - 2:45pm - Reflection on Table Discussion
2:45 - 3:00pm - Summary of day's work
3:00pm - Closing remarks & prayer

Note: Registration for this workshop is limited to 300 people.

Registration will close on Friday, May 13.
Registration is now open at diobeth.org.

Janet Stine...

On February 2, 2011, Janet Stine passed away. Janet was a member of Christ Church for many years. Until her illness, Janet was a regular attendee of the 8AM service. She was active with the American Red Cross and organized a yearly blood drive at Christ Church.



Janet was born in East Stroudsburg on July 6, 1926, was a 1943 graduate of East Stroudsburg High School and went on to receive her nursing degree from the Episcopal Hospital of Philadelphia in 1947. She worked as a labor and delivery nurse at Pocono Medical Center for over 30 years until her retirement in 1984. She then became a regular volunteer with the American Red Cross and enjoyed planning and attending events with the 50 Plus Alumni Association of East Stroudsburg.

Janet enjoyed sewing, knitting and cross stitching and spent countless hours making hats and blankets for her family and those in need.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 43 years, Fred W. Stine, and sister, Carol.

Janet is survived by 5 children, 9 grandchildren and 4 siblings. Janet's daughter Peggy Walck, a former Christ

Church Sunday school teacher, attended church with her children Adam, Katelyn and Andrew.

PRAYER CHAIN

Intercessory prayer is a quiet, hidden ministry ~ so hidden, in fact, that you may not know Christ Church has a Prayer Chain. In addition to the Prayers of the People in worship, there are a dozen faithful and committed people on our Prayer Chain who pray each day for those concerns and others which are kept completely confidential.

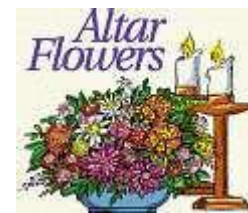


If you or someone you love needs prayer, you can feel safe adding your concern to the Prayer Chain. Call or e-mail Barbara Cramer at 424-6921 or bjcramer@ptd.net. There can never be too many intercessors. Let Barbara know if you would like to be a part of this hidden ministry.

Altar Flowers

Submitted by Kathy Miller

To request flowers, contact me at 421-0763 or send an email to kathmark89@hotmail.com



Or you can call the church office at 421-7481

The cost is now \$35.00

Available dates:

May 1, May 22, May 29, June 5, June 12, June 19, June 26, July 24, July 31, August 7, August 28, September 11, October 2, October 16, October 30, and November 6.

There are no altar flowers during Lent.

Youth Group News



Christ Church has recently formed a YOUTH GROUP consisting of Junior High and High School teens. Current members are: Derick McKay, *President*; Taylor Cloke, *Vice President*; Yacine Tom Wing; Natori Tom Wing; Shannon Cloke; Kyle McKeown; Rich Woisin. Michael Shands & Sue Wilkins are Facilitators.

Youth Group members assisted in serving and clean-up at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper along with the Acolytes of the Church. Money raised from this dinner will be used to fund the activities of both groups.

Three members of the Youth group (Derick, Natori, and Yacine) along with Alexandra Offour are signed up to attend Christophany this year. Bill McKay will attend as a chaperone. The church will sponsor these students. The event will be held April 8-11 in Cresco, Pa. and open to youth in grades 6-12. The theme this year is responding to violence in homes, schools, and the world through non-violent training. The group will be collecting "new" items for victims of violence in our diocese. Items are due by April 2.

The members of the Youth Group are planning a clean-up in April on the outside grounds of the church in preparation for Easter. Make sure you thank the teens if you see them.

The teens are planning on renovating the former Pullen Clinic room to use as a meeting and gathering room. They are looking for items (see list below) so when you are spring cleaning your home look around and see if you have anything to donate.

Wish List for TEEN room:

2 Couches, Small refrigerator, x-box system, home ipod system, fuzzy floor rug, bean bag

chairs, board games, markers, drawing paper, art supplies, ping-pong or other gaming tables, Paint (bright colors). Please see Mike Shands if you have items to donate.

Any teens wishing to join please contact either Michael Shands or Sue Wilkins on any Sunday after the Service.

Pictures of Some Recent Events at Christ Church.....

I'd like to thank Patti Alleger for passing along a few pictures taken at some recent Christ Church events. We have been blessed to have some very entertaining evenings once again this year and for those who were not able to attend....they give you a snapshot of the good time had by those who were.

On February 19th there was a **Valentine's Day Social** complete with hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, dessert and dancing. Entertainment was provided by Christ Church's extremely talented singer, Antonia Harewood-Harris and pianist Susan Stillo-Wilkins. It was great seeing everyone socializing and tearing up the dance floor.

The social was held concurrently with a **Youth Pizza Party and Sleepover** which



was enjoyed by many youth from Christ Church. It was great seeing the kids (and the chaperones!) attending Sunday school the next morning in their pajamas.

There was also a **Pancake Dinner on Shrove Tuesday**, March 8, hosted by our Youth. It was a wonderful evening of food and fellowship....but we didn't get any snapshots that evening.

Then on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, we were treated to a **Corn Beef and Cabbage Dinner**. During this delicious meal, we were led in traditional Irish songs by



members of our own choir, Gil Janes, Howard Allegor and Jim Emert.

Thank you Christ Church for providing such wonderful opportunities to celebrate with our families!

Adult Forum: Led by Fr. Gaeta; meets every Sunday from 9:00am – 9:45 am in the Parish Hall.

Nursery: During the 10:00 am service – For any child age 4 and under. Located downstairs off the Parish Hall. Volunteers are needed to help out in the nursery from the start of the service to approximately the Peace. Signup sheet is on the nursery door. Any questions, please contact Kim Mars at 424-3266.

Newsletter articles:

may be e-mailed to me, or called in to me at 421-0763. All articles must list their source.

kathmark89@hotmail.com

The more news we can share, the better in touch we are!



Please help keep us updated:

I received a wonderful suggestion from a parishioner asking if we could include updates about our members and their families in our newsletters; life's events including births, baptisms, graduations, accomplishments, struggles and deaths.

If you know of someone or something you would like to see included in the newsletter, please contact Kathy Miller with information to be shared.

Dates to Remember:



4/1/11: Deadline to drop off clothes for Youth Mission

4/2/11: Diocesan Training Day

4/3/11: Deadline to order Easter Lillies

4/8-10/11: Christophany

4/14/11: Blessing of the Oils & Reaffirmation of Ordination Vows

4/16/11: Share, Save, Spend Seminar

5/14/11: Jesus Loves a Growing Seed Workshop

WEIS Markets Register Tapes

Keep bringing in those Weiss register tapes.

The stores give us 1% of the receipts. It's a great little money maker!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- (1) Franklin Whiteman
- (3) Jane Martin
- (5) Carolyn Treier
- (7) Carol Cianciotta
- (7) Gloria Sweeney
- (10) John Casey
- (14) Shannon Cloke
- (14) Corey Mars
- (15) Robert Treier
- (20) Sara Mars
- (23) Frank Cloke
- (27) Madeleine Hughes
- (29) Ella Farver
- (30) Cheryl Cloke
- (30) Steve Walck

*****Please let us know if we have missed your Birthday. We'd love to add you to our list.*****

COFFEE HOUR

Every Sunday.....

Immediately following the 10am Eucharist.

Please join us for coffee and conversation.

Spend time with family & friends!

There is a sign-up sheet for host families to provide a light snack to go along with the beverages.



Christ Church Ministries:

There are many opportunities for people to join a ministry at Christ Church. Lay people are needed at every Sunday service. The ministries include:

- Altar Guild
- Chalice Bearer
- Choir Member
- Counter
- Greeter
- Lector
- Usher

There are also many “behind the scenes” ministries that you can join.

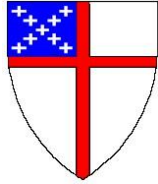
- Altar Flowers
- Eucharistic Lay Minister
- Newsletter
- Outreach
- Social Events

If you are interested in joining any of these ministries or would like more information, please contact Father Gaeta, the church office or any member of Vestry.



CHRIST CHURCH

*A welcoming,
compassionate
and
healing community.*



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

205 North Seventh Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360
Phone: 570-421-7481

Office Email

christchurchsburg@verizon.net

Administrative Assistant: Louise Bach can also be contacted at Premier Administrative Resources office number – 570.588.4113.

Website

www.christchurchstroudsburg.net

Father Gaeta: grgaeta@aol.com

Home: (610) 419-9422

603 Diehl Avenue
Bethlehem, Pa 18015.4303

Kathy Miller:

Kathmark89@hotmail.com

**Inclement Weather - Please check
Channel 13 for cancellations.**

Christ Church Vestry

Cheryl Cloke; Senior Warden
Bob Nelson; Junior Warden
Frank Colletta, Jr.
Sharon Kessler
Andrea McQueen
Michael Shands
Ardelle Starnadori
June Sucre
Jennifer Sutherland

Stephen McQueen - Treasurer
(Not a vestry position)

