



CHRIST CHURCH

✠ BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER ✠

January/February 2012

SUSAN'S MISSION

Many years ago, I attended the missions conference, which was being held that year at St. George's Church in Clifton Park. My husband had recently gone on a diocesan mission trip to the Sudan, and I wanted to see if there was somewhere I could help.

I met Robin Baxter, a nurse from St. Eustace Church in Lake Placid, and I have been going to the Dominican Republic to do medical mission work yearly ever since. In February 2012, I will be going on my ninth trip.

I have brought both of my two older daughters with me (twice each) when they were teens, and I highly recommend a mission experience for all teenagers. My daughter Noelle is in sixth grade, and she cannot wait until she can go with me in three more years.

As a family, we work every year to collect personal care items that are given to every person we see in the clinic where we provide free medicines and medical care...we see about 1,000 people in five days!

continued on page 2

RECTOR'S MESSAGE A GREAT GIFT TO GIVE

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! As we begin a new year we will often make "New Year's Resolutions"—commitments to make changes in our lives that we believe will help us and bless others. May I suggest that you join us as a community of faith to make a resolution that we are going to become individually, and as a church family, "Good Stewards!"

Now, some of you may be yawning already, or tuning out, but please stick with me because what matters to God matters to us; and just as God cares how we use our time, talent and money, we too should care!

Did you know that while the Bible mentions prayer about 270 times, and talks about loving others about 370 times, it refers to how we use our money and our possessions over 2000 times?

To speak of stewardship is to first of all speak of a position—an attitude of "who is in charge here?" If my attitude is, "I'm in charge," I am accountable to no one. On the other hand, if as a Christian, I believe that God owns me, then I must realize that simply being alive puts me in a position of accountability.

Our lives belong to God for two reasons: first, He gave me this life. Second, when sin put a mortgage on it, He bought it back with the life of His Son on the cross.

Since life itself is a trust from God we have a duty tax on it! As His followers we are called to be like Him, and God is a "giver." Giving blesses others, but it also blesses us! ●

Faithfully,
—Fr Derik Roy



THE REVEREND DERIK J. ROY, JR.

Photograph: Ken Kimary

SUSAN'S MISSION *continued from page 1*

Personal Care Bags include travel size items such as soap, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, a washcloth, toothbrush and toothpaste, and a comb. These bags are given, along with a wooden cross, at the prayer station after the people have been seen and have received their medications. Deacon Maureen Demler will be on our prayer team once again this year. (She is one of many people who I have “recruited” to come on this mission trip over the years.)

I have asked Fr Roy if I can collect these items during the month of January. I will have a collection box in the welcome center, along with a display showing you some of the beautiful people we serve each year. Many of the children I have watched grow up, and we have established a close, loving relationship with the communities of Buen Pasteur and Gautier.

After several years, I began to assume the responsibility of coordinating the pharmacy: ordering medications as well as organizing the nurses and teens working while we are there. If you would like to help out financially, to help me purchase medicines for people who don't have simple things like Tylenol to give their children who get a fever, or pre-natal vitamins to take when they are pregnant, you may write a check payable to St. Eustace Church or myself with “DR Mission” in the memo, and leave in the Christ Church office, or mail to me at: 1014 Rock City Rd. Rock City Falls, NY 12863. (Receipts for tax purposes are available).

I thank you all for welcoming my husband, my daughter Noelle and I to your faith community since September of this year. We look forward to worshiping with you for years to come. And perhaps next year you might consider joining me on this wonderful mission experience. ●

—*Susan Olszewski, RN*



ASH WEDNESDAY

This day each year
(and only on this day)
I wear my faith emblazoned on my forehead.
Not a glittering cross of silver or gold;
not even a smooth, sanitized wood,
but a messy smudge of ashes.

“Dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

A reminder of my wrong-doing
wrong-thinking
wrong-loving;
A picture of His willingness to get dirty for my sake
to become dust Himself
to rescue me.

May I live it well every day;
not only today
when I am ready to answer the puzzled looks of
strangers. ●

—*Bet LaRue*



CHRIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Editors: Kathy Rooney
Bet LaRue • Dee Whitten
Layout: Janet Marie Yeates

**NEXT DEADLINE: NOON,
FRI., FEBRUARY 10, 2012**

Material should be submitted by e-mail
to Bet LaRue at blarue@nycap.rr.com
583-8895

Send digital photos to
jmyeates@frontiernet.net

PARISH GIVING

September average was \$6,360

October average was \$4,196

November average was \$4,488

Weekly average is \$5,015

To meet budget in 2011, \$5,079



Parish Anniversaries

January—

- 1 Kenneth and Julia Duchesne
- 6 Brian Crouth
and Katy Stenhouse
- 20 David and Theresa Bryant
- 28 Brian and Bonnie Horrocks

February—

- 14 Theresa and Joseph Bruno
Ed and Marcy Melander
- 23 Judith and John Bell
- 28 Eric and Gina Fajans

VESTRY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

October 10 and November 14 Meetings

- The vestry, after consultation with Dennis Crimi and studying the results of the parish survey done by an outside agency, decided to hold off on going forward with a capital campaign at this time. There are still many needs, particularly for the rectory. However, because of the struggling economy, we thought a campaign would not do well.
- It was also decided that, rather than a capital campaign, we needed to focus on “Stewardship” in general.
- With Next Step no longer renting the rectory, we are exploring other uses of the rectory. On the top of that list is to use the rectory as a child day care center. A team is currently exploring this idea.
- The Church Growth Task Force is kicking off a month of “Celebrate the Season” with hopes that people will invite a guest to one of our many Advent offerings.
- A Gold party is to be held at the church as a fund raiser.
- The budget is being put together for 2012 and will be voted on at the January 9 meeting.
- The church was behind on some of its bills, but with a strong plate and pledge thus far in December, the Noah’s Attic Christmas sale and the Gold Party, we are almost caught up with all our commitments. The outstanding commitments we still have, and hope we can soon meet, are our Diocesan assessments.

For further information or clarification, please speak with Fr Roy or one of the members of the vestry. ●

HOURS FOR NOAH’S ATTIC

Monday: 9:30 AM–1:30 PM

Tuesday: Closed

Friday: 9:30 AM–3:00 PM

Wednesday and Thursday:
9:30 AM–5:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM–1:00 PM

Sunday: Closed

Keep in Your Prayers

Dorothy Blake

Bet LaRue

Garry Campbell

John Martin

Dorothy Craven

Mary Ortoleva

Tracey Delvecchio

Teresa Roberts

Karen Heidinger

Gail Vacula

John Howgate

Gary Weaver

- **Junior Choir**

Tuesdays, 6:45–7:15 PM

- **Adult Choir**

Tuesdays, 7:30–8:30 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5 • 7 PM

- **Where does the 'want to' come from?**

Do you find yourself struggling spiritually with a lack of motivation? Do you wish you had a deeper relationship with God, but don't know where to start or how to go about it? In this 8 week course we'll explore how to better understand the kind of relationship God wants to have with us, and some simple ways to move into it without taking vows and joining a monastery.

Tom Corey will lead this study. He is a pastor, who along with his wife Anne, worships here at Christ Episcopal. He served four churches over a period of thirty years, then returned to seminary where he received the Doctor of Ministry degree in Spiritual Formation in May 2010. To get the most from this course he suggests you bring a journal.

The course will focus on 7 Questions:

1. Who is God, and what is He up to?
2. Who are we and why are we here?
3. What went wrong?
4. What has God done about it?
5. Why are things still unresolved?
6. What is the Spirit currently doing about what remains unresolved?
7. How can I cooperate with the Spirit's work?

Each week participants will be encouraged to journal at least once, using simple spiritual exercises.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

- **Time and Talent Sunday**

At both our 8 and 10 AM worship services everyone will have an opportunity to offer their "Time and Talent" sheets with each person's commitment to serving Christ through the church, and their commitment to how they hope to continue to grow. There will also be a "Ministry Fair" in the Parish Hall with all the ministries of the church on display so you can learn about them.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10 & 11

- **Church Leadership Seminar**

Christ the King SLC, Greenwich
Tuesday 10 AM–5 PM

(Morning Prayer at 9:30 AM)

Wednesday 9:30 AM–4 PM

(Morning Prayer at 9:00 AM)

For Clergy, Lay Leaders and all those interested in how and why churches grow—and how they can make a difference for the kingdom. Bishop Edward Salmon, retired Bishop of the only Episcopal Diocese to grow faster than the population, will present two full days of teaching on church leadership. The concepts are based on practical experience and are proven by the fruitful ministries in the churches he has served. In his first position after seminary his leadership of four small parishes enabled them to grow such that two of them were able to call their own rector within three years. During his time as Bishop of South Carolina (1990–2007), the Diocese was one of the few in the Episcopal Church that grew in attendance.

Now, as Dean of Nashotah Seminary, he looks forward to helping lead and equip a strong Priesthood for the Episcopal Church. Come and learn about the difference you can make in your parish!

WED., JANUARY 11 • 6:15 PM

- **Alpha Course Begins**

Alpha begins with an introductory supper on Wednesday, January 11 at 6:15 PM featuring the talk, "What is the meaning of life?" This is a great opportunity to invite a friend to process the claims of the Christian faith in a low-pressure, loving environment. Childcare is offered, and there is no cost for the childcare or meal. Those who choose to continue with the course will meet on the 10 subsequent Wednesday evenings for a meal and the weekly video and discussion.

JANUARY 13–16

- **Excel Retreat**

Our High School Youth Group will be joining hundreds of other high school youth from all over the Northeast at this annual Youth for Christ event. Our young people are invited to take part in a program that uses music, drama, comedy, preaching, recreation, and workshops to share the goodness of Jesus Christ in a way that they can relate to. Registrations have been sent, but more are available at the office. Contact Fr Roy.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

- **Welcome of New Members**

At both the 8 and 10 AM worship

services, those who have completed the newcomers' class and made the decision to join our community of faith will be officially welcomed.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 7 PM

• **New Members/Newcomers' Class Begins**

For those new to the church who are interested in learning more about the church and the Christian faith, this class an important path in helping a person discern if he or she wishes to make the commitment to become a member. The six week course is taught by Fr Roy. It will focus on such topics as church membership, discipleship, the person of Jesus, the purpose of the church, church history, why we worship the way we do, what's expected in living the Christian life, and why we should read the Bible. Childcare provided if needed.

SAT., JANUARY 21

9 AM—NOON

• **Safeguarding God's Children**

Intended for all our adults who work with children. You will be trained, challenged, and hopefully "certified" to work with children. The Diocese requires all adults who do any ministry with children or youth to take this course.

SUN., JANUARY 22 • 8 & 10 AM

• **Narrative Budget Sunday**

Ever wonder how the money you give to the church is used? On this Sunday, the sermon will be a powerful presentation called "a narrative budget." You will be shown in dramatic form where

every dollar you give is used to fulfill the ministry and mission of our church. We believe you will find the presentation helpful, informative, inspiring, and challenging.

SUN., JANUARY 29 • 8 & 10 AM

• **Commitment Sunday**

On January 15 you had the opportunity to commit of your time and talent. Today you will have the holy obligation to commit of your treasure!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

• **Annual Meeting**

The vestry will provide a soup lunch and childcare in the Parish Hall. The annual meeting is for everyone. Only members can vote for vestry representation, convention delegates, and members of the chapel and columbarium board. Even if you can't vote, we encourage you to attend to learn more about what is happening in the church.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29 • 5 PM

• **Alpha Marriage Course Begins**

A free dinner will be provided along with childcare so that you and your spouse can come and explore this seven-week course meant to strengthen your relationship. Included in the course are sessions concerning communication, resolving conflict, forgiveness, the impact of family, and much more. Each couple views the teachings in the large group, but only discusses the subject matter with each other.

SAT., FEBRUARY 4 • 9 AM—3 PM

• **Parish Leadership Training**

The focus will be on evangelism. Look for more information.

SAT., FEBRUARY 11 • 9—11 AM

• **Confirmation Preparation Breakfast**

Those who have completed their confirmation instruction and hope to have Bishop Love confirm them on Sunday, February 26, must meet with Fr Roy for final preparations.

SUN., FEB. 12 • 8 & 10 AM

• **InterVarsity Sunday**

A chance to experience and participate in the ministry of InterVarsity (to our local college students) from the comfort of your own pew on Sunday morning. Bible study, discussion and prayer during both worship services, Sunday school hour, and coffee hour.

TUES., FEBRUARY 21 • 5—7 PM

• **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

Our High School Youth Group will prepare and serve a traditional pancake supper. There will be an opportunity for you to give a free-will donation to offset the costs. Any profit will then be used for youth scholarships.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22,

9:15 AM/ NOON/ 7 PM

• **Ash Wednesday Services**



ALPHA AND HEALING

In November I journeyed to Jacksonville, Florida, to take the Healing Prayer Level IV class at Christian Healing Ministries (<http://www.christianhealingmin.org/>). At CHM, Francis and Judith MacNutt and their team teach people to heal as Jesus healed. Their courses are offered at our Spiritual Life Center, where Judith spoke in October; and their model for praying for healing, “Listen, Love and Pray,” is embraced by our diocese. We ran the CHM Level I course at Christ Church two years ago, and our healing ministry continues to grow under the leadership of Deacon Lynne Crimi, offering healing prayer during communion and at monthly, Thursday evening healing services.

At the Level IV course I met over 50 people who are committed to praying for healing and deliverance of the emotionally wounded and traumatized, those with physical illness, and those trapped by addictions, family dysfunction, depression and shame. I was struck by how many of the people at the course were from churches like ours which are also involved with Alpha and other small group based growth and healing ministries. I was impressed by the depth of healing that God accomplishes through ordinary people who are willing to give their time to be trained and to minister the healing grace of Jesus. It struck me as “The Real Deal”—church as it was always intended to be.

In early December, I attended a work-related conference in Australia. I was curious to see if there were churches that had healing ministries, or Alpha courses. There just happened to be a small church nearby that had both—they ran Alpha and had a healing ministry—seeing people by appointment two days a week. I made myself an appointment and had an awesome prayer session with two lay people who were trained in healing prayer and they blessed me with the awesome healing grace of Jesus. Figure the odds: I’m in a foreign country, about as far from my home as you can possibly go, and they are preaching the kingdom and healing the sick in the same way as we are 15,000 miles away!

We’re not quite ready to make regular healing prayer

“And he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.” Luke 9:2

appointments at Christ Church, but as our church grows and our Alpha course continues to help us “Preach the Kingdom,” the opportunity to “Heal the Sick” and demonstrate God’s love and healing



will only be limited by our level of training and our capacity to share God’s love. To that end, in January (alongside Alpha), we will be offering a Healing Prayer class comprised of talks from the CHM Schools of Healing prayer levels I and II. Please come and join us on our “Preach the Kingdom, Heal the Sick” Wednesday night courses. If you haven’t yet taken Alpha please come be our guest. If you have taken Alpha and would like to be part of the team, please talk to Fr Roy or myself about joining the Alpha hosting team. And if you would like to explore the healing power of Jesus for yourself and learn how to share that healing in a safe and compassionate way with others, please join us for our Healing Class. Our hope is for even more of “The Real Deal:” church as it was always intended to be. ●

Peace in Jesus, —Fr Scott

ALPHA SCHEDULE – WINTER 2012

- January 11: (Meetings are at 6:15 pm, except retreat)
 “What is the Meaning of Life?”
 Healing: “Gifts of the Holy Spirit”
- January 18:
 “Who Is Jesus?”
 Healing: “Healing Our Image of God”
- January 25:
 “Why Did Jesus Die?”
 Healing: “The Healing Power of Forgiveness”
- February 1:
 “How Can I Be Sure of My Faith?”
 Healing “Introduction to Inner Healing”
- February 8:
 “Why and How Should I Pray?”
 Healing “Introduction to Deliverance”
- February 15:
 “Why and How Should I Read the Bible?”
 Healing: “How to Pray for Inner Healing”
- February 22: No Meeting
 School Vacation / Ash Wednesday

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WHY TRADE FAIRLY?

There is something very special about the coffee we drink every Sunday and every time we get together as a parish family. It is Fair Trade, and we have been using it for it for several years, ever since Brian Crouth introduced us to the concept of fair trade when he worked for Equal Exchange.

If you have had the opportunity to watch the Good Samaritan DVD series, you know about the problem of slave labor, especially in developing countries that supply us with things like coffee, chocolate, and sugar. Fair Trade seeks to remedy that. According to Equal Exchange, the company that supplies our coffee, their mission is to build long-term trade partnerships that are economically just and environmentally sound, to foster mutually beneficial relations between farmers and consumers and to demonstrate, through our success, the viability of worker cooperatives.

Fair Trade is a system that seeks to honor producers, communities, consumers and the environment. It fosters people-to-people connections and is concerned about justice in all phases of production. It does this in several ways:

- A fair price for products: The base price for the product is set by the Fair Trade Labeling Organization and attempts to cover the cost of production and provide a living and fair wage for the workers.
- Investment in people and communities: Fair Trade works with cooperatives all over the world to help not only individuals, but also their communities by investing in schools, health clinics and adequate housing.
- Environmental sustainability: Fair Trade endeavors to protect and respect the environment. About 85% of Fair Trade coffee is also organic, which means no harmful pesticides are used in its production.
- Economic empowerment of small scale producers: These are the farmers who are usually at the very bottom of the economic ladder. Fair Trade encourages the cooperative systems in which these formerly voiceless workers own part of the business and can now have a say in what happens.

Fair Trade is not limited to coffee. Tea, chocolate, and sugar can be Fair Trade certified. Fair Trade also has

sources for beautiful crafts and jewelry from all over the world. Fair Trade gifts are perfect for weddings, birthdays, and other occasions. The Mango Tree on Washington Street is an amazing Fair Trade store here in Ballston Spa.

Ballston Spa is the first designated Fair Trade Town in New York State. That means, based on our population, we have: at least three businesses that sell fairly traded products; at least two community organizations that support fair trade (by serving Equal Exchange coffee, Christ Church is one of those groups); a steering committee that meets regularly (Kathy Rooney is a member of this committee); and a resolution passed by the local government supporting Fair Trade.

If you are interested in learning more about Fair Trade, talk to Kathy Rooney or stop in Mango Tree to see what Fair Trade looks like in action. ●

—Kathlyn Rooney

ALPHA WINTER SCHEDULE *continued from page 6*

February 29:

“How Does God Guide Us?”

Healing: “How to Pray for Deliverance”

March 2–3: Overnight Retreat

“Who Is the Holy Spirit?”

“What Does the Holy Spirit Do?”

“How Can I Be Filled With the Holy Spirit?”

“What Should I Do with the Rest of My Life?”

March 7:

“How Can I Resist Evil?”

Healing: “Conception to Birth Prayer”

March 14:

“How and Why Should I Tell Others?”

Healing “Healing in Marriage”

March 21:

“Does God Heal Today?”

Healing “Healing the Wounds of Divorce”

March 28:

“What About the Church?”

“Depression and Mental Illness”

April 4:

“What is the Meaning of Life?” – Course Celebration

Healing “Praying for Forgiveness” ●

Opportunities for Service

Interested? Call the Church office, 885-1031.

- ✚ **Acolytes** *John Cairns*
- ✚ **Alpha** *Caitlin Jorgensen, Jeremy Bailey, Kristin Roberts*
- ✚ **Alpha Marriage** *Campbells and Guilmettes*
- ✚ **Altar Guild** *Julia Duchesne*
- ✚ **Brotherhood of St. Andrew** *Noel Drindak*
- ✚ **Choir** *Kristin Roberts*
- ✚ **Coffee Hour** *Kathi and Dan Rabideau*
- ✚ **Crown Ministry** *Fr Derik Roy*
- ✚ **Daughters of the King** *Wendy Campbell*
- ✚ **Decoration** *Lois Mitchell*
- ✚ **Flowers** *Lois Mitchell*
- ✚ **Food Pantry** *Jim and Jan Bornheim*
- ✚ **Foyers** *Deacon Bill Pearson*
- ✚ **Healing Ministry** *The Rev. Scott Evans, Deacon Lynne Crimi*
- ✚ **High School Youth** *Fr Derik Roy*
- ✚ **Junior Church** *Cathy Roy*
- ✚ **Little Saints** *Kristin Roberts, Desiree Drindak*
- ✚ **Men's Groups** *Fr Derik Roy*
- ✚ **Middle School Youth** *Fr Derik Roy, Cathy Roy*
- ✚ **Missions** *Tammy Boyd*
- ✚ **Newsletter** *Bet LaRue, DeeDee Whitten, and Kathy Rooney*
- ✚ **Noah's Attic** *Nancy Cairns*
- ✚ **Nursery** *Pat Barno*
- ✚ **Prayer Chain** *Christine Martin*
- ✚ **Prayer Quilts** *Margaret Cook*
- ✚ **Sunday School** *Greg Schmidt*
- ✚ **Vacation Bible School** *Kristin Roberts*
- ✚ **Visitations** *Deacon Lynne Crimi*

Church Groups and Classes

✚ ADULTS:

Morning Holy Communion

Wednesdays 9:15 AM [Chapel]

Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays 10:00 AM

Daughters of the King

First Sundays 9:15 AM

First Tuesdays 6:00 PM

Brotherhood of St. Andrew

First and Third Saturdays 8:00 AM

Adult Sunday School

Sundays 9:00 AM

Healing Service

Third Thursdays 7:00 PM

Prayer Quilting

First and Third Saturdays 9:00 AM

✚ CHILDREN:

Sunday School

Sundays 9:00 AM

Junior Church

Sundays 10:00 AM

Little Saints (elementary school)

First and Third Tuesdays, 3:30 PM

Middle School Youth Group

TBA

High School Youth Group

Sundays, TBA

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

15 West High Street

Ballston Spa NY 12020

Non-profit Organization
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CHURCH OFFICE TELEPHONE

(518) 885-1031

Log on to: www.4christchurch.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

FEBRUARY 10 • NOON



✚ Parish Birthdays

January—

- 2 Jim Rice
- Bob Mason
- Claudia Roberts
- 3 Mark Breslin
- 8 John Bornheim
- 9 Kathleen Izzo
- Gray Loyola
- 11 Madilyn Sausville
- 12 Gabrielle Perez
- 15 Alexandra Perez
- 17 Deborah Guilmette
- 18 Sarah DelVecchio
- Katy Stenhouse
- 19 Linda Hill
- 20 Ron House
- 21 Eileen Hale
- 23 Just Whitt
- Mindy Willey
- 24 Mary Drindak
- Joseph Roy
- 25 Catie Saltsman

- 28 Sandy Almy
- Ruth Martin
- 29 Carolyn Setzer
- 30 Ethan Cook
- Dennis Crimi
- Steven Cull

- 13 Benjamin Evans
- 14 Jennifer Holland
- 15 Andrea Breslin
- 16 Terry Gardner
- Bev Sleight
- Alex Tinney

February—

- 1 Thomas Lansing, Jr
- 2 Derek Collins
- Courtney Perez
- 3 Abigail Evans
- 5 Robert King
- Eric Dowd
- 8 Erin Sausville
- 10 Jeremy Bailey
- Ryan Comstock
- 12 Connor Garrant
- Theresa Bruno

- 17 Joal Mason
- Gavin Horrocks
- 21 Andrew Izzo
- Austin Izzo
- Andrew LaRosa
- 23 Kelly Howell
- 25 Betty Gardner
- Jonathan Miller
- Wayne Rupert
- 26 Jason House
- Dee Whitten
- 28 James Barno
- Betty Day