



Photo by Christine Chandler

THE MESSENGER

A COMMUNICATION MINISTRY OF
CHRIST CHURCH, DUANESBURG, NEW YORK

✠ APRIL/MAY 2021 ✠

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

THANKFUL AND OVERJOYED

For an offertory sentence during Lent this year I have used some verses from the first book of Chronicles (29:11, 13 and 14b). You might be familiar with v.14b as an offertory sentence, "for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.," but I grew up hearing the longer version every Sunday in church. The rector would receive the offering plate from a churchwarden and then turn towards the Communion Table and boom out the verses. The majesty of the words and the expression of thanks contained in the verses gave me chills then and they still do today.

¹¹Thine, O Lord is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all. ¹³ Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name...^{14b}for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.

The verses are part of King David's prayer of gratitude to God that all the preparation had been completed for the building of the new Temple in Jerusalem. Despite David's own difficulties and challenges and being told by God that he would not build the Temple, but that Solomon, his son, would oversee the project, David was still grateful and overjoyed at the provision of God for the work ahead.

With the difficulties and challenges we have all endured over the past 12 months due to Covid-19, let us keep David's prayer in mind as we go through Holy Week towards Easter Sunday. We can give thanks to God for the victory Christ won on the cross and for the greatness and the power of his glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday. As David was grateful and overjoyed at the



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provision God had made in difficult circumstances, so we can be grateful and overjoyed at the provision God has made for our salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

‘For all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee.’

Have a Thankful and Blessed Easter,

Fr. Alistair ✠

VIEW FROM THE PEW

LEGACY

BY JOHN WEILER

I’ve been thinking a lot about legacy. Three little syllables hold our entire concept of what we hand down, material and immaterial, from generation to generation and why. I say why because the very existence of a word for it denotes the importance we place on passing things down. It is a widely used word; legacies of individuals, families, corporations, organizations, even nations and whole cultures.

But it is with family that my reflections began. With family and a folder in my Mom’s filing cabinet. A dogeared manila folder full of typed pages, some on the backs of previously used paper. A manila folder of Views From the Pew.

Paging through her drafts, I see metaphors that didn’t quite land and tangents that did not successfully resolve, whole paragraphs crossed out and rewritten. I see that she crafted her contributions.

Reading through her completed essays I find wit, insight and wisdom written in her sometimes breezy, sometimes doggedly old-fashioned prose style. In my youthful self-importance I saw Mom’s articles as a pleasant enough, but inconsequential church lady diversion. I now see a working through of her Christian conviction graciously shared. I find in her words, most of all, a deep and abiding faith.

That faith, more than the words that strained to contain and express it, is still with me. Indeed, it surprised me. Mom’s legacy, and here I am; taking up Mom’s mantle.

We get the phrase from the first chapters of the Second Book of Kings where Elisha literally took up Elijah’s mantle and preached and prophesied in his teacher’s stead. He prophesied to a people who had forgotten their legacy. The greatest of legacies, a covenant as yet unfulfilled in Elisha’s day.

The legacy of a people chosen by God to be a light to the world and to bring all the nations to Him. They marked their salvation with a meal of remembrance each spring. At that meal, still celebrated today, a young boy will ask what each dish, each action means, and the head of the household will tell him so that all remember that death passed them over so that they could be freed from bondage, preserved to live into covenant.

This is their legacy.

And at such a meal our Savior gave us a new perpetual remembrance of our salvation. He is the Paschal Lamb scarified for us to free us from the bondage of sin so that death may pass us over not in a moment of history, but at the end of it.

This is our legacy.

But our legacy is not to be hoarded, stuffed away in a filing cabinet, not to be restricted as inheritance to our own families, our own congregation, but to be shared so that we at last, the body of Christ; His hands and feet serving the world, become a light to all nations.

We serve through an encouraging word to a grieving friend, an act of kindness to a stranger, through setting aside difference to see your fellow human as God sees them: unique and worthy of redemption and love. Through sharing His word over coffee, in Bible study, at the church lectern or in the pages of a newsletter.

There was not a lot we kept from Mom’s filing cabinet; there was much that, frankly, Mom had no reason to keep. But that dogeared manila folder now resides in my own desk. My mother was small but her shoes, paradoxically are large ones to fill. I pray I will keep her legacy and the greater legacy behind it. With God’s grace, may we all. ✠

CHRIST CHURCH RESTORATION COMMITTEE 40 YEARS AGO

By now, most, if not all parishioners know that the current Vestry has made the decision to proceed with a repair/restoration project for our historic church building. A few of us still remember that in 1981, the members of the Vestry were also planning to proceed with a major restoration project of the church building. A single restoration committee was established which was responsible not only for seeking an architect and contractors for the project but also for raising the funds necessary. At that time, the fundraising goal was set at \$100,000, a considerable sum for a small church with an annual budget of \$15,000. In October of 1981, a "Fund Raising Dinner" was held at the Bavarian Chalet (formerly on Rt. 20 in Guilderland, since demolished) on Halloween. The evening's program is pictured below.

At that time, the repairs needed to the 1793 structure included rebuilding the foundation walls, replacing rotted sills, replace or repair exterior trim, rebuild front porch, repair steeple, etc. Interestingly, many of the same concerns have been noted by the church's current architectural firm and are included in the 60-page report which can be found at www.christchurchduanesburg.org. The current restoration project is in the planning stages and features two separate committees, one for planning/construction and one for fundraising. ❖

Christ Church Restoration Committee

Duanesburg, N.Y.



1793 - 1981
Fund Raising Dinner
October 31, 1981

at
The Bavarian Chalet
Route 20 - Guilderland, N.Y.

Christ Episcopal Church Restoration Committee welcomes you to our fund raising dinner.

6:00 p.m. - Cocktails, Cash Bar

7:00 p.m. - Dinner

Roast Sliced Sirloin of Beef

Seafood Newburg

Grace - Barton MacDougall, Lay Reader

Program

Host - James Duane Featherstonhaugh

Speaker - Larry Hart, Schenectady County Historian

Speaker - The Honorable Samuel S. Stratton, member of
U.S. House of Representatives

Benediction - The Rev. David Gillette, Rector

GETTING TO KNOW OUR PARISHIONERS

**In this feature, we ask parishioners to complete a brief online form of which the responses will be included as a short biography in The Messenger. If you would like to participate and be a featured parishioner for future editions, please complete the form linked here: [Getting to Know Our Parishioners Form](#).*

Name: Deacon Debbie Beach

How long have you been a parishioner of Christ Church? 10 Years

What is your favorite memory of Christ Church? My favorite memory is a hard one as there are many

but I would have to say it is when Christ Church threw me a "puppy shower" for Matty and Renny!

Where is your favorite TV show? My favorite TV show is Antiques Road Show.

What is on your bucket list? Visiting the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Wales is on my bucket list. Although my last name is Dutch in origin 90% of me is Irish and Welsh.✘



Christ Church, Duaneburg

2021 Holy Week/Easter

March 28th - April 4th

Palm Sunday: 10 a.m.
(Drive-by Communion from 11:15 p.m.)

Maundy Thursday 7 p.m.

Good Friday Service: 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday: 10 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
(Drive-by Communion from 11:15 p.m.)

Covid-19 regulations will apply and reservations for Easter Sunday can be made by contacting Deacon Debbie at (518) 669-1898

❖ APRIL 2021 ❖

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & EVENTS

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | 1 Maundy Thursday Service @ 7pm  Johnny Bard | 2 Good Friday Service @ 7pm | 3 Holy Saturday  Bob & Heather MacDougall, Alistair Morrison & Laurie Garramone |
| 4 EASTER Holy Eucharist - 10am & 11:45am  Gabriel Denny | 5  Clayton Iseman  Bart & Linda MacDougall | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 EASTER 2 Holy Eucharist - 10am  Thomas Walsh, Alexis Weyers | 12 | 13 | 14  Bryan & Andrea Salisbury | 15 | 16  Morgan McKinley | 17 |
| 18 EASTER 3 Holy Eucharist - 10am  Jeremiah Lennox | 19  Kathleen Sweeney, Alistair Morrison | 20 | 21 Vestry Mtg - 7pm  Alexandra Moses, Tonya Rudolphsen | 22 | 23 | 24  Dottie & Alvin Smith, Shawn & Nancy Palluti |
| 25 EASTER 4 Holy Eucharist - 10am | 26  Diane Acevedo, Ian MacDougall | 27  April Kosier | 28 | 29  Heather MacDougall | 30 | |

❖ MAY 2021 ❖

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & EVENTS

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 EASTER 5 Holy Eucharist - 10am  Sharon Mericle | 3 | 4  Emma Connor | 5 | 6 | 7  Marissa Fortman | 8  Ashley Hunt |
| 9 EASTER 6 Holy Eucharist - 10am  Corinne Skala | 10 | 11 | 12  Andrea Salisbury | 13 Ascension Day | 14 | 15 |
| 16 EASTER 7 Holy Eucharist - 10am  Gina Bastiani Menzies, Tracy Rabideau, Amanda Weyers | 17  Marguerite MacDougall, Kelly Schrade Powers | 18  Isabelle Acevedo | 19 Vestry Mtg - 7pm  Chui Eliott | 20 | 21  Kevin Sweeney | 22 |
| 23 PENTECOST Holy Eucharist - 10am  Kevin Barker, Charlie Powers | 24  John Bard | 25 | 26  Elizabeth Iseman, Ryan Powers | 27  John Langston, Laura Lucia | 28 | 29 |
| 30 PENTECOST 2 Holy Eucharist - 10am  Brandon Lucia | 31 Memorial Day  Analisa Bastiani, June VanWie | | | | | |

THANK YOU

Dear Christ Church Family,

I cannot thank you all enough for all the prayers, flowers, cards, phone calls and meals during these past few months! As a result, I am well on the road to recovery! A coworker once said I was the most connected person she ever met. God has certainly blessed me, and I am so grateful! God has also used this time for me to reflect on my 42-year career as a physical therapist. Although I cannot yet fully retire, effective when I return to work, I will be working Monday – Thursday instead of 5 days per week. It is a new beginning of a new normal until the next one comes along on January 31, 2025 when it will be the official end of a wonderful career!

Blessings and Love,
Deacon Debbie



*Christ Church is a worshiping community of friends, joyfully serving,
encouraging and healing others in Jesus's name.*

*The parish is located at:
132 Duanesburg Churches Rd,
Duanesburg, NY, on the corner of
Rt. 20 and Duanesburg Churches Rd.*

Rector:

*Fr. Alistair Morrison
revajmorrison@gmail.com*

Deacon:

*Debbie Beach (518) 372-1352
or (518) 669-1898
dbeach21@verizon.net*

Vestry members:

*John Weiler – Sr. Warden
Phil Sayles – Jr. Warden
Judy Breitenstein
Cindy Creasy
Tim Fischer
Laura Lucia
Nancy Palluti
Andrea Salisbury
Steven Schrade*

Treasurer:

Laura Lucia

Parish Hall Ph.: (518) 895-2383

Christ Church
P.O. Box 92
Duanesburg, New York 12056-0092