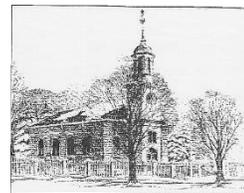


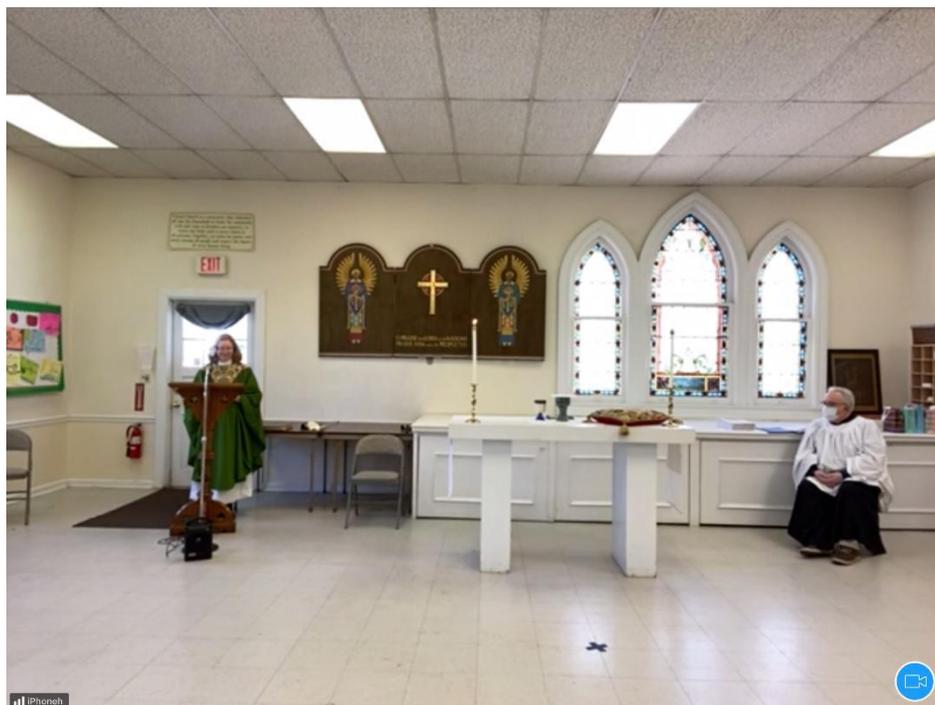
THE CROWN

The Newsletter of Christ Church Shrewsbury
Christ Church is a community committed to exploring the reality of God in today's world



Volume XXV Issue XI

January 2022



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

SUNDAY JANUARY 30, 2022

10:00AM IN THE CHURCH

NO 8:00AM SERVICE

“Pineapple Walnut Banana Cake”

Dear Friends,

December was such a marvelous month. For all the frantically changing world of covid and trying to navigate how to keep everyone safe and sound, it seemed like light years away from where we were last December. For that I am profoundly grateful. With that, I had a great time!

The Christmas Bazaar was back – though modified a bit. The Christmas services were back with live music and congregational singing – though they were being tweaked up to the last minutes before they began. Our new staff, Debbie Roese and Iris Chen became acrobats, accomplishing amazing feats meeting the Challenge of “Covid meets Christ Church” for this, their first time through this very busy season.

Our parishioners rose to the occasion, stepping up to serve when needed, changing plans and filling in the gaps. Our children also gave it everything they had, bringing their contagious enthusiasm and wonder that left me breathless. All made for as wonderfully a normal season as we could have hoped for, prayed for, in a world that is not very stable or steady these days.

For me, one phrase captures my feelings this Christmas: ***“Pineapple Walnut Banana Cake”***. What is that, you may ask? I am glad you did – and I will tell you what I know. At the Christmas Bazaar, someone (I have no idea who) brought in a beautifully iced cake with the label *“Pineapple Walnut Banana Cake”* attached.

I had never heard of such a cake. It sounded lovely, bringing to my mind the thoughts of tropical places like Hawaii or Tahiti, the kind of place I begin dreaming about in the cold, dark of December. It sounded delicious. But I certainly didn’t need it. Especially since there is no one else in my house to help me eat such a luscious treat. I kept going back to look at it, incredulous that no one had snatched it up. I resisted. I turned my eyes away. I tried to put it out of my mind. But all day long, it continued to beckon to me. Why had no one snatched it up?

Finally, as we were getting close to the end of the day, I finally gave in. Laid down my money and carried the cake home. It did not disappoint. It was as surprising as I had hoped it might be! So if you are one of those who looked at it and walked away, you should be tearing up now in sadness. It was not to be missed.

The whole of December and Christmas were like that for me this year. Not what I expected. Not exactly what I was looking for. Not what I had on my list of what I wanted. But delicious nonetheless. It did not disappoint. It was as surprising as I had hoped it would be.

Pineapple Walnut Banana Cake. That is how I will forever remember the Christmas of 2021. As we look forward to what our Lord will bring our way in 2022, I am already dreaming of another dreamy-dessert-of-a-year: maybe not we expect or plan for, but nevertheless, a delightful surprise from our Lord.

Peace,
Mother Lisa+

PS: whoever you are out there who baked that cake, I would love the recipe!

PSS: I do want it on the record that I did *not* eat the whole cake myself. After a couple of pieces, I took it to a parishioner's home; they enjoyed it too!

Congratulations!

to **Christopher and Jillian Wilmarth** on the baptism of their daughter Keira Noel on December 5th

to **Andrew and Lauren Brown** who were married on December 11th.

A Special Thank You

I would like to thank all of the people who helped put the Christmas bulletins together. It was greatly appreciated. Debbie

Parish Prayer List:

Please note: The Prayer List is updated on a continual basis. (Please get consent before addition a name to the list.) Call the Church Office.

() indicates member of CCS*

For the sick and suffering, and those in any need or trouble: *Mignon Williams, *Cassie Reagan, *John Smalls, *Joan, *Jim Miller, *Beverly Ryser, *Judi Buncher, *Carolyn, *MiMi Brown, *Sarah Schmid, *Susan Van Valkenburg, *Irwin Rapolla, *Lisa Ficarelli-Halpern, *Jonathan Badal, *Bob Van Valkenburgh, *Tom, *Rosemary, John Veil, Jennifer Turner, Pam, Queeni, Jocelyn, Mariwether Schmid, Julie, Heather Lance, Pat and Bob Rivenes, Cindy and John Jobe, Vivian Hillborn, Lea Gallagher, Judy, Alicia Binn, Peedy, Edie, Marlene, Sherrie, Don Smith, Greg, Rico and Liesel Rauschmayer, Joe, Jane Barnes, Jay Curlee, Geraldine Watson, Katie, Michael, Michelle Ten Eyck, Tabitha Shimooka, Evelyn Curley, Marian Bryja, Judy Smith, Ann Hatami, Anthony, Eugene Krikowski, Kenneth Eckerd,

Susan Galicki, Tommy, Adrienne Betz, Peter Janosz, Lisa, Anthony Willimon, Sandy, Stuart, Frances., Sam Vaught, Kevin Carroll, Cheri Keaney, Dan Birkmire, Reynaldo Jean-Baptiste
May they be relieved of their distress.

Annual Meeting

A lot has happened since our last Parish Meeting in January of 2021. Last year we celebrated Holy Eucharist in the Parish Hall and had the meeting there by zoom. Since more and more people have returned to church, we plan to have everything in the Church this year.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held January 30th at 10:00am. Our usual Communion Service will begin the day with the meeting to follow. Unless things change (as they sometimes do these days) we will meet in the church itself. There will be no potluck or food, but we will provide coffee and tea. We have not decided yet if we will also zoom in, but we will keep you advised.

The Annual Meeting is a time of looking back on the past year and we welcome reports on all the ministries and activities of the parish. Please have your report to the office by January 18th. If you are unsure of whether you need to submit a report, please contact the Rector or Wardens. They will be happy to discuss it with you.

The Annual Meeting is also the time for elections! We are gathering our slate of candidates, but if you would like to serve on the vestry or as a deputy to convention and convocation, or if you know someone who would like to serve, please contact the Rector or Wardens.

Rejoice in the Lord Always

Our 2022 Stewardship campaign is winding down. So far we have 48 pledge certificates in hand. Annually, our average number of pledging units is 68. If you have forgotten to turn in your certificate, please do so *immediately*. If you have never pledged before, but give money regularly, please consider pledging. Be sure to let us know if you need envelopes and we will have them ready for you to pick up.

A written commitment makes it easier for the vestry to complete the annual budget. If you are new to the parish or have never pledged before but have questions, feel free to contact Mother Lisa, Elaine Feyeriesen (Jr. Warden) or me.

Some ask why their pledge is so important: in the Episcopal Church each congregation is self-sufficient. We rely on the giving of our congregation to make our budget and grow our ministries and outreach to the community.

Here's a suggestion: if you turned in your pledge certificate already but are feeling the movement of the Spirit, you can always reconsider your pledge. Simply send me an email, give me a call, or submit an new form. We would love to have you give it a little increase this year; especially with the pandemic still raging, we need your extra support. And if for any reason your financial situation changes, you can always change your pledge.

Also consider remembering Christ Church in your will. If not for those who have done so in past generations we would have many more challenges today. Our pledge today ensures the continued ministries of Christ Church in the future. We certainly want our children's children to still be able to part of this vibrant congregation.

If we haven't heard from you by January 8th, expect a call !!!

Numbers to date:

48 Certificates received \$130,085

pledged so far

23 Increased pledges

3 Decreased pledges

14 remained the same

2 new pledges

Peggy James, Stewardship & Sr. Warden

Peak of the Week

Happy Almost New Year! HEALTHY New Year!!

Peakers will have a new book to ponder in January. It's *The Luminous Web, Essays on Science and Religion*.by Barbara Brown Taylor. Quite appropriate for these times and she is always right on the mark!

Join us on Wednesdays at 9:30 for an informal Eucharist. The book discussion starts around 10:15. If you don't have the book, join us anyway—the discussions are always enlightening.

Church School Happenings

It's been a busy Fall downstairs in the Church School and we're looking forward to continuing in the New Year. Next up on the agenda is the Epiphany Pageant on January 9 during the 10:00 service.

If you are interested in having your child join us in church school, please reach out to me at 732-272-5135 or by email at susienap@yahoo.com. I'd love to speak with you.

Faithfully, Sue Napoletano (Mrs. Nap)

If it's Epiphany, it's the Epiphany Pageant!

The annual Christ Church Epiphany Pageant will take place on Sunday, January 9 at the regular 10:00 worship service. This year's presentation is called **Daphne's Dream**. A rehearsal will be held on Saturday, January 8 at 11:00 in the church. Costumes will be given at that time. We still have characters that can be assumed so come to the rehearsal if you want a part. **Masks are required.**

For more information contact Mrs. Nap or Donna Devlin (sarahannb@aol.com)



From Queeni Caay

Merry Christmas and Advance Happy New Year to you Mother Lisa and all the Christ Church members, 🎄🎅

A super typhoon hit the Philippines just a week ago and everyone is still devastated. The damage done was severe in some parts of Visayas and Mindanao and the death toll is now at 389. Our place wasn't severely affected by the storm so we did what we could to help. One of the most affected areas was Surigao City, where my elder brother and his pregnant partner reside. They lost their home but they're safe and we are so happy. We are lucky to be able to contact them because most severely affected areas still don't have internet or electricity. They say it might take 3 months before electricity will be completely restored.

Our place as well lost both power and

internet a couple of times and so I sincerely apologize if my greeting is a bit late. I hope you had a jolly Christmas and I wish you all a prosperous new year.

Love and Prayers,
Queeni

A Special Note: We have all heard and seen on the news about the devastating typhoon that recently hit the Philippines. Our own sponsored college student Queeni Caay is right there, giving us her own perspective as she and her family live through this catastrophe. If you would like to make a contribution to the recovery, do consider ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) which gives every dollar to where it is directed.

Second Saturday Work Day

With January upon us and the December basket / bake sale completed we are now back to our next Second Saturday Workday, which will be January 8th beginning at 10 AM.

Our lawn care service does an amazing job, but for those of you who prefer outdoor work, it still leaves things like weeding, fence maintenance and painting to apply your time and talents. Just an hour or two makes a big difference and the more hands there are the more that can be accomplished.

This is also the time of year when we attend to things inside the church, such as thoroughly cleaning the kitchen and classrooms, the baseboards and the windows. We welcome all willing hands!

There are tasks suitable to most all ages and skill levels. It is even a good way for those who are needing to earn community service credit.

Walter Dein Second Saturday Coordinator

Music of the month: “Old Hundredth”

139
OLD HUNDREDETH L. M. LOUIS BOURGEOIS, 1551
With great dignity
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
THOMAS KEN, 1709

The “Old Hundredth,” as it is known in England and America, is indeed old, harkening back to the mid-16th century, sprouting from the soils stirred by rapidly growing Calvinism. Jean Calvin (1509-1564) often gets a bad name for his presumed anti-art predilection, however, the Geneva reformer established guidelines that fostered—through strict guidelines—new manifestations of art and music. The “Old Hundredth” is one of such fruits.

Calvin embraced destiny, and if some folks were predestined for salvation and others destined for damnation, so be it. He also despised superfluousness and ornamentation, rejecting *anything* not centered on biblical law. Toward this end, Calvin mercilessly gutted churches of anything and everything that could distract the flock from God’s law. That meant, no musical instruments, no stained glass, no artwork, incense or fancy architecture. As *everything* had to be centered around biblical law, so did music: only psalms, or other biblical texts, could be sung in church.

Psalms, however, had to undergo some changes so they could be sung in a simple, sparse, un-fancy manner. Because psalms in

the Bible are of varying lengths and meters, the solution was to, first, re-write them in ordered, rhymed translations; second, set them to unaccompanied, simple melodies. The first complete publication—called a psalter—appeared in 1562, featuring 150 metrical French psalm translations and melodies. The most popular and long-running psalm was Psalm 134, by Loys Bourgeois (1510—1561). Why is it known as the “Old Hundredth”? The melody reappeared in English psalters set to Psalm 100—perhaps best for its posterity; “Old Hundred-and-Thirty-Fourth just doesn’t have the same ring to it!

Patrick Durek



We held ECS NJ our first Sunday on December 19th, but it is not too late to join as a Friend of ECS-NJ or as a Founding Member. **ECS** (Episcopal Community Service) is a new diocesan initiative, in which our many congregations are able to pool resources to make a considerable difference in the lives of the people of New Jersey.

If you would like more information or would like to sign up, you can go directly to the Diocese of New Jersey website or you can write a check and place it in the offering plate on Sunday (mark ECS in the memo line) or send it to the church office. Start the new year out right! Give generously.

Bazaar Update

This year, with Covid still impacting our community as well as the world at large, the decision was made to have a Holiday Bazaar (the 2020 Bazaar was cancelled entirely) but one that was greatly scaled back from previous years. After some discussion, it was decided that the 2021 Bazaar would consist of the two most popular elements — the Raffle Baskets and our Bake Shop — which would allow us to host members of the community safely while generating some revenue. By having everything in the main room of the Parish House, we could ensure adequate space for both attendees and the goods being displayed. I am happy to report that the **Basket & Baked Goods Bazaar** was a great success -- generating over \$3500 for our church! There was a nice flow of visitors throughout the day, masks were worn by all attendees and there was very little left in the Bake Shop by the end of the day! Thanks to all who participated by donating items for the baskets, brought in completed baskets, baked delicious treats and attended the event. We could not have done it without each and every one of you -- and we are truly grateful.

Special thanks to the following:

Colleen & Mark Roth who did an outstanding job co-ordinating and running the Bake Shop this year. They set-up the space like professional merchandisers, baked numerous items themselves and staffed the shop with the help of family members making it a true family affair. Amazing job team Roth!! **Sue Napoletano** our decorator extraordinaire who transforms our Parish House and gives it a festive, holiday feel using wrapping paper, tape and magic! **Mimi & Gordon Brown** and **Phyllis & George Edwards** who were most capable assistants to Sue and helped bring her vision to life

with the decorating. It may not be the most glamorous job but it is very important! **Judy Buncher** who is so artistic and brilliant at taking a pile of items and creating beautiful baskets out of them. She was my partner in crime in the basket world and I simply could not have done it without her -- thank you Judy!! All those who staffed the event (selling tickets, staffing the Bake Shop) and did the behind the scenes work as well (I'm talking about the counters and finance team) -- thank you for your time and support.

Tara Dunford, Bazaar Chair



Girls Friendly Society News and Events

We are gathering in person in January! Our chapter is meeting up with the GFS Chapter at St. George's for a little yoga and meditation time with Rev. Kathleen Bishop. We will meet at Ralph Hall (their Parish Hall) at 10:00am on Saturday, January 22nd. Moms and girls are welcome. Friends too! Bring a yoga matt or a towel. Rest assured that we will be safely distanced and masked.

GFS received the following note from Holiday Express for our contributions in December:

"As the 2021 Holiday Express Season draws to a close, we wanted to thank you and the Christ Church - Girls Friendly Society for your generous donation. Your thoughtfulness and the products you supplied helped to fill our essential Holiday Express gift bags—so appreciated and needed by our clients. You have no idea how many people you made smile. Our best to all for a happy holiday season and great New Year.

The Holiday Express Staff

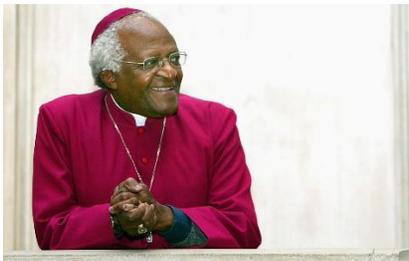
A Triumph of Toys

Each year, the parishioners of Christ Church have helped families from Monmouth County fulfill the wishes of children at Christmas. Many families have been hard hit this past year, and needed our help to provide toys for their children. Many families are out of work, have increased expenses and issues due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Our parishioners have helped make a bright Christmas Day for many children once again this year. Toys were given to Deacon Rose of St. Mark's Church in Keansburg, who works to help families in need in the Bayshore area. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine Feyereisen



Statement from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on the passing of Archbishop Desmond Tutu December 26, 2021 *Office of Public Affairs*



With the passing of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a true friend, colleague, and mentor—and a genuinely humble, great soul—has gone before us. He has passed through the gate of death into the arms of the God who gave him life.

While on this earth, he sought to follow Jesus of Nazareth in God's way of love and life. In so doing, he showed us how to live God's dream as children of the one God and creator of all.

So, even in our sorrow that he is no longer walking among us, we can thank God that he did.

Perhaps we best give thanks by honoring his legacy—not merely with lip service to racial justice and reconciliation, but with lives dedicated to this work. We do this by learning to live together as the children and family of God, no longer hurting each other or God's creation, but together living the dream God intended. For in God's dream, as the Hebrew prophet Isaiah said, "they will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

To borrow from a friend who texted me on Archbishop Tutu's passing, may the knowledge of his life and heart keep us all strong, good, kind, and loving.

May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry
*Presiding Bishop and Primate
The Episcopal Church*

January 2022

January 2

Acolytes:	8:00am	Priscilla Gettis
	10:00am	Halina Nibbling, Matthew and Joshua Dunford
Lector:	8:00am	Teddy Keating
	10:00am	Bill Cuff
Ushers:	8:00am	Carl Alfano
	10:00am	Larry Nibbling, Walter Dein
Altar Guild:		Judi Buncher

January 9: EPIPHANY PAGEANT

Acolytes:	8:00am	Edgar John
	10:00am	Meg Bernhardt
Lector:	8:00am	Priscilla Gettis
	10:00am	Robert Maber
Ushers:	8:00am	Judi Buncher
	10:00am	Rod Webster, Jim O'Connor
Altar Guild:		Cindy Webster

January 16

Acolytes:	8:00am	PJ Reyes
	10:00am	Andrew Brown, Trevor Van Valkenburgh
Lector:	8:00am	Peggy James
	10:00am	Bob Van Valkenburgh
Ushers:	8:00am	Walter Dein
	10:00am	Bramley Maber, Connie Goddard
Altar Guild:		Judi Buncher

January 23

Acolytes:	8:00am	Judi Buncher
	10:00am	Meg Bernhardt, Isabelle and Isara Chen Durek
Lector:	8:00am	Walter Dein
	10:00am	Bob Honecker
Ushers:	8:00am	Peggy James
	10:00am	Larry Nibbling, Stephen Rudolph
Altar Guild:		Halina Nibbling

January 30: ANNUAL MEETING: No 8:00am

Acolytes:	10:00am	Cassandra Murphy, Dexter and Cody Craven
Lector:	10:00am	Meg Bernhardt
Ushers:	10:00am	Elaine Feyereisen, Walter Dein
Altar Guild:		Cindy Webster



Scenes from December at Christ Church

Christ Church Shrewsbury

*380 Sycamore Avenue
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702*

ChristChurchShrewsbury@verizon.net

*The Communications Team reminds you to check the web site for current parish news.
www.christchurchshrewsbury.org*



"Be friends with Christ Church Shrewsbury" and then invite your friends to be our friend so we all can be informed and connected to events in our community.

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.
BRING SOMEONE TO CHURCH WITH YOU.

The Reverend Lisa S. Mitchell, Rector
The Reverend Victoria Cuff, Deacon
Iris Chen, Organist/Choirmaster
Debbie Roese, Office Administrator
Jeff Veil, Sexton

VESTRY 2021

Peggy James – Senior Warden, Stewardship
Elaine Feyereisen – Junior Warden
Carl Alfano
Walter Dein – Building and Grounds
Connie Goddard – Outreach
Sheila Hatami-Watson
Sue Napoletano- Church School
Larry Nibbling - Finance
Martie Viets
Treasurer – Stephen Craven
Asst. Treasurer--Lynn Marengo, Larry Nibbling
Vestry Clerk – Nancy Stewart

January 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Office Hours Tues-Fri 9 am – 2 pm						1
2 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	3 Office Closed	4	5 Peak of the Week 9:30-11:15	6 Choir Practice 7:30 pm	7 Rector's Day Off	8 Second Saturday Work Day 10 am Epiphany Pageant rehearsal 11 am
9 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist Epiphany Pageant	10 Office Closed	11	12 Peak of the Week 9:30-11:15	13 Choir Practice 7:30 pm	14 Rector's Day Off	15
16 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	17 Office Closed Vestry Meeting 7 pm	18	19 Peak of the Week 9:30-11:15	20 Choir Practice 7:30 pm	21 Rector's Day Off	22
23 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	24 Office Closed	25	25 Peak of the Week 9:30-11:15	27 Choir Practice 7:30 pm	28 Rector's Day Off	29
30 8 am Holy Eucharist 10 am Holy Eucharist	31 Office Closed					