

Soundings



The Newsletter of Christ Church

October - November, 2019



THE JACK HENNIGAN MEMORIAL ORGAN

GIVEN BY MARTIN NASH IN MEMORY OF JACK HENNIGAN

ORGANIST FOR CHRIST THE REDEEMER, 1974-1990

Parish of Christ the Redeemer
1415 Pelhamdale Avenue · Pelham, New York 10803

All are welcome



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Soundings is published by the parishioners of Christ Church to teach, provide information, promote events and parish life, to pass down the history of the church, and engage us in the life of the community.

Note from the editor

Working on *Soundings* is truly a labor of love. We enjoy telling the stories of our vibrant parish home and we are grateful for the continued support and input from our clergy, staff and fellow parishioners. Please keep the stories coming and we shall keep telling them. In the words of Fr. Randy, "See you in church!"

Missy

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Episcopal/Anglican

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On Matt's Mind — Cyber Safety



One Saturday morning in early October I received the first of what would turn out to be numerous texts and emails from parishioners: "I think you've been hacked!" Apparently, some nefarious individual had created an email address that was close, but not identical to mine, "cloned" me, and then sent emails to numerous parishioners requesting immediate help buying something. To sweeten the deal, there was even a scriptural quote from Philippians about generosity included in the scam email. Thankfully, most people now-a-days are familiar enough with fake/hacked/cloned/spoofed email scams so that it was pretty obvious to a number of our parishioners that "this email doesn't sound like Father Matt". Unfortunately, this is not the first time this has happened to me, and it probably won't be the last. But this most recent experience seems like a good opportunity to pass on a few tips about how to avoid and deal with email phishing scams. "Phishing", by the way, is the word used to describe how scammers bait unsuspecting people with familiar information and then reel them in to get personal information and money.

Here are my top tips:

1) "It's an emergency, and I need money, gift cards, your password, your SS#, etc." -- Your family, friends, coworkers, and clergy are NEVER going to ask you by email for money, gift cards, passwords, bank records, or any personal information. If you get a weird ask for anything, especially if it involves money or personal information, call the person to make sure its legitimate.

2) Never click on strange links, videos, or attachments. -- The quickest and easiest way to get a virus or have your information hacked is for you to click on links and attachments sent from scammers. Some attachments install viruses on your computer or phone that allow a hacker to access your private info. Some links open

web pages that do the same thing.

3) Never reply: "Is this really you?"

-- Think about that for two seconds...

the scammer is going to reply "Yes, it is really me."

All you've done by replying is nibble at the bait the phishing scammer has set out. Don't reply if you have any doubt or worry about the legitimacy of the email.

4) Contact the person being impersonated

-- If you think you are getting a scam by email, please contact the person who is being impersonated directly to double check. Remember, replying to the scam email isn't going to work. Double check the email address.

My church email is: matthew@christchurchpelham.org
999/1000 times the scammer has set up a fake email account and just plunked the name of the person you know on it. It's very rare that someone's email account is actually hacked.

5) Don't freak out, just report the scam

-- These things happen all the time. The best thing you can do is report the email as "Phishing". In Gmail that's an option in "More" next to the reply button. Other service providers have similar report mechanisms. The sooner you report it, the sooner the internet service provider will shut down the scammer. You can also report the email address to phishing-report@us-cert.gov.

The internet is a great resource, but it also has enabled bad actors to prey on unsuspecting people. A little knowledge about cyber safety goes a really long way. My tips are just the tip of the iceberg in terms of cyber safety and security. It is worth taking a few minutes to go a little deeper into this subject just to be on the safe side. Google "cyber safety tips" and you will find a wealth of great information that will keep your personal information safe.



- Father Matt

Praying with Body, Mind and Soul



“Yoga is the stilling of the fluctuations of the mind.” So begin the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, a compilation of sayings going back some fifteen hundred years. The sutras, or threads, lay out a discipline of mind and body culminating in that still mind so desirable for meditation –

and for contemplative prayer.

Most westerners use the word “yoga” to refer simply to the physical practice: the asanas, or poses, that a person practices. Most do it for the sake of the exercise and for stress relief. But the asanas are also of benefit to those of us seeking a deeper life of prayer.

We do this by asking the body to lead us into quietness. The poses, designed to work with the body’s nervous systems, help us to become attentive and alert while in a relaxed state. We attend thoroughly to each part of the body in turn, and to the way each part contributes to the whole. The great B.K.S. Iyengar is said to have taught that this work could spread the soul out across every cell of the body. To me, this means drawing all of my being into alignment with the Spirit of God. Each class closes with a deliberate, extended relaxation which integrates the work of the body and brings a sense of stillness and peace.

Christianity has often been faulted for repudiating the body – which goes against the doctrine of the incarnation



– or at least ignoring it, as in much of the ascetic traditions of the West. But yoga yokes the body, soul and mind together. This might be the key to loving the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and strength.



The Protestant Reformation moved believers farther away from the body in its renunciation of the physical gestures of prayer. Celebrants at the Eucharist were told to keep their hands down, and not to touch the elements or lift them in elevation. Genuflection, the bowing of the knee as a gesture of respect, was banned; the “profound bow” of the celebrant was likewise taken away. But the body wants to be in the prayer, just as the prayer wants to be in the body. Even the most radical of the reformers ended up lifting their hands in prayer and in song (in the Pentecostal experience). The Oxford movement of the 19th century, rescuing some of the abandoned traditions, brought back many of these manual acts so that we Episcopalians may – not must – cross ourselves, genuflect, even prostrate before an altar. I believe that this is all to the good. The body wants to participate!

At the Eucharist, we offer “ourselves, our souls and bodies” as a reasonable and acceptable sacrifice to God. How better to prepare for this offering than to move the body through its paces, finding in the end of our practice the quiet of shvasana, or deep relaxation, as the opening for non-verbal, faithful communion with God.

- Canon Susan Harriss

God is at home, it is we who have gone for a walk.

- Meister Eckhart

Vestry Nominating Committee



Every year in January at our Annual Meeting we hold an election for one warden, three vestry members, and delegates to diocesan convention. Our senior warden, Jeff Bodenmann, is eligible to run for a second term. All three seats on the vestry this year are open because Alice K. Dean, Jack Kaufman and Colette Phipps are each completing their second and final term. They have all worked hard for the church during their six years on the vestry. Their probing questions, their balanced and thoughtful approach to things will genuinely be missed at vestry meetings. We do not have term limits for delegates to convention – our delegates this year are Richard Lawson and Denise Peroune; Sandra Rivera is our alternate.

According to the church's bylaws, the Nominating Committee is made up of five people: the warden not up for re-election, Carol Ipsen, is the chairperson; two members of the Nominating Committee must be current vestry members not up for election, and the final two members can be Vestry members but do not need to be – one of these others is selected by the rector and one by the chairperson. The Nominating

Committee is formed at the October Vestry Meeting. The Nominating Committee's job is to put together a slate of candidates for our election. This takes time and deliberation. All names put forward are given serious consideration. Please pray for us during this process. It is truly helpful. The slate presented by the Nominating Committee is posted three Sundays before the election. Once the slate is posted, write-in candidates may be added.

The vestry itself consists of the rector, two wardens and nine vestry members. There are eligibility requirements to stand for warden: You must be confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church. (Being 'received' means that you have joined from another Christian denomination and made a public affirmation of faith before the bishop.) To run for a vestry position or delegate to convention, you must be baptized. For all positions, you must have been a member of Christ Church for at least one year. If you are interested in running for warden, vestry, or delegate to convention, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee. Let us know!

*- Carol Ipsen
Chair of the Nominating Committee*

PAINTED CEILING



Art conservator, Batyah Shtrum, at Christ Church looking at the painted, coffered ceiling in the organ area.



Deacon's Letter — Prayer



We've all heard that prayer is talking to God, and that's really an over simplification. Yet as a child needs time to learn to talk, so we need time to practice and learn to pray.

We can all pray when we are in some kind of desperate need. Those are like "fox hole" prayers said by soldiers in the thick of battle, or by others facing a life-threatening event. That's when we beg God to help us or someone we care about.

Most of all we ought to pray as if we are talking to God. There are, however, beautifully written prayers and they can help us to come to a place where we can truly speak to God in our heart.

What seems to stand in the way of prayer is our desire for security and control, which interferes with our ability to hear God's call. When we insist on an exact answer it diminishes our freedom to listen, and our own timetable impairs our ability to let God point the way.

As children learn to trust in a parent, so we can learn to trust in God.

Humility is a virtue God desires to see in us. Prayer reminds us that we are not in control, but God is, and that keeps us from being prideful and therefore makes us more childlike.

Prayer takes practice:

- Prayer is connecting to God
- When you pray, expect changes to occur
- Prayer is listening
- Prayer is simple, so pray as a child

Sometimes the answer to a prayer is "no," sometimes it's "not yet," and sometimes the answer simply changes you. God knows better what you need, so wait for the answer.

"You will find Him if you search after him with all your heart and soul" Deut.4:29

- Deacon Katie

Jazz Conquers All!

The Rocky Middleton Ensemble returned to Christ Church on a warm Sunday afternoon, September 29; and a Hoag Hall audience of 78 had the time of their lives for the next three solid hours. In his closing, Father Matt called the show: "The best, the best, the best." Many others among the audience, who had all brought along picnic dinners, heartily seconded that rating of the church's second annual jazz concert.

John Fox and Charles Phipps, who co-led the efforts of the Men's Group to organize the event, raved that this year's rendition was even better than last year's widely-praised original.

Making that performance especially impressive, the seven-man band's bass-playing leader, Rocky Middleton, confessed he was playing through the pain of an injured back. Hearing that, Father Matt laid his hands on Middleton's back, said a prayer, and the show concluded with a rousing rendition of Louis Armstrong's "What a Wonderful World".

In keeping with that spirit, the event netted several hundred dollars in profit for the church's general fund. All in all, it was a strong start for the 2019-2020 season of Concerts at Christ Church, which featured guitarists The Mark & Beverly Davis Duo on October 20.

Jazz Conquers All!

Next up will be a recital by pianist Jason Andrews on November 17. Meanwhile, mark your calendars for the recital by renowned French organist Daniel Roth at the dedication of our new Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ on February 15, 2020.

- Erik Ipsen



Photos by Tom Bricker

Confirmation — A Parent's Perspective



When I decided that I wanted my daughter to be confirmed in the Episcopal Church, I didn't fully understand what that commitment meant. Was it just going further on the journey that my daughter started in church school? I honestly didn't know.

I got lucky. I got to play a minor part as the parent of all jobs. I got to pick up the class pizza, bring the soda, and occasionally got to listen in on what Father Matt and Deacon Katie were trying to bring to the forefront of the minds of young confirmands.

I heard them ask questions about what religion and the exploration of one's faith really meant; was it relevant in today's world? What about ethics? What about morals? What about embracing the lessons of Christ in a world that increasingly mocks or ignores what Christ had to say?

I heard these young people step outside their comfort zone of cell phones, social media, and general coolness. They genuinely wanted to know. And they wanted answers. Uncomfortable and awkward at first, Father Matt and Deacon Katie brought them to an honest discussion that made me, as an adult, question whether or not my realization of Christianity was as pat as I thought it was.

Those classes made me realize, as a parent and as an adult, that God has the wondrous ability to continually make me want to renew the spirit of love that I found when I was a confirmand.

Christianity isn't easy - God never promised us that.

But what I saw when I stood next to my daughter on Confirmation Sunday and she affirmed her vows in front of the Bishop - made me remember that it's worth it. God is love; and when you're standing up at the precipice of adulthood, that's the most important lesson a teenager can ever learn.

Race, sexuality, gender, religion, skin color. Being an Episcopalian makes all these unimportant in our

ability to love one another as Christ has loved us. Anyone can go to church weekly, attend church gatherings, read the Gospel - but fulfilling what our faith in God does for us each day - accepting our flaws - is what makes Confirmation a vital part of the Episcopalian faith. Watch your child grow before your eyes; watch your child become an adult. Make Confirmation a part of your family's spiritual growth.

- Carla Carroll



2019 Confirmation Class with Fr. Matt

Scarlett Rose Carroll

Charles Powers Hibbler

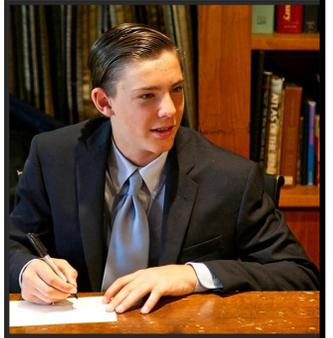
Luke Kerry Hughes

Theodore James Johnson III

Maxwell Holden Krumme

Anna Reardon McGrory

Henry McCann Moderelli

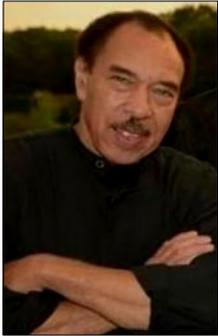


2019
Confirmation
Class
Confirmed by
The Right Rev.
Clifton Daniels



The Verger's Corner

From Altar Boys to Acolytes



Our Acolyte Guild has played an active role in this Church for many years, a span of time that has seen many changes. Back in the 1970s, when I first served as an acolyte at Trinity Church in Mount Vernon, we were referred to as "altar boys."

And so we were, all boys.

Since then many things have changed and evolved. Today we have adults and children of both sexes serving.

Paige Lavengood became Christ Church's first female acolyte in 1973. She first served at Easter that year. Today Paige is still a member of the Altar Guild, only now she serves as its co-chair.

It was not that far back when girls were not allowed to serve at the altar in the Church as acolytes. In fact, they were not even allowed to enter the Sanctuary.

And it wasn't just female acolytes who were barred from the altar. The prohibition also included women

serving as bishops, priests, and deacons. Only in the 1970s was the ban lifted. Today the result is instantly obvious in services in most Episcopal churches.

Today, women make up almost half of those ordained to the priesthood each year in the Episcopal church. Roughly one-third of all Episcopal priests now are female.

I was reminded recently of the history of altar boys serving in our church, when I received a picture taken in the early seventies of Father Hoag, our longest-serving rector, along with 15 altar boys.

Since I became the verger here in 2005, we typically have had 16 to 18 acolytes each year. At present we have 18. Many years there were more girls than boys, this year it breaks down like this: 4 girls, 9 boys and 6 adults.

As I said, our Acolyte Guild is very active. It is also open to parishioners of all ages. If you are interested in serving, please contact me.

- *Walter Roberts*
Serving our Lord together



Fr. Hoag and Altar Boys circa 1970



2019 Acolytes

Time Well Spent

Partnering with *Hearts and Homes for Refugees*



Early last spring, a team of six members of Christ Church, championed by Father Matt, and working in partnership with Westchester-based Hearts and Homes for Refugees, agreed to help a young woman from Syria get her footing in our area. After a multi-year vetting by U.S. federal authorities, Z, who prefers to use only her nickname for security reasons, was finally granted asylum early this year. As a Syrian and a Christian, she has been unable to return to her country, and has now made New York her home.

Members of the team met with Z during the spring and summer to help her find an apartment, give advice on interviewing and writing a resume, and serve as a sounding board for her. They provided practical tips as well as advice about living in this area, but since her command of English is excellent, she needed little help beyond a bit of guidance! The good news is that Z has a job and a safe place to live

in Yonkers. She is also getting acclimated to her new surroundings and is finding her way around Westchester on the Bee-Line Bus.

She readily found an initial job in the healthcare industry but is looking for new employment opportunities closer to her apartment. Meanwhile, she has also done some written translation work with Arabic /English and hopes to do more in the future to supplement her income. Should you know of anyone in need of a good translator, please reach out to JD Calder, Melissa Roddy or Father Matt and they'll put you in touch with her. In addition, Z would love to come to Christ Church more often. If anyone would like to offer a ride to or from an event, we'd love to hear that too!

- Melissa Roddy

In Memoriam



Betty Sue Flynn

Died November 18, 2018, interred at Christ Church on December 17, 2018

Maudlyn Mason Hill Curry

Died January 17, 2019, interred at Kensico Cemetery on Jan 25, 2019

Elizabeth Anne Kane

Died August 6, 2019, interred at Christ Church, September 7, 2019

Nancy Messman Lepre

Died September 23, 2019

Father of all, we pray for those whom we love but see no longer

Grant to them eternal rest

Let light perpetual shine upon them

And may their souls and the souls of all the departed,

through your mercy, rest in peace

Amen.



Pastoral Letter

October 3, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of Christ Church,

The Pelham Schools sent a letter yesterday to parents in our school system informing us that three swastikas had been found in the Middle School. The letter from Superintendent Cheryl H. Champ and PMS Principal Lynn M. Sabia stated: "These symbols of hate have no place in our society and especially within our schools," and "this behavior is deeply offensive and will not be tolerated." The letter in its entirety can be found online here:

<http://pelhamexaminer.com/17833/schools/three-swastikas-found-pelham-middle-school/>

I concur with the words of the superintendent and the principal. This is disturbing and heinous news, and such offensive symbols of hate have no place in our society. Sadly, I note that this is not the first time this has happened in Pelham: a similar incident occurred in 2014. I am sure it is causing great pain and worry to our Jewish sisters and brothers in Pelham. I have reached out to Rabbi Salzberg at the Pelham Jewish Center to offer my prayers and any support he may request or need from me or Christ Church. I am sending a copy of this letter to Rabbi Salzberg so that he may share it with his congregation, and they may know that we have offered our support.

I ask you to keep Rabbi Salzberg, the congregation at the Pelham Jewish Center, and our Jewish brothers

and sisters in this community in your prayers. I also ask you to keep all of Pelham Schools' students, teachers, and administrative/educational staff in your prayers. Please reach out to your neighbors, friends, and family who are Jewish and offer your prayers, love, and support. I urge every parent or guardian in our congregation and community to speak directly with your children about anti-Semitism and about the pain and fear caused by symbols of hate and language of hate. These are topics that we cover every year in Confirmation Class, but they are also things that must be addressed at home.

Merciful and loving God, you have made us in your own image: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love, for God is love and those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also. Amen.

May God bless you and keep you,

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, Rector



Letter from Pelham Schools

Three swastikas were “found” in the Pelham Middle School, according to a letter from the Pelham School District. “These symbols of hate have no place in our society and especially within our schools,” said the letter from Superintendent Cheryl H. Champ and PMS Principal Lynn M. Sabia. “This behavior is deeply offensive and will not be tolerated.”

The complete letter follows:

Dear Pelham Community,

We are extremely disheartened to share that three swastikas have recently been found inside Pelham Middle School. These symbols of hate have no place in our society and especially within our schools. This behavior is deeply offensive and will not be tolerated.

Please know that we have notified police and are also conducting our own investigation. As an immediate response, all middle school students attended an assembly today in which Principal Sabia and Assistant Principal Llewellyn discussed the swastika’s meaning, its dark place in our history and why the symbol remains offensive to this day.

Actions such as these also reinforce the importance of a long-term approach to building a culture of understanding and empathy in our schools. As such, we have a variety of educational experiences planned that are designed to create the respectful and inclusive learning environment our students deserve. For the first time this school year, all three middle school grades will learn about the Holocaust early in the year. Eighth grade students will once again hear directly from Holocaust survivors as part of their study of World War II and reading of “Night” by Elie Wiesel. We will also continue our collaboration with author Rosalind Wiseman to help students, staff and parents encourage kindness and respect while navigating the complex social realities of adolescence.

At the District level, we are continuing our work with CampbellJones & Associates to provide Cultural Proficiency training to a second cohort of teachers, staff, parents and students over the course of the year. The leaders of this training, Brenda and Franklin CampbellJones, will be hosting an overview of Cultural Proficiency for parents and community members this coming Monday, October 7 at 7pm in the MS Library. They will also be speaking at the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, November 12. We will continue to be vigilant and proactive in our efforts to help our students understand the past and create a better future.

Finally, we would like to take a moment to commend those who came forward and alerted school staff after discovering the swastikas. While we can not ever stop all hateful acts from occurring, we can make progress by speaking out. Together, we can provide the children of Pelham the courage and compassion necessary to create an accepting and welcoming environment for all.

Sincerely,

Cheryl H. Champ Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Lynn M. Sabia

Principal, Pelham Middle School

Smooth Start for Sunday School



When nearly 20 students arrived for the first day of Sunday School on Sept. 15, they found all their teachers, a brand-new curriculum and several boxes of Munchkin Donuts.

Led once again by Eileen Peluso and Father Matt, Sunday School this year features a mix of new and returning teachers, which is great for everyone. We also have a number of volunteers willing to fill in as substitute teachers, plus a list of others eager to help out with special activities ranging from Movie Day and Halloween, to Christmas classics like tree trimming and ornament making.

Our Teachers this year are:

- Eileen Peluso and Kristine Valerio returning to teach the Pre-K through 1st grade
- Julie Sanabria and Danielle Ganpat, new teachers for grades 2-4
- Janet Kornfeld and Curtis Chase, our long-time teachers who again work with grades 5-7

What's also great is that for the first time in a while, we have two teachers for each age group. That makes everything a lot more fun--not to mention easier, as it makes the commitment to teaching less stressful! In the past, teachers felt bad missing a Sunday, leaving the school director scrambling to find someone to replace them. This year, the 2nd teacher can step into the occasional

gap. It is also more enjoyable for everyone to have teachers working together in pairs!

This year we are all excited to work with a new curriculum from a company called Storymakers. Its lesson plan calls for students to begin the year learning about the creation, a focus that we'll stick with for at least the first half of the year. Each week we cover one day of the creation, and students will work on a craft project geared to that day. For teachers, we have a detailed guide that includes the daily lesson plan as well as instructions on various craft activities. Those instructions even include a list of all needed supplies. Having that package really makes planning a lesson super easy for our teachers! The guide also lists questions that we can ask the students and includes fun facts about each day.

By early October we had already done Lightness and Darkness, Sea and Sky, and Lands. Meanwhile, the younger groups have made things geared to each subject. Some students have taken their own creations home. We have kept others in our classrooms for props. The first quarter of the school year will end with a short play that the children will present on Family Sunday.

Many thanks to all those who have already signed up to help. If anyone else would like to pitch in, please speak with Eileen Peluso or Father Matt for details.

- Eileen Peluso

Children's Christmas Pageant Reminder

The Pageant is on December 22 at 4 p.m. Dress rehearsal is December 21 at 10 a.m. Participants without speaking parts must attend the dress rehearsal. Other rehearsals are scheduled for December 4, 11, and 18 at 5 p.m. Volunteers are needed for staging, set design and working with the children. Please email Carla Carroll at carpa600@aol.com for more information.

Through a Lens Joyfully

One of the special joys of joining Christ Church has been the opportunity to meet this congregation up close, in person, and especially, through the lens of my camera when photographing everything from picnics to the Christmas Pageant and the family portraits for the Church Directory.

Yes, once again, my life-long passion for photography has been my passport to remarkable countries, cultures, and communities--including Christ Church!

My interest in photography was initially inspired by my aunt, another Lily Solmssen who lived in Italy



and Switzerland and whose museum-quality photographs graced my childhood home in Essex Fells, New Jersey for as long as I can remember. It was as a seven-year-old perched on an apple crate in my aunt's darkroom, that I first experienced the wonder of negatives

morphing magically into photographs.

When I was eight, my parents gave me my first Kodak Processing Kit for Christmas. Thus began this marvelous journey, which to this day gives me enormous pleasure and great satisfaction.

Even though it is over 70 years since I held my first camera, I remain overwhelmed by the many poignant moments I have been privileged to photograph both here in America and around the globe.

Some of the most memorable experiences I've had include a UN tour of duty in South America in 1979 with my late husband, Ghislain Moureaux, and the opportunity in 1983 to document the resettling of disabled children and adults in refugee camps set up by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Southeast Asia.

Today here at Christ Church in Pelham, I share the sentiments of photographers across the ages and the world: How lucky we are to have this profession, and all with the click of a shutter!

*- Lily Solmssen Moureaux,
Soundings Staff Photographer*

Baptisms



June 2, 2019

Annabella Rose Enea

Great-Grandparents - Janet & Tom Salvatore

Conrad Edwin Shapoff

Grandparents - Margo & John Hastings

Helen Victoria Dammerman

Parents - Brandon & Kate Dammerman

June 7, 2019

John Polk Lawson, Adelaide Rudy Lawson & Sadie Reid Lawson

Parents - Richard & Robin Lawson

*There is one Body and one Spirit;
There is one hope in God's call to us;
One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;
One God and Father of all.*

Vacation Bible School 2019



Two Takes on our Best/Biggest VBS Ever

Take 1

By Carla Carroll, Camp Creator/leader



The hot, humid days of late summer rang with the laughter and singing of 25 campers at the 2019 Christ Church Vacation Bible School, held over four days beginning Aug. 19, both inside and outside on the parish grounds.

Ably led, fed and entertained by a team of 15 adult and teen volunteer counselors, the kids enjoyed bible stories from Margo Hastings, as well as music lessons, arts and crafts projects, cool recreation on a 40-foot-long outdoor slip-and-slide, tie-dye shirt making, pony rides, a scavenger hunt, delicious healthy snacks, and lots of play.

On the final day Father Matt taught the campers how to bake bread. Later, at the altar in the Garden of the Resurrection, he blessed each hand-crafted roll and used them in his celebration of the Eucharist.

That evening, parents, grandparents, and parishioners all joined the children for a celebration of camp, which began in the church. There each child received a certificate of completion from Father Matt and camp organizer Carla Carroll, and then performed a medley of hymns they'd learned from choirmaster Jeffrey Hoffman.

Topping off the evening's festivities was an outdoor ice cream and lemonade social in the circle in front of church where campers and guests built their own sundaes, enjoyed a variety of desserts, and socialized.

The enrollment of this year's camp was twice as large as 2018's. Buoyed by that success, planning has already begun for next year's Vacation Bible

School at Christ Church, scheduled for Aug. 24-27.

Take 2

By Scarlett Carroll, Youth Counselor

In August, many kids connected with the church as well as some who were not, spent three fun hours on four straight mornings at this year's Vacation Bible School.

This was the second annual VBS. It was led by parishioners Carla Carroll and Margot Hastings. In addition to the 25 kids taking part most days, there were many adult counsellors as well as a half dozen hard working teen councilors (Scarlett Carroll, Nicholas Hibbler, Charlie Hibbler, Liam Mead, Court Jones, and Bates Bland) who each earned service hours, which were required by their schools.

The campers all took part in many fun and interesting activities, such as tie-dyeing t-shirts, playing on an outdoor slip-n-slide in back of church, going on an indoor and outdoor church scavenger hunt led by teen and adult counselors, daily music lessons where they learned songs that they performed for parents and others, and listening to bible stories every day. Oh, the kids also enjoyed daily snack time.



Vacation Bible School!



V
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S



Voicing Our New Organ



Robin Coté

With the installation of the new Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ complete, the final phase of the operation has begun. Robin Coté, President of Juget-Sinclair Facteurs d'Orgue, makers of our instrument, tells Organist and Choirmaster Jeffrey Hoffman what that work involves.

Q. Our beautiful new organ is here. Everything is wired, and the console is connected. So, what's going on now, and why will it take so long to complete?

A. Everything seems finished, but an important stage of the project has yet to start--the voicing of the organ in its new home.

Q. What's involved and why is it important?

A. Voicing an organ is to adjust the timbre, the strength and the attack of each of its pipes to the acoustics of the place in which it is installed. Since this organ has 2,350 pipes, this operation takes several weeks. This is the last stage of the project but one of the most crucial. It is at this moment that the musical personality of the instrument is confirmed. That said, the voicing starts well before installation in the church. After the manufacture of the pipes, comes the pre-voicing when we determine the raw timbre of each sound. Next, the organ is assembled in the workshop with all the pipes,

which we quickly check to make sure that all are speaking well and we tune them. At this point, we already have a good idea of what the final result will be, but it is only once the organ is installed in the church that we will discover the acoustic reaction of the different sounds. The final step in voicing involves setting and adjusting with precision the parameters of each pipe within the overall ensemble here in the church.

Q. What are the different families of tone colors in the organ and what's the difference between a flue and a reed?

A. There are two major families of pipes in the organ: The flues and the reeds. To make a parallel with the orchestra, the first family includes all labial pipes, those that mimic flutes and strings (recorders, flutes, violins, cellos, etc.). The second family includes all pipes that imitate woodwind and brass instruments (oboe, bassoon, trumpet and trombone). The great difference between the two families is the way the pipes work: The first family works like the recorder, while the second one works more like bagpipe or clarinet reeds work. Of course, the way the pipes are built and their dimensions are of paramount importance to their sound.

Q. Will our new organ have more bass tones than our previous instrument?

A. Yes. Our mandate was clear from the beginning: Provide an instrument capable of supporting choral and congregational singing, while also one capable of playing most of the organ repertoire. The acoustics of North American churches, generally do not favor low frequencies, so organbuilders must use all available resources to strengthen them. Low pitches mean big pipes, and big pipes need a lot of space. This is one of the first design challenges for organbuilders!

Q. What is a swell box?

A. It is a box that allows the organist to make expressive nuances like crescendos and decrescendos using a pedal located at the console. Physically, it is a large wooden box with thick walls in which all the pipes associated with the 2nd keyboard are enclosed. On the front of the box, movable vertical shutters open and close, under the control of the organist. It is a late 18th century invention that has become practically indispensable today. It allows the organ to become gradually louder or softer. It was an important feature that was missing in your previous organ.

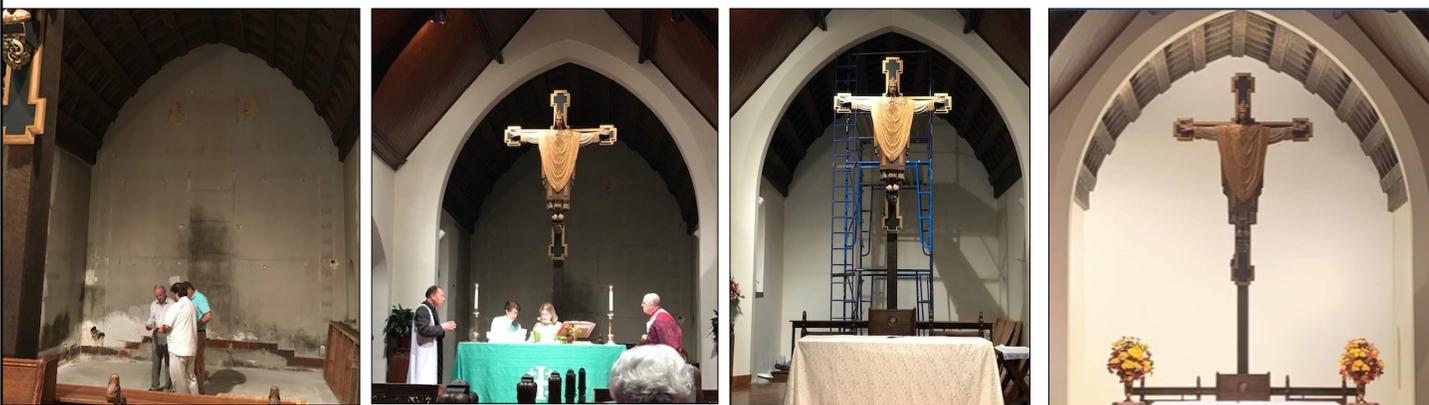
Q. What happens when the organist plays a note on the keyboards or pedals?

A. The new organ is mechanical. This means that the movement of the finger is mechanically transmitted from the key to the valve using a system of parts called squares, levers, trackers and rollers. All of them are designed specifically for each instrument. In the case of your organ, the mechanical parts are made of everything from beechwood and basswood,

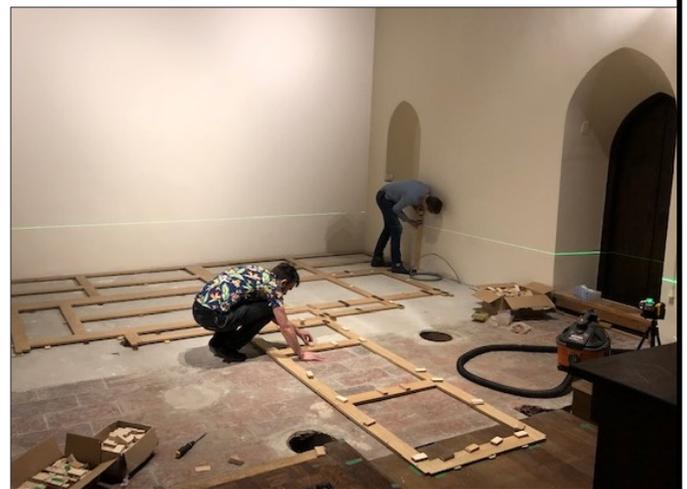
to iron and carbon fiber. There are 61 notes for each of two keyboards and 32 notes for the pedal. Each note has its own path joining a key to a valve. When opening, a bit like pulling a bathtub plug, the valve allows the compressed air to enter the pipes chosen by the musician. Another mechanism located in the console allows the organist to play both keyboards while playing only on the 1st keyboard. This allows the organist to play over thirty pipes per note at one time!

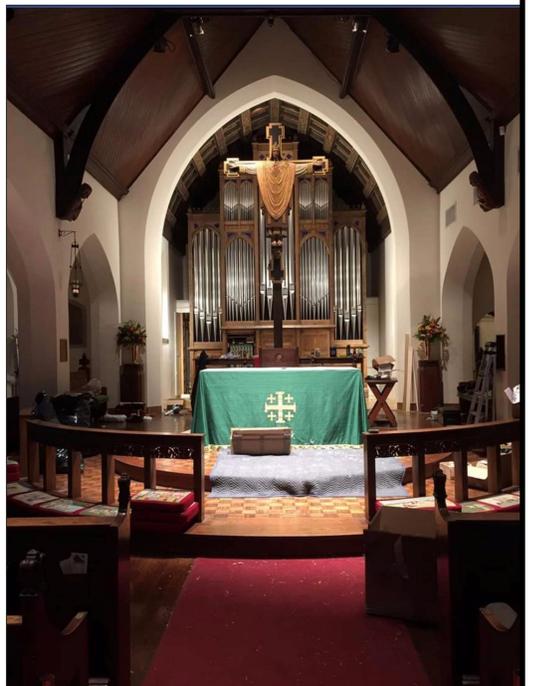
Jeffrey: Thank you very much, Robin, for answering my questions and for making this fine instrument, which I believe will greatly enhance our musical program for generations to come.

- Jeffrey Hoffman, Organist and Choirmaster and Margaret Young, Organ Committee Chair



Unpacking and Assembling the New Organ



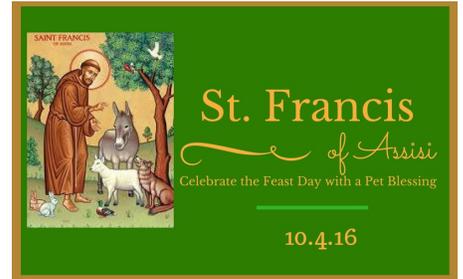


St. Francis Day

On a warm afternoon in the oval outside church, Father Matt led the annual blessing of an unusually diverse group of animals brought over by a couple dozen parishioners. Among those receiving blessings were 11 dogs, 2 cats, one turtle, five guinea pigs and one stuffed pony clutched by a child. In addition, an even larger group of pets received posthumous blessings.

A Prayer for Animals

*Almighty and everlasting God,
Creator of all things and Giver of
all life: Your blessed Son, Jesus, told
us that not even one, tiny sparrow
is forgotten in your sight.
Strengthen our confidence in your
love for all your creatures; in your
goodness. Let your blessing be
upon these and all animals. May
our relationships with them mirror*



*your love, and may our care for
them follow the example of your
bountiful mercy. Grant these ani-
mals health and peace. Strengthen
us to love and care for them as we
strive, like Francis of Assisi, to imi-
tate the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.*



NYC Pride 2019 | World Pride NYC | Stonewall50

It has been my privilege to serve on the Diocesan LGBTQ Concerts Committee in 2019. The committee focuses on meeting the needs of LGBTQIA people in our diocese and its largest event each year is the diocese's contingent in the New York City Pride March. This year marked the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall riots and was also designated as World Pride.

On Sunday afternoon, June 28, parishioners Carla and Scarlett Carroll, Didi Hayduk, Missy Kisob and I

joined representatives from parishes all around the diocese and all three of our diocesan bishops (Bishops Dietsche, Glasspool and Shin) at Manhattan's Church of the Transfiguration (also known affectionately as "the little church around the corner") for a pre-march gathering and then joined the march or rode the float in what was the largest New York City LGBT Pride March in history. It was a wonderful time of fun and fellowship with our fellow LGBTQIA and ally Episcopalians.

- Jeffrey Hoffman



Scrumptious cupcakes at the brunch! Thanks Jeffrey.

yum!
:)



Scenes from Around the Parish





Belling the Cat

- From Aesop's Fables



A group of mice once called a meeting to discuss the best way to rid themselves of a cat that made their lives miserable. The discussion covered many complicated ideas and possibilities and they talked long and earnestly. Finally, one young mouse said, "I have an idea which sounds simple but I am positive it will work." He spoke with such conviction that all the other mice fell si-

lent. "All we need to do is place a bell around the cat's neck so we can hear her approach and have time to run and hide, thus preserving our lives." The mice were astounded by the simple genius of this idea and they all agreed that this would be their best course of action. Now, all that remained was to decide who would place the bell around the cat's neck.



Moral: *It is one thing to say a thing should be done but a whole other matter to actually do it.*



Parish Notes

Bagged Lunches/Outreach

opportunities each month: On Wednesday, November 6 at 5:00 p.m. our children's choir will pre-fill bagged lunches with everything except sandwiches; at 6:00 p.m. the Men's Group will make 170 sandwiches. On Thursday, November 7, members of our Outreach Committee will serve the bagged lunches at Trinity Saint Paul's Church in New Rochelle. We need individually wrapped snack-pack cookies, which can be left in the Outreach Basket in the Narthex . . .

The Episcopal Charities Annual Tribute Dinner & Fundraiser will be Tuesday, November 12, at the Cathedral of the Saint John the Divine. Father Matt is organizing a Christ Church Table. Please let him know if you would like to purchase an individual seat or help fund the entire table.

Sunday October 20th was **Stewardship Sunday**. If you have not yet sent in your pledge card, you can put cards in this Sunday's plate or bring to the office...

Yoga for Prayer – New Time and New Day: three sessions on Thursday, November 7, 14, & 21 at 12:45 p.m. in the Library...

Morning Prayer is read on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Library.

Monday October 28, is Saints Simon and Jude Day: Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, November 1, is All Saints'

Day: Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, November 2, is All Souls' Day: Requiem Mass and Blessing of the Garden of Resurrection at 10:00 a.m.

All Saints' Sunday is November 3 .

Remembrance Sunday is Nov. 10 . .

Listing of names of your loved ones who have died: Please list the names of your deceased relatives/friends in advance of the Remembrance Sunday. Any names submitted by November 1 will also be read on **All Souls' Day**. Forms will be outside the church office and in the Narthex. Please write clearly . . .

Silent Auction Donations:

Parishioners are busy planning our annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Friday, November 22nd. Once again, we will have a silent auction to benefit the mission of our church community. We are seeking donations for the silent auction. Can you donate any of the following items? Dinner in your home? Tickets to events, attractions or movies? Gift certificates for tours, mani/pedi, spas or restaurants? Can you build and donate a basket? Popular basket themes are for pets, cooking and entertaining. We will also accept individual items (maybe those things you've never used!) such as: candles, children's books, games, spa products, glassware, linens, holiday decorations, evening-out attire such as shawls, bags or jewelry. Bottles of wine valued at \$20 or above also greatly appreciated.

Please contact Marie Dumas, mariedumasfel@gmail.com, or Eileen Wolfe, eileenwolfe@aol.com, if you would like to donate or have any questions on the auction.

Vestry Nominating Committee Announcement

The Nominating Committee of Christ Church is soliciting recommendations for people to serve on the Vestry, as well as statements of interest by any interested parties. *The positions open are:*

Warden --Two-year term, Vestry Member -- Three-year term, Vestry Member -- Three-year term, Vestry Member -- Three-year term

Members of the Vestry are elected at the Annual Parish Meeting, which is held in January of each year. Vestry members must be communicants of Christ Church and at least 18 years of age. The Vestry meets regularly on the third Wednesday of each month. If you feel called to serve on the Vestry, or want to recommend another parishioner, please reach out to a member of the nominating committee. The committee will give all nominations serious consideration.

The Nominating Committee Members are: *Carol Ipsen, Jennifer Alleyne, Angela Lore-Barone, JD Calder, and Etta Gumbs.*

Vestry Nominating Committee Announcement fliers are available in the Narthex and outside the parish offices

If you would like to have an article included in *Soundings*, please contact anyone on the *Soundings* team listed on page 2. Word documents are preferable but we can work with most formats including hand written notes.

CONCERTS AT CHRIST CHURCH

a community outreach of historic Christ Church in Pelham, New York

Christ Church | 1415 Pelhamdale Ave Pelham Manor, NY 10803 | 914-738-5515, ext. 102 | concerts@christchurchpelham.org

2019-2020 CONCERT SEASON

September 2019

Dear Friends,

For the past two years, as we've been eagerly preparing for and awaiting the arrival of the new Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ, gift of Dr. Martin Nash to the Parish of Christ the Redeemer that is being built by the distinguished Montreal firm of Juget-Sinclair Facteurs d'Orgues, our concert series has taken a pause. Now I'm so delighted to bring you seven fantastic and affordable concerts in the 2019-2020 season, our first with our new organ!

From the rollicking jazz stylings of the Rocky Middleton Ensemble to the ravishing "Adonai Roi" in Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*, our 2019-2020 concert season offers something for everyone: a Grammy-nominated classical guitar and mandolin duo, a piano virtuoso, a sensational violin soloist who recently took Broadway by storm in Bartlett Shear's revival of *Fiddler on the Roof*, the world-renowned titular organist of St. Sulpice in Paris, a trumpet and organ duet recital, and Dan Forrest's popular, rhythmic, and global setting of Psalm 100, *Jubilate Deo*, sung in Latin, Hebrew, Arabic, Mandarin, Zulu, Spanish, and English! You won't want to miss any of these exciting performances.

Additionally, Christ Church will also present two classic Anglican choral liturgies this season, the beloved Christmas celebration commonly known as a *Festival of Lessons and Carols* and the quintessential *Lenten Evensong*, a centuries-old cathedral tradition in England for which a vast body of inspiring repertoire has been composed over many centuries. These liturgies will feature our excellent parish choirs and are free of charge.

As always, our concert series relies on both the revenue from our ticket sales and your generous contributions to continue this community outreach of Christ Church here in the Pelham community.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to welcoming you to one of our concerts soon!



Jeffrey Hoffman
Organist & Choirmaster, Christ Church
Artistic Director, Concerts at Christ Church

SEASON CALENDAR

Rocky Middleton Ensemble Jazz Concert
September 29, 2019 at 4 pm, \$40

The Mark & Beverly Davis Duo in concert
October 20, 2019 at 4 pm, \$30*

Concert Pianist Jason Andrews in recital
November 17, 2019 at 4 pm, \$30*

**A Festival of Lessons and Christmas Carols
and blessing of the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ**
December 8, 2019 at 5 pm, free

Violinist Kelly Hall-Tompkins in recital
January 19, 2020 at 4 pm, \$30*

**Organist Daniel Roth in recital
dedicating the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ**
February 15, 2020 at 7:30 pm, \$30*

A Lenten Choral Evensong
March 22, 2020 at 5 pm, free

**Andrew Kemp, trumpet
& Jeffrey Hoffman, organ in concert**
April 19, 2020 at 4 pm, \$30*

Choral Masterworks Concert
featuring Leonard Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*
and Dan Forrest's *Jubilate Deo*
with the combined choirs and soloists of Christ Church
and the Huguenot Memorial Church,
showcasing the Jack Hennigan Memorial Organ,
with members of *Sinfonia Celestis*, Jeffrey Hoffman
and Kathym Jones, conductors and organists
May 17, 2020 at 4 pm, \$30*

*\$25 for senior citizens and students of any age

For more details about our Concert Series, pick up a booklet in the Narthex or right outside the Parish office.



Christ Church

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer

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