



# The Dove

Church of the Holy Spirit - 3 Haytown Road - Lebanon, NJ - churchholyspirit.org

**OUR MISSION:** *to become like Christ as we serve others, proclaim God's love, and grow in the Spirit*



November '24 Aerial Photo © Dave Dabour

## DECEMBER 2024

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## **The Four Chaplains**

Let us consider this: in early 1943 you are a 22-year-old American soldier from Brooklyn, NY, the youngest of eight children. Having completed boot camp at Fort Dix, NJ, you and your unit have been assigned to an army air base under construction in Greenland. So on February 1, 1943 you board a troopship, the USAT *Dorchester*, which was originally launched in 1926 as a luxury passenger vessel. You have a sense of excitement and perhaps some apprehension, as you've been told by the Captain that the German "wolf packs" (U-boats) have attacked and sunk a number of ships sailing North Atlantic waters in what has become known as "Torpedo Alley". He advises you to wear your life vests at all times. Joining you on board are 901 other servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian contractors, accompanied for protection by three Coast Guard cutters.

Shortly before 1:00 a.m. on February 3rd, the *Dorchester* is only about 150 miles from its destination when it is sighted by U-Boat 233, piloted by Lt. Commander Karl-Jurgen Wachter. Having identified it as a troop transport, Wachter has just one chance to launch his torpedoes because of the proximity of the cutters. He fires three, and one hits amidships below the water line. The captain of the *Dorchester* orders everyone to the lifeboat stations to abandon ship.

On that night, of the 902 men aboard, only 230 survived. My father, Michael Andrew Calandriello, was fortunate to be one of them.

I recall that during my childhood father rarely spoke of that horrible night. When I was in my twenties he did recount some of his experiences to me. He said he and his dear friend Monty were trying to climb one of the gangways, but there was a crush of men and Monty suggested going another way. My father was about to follow him, but an unseen hand stopped him. So the two men split up. My father later learned that Monty had not survived.

When my dad reached his lifeboat station the temperature was in the 30s, but skies were clear. Though the sea was relatively calm, the water temperature was freezing. As his lifeboat was being lowered its lines became fouled and it tipped. He and the others were dumped into the frigid water. Shock was followed by the relief that his vest held him afloat. He knew how to swim and realized that he needed to keep moving lest he succumb to hypothermia. He and the others quickly swam away from the *Dorchester* to avoid being sucked down with it. He swam to the distant light of another lifeboat, and was pulled into it by a fellow soldier. The packed boat was being rowed by Charlie Williams, one of the merchant seaman, who had survived two previous sinkings. Charlie asked for one of dad's size-12 boots to help bail the leaking vessel.

Looking back, my father recalled that there were still many men lining the *Dorchester's* decks and holding tight to the rails. He and some of the others began shouting "Get off! Get off! Jump!" But amid the noise and chaos they could not be heard. The ship sank in just over twenty minutes and a number of men already in the water were sucked down with it.

By good fortune and the grace of God my father and over 200 others survived. But was it only luck — or grace? Confused command decisions could have delayed a speedier rescue. But heroism and selflessness helped to save those who did manage to reach one of the cutters, along with the heroism of four Army chaplains who gave up their own life jackets to men who had none and helped some of them leap into the cold and dark void of the sea.

The Four Chaplains were a Catholic priest, two Protestant ministers, and a Rabbi. My father would speak of these men's sacrifice and tears would well up in his eyes at the thought that the four decided to remain on board to help, pray, and comfort the remaining men. As it has been written, "greater love than this no man has..." Dad told me that Father John Washington, the Catholic Chaplain, had heard his confession just a few hours earlier, and he had been struck by the underlying faith and strength of the soft-spoken cleric.

In his later years, my father wrote that as time went by, “the pictures are still there vividly in my mind, but the names of some of my buddies are no longer there. Especially my Jewish buddy, who pulled me aboard the lifeboat after I went into the water. Later on, when we were taken on board the Coast Guard cutter Escanaba, he held his prayer book, and my hands were clasped around the rosary beads my mother had given me. We looked at each other, not saying a word, but in our hearts we knew our faith in God had spared us.”

Indeed the Lord had other plans for my father. He lived a full and good life, had a successful business career, married and had five children. But he would still wonder “Why did God spare me when so many others died?”

Some years ago, when God called him to join his buddies with all of the other heroes, perhaps that haunting question was answered.

The tragedy of the Dorchester and the sacrifice and heroism of its four chaplains is not well known. They are an enduring example of extraordinary faith, courage and sacrifice. Another survivor said he thought of the four chaplains often, especially of the moment when he looked back from his rescuer and saw them, arms clasped in common prayer, as the Dorchester was sinking. That picture remains as the true meaning of what God stands for, in whatever form He comes to us. We sense Him in so many ways in our daily lives, and when we recall what these four brave clerics did on that night, we know God’s face was seen in each of theirs.

*Fr. Andrew Calandriello*

November 3, 2024

### ***Prayer in a Time of Transition***

God of all ages and keeper of our days, we lay before you this season in which we find ourselves. What has been has ended and we know not what lies ahead. Be with us in this time and give us the courage and patience to live these days of losing and finding mindful, as Jesus taught his friends, that the grain of wheat must be planted in the earth and die in order to bear much fruit. Amen.

### ***Prayer For The Parish***

God of all ages, our times are in your hands. Keep us engaged and hopeful — ever mindful of our mission: to become like Christ by serving others, proclaim God’s love, and grow in the spirit.

Now is the acceptable time for us to get engaged, to show up, to step up, and to forge strong bonds with you and with each other. Stand beside us, Lord, cheer us on, rededicate us to building up the Kingdom of God. Amen.

## Vestry Meeting Highlights from November

The Vestry met on Thursday, November 21, 2024. Here are highlights from that meeting:

- † The Service Auction held on November 16 was a success. Preliminary results are that the net proceeds from the Auction were \$25,426, exceeding the budget of \$25,000. In addition, \$7,400 was raised for “The Father Philip Carr-Jones Fund For Facilities Restoration”, which is the endowment sub-fund established by Dick and Judy Emmitt. The Emmitts will be matching the fund dollar for dollar.
- † The worship and music meeting was held on November 3 and was attended by 24 parishioners. Many good ideas were shared and discussed. [See pages 6-7 for Diane Hrozencik’s report - Ed.]
- † Gary Scott was elected to fulfill the remainder of the term of Meg McKenna, who has resigned. [Thank you for joining the vestry, Gary, and thank you, Meg, for your service - Ed.]
- † Diane Bendahmane reported on the activities of the Welcoming Newcomers Steering Committee.
- † Eva Lesniak reviewed the Annual Pledge Campaign that will kick off on Sunday November 24th.
- † The Vestry reviewed the schedule of the Christmas services and decided to forego a Blue Christmas service this year. The schedule of Christmas services can be found in the Sunday bulletins [and on page 11 of this issue].
- † We discussed plans for the parish’s Annual Meeting, which will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2025.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact John Andrews or Diane Hrozencik. Their contact information is located on page 12.

*In case you were not aware, the regular vestry meetings are open to all (except when personnel matters are discussed). If you are interested, they are generally held on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the church or via ZOOM. The vestry page on the website has more information.*

[As I was driving to the auction on November 16, there was a glorious full moon ahead of me to the East. I hope many of you saw it too. Native Americans called this the Beaver moon because it coincides with the time when beavers are readying their lodges for winter. Thanks to my friend Mary Schwenkler for the photo. — Ed.]





## Giving Branch

*A Symbol of the Branch of Jesse from the Advent readings below*

“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;  
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit”.- Isaiah 11:1

“I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute  
justice and righteousness in the land.” - Jeremiah 33

The branch reminds us that Jesus, born of the bloodline of Jesse, David’s father, is the only surviving hope in an otherwise hopeless world. He is a shoot, or branch, that will come back, bear fruit, and establish a kingdom of peace. The branch is a sprig of hope growing from what already exists.

We have our Giving Branch as a symbol of how we can provide hope to others in our community.

During Advent, we display the Giving Branch as a means to reach out to others, especially those in our community who are currently in substance abuse recovery.

We have a two-week campaign to raise funds to buy gift cards for members of our community residing in Anderson House and the Good News Home, both recovery homes for women; Freedom House, a recovery house for men; and Family Afterward, a step-down program where parents and their children can live and where they receive help to heal and re-bond as a family.

To service all the residents in those four homes, our goal is to buy one \$35 gift card for each adult and child. We suggest that if you wish to purchase more than one card, you donate in units of \$35. Each unit will allow us to purchase a gift card for one individual who has very little to spare this holiday season.

These cards (some examples suggested by the organizations are Amazon, Walmart, and ShopRite) allow our friends to purchase a needed item or two for themselves: warm gloves or socks for a man living in Freedom House who just landed an outdoor job; special lotion or shampoo for a woman at Anderson House to make her feel special; a gift from Walmart for a mom in recovery to give to her child.

The centers we work with appreciate the individualized gift cards because they allow their residents to feel supported — seen. Anderson House begins asking us in *September* if we will have our Giving Branch again because of how meaningful they find the program.

If you wish to add a card to the tree, you can donate via the QR code located in the tags on the branch or on the website; or with cash or a check in an envelope to be mailed or dropped in the offertory plate on Sunday. The QR code leads to the website; if you prefer to give cash or a check make sure you indicate “Giving Branch” on the check or envelope. Sally Bird, CHS treasurer, tracks the number of cards we are able to purchase from your generosity.

Our goal is a minimum of **90** gift cards in total as suggested by the four centers listed. Should we surpass **90**, we will then donate to Binnacle House, which has been providing overnight shelter, meals and snacks to NJ youth for nearly half a century.

If you have questions please contact either me [[michellekmarlow@gmail.com](mailto:michellekmarlow@gmail.com)] or Deanne Altom [[dianne.altom@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.altom@gmail.com)].



*June Filipski Photo*

*Michelle Marlow*

## Worship/Music

Thank you to the twenty-three CHS members who attended the Worship/Music meeting after the 10:00 service on November 3rd. Its purpose was to re-establish the committee on a new basis with Father Andrew, who became Interim Rector this past September. It was exciting to see the tremendous turn-out during this interim period.

The goal of the meeting was to build relationships with parishioners who are interested in this ministry and to address topics that the congregation raised during the Survey and Listening Sessions conducted by the Search Committee. During the meeting we listened to feedback and made key decisions for the upcoming Advent season. *Throughout the meeting the group emphasized that our congregation wants to remain flexible and open to many ways of worshiping.*

We started with a review of insights gained from the Search Committee's Listening Sessions, which were broken into eight areas: Music, Liturgy, Youth, Communication, Logistics, Frequency, Support and Services.

**Advent.** We decided to hold a four-week Advent this year given our limited resources and time, although this does not preclude CHS from returning to the expanded seven-week practice in the future. We agreed to bring back Lessons and Carols on the last Sunday in Advent, and to reset the pews so the congregation is facing each other beginning with Advent. While opinions were mixed, the majority agreed that we have come to enjoy seeing the faces of our fellow worshipers during Advent. At Epiphany pews will be returned to the traditional configuration.

**Logistics.** The Property Team requested *specific direction, sketches and advance notice to move the pews for seasonal changes.* Father Phil often moved furniture alone because of a personal vision. That personal vision didn't protect his back: the pews are heavy and cumbersome. [Not everyone can be an Atlas in disguise. If you were present in person or on line this past Sunday you might have noticed that the pews had not been moved for Advent 1: little surprise given the challenges of the Thanksgiving weekend and the travel schedules of many parishioners — Ed.]

After a lively discussion Gary Scott agreed to develop *a protocol to serve Communion at the 10:00am service.* More direction will be provided to the congregation by the ushers and clergy; the LEMS and choir will be served before the congregation comes to the altar. Once we get the protocol in place and tell the congregation about it, it should be easy to retrain the parish. We also agreed we need more volunteer ushers.

We discussed *the length of our worship time*, which is increasing. We enjoy our worship and are not looking at the clock, yet we are attentive to those who have other commitments. *We agreed to begin the prelude prior to the start of the service* and noted that we no longer have the election prayer and are moving to shorter "Prayers of the People" from the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). The group voted to discontinue Mystagogy for the time being, with the option to bring it back in the future.

We discussed shortening our hymns by singing fewer verses, but there was a strong contingent that prefers to sing all verses because the songs are narratives that benefit from being sung in full. We therefore agreed to continue to sing all the verses and when possible, Alexei will select hymns with fewer verses for the Gospel and Offertory.

**Music.** A large number of respondents from the Listening Sessions had comments about music. Many would enjoy songs from the "Blue Book" and more contemporary interpretations of hymns. We cannot return the Blue Books to the pews because almost all were destroyed prior to Covid. The plan to update that music was not executed, but some of those hymns will now be incorporated into our services. *Alexei will select such music to be printed in the weekly bulletin as appropriate.*

Alexei shared his approach for choosing the music each week and asked the group for feedback. Everyone agreed the music was well chosen. Diane Bendahmane asked that the recessional have a more upbeat tempo. Brian Savage complemented Alexei on his ability to select music so well, and there was a round of applause for Alexei's thoughtful selections, robust knowledge, and musical contributions.

### Worship/Music (continued)

**Communications.** We agreed to prioritize making our worship service easily accessible to newcomers.. Diane Bendahmane leads Newcomers Welcome, and her team is creating new materials, including *suggestions to make the bulletin easier for newcomers to follow.*

*Marge Keller has taken responsibility for the Bulletin* and she reviewed the edits she has put in place to make it shorter and easier to use; Diane B. will work with her to incorporate the Newcomer team’s insights. Brian Savage *discussed the importance of an intentional, consistent welcome from the pulpit every week*

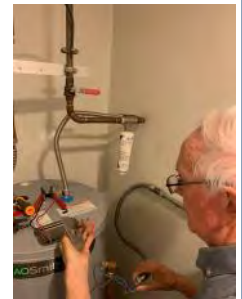
**Additional Items.** Several items could not be covered in the meeting and require follow-up in 2025. We agreed we need a separate group to focus on the topic of *Youth and Worship* because it requires more attention. Other topics for the future include *the frequency of services, considering changes to the 8:00 am service,* decisions on *Lenten Ecumenical programming,* and *establishing and returning music to the Lord’s Prayer and Hallelujahs.*

If you have questions, please let me know.

*Diane Hrozencik*

### Time and Talent

Thanks to the merry crew that seems to know exactly what parts of our infrastructure are worn out or need tweaking. At right, John Higgins is replacing the kitchen’s hot water heater.



Dove Hall (the church’s original sanctuary) has a new roof. Thanks, Alex van Veldhuisen, for your leadership in this critical project. It’s lovely not to have leaks any more!

And then there are the many other unsung heroes who work quietly in the background, seeing things that need attention and attending to them without recognition: the altar guild members who take care of making sure that all is ready for services, those who provide beautiful floral arrangements, polish silver, bake bread for Eucharist , read the lessons, serve as acolytes, greeters, ushers, create and print the weekly bulletins, sing and provide musical accompaniment — ad infinitum. Thanks and blessings to them all and to all those not acknowledged, too! And especially to those who make the coffee week after week! It’s so good!





### Where Were They?



Alexei Tartakovsky, Pianist, Commercial Pilot, and Flight Instructor, was up in the air. He says this is an office view and that he has the best job in the world, or at least close to it.

Karen Holmes went to Croatia. I'd love to see a full slide show, or better yet, visit: what a beautiful country it is!



Pat Egan and daughter Amy had a recent trip to London to visit Pat's granddaughter Emma. FB photos are just terrific. Won't it be fun to hear all about it? (Yes, that's the Thames, and that large wheel is The Eye.)

The Altoms went to Puerto Rico. Don't think they brought this guy home, though, do you?.....



The Gora kids' first overseas trip. Mom and dad said they were troopers! (Jaime Lyn, is that St. Peter's Basilica in the background?)

Wendy and Kevin Hallstrom traveled to Sweden and Norway. Wendy calls this photo a happy accident. In Aurland, Norway they stopped at an overlook and the parasailers were flying above and around them as they floated down into the fjord.





## Around the Area in December

Friday, December 6, 7:00 - 9:00pm: 37th Annual Christmas Parade, Clinton (get there early!)

Saturday, December 7

10:00am - 3:00pm: 2nd annual Christmas Craft Fair, St. Magdalen Parish Center, Flemington. 70 local artisans, Breakfast & Lunch available. Admission free.

8:00pm: Riverside Symphonia Concert; First Presbyterian Church, Lambertville. For details: [www.riversidesymphonia.org](http://www.riversidesymphonia.org)

Saturday and Sunday December 7 and 8: Bach Choir of Bethlehem: three concerts . See details at [Bach.org](http://Bach.org)

Thursday, December 12: Candle Light Night in Clinton 6:00 - 9:00pm

Friday, December 13th: 4th Annual Union Township Holiday Celebration at the Municipal Building from 5:30-8:00pm. Includes tree lighting and trackless train rides. For information: <https://uniontwp-hcnj.gov/township>.

Sunday, December 15: Santa comes to Clinton. Look for him at the Hunterdon Art Museum Terrace, 1:00-3:00pm. Santa will also be visiting communities nearer you, of course — including by fire engine! Check your local community information for details and join us this Sunday at CHS for breakfast with our own Santa!



Union Township photo

Monday, December 16: Drawing at 7:00pm for Hunterdon Helpline’s fabulous raffle. [Our own Tricia Simpson-Curtain has tickets: See her at church or on line at [Tricia Simpson-Curtin](http://Tricia Simpson-Curtin). She has 100 to sell: \$25 single, \$100 for five. See the poster at left for prizes and other ways to get tickets.

Thursday, December 19: 7:00 pm

A Service of Hope, Remembrance and Light at Califon United Methodist Church

For Recreation and Fun...  
**AN AMAZING RAFFLE**  
 to help Hunterdon Helpline help those in need...  
 Your ticket(s) purchase could make a difference in someone's life and set them on a journey for success.  
 Just in time for the holidays!

**1st Place Prize:**  
 A week stay (in June, 2025) at a beach block house in Ocean City.  
 \$4000 value donated by Right at Home.

**2nd Place Prize:**  
 Two Broadway Orchestra Seats to the musical "Wicked."  
 \$650 value donated by Jeff Smith, Realtor.

**3rd Place Prize:**  
 A Gift Certificate for Two at The Cooking School At Natrar  
 \$360 value donated by Natrar.

**HUNTERDON HELPLINE**  
 DRAWING: December 16, 2024, 7pm  
 At Hunterdon Helpline, 1 Maple Avenue, Flemington, NJ  
 Tickets: One for \$25, Five for \$100

To purchase tickets, mail check to Hunterdon Helpline, PO Box 246, Flemington, NJ 08822

OR, USE THE QR CODE



Ricky and GJ at The Red Mill Festival of Trees, Clinton

## PULSE OF THE PARISH

### BIRTHDAYS

#### December

#### January

Holly	Warnowicz	12	8
Marilyn	Smetana	12	9
Judy	Emmitt	12	11
Ray	Olsen	12	11
Barbara	Burton	12	21
Susan	Marcella	12	21
GH	Waller	12	25
Ricky	Waller	12	25
Jan	Paxton	12	31
Sarah	Shive	12	31

Patrick	Taylor	1	3
Pattie	Bierwirth	1	5
John	Rollins	1	8
William	Schneider	1	10
Dale	Dabour	1	12
Sharon	Tripodi	1	12
Julie	Stine	1	12
Liz	Cannizzaro	1	18
Greg	Schroeder	1	18
Chris	Gnash	1	20

Jaime	Gora	1	21
Caroline	Iler	1	22
Bob	Kane	1	28
Patricia	Chester	1	29
Eli	Jones	1	31

### TRANSITIONS

**Rest eternal grant to her, O Lord:** Carolyn Sue Burns, mother of Karen Murray, died peacefully on November 3, 2024 in Perrysburg, Ohio.

*Thank you to our CHS family for the outpouring of kind thoughts, prayers and condolences on my mom's passing. Mom was always gracious, thankful for her many blessings, and appreciative of those around her. She was 12 days shy of her 93rd birthday when she simply didn't wake up on All Saints Sunday. We are truly blessed.*

*With gratitude,*

*Karen & Hal, Henry & Aaron Murray*



Episcopalians around the world and in various time zones gathered to welcome the Most Reverend Sean Rowe as the church's 28th presiding bishop in a first-of-its-kind virtual investiture service, livestreamed on November 2nd from the Chapel of Christ the Lord at The Episcopal Church Center in New York City. Pictured here are Bishop Rowe and his predecessor, Bishop Michael Curry.

If you were looking for an entry this month for our recently established "Have you Met" column, apologies. I dropped the ball in asking for submissions by new members, but the January issue is already in the planning stages. — Ed.



The Bill Board is still here! In an effort to help defray church expenses, we are asking parishioners to view the Board posted in the Narthex. If you are able, please take a "bill", place it in the marked envelope with your check and either mail it to the church, place it in the collection plate or in the locked black box outside the church office. Thank you for your generosity.

## FOR YOUR CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

- 6 Town of Clinton Holiday Parade**
- 7 Hazardous Waste Recycling at the County Complex 9:00am-1:00pm**
- 8 ONE SERVICE AT 9:00 AM AND BREAKFAST WITH SANTA [PHOTOS BY DAVE DABOUR]  
Youth Group Movie 5:30pm
- 9 Sangha Meditation in the Sanctuary, 6:30pm
- 15 Commitment Sunday  
Giving Branch donations due  
Estimate of Giving Cards for 2025 due  
Volunteer as a delegate to the Diocese of NJ Convention or Watchung Convocation (speak with Sally Bird)
- 16 Christmas Flower Donations due
- 22 Greening of the Church (following Lessons and Carols service at 10:00am with the Choir, Bell Choir and Young Drummers)
- 23 Sangha Meditation in the Sanctuary, 6:30pm
- 24 Children's Service 4:00pm  
Christmas Eve Carol Sing (7:00pm and Holy Eucharist (7:30pm)
- 25 ONE SERVICE AT 10:00am (Come As You Are)
- 26 First day of Hanukkah**
- 29 Youth Group Fellowship 5:30pm
- 30 URGENT BLOOD DRIVE 2:00-7:00pm Dove Hall: tell your neighbors.**

### JANUARY

- 16 Vestry Meeting**
- 26 CHS Annual Meeting. *If you are able, please join us to contribute your thoughts about our worship and ministries.***

## Recurring Meetings

- Mondays 1:00-3:00pm, Knit/Crochet and Chat at the church
- Tuesdays 7:00am, Bible Study at The Spinning Wheel Diner  
7:00-8:30pm in Dove Hall or on ZOOM—Theology on Tap
- Wednesdays Fr. Andrew's office hours, 11am-3:00pm
- Third Thursdays Vestry; 7:00-9:00pm [check website for special Zoom link].
- Sundays 8:00 & 10:00am, Virtual or in-person services (Eucharist can be delivered at home if requested).  
9:30 & 11:15am, Choir Rehearsal, St. Francis Room



<b>Who's Who at Holy Spirit [Area Code 908 unless otherwise noted]</b>
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<b>VESTRY</b>			
Senior Warden	John Andrews	973-476-5389	<a href="mailto:andrewsjohnt@comcast.net">andrewsjohnt@comcast.net</a>
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Treasurer	Sally Bird	328-2925	<a href="mailto:sally.bird@churchholyspirit.org">sally.bird@churchholyspirit.org</a>
Outreach	Jane Anderson	246-0479	<a href="mailto:janderson4244@gmail.com">janderson4244@gmail.com</a>
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	Gary Scott	6258705	<a href="mailto:gary.scottnj@gmail.com">gary.scottnj@gmail.com</a>
Property	Alex vanVeldhuisen	310-0454	<a href="mailto:Alexvv1969@gmail.com">Alexvv1969@gmail.com</a>

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OR	Church Office	236-6301	<a href="mailto:admin@churchholyspirit.org">admin@churchholyspirit.org</a>
Lay Ministry Training	Dot Hospador	335-4055	<a href="mailto:dnhospador@gmail.com">dnhospador@gmail.com</a>
Parish Photographer	Dave Dabour	995-7273	<a href="mailto:dave@dabourphotography.com">dave@dabourphotography.com</a>
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Prayer Chain	On line		<a href="http://Churchholyspirit.org/pastoral-care.html">Churchholyspirit.org/pastoral-care.html</a>
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