



Our door is always open ...

The Trumpeter

Church of the Holy Spirit, 3 Haytown Road, Lebanon, NJ

www.churchholyspirit.org

January 2022

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



December 19, 2021 Advent VII: Emmanuel Sunday
Confirmation and Reception with the Rt. Rev. Bishop Chip Stokes
Dave Dabour photo

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From the Rector's Desk

The mission of Church of the Holy Spirit is to become Christ
as we serve others,
proclaim God's love,
and grow in the Spirit.



Some remember how this mission was identified and articulated. It's worth telling the story of how we happened upon this gift.

1988. A three-day silent vestry retreat. That's right. Silent.

Each day was accompanied by meditations and readings: Day one - Gospel, Day two - Prayer Book, and Day three - thirty years of Vestry Minutes. The priest offered some prayers and a meditation and reflection each session and then off went the 12 vestry members to reflect and consider, to read and meditate. I'd be lying if I didn't mention it wasn't entirely silent. Some broke the rules now and again when a few went out for a smoke together (remember smoking?). There was considerable giggling as we read through those 30 years of vestry minutes. A few tears as well. Some were deeply skeptical about wasting a whole weekend in silence. Most discovered a deeper community through that silence. Sharing silence in common can do that with a people. And without much anxiety, we sat down together for a final time, with just an hour to close out the retreat. So, what's our mission? Why are we here? What is the purpose of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit? I am not exaggerating when I recall that the mission statement was completed, including any and all wordsmithing, in about twenty minutes. A mission statement for many organizations collects dust, adorns the occasional letterhead and maybe turns into a poster to be ignored in an obscure hallway. Not so here for the past 33 years. We read it at every worship service and at every vestry meeting. If we're doing something other than this, let's stop. If we're not doing a part of it, let's get busy.

The mission of CHS is to know Christ
As we serve others,
Proclaim His Love
And the grow in His Spirit.

The mission has been altered twice since then.

The mission of CHS is to follow Christ . . . We decided that while intellectually knowing Jesus is essential, the active voice of follow was more in keeping with our sense of calling as we moved out into the community to serve others.

The mission of CHS is to become Christ . . . We've been deeply engaged in a theological conversation that has directed us toward a more ancient history of Church – from the earliest centuries, the Church was to become the living Body of Christ and individuals within it may be the only gospel anyone ever reads. We are not so arrogant as to presume we can ever be the fully realized Christ, human as we ever will be while walking in time, yet we must have the highest motive and calling as we go about our lives together.

I have not included some additional edits that were simple modifications to align more directly with our Trinitarian doctrine.

So that's the story. Now you know — or know again. And this mission guides and disciplines us. If anyone wants to know what your Church is about, be sure to have this statement in your mind and heart. It's a mission others will find a blessing as well.

Philip+

Treasurer's Report



As of the end of November our financial results for 2021 were as follows:

	YTD	Budget YTD
Operating Revenue	\$ 344,376	\$ 254,806
Total Expense	\$ 282,386	\$ 302,593
Net	\$ 61,990	\$ (47,787)

A couple of notes regarding our finances:

- † Our revenue number includes the funds forgiven from our PPP loan #1 and PPP loan #2. The total is \$49,415. Since this was not budgeted for 2021, our results YTD with these additional funds and the added support from the parish show a positive net number.
- † We expect to be entertaining bids for the replacement of both air conditioners in the first quarter of 2022. These units service all of the building with the exception of the Parish Hall and First Step.
- † The annual report will explain in detail our final financial results for 2021 and our working budget for 2022.

Thank you to all for your continued support of CHS. Many of you have given of your time and talent, as well. We are especially blessed at CHS during this unpredictable time.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sally Bird, Treasurer

If you find any errors or omissions on your periodic statements or are new to the parish and wish to contribute, please contact Pledge Clerks Dave Marlow and/or Eva Lesniak. You will find their contact information on the last page of this newsletter, or you can email admin@churchholyspirit.net. They are the only CHS folks who know your financial contributions. Check the US mail for your year-end 2021 CHS statement before the end of January.

And by the way, if you are an Amazon Smile member, any legitimate 501C3 organization that you designate for contributions does not cost you. It's Amazon's cost and you'll receive periodic notifications from them regarding what you've given as long as Amazon has your requested organization on file.



Disruptive Christmas



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1.

While we come here for comfort in the storm,
for a piece of peace that soothes and assures,
For a calmness that puts into perspective
The panic, the fear, the losses and the breach
For an explanation of whatever ails us
And for a hope to leave with what warms
And warms and warms and warms
A hope that will get us through, get us past
Get us to a place that is anything but right now.
So we want what we want and we want it badly.
2.

We come here for comfort in the storm
And not like just any old storm that was
That comes from age, or comes from illness
Or comes from accident or comes from malice
A storm caused from within or from without
It is not any old storm this year and while
We could say that every year, or any year
Anyone hearing this understands this, this year
This time is different in a difference we don't want
So what we don't want, we don't want badly.
3.

We come here for comfort in the storm
And we're not wrong for wanting exactly that
And no guilt is to be dispersed like ashes
Or sprinkled about like unholy water
In order to get some compliance or shame
Castigating the complacent and compromising
No, we are not wrong for the wanting to hope
For just a morsel of kindly, gentle embracing
A little bit, just a little mote, a glimpse of it:
The solemn beauty of the Feast of the Nativity.
4.

*We come here for comfort in the storm
What we come here for is true but not only
It is not the only truth that night and forever
A truth that would give us what we want
But then would give us more than we asked
And the more than we asked is more than we want
This other truth that is more than comfortable
This other truth that will not leave us alone
Not even for one night, not even for one hour
(As if a worship here would only be one hour)*
5.

*We come here for comfort in the storm
A comfort of growing disruption because it must as
All things that draw toward holiness change us
By means of disturbing any surety of self
As we grew a concrete confidence of who we are
A masquerading misuse of freedom
I get to want what I want and to hell with you
That costs a life, a culture and now very possibly, a
planet
And the craving of comfort can be a balm
Of anesthesia denying the call that true comfort makes*
6.

We come here for comfort in the storm
with a tent-pitching God making camp within
more intimately than a Mary with child.
For what good is it if Mary gave birth
to the Son of God two millenia ago
And we do not give birth to the Son of God
in our time and in our culture? We say
With the ancient master Meister Eckart:
We are all meant to be Mothers of God:
All us and all others, however we may be.

7.

We come here for comfort in the storm
 As drawn far from known neighborhoods
 Known neighbors, known haunts and habits
 The repetitions of tide tables
 That this God of comfort will ignore
 To move us out, so we bring to birth
 whatever it is God needs in our case
 Our times, our loves, our occupations
 And not for us only, no not for us for
 We are not we without all the others

8.

We come here for comfort in the storm
 Yet we become citizens of the storm
 That so quietly and so quietly revolutions
 Lives untold gone before and come after
 Revealing into solid thickening grace causing
 Driving, praying, embodying
 And in the end, nativizing the universe
 Through all eras and issues and before this creche
 Empires fall and churches fall and all powers fall
 All those powers, pregnant with war, need peace.

9

We come here for comfort in the storm
 some like Mary and Joseph seeking shelter
 And some like shepherds come in from the cold
 And some like angels sent on loud errands
 Leaving villages, and flocks, and celestial havens
 To tell the story and live the story and wonder the story
 And come from out there to sit in here
 and ponder in our hearts keeping sacred there
 In the middle of us, amidst the storm
 Where life can never be the same but be brilliant

10.

We come here for comfort in the storm
 Ending forever the abyss of a-loneness:
 We are not and never were just one
 Which would on the face of it be absolute joy
 Were it not unevenly appearing in uneven persons
 Giving the treasury of doubt in a deeper faith
 That must arrive finally in perfect Glory & Peace.
 Glory to God and Peace to those who enjoy God's favor
 While changing and growing and paining to be
 The likeness of the one given birth we celebrate

11

We come here for comfort in the storm
 Christmas is God's yes, a celebration without asterisk
 I like my Christmas Pudding as much as anyone!
 We come here too in Celebration of Divine Disruption
 More glorious than mere coziness
 Pondering all these things in our hearts
 That break our hearts open with this love too strong
 Too powerful, too overwhelming
 And so soft and that it must beg the host
 To enter in, how silently, how silently the gift

12

We come here for comfort in the storm
 Singing:
 Gloria
 Gloria in
 Gloria in excelsis
 Gloria in excelsis Deo
 Gloria in excelsis Deo
 Gloria in excelsis Deo
 Gloria in excelsis Deo
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Philip+

Mary Schwenkler Photo



Recent Events

BRAVO ALEX!

On November 19th, CHS music director Alexei Tartakovsky treated us to a wonderful live concert at the church, followed by a gala reception. He played to a large, Covid-sensitive, very appreciative house. Pieces by Liszt, Rautavaara and Beethoven gave us a chance to hear some of the music Alex planned to offer at the International Telekom Beethoven Competition in Bonn, Germany several weeks later.



Once in Germany, Alex didn't disappoint. Over the course of four challenging, memory-straining performances in early December, he not only won the Deutsche Telekom StreamOn Beethoven Award (Audience Award), but made it to the final three in the main competition and placed second overall! Way to go, Alex!



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021
Remembering those we love but see no longer.

THE HUNTERDON HOLY TRAIL, SUNDAY DECEMBER 19, 2021

CHS was invited to participate in this second year of drive-through vignettes offered by local interfaith churches to retell the Christmas story. Members of the general public drove through churchyards decked with holiday lights and populated by biblical characters.



Donations to local food pantries and to Family Promise of Hunterdon County

[Interfaith Hospitality Network] were encouraged. Thanks to Roberta Maas and other volunteers who rallied to prepare for the occasion and welcomed its visitors!



Roberta Maas Photos

Recent Events Continued

CONFIRMATION AND RECEPTION WITH BISHOP CHIP STOKES

On Sunday, December 19th, each and every congregant present was reaffirmed by our indefatigable bishop in what will likely be his last visit to Lebanon before he and his wife Susan retire to warmer climes. We wish them well in their future travels!

Dave Dabour Photo



CHRISTMAS SERVICES



How to Get to Bethlehem Town

O come, little children, O come, one and all.
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.



Photos:
(L) Anne Simpson
(R & Above)
Jack Daniels



HOUSE BLESSINGS BEGAN ON TUESDAY JANUARY 11TH



The last route is planned for February 1st. Father Phil hopes to complete any routes rescheduled due to inclement weather by February 5th. All routes will be scheduled on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays**. Weekday visits will begin about 3:30 pm; Saturdays will have a 9:00 am start time.

If you can volunteer to be one of **Fr. Phil's drivers**, please do so by email at Admin@churchholyspirit.net. To be sure your message is not lost, enter *W3K Driver* in the subject line. If you have never had the opportunity to spend several hours alone with your priest, now is your chance. The conversation is wonderful, the experience enlightening.

You need not be home to have your house blessed. Fr. Phil will leave Stewardship information for you to consider an estimate of giving for the 2022 calendar year. CHS depends on your giving of time and talent, as well as your dollars, to support our programs and missions.

Sunday January 23rd is the Annual Meeting: One Service at 9:00 am

In addition to reports by the various committees and missions, this is the time for the election of Vestry members. The Vestry is a group of church members committed to the well-being of the church and its mission. As a vestry member, you have the opportunity to discuss and plan the next program; to help support those programs already in place; approve the budget, oversee the way the finances are allocated, and help make decisions as to how we spend the funds we have received.

We will include the Annual Meeting as part of the sermon at that single service. Election of new vestry members will take place during that time. Please attend in person or online and join everyone for coffee hour afterwards. The Zoom link will be the one usually used for the 10:00 Service and it will be published in the CHS News and on www.churchholyspirit.net.

CHSchool

Wendy Hallstrom has taken over administration of CHSchool from Judy Linger, who organized and administered this program since its inception, with assists from Deacons Dot and Michelleslie and suggestions from many others over the past year or so. Father Phil and the Vestry would like to continue with courses offered on the Zoom platform in conjunction with in-person classes — even after we return to post-pandemic conditions. To help with planning, we have developed two questionnaires for our Parish family. The first is primarily for adult “students,” with occasional presentations for the entire congregation. We’d like to know what topics our congregation is interested in — both religious and secular. The second questionnaire is for families with children to help guide us in planning Formation [Sunday School] going forward.

Both questionnaires have been sent out via e-mail blasts. If you have not yet completed them, please do so as soon as possible. The general link to CHSchool classes is [CHSchool - Church of the Holy Spirit \(churchholyspirit.org\)](http://CHSchool - Church of the Holy Spirit (churchholyspirit.org)) You’ll find more information about these and other offerings on that site as they are scheduled. Here’s what’s coming up, in addition to ongoing classes such as **Art with Whitney Wetherill** on Mondays and Thursdays. For information on these classes email wwetherill@gmail.com.



WE CARE GROUP

WE CARE/SHAWL MINISTRY duties are now shared between Deacon Dot and Susan Kane. Please contact either one with any questions/concerns by either text, email or phone. We remain ready and able to assist wherever needed.

The SHAWLS no longer need to be logged in the book. We have decided to simplify life! However, they continue to be a great source of comfort to the recipients so keep knitting/crocheting!

Susan Kane

GRAB A CAN!!!

You'd be amazed at how many donations we can accumulate if everyone brings in just one item every week for the Food Pantry. Our community relies on the generosity of people such as you to feed needy families. Please help us in our ongoing efforts to support our friends and neighbors. ShopRite is having its CanCan sale, so your choices are nearly unlimited! Or you can send a donation directly to the Open Cupboard Food Pantry. The good folks there are grateful either way and use your cash gifts for fresh food and to supplement items that are in short supply. Thank you!

Suzanne and Katie Higgins

WANTED: SANCTUARY TECH TEAM MEMBERS

You don't have to be a geek to join us... AND WE WILL TRAIN YOU!!! Are you curious about the Sound board, Cameras, Audio equipment, and Video production technology that CHS uses to "broadcast" our Sunday services on Zoom and Facebook Live? If you think you might be interested in learning how to run it, let Eva (elesniak@mac.com), John+, Dave, or Phil+ know. Adults, Teens and Tweens are welcome!

"STILLNESS" — DESMOND TUTU (1931-2021)

"I am deeply thankful for those moments in the early morning when I try to be quiet, to sit in the presence of the gentle and compassionate and unruffled One to try to share in or be given some of that divine serenity. If I do not spend a reasonable amount of time in meditation early in the morning, then I feel a physical discomfort—it is worse than having forgotten to brush my teeth! I would be completely rudderless and lost if I did not have these times with God.

"People often ask about the source of my joy and I can honestly say that it comes from my spiritual life—and specifically from these times of stillness. They are an indispensable part of my day regardless of what else I might face. I pray out loud or to myself before every meeting, and before every drive in the car. . . . You may think that as a priest I need these times of reflection but that most people who spend their lives in the marketplace do not. In truth, they probably need them all the more, since the noise of the market makes it even more difficult to hear the voice of God.

"I know no other way available to us besides prayer and meditation to cultivate a real and deeply personal relationship with God, our great Lover in whose presence we want to luxuriate, falling into ever greater and deeper silence. This is the silence of love, the stillness of adoration and contemplation—the sort of stillness that is so eloquent when it happens between two who are in love."

Thanks to Meg McKenna for including these words of tribute and comfort in the Sunday bulletin (1/9/22)

Pulse of the Parish

BIRTHDAYS

January

Patrick	Taylor	1	3
Patti	Bierwirth	1	5
John	Rollins	1	10
Bill	Schneider	1	10
Dale	Dabour	1	12
Shaughnessy	McKellan	1	12
Julie	Stine	1	12
Liz	Cannizzaro	1	18
Greg	Schroeder	1	18
Jaime	Gora	1	21
Caroline	Iler	1	22
Larry	Ingram	1	23
Bob	Kane	1	28
Patricia	Chester	1	29
Fran	Ingram	1	29
Wayne	Cagno	1	30
Eli	Jones	1	31
Tony	Shallo	1	31

February

Floriene	Garrabrant	2	2
Richard	Emmitt	2	4
Ellie	Curtin	2	7
Jack	Daniels	2	9
David	Marlow	2	9
Elizabeth	Van Veldhusen	2	15
Deanne	Altom	2	18
Blessing	Fofana	2	21
Erin	Rocchietti	2	24
Erik	Anderson	2	26
Ron	Schroeder	2	29

We welcome into the household of God:

Mina Rose Andrews, born in October to Christine Bolghand and Sean Andrews; first grandchild of John Andrews and Beth Lambert.

Rest eternal grant to them, oh Lord

Ray Castellani, cousin of John Andrews.

Sophia Gawaluck, aunt of Philip Carr-Jones.

Fay Bird, mother of Howard and mother-in-law of Sally.

And all who have succumbed to Covid-19 during the last several months.

May light perpetual shine upon them, O Lord, whom you welcome as your faithful servants into eternal peace.

Ed Note: If you have had a recent life event that you would like us to publish in *The Trumpeter*, please send it to admin@churchholyspirit.net. We can't publish what we don't know—we would rather have duplicate information than none at all. Thanks very much. Vicki

Hold the Dates

January 11 — Start of House Blessing Routes

January 23 — Annual Meeting and Vestry Elections

February 13 — Consecration Sunday

March 1 — Fat Tuesday

March 2 — Ash Wednesday

March 5 — Diocesan Convention

April 10 — Palm Sunday

April 14 — Maundy Thursday

April 15 — Good Friday

April 16 — Holy Saturday

April 17 — Easter Sunday

Recurring Meetings

Mondays **1:00-3:00 pm. Starting January 24th: Crochet (or knit) at the church. See Susan Kane for details

Tuesdays **6:00 am, Bible Study (check for location)

Wednesdays **12:00 pm Noonday Prayer

Thursday **7:30 — 9:00 pm Monthly Vestry meeting, usually 3rd Thursday of the month. All welcome

 **6:00 pm — Theology on Tap—venue and restart date to be decided

Fridays **10:15 am, Second Friday Prayers with CSJB

 **4:00 pm — 7:00 pm, Virtual Chaplaincy with Deacon Michellelie Call 908-442-8063 (GIB TONE)

Saturdays **6:30 pm Youth Group Meeting

Sundays **8:00 and 10:00 am, Virtual or in-person services (Eucharist can be delivered at home if requested).

 **12:00 pm — 6:00 pm, Virtual Chaplaincy with Deacon Michellelie. Call 908-442-8063 (GIB TONE)

Meetings are held on Facebook Live and Zoom, and in person where noted. Links are posted on the CHS Website and by email in Thursday and Saturday's CHS News. If you have questions or information to share, call the church at 908-236-6301 or email admin@churchholyspirit.net. While you're on the CHS website, see what else is going on — it is updated often. **Thanks to Marge Keller for keeping the monthly calendar updated. It's an invaluable resource!** And speaking of the CHS News and Website, thanks again to the amazing Jan Paxton and John Rollins for all they do to keep the news updated. Their quiet ministry is just that: mostly unheralded and unnoticed. But they keep us all humming! Check it out! www.churchholyspirit.org

Current Diocesan recommendations for safety during the pandemic: Amid surging infection rates of the COVID-19 virus combined with the high contagiousness of the omicron variant, clergy and other congregational leaders *may* want to consider offering only virtual worship in early 2022. The Task Force and Bishop continue to believe this is a decision that should be made by leadership at the local level based on the rate of infection in the church's community. Worshippers who have underlying health risks (over age 65, medical challenges such as diabetes, respiratory or cardio-vascular challenges, those who are unvaccinated and/or who are immuno-compromised, should consider staying at home and joining in online worship. All in-person worship attendees should wear facemasks over their nose and mouth, regardless of vaccination status.

Good ventilation is very important. Moving fresh air into your worship space as often as possible diminishes the amount of virus (if present) in the space and reduces its ability to infect someone else.

We ask the Holy Spirit to comfort us in our trauma, recognizing our fear and offering us hope of God's love and mercy.

Church of the Holy Spirit — Who's Who

Vestry: Senior Warden [until 1/23/22] Junior Warden	Tracy MacGeorge	973-865-9272	tracy.macgeorge@churchholyspirit.net
	Marianne Van Deursen	689-6251	marianne.vandeursen@comcast.net
	Sally Bird	328-2925	sallybird@comcast.net
	Dale Dabour	432-0697	daledabour@att.net
	Eli Jones	399-6286	elijns2@aol.com
	Marge Keller	391-5078	marge.keller@churchholyspirit.net
	David Marlow	216-6943	davidbmarlow@gmail.com
	Cate Mattison	451-2859	cate.mattison@gmail.com
	Gary Scott	625-8705	gary.scottnj@gmail.com
Julie Stine	832-7153	Julie Stine@yahoo.com	

Note: Above positions will change following elections at the annual meeting on January 23rd.

Staff:	Rector	Philip Carr-Jones	236-6301	philip@churchholyspirit.net
	Deacon	Dot Hospador	335-4055	dnhospador@gmail.com
	Deacon	Michelleslie Maltese-Nehrbass	806-6204	deaconmichelleslie@gmail.com
	Director of Music	Alex Tartakovsky	267-938-5438	music@churchholyspirit.net
	Church Office		236-6301	admin@churchholyspirit.net
	Cleaning Service	Papics Janitorial Svce	782-4459	
	Sunday Sexton	Joanne Shallo	328-2374	jshal7@aol.com

Volunteer Staff:

Acolyte Master	Jack Daniels	337-3228	jdaniels_fire@yahoo.com
Altar Guild Directress	Vacant		
CHS News Editor	Jan Paxton	638-8693	webmaster@churchholyspirit.net
Clerk of the Vestry	Diane Hrozencik	238-1944	diane.hrozencik@churchholyspirit.net
Coffee Hour			
Daughters of the King	Wendy Hallstrom	713-1191	whallstrom@comcast.net
Lay Ministry Training	Dot Hospador	335-4055	dnhospador@gmail.com
Nursery	Tricia Simpson-Curtin	310-2782	simpsoncurtint@yahoo.com
Parish Photographer	Dave Dabour	995-7273	dave@dabourphotography.com
Pledge Clerks	Eva Lesniak	420-3613	elesniak@mac.com
	David Marlow	216-6943	davidbmarlow@gmail.com
Prayer Chain	On Line or CHS	236-6301	admin@churchholyspirit.net
Stewardship	Eva Lesniak	420-3613	elesniak@mac.com
Teen Liaison to Youth			
Treasurer	Sally Bird	735-0094	sally.bird@churchholyspirit.net
<i>Trumpeter</i> Editor	Vicki Brooks	752-3062	vicki.brooks@churchholyspirit.net
Usher Captain (8 a.m.)	Carol Crawford-Jones	735-4510	carolcj@prolog.net
Webmaster	Jan Paxton	851-1428	webmaster@churchholyspirit.net
Webmaster Assistant	John Rollins	452-1572	jardigitalworks@gmail.com
Worship Schedule	Eva Lesniak	420-3613	elesniak@mac.com
	Dave Dabour	995-7273	dave@dabourphotography.com
Youth Coordinator	Eli Jones	399-6286	elijns2@aol.com

The Rev. Philip B. Carr-Jones, Rector

The Rev. Dorothea N. Hospador, Deacon

The Rev. Michelleslie Maltese-Nehrbass, Deacon

www.churchholyspirit.org

Check out CHS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/churchholyspirit>

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[all phone numbers 908 area code unless otherwise listed]

During the pandemic, when so much of our worship is virtual, check the CHS website and the Thursday and Saturday CHS News for updated information. If you aren't on our email list, you'll miss a lot. Especially if you're new to our parish, make sure we know how to reach you! Don't assume that we do — nobody's perfect and there are no mind readers here! If we have your email and you aren't receiving the weekly CHS News and other announcements, you might want to check your Spam folder.