



Close Call

A 'close' is the precinct or space around a cathedral or a church.

Historic Christ Church is a mutually supportive Christian community worshipping in the living Anglican tradition of beauty in liturgy and music. Christ Church bears witness to the love of Christ in prayer, service, and fellowship. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE.**

Christ Church in New Brunswick, New Jersey • 732.545.6262 • April 2010

Rector's Column

Beloved in Christ,

I share with you this month a thousand-year-old poem. May it ground you in Christ's resurrection, this day and always.

Blessings and grace,

Deborah+

We awaken in Christ's body as Christ awakens our bodies, and my poor hand is Christ, He enters my foot, and is infinitely me.

I move my hand, and wonderfully my hand becomes Christ, becomes all of Him
(for God is indivisibly whole, seamless in His Godhood).

I move my foot, and at once He appears like a flash of lightning. Do my words seem blasphemous?

—Then
open your heart to Him

and let yourself receive the one who is opening to you so deeply. For if we genuinely love Him, we wake up inside Christ's body

where all our body, all over, every most hidden part of it, is realized in joy as Him, and He makes us, utterly, real,

and everything that is hurt, everything that seemed to us dark, harsh, shameful, maimed, ugly, irreparably damaged, is in Him transformed

and recognized as whole, as lovely, and radiant in His light he awakens as the Beloved in every last part of our body.

—Symeon the New Theologian, (949-1022), published in [The Enlightened Heart: An Anthology of Sacred Poetry](#), edited by Stephen Mitchell

PLEASE TELL YOUR FAMILY...

-Deborah+

Over the last few months, I have been saddened by a number of phone calls in which people tell me that members of our parish have died. Usually these calls concern people who have been home-bound for years before I got here, and of whom I have never heard. These calls are sad because they are about death, but also because they are often the first indication we get that our member or former member is ill.

We here at Christ Church would like to be able to visit with you when you are ill, or to anoint you and pray with you and your family if you are dying. However, your family may not think to contact the church and let us know of your condition, particularly if family members are not themselves attached to a church community. Please ask your family to contact the church if you are ill and to let us know, so that we can come visit you in the hospital and keep you in our prayers.

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VESTRY NOTES

—Judith Kuldinow, Clerk of Vestry

*Regular Meeting of
March 9, 2010*

Dr. Meister called the meeting to order, and Jonathan Gloster opened the meeting with prayer. The Bible study verse was Matthew 24:3-8. Minutes were approved as distributed. There was no correspondence to report or Treasurer's report this month.

Communications and Evangelism Committee

Co-chairs Gerri Callahan and Austin Cooper reported that they met with Dr. Meister to discuss the committee's mission. The vestry had previously discussed how to reach out and engage communities that may not know about Christ Church. The communities include residential developments in the Christ Church vicinity, adult residential developments, assisted-living facilities and non-English speaking communities. Given this purpose, communications is a natural fit with evangelism. Further, the committee will continue the work updating the Christ Church website. Considerable work already has been done in this regard and Austin has reached out to Peter Clarke to learn about that.

The committee will also conduct a search for other websites and possible individuals with web design experience that might be interested in assisting with that effort. We need people who would like to serve on this Committee.

Rector's Report

Dr. Meister reported that the Black History Celebration was well attended, well received and a wonderful event. Thank you to all volunteers!

The guest preacher, the Rev. Tab Chukunta, was asked if he could offer some guidance with the outreach efforts of our Evangelism/Communications committee.

Christ Church was represented by a good number from the congregation at the Diocesan Convention.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

—Artie Phills

Co-chair, Living Stones Capital Campaign

The Living Stones Capital Campaign is still in progress. In March, we displayed some posters in the back of the church that outlined the progress of the campaign. As of March 19, 2010, sixty-four family units have already pledged to the campaign, equating to a current total of \$261,850.

The minimum amount we are striving for to complete the match to the New Jersey Historic Trust (NJHT) is \$412,000. We are more than halfway there, but we still have a long way to go. It is not too late to make a pledge. If you have lost the card, don't worry. Write your information down and place it in the collection plate, or mail it to the church office.

On behalf of the Rector, Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church, in the City of New Brunswick, NJ, and the Capital Campaign Committee, we would like to thank you sincerely for your pledge towards our Living Stones Capital Campaign. We are extraordinarily grateful to you for creating an atmosphere of generosity that will allow others to offer their gifts in a similar manner in support of the campaign. We honor your gift and will make wise use of it towards the capital campaign scope of work.

The scope of work through the grant includes replacing the slate roof over the church, masonry repairs and re-pointing on the outside walls around the stained glass windows, and fixing drainage deficiencies on the property as a whole. Other work we hope to complete, which is not part of the grant, includes handicap access between the church and the Nicholas Room, and improved electrical lighting.

As a donor, please sign your name(s) on the brick area depicted on the right side on the capital campaign banner. The banner is located in the church.

Community events are in the planning for some fellowship and discussion around this project. Look for those dates soon.

We have received an anonymous donation to restore the Annunciation window.

The vestry retreat will be April 9th and 10th. There is a Community Organizing workshop on April 17th at the Cathedral in Trenton.

Deacon's Report

Deacon Pete Cornell led a discussion on the Sermon on the Mount in February; the Deacon is continuing to lead the men's Bible study. Deacon Pete attended the Convention held in Trenton and was very much moved with the Bishop's exclamation "Get Up, Get Up, Get Out, Get Out!"

Old Business

Exterior renovation is behind schedule due to weather conditions.

Dr. Meister conducted a site visit to a Bernardsville Parish to see the design strategies put in place to improve lighting in their sanctuary. Formal bids for the lighting and wiring upgrades will be submitted in April.

The sanctuary and parish house roofs are in need of repair; there has been report of slates falling onto the ground near the food pantry entrance. Follow-up will be conducted with the contractor since the repair should be covered under warranty.

Handicap access via ramps may be funded by a diocesan grant. Dr. Meister will investigate further.

New Business

Dr. Meister is working on re-newing Eucharistic licenses for our lay ministers.

Yard signs are available displaying the Easter Celebration at Christ Church. This will help to make people aware of Christ Church within communities where our parishioners live.

HOLY EUCHARIST WITH MUSIC AND MEDITATION

is offered every **Wednesday from 12:15-12:45 p.m.** in the Clarke Chapel. This service is fully accessible for parishioners and community members who use walker, canes, or wheelchairs.

All are welcome.

HELP WANTED

The ESL program is ready to explode! We have a large population eager to learn English who also need to be taught time commitments and structure as well as English. Can you give 2 hours a week for 8 weeks to help with this program? We have a need for many tutors. The next ESL session will begin April 5 and run through May. Call Gwen at 908.420.0548 or email gwengreenberg@yahoo.com.

Get up, Get up, Get out! It really is rewarding!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Person to assist in writing grant applications for support for the ESL program and the Food Pantry. Experience would be appreciated. Call Gwen at 908.420.0548 or email gwengreenberg@yahoo.com

OUTREACH NEWS

—Gwen Greenberg

There are so many exciting things going on at the Christ Church. Many are rejuvenations of programs that thrived, slipped and now are making a comeback. I'm trying to develop a history of the programs that have been a part of our outreach. For example, Elijah's Promise moved here from St. John the Evangelist Church in the early 1980's, serving many people from the community. We continue our presence at the new home of Elijah's Promise with a dedicated group who go on once a month to prepare and serve food to the needy. We had a very active ESL program teaching the new community members English. That program flourished under the direction of Harriet DeMatteis and became the Puerto Rican Action Board. We are now once again teaching members of the Latino community how to communicate regarding medical and school issues.

Our Food Pantry began small. We began feeding our neighbors on a small plan through bags that could be gotten through the church office and then it grew. We were feeding a number of families with the help of parishioners and the MCFOODS program. With Rector Deborah's help we added the resources of the state government program and an affordable buying program, and now we have the federal food program providing food to supplement what we as a parish provide. We are an outreach parish. We are Getting UP, Getting Up, and Getting Out.



FOOD PANTRY CALENDAR APRIL 2010

Please note that this is a generic calendar—assignments were not available at press time.

April 7 (Wednesday)

A.M.—MCFOOD pickup: Sandy Heinlein

April 13 (Tuesday)

8:30 a.m.—Unloading truck(s) from Hillside

April 14 (Wednesday)

A.M.—MCFOOD pickup: Sandy Heinlein
1:00 p.m.—Bagging
6-7 p.m.—Distribution

April 17 (Saturday)

9-10:30 a.m.—Bagging
10-11:30 a.m.—Art with kids
10:30-11:30.—Distribution

April 21 (Wednesday)

A.M.—MCFOOD pickup: Sandy Heinlein
1:00 p.m.—Bagging
6-7 p.m.—Distribution

April 22 (Thursday)

6-8 p.m.—Bagging

April 23 (Friday)

9-10 a.m.—Distribution

April 24 (Saturday)

9-10:30 a.m.—Bagging
10-11:30 a.m.—Art with kids
10:30-11:30.—Distribution

April 28 (Wednesday)

A.M.—MCFOOD pickup: Sandy Heinlein
1:00 p.m.—Bagging
6-7 p.m.—Distribution

April 29 (Thursday)

6-8 p.m.—Bagging

April 30 (Friday)

9-10 a.m.—Distribution

Parish Announcements

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR "REVIVE!"

What? A gathering of the ecumenical Body of Christ for three days of inspiring worship and engaging teaching around Christian faith and discipleship and the Christian imperative of justice.

The "Revive!" weekend will be a time for people who are tired of fighting the culture war, of letting our differences—theology, class, race, denomination—get in the way of our yearning to be a beloved community marked by unity, not uniformity. It's a new conversation about being passionate for both Jesus and justice, and what it means to be a follower of Jesus engaged in the world with the prophets' cry for justice.

Who will be there? You...along with 1,000 others, gathering. All kinds of people you would not normally hang out with, including people from other churches and Christian traditions. People of all races and ages, who are tired of the

old conversation, and yearn for the new wind of the spirit to blow down the walls that divide. The speakers, nationally known and local heroes, come with a variety of perspectives and backgrounds, and will challenge you, and each other, to find integrity in your Christian faith, and deploy it in new ways in the world.

Join us over June 11-13, 2010, at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton, NJ. For more information about "Revive!" please visit: www.revivejustice.org.

ANNOUNCING THE 2010 CHRIST CHURCH T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

Calling all artists (and opinionated people) to submit designs for a Christ Church t-shirt! Designs should be easily reproducible, should contain the name of the church and our website, and should convey something about who we are. Submission deadline is Sunday, April 11. Judging will take place by congregational vote shortly afterward, but get your creative juices flowing now!

COME HELP US BUILD THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

This free retreat, offered by the Anti-Racism Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey, will be held at Grove Hall, 15 Pilgrim Pathway, Ocean Grove, from Wednesday May 6th (in 6:00 the evening) through Saturday, May 8th at 3 p.m. All fees, rooms, and meals are provided free of charge. Register by April 30th at spaige@newjersey.anglican.org, or call at 609.394.5281 (ext 10).

EFFECTIVE ORGANIZING FOR CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Lay and ordained church leaders will learn the skills and the steps to organize their congregations for effective action within the church and in the community.

With Mike Gecan—Lead organizer of Metro IAF, NYC, founding organizer of East Brooklyn Congregations, creator of the Nehemiah Homes Project. Author of *Going Public*, *Effective Organizing for Congregational Renewal*, and *After America's Midlife Crisis*.

Saturday, April 17
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Trinity Cathedral
801 West State Street,
Trenton, NJ
\$20 per person
BYO Lunch

**Registration Deadline:
Thursday, April 1**

Sponsored by the Jubilee Office of the Diocese of New Jersey.

To register, contact:
The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel
mjarrettk@thecrisisministry.org
609.396.9355

MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH

SUNDAY EVENSONG SERIES *Worship and Free Concerts, Sundays at 4 o'clock*

April 4

Easter (no vespers)

April 11

Corey Crawford & Martin Neron
A recital for countertenor and piano

April 18

Mark Pacoe, organist
New York, NY

April 25

Stanley Alexandrowicz, guitarist

May 2

Spring Concert
Christ Church Choirs

**YOUNG ADULT
LUNCHEON
Sunday, April 18
following the
10:30 a.m. service**

LENTEN WORSHIP

Sundays

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 9:00 a.m. Youth choir rehearsal
- 9:30 a.m. Education for all ages
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- 4:00 p.m. Evensong and Recital Series

Holy Week: March 28—April 4

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week. It is the day we re-enact Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, less than a week before his death, by processing with palms and meditating on the Passion at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Monday through Wednesday we continue to deepen our spiritual focus with daily Eucharist at 7 p.m.

Maundy Thursday we remember the institution of the Lord's Supper with a parish meal and service of foot-washing, followed by the stripping of the altar, when we remember the arrest of Christ and the stripping of his dignity at the hands of the Roman soldiers. Soup supper at 6 p.m.; Holy Eucharist at 7 p.m.

Good Friday is the day we remember the death of Christ for our salvation. Worship at 12 noon and 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday A brief office helps us to come to terms with the reality of Christ's death and burial. 10 a.m.

Great Vigil of Easter walks us through salvation history from the time of creation to the resurrection of Christ. The most sacred service of the Christian year, and originally the only time Christian converts could receive baptism. Saturday, April 3 at 8 p.m.

Easter Morning: Festival Holy Eucharist celebrates the resurrection of Christ and our hope of eternal life. 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Music Ministry

THANKS TO OUR MUSICIANS

—Mark Trautman

Many thanks to the Parish Choir, Youth Choir, St. Cecilia Ensemble, and Canticum Novum Choir for their excellent leadership during Lent. In particular, thanks to Caroline La Porte-Burns and Leslie Pruess for their solo offerings on March 14 and 21 during the 10:30 service.

Our choirs put in many hours of practice time throughout the year, especially at Christmas and Easter. Thanks to all of the singers—and their families—for their gifts of time and talent.

MUSIC FOR EASTER

—Mark Trautman

The St. Cecilia Ensemble and Canticum Novum Choir will provide the musical leadership for the Great Vigil of Easter on Saturday evening, April 3. This is a first for these choirs, and they will be singing a variety of new pieces, including music for choir and congregation.

The Parish Choir will sing at both Easter morning services, and will be joined by a small chamber orchestra at 10:30. They will sing music by Haydn, Schubert, as well as Handel's famous "Hallelujah" chorus. The chorus will also be sung at the 8 o'clock service, accompanied by trumpet and organ.

I thank everyone who contributed to the Christ Church Music Endowment. Your generous gifts make allow us to provide special music at Christmas and Easter—and throughout the year.

ANNUAL SPRING CONCERT: SUNDAY MAY 2 AT 4 PM

—Mark Trautman

Our Eleventh Annual Spring Concert will take place on Sunday, May 2 at 4 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$20/\$15 students and seniors.

Throughout this academic year, the choirs have been singing various settings of the "ordinary" of the Mass. This concert will be a compilation of settings of Eucharistic settings, including Palestrina's *Missa Brevis* and Benjamin Britten's *Festival Te Deum*. Tickets will be available soon in the Parish Office.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist with Music, Rite I
9-9:30 a.m.—Youth choir rehearsal
9-9:30 a.m.—St. Cecilia Choir rehearsal
9:30-10:20 a.m.—Children's Sunday School, Rite 13, J2A, Senior High Bible Study, Adult Sunday School
9:30 a.m.—Men's Ministry (*second Sunday of the month*)
9:30 a.m.—Parish Choir rehearsal
10:30 a.m.—Choral Holy Eucharist, Rite II, followed by Coffee Hour
4:00 p.m.—Choral Evensong Concerts

Monday through Friday

7:30 a.m.—"Open" AA meeting for men and women in the Auditorium.

Monday

9:00 a.m.—7 p.m.—Boaz Open Clinic
11:00 a.m.—ESL Class
6:00 p.m.—ESL Class
7:00 p.m.—Boaz Board (*third Monday of the month*)
7:15 p.m.—Lyme Disease Support Group (*first and third Mondays of the month*)
7:30 p.m.—Canticum Novum Choir Rehearsal
7:30 p.m.—Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday

9:00 a.m.—7 p.m.—Boaz Open Clinic
7:30 p.m.—Vestry (*second Tuesday of the month*)

Wednesday

12:15 p.m.—Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary
6:00 p.m.—Food Pantry (*last three Wednesdays of the month*)
7:30 p.m.—WomenSpirit
7:30 p.m.—Property Committee (*first Wednesday of the month*)

Thursday

9:00 a.m.—7 p.m.—Boaz Open Clinic
8:00 p.m.—Parish Choir Rehearsal

Friday

9:00 a.m.—Food Pantry (*last two Fridays of the month*)

Saturday

10:30 a.m.—Food Pantry (*last two Saturdays of the month*)

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Christ Church Web Page:

www.christchurchnewbrunswick.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday:

9:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Friday:

9:00 a.m.—noon

Close Call deadline is:

Friday, April 16, for
May 2010 Issue

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Christ Church Vestry

If you wish to become involved in any of our ministries, please contact the Vestry committee chairs.

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