



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
"THE LITTLE STONE CHURCH"

March & April, 2009
Newsletter

700 DELAWARE STREET, PO BOX 118
FOREST CITY, PA 18421

WEB Site: WWW.CHRISTCHURCHFORESTCITY.COM

A MESSAGE FROM
Father Don Schaible, II, Rector of Christ & Trinity Parishes

This newsletter covers both seasons of Lent and Easter. Many different things are happening at church. We embrace the discipline of Lent. Prayer, penance, and alms giving are the hallmarks of the season. As we deepen and strengthen our relationship with God and others, we should be motivated to be more true to ourselves. We recognize and admit our faults so that we are more open to the forgiveness of sin that God offers.

We believe in a God whose compassion and love know no bounds. He does not make it difficult to be forgiven and healed. A good question is: Why don't we take Lent more seriously? A better question is: What are we waiting for?

When we suffer an injury or have an ailment, we know enough to seek medical attention. Most people know that ignoring things usually makes them worse. We have all heard of people who have done this and cancer spreads, appendixes burst, infections spread, etc. Many suffer unnecessarily.

The time is now! It is time to alleviate our suffering. We need to make amends with God and others. During Lent, we all do this together. God's grace is very powerful and very available.

When we embrace Lent, Easter is much more joyful. Instead of just hearing about the Resurrection, we experience it. New life thrives in us, our homes, and our communities.

BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES with Father Don on these dates and places:

March 5th – at Trinity Church
March 12th – at Christ Church
March 19th – at Trinity Church
March 26th – at Christ Church

April 2nd – at Trinity Church
April 9th – Holy Thursday – no Bible Study
April 16th – at Christ Church
April 23rd – at Trinity Church
April 30th – at Christ Church

Visit our website at www.christchurchforestcity.com

LENTEN DEVOTIONS AT CHRIST CHURCH

WEDNESDAYS: The Holy Eucharist at 6:30 PM - March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st & 8th.

FRIDAYS: Stations of the Cross at 6:30 PM – March 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th and April 3rd.

GOOD FRIDAY: Service at 1:00 PM

HOLY SATURDAY: Blessing of Easter Baskets and Easter Food - 10 AM

The Great Vigil of Easter: April 11th - 6PM

EASTER SUNDAY: Holy Eucharist - 9:00 AM

COATS FOR THE COMMUNITY PROJECT UPDATE

John Finlon, a member of American Legion Post 524 in Montrose and a member at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Montrose reported that 322 coats and many hats, gloves and blankets were presented to individuals and families from across Susquehanna County and elsewhere. Our thanks go to John, the American Legion Post 524, all of the volunteers and the coat donors who helped make this cold winter a bit more comfortable for hundreds of people in our area. Please remember that this is an ongoing project so, if you should see hats, gloves, scarves, blankets, etc. on clearance sale, pick up some of those items for the 2009 coat drive.

EPISCOPAL CHURCHES RECEIVE SOCIAL GRANTS

In the first of five years of grant awards for local social ministry projects that will be made from \$1.1 million in New Hope campaign funds, three area Episcopal churches – two in Wilkes-Barre and one in Scranton – will receive social outreach grants totaling nearly \$100,000.

The largest award, \$40,000, will go to Good Shepherd Church on Washington Avenue for the development of a men's shelter at the church. St. Clement's/St. Peter's Church on Hanover Street in Wilkes-Barre will receive \$30,000 toward start-up costs for a day care center to serve low and middle-income families. St. Stephen's Church on South Franklin Street in Wilkes-Barre, will receive \$10,000 to expand its clothing/thrift store.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION AT MASS

If you want your birthday and/or anniversary recognized (blessing given) during mass, please personally contact Fr. Schaible or Mary, the Office Manager, in advance of the date. Fr. Don will be very happy to provide the blessing. Because of numerous requests from members of both churches, he will not do this without the person's own request. If someone as a matter of personal choice wants to make a donation as a thank offering for their blessing, the donation should be put in an envelope and placed in the collection plate during the regular Sunday offering. But remember, there is no charge for blessings!

ARE YOU A CHRIST CHURCH MEMBER IN NEED? As a member of our church you have the benefit of a loving and caring family. That benefit was made tangible several years ago when the Vestry established our Agape Fund. The fund is available to those members who are experiencing a financial or other crisis. Additionally, our Discretionary Fund is not only available to the community at large but also to our Christ Church family. Requests for assistance and gifts made in response to requests are treated confidentially. Contact Father Don if you need assistance or if you know of someone in the community needing assistance.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE BEING ABUSED? - If you or someone you know is being abused, in any way, please call the following free 24-hour hotline at 1-800-257-5765 (Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties). Wayne County residents, call 1-800-698-4847 for Victim's Intervention Program. Both provide FREE and CONFIDENTIAL services to callers.

12 STEP GROUP MEETINGS – Our dining hall is scheduled for use by Al-Anon on Sunday's at 7PM and by Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) on Mondays and Thursdays at 7PM. Also, a 10 AM Wednesday meeting has been added for those unable to venture out in the evening. In addition to AA and Al-Anon, Over Eaters Anonymous (OA), meets from 5 to 6 PM on Sunday's. Our space is busy and that is a good thing!

CHRIST CHURCH Mission Statement - "We believe that Jesus Christ governs the church and we shall be a witnessing ministry and a celebrating example of that belief in our parish and in our community"

Our Vestry
Members for 2009

Lorraine Jones
Joan Marcel
Jack Sherman
Ex-officio members:

Emily Maslar
Barb Gliha
Barb Taylor
Beth Atcavage
Jack DeMark, Senior
Warden, Juliann Doyle,
Vestry Secretary and Father
Don

ALL members of Christ Church are invited and welcomed to the Vestry Meeting. As a non-vestry member, you would be a non-voting participant.



Office Hours

We share with Trinity Church in Carbondale the operation of their office. Mary Pucul, Office Manager, usually staffs the office. During March, Mary Ann O'Pecko will fill in for Mary. Office hours are weekdays, except national holidays, from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Preferably, all church business should be directed to Mary Ann or Mary at 570-282-3620. For after-hour emergencies please call Father Don Schaible at the office or Jack DeMark at 785-5792 or Barbara Gliha at 785-3804.

THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE MAY & JUNE 2009. Deadline for submitting articles for the next issue will be April 15, 2009. Articles may be emailed to: jdoyle@nep.net or snail mailed to Juliann at: 305 Martin Street, Browndale, PA 18421. Until then. your editors, Juliann Doyle and Jack DeMark !!

Cub Scout Pack 419 UPDATE

Weekly meetings will be held on Wednesdays at 6 PM in our dining hall. For more information, please contact Mary @ 785-4261. They are still recruiting 2nd and 3rd grade boys. Leaders and volunteers are always welcome. For more information about our new Scouting ministry, please contact the Sr. Warden or Mary Cabri at mtcabri@aol.com .

Scouting For Food Project

Starting the first week of March, Cub Pack 419 will be going around the neighborhood leaving note cards on doorknobs of homes. The cards explain that the Cub Scouts are holding a food drive and lists the items needed. The Scouts will then go around the neighborhood again on Saturday, 3/7/09 collecting shopping bags with the donated items left on porches and front steps in the community. All food items will be donated to a local food pantry. We hope the community will give generously to Pack 419 as they seek to help others weather the current economic storm.



Pack 419 Fundraiser

Pack 419 will hold their 1st Annual Pack Fundraiser on Wed. 3/18/09 at 6pm in the Forest City Borough Hall (on Main St. above the police station and library.) They will hold a Hot Dog Dinner, Art Show, Bake Sale and Rummage Sale. The Hot Dog Dinner will cost \$4.00. Most Bake Sale and Rummage Sale items will range from 50 cents to \$5.00. At 7pm, the Scouts will hold a Crime Prevention Presentation for youth in grades K - 3. The Scouts hope that families from the community will come out for food, fun and to support Pack 419. Proceeds will be used toward meeting materials and items needed by the pack. The Scouts are also trying to set up a Pack Scholarship Fund for families of scouts who may struggle with the cost of scouting.

BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS HAS BEGUN St. Paul's of Montrose is again hosting the county-wide Bountiful Blessings program that provides Easter dinners to those in need. It is estimated that 600 dinners will be needed throughout the county this year. Last year the program provided 35 Easter dinners to people in Forest City. Organizing efforts are currently underway and Christ Church, Forest City has volunteered to assist in its corner of the county.

Our participation will involve contacting the local school district for collection of packaged macaroni & cheese, delivering the mac & cheese donation to St. Paul's, bringing back to Christ Church the Easter dinners and distributing the Easter dinners from the church on April 8th. Please volunteer for this outreach project. Contact Jack DeMark or Juliann Doyle for more information. Keep this annual mission in your prayers.

OUR DINING HALL WAS FULL on Tuesday, February 24th. We hosted a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and invited our Methodist friends and our brothers and sisters from Trinity Church. The food was delicious, as usual, and we enjoyed each other's company as we prepared for Lent. Although the supper was free of charge, free will offerings totaled \$ 225.

FOOD SALES DURING LENT

Our **Take and Bake Pizza** is on sale during the following Fridays in Lent: **March 6th and 27th and April 3rd**. There are no tickets for these sales so, please place your order by calling our voice mail system at 785-3425 and leaving a call back message. You can pick up your pizza between the hours of 12 PM and 5:30 PM on the sale dates. Volunteers for the mornings of the sales dates are needed.

On **Saturday, March 14th** we will hold our all-u-can eat **Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner**. Tickets are currently on sale. Help will be needed on Friday, March 13th at 9:30 AM to make meatballs and prep salad bar items. Helpers will be needed on the 14th for cooking, plating, serving and clean up. Please sign up to help with this major fundraiser.

On **Friday, March 20th** is our **Soup & Haluski Take Out**. We will prepare and sell for take out only, three different soups and cabbage and noodles in pint or quart containers. The soups for take out will be chicken noodle, Manhattan clam chowder, and broccoli and cheese. Please sign up to help prepare and cook on Thursday, March 19th. Sign up sheets will be in the vestibule. There are no tickets for this sale so, please place your order in advance by leaving a message on our voice mail at 785-3425.

DIOCESAN TRAINING DAY – Saturday, March 28 @ St. Stephen’s Wilkes-Barre

Cost is \$17.50 per person. Please contact Juliann Doyle if you are interested in attending. Registration can be completed on-line at www.diobeth.org The following is a list of workshops to be offered:

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| 1. Wardens/Vestry 101 | 7. Ministry of the lay Eucharistic Visitor |
| 2. Christian Formation: Development of an Engaging Lesson Plan | 8. Grants and New Hope: New Opportunities for Ministry |
| 3. Treasurer’s Workshop | 9. ChurchPost Training |
| 4. Building a Youth Ministry Program with 6-12 graders | 10. Practical tips for the part-time church organist |
| 5. Give and Live: Stewardship as a Way of Life | 11. Wardens/Vestry 101 |
| 6. One Size Does Not Fit All – How to Choose a Curriculum for Your Congregation | 12. A Hand’s On Approach to Developing a Powerful Planned Giving Program in Your Parish. |



Spring Ahead

To ensure you make Sunday worship on time, turn your clocks ahead one hour on Sunday, March 8th at 2AM!!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS	APRIL BIRTHDAYS	ANNIVERSARIES
4 th – Katelyn Dovin	1 st – Jenna Dovin	<p>March 25th – Jack and Debbie Sherman</p> <p>April 11th – Paul and Barbara Mihelc 13th – Brian and Donna Gasper</p>
6 th – Jack Sherman	2 nd – Ashley Hornbeck	
7 th – John Emmett	4 th – Ryan Atcavage	
11 th – Kathleen Sherman	4 th – Joan Marcel	
13 th – Robert Gliha	6 th – Albert Taylor	
15 th – Henry Tusar	7 th – Karen Woodward	
16 th – Ron Kulasinsky	8 th – David Jones	
18 th – Stephen Mikloiche Jr.	12 th – Robert Doyle	
18 th – Joseph Gliha	15 th – Florence Planishek	
19 th – James Jones	18 th – Margaret Armstrong	
25 th – Bryce Armstrong	22 nd – Jane Woodward	
30 th – Pam Ferrari	23 rd – Douglas Eldridge	
	25 th – Taylor Haley	
	28 th – John Walters	
	29 th – Matthew Silfee	



SAVE THOSE OLD CELL PHONES - Wayne County's Victim's Intervention Program (VIP) will recycle old cell phones. All phones and their batteries are accepted (except the very old bag phones). If you are wondering what to do with your old cell phones, please give them to Juliann Doyle and she will gladly take them to VIP for recycling. It's that easy

COMING EVENTS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 18 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
April 15 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
May 2 – Pork Supper
May 20 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
June 17 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
July – No Vestry Meeting
August 6 – Old Home Week Bake Sale
August 19 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting

September 16 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
October 3 – Blessing of the Pets
October 17 – Pork Supper
October 21 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
November 18 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
November 29 – Advent Event
December 5 – Soup Supper
December 9 – 7 PM Vestry Meeting
December 20 – Santa and Church Greening

PROPERTY TAX / RENT REBATE PROGRAM

The deadline to apply for the 2008 Pennsylvania Tax or Rent Rebate is June 30, 2009. The Property Tax/Rent Rebate program benefits eligible Pennsylvanians age 65 and older; widows and widowers age 50 and older; and people with disabilities age 18 and over. If you need assistance completing the form or need assistance regarding the claim form, please call (toll free) 1-888-222-9190 or for more information contact your local Area Agency on Aging (Lackawanna County – 963-6740 or 961-1234; Susquehanna County – 265-6121 or 1-800-982-4346; Wayne County 253-4262) or Senior Center and ask for an APPRISE Counselor (1-800-783-7067) or in our area you may contact the Scranton Department of Revenue District Office at 570-963-4585. If you are computer literate, go to: www.revenue.state.pa.us or e-mail requests to: ra-forms@state.pa.us

Homeowners Income

\$ 0 to \$ 8,000
\$ 8,001 to \$ 15,000
\$ 15,001 to \$ 18,000
\$ 18,001 to \$35,000

Maximum Rebate

\$ 650.00
\$ 500.00
\$ 300.00
\$ 250.00

Renters Income

\$ 0 to \$ 8,000
\$ 8,001 to \$ 15,000

Maximum Rebate

\$ 650.00
\$ 500.00

A PRAYER FOR GRACE AT EASTER AND ALWAYS

Lord, This day, at this table, in this company touch us in this place. Fill our hearts with your love, keep our sympathy and compassion always fresh and our faces turned towards heaven lest we become hard and forget, as we love you, we shall gift each other with patience and love. May God bless our meal and grant us a compassionate and understanding heart toward one another this day and forever more. Amen

RECIPES

SPICY CHICKEN W/ GRILLED PINEAPPLE

8 Scallions, chopped, plus ¼ cup dark-green 2-inch strips for garnish
1 medium Onion, chopped
3 garlic cloves, chopped
3 tablespoons cider vinegar
2 tablespoons soy sauce (low sodium)
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1 habanero or jalapeno chili, chopped
1.5 tablespoons fresh thyme leaves
1 tablespoon packed light brown sugar
2 teaspoons ground allspice
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon
3.5 lbs chicken parts (thighs & drumsticks)
1 (about 4 lbs) fresh pineapple
2.5 tablespoons packed light brown sugar

SAUCE: first 12 ingredients (except scallion garnish) in a food processor, puree until almost smooth. Separate half & chill in refrigerator. Place remaining sauce in resealable plastic bag with chicken. Turn to coat chicken. Set in refrigerator to marinate at least 8 hours.

COOKING: Cut pineapple, sprinkle one side of each slice with .5 teaspoon light brown sugar, grill turning once until golden brown. Transfer to a platter alternating slices with scallion garnish. Remove chicken from bag and grill over moderate heat, for 35 to 45 minutes. Sauce is spicy. Enjoy !!

APRICOT BAR COOKIES

¾ of a cup PLUS 2 tablespoons butter, unsalted and softened
2.5 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
¼ teaspoon salt
1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
2 large eggs, at room temperature
2 tablespoons whipping cream
½ teaspoon almond extract
1 cup dried cherries
½ cup old fashioned oats
½ cup sweetened flaked coconut
½ cup sliced almonds
1 jar (12 oz) apricot preserves

Preheat oven to 325 w/rack in center
Butter 13x9x2 baking dish, then line with foil, allowing a 2 inch overhand on longer sides to use as handles, butter foil. Whisk flour, baking soda and salt in a bowl. Beat ¾ cup butter and sugar in a bowl on high speed until light and fluffy. Add eggs. Add cream and almond extract. Slowly add flour mixture, then cherries. Spread batter in prepared dish, baking at 30 minutes. Transfer cookie layer in dish to rack and cool. Mix oats, coconut and almonds and remaining 2 tablespoons butter. Spread on baking sheet and bake 12 to 14 minutes. Cool. Spread preserves over cooled cookie layer, sprinkle oat mixture on top. Lift out of baking dish and cut into 1 inch squares. Makes 60 1 inch bars.

A LENTEN TALK WITH GOD

So far today, God, I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper. Haven't been grumpy, nasty or selfish. I'm really glad of that. But in a few minutes, God, I'm going to get out of bed; and from then on, I'm probably going to need your help. Amen.