

CCT Newsletter
January and February
Edition

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Christ Church Tashua
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Christ Church Tashua Newsletter January & February 2019



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From Our Senior Warden

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Happy New Year!!!

I could not be happier to draft this message for our January/February 2019 Newsletter!

To reflect on all that has occurred, over not even the last six months:

We wished Father Rob and Maggie safe travels back to California and prepared for an unknown period of transition moving forward.

I began to write, my prayers, goals and intent, were to encourage you, our parishioners, to have faith, to believe in the strength of “our little church on the hill, with the big heart” (thank you, Ray). To welcome the Supply Priests as we were able to provide them (thank you, Todd for your particular efforts here), to join together in worship for our combined summer service schedule, and to pray, that your vestry will work hard to provide what is best for our parish.

I feel beyond blessed in how my particular prayers were answered. Wonderful Supply Priests consistently appeared available, our congregation joined together and embraced (as schedules permitted) our summer service schedule, and, to ultimately be fortunate and blessed to welcome as our Supply Priest on September 9, 2018, without any notion of where this would lead us, the Reverend Jane Jeuland.

I believe that I can now share, that when I accepted the position of your Senior Warden, with the knowledge that we would be in need of a new Rector for “our little church on the hill with the big heart”, my personal solitary prayer was that when I concluded my service, I would be allowed to share that my prayers had been answered. I cannot begin to figure out just how this occurred. I remember Bishop Ian Douglas offering prayers, and suggesting I, myself, pray to the Holy Spirit.

I will leave it there. We begin an exciting new year with Reverend Jane. We welcome her family, Reverend Eric, Elias and Jonah. I wish you all health and happiness for 2019 and the years to come.

Faithfully,
Susan Vasone



THE MISSIONAL CHURCH: OUR NEXT CHALLENGE

We were thrilled on December 30th, the last service of 2018, to announce that we have completed our agreement with Rev. Jane Jeuland to serve as our Missional Priest in Charge, effective January 1, 2019. It was a wonderful way to start the New Year – Rev. Jane and CCT have felt like an ideal fit from the beginnings of her interim supply role and a re-awakening of the spirit of Christ Church and renewal of the faith of its members has been noticeable. She has brought change and we have shown a willingness to embrace it. There seem to be a growing core of worshipers in the pews on Sundays and the packed Christmas Eve service was magical. So what will be next for us in 2019?

In my view, now that we have filled the critical role of spiritual leader, and are feeling blessed and hopeful, we need to better understand what a missional priest and missional church is before we charge ahead. As a Missional Priest, Rev. Jane, whom we all know has another important and fulfilling job as a Chaplain at Yale New Haven Hospital, will be devoting 12-15 hours per week to Christ Church. We will work together to be as flexible, efficient and effective within this range, but the truth is that after writing sermons, planning and leading services, that leaves only a few additional hours per week to work out of the parish office or conduct pastoral visits (or take care of CCT business from home). This is the reality of what we can afford today. It is far different from the ¾ time position held by Father Rob and, when you think about it, it is somewhat hard to believe we are not that many years removed from having a string of full-time rectors – preaching on Sundays, living in the rectory, being visible in the community, handling sermons and snow removal, hymns and leaky roofs, leading us both spiritually and operationally. The Diocese tells us that parishes with Missional Priests must have the “capacity and will to imagine a different future with less than half time clergy.”

I don't know what that future is, but I believe that Rev. Jane's presence is a gift and that our current situation is an opportunity. A book about transition provided by the Diocese says, “We believe God's abundant spirit is bringing new life to the church in America, but it looks a lot different than we imagined when we started.” We're being called into “a new imagination about being God's people.” It is not the end of tradition, but congregational life and the role of the clergy will need to change. As a result, we will fundamentally alter our focus and attention as a missional congregation. It is a disruptive time, but energizing.

With declining attendance, church leaders of this era often concentrate on “fixing problems,” and “keeping the doors open.” A common New Year's resolution for churches, “attracting more people” is admirable but generally as successful as our own resolutions to “go to the gym more,” and “eat healthier.” In 2019, a good start would be to better understand our evolving responsibilities of working together on all aspects of parish life and reaching others who might feel the same spirit, while re-engaging in our mission with God and our community.

With patience and open minds, we can begin the process by listening, discerning, experimenting, reflecting, and deciding. Together.

Todd Rossel
Jr. Warden

*Ever feel that you'd like to be involved in the worship service
but are not quite sure what to do?*

That's very common ... and we're here to help! We have lots of opportunities for our parishioners to serve at our 8am and at our 10am worship service. You can be a greeter, a crucifer, a chalice bearer or a lector. You can help our Altar Guild prepare the altar and you can help after the 10am service with counting. There's a lot to do to keep our worship service running smoothly each week! Feel free to talk with Rev. Jane about serving or contact Maryanne in the Parish Office. We think you'd find it a meaningful experience.

CHURCH RECEIVES MAJOR GIFT FROM JEAN AND DAVID WALLACE FOUNDATION

On Sunday, December 16th, Anne Wallace Juge and Mary Wallace Strizek came to our 10am service on behalf of their mother, Jean Wallace of Greenwich, CT and their late father David. They presented a check for \$250,000 to the vestry from the foundation in honor of their mother Jean. Mrs. Wallace was not feeling well enough to attend the service, but sent her daughters as emissaries on her behalf. The Wallace's have had a long association with Christ Church. Mrs. Wallace grew up in the house immediately down the hill from the church on the same side of Tashua road and attended church with her parents, John and Edna Ives McLean, for whom the newer addition to the church is named. This addition was made possible in large part by a previous major gift of \$500,000 from the Wallace Foundation in honor of her parents. The family has been generous supporters of the mission, ministries and operations of Christ Church throughout the years. The good works made possible by the family over the years have and will continue to be an enduring legacy and benefit to all those served by our church now and for generations to come.

Prayers were offered by the Reverend Jane Jeuland and the congregation for the ongoing loving care and health of Jean and her family, and in loving memory of David, who died last December. Mary and Anne sat in what they remembered to be the pew their grandparents and mother sat in weekly. Anne had recently visited the church this past summer with her mother and spent time with our senior warden Susan Vasone. Mary, who lives in Colorado, made her first visit back to the church since being baptized here! It was a joyous celebration of these loving members of our church family.



Outreach Ministries at Christ Church Tashua

HOLIDAY OUTREACH AT CHRIST CHURCH TASHUA

Thank you to our caring parishioners who donated an overflowing tableful of coats and winter items to our coat drive! Because of renovations at St. John's, we were asked to bring our donations to Trinity Southport. They, in turn, delivered the clothing to the Center at BICC (a Muslim outreach in Bridgeport). Thank you to Martine Yourieff for delivering the coats to Trinity Southport.

A big thank you to everyone who "undecorated" our Jesse Tree and brought in so many beautifully wrapped presents for the men and women of Prospect House. What a wonderful Christmas present for so many! A special thank you to Ray and Betty Hofbauer for delivering the presents Christmas week.

And last but certainly not least, thank you to all those who donated new toys and gift items for the McGivney Community Center Christmas Store! We are confident that there were many happy kids on Christmas morning, watching their families opening their gifts. A special thank you to Eliane and Marala Baijal for delivering the gifts and for continuing this outreach ministry for another year.

We have the most kind, generous and compassionate parishioners!
We are so thankful that you are a part of our wonderful community.

Thank you all for making this Christmas Season brighter for so many!



Choir members Ray Hofbauer and Mark Baird attended the 60th anniversary of the Trinity College service of Lessons and Carols at the Chapel on campus in Hartford recently with Bishop Laura Ahrens in attendance.

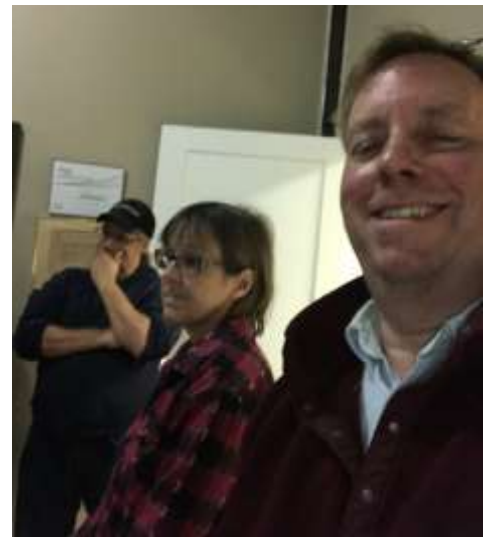


Outreach Ministries at Christ Church Tashua

CHRIST CHURCH PROVIDES HOLIDAY MEAL AT CALVARY ST. GEORGE IN BRIDGEPORT

On Monday, December 10th, volunteers from Christ Church participated in our ongoing feeding mission for the less fortunate at Calvary St. George Church on Clinton Ave. in Bridgeport. Led by the indomitable Martha Kaechele, our merry band of volunteers including Martine Yourieff, Todd Rossel, John Flader, Margaret Marcotte, Amy Germano, Susan Mitola, Mark Baird and Connie Vogt (Martha's neighbor) put on a delicious holiday dinner for the poor and homeless. Thank you as well to all who donated food, cupcakes, Christmas candy and clementines. It is truly heartening and perhaps more fulfilling to be on the giving end of this ministry and see the happy faces of people enjoying a holiday meal! While we have traditionally hosted from 70 to 100+ people in the past, the good news is that these numbers have recently been going down. The average number of people served dropped to about 50 in November, and in the thirties in December - we presume to more people finding work - truly a blessing! Nonetheless, we served 62 "first timers" - the full plates before we serve seconds, so the good word must have gone out. We were prepared and had enough food for all. Every last bit of food we brought was consumed and sent home with attendees - a great feeling indeed!

Come join us for our next dinner on April 8, 2019 - we need volunteers to help organize, cook and serve these folks. Truly, the good feelings one receives for helping those less fortunate in this feeding mission far surpasses the efforts put in!



Christmas Eve Services



Here are a few photos from our Christmas Eve service...
Rev. Jane preaching a children's sermon,
Ray Hofbauer, a choir member, performing a solo,
Santa receiving communion and Matthew Johnson, our Organist and Choir Director performing a solo.
It was a very special evening at Christ Church Tashua.



... There must've been a lot of very nice parishioners at Christ Church Tashua this year ...

Thank you Santa for visiting us!



Christmas Eve Services



There was a special feeling in our little church on the hill with a big heart on Christmas Eve. Thank you all for worshipping with us.

We are so very glad you did.

From the Episcopal Church in Connecticut

Weekly Facebook-live prayer services with Bishops United Against Gun Violence

[Episcopalians Against Gun Violence Facebook page](#) will host live weekly five-minute prayer services hosted by Bishops United Against Gun Violence beginning on January 11.

The first three services will be led by:

January 11: Bishop Ian Douglas of Episcopal Church in Connecticut

January 18: Bishop Douglas Fisher of The Episcopal Diocese of Western MA

January 25: Bishop Gretchen Rehberg of The Episcopal Diocese of Spokane



Prayer times to be announced on their Facebook page in the next couple of days, please check there. They will be recorded and available afterwards, as well.

ECCT member named Episcopal delegate for March 2019 United Nations Commission on the Status of Women

Congrats to Charlotte Healy of Trinity, Southport and a member of their youth group on being named the Province One delegate from The Episcopal Church to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW), which will meet in New York City March 11-22, 2019. The delegates, one from each Province, along with Episcopal Church staff, attend as representatives of the office of Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry. Details on [this press release](#). Charlotte has promised to keep ECCT informed via social media posts during the event.



New Episode: Karin and Alli sit with the Rev. Ann Perrott to discuss New Life Ministry and prison ministry.

Listen to the episode and others at [Coffee Hour at The Commons](#), or on [iTunes](#), [Google Play](#), and [Stitcher](#)! Know of an interesting individual or unique ministry in ECCT? Maybe something going on at your parish, or someone there? [Let us know!!](#)

ECCT in the News

- ♦ [In Ledyard, 'a warm welcome on Christmas,'](#) (St. David's, Gales Ferry), The Day, December 25
- ♦ [The MainTrack Annual New Year's Recap for 2018: The Episcopal Church](#), (ECCT), January 1

Season of Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation for ECCT

Season of Racial Healing, Justice, & Reconciliation

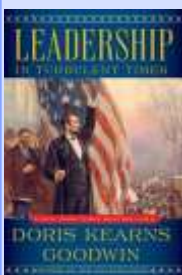
By affirmative vote at Annual Convention, ECCT has now entered into a "Season of Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation," which will formally launch on Feb. 10, 2019 as a "Day of Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation." ECCT also committed to hiring a 10-hour a week staff position to assist with resources. A letter from the bishops with more information will be sent in early January. [Learn more here](#).



28-day journey to examine white privilege and discussion group

[Deacon Ellen Adams](#) has offered to host weekly conversations for people who want to take the Layla F. Saad "Me and White Supremacy" 28-day challenge starting on January 6, as a way to participate in ECCT's Season of Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation." [More information available on our website here](#).

From the Episcopal Church in Connecticut



Bishops Book Discussion at Camp Washington, January 15

Join Bishop Laura J. Ahrens at 11:00 a.m., lunch to follow, on January 15 for a book discussion on the book *Leadership in Turbulent Times* by Doris Kearns Goodwin. More information is available on Camp Washington's [website here](#).

Please register, a \$10 donation is appreciated to cover the cost of lunch.



Serving God's Mission with the Poor & Marginalized: Convention Follow-up Meeting on Jan. 26

Join the Rev. Jessie Karpf and the Rev. Ron Steed, ECCT deacons, for the first gathering on January 26 at The Commons in Meriden. Please [RSVP](#) for planning purposes, and [review the report](#) to Convention from this workshop

Camp Counselors Needed in the Dominican Republic this summer

Applications are now available for high school youths 14 - 18 years old for an eight day ECCT trip to the Dominican Republic, June 29 - July 6, 2019. Assist in leading Vacation Bible School at three Episcopal churches, and visit Camp Hispaniola. Deadline for submissions is February 15, 2019, travel grants are available. [More information on this flyer](#).



Central American Bishops Appeal for Anglican Communion Solidarity Over Migrant Caravan; letter now available in English

An Anglican Communion News Service article on Nov. 2, 2018 stated that "Bishops from three Anglican Provinces have called for 'solidarity' from the Anglican Communion as a caravan of migrants makes its way through the region from El Salvador to the United States." [Link to article](#). Retired ECCT priest the Rev. Christopher Webber arranged to have the letter translated to English and has published it at [his website](#).

All Parish, Region, and Ministry Network events are posted on [this calendar](#).

Parish: Regular worship services, including season-specific, will not be listed below.

- ◆ January 6: Pipes Alive! Diana Chu, Organist, St. John's, West Hartford
- ◆ January 12: Screening of the film "Risen," St. James, Farmington
- ◆ January 13: New World Trio, St. John's, West Hartford

Region: January 3: NE Region: Leadership Team Meeting, St. John's, Vernon

- ◆ January 5: NE Region Confirmation, St. George's, Bolton

Ministry Network:

- ◆ January 10: Environmental and Climate Ministry Network Gathering, St. Stephen's, East Haddam

For more information on the
Episcopal Church in Connecticut and
all of the happenings in our community,
please visit their website at:

www.episcopalct.org

happy birthday

JANUARY

2-Jan Noah Green
4-Jan David Green
5-Jan Victoria Vasone
7-Jan Alexandra Baird
7-Jan Karen Holmes
12-Jan Elizabeth Hawkins
13-Jan Natalie Green
20-Jan Matthew Mitola
24-Jan Georgia Yourieff

FEBRUARY

11-Feb Betheny Hawkins
13-Feb John Lundy
19-Feb Susan Mitola
23-Feb Charles Spath
26-Feb Michelle Miklus
27-Feb Chandler Green
27-Feb Julia Brenha



Pledge / Offering Envelopes: The Offering Envelopes for 2019 have arrived and are on the front table in the undercroft. They are in alphabetical order. If you would like to have offering envelopes and you don't see a box for you in the undercroft, please email the Parish Office at —parishoffice@christchurchtashua.com or call 203-268-5566 and we'd be happy to get them to you!

Save the Date!

Annual Meeting and Worship Service

Our Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 3rd. We will have one worship service at 9:00 a.m. with a potluck luncheon and meeting to follow in the undercroft. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome and are encouraged to attend to conduct the business of Christ Church Tashua.

Shrove Tuesday is Tuesday, March 5th.

Christ Church Tashua will hold its annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 5th. More details to follow. Look for information via email and our bulletin as we get closer to the date. All are welcome. Invite your friends and family!

Local Food Pantries Need Our Help!

*****The Trumbull Food Pantry and the Deanery's food pantries are both low on food — on a consistent basis*****

As a parish community, we know the continual struggles of our Deanery to support their two food pantries. It has come to our attention that the Trumbull Food Pantry also struggles to keep their shelves stocked for the many families that they serve. We'd like to help both. If you would like to support the Trumbull Food Pantry, donations can be made directly at The Center at Priscilla Place between the hours of 9 :00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. If a large donation is being made, please contact them ahead of time at 203-452-5198 so they can assist you.

In addition to the Food Pantry drop off site, there are two community drop box locations: Trumbull Library – Main Branch on Quality St. and Trumbull Stop & Shop. The Trumbull Food Pantry is located at The Center at Priscilla Place, 23 Priscilla Place. Please visit their website for more information: www.trumbull-ct.gov.

The following items are needed at both the Trumbull and Deanery food pantries:

- Soups
- Cereal (including oatmeal)
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Juice
- Canned fruit
- Rice
- Dry beans and/or lentils
- Canned Vegetables
- Tuna fish
- Canned beans
- Personal hygiene items
- Household cleaning items

The Deanery's Community Supper programs need paper goods.

Specifically:

- Dinner plates
- Salad plates
- Soup bowls
- Napkins
- Plastic forks, knives, spoons
- Cold cups
- Hot cups

Financial contributions are always welcome too!

If you would like to make a financial donation to the Deanery food pantries, please make your check payable to the Greater Bridgeport Ministry Network and send to:

Greater Bridgeport Ministry Network
c/o St. John's Episcopal Church
768 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

If you would like to make a financial donation to the Trumbull Food Pantry, please make your check payable to the Trumbull Food Pantry and send to:

Trumbull Food Pantry
Center at Priscilla Place
23 Priscilla Place
Trumbull, CT 06611



2019 VESTRY

We have some returning Vestry members for the 2019 term, but not enough to fill all of our positions. So, we've got a few open Vestry positions and would love to talk with you about it!

If you've been thinking that you'd like to serve (or serve again), please contact one of our current vestry members. You are also always welcome to contact the Parish Office and Maryanne will help you.

CHRIST CHURCH TASHUA VESTRY MEETING POLICY

Parishioners are welcome to attend Vestry meetings if they have a particular concern, idea or proposal that should be brought to the attention of the Vestry. A written request should be made to one of the Vestry officers or the Rector a week in advance for inclusion on the meeting agenda, along with any documentation to be reviewed in advance of the meeting. Approximately the first 15 minutes of the next Vestry meeting will then be set aside to address the parishioner's concerns, ideas or proposals. Otherwise, in the interest of covering all of the items on the agenda in a timely way, Vestry meetings are generally closed to parishioners.

Upcoming Vestry Meeting Dates -- 7:00 p.m.

January 16, 2019

February 20, 2019

March 20, 2019



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

Would you like to learn more about the
Episcopal Church in Connecticut?

Visit the Episcopal Diocese website at:

www.episcopalct.org

to read blogs, view photos, enjoy poetry and learn
more about upcoming events in the Episcopal Church
in our state.

Stay connected!

Sunday Servers ~ January 6 through March 10, 2019

	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27	February 3**
Altar Guild:	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo	Martha Kaechele
Altar Linen:	Shirley Mayo	Shirley Mayo	Shirley Mayo	Shirley Mayo	Martha Kaechele
Greeters:	Jaye and Jody Irwin	Sharon McNeal Volunteer Needed	Sally Lundy Volunteer Needed	Jen and Todd Rossel	Jaye and Jody Irwin
Lay Assistant:	Sally Lundy	Tom Hawkins	Todd Rossel	Sally Lundy	Tom Hawkins
Lector:	Jaye Irwin	Todd Rossel	Ginnie Glassman	Pat Foster	Peter Ulisse
Crucifer:	Sara Holmes	Casey Rossel	William Holmes	-	Sara Holmes
Counters:	Kim Atherton Sally Lundy	Todd Rossel Jody Irwin	John Holmes Bev Van Der Ploeg	Kim Atherton Volunteer Needed	Jody Irwin Volunteer Needed
Refreshments:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Annual Meeting Brunch
Chalicer at 8am Service	-	Ginnie Glassman	Sharon McNeal	Mark Baird	No 8am Service


****Please note: Christ Church Tashua will have one worship service on Sunday, February 3rd at 9:00 a.m. Our Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Brunch will follow the service in our undercroft. All are welcome!**

	February 10	February 17	February 24	March 3	March 10
Altar Guild:	Shirley Mayo	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo
Altar Linen:	Martha Kaechele	Martha Kaechele	Martha Kaechele	Shirley Mayo	Shirley Mayo
Greeters:	Sharon McNeal Volunteer Needed	Jen and Todd Rossel	Sally Lundy Volunteer Needed	Jaye and Jody Irwin	Sharon McNeal Volunteer Needed
Lay Assistant:	Todd Rossel	Sally Lundy	Tom Hawkins	Todd Rossel	Sally Lundy
Lector:	Martha Kaechele	Ginnie Glassman	Sharon McNeal	John Holmes	Peter Ulisse
Crucifer:	Casey Rossel	William Holmes	-	Sara Holmes	Casey Rossel
Counters:	Bev Van Der Ploeg Todd Rossel	Sally Lundy Volunteer Needed	Kim Atherton Jody Irwin	John Holmes Volunteer Needed	Sally Lundy Todd Rossel
Refreshments:	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Chalicer at 8am Service	Ginnie Glassman	Sharon McNeal	Mark Baird	Sharon McNeal	Ginnie Glassman

Parish Calendar -- JANUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ Worship 8 & 10:00am	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 The 1st Sunday After the Epiphany Worship 8 & 10:00am	14	15	16 Vestry Mtg 7:00 p.m.	17	18	19
20 The 2nd Sunday After the Epiphany Worship 8 & 10:00am	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 The 3rd Sunday After the Epiphany Worship 8 & 10:00am	28	29	30	31		

Parish Calendar -- FEBRUARY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 The 4th Sunday After the Epiphany One Worship Service At 9:00am Followed by a ' Brunch and Annual Meeting	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 The 5th Sunday After the Epiphany Worship 8 & 10:00am	11	12	13	14  Happy Valentine's Day!	15	16
17 The 6th Sunday After the Epiphany Worship 8 & 10:00am	18	19	20 Vestry Mtg 7:00 p.m.	21	22	23
24 The 7th Sunday After the Epiphany Worship 8 & 10:00am	25	26	27	28		