

Christ Church Episcopal

Contents:

Rector's Letter p 1-2

Senior Warden's Report p 2-4

Nominating Committee for
2012 p 5

Choir Prepares for Upcoming
Season p 5

Buildings and Grounds Report
p 5-6

Outreach Committee Expands
its Focus p 6-8

The New Christ Church Lunch
Program p 8-9

CCE Book Group Looks at Love
p 9-10

Crop Walk p 10

Milestones p 10-17

Blessing of the Animals p 11

Nancy Smith Tea p 12-14

Pilgrimage to Philmont
Labyrinth p 14-15

CCE Awards Two Scholarships
p 15-16

Isaac Watts p 16-17

Habitat for Humanity Photos
p 18, 20

A Look at the Calendar
p 17-18

Calendar p 19



Advent – Christmas, 2011

To all the members of the Christ Church community,

Faith is a thing that gets expressed in a lot of ways, among you, here in this church.

We recently have seen your faith expressed, when you volunteers at our Wednesday luncheons made the courageous decision to change the focus of this program. You now serve a simple, full meal to any and all, asking those who come to donate as they are able. You will be serving food and offering fellowship to people who may need these things, but otherwise might not obtain them. You acknowledge this is a faith decision; you are doing as Jesus did, when He blessed and gave away those five loaves and two fish, trusting that God would provide – that God would multiply them in the act of their being given away. And indeed, God is so providing.

We recently have seen your faith get expressed, when many of you attended our brother Garth Pitsker's funeral. You sang together, *And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long / steals on the ear the distant triumph song / and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.* Even as you grieved you thus encouraged each other in your faith, and said "Alleluia" in acknowledgment of Garth's final triumph – a triumph you know is true, a triumph in which you all will share.

We recently have seen your faith expressed, as you participate in the Habitat for Humanity project, helping to build homes that will give people hope, and a future. You are preparing lunches, delivering them to those working; and others of you are hammering and fitting these homes together, expressing your

Christ Church Episcopal

belief in God's desire that all God's people have secure homes – and expressing your belief that God also works through us. We have seen this same faith expressed in the Crop Walk, hosted by you here at this Church, making real our belief that God's people should not go hungry. We have seen it expressed in the Red Cross Blood Drive, hosted by you in the belief that life is a precious gift of God, a gift meant to be shared.

And I have seen your faith expressed at the Healing Prayers and Anointing that we do on the first and third Sundays. While I as priest lay hands upon and pray over a person, often you who are alongside or nearby will also lay your hand upon that person, joining in prayer to God for this person's healing. You thus express your compassionate support for and unity with that person, who is your sister or brother, making real your faith that we all are one in Christ. By your touch you strengthen your sister or brother, tangibly expressing your faith that whatever darkness he or she may face, God will provide what is truly needed.

There's an Irish blessing which expresses this faith beautifully:

*When you come to the edge of all the light you have known
and are about to step out into the darkness,
faith is knowing one of two things will happen ...
there will be something to stand on,
or you will be taught how to fly.*

I thank God most profoundly, for the faith of you, here in this Church, and for the manifold ways in which you tangibly express this, your faith.

In Christ's love,

John +

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Much has happened since the last issue of *Images* both in the life of the parish family and in my life personally, as I am certain is the same with many of you. Indeed *Images* itself is now under the careful eye of Carole Round, this her first issue as editor, taken over from Debby Mayer. Thanks to both Debby and Carole for their willingness to undertake this monumental task!

We have had our church picnic at Lake Taghkanic, a lovely if soggy day in the beauty of nature.

We have considered, discussed and evaluated our Wednesday lunch program and changed its focus to become the Wednesday Community Lunch under the leadership of Eva Briggs..

Christ Church Episcopal

We have welcomed Nancy Smith back into our midst following her incarceration for her brave act of civil disobedience.



One of our own, Mary Kate Wold, has been installed as CEO of the Church Pension Fund.

Our youth group has been busy with both fund raising and group activities under the leadership of Kelly Elliott and Gina Davis.

We have participated in Habitat for Humanity's building of housing in our community.

We have survived, almost unscathed, the ravages of with Irene and Leo with what in the scheme of things seems, minimal loss, at least when compared to our neighbors.

Our building survey is underway with reports due soon.

Our Welcome Home celebration was a profoundly wonderful day with great attendance and energy giving us all a new appreciation of the wonderful parish family life that we share.

We have gathered to celebrate the lives of three members of our parish family, Richard Erickson, Mary Davidson and Garth Pitsker.

We have held our annual blessing of the animals, and of course have carried on the various regular activities of our parish life through the tireless giving of the time, talents and treasures of all of us.

Indeed much has happened since the last issue of *Images*!

In my life personally, as many of you know, James has been away since the first of August, in Virginia caring for his mother at the end of her life. This of course, has had a dire consequence in my life as the running of the store and our home life has fallen on me, cutting short the time I have for "extra- curricular" activities.

Although I did not think I would be able to do so, I was fortunate to be able to attend the institution of Mary Kate Wold as CEO of the Church Pension Fund in Tarrytown. It was important to me to attend both as a representative of our parish family and also because I am very fond of Mary Kate and wanted to honor all that she has done for our church and to



Christ Church Episcopal

support her in her new role a steward of the long term support of our clergy who support us. Mary Kate had asked John to deliver the homily at the institution, which he did, and it was a most moving message.

In his homily, which I encourage all of you to read either on our website or pick up a copy at the back of the church, John offered that we are conditioned to expect less and to be satisfied with what we get. When we expect less, it is only natural that we give less and it becomes a vicious circle. Conversely, when we expect more of ourselves, and give more of ourselves, we are



Send us a note at
SpottyDogBooks@aol.com
and get on our mailing list
for all events and author
book signings!

The Spotty Dog
Books & Ale

Bookstore. Lounge.
Gifts. Cards.
Stationery. Art Supplies.
Wireless Internet.

The Spotty Dog Books & Ale 518 871 8006
440 Warren Street SpottyDogBooks@aol.com
Hudson, NY 12534 www.TheSpottyDog.com

following GOD'S example of giving our best in whatever we do, and expecting the best back. As GOD's children, we have already been given more than we can possibly live up to and we need to honor this by giving the best of ourselves to our families and friends, the members of our parish family and our community, and to those in need that we do not know. We do this through our action of giving of our time, talent and treasure. All that we do and give in GOD's name is to honor that great gift that we all have been given, the unconditional love and redemption of lives through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Stewardship is difficult in these uncertain financial times. Believe me, I know as a merchant trying to survive these volatile conditions what fear, uncertainty and doubt resulting in loss and failure look like, but I ask you to join me in committing all that you can. Even more than you think you can, to giving your full financial support to the marvelous work that we are carrying on in Christ's name here in Hudson.

I implore you to prayerfully consider the bounty of your life that GOD has provided. I know that it exceeds your expectations so honor all that GOD has given you by raising your expectations on what it is that you can give to the kingdom of GOD.

Jamison Teale

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2012

Elections to fill vacancies among the Wardens and Vestry of Christ Church are held at the annual Parish Meeting in January. Under the Church By-Laws, Article II, the Vestry appoints a Nominating Committee to present candidates. Members of the Committee must be eligible to vote under the By-Laws, Article I, Section 2. At the January 2012 meeting, the vacancies are Senior Warden and three members of the Vestry.

Christ Church Episcopal

The Junior Warden chairs the Nominating Committee this year because the Senior Warden, Jamison Teale, is a candidate to succeed himself. Committee members are Peggy Armstrong, Wally Elliott, and Debby Mayer. The Committee will create a slate of nominees that it will announce at least two weeks before the Parish Meeting. The By-Laws let the Committee present more candidates than there are vacancies. All members of the Committee will be glad to receive the names of people who can be nominated.

The By-Laws also provide ways for people to become candidates without being nominated by the Nominating Committee, and these ways have been used in recent years. The Committee will include these candidates in its announcement.

Dave Sharpe, Junior Warden

THE CHOIR PREPARES FOR THE UPCOMING CHRISTMAS SEASON

Rehearsals have started for music to be used at our traditional Christmas Eve Mass. There is still time to join us!! Even if you can only help out for Christmas voices in any range are needed.

In addition to the traditional carols the choir will be singing Haydn's "Gloria in Excelsis," a traditional English carol, Sans Day Carol, a contemporary piece by Don Besig, "Can this be the Child?" and last but not least everyone's favorite, Adams, "O Holy Night."

Again this year Mary Hack will be our featured soloist. Mary will also do a very special rendering of "I Wonder as I Wander."

Again all are welcome to join us. We rehearse on Sunday right after mass, and for the holiday season there will be a couple of extra rehearsals.

Won't you join us?

Tom Martin

Music Director

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS REPORT

Projects completed lately include repairing two roofs over the Education Wing. The Landmarks Conservancy Sacred Sites program has donated \$5000 to help pay for the survey of buildings.

Christ Church Episcopal

Work is underway to restore the flooded furnace and to pave the broken Union Street sidewalk. By the end of October I expect to receive the final report on the June survey of all the Christ Church buildings. Then I will call a meeting of the Facilities Committee to discuss how to treat the engineers' recommendations.

Future projects include creating a key system for fire and rescue workers, repairing the choir robe closet interior, developing a plan for the grounds of the Christ Church campus, improving the floor of the church, replacing the sidewalk around the driveway, protecting the stained glass in the Parish Hall, reducing Parish Hall noise, protecting the furnace from flooding, planning and installing improved signage, and servicing the air conditioners. I welcome suggestions.

<small>Fax: (518) 828-7668</small>
BATES & ANDERSON REDMOND & KEELER FUNERAL SERVICES, INC.
110 Green Street Hudson, NY 12534
(518) 828-3371

As for membership and operations, the Facilities Committee is composed of people who are interested in general areas: Buildings, Grounds, Safety & Security, Appearance & Use, and Records & Historic Preservation. As we identify projects, I will ask a few Committee members to describe, price, bid, and execute the project. Aside from emergencies, the funding and timing of projects will go through the Treasurer and the planning budget. I am using experts in the congregation as estimators, not necessarily as contractors. I am getting together the people who do particular projects, rather than holding big meetings, and I am sending occasional emailed reports to the full Facilities Committee and anyone else who wants to get on my list.

Dave Sharpe, Junior Warden

OUTREACH COMMITTEE EXPANDS ITS FOCUS

Last spring, more than 20 parishioners gathered at the first meeting of the Outreach Committee. The group decided to broaden the committee's ministries to work in the larger Hudson community, focusing on areas of special interest to the group's members. The two areas where we've made new efforts are Red Cross blood drives, led by the indefatigable Roy Boyce, and Habitat for Humanity, inspired and headed by veteran Habitat volunteer Babette Ryder.

Both the June and October blood drives were huge successes, each drawing more than 15 willing donors and generating 15 pints of blood. Christ Church volunteers worked the sign-in and canteen details, and Roy reported that the Red Cross was very impressed with our results, which were far above their expectations. Contributors included parishioners as well as non-members, thanks to the super sign coverage and community notices that Roy put pretty much

Christ Church Episcopal

everywhere. Be ready for the upcoming January blood drive, which is always critical due to blood shortages during the holidays.

Our Habitat for Humanity work has taken two forms. Christ Church committed to provide five workers at the build on Columbia Street in Hudson every other Saturday through the end of the year, and to provide lunch for the entire build team on those Saturdays, usually about 25 volunteers. In addition to Babette, who volunteers every Saturday, Christ Church Habitat build stalwarts include Charlotte Belote, John and Eleanor Perry and April, Andy and Wally Elliott. Scott is totally ready to work, but has a while before he reaches the minimum age of 16. The construction of the two townhouses will continue with volunteers until it's completed, so please listen for announcements in church about volunteer opportunities in January and February. The crew providing lunch has varied but usually includes Bev Kinne, Eva Briggs and me, with varying helpers.



The traditional work of the Outreach Committee has been to award scholarships to college-bound church members and to make cash contributions to a variety of charitable efforts. If the church's finances allow, we agreed to support financially the Hudson Area Library; Nature in the Classroom, an environmental learning project of the Hudson School District; the Red Door,

Christ Church Episcopal

which helps recovering substance abusers; the Columbia Children's Center, for migrant workers' children; and Episcopal Counseling, a low-cost therapy resource for the community.

Our choices were simplified when we reviewed a list of charities that Christ Church has supported over the years, and discovered that except for the five above, virtually all were part of our ongoing outreach ministries in one way or another. These include the Crop Walk; the Angel Christmas Tree for abused women and children; the Aids Council, for which we raise funds separately; and the Salvation Army, whose bells we ring. Organizations that will not receive any formal Christ Church support but have in the past and are always in need include the Heifer Project and Episcopal Relief and Development.

The Outreach Committee meets the third or fourth Wednesday of the month at 6:30. We're scheduled to gather on November 16 this month. We welcome participation from everyone. If there's a cause that's near and dear to you and could benefit from Christ Church's outreach ministry, please come and join the conversation and the fun of our work.

Ginna Moore

.....

REEL TO REAL

We meet the last Sunday of the month at 6 p.m. in the Guild Room—
free movie, free pizza, great discussion after the movie.
Everyone welcome!

THE NEW CHRIST CHURCH LUNCH PROGRAM

Christ Church's 36-year-old lunch program has been a Hudson tradition of fellowship and friendliness. The program continues, but with a few changes.

Starting Wednesday, October 5, 2011, there has been a weekly Community Lunch from 11:30 to 1 (a slightly shorter time period than before) under the leadership of Eva Briggs. The menu is limited, with one main course accompanied by simple beverages and a choice of desserts. Everything is freshly made by the rotating quartet of chefs: Sally Brodsky, Wally Elliott, Charlotte Belote and Gina Davis. Early menus included spaghetti with meat sauce or chicken Florentine. A variety of delicious home-made desserts is available every week. There is still table service by many of the usual volunteers, but no pre-orders or takeout. Prices are not set, and all diners are expected to donate according to their ability to pay.

Christ Church Episcopal

NOVEMBER MILESTONES

Happy Birthday to...

David Carl	1
Carol Rouse	1
Denise Thorn	3
Matthew Desrosiers	4
Diane Boyce	8
David Sagendorph	10
Erich Behr	10
Patricia McNickle	11
Caitlin H. Cowan	11
Allen J. Desrosiers	12
Kelly Cowan	12
Audrey Wyman	13
Arthur David Ryder III	13
Martin Mottoshiski	13
Katrina R. Piche	14
Theresa Erickson	14
Mark Haywood	17
Garrick Stevenson	17
Zachary Zibella	19
Nicholas J. Graziano	21
Frederick V. Doty	25
Gail Pavese	28
Don Moore	29
Christopher Inman	30

Happy Anniversary to...

Beverly & Stuart Kinne	2
Kelly & Andrew Elliott	13
Amanda & Michael Zibella	13
Linda & Peter Fonda	26

So far, the new program has been a success but has much room for growth. Fewer people have attended than in the past, ranging between 20 and 25 in each of the early weeks. The group has been roughly two-thirds parishioners, with a changing population of others, some regulars from past years, others new to us. Donations have been generous, providing a comfortable amount beyond making ends meet. This, of course, guarantees that the program can afford to continue, even while providing for many who could not afford to lunch here before.

Eva and her helpers are determined to attract more people to the lunches. Signs are being posted all over town, from schools and businesses to fire houses and restaurants. The menu for the week ahead is posted at the lunches, in the church bulletin and on the web site. It may also be published in the Register-Star. Any further ideas to get the word out will be warmly welcomed by Eva and the lunch crew. Everyone is encouraged to pass their ideas to Eva or Sue, in the church office.

The new Community Lunch has started rather slowly, but shows signs of strength that should propel it into a happy future as a new tradition.



CCE BOOK GROUP LOOKS AT LOVE

The Christ Church book group continues to meet—it's been years now—hosted by Catherine Saliske in Hudson. In October we discussed *Wild Comfort: The Solace of Nature*, a series of short, related essays by Kathleen Dean Moore, one of the most wonderful books I have ever read in my life, written by a writer from the Pacific Northwest that I

didn't know. That's the prize of being in a book group: discoveries. New writers. Well-written books that tell a good story and/or make you think.

Looking further in the Good Story Department, we decided to read fiction for the next meeting, and chose a two-novel volume by Nancy Mitford (1904–73), a popular novelist in the middle of the last century. The two novels in one volume are "The Pursuit of Love" and "Love in a Cold Climate." The edition (paperback, published by Vintage) is available at the library and online. I've started "The Pursuit of Love" and among other attributes, it's funny.

Christ Church Episcopal

NOVEMBER

Please Pray for the Souls of . . .

Viola Ferris	1
Allen Eugene Hull	1
Harley Friss	1
Homer B. Armstrong	1
Gladys Genzmer	2
Amy Torkilson Lang	2
John Bryant	3
Kenneth Shook	3
Keena Evans	4
Bertha Webb	5
Helen Bayer (2008)	5
Sadie Brinston Reynolds	5
Henry Seifts	6
Mildred Babcock	7
Mary Jane Sanders	10
C. Jeanette Rooney	13
Johanna Hammerle	14
Alden E. Hammerle	16
Wallace Reese	16
Katherine Holt	16
Stanley B. Marsh	18
Katherine P. Whitbeck	18
Kathryn Lavinia Parker	19
Jane Onufrychuk	20
Mark Martinez	20
Jean Traver (2009)	20
Samuel Scott	21
Grace Babcock Pulver	23
Jack MacGiffert	23
Arthur D. Ryder, Jr.	23
William S. Decker, Sr.	24
John Everts	24
Paul Holmes	24
Ethel Thomas	25
Lincoln Lemon	27
John Race	29
Alene D. Everts	30

We'll meet to discuss the book on Wednesday, December 7, at 6:15 p.m., in Catherine's home. New readers are welcome, and you still have time to read the book! Call me for the address.

Debby Mayer

.....

CROP WALK

On September 25, 2011, 38 walkers from Christ Church Episcopal of Hudson, St Mary's/Holy Trinity of Hudson, Hudson Friends Meeting-Quakers of Hudson, First Presbyterian Church of Hudson, Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack, and Northville Baptist Church of Northville marched together to raise \$2,448 for the 2011 CROP Hunger Walk. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the CROP Walk, this is an annual event coordinated by members of the Interfaith Council and the Church World Service. CROP Hunger Walks help children and families worldwide – and right here in the U.S. – to have food for today, while building for a better tomorrow. Funds raised will be sent to the Church World Service. A portion of the money raised will be returned to the local food pantries. This includes the food pantry right here in Christ Church!

As part of this event, churches with the most participants and that raise the most funds are recognized with the Golden Sneaker Award!!! Congratulations to the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack (RDCC) in winning both of these awards!!! Great appreciation goes out to everyone who helped to make this day a success. First and foremost, thanks go to our walkers! We would also like to thank the Stewarts Shop of Hudson for donating the ice cream that was happily served to all participants following the CROP Walk by the Elliott family. And last but certainly not least – a warm thanks to all of the folks who worked together to coordinate the event.

Lisa Grossman

Christ Church Episcopal

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

On Saturday, October 8th, Father John held the annual Blessing of the Animals in the Union Street circle beside the Church. The ceremony honors St. Francis of Assisi, whose Feast Day is October 4. The day was beautiful, as has been the case for every Animal Blessing so far. Roughly 20 people brought about 25 animals for the blessing, which included prayers for each of the pets, followed by treats for animals and their people.

There were regular attendees, like Lulu, Debby's Basenji; Maltie, Fayal and Dave's Border Terrier and her best friend, Psyche; Dorothy and Megan's cats; and Jamison and James's menagerie of miniature Schnauzers and the charismatic though menacing Macaw, Caesar. New visitors included Carole Osterink's William and Ruth Moulton's Boy-Boy, both proud rescues.



The animals were, as always, well-behaved. A blessed time was had by all.

Fayal Greene

DECEMBER MILESTONES

Happy Birthday to

Linda Drahushuk	1
Holly Race	2
Mark Van Deusen	3
Krystle Lee Taylor	4
Rose Zukowski	5
Leonard Behr	5
Charles Swain	5
Sarah Perry	6
Rev. C. Robert Lewis	7
Rowland Evans, Jr.	8
Debra Whelan	11
Frank Eigenbrodt	15
Heather Davis	18
Kyle J. Franceschi	20
Floyd (Buddy) Cowan	20
Jeffrey Dreher	21
Robert Whelan	21
Sigrid Coons	21
Brennan M. Clark	21
Rev. John W. Perry	22
Sally Brodsky	25
Irene Byrne	26
Reginald Race	27
Cory Beebe	27
Paula Goldman	29
Sarah Sacco	31

Happy Anniversary to

Maria & Frank Eigenbrodt	15
Rev. John W. Perry Ordination	18

NANCY SMITH TEA

Nancy Smith, who regularly attends the 8 a.m. Eucharist on Sunday, served a six-month prison sentence this year, from January through June, for a federal misdemeanor, trespassing on federal property during a nonviolent demonstration at the School of the Americas at Fort Benning, Georgia, in November 2010. Nancy served the last four months of her sentence in the Federal Correctional Institute, a low-security prison for women in Danbury, Connecticut. Upon returning home she picked up her usual activities, which include the 2 p.m. peace vigil every Saturday at Seventh Street Park, Christ Church, and the Friends Meeting (Quakers), all in Hudson. On September 11, she gave a talk at Christ Church.

“I had known intellectually that prison didn’t work, either to prevent crime or rehabilitate criminals,” she says. “Being incarcerated, however, brought home the system’s failure, and the lack of alternatives,” she says.

The United States has 2.2 million people behind bars today, she says—the highest population proportion in the world. A large percentage of those prisoners are incarcerated for nonviolent crimes, mostly drug sales in small amounts, she says. “This has happened in the last 20 years. And it hasn’t succeeded in getting drugs off our streets,” she says.

What it does succeed in, she observed in prison, is withdrawing a key person from the family structure. By going to jail at the age of 78, Nancy did not lose a job or standing in the community; her Social Security payments

stopped while she was incarcerated, but resumed once her sentence was complete. In contrast, most of her sister inmates, if released, would find re-entry difficult and employment impossible.

“I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to do what I did,” she says. “I have to keep correcting the illusion that it wasn’t difficult, of remembering only the camaraderie, not my despair at times, my thought that I had made a terrible mistake.”

Christ Church Episcopal

DECEMBER

Please Pray for the Souls of . . .

Henry Groves	1
Mabel Zechman (2010)	1
Marie Miller (2008)	2
Ruby K. Alen	3
Clifford Hallenbeck	4
Edith Briggs	4
Fanny Jefferies	5
Nora Hackett	5
Shirley Craig	6
Virginia H. Frink	9
Eugene Howard	10
The Rev. Keith Hedrick (2008)	10
Emma Miller	11
Ellen Hallenbeck	11
Kathryn Pough	12
F. Edward Gardner	12
Peter Miller	14
Robert C. Reese	14
Arthur J. O'Brien	14
Harry S. Weber (2008)	15
Jacob Kohn	17
Peter Draushuk	17
Katherine Van Deusen	17
Howard Holt	17
Evelyn Cocks	18
Charles Jefferies	19
Larry J. Shook	19
Mary Bardsley	20
Linda Holmes	20
Charles Lockenwitz	20
Kenneth Perlee	21
Ethel B. Neefus	22
Emma A. Evans	22
Joy D. Parkes	22
Jane Delaney	23
William Bryant Steerey	24
John Zukowski	24
Frank Rogers	25
Albert Wilbur	25
Arthur Almstead	29
Anna M. Hoyt	29

Still, there was camaraderie. "I was stunned by the generosity of my cellmates in sharing their limited resources," says Nancy. She arrived at Danbury at midnight. Processing left her exhausted and freezing. "You enter stark naked and are assigned the uniform of that facility, from underwear up." But next morning when she came back from breakfast, she found on her bunk soap in a dish, a toothbrush in a holder, toothpaste, shampoo, hair conditioner, a comb and brush. The next day another inmate brought her a tablet of writing paper, stamps, envelopes and two ball-point pens. In general the women were equally generous with everyone who came into that unit, she says.

Did she suffer? Not much. "It was noisy, with drama 24/7, screaming, yelling, foul language. But I'm healthy; I don't have physical pain or disabilities. Many of the women were very unhealthy—grossly overweight, suffering from diabetes, neuropathy, problems with teeth."

Nancy observed her 79th birthday at Danbury. "The women pay attention to birthdays, have little surprise parties for you—decorations made from toilet paper, a big sign, gifts from the commissary spread out on your bunk," she says. "If you have affluent friends, who receive money from home, you might get a homemade cheesecake, created out of cream cheese and coffee creamer purchased in the commissary."

Almost everyone gets a prison nickname. "You don't make it up, it develops around you," says Nancy, adding that she didn't get a nickname exactly, but "most people called me Miss Nancy, and they wouldn't stop."

The deep learning goes on, she says. "You never forget the solidarity you feel with people who are trapped like that. And now I understand my sister and brother prisoners of conscience in a way that I didn't before. I marvel at their determination to go to prison again and again." Father Louis

Vitale, also 79, a Catholic priest from California, was convicted with Nancy, to his fourth prison sentence. "That's his work, to witness, all his life. I don't have the courage to do that," she says.

Christ Church Episcopal

JANUARY MILESTONES

Happy Birthday to

Joanne Baker	1
Thomas Davis	1
Ashton Adams	2
William Christiana	2
Christopher Rounds	4
Betsy Riley	7
Travis Thorn	7
Cynthia Inman	10
Winnie Thorn	11
Richelle Martin	12
Kristin Kostzenskie	13
Elvis Race	14
Turina Beaudoin	15
Douglas Thorn	16
Austin Adams	16
Thomas F. Doty	18
Richard Burch	20
Katrina Angier	22
Cliff Hallmark	22
Philip Abitabile	24
Esther Zukowski	25
Janet Reetz	26
Kathy Harter	28
Matthew Cowan	29
Phyllis Mottoshiski	30
Nya-Mea Perry	31
David and Dennis Voight	31

That is, she thinks about going back, “but I don’t know if I will. This might be a good thing for older people to do. If you’re finished with work, your children are grown—think about an act of civil disobedience. Go to prison to witness, report back on the conditions.

“I like the mental picture of that,” she says. “All these older folks hobbling to the prison door. But seriously, if you’re healthy and retired—think about it.”

Debby Mayer

Adapted from “Prisoner of conscience looks back on time behind bars,” published in The Columbia Paper, September 22, 2011.

PILGRIMAGE TO PHILMONT LABRYNTH

Back in the early summer, several church members, including Father John, were discussing pilgrimages and labyrinths—ancient meditation tools that Christians have adopted—and I mentioned that I love them. A labyrinth just happens to exist several miles east of Hudson in Philmont. John then suggested I lead a small, short pilgrimage to walk the labyrinth and I agreed.

Over the summer and early fall, we only managed to get in two trips out there before the dark and cold weather set in, but they were wonderful pilgrimages. The first time out, we had just about nine people and the second time about seven. Both trips—while spiritual and fulfilling to all out

there—had different feelings that changed the experience even for those who were on both trips.

The trips were so successful, we have decided to take them back up in the late spring, when the weather has warmed and the days lengthened. We met Monday nights at 6 p.m. in the circle and plan to do the same come next year.

I encourage all attend when possible. First-time and experienced walkers are welcome.

Christ Church Episcopal

JANUARY

Please Pray for the Souls of . . .

Edward Taggard	1
Fr. Garry A. Cooper	2
E. L. Lasher	4
Robert Sobel	5
John Diehl	6
Harry Diehl, Jr.	6
Harold Smith	7
Pauline Mynter (2009)	7
Evelyn Crego	7
Frederick M. George	7
Helen N. Reutenauer	7
Lawrence F. McKay	8
Harriet Holsapple	9
Clara W. Teator	11
Edward Bardsley	13
John Libruk	13
William Decker	13
Arthur D. Ryder, Sr.	17
Kathleen M. Patrick	17
Alice J. Anderson	18
Marcus Bennett	18
Richard C. Cowan	18
Bishop Allen W. Brown	19
Irene Perlee	19
Frank Race	22
John Steen	22
Donald Clapp	22
Gloria Wark	23
Frederick Dwyer	26
Mabel Holsapple	26
M. Gertrude Armstrong	29
Florence Seifts	31
Marie Dreher	31

If you don't want to wait that long, the labyrinth is not hard to find on your own—if you know where to look. It is on Maple Street in Philmont, just off Route 217 (also Main Street). It is on the Village Green, toward the wooded area, just behind St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

If you have any questions or want more information, please see me and we'll see you in the spring!



CCE AWARDS TWO SCHOLARSHIPS

Jeremy Card and Taylor Race, both lifetime members of Christ Church, are the recipients of this year's CCE scholarships. Each year the vestry approves up to four scholarships to assist young people from the church with their education after high school. Jeremy and Taylor each received \$500 after submitting a written request and statement about the status of their education.

Jeremy Card, of Hudson, is the son of Babette Ryder-Card and grandson of Louise Ryder, also of Hudson. A longtime acolyte, Jeremy is in his senior year at Syracuse University and plans to graduate in May 2012 with a bachelor's degree in hospitality management. He looks to pursue a career with a hotel chain and got his foot in the door last summer with an internship with the Hilton Garden Inn in Saratoga Springs.

"I am thankful for Christ Church's support with scholarship funds for the past three years," Jeremy wrote to the committee. "Receiving that initial boost, and working on campus throughout the school year, help a great deal with my school expenses. I have also felt the love and support from my family at Christ Church through my time at school,

especially in tough times when I needed a push toward a goal."

Taylor is the daughter of Holly and Evan Race of Livingston and the granddaughter of Margaret Race, a longtime resident of Hudson. Throughout school, she served on the altar and helped with church dinners. She also tutored the children of Spanish-speaking migrant workers in English, helped out in a kindergarten classroom, and coached traveling team basketball for fifth- and sixth-graders.

Christ Church Episcopal

FEBRUARY MILESTONES

Happy Birthday to

Colleen Stone McQuade	1
John C. Reed	3
Sandra Gill	4
Babette Ryder-Card	5
Shirley Doty	5
Amy Koskey Kurja	5
Susan MacMullin	7
Evangeline Coon (2009)	7
Jacob Evans Draushuk (2010)	9
Carl Nabozny	9
Maria Eigenbrodt	10
Scott Sagendorph	11
Norman Benjamin	12
Andrew Elliott, Jr.	14
Madelyn Super	15
Stephanie Marie Reetz	16
Barbara Weyrauch	18
Mary Kate Wold	18
Derek Race	19
Kristen Fonda	20
James R. Haskin	21
Jim Allen	22
Laura Murray	22
Brittany Mann	22
Becky Klugo	25
J. David Smith	26
Randall Stuker	26
Donna Burns	26

Happy Anniversary to

Karen & Harry Fonda	10
Michael & Bonnie Guarini	14
GINNA & DON MOORE	15
Karen & Harry Fonda	10
Michael & Bonnie Guarini	14
GINNA & DON MOORE	15

Taylor began her college education at Castleton State College in Vermont, and this fall attends the University at Albany to continue a major in business administration: marketing. Her dream, she writes, is to open her own event-planning business. "I have also always had a passion for kids," she says, "and I hope to continue my love for children and basketball by becoming a basketball coach."

Congratulations, Jeremy and Tyler, and best wishes from your Christ Church family.

Debby Mayer

.....

ISAAC WATTS

July 17 1674 –November 25, 1748

The life of Isaac Watts, the English hymnwriter, theologian, and logician is celebrated on November 25, the day of his death. Dr. Watts reinvented the hymn, creating the form as we know it today. Many of the 700 hymns he authored remain in use in modern churches.

Born in Southhampton in 1674 to a committed religious Nonconformist preacher who worshiped independently of the Anglican Church and was imprisoned twice for his views, Watts was unable to go to either Oxford or Cambridge, and went instead to a Dissenting Academy, along with Quakers, Roman Catholics, Jews, and others excluded because of their religion.

Watts, the author of "Joy to the World," and "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past," introduced original verse describing the Christian experience into liturgical music. Prior to this change, church musical tradition included only poetry from the Bible, usually Psalms, a practice begun by John Calvin who translated psalms into the spoken language of his congregation. Watts proposed the rewriting the Psalms with a Christian perspective, or writing them as if David, most

often considered the author of the Psalms, had been a Christian.

Christ Church Episcopal

FEBRUARY

Please Pray for the Souls of . . .

Al Fredrick	1
Cornelius J. Race	2
Harry J. Diehl, Jr.	3
Vera Niebergall	3
Robert S. Gormley	3
Charles Reynolds	3
Carrie Babcock	4
Jennie Race	4
Mabel O'Brien	4
Lee Brady	4
John A. Diehl	5
Dorothy Howard	5
Anna Ryder	7
Gladys Fenoff	8
Annette Nason Witham	9
Elizabeth Hardy Wallace	9
Emma Van Burke Hahn	11
Marie Catherine Polinskie	11
George Bryant	12
John Ressler	12
Dr. N. Harold Link	12
Anna Crego	13
Walter Reese	15
Michael Erickson	16
James Clark Armstrong	17
Albert White	17
Jane Lemon	19
Gladys Bucholsky	21
Florence H. Dingman	22
James Pratt	23
George H. Miller	24
Eufrozyna Rajtar	24
Alexander Gladun	24
Daniel McDonald	25
Stella Coxon	26
Louis G. Jefferies	27
Marvin Babcock	28
Helen Brown	28
Marguerite Wood	28

As a young child, Watts displayed an uncanny ability to rhyme. As a young man, he complained about the hymns sung at his father's church. His father challenged him to write something better and soon he had written enough to fill a volume. Watts is credited with injecting a note of personal spirituality and presented a new confidence in faith into his hymns as can be seen in the following stanza from "From all that dwell below the skies." Influenced by Boyle and Newton, he shared their focus on the natural world and celebrates the Glory of God in our world.

*From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator's praise arise;
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue.*

Watts' versions of Psalms were introduced to America by Ben Franklin, and by the 1740's his hymns had begun to be adopted by American churches.

Most of Watts' hymns were written during the two years after he completed his university studies. In addition to his hymns, Dr. Watts is known for many other accomplishments including his work on logic that became the standard text on the subject at Oxford and Cambridge, Harvard and Yale.

Debora Gilbert

.....

A LOOK AT THE CALENDAR . . .

On Thanksgiving Day, November 24, we will have an informal celebration of the Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.; we'll sing the wonderful Thanksgiving hymns, *Come Ye Thankful People Come, We Gather Together*, and *Now Thank We All Our God*. On this day also, the First Presbyterian Church will host its traditional community dinner; all are welcome there, to help serve or to dine.

The season of Advent begins on Sunday, November 27. We will have resources available for purchase, to assist our faithful observance of this holy season. Booklets of daily meditations

Christ Church Episcopal

and the popular Advent calendar-poster help us maintain our spiritual well-being in this busy season.

Christmas services are as follows:

Christmas Eve Family Service, Saturday December 24 at 4 p.m.

Carols, Saturday December 24 at 10:30 p.m., followed by Festive Christmas Service at 11 p.m.

Christmas Day, Sunday December 25, one service only at 8 a.m.

There will be no weekday services or Bible study during the week after Christmas.

Sunday, January 1, Feast of the Holy Name (New Year's Day), normal Sunday services at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. Open House at the Rectory after the 10:30 service in lieu of coffee hour.

Friday, January 6, Feast of the Epiphany, informal Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m. followed by pot-luck supper in the Parish Hall.

Building with Habitat for Humanity



Christ Church Episcopal

CHRIST CHURCH **CALENDAR - ADVENT/CHRISTMAS 2011**

Mid-November through Mid-February

<u>SUNDAY</u>	08:00 AM	Holy Eucharist
	10:15 AM	Sunday School
LAST Sunday of the Month:	10:30 AM	Family Service - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
	10:30 AM	Holy Eucharist
FIRST Sunday of the Month: Church	12:15 PM	Men & Women of Christ
FIRST and THIRD Sunday of the Month:		Healing Prayers after each Eucharist
<u>TUESDAY</u>	06:00 PM	Bible Study (EXCEPT the week after Christmas)
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	05:30 PM	Holy Eucharist
<u>THURSDAY</u>	10:00 AM	Healing Service
<u>SATURDAY</u>		
SECOND Saturday of the Month:	08:00 AM	Vestry Meeting
AS ANNOUNCED		Youth Group Meeting

SPECIAL DATES

Thursday, November 24, 2011	10:00 AM	Thanksgiving Day service
Saturday, December 24, 2011	04:00 PM	Family Christmas Service
Saturday, December 24, 2011	10:30 PM	Carols (followed by)
	11:00 PM	Festal Christmas Service
Sunday, December 25, 2011	08:00 AM	Christmas Service
Friday, January 6, 2012	06:00 PM	Informal Epiphany Service Followed by pot-luck supper

More Habitat for Humanity Pictures

