



THE COURIER FOR APRIL

Christ Church, 527 Pomfret Street / PO Box 21, Pomfret, CT 06258
www.christchurchpomfret.org / christchurchpomfret@gmail.com / 860-315-7780
The Rev. David M. Carter, Rector



Musings

Bells are rung in churches for many reasons, to ring out warnings such as fire, to remind us of the age of someone in the community who has died or more recently, for each of the victims of the Newtown shootings. They can also be rung for our greatest celebrations.

Since we've been out of the church for the past month of Sundays while the building is being cleaned (see Buildings and Grounds) we've missed ringing our church bells. We finally moved a hand bell in to use at the time of the Sanctus. But we really made up for it on Easter Sunday when we had at least 30-40 bells to hand out to the congregation courtesy of Jane Hale and our young people who made bell-strings on Holy Saturday. An ancient tradition of Easter is to ring bells every time we hear "Alleluia" as we've spent the last 6 weeks never saying or singing it. It ended up being a joyous event with bells, small and larger, ringing out during hymns, at the end of the sermon, at the Fraction and other locations we designed. Let your joy continue to "ring" this Easter season. ---Dave

Worship & Formation

Communion Class on Saturday, June 4th at 9 a.m. for 2nd graders or older (trying again). See Dave (Music, Art, Pita Bread Baking for Youth Sunday). *If you are interested (860-315-7780)*

Healing Eucharist & B'fast at the Bean on the Wednesdays in April-June! Last Wednesday will be June 29th; Names for **The Prayer Chain?** Call the office: 860-315-7780.

Readers & Acolyte Notes - if you are not assigned you can often help out. Just check in the back. Thanks. Dayna Flath 860-974-3276!

Specials! April 10th we will be baptizing Peter Hale; April 17th will be a Contemporary service. April 17th will also be a Church First Sunday; the Adult Formation topic that Sunday will be "Christian Living, Anglican-style".

Women's Spirituality meets on Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m. with Jane Hale.

TREC-CT

Fri.-Sat.

April 22-23

This is the regional meeting of our new 'deanery' organization.



May 7, 2016

Great Hall

More details next month

Start setting items aside to bring in the week of the 1st

Teen Program Car Wash

May 15, 2016

Mark your calendar now for a great car wash

More details in next month's Courier



Church School News - Spring is finally here! We had another successful Easter Eggstravaganza! Thanks to one and all who made this possible. Did you see us proudly bring in our flowered cross and Alleluia banners on Easter morning? Thanks also to our shepherds and workshop leaders and Godly Play teachers, whose efforts helped the children have memorable experiences throughout Lent as they learned about the life of Moses and the Parables.

In April we will use new lectionary-based curriculum for grades 1-5, "Feasting on the Word". Topics for April will be "Jesus' Peace", "Helping the Community", and "Welcome Everyone". As part of this new model, I will do most of the lesson portion at the end of chapel time and will have one or two related hands-on activities prepared for volunteers to do with the children afterward. No prior preparation will be required for volunteers to lead the activities beyond slightly early arrival on the day, and no teaching experience is required! I very much need volunteers to carry out the activities, and would LOVE to hear from anyone in the parish who is willing to come downstairs and give it a try!

Between April 10th and 24th, Godly Play will wonder about "The Crosses", "Mary, Mother of Jesus" and "The Good Shepherd and the World Communion". There has been some interest in a new Godly Play training session for Storytellers and Doorpersons. There is a great need for more volunteers to assist our long-dedicated team of Jan and Joslyn! Please see Christine Carter or myself if you would like to know more about this important Church School ministry to our youngest members. Visitors are also welcome to join us downstairs for a better sense of what we do.

On April 10th, grade-schoolers will be in church to participate in Peter Hale's baptism service. If your child would like to participate in this very special service for their peer, please let me or Fr. Dave know as soon as possible! (Godly Play will meet as usual that morning.)

As we begin to wrap up another year, I'd like to thank all the families who entrust their children to our care each Sunday. I know firsthand the challenges of getting everyone up, ready, and out the door on Sunday mornings- whether tots or teens! Next year will bring some new challenges and responsibilities, as we add a transitional classroom for grades 5/6 who are not yet in the Rite 13 program. We have already selected a special curriculum program for them called "Godly Journey" from Episcopal Leader Resources, but we will need committed leaders to implement it. We will likely step up our outreach efforts next year with our biennial "Heifer Living Gift Market" in the spring, and will continue piloting our new lectionary curriculum for grades 1-4 which requires more Sunday preparation to be done by the director. I ask that anyone who feels he or she might be called to participate our Church School lay mission in some way please speak to me or Fr. Dave about the possibility of being hired in a supporting role. There are many possibilities regarding what an 'assistant' role might entail, so please take some time for prayer and reflection, and conversation with one (or both) of us.

Sharing with you the Blessings of Easter Renewal and Hope,
Nicole Nichols, Church School Director ccchurchschoolpomfret@gmail.com



Teen Program News (Journey to Adulthood)

Fundraiser Info: Rummage Sale on May 7th AND Youth Car Wash on May 15th more details to follow, but mark your calendars now. Contact Catherine Bastow if you need further information.

Rite-13 - The Rite 13ers are still working on the mural project in the hall by the choir room

J2A - J2Aers and J2A parents, please make time to go to *Wonder Voyage* website to look at the possible trip places and choose one to be decided on at a date in the very near future. Also, both teens & parents get ready for the upcoming fundraisers in May as they are back to back weekends. Help is need for both events.

YAC - The group will be meeting for pizza & movie on April 10th in the Great Hall and on April 17th they'll be doing yard work at Seely-Brown in Pomfret. The other Sundays in April they'll be doing the *Confirm not Conform* curriculum.

If you have any questions about the Teen Program contact Catherine Bastow at 860-928-3575.

Building and Grounds / Projects Notes -Shawn Densmore of Flue Doctor has finished the church chimney which needed extensive work to bring parts of it up to code; John Murphy has repaired the panic bar on the door at the end of the classroom wing and will be working on Dave's office door soon; he will return later to start work on the Library window replacement. The *big, big project* of course is the complete cleaning of the inside of the church! Why? Well sometime in late January (we guess) a part of the church heating flue collapsed and partially blocked the flue. When it was warm in the succeeding weeks it had little effect as the flue continued to function. But whenever it was particularly cold and the thermostat called for heat then there was a backfire from the flue into the church basement. It probably happened several times, and over some weeks that resulting soot was blown up through all the holes located on the edge of the floor of the church. Soot is ionized and it clings to surfaces. It went up the walls of the church and into the ceiling, then fell down. It coated the walls, plaques, stained glass, the roof structure and then the pews. Needless to say at the start of March, when it was discovered, we called insurance, got a hold of a major cleaning contractor (Service Master) who moved in a lot of scaffolding and started work. It may very well be finished by April 8th! It's looking clean in there. Over this time we've been worshipping in the Great Hall. It works!

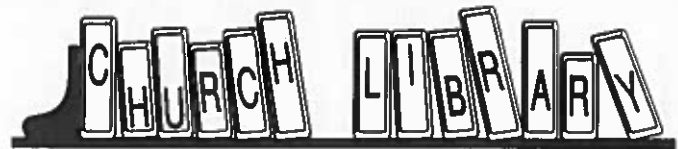
Christian Social Outreach - the Committee meets for disbursements later in April; Get ready for *Relay for Life* on May 22-23. *Special Mission*: Our Guatemala group is interested in returning next January, 2017. In the meantime there are other projects that PID does: Sponsoring a Child; Paying for Cleft-palatte Surgeries; Bringing used clothing to the PID Dropoff in Ipswich; Our collaboration with the *Rev. Oscar Brockmeyer* continues to expand, see the Reminder; *Community Kitchen* on April 25th see Pauline Phillips. *Access News* - General food supplies, nutritious snack foods for kids OR send checks to: Access Danielson - 231 Broad Street, Danielson, CT 06239.

Music in April- *Choir* rehearsals are on Sunday morning at 8:45 a.m. *Rectory Chapel* returns on April 3rd; Next Contemporary will be April 17th.

Parish Life Activities -The Coffee Hour Team Schedule as well as the 8 o'clock Schedule for 2016 are posted on the Library Bulletin Board and the former can be accessed through the Reminder.

Vestry Notes - the vestry will meet for their special planning meeting on Sunday, April 3rd which will begin with lunch, go on to a short "retreat event" and work through some important business in the afternoon ending with a regular meeting.

Women's Spirituality Workshop- a time of spiritual and faith exploration, story-sharing, and celebrating our Sisterhood! Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 26th at 7:00 p.m. Contact Jane Hale at jclhale@charter.net.



This past month, I did a little rearranging in the children's section of the library. From now on, the bottom right shelf of the children's fiction section will house the library's collection of children's chapter books. These books are designed for older elementary aged children who might be too young for the young adult section (traditionally for ages 12 and up) but have outgrown picture books. Currently this collection is small but I plan to add to it as the year progresses.

One book that can be found in this section is *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. In this book, written entirely in free verse, the author recalls what it was like growing up as an African-American child in the 1960's and 1970's in both the South and the North and describes finding her voice and making the decision to become a writer. A National Book Award winner, Newbery Honor Book and winner of the Coretta Scott King Award, this book is both poignant and inspiring.

If you have any children's chapter books that you are planning to get rid of, please consider donating them to the Christ Church Library. Due to the amount of wear and tear that library books get I am only accepting hardcover books, although your paperbacks will be perfect for the Rummage Sale!

Just a reminder, feel free to offload your old DVDs and books for others in the Christ Church DVD and Book Swap.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 April Fool's Day Fr. Dave's Day Off	2
3 8, 9:15&10:15 Services 12p-4p Vestry Planning Meeting	4	5 6:30p-8:30p Spirit Companions	6 7:30a Healing Eucharist 8:30a B'fast at the Bean 12p AA Meeting	7 7:30p AA Meeting	8 Fr. Dave's Day Off YAC meets for pizza/movie 6:30 p	9 10a-12:30p Spirituality Workshop: O. Brock.
10 Jane Hale preaching 8, 9:15&10:15 Services Peter Hale Baptism 10a YAC at Seely- Brown	11	12	13 7:30a Healing Eucharist 8:30a B'fast at the Bean 12p AA Meeting	14 7:30p-8:30p AA Meeting	15 Taxes Due Fr. Dave's Day Off	16
17 8, 9:15&10:15 Services Contemporary Sunday Church First: the 3- legged stool of Anglicanism, Episcopalians & the Anglican Communion	18 Spring Vacation	19	20 7:30a Healing Eucharist 8:30a B'fast at the Bean 12p AA Meeting	21 1p-3p Spirit for the 2nd Half 7:30p AA Meeting	22 Earth Day Fr. Dave's Day Off 7p-9p TREC CT (see below)	23 TREC CT (see below)
24 Jane Hale preaching 8, 9:15&10:15 Services	25	26 7p-8:30p Women's Spirituality	27 Administrative Professionals Day 7:30a Healing Eucharist 8:30a B'fast at the Bean 12p AA Meeting	28 7:30p AA Meeting	29 Arbor Day Fr. Dave's Day Off	30

TREC-CT 3.0 - What is it about?

- Deaneries (current 14 regional organizations) have been replaced by 6 Regions. Executive Council and Board of the Missionary Society are being replaced by the Mission Council. Also being recognizing is the Ministry Networks in the life of ECCT.
- Who Should Come? Everyone! Anyone and EVERY one active in a ministry or who is being nudged by the Holy Spirit. Participation is NOT limited to previously elected Deanery & Convention Delegates. *These Regions are new and will have a brand new way of operating.*

Schedule: Serving on Sundays for April 2016

	2nd Sunday of Easter 4/3/2016	3rd Sunday of Easter 4/10/2016 (back in church?)	4th Sunday of Easter 4/17/2016 Cont Svc-Ch. First	5th Sunday of Easter 4/24/2016
Lector	D. Flath C. Norris	G. Groom C. Sloat	W. Danenhower D. Flath	B. Phillips B. Anderson
LEM's	S. Adams B. Phillips	B. Anderson C. Sloat	D. Flath W. Danenhower	B. Phillips B. Anderson
Altar Guild	J. Busse M. Eichorn Wed 4/6 Fr. Dave	Heslers D. Crawford Wed 4/13 Fr. Dave	P. Phillips D. Patton Wed 4/20 Fr. Dave	A. Sheldon M. Bridgman Wed 4/27 Fr. Dave
Acolytes	S. Adams B. Phillips	W. Danenhower C. Sloat	W. Danenhower D. Flath	P. Mann B. Anderson
Ushers	B. Bastow T. Hamilton	N. Weiss C. Sloat	R. Wishart T. Hamilton	B. Bastow P. McCarthy
Nursery	Carrie	Carrie	Carrie	Carrie
Coffee Hour	Silver Team	Yellow Team	Red Team	Orange Team
Flowers				Grooms
Coffee Hour	Bill & Jan	Rich & Judy		
Celebrant at 9:15	Cancelled	Drew	Dave	Drew
Music	None	Nine6teen	Nine6teen	Nine6teen

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY LIST

Happy Birthday to:

- 1 - John Rligny
- 2 - Sandy Groom
- 3 - Betty Hale
- 5 - Amy Landis
- 6 - Erica Martin
- 9 - Michael Mahoney
- 12 - Judy Miller

- 19 - Katie Mellen, Tyler Malboeuf
- 21 - Kelly Madenjian
- 22 - Nancy Morrison, Samuel Paul
- 24 - Michael Groom, Gregory Nichols
- 27 - Catherine Bastow, Andrew Sloat
- 28 - Donna Bessette

Happy Anniversary to:

- 18 - Brian & Catherine Bastow