

## Taking Care of Business

Buildings and Grounds

Office Assistance

## Adults Learning about God

Newcomers' Class

Wednesday morning Bible Study

Wednesday evening Men's Zoom Bible Study

Wednesday evening Women's Zoom Bible Study

Alpha

Any other way you'd like to serve? Let us know!

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Name:

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The best way to contact me is:

Call:

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Email:

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Text:

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# Ministry Book

*A guide to volunteer and learning opportunities*



The Rev. Derik J. Roy, Jr. *Pastor*

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*A loving community seeking to know Jesus Christ  
and make Him known.*

Q. Who are the ministers of the Church?

A. The ministers of the Church are Lay persons,  
Bishops, Priests and Deacons.

(The Book of Common Prayer page. 855)

*Dear Friends in Christ:*

*The Book of Common Prayer makes it clear in several places that all the members of the Church, the Body of Christ, are called to ministry. God has bestowed upon his Church on earth all the gifts it needs to carry out the mission given by our Lord Jesus in the Great Commission. But these gifts are not concentrated in one place or only a few people; they are distributed throughout the members of the Body!*

*Each member of this parish family has received the Holy Spirit in Baptism and has been given gifts that are needed by the one holy catholic and apostolic Church in general and needed by Christ Church in particular. It is my fervent prayer that every member of this congregation will hear the call of Christ to active ministry. In this booklet there are many opportunities for ministry, perhaps God is calling you to something new. He has given us the gifts, now let us use them to His glory!*

*Faithfully,  
Father Derik Roy*

*“God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God’s many kinds of blessings.” 1 Peter 4:10*

Please fill out the form on the next page. You may tear off and place in the collection plate or mail to church office.

**YES!** I would like to learn more about this ministry (circle 1 or more of the items below):

**What we do on Sunday**

Ushers  
Lay Readers  
Lectors  
Acolytes  
Music/Choir  
Altar Guild  
Flowers  
Tech Nerds  
Coffee Hour

**Kid's Stuff**

Sunday School  
Nursery  
Vacation Bible School

**Caring for Each Other**

TLC  
Prayer Chain  
Prayer Quilting  
Daughters of the King

**Serving the Community**

Noah's Attic  
Food Pantry

much richer Sunday's worship is when you've thought all about it ahead of time...

**Alpha** - Alpha is a 10 session series, created by Nicky Gumbel (an Anglican priest), offered yearly in our Church community. We start by sharing a meal, then together watch a video. After that we gather to discuss what we learned. Alpha has been the most successful program throughout the world to help people, both newcomers to the faith, and those already familiar with the faith, to deepen their understanding and relationship with God. Some of the topics discussed are: Why Jesus?, Why did Jesus die?, Why pray?, Why worship?, Does God heal?, and Does faith make a difference? It's a place to connect with people, where you can say anything you like, or nothing at all. Childcare is provided. We hope you join us!

## What is God saying to You??

## What we do on Sunday

*"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength."*

Mark 12:30

**Ushers** - We serve in a truly multi-faceted ministry which requires thinking on our feet. We assist parishioners and visitors to their seats during worship services and special events. We are also an information guide for the lost, giving directions to places like the restroom, nursery, and parish hall, as needed. We present the elements of the Eucharist to the altar. During the offertory, we collect the offering and present it to the altar. During the Holy Eucharist we help direct the congregation to the altar rail in an orderly fashion.

**Lay Readers** - The lay reader/chalice bearer helps lead our congregation during worship services. This is a highly visible ministry and is geared for the mature Christian. We read the psalm and the prayers of the people during the service. We also help serve at the altar, assisting the priest as needed, and if needed, serve the wine during the Holy Eucharist.

**Lectors** - We read the first and second readings during the worship services. Those called to this ministry need to have a strong voice which carries, and must be able to read scripture aloud, in front of the congregation. Lectors may also be invited to read at special services and other events.

**Acolytes** - We help the Priest by performing minor duties during the Sunday worship services such as carrying the torches and the cross during the procession, recession, and the reading of the Gospel. We also light the candles before the service and extinguish them after the service is complete.

**Music/Choir** - St. Augustine says “those who sing pray twice”. What better way is there to worship God than together, with our voices and our musical instruments? In the music ministry, we welcome those who love to sing God’s praise to join our choir. We love to use our musical talents to glorify God during our Sunday worship services and other special occasions.

**Altar Guild** - We are a critical, ‘behind the scenes’ ministry; essential because we are a vital part of the Eucharistic Feast! We set the Lord’s Table for all the services, including the water, wine, bread, and altar cloths. We also keep our worship space both lovely and holy by maintaining the oil in our candles and decorating the sanctuary for holidays.

**Flowers** - Flowers are one of the many ways we celebrate others, even on the altar! We schedule flower donations, keep the altar flowers fresh and lovely, and oversee donation of the altar flowers to the homebound.

**Tech Nerds** - We are geeks, most comfortable working the sound and visual control boards. We enable service participation by providing words to our prayers and songs on the video screen. We also record our services to our YouTube channel so that folks who cannot attend liturgy in person can attend digitally - live, or at a time when it’s most convenient for them. No experience is needed; we will be happy to teach you!

**Coffee Hour** - We are thrilled to connect with our church family and welcome newcomers. Our coffee hour is held every Sunday following both the 8:00 am and the 10:00 am services in the parish hall. The volunteers provide a warm inviting area for all parishioners to come and fellowship with one another. Each volunteer is requested to provide baked goods or snack foods, juice and creamer; and we make sure the coffee is made and set up before the worship service is over.

## **Adults Learning About God**

*“All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:18,19*

**Newcomers’ Class** - Have you ever wondered what the Episcopal Church is all about? In this 6 session series we discuss topics such as Jesus, The History of the Church, the focus of the Episcopal Church at large and specifically our parish, our Worship, Prayer book, the Bible, living the Christian life and finally, how each of us can participate and contribute to fulfilling our parish mission. Classes are held periodically for those new to the parish who are interested in learning more and becoming a member of Christ Church. Childcare is provided.

**Wednesday morning Bible Study** - We gather in the comfortable Fireside room after the weekly Wednesday 9:15 am service. Together we experience, reflect on, and discuss multiple biblical studies (mini-series) throughout the year. The camaraderie is warm and the learning is awesome. Hope you’ll join us!

**Wednesday evening Women’s Zoom Bible Study** - Same as the men's, but for women. Have you ever wanted a sneak peek into what’s coming in next Sunday’s Gospel message? What’s it really mean and how does it apply to me? Join us digitally (on Zoom) on Wednesdays to be the first to know. You’ll be surprised how much richer Sunday’s worship is when you’ve thought all about it ahead of time...

**Wednesday evening Men’s Zoom Bible Study** - Same as the women's, but for men. Have you ever wanted a sneak peek into what’s coming in next Sunday’s Gospel message? What’s it really mean and how does it apply to me? Join us digitally (on Zoom) on Wednesdays to be the first to know. You’ll be surprised how

**Food Pantry** - We feed families across Ballston Spa, lots of them, by providing groceries when they are in need. For over 35 years, Christ Church Food Pantry has been serving people in the Ballston Spa area.

This ministry has grown substantially in the past decade, both in numbers of volunteers and in the number of people receiving help. We are located at the back of the church, and are open 6 days a week (different hours each day to better meet the needs of our customers). As volunteers, we pick up donated food, we unload and stock it, and we distribute food when the Pantry is open.

### **Taking Care of Business**

*“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” 1 Peter 4:10*

**Buildings and Grounds** - If you have a skill, or even just an interest in helping with light carpentry, electrical, plumbing, painting, cleaning, or gardening/landscaping work please sign up!

**Office Assistance** - We help our Parish administrator prepare the weekly bulletin and worship aid, put together bulk mailings, and provide general office assistance.

### **Kid's Stuff**

*“...but Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs’.” Matthew 19:14*

**Sunday School** - We love being with children and passing on our faith to the next generation of Christ followers. “Christ’s Kids” is for our pre-K to 5th grade children - they’ll be dismissed at the beginning of the 10:00 am Sunday service and will return during the sharing of Peace. Christ’s Kids listen to Bible readings for the day and complete a small activity. Our Middle School and High School students also have their own Bible study groups on Sundays - Middle School students meet from 9:15-9:55; High School students (grades 9-12) meet after the 10:00 am service. We welcome both youth and adult volunteers to help with our Sunday school programs!

**Nursery** - We just love the little ones - being around them, playing with them, helping them grow in our love, and most importantly, in the love of God. The Nursery is open during both the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Sunday services for children up to age 5. Child care is also available for evening programs like Bible Studies and Newcomer Classes. We care for your little ones so you can focus on the adult service while they get to play. Our nursery is equipped with age appropriate toys and pagers are used to allow parents to be notified if their child requires their attention. And we welcome anyone 14 or older to help us by volunteering in the nursery.

**Vacation Bible School** - All kids, preschool to grade 12, are invited to join us for a week during the summer to engage in a fun, hands-on Bible learning experience! We reinforce one memorable Bible Point each day which makes it easy to apply long after VBS is over, helping families to continue exploring the Bible messages. During the week we learn new songs and bring Scripture to life with interactive lessons and activities while kids learn to actively watch for God and recognize that He is working in their lives. Adult volunteers are always welcome and needed!

## **Caring For Each Other**

*“Then the King will say to them, Assuredly, I say to you, In as much as you did it to one of the least of these My brothers or sisters, you did it to Me.” Matthew 25:40*

**TLC** - TLC stands for “Tender Loving Care”. The purpose of this ministry is to provide a sign of love from our church family to people who are struggling from the loss of a loved one, or illness or some other crises. We give this love by simple acts of kindness, which usually involves bringing a meal to a family or providing other help that a family may need in their time of grief or need. To join this ministry you will be called on from time to time to help when a situation arises.

**Prayer Chain** - We are prayer warriors! Our ministry is to pray for our brothers and sisters. No matter the situation, anyone in need of prayer can reach out to the prayer chain, which then sends an email to our prayer warriors to begin praying. Each prayer is offered for 30 days, unless we are notified that the person’s prayer has been ‘answered’. Come pray with us... it really works!

**Prayer Quilting** - We wrap people in prayers and comfort when they need it most by creating, praying over, and giving them a handmade quilt. Our quilts are made by volunteers with loving care. Each quilt has a label on the back which contains a Bible verse, bringing God’s word to all who receive one. Our quilts have provided love and warmth to many of our parishioners plus those who are hurting throughout the United States and several other countries. This ministry is very rewarding as it helps us realize that every moment we cut, press, and stitch brings the love, calm, and peace of Jesus to a person in physical or spiritual pain. We welcome anyone who is interested in being a part of this ministry to come to one of our meetings. We meet every third Saturday of the month in the church parish hall from 10:00 am until 12:00 pm.

**Daughters of the King** - We are members of the Saint Agnes Order, Chapter 1116, of the International Order of the Daughters of the King; we are committed to daily prayer, service to our parish family, and the spread of Christ’s Kingdom throughout our communities. Women who are interested in becoming Daughters of the King undergo a 12-week study about what the Order entails. During this time, prospective members discern their commitment to the order. We meet monthly for spiritual enrichment and fellowship, to work on service projects, and to conduct business. Some of our chapter’s work includes the Annual Prayer Walk over the Church spaces and the compilation of the Lenten Devotional.

## **Serving the Community**

*Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. Amen.*

Prayer for Missions, BCP pg 101

**Noah’s Attic** - This is a service ministry of Christ Church that is in response to Jesus’ call to provide a way for us to witness our love, care and concern to those in our community. Donated clothing and household items are sold at a nominal fee or given free if needed. We have helped a variety of people in different situations such as: victims of house fires, domestic violence victims and those who just have a problem making ends meet. This is a very important ministry to the community and to our church. There are always volunteers needed to donate their time for a couple hours during the week or on Saturdays.