



Soundings

Advent 2008

CHRIST CHURCH 1415 PELHAMDALE AVE, PELHAM, NY 10803 914.738.5515 WWW.CHRISTCHURCHPELHAM.ORG

Christ Church: A place you go, or a community to which you belong?

A friend of mine who is a pastor in Virginia recently put this question to his congregation. I was struck both by the simplicity and the forthrightness of it, and I believe our answer speaks volumes about the ways in which we relate to our parish home. I think it is worth examining both approaches.

If a place or organization is mostly a 'place where we go' there is not a lot of personal investment in it. We might even view the place as important, but there isn't much of a notion of our being intimately involved with it, concerned about its well-being, its future, or its health. Neither is there much of a chance that we will be changed a great deal by our association with it. This approach is more in play when we visit a museum or some other public facility, such as a post office or a bank. Further, it is much more likely that we approach these institutions primarily as consumers, rather than as members seeking to contribute.

If we view ourselves as 'belonging' to an organization or a community, it is much more likely that we will bring our whole selves along. Obviously we will receive benefits from belonging to that community, but we will also be asking how we can give of our gifts to the community, how we can make it better. We will pay attention to the community's life, pray for its health and growth, and, as Christians, ask what God's will is for its future. We will care about inviting new people into its fellowship and making sure to welcome them with open arms when they arrive. In short, we will not be passive consumers in such an approach; rather we will be active stake-holders and stock holders. It should not be difficult in such an organization to look back over the years and see how we have been changed through our association with it; the ways we have been challenged and stretched, as well as angered and frustrated. The approach is much more, "I belong here, warts and all."

I hope you see where I am going with this. Christ Church always needs more people who view this as their spiritual community, their home. We need people who care about our life together, who give of themselves, who pray for our parish's health, and yes, who are proud of this place and eager to invite more folks in. We ALSO have to be the kind of place where people are finding their way, and their ownership here will just not be on the level of those who have made this their spiritual home. That is not only OK, but expected. Sometimes people are also at a stage in their lives where investing in any community is really difficult, but we do have people at all stages of life here who have found a way to invest in their spiritual home. Christ Church really is a special community, and I thank all of you who are part of it for giving of yourselves to make it the best it can be.

Advent and Christmas are great times to reacquaint with this community. There will be many opportunities, from special services to outreach drives, for you to stake a claim, perhaps in a new way. After all, God changed everything, for all time, when he staked a claim in all of humanity in that manger in Bethlehem.

A truly blessed Advent to you all,

Randy

ALL THINGS ADVENT "PREPARE THE WAY"

A NEW EUCHARISTIC PRAYER—During Advent we are using a Eucharistic prayer from a collection of prayers called "Enriching our Worship," a series of prayers authorized by the Church to augment those in the Prayer Book. The goal is to use some new and different imagery and pray the words in a slightly different way, especially appropriate during this season. The entire prayer can be found on the card in the pews.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT rehearsals will take place during Church School, along with seasonal worship and teaching. The children will not be coming in for the Eucharist at their normal time, so the clergy will be taking Communion down to them in the Undercroft, immediately after the service.

WEAR YOUR FAITH ON YOUR LAPEL! This year we have a new way to be reminded of the spirit of Advent, by wearing buttons with a devotional message on them. We are asking for a small donation to cover the expense and to raise money for our commitment to Carpenter's Kids. They make wonderful seasonal gifts. \$3 per button, \$25 for 10. Please see Fr. Rogers for your button.

CHRIST CHURCH ORNAMENTS: We have many handsome pewter ornaments left from previous years. They will be available during coffee hours and from the office for a donation of \$15.

HELPING HANDS: The Church School gift project this year will be gloves for clients of the Community Service Associates, the soup kitchen in Mt. Vernon. We are asking every family to bring in one or more pairs of gloves and place them on the designated tree in Hoag Hall. Most of the clients of CSA are men, so the gloves should be adult-sized and the color appropriate for a man. Some women's and children's gloves are also needed. Stretch gloves are ideal. Please contact Anne Calder at aljdcalder@aol.com or 738-2756 with any questions.

CARPENTER'S KIDS: Looking for a gift for someone who doesn't need anything? How about making a life-changing gift in their name to the Carpenter's Kids? A gift of \$55 provides a uniform, shoes, socks, school supplies and a hot breakfast for an orphan in one of our linked parishes in Tanzania, enabling the child to go to school. Handsome cards to announce your gift will be available at a table during coffee hour. A new Carpenter's Kids promotional video is now posted on the Carpenter's Kids website www.carpenterskids.net on the right hand panel of the home page.

"TIE THING" FOR HUDSON LINK

GENTLEMEN: please bring in any gently – worn neckties you would like to donate and place them in the basket in the Narthex. The ties will benefit students of Hudson Link, who will need them for graduation and interviews.

From the Director of Christian Education

It's the time of year when simply maintaining a routine becomes a nearly insurmountable task. Add the free-floating stress everyone in the developed world is feeling due to the economic crises, and we find ourselves in a perpetual game of catch up – someone's changed the rules of the Four Square game, we're in a penalty box with no idea of how to get out.

For me, the way I can understand the economy is looking at it as something that serves the people. Fortunately, there are different economic metrics being explored that open up standards that include sustainability, well being, and contain all of creation.

The liturgical calendar and even our liturgies in church, are like the economy: we do not serve them blindly and abstractly. They serve us. The word liturgy does come from roots that mean "the work of the people". The more I look at the liturgical year, the more it reveals to me the story of generations of communities binding up the realities of life with faith. When you look at the cultural manifestation of the Christian year over centuries, you are hit – socko! - with the fact that a lot of stuff is just plain made up. Like Aphrodite sprung from Zeus's head, many of our observances and traditions are fabricated. Fabricated substantively, but fabricated none the less.

This season is dense with all forms of cultural tradition, particularly signposts in human form. We can't really know when St. Lucia was born, (Feast day, December 13th) but we know she gave bread to the poor and her story helped generate a loving (if slightly humiliating for the eldest daughter!) tradition in Scandinavia. St. Nicholas (December 6th) is embraced by many in the world in such a variety of ways that we can pick one part of his story, and remember his generosity, even though we often forget he grew up on what is the southern coast of Turkey. Other saints, prophets, and feast days dot the calendar, pointing the way towards the Incarnation are Isaiah, Andrew the Apostle, the Martyrs of El Salvador, Our Lady of Guadalupe, John the Baptist, Elizabeth and Zechariah, St. John of the Cross, St. Ambrose, and Dorothy Day.

Histories of Christmas as a celebration are a Google away. You can see the evolution of this time of year so that it serves the people celebrating. The best summation I've ever heard was from an 11-year-old who had moved to the U.S. from Great Britain. Hearing that there is no indication in the Gospels that Jesus was born on December 25th, she said "Oh...it's like the Queen and the Queen Mum. Jesus has a real birthday and then a public birthday we all celebrate!"

Christmas Day is only 72 hours away from the shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere. This is no coincidence – it is the result of centuries of Christianity spreading from the Middle East, adapting to communities in both Southern and Northern Europe, Oceania, and North and South America. Maybe even a little bit of Northern hemispheric arrogance. As the years go by, and observances are kept, the traditions, timely celebrations of saints, recognition of deep truths evolve so that each environment around the globe is saturated with meaningful ways to prepare for and celebrate the incarnation of God.

So how do we celebrate in a meaningful way in 2008? How do we recognize this astonishing moment in all of time – the Creator of Heaven and Earth choosing to become one of us? Telling the story in different ways is helpful. Using the weeks of Advent – no matter how "made up" the season may be – works as well. I ran across a book which contains a family's living Advent calendar. Each night was a song, story, pantomime, or plan to reach out to others. Our 21st century life won't allow for all that, but surely we could spare two nights a week. When we light our Advent candles and say the mealtime grace, we can do it with delight as well as solemnity. We can recognize the synchronicity of welcoming hope, love incarnate, the invitation to walk humbly with our God and do justice, and the shortest day of the year.

Jo Robinson and Jean Cappock Staehli write in *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, that the four things children most want at Christmas are:

1. A relaxed and loving time with the family.
2. Realistic expectations about gifts.
3. An evenly paced holiday season.
4. Reliable family traditions.

Like newer metrics for the economy, look for ways to celebrate the season that are sustainable, increase our well being, and include all of creation. From this, our connections are increased and memories are made.



The Pink Angel

The day of the Christmas Pageant had dawned bright from the first snow. The children were doubly excited, first by the pageant and party, and more so because of the snowmen they would be making later in the day. We had built a new stable and had sewn new angel robes. We practiced and knew our parts well. Could we have a more perfect day for making memories?

Then came Tina. Tina was twenty-three with multiple challenges: epileptic since childhood, a limited learning capacity, and emotionally charged by over stimulation. Even within fairly relaxed cultural norms, Tina was frightening to some. Her face and limbs were furry from the lifetime of medications. She drooled. She also had one eye that roamed. We had made a place for her in the Church School with the youngest children since they seldom notice difference. To them, Tina was simply another friend.

For whatever reason that morning, Tina had to be an angel. There was no convincing her otherwise. The teachers and I dug through the pile of cast off costumes and found a pink robe that fit her. It was wrinkled, but it would have to do. We pinned garland in her hair and lined her up with the other tiny white angels.

“Stay together until the teacher tells you to go up the aisle. Remember to fold your hands.”

It would be all right, I told myself; it had to be.

*Everything began well. Mary and Joseph knocked on the door. The innkeeper announced in his loudest voice, “There is no room!” The congregation began to sing *Away in the Manger* as the baby was placed in his straw bed. That’s when Tina bolted from the front of the church, down the center aisle to the stable. She sat herself in front of the baby Jesus. She rocked side to side with her hands gripping the manger in a protective posture. This was clearly her baby and hers alone.*

The teachers eyed me for some possible intervention. There was nothing to be done but to continue the program. The angels came; the shepherds and wise men came too. Tina never let go of her charge, keeping all the visitors at a safe distance I suppose.

One must accept such happenings in the church. Life is a messy business. But still the idealist in me resented this otherwise lovely tradition being spoiled by anxious teachers and children, and parents sitting on the edge of their seats waiting for who knows what Tina might decide to do next.

*Later that week, I went into the church attic to put away the costumes. I found a pile of black and white photos in the corner, taken twenty years earlier for a stewardship campaign. One was particularly poignant. The photo was of two beautiful little girls playing in our nursery. They were dressed in the style of the day - full petticoats, pinafores, and ribbons in their hair. Underneath the photo was written: *It begins here.**

Because this is a timeless truth for every educator, I took the picture with me and hung it in my office. Later that week, Tina's older sister came in and asked where I found the picture of Tina.

"This is Tina?" I asked incredulously.

"Yes, she must have been three or so. Wasn't she sweet?" she replied.

As sweet as all the other angels, I thought, especially to God.

May God bless our Christmas Pageants this year, and the pink angels who continue to surprise us with the Good News: we are all dearly loved.

- Reprinted from the CFM Newsletter

Youth Group Activities Calendar

Date (Week of)	Time	Theme	Special Feature
12/18/08 - Wednesday	TBD	Outreach	Mt. Vernon Cooking for Christmas
12/21/08 - Sunday	TBD	Fellowship/Outreach	"Scroogathon"
1/10/09 - Saturday	TBD	Outreach	Burning of the Greens
1/11/09 - Sunday	TBD	Outreach	Slave Trade Movie
2/8/09 - Sunday	7 PM+	Fellowship/Outreach	Superbowl of Caring Party
2/28/09 - Saturday	all day	Fellowship	Family Ski Trip
4/18/09 - Saturday		Fellowship/Outreach	Work on Church Grounds
5/24/09 - Friday	Overnight	Worship	Church Sleepover
6/27/09 - Saturday	all day	Fellowship	Family Rafting Trip



Christ Church Liturgical Servers' Rota – Season after Pentecost, December 2008

Pentecost 2008 8 & 10 AM	November 30th <i>Advent 1</i>	December 7th <i>Advent 2</i>	December 14th <i>Advent 3</i>	December 21st <i>Advent 4</i>
<u>Year A</u>				
1st Lesson	Isaiah 64:1-9	Iaaiah 40:1-11	Isaiah 61:1-4; 8-11	2 Samuel 7:1-11; 16
Psalm	80:1-7; 16-18	85:1-2, 8-13	126	89
2nd Lesson	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	2 Petet 3:8-15a	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24	Romans 16:25-27
<u>Chalice</u>				
8	Jack Kraft	Steve Pritz	Nancy Pritz	Susan Priest
10	Mildred Johnson Geoff Allen	Ella Roundtree Ozichi Alimole	Xandra Schultz Debra Ballard	Chisara Alimole Carla Pace
<u>Prayers of the People</u>				
8	Lorrie Larsen-Strauss	Susan Priest	Barbara Zambelli	Art Savage
10	Amy Chase	Nancy Marvel	Jim Young	Pageant - no readings
<u>Lectors</u>				
8	Lorrie Larsen-Strauss	Susan Priest	Barbara Zambelli	Art Savage
1st Lesson 10	Ozichi Alimole	Carla Pace	Steve Swanson	Pageant - no readings
2nd Lesson 10	Christine Krause	Kelley Royce	Claire Allen	
<u>Acolytes</u>				
10	Due to Pageant Rehearsals Acolyte serving will be Voluntary	Due to Pageant Rehearsals Acolyte serving will be Voluntary	Due to Pageant Rehearsals Acolyte serving will be Voluntary	Due to Pageant Rehearsals Acolyte serving will be Voluntary
<u>Ushers</u>				
10	Ginny Cragin Ed Cragin Martin Nash	Ginny Cragin Ed Cragin Martin Nash	Ginny Cragin Ed Cragin Martin Nash	Ginny Cragin Ed Cragin Martin Nash



CHRISTMAS AT CHRIST CHURCH

*“O Come,
let us adore
Him”*

December 7th - Pageant Rehearsal
during Church School



December 14th - Pageant Rehearsal
during Church School



December 21st - Christmas Pageant
during the 10 AM service.



December 24th

4:30 PM Carol singing in the church
led by the children's choirs

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

10:00 PM Carol singing in the Church
led by the Senior Choir

10:30 PM - Midnight Mass



December 25th

10:00 AM - Christmas Day service



Get Active at
Christ Church!
(And NOT by volunteering!)

Are you looking for a new way to get “active” at Christ Church? No, this time we are not seeking a volunteer commitment, but rather offering a way to get some exercise and support our newest tenants. We have several new groups who have taken up residency right here in our Parish.

+ **The Westchester Blades Fencing School** is holding fencing instruction classes in our Parish Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons for children ages 8 and up as well as adult instruction in the evenings (same days.) If you are intertested, call Alexander Abend at 917.623.8001 or aabend@nyc.rr.com.

+ **The Pelham Promenaders** are holding their bi-weekly square dances in the Parish Hall on Sunday evenings. If you have square dance experience and would like to join in the group or are interested in learning to square dance, contact Dorothy or David Casa at 738.3093 for more information.

+ **Thrive Fitness & Nutrition Studio** are holding Core Barre exercise classes which are based on ballet, pilates and yoga, as well as offering holistic health counseling in our lovely Old Parish House (where the nursery is located) For more information, contact Danielle Aziezer at 914.498.3071 or Danielle@thrivestudiony.com



ADVENT

FROM THE ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding;
 “Christ is nigh,” it seems to say,
 “Cast away the works of darkness,
 O ye children of the day.”

Wakened by the solemn warning
 Let the earthbound soul arise;
 Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling,
 Shines upon the morning skies.

Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
 Comes with pardon down from Heav’n;
 Let us haste, with tears of sorrow,
 One and all to be forgiven.

That when next He comes in glory,
 And the world is wrapped in fear,
 With His mercy He may shield us,
 And with words of love draw near.

Honor, glory, might, and blessing
 Be to God: the Father, Son
 And the everlasting Spirit,
 While eternal ages run.

– c. 6th century Latin hymn,
 translated by Edward Caswall

Have you ever noticed the way a good hymn tells a story? How the theological meaning unfolds from the first stanza to the last? *Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding* is just one of a number of really great Advent hymns in our hymnal that amplify and illuminate the lectionary readings. There are “solemn warnings,” “tears of sorrow,” “watching and waiting,” “preparing in the desert a highway”: all sorts of metaphors for preparation, anticipation, growing excitement and a return to hope in our weary world. It is easy for these hymns and the meaning of Advent to get lost in the secular context of a Christmas that seems to begin a week earlier every year – I think it started just after All Saints’ Day this year with “holly jolly” radio and television jingles designed to get us to go out and buy more *stuff* – but in the Episcopal Church we take great care in our liturgies to focus on the preparation, so that the twelve-day-long Christmas celebration can be more meaningful; more the culmination of that work we all need to do both in our hearts and in our world. Incidentally, the way hymn-writers have of developing the theology of a hymn over the course of several stanzas of poetry is the reason our tradition emphasizes singing every verse of every hymn and that our Hymnal’s rubrics provide asterisks for omission of only certain verses of certain hymns – these hymns mean something and that meaning must not be muddled nor confuse the gospel message as they instruct, inform and enrich our faith.

During Advent this year, the choirs of Christ Church will be preparing our Christmas celebration by singing anthems and motets both newly composed and from the great repertoire of ages past. There will be selections from Handel’s beloved *Messiah*, a wonderful Tudor mass setting by William Byrd, motets of Palestrina and the

little-known Netherlands Renaissance composer Jan Sweelinck, a ravishingly beautiful cycle of Advent carols by a “dean” of English church music, Dr. Francis Jackson – who was Edward Bairstow’s successor at York Minster and who recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday – and much, much more. All of it has been selected to highlight the themes of preparation so resplendent in the propers for Advent and especially Gabriel’s wonderful news to Mary as witnessed in our Christmas Pageant on the fourth Sunday of Advent. Not to worry, we are also hard at work preparing music for Christmas, which will be the great fulfillment of this rich Advent drama that plays each year and has done for many long centuries.

Christmas, or the *Christe Masse*, will be marked by the singing of carols from around the world, both as choral selections and congregational song. Our children’s choirs will help lead our early services beginning at 4:30 p.m. on Christmas Eve with a carol-singing and leading to the first eucharist of Christmas at 5:00 p.m. Then, at 10:00 p.m. our senior choir, soloists and instruments will lead a carol-singing, culminating in a 10:30 p.m. Solemn Eucharist of the Nativity with carols, anthems and motets to mark the joyous solemnity of Christ’s birth.

I hope you will find your Advent preparations enriched by the hymns, anthems, motets and instrumental music we will share and that the true meaning of Christmas – the coming of Christ’s glorious light into our dark, weary world will be made real for you in new and unexpected ways through the music of Advent and Christmas at Christ Church.



Community Service Associates, Inc.

115 SHARPE BOULEVARD SQ. • MT. VERNON, NY 10550
 TELEPHONE (914) 668-1428 • FAX (914) 664-3260
 E-MAIL: ROBERTA@CSA@VERIZON.NET
 WWW.COMMUNITYSERVICEASSOCIATES.ORG

PRESIDENT
 ROBERT GREENBERG

VICE PRESIDENT
 MAUREEN SULLIVAN

SECRETARY
 LOUISE BROWN

TREASURER
 MARIE DOS SANTOS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LOUISE BROWN
 GERALD M. COLEMAN
 TERI CONFORI
 MARIE DOS SANTOS
 ROBERT GREENBERG
 LILLIAN KLEINBERG
 ROBERT LEFRI
 KENNETH C. PLUMMER
 ROBERT RUSSELL
 RABBI DAVID SCHUCK
 RHONDA SINGER
 MAUREEN SULLIVAN
 ISABELLE WILMOT
 BETH YELSEY

HONORARY DIRECTORS

RABBI MORIS BARZILAI
 MSGK. HOWARD CALKINS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ROBERTA APUZZO

September 25, 2008

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer
 Attn: Rev. Randy Alexander
 1415 Pelhamdale Avenue
 Pelham, NY 10803

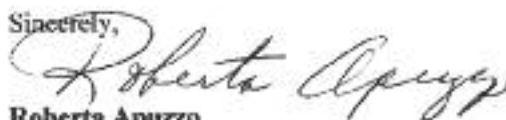
Dear Rev. Alexander:

The Board of Community Service Associates, Inc. and I would like to thank you and the parishioners for your very generous donation of \$3,500 to our program.

Without the support of our neighbors and friends, we would be unable to continue our mission to provide services to the poor and homeless in Mount Vernon.

Thank you for your contributions and your ongoing support.

Sincerely,



Roberta Apuzzo
 Executive Director

THE LAST WORD

A column with a variety of topics penned from the desk of Assistant Rector, Fr. George Rogers

The Last Word

Perhaps you've heard street corner preachers shouting, "Repent, for the end near!" Whenever I've heard this, I've often been tempted to reply, "repent, for the end is God," who is not merely the end of all things in finality, but is also the goal, and inspiration of things that ever were and will be: The Alpha and Omega. Repenting because time or the world is said to be ending is a bad reason to repent, as anxiety about the scarcity of time betrays a lack of faith in the eternal which surrounds the temporal as it paradoxically breaks into it at key historical moments: as in the Incarnation of Our Lord.

Recall John the Baptist: he exhorts the different factions of the crowd to repent—to change their purposes—and not let dissipate the passion of faith that was demonstrated by Abraham generations before. John calls the crowd to better stewardship of resources: not to hoard a surplus, but instead to share the abundance, so that more brothers and sisters might be brought into the enjoyment of it. He criticizes the common practice of both tax collectors and soldiers—practices that were very similar to "paying protection" and extortion—and recommends that they not abuse others for the sake of their own gain. A call to repentance is a call for a change of goals, which requires a change of strategy, and of course, a change of character.

But repenting is hard. A change of purpose profoundly entails a rupture from the enchainment to the past, a transformation of the present moment in the revaluation of the past, and the prospect of a new direction for future action made flesh—the fruits of our faith. This break with one's disposition is difficult—any change is—because it upsets what we have enjoyed as the balanced and undisturbed way we have run our lives. With thought, prayer, and grace, we may recognize this break as redemption, and we may see how this redemption affects every thread of the fabric of our lives.

You have probably noticed that Christ tends to draw the circle wider—he's really quite inclusive of those who "don't belong," (especially sinners, tax collectors, and soldiers—agents of the occupying Roman power). His prophets such as John do the same, but the way they do it is very different from what passes for the "inclusivity" that we hear of these days.

Inclusivity as we are fed it (and in some cases are assaulted by it) is a reflexive deadlock: its purpose is to protect its own position as an unattainable ideology so that the most society will ever do is remain inert on the issue: a cynical distance between the goal and its actualization is preserved and insures that nothing will ever change. This is how societal inclusivity upholds the very structure it openly criticizes and proves itself to be hypocritical: by operationally reinforcing the distance between the object and the desire for it under a pseudo revolutionary and democratic discourse. There is no repentance in this movement.

You might notice that the structure and identity of any society, club, or system has been built on the exclusion of others. This is still the case, and I suspect is part of the universal blueprint. And although there has been much talk in schools and the Church about the "consideration of the Other," when an "other" unexpectedly shows up, dialogue seems to stop, discomfort arrives, and we begin to feel scandalized and put upon. We would do well to pause here and think: whenever we are on about inclusivity, we must remember Zephaniah's prophecy about God's intention to "save the lame and gather the outcast," and remember that the outcast might show him or herself in the face of Christ. This point is illustrated by Christ in his statement, "whatever you do to the least of these my brethren, you do to me," as well his being described as the stone the builders rejected becoming the chief cornerstone. Why is this the case?

The outcast is that "indivisible remainder" which when run through the system never fits—it always sticks out, and disturbingly makes us question why this is so. By our recognizing the outcast as the embodiment of the truth of the failure of the universality of the system that rejected it, we are on the way to effectively subverting the system by breaking the balanced deadlock and initiating change.

The positing of the outcast as the retroactive foundation of the system that rejected it changes the coordinates of the entire system by not merely naming the elements within the system, but by changing the purpose and the meaning of all of these things.

It is true that we who proclaim Christ as Lord are the outcasts of this system called the “spiritual but not religious” world. Not to realize this and proclaim ourselves Christians might be like looking into a tiger’s mouth to see its teeth. If you look through a lot of generically religious window dressing in its different forms, you might catch a glimpse of the full onslaught against Christ that isn’t presented openly—to present them as such would not be “inclusive,” and would be dangerous for the balance of the world if every Christian were to realize his or her potential as a powerful revolutionary emissary of Christ.

God’s message from John the Baptist is short, simple, yet eternal: Change your purpose so that you will realize eternal life, and you will begin to live into this eternity right now in life abundant. Accordingly, there will be no fear of scarcity of resources in the face of death, and much more, no more tendency to try to ward off death by any kind of hoarding, drawing of limits, or preservation of societal equilibrium. Instead, life abundant means an excess of life—meaning living life that breaks in above the mere biological, social, and historical cycles of death and regeneration that surround everything alive on this planet year after year world without end. Life abundant means living into God’s Kingdom now—with our bodies in time, but our souls also in eternity—exploding all spatio-temporal conceptions of reality and scarcity.

To do this is the only real subversion, and God has demonstrated this in Jesus Christ.



CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. J. Randolph Alexander Jr., *Rector*
The Rev. George M. Rogers, *Assistant Rector*
The Rev. Ralph E. Peterson, *Priest Associate*
The Rev. John G. W. Zacker, *Priest Associate*
Mr. Jeffrey Hoffman, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Ms. Brook Packard, *Dir. of Christian Education*
Mrs. Jackie Vigil, *Parish Administrator*
Ms. Evyonne Baker, *Parish Secretary*
Mr. Walter Roberts, *Vergers & Sexton*
Mr. Ed Blue, *Sexton*

WARDENS & VESTRY

Mr. David Ballard, *Sr. Warden*
Mr. Jeff Bodenmann, *Jr. Warden*
Ms. Margaret Anastas
Ms. Kari Black
Mr. J.D. Calder
Mr. Curtis Chase
Ms. Cheryl Greenhalgh
Ms. Kim Hindle
Mr. Todd Krause
Mr. Thomas Roth
Mr. William Tiff

Rector Emeritus
The Rev. David S. Hoag

Wardens Emeriti
Mr. Robert Kingston
Mr. John M. Leon, Jr.

Christ Church
1415 Pelhamdale Avenue
Pelham, NY 10803-3698

Telephone: 914.738.5515
Facsimile: 914.560.2295
Email: office@christchurchpelham.org
Website: www.christchurchpelham.org

SPECIAL EVENTS

December 8th -
7:30PM - The American Boychoir in Concert
December 21st - Christmas Pageant during the
10 AM service.
December 24th -
4:30 PM - Carol singing in the church led by the
children's choirs
5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service
10:00 PM - Carol singing in the Church led by
the Senior Choir
10:30 PM - Midnight Mass
December 25th -
10 AM - Holy Eucharist and Christmas Service

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS

8:00 A.M. The Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Childcare available
10:00 A.M. Church School
10:00 A.M. The Holy Eucharist with music

TUESDAYS

10:00 A.M. Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAYS

4:30 PM Chorister Program
6:00 PM Evening Prayer

