

Church of The Holy Spirit News & Notes

January 2014 – Volume 17, # 1

Advocations – January 2014



As 2014 begins, the Church of the Holy Spirit is at a crossroads. The plans for the new church building will be unveiled soon and the capital campaign is moving into its active phase. At the same time, we do face challenges: longtime members moving away, difficulty finding folks who can serve year-round in leadership roles. And although Holy Spirit folks are astonishingly generous in their support of the parish and its ministries, we are going into 2014 with a deficit budget.

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Where all these factors meet is the issue of growth. A healthy church will always be welcoming new members into its community, as longtime members and newcomers seek to grow together in faith. And the most common avenue for those newcomers to find the church is when longtime members invite them. We have certainly had a number of new members join the church in the past few years, many of them invited by those who were already here – but the more intentional that each and every one of us can be, about inviting those we know to come and see the community that we have here, the stronger that community will be.

Our formal “Come & See” campaign in spring 2013 did not yield the long term results we were hoping for; there are a number of possible reasons for that. We may try again in the future with different timing, but in the mean time, there is no better time than the present to invite your friends to church!

Of course, if we are only inviting our neighbors to join our church community so that they can help us pay the bills and keep the doors open, we might as well shut down right now. We want to pay the bills and keep the doors open *in order that* we may worship and serve God in Plymouth and be God’s presence in this community, and it is *that* mission to which we hope to invite those we know and love, so that people of all ages and situations in life can grow together in the love of Jesus.

It is an exciting time to join this congregation – as we move toward our vision of a new and more welcoming building – and we trust that when that new building is a reality, there will be contagious excitement around it that will make such invitations easier. But even in this in-between time, we are seeking to make our worship richer and more newcomer-friendly, we are pursuing deeper conversations to strengthen our parish community, and we would love to have those who are in search of God and of a community in which to seek and find God, to come and see what God is doing in the Church of the Holy Spirit!

In God’s peace,
Grace+

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News & Notes

Twelve Days of Christmas

YOU ARE HEREBY INVITED to the Third Annual Rector's Twelve Days of Christmas Open House! 4-6 PM, January 5, at 20 Winter Street. COME HUNGRY!!

Diocesan Convention

CHS still has several vacancies in our group of Delegates and Alternates to Diocesan Convention. These lay leaders attend the annual Convention to discern and create the future direction of our Diocese of New Hampshire. To prepare, they attend 6-7 meetings throughout the year of the Lakes Region Convocation. Serving as a delegate or alternate is a great way to get to know Episcopalians in other parishes and to understand how the church works beyond the local parish. If you are interested in being nominated to one of these slots, let Grace know.

HOLY SPIRIT MUSIC FUND

As the twelve days of Christmas wind down, please consider a special donation to the Church of the Holy Spirit's Music Fund, which helps to pay Ash, our organist, for the extra services at this time of year. Thank you!

Holy Spirit Annual Meeting

The Church of the Holy Spirit will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26. There will be one service that morning at 9:00, followed by the meeting. At this meeting, we will not only be electing officers as usual, but also ratifying changes in the church by-laws.

HEALING SERVICE this month: Wednesday, January 8, 12:30 PM, at Griswold Hall, 263 Highland Street. (Note that this is not the first Wednesday of the month, our usual date, since that would be New Year's Day ...)

CHS Notes

- Yoga will be held each Wednesday from 5-6 p.m. in Griswold Hall.
- Want a copy of the Prayer Book for yourself? Stop by the office!
- Don't forget that the Church of the Holy Spirit has a Planned Gifts Officer, Paul Wilson (wudply@gmail.com). Don't hesitate to get in touch with him if you want to arrange to remember the church in your estate planning!



Birthdays in January

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Eve Mauchly | Sandy Kydd | Mary Lambert |
| Hannah Durnan | Pam Gould | Jim Crawford |
| Larry Mauchly | Kathy Lennox | Corinne Collins-
Spiller |
| Nathaniel Gervez | Isaac Hunnewell | |
| Milton Pettengill | | |

News & Notes

Submissions should be sent to: Bill Tedrow at billtedrow@gmail.com. The closing date for submission is the 15th of the month to make the next month's issue.



News & Notes

Church of the Holy Spirit

P. O. Box 68
Plymouth, NH 03264

Church Building

170 No. Main Street

Community Life Center

263 Highland Street
(603) 536-1321

Rector

Rev. Grace Burson

Vestry Members

Senior Warden

Suki Brown

Junior Warden (property issues)

Robert Cochran

Treasurer

Wavell Fogleman

Clerk

Kristen Fischer

At-Large Members

Brendon Hoch

Susan McKimens

Bill Tedrow

Stephanie Osborne

Lois Grant

Sharon Smith

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holyspiritplymouth@myfairpoint.net

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Newsletter Publishing 603-536-1321

Bill Tedrow (billtedrow@gmail.com)

FAMILY WORSHIP

Family Worship!! This is CHS' "third congregation," and if you've been wondering where the children and their parents are on Sunday mornings ... they're usually at Family Worship on Wednesday evenings! You do NOT have to be a child, or have a young child, to come and be part of this terrific group and its experience of faith and fellowship.

Our gatherings – of young children, their families, and those who love them – are being held this year on the campus of Holderness School, and the families from the parish and the school are enjoying our time together. We eat together, then share a Bible story and activity and a short, kid-friendly worship service. The time frame is 5:30-7:00 PM. Contact Grace (holyspiritrector@gmail.com, 996-1490) for details. Family Worship will resume on January 15. The full schedule for the spring is as follows:

January 15

January 29

February 12

February 26

March 12*

March 26*

April 9

(April 17: Parish Maundy Thursday dinner)*

April 30

May 14

May 28*

Dates with asterisks will be at CHS, as Holderness School is not available at those times.

MEDITATION CENTER

There is a new meditation center in Plymouth. Pure Life Meditation Center at 182 N. Main St.

I am enjoying the weekly meditation class. My desire is to advance my prayer and meditation practice and as a result to lead a more peaceful life and experience a closer connection to God.

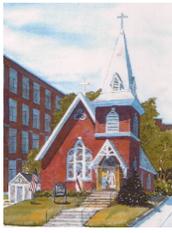
They also have Kundalini Yoga on Tuesday and Thursdays mornings. I have not tried this class, but I hear it is very worthwhile.

If you are interested in any of these programs, call Mary Francis Drake at (617) 990 -7411.

Thank You
Sharon Smith

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News & Notes

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'TEAS' PLANNED FOR BUILDING PROJECT



Work has begun on the Architectural drawings for our new Church. Plans are also underway to have a number of intimate 'Teas' in January and February so that everyone will have an opportunity to see the evolution of our Building Program. We hope as many people as possible will be able to attend. You will all be receiving invitations in the mail.

DECEMBER ADVOCATIONS

As you read in my "Advocations" newsletter column last month – since Adult Forums at 11:00 on Sundays have been lightly attended lately, this seems like a good time to make a change. **Starting on January 5, the plan is no longer to have formal "programs" after coffee hour, but rather to institute "Coffee Hour Plus," a weekly conversation about anything and everything in the congregation's life,** especially as we navigate the many complexities of the transition to a new building that will impact every aspect of our community. After folks have had a chance to have a cup of coffee and greet each other, we will sit down together to discuss a "Question of the Day" or anything else that is on people's minds. Any question or topic - the building process, new worship experiences, or anything else - will be fair game for "Coffee Hour Plus." We will make a habit of taking notes on a flip chart and posting them during the following week's worship so that we can pray over all aspects of our life together as they come up. **I am very hopeful that this new form of fellowship and conversation can improve our communication and bring us closer together as a community!**

CREATIVE WORKSHOP

Creative worship in January: on the 5th, we'll be exploring the themes of Epiphany and you'll get some blessed chalk to take home to mark and bless your house in the names of the Three Kings. On the 12th, we'll explore our baptism with the traditional "Baptismal waters" decorations and a few new twists. Further down the road, on February 2, we'll celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple with a traditional "Candlemas procession" at the 9:30 service! It will be a fun exploration of the theme of Light throughout the Epiphany season!



CHS could very much use a few new ACOLYTES or LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS! These ministries help to make our worship orderly and meaningful. LEMs serve the chalice of wine during communion; acolytes carry the cross and gospel book and assist the priest in other ways. If you are interested in acolyting, contact Kate Donahue at kdonahue@prhs.sau48.org or 536-9539. If you are interested in being a LEM, contact Kathy at kmlennox@plymouth.edu or 536-4779.

January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 ECW-12:00pm-GH	3	4
5 8:00/9:30 Eucharist-CH	6	7 Exec. Comm. Mtg- 11am-CLC	8 Healing Service-12:30- GH Yoga-5pm-GH	9	10	11
12 8:00/9:30 Eucharist-CH	13	14 Vestry Mtg-7pm-CLC	15 Yoga-5pm-GH Family Worship-5:30 Hold. Sch.	16	17	18
19 8:00/9:30 Eucharist-CH	20	21	22 Yoga-5pm-GH	23	24	25
26 9:00 Eucharist- CH Followed by Annual Meeting	27	28	29 Yoga-5pm-GH Family Worship-5:30 Hold. Sch.	30	31	Regular Meetings: AA-7am M-F-GH -7pm W-GH Al-Anon-7pm M-GH NA-7pm Th-GH

