



Weekly Update July 1, 2020

Our Vision

We are a growing community of believers committed to walking with Christ, welcoming all, and serving God by serving others.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

(words by James Weldon Johnson, music by John Rosamond Johnson)

*God of our weary years
God of our silent tears
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way
Thou who has by Thy might
Led us into the light
Keep us forever in the path, we pray
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee
Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee
Shadowed beneath Thy hand
May we forever stand
True to our God
True to our native land*

James Weldon Johnson was the first African American professor to be hired at New York University after serving two diplomatic posts appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt. Johnson was a leader in the NAACP where he started working and was the first African American to be elected Secretary of the organization.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida in 1871 the son of James and Helen Louise Dillet who was a native of the Bahamas. His brother John Rosamond Johnson was the composer that set the words to what has become the "Black National Anthem" to music.

The song is both a prayer and a patriotic anthem that was first performed in 1919. In its three verses, the song captures both the struggle of African Americans and the nobility of that struggle to live in a land that lives up to its creed.

It was later adopted as the "Black National Anthem" by the NAACP, yet the words remind all of us of the tragedy of our past and the hope of our future.

As we celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, let us pause and give thanks for the freedom we enjoy, give thanks for our justice system which judges no

person above any other person, for our system of law not of tyrants, and for the American spirit of service beyond self.

Let us also pray for those who have yet to taste freedom, who cannot expect their government to protect them; who live in fear of the oppression under which they live. Let us share the experience of our elders with our youth and help them to appreciate the sacrifices. Let us look upon the rows of matched tombstones in our military cemeteries with respect. Let us lift-up the veteran, the first responder and all those who serve. Let us lift up our voice and sing for our nation and for our future.

This is a link to acapella group singing this famous hymn. Sadly, among those of fairer complexion it is not well known. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngFDy52eCZY>
Happy July 4th everyone.

Don+

Please remember your pledge



This evening at 7pm via Zoom.

[Click here for Service](#)

Would you like to lead Evening Prayer, or read a lesson during our Wednesday Evening Prayer service? If so, please contact Fr. Don (rector@christchurch.org).

Eternal God, in whose kingdom there is no strength greater than the strength of your love. Send your Spirit so that all peoples may be gathered together as children of God. Guide, inspire and empower us as we seek to weave the strands of our common humanity into something that is new, just, and a worthy reflection of your love. Give us the courage to step into the unknown following the way of Jesus' love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Every reasonable precaution will be taken for the health of all those present.

Masks are required.

You will be asked to wear your mask the entire time you are in the building,

and you may wish to sanitize your hands as you enter.

Only the red doors to the old building at South and Second will be open. If you need another door to be unlocked, please call ahead.

Seating will be marked off.

If you feel ill, or have been exposed or believe you may have been exposed to someone who has the Covid-19 virus, please do not attend.

Remember, you are welcome to attend, but if you wish to stay at home and be cautious, that is your decision and is fully respected and understood.

Live-streaming will continue this week at 10:00am, and after that at 9:00am. A recording of the service will be available if you cannot watch it live.

Thrift Shop Reopening

During these unprecedented times, the Thrift Shop will reopen but we are proceeding with caution. Many new procedures need to be in place to protect shoppers and staff, while taking into account government guidelines. Our first stage will be to open on Saturdays only. **Our first day open will be Saturday, July 11, 2020 from 9:30 am to 12 noon, for shopping and donations.** Please note that donations will only be accepted on Saturday mornings until further notice.

Face coverings will be required, and shoppers must practice social distancing, which means there will be a limited number of shoppers allowed in the store. For the protection of children, at this time we only will be allowing adults (16 and over) in the thrift shop.

Thank you for your patience while we keep everyone's health and safety as our top priority.

Saturday Breakfast has been suspended until further notice!

Intercessory Prayers

To add a name to our weekly intercession list, please send the name to prayer@christchurch.org.

The intercession list will be available as you enter the church on Sunday mornings.

You are welcome to add a name (first or baptismal name only). There are three areas: 1) for those who are ill or need special prayers 2) for those who have died and 3) for thanksgivings to God.

Let us all remember each other, family members and friends in prayer each week.



Christ Church Blessing Box

Thanks to all who have been donating.

Popular items include: coffee, tea bags, paper towels, toilet paper, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, razors, deodorant, pet food, baby food, name brand cereal, laundry detergent.

If donating food, please check expiration dates.

Plastic Recycling Continues

Christ Church continues to support the Warwick Lions Club initiative to keep more plastic out of landfills.

For every 500 pounds of plastic bags and film packaging recycled in a six-month interval, Trex will donate an environmentally responsible bench that the Lions will place in the community. We can't gather the plastic at church right now, but we as individuals can still support this initiative.

Directly recycle your clean, dry, empty plastic bags and film packaging in 30-gallon or 45-gallon clear plastic recycle bags (30 gallon can be purchased from Shop Rite). When you have a full bag, take it to Price Chopper on Route 94 in Warwick. Go around the right side of the building to get to the rear loading dock. After delivery, contact George McManus with the total that you dropped off at mcmanus@warwick.net or call 986-1681 and leave a message. Each 30 gallon filled bag is eight pounds.

The Lions will only get the bench if we let George know what we recycled, so please don't omit that step.

Thank you very much!

I am delighted to announce that Annabel Boland is the winner of the Rector's scholarship for 2020.

Annabel is the daughter of Stephen and Kerry Boland. At 16 years of age, Annabel made her own decision to become a baptized member of the church. Her essay discusses this critical moment in her life and how she felt welcomed and warmed by the people of Christ Church. She was



inspired by the life of her
Grandmother Mary Boland.

Annabel is a 2020 graduate of
Warwick Valley High School and has
been accepted to attend the SUNY
Albany Honors program, SUNY's
Plattsburgh's nursing program, SUNY
Geneseo, the University of Vermont
and SUNY Binghamton where she
will study biology.

Congratulations Annabel!

The Reverend Dr. Donald F. Davidson, Interim Rector

Articles for Christ Church Eblast newsletter are due by noon on Tuesday before
Wednesday publication

Fr. Don is available to you if an emergency 24-hours a day.

Outside of regular office hours, the best way to contact him is via email at

rector@christchurch.org

You can also leave a message on his phone line, as he checks his messages often .

VESTRY: Matthew Mumford - Senior Warden, Mark Arnowitz - Junior Warden

Elena Chavez Carey, Judy Girod, Sharon Kelly, Steve Laico, Chris Loftus, Barbara Mann (Recording Secretary),
George Mindos, Kristen Neavin, Louise Schultz (Treasurer), Charlotte Trott and Cheryl Walters

Anyone wishing to read the Vestry meeting minutes,
please contact the parish office for a copy.

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SUNDAYS: 10:00 AM

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