✝ ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

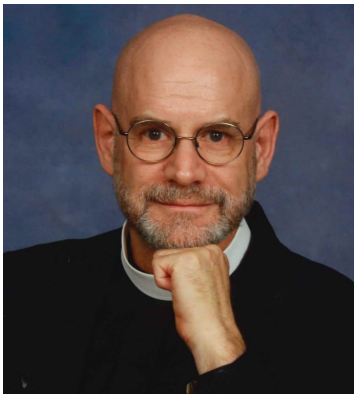
COMMUNIQUÉ

St. Francis' Episcopal Church is a diverse community, accepting all.
We gather to worship God, grow in faith, and share in fellowship.
We go out to serve Christ by serving others.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME HERE!

May—2022
The Newsletter for St. Francis Dunellen

A Letter from Father Jack Zamboni, Rector



Dear Friends,

Recently, I have found myself thinking a lot about change. I don't mean the loose coins in my pocket, but rather the process of change from what is familiar to what is new that is an inevitable part of life. We both welcome and draw back from change. On the one hand, change can sometimes be painful, when it comes in the form of loss, illness, or death. On the other hand, change can be life-giving as new opportunities open out before us. Sometimes, it can be both.

Whether we experience it as negative or positive, change is always a bit unsettling. Psychologists who study stress point out that all change, whether good or bad, is stressful, because change requires that we adapt to something unfamiliar. When what we've been accustomed to changes, life can feel disjointed for a time as we adjust to what is new. While we may feel hopeful or excited about the change, we can also feel anxious or out of sorts.

What does our Christian faith have to say to us as we live with the reality of change in our lives? First, it reminds us that God's work of creation is an ongoing process. The universe as we know it was set in motion by the Big Bang billions of years ago, but God's creative work is in not limited to, "Let there be light!" God continues to create and re-create each and every moment, bringing forth life in ever new ways. We human beings have the amazing privilege of sharing in that process in as God's co-creating partners. So change – unsettling as it can be -- is not to be avoided (as if we could!) or feared, for it is part of how God is present and at work in our lives and in the world.

At the same time, our faith tells us that the God who makes all things new is also the God who is same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. God's abiding love and presence remain unchanged as we live through the sometimes disorienting changes of life. When we find ourselves "wearied by the changes and chances of this life," it can help to rest in the depths of God's unchanging, ever-faithful love.

Above all, our faith is centered in the One who passed through the greatest change known to humanity -- death itself -- and emerged victorious in new life. Jesus' dying and rising open up for us a new way of seeing change: change as resurrection, change as transformation, change as the opportunity for God to make a new creation -- even in the face of what seemed the most awful of changes. When we see change in this light, we discover that God can bring new possibilities out of even the most painful changes in our lives. Indeed, we may discover that is precisely through changes that feel as if they are killing us that God brings us to new ways of living.

All of this means we can live through the changes that come to us in hope and in trust. Whether change makes us feel excited or anxious, distressed or glad (or --most likely -- some mix of all of these), we need not be overwhelmed by our feelings. We can recognize that these feelings are a normal response to the reality of change in our lives. But we can also trust ourselves to the God who created the world and is recreating it still, the God who abides with us in love as we live with change, the God who will bring us through the changes of this life to renewed life for the next steps in our journey.

Peace,

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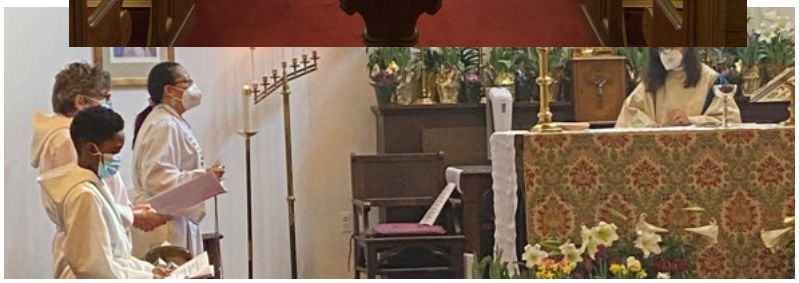
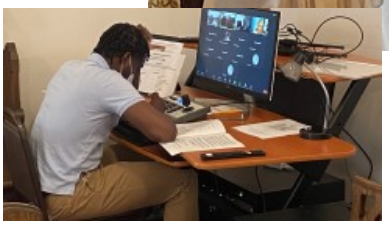
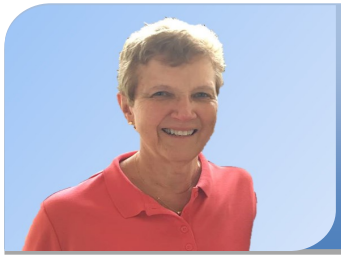
[i] *Book of Common Prayer,* p. 133

PALM SUNDAY
&
EASTER SERVICES

(Special Thanks to photographer Elaine)







OUTREACH

Outreach Coordinator: Pam Maiolo

Thank you to all who donated the many needed items for the people of **Ukraine**. The *collection has come to a close at this time*. If there is a continuing need in the future we will once again start a collection of goods. Thanks to Suzannah Kototajlo & Hilary Cox for their coordination efforts.

We also have concluded our Lenten donations for the **NJ Institute for Social Justice**. A dollar amount of our giving will be reported in next month's Communique. Thanks to all.

We will be celebrating **Episcopal Community Services-NJ** on May 1st. We are a founding congregation with a commitment of giving of $10,000 over 3 years. We are on our way to meeting that commitment, but we can't forget the needs throughout our diocese are current. Please continue to give to this important ministry as you are able. Thank you to all who have already donated and it is hoped that you will continue in the months ahead.

Some of you might remember Fr. Terry Quoi. Fr. Quoi & Fr. Jack became friends many years ago & Fr. Jack traveled to Fr. Quoi's home in Liberia. Fr. Quoi visited at St. Francis a few times while studying at Sewanee Seminary in Tennessee. Fr. Quoi is now the Priest-in-Charge at St. Barnabas on the Field, Liberia, West Africa. **The St. Barnabas Episcopal School** had a devastating fire in February. The vestry has approved a donation of $500 to assist with rebuilding & material purchases. This donation was made possible from our outreach budget-your pledge commitment to the ministry at St. Francis.

Non-perishable food donations continue to be collected for **St. Paul's ELCA**, Edison. A letter of thanks from the St. Paul congregation can be found in this issue.

HELP WANTED – The St. Francis Altar Guild needs assistance with sewing small cloths used in administering home/hospital Eucharist. The sewing should be done on a sewing machine. Materials will be supplied.

Please contact Pam at potato4931@yahoo.com or (908) 431-5627.

BARBARA WOULD LIKE YOUR BANANAS - Our chief "Banana Bread Baker", Barbara Dalto can always use your over-ripe bananas. NEVER throw those black bananas away! Contact Barbara at nonnadalto@optonline.net

A Letter of Thanks from St. Paul's

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
445 Old Post Rd., Edison, NJ 08817
(732) 287-0888
www.stpauls-edison.weebly.com

April 14, 2022

St. Francis Parishioners
St. Francis Episcopal Church
400 New Market Road
Dunellen, NJ 08812

Dear St. Francis Parishioners:

Thank you for your generous donation of $500 for the St Paul's Food Pantry. We are overwhelmed with gratitude with your continued support of food donations, as well as your financial support.

You have assisted us in continuing to meet the demand of helping many people in our area who are food insecure due to having little or no income due to the present economy situation and this continuing pandemic.

As our Lord, Jesus Christ has taught us to love and serve one another, your generosity is assisting us in reminding people in our community that they are not alone. We are blessed to call you a partner in our Food Pantry operation.

Thank you on behalf of our St. Paul's Food Pantry volunteers and the parishioners of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Edison, New Jersey.

Peace,

Kathy

Kathy Balenson, Secretary
Rev. James Krombholz, D.Min.

STEWARDSHIP

MORE THAN ENOUGH

In the last two Communiques we asked you to consider giving *Special Offerings* for various occasions such as holy days*. For the upcoming Jazz Concert happening May 15th, we're asking for a *free-will offering* to support our Outreach program instead of selling tickets. And every week – just after the Announcements and at the start of the Holy Eucharist – we hear Fr. Jack say: "Ascribe to the Lord the honor due God's name. *Bring offerings* and enter God's courts.". The choice of the word "*offering*" is very intentional and precise in these instances. Calling something an *offering* implies choice and intention; it hints at that what you're freely giving is a gift, not an obligation. Offerings to God are special in that it is not just money you are giving – the offering also represents the time, talents, energy, sacrifices, sweat, and tears that went into earning the money. Offerings are monetary, spiritual, and hardworking pieces of YOU!

The Rev. Herb Miller, creator of the New Consecration Sunday program, has a few thoughts on offerings we'd like to share[1]:

The Spiritual Nature of Money

In his remarks prior to the offering at a men's retreat, a Colorado pastor said, "We never take collections at these events. We do, however, receive an offering." He was stating an important truth about Christian stewardship. Receiving an offering is quite different from fund raising. Offerings are a spiritual matter in which we give ourselves to God's causes. Fund raising, on the other hand, is a financial matter in which we give our money to pay the bills for a good cause. That is an important distinction. In our worship service each Sunday, we are not just taking a collection to pay the bills; that would be fund raising. No, we are receiving an offering. When we give an offering, we give more than money. That is the major reason that churches ask people to give money as part of the worship service each Sunday — because our giving of money helps us to give a far more important gift: ourselves.

Rudyard Kipling's Advice about Wealth

In his commencement address at McGill University in Montreal, Rudyard Kipling gave the students some advice concerning life values. His thesis was that people whose scale of values is based solely on material wealth will have difficulty all of their lives. "Do not pay too much attention to fame, power, and money," Kipling said. "Someday you will meet a person who cares for none of these things and then you will know how poor you really are." [Four Signs of a Sensible Steward, John Maxwell, audio tape].

Our giving to the church does far more than pay the electricity bill. It helps us keep our perspective on what matters in life.

*May's Special Offering envelope is for the Ascension of our Lord on May 26th.

1. *From Stewardship Nuggets, Herb Miller, 2004, Abingdon Press, Nashville*

MAY HEALTHY BITS

Chris Colwell

May is here and what a glorious month it is! Not only can we enjoy more time outside with all of God's blooming Glory, but we can also take time to honor our Mothers. After all, who else but Mom is responsible for our good health, right? On a personal note, Mother's Day is difficult for Kathy and I. Our beloved Mother passed away 9 years ago on Mother's Day. Kathy reminds me that Mom's passing on that day was actually quite fitting, as she was the BEST Mother ever. We miss her dearly - we love her.

Perhaps that is why Bruce Springsteen struck such a nerve within me when I heard his song The Wish. Below is an interview with Bruce from July 2, 2021, aired on NBCs Today Show (produced by Kerry Breen). His words say it all, both in the interview and in his lyrics of The Wish.

> In his acclaimed return to Broadway this week, rock-and-roll star Bruce Springsteen spoke emotionally about his Mother, Adele Springsteen, and candidly talked about her decade-long struggle with Alzheimer's disease.
>
> The New Jersey native opened up about his mother's personality and presence when he was growing up, highlighting her 'jolly old soul'. It was her love of music and dancing that influenced Springsteen and his sister as they grew up. She even nudged him down a musical path and rented him his very first guitar when he was 7 years old.
> "My mother loves to dance," Springsteen said during his Thursday show "She grew up in the '40s…(with) the big bands and the swing bands, and that was a time when dancing was an existential act."
>
> "She's 95 and she's 10 years into Alzheimer's and that's taken a lot away from us", he continued. "But the need to dance hasn't left her."
>
> Springsteen said that despite her Alzheimer's, his mother still recognizes him at the moment. "She can't speak. She can't stand. She can't feed herself. But when she sees me, there is always a smile--Still a smile. And there's still a kiss," Springsteen said. "And there's a sound which she makes when she sees me. It's just the sound but I know it means 'I love you.

"And when I put on Glen Miller and she starts moving in her chair — she does, she does — she starts reaching out for me, to take her in my arms once more and to dance with her across the floor."

Springsteen continued, "This is an essential part of mom's spirit, it's who she is. It's beyond language and it's more powerful than memory. It's the embodiment. This is what she has put her trust in and lived her life by and which, despite all she has suffered, she carries on with to this moment, as if life's beauty never deserted her. I love her."

THE WISH:

Dirty old street all slushed up in the rain and snow
little boy and his ma shivering outside a rundown music store window
That night on top of a Christmas tree shines one beautiful star
And lying underneath a brand-new Japanese guitar

I remember in the morning, Ma, hearing your alarm clock ring
I'd lie in bed and listen to you getting ready for work, the sound of your makeup case on the sink
And the ladies at the office, all lipstick, perfume and rustling skirts
How proud and happy you always looked walking home from work.

If Pa's eyes were the windows into a world so deadly and true
You couldn't stop me from looking but you kept me from crawling through
It's a funny old world, Mama, where a little boy's wishes come true
Well I got a few left in my pocket and a special one just for you

It ain't no phone call on Sunday, flowers or a Mother's Day card
It ain't no house on a hill with a garden and a nice little yard
I got my hot rod down on Bond Street, I'm older but you'll know me in a glance
We'll find us a little rock and roll bar and we'll go out for a dance

Well it was me in my Beatle boots, you in pink curlers and matador pants
Pulling me up off the couch to do the twist for my uncles and aunts
Well I found a girl of my own now, and I popped the question on your birthday
She stood waiting on the front porch while you told me to get out there and say what I had to say
Well last night we all sat around laughing at the things that guitar brought us
And I laid awake thinking 'bout the other things it's brought us
Well tonight I'm taking requests here in the kitchen, this one's for you, Ma, let me come right out and say it
But if you're looking for a sad song, hell I ain't gonna play it

Ain't no phone call on Sunday, flowers or a Mother's Day card It ain't no house on a hill with a garden and a nice little yard I got my hot rod down on Bond Street, I'm older but you'll know me, you'll know me in a glance
We'll find us a little rock and roll bar and we'll go out and dance We'll find us a little rock and roll bar and we'll go out and dance.

In honor of our Mothers, whether you are lucky enough to still have them with you, or if they reach out to you from Heaven, please follow the advice your Mother gave you for good health.

--Chris Colwell

C.O.M E!

The pandemic put our lives on hold for more than 2+ years! As a result the C.O.M.E! Committee went dormant – C.O.M.E! stands for "Committee on Member Evangelism".

C.O.M.E! was started a long time ago and over the years there has been excellent participation. Co-Chairs Carline Sinckler and Heather Nunes have been instrumental in the past success of the organization. With Carline's departure, Heather has been tasked with resurrecting C.O.M.E!

What does C.O.M.E! do?

Prepare Welcome Packets for new members of St. Francis to help them become familiar with St. Francis.
Participates in community outreach such as Street Fairs in Piscataway and Dunellen.
Hosting Ice Cream Socials for new parishioners.
Organizing "Welcome Back" dinners and brunches.
Spotlighting new parishioners on the Welcome Wall near Milbank Hall.

How can you help?

C.O.M.E! is in need of new members – are you able to help?

St. Francis will be taking part in this year's Piscataway Street fair which will be held on Saturday, June 11th at 10AM. Please take a moment to sign up to help. Flyer and sign-up sheet are in the Narthex.

If you have any questions about becoming a joining C.O.M.E! please email Heather @ hnunes505@gmail.com.

POEMS TO PONDER

Michelle Klastava

Christ has risen indeed. As we complete our celebration of Easter, we honor the Ascension and move toward our reconnection with Christ during Pentecost. The Pentecost season is traditionally represented by the color red, symbolizing the fire of the Holy Spirit as it descended upon the Apostles. The Holy Spirit reminded the disciples of their most important job, to spread God's message of love throughout the world.

D.H. Lawrence, the early 20th century writer and poet, contemplates the inspirational power of spring and the effect that it has on one's own spirit. The verb "enkindled" means to set on fire; arose or inspire. It's easy to connect fire and spring as we watch flowers, bushes, and trees explode with color overnight. In the poem, the speaker questions, "What fountain of fire am I among this leaping combustion of spring?" Although the speaker feels his spirit is lost among the "throng of flames," perhaps we need to consider how we could contribute to the flame. The next time you see a field of daffodils in a fiery glow or a grove of cherry blossoms bursting in blooms, consider how we can continue to fan the flame with our own "fountain of fire"? How do we spread the fire of the Holy Spirit and aid this "blaze of growing" with the message of God's love?

"The Enkindled Spring"
- D. H. Lawrence

This spring as it comes bursts up in bonfires green,
Wild puffing of emerald trees, and flame-filled bushes,
Thorn-blossom lifting in wreaths of smoke between
Where the wood fumes up and the watery, flickering rushes.

I am amazed at this spring, this conflagration
Of green fires lit on the soil of the earth, this blaze
Of growing, and sparks that puff in wild gyration,
Faces of people streaming across my gaze.

And I, what fountain of fire am I among
This leaping combustion of spring? My spirit is tossed
About like a shadow buffeted in the throng
Of flames, a shadow that's gone astray, and is lost.

CELEBRATIONS

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Anthony DeRogatis, Jr.	05/02
Karen Baker	05/04
Brianna Tirado	05/07
Nikolai Powis	05/09
Jordan DeAndrea	05/11
Elaine Patania	05/17
Joanne Mathew	05/18
Roger O'Sullivan	05/18
Xavier Smith	05/23
Jonathan Parmelee	05/24
Madelynn Pfeiffer	05/26
Jordan Villa-Chauvin	05/28
Antenor Villa-Chauvin	05/29
Lauren Staats	05/30

MAY BAPTISMS

Vito Pelliccia, Jr.	05/01
Derek Staats	05/04
Margaret Forsythe	05/13
Blessy Mathew	05/18
Kelsey Pelliccia	05/18
Autumn Donaire	05/26
Avery Dunham	05/27
Jack Zamboni	05/30

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Mary & Jason Pfeiffer	05/06
Brenda & Josh Scolnick	05/13
Cheryl & Ilia Scriven	05/24
Althea & Bernard Heirholzer	05/28

MAY CONFIRMATIONS

Kelsey Pelliccia	05/03
Nancy Crowther	05/03
Branden Villa-Chauvin	05/07
David Doll	05/07
Dawn Doll	05/07
Gerrianne Breck	05/07
Jonathan Parmelee	05/07
Kia Phua	05/07
Larry Quirk	05/07
Laura Breck	05/07
Monique Phua	05/07
Xiomara Mitchell	05/07
Heather Nunes	05/11
Princess Thomas	05/20
David Magee	05/22
Arielle Baker	05/27
Ashley Thomas	05/27
Gregory Myzie	05/27
Josh Scolnick	05/27
Joyce Tereman	05/28
Jason Pfeiffer	05/31

Frank Hubbard

Deacon Ordination	5/30
Priest Ordination	5/27

MAY MONTHLY CALENDAR & LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

May 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER **8AM** Holy Eucharist (On-site ONLY) **10AM** Holy Eucharist (On-Site & On-Line) **EPISCOPAL COMMUNITY SERVICES – NJ SUNDAY**	**2** **7PM** Contemplative Prayer (W/St. David's)	**3**	**4** **1PM** Contemplative Prayer Group	**5** **6PM** Intercessory Prayer Group	**6**	**7**
8 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER **MOTHERS DAY** **10AM** Holy Eucharist (On-Site & On-Line)	**9**	**10**	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER **10AM** Holy Eucharist (On-Site & On-Line) **3PM** Jazz Concert	**16** **7PM** Contemplative Prayer (W/St. David's)	**17**	**18** **1PM** Contemplative Prayer Group **7PM** VESTRY MTG	**19** **6PM** Intercessory Prayer Group	**20**	**21**)
22 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER **10AM** Holy Eucharist (On-Site & On-Line)	**23**	**25**	**20**	**26 ASCENSION DAY**	**27**	**28**
29 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER **10AM** Holy Eucharist (On-Site & On-Line)	**30 MEMORIAL DAY** 	**31**				

ROLE	USHERS On-Site	Camera On-Site	Acolyte	FIRST LESSON On-Site Reader	PSALM On-Site Reader	Zoom Host	USHER (Zoom & Facebook)	SECOND LESSON On-Site Reader	PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (-) On-Line Reader
MAY 1	Pam	Vin	AJ	Hilary	Pam	Emma	Emma	Gerrianne	Ilia
MAY 8	Chris	Sam	Robert	Sharon	Kathy	Emma	Emma	Chris	Princess
MAY 15	Laura	Jabari	Gabby	Grace	Gerrianne	Emma	Emma	Laura	Rajini
MAY 22	Barbara	David	AJ	Bill	Tyler	Emma	Emma	Amy	Benit
MAY 29	Laura	Vin	Robert	Pam	Laura	Emma	Emma	Hilary	Ilia

SAVE THE DATE

June 4th!

St. Francis' Annual Yard Sale Opportunities

We will be holding our Yard Sale in the Church parking lot as part of the Dunellen Town-Wide Garage Sale on June 4th (Rain Date June 11th). You can help support our Church and help yourself in three ways.

1. Donate any usable items for us to sell with all proceeds going to St. Francis. These items can be brought to the Church starting now and up to the date of the sale. Please contact Michelle Klastava mklastava@hotmail.com
2. Rent a table to sell your own treasures - $20 per table
3. You can tell your friends and social media pals to join you and shop at the Yard Sale. One person's trash is another person's treasure.

Either way it is a Win-Win situation as you can de-clutter and the Church makes some money!

PISCATAWAY'S 29TH ANNUAL STREET FAIR

Saturday, June11, 2022
Time: 10:00am-4:00pm
Setup: 8:30am

RAIN OR SHINE

LOCATION:
Stockton Street behind the YMCA at the Piscataway Township Community Center
Piscataway NJ 08854

Sat, June 11, 2022
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM EDT

Rain or Shine

Stockton Street- (behind The Piscataway YMCA @ 520 Hoes Ln)

Piscataway, NJ 08854

The Piscataway Street Fair is back! Bring your family to enjoy vendors, food, entertainment, a live DJ, and MORE! It's fun for all ages! See you there!

For info contact Heather @hnunes505@gmail.com or Carline @ ladyat43451@aol.com

St. Francis Episcopal Church
400 New Market Road
Dunellen, NJ 08812

ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.stfrancisdunellen.org (732) 968-6781

May 2022

Clergy

The Rev. Jack Zamboni, *Rector*
The Rev. Gerry Walsh, *Deacon*
The Rev. Canon Frank Hubbard, *Priest Associate*

Vestry

Pam Maiolo—Sr. Warden, Finance, Buildings & Grounds, Rectory Liaison, RRR
Amy Myzie—Jr. Warden, Finance, Financial Secretary, RRR
Kathy Balenson—Sunday School, COME, ECW
Christy McGuire-Stewardship, Communications (Media Releases), Website/Facebook
Hilary Cox-Finance, Outreach, ECW
Marie Petit-Holmes—Stewardship
Elaine Patania—Stewardship, Finance

Vestry (continued)

Gerrianne Breck—Vestry Clerk, RRR, MailChimp
Larry Quirk—Finance, RRR
Grace McDougall– COME, Vestry Liaison, Fellowship
Michelle Klastava-Fundraising, COME

Non-Vestry

Ilia Scriven—Treasurer, Finance
Cynthia Pelliccia—Fellowship, RRR
Tom Patania, Yuennadi Moya—Buildings & Grounds
Sam Mathew-Website, Facebook
Laura Breck—Communique, Liturgical Scheduling
Nathalie Edwards—Sunday School
Ava Parmelee—RRR