

PARISH NEWS

108 East Main St | PO Box 134 | Clinton, CT 06413

Highlighted Charity

West Virginia Floods: How To Donate - www.iocc.org

Members of the IOCC Frontline dispatched this week to respond to recent devastating floods in West Virginia and have begun distribution of aid to families in need in remote areas of the state where access remains difficult due to storm damage. Assemble emergency kits. IOCC also anticipates the need for Emergency Clean-Up Buckets which are in low supply. For directions on how to assemble Emergency Clean-Up Buckets, please visit iocc.org/kits.

Prayer Requests

Please continue to pray for the servants of God:

Our catechumens - Joe Barbera, Kyle Hollis and Stephen Wexell

And for the health and well-being of - Joan Novarro, June Sacatos Bronen, Alla Hamesevich, and Olga Kucharski



Pastor's Note

Glory to Jesus Christ!

One of the most reoccurring suggestions that the Council of Stewards has received is to find a way to improve communications. With the inauguration of this first newsletter, we are hoping to expand and clarify our communications within the parish and (hopefully) the community at large. The contents of this newsletter will, in all likelihood, evolve over time, given the needs and requests of parishioners, but what we begin with is the *mission* of this parish community.

May Our Lord, through the Grace of the Holy Spirit, show us all how we may live to love God with all heart and soul and our neighbors as ourselves.

St. Alexis Orthodox Christian Church is a local English speaking community of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) on the shoreline of Connecticut.



Celebrations and Commemorations

This month we celebrate the birthdays of:

Joan and John Skrobat, Sophia Brubaker and Glenn PenkoffLidbeck.

Skip and Deborah Bray celebrate their anniversary.

God grant you all many years!

We also remember Sonia Geyer, who has fallen asleep in the Lord. Memory Eternal!

St. Alexis exists to:

- Call all people to Christ
- Worship as a community
- Experience the joy of Christ in our lives
- Share this joy with those around us
- Educate people about the Truth and Presence of

Orthodoxy

We offer the love of Christ to those in need, both in word and action.

Ministry Reports

Building and Maintenance:

A list of short and long projects is being created by this ministry and will be presented to the council. The church is in need of up-to-date fire and properly installed fire extinguishers and first aid kits. A donation has been made to cover the cost of planting shrubs by the rear basement windows. Spring Clean Up Day took place on Saturday June 11. The council voted to spend a maximum of \$125 on mulch for clean up day.

Fellowship and Stewardship:

The fellowship and stewardship ministry met with Fr Steve. We identified a need to reach out to the infirm of the parish and discussed various ideas. The ministry also recommended developing a church calendar (which is now displayed downstairs) that would list the Twelve Feast Days, summer picnic, and church cleanings among other activities. Sponsor a Feast Day was also discussed. A chair and cochair are needed for this ministry.

Outreach and Evangelism:

Dear Members,

I want to say "Thank You" to all the Committee members for their enthusiastic participation and to Father Steven for his guidance. I appreciate your thoughtful suggestions for our Outreach program, as indicated in the notes highlighted by Daria's minutes. Further discussion and implementation will

Clinton Community Corner

Social Services Help Day

Please spread the word about this bi-monthly event. Both the Old Saybrook and the Clinton Help Day Event services are available to all people who live in our shoreline towns.

The "Help Days" are held on the first Monday of every month in Clinton and the fourth Thursday of every month in Old Saybrook. The CT Food Bank Mobile Food Truck distributes free groceries. Each month these events provide different offerings.

Upcoming dates & notices:

Social Services Help Day in Clinton will not be held in July, because it falls on the July 4th holiday. Please inform area residents about this holiday cancellation.

Thursday, July 28 - Social Services Help Day in Old Saybrook - at Grace Episcopal Church, 336 Main Street in Old Saybrook. CT Mobile Pantry from 1:30 to 2:30 pm.

Call for more information - in Clinton call Cheryl Church at (860) 669-7347 and in Old Saybrook call Sue Consoli at (860) 395-3188.

follow at our next meetings: July 10 and August 7.

Also, on behalf of our Committee, I thank Dori for volunteering to chair the Outreach Committee and to Daria for volunteering to record the minutes of the meetings.

I will be on vacation and I will not be attending the next two meetings. I will be back on the 9th of August.

Tentative Agenda to be discussed:

- 1) Dormition Fast—Give support to “Zoe for Life” Organization : maternity clothes, baby clothes, diapers,wipes and layette items
- 2) Community Garden— A fund of \$500 for the community garden (Bill will give us more information on how it will be used)
- 3) St. Alexis Church “Tag Sale” in September—Set a date (Saturday); Advertise in local papers (i.e. Harbor News, Shoreline Times)
- 4) Other Organizations / Individuals—Investigate where there is need
- 5) Suggestions or changes are welcome

In Christ,

Demetra

Red House:

Alex Martins reported to the council on the first meeting of the Red House ministry. Its mandate is to make a recommendation to the council on a future use or disposal of the house. There was a discussion of the structural integrity of the second floor. Phyllis Sturtevant and Jim Pepitone were to visit the Clinton town hall to review the Red House records. The ministry will discuss its research with the town at a later date. The ministry planned a walk-through of the Red House. The next meeting is set for Sunday July 11.

25th Anniversary:

Alex also updated the council on the progress of this ministry. As previously announced St. Alexis will host the 2019 Diocesan Assembly as part of the celebration. Suggestions for more activities are welcome.

Council Meeting Minutes

New Business:

A master calendar of all Parish events will be created. Each Ministry Liaison person from the Council will add any and all activities that will be occurring for the year in an effort to anticipate and plan ahead for each month. Some of the recommended items to be placed on the calendar would be feast days, the Archbishop’s visit, annual events such as the picnic, tag sale and clean up days and landscaping and oil contract renewals.

Susan Egan will begin to develop a contact list of contractors and businesses that the Church has used in the past. She will also review the service contract with Lighthouse Oil Company for both the Church building and the Red House. She suggested a purchase of 500 additional gallons of oil at a price of \$2.09/ gallons which must be made by May 31.

Highlighted Activities and Events

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| <i>Soup Kitchen</i> | <i>July 13th</i> St Alexis is sponsoring the Soup Kitchen at the Clinton United Methodist Church this week. |
| <i>Choir Workshop</i> | <i>August 12th and 13th</i> |
| <i>Parish Picnic</i> | <i>August 27th</i> The sign up sheet is out! Pray for good weather as there will be no rain date. |
| <i>Tag Sale</i> | <i>September 17th</i> All proceeds to go to a local or other designated charities. |