

Christ Church Parish

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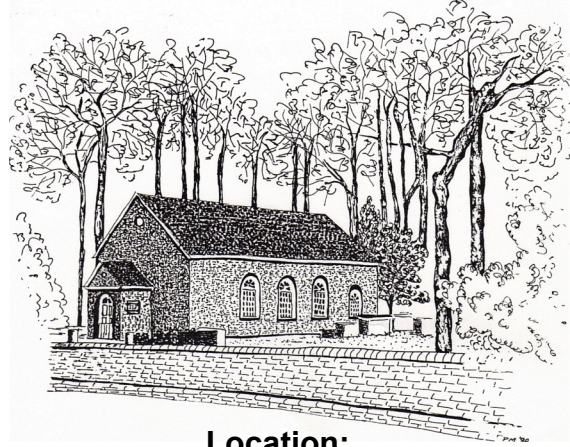
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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May
2024

Join us for our Sunday On-Line Facebook Service
<http://christchurchmiddlesex.thediocese.net/default.asp>



Location:

Routes 33 & 638
Christchurch,
Middlesex County, Virginia

Mailing:

PO Box 476; Saluda, Virginia 23149

Telephone:

804-758-2006

E-Mail:

CCParish1666@gmail.com

Website:

christchurchmiddlesex.com

Services:

Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 AM
Sunday Services: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
The Rev. Stuart Wood, Rector
The Rev. Bob Prichard, Ph.D.,
Priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex



Monthly Newsletter May 2024

Message From Our Rector



I hope that you all know just how blessed you all are. I experience those blessings every day because I am constantly aware of all the thoughts and actions that happen in this place every day. Many of us are able to come to worship on Sunday mornings and the church is clean, the altar is set, the bulletins are ready, the flowers arranged, and the music is rehearsed. But there is a lot of planning and effort that goes into arranging all these things. The same is true of the many other ministries that happen here at Christ Church.

Those of you who serve or have served on the Vestry, or the ministry committees of the Vestry know what I'm talking about. In the planning of events, we find that people don't always agree on how something should be done, but we still get it done. Sometimes we quickly have to make adjustments. Today was Jack Tarran's funeral. Yesterday, Libby Boyer had eye surgery. Thanks be to God; Tonya Spears was available to step in and play the piano for the service and did a beautiful job.

As I'm writing this, I am also racing to get it finished by the submission deadline. I guess what I'm trying to say is that we need to be flexible and listen to each other. We all have gifts and skills that when brought together benefit the whole. An example was the reception today after the funeral. It was amazing. Thank you.

Another committee that has been hard at work behind the scenes is the Discernment Committee. These individuals are giving a lot of time an effort in identifying the individuals that may be the most appropriate candidates for your Priest in Charge.

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We each bring our hopes and dreams about who that person might be. It may be that some of you want a man and others a woman, some may want someone young and others someone who is married. Some are looking for a particular liturgical style while others are hoping for someone who likes working with youth. Just remember, no clergy are Jesus and even Jesus didn't please the religious authorities of his day but that didn't stop him from changing the world. I do hope that you will trust the Holy Spirit in bringing you the right person. When it happens, please give that person a chance. As I look around the Diocese, I have often been surprised by individuals that have heard God's call to ministry and the blessings that they have then brought to the parishes that called them. I said this last month and I say it again, this is an exciting time for Christ Church Parish and God holds your future – trust Him.

Fr. Stuart Wood



Mid-week Eucharist

Please remember that we have a midweek Eucharist here at Christ Church.

REMEMBER MEMORIAL DAY - from the editor

"Mansions of the Lord"

a hymn written by Randall Wallace

To fallen soldiers let us sing
Where no rockets fly nor bullets wing
Our broken brothers let us bring
To the Mansions of the Lord

No more bleeding, no more fight
No prayers pleading through the night
Just divine embrace, Eternal light
In the Mansions of the Lord

Where no mothers cry and no children weep
We will stand and guard though the angels sleep
All through the ages safely keep
The Mansions of the Lord



The last 4 weeks have been extremely busy with lots of learning on the job, remembering to keep accurate and copious notes, and above all learning to listen to everyone who would like to bend my ear, which are many. I am extremely fortunate to be able to work with such a strong vestry team and often must remember that the other vestry members are as busy or possibly even busier than I am. So, after much thinking and producing nothing for this month's newsletter, this month's article is dedicated to all the people at Christ Church who make this church a community and a community that I am immensely proud to associate myself with.

The many, many tasks that take place daily at Christ Church just do not happen overnight or by just snapping our fingers, it is never that simple. Every month after completing my super Tuesday schedule (Finance, Buildings and Grounds, and Vestry). I find myself needing a break as well as a good glass of bourbon. The list seems endless of tasks, meetings, and things to do, but they do get done by many, many good people who love this parish as much as I do.

I have heard from many that our Junior Warden has a cot in the supply room, and he spends more time at church than he does at home. We are extremely fortunate to have a man like Scott Holt who seems to never run out of energy and no task is too small or too large for Scott. I would like to thank Scott for helping to make my job easier and for keeping our church, the grounds, and the insides of all the buildings up to snuff and in fine working order. No small task and a great big thank you is in order. What can I do for you today, Scott?

I am grateful for every other vestry member who holds liaison roles to our various ministries and every one of them is doing an outstanding job, with some handling numerous roles and all contributing in many ways. I am proud of the work we have done as far as a vestry, and it is due to the dedication and hard work of all involved.

However, the vestry is there to support the various ministries and the parishioners, and we can only guide and assist when asked.

Our worship services are beautiful, and our altar always looks wonderful due to our

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resolute and caring Worship ministry and our Altar Guild. We are starting to see fresh faces in the church, and this of course is due to the never-ending work of the Outreach and Elephant committees.

We have an exceptionally fine Fellowship ministry, and our various gatherings are fun, complete with delicious food and great comradery.

It is no easy job to keep the finances straight in an organization such as ours, but with the able assistance of some very smart financial folks we are strong and in a pretty good position for the future. Speaking of the future the Endowment Board is always on the job, looking for ways to ensure our church has the resources to be around for many years to come.

Finally, I need to thank the Tech Team as these folks provide the technology that enables shut-ins and folks far away to see our worship services and to listen to God's word every Sunday.

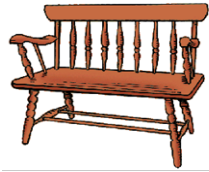
So, there is no way I can personally thank and acknowledge all the folks in this church who keep the church running like a well-oiled machine, so please be advised that this Senior Warden appreciates and cannot thank everyone enough for the time, dedication, and love that you have shown to this community. THANK YOU!!

Finally, I would be remiss not to mention our dear friend Jack Tarran who passed away recently. I was extremely fortunate, as many of you were, to know Jack and I enjoyed every minute I ever spent with Jack. He brightened up our 8 AM coffee hours and was always available to give a hand ushering. I had the pleasure to spend many Friday morning breakfasts with Jack and Jim Hill at our ROMEO breakfasts (Retired Old Men Eating Out) and loved the stories, gossip, and comradery that I felt when around Jack. Our prayers and thoughts are with Helen and Andy as they go through this rough patch. Jack you will be missed but always in our hearts.

Faithfully,

William (Bill) Budd
Senior Warden

◀ April	May 2024					June ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am Christian Education 10:00 am – 12 noon	2 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm ECW Parish Hall Kitchen 1:00 pm—5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	3 ECW Card Party 9:00 am - 5:00 pm	
5 Cinco De Mayo Brotherhood 9:00 am Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Newcomer's Reception 4:00 pm—6:00 pm	6 Committee Chairs 10:00 am Tech Day 3:00 pm—8:00 pm	7 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	8 Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am Outreach 10:15 am	9 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		
12 Mother's Day Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am		14 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	15 Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am Christian Education 10:00 am – 12 noon	16 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		18 Armed Forces Day
19 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am		21 Finance 9:30 am Tech Team 11:30 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Vestry 1:30 pm	22 Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am	23 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	24 Newsletter Submission Deadline	
26 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	27 Memorial Day Church Office Closed	28 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	29 Newsletters Mailed Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am	30 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	31	



From the Deacon's Bench

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

Psalm 23:1

First, I wish to thank everyone for the kind and loving expressions of sympathy so many of you offered to me and Henry recently. The loss of our sister-in-law, Shelley, has been very difficult. However, it was made easier by the care shown to us by our Christ Church family.

Our 4th Annual Fine Arts Camp will be starting soon. It begins on Monday, June 17th and will end on Sunday, June 23rd. We need volunteers and there are big jobs as well as small ones. Please contact me if you are willing to help with this exciting ministry. You do not have to help every day and you will receive a special camp T-shirt.

As we move into the warmer weather, we also need volunteers for our Creation Care Garden. There are many opportunities to help with this ministry.....jobs both big and small. You do not have to make a huge time commitment or do a lot of heavy work. We will match you up with a job you would enjoy. Please consider helping.

Please call or email me if you can help with either of these important ministries. 804-869-3867 or peggy_moncure@live.com

Thanks so much for the help you always give.

Peace, Peg+

We overlooked something!

Peg celebrated her Ordination on April 19th! THANK YOU Peg for the numerous contributions you have made to Christ Church Parish and to its congregates. You are an inspiration to all.



MISSING FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

When this goes to print, you may have noticed that I am not on the organ bench. I am probably on my sofa. On April 18, I had my second cornea transplant. The first one five years ago was successful, so I have great confidence that the one in this eye will also work. Since it is donor tissue, there is always the issue of rejection, even years later. Prayers, please!

My interim sub is a lovely lady, Katherine Chrishon. She can play almost any hymn, in any key, from memory - a remarkable skill I never gained. Her daughter, Monica Melendez, is helping her to navigate the service. I know you will welcome them both as you did when I started.

The recovery time for my surgery is 2-3 months. I am hoping for a shorter time, which will put me back on the bench in mid-June. I definitely want to be able to play for Father Stuart's last Sunday, June 30.

I miss being with you. I especially miss the choir, whom I have come to care for so very much. They have also taken a break during this time but will be back when I return. They have worked so hard lately and I know you can see the growth there. I think they did a wonderful job during Holy Week and Easter, and so I thank them for their hard work and dedication. I hope you will also let them know how appreciated they are.

Libby Boyer



OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The Outreach Ministry met on April 10. We discussed the many activities in which our members are involved

Judy Quilter coordinated the Easter treats that were given out after the 10:00 AM service on Easter Sunday. Jeannette Adkins organized the delivery of homemade cookies to Christchurch students and teachers after their regular chapel service on Wednesday, April 3. Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful congregation, over 600 hundred cookies were distributed. The teachers and students were most appreciative, as evidenced by the following message sent to Jeannette and Fr. Stuart from Mark Parsons, Dean of Faculty at Christchurch School:

“On behalf of our Christchurch Community and especially the students, please accept my thanks for your ongoing generous and kind support of our school.

The sweet gesture of cookies after Chapel on Wednesday was very special and so much appreciated by everyone!”

Your neighborly and genuine expression of hospitality was a clear indication of God’s love. Please share our thanks with all those good souls who baked the cookies.

Many blessings in your work and worship.

On May 7, Kathy Clarke and DeLois Greenwood are assembling and delivering gift boxes of “goodies” to the teachers' lounges of the Middlesex elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as to Christchurch School. This will be in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.

Peg Moncure is coordinating the Fine Arts Camp June 17-24. This annual event has always been a great success. She will be sending out information to the congregation soon.

“One Community Under God” will be held this year on Sunday, October 6 at 11 AM at the Urbanna Firehouse. Our ministry will be providing lunches. We hope that most

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members of our congregation will be in attendance since this is the only time that people from many different churches in Middlesex County gather to worship and celebrate.

“Visitation Singers”- The second Sunday of each month is very important to those in our local nursing facilities. This is when the Visitation Singers arrive to join residents in singing familiar songs. This ministry is very rewarding to all who participate. The residents love our visits. The singers meet at the Church of the Visitation to go over each song at 9:30 am and then proceed to Dockside in Locust Hill. If you would like to be a part of this, talk to a member of the Outreach Ministry. It is a wonderful opportunity to guarantee the brightening of someone’s day. No talent is needed, just a smiling face!

Faithfully,
Susie Loustaunau and Pam McClelland
Co-chairs



NEWCOMERS RECEPTION!!!

On Sunday, May 5th, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, please join all of us in Welcoming our newest members and most recent visitors to our services.

This is a fun and casual event that will take place in our Parish Hall Foyer and Parish Hall. Our purpose is to get to know our newest members and visitors.

As a member of the congregation, please bring a beverage to share, whether it be wine, beer, soda, punch, or water. Something for everyone and anyone!

Also, bring a “finger food”/hors-d’oerves to nibble on.

And if you can, bring a friend, or neighbor who may want to meet us!

Thanks, and see you there!

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The final days of Father Stuart's job as Rector at Christ Parish are drawing near. In fact, the actual date for his last morning service is Sunday, June 30th. On Saturday, June 29th, we will figuratively raise the roof from 4 PM to 7 PM and prepare a Gala to recognize Father Stuart's 8 years of service and friendship to CCP and parishioners and to extend a toast of good cheer for a happy retirement.

The party will begin with Father Stuart leading us to the edge of Route 33 in front of our church for the dedication of our new Virginia State Historical Highway Marker commemorating the church's history since 1666. We have had a Virginia Historical Highway Marker since 1929 but located at Cook's Corner. Metal degradation over the decades prompted the new sign. The new marker will be emblematic of a new era new beginning with a new priest. Ms. Jennifer Loux from Virginia's Historical Highway Marker Program will join us for the dedication and dinner festivities to follow.

Menu decisions are being made and solidified over the next few days. We will arrange preliminary meetings so we can make menu decisions for food and beverages. We welcome your culinary expertise and assistance in planning and executing.

Plans are underway for author, Ms. Heath Lee, "[The League of Wives](#)", to deliver a presentation on the Vietnam conflict and her book which chronicles how a small group of women "rallied" Washington politicians and President Johnson demanding the continued search for missing husbands, family members and colleagues in Vietnam. This event will take place on Sunday, November 10th, and be open to the public. The traditional Veterans Luncheon will be held on November 11th at the church and will also feature a presentation by Ms. Lee. Mark your calendars for these eye-opening events.

We have not yet finalized our summer event plans, so stay tuned. We may have another ice cream social since the event last summer brought smiles and "audible approval."

We play where we pray! Come join us for the fellowship and the fun our activities can offer you. We look forward to your smiles.

The Fellowship Committee,
Bev Hart and Mary Lynn Landgraf



FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN'S WORK BENCH

Beans, peas, radishes, and lettuce are growing in the garden! More things will be planted as the weather continues to warm up. Please join us this year in participating by signing up to help. There is a description of the needs for volunteers in the Parish Hall with a sign-up sheet. We would love you to be a part of this exciting ministry.

The Boy Scouts are going to start working in the woods behind the Parish Hall to create an outdoor meeting space. This will be for all of us to use.

The sidewalk renovation is scheduled to be done this month. Please be patient during this time of construction.

Scott Holt
(804) 814-8126

Did you ever wonder what happens in the sacristy?...



Sometimes people have to be put into Time Out!



Our semi-annual event arranged and organized by the ECW is back on June 8th! Please start saving all your “trash” or “treasures” for our fundraising event. We would appreciate any collectibles, crystals, kitchen items, garden items, and furniture. We would also welcome cookbooks and gardening books. We need all donations by June 6th brought to the Parish Hall. We hope you will be a part of this event and contribute

Someone may believe it is a TREASURE!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our Christian Education gatherings have been pretty interesting.

The lectures cover material we have never been exposed to, and sometimes the reason for that is pretty obvious. In our last session, the presentation was on the Acts of John. That is probably one we are glad that it did not make it into the Canon. In one section, John is staying in an inn, of course with a room full of other travelers, and he is very tired. But there are bedbugs! So, John says a prayer that the bedbugs will leave him so he can rest. His fellow roommates thought that was pretty hilarious, until in the morning they see hundreds of bedbugs on the floor and John arose, well rested and unbitten! He then tells the bedbugs that they can re-occupy the bed. Imagine if we had listened to this story our whole lives, and the agony of priests trying to make it theological. And also, we learned of racy stories in the Secret Gospel of Mark. You had to have been there...

So, our next sessions are May 1st and May 15th, immediately following chapel. Topics for the May 1st one are The Acts of Thomas and The Acts of Paul and Thecla. On May 15th, we will consider the Forgeries in the Name of Paul and The Epistle of Barnabas. Surely you are curious. If so, join us! No reservation required!

VR, Grace



**THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH'S
ENDOWMENT AND FUTURE**



As you likely know, the purpose of this endowment fund is to enable Christ Church Parish to ability. The fund was built with gifts from members, seasonal members, and friends to ensure there will be continued stability in the Parish.

To date 79 donors have qualified for membership in the 1666 Society and Founders Circle, each one recognized by a leaf on the Legacy Tree (created by Anne Wilcox and pictured to the upper right) in the hallway of our Fellowship Hall. What a warm feeling you will have knowing YOUR contribution is helping ensure the future viability of our beautiful church. The most recent contribution of \$68,000 was the result of the assignment of a beneficiary on a life insurance policy. As you may know, contributions may be made in cash, gifts of securities fulfill its mission more completely by assuring ongoing vi, distribution of annual RMD, bequest by will, gift of life insurance, or gift of a charitable annuity.

Properly planned and executed bequests are part of sound estate planning and hopefully will be a part of completing "What Your Family Should Know", which will help your family transition to your passing, knowing you have documented your final wishes.

Thank You!

Christ Church Parish Endowment Board
Fr Stuart Wood, Rector
Bill Budd, Senior Warden
Jack Hellems, Chair
Grace Parker, Secretary
Jeanette Adkins
Jim Knupp

Special May Celebrations

Anniversaries



13 Rick Smith and DeLois Greenwood

14 Sharon N. Colston and Miles A. Libbey

15 Mike and Harriette Floyd

19 James "Jim" and Jean Hill

20 Scott and Alyson Holt

22 Jeannette and Charles Adkins

26 Howard W. and Joyce M. Reisinger, Jr.

27 The Rev. Dr. Robert W. and Marcia Prichard

28 James A. "Jim" and Ann T. Padgett

Birthdays

1 Judith W. "Judy" Mansfield

12 Suzette "Suzi" Hoctor

14 Mary Jo Atterholt

The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Prichard

Victoria Rosendahl

17 Helen Tarran

22 The Rev. Elisa Wheeler

25 The Rev. Robert "Bob" Phipps

28 Cean Cawthorn

Ginny Gale

31 Barbara Gill

Renee Loustaunau





The Brotherhood of Christ Church Parish (Episcopal)

The Brotherhood has experienced a busy and successful year. As we wind down for the summer, we have decided to have a business meeting on **May 5th at 9 AM**. **Coffee and donuts will be served so that our "Kitchen Crew" gets a break.** The agenda will include the following:

- Parish Picnic/Stuart's Retirement Party 6/29
- Fine Arts Camp 6/17 thru 6/23
- Oyster Festival Committee; Supplies, Equipment, Setup, Operations/Volunteers, Takedown, Equipment, and Cleanup
- Brotherhood Chairman and Vice Chairman—Nominations, and Vote

Please feel free to suggest additional items. If at all possible, please attend this important meeting on **May 5th**. **This date was intentionally selected to avoid conflicting with Mother's Day on May 12th.**

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WELCOMED!

This newsletter is for information and articles that are germane to Christ Church Parish. If you are a member of Christ Church Parish you may submit an article of interest for consideration to be published in the newsletter.

To ensure that the newsletter is published and distributed in a manner that all will receive it before the month it pertains to begins, the submission deadlines for 2024 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:</u>
June	May 24, 2024
July	June 21, 2024
August	July 22, 2024
September	August 23, 2024
October	September 20, 2024
November	October 25, 2024
December	November 15, 2024—CHANGE DUE TO THANKSGIVING
January 2025	December 23, 2024

All submissions are to be emailed as a **word document** to jeff.of.jamaica@outlook.com. Pictures may also be submitted and will be used on a "space available" basis.