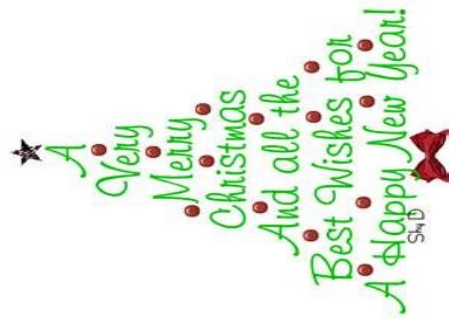


Christ Church Parish

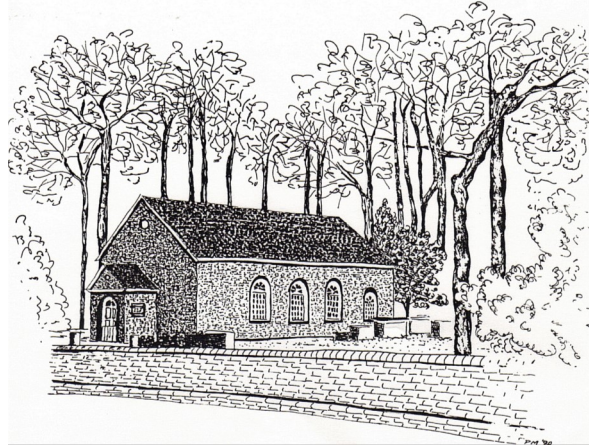
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PERMIT No. 6

December



A joy-filled church



Location:

Rt. 33 & 638

Christchurch, Middlesex County, Virginia

Mailing:

PO Box 476; Saluda, Virginia 23149

Telephone:

804-758-2006

E-Mail:

ccparish@verizon.net

Website:

http://
christchurchmiddlesex.thediocese.net/
default.asp

Sunday Services:

8 AM

A quiet traditional Service of Holy Communion

10:30 AM

A Family Service of Holy Communion

with Music and Choir

The Rev. Stuart Wood

Priest in Charge

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A person is standing in a mall watching the children line up to sit on Santa's lap when a young boy asks:

"Where's the line to see Jesus? Is He here at the store? It's Christmas time, it's His birthday. Why don't we see Him more?"

Where's the line to see Jesus? He was born for me. Santa Claus brought me presents. But Christ gave His life for me."

As you journey through the season of Advent toward the season of Christmas, please take the time to remember the first gift of Christmas, the baby Jesus, and then remember that he gave his life for you.

Father Stuart's Message for December 2017

Dear Friends in Christ:

Several years ago as I traveled to my mother's on Thanksgiving day, I found myself listening to a Christmas story being read on the radio. The story was "The Christmas Box" by Richard Paul Evans. Of course, I began to grumble to myself that I haven't even eaten Thanksgiving dinner yet and here I was listening to a Christmas program. Can't I get through one holiday before having to think about the next one? But I had never heard this story and so I continued to listen.

What really caught my attention in the story was this question. "What was the first gift of Christmas?" I knew how I would answer, but I really wanted to know how the story would answer it. The man being asked the question, after some serious thought, said, "The first gift of Christmas is love." The woman asking the question responded that that was a good beginning, but only a very small part of the answer and that more thought was needed. A lot of time passed. Finally, he got it: "The first gift of Christmas is a child." Wow, I couldn't believe it; a Christmas story that actually pointed us toward the baby Jesus.

I have watched many "Christmas" shows over the years and they all seem to be more about couples falling in love,

families coming together, and Santa Claus coming to visit, and if the baby Jesus is mentioned in any of them, it is only as an aside.

This reminds me of the song, "Where's the line to see Jesus?" In this song, a person is standing in a mall watching the children line up to sit on Santa's lap when a young boy asks:

"Where's the line to see Jesus? Is He here at the store? It's Christmas time, it's His birthday. Why don't we see Him more?"

Where's the line to see Jesus? He was born for me. Santa Claus brought me presents. But Christ gave His life for me."

As you journey through the season of Advent toward the season of Christmas, please take the time to remember the first gift of Christmas, the baby Jesus, and then remember that he gave his life for you.

May you each have a wonderful Advent season and a blessed and Christ filled Christmas.

Faithfully,

Fr. Stuart



Fr. Stuart's Christmas Open House

Saturday December 9th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM

I would like to invite members of my Christ Church Parish family to an open house to see the home that I purchased last December. I've been working on the decorations and planning for the refreshments.



504 Steamboat Lane, Hartfield, VA 23071

(540) 560-0700



Directions: Turn onto Grafton Church Road off of General Puller Hwy. and then turn onto Stormont Road as if you were heading to the Piankatank Golf Course. Steamboat Lane is the first left. You will immediately cross over Riverboat Lane and I am the first (yellow) house on the left. It is the gravel driveway by the mailbox - please don't turn onto the golf cart path.

I look forward to seeing those of you who can attend.

Fr. Stuart Wood

Charitable IRA Rollover

Are you 70 ½ or older?

The Charitable IRA Rollover is a tax-advantaged way to remember Christ Church and receive tax benefits in return. You can give up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to a qualified charity like Christ Church without paying income taxes on the money. **This law no longer has an expiration date, so you are free to make annual gifts to the church.**



- ♦ If you have not taken your required minimum distribution for 2017, your IRA gift can satisfy all or part of that requirement.
- ♦ You pay no taxes on the gift and you benefit even if you do not itemize.

Christ Church Parish is not in the business of giving tax advice. Please seek qualified legal advice.

The Endowment Board



CHRIST CHURCH OYSTER FESTIVAL

The Brotherhood reports that we had a very, very successful Oyster festival this year with ideal weather and plenty of help from the Christ Church community. The event netted over \$20,000 enabling Christ Church to give financial support to a number of community organizations. A big “thank you” goes to our cooks Jeff McClelland, Robin Wells, Jeff Loustaunau, Jeff Shaw, and Ellen Johnson as well as Don Harris and his clam chowder crew. There were many accolades from festival lovers who purchased the chowder as well as the HOBs. Thanks to Pam McClelland and her HOB Queens who kept the HOBs coming.

Thanks to the hard work of Betty Evans, Lurlene Samuel and the ECW who prepared the ham rolls for the “world famous HOBs”. Thanks to Jean Hill and her new protégé, Barbara Shaw, who kept track of our money.

We are also indebted to the hard work of Boy Scouts of Troop 341, the students from Christchurch School, and a few individuals who not parishioners, but come each year to help Christ Church with the Oyster Festival.

Thanks again to all who helped!

COMING SOON



Sunday, December 10th
9:00 AM in the
Parish Hall

IMPORTANT NOTICES



Sunday, December 24th
8:00 Holy Eucharist Rite I
No 10:30 Service
Christmas Eve Service
5:00 PM

Christmas Day Service

Monday, December
25th

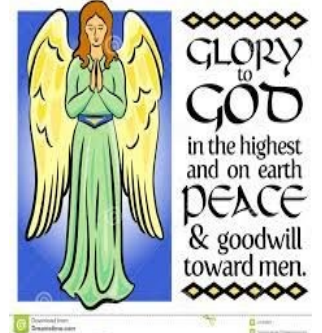
One Service

10:00 AM



*For unto us
a child is
born, unto us
a Son is given;...
And His name will
be...
Prince of
Peace.*
ISAIAH 9:6
WEAREGOSPEL.COM

*for Unto Us
a Child
is Born*





Bon Voyage Surf & Turf Dinner

The Hospitality Committee is hosting a Bon Voyage Dinner for
all you Snowbirds heading South!

Friday, January 19, 2018

Social: 6PM, Dinner: 6:30PM

\$25.00 Per Person

Menu includes:

Appetizers, Beer, Wine, Black Angus Flank Steak,
Butterflied Coconut Shrimp, Baked Potato Bar,
Roasted Vegetables, Caesar Salad, Desert, Coffee

COME ONE, COME ALL

Tickets can be purchased from any Committee Member:

Bert Butler, Sharon Colston, Jim Dudley, Bev Hart, Jack Hellems, Jean Holt



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



To order Christmas Poinsettias to decorate the church, please **clip or print this form** and send it along with a check for **\$18.00 per name** payable to Christ Church by December 18th

Christ Church

PO Box 476

Saluda, VA 23149

Important – Please Designate:

Given in Memory of _____

OR

Given in Honor of _____

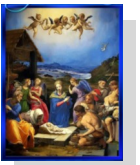
DEADLINE, MONDAY, DECEMBER 18th

Church Calendar for December 2017

Date	Time	Event
3	8:00	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
3	10:30	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
6	9:30	Mid-week Eucharist
6	5:00	Advent Program
7	6:45	Weekly BSA Troop Meeting
9	2:00	Fr. Stuart's Christmas Open House
10	8:00	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10	9:00	Brotherhood Breakfast
10	10:30	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
11	6:00	Christ Church Vestry Meeting
13	9:30	Mid-week Eucharist
13	5:00	Advent Program
14	6:45	Weekly BSA Troop Meeting



December Calendar (Continued)



Date	Time	Event
17	8:00	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
17	10:30	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
20	9:30	Mid-week Eucharist
20	5:00	Advent Program
21	6:45	Weekly BSA Troop Meeting
24	8:00	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
24	5:00	Christmas Eve Service
25	10:00	Christmas Day— One Service
27	9:30	Mid-week Eucharist
28	6:45	Weekly BSA Troop Meeting
31	8:00	Holy Eucharist, Rite I
31	10:30	Holy Eucharist, Rite II



Margaret & Walter Palmer 12/7
Ginger & Miller Smither 12/21
Raymond & Martha Stokes 12/22
Art & Jane Bunnell 12/23
Belle & Jon Bronner 12/26
Jean & Chip Holt 12/29
Brenda & Jim Knupp 12/29
Barbara & Jeff Shaw 12/31



Anne Donoff 12/3	Barbee Phipps 12/4
Jean Holt 12/6	Jim Hill 12/7
Marilyn South 12/10	Susan Hilliard 12/11
Don Harris 12/12	Butch Liverman 12/15
Ann Padgett 12/15	Susan Neal 12/15
Joe Jones 12/19	Pat Durrett 12/19
Suzanne Berry 12/24	Bob Gullotte 12/24
Priscilla Johnson 12/29	Dave Wilcox 12/30
John Gammel 12/31	





Christ Church Endowment Fund Board

Luncheon, Saturday, January 27, 2018

Your Endowment Fund Board is sponsoring a luncheon on January 27, 2018, with Mike Kerr, CEO of The Trustees of the Funds speaking on the new service of Gift Annuity Funds and Planned giving.

Giving can be a joy. Supporting the future needs of our church can be gratifying.

You want to remember Christ Church but, yet you still need income for day to day needs.

A charitable gift annuity may be an excellent way to achieve both goals.

The Diocese of Virginia has a new way to help you achieve these goals.

With a gift annuity, you make an irrevocable gift of cash or securities in return for quarterly fixed income. After your life-time, 100% of the charitable remainder is made available to the Episcopal Church ministry of your choice. You are able to fund your needs today and remember the church tomorrow.

Thanks to the 2016 efforts of the Trustees of the Funds (TOTF), the church investment arm of the Diocese of the Virginia, Charitable Gift Annuities (CGA) are now available to all parishioners 65 and older. Financial advantages of a CGA are:

- An income tax deduction for a significant portion of your gift in the year the gift is made
- A guaranteed, fixed lifetime income paid by TOTF in quarterly installments
- A portion of the income is tax-free for the majority of your life
- If you fund your annuity with appreciated stock, a portion of the capital gains tax is forgiven
- Expert asset oversight by TOTF and administration by SunTrust Bank
- Your taxable estate will be reduced by the amount of your gift
- After your life time, all remaining assets in your annuity will support Christ Church through the Endowment Fund

TOTF's minimum CGA is \$5,000 and \$100,000 maximum annual funding amount.

Neither the church nor TOTF are providing legal/financial advice and all donors are encouraged to consult with their advisors before proceeding.

The Endowment Board will be sponsoring a luncheon event with Mike Kerr, CEO of Trustees of the Funds, speaking on the new service of Gift Annuity Funds and Planned giving on January 27, 2018.

Please reserve a seat by January 19th: contact Grace Parker, Endowment Board Secretary at 758-3640 and leave a message.