

Christ Church Parish

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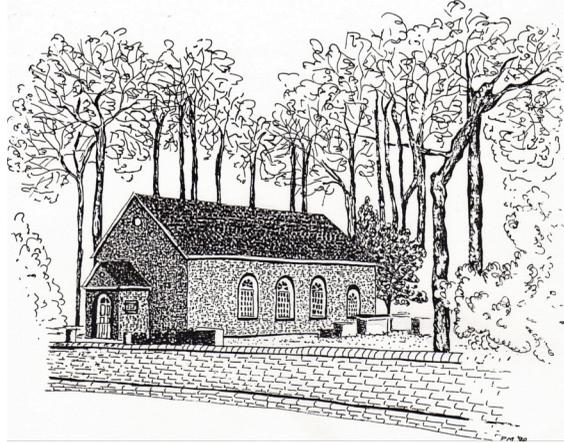
URBANNA, VA

PERMIT No. 6



December
2018

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:

christchurchmiddlesex.com

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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My dear friends in Christ

Advent may be the beginning of a new liturgical year but it also an opportunity to renew our own spiritual journey. New beginnings bring with them new opportunities for us to start anew, to put behind opportunities and to start slate. That is one of the liturgical year of the us once again to travel Fall, Winter, Summer, Christmas, Epiphany, cost; to journey once Bethlehem to the cross of Pentecost empowering witness to the world of us past mistakes and lost once again with a clean reasons that I embrace the Church calendar. It allows through the seasons (not and Spring) but Advent, Lent, Easter, and Pente- again from the manger of Calvary, from the empty the rush of the Holy Spirit at men and women to give God's love.



There is a story about the artist Leonardo Da Vinci. One day he started work on a large canvass. He chose the subject carefully, arranged the perspective, sketched the outlines, and developed the background. Then, for some unknown reason, he stopped with the painting still unfinished. He called one of his students and asked him to finish the painting for him. The student protested saying that he wouldn't dare attempt to finished this painting by the great master. But Da Vinci silences his protests by saying, "Will not what I have done inspire you to do your best?"

Maybe that is Jesus' question to each of us, "Will not what I have done inspire you to do your best?" Jesus began this great work of redemption and reconciliation, but now he is calling us to be a part of God's great work in the world. Where do we start? We start with Advent and this opportunity to start anew. We begin with ourselves, our families, and with neighbors. We begin with a hope and expectation that leads to joy and love.

On a different note, I would like to share with you all a poem that was written by one of my former parishioners. Charles was an interesting individual. He sang in the church choir and as a young man had sung with the men and boys choir at the Washington National Cathedral. I think of Charles often because a small pewter nativity set that was in his office is now on a shelf in my office; a gift from his wife after his death. Charles

Continued on page 2

often shared one of his poems at Christmas and this one focuses on Advent and is a message from the angel Gabriel; if it is copyrighted I do hope that he will forgive me for including it here.

ADVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Out of the tingling darkness
came the Light.
Out of expectant silence
came the Word.
Out of the aching void
came substance.
Out of swirling chaos
came form.
Riding the Light,
I soared above Creation.
Heeding the Word,
I plunged into Becoming.
Obeying the Spirit,
I spoke of what was to be
and prophesied that the Idea
was to take on form and
substance.
The Word cannot work
until it incarnates in a man;
a child was to be born.
Charles Wise

CONFIRMATION CLASSES NEED TO BE STARTING SOON

Bishop Goff is scheduled to be with us at the beginning of March and if you are interested in learning more about the Episcopal Church, being Confirmed, Received into the Episcopal Church, or renewing your own Confirmation from years ago, please let Fr. Stuart know as soon as possible so that we can discuss a suitable time and day to have our classes. Fr. Stuart has purchased a number of copies of "Walk in Love Episcopal Beliefs & Practices" to be our study guide.

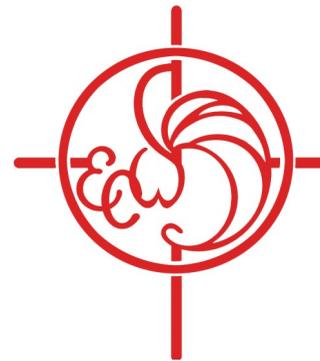
Faithfully, Fr. Stuart

Christ Church Parish CORRESPONDENTS

Each of our church committee and organization chairpersons has been asked to submit an article for publication in each of the upcoming newsletters. This is an attempt to keep Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex congregants informed and up to date. It will be just a bit of what has happened and what's going to happen.

ECW—Judy Quilter, President

Karen Gorin, VP; Page Whitkamp, Recording Secretary; Sallie Wells, Corresponding Secretary; Virginia Miller, Treasurer; Members: all ..Ladies of the Church



IN REVIEW...Many thanks to Evie Wilton for heading up our Oyster Festival Bake Sale, and of course, all our talented bakers.

Thanks go out to Ann Padgett, Susie Guillotte, Sharon Colson, Marilyn South, Robin Wells, and all the Servers and Kitchen Team for another fabulous Veteran's Luncheon. We also appreciate the donations from the Middlesex Rotary, the Brotherhood, and several individuals. What a great event for our very deserving Vets!

LOOKING AHEAD...the ECW Christmas Luncheon is Friday, December 14th at 11:30 am. Grace Parker has graciously invited us to her home in Cedar Pointe subdivision at 15 Bayberry Pointe in Urbanna for this event. Please bring a dish to share. It was suggested that we bring all kinds of salads and desserts.

We would like to know you better. Please start thinking about a fun fact about "YOU" that you would like to share with the group. Hope to see you there!

SO THANKFUL...I would like to thank our Board, Committee Chairs, and all of you for a great year. Your support meant so much to me.

Love and God Bless you all!!!

Judy Quilter

The Christ Church Endowment Board

Jack Hellems, Chairman; Grace Parker, Secretary; Page Whitkamp; Vel Gray, Senior Warden; Robin Wells; Fr. Stuart Wood, Rector



If you missed November's joint ECW/Brotherhood breakfast, you not only missed a wonderful breakfast but you also missed our guest speaker Amy Mackay. Amy is Robin and Sallie Wells' daughter. Amy is a Senior Vice President, Wealth Management with Wells Fargo in McLean, Virginia.

Amy discussed several ways to make tax-advantaged gifts to the Christ Church Endowment Fund and/or your annual pledge and at the same time reduce your tax obligation to Uncle Sam.

Sorry about the missed breakfast but, if you are 70 ½ and you have a traditional IRA, you are in luck. Those of us in attendance are now aware that we are required to withdraw funds (RMD) annually from our IRA account. This withdrawal is called a "Required Minimum Distribution" or RMD. These funds are taxable in the year withdrawn. The amount of the required minimum distribution is based on your IRA account balance and your life expectancy as determined by the life expectancy tables published by the IRS (PUB 590)

We learned that a qualified charitable distribution is an attractive means for donors/contributors to support non-profits such as Christ Church Parish. The distribution is made directly by the trustee of your IRA to an organization eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. This distribution allows qualifying contributors the opportunity to exclude from taxable income transfers of IRA assets made directly to non-profits such as Christ Church Parish.

Distributions to Christ Church Parish can be applied to your annual pledge and/or the Endowment Fund per your instructions. This is an easy means of supporting current or future financial needs of our beautiful church while avoiding taxation of the required distribution.

If you are interested, Robin Wells has helpful handouts which Amy left for us from the breakfast presentation.

Neither Amy Mackay nor Christ Church Parish is in the business of giving tax advice.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE—Jean Holt, Chair



As we hope you know by now, Christ Church Parish will once again be supporting a Christchurch School athletic team. This season we will be supporting girls Basketball coached by The Rev. Scott D. Parnell, Chaplain; Christchurch School; *Set YOUR course at the River!*; www.christchurchschool.org

Here are the games: Wednesday, Jan 16 @ 5:30; Thursday, Jan 17 @ 5:00; Friday, Jan 25 @ 4:30; Friday, Feb 15 @ 6:00

Show your support by showing up and cheering the Seahorses on to Victory. Many of these kids are from out of town or out of the country and have no one to cheer for them.

HOSPITALITY—Robin Wells, Chair



Chicken Dinner Recap

Clayton reported that we sold the maximum 110 tickets and netted something over \$900.00 to be used for the good works of our Church. It was a great deal of fun for the 30 volunteers who participated. Join us in the fun at the next event, won't you?

MOVIE NIGHT IS BACK!

The much enjoyed Christ Church Parish Movie Night is back for a Second Season. November 14th at 7:00 PM marked the date and time of the first movie of the season and was very well attended and enjoyed by all (with a few tears being shed by some!) The brand new Popcorn Popper so generously purchased for the Church by the Brotherhood was successfully christened! Soft drinks are available again this year. We have decided that December is too busy but we'll be back in January and February for sure. We'll let you know the date and time!

Advent Dinners Chefs

We have volunteers cook for the 12/5, 12/12 and 12/19 Advent evening series.

New Member Reception

It was decided, with concurrence from the Vestry, that we would have a New Member reception on January 20th at 4:00 PM. Stay tuned for details

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Brotherhood

President: Jeff Loustaunau; Vice President: John Hawkins; Secretary: Dave Wilcox; Treasurer, Mike Floyd

Thanks to all for their attendance at our last Brotherhood Breakfast. We had a great turnout that included the ECW, and we were all treated to a presentation by Amy Mackay, a Senior Vice President, Wealth Management for Wells Fargo in McLean, Virginia. It was a well prepared and well-received presentation on how to best do charitable giving and avoid some taxes at the same time. I think we all benefitted from her work on our behalf.

Our next Breakfast will be on December 9th but our speaker schedule has changed. The Hilliard's presentation on the Wise County mission trip will be moved to January, and instead, we will have Greg Chambers of Habitat for Humanity speak to us about the exciting progress they have been making in building homes in Middlesex County. Greg has spoken to us before but will address how we at Christ Church Parish can support this effort.

Don't forget, we're also being treated to "5 Minutes About Mike Floyd"!!!

And remember - "Breakfast is always Better in the Hood"!!!

The Brotherhood has had a successful fall season that included yet another successful Oyster Festival. But as we all know, the credit goes to the entire Church membership as we had so many folks helping out in so many ways. Special thanks go out to the Dudley's son, Jim, and the Floyd's son-in-law, Paul, for their continued support that we rely on. And not to be overlooked is the support we received from the Christchurch School students coordinated by Mollie Smiley, and the support from the Boy Scouts, coordinated by Lorna Lindsey.



Looking forward, let me remind everyone of our upcoming breakfast schedule.

December 9th; January 13th; February 10th; March 10th; March 12th—Pancake Supper; April 14th; May 12th; June: Church Picnic on a date to be announced.

Upcoming presentation topics include the Wise County Mission Trip, Solar Power in Middlesex County, and also "5 Minutes" on one of us each Breakfast. Please let me know of additional topics that you would like to see us cover.

For anyone that may have missed the article in the Southside Sentinel about how Christ Church came to be and how it became the Mother Church, here is a link. The newsroom with the articles is in the upper right-hand corner.

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

ALTER and FLOWER GUILD SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

2Dec18	9Dec18	16Dec18	23Dec18***	24Dec18	25Dec18	30Dec18
Team 6	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 4	Team 4

Altar	Altar	Altar	Altar	Altar	Altar
Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	Team 5	Team 6
Grace Parker*	Ann Padgett*		Betty Evans**	Marilyn South*	Helen Tarran*
Marian Goodloe	Suzi Hutchens	Dottie Cronk**	Bev Hart		Linda Irwin*
Virginia Miller	Marilyn South*	Barbara Shaw*	Evie Wilton*	Pam McClelland	Bert Butler**
Meredith Caskie	Ginny Hartung	Lydia Dudley	Susan Guillotte	Judy Quilter	Ginger Hellems
Jody Anglin	Karen Gorin**	Brenda Knupp	Kathy Clarke	Sheila Gammel	Sallie Wells
Sharon Colston	Susan Dugan	Susan Hilliard		Mary Jo Atterholt*	

Flowers	Flowers	Flowers	Flowers	Flowers	Flowers
Libby Allen	Ginger Smither	Dottie Cronk**	Anne Lewis	Anne Lewis	Harriette Floyd
Sharon Colston	Karen Gorin**	Cindy Spence	Betty Evans**	Cindy Naylor	Jane Bunnell
*Captain; **Both Alter & Flower; ***Healing service					Bert Butler**

USHER SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

2Dec18	9Dec18	16Dec18	16Dec18 Celtic	23Dec18*	24Dec18	25Dec18	30Dec18
<i>They take care of themselves, so thanks to all who help!!</i>							
10:30AM R. Wells	10:30AM R. Wells	10:30AM R. Wells	6:00PM L. Irwin	10:30AM J. Fackler	5:00PM H. Floyd	10:00AM R. Well	10:30AM R. Wells
			R. Wells		M. Floyd		

SERVERS' SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

8:00	2 Dec 18 Rite 1 (HE)	9Dec18 Rite 1 (HE)	16Dec18 Rite 1 (HE)	23Dec18* Rite 1 (HE)	30Dec18 Rite 1 (HE)
Acolyte/Reader	Dave W.	Jeff S.	Amy S.	Dave W.	Jeff S.
1030	Rite II (HE)	Rite II (HE)	Rite II (HE)	Rite II (HE)	Rite 1 (HE)
Chalice Ablutions)	Sharon C.	Steve R.	Grace P.	Jean H.	John H.
Chalice (Prayers)	Steve R.	Jean H.	Ann P.	Jack H.	Harriette F.
Crucifer/Acolyte	Nicole D.	Bert B.	Tom C.	Mike G.	Grace P.
Reader	Miles L.	Lydia D.	Page W.	Harriette F.	Grace P.
Gospel Bearer	Steve R.	Jean H.	Ann P.	Jack H.	Harriette F.
*Healing Service					

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER, 2018

Sunday, Dec. 2	8am—Holy Eucharist 10:30am—Holy Eucharist	Monday, Dec. 17	8pm—AA
Monday, Dec. 3	8pm—AA	Tuesday, Dec. 18	12PM—AA 10am—Worship
Tuesday, Dec. 4	12PM—AA 9:30am—Hospitality	Wednesday, Dec. 19	4pm—Endowment 9:30am—Holy Eucharist
Wednesday, Dec. 5	9:30am—Holy Eucharist 1pm—Connecting Threads		12pm—AA
Thursday, Dec. 6	12pm—AA 6:45pm—Boy Scouts	Sunday, Dec. 23	6:45pm—Boy Scouts 8am—Holy Eucharist
Sunday, Dec. 9	8am—Holy Eucharist 9am—Brotherhood Break fast 10:30am—Holy Eucharist	Monday, Dec. 24	10:30am—Holy Eucharist Healing Service after 8pm—AA
Monday, Dec. 10	8pm—AA	Tuesday, Dec. 25	5:00pm Christmas Eve Service 10:00am Christmas Day Service
Tuesday, Dec. 11	9am—Finance 12PM—AA 4pm—Endowment 6pm—Vestry	Wednesday, Dec. 26	12PM—AA 9:30am—Outreach 12pm—AA 6:45pm—Boy Scouts
Wednesday, Dec. 12	9:30am—Holy Eucharist 12pm—AA 6:45pm—Boy Scouts.	Monday, Dec. 31	8pm—AA
Friday, Dec. 14	11:30am—ECW Christmas Luncheon at Grace Parker's	<i>Editors Notes:</i>	
Sunday, Dec. 16	8am—Holy Eucharist 10:30am—Holy Eucharist 6pm—Celtic Service	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The calendar continues to be a challenge so we are back to a listing—sorry!</i> <i>There are four fewer pages this month but have not received anything else to publish.</i> 	

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!



Art & Jane Bunnell	12/23/1966
Chip & Jean Holt	12/29/1973
Jim & Brenda Knupp	12/29/1968
Walter & Margret Palmer	12/7/1952
Jeff & Barbara Shaw	12/31/2004
Miller & Ginger Smither	12/21/1973



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



Ann Donoff	Dec. 3rd.	Ann Padgett	Dec. 15th.
Barbee Phipps	Dec. 4th.	Susan Neal	Dec. 15th.
Jean Holt	Dec. 6th.	Joe Jones	Dec. 19th.
Jim Hill	Dec. 7th.	Pat Durette	Dec. 19th.
Marilyn South	Dec. 10th.	Suzanne Berry	Dec. 24th.
Susan Hilliard	Dec. 11th.	Priscilla Johnson	Dec. 29th.
Don Harris	Dec. 12th.	Dave Wilcox	Dec. 30th.
Holly Horton	Dec. 13th.	John Gammel	Dec. 31st.
Butch Liverman	Dec. 15th.		

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Lay Delegate report on the 224th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Virginia

It was indeed a most unusual convention this year, featuring the resignation of the Diocesan Bishop, the report of the Standing Committee that they had been unable to nominate a candidate for Bishop Provisional (more later), and transfer of authority to the current Suffragan Bishop.

Bishop Shannon Johnston's pastoral address reviewed the accomplishments of the Diocese in the past 8 years. His presentation is on the Diocesan website, but here are key points:

Everything begins with worship, the bedrock of Christian formation. We are truly unified which does not mean we agree on everything. There is no longer any question that we have embraced the LGBTQ community, bringing them into all sacraments, especially matrimony and ordination. The church needs EVERYONE.

We are not partisan; our only standard is Jesus. The line between political and gospel advocacy is too easily blurred. We have begun the task of coming to grips with racism and our complicity in it. He has recently restructured and enlarged the committee on race and reconciliation.

\$2.5 million was raised for Shrinemont, a part of the support for children and young adults.

The Triangle of Hope is unique in the Anglican communion, Liverpool, Guana, and our Diocese: the common thread is slavery.

The sacred order of Deacons; there are now 25 deacons operating in the diocese.

Change in the Bishops' visitation to once each 2 years so the visit may be longer and allow greater exchange of perspectives. It is the Bishops' priority to meet with the vestry; however, he encourages creativity in the use of the rest of the time.

The Holy Spirit is calling him to retirement. New energy and fresh visions are needed; after nearly 10 years he feels too invested in the systems and procedures he put in place to lead them further.

I attended a workshop lead by the Drs. Reverend Thorpe (Mary and Phillip) on how to light the fire of the spirit without burning out your volunteers. They said you can tell if you've exhausted your volunteers if they stop volunteering or see their work as a burden. The mission statement of the parish gives a hint on how the parish sees its volunteer work. Some work done by volunteers may not actually advance the mission of the parish and should be retired with the proper thanks to those who have invested much in it. Perhaps there should be "term limits" for volunteer positions so the same people are not "stuck" with the same duties for decades. Simplify what you do (specifically mentioned coffee hour...go buy cookies at Costco). Ministry fairs are a way of educating new volunteers on opportunities they may explore. Have a clear exit point for the term.

Celebrate volunteers and give thanks for those which have run their course. Make room for new ideas, but let go of those which are no longer effective nor cost-effective.

There was a reception for Bishop Shannon following Eucharist with many bishops, priests and lay participants, but only one verger.

On Saturday morning, the Standing Committee reported that due to the very short timeframe they were working with in order to call a Bishop Provisional, that identifying a candidate to be elected at this convention proved impossible. Although there were promising and qualified candidates, none could meet the timeframe. The Committee will now resume its work, with a longer timeframe and hope to identify a candidate to serve approximately 3 years. At this time, it appeared that such a candidate would require the convening of a special convention to elect him or her. The Chair of the committee often stressed that the Diocese is running very well and would continue to do so under the authority of Bishop Goff.

Trinity of Charlottesville was accepted into full parish membership after 100 years as a mission congregation. Their senior warden said that social justice was their reason for being.

There were 2 reports on some tension between Trustees of the Funds and the Diocesan leadership. With no Bishop Provisional named, the Treasurer and Executive Committee will restart discussions with the Fund leadership. They expressed optimism but noted that the relationship must change. They reassured parishes that there is no issue affecting parish funds.

The task force on Pay Equity reported that they will be creating a pay chart to help guide vestries in setting clergy salaries considering the size and budget to the parish and the priest's experience. The goal is to increase transparency. They showed charts which reflected confirmation of their suspicion that female clergy are started at lower salaries and continue to lag those of male clergy.

Bishop Ilhoff discussed the need for a more robust Diocesan staff, with job descriptions and the opportunity for merit pay increases, which cannot occur without clear performance guidelines. He stated that all parishes should be required to support the Diocesan budget which funds not only salaries and office and travel expenses but also mission churches.

The convention approved a resolution to permit Bishop Goff to appoint an Assistant Bishop should she determine she needs this assistance.

At the end of the convention (Bishop Johnston departed the conference after his reception), Bishop Goff announced that the Diocese is OK and that all will be OK. She has 7 years before she must retire; she will not accept nomination to be the Bishop Provisional or Diocesan. She said that there would be a series of listening sessions held around the Diocese to gain ideas and perspective. The Diocesan staff will be at a retreat the 1st week in December.

Respectfully submitted: Grace Parker, Lay Delegate