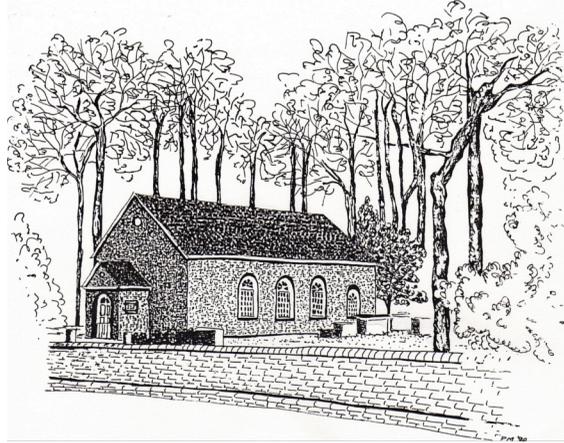




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URBANNA, VA  
PERMIT No. 6

OCTOBER  
2019



**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:**

8:00 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

Rector

Join us for Sunday & Wednesday Services

## Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex Monthly Newsletter for October of 2019

### **Church Attendance**

In recent months, I have heard a rising concern that our Sunday attendance is slipping. I have noticed and commented on it myself. And we are not the only church in our area that is experiencing a decline. Now I realize that we are a very mobile community with couples and individuals having wonderful opportunities to get out and travel quite a bit, visit families, and spend time in Florida and other places during the colder winter months.

So when did this concern about regular church attendance first arise? It was in the latter half of the first century when the Letter to the Hebrews was written.

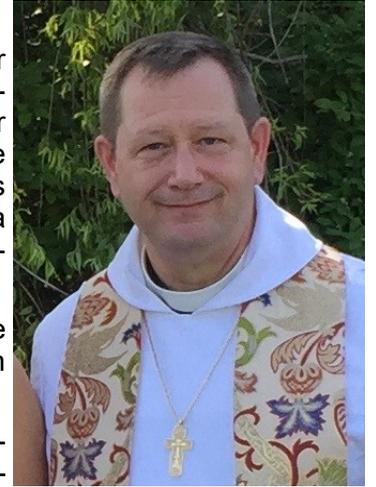
“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, **not neglecting to meet together**, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” (Hebrews 10:23-25 NRSV)

Our times of worship help us to remember who we are and whose we are. It’s a time to praise God for our many blessings, lift up our concerns, be fed with the Word and Eucharist, and to encourage one another. You may not think that you are missed when you are away, but you are. Our worship is diminished by your absence. I know that I really appreciate it when people let me know that they will be away or when they’re sick. We need to look out for one another and be a family of God. In our sometimes hectic lives, we need to be careful that members don’t get lost in the cracks. We also need to be witnesses of Christ and invite those who do not have a faith family to come and join ours.

One of the questions in the Baptismal Covenant that we re-affirm at each baptism and several other occasions throughout the year comes straight out of Acts, “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” (Acts 2:42 NRSV) (BCP page 304) We commit to doing this, with God’s help.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Stuart





The Vestry met on September 10 for our regular monthly meeting. Minutes of this meeting will be put in the Vestry Minutes box on the wall by the office. Reading these minutes is one way to find out what we are doing. Once discussion items are finalized, we share the information in this newsletter.

Attached as the last page of this newsletter is a "Time and Talent" survey that is similar to the cards that were available at the Brotherhood Breakfast meeting in September. It was wonderful to see so many of you there. The Vestry thanks John Hawkins, Brotherhood President, for inviting us to do a short presentation during this breakfast. Please complete this form and put it in the wooden box near the office that is for pledge cards and for this survey. Information will be shared with chairs of the committees for next year.

### **Publicity**

This year, the Vestry has appointed Steve Richardson to be in charge of all church-related articles that are put in the local newspapers. This ensures the accuracy of each article. Articles should be submitted to Steve at [wufansteve@gmail.com](mailto:wufansteve@gmail.com) by **Monday at noon** of the week you want it in the paper. They must be received by the paper before noon on that Tuesday.

Articles should be approved by the committee chair or person in charge before submission to Steve. We recommend not publishing personal phone numbers or email addresses unless the contact has agreed to add their personal information. Please use the church office as the point of contact. Always let the office know what information to give out should someone call. Photographs are encouraged. If using your phone to take the picture, please select the large photo. They must be in "jpg format".

We have agreements with both the Southside Sentinel and the Rappahannock Record. Please indicate in which paper(s) you want to publish your article. This is a wonderful way to spread the good news about our church!!

Our blessings to you,

Pam McClelland, Senior Warden

## **Junior Warden Input**

Let me start by thanking everyone for their support to Susie and me in prayers, kindness, and love over the past several weeks. It has certainly helped us cope with the issues and provided a positive outcome! This has been a wonderful demonstration that we, of Christ Church Parish, truly are a "family of faith who strive to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves."

I need to alert all of us that over the past few years, we have seen an increase in usage of Kilowatt-hours for the Parish Hall. This means that there is also a significant increase in our electrical costs for the Parish Hall. Since the most significant electrical loads come from our HVAC units, we have carefully gone over the thermostat settings ensuring that they are correct for this time of year. A very important point is that these settings are most efficient when the doors to each room and the fire doors are closed. Therefore, when rooms are not in use, please keep the doors closed.



And finally, our Building and Grounds Committee has developed a "Maintenance Plan" for Christ Church Parish that is designed to maintain and improve our facilities over the next 10 years and is broken down in two ways. The first is by area, of which there are three; and the second by the priority of the task, which is done by timing.

The first area is our church itself, both the interior and the exterior. The second area includes the grounds that make up the property of the church. This includes the cemetery, the lawns, the roads and parking lots that we own and maintain. The third area is the Parish Hall, again including both the interior and exterior.

For the priority of the task, we have split that up into three timeframes. The first, or top priority for our plan, includes those tasks/projects that need to be completed this coming year of 2020. Our second priority, though no less important than the first, includes those tasks/projects that we want to complete within five years, or by 2025. And the last priority, but again no less important than the first two, are those tasks/projects that we want to complete within the next six to ten years, or by 2030. In our September Newsletter, there is a brief explanation of how we arrived at those priorities which ultimately will result in our facilities being attractive and welcoming to our current members, our guests, and to our future members.

The total estimated cost for the capital projects/tasks listed on the Plan total over \$500,000 over the ten years. Most of that money is not going to come from our annual budget because that much money is not there. But instead, it needs to come from more creative ways such as grants, special donations, or possibly reserves or some other source. The current draft of the Plan is posted on our Vestry Bulletin Board. Please know that this document will always be subject to change and adjustments, based on changing circumstances and your suggestions. The important thing is that we use a viable "Plan" as we determine what to accomplish each year.



## Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) ECW

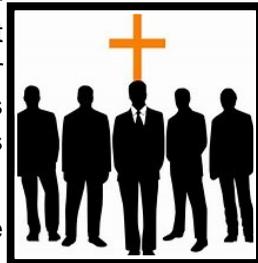
Karen Gorin, President; Page Wittkamp, Vice President; Virginia Miller, Treasurer; Sallie Wells, Recording Secretary; Kathy Spence, Corresponding Secretary

We are beginning to think about our three major funding events! Bake sales! Which mean lots of work for all of us making tried and true recipes and experimenting on new ones! Along with our busy three days making ham biscuits and we are increasing to 3,000 this year! Too many disappointed ☹️ people by our running out early! Hope many of you will be on board! Wings , Wheels, and Keels: September 28<sup>th</sup>, Oyster Festival: November 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>, with Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, making biscuits! Always a fun am starting at 9 AM in parish hall. The more hands the quicker, nice comradery! Of course our community Veterans luncheon November 8<sup>th</sup>! Very organized already by Sharon Colston, Judy Quilter and Ginger Hellems. Thank You all for participating in all these events! December 11<sup>th</sup> I plan on having our X-Mas luncheon at my home at 11:30 AM, please mark your calendars! Karen

## Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Brotherhood

President: John Hawkins; Treasurer: Mike Floyd; Secretary: Dave Wilcox

**OYSTER FESTIVAL TIME!!** Well, it's hard to believe summer is over, and Oyster Festival is right around the corner. As "locals" and folks who serve and participate in the annual festival, the Urbanna Oyster Festival has a different feel than to the thousands of visitors who come to visit and play. For the parishioners at Christ Church Parish and many other local groups who participate, this means lots of hard work, and not "all fun". Why is our participation so important?



- 1) Primary money-making/revenue-generating opportunity for the Brotherhood, with shared benefits to the ECW and Church to support a myriad of donation activities and interests which are so important to all of us and those we help.
- 2) Fellowship with other parishioners as we work together—a chance to bring the 8 o'clock and 10:30 folks together as one Christ Church Parish presence. **(Continued on page 5)**

(Continued from page 4)

- 3) Service to the community—the town of Urbanna and Middlesex county—great food, welcoming attitude, friendship, and sharing the love of Christ.
- 4) Exposure of our great people and church to the community at large, attracting potential members.
- 5) A way to share our time and talents in the spirit of stewardship to support CCP.

Sign-up Sheets will be posted on the Brotherhood board for various volunteer opportunities, including Load-Out, Set-up, Cooks, Servers, Take-down/cleanup, and Load-in. Thanks in advance for all your hard work! Looking forward to another successful Oyster Festival for 2019. John Hawkins

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**.



The Oyster Festival is just around the corner and it will be time for the ladies and gentlemen of Christ Church to prepare their delicious country ham biscuits. These ham biscuits make up the base of the world-famous HOB (Ham and Oyster Biscuit). Christ Church Parish Oyster Festival Booth has become known as the home of the HOB.

**"They will make your tongue beat your brains out!"**

Please gather in the Parish Hall Great Room at 9:00 to start assembling these wonderful treats.



| <i><b>OCTOBER</b></i>   |   | <i><b>Christ Church<br/>Parish</b></i>   | <i><b>Calendar of<br/>Events</b></i>  | <i><b>Oyster<br/>Festival Time<br/>for All!!!</b></i>  |  | <i><b>2019</b></i>                                |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>Monday</b>                           | <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>Wednesday</b>  | <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Friday</b>  | <b>Saturday</b>                                   |
| <b>Sep. 29</b><br>9a– Stewardship Breakfast<br><b>FOR ALL!</b><br>10:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I  | <b>Sep. 30</b><br>8p AA                 | <b>1</b><br>Noon AA<br>9:30a Hospitality Committee   | <b>2</b><br>9:30a Holy Eucharist<br>1p Connecting Threads                                   | <b>3</b><br>Noon AA<br>6:45p Boy Scouts  | <b>4</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>6</b><br>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite<br>10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II<br>& <b>Blessing of the Animals</b>  | <b>7</b><br>8p AA                       | <b>8</b><br>9a Finance Committee<br>10a Worship Committee<br>Noon AA<br>4p Endowment Board<br>5:30p Vestry Meeting | <b>9</b><br>9:30a Holy Eucharist  | <b>10</b><br>Noon AA<br>10:00a Puller Run by<br>the Marines from Fort<br>Lee<br>6:45p Boy Scouts           | <b>11</b>  | <b>12</b>   |
| <b>13</b><br>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I<br>9:00a Brotherhood Breakfast<br>10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II<br>5:30p Celtic Evensong   | <b>14</b><br>8p AA                      | <b>15</b><br>Noon AA   | <b>16</b><br>9:30a Holy Eucharist<br>9:30 Visitation Singers at<br>Church of the Visitation | <b>17</b><br>9:30a Outreach<br>Committee<br>Noon AA<br>6:45p Boy Scouts                                    | <b>18</b>  | <b>19</b>   |
| <b>20</b><br>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I<br>10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II   | <b>21</b><br>Fr. Stuart<br>out<br>8p AA | <b>22</b><br>Fr. Stuart out<br>Noon AA   | <b>23</b><br>Fr. Stuart out<br><b>No Mid-Week Eucharist</b>                                 | <b>24</b><br>Noon AA<br>6:45p Boy Scouts   | <b>25</b>  | <b>26</b>   |
| <b>27</b><br>8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I<br>Healing Prayers<br>10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II<br>Healing Prayers<br>11:00 One Community Un-<br>der God. Urbanna Fire Dept. | <b>28</b><br>8p AA<br><br>6             | <b>29</b><br>Noon AA   | <b>30</b><br>9:30a Holy Eucharist<br><b>8:00a Oyster<br/>Festival Loadout</b>               | <b>31</b><br>Noon AA<br>6:45p Boy Scouts<br><b>8:00 Ham Biscuit<br/>Prep<br/>8:00 Festival Set-<br/>Up</b> | <b>Nov. 1</b><br>Noon All<br>Saints<br>Service<br><b>OYSTER<br/>FESTIVAL!</b><br>7 | <b>Nov. 2</b><br><br><b>OYSTER<br/>FESTIVAL!!</b> |

## Christ Church Parish

P.O. Box 476  
Saluda, Virginia 23149  
804 758 2006

### Dear Christ Church Parish Parishioner:

Your generosity and active commitments in support of our community of faith have been greatly appreciated! Your financial contributions and the sharing of your time and talents have given us the opportunity to continue Growing In Faith Together. In short, your gifts have helped us G.I.F.T.

Soon it will be time to focus on making commitments that will be needed to feed and sustain us for the coming year. We ask that you to make plans to do so. Christian faith is healthy when we are good stewards of God's gifts to us

### Save this Date – September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – Stewardship Sunday

Please mark your calendar for September 29<sup>th</sup>, Stewardship Sunday, and begin planning your pledges and commitments to facilitate the wellbeing of our parish for 2020. We will only have one service that morning beginning with a Community Breakfast at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall followed by Eucharist in the Church at 10:00 AM.

We all need each other. We need to support each other. Your pledges and commitments to Christ Church Parish for 2020 will foster us and will give us the strength to continue to enjoy Growing In Faith Together (G.I.F.T.).

Faithfully,

Stewardship Committee  
Fr. Stuart Wood  
Pam McClelland  
Jack Hellems  
Jim Knupp



## From your Endowment Fund Board

If you will be taking a distribution from your IRA this year, you will likely pay more in taxes and may even reach a higher tax bracket. Rolling over part or all of your IRA's "required minimum distribution" or "RMD" to your church can help reduce your tax bill while supporting our mission and ministry.



Double the Benefits! An IRA charitable rollover gift can benefit both you and our mission! Contact your IRA administrator to get started with your gift. While you will not receive an income tax deduction, you will not pay taxes on any distributions made to us. Please also inform us of your plans so that we use your gift for the causes that mean the most to you.

the most to you.

### WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Your Worship Committee met on September 17<sup>th</sup> to review plans for fall and Advent and Christmas services. At each of our monthly meetings, we review information on all those who are shut-ins or who have special needs for prayers and visits. We truly hate to miss anyone, so always feel free to let us know of those to whom we need to provide special pastoral care.



Big news for the fall is that we have TWO Celtic services scheduled: October 13<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup>, both at 5:30 PM. Father Stuart has found a new musician, Timothy Seaman from Williamsburg, for these two services and he is very pleased to bring this talented individual to Christ Church. Please put these services on your calendar. As we get closer, I will ask for help in setting up for those services on Sunday afternoon and taking down on Monday.

Blessing of the Animals will occur on October 6<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 service. Bring your furry and feathery friends. This is a great time to invite neighbors who are animal lovers to join us.

All Saints Day, 1 November, happens to coincide with the first day of the Oyster Festival. Our service is at noon. Although many of us will be at the big tent or the bake sale, certainly not everyone. Do come to this beautiful service.

Next month, I'll tell you all about Advent plans. Honestly, they are upon us!

Blessings to all! Grace Parker, Verger and Worship Committee Chair

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE



Robin Wells, Chairman; Susan Neal, Vestry member; Miles Libbey, Vestry Representative; Bev Hart, Linda Irwin, Jack Hellems, Roland Anderson; Mary Lynn Landgraf. Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM.

If you missed the Full Moon Friday the 13th event, we are truly sorry, because a great time was had by all! Bev Hart (Co event Chair with Mary Lynn Landgraf) received the very kind and welcome note from Mary Buxton. I must say that I think Mary must have been listening in on some of our planning meetings because her sentiments are exactly what we

hoped to achieve! Thanks, Mary, for your thoughtful note. It means a lot to all who participated!

*"Hi, Bev,*

*We really had a great time at Christ Church tonight! You have really found the keys to success...good drinks, good food, good conversation, a good mix of friends and good fun! The door prizes AND the piano music added so much to the overall enjoyment. Congratulations to you and your committee for a TOP NOTICE evening!*

*Mary"*

Hospitality events to follow will be the **Stewardship Breakfast** and Advent supers. Stay tuned for more details to come. We urge all members to check the **Coffee Hour** calendar in the Great Hall. How about a little help if there is a blank date? It's not hard and there are always folks around to help!!

### UNITED THANK OFFERING IS JUST AHEAD!!!

It's that time of the year, so please continue to add your spare change (paper money accepted as well!) to your UTO boxes. This is an important project sponsored by the ECW. And your help is needed, as always. This year, your representative is Sharon Colston. She'll collect boxes on November 3rd & 10th.



## OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Jean Holt, Chair; Mary Jo Atterholt, Vestry Rep; Clayton Neal, Judy Quilter; Jeff Loustaunau; Susie Loustaunau, CCS liaison, Jack Fackler; Sharon Colston; Bert Butler; Fr. Stuart Wood

The **One Community Under God (OCUG)** group, comprising of several churches in the Urbanna area, has chosen the date of **Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>** to join together as a community of faith. The service will begin at **11:00 AM inside of the Urbanna firehouse, to be followed by a light lunch. Once more information comes forth, we will let you know more details. That day, there will be a 10:30 service at Christ Church Parish, so Fr. Stuart will be unable to participate in the OCUG service.**

**YMCA** –Fr. Stuart and Jack Fackler represented Christ Church Parish by presenting our donation of \$300 to Joe Hickey, The YMCA's Youth and Programs Director. This donation will enable several children from the Middlesex Area to join a Fall/Winter sports activity at the YMCA. This amount was a combination of money from the church's outreach budget and some individual donations designated for this outreach opportunity.

Mark your calendars for the **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month!** Susie Loustaunau and Jean Holt joined the Visitation Singers in entertaining the residents of Dockside Health and Rehab Center in Locust Hill and of Riverside Convalescent Center (RCC) in Saluda last month. The **Visitation Singers** were very welcoming to us and we enjoyed singing with them. There is no commitment for joining this group, just show up at **9:30 AM at The Church of the Visitation in Harmony Grove to practice that month's songs. Then the group travels to Dockside for a ½ hour program, then to Saluda at RCC for another ½ hour program. It is a heart-warming time to see some residents tapping to the beat and singing along and just smiling in acknowledgement of familiar tunes.**

**Donations will be accepted for the Department of Social Services** - foster children and senior citizens in transition **in November.** Just wanted to let you know now, in case you see some items on sale this month that may be appropriate to put in these bags. The suggestion lists will be posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Think of toiletries, books, game-books, blankets, etc.



### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Please join us for the blessing of the animal's service on Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> in the church at the 10:30 AM service. Our canine friends should be on a leash and our feline friends should be in carriers or on a leash. Other types of pets should be in the appropriate carriers. We look forward to hosting our special companions at this service and asking God's blessings upon each one of them. If you are unable to bring your pet and would like to bring a picture, we will pray for them as well. We will also remember those that no longer dwell among us but continue to

reside within our hearts and minds.

Blessed are you, Lord God, maker of all living creatures. On the fifth and sixth days of creation, you called forth fish in the sea, birds in the air and animals on the land. You inspired St. Francis to call all of them his brothers and sisters. We ask you to bless our pets and all living creatures. By the power of your love, enable them to live according to your plan. May we always praise you for all your beauty in creation. Blessed are you, Lord our God, in all your creatures! Amen.



### October Celtic Service

On Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup> we will have another Celtic service in the church at 5:30 p.m. Our musicians will be Mei-Li Beane who has played for us before and Timothy Seaman who will be playing for the first time at Christ Church. Tim is an accomplished musician who plays several different instruments, one of which is the hammer dulcimer. If you would like to hear some of his music, he has a number of pieces on YouTube where he is playing the hammer dulcimer. We're looking forward to their musical contributions to this quiet and reflective evening service and hope that you all can join us and bring a friend.

If you're unable to come this month, you may wish to mark your calendar for November 10<sup>th</sup> when the last Celtic service of the year will take place at 5:30 p.m.

We know of a Chinese Mom of a freshman Christchurch School student who is very eager to learn conversational English. She has decent basic English reading proficiency. We are trying to help her find an ESL resource. Because she is here on a six-month tourist visa she cannot use any of the ESL programs based in the colleges. If you know of someone who can teach English as a second language please let Page Wittkamp and/or Merri Hanson know.

### NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

October 26th.

### ALTAR and FLOWER GUILD SCHEDULE

|              |               |               |               |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>6 Oct</b> | <b>13 Oct</b> | <b>20 Oct</b> | <b>27 Oct</b> |
| Team 2       | Team 3        | Team 4        | <b>Team 5</b> |

### USHER SCHEDULE

|                              |                              |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>10:30AM</b>               | <b>10:30AM</b>               | <b>10:30AM</b>               | <b>10:30AM</b>               |
| <b>6 Oct</b>                 | <b>13 Oct</b>                | <b>20 Oct</b>                | <b>27 Oct</b>                |
| Bob Montague<br>Jack Fackler | Bob Montague<br>Jack Hellems | Bob Montague<br>Thyra Harris | Bob Montague<br>Thyra Harris |

## *Catechism Corner*

*The catechism section of the BCP (p.844) is not meant to be a complete statement of belief and practices; rather, it is a point of departure. Test your knowledge by comparing your answers with the book's later in the bulletin. Check your knowledge with the correct answers on page 14!*

- 1) *Why is the Episcopal Church described as catholic?*
- 2) *Why is the Episcopal Church described as apostolic?*



Sally & Trent     10/26/2011  
 Austin

Cathy & Barry     10/09/2008  
 Spence

Linda Parker     10/2

Jody Anglin     10/19

Paige Bishop     10/24

Gordon White     10/25

Tom Clarke     10/25

Doug Brizendine     10/31

### ***Catechism Corner Answers***

- 1) *The Episcopal Church is catholic, because it proclaims the whole Faith to all people, to the end of time.*
- 2) *The Episcopal Church is apostolic, because it continues in the teaching and fellowship of the apostles and is sent to carry out Christ's mission to all people.*

### **“TIME AND TALENT” survey**

Attached is the “Time and Talent” survey for 2020. Please reflect on your talents, passions and gifts of time that you would like to give to our church. Together, we will continue to grow together as a community of faith. Your Stewardship Committee

**Worship-Contribute- Participate- Enjoy- Come**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I/we wish to contribute time and talent for the benefit and enjoyment of Christ Church Parish by participating in the following ways (I've checked my choices here.)

Worship Services: Altar Guild \_\_\_ Flower Guild \_\_\_ Chalice Bearer \_\_\_ Usher \_\_\_

Choir \_\_\_ Lay Ministry \_\_\_ Lay Leader \_\_\_

Youth Sunday School Teacher \_\_\_ Nursery \_\_\_ Coffee Hour Host \_\_\_

Committees: Building & Grounds \_\_\_ Cemetery \_\_\_ Finance \_\_\_ Stewardship \_\_\_  
 Vestry \_\_\_ Hospitality \_\_\_ Outreach \_\_\_ Worship \_\_\_ Endowment \_\_\_

Communications: Facebook \_\_\_ Newsletter \_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_ Website \_\_\_ Records \_\_\_

Mailings \_\_\_ Office Assistance \_\_\_

Pastoral Care: Home Eucharist \_\_\_ Visitation \_\_\_

Birthday, Anniversary & Remembrances \_\_\_

Ministries: Brotherhood (Men's Group) \_\_\_ ECW (Women's Group) \_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_