



October  
2021

Join us for our Sunday On-Line Facebook Service  
<http://www.facebook.com/christchurch.parish/>



**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 9:00 AM

Sunday Services: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

The Rev. Stuart Wood, Rector

The Rev. Bob Pritchard, Ph.D.,

Priest Associate

The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure

## Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex Monthly Newsletter for October 2021

### From Our Rector

#### Pray Without Ceasing



Periodically you will receive a request from either Jean Holt, Mike Floyd, or myself to pray for someone because of a sickness, upcoming surgery, or a loss in the family. Some may question why should we do that, what difference will it make? My answer to that is, "It makes a huge difference!" We are a family of faith, and prayer not only keeps us centered in God our Father through our Lord Jesus Christ, but it also keeps us connected to one another in our joys and in our sorrows, in sickness and in health, in our lives and in our death.

When a doctor goes into surgery with a prayer on his or her lips, they are humbly acknowledging that it isn't simply by their own knowledge and skills that the surgery is performed, but by knowing that God has given them this gift and that God will be with them as they use it.

St. Paul's tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to "pray without ceasing." That doesn't mean that we are to cause sores on our knees or get a crick in our necks. That isn't what Paul is saying, instead he is saying that we need an attitude of God-consciousness and God-surrender that we carry with us all the time. Every waking moment is to be lived in an awareness that God is with us and that He is actively involved and engaged in our thoughts and actions. In the hymn "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," the author says this to us. "Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!"

*continued on next page*

You see, when our thoughts turn to worry, fear, discouragement, and anger, we are to consciously and quickly turn every thought into prayer and every prayer into thanksgiving. In his letter to the Philippians, Paul tells us to stop being anxious and instead, “in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God” (Philippians 4:6). As we go through the day, prayer should be our first response to every fearful situation, every anxious thought, and every undesired task that God commands, because through our prayers, God chases away our worries and fills our hearts and minds with His peace. Whereas a lack of prayer reflects only a selfish dependence upon ourselves and we know where that often leads us. Unceasing prayer is, in essence, continual dependence upon and communion with the Father and our prayers for one another keep us knit together as the body of Christ and lets us know that we are never alone.

Faithfully,  
Fr. Stuart +



Christ Church, Middlesex County, VA

**Mid-week Eucharist**

Please remember that we have a mid-week Eucharist here at Christ Church. The service is at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday mornings and will be celebrated in the Chapel in the Parish Hall.

**Blessing of the Animals**

Next Sunday, October 3rd, we will be having a “Blessing of the Animals” at the 10:30 am service in honor of St. Francis Day which is October 4th. If you bring a dog, please have it on a leash and cats should be in pet carriers or on leashes. Looking forward to this annual celebration of God’s gift of love and companionship through our pets.



**“We are a family of faith, growing in Christ through worship, learning and service, who strive to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves.”**

Here it is October already, and I am writing this in September on the first day of Fall. It has always been my favorite season with cool, sunny days and beautiful trees. It is also the month that Jim and I first started coming to Christ Church. I will never forget it because we arrived on the Sunday of the blessing of the animals. There were lots of dogs, several cats, one of which stayed on its owner’s shoulder looking quite bored for the entire service. And then, in the row behind me, there was a well-behaved chicken. (I am not making this up.) I also recall that the two dogs belonging to our Rector were the least well-behaved, but then they probably felt a bit more privileged than the other animals.

I was absolutely overwhelmed by a feeling of love and joy for those moments. I walked out of the church saying to myself that this is my church, and that feeling has never left me.

God bless, and Happy Autumn.  
Lydia Dudley, Senior Warden



**... from the Junior Warden’s Workbench**

DISHWASHER-installed. Thanks Church Family for the donation.  
CAMERA PODIUM-done. Thanks Robin, Jeff, and the “geek squad”  
CHOIR WINDOW REMOVED AND GLAZING-in progress. It has been recommended that the other windows be repainted to protect the glazing that started many years ago. So out for bids we go.  
SACRISTY LEAKING SINK- fixed. Thanks to Michael Johnson. Ellen's son.  
OUR BEAUTIFUL CHURCH DOORS- keep reacting to the humid weather. PLEASE be easy opening and closing.( we adjust as needed).  
As always you can contact me with questions, comments, concerns, or to help. Thanks  
John Quilter

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi

On October 4, The Episcopal Church celebrates the feast day of Francis of Assisi, an Italian friar, beloved saint, and one of the most venerated individuals in Christian history. He founded the Franciscan Order for men and the Order of Saint Clare for women, and he is also widely known for his love of nature and animals. Perhaps the most famous prayer attributed to St. Francis is:

*Lord, make us instruments of your peace.  
where there is hatred, let us sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is discord, union;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light; and  
where there is sadness, joy.*  
*Grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
to be understood as to understand;  
to be loved as to love.*  
*For it is in giving that we receive;  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.*

But did you know St. Francis is also credited with these inspiring and challenging quotes?

- *Start by doing what’s necessary; then do what’s possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.*
- *If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.*
- *While you are proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart.*
- *All the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of a single candle.*

*A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.*

Collect for the Feast of St. Francis

Most high, omnipotent, good Lord, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of this world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may for love of you delight in your whole creation with perfectness of joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

◀ September	October 2021						November ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
					1	2	
3 Holy Eucharist Services 8 am 10:30 am  “Blessing of the Animals” at the 10:30 Service.	4	5 AA Group Noon -1 pm	6 Holy Eucharist Service 9 am In the Chapel  Connecting Threads 1 pm	7 GEEK Committee 9 am  Fellowship Committee 11:15 am  AA Group Noon -1 pm  Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	8	9	
10 Holy Eucharist Services 8 am 10:30 am	11 Columbus Day	12 AA Group Noon -1 pm	13 Holy Eucharist Service 9 am In the Chapel	14 Outreach Committee 11:15 am  AA Group Noon -1 pm  Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	15	16	
17 Holy Eucharist Services 8 am 10:30 am	18	19 Finance Committee 9:30 am  AA Group Noon -1 pm  Vestry 5:30 pm	20 Holy Eucharist Service 9 am In the Chapel	21 Worship Committee 9:30 am  AA Group Noon -1 pm  Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	22	23	
24 Holy Eucharist Services 8 am 10:30 am	25	26 AA Group Noon -1 pm	27 Holy Eucharist Service 9 am In the Chapel	28 AA Group Noon -1 pm  Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	29	30	
31 Morning Prayer 8am &10:30 am							

## Catechism Corner

**Mission:** A small corner of faith, understanding and education



Admittedly, I get lots and lots of catalogs. A friend picking up my mail once noted that for every two ounces of real mail, I get two pounds of catalogs. I am an easy touch. I look through many of them and, of course, I buy from many of them, guaranteeing their continuing arrival in my mailbox.

Some have to do with cooking, some flowers, and many touch on religious themes. One catalog recently caught my eye with one of those clever wall plaques. This one said: "Just love everyone. I will sort them out later. GOD".

That really got me thinking of the many ways that Jesus told us not to judge others and amply demonstrated his acceptance of those others judged as inferior. Think of the many passages you know by heart that tell us to love and not to judge.

So, I am working to put that more solidly in MY heart, that my job is not to do the sorting. It makes everything so much easier.

Grace Parker  
Verger



In church, a doxology praises God.

A doxology is a short sentence or so of praises to God in many forms of Christian worship, often added to the end of canticles, psalms, and hymns. For example, after the collection, this doxology is used: "Praise God from whom all blessing flow...."

The origins trace to the Greek term *doxa*, meaning in one sense "glory," and the suffix *-logia*, meaning oral or written expression, leading to "doxology" referring to an expression of praise and glorification since it first appeared in English around 1645.

The Gloria in Excelsis and the Gloria Petri are two of the best-known and most often sung doxologies in contemporary Christianity. The ending of The Lord's prayer in Roman Catholic services does not include the Doxology (For thine is the kingdom..." etc.) included in many Protestant services.

Miles Libbey



# Outreach Ministry

**Habitat for Humanity** - Painting for the habitat house took place on Saturday, September 18. Although the request for painters gave us short notice, we were still able to provide a small crew as pictured.



**Hands Across Middlesex** - Winter coats are now being collected for those in need for the colder weather ahead. Donations can be dropped off at the Cryer Center.

## "Live" Nativity At CCP

The Outreach Ministry is planning for a drive by live nativity on Friday, December 10th, 5 to 7 PM (Rain Date December 17). A Stable and Manger will be staged in front of the church, against the cemetery wall. There will be no animals, but we are looking for

characters to fill the following rolls:

3 Kings, 2 Shepherds (hopefully one of the Boy Scouts will take one of these places, Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus (we are looking for a suitable life size doll).

Alternates: we would like two or three people to serve as alternates.

Costumes will be provided.

A stable and manger will be constructed for this scene. There will be recorded music and a handout with a special Christmas message.

If you have questions and/or would like to take part, please contact Ann Padgett via email at [padgett@va.metrocast.net](mailto:padgett@va.metrocast.net)

Thanks,  
Judy Quilter



## *From the Deacon's Bench*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Many thanks to those who have contributed books to be given to Middlesex Social Services for their clients. So far, we have a genuinely delightful collection. However, we would like to add a few more books so we will extend our collection time until the end of October.



Please check your bookshelves and see if you have books you would like to donate to this worthy cause. It will be of help to those who cannot afford to purchase books and will promote literacy in our community.

Books for adults and children are needed. **We especially need some children's books.** Cookbooks are also extremely popular as many folks do not have internet access to find recipes. Please place your donations on the tables in the Vestry Room (first door to the right as you enter the parish hall.).

Sometimes, I have people ask me "What does a deacon do?" That is a great question and an understandable one as deacons are new to this diocese. To quote from the Diocese of Virginia website:

***"Deacons empower others to name, claim and engage the work God gives us all to do. They interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world. Through baptism, all Christians are called to make Christ's redemptive love known through servant ministry. Deacons are ordained to exercise this ministry, particularly to the poor, the weak, the sick and the lonely."***

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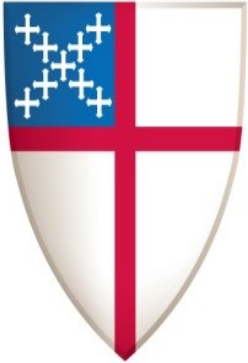
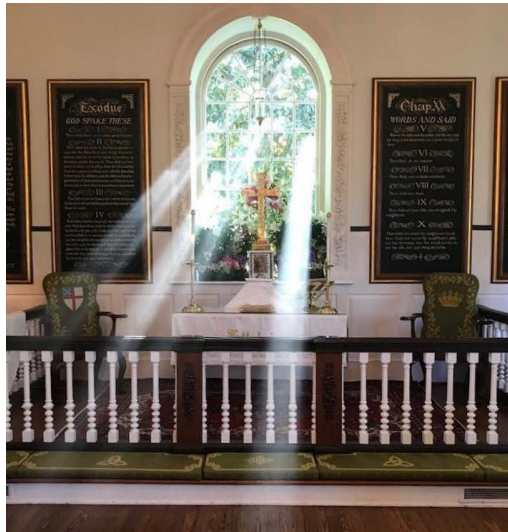
***Deacons model servant ministry in their daily life and work and are icons of servant ministry through their roles in worship. At all times, by their life and teaching, deacons are to show Christ's people that in serving others they are serving Christ himself."***

To pick up on one aspect of the ministry of a deacon, I would like to offer a new ministry opportunity. There is a need in our community to serve those who are lonely. We would like to set up a team of people to minister to them. This would involve "adopting" a person (names provided by Middlesex Social Services) and working to make their lives a little happier. This can be as simple as a phone call, a short visit, sending a card, delivering a flower, etc. Even once a month would be appreciated.

So, if you think you may be called to this ministry, please contact me....  
[peggy\\_moncure@live.com](mailto:peggy_moncure@live.com) or 804-869-3867. We will offer answers to your questions. Truly, the time and effort will be in your control and can be quite simple, but it will make an enormous difference in the life of someone who needs a little TLC to make their life a little better.

Thank you for all you do to help "Share the Love" to those in our community and beyond.

Peace, Peg+



**THE BROTHERHOOD  
OF  
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH (EPISCOPAL)**

**After much discussion, the Brotherhood agreed that it is best not to participate in this years "Oyster Fest" and put our fellow parishioners, Christchurch School students, and the Boy Scouts at risk due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Plans will proceed for the 2022 "Oyster Fest".**



The ECW had a very successful "Bake Sale" at the Wings, Wheels, and Keels event held on September 25th. Well done all!!



## Live Nativity

### Characters Needed

DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> 5 TO 7 PM (RAIN DATE DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>)

The Outreach Committee is planning for a drive by live nativity in front of the church, against the cemetery wall. There will be no animals, but we are looking for characters to fill the following rolls.

3 Kings

2 Shepherds (hopefully one of the Boy Scouts will take one of these places)

Joseph

Mary

The baby Jesus – we are looking for a suitable life size doll

Alternates we would like two or three people to serve as alternates

Costumes will be provided.

A manger will be constructed for this scene. There will be recorded music and a handout with a special Christmas message.

If you have questions and/or would like to take part, please contact

Ann Padgett via email at [padgett@va.metrocast.net](mailto:padgett@va.metrocast.net).



***Not only the squirrels... but hurry and get yours before them!***

Your ECW ALSO gathers nuts in the fall for your **2021 Nut Sales!** The freshest pecan halves, peanuts, cashews and almonds are available for sale as one of our important ECW fundraisers. These items are delicious and popular as gifts, snacks for football games, or holiday baking. Please take the form and fill it out and leave it in the office, or mail to Grace Parker at 15 Bayberry Pointe, Urbanna 23175. Nut orders will be ready for pick up before Thanksgiving, right after the pecan harvest! Yum!

Whitley's Salted Peanuts (20 oz. Tin)

Number of Tins \_\_\_\_\_ Price Per Tin \$11.00 Total Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Whitley's Jumbo Cashews (12 oz. Tin)

Number of Tins \_\_\_\_\_ Price Per Tin \$11.00 Total Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Whitley's "crabby" Chesapeake Bay Peanuts (20 oz. Tin)

Number of Tins \_\_\_\_\_ Price Per Tin \$11.00 Total Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Whitley's Dark Chocolate-Covered Peanut Clusters (10 oz. Tin)

Number of Tins \_\_\_\_\_ Price Per Tin \$11.00 Total Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Whitley's Honey Cinnamon Almonds (13 oz. Tin)

Number of Tins \_\_\_\_\_ Price Per Tin \$11.00 Total Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Pecan Halves (16 oz. Bag)

Number of Bags \_\_\_\_\_ Price Per Bag \$12.00 Total Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Deadline for Orders YESTERDAY! DO IT TODAY!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

# Special October Celebrations



## Anniversaries

9 Barry & Cathy Spence

29 Trent and Sally Austin

## Birthdays

- 1 Debbie Davis
- 2 Linda Parker
- 9 Dixon Cole
- 19 Jody Anglin
- 25 Tom Clarke
- Gordon White



## Memorial for Susan Neal



You are invited to join the Neal family in celebrating Susan's life. Let us joyfully remember Susan's grace and spirit as we gather together to say "thanks" to her for being a part of our lives. This will be a casual event requiring you to bring huge hugs, kisses, smiles, and memories of happiness. If you have not received an Evite, please let me know if you plan to attend. Cell (804) 921-6540.

Clayton

## ARTICLES ACCEPTED!

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 2021 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>
November 2021	Monday October 25, 2021
December 2021	Friday November 26, 2021
January 2022	Monday December 27, 2021
February 2022	Monday January 24, 2022
March 2022	Monday February 21, 2022

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