

Christ Church Parish

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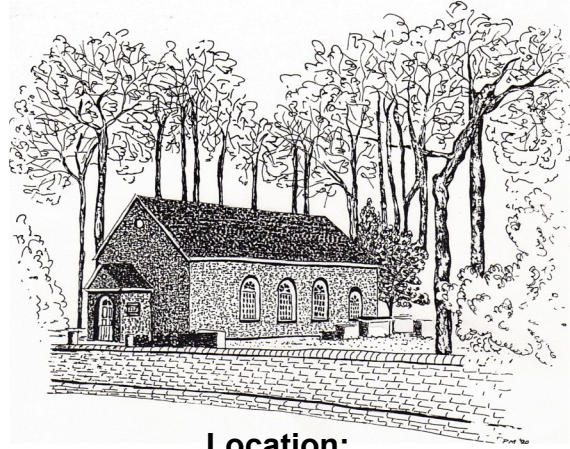
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July
2023

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 July 2023

Message From Our Rector



July and the observance of “Freedom”

When I think of July my thoughts immediately think of Independence Day - the 4th of July. Though it isn't a Christian holiday, our lectionary has set Proper Psalms, Lessons, and Prayers to be used on that day as another way of celebrating our country's freedom. These readings were first proposed to be included in the Proposed Prayer Book of 1786 but the General Convention of 1789 deleted this observance. Why not celebrate our newly won freedom with a church service

thanking God for our victory over English Rule? Well, Bishop William White looked at it from a pastoral point of view.

There are several things that we need to remember about the established Church in which Christ Church Parish was a part. First of all, it was the Church of England and its bishop was the Bishop of London until we won the Revolutionary War not too far from here in the town of Yorktown. Second, all English clergy were required to swear allegiance to the monarch; and they still are.

“I, (name of clergy), do solemnly, sincerely and truly declare and affirm that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to His Majesty King Charles III, *his heirs and successors*, according to law.”

Most of the English clergy in this new country had remained faithful to their oath and Bishop White knew that it would be difficult for them to support such a service without breaking their oath and, if they did go ahead with the service, that they would be subjecting themselves to ridicule and censure.

Many years later, in the 1928 Book of Common Prayer, after all the Colonial English clergy had either left the country or had died, did the General Convention re-visit the idea of establishing a liturgical day of observance on the Church calendar.

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The Propers for July 4th are: Deuteronomy 10:17-21, Psalm 145, Hebrews 11:8-16, and Matthew 5:43-48.

The Collect of the Day is:

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn: Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

May we all have a blessed celebration of our Freedom. May we never take it for granted. And may we always be grateful to the men and women who have so faithfully served this country in defense of the freedoms we enjoy and to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice to protect those freedoms.

Faithfully,

Fr. Stuart



Mid-week Eucharist

Please remember that we have a mid-week Eucharist here at Christ Church. The service is at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings and is celebrated in the Chapel in the Parish Hall.

THE ELEPHANTS AND VESTRY

MORE “TUNING IN” RESULTS

Last month, we reviewed our “IT TAKES A PARISH TO GROW A PARISH” meeting discussion of Question One which was “What brought you to Christ Church Parish, and what keeps you coming back?” The answer was simple. Most of us were INVITED, and once here, we found a WARM, FRIENDLY, AND ACCEPTING congregation.

This month, we are addressing Question Two which was “If you were coming to Christ Church Parish for the first time, what would you hope to be told about the parish? The answers are not surprising, and they also play to many of our strengths as a Parish. Here is what we said.

We want to be told about the history, traditions, and customs of the Episcopal Church, and especially of our church - Christ Church Parish. We want to hear about our liturgy and perhaps have it explained to us. Why is it that we do what we do?

We also want to hear about Parish activities. What are the fun social events and how can I be involved? What are the Outreach programs and how can I become involved in them? In other words, how can I “join” this congregation?

And once again, we want to hear that Christ Church Parish is a friendly and accepting congregation that I am welcome to be a part of!

So, as we INVITE and meet visitors to our church, let’s keep the above discussion in mind. We offer what many are looking for in a church home. Don’t forget to mention our website, where you can access videos that show so much about who we are and what we do. And please give them one of our calling cards that include a QR code highlighting our church life along with a virtual tour.

Thank You and God Bless!

The Vestry and the Elephants

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

July 28 is quickly approaching, and it will be a summer Friday evening like you have never celebrated at Christ Church Parish! Ice Cream, and multiple varieties of it, will be served with sprinkles, chocolate or caramel syrup, and dollops of whipped cream! Add to that culinary temptation music by Clayton Neal and his associate and you have a starlit sky and stars on the grounds. Yes, folks 28 July is our ice cream social brimming with games, raffles, cakes, and prizes. The critical thing to remember (aside from a ban on frowns) is your folding **lawn chairs**. Please bring your own seating as we will not have the heavy fold-up chairs from the Parish Hall on the lawn. The festivities begin at 5:30 pm and run until 7:30 p.m. Two hours of music and entertainment and a full tummy. Paradise Found. We need volunteers to serve, park cars, carry chairs, set up the tent, and take down the tent.

Looking ahead, we have a final date of 27 October for the Marine Corps Run to Christ Church. Always an exciting event as the runners edge closer to the final resting place of General Puller, hear stories of their timeless hero, and enjoy a bag lunch/snacks and beverages for the ride back to their bases.

Plans are underway for the Veterans Luncheon and this year promises to be a special event where we recognize the men and women of Christ Church Parish who joined the military and served our nation with honor and pride. We are establishing a Gallery of Heroes of Christ Church members who served over the past many decades. Phase one of this campaign will be pinpointed to church members, living or deceased. There is a special form to fill out with minimal invasive questions. I need a photo of you or your loved ones in uniform, if possible, with their name, nickname, rank, branch of service, and service dates. The photo can be old, but we will scan it and give it back to you. We can accept a digital photos as well. We will showcase our heroes on the screens at the luncheon—a continuous loop of our heroes. Please see me, Mary Lynn Landgraf, with questions, to turn in your forms and entrust me with your photos (ever so briefly). The deadline for accepting photos is 1 October 2023. Phase II of the campaign will be about relatives and heroes in our community.

The Veterans Luncheon is scheduled for 10 November. We expect again a sell-out crowd of 110 heroes!

More on the luncheon and Advent plans in the next newsletter.

Thank you! Bev Hart and Mary Lynn

◀ June	July 2023					August ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	3	4 Independence Day Church Office Closed AA Group Noon -1:00 pm	5 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel	6 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Church Office Closed	7 YOGA 10:00 am	8
9 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	10 Church Office Closed	11 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm	12 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel Outreach Committee 10:15 am	13 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	14 YOGA 10:00 am	15
16 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	17 Fr. Stuart out of office	18 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Finance Committee 9:30 am Tech Team 11:30 am Fr. Stuart out of office	19 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel Worship Committee 10:15 am Fr. Stuart out of office	20 Fellowship Committee 9:30 am AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Fr. Stuart out of office	21 YOGA 10:00 am Fr. Stuart out of office	22
23 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	24	25 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm	26 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel	27 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	28 YOGA 10:00 am Ice Cream Social 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm	29
30 Holy Eucharist Service 8:00 am Morning Prayer Eucharist 10:30 am	31					

USHERING NEWS

My goodness... how did July get here so fast... And there are 5 Sundays in July. Please let me know if you could serve a Sunday... If you give me your available dates I will try to schedule you for only one Sunday. There are a couple of Sundays Miles and I can usher, but let me know your dates and I will put together a schedule. Bill Snider will usher on the 23rd so I only need one person for that day.

Thank you for supporting our lovely church.

Blessings to all.

Sharon

CATECHISM



CORNER

Healing Service Benefits

Post Covid we have recently begun offering a Healing Service anew. Barring unavoidable conflicts, the service will be offered on the third Sunday of each month at both services.

Our monthly healing service can be a great way to increase our connectivity with our faith and to receive spiritual and physical healing. Here are some of the advantages and you may find others:

It can help you to feel closer to God. The healing service is a time to come together as a community and to pray for each other's healing. This can help you to feel closer to God and to His healing power.

It can provide you with comfort and support. If you are going through a difficult time, the healing service can provide you with comfort and support. You will be surrounded by people who care about you and who are praying for you.

It can help you to find peace and hope. The healing service can help you to find strength and give strength to others. When you are surrounded by the love of God and His people, it can be easier to find hope during your difficulties...

In faith, Miles Libbey



Off to the Holy Mountain

I will be in Tennessee for two weeks in July. One of those weeks will be vacation in Nashville with my cousin and the other will be spent at the Sewanee Church Music Conference.

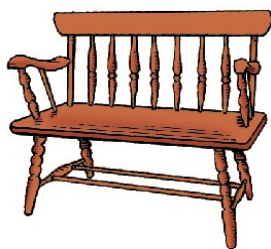
The Conference was founded in 1951, and since then it has been a leader in continuing education for liturgical church musicians. The opportunity not only to learn new skills and refresh old ones but also to share experiences and ideas with colleagues from across the country is invaluable. Only 130 musicians are accepted and I am thrilled to be among those this year. The week will include master classes in organ and conducting with two renowned organists, a review of organ and choral literature, and participation in two worship services.

The conference is located on the picturesque campus of The University of the South. - known as the "Holy Mountain". Venues on campus include the Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired Chapel of the Apostles and the Gothic splendor of the University's All Saints' Chapel - the setting for Friday afternoon Choral Evensong and the Festival Eucharist on Sunday morning.

You can find links to the two broadcast worship services that week (July 14th and 16th) on the following Facebook page. See if you can find me in the choir.

<https://www.facebook.com/sewaneconference>

Libby Boyer



From the Deacon's Bench

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

By the time you read this, Fine Arts Camp 2023 will be history. Now, we start planning for 2024!

Anyone who had an opportunity to come by our Parish Hall during the week of June 19-25 was treated to the unusual sights and sounds of 24 elementary and middle school-age Fine Arts Campers. The students came from Middlesex, Gloucester, King and Queen counties and Newport News, They were provided instruction in art, music, theater, church history, liturgy, and public speaking. They were also treated to exciting recreational activities. Stressing the importance of serving others, they were led in a community service project that will brighten the lives of those in area nursing homes. To keep their energy levels up they were served delicious and nutritional meals and snacks. This camp was a success due to the hard work of many dedicated camp staff, volunteers, and a hired professional actress.

A Performance Showcase for parents and parishioners was held on Saturday, and on Sunday the campers played major roles in our 10:30 service. Afterward, they, along with their guests and church parishioners were treated to a wonderful picnic to which The Brotherhood contributed. This is the third year of our Fine Arts Camp, a unique opportunity for local youth made possible by funding from the Tan Sanders Fund supporting youth education in our church and for which our church extends its deepest gratitude.

continued on next page

Our Outreach Ministry also contributed to this camp. Thanks to Ann de Peyster for her help with this article. We combined efforts to let you know what we have been up to and the Outreach article in this publication includes pictures of our exciting camp week.

Another exciting ministry that is continuing to grow (pardon the pun), is our Creation Care Garden. Take a look in front of the church and see what has been done. We will soon have a service of dedication of this ministry which will serve many in our community.

Peace, Peg+

A Tribute from our next door neighbors:

On June 6th, Christchurch School posted the following message on their school Facebook page and I wanted to share it with those of you who may not have had an opportunity to see it.

Fr. Stuart

Christchurch School

Sometimes you're lucky enough to have a wonderful neighbor just down the road! Since the very beginning- back in 1921 - when Christ Church Parish offered Church Schools in the Diocese of VA a tract of ten acres (valued at more than \$150 per acre) for their newest boarding School - soon to be Christchurch School - our friends down the lane have been thoughtful, kind, and generous. The parish shares services, observations, and celebrations with us. Its members think of our students throughout the year, sending exam treats, care packages, faculty appreciation goodies, scholarship opportunities, positive thoughts, and blessings our way. THANK YOU, CHRIST CHURCH PARISH!



“Ordinary Time” is special

While we just celebrated Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, we now enter into what is known as Ordinary Time, or in one church I attended, “the long green season.” While the Altar Guild certainly understands the reference to the many Sundays of green altar hangings, ordinary time as a term, has become less well known. These Sundays, from Pentecost to the end of the church year are marked in ordinal numbers: The Second Sunday after Pentecost, the Third Sunday after Pentecost, etc. You will see this on your Sunday bulletin. This season in the church year is one in which we remember that our Christian journey isn’t just a series of exceptional celebrations, Easter and Christmas for example, but a long path of learning and growth. Our “ordinary” Sundays never forget Easter, but this time does encourage us to reflect on what we may become in our regular time, in the regular time of the life of Jesus. So, may this Ordinary Time become special to you in your journey to a closer life with your Lord and Savior.

Grace Parker

The Verg



Endowment Fund

When Christ Church Parish was established in 1666, its founders had no way of knowing that they were creating a faith community that would continue for centuries. Their commitment sprang from their deepest beliefs, expressions of their hope for the future, and blessings for those who followed.

Today, we have all these and an additional opportunity to plan for the future. It is the Christ Church Parish Endowment Fund.

What is the Christ Church Parish Endowment Fund?

This Fund is an endowment built with gifts from parishioners and friends of Christ Church Parish. It provides an opportunity for members, seasonal members, and friends to ensure that, through the preservation of the Fund's principal, there will be resources for the continued stability of Christ Church Parish.

There is a way for everyone to make a planned gift, and gifts of all sizes are welcome. To see those who have contributed, please view the leaves on the tree on the East Wall of the Fellowship Hall entry hallway.

Watch for future newsletter entries for details and how to contribute, or talk with Fr Stuart or members of the Endowment Board.

Endowment Board

Fr Stewart

Gary Clay, Senior Warden

Jack Hellems, Chair

Grace Parker, Secretary

Jeannette Adkins

Jim Knupp

Outreach Ministries

In addition to new experiences in music, theater, and art, campers were coached on reading scripture and prayers and other major roles they filled in our 10:30 service on Sunday, June 25th. A video will be created with many more photos and short film clips documenting this memorable week.





Special July Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 1 Page Wittkamp & John W. Hawkins*
- 5 Joe and Laura Jones*
- 9 Jack & Ginger Hellems*
- 24 Roland & Pat Anderson*

Birthdays

- 2 Kathy Clarke*
- 7 Phil Brown*
- 9 Jeff Loustaunau*
- 10 Jeffrey "Jeff" Shaw*
Sally Austin
- 11 William "Chris" Jones*
- 12 Brenda Brizendine*
Justin Wilton
- 14 Evelyn Turner*
- 15 Judy W. Quilter*
- 20 Jeannette Adkins*
- 22 Roland Anderson*
- 23 Cindy Naylor*
- 25 Harriette Floyd*
- 25 John H. Quilter*
- 26 Peg Moncure*
- 27 Michael Kirk*
- 28 Marcia J. Prichard*
- 30 Joseph T. "Chip" Buxton*
Evie Wilton





from the Junior Warden's Workbench

Creation Care Project

The Creation Care Project is near completion! Please come visit us. The harvest is going to the Cryer Center weekly.

Maintenance Activities Around the Church

I am currently creating a project priority list that will be coming out soon. Several projects have been delayed due to weather. If you have a project you would like on the list, please contact me.

Scott Holt

804-814-8126

NEWSLETTER 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 2022 and 2023 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:</u>
August 2023	Friday July 21, 2023
September 2023	Friday August 25, 2023
October 2023	Friday September 22, 2023
November 2023	Friday October 20, 2023
December 2023	Friday November 24, 2023

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.