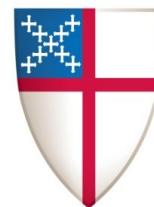




# The Christ Church Parish

## Messenger

July 2025



*“Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”*

**The Lord**



**be with you.**

**From Rev. Randi Hicks Rowe, Priest in Charge**

I am enjoying my first summer with all of you at this vibrant church in such a beautiful area of Virginia.

Among my blessings was experiencing Fine Arts Camp for the first time this year, and I was really impressed. The campers were terrific—intelligent and engaged. The volunteer support was spectacular, and the curriculum was outstanding. The campers’ participation in worship was gratifying. Having all those families and children in church was wonderful. The picnic was tasty. I am very grateful to the Sanders Fund for supporting this camp.

I also look forward to experiencing Robotics Camp, which will be held on three consecutive Saturdays beginning on October 18. Although they are different experiences, the Robotics Camps and Fine Arts camps share much in common, especially the ministry of using our gifts to bring knowledge to children in the community. Offering our skills to the community is just one more way in which we fulfill our call to love our neighbors and share our blessings with them. The Creation Care Garden, outreach support for teachers and students, and at many community events are other ways we share our love.

I am delighted to be part of such a terrific and loving congregation.

Randi+

## MORNING PRAYER

Episcopal Morning Prayer is a structured form of worship rooted in the traditions of the Episcopal Church, designed to begin the day with scripture, prayer, and reflection. It's part of what's called the Daily Office, a rhythm of prayer services that mark different times of the day.

The service typically includes:

- Opening sentences from scripture
- A confession of sin
- Psalms and scripture readings
- Canticles (hymn-like passages from the Bible)
- The Apostles' Creed
- A series of prayers and collects (short prayers that gather the themes of the day)
- And often, a time for personal intercession and thanksgiving

It can be led by clergy or laypeople and is often used both in churches and by individuals at home. The structure helps center the day in spiritual practice and reflection



## **Mid-week Eucharist This Month on Wednesday July 2, 9, and 16.**

Please remember that we have a midweek 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 month of June was a very busy month in Christ Church Parish. There were many ministries' meetings, preparation for events, and preparation for worship services. Our church community was very busy, starting with a wonderful and successful Garden Party event in our creation care garden. The event highlighted how the creation care garden works and how very important it is to continue the good work that is being done for the community by providing food to those who have very little and are in need. Thank you, Outreach Ministry, for the job well done.

Flag Day was celebrated in our parish hall with a special event to celebrate Chesty Puller's birthday. This private event has been celebrated for many years now by family, marines, and close friends of Chesty Puller and continues to be a very moving and special event for all involved.

Last but not least, a very successful and fun Fine Arts Camp was held in the week of June 16 under the direction of Deacon Peg Moncure. The camp is a wonderful opportunity for children to express themselves artistically and musically, and in some ways, the children grow within themselves. Some learn to communicate, others learn more about Jesus and Christianity, and some just break out of their shells. Thank you, Deacon Peg, and the many volunteers who have helped change these children's lives.

And while we are speaking of volunteers, it must be noted that nothing can get done at Christ Church without our wonderful parishioners, who are the volunteers that make this church operate so smoothly. We have a wonderful group of volunteers at Christ Church Parish, many hold down many positions in many different ministries, many sit on numerous boards, and often on campus three or four times a week. Thank you all for making this church a living community. Without your help, ideas, and often your financial assistance, our community would not be nearly as successful as we are. If you are new to our community and would like to volunteer for a ministry or provide your help in any way, please reach out to me, Reverend Randi, or any Vestry member, and we will gladly find a place for you.

Faithfully,  
William Budd  
Senior Warden



## **WELCOME SHERRI McDEARMON**

As I think most of us know, Tonya Spears will retire from her position with us as of September 30th. Tonya has been with us for over 5 years and has done a superb job as our Financial Administrator.

Her position in the church is extremely important, so when Tonya announced her retirement, we immediately started searching for her replacement. Thankfully, this search has been very successful, resulting in our hiring of Ms. Sherri McDearmon, who lives in Hartfield with her husband, Bryan, two older teenage boys, Bailey and Cayden (whom she home-schooled through high school), with many other family members living close by. She currently works, and will continue to work, as a self-employed bookkeeper for some private business owners. She is a very active member of Salt Church in Hartfield, which has been steadily growing in membership.

Sherri will start with us on July 7th, learning our systems and policies, to ensure a smooth transition starting October 1st. So please note the new “face” in our office and welcome Sherri to her new position.



## *From the Deacon's Bench*

*And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.* Hebrews 13:16 (NIV)

### **Fine Arts Camp**

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!!

The scripture listed above speaks very well of the ministry of Christ Church Parish. So many offered [help](#) in a variety of ways for Fine Arts Camp and that community ministry was a tremendous success because of **YOU!!!** Camp staff and volunteers and others offered food, monetary donations, gift donations, time, hard work and other gifts. YEAR FIVE is finished and we will soon begin to prepare for YEAR SIX. Campers and their parents are already starting to talk about next year.

Our campers had a great week. They learned a lot. They had fun. They helped each other. They helped their leaders. They were there to receive a nice camp experience, but they also gave a lot to their fellow campers and to the adults working with them. We all were blessed.

It was a week that presented many "God moments" The Performance Showcase on Saturday showed our guests much of which had occurred during the week. The campers "took over" the Sunday service and they did an awesome job. The picnic was a fabulous community event. Just to name a couple of individual "moments":

A child whose family focuses on Jewish and Hindu traditions had expressed an interest in going to a Christian camp and learning more about Jesus, did so and she and her family were very complimentary.

*Continued on the next page*

A camper and her younger sibling will be baptized in July.

There were daily moments like these. Thanks be to God for the blessings bestowed on everyone during this special week.

### **Book Drive**

Would you like to clean off your bookshelves and help others simultaneously? The Middlesex Department of Social Services distributes books to those they serve. This ministry allows those who cannot afford books and promotes literacy in our community. Most types of books, except textbooks, are needed. Fiction, nonfiction, and devotional books are great. They especially like to have cookbooks for those who do not have internet access to recipes. Also, there is a need for children's books, so little ones may have their own books. Gently used books are fine, or you may purchase books if you choose to do so. This ministry has been much appreciated in the past. You may place books in the Vestry Room by my desk. **We will collect books until August 3<sup>rd</sup>.**

### **Prayer Requests**

We will start sending out periodic lists of prayer requests to all parishioners. If you have a prayer need for yourself, family members or friends, please send that information to me. We will send those out to our church family. We will need the following information:

Name(s) and if it is for yourself or how they are related to you (first and last name or just first name if you wish)

What is the need? (You can be specific or not list details, God knows the need)

Please only send in the information you feel comfortable sharing publicly. We will print what you send us.

Please let us know when you would like the request to be removed.

Please send this information to me at: [peggy\\_moncure@ive.com](mailto:peggy_moncure@ive.com)

Peace, Peg+

◀ June	July 2025					August ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	<b>2</b> Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am  Christian Education 10:30 am  Westminster Canterbury Eucharist 11:00am	<b>3</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Cub Scouts 6:00 pm  Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>4</b> Independence. Day	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	<b>7</b> Tech Team 10:00 am	<b>8</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Endowment Committee 5:30 pm	<b>9</b> Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am  Outreach Ministry 10:15 am	<b>10</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am  Daughters of the King 9:00 am	<b>14</b> Finance Committee 9:30 am	<b>15</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Vestry 4:00 pm	<b>16</b> Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am  Christian Education 10:30 am	<b>17</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Cub Scout Carnival 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
<b>20</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> "Gathers" 9:30 am  AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	<b>28</b> Newsletter Submission Deadline	<b>29</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm  Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		



We had a great turnout for the Garden Party on Sunday, June 1. Many of you commented about this delightful garden oasis in our large field. It is welcoming and productive. From the discussions, we decided that many would like a weekly calendar of events happening in the garden (watering, maintenance, harvesting).

During June, 6 community members signed up at the Farmers' Market to receive our newsletter about the Creation Care Garden. Two of these friends joined us in the garden to help us with garden maintenance and harvesting! We are thrilled to have community support for our garden!

In June, we participated in 2 distributions at the Cryer Center and supplied 107 pounds of produce. The tomatoes and beans will arrive in the coming weeks.

So if you would like to know when and where help is needed and receive the weekly newsletter that shares volunteer opportunities and harvest news, please reach out to [alyson.costnerholt@richmond.edu](mailto:alyson.costnerholt@richmond.edu)







## **School Supplies Collection**

Our annual collection of school supplies has begun. Please place your donations in the collection box outside Peg's office in the hallway of the Parish Hall. We will be collecting contributions until August 8. (This year school starts on August 18.) Thank you in advance for your generosity. Here is the list of requested supplies. This year, the Department of Social Services has designated certain high school students as most in need of these items.

DeLois Greenwood and Pam McClelland, Co-chairs

### **SUPPLIES NEEDED (high school students)**

- Index Cards
- Colored Pencils
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Highlighters
- Pens (red, blue, black)
- Binders
- Loose-leaf paper
- Single Subject Spiral Notebooks
- Three-Subject Spiral Notebooks
- Dividers
- Scissors
- Pencil Sharpener
- Two-Pocket, Two-Prong Folders



## **The Relationship shared by “The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America” and Our Church**

In 1892 Frances Bellamy wrote a 23-word lyric, which was published in the “Youth’s Companion” magazine. On October 12, 1892, the Pledge to the Flag was said for the first time by 12 million school children across the country. The original pledge to the flag was: “I pledge allegiance to my Flag and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, indivisible with Liberty and Justice for all.”

It was later noted that there might be some confusion about the words “my Flag.” The wording was changed to “the Flag of the United States.” The following year, the words changed again to “the Flag of the United States of America”. The last change in the Pledge of Allegiance occurred on June 14, 1954, Flag Day, when the words “under God” were added. **There is no comma between “one nation” and “under God.” Why is this important? We are “one nation under God,” a single concept, not two independent thoughts. There is no separation between our country and our God.**

*Fellowship*  
"Essential for Growth"





## **FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN'S WORK BENCH**

The summer heat is here! If you happen to change the thermostat controls in the Parish Hall or church, please adjust them back to the original settings when you leave. We want to do our best to keep our energy costs down this summer.

Many thanks to those who helped with staining the picnic tables. They are now ready to be used.

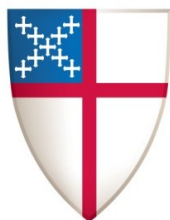
Scott Holt

804-814-8126





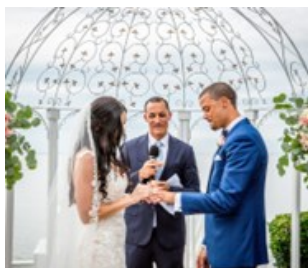
## **ENDOWMENT BOARD**



## **The Brotherhood of Christ Church Parish (Episcopal)**

## *Special Celebrations in July*

### *Anniversaries*



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

### *Birthdays*

*2 Kathy Clarke*  
*3 Beth Woolford*  
*7 Phil Brown*  
*9 Jeff Loustau*  
*10 Jeffrey "Jeff" Shaw*  
*Sally Austin*  
*11 William "Chris" Jones*  
*12 Brenda Brizendine*  
*Justin Wilton*  
*Ken Alcott*  
*Bob Lamb*  
*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*  
*Lisa Booth*



## NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WELCOMED!

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 2025 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>
August 2025	July 28, 2025
September 2025	August 27, 2025
October 2025	September 19, 2025
November 2025	October 27, 2025
December 2025	November 25, 2025
January 2026	December 29, 2025

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.