

Christ Church Parish

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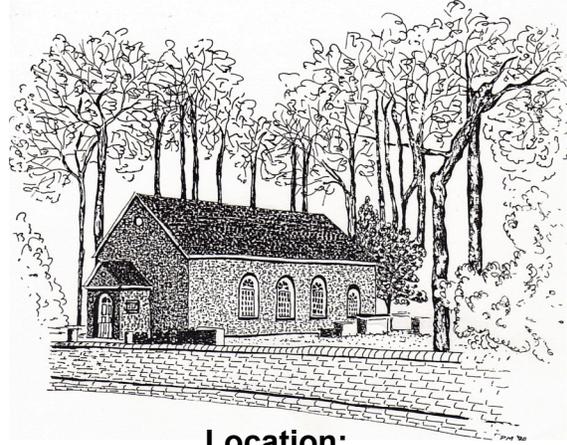
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June
2022

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 Pritchard, Ph.D.,
Priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex

Monthly Newsletter

June 2022

From Our Rector



I am not a debater, nor a politician, I don't like getting into arguments or fights, when others hurt, I hurt, when others mourn, I mourn, and when others are happy, I'm happy. Unfortunately, our world is currently filled with more sorrow and pain than it is joy. The war in Ukraine is still taking innocent souls and destroying the peaceful happy lives of millions in that country and also for thousands of families in Russia who have lost loved ones in a conflict that was unprovoked. Soaring inflation has affected lives around the globe. The mass shooting in Uvalde, TX has been the most devastating event of this week. The grief associated with the loss of a child is unimaginable and it leaves a void in peoples' lives that can't be filled. The emotional scars that will impact everyone who lived through those nightmares may never be erased. I wonder what will it be like for those teachers and young students to ever feel safe again, especially in a classroom.

We are nearing the end of the Easter season as we approach the celebration of Pentecost. But we need to remember that Easter was preceded by Good Friday which left the disciples cowering in fear in a locked room, afraid for their lives, and devastated by grief and loss that they may have thought would never end. Would their mourning ever find peace? Would they ever feel safe venturing out into the world again for fear of the Jews and the Roman authorities? Would this nightmare end? But by the power of God's love, it did! Easter restored life where there was only death. Fear was replaced with hope, mourning with gladness. Still unsure of themselves, Pentecost came and filled them with the fire of God's love. The Holy Spirit transformed their lives, giving them the confidence and the will to carry on, to venture out, and to share the Good News of Christ's redeeming work with a broken, oppressed, and hurting world.

Jesus once quoted the Prophet Isaiah saying, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives, and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free those who are oppressed, to proclaim

the year of the Lord's favor." And then said, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." The Lord later commissioned the disciples to go and do the same thing.

Today, we are those disciples. We all live in a very broken and hurting world, but as Christians we still pray "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created and you will renew the face of the earth."

The Holy Spirit continues to fill our hearts and souls with God's love and it gives us the strength to meet the challenges of each day, no matter how difficult it may be. Our task is to simply be with those who are hurting, knowing that God is always with us wherever we may be.

In Christ's hope and love,

Fr. Stuart

"God shall judge between the nations, and shall decide for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war anymore." (Isaiah 2:4)



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 will be celebrated in the Chapel in the Parish Hall.



From the Deacon's Bench

“Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times in all ways. The Lord be with all of you.” (2 Thessalonians 3:16)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The registration forms are coming in and we are moving closer and closer to Fine Arts Camp 2022! Our 2nd Annual Camp promises to be very successful. Certainly, you want to be a part of this wonderful ministry to the children in our community. We have had several people sign up to help but **we still need more volunteers**.

Camp starts on Monday, July 18, and ends on Sunday, July 24th. Camp hours are 9 am – 3 pm Mon.-Fri., 9 am-11 am Sat and 9:30 am-1 pm Sun. Breakfast and Lunch are offered M-F (Breakfast on Sat.) and there is a picnic after church on Sunday for everyone.

Every volunteer will receive a free limited-edition t-shirt and will experience the joy of knowing you are making a difference in the lives of children. What more could you ask for?

You are invited to serve as many days as you choose....every day, one day, or a few days....ALL help is appreciated.

There are many different jobs: kitchen help, monitoring campers, help support singing, help individual campers with projects, leading games, handing out camp materials and the list goes on. We will find a job for you that you will enjoy! Just volunteer!!

If you are a part of our camp staff or if you have already volunteered, please email, or call me to let me know your t-shirt size. This will also help me make certain my list of camp helpers is accurate. I have tried to remember to record the names of everyone who told me they would participate but I fear I may have forgotten to write down all of your names. EVERYONE is welcome and needed!!!

Please contact me at: peggy_moncure@live.com or 804-869-3867.

ACTS Ministry - Our ministry to those who would like visits, calls, and cards, has a new name.

In Acts 9:36, Tabitha is mentioned as one who was “devoted to good works and acts of charity.” We have chosen ACTS as an acronym for “**A**cting and **C**aring as **T**abitha **S**erved” We have recently started serving people suggested to us by the Middlesex Department of Social Services and we are also beginning to add names of our own parishioners. Everyone likes to feel cared for and our ministry is in addition to the wonderful work already being done by Fr. Stuart.

Jesus said..... “I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)

Again, we need YOUR help.

We still need to add more members to our **visiting** ministry team. We will help you with the required computer training.

We have added a **new** part to our team that does **NOT** require computer training.

Many folks we serve will benefit from an occasional phone call or a card sent to them. This can all be done from the comfort of your own home. Would you be willing to help in this way? We will provide you with names, addresses and phone numbers.

Do you have extra greeting cards or note cards that you will not be using? Donations of those items are appreciated. You may place them on the table in the vestry room (first door to the right as you enter the parish hall)

Please let me know if you can help us with either or both of these important ministries.

Peace, Peg+



THE BROTHERHOOD OF CHRIST CHURCH PARISH (EPISCOPAL)

A reminder that the church picnic will be:

DATE: June 26, 2022

TIME: 1 pm

PLACE: Deltaville Maritime Museum Pavilion

MENU: Fried Chicken, potato salad, Cole slaw, baked beans, biscuits and deserts

See you there!

◀ May	June 2022					July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel Endowment Board 9:30 am Connecting Threads 1:00pm	2 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	3 YOGA Parish Hall 10:00 am	4
5 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am Adult Education Parish Hall 9:15 am	6	7 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm	8 Geek Meeting 9:00 am Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel Stewardship Committee 10:30am	9 Fellowship Committee 9:00 am AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	10 YOGA Parish Hall 10:00 am	11
12 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am Adult Education Parish Hall 9:15 am Debbie Davis Reception after 10:30 Service	13	14 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm	15 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel ECW Meeting 10:00 am	16 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	17 YOGA Parish Hall 10:00 am	18
19 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am Adult Education Parish Hall 9:15 am	20 Juneteenth Federal Holiday	21 Finance Committee 9:30 am AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Vestry 1:30 pm	22 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel	23 Worship Committee 9:30 am AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	24 YOGA Parish Hall 10:00 am	25 Marine Luncheon 11:00 am
26 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am 10:30 am Adult Education Parish Hall 9:15 am Brotherhood Cjhurch Picnic 1:00 pm	27	28 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm	29 Holy Eucharist Service 9:30 am In the Chapel 5	30 AA Group Noon -1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm		



What is this Elephant???

This month's article is intended to review with the congregation just what is this "Elephant Committee" and what is its purpose; who are the "Elephants" and what have they been doing; and most importantly, how does the congregation fit into this Elephant and what is our plan? So please continue reading!!!

Five months ago, an article in our January Newsletter introduced the "Elephant in the Room" as being a declining membership and attendance at our Church. The Vestry had acknowledged this and called for an ad-hoc committee to corral this "elephant". A request was made that if you had any thoughts or ideas and felt you could help, to please contact Jeff Loustaunau. This resulted in ten very dedicated and energetic parishioners coming together to form the "Elephant Committee". They are Pam

McClelland, John Hilliard, Lydia Dudley, David South, Grace Parker, Bev Hart, Mary Lynn Landgraf, Judy Quilter, Ann de Peyster, and Jeff Loustaunau. At our first meeting, we developed a purpose statement that reads:

TO DEVELOP AND CHAMPION STRATEGIES TO GROW OUR CHURCH IN PRAYERFUL DISCIPLINE AND AS A COMMUNITY

IN A WAY THAT:

ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR SITUATION

DEFINES THE ISSUE BASED ON DATA

UTILIZES OUR STRENGTHS

INVOLVES AND MOTIVATES THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION

We found several resources that have helped guide our thoughts and actions during our first meetings. They include several books:

Anatomy of a Dying Church

Anatomy of a Revived Church

The Post Quarantine Church

The Death and Resurrection of the Episcopal Church

Sizing up a Congregation for New Member Ministry

as well as studying the latest Middlesex County Census Data and conferring with Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson from the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia.

What did we learn? To start with we learned that every member of our congregation needs to be a part of corralling this “elephant”. It’s not up to others. It is up to us. We also know that in Middlesex County, 60% of our population is 45 years and older and that recently many people are moving to the County for retirement or because they can work remotely. Those people may be looking for a church home!

In looking at our strengths, our facilities at Christ Church Parish are second to none in the County. And more importantly, our parishioners are some of the most friendly and active people in our entire community, and in fact, are hard to keep up with! We are a great Church Community!!!

Here are some of the things the Elephant Committee has been working on. We have been calling everyone that has been on our rolls that we have not seen in church lately. That has resulted in several people starting to reappear at our Sunday services and special events. We have been encouraging our ministries to revive several of our social events. Another focus has been to publicize what we are doing, resulting in several articles in the Southside Sentinel and posts on our Facebook page. We have also started a Eucharistic Service in the chapel at Rappahannock Westminster Canterbury on the first Wednesday of the month for our members and non-members. We are finally ordering our new sign to replace the one by our flagpole. And we do have two new couples who have joined the church this year.

So what now?

As we have said before, the “Elephant in the Room” is our declining membership, and based on our strengths, we have a great opportunity to turn that around by doing two major things. First, many of us have new neighbors who have recently moved in. Let’s invite them to our church or at least to a special event. As Bishop Jennifer suggested too, we need to have a conversation with our new neighbors about what they are looking for in a church home. Let’s see how we match up to their needs?

Secondly, we have been getting visitors to our services over the past several weeks. These visitors, along with our invited guests, need to be truly welcomed to our church. We used to do this, but probably because of COVID, we may be out of practice. Here are some simple things ALL OF US can do or can ensure are being done.

Wear your name tag so visitors can easily see who they are speaking with. If you don’t have one, see Tonya in the office and she can order you one.

When you see a visitor, find out who they are and where they’re from. It is especially important to get a name, phone number, and email address. Have them sign the guest book in the

continued on next page

Narthex as we exit the church.

Introduce them to Father Stuart, Deacon Peg and your friends.

Ensure they get a mug.

Bring them to our coffee hour.

On all of these we might say that the responsibility belongs to the Ushers and/or to the Vestry. And yes it does, but they also need help! The responsibility really falls to all of us to help each other accomplish the above.

We have a wonderful Video from Ann De Peyster that says a lot about our facilities, parishioners and our ministries that we can send to visitors right after they visit as long as we have an email address or a phone number to call them.

We need to have a follow-up call with them within two days from either Father Stuart, the Vestry, or someone to show how pleased we were to meet them and hope to see them again.

And we have many special events going on now that we can invite them to.

In looking at the above list, we should all be saying "There is nothing new here. We have always done that." And you would be correct. But it has been a while since we have really "practiced that".

For the sake of all of us and for those who could greatly benefit from our vibrant church community, let's all get involved in bringing our friends and neighbors to our church in a way that lets them know it is a great place for all of us!

Thank You!

Fellowship Committee



The Fellowship Committee continues to plan exciting events to be held throughout the summer. The first event will be held in conjunction with the ECW on 12 June after the 10:30 service. We will honor Organist Debbie Davis who is retiring after nine years of service to our church as both Choir Director and Organist. We are also recognizing her daughter, Nicole Davis, our crucifer, with a special scholarship fund as she begins college

in September. Parishioners are invited to bring finger foods for the reception as well.

Other plans for summer include an old-fashioned Fish Fry with all the traditional fixings in August and an Ice Cream Social will top of the waning days of summer.

The Fellowship Committee meets on 9 June at 9 am and will confirm the dates of the future events.

Stay tuned and remember "We play where we pray".

Mary Lynn Landgraf and Bev Hart



“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.”

Summer is quickly approaching, and the joy and enthusiasm of our church continues to grow. Every ministry is bursting with activity and plans for the summer. The Vestry is excited about the new video about our church. Tech Team is currently completing the final editing and it will be available very soon. This video can be used to help prospective members feel the joy and activity of this parish. I am very confident it will be a great recruiting tool to help us increase our membership.

We are all very sad that Debbie Davis, our great organist, will be leaving us this month. We will come together as a church to celebrate Debbie's time with us on June 12th after the 10:30 service. Please make plans to join us and thank Debbie for her years of service. We are actively working to find an organist and hope all of you will keep your ears open for anyone who might be interested in being our organist.

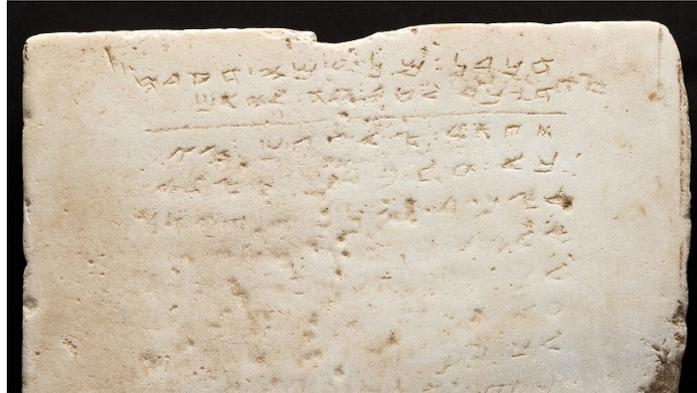
On May 21st, Father Stuart, Deacon Peg, Bob Pritchard, Bob Montague, and I all traveled to St. Margaret's School for a meet and greet of the four candidates for the 14th Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia. These gentlemen were all very impressive and were well prepared to answer questions concerning our future. I was especially interested in their take on the smaller churches' role in the Diocese. Father Stuart, Deacon Peg, Bob Pritchard and I will travel to Northern Virginia to vote on the new bishop on June 4th. If you are interested in reading more about the Bishop candidates go to virginiabishopsearch.org. There is a wealth of information to be found on these pages.

Your Vestry is working to ensure all the goals of the church and the individual ministries are met. We are learning about so many new things like roof and tree maintenance, humidity control, window glazing, and financial management. We are planning for the future while maintaining our historical church. I am so pleased to work with such a cohesive group that is willing to take on any task.

Faithfully, Jeannette

Catechism Corner

Mission: A small corner of faith, understanding and education



Topics are mostly edited quotes (generally for space) taken from the Book of Common Prayer (p.844) and are meant to be a departure point for further exploration, study and learning. This month's section starts on p.860 in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP).

Beyond the Eucharist, Other Sacramental Rites

Other sacramental rites evolved in the Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and include confirmation, ordination, holy matrimony, reconciliation of a penitent, and unction.

They differ from the two sacraments of the Gospel although they are means of grace, they are not necessary for all persons in the same way that Baptism and the Eucharist are.

Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

Those to be confirmed must have been baptized, and: are sufficiently instructed in the Christian Faith, are penitent for their sins. and are ready to affirm their confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Ordination is the rite in which God gives authority and the grace of the Holy Spirit to those being made bishops, priests, and deacons, through prayer and the laying on of hands by bishops.

To be continued...

Miles Libby



... from the Junior Warden's Workbench

The final church window by the choir has been reglazed. Outside church windows have been cleaned and repainted. The handrail going around to the sacristy has been reinstalled. Michael Johnson is a real asset to keeping our list of repairs short. We have added two more first aid kits, one in the Narthex and the other on the desk in Parish Hall between Fr Stuart's and Tonya's office. Our starboard tilting altar is now level thanks to Roland Anderson.

And finally, two fish are casually swimming along and BAM! One fish then says to the other, dam.

Until next month's newsletter, please continue to advise me of any issues needing attention.

Betsy Evans, Jr Warden

The Endowment Committee invites you to "Come to Breakfast"

Our Christ Church Endowment Board invites you to a Tax Advantage Financial Presentation and Breakfast on Sunday, June 5th, at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. All ladies and gentlemen of the church are welcome.

Robert E. (Bob) Wood, CPA, will be our Guest Speaker. He will be discussing tax-advantaged ways you can remember the church. In particular, he will be addressing: IRA rollovers,

Minimum distribution requirements and Qualified Charitable Distributions.

Bob, now retired, graduated in 1976 with a BS degree from VCU, achieved his CPA designation and worked for several CPA firms, and then practiced in partnerships for 10 years. He became the sole practitioner in 1990. His specialty has been income tax.

Bob says he enjoys retirement and has graciously agreed to share his knowledge with us. He sends thanks to Chip Holt for inviting him to speak. He has known Chip most of his life. Come, join us for Breakfast and Financial Information on June 5 in the Parish Hall at 9 AM. To make sure we know you are coming, please sign-up by Wednesday, June 1st, on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. We will want to make sure you have something to eat.

Outreach Ministry

One Community Under God

Please mark your calendars. One Community Under God (OCUG) will again bring us together in worship and fellowship on October 23, 2022. There will be many opportunities to participate including music, food, parking, and greeters. Planning for this event is now taking place and more details are forthcoming.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity has begun work on a new home near Wake and could once again use CCP's assistance as construction proceeds. In the past CCP has helped HABILAT with painting interior walls and trim, site cleaning, porch construction, landscaping, and general "gophering". This is a great opportunity to serve our community while enjoying fellowship. No skills are required only a willingness to lend a helping hand. Dates for when our assistance will be needed have not been established yet. If you would like to be included on our "team", please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board OR contact Clayton Neal at jumbolumpdaddyva@gmail.com.



Deltaville Ballpark Anniversary the Outreach Ministry extends a special thank you to the congregation for their generous support for the Deltaville Quilt Raffle. Your interest, encouragement and generosity made this project a success.



Hands Across Middlesex

Hands Across Middlesex celebrates 30 years of service to the Middlesex Community. Jack Fackler, one of the founding members of Hands, welcomed volunteers to Christ Church Parish to celebrate this wonderful event.



Fifth Annual Wabingston Weekend ***(Ware, Abingdon, and Kingston)***

At Shrine Mont Camp and Conference Center in Orkney Springs
Friday, July 29 to Sunday, July 31

Theme: *Sharing Our Gifts and Talents: Spiritual Creativity*

Each of you has received a gift to use to serve others. Be good servants of God's various gifts of grace. 1 Peter 4:10-11

Our Contact: Marti Bowen at (804)815-3691 or blueherons3@verizon.net

Friday: a warm welcome at Virginia House to get Room Assignments
 Dinner at 5:30 p.m.
 Arrival Activities
 Shenandoah Music Festival—ABBA Tribute Band

Saturday: Breakfast, Gathering for worship and workshops in the parlor
 Lunch followed by free time for hiking, Golf at Bryce, napping, games, reading and pool time
 Supper
 Listen to The Virginia Symphony on the porch—provided by the Shenandoah Music Festival. You may order tickets online or join others for a free concert from the porches of Virginia House.
www.musicfest.org (for tickets)

Sunday: Breakfast
 Worship at Shrine of the Transfiguration
 Lunch, then Departure

Visit the Shrine Mont website and click on the yellow rectangle up top to see what changes they have implemented to keep us safe, www.shrinemont.com

Return bottom portion with deposit to church office

Registration

(Applications and half of the cost due to church office by June 1: balance due July 9)

Adults (Names) _____

Children under 3 (Names) _____

Children 4-12 (Names) _____

Children 13-18 (Names) _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

*Costs:(Children 18 and under are FREE)

One adult for two nights with double occupancy and six meals \$180 x _____ (# adults) = _____

One Adult for two nights with single occupancy and six meals \$240 x _____ (# adults) = _____

Balance due _____

*Scholarships available; speak with Fr. Gary, Don't let lack of money keep you from this wonderful experience!

Special June Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 2 The Rev. Robert "Bob" and Barbee Phipps*
- 12 Steve and Jackie Gahan*
- 13 Rich and Anne Donoff*
- 15 Rusty and Tonya Spears*
- 19 James W. and Lydia B. Dudley*
- 20 John and Susan Hilliard*
- 23 David T. and Anne G. Wilcox*
- 28 Bruce V. and Susan C. DeSimone*
William "Chris" and M. Roxie Jones

Birthdays

- 1 Mike Floyd*
- 4 Buddy Wyker*
- 11 Pam McClelland*
- 12 Libby Allen*
- 13 Beverly M. Barnhardt*
M. Roxie Jones
- 14 Janie Allen*
Anne Lewis
Judi Snider
- 16 Amy H. Schacht*
- 21 Sarah Geeson*
- 23 Mike Moore*
Virginia "Ginny" Hartung
- 27 Howard W. Reisinger, Jr.*
- 30 Mike Gorin*





From the Worship and Pastoral Care Committee

Peace In Scotland

Photograph by Grace Parker, Verger

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 are:

Month Published Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:

July 2022	Monday June 27, 2022
August 2022	Monday July 25, 2022
September 2022	Monday August 26, 2022
October 2022	Monday September 26, 2022
November 2022	Friday October 24, 2022

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.

Yoga Classes

We can now get a healthy exercise experience along with all of the many other meetings and activities that take place at the church! On Friday mornings at 10:00 am, yoga instructor Amy Maloney offers a 1-hour yoga class in the Parish Hall. This is a drop-in class, \$15 per session. All yoga skill levels are welcome and no registration is needed. Amy is an experienced qualified instructor who has taught yoga at the YMCA. This promises to be a popular activity, judging by attendance at the first sessions offered in May. The instructor will be donating 20% of her class fee to our church. If you would like more information about this class contact Thyra Harris, 804-824-4304.