

Christ Church Parish

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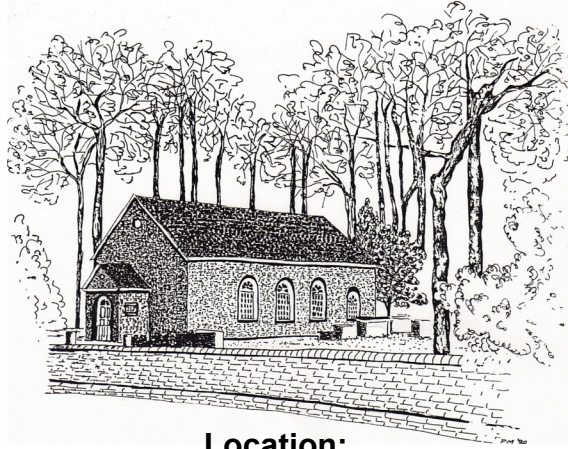
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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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November
2024

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. Randi Hicks Rowe,
Priest in Charge
The Rev. Bob Prichard, Ph.D.,
priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure



The Christ Church Parish

Messenger

November 2024



“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 appreciate all the help everyone is giving me to settle in and get to know the community. Christ Church is a welcoming church for its priests and potential new members. Indeed, as I've talked with many of you, I've discovered that you became members here because of the welcome you received on your first visit. Our gifts of hospitality and welcome are a great testament to the love of God.

I want to discuss one new initiative we are trying to reach out to our neighbor, Christchurch School. Beginning this month, we'll host a Taizé service at 7 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month during the school year. The service is aimed at the students; however, it will be open to anyone. Several of our folks have agreed to provide music for this service; the plan is for student musicians to join with us.

Taizé worship gets its name from the little village of Taizé, which is in the Burgundy region of France. Brother Roger Louis Schuz-Marsauche founded the village and set up a monastery there in the 1940s. The monastic community contains brothers from various countries who meet three times a day to worship.

Worship in the community is characterized by repetitive prayer chants in which the community participates. In the community of Taizé, the chants are in Latin, with choruses in various secular languages. The worship also includes moments of reflective silence and brief readings of Scripture. Many people, including about 10,000 young adults (18 to 30) annually, make pilgrimages to Taizé to join in its worship.

Taizé services outside the monastery don't precisely replicate the worship experience, but they are similar. Our service will begin by inviting each participant to light a candle as they pray for a particular private concern. Then, the service will include five chants led by the musicians, with all worshippers participating. A student will read a Scripture passage at two points in the service, and we'll observe some silence. Initially, all of our chants will be in English, although we may use some simple Latin chants in the future. Many chants we will use are now well-known in the United States; some are included in *Wonder, Love, and Praise*, a supplement to our hymnal. Those in WLP are "O'Lord Hear My Prayer" and "Laudate omnes gentes."

We will also offer pizza for the students after the service. I appreciate the Brotherhood and ECW's willingness to support this venture. Once we get past the initial few months, we may be able to get a grant to cover the pizza.



Mid-week Eucharist

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.



Greetings Christ Church Parish Parishioners,

I am constantly amazed at how fast the months have been passing by, and it makes me realize that my mother was correct when she said that the older you get, the quicker the months go by. November is now upon us, and in November, we at Christ Church are celebrating two large community events directly associated with our parish. On November 1, we will be having our annual Oyster Festival event in downtown Urbanna. This event showcases our church and shows the community who Christ Church is. We are a community-oriented church whose doors are open to all. Our church supports the community by donating to many local organizations and charities. Keeping this in mind, we need volunteers to work on the Oyster Festival. A few hours each day, or as much time as you can spare, would be greatly appreciated. We will get the job done; however, a few more hands would make the task easier.

November also brings us to the annual Veterans Day Luncheon and celebration of many local Veterans; this event is always a very moving and important event where we thank the many Veterans of the area and let them know that we care about and appreciate the sacrifices that many have made for us. This year, we expect a record crowd partly due to the fact we have enlisted award-winning author, biographer, and historian Ms. Heath Hardage Lee to discuss her book, *The League of Wives: The Untold Story of the Women Who Took on the U.S Government to bring their husbands home from Vietnam*. This event is an especially important event that highlights Christ Church Parish's dedication to our Veterans. Events such as this one take a tremendous amount of time, effort, and money to undertake, so any and all monetary donations would be gladly accepted to help defray some of the costs involved in producing this event.

Continued on the next page

The Vestry and I personally thank all the Christ Church Parishioners for your support of both very important events.

Faithfully,

William A Budd
Senior Warden



ENDOWMENT FUND

“Double Benefit” Tax Strategy



Have you invested in land that has appreciated? Will you face a capital gains tax when it is sold? You may be able to offset some of that tax.

Think about giving a portion of the property (before the sale) to the church endowment rather than writing a check after the sale. By doing so, you might receive two benefits. First, you could receive an income tax deduction for the value of the gift. Second, you could avoid capital gains tax on the portion of the property given to charity. You might be pleased with the "double benefit" from giving the property and your church receiving a very nice gift.

Is a part gift and part sale right for you?

A part gift and part sale of an appreciated asset can be an excellent tax strategy. You can use the deduction from the gift portion to offset the capital gains from the sale portion of the transaction. Consult your tax adviser if you want to learn more about part gift and part sale strategies.

Christ Church Parish Endowment Board

Jack Hellems, Chair

The Reverend Randi Hicks Rowe, Priest In Charge

Bill Budd, Senior Warden

Grace Parker, Secretary

Jeanette Adkins

Jim Knupp

◀ October	November 2024					December ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 OYSTER FESTIVAL	2 OYSTER FESTIVAL
3 Daylight Saving Time Ends Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	4 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	5 Election Day AA Group 12 noon—1 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	6 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Christian Education 10:15 am Westminster Canterbury Eucharist 11:00 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	7 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	8 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	9
10 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Brotherhood 9:00 am Book Lecture St. Claire Walker School 2:00 pm Taizé Service 7:00 pm	11 Veterans Day Veterans Luncheon 11:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	12 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	13 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Outreach Ministry 10:15 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	14 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	15 Finance Committee 9:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	16 Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am
17 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	18 Elephant Committee 10:00 am Fellowship Ministry 3:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	19 Tech Team 11:30 am AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Vestry 1:30 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	20 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Christian Education 10:15 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm	21 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm –5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	22	23
24 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	25	26 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	27 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am 5	28 Thanksgiving Day Thanksgiving Eucharist 10:00 am AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	29	30



The daily reading in “Forward, Day by Day” on Sunday, October 6, included the following:” If we truly view worship as a communal celebration of God, our community, and the things that God is doing in us, with us, and through us, then let us make a joyful noise to the Lord...”. What a wonderful preview to what many of us experienced that morning when we attended the “One Community Under God” service in Urbanna! 11 churches (including our church) from Middlesex County sponsored this event. The 10 Pastors who attended participated in the service. The music was uplifting as we all sang together. Rev. Mark Miller from Urbanna Methodist Church gave a wonderful sermon about the joy of finding Jesus together. This truly symbolized the theme of “We are family”!

In addition to discussing this event at our meeting on October 9, Alyson Holt gave us a detailed description of the progress of the “Creation Care Garden. What a worthwhile project. This year, 50-75 pounds of fresh produce per week were delivered to the Cryer Center. We all agreed that this wonderful project is a huge success. As it expands, there will be a need for many more volunteers. Stay tuned...

Lindsay Adkins says interest in the “Middlesex Young Professionals” group is growing, showing the real need for this in our community. They met again on October 16 (6-8 p.m.) in our Fellowship Hall for a “game night.” Look for an article in the newspaper to spread the word.

Reverend Randi shared her efforts to work closely with our neighbor, Christchurch School. We will host a monthly service for the students on the second Sunday of the month at 7 p.m. The first service is on November 2. The school music director and chaplain are actively involved.

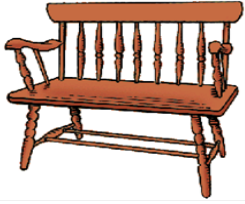
Our ECW and Brotherhood will provide pizza for the students after the service. What an exciting outreach effort with our closest neighbor.

On October 29, members of our Ministry provided treats for 250 Christchurch students and faculty members after their Eucharist service. They all greatly appreciated these goodies.

Upcoming activities this year include Christmas Family gifts through Social Services and our annual Live Nativity. Look for “figures” to appear in the manger around Thanksgiving.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 13, at 10:15 am. Please join us!





From the Deacon's Bench

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:15)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I recently attended a deacon's retreat at Shrine Mont. The theme of our weekend was based on the Diocese of Virginia's vision "Love Jesus, Embody justice, Be disciples."

From our diocesan website:

Our Vision in Action

We love Jesus, and he loves us.

We are being transformed by that love.

We are committed to discipleship, justice, and reconciliation.

We are the Diocese of Virginia.

Our Covenant

Love Jesus. Embody justice. Be disciples.

Visit The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia to see more.

Let us be thankful for a strong diocese and our leaders. Please pause for a moment and consider the following:

In what ways do you show that you "Love Jesus"?

What is important about and how do you "Embody justice"?

In what ways do you work to "Be disciples"?

Peace, Peg+

**Set Your Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Apart From Others Set a
“A MISSING SERVICE MEMBER TABLE”**



“The Missing Service Member Table” consists of a small, round bistro table, a white tablecloth, a single place setting, an inverted wine glass, a saltshaker, a slice of lemon on a bread plate with a pile of spilled salt, a bible, a small bud vase with a RED ribbon tied around it containing a single long stem red rose, a lit candle, and an empty chair.

The table is round to show our everlasting concern for our missing men and women. The white tablecloth symbolizes the purity of their motives when answering the call to duty. The single red rose, displayed in a case, reminds us of the life of each of the missing and their loved ones and friends who keep the faith, awaiting answers. The vase is tied with a red ribbon, symbolizing our continued determination to account for our missing. A slice of lemon on the bread plate reminds us of the bitter fate of those captured or missing in a foreign land. The spilled salt symbolizes the tears endured by those missing and their families who seek answers. The Bible represents the strength gained through faith to sustain those lost from our country, founded as one nation under God. The inverted glass symbolizes their inability to share this day's toast. The lit candle symbolizes the upward reach of their unconquerable spirit. The chair is empty because they are missing.

Now, set their table and observe a moment of silence to honor them, America's POW/MIAs, and the success of our efforts to account for them. Now that you know, you can never forget!



FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

November Anthems

We begin the month with All Saints Sunday. The choir will sing "*How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place*" by Daniel Kellman. Based on a paraphrase of Jonathan Asprey's Psalm 84, this setting uses the tune "*The Homes of Donegal*," a traditional Irish ballad.

Our Nov 10th anthem, *A Woman and a Coin*, is based on the Gospel reading of the parable of the lost coin. Monica Menendez adds her lovely flute music to this enchanting piece.

The Old Testament reading for Nov 17 is about Hannah, the mother of Samuel. Our anthem, *A New Magnificat*, is a duet of Hannah and Mary, each singing their song of praise to God. Soprano Terri Larsen from Williamsburg and Merri Hanson will join us as soloists. We end the month on Nov 24 with a simple setting of one of my favorite hymns, *O God Beyond All Praising* by Gustav Holst, from the Jupiter theme of *The Planets*. This hymn tune, called *Thaxted*, is best known with the English hymn *I Vow to Thee My Country*, sung at Queen Elizabeth's funeral and her son's coronation.



THANKSGIVING

It is not where you are. It is giving thanks for all the blessings the Lord has given you and those that He will give you in the future.

Everywhere you go...

As many of you know, I've just returned from a wonderful trip to Germany with my son Bentley. He knows that I always want to see churches everywhere, and he kiddingly (?) limited me to just two churches a day as my vacation diet. As we drove through small Bavarian villages and cities like Heidelberg, I was again impressed with the desire of people to build a structure to glorify God and provide a sacred space for worship. From towering Gothic cathedrals to tiny roadside chapels, there is visible testimony to devotion to God.

As I return home to worship in our beautiful Christ Church, I always find tranquility and peace. I am glad to return to my opportunities to serve in such a place. The motto of the Vergers' Guild is Service through Worship and Worship through Service. That fits me well. However, I could use a little help in serving and am recruiting for more Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Crucifers, and Lectors. Several of our faithful servers are either moving or temporarily stepping away from serving for health or other compelling reasons. If you would like to serve in a new capacity or for the first time, please let me know, and we'll schedule training so you, too, can experience the joy and satisfaction of worship through service. And thank you.

Grace the Verger





The Fellowship Committee Honors our Vets and Plunges into Advent with Religious Fervor!

One of our primary missions as a committee is to reach out to, include, and integrate the greater community into our activities and events.

With recent dual local newspaper articles on the successful Marine Corps Run that commemorates the passing of Lieutenant General Lewis "Chesty" Puller on October 10, 1971, the Committee was able to showcase approximately 240 able-bodied young Marine Recruits, the official welcome by our clergy, The Reverend Randi Rowe and The Reverend Bob Prichard, stories shared with the Marines in our historic cemetery and then capping off the morning with our committee serving the Runners snacks, soft drinks and coffee. The community could observe and cheer on the Runners along the route from Norman's Produce, past the General's home in Saluda, and then onward to Christ Church Parish, where all were invited to observe the ceremony.

On 10 November, all are invited to meet and greet the acclaimed author, Ms. Heath Lee, who will deliver an electrifying overview of her book, *The League of Wives*, and discuss the wives' role in affecting change in the prisoner policies of the Vietnam War. The book focuses on creating and implementing policies to bring home US Aviators shot down over Vietnam and servicemen held in captivity.

Ms. Lee has devoted her time to visit with us for two days and will give a presentation on the Vietnam war, the cultural shift at that time and the power of collective voices as we celebrate our Veterans Day Luncheon at Christ Church Parish on Monday, November 11th in our Parish Hall.

The Luncheon is open to all Middlesex County Veterans, and we will feature our new video of Middlesex County Veterans honoring both our parish member Veterans and Veterans from across the county.

These major events are free to the public, but donations to help cover these costs are greatly appreciated.

December 4th brings us together again for our themed Advent Dinner, which will shine a spotlight on Austria and her gift to the world: the song "Silent Night."

December 24th the Fellowship Committee will serve hot tea and cider immediately after our Christmas Eve service outside the doors of our church. Please come and join us!!!

Our final event of the season is Epiphany on January 6th. The large blaze of dried Christmas trees and holiday greens gives a spectacular ending to the holiday season and signals new beginnings in our church and personal lives.

May you experience the joy of the season and peace in your hearts.

Mary Lynn Landgraf and Bev Hart



Special November Celebrations

Anniversaries

Birthdays

1 Bruce V. Desimone

5 Miles A. Libbey

6 Jeanie Alcott

7 Susan M. Dugan

8 George Sturgill

Scott Krejci

9 Robert L. "Robin" Wells

Bob Barlowe

19 Laure Jones

20 Peter W. "Pete" Mansfield

24 E. Virginia "Ginger" Smither

Rich Donoff

27 Diane Martin

Louise Eichenlaub

29 Karen Houser

30 Beverly Hart

Karen Brown





FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN'S WORK BENCH

I want to thank everyone who helped with the fall cleaning day. We were able to complete many of the items on our list.

We are currently reviewing projects for the coming year. If you have a project that you would like done, please contact me.

Scott Holt

(804) 814-8126

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 2024 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:</u>
December	November 15, 2024
January 2025	December 23, 2024

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.