

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

February 2024

Dear People of Christ Church,

Some of you may have noticed over the past couple of months that we are having various committees not only host coffee hour, but also speak at the Sunday morning Adult Forum. The hope with this has been to have a different way for parishioners to learn about our ministries at Christ Church. You might call it a slow roll out ministry fair. Unlike a one-time large ministry fair of everything, the committees and Vestry wanted to allow a chance for more information to be shared as well a more conversation and questions for people who may be interested in the committees.

Let me be clear that this is NOT replacing coffee hour hosting. Anyone who wants to find a Sunday to host is able to go the website and see available Sundays to host coffee hour. As the committees are able, they find times to host as well. Right now, it seems to be about once a month. When those times occur, they may also take advantage of the Adult Forum to share more information.

We have quite a bit of ministry going on at Christ Church. From worship to formation to community to serving neighbor, it is exciting to see what is going on. One challenge is helping inform and invite new people to see and join those ministries. The other challenge is overcoming assumptions that our ministries are doing the same things as before or that the same people are still helping. Both of these challenges remind us that Christ Church is not a stagnant community and that discipleship includes trying new things and remembering that our service to Jesus is never done.

To that end, the committees will be leading the Sunday morning Adult Forum on occasion to get more information out to you. We will let you know ahead of time through the weekly email update and the Sunday morning bulletins.

The other Sundays of February will continue the "Vince Lombardi approach to the Bible." This idea comes from the legend of Vince Lombardi's telling the Green Bay Packers that they needed to get back to the basics, "This is a football." There are many opinions, assumptions, resources that try and tell us how to read the Bible. However, this is based on a more basic step before those others. This step is to read the books of the Bible ourselves. This also allows each of us to read the Bible ourselves, and see what we understand about what we have read, and talk about it and ask questions. This study does not require attendance each Sunday, so people can join at any time.

I also hope that you will keep up with the different parts of parish ministries beyond particular areas of interest. You may find something new speaking to you within the life and ministries of the parish. It might be an hour a week or an hour a month. It might be in study or in service. It might be livestreaming or it might be folding or helping with a mailing. We will show people what to do so the experience is a positive one and hopefully a fulfilling one.

However you find a way to serve, one of the biggest steps is to follow along. We have so many gifts in this parish. It is exciting when we share them to serve our Lord.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector
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Worship

Christ Church Annual Meeting

On Sunday, February 25, 2024, we will have our Annual Meeting at Christ Church from 9:20-10:15 am in the Tilford Room. The congregation will elect a new class of four people to serve on the Vestry. The Vestry is the group that serves as “agent and legal representative of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property and the relations of the Parish to its Clergy.” The members help the rector in mutual ministry of worshipping and serving our Lord. Adult communicants in good standing are allowed to vote at the meeting. If you are not sure if you are technically a member at Christ Church, please call the Church Office prior to the Annual Meeting. We encourage those new to the parish, or not yet members, to attend the meeting because this is a good way to see what is going on at Christ Church.

We will also hear reports from officers of the Vestry—Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Treasurer—about the parish. The Treasurer will present the 2024 budget that was passed by the Vestry. Please be sure to be with us on Sunday morning, February 25, 2024, for this important part of our parish life.

Celebration of Holy Baptism at Christ Church

Christ Church uses the five traditional Feast days for Holy Baptism (Baptism of Our Lord, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints, Bishop Visitation) as our regularly scheduled days to celebrate the sacrament of Baptism. The next such feast day is Easter on March 31, 2024, during the 9:00 am service. To learn more about Baptism and the Episcopal Church, our process and requirements for preparation and to get your questions answered, please contact Webster directly to set up a time to meet.



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14, 2024

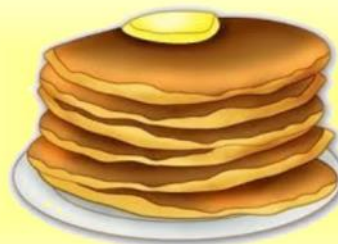
Services at

7 am—Pilgrim’s Chapel

Noon—Sanctuary

7 pm—Sanctuary

2024 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm in the Tilford Room

Hosted by the Christ Church Vestry

Pray

Prayer Challenge for Lent

How quickly the weeks fly by. It seems no time at all since we were getting the church ready for Christmas, and already we are looking forward to our annual Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday. This night of fun and sharing precedes Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent, and the question is always raised, “What are you giving up for Lent?” We hear this so often, we sometimes forget the reality that Lent is the time of patience and preparation leading up to Easter, a time to develop a spiritual discipline that can strengthen our faith.

Perhaps *this* year is the time to take on or strengthen our spiritual practice of prayer. Every Sunday, we hear in the Prayers of the People a few names of people who have asked for our prayers. These names are taken from the full Parish Prayer List, to be found on the yellow insert in the bulletin. We have no details about why names are included on the list; it is enough to know that our prayers have been requested.

During Lent this year, can we, as a congregation, take on the challenge of praying for ALL the names on the list? How you do this is your choice – some might like to offer a prayer for all the names at once, praying daily, while others might prefer to divide the list and pray for a small group each day. Praying the Prayer List could become part of the family prayer time, or an individual devotion. Some time ago, Webster included in the Angelus, a simple prayer for others:

*Lord, my friend has asked me to pray for them.
Whatever their need, whatever their thanksgiving, I hold them up to you,
trusting that your Grace and mercy will continue to be with them,
strengthen them, and support them. Amen.*

Something Always Happens When We Pray!



Shrine Mont Camps

Shrine Mont Camp registration for Summer 2024 is open! Camp ministry transforms so many lives within our Diocese, so make sure the children in your life get to join in the experience this summer! Camp dates and rates are posted and registration is open now at www.shrinemontcamps.org. AND, camp scholarships for ALL! In celebration of Shrine Mont's 100th anniversary, each and every camper will receive a \$100 scholarship to attend camp in both 2024 and 2025. Additional scholarship funds are also available. Questions? Contact campregistrar@episcopalvirginia.org. For the latest updates, follow Shrine Mont Camp on Instagram and Facebook, and sign up for the camp newsletter.



Church Calendar

Services at Christ Church

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
in the Sanctuary

Holy Eucharist at Westminster-Canterbury
Every 1st & 3rd Thursday at 10:30 am



Find us on
Facebook

Look for
Christ Episcopal Church Winchester
and like us to stay up-to-date on the latest news!

The Church Office is open Tuesday—Thursday
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
Call ahead before you visit!

Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Bible Study	Wed: 10:30 am via Zoom
Outreach Committee	4th Tues: 7:00 pm
Knit Unto Others	3rd Tues: 2:00 pm
Properties Committee	3rd Tues: 7:00 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Daytime Faith Study	2nd & 4th Mon: 10:00 am
Treasure Box	Wed & Fri: 10 am—4 pm Sat: 10 am—1 pm
Women's Book Studies	Tues: 10:30 am—Parlors or First Thursday at 5:30 pm —Tilford Room



CHRIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA



The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Church Calendar

February Birthdays

- 1 Kay Teachout
- 2 Steve Haines
- 5 Scott Harper
- 8 Bill Endorf
- 11 Rebecca Gibson, David Wingenbach
- 12 Tricia Glass, Bernard Swope
- 14 Martha Griffin
- 17 Stephen Brown
- 19 William Wingenbach
- 21 Maureen Huff
- 23 Roger Zebarth, Skip Bowling, Nancy Sawle
- 25 Beth Conrad
- 27 Bill Tedesco

February Anniversaries

- 2 Steve & Neile Grady Martin
- 4 John & Mary Margaret Applin
- 8 Martin & Nancy Tabaka
- 12 Dan & Mary Gloster

Please Note:

We will publish birthday and anniversary information only with explicit permission. Please contact the Church Office if you wish to be added to or deleted from these lists. Please keep the Church Office informed of any changes to your address, phone numbers and e-mail addresses.



Coffee Hour hosts needed!
Please sign up on the website.

The
**TREASURE
BOX**

Shop at the Treasure Box Thrift Shop!
Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10—4
and Saturdays 10-1 at 114 W. Boscawen St.
Donations accepted during shop hours.

Parish Notes

From the Outreach Committee

CCAP Donations in February

In February, CCAP is asking for donations of **boxes of au gratin or scalloped potatoes** for CCAP's Easter Dinner Giveaway in March. Please bring donations to church on Sundays or to the Church Office at 114 W. Boscawen Street on Wednesday between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm.

From a recent letter from CCAP to Christ Church:
"In 2023, CCAP served 4,328 families, gave out 47,713 pounds of food to 2285 families, and gave out 67,000 diapers. We could not have done this without your help. Thank you!"

CCAP and Winchester Parks & Rec are having a **pickleball tournament** in February to raise awareness and collect canned goods. If you would like to participate or sponsor the event, please see <https://www.winchesterva.gov/parks/athletics>.

Coldest Night Walk for WATTS

Join the team of walkers from Christ Church for the Coldest Night of the Year walk on February 24, 2024. It's a fundraising walk for WATTS and also serves to raise awareness for homeless services providers. There's a link to sign up or donate on the website. If you have questions, please contact Marty Tabaka at 540-771-0187 or martin_tabaka@hotmail.com.



Winchester
parks and recreation Virginia

PICKLE FOR THE PEOPLE

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY FEB 24
JIM BARNETT PARK - REC CENTER
MATCHES START @ 8:00 AM

REGISTRATION:
\$75 PER TEAM + 5 CANNED FOOD ITEMS

DIVISIONS:
3.0 AND UNDER
3.5+
AGE 55+

CCAP's
SECOND ANNUAL
PICKLE FOR THE PEOPLE
WPRD

T-SHIRTS FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS AND PRIZES AWARDED TO WINNERS!

From Christian Formation: Sunday School News

On March 9, 2024, there will be a Lenten gathering for children and youth to learn about some of the observances we practice during the season of Lent and some of the ways children and youth can focus on them at their own level. In addition, we will be making pretzels as a fun way to demonstrate one traditional practice to focus on prayer. Parents are invited and welcome to participate. Watch for signup info soon.

From the Treasurer

2023 Financial Recap

We are now able to summarize and share financial information from 2023. There was some “modest” good news for last year. Revenues had been trending ahead of budget throughout the year, especially with the pledges. That balanced out in December with the revenue falling short of budget. For the whole year, revenue came in at about \$25,000 (or 4%) short of the projected budget. The pledged contributions did great, even being slightly more than pledged. However, the unpledged contributions fell 42%. Some of these transferred to the pledged column while other contributors left the congregation for various reasons.

On the expense side, we came in about \$30,000 less than expected. Property and maintenance were higher than expected while utilities, office expenses, Christian Education, and Music expenses were under budget. The largest difference was a reduction in personnel expenses when the assistant rector departed.

At the beginning of the year, we had projected (budgeted for) a deficit of \$48,000. With the reduced revenues and expenses, we still had a deficit. But this deficit of \$43,000 was not as bad as expected.

The biggest item for 2023 was the other income that we received from the Employee Retention Credit program. As you remember, this was a pandemic-era government program to support us. We received \$55,470 in 2023 from this program. It offset our \$43,000 operating deficit, yielding a net surplus for the year of almost \$13,000.

2023	Year-to-Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenues	\$552,825	\$578,156	(\$25,331)
Expenses	\$595,478	\$626,189	(\$30,641)
ERC	\$55,471	\$55,000	\$471,
Net	\$12,748	\$6,067	\$6,681

Please join us at the Christ Church Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 25, 2024 when we present the 2024 budget that was approved by the Vestry in January.

From the Pastoral Care Committee

Community Resource: Adult Care Center of the NSV, Inc.

Christ Church is the host for the Adult Care Center's Art on the Brain art show and sale again in 2024. We are all invited to attend in the Parish Hall on Friday, February 23, 2024 from 6:00—8:00 pm.

The Adult Care Center is a non-profit organization in Winchester that provides quality adult day healthcare for those with conditions impacting memory and independence. They first offered part-time (one afternoon per week) adult care services in 1993 at First Christian Church and began full-time operations in 1994 at Braddock Street United Methodist Church. In 2012, the Center relocated to the Snapp Foundry Building in the Our Health Complex at 411 N. Cameron St. in Winchester.

Katie Devolites, Executive Director, says, "Currently, the ACC serves an average of twelve participants a day, but we do have space for more. Majority of our population is over the age of 65 and has some form of Alzheimer's/dementia, cognitive impairment, or an impairment that affects their ability to take care of themselves during the day. We do have a few participants however that are under 65 (some in their 40s and 50s) that suffer from TBI or Intellectual Disability. So the care we provide covers a vast scope of people."

Participants keep busy during the day with different activities and exercise. Word games, music therapy, bowling, lawn darts and expressive art are some of the favorites, according to Katie. She explains, "In expressive art, participants choose a canvas and various paints (or sometimes other mediums like colored pencils, ribbon, sand, glitter, and modpodge), and they create whatever it is that comes to their mind. When they're done and the paintings have dried, we like to look at them as a group and talk about what everyone sees in the painting and what it reminds them of. Then, as a group, the participants come up with a name and an art description for it."

The Art on the Brain event combines as many of the paintings as possible to sell to the public, and the profits made from the sale go toward buying new art supplies for the participants.

"The participants love knowing that people are interested in what they do and the stories they have to tell," says Katie.

Learn more about the Adult Care Center and their services from their website (<https://adultcarecenter.net/>) or their Facebook page. Or, talk with Christ Church parishioners Rosalie Lewis or Chris Francis, who both serve on the ACC's Board of Directors. There are many ways to support this important service in our community, but the most fun this month is to come celebrate the art and the artists at Art on the Brain, here at Christ Church, on February 23rd!

