

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

February 2021

Dear People of Christ Church,

Recently, as we were preparing for our Sunday morning livestream, a recording of our church bell ringing played. I paused for a moment, trying to remember what that sound meant and why it is so familiar to me. I had not heard the bell ring for several months on a Sunday morning, which meant that I was not in the habit of associating the bell with the start of church as I used to be. And therein lies the rub—"used to be."

If it takes 21 days or 10 months to break a habit, we've broken some habits broken due to the pandemic. And, we now have new habits because of changes of routines over the past year. As this pandemic comes to an end and as restrictions and health concerns are diminished, what will happen when we will say that we want things to return to "normal." Will we want that "normal" to include our new habits? "Used to be" may stay in the past.

As we plan as much or as little as we can for the year, I realize that we are "re-starting" the parish, not just re-opening it. For me, to re-open is getting back together after a two week snow storm. That is not enough time for habits to change. To re-start is coming back together after so many months of doing things differently that new habits influence how we gather. It will take time to get over that reflex of walking six feet from one another. It will take time to feel comfortable being in a large group, perhaps even without a mask.

Re-starting is having us realize we have changed and discern new ways of being a community in worship, service and generosity. Re-starting is seeing how technology has changed what we can offer in our worship at church, in homes, and through live-streaming. It is being a part of WATTS, CCAP, Rescue Mission as they adapted with ways for the parish to serve, and seeing how some of those changes will stick

There is also the re-start of rebuilding relationships and becoming reacquainted with one another. While we have worked on different ways to visit and check on one another, we have been apart from one another. Unlike communities rebuilding after war when people would shelter together, we could not do that. We are in a unique situation of having a shared experience without being present with one another to have the same shared experience. Each of us has our own stories to share of the joys, losses, gains and challenges faced in the pandemic. We will need to re-learn the practice of listening to one another, perhaps without a mask, while sipping tea.

There is also the realization of the loss. People have lost family members to illnesses including Covid and friends have moved away. People may have had to move. As we regroup, we will see who is with us, who is not, and who is new in the community. It will be a time of grief and a time of renewal.

Be it on the parish, regional, or diocesan level, I find the desire to plan out our future starting now to be a strong desire we have to regain a sense of control of our future — hope and desire to be in community again. Re-starting does not mean we get to go back to the way life was before. Instead, we reflect on where we were or thought we were and consider where we are as we gather again. All of that helps us discern our future with where God calls us to go and be, perhaps in things we have done before, doing things differently or doing something new.

The sound of the bells ringing in the sanctuary made me long for the community gathered in worship. To open the doors and see all of God's people. Moving ahead, as we get through this time apart, I look forward to seeing where God calls us, the community of Christ Church, to go next.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector
rector@christchurchwinchester.org

February 2021

Worship & Formation

Martin begins February with a broken right arm. While his written correspondence will be limited for some weeks, he remains available via phone. Please call him at 540-662-5843, Ext. 2, or directly at 540-773-5564.

Ash Wednesday is February 17, 2021. Our service will be online at 7:00 pm. The link will be on the website and YouTube channel ([Christ Episcopal Church—Winchester, Virginia](#)).

Morning Prayer during Lent

During the season of Lent, we will offer Morning Prayer weekdays at 9:00 am via Zoom. It will be a form of the service of Morning Prayer with Scripture reflections and will be led by clergy and laity. Join us as often as you like. Please email Noelle in the Church Office at communications@christchurchwinchester.org and we will send you the link.

Sunday School

Christ Church's Children's Time online will continue on Sundays in Lent. Each child through sixth grade will be receiving a Valentine in the mail. It will also contain a second Valentine to decorate and give/send to someone else to share God's love. Stickers will be provided and imagination to complete that Valentine is encouraged! The second week of Lent the kids will also receive directions for a family Lenten activity.

If your child in that age group is not receiving notes and activities from us, please contact Margery Wingenbach (wingenbach@comcast.net).

Lectionary Bible Study

Join us on Wednesdays at 10:00 am on Zoom for a weekly Bible study led by the clergy. We will look at the readings for Sunday and discuss. If you would like to participate, please email Noelle in the Church Office at communications@christchurchwinchester.org for the link.

Daytime Faith Study

Daytime Faith Study continues on February 8 and 22 via Zoom discussing Peter Gomes's book, "The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Mind and Heart." If you would like to join us on Zoom for the discussions, please email Noelle in the Church Office at communications@christchurchwinchester.org and we will send you the link. If you have any questions about the book or class format, please email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.

Outreach News

Efforts to Support Neighbors Continue

The Congregational Community Action Project (CCAP) is a local non-profit charitable organization that provides financial assistance, food, clothing, and material assistance for the citizens of Winchester and Frederick County. The homeless, unemployed, and especially the working poor find assistance at CCAP at their location on Kent Street.

Though it was founded in 1975 as an all-volunteer operation, CCAP's 11-member Board of Trustees recognized last year that a paid professional was needed to oversee efforts to deal with growing economic inequality and poverty, which has been exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic. CCAP worked with nearly 40,000 clients in 2019. Andrea Cosans became the nonprofit group's first paid executive director in December, filling the newly created position. She has an extensive background in social services.

Still relying on volunteers to keep efforts moving, CCAP has had to reduce the amount of volunteers in the building and implement other safety protocols. Before the pandemic, there were about 150 volunteers, many of whom were 60 and over. Now, there are about 60. They wear masks and social distance while they are working, and clients do not come into the building anymore. CCAP's hours of operation have also been reduced.

The Outreach Committee asks you to consider being a volunteer for CCAP. Ann and Jim Taylor volunteer regularly and have wonderful experiences to share. Ann works a few Friday mornings with other volunteers in the CCAP Baby & Toddler room. Several others in our parish have joined her to work there as well. They hang clothes by sizes for girls or boys on the racks while waiting for clients to request clothing for their babies and toddlers from the front porch (without entering) of the clothing house. Ann says, "Every person who utilizes this service says 'thank you' and we wish each and every one of you could be there to receive the grateful looks as each parent walks away with desperately needed diapers, wipes and dresses, slacks, jackets or hats for their children." Jim volunteers as a driver—driving a CCAP vehicle every morning, Monday through Saturday, to collect donations from Walmart, Target, or Martin's. There are many other volunteer opportunities at CCAP!

Monthly Donations

Each month, CCAP asks Christ Church parishioners to donate a specific item in need for their clients. **In February, please donate feminine hygiene products, specifically tampons. We are also asked to donate new ladies underpants (all sizes) and new bras (all sizes).** These are expensive items, but if you can provide just one, it will be appreciated by local women.

Please leave your packages on the tables in the foyer of the Parish Hall each Wednesday in February between the hours of 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. We will deliver your donations to the CCAP offices. CCAP is very thankful for your efforts to help all of our neighbors.

If you would like to ask questions about volunteering, make other arrangements for a donation, have other questions about CCAP, please call Jim Taylor at 703-403-5264 or send a message to annjimtaylor@verizon.net.



Church Calendar

Sundays @ Christ Church

Indoor & outdoor worship still suspended.

10:00 am Morning Prayer Livestream
See www.christchurchwinchester.org for link.

Evening Prayer Online
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm



Please watch for announcements via email, website, Facebook, or church bulletin on services, meetings, and events at Christ Church.

Some committees and groups are meeting using Zoom online. Please check with your group to see if they have anything scheduled!

Committee & Group Meetings

Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:45 am
Online Bible Study	Wed: 10:00 am
Knit Unto Others	3rd Tues: 2:00 pm
Men's Fellowship	2nd Sat: 7:30 am
Outreach Committee	4th Tues: 7:00 pm
Properties Committee	3rd Tues: 7:00 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Women's Book Studies	Tues: 10:30 - Noon Thurs: 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm
Youth Group	2nd/4th Sun: 6:00-7:30 pm



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

**The Rector's day off is Friday.
The Assistant Rector's day off is Monday.
The Church Office is open by appointment only.
Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843**

The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Church Calendar

February Birthdays

- 1 Kay Teachout
- 2 Steve Haines
- 4 George Burgess
- 5 Scott Harper
- 8 Bill Endorf
- 11 Rebecca Gibson, David Wingenbach
- 12 Tricia Glass, Ann McQuinn, Sally Megeath, Bernie Swope
- 14 Martha Griffin, Lucy Rockwood
- 15 Kathi Adams
- 17 Stephen Brown
- 19 William Wingenbach
- 21 Maureen Huff
- 23 Roger Zebarth, Skip Bowling
- 25 Beth Conrad
- 27 Bill Tedesco



February Anniversaries

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

celebrate!

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.

Zoomin' with the Men of Christ Church*

Men of the parish are welcome to join a men's Zoom conversation on Saturday, February 6, 2021. The meeting will begin at 8:00 am. Please email Noelle at communications@christchurchwinchester.org for the link.

* If your group would also like to set up a Zoom meeting but you're not sure how, please call Martin at 540-662-5843, Ext. 2. He is our parish Zoom meeting expert and can walk you through it!

Altar Flowers for February 2021

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and...

February 7: In loving memory of Ollie and Nona Ferguson by Chris & Melissa Ferguson

February 14: In loving memory of Monford & Lucy Custer, Susan Sanders and Jim Morgan by Linda & Jay Russell

(No altar flowers during Lent)



From the Treasurer

Looking Back at 2020

PPP Loan Forgiven: Turns a very NEGATIVE 2020 into a positive end of year result! Without the aid of the now forgiven PPP loan, the 2020 final results would have been a loss of **\$64,470.62 – Yes, a LOSS OF \$64,470.62!**

Note: The table below is different from the one in last month's Angelus. This time, the result with the PPP loan is shown in the right (yellow) column. This column highlights the impact of receiving \$85,800 as unexpected income, which turns that actual loss of over \$64,000 into a year-end positive result of \$21,329.38

2020 FULL Year	Actual (No PPP)	Budget	Difference	Actual With PPP Forgiven
Revenues				
Pledged	\$ 454,969.67	\$ 465,000.00	\$ (10,030.33)	\$ 454,969.67
Unpledged	\$ 52,109.50	\$ 57,000.00	\$ (4,890.50)	\$ 52,109.50
PPP Loan Forgiven				\$ 85,800.00
All Other Revenues	\$ 20,077.24	\$ 39,200.00	\$ (19,122.76)	\$ 20,077.24
Total	\$ 527,156.41	\$ 561,200.00	\$ (34,043.59)	\$ 612,956.41
Expenses				
Personnel	\$ 432,699.99	\$ 438,863.00	\$ (6,163.01)	\$ 432,699.99
Utilities	\$ 21,778.36	\$ 28,800.00	\$ (7,021.64)	\$ 21,778.36
Property/Maintenance	\$ 39,978.80	\$ 47,600.00	\$ (7,621.20)	\$ 39,978.80
Office Expenses	\$ 20,938.36	\$ 25,400.00	\$ (4,461.64)	\$ 20,938.36
Christian Education Expenses	\$ 6,467.83	\$ 10,000.00	\$ (3,532.17)	\$ 6,467.83
Music Expenses	\$ 2,401.13	\$ 8,400.00	\$ (5,998.87)	\$ 2,401.13
Worship	\$ 927.36	\$ 1,700.00	\$ (772.64)	\$ 927.36
Stewardship	\$ 735.51	\$ 1,200.00	\$ (464.49)	\$ 735.51
Outreach	\$ 62,509.00	\$ 63,300.00	\$ (791.00)	\$ 62,509.00
Pastoral Care	\$ 396.92	\$ 800.00	\$ (403.08)	\$ 396.92
Parish Life	\$ 1,113.38	\$ 2,400.00	\$ (1,286.62)	\$ 1,113.38
Communications	\$ 1,680.39	\$ 2,800.00	\$ (1,119.61)	\$ 1,680.39
Total	\$ 591,627.03	\$ 631,263.00	\$ (39,635.97)	\$ 591,627.03
Net Total	\$ (64,470.62)	\$ (70,063.00)	\$ 5,592.38	\$ 21,329.38

Besides making a very negative year into a positive one, the PPP loan allowed Christ Church to keep our staff employed through the year (particularly in the second quarter when the first major impact of the COVID pandemic was felt).

From the Treasurer

Highlights from the table show:

Actual values in ALL categories (Revenue and Expenses), with the exception of the unbudgeted PPP loan, were under budget for the entire 2020 year.

Revenues:

- Even though pledged revenue had run ahead of budget for most of the year, due to earlier than budgeted giving to initially help with cash flow, it actually ended the year at about \$10,000 below our budget. This was a drop of about 2.2% from budget.
- Unpledged ended 2020 about \$4,900 below budget due most likely to lack of attendance during the year. This was a drop of about 8.6% from budget.
- All Other Revenue (Plate, Holiday, paid Building Use, and Rummage Sale) ended 2020 about \$19,100 below budget due to low attendance and no Rummage Sale in 2020. This was a drop of about 48.8% from budget.
- Without the PPP Loan, the actual total revenues were under budget by about \$34,000.
- The total drop (no PPP Loan) from budgeted revenues was about 6.1%.

Expenses:

- Managing program (Music, Christian Education, Worship, etc.) and other expenses (Personnel, Office, Communications, etc.) through the year resulted in total expenses being under budget by about \$39,600. The total drop from budgeted expenses was about 6.3%.
- The two largest drops in expenses were in Utilities (about \$7,000 under budget) and Property/Maintenance (about \$7,600 under budget) which were both due to lack of attendance and limited building use.

So, 2020 was ACTUALLY a very NEGATIVE year (\$ -64,470.62), that was turned into a positive year – leaving about \$21,300 to either place in the operations reserve account, or carry all or part over into the 2021 budget.

2021 Budget

The 2021 budget will first appear in the March Angelus along with the actual results for January (the Angelus financial information is always two months behind due to the deadline information is submitted).

Please note:

- Pledged giving is down significantly (number of pledges AND amount pledged).
- A second PPP loan is being applied for at First Bank.
- There will be no raises for personnel in 2021.
- Every expense item reviewed and reduced where possible (Pandemic = anticipated continued low attendance).
- Net full year, bottom line is **negative** once again.

From the Parish Nurses

Ideas for Observing Lent

We are approaching Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. As I was growing up, I always gave up something: chocolate, sleep, or maybe my favorite TV program. Here are some ideas of areas that can focus on making changes or making a difference:

- ⇒ Fasting one night of the week. The time spent making dinner could be spent fixing a casserole for a friend or person that does not have the means to fix a meal.
- ⇒ Reading daily scripture in place of watching a favorite TV show.
- ⇒ Reading the weekly bulletin in preparation for the weekly Sunday Zoom service.
- ⇒ Try 40 acts of kindness for the 40 days of Lent. There are many, many parishioners who are isolated by this pandemic. Try calling someone listed in our church directory. How are they doing? Is there something you can do for them (shopping, stopping by the post office, etc.)?
- ⇒ Try 40 days of letter writing or try journaling.
- ⇒ Remember to say grace before meals. We have so much to be thankful for.
- ⇒ Renew that walking routine that fell by the wayside during the holiday season.
- ⇒ Reconnect with family members— via phone or google duo — pick up that phone!
- ⇒ Remember to pledge to local charities and church.
- ⇒ Try volunteering at CCAP, WATTS. Donate those clothes that no longer are in style or no longer fit.

Warm wishes for a healthy and safe month.

Your Parish Nurses,

Rosalie and Helen



Donate by check

Mail to:
Christ Church
114 W. Boscawen St.
Winchester, VA 22601