

THE ANGELUS

Volume 68 Number 1

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

September 2017

From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church,

Thank you so much for your gracious support and care as we sent Bridget off to Toledo. She has made it there, cat intact, and begins as rector the first week of September.

As for what's next at Christ Church, I have been both amused and frustrated with this thing we call the rumor mill. Anytime there is a group, be it the size of a retirement community or as small as a coffee group, people love to share and speculate about what is going on around them. We cannot help that. The challenge comes when people confuse speculation they picked up in their group to be some kind of general announcement for the parish. It becomes an even bigger headache if people believe what they are hearing without checking with the leadership of the church. As always, just because you hear someone say something does not mean it is true!

So, the question sparking discussion and rumors is, "Who is going to replace Bridget and when?" The answer is no one at this time, and probably not for a while. For those not familiar with the polity of the Episcopal Church and its staffing, all staff fall under the authority and direction of the Rector. As I look at the congregation and as I have discussed with the Vestry, Christ Church has seen quite a bit of change over the past ten years. As I look at the ongoing economic and demographic shifts, growth and development in the Winchester region, I expect a bit more change to be coming in this area. Before I can begin to work with the Diocese on finding candidates to replace Bridget, we, the community of Christ Church, need to do some work of our own so I know what gifts and talents in an assistant rector would be helpful for me and the parish.

The Vestry and I have already discussed our own process to talk with community leaders in Frederick County to learn more about what they see happening here (growth-wise) in the near future. I am also fortunate to have retired clergy, and other clergy resources, to help with our worship and formation. I have been in contact with diocesan staff to get their help. As the Vestry and I move ahead, we will work with the parish committee leadership and have conversations with the parish community to share what we have learned, discuss how Christ Church is growing, shifting, or perhaps called to shift.

As for the rumor mill, I will let the Vestry and congregation know when I am beginning to search for our next assistant rector. And when you hear what may be rumors or just have questions, please know that you can check with me, your Vestry, or the staff. If we don't know the answer, we can find it out for you.

I find these times of looking and learning to be helpful, not just from a leadership perspective, but also from the perspective of how God invites us into new opportunities of ministry and service. As growth and development happen in our community, it can go *around* us if we do not pay attention, *through* us, which is not helpful, or *with* us—where we invite, welcome, show and continue making Christ's love known in the world around us. The Vestry and I will continue to work with the parish to see where we go next.

Faithfully,



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

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Worship

Laity, Bishops, Priests/Presbyters, Deacons... Oh My

This fall, Christ Church has the chance to encounter five parts of our communal life which are not always in such close proximity: first and foremost is the Sacrament of Holy Baptism; the other four have to do with how we live out our being baptized, the ministry of the laity, the bishops, the priests/presbyters, and the deacons.

As you know, we have the wonderful opportunity to welcome new members to the body of Christ as we celebrate Holy Baptism during the Bishop's visit. We also have a variety of clergy, most of whom are retired, who will be helping with preaching, or presiding, at our Wednesday Noon Eucharist. From the end of September through November, we will have a guest deacon attending some of our Noonday Eucharists. The Rev. Matt Rhodes, who was ordained last June, is serving as the Deacon in Charge at Christ Church Millwood.

When you look in the back of our Book of Common Prayer to our catechism (BCP, p. 855), it describes how Baptism calls us into ministries as laity, bishops, priests, deacons, all for the same purpose:

Q. What is the mission of the Church?

A. The mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

Q. How does the Church pursue its mission?

A. The Church pursues its mission as it prays and worships, proclaims the Gospel, and promotes justice, peace, and love.

Q. Through whom does the Church carry out its mission?

A. The Church carries out its mission through the ministry of all its members.

The catechism goes on to further explain:

Q. Who are the ministers of the Church?

A. The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.

It is important to remember that none of these aspects of ministry is better or more important than the others in the eyes of God. These are the different ways we live out our calls to ministry.

Laity, from the Greek word "laos" meaning "people," has the first guide for understanding what Holy Baptism calls us to become when the catechism continues:

The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.

For the offices of bishops, priests, and deacons, whose ministry is often within the church in order to encourage the church to be more outside of itself, the offices begin with the same reminder:

"The ministry of a bishop/priest/deacon is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as ..."

And then there is a distinction with the work specific to those ministries:

Bishop: particularly as apostle, chief priest, and pastor of a diocese; to guard the faith, unity, and discipline of the whole Church; to proclaim the Word of God; to act in Christ's name for the reconciliation of the world and the building up of the Church; and to ordain others to continue Christ's ministry.

Priest/Presbyter: particularly as pastor to the people; to share with the bishop in the overseeing of the Church; to proclaim the Gospel; to administer the sacraments; and to bless and declare pardon in the name of God.

Deacon: particularly as a servant of those in need; and to assist bishops and priests in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments.

Worship

While it is sometimes tempting to consider the clergy as “the professional Christians” who do the work of the church because they are so visible on Sunday mornings, such is not the case. By the grace of God, the ministry of making the love of Christ known in the world is not only done by the clergy, but by ALL the baptized faithful.

While there may be a good many questions to further clarify our various ministries and vocations and how they are different, remember that all of this begins in the Sacrament of Baptism. ALL of the ministers, lay and ordained alike, begin from the same spot: “*The ministry of lay persons/bishops/priests/deacons is to represent Christ and his Church...*” That shared ministry in Baptism tells us to witness the love of God revealed in Christ in how we respect the dignity of every human being and strive for the peace and justice of God to be encountered among all people.

As the catechism reminds us about our Christian duty:

Q. What is the duty of all Christians?

A. The duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.

Bishop’s Visit to Christ Church

Sunday, September 10, 2017



Highlights from the August Vestry Meeting

- The Treasurer reported that we are now ahead on pledged income after second quarter reminders were mailed, and had a budget surplus for the month.
- The Properties Committee has an artist’s rendition of the new rectory porch project and will start the bid process soon. Painting projects have been underway. The committee is also discussing safer alternatives to the Sanctuary doors.
- Webster reported that the youth pilgrimage was terrific. The youth presented their report to the congregation on August 20. He also reported that Bridget’s departure from the parish went well and was a very positive experience for her.
- The Vestry discussed the growth and development on the horizon in Frederick County and ways to be proactive advertising the church and welcoming a new population to the community. The Vestry will invite local business leaders and economic development officials to share their thoughts.
- Plans are underway for this year’s stewardship campaign beginning in October. Discussion will also include “blended giving,” presenting different options—trusts, 401ks, real estate, etc.

Christian Formation

Daytime Faith Study

For the past two years, we have hosted this daytime faith study to explore different ways for us to understand our faith, from social issues to Biblical sources and teachings. This year, we begin our study by broadening our understanding of the New Testament, not just from a Christian perspective, but also from a Jewish perspective. Utilizing various resources and guest speakers, we will look at books of the New Testament as they were understood when first written, as well as over the centuries to today. As we go through the New Testament, our study will include sections from the book, *The New Testament: Methods and Meanings*, by Warren Carter and A.J. Levine. Please feel free to join us on the second and fourth Monday each month (moved from Thursdays). We begin on our NEW day, **Monday, September 11**, in the Parlors from 10:00 am until 11:00 am. Questions, please call the Church Office (540-662-5843) or email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.

Sunday Adult Forum

Our Adult Forums for the fall begin on Sunday, September 10, with conversations with the Bishop. The Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston will be here for baptisms and confirmations, and will spend the morning with us for his annual visitation. This is a new format for bishop visitations, which will have the parish visitation once every two years with other regional services for confirmation/reception during the year without a visitation. The hope for this new visitation format is to provide a better quality visit for the bishop and parish.

On Sunday, September 17, the Adult Forum will be led by the rector to discuss conversation among the Vestry and the wider Winchester/Frederick County community looking at the future growth and development around our communities. We will also discuss some of the ways the parish and Vestry will need to reflect and discern program and community formation as we look to welcome people.

Sunday, September 24, we will begin a series study on the apostle Paul. We will use the new program, "The Challenge of Paul," from the publisher "Faith and Reason," which has been popular with our Adult Forum in the past. In "The Challenge of Paul," John Dominic Crossan gives us the benefit of his lifelong search for the Paul of history to create a new understanding that sheds new light on Paul and why he is more relevant than ever today.

So please join us on Sundays at 9:30 am in the Tilford Room. Coffee always provided!

Youth Group

Sunday Evening Youth Group returns on Sunday, September 10, at 6:00 pm. We will have Youth Group every Sunday, with occasional changes to our start time depending on what we are doing that week. Youth in grades 6-12 gather for community service, worship, fellowship, study, and food! We invite youth families and anyone else to sign up to provide dinner for a Youth Group meeting as a way to provide encouragement, nourishment and energy for their brains and general well being. If you would like to help with a Sunday evening dinner, the signup sheet is on the table in the Tilford Room or call the Church Office (540-662-5843).

Christian Formation

Sunday School News

Sunday morning formation classes for children and youth begin on September 10 at 9:30 am on the second floor of the Parish Hall. Children's Chapel also resumes for ages 3-7 at 10:30 am that Sunday. Children are brought at the end of the chapel service to join their parents in the Sanctuary at the Peace.



Our Sunday School curriculum for preschoolers through age five, but not yet in Kindergarten, is *Activate Faith*. It's a lively balance of stories, music and activities specifically age-appropriate for this age group - movement, giggles, and fun at the beginning of their faith formation. Our Kindergarten through 5th grade classes are continuing in the *Whirl!* (**w**elcome, **h**ear, **r**espond, and **l**aunch) lectionary-based curriculum this year. Its grade-leveled materials incorporate a brief animated video where characters model what it's like for kids to go through the questions and challenges of living out their faith, with discussion and activities to explore the theme of the week's lectionary readings. It's a lively pace that provides solid formation and fun.

Registration is ongoing. Be sure you have completed a form either in the Sunday School Commons area or printed from the church website so we will have up-to-date contact, allergy, etc., information for your child/children. Please submit a form for each individual child.

An Invitation: Adults are invited to help the teachers in our classrooms through 5th Grade on Sunday mornings. All that is required is your presence and helping hands. Our goal is to have at least two adults in each classroom each Sunday morning. There are lots of Sundays in a year. We have excellent teachers but they can't single-handedly wait for someone outside the restroom, tell a story, and prepare a creative activity. We are all needed to provide a great program for our kids! Contact Margery Wingenbach (540-667-0386 or margerywingenbach@gmail.com) to offer your help.



Calendar and Upcoming Events

Church Services

Sunday

Holy Communion Rite I 8:00 am
Holy Communion Rite II 10:30 am

Wednesday

12:00 pm Pilgrim's Chapel
(Healing Service 3rd Wed)

Second Monday

6:30 pm Special Needs—Sanctuary

September

- 4 Labor Day (Church Office Closed)
- 9 Men's Fellowship Meets
- 10 Bishop's Visit, Christian Formation begins
- 11 Special Needs Service
- 12 Vestry Meeting
- 19 Knit Unto Others
- 21 Women's Lunch Group
- 27 Salvation Army Dinner

Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:45 am
Daytime Faith Study	2nd/4th Mon: 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
Treasure Box	Wed & Fri: 10 am-4 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Women's Bible Studies	Tues: 10:45 - Noon Thurs: 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm
Youth Group	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.
Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843**

September Birthdays

- 1 Ty Lawson, John Nelson
- 2 Robb Russell
- 3 Gary Edwards
- 5 Jake Sheppard
- 6 Joyce Casey
- 7 Joan Bronson, Virginia Rae,
Laurel Jones-Purdy, Mary Pat Gronauer
- 8 Sharon Lower
- 9 Vicky Arculin
- 10 Judith Anderson, Frank Rupert
- 11 David Sperry
- 13 Pete Gronauer
- 14 Carolyn Lewis, Barbara Rupert, Lindsay Pifer,
Debra Shows, Dawson Wiley
- 15 Sue Jones, Ashley Major Haines
- 18 Polly Nelson, Isabella Dastjerdi
- 19 Cheryl Crowell, Sandy White
- 20 Carolyn Morgoglione
- 21 Allison Donahoe, Patricia Stierhoff
- 22 Bill Major, Charles Turnbull
- 23 Bill Davis, Churchill Gibson
- 25 Roberta Gunnell
- 27 Gus Wise, Maggie Wise, Valarie Kitchen
- 28 Katlyn Wall
- 29 Ann Poling, Pem Hutchinson,
Adelaide Turn bull, Justin Raymond
- 30 Sue Bonnett, Andrew Major



September Anniversaries

- 3 George & Patricia Stierhoff
- 3 Kirk & Linda Gibson
- 4 Stephen & Nancy Brown
- 9 David & Carolyn Lewis
- 20 John & Joan Claybrook
- 21 Steve & Terry Cluss

Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to
Wayne & Pam McKinley!
They were married on September 3, 1967.

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. Please let the office know the school addresses of our college students.

Finance Committee

Financial Report

Budget Performance

A BIG change since the last Angelus... Very strong revenues in July! At the end of July, we were *ahead* of budget by about \$22,900!

Last month, we reported that at the half-year point, we were about \$6,200 *behind* budget and that the second quarter pledge reminder statements were sent out in early July. The second quarter reminders resulted in catching up, and even surpassing budgeted revenue! Meanwhile, expenses continued to be under budget through July. At the end of July, our net position, the difference between Revenue (money coming in) and Expenses (money going out), was \$-22,506.

During the summer, when attendance is lower and revenues are down while expenses remain at normal levels, our budget plans for us to have a pretty large deficit. However, that same budget plans for strong fourth quarter and year-end revenue to catch up and equal expenses for the year.

The summary table below shows actual versus budget at the end of July:

	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total Revenues	\$316,645.04	\$309,782.00	\$6,863.04
Total Expenses	\$339,151.38	\$355,215.81	\$(16,064.43)
Net Position	\$(22,506.34)	\$(45,433.81)	\$22,927.47

About the Investment Funds (Continuation of the Angelus series describing each fund)

Sanctuary Fund

Established: 1968

Restrictions: Used for Sanctuary building modification, repair and upkeep

Purpose: to accumulate and disburse funds needed to modify, repair, or maintain the entire Sanctuary facility

Recent Contributions: Bequest gifts made restricted to the Sanctuary

Recent Uses: Self-loan of \$35,000 for progress payments on the 2015 Organ Renovation project (paid back in full). To pay for roof and stained glass window painting, as well as asbestos removal in 2016.

Market Value: \$186,400 at 12/31/16

Operating Surplus Fund

Established: 2014

Restrictions: Use of funds restricted to General Operating Expenses

Purpose: to annually help balance the operating budget

Recent Contributions: At end of bountiful years, when operating revenue exceeds expenses, surplus funds are deposited into this account.

Recent Uses: At the end of lean years when operating expenses exceed revenues, funds are withdrawn from this account to balance the budget.

Market Value: \$33,000 at 12/31/16

Outreach Committee

New Outreach Executive Committee

The outreach programs of Christ Church have grown in number of opportunities, financial support, and members involved over the past few years. With this wonderful growth, the Vestry and leadership of the Outreach Committee met to discern a more effective way to make sure these ministries have necessary support and oversight by the Vestry.

In order to help the Vestry give better guidance to the variety of parish outreach ministries, the Vestry is establishing a nine member Executive Outreach Committee. This Executive Committee is charged with coordinating the financial gifts made to projects locally and around the world, overseeing parish involvement in our current outreach projects, and review and make recommendations to the Vestry about new programs and current programs. The Committee is appointed by the Vestry to meet monthly for their work of providing guidance and support for the outreach ministries and projects of Christ Church. The nine members will be broken into three classes, each class serving a three-year term. As we begin this transition, the Vestry will appoint three classes, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year.

Changes to Panda Pantry for 2017-2018



The Panda Pantry is happy to announce that it will become partners with Bright Futures. Bright Futures is a coordinated effort of the Frederick County and Winchester school districts that offers schools in these systems help in all areas of student care. Christ Church will once again be offering weekend food bags to the children at Frederick Douglass Elementary School who qualify for assistance, but the packing process will now be held at the Bright Futures location. If you are interested in helping pack food bags, please email David & Sara Bicking (westbury104@comcast.net). We only need packing help; stocking and delivery will be handled differently this year. We hope to extend our volunteer help **into** the Frederick Douglass school building this year... (More on that later!)

Learn more about Bright Futures at <http://brightfuturesfrederickcounty.org/> or visit them on Facebook at Bright Futures-Frederick County.

Parish News

Haitian Youth Choir Returns to Christ Church

Christ Church will again host the Haitian Youth Choir for their visit to Winchester on September 15-16, 2017. They will perform in the Sanctuary on Friday, September 15 (time TBD), and we will host a reception for them after the concert in the Tilford Room. Families are needed to host choir members for that night, and they will depart from Christ Church in the morning on Saturday, September 16. If you would like to be a host, please contact Karey Starnes (540-323-7889 or kstarnes1904@comcast.net) or call the Church Office (540-662-5843). If you would like to help with the reception, please contact Kathy Nerangis (knerangis@comcast.net).



Save the Date!

The Stewardship Committee is hosting the always enjoyable Oktoberfest Fellowship dinner. All are welcome for a night of German food and fun. This is a BYOB event—feel free to bring your favorite German beer or wine! The menu will include: brats, pork loin, applesauce, sauerkraut, potatoes, and dessert. Coffee, tea and soft drinks will be provided.

Please RSVP by October 23. A sign-up sheet will be located in the Tilford Room, or call the Church Office (540-662-5843) if you plan to attend. Join the fun!

Christ Church 5th Annual



**Thursday, October 26 at 5:30 pm
in the Tilford Room**

Parish News

New Women's Lunch Group



The women of Christ Church are invited to experience something new! Join us for lunch on the first and third Thursdays of each month, beginning on September 21, at 11:30 am at the Firefly Café and Bakery (3035 Valley Ave.). Friendly, familiar Episcopal hostesses will welcome you! No reservations are necessary.

Men's Fellowship Meets

The Men's Fellowship will meet Saturday, September 9, at the Firefly Café and Bakery, located at 3035 Valley Ave. in Winchester, for our monthly gathering. The restaurant opens at 8:00 am and all men of the parish are welcome!

The Treasure Box

Thanks to a steady supply of donations, the Treasure Box is open and restocked with fall and winter merchandise. We invite all parishioners, friends, and extended families to drop in to shop for new fashions, home decor, artwork, toys, books, and stylish gift items. Often our customers find useful things with a sentimental connection to put in gift bags or boxes for loved ones in assisted living or care facilities. We currently have an opening for a volunteer to help at the desk on the 3rd Friday of the month from 10-1. This is a very rewarding opportunity for fellowship among church women and to support our important mission to financially assist many, very worthy local charities. Please call Paulette Jennis at 540-662-0436 if you'd like to join the Treasure Box roster of volunteers.



114 W. Boscawen St.
Open Wednesdays &
Fridays from 10-4

CCAP Collection for September



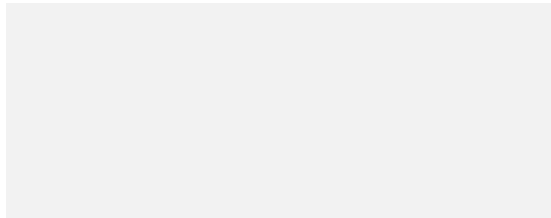
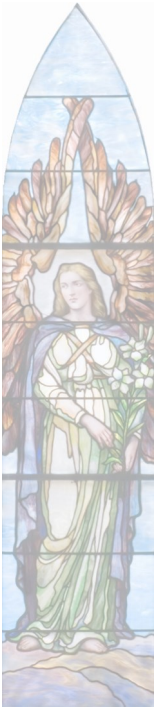
In September, we will collect **CEREAL** for CCAP. Check the Wednesday/Sunday papers for coupons to save money on cereals!

CCAP (Congregational Community Action Project) is a ministry of 46 worshipping communities in Winchester and Frederick County that have come together to support our neighbors in need with financial, material, and other assistance. There is a bookshelf in the foyer of the Parish Hall marked CCAP. Please leave items there and thank you for your generosity!

Contact Jim Taylor (703-403-5264) with any questions.

THE ANGELUS
Christ Episcopal Church
114 West Boscawen St.
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Parish Nurse Musings

School is here and we will be driving more than usual. Please remember a safety hint from the Frederick County Sheriff is to never get so close to the car in front of you that you cannot see their license plates. If you should get hit from behind, you will not be pushed and hit the car in front of you. Also remember to use your turn signal. I see many cars shifting lanes and never bothering to use the turn signal. We cannot read your mind!

And, if you are sending a child off to college, remember you raised them well. Be proud and do not bug them. Give them some freedom. I hear from mothers, especially, that they are very sad the child is leaving. Think for a moment what it would be like if the child could not go to school. Rejoice! See you in church!

Your Parish Nurse, Helen

