

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

November 2024

Dear People of Christ Church,

I want to thank your Stewardship Committee for their work to set up our annual giving stewardship program, “Walk in Love.” Rather than re-state everything they are and will be presenting to you in letters, pledge cards and conversations, I will simply ask this: “Please take a breathe before you fill out your gift to the glory of God in service of God’s church.”

There is a peculiar moment of divergence right now in the community of faith about the idea of a “habit of giving” which I find reflected in conversations I have with people about discipleship and giving. On the one hand are the “habits” people have with giving. They give the same amount every year that they have since their earliest experiences of giving because that is what they are used to giving. On the other hand, given the 2 to 3 years of habit breaking which the pandemic did so well, people have lost any habit of giving at all, and so they don’t. As I said, it is a peculiar divergence set about because of peculiar circumstances, but I hope that we can take this moment to reset our giving habits.

So I ask you once again: : “Please take a breathe before you fill out your gift to the glory of God in service of God’s church.” In that moment of breathing, I invite you to reflect back to that first time in your faith journey as a disciple of Jesus when you prayerfully considered giving from the bounty of your wealth to the glory of God in service of God’s church. What was going on in your life that informed that moment of giving? Who influenced or modeled a discipleship of faithful giving for you? What did your discipleship of Jesus challenge you to give up, or sacrifice, in order to make sure your faith community could continue to know Christ and make Christ known?

As you exhale, and as you take in your next breathe, I ask you to reflect on how that moment of prayerful consideration has changed and grown over the years as our world has changed. Such personal reflections on our faith journeys require a pause and an attentiveness to allow us to be intentional disciples and not just reactionary people. If you have not done this type of reflection for some time or even if you have not ever done it before, please take the time needed for serious consideration about a serious part of the journey of faith.

I hope that you will read the materials from your Stewardship Committee, listen to what people say in their testimonies, and take the pause you need before making your pledge.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector
rector@christchurchwinchester.org
540-662-5843, Ext 1 or 540-773-5562



Worship

Adult Forum in November

Please join us on Sunday, November 10, for a report back from our 2024 Annual Diocesan Convention which your clergy and delegate attend November 7—9.

Sunday, November 17, we will prepare for Advent with resources you may want to use in the Advent season of preparation. These include prayers, orders of worship and books you may find helpful.

Sunday, November 24, is SHRINE MONT Sunday. Kirk Gibson, Director of Development for Shrine Mont will be here to speak about our parish weekend in May, and also the huge celebration on August 6, 2025 - the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration. It is your chance to learn some history, some lore, eat some Apple Butter, and sign up for our parish weekend.

Thanksgiving Service

Please join us for a service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II on the morning of Thanksgiving at 10:00 am. It is a simple service with no music, perhaps the only Holy Eucharist service in town on the holiday, and a wonderful chance to give thanks before your celebration at home. Bring family and friends and start the day with your church family!



Lectionary Bible Study

One of the long-time offerings of Christian Formation for adults at Christ Church is the Lectionary Bible Study. The group meets via Zoom on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am to discuss the upcoming Sunday readings with Webster. Webster is happy to try and help you with your technology if you need a hand to be able to use Zoom on your computer or iPad.

Since the readings change each week, it's not necessary to commit to regular attendance. You can preview the lectionary online at www.lectionarypage.net if you would like to see the readings in advance.

Opal Davis, a parishioner who has re-located out of state, still joins the group each week. She says, "I thankfully have the opportunity to still participate in weekly Bible study at Christ Church. We read and discuss the Scripture, which will be read in the following Sunday service. This has included discussion about historical facts, various translations, various interpretations, and much more. When the Scriptures are read the following Sunday, they seem like old friends and I can relate to them in a new way. Sermons are by no means a repeat of our Wednesday class but, because of our discussion, the sermon becomes much more meaningful, thought-provoking, and relevant. I am still by no means a person of advanced knowledge and understanding regarding the Holy Scriptures, but I hope to continue to study and learn."

If you are interested in joining the group one Wednesday or have any questions, please email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org so he can send you the Zoom link for the meeting.

Worship

Pre-Advent Practice: The Daily Office

If you are considering an Advent prayer practice to prepare yourself for the Feast of the Nativity, the daily office (Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer, Compline, other hourly services) is a great part of your heritage as Episcopalians. To help you learn about it, here is a way to join with members of the Vestry learning how to use and lead the daily office. The Vestry will help to hold services of the Daily Office in the Pilgrims' Chapel during the weeks of Advent. That calendar will be coming out later.

The Daily Office: What is it, who can use it, how do you use it?

These are the most common questions for those not familiar with the Episcopal Church, our Anglican ancestry and the various ways we worship. People are probably most familiar with the Episcopal Church and The Book of Common Prayer for worship on Sunday mornings, regularly celebrating the Holy Eucharist. The reason for the proper day of celebrating Holy Communion being Sunday may best be understood from the Spanish word for Sunday which is "Domingo" which can be translated as "the Lord's Day." That reflects the Christian association of time with the day of crucifixion (Friday), the day of rest (Saturday) and the day of the resurrection (Sunday) as we worship our Lord.

However, our Anglican heritage and our Book of Common Prayer have a lot more to offer as far as discipleship and our call to worship God. After all, following and worshipping our Lord Jesus is also meant to happen six other days of the week. The first 130 pages of the prayer book do just that. They give us the daily office. And there are additional prayers you can use throughout the remaining pages of the prayer book for use in various circumstances of life.

The purpose of the Daily Office is to provide a structure to develop your discipline of praying every day or once a week in your life. It can be at 6am, 9am, noon, 5pm, 9pm, or other times of the day that work for you. It can be an individual practice, or a group/community practice at home or at church. The other purpose is so that anyone can use it. You do not need clergy there to lead the daily office.

The challenge is how to use it. While the layout and directions are not complicated, there are a lot of options for prayer resources and readings of scripture. It is no hard to use, but it helps to do some planning.

The 90-minute workshop for the daily office will be offered twice in November - Sunday, November 10, and Sunday, November 17, at 3:00 pm. You only need to come to one of them. It will meet in the Baden Center. While prayer books will be provided, you may want to bring your own in case you want to write notes in it.

To submit a prayer request, please visit the website and click on "Add a Name to the Prayer List" in the Quick Links section.

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



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: 1:30 pm—Parlors OR First & Third Thursday at 5:30 pm —Parlors



The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Church Calendar

November Birthdays

- 4 Minh Truong
- 6 Laura Button-Cain
- 10 Bill Jarvis, Scott Arthur
- 11 Katie Clarke
- 14 Kim Pifer
- 16 Jason Conrad, Ann Taylor
- 18 Steven Martin, Koy Mislowsky, Wendy Breslin
- 19 Tuffy Whitacre
- 20 Rosa Gibson
- 21 Joy Nesselrodt, Mark Baker
- 22 Alex Waldie
- 23 Arlene Hill
- 24 Emilie Pifer
- 25 Dorothy Gibson
- 26 Sally O'Neil
- 27 Dennis Shows
- 29 Jay Russell

November Anniversaries

- 10 Christopher & Adelaide Turnbull
- 28 Nick & Kathy Nerangis
- 28 Frank & Sandra Armstrong
- 30 Robb & Cathie Russell

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.



Shop at the Treasure Box Thrift Shop!

Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10—4 and Saturdays 10-1 at 114 W. Boscawen St.

Volunteers Needed!

Stop in for info.



Nancy Tabaka -
A Life with Art

Nancy Tabaka's artistic journey is a rich tapestry of experiences. She earned an associates degree in Fine Arts, attended the prestigious Art Students' League in NYC, and further honed her skills through international study in London. Her career exposed her to galleries in New Jersey, New York, and Winchester, VA, enriching her understanding of art and its diverse forms.

Having studied under the guidance of Don Black, Anne Harrison, Katherine Hillis, and Gale Bowman-Harlow, Nancy's work is a testament to her diverse skills and love for various mediums. As residents of SVWC, Nancy and her husband Marty, along with the art committee, are thrilled to share her lovely work with you! We encourage you to attend the reception and view the exhibition.



LAWRENCE GALLERY

EXHIBIT
November 2 - January 3, 2025

OPENING RECEPTION
Saturday, November 9, 2024
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

(At Shenandoah Valley Westminster Canterbury)

Christian Formation

Looking Toward Advent for Children & Youth



We are about to begin the busy Advent season in the Sunday School! Look for the sign up board in the center of the Commons for dates of upcoming events. Children are invited to participate in all activities or as many as family schedules allow. For those new to the community, we offer events to help families observe both Advent and Christmas and special ways our children participate in our worship.

We will have **Advent wreath making for families with young children and brunch** on Saturday morning, November 30, at 10:00 am in the Tilford Room. Families have the opportunity to make their Advent wreath (supplies including candles are provided). You do not need any previous experience as Pam DeBergh will show you several creative tricks to making the wreath. We also discuss the ways families can make the count-down to Christmas Eve with prayers and simple services around the dinner table. To help us plan for materials, we ask that you sign up on the website—www.christchurchwinchester.org.

Families with children can continue their preparations during Advent on Saturday morning, December 14, again at 10:00 am in the Tilford Room. We will make **family gingerbread houses**. Once again materials are being donated, so please sign up via the website.

Another long standing tradition at Christ Church to help prepare us for the coming of our Lord is our children's Christmas Pageant. We have the pageant at the 10:30 am service of one of the last Sundays of Advent, depending on when most families are available. This year is a challenge because of the day of the week for Christmas, so Margery and Webster are working with the families to confirm a date.

During the service, the youth read the sacred story as the children create the manger scene in costume. The pageant includes multiple choirs, angels, arch-angels and all of the company of heaven. In other words, the children also sing during the pageant. Costumes are provided for the pageant, and signups for the different manger characters is in the children's Sunday School area.

Looking to December 24th, Christmas Eve services, the 4:30 pm service is our family service and more information about our services will be out in the December Angelus.

Common Ground Discussions

The Common Ground discussion group continues to meet on the 4th Wednesday each month in the Parlors at 4:00 pm but will take a holiday break in November and December and resume on January 22, 2025. New participants are welcome in the new year to this small group which aims to facilitate discussions allowing parishioners to get to know one another better!

Stewardship

This year, our stewardship theme is **Walk in Love**, and it calls us to remember that our greatest gift in community is how we align and come together in purpose and mission. When we walk in the same direction, we can do so many things. Our stewardship campaign began Sunday, October 27, and will continue through Sunday, November 24. **Our goal is to secure pledges of \$537,000** – an ambitious yet attainable goal that reflects a hope to grow the budget.

As we embark on our annual stewardship campaign, let us remember that a key component of stewardship is about utilizing our treasures for the glory of God and the betterment of both our church and community. During this season we talk a lot about money, about our budget. Yes, those things are important as they are the way we fund the Church, but in so doing, our real focus is on what our financial gifts can do for the world. Jesus calls us to heal, visit, feed, accompany, protect, advocate, love our neighbor, and sharing our treasure is a way that we make this happen.

Please scan the QR code with your phone to print a pledge card or to submit your pledge online. Or visit the church website!



Walk in Love

An Invitation to Love: Theological Statement



In nearly every Episcopal liturgy in which I have participated the celebrant quotes from Ephesians 5:2 to invite the offerings of our time, talent, and treasure to be placed on the altar. "Walk in love," the offertory sentence begins, "As Christ loved us..." These words are said at the pivotal moment in our liturgy as we move from the reading of and response to the Word into the sacrament of Holy Communion. It is poignant to observe that we mark this moment of transition with an invitation to walk in love.

When we walk in love, there is clarity and purpose. We move in alignment with each other and with our values. Walking in love is also something we cannot do alone - by definition it implies connection, community. Whether we walk with our children or our spouse, or form an orderly line, or rely on the help of a friend or a neighbor to come to chancel we carry with us all with whom we are in communion and they carry us with them. Our journey is one made by millions, over thousands of years. A cycle of sharing and invitation.

What a way to bring our gifts forward: first the bread and wine followed by the offering plates, and finally ourselves - walking in love! When we gather in love, bless, break, and share our gifts and ourselves with the world, we bring healing and transformation to our world.

This year you are invited to join in the timeless call to walk in love as you share your wealth, works, and wisdom with a world in need. | tens.org

Questions for Reflection:

How is your ministry impacted as you understand yourself as one of the gifts invited to the altar to be shared with the world?



J. Davey Gerhard is Canon for Stewardship and the Executive Director of TENS. He lives, works, and worships in San Francisco, California.



Outreach Committee

Angel Tree 2024



Christ Church will partner with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree again this year. The Angel Tree ministry helps local families in need by providing gifts to enhance every child's joy on Christmas morning.

You can adopt an angel on Sunday, November 17, or Sunday, November 24, in the Tilford Room after the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Sunday services. Each angel ornament represents an individual child and will have his or her name, age, and suggested gifts. There will be volunteers on hand to help you with your selection and answer any questions. Once you select your angel, you will receive instructions and a bag for your gifts.

If you are not able to attend services, but want to take an angel, please contact Linda Miles (lindammiles@hotmail.com or 607-591-1639). She will arrange to get an angel to you.

Once you have finished your shopping, you will have three options for delivery of the gifts to the Salvation Army:

- Bring the gifts to the Tilford Room on Sunday, December 1, or Sunday, December 8, after the 8:00 am service or before or after the 10:30 am service.
- Deliver your gifts directly to the Salvation Army office at 300 Fort Collier Road in Winchester, Monday through Friday only, from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.
- Call Linda Miles and request a pickup.

If you would like to participate but cannot get out to shop, please send a check to Christ Church and mark it for "Angel Tree." For any questions, call Linda Miles. Thank you for your anticipated participation in this worthy program!

Community News

Help Offered with Medicare Part D Open Enrollment

Pharmacists and students in the pharmacy program at Shenandoah University's School of Pharmacy will help current Medicare enrollees, those who are eligible, and/or their caregivers navigate, select, and enroll in their Part D prescription plans. The event is Wednesday, November 13, from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm in the Health Professions Building library on Sector Court in Winchester. It's free and no appointments are necessary. Please bring a list of current medications or the medicine bottles, and your Medicare ID card if you are currently enrolled. For more information, please call Sarah Parnapy-Jawaid, Pharm-D at 540-678-4364.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

First Presbyterian Church's Community Thanksgiving Dinner will have free Thanksgiving meals available for take out or delivery again this year. Reservations can be made after November 6. Please call 540-773-9847. To make a donation, sponsor a pie, or learn more, please visit www.fpcwinc.org.