

THE ANGELUS

Volume 67 Number 8

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

April 2017



Dear People of Christ Church,

While the winter was mild, it is still a relief to have spring finally be here. We have longer days, the flowers in bloom, gardens to plant, and hopefully warmer weather. We also see the sports of the season in full gear for all ages – from little league to high school. Of course, in Winchester, it's Apple Blossom time. Another school year is drawing to a close. There is the to-do list on the house as we clean up after winter and prepare for the summer. And, of course, there are events, concerts, productions and celebrations in the community as part of the busy spring-heading-into-summer season.

I do not know if this type of list is fun or overwhelming! We are fortunate to have many activities and events going on as a part of our lives in a community. We may also get anxious about having so many things going on. Either way, life does get busy.

This year, in the middle of the hustle and bustle of spring, we find Easter. Sunday, April 9 is Palm Sunday and Sunday, April 16 is Easter. When Easter falls later on the calendar, it becomes more challenging.

I acknowledge that it can be seen as an inconvenience, but I also want us to pause and consider the nature of this inconvenience. The one thing I know about Jesus is he was an inconvenient man. He warned the powers of his day to stop worshipping their lust for power. He stirred up the temple. He touched the sick and ate with the unclean and sinners, which confused those wanting to be his followers. Jesus challenged the notion of what it looks like to be neighborly, as well as beliefs about who is first and last in God's kingdom. Jesus went so

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APRIL 2017

Palm Sunday • April 9, 2017

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I

Procession of Palms to the downtown mall

10:45 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Holy Week Services

Holy Week Noonday Eucharist:

Monday, April 10—Wednesday, April 12
in the Pilgrim's Chapel

Maundy Thursday Service—April 13 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Ecumenical Service —
April 14 at Noon at Grace Lutheran Church

Good Friday Liturgy—April 14 at 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil — April 15 at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Services • April 16, 2017

Ecumenical Service at 6:30 am
at Mt. Hebron Cemetery

Services at 7:30 am, 9:00 am and 11:15 am
in the Sanctuary



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From the Rector

far as to be put on trial and executed in order to get his inconvenient ways out of the way.

For all that we have going on in our lives, the Christian witness cannot succumb to the notion of inconvenience. Easter, and the events that we mark during Holy Week, which lead up to that grand mystery of the Resurrection, remind us that God is not the inconvenience; the other stuff is. To know that God expresses God's love in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is the true life-giving gift of life that feeds us through our own journey of life.

Part of the gift of being among the baptized who are grafted into the body of Christ, into the grace-filled relationship with Jesus, who fully reveals God's love to us, is the perspective to know what is important in our lives. The world may say cars, electronics, wealth, fame, status are what make you who you are. The inconvenience of Easter speaks otherwise. Easter says for us to know we are loved and claimed by God, and we do not lose that. In the challenges and losses of life and relationships, God's love is with you. To care and serve one another is a gift which reflects the love Jesus shows us. The celebrations and events we celebrate in our lives come from the life God gives to us.

Easter reminds us not to confuse what gives life with the stuff that goes on in life. It may be tempting to skip the inconvenience of Easter and focus on the busy stuff. The Easter challenge for the Christian today may be to resist the temptation and join in the great mystery of new life our Lord gives in the Easter event.

Faithfully,



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

Thank you to everyone who helped with the many moving parts of our St. Patrick's Day Party and Silent Auction - from the donations to the auctioning and the all attendees and bidders! Thanks to you, we raised over \$5000 for the youth pilgrimage to England. The youth will be heading to Heathrow Airport on July 19, and it is because of your help that we are able to make such a transformative experience possible for our youth!



The March Vestry Meeting was canceled due to snow!

From the Assistant Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

As our Lenten journey nears an end and we look forward to celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ at the Easter Vigil, I am reminded of an article I read before Ash Wednesday. In it, the author spoke of how many Christians give up things like certain foods or behaviors during Lent and that a few years ago he gave up giving those things up; he gave up Lent. He went on to write that those things which the church calls us to during Lent: self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting, and self-denial, reading and meditating on God's holy Word, are things that we should be practicing year-round.

The spiritual practices we are called to during the season of Lent are foundational blocks laid along the life-long path of discipleship. They draw us deeper into our journey of walking with God who created us, who comforts us, who inspires us, who gives us hope and brings us joy in the midst of all life presents us. We all have practices that seem to fit us better than others and practices that stretch us. If you're like me, you tend to stick with the ones that fit and avoid those that do not come as naturally. But if we do this it can leave us stagnant. If we are not willing to ask God to show us other ways to engage our spiritual life, to breathe new life into our spiritual practices we might find ourselves in a dry and barren spiritual place—a place where we feel like we are not encountering God, a place of feeling alone and isolated. We know that this is not what God wants for us. God invites us to places of refreshment with springs of living, moving, life-giving water.

I have been pondering this idea of engaging our Lenten practices beyond this season on and off and have found myself wondering the change in our spiritual lives this would spark. To “give up” Lent in favor of living lives formed by the invitation we hear on Ash Wednesday year-round. What would it look like if we were to engage these spiritual practices with a sense of purpose and passion year-round? Would the joy and grace we encounter become even more evident? Would we find our lives enriched? Would we feel more deeply connected to God and with one another?

So this year, after the celebration of the Resurrection, I'm going to try to pay more attention to how I engage these practices beyond our Lenten journey. I'll explore different practices of prayer, meditation, and self-examination and I invite you to do the same. Maybe, if nothing else, during this beautiful joyous season of Easter try the one that stretches you. For some this might mean adding 20 minutes of silent contemplation to their day, while for others it might be spiritual journaling, the act of praying through the written word, and for others it might mean praying Compline at the end of the day. Whatever it is for you, my prayer and hope is that it brings you to new insight, draws you deeper into loving relationship with God and your neighbor, and fills you with an abundance of joy!

Blessings,



The Rev. Bridget Coffey, Assistant Rector
bcoffey@christchurchwinchester.org

Christian Formation

Adult Forum in April

Thank you to all who have joined us at the Sunday Adult Forums for the study of 5 Marks of Love from the Society of Saint John the Evangelist and the Center for the Ministry of Teaching at the Virginia Theological Seminary. We will conclude our study on April 2, with a wrap-up on April 9.

If you have not done so, and would like to join us in the 5 Marks of Love, please subscribe to the daily videos here: <http://ssje.org/ssje/5marksoflove/>.

Please remember that April 9 is Palm Sunday with the Blessing of the Palms on the walking mall with the downtown churches. Sunday School will end about 20 minutes earlier than normal so that we can prepare to proceed downtown. There is no Christian Formation on Easter Sunday.

The last two Sundays of April will continue an ancient Christian practice in the Easter season, which is seeking deeper understanding of the Easter event. We will do this through the Acts of the Apostles and the Gospels.

Adult Forum meets at 9:30 am on Sunday mornings in the Tilford Room. Please join us!

Adult Daytime Faith Study

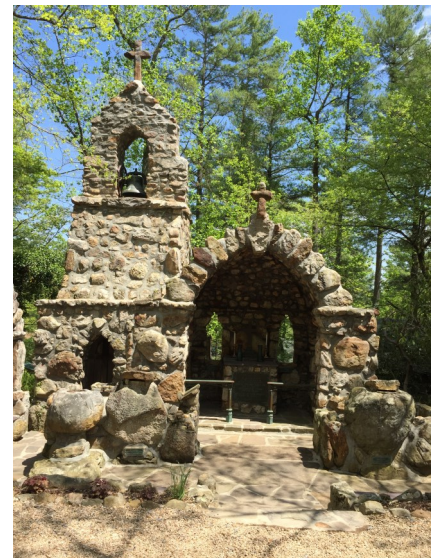
We continue to explore the Old Testament using the Great Courses DVD, “The Old Testament.” The study meets in the Commons (all the way upstairs in the Parish Hall) at 10:00 am on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. In April, we will meet April 6 and 20. All are welcome to join us! Questions? Please call the Church Office (540-662-5843) or email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.

Join us for Mother’s Day

Our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont will be May 12-14—Mother’s Day weekend. More details will be available soon about the program planned for the weekend, but in the coming weeks, the Shrine Mont Committee will be talking with us about why we should all take advantage of this opportunity to visit this beautiful camp and spend time together.

Not only is the weekend known for fun and fellowship, but Shrine Mont is also famous for their home-cooking—fried chicken, meatloaf, roast beef, and all the fixings. Plus, there’s Shrine Mont’s own Apple Butter! Shrine Mont’s website is www.shrinemont.com. On the site, you can learn about The Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration, an open-air cathedral of the Diocese of Virginia, that was consecrated in 1925. Plus, there are maps of the facilities and information about on-site and local activities.

If you’d like to learn more about parish weekend, please talk with Jack & Polly Nelson, Martha & Wilborn Roberson, Kirk & Linda Gibson, Alice Lees, Barry & Diane Schnoor, Webster or Bridget. Or, call the Church Office at 540-662-5843. If you would like to help with the weekend, please contact Webster or Bridget.



Christian Formation

Sunday School News

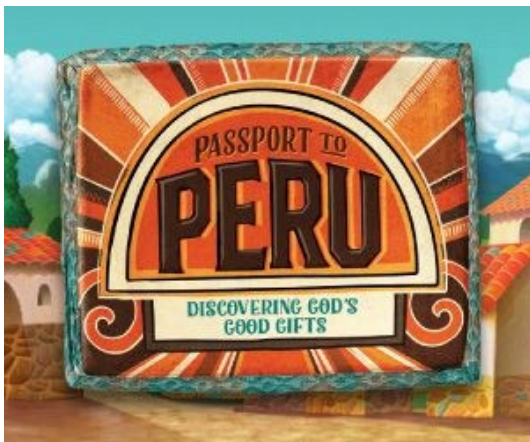
Lenten Mite Box Offering

Throughout Lent, our preschool through grade 5 classes have enthusiastically supported our offering that will be directed to Heifer International projects. Children take home an empty plastic egg each week and return it with an offering inside the following Sunday. Then they receive another empty egg to fill for the next Sunday. Each classroom has a basket in which to collect the returned eggs.

We will hold a celebration of our efforts by opening the eggs on April 23, the Sunday after Easter, and will vote on which projects to support. If you're not in church on the 23rd, offerings will still be accepted through the first week of May.

Help your child remember those last couple of weekly offerings! And remember, you don't have to have young children to participate yourself. Thanks for your help!

Easter Schedule: Our Alleluia Singers and Cherub choirs will sing at the 9:00 am service on Easter morning, so many families with children elect to attend that service. Sunday School classes will not meet, nor will Children's Chapel. The nursery will be open if anyone needs to use it.



Vacation Bible School This Summer

Mark **July 10-14** on your calendars now for *Passport to Peru: Discovering God's Good Gifts*. Our program is from 9:00 am until Noon each morning at Grace Lutheran Church.

Look forward to tons of learning and fun. The program is based on stories from Psalms, Mark, Luke, and Acts. Kids will learn about the comfort, patience, peace, love, and joy that come from God.

With our neighbors at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, we make it one of our primary goals to reach out to the whole community, not just the children of our two congregations. Let's include as many two year-olds through current 6th graders as we can – neighbors, visiting cousins, children of co-workers... All are

welcome. **Registration forms** will be distributed in Sunday School classes this month and will be available on the website (www.christchurchwinchester.org) and in the Tilford Room for you to share.

Adults: Do you often think you would like to work with our children's program but aren't able to take a role during the regular program year? VBS always needs support. Your time, talent, and treasure can be a big part of what we, as a community, do to help children to grow spiritually. We offer a huge, energy-filled, fun experience in which every parishioner can play a role and virtually everything is provided. If you volunteer to teach, the plans, materials, and all kinds of support are provided. And, it's lots of fun with the kids.

We would love to have **youth** who are currently in 7th grade or older serve as helpers in the classrooms and at games. Contact Margery Wingenbach (540-667-0386) to see how you could be a part of VBS!

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

April

9 Palm Sunday Brunch,
Apple Blossom Tickets on sale

16 Easter Sunday

Services at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, and 11:15 am

22 Rise Against Hunger Meal-Packing



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 Thurs: 10:00 am
Knit Unto Others	3rd Tues: 2:00 pm
Lectionary Bible Study	Wed: 10:30 am
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	2nd/4th Sun: 6:00-7:30 pm

Children's Chapel

Join us on the 2nd floor of the Parish Hall from 10:30 am until the Peace. We welcome children ages 3-7. No registration is required. The service is child-sized and allows our young parishioners to explore the same Gospel we hear in the Sanctuary but with more opportunity to wiggle and talk! Our Children's Chapel leaders always welcome an extra pair of hands if you would like to join them!



**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.
Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843**

April Birthdays

- 2 Martin Tabaka, Dan Wall
- 3 Ali Mislowsky
- 4 George Gunnell
- 6 Toni Sloan
- 7 David McWhorter, Stewart Wiley
- 8 Mary Rodriguez
- 10 Ann Carroll
- 11 Lauren Soltas
- 12 Nora Garber, Brock Whipkey
- 13 Hayden Armstrong, Alexandra Dastjerdi
- 14 Dixon Whitworth, Elizabeth Raymond
- 16 Sylvia Petrie
- 17 Dennis Wise, Ben Arthur
- 18 Kevin Kennedy, Kathy Nerangis,
Timothy Fairbanks, Maria Nelson
- 19 Michael Mohn, Dan Troup,
Victoria Ellington, Thomas Northrup
- 20 Jane Thompson, Paulette Jennis,
Leslie Harper, Tom Wise, Nathan Crowell,
Don MacDonald
- 21 Diedra Kriewald
- 22 Laken Whipkey
- 23 Ruth Gregory
- 24 Joan Claybrook
- 27 Melissa Ferguson,
Nicholas-Ryan Herrington,
John-Henry Herrington



Wedding Anniversaries

- 19 Bernie & Rosemary Swope
- 26 Scott & Leslie Harper
- 30 Bill & Sue Jones

celebrate!



Procession for the Blessing of the Palms

On Palm Sunday, April 9, please plan to meet at the Parish Hall at 10:15 am for our traditional march to the downtown mall for a brief service of the Blessing of the Palms with other Winchester churches. We will return to the church together and rejoin the 10:30 am service. Sunday School will run only from 9:30 am until 10:00 am so children can meet their families for the procession. The 10:30 am service will begin at the usual time in the church for those who do not walk downtown.

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:

Unfortunately, after two months, total revenues are below budget by about \$10,100 (about 12% below budget). This is mostly due to pledged revenue being down by about \$9,500. We believe this is just a timing issue and will hopefully correct itself in the next couple of months.

As for expenses, some categories are over-budget and some are under, with total expenses being slightly below budget by about \$1,000 (about 1% below budget).

The table below shows Actual to Budget performance through February 28.

Year to Date through February 28th 2017	Actual	Budget	Difference
Pledged Revenue	\$68,355	\$77,812	(\$9,457)
Un-Pledged Revenue	\$6,685	\$6,400	\$285
All Other Revenue	\$2,471	\$3,400	(\$929)
Total Revenues	\$77,511	\$87,612	(\$10,101)
Total Personnel	\$72,003	\$72,264	(\$261)
Total Utilities	\$5,819	\$5,425	\$394
Total Property/Maintenance	\$4,292	\$3,170	\$1,122
Total Office Expenses	\$5,787	\$5,444	\$343
Total Christian Education Expenses	\$966	\$1,053	(\$87)
Total Music Expenses	(\$400)	\$375	(\$775)
Total Worship	\$305	\$540	(\$235)
Total Stewardship	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Outreach	\$178	\$1,632	(\$1,454)
Total Pastoral Care	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Parish Life	\$93	\$220	(\$127)
Total Communications	\$423	\$383	\$40
Total Expenses	\$89,466	\$90,507	(\$1,041)
Net Total	(\$11,955)	(\$2,895)	(\$9,060)

Investment Funds:

Continuing from last month, the **Investment Funds** section will have a brief description of one or more of Christ Church's investment funds.

Organ Fund:

Established: 1956

Restrictions: Used for organ-related repairs and renovations

Purpose: To accumulate and disburse funds needed to repair/renovate the church organ

Recent Contributions: Investment interest only in recent years

Recent Uses: Self-loan of \$21,000 for progress payments on the 2015 Organ Renovation project. In the process of paying this self-loan back. (Remaining loan balance is \$21,000.)

Market Value: \$7,975 on 12/31/16

Outreach Committee

Work to End Hunger

Stop Hunger Now has a new name to better describe their mission: RISE AGAINST HUNGER. While the mission is the same, Rise Against Hunger is exploring new pathways to end hunger worldwide. The Outreach Committee will continue Christ Church's support of this program's global impact on hunger.

Rise Against Hunger is committed to achieving a greater impact toward the goal to end hunger by implementing sustainable approaches and long-term solutions to hunger in communities around the globe. Rise Against Hunger distributes water filters to communities which do not have safe drinking water. Rise Against Hunger sponsors programs promoting increased agricultural production and improved incomes around the globe. The meals which we will pack are made up of enriched rice, soy protein, dried vegetables, and include 23 essential vitamins and nutrients so that children are able to have strong minds and strong bodies. The goal of Rise Against Hunger is to end global hunger by 2030!



You and your friends have an opportunity to help on **Saturday, April 22, 2017**, by packing 24,000 meals to be sent to schools in areas of the world where children and families do not have enough nutrition to grow and survive. April 22 is the Saturday after Easter when we invite you to join every member of Christ Church to help pack those 24,000 meals for distribution. We will work to have the task completed by Noon! Please sign up in the Tilford Room to be part of the fun. We will set up in the Tilford Room at 8:00 am that morning to begin packing at 9:00 am, until we have reached our goal of 24,000 meals. Please sign up in the Tilford Room if you can help set up the tables and packing equipment the morning of April 22.

Contact Jeremy Welts at jbwelts@gmail.com with any questions you have about this exciting ministry. You may also speak with any member of the Outreach Committee with your questions.

Palm Sunday Brunch



Plan to attend a special Palm Sunday Brunch on Sunday, April 9, 2017. The Outreach Committee is planning a scrumptious brunch in support of the Rise Against Hunger program, and everyone is invited!

Join us in the Tilford Room after the 10:30 am service. Free-will donations will be accepted to help cover the \$7,000 cost of the 24,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger that we'll pack on April 22.

Members of the Outreach Committee are planning dishes to include homemade egg casseroles, potato casseroles, fruit salads, and even homemade breads. We will also have New Orleans-style cheese grits prepared from a family recipe. And, save room for dessert!

Properties Committee

Keep Day is April 8



Parish Keep Day
Saturday, April 8
9:00 am until Noon
spring cleanup

The whole parish is invited to come and help get us ready for Easter at Christ Church. The Properties Committee has projects for us—inside and outside—and the more hands we have to help, the faster the work gets done. Cleaning supplies will be provided, but if you can bring rakes and short step ladders, that would be helpful. Keep Day is rain or shine.

Interior jobs include: cleaning sills and door panels, inside windows, clean windows and lights in Pilgrim's Chapel... Exterior jobs include: trash clean-up, remove leaves in window wells, pole lights in courtyard and outside lamps, oil benches and clean up items in the courtyard, tidy up flower beds, rake leaves and tidy up north side of Baden Center, clean gutters...

You may have noticed the excavation work going on in the courtyard on the side of the church. This work seals the church wall so that there is no longer water penetration into the Lord Fairfax Room under the church. While we did not find any bones, we did find an old metal ladle, two ceramic marbles, and other small items. You never know what you are going to find when you do this kind of work!

This was the first extensive work done on that area of the church walls in years. Not only does this address the water penetration, it also assures structural integrity to that section of the wall. Fortunately, the brick masons informed the committee that the church was built very well and the stones in the walls were fitted tightly together. The final work will be done before Easter.

Another project which you will hear more about will be the rebuilding of the front porch of the Old Rectory. The project is in the design phase and will be presented to the Winchester Board of Architectural Review. We look forward to sharing final renditions once the initial work is complete.



The Treasure Box is happy to report good sales in the first month of the spring/summer season. We have a good selection with some especially nice donations of bedding in fresh colors and lots of bright purses for summer outfits. We could use more lightweight men's sport coats, and men's shirts with pockets are especially popular. Sets of dishes, pots and pans, useful kitchen tools, and artwork also sell well—we especially welcome more of these items at the moment.

The Treasure Box always welcomes new volunteers. Please contact Paulette Jennis directly at 540-662-0436. We will work with you on a schedule that suits you. Our volunteers continue to thank our parishioner partners for supporting the mission with donations, kind words, and visits to shop Wednesday and Friday from 10-4 and most Saturdays from 10-1. Saturday openings are announced in the Saturday morning "Community Bulletin Board" of the *Winchester Star*. We hope you will tell friends and neighbors about us!

The Treasure Box is located at 114 W. Boscawen St.

Parish News

Men's Fellowship Meets

The Men's Fellowship meets Saturday, April 8, at 8:00 am, in the Tilford Room where we will talk about **decision making** and how making decisions, or the failure to make decisions, at home and work, affects our daily lives as Christian men. All men of the parish are welcome and a full breakfast will be served.

Apple Blossom Parade Tickets

It's that time of year again in Winchester and, once again, Christ Church will sell seats for parade-watching! This year's proceeds from parade seats will support the 2017 youth pilgrimage. Each year, we are fortunate to not only earn money for a specific ministry, but to spend this time in fellowship and in our community.

Many hands are needed to assist before, during and after both parades. Chairs are set up on Friday morning, May 5, at 9:00 am. We also need help selling tickets, seating people, and picking up the chairs after the parades. If you can help, please call the Church Office (540-662-5843).

New this year: Parishioners are invited to purchase tickets on Palm Sunday, April 9, between services and during the Rise Against Hunger brunch! Come early and pick your favorite seats! Tickets cannot be reserved. Payment by cash or check is required at the time of sale.

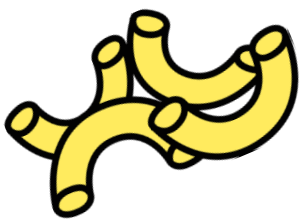
Tickets will go on sale to the community on Tuesday, April 11, in the Church Office. Hours for ticket sales will be Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. Tickets for the Firefighter's Parade (Friday, May 5, at 5:30 pm) are \$4. Grand Feature Parade (Saturday, May 6, at 1:30 pm) seats are \$6.

Four parking tickets for the Baden Center lot are available for \$50 each. They can be used Friday and Saturday, and each ticket includes two parking spaces—one in front and one in back. These tickets can be purchased on Sunday, April 9 or during sales hours in the Church Office.

If you have any questions about ticket sales, please call the Church Office at 540-662-5843.



CCAP Collection for April



In April, we will collect **PASTA** to fill the pantry at CCAP. 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!

THE ANGELUS
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Winchester, VA 22601-4116

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The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Parish Nurse Musings

I know none of you are experiencing stress, but I thought I might write about it this month!

One way to deal with stress is breathing. Think about a stressful situation and close your eyes and scan your body. Where do you feel the stress the most? Rest your hand on that spot and breathe in and out slowly while touching that spot. If you feel the tension in more than one spot, move your hand to the next spot and breathe in and out. Then, relax and notice that that spot feels softer and you feel more relaxed.

A second way to deal with stress is with lighting. At night or in the evening, when feeling stressed, change from bright lights to blue. Some people find the blue light makes them feel depressed. If using blue light makes you feel depressed, try red lights. Two hours before sleep, dim all the lights, including the TV and your computer. Read and relax.

Hope this gives you something to try during a stressful time. See you in church!

Your Parish Nurse, Helen

