

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

July 2015

From the Senior Warden

Fellow Parishioners,

The Rector is on sabbatical. Should we celebrate?

Sabbatical? What a strange word. Webster talked about it in his sermon on June 14. The word comes to us from Latin (*sabbaticus*) and Greek (*sabbatikos*), but ultimately, it is from the Hebrew *shabbat* or Sabbath, meaning “ceasing.” We all know about God resting on the seventh day of creation to reflect. We know the commandment to “Remember the Sabbath and keep it Holy.” Some of us know of the seven-year agricultural cycle in the Old Testament, allowing a field to lay fallow in its Sabbath year. It is this last notion that might help us understand this time of sabbatical for the Rector.

We read in the 25th chapter of Leviticus about how God expects the Hebrews to let the land go fallow (*shmita* - release) every seven years. If they do this, God promises to provide for them in the seventh year by making the sixth year more abundant to sustain them in the Sabbath year. God also tells the Hebrews the yield of the fields in this Sabbath year will be food for them as long as they let it grow naturally. Finally, God promises the Hebrews there will be a bountiful harvest in the years following the Sabbath year. As Webster mentioned in his sermon, this is a strange idea for us in our fast-paced, relatively non-agricultural society. How then do we, in our modern society, understand a millenniums-old agricultural requirement and how does that apply to our Rector?

The idea of ceasing and release (Sabbath and *shmita*), resulting in abundance, is difficult to process. This is especially true for us who wish to press on in order to complete the job. If we think about it, we do this on a regular basis for many things in our lives. An example for many of us is regular maintenance on our vehicles. We cease its regular activity and rest it (release) while the mechanic works to keep it running in top condition. We benefit from this cease and release because our vehicle continues to provide us transportation for many years. Neglect the cycle of cease and release for the vehicle and we pay for it. This is not to say the Rector is like a vehicle, but the principle is the same!

Humans need a break from daily activities. We need a cease and release from those activities in order to perform at our best. Our modern concept of sabbatical suggests we focus on a single activity to enrich those around us and ourselves. This enrichment may not be evident immediately but it will present when needed. God promised the Hebrews abundance in the sixth year and food during the seventh year if they would faithfully follow the plan of the Sabbath. We, as a parish, can also expect abundance if we allow Webster Sabbath and *shmita*. Therefore, celebrate Webster’s sabbatical, pray for his enrichment during this time, and look forward to a bountiful harvest when he returns.

Yours in Christ,



Tom Ellington, Senior Warden

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From the Assistant Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

Be still and know I am God - Psalm 46:10

Stillness is not something that I come by naturally and I tend to have a love/hate relationship both with stillness and silence. Even when reading or working on a sermon, there is almost always some kind of music playing in the background. But I also understand the need for stillness and silence; that interior part of ourselves that craves just a little quiet, a little calm, and even a little room to breathe.

We find our lives filled with the demands of work and family. We juggle our needs with those of the people we love and care for, and while much of this can be very joy-filled, there are still times when we all are desperate for that room to breathe. We are taught to put the needs of others ahead of our own, but sadly there is also a misunderstanding out there that when we pay attention to our own needs, we are being selfish. This is a difficult mindset to overcome.

Last month, when we began discussing the needs of caregivers and how we could create a service of care for them, one of the first things we knew it would need was stillness and silence—to create a space and time to set aside the needs of others and allow ourselves to be present to God. One element of the service that I found so very powerful was the invitation to each individual to light a candle to mark our time of worship. In the bulletin describing this action Webster included these words, “This time is not selfish time; it is nourishing time.” I think this same action and thought can be used by each of us when we feel the need for room to breathe and to be with God, to be nourished by the one who created us, redeems us, and sustains us.

How do we cultivate space to breathe, to dwell in the silence, and find space to be still in the business of life? I think a way to begin is by letting go of the notion that it is in anyway selfish to want that space and to start out small. Maybe we start with short amounts of time, lighting a candle, and repeating the words of the Psalmist, “Be still and know that I am God,” as we quiet ourselves and dwell in the moment as God’s presence fills us.

O God of peace, you have taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and trust, you shall be our strength: by the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. Prayer for Quiet Confidence, BCP, p. 832

Blessings,



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

Highlights from June's Vestry Meeting

- The Gardening Subcommittee of the Properties Committee gave recommendations to improve the courtyard, columbarium area, and Baden Center, where planting a cutting garden was suggested.
- The Treasurer reported that we are close to the break-even point going into the summer. Unpledged income is higher than forecasted while properties and maintenance are over budget due to brickwork repairs.
- Two of our youth attended a Diocesan youth conference in Philadelphia in June.
- Upcoming events include General Convention June 25– July 3, during which a new Presiding Bishop will be elected, and Bishop Susan Goff’s visit to Christ Church will be September 20, 2015, at the 10:30 am service.

Christian Formation

Vacation Bible School

July 6—10 will be here sooner than we realize! *Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid* is already well under construction for our week of worship, learning and fun! All children from ages 2 through current 6th graders are invited to be a part. Neighbors, cousins, and friends are more than welcome! We would love to have youth who are currently in 7th grade or older, serve as helpers in the classrooms and at games. This year's New Testament stories are about Mary being chosen to be Jesus' mother, Jesus' birth and receiving his name, Jesus' family escaping to Egypt, 12 year-old Jesus' visit to the Temple and the miracle at Cana. We'll enjoy snacks; relax and play at game time; enjoy activities in the Marketplace Shops; and sing classic worship songs and brand-new praise songs.



July 6-10, 2015
Vacation Bible School
Grace Lutheran Church

Registration is underway. Registration forms are at the back of the Sanctuary and in the Tilford Room at coffee hour. Registration online is also available on the church website. If you register the morning of the 6th, be sure to arrive around 8:30 to allow time to complete the short form.

What do we do at VBS? As with Sunday School, we tell and re-tell the stories of Jesus, our faith, and our ancestors in faith, each time repeating the story but building and expanding our relationship to it. Because we reach out to the community, we make no assumption that all the children will come with a familiarity with the great stories of faith. We want our children and those from the community who are neither ours nor from Grace Lutheran to know that, no matter what, God loves them unconditionally. It's worth repeating as many times as we can!

VBS needs your prayers and your support. Now is the time to **volunteer** your help, and we always need adult help in many ways. It takes all of a congregation, and in our case, two congregations, to make this huge outreach to our local children possible. Think and pray about how you are called to help. Check out the volunteer jobs listed on the volunteer form and contact Margery Wingenbach at 540-667-0386 for details.



Throughout the summer, the nursery will be unstaffed but will remain available during the 10:30 am service for parents to use as needed during the service. Sunday School classes and Children's Chapel resume for fall on August 30. Note that we are beginning before Labor Day to align more closely with school schedules.

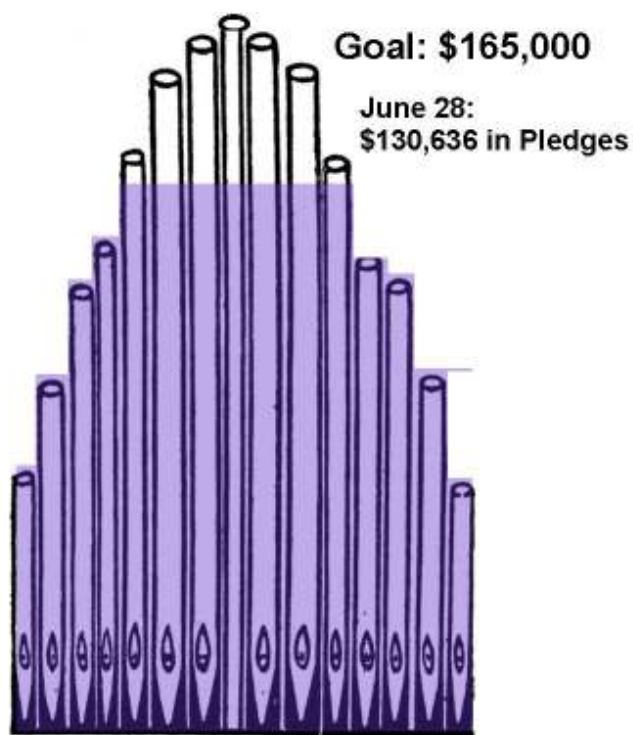
The Start of Organ Renovations

Before...



The Start of Organ Renovations

After...



Organ Renovation Challenge

WE HAVE MET OUR \$15,000 CHALLENGE!

With the matching \$15,000 from our generous donor this brings us closer to the total needed for the renovation.

Help us meet this final campaign goal of \$20,000 by making a pledge today!

Organ Committee Members:

Jim Kriewald, Harry Polling, Bryan Gray, Phil Sargent, Tom Ellington

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

Weekdays

7:30 am Morning Prayer Pilgrim's Chapel

July

- 6-10 Vacation Bible School!
- 6 Knit Unto Others at 7:00 pm
- 10 Bob Amos Concert at 7:30 pm
- 11 Men's Fellowship at 7:30 am
- 13 Special Needs Service at 6:30 pm
- 14 Vestry Meeting at 7:00 pm
- 21 Knit Unto Others at 2:00 pm,
Properties Committee Meeting at 7:00 pm
- 22 Salvation Army Dinner at 5:00 pm

Committee & Group Meetings

(Many groups are on summer vacation June to August.)

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	1st Mon: 7:00 pm 3rd Tues: 2:00 pm
Liturgical Bible Study	Wed: 10:30 am
Community Fellowship	2nd Thurs: 7:00 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

*The Church Office will be closed on
Mondays from June 22—August 3.*

*To reach Bridget this summer in the event
of a pastoral emergency,
please call the Church Office at
540-662-5843 or call her directly.*

**Want to know what's taking place at the
78th General Convention of the Episcopal
Church (June 25-July 3) and how this might
affect Christ Church? Follow the Episcopal
Diocese of Virginia's convention blog at
www.centeraisle.net.**

Children's Chapel

No Children's Chapel for the summer!

Nursery

Our nursery, on the 2nd floor of the Parish Hall,
will be open but unstaffed during the summer.
Parents are welcome to use as needed during
the 10:30 am service.

July Birthdays

- 1 Anne Crocker, Stephanie Fairbanks,
Mary Estes
- 2 Betty MacDonald, Susan Morris
- 3 Gil Kesser
- 5 Jim Laidlaw, Mark Pennypacker
- 6 George Gibson
- 7 Sydney Barton, Nick Nerangis,
Philip Sargent
- 9 Eve Brown, Bob Mitchell
- 11 Pat Leinbach
- 13 Abigail Dodd
- 14 Kirk Gibson
- 15 John Claybrook, Ron Mislowsky
- 17 Julie Read, Timothy Shows
- 18 Karey Starnes, Rebekah Wiedower,
Larry Correll
- 19 Stacy Talbott, Luke White
- 20 Emma Martin
- 21 Chelsie Pearson, Mary Pyles
- 22 Graham Becker-Welts, Braden Raymond,
Holt Roberson, Aaron Shows
- 23 Robin Koneczny, Cathie Russell
- 24 Maddy Bromley, Jeffrey Davis,
Katherine Miles, Amber Strosnider
- 25 Arthur Sperry
- 26 Ashton Dodd
- 27 Bill Brandt, Dillon Holland
- 28 Linda Meade
- 29 Karen Dains, Janet Waller
- 30 George Stierhoff, Doug Thomas
- 31 Tim Whipkey, Franklin Kesser



Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Bill & Kay Jones
- 6 Webster & Rebecca Gibson
- 7 George & Tricia Glass,
Jim Greene & Wendy Oesterling
- 9 Gary & Susan Sheppard
- 13 Clyde & Mona Pressley
- 16 Jim & Diedra Kriewald
- 22 Pete & Mary Pat Gronauer
- 24 Tim & Amy Whipkey
- 30 Steve & Loretta Johnston,
Roger & Pamela Lamborne
- 31 Chris & Robin Northrup



Mark your calendar:

Ice Cream Social

August 13, 2015

**Fun & games
as summer winds down!**

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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.



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

From the Finance Committee

2015 Budget & Actual

We are even BETTER than the numbers below! There is brickwork costing \$7,500* (that will be charged as a Capital Expense) that has been temporarily charged to the Property/Maintenance operating account. The Finance Committee will move this Capital Expense charge and pay it out of a proper investment account after the committee has finished work reviewing the investment accounts this summer.

It's the same story as previous months. Due to timing—where some revenues have been received early, and some expenses have not been submitted or have not occurred as planned—instead of being in the negative by \$10,000, we are only \$500 below the break-even line! If the brickwork charge were moved to a capital expense account, we would be about \$7,000 ABOVE the break-even line!* As reported below, we are ahead of budget by over \$9,000.*

The table below shows current details of all budget categories:

2015	Jan - May Actuals	Jan - May Budget	Jan - May Actual - Budget
Total Revenues	\$240,443.12	\$226,840.00	\$13,603.12
Expenses			
Total Personnel	\$172,545.66	\$171,495.17	\$1,050.49
Utilities	\$14,733.57	\$14,390.00	\$343.57
Property/Maintenance	\$22,001.71	\$17,405.00	\$4,596.71
Office Expenses	\$11,107.79	\$10,357.00	\$750.79
Christian Ed Expenses	\$1,232.35	\$1,870.00	-\$637.65
Music Expenses	\$2,981.70	\$4,100.00	-\$1,118.30
Worship	\$173.95	\$345.00	-\$171.05
Stewardship	\$197.82	\$75.00	\$122.82
Outreach	\$14,000.00	\$14,500.00	-\$500.00
Pastoral Care	\$588.11	\$470.00	\$118.11
Parish Life	\$793.37	\$910.00	-\$116.63
Communications	\$594.45	\$588.00	\$6.45
Total Expenses	\$240,950.48	\$236,505.17	\$4,445.31
Net Total	-\$507.36	-\$9,665.17	\$9,157.81

*** From the *flags above, you can determine approximately how far ahead of the actual budget we would be if the brickwork Capital Expense were not included in the figures. For the first five people who call Theresa Seitz (662-5843 x2) with this approximate information, an additional \$100 each (up to \$500 total) will be donated to the organ fund in their name and they will be recognized in next month's Angelus!

Annual Audit: It is time to review the books! Once again, Patty Barnes will be leading a team to review the finances for 2014, as required by the Diocese. A BIG "Thank You" goes out to Patty and the team. Look for an update next month about the volunteer team and their progress with the audit.

Organ Restoration Fund: At the June 9 Vestry meeting, it was reported that \$118,000 had been pledged to the fund and the \$15,000 challenge had just been announced. At the time of writing, the challenge had raised over \$13,000! Maybe the entire \$165,000 will be raised by the time you receive this Angelus!

From the Outreach Committee

School Supplies Needed

The Henry and William Evans Home for Children is a non-profit group home for abused, neglected, or homeless children here in Winchester. They strive to provide everything the children need, including school supplies, and they need our help in providing these items for the 2015-2016 school year. The following items are needed. **They should be new and of good quality!**

- 20 USB/thumb drives
- 50 mechanical pencils
- 100 black/blue ink pens—good quality
- 30 pencil pouches
- 100 2-pocket folders (not themed)
- 10 insulated lunch boxes
- 20 backpacks (gender-neutral, for middle/high school students)
- 10 messenger bags or crossbody backpacks
- 20 drawstring backpacks
- 20 duffle bags/gym bags
- 30 packs of dry erase markers, assorted colors—not neon

Please place any donations in the box near the piano in the Tilford Room by **July 26**. For more information, please visit the Evans Home Facebook page or website, www.evanshome.org. Thank you!

From the Properties Committee

Properties Committee members continue to monitor the state of the various Christ Church properties, and individual members of the parish bring a wealth and variety of experience and skills to the task of responding to the on-going needs and to the periodic crises which buildings present to their caretakers!

It is gratifying that significant (and expensive) repairs—furnace, air conditioning, unstable walls, foundation work—have not been on the agenda in recent months. We are very pleased with the repair of the bricks which has recently been accomplished on the exterior walls of the Smith Building and on the Page Chapel. And, the final painting on the restored bell tower has commenced. (You may have noted the presence of the bucket-truck on the Washington Street side of the church.) A detailed maintenance plan for the grounds of the church has been written, and a very complete inspection report was generated by several Properties Committee members. This report will be essential for predicting the areas which will need future attention and investment.

Current attention has been focused on the need to be protected from surges of electrical power. These surges, whether from lightening or from some difficult-to-determine source, have caused very inconvenient and quite expensive damage to phones, computers, and the Smith Building elevator. A surge protector will be installed in coming weeks with three additional surge protectors put in place soon thereafter.

Another area of recent attention from the Properties Committee is the concrete steps at the front of the Old Rectory. The original porch and steps to the Old Rectory were replaced by a half-moon arrangement in the 1950s (an era not known for architectural beauty). The sentiment among committee members is to explore a reconstruction of a porch and steps reminiscent of the original.—*Submitted by Kevin Kennedy*

Parish News

In Concert at Christ Church



Friday, July 10, 2015

7:30 pm

Admission by donation

Acclaimed bluegrass musician Bob Amos returns with his current band, Catamount Crossing, to his former hometown for a special concert at 7:30 pm on Friday, July 10.

Bob Amos became an internationally recognized and acclaimed bluegrass musician and songwriter as the leader of the popular award winning band, Front Range. From 1990-2003, Front Range recorded seven CDs, five for indie heavyweight Sugar Hill Records, and received top-notch reviews and heavy airplay on bluegrass radio programs throughout the world.

Over many years, Bob Amos has been universally praised for his musical arrangements and original bluegrass material. *Sing Out!* magazine has called Bob, “one of the most constantly intelligent and interesting songwriters in American music.”

With the release of two new critically-acclaimed CDs over the past three years, ***Borrowed Time*** and ***Sunrise Blues***, Bob is once again in the bluegrass spotlight with a whole new batch of stellar original songs, and a terrific new band, **Bob Amos and & Catamount Crossing**, to present this new material to the public.

Bob Amos and & Catamount Crossing features Bob on banjo, guitar and vocals, his daughter Sarah Amos on vocals, Freeman Corey on fiddle, Gary Darling on mandolin and vocals, Steve Wright on guitar. and vocals, and bassist Chris Cruger. The band puts on a entertaining high-energy show, with stellar harmonies, rock solid instrumentation, top-shelf original material, plus great new interpretations of some bluegrass classics.

Bob’s CD ***Borrowed Time*** was given a highlight review in *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine, and his most recent CD, ***Sunrise Blues***, was named “Best Traditional Album of the Year” by Vermont’s Barre-Montpelier Times Argus Music Awards. VPR’s “All The Traditions” radio host Robert Resnick has written: “(Sunrise Blues) gets my vote as best acoustic album of 2014.”

Don’t miss this chance to see one of bluegrass music’s most creative performers in a rare visit to his old home town!

Parish News

Fall ABC Rummage Sale

The 4th Annual Christ Church ABC Sale will be held on October 23-24 in the Parish Hall. As you clean out your attics, basements and closets as part of spring cleaning and wish to donate items for our fall event, please contact Chris or Melissa Ferguson at 540-662-4219 or 978-360-4501 to arrange pickup and/or delivery. We are in the process of collecting and storing items for what we hope will be our most successful year in raising funds for our many church-based ministries. As a reminder, items we can accept are:



- appliances in working order such as microwares, toasters, can openers, etc.
- books, DVDs, VHS tapes and records
- China, linens
- decorations
- dishware—any size or shape, kitchen utensils, Tupperware, and cookware
- furniture of any kind, lamps—both table-top and floor lamps
- garden and yard tools—in good working order
- toys—for any age!

And, miscellaneous items— such as flat screen TVs and bicycles. Just ask! They sell! We will have our famous baked goods for sale from the ladies of the church and, of course, our BBQ. It's not too early to volunteer, so please just ask. We will put you to work. Please see Chris or Melissa Ferguson with any questions.

Fellowship Groups Meet

The **Community Fellowship** will not meet in July. Instead, we welcome Bob Amos & Catamount Crossing on Friday, July 10. (See opposite page for details.)

The **Men's Fellowship** will meet on Saturday, July 11, at 7:30 am, in the Baden Center, to discuss forgiveness in today's society and what it means to Christian men.

Treasure Box News

In July, Treasure Box shoppers will enjoy a **20% discount** on all merchandise. We will also offer one-day deeper discounts up to 50-75% off for the Saturdays we are open! You'll often find brand names such as Chicos, Christopher Banks, Talbots, Ralph Lauren, J. Crew, Travel Smith, Cynthia Rowley, Bell's men's sport coats, slacks, and shirts, as you browse. Check the Saturday morning "Community Bulletin Board" in the Winchester Star for the "open" announcement. New items are appearing weekly to refresh our racks and shelves thanks to our supportive parish donors. We are grateful for this thriving partnership within the Christ Church family!





THE ANGELUS

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For weekly updates, please see *The Sunday Announcements* in the bulletin.

Parish Nurse Musings



Most of you know that I love sports! I guess that is an understatement. I read many articles about sports and the one that hit me yesterday was about bunting. I often ask myself when watching a baseball game and there is no one on base, why would the batter bunt? Several players have said that when someone is on base that is the way to get the player home. When no one is on base they do it if they are fast, but not especially good at batting.

The Christian Century magazine talked about sacrifice as “Laying One Down For Others.” Of course, Jesus comes to mind, but can we bunt for others? We may know that we cannot gain from this bunt. We realize we may get thrown out, figuratively. Christ intended to obey his Father. In doing so, he saved many others. It was his love of man that allowed him to follow His orders.

Are there times when we can bunt for another person? Perhaps when we take a meal to someone or sit with someone or transport someone even though it may take up time we don’t have or don’t want to spend? Even in our own families - how about times we don’t want to take time to play, read, converse, problem solve, or just be a presence? What about praying for others, even when we don’t have time? Think about times you could bunt (sacrifice) for others. If you begin to say no, remember the sacrifice of Jesus! Batter up!

See you next month!

Helen Zearth, Your Parish Nurse