

THE ANGELUS

Volume 65 Number 7

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

March 2015

From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church:

It may sound odd, but one of the things which I enjoy about Lent is the fact that we have a rare opportunity to be honest with ourselves. While that may result in Lenten discomfort, we can be honest about our mortality, the brokenness of the human condition, and our need to forgive and be forgiven. Perhaps most discomfiting of all is our admission that our lives, our relationships, our individual beings rely on the grace of the living God to be our guide, our inspiration, our hope, and our Lord as we live out our lives.

If you have not figured it out by now, I am one who is suspicious of our consumer-driven culture, which often appeals directly to our fears and weaknesses with an idea of a quick fix or a selfish notion of fulfillment. "All that you need to do is buy or have (fill in the blank), and your problem is solved or your dreams will come true." It is so subtly pervasive, but very strong as we try and find the easiest way, the cheapest way, or the least demanding way to find fulfillment in our lives. For me, it is best indicated by the question I often hear, "Yes, but what do I get out of it? What's in it for me?" Be it objects, relationships, vocation, or other parts of life, our consumer culture has its affects.

The struggle is no different with our faith lives, both in our faith community and in our lives of faith outside the faith community. When it comes to one's relationship with God, that cultural influence reveals itself in our desire to see God as a sure quick fix for life's problems - the idea of using God to put one group over another, or when that question arises, "What is the least I can give to God to benefit most from God?" That seductive appeal is there, and if we do not realize the appeal, then the appeal has a wonderful time manipulating our faith and fears.

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Services During Lent

Weekdays during Lent
in the Pilgrim's Chapel
7:30 am Morning Prayer
5:30 pm Evening Prayer

Palm Sunday

March 29, 2015

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, March 30 through
Wednesday, April 1
in the Pilgrim's Chapel
Maundy Thursday Service—
April 2 at 7:00 pm
Good Friday Liturgy—
April 3 at 7:00 pm
Easter Vigil— April 4 at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday Services

Ecumenical Service at 6:30 am
at Mt. Hebron
Services at 7:30 am, 9:00 am and
11:15 am in the Sanctuary



Lenten Quiet Day— March 28, 2015

9:00 am—1:00 pm with lunch
and Anglican Prayer Beads.
\$10. Watch bulletin for details!
Call Church Office to register
by 3/18.

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From the Rector

This struggle with consumerism is nothing new. Look at the language in the ancient liturgies of the church to see struggles between our self-centered humanity and God's hope for mutual relationship:

"I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word." (From the Ash Wednesday liturgy, BCP, p. 265)

"From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil: *Good Lord, deliver us.*" (From the Great Litany, BCP, p. 149)

Lent is the opportunity to be honest about ourselves. I know that we may not like what we see when we seriously engage in self-reflection. However, that is what we need to do, both as individuals and as community.

The purpose of the reflection and penitential nature of Lent is not merely to make us feel bad about ourselves, or to wallow in self-pity. The purpose and hope is to know that we can repent, or change our path of life to be what God calls us to be. Once we realize our call to change, then we can go out and do it. We transform from a person who asks, "What is in it for me and what is the least I need to do?" to the person who asks, "What more can I give with all of my resources and talents to be a witness of God's grace in the world?"

After the annual meeting and with outreach and renovation projects going on, I heard a great question, "Since you seem to be able to make this work, do I still need to help or give?" My response is that we are fortunate to have people with creativity and skill to make ministries and projects work with what they have. However, a ministry or a project is limited when resources are limited and participation is low. We always encourage people to give and participate because we need to share our counter cultural witness as Christians as we participate and give as much as we can of ourselves to God so God's love can be encountered in the world. It is not up to only one person, but rather a community of people. We are never done.

I believe it was Archbishop William Temple who described the Church as the only institution called to give itself away. He did not mean in an unhealthy, wasteful way. He meant in the same way as our Lord gives himself for us—discipleship to show God's love in our lives; selflessness which points to God; sacrifice which demands our entire lives so when the world sees us, they will ask that question made so long ago: "Those Christians, see how they love one another?" Such a vision is quite different from the consumer culture around us!

It is easy to say that the sole purpose of Lent is to make us feel guilty about ourselves. Lent wants us to be honest with ourselves. If we feel guilty, then perhaps we should ask the next question, "Why do I feel guilty?" Then follow that question with the next one, "What does God call me to do to turn my life so I stop doing that which makes me guilty, and instead makes me find fulfillment in faithfulness?"

Fortunately, Lent is only forty days. And fortunately, the hope we have as we go through Lent is not just that Lent is over, but the act of God's salvation in Jesus's life, death, and resurrection which we celebrate to end Lent. However, you do not get to the resurrection without going through the cross. You do not find repentance without changing from what is broken. Our selfish broken human condition does not simply go away because we want it to. Our challenge is to change back towards God and for us to be absolutely clear that we will need God's help to do it.

Faithfully,



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

From the Assistant Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

One of the themes we hear during the season of Lent is wilderness. We read in Mark's gospel this year that after his baptism, the Spirit immediately drove Jesus out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Wilderness is the iconic place of testing, temptation, and struggle throughout Israel's history. Twice, Moses spent forty days and nights on Mt. Sinai; Israel spent forty years in the wilderness; Elijah, out of fear, headed out into the wilderness seeking a lonely place to die. But as he slept, an angel woke him and there was food for him to eat. A second time, he lays down, and again an angel awakens him saying, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." And then, having been fed, he journeyed further to Horeb, the mount of God. It is there, in the same place that Moses encountered Yaweh, that Elijah too encounters God...not in wind, fire, or an earthquake, but in the stillness, in quiet.

Many of us have had moments in our lives in which we have felt cast into the wilderness, alone, and often afraid, wondering and wandering. Our wilderness struggles are often struggle with ourselves, not others. Wilderness is the place where pretense falls away and honest vulnerability becomes possible. We are freed to let the mask we hide behind down, when we come face to face with ourselves, and cease to struggle with ourselves, when we feel we have had enough, God is there – God has been there the whole time.

When we are quiet enough, when we dwell in that place, we can hear God. In the gentleness of silence like Elijah, we find God. And though, we find it a comfort to be in seclusion with God, we are not called to stay there forever. No, we, like those who have gone before us into the wilderness, who have come face-to-face with whatever they have needed to, are given a vision, a mission, and we are thrust back into community... changed.

Mark makes it tremendously clear to the people, at the end of the day, Jesus, God, is not only revealed in joy and happiness, but often more clearly and deeply in the places of pain, brokenness, and vulnerability. And that my friends, is the Good News. There is help and comfort for us when our lives land in the wilderness. Jesus came into the darkness and violence precisely in order to be joined to our brokenness and to redeem it.

Lent reminds us that whenever we find ourselves in the wilderness of disease, loneliness, joblessness, depression, or all the other things that challenge us, we know that Jesus himself has been there too and meets us there in order to bear our burdens with us and for us.

It is as if God is saying to each of us:

"I walked with Moses and the Israelites through the wilderness for forty years. I brought them to the land of promise. I walked with Elijah for forty days and nights in the wilderness on the way to Mount Horeb. I called him to new purposes in life. I walked with my beloved Son as he encountered Satan in the wilderness. I raised him up from even the darkest hour. I will walk with you through the wilderness as well. I have a land of promise for you. I have a mission for you to accomplish. I will raise you from every darkness."

We've begun this sacred season of reflection and repentance, of spiritual discipline and renewal, as we embark upon a journey with Christ through the wilderness of our lives, with its many temptations on the road to death and resurrection. Journeying toward Easter, we encounter God's promises of hope and life.

Blessings,



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

From the Vestry

The Class of 2018 Joins the Vestry



Four new Vestry members were elected during the annual meeting on February 8, 2015. They are Barry Schnoor, Chris Northrup, Martha Griffin, and Ashley Bingaman. This class brings a valuable combination of skills and experience and attended their first Vestry meeting on February 10.

Pictured L to R: Rev. Webster Gibson, Tom Ellington, Conrad Koneczny, Ann Wallinger, Kathi Adams, Barry Schnoor, Martha Griffin, Wilborn Roberson, Pete Gronauer, Chris Furgeson, Chris Northrup, Doug Thomas. And seated L to R - Bryan Gray, Rev. Bridget Coffey, Ashley Bingaman

Highlights from February's Vestry Meeting

- The Vestry said thank you to outgoing members Ann McQuinn, John Applin, Bill Endorf, and Sandy White, and welcomed new members Barry Schnoor, Ashley Bingaman, Martha Griffin and Chris Northrup.
- Tom Ellington (Senior Warden), Pete Gronauer (Treasurer), and Ann Wallinger (Register) will continue in their positions. Bryan Gray will serve as Junior Warden.
- A motion from the Outreach Committee to donate \$1,000 to CCAP was approved by the Vestry.
- The J2A pilgrimage has been delayed by a year to accommodate a larger number of youth and allow more time for fundraising. There will an auction fundraiser on March 14, 2015.
- The Vestry retreat is planned for the weekend of March 20-22, 2015 and The Rev. Pat Wingo, Canon to the Ordinary, will join us to lead conversations around leadership in the church.
- We are off to a good start with finances in 2015, having exceeded our projected first month's revenue by 3% and spent 4% less than anticipated on expenses.

Christian Formation

Join in Youth Group Hunger Games

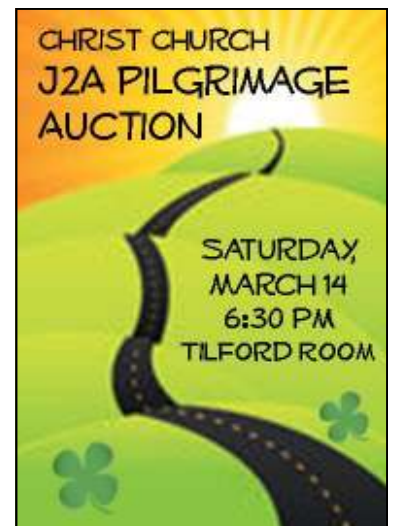
The Youth Group has been competing in our own Christ Church Hunger Games! (No worries, our version is not to the death). This three-week endeavor, modeled after the Hunger Games, has been an opportunity for our Youth Group to learn about developing nations from the Anglican Communion, Episcopal Relief and Development, and the struggles that many families around the world go through to put a meal on the table. Youth Group participants have been divided into four districts with corresponding developing nations (District 15: India, District 16: Sudan, District 17: Haiti, District 18: Colombia). The Districts have competed in Giant Jenga, a human version of Hungry, Hungry Hippos, and the ultimate obstacle course called Feed Your Family.

For our last Hunger Games event, Feed Your Neighbor, it's your turn to participate! The Winchester area will be broken up into four areas and assigned one of our four Districts. Each District will be assigned a canned food item to collect for our Panda Pantry ministry. A map with the Districts and assigned food item will be posted in the Tilford Room for your convenience. For every can collected, points will be given to the District. While we appreciate donations of any canned item, we request that you stick with the pre-assigned items.

This is a great way to join in with our Youth Group fun! We thank you in advance for your participation and keep an eye out in the Tilford Room to see the donations grow through Lent.

May the odds be ever in your favor.

Please feel free to talk to Bridget or Ashley Bingaman if you have any questions about the game.

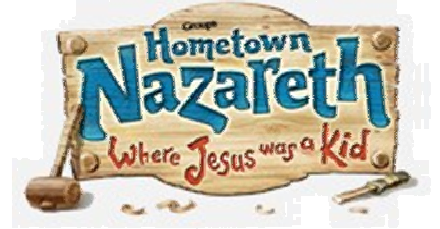


Christian Formation

Sunday School News

Vacation Bible School

Thinking of warmer weather? Vacation Bible School is coming July 6-10, 2015. Mark your calendars now for *Hometown Nazareth: Where Jesus Was a Kid!* Look forward to tons of learning and fun in our yearly program and its outreach to our community's children. 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 is for you! We need lots of help in many ways and virtually everything is provided including plans, materials, all kinds of support, and lots of fun. Contact Margery Wingenschach (540-667-0386) to see how you could be a part.



Lenten Mite Box Offering

As we have done a number of times before, this year we are going to support the Heifer Project with our Lenten Mite Box offering. Heifer has the appeal of contributing to the purchase of animals for projects around the world and in the U.S., but also includes other possibilities like funding the construction of irrigations wells, etc. Sunday School classes preschool through grade 5 will create a wish list from Heifer Projects available and rank the choices. Children will bring in their offering each week and we will keep track of the projects funded on our bulletin board in the Commons. Classes will learn that the projects they have chosen help others and offer prayers together for the recipients of our gifts. **Please help us remember that weekly offering.** The offering will conclude the Sunday after Easter. As always, you don't have to be a child to participate! Make a dollar a day part of your Lenten practice. Like the widow's two mites, it doesn't seem like much and will make a huge contribution to our effort.



Palm Sunday

Sunday School classes preschool through grade 5 will have a special Holy Week program in the Commons from 9:30-10:00 am on Palm Sunday to allow time for the choirs to prepare for the procession to the Old Town Mall.

Adult Daytime Faith Study

The Thursday morning Adult Faith Study is trying a different format utilizing a program through "The Great Courses." We will use selections from lectures by Professor Luke Timothy Johnson called "Jesus and The Gospels," looking particularly at his lectures focusing on the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. This is from the course description: "Veteran Teaching Company Professor Johnson has designed this course to examine the Gospels as literary productions. The lectures seek to encounter not the Jesus behind those compositions, but the Jesus found within them."

The study is led by Webster and meets in the Parlors on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month (March 12 & 26). Everyone is welcome to join us. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the Church Office (540-662-5843).

Christian Formation

Lenten Book Study: Politics, Religion, Music and Art from the Book of Revelation

The last book in the Christian New Testament is a masterpiece of political and religious theater aimed at the heart of the Roman Empire. The book is also an attempt to shore up the very earliest Christian communities who were up against a very large and aggressive oppressor in Rome.

Outside of the original intent of the writer, the book is filled with the musical texts of the early church in what the author calls, “the new song.” Many of these texts have been used in church liturgies and also are easily recognized in such great works as Handel’s Messiah. Artists have also been intrigued by the imagery in Revelation and John’s arresting visions have been interpreted by many artists’ pallets through the years. The discussion will examine the political and religious intent of this visionary mystic, and also attend to the music and art that has emerged from this literature.

The book of Revelation was written by a political exile named John on the Roman penal colony at the island of Patmos in the Aegean at the end of the first century. John houses his polemic against Rome in the passionate and violent language of the hidden word pictures of an “apocalyptic” mystic. At the same time, he both prods and comforts the small churches on the mainland in Asia Minor, now present day Turkey, with a heavenly vision of the destruction of their oppressors opening the way to a Christian paradise on earth.

Diedra Kriewald will provide the discussion around the mystical and apocalyptic texts. Musical commentary about the hymnic verses and musical themes in the Book of Revelation will be led by James Laster and Jim Kriewald. Alice Lees will provide welcome leadership about the art and artists who have chosen material from the Book of Revelation.

The biblical text to be studied each week will be provided. No other books are needed. The New Revised Standard Translation of the New Testament will once again be the sacred translation of record. Other study bibles are also welcome.

Everyone will be welcome! This course began on Monday, February 23, and will meet on four more Monday nights in Lent from 6:30-8:15 pm in the Baden Center. (The last meeting is March 23.) We will begin with a Lenten meal of soup, bread, wine, bottled water, and soft drinks. We will conclude each night with Compline.



Adult Forum: Themes of Lent in the Gospels

Lent is described as the time of preparation for the events of Holy week, culminating in the betrayal, death, and resurrection of Jesus. In the three Gospels - Matthew, Mark and Luke - there are many similarities, as well as differences. Through comparison of the Gospels, we will look at what they have in common and the insights we gain from each one. We will begin at 9:30 am in the Tilford Room on Sunday mornings. Please grab a cup of coffee and join us!

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

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
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

March

- 7 End-of-Life Planning Discussion at 9:00 am
- 9 Special Needs Service at 6:30 pm
- 12 Community Fellowship at 7:00 pm
- 14 Men's Fellowship at 7:30 am,
J2A Auction at 6:30 pm
- 21 Flower Guild Demonstration at 10:30 am
- 25 Salvation Army Dinner—Ft. Collier Campus
- 26 Seder Supper at 6:00 pm—Tilford Room
- 28 Lenten Quiet Day at 9:00 am
- 29 Palm Sunday

**ARE YOU ALREADY MAKING
SUMMER PLANS?**
Vacation Bible School will take place the week of
July 6-10, 2015. Put it on your calendar now!

**The Rector's day off is Friday.
The Assistant Rector's day off is Monday.**

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!

Nursery

Our nursery, on the 2nd floor of the Parish Hall, is open from 10:15 am through the end of the 10:30 am service to serve infants and children up to age 3.

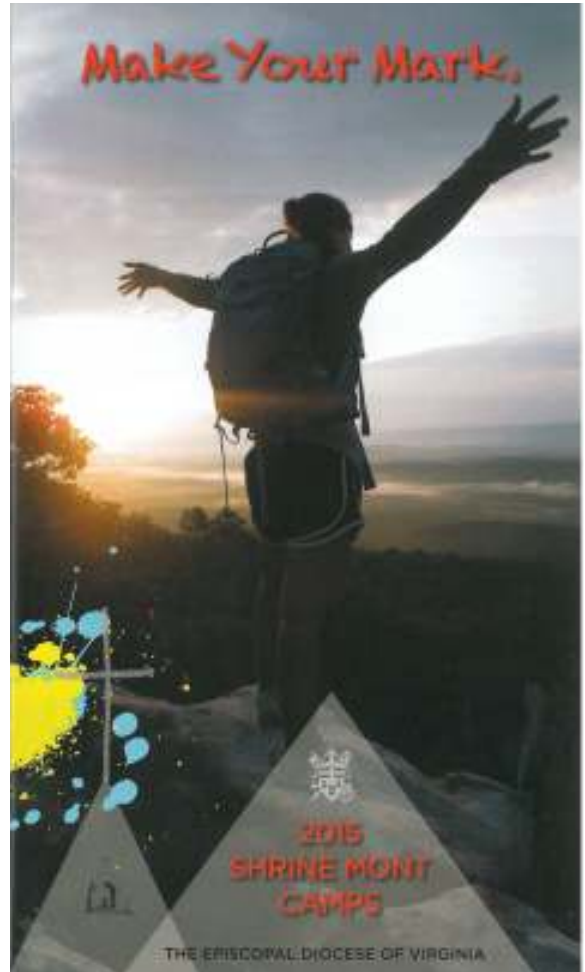
March Birthdays

- 1 Janie Mohn, Kamran Dastjerdi,
Brandi Vicchio, Lindsay Fairbanks,
Joan Carlson
- 2 Sandra Armstrong
- 3 Gwendolyn Conrad, Michael Roberson
- 4 Helen Bird, Daniel Rupert
- 6 George Glass, Mark Pennypacker
- 8 Bill Easton, Dreusilla Koonce
- 9 Bo Brown, Robin Northrup
- 11 Susan Sheppard, John Dastjerdi
- 12 David Lewis, Sam Flotz, Angela Webb
- 13 Steve Cluss, Patrick Goodman
- 16 Ellen Ford, Bobbi Bromley, Kevin Pettit
- 19 Eddie Richard
- 20 Isabella Vicchio
- 21 Richard Lewis, III, Webster Gibson
- 22 Clyde Pressley
- 24 Ned Browning
- 25 Sam DeBergh, Haley Jacobsen
- 27 Lori Ellington, Mark Schurig, Jack Nelson
- 28 Ann Thomas
- 30 Margaret Trueblood



Wedding Anniversaries

- 16 Jim & Rebekah Wiedower
- 27 Doug & Terry Ewell



Register online at www.shrinemontcamps.net



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

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.

From the Outreach Committee

Another Successful WATTS Week

Thanks to all in the parish who supported the sixth annual WATTS Week at Christ Church (January 26—February 2, 2015). It was a huge success due to the exceptional help from throughout the Christ Church community. Our support of WATTS significantly enhances the lives of our neediest neighbors and was deeply appreciated. Below is an anonymous poem left in the shelter by one of our WATTS Guests that expresses their gratitude:

God's grace in this place
Helps my heart to give praise
God's love in this place teaches
Me to love with understanding
God's mercy in this place gives
Me rest
God's blessing in this place
Frees my spirit
God's arms opened wide in this
Place make me feel loved
God's blessing in this place
Has blessed me truly
God's people in this place
Have become friends
And family
God's thanksgiving in this
Place makes me thankful
For this week

*From a WATTS guest to the
Christ Episcopal Church
(Winchester) Community*



Why do I like to participate in WATTS? At Christ Church, we have the privilege to have these very unique people in the WATTS program stay with us for a week. I have learned a lot from observing and talking with our guests: how humble they can be, how appreciative they are, what interesting and unique personalities they have, how they have no other options, but to be where they are. It's the least I can do to treat them like I treat guests in my own home—to give them a little kindness, companionship, laughter, a full stomach, and a feeling of safety, if for just a brief time. And always, it makes me remember, there but for the grace of God go I.

It is a lot of fun spending time with the WATTS guests, but it is also fun working with other church members and getting to know them. As a fairly new Christ Church member, WATTS was one of the first things that I got involved in. The WATTS team, Chris Ferguson, Pat Kofalt, John Applin, and all the helpers, creates a warm and inviting environment that you can be a part of, and thus feel a part of Christ Church.

The poem from one of our guests tells the story much better than I do!
Katie Harvard

Organ Restoration

Organ Restoration FAQs

As we look towards our goal of \$165,000 for the full renovation, to date, 41 people have pledged a total of \$64,759. We are so grateful for all who have pledged so far. However, we are not done yet. As the chart shows, we still have about \$100,000 to go. This is the type of project that needs the support of the entire congregation to be successful. Every gift helps us to get closer to our goal and we want those who may wonder if their gift is needed or matters to be reassured, yes it is needed and it does matter!

As this project moves ahead, you have asked us questions which we want to address. To help answer some of the more common questions, we will post them on the website and also in the newsletter.

The most recent question has to do with the funding of the organ as we go through the renovation campaign. Our Treasurer, Pete Gronauer, addresses this question in his article on p. 12 of this issue.

Of course, the second question is connected to the first question:

“Is there a deadline for returning our pledges?”

There is no official deadline for the campaign, as we will always take a pledge. However, the Finance Committee is working on establishing amounts and timelines for payments while the pledges are paid. To help them with this work, if you could return the pledge cards **as soon as you can**, this would help the work of the Finance Committee.

Is there an opportunity to have one of the clergy or members of the Organ Committee or Vestry talk with people one on one to answer more specific questions?

Yes, of course. You can call or email the Church Office to set up a time with the clergy, Or, you are welcome to talk with or contact committee members directly (Bryan Gray, Tom Ellington, Harry Poling, Phil Sargent, Jim Kriewald). We know that people want to help with this campaign, and we want to be sure to answer all of your questions as best we can!

Please see the website (christchurchwinchester.org/programs/music/the-organ) for additional FAQs as we begin this project!



From the Finance Committee

Budget: We are off to a good start! Our budget through January of 2015 planned for us to be in the black (positive: where revenues exceed expenses) by \$1,270. Due to a larger than budgeted total of unpledged revenue and being under budget in total expenses, we actually were in the black by \$4,882. Again, a good start to the year! Below are the summary numbers:

2015: Through January	Budget	Actual
Revenues	\$47,890.00	\$49,535.00
Expenses	\$46,620.00	\$44,653.00
Balance	\$1,270.00	\$4,882.00

Capital Campaign Update: On the \$300,000 interest-free loan from the endowment, \$153,000 is paid back and \$147,000 outstanding at mid-February.

The Finances of the Organ Renovation: This is certainly becoming a topic of discussion! The most frequent question is, “**How are we going to pay for the renovation?**” The quick answer is, “We are working on that very question, exploring all our options, and will present our findings and solution as soon as it is final.”

You must keep in mind that the work takes three months and will cost \$165,000. A down payment of \$30,000 was required in January. Progress payments will be made during the work process, then a final payment is made after the work is completed. In short, we will spend \$165,000 before the end of August 2015.

Here are some of the possibilities which the Vestry considered with this project:

A first and ideal solution is to **have the money in hand before work is done**. To do this, we would need to raise all the money required (by donations – via an Organ Renovation Campaign) and collect the funds before work is started. Obviously, the drawback is timing. The organ needs repair now and it is prudent to do the upgrade/renovation at the same time. Campaign funds are usually committed over a period of years and this would delay the important repair and renovation work for quite some time. Having all funds collected was deemed not viable.

NOT VIABLE

A second solution is to commit to the project because to delay only increases the cost to renovate the organ as some of the problems worsen. This solution realizes the need to **raise all of the total funds required over time to pay for the project**, and borrow funds or use savings to pay for the work in the short term.

The advantage here is that the project can be started as it is needed (very soon), knowing we will ultimately have the funds (by donations – via an Organ Renovation Campaign) to pay for the project without severely impacting the financial position of the church. If an interest-bearing loan is required, or Church investment funds are used to make cash payments, they would be paid back by the Organ Renovation Campaign as funds are received. This maintains our Church investment funds for the future to help with our capital projects often associated with our aging facility. The Vestry saw this solution/option as the most desirable, and considered to be highly probable considering our congregation's love of our music program.

MOST DESIRABLE

From the Finance Committee

A third solution is to commit to the project to avoid more damage and costs to the organ. However, this solution recognizes that **if we do not raise the money in pledges** (via the Organ Renovation Campaign), **we will need to spend some of the Church's investment funds to cover the balance needed.**

Again, the advantage here is that the project can be started when it is needed. ***Unfortunately, the permanent expenditure of some of our investment funds means that we lose the ability to utilize these investments for future capital projects.*** If our campaign falls short of the \$165,000 goal, we reduce our ability to develop our limited investment funds which provide returns that assist with other capital projects in the long term. While the Vestry is aware of this option, this is not desirable because of its long term implications to future projects. However, because of the necessity for the renovation to avoid more damage, the Vestry has asked the Finance Committee to be prepared if this needs to happen.

NOT DESIRABLE

What should we do? In order to make the best decision for Christ Church, we will have to know where we stand before the progress payments are required (about June). We will have to know if all or just part of the \$165,000 goal was raised via the Organ Renovation Campaign, and the timing of the expected funds being received. That will tell us whether option two or option three must be utilized. We will also have to solve our cash flow dilemma - \$165,000 paid out by end of August, with funds coming in over as many as two or three years. As our decisions are made, we will keep you informed!

What should you do to help? If you are considering a pledge, no matter the amount, please turn it in so we have a solid number before the actual work begins. Whether your gift is substantial, or you "repair one pipe" - it all adds up. **Help us to make the most desirable solution/option #2 (raise all of the total funds required over time to pay for the project) a reality!**

From the Properties Committee

The Properties Committee has been working to improve the lighting and reduce the cost of lights in the church. With new technology, we are replacing the old bulbs with state-of-the art LED lights like those used in cathedrals and museums. LED lights have several benefits: They burn longer (25,000 hours) and have a lower cost to operate (\$260.00 per year versus \$14.00 per year for LED). The LEDs give off more lumens (1300 versus 80 from the old bulbs). The advantage is a more well-dispersed light with fewer shadows or dark spots. This warm, clear light will seem much brighter than the old yellow light to which we are accustomed and will enhance the beautiful colors in our sanctuary.

Another big savings is the watts used (27 watts for LED versus 500 watts for the old incandescent bulb). Therefore, we will be saving \$246 per year in the Nave alone, with a payback of 6.1 years at current electric cost.

We will be looking for other areas that we can improve the lighting and reduce costs!

James E. Baden, Properties Chair



Parish News

End-of-Life Planning Discussion

Please join us in the Tilford Room on Saturday, March 7, from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm for an end-of-life planning discussion. Lent begins with the Ash Wednesday reminder of mortality, "Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return." As much as we dislike discussing this, parishioners regularly ask the parish clergy and staff about resources for wills, expressing medical wishes, planning funerals, etc. This workshop is to help provide resources and answer questions. We will have an attorney, Greg Hutchinson, one of the local funeral home directors, our parish nurse, Helen Zebarth, and both clergy, Bridget Coffey and Webster Gibson, give presentations and take questions so those attending will have a better understanding of what they need to consider and do. The workshop will conclude around noon or 12:30 pm with a light lunch to close out our time together. If you would like to attend, please contact the Church Office (540-662-5843) so we have an idea of numbers for the materials provided. All are welcome, so if you have friends outside the parish who would like to come, please have them call the Church Office as well!

Seder Supper

"A Taste of Passover: The Haggadah - The Telling of the Passover Tale and a Little More"

On Thursday, March 26, Rabbi Scott Sperling from Temple Beth El will lead and teach us in the Seder Supper and the Passover Tradition. Passover is a vital link that the Christian and Jewish communities share. Rabbi Sperling will take us through the traditions, have us learn through tasting and questions, and give us much food for thought about our common faith ancestry. Please join us in the Tilford Room from 6:00-7:30 pm to learn and to ask questions.

Flower Guild (Not to be confused with Altar Guild!)

The Flower Guild met last month to discuss what we are all about. Here are some of the things we came up with:

First and foremost, we are a support group. We already have a system for the flowers on the altar, every Sunday, and Sharon Lower does an amazing job organizing that. Anyone who would like to get on the "list" to provide flowers on Sunday, call Sharon at 540-722-3940.

Secondly, there are many opportunities to get involved with the flower ministry of Christ Church. There is a need for flowers for special events, flowers every Wednesday in the Pilgrim's Chapel, help with flowers on holidays, and help taking the altar flowers to a shut in.

This is a great opportunity to involve a lot of people in our "flower ministry." To this end, I want to invite you to a flower arranging demonstration on Saturday, March 21, at 10:30 am, in the Tilford Room. We have two excellent and knowledgeable ladies who will show you how easy it is to arrange flowers, Pam DeBergh and Judy Anderson. We will also talk about the supplies the church has to help you with arranging, where you can go to get flowers, and many other intricacies that go into working with flowers at Christ Church.

Please come join us! If you have any questions, please call Katie Harvard at 757-999-3816.

Parish News

Fellowship Groups Meet

Ashley Bingaman will address the March **Community Fellowship** gathering on Thursday March 12, at 7:00 pm, in the Tilford Room. Ashley will be sharing her experiences as our missionary to Haiti over the last two years. Everyone in the parish is welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served.

The **Men's Fellowship** will meet on Saturday, March 14, in the Baden Center, at 7:30 am, as we continue our discussions around issues facing men in today's society. Breakfast will be provided.

Treasure Box News



On March 3, the Treasure Box will open the spring-summer sales season. We especially need more children's clothing and miscellaneous household items, but thanks to ongoing donations from the parish, we are well stocked with men's and women's attire. Volunteers are very appreciative of parishioners' response with all kinds of donations over the past several months. This has enabled us to replenish our racks with new merchandise more often. As a result, we have more customers coming back to see "what's new this week." Repeat customers boost our sales!

As we end the fall-winter season, unsold merchandise is distributed several ways: Chris and Melissa Ferguson will take some items for the fall Christ Church rummage sale; Pam DeBergh will select suitable jeans, shirts, and sportswear for donation to the Daniel Morgan Middle School "clothes closet;" small-sized children's clothes will go to CCAP; other miscellaneous items will go to Blue Ridge Hospice.

Treasure Box volunteers welcome customers and donors during open hours from 10:00 am—4:00 pm on Wednesday and Friday each week. We also will offer occasional Saturday openings from 10:00 am—2:00 pm to better serve the community.

Easter Flowers



If you would like to help adorn our Easter altar in thanksgiving for or in memory of someone special, please take an envelope from one of the tables in the rear of the Sanctuary, complete it, and include your check made payable to Christ Church with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line. **Minimum donation for lily and tulip plants will be \$12 EACH this year.** You may put the envelope in the offering plate or bring it to the Church Office. **All envelopes must be received by Monday, March 23, 2015.** Please contact Lucia Thomas (thomaslfl@comcast.net) or the Church Office (540-662-5843) with any questions.



THE ANGELUS
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The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.
For weekly updates, please see *The Sunday Announcements* in the bulletin.

Parish Nurse Musings

Two items this month! I hope all of you are participating in the Walk to Jerusalem. If you missed the start, we can still enjoy having you walk with us until Easter! Just let me know.

Now, the second item is much more important to each of us and America! Someone once said that if Christians really understood the full extent of the power we have available through prayer, we might be speechless. During World War II, there was one of Churchill's advisers who organized a group of people who dropped whatever they were doing at a prescribed hour and prayed for the safety of England, its people, and for peace. There is now a group here in the US doing the same thing. I challenge you to join this group and drop what you are doing (no, not the baby) and pray for America. The time is 9:00 pm EST. Spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States and all of its people. Pass this on to someone you know who might like to join you. There is no sign-up; just your choice. See you next month!

Your Parish Nurse, Helen



Save the Date - Christ Church Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont
May 8-10, 2015