# THE ANGELUS

Volume 66 Number 9

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

May 2016

## **Rector's Message**

Dear People of Christ Church,

As spring finally arrives and we head into summer, I always look forward to one of my favorite pastimes – fishing. You set up the bait; you want the bait to look good and appetizing; and then you hook the fish. And we all know that the purpose of fishing is not about catching fish every cast. It is the art of being quiet and still.

Unfortunately, around the Church Office, we have been talking about another kind of fishing or "Pfishing." The Pfishermen, in this case, are sending bait via emails to all of us, hoping that we will bite and click on a link. When we do so, we usually compromise sensitive information and become vulnerable to unpleasantries such as identify theft and hacking. Please note that "phishing" is not the same as being hacked, where someone actually gets into your accounts. Phishing can lead to hacking (sounds kind of gross).



Discussions with local experts in the information security business have encouraged me that we should share some tips with the congregation about how to stay safe and be smart with your email and other personal information. Noelle has provided some information in the Communications article on p.8 in this issue.

One of the changes that we have made recently to ensure the security of parish information is using a free service called MailChimp for our weekly email update. As there are limits on the number of emails an account can send and spam filters which sometimes catch our weekly update, we switched to this service which lets us mail to the whole group, keep the email subscription list secure, and get by any spam filters on recipients' email accounts. The weekly update looks very similar to those in the past, but you'll notice the MailChimp logo at the bottom now.

We are also charged with keeping financial information safe. Theresa, our bookkeeper, has secure accounts with banks and other financial institutions. We do not have other ways set up to give money to the church electronically—no "Donate Now" buttons on the website, for example. Christ Church would never send parishioners an email asking for any personal financial information. We would only contact you via mail or phone. Theresa is happy to talk about how we keep financial records secure, should you have any questions.

If you get an email that sounds too good to be true, like a gift card or receiving an unexpected inheritance from some other nation, it probably is too good to be true. Remember that bait looks good so the fish will take it!

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## From the Rector

However, you do not want that hook in your mouth. Along the same lines, if the email sounds threatening or calls for immediate action with account information or other financial information, then call the organization first to confirm it is your bank, your church, or whatever company you work with.

I am sorry that we have to deal with people abusing our newer means of communication for personal gain at others' expense. But, knowing the human struggle with greed, selfishness and destructive behavior, I am not surprised that we have these issues. This is a good reminder that technology should not replace personal contact in talking and meeting one another to make sure we know what is going on.

We will continue to inform the parish about any specific internet/email concerns as we learn about them. The staff also encourages anyone with questions about emails from the church which do not make sense to please call. If we are not here, please leave a voicemail so we can get back to you.

Faithfully,

Webits

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

## **Highlights from the April Vestry Meeting**

- The treasurer reported that revenue was higher in March than February, and expenses were slightly higher due to the Diocesan pledge.
- The Outreach Committee reported that the Palm Sunday brunch raised almost \$1000 for the Stop Hunger Now program.
- The Parish Life Committee reported that a new brand of coffee will be used for Coffee Hour.
- The Senior Warden suggested that Vestry members attend the 8:00 am service occasionally if they are regular 10:30 am attendees.
- The youth will help with Apple Blossom chair setup as this is a fundraiser for the next pilgrimage, which will be in 2017 for students in 8th through 11th grades. Webster and Bridget met with parents to discuss the trip.
- Chris Ferguson was recognized for his and Melissa's work on the spring yard sale. They will coordinate the fall rummage sale, which is set tentatively for October 28-29, 2016. They would like to create a committee to organize the event next year.
- Webster and Bridget attended a retreat at Hunter's Ridge Retreat with the Downtown Clergy Fellowship. They will attend two conferences at Shrine Mont in May.
- A motion was approved to participate in the WATTS program again in 2017.

## From the Assistant Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

Jesus had compassion, plain and simple. He was moved in his gut; at the very center of his being, he was moved. You see, compassion is not simply an attitude or a feeling. It is a feeling that motivates action.

In the story of the feeding of the five thousand, we read, "When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick." And when the disciples want to send them away because there is no reasonable way that they can all be fed dinner, Jesus goes a step further, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." He doesn't give the disciples a second chance to think with anything other than compassion. The disciples' first response was to worry about how little they had to offer. "There are so many people down there Jesus, and our resources are so tiny." Jesus responded simply: "Share what little you have and let's see what happens."

Share what you have – Jesus takes the five loaves and two fish, he looks up to heaven, blesses and breaks the loaves, and gives them to the disciples, and the disciples give them to the crowds. Jesus doesn't just do all the work, he gives the disciples a clear way to overcome their sense of scarcity and to enter into abundant, compassionate living.

In the Gospel according to John, this story includes a young boy who offers his five barley loaves and two fish to the disciples to pass along to Jesus. Last summer, I heard a great question to ask ourselves about how we look at the gifts we have and use them with compassion: "What loaves and fishes do you have in your backpack?"

I've been thinking a lot about what it is that we carry around with us that we simply need to offer to God to see what amazing things might come from it. And at the same time, what keeps us from offering what has been given to us back to the one that gave it to us? Do we think that it isn't good enough? Do we think it is too little...not enough?

But here's the thing, it takes each of us being moved with compassion and love to offer each of our little bits, our gifts, our talents, our treasure, our whole being, to God.

It takes some of us to offer an hour a week to pack food in the Baden Center so that 50 of our neighbors at Frederick Douglass Elementary School will have something to eat over the weekend. It takes some of us to visit those who are not able to be with us on Sunday mornings to share in the feast, the Eucharist. It takes just a little bit of time and love, a smile and a kind word. It takes some of us to speak up about God's compassion and love for this world. It just takes courage to put aside our fears of scarcity and do something.

Jesus had compassion that day, compassion for the most basic of human needs. God calls us to be moved with compassion, to consider how we act – moved from the very core of our being – toward others, asking ourselves and our community how compassion may lead and shape us and our ministries.

It's true, we can't feed everyone. It's true that there will be suffering. We can't make it all go away. We can't end it for everyone, everywhere, forever. But that is no reason for us to sit idly by and do nothing.

The important thing about the feeding of the five thousand is not the miracle of Jesus turning those five loaves and those two fish into a meal for the multitude. The important thing is that this story calls us to raise our eyes above our own needs and above the limits of our own resources so that we can see the needs of the world around us and the power of a compassionate God who will take what we freely give and turn it into enough and then some more.

It takes your little bit, and my little bit, so that 5 + 2 = more than we can imagine, 12 baskets of extras, plenty for all and more to go around! We are called to be a community of compassion; a place and a people who show the world that God is alive, that God is love, and that there is plenty of that love to go around.

What loaves and fish do you have in your backpack? Share what you have. Share what you have with compassion and be amazed, amazed at the abundance!

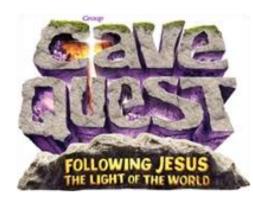
Blessings,

Briedget

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

## **Christian Formation**

## **Sunday School News**



Vacation Bible School always has a theme that is intended to help children remember their experience throughout the year. This summer, July 11-15, we will explore *Cave Quest: Following Jesus the Light of the World*, based on stories from Matthew, Luke, John and Acts. The stories will "ground kids in the rock-solid foundation of God's love." They will learn Jesus' teachings through Deep Bible Quests, go to Spelunker Sports and Games for high-energy, low-tech activities, visit the Cavern Café for snacks, and enjoy those unforgettable VBS songs and crafts.

Vacation Bible School gives Christ Church and our partner, Grace Lutheran Church, the chance to serve and exemplify God's love to children from all over the city and our surrounding counties. While the

Bible school hosts over 250 children, more than half of those children are not from either church. For some of these children, it will be their first exposure to the Gospel message.

Members of the congregation, youth and adults: Stewardship opportunities abound! Give your time, talent, and/or treasure for Vacation Bible School. If you can't make a long-term commitment to help with church programs, this is the perfect chance to be part of a week of mornings from 9:00 am-Noon that will be an unforgettable experience for the 250+ children we serve each year. It really is fun and most of the children don't bite. You can be a parent, or a grandparent, or simply enjoy children. We can use help for a couple of hours the week before, as well as on the mornings of the Bible school. It runs from 9:00 am and ends at Noon, so it is not an all-day event. Teachers and helpers are not expected to lead the class for three hours straight. Each group of children rotates through a music block, a game time block, and a snack block with other adults in charge. Maybe you are an energetic youth helper, a crafter, a carrot-cutter, or like to watch over children as they play – we would love to have you as part of the team! Volunteer forms are online at www.christchurchwinchester.org.

Can you make a donation to the program? We charge no fee for all we provide to the children of the community. Support is always welcome.

All children, from ages 2 through current 6<sup>th</sup> graders, are invited to take part. Our dates, again, are July 11-15, from 9:00 am until Noon. Grandchildren, neighbors, cousins, and friends are more than welcome! Registration is underway. Return the registration forms that come home from Sunday School or register online (www.christchurchwinchester.org). We love early registration to help us organize classes and to assure that we balance out teachers per age group.

Contact Margery Wingenbach directly at 540-667-0386 or through the Church Office (540-662-5843, ext. 108).

Congratulations to our Preschool through grade 5 Sunday School classes whose Mite Box offering during Lent was again an extraordinary outreach! The children have funded projects through both Episcopal Relief and Development and the Heifer Project. Well done!

The last Sunday of this year's Sunday School session and Children's Chapel will be May 29. Classes will be celebrating with fun and refreshments.

Be sure it's on your calendar!

## **Christian Formation**

#### **Adult Forum**

Adult Forum is one of our Christian Formation offerings for adults. We meet each Sunday morning at 9:30 am in the Tilford Room with our coffee for learning, discussion, and fellowship. There is no registration required; you are welcome to come when you're able.

On Sunday, May 8, there is no Adult Forum since it's Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont.

For Sunday, May 15 and Sunday, May 22, our topic will be, "Responding to a prophet – but how?"

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

This is a popular text for many Christians in their discipleship, but it assumes that we already know how our personal gifts and talents intersect with what we do in and through the church. For some, this may not be the case. They may be asking the question: "How does a person connect their gifts and interests with their discipleship in and through the church?" For others, they may be asking, "I have done this before, what else can I do?"

Come and join the clergy and members of the Stewardship Committee as we seek to be disciples with our time and talents in the variety of projects around Christ Church moving into the summer and next year.

## **Adult Daytime Faith Study**

Our Adult Daytime Faith Study in May continues to explore the Old Testament using the Great Courses DVD, "The Old Testament." Because of the large number of lectures in this program, we will focus on the lectures pertaining to the book of Genesis. The study is led by Webster and meets in the Parlors at 10:00 am on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. Meetings in May are the 12th and 26th. Everyone is welcome to join us. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call the Church Office (540-662-5843) or email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.

#### **Music News**

# **Progressive Dinner & Organ Recital**

Make your reservation now for "An Evening of Southern Hospitality" hosted by the Winchester Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. It's Friday, May 13, 2016, in the manner of a strolling progressive dinner beginning at 5:30 pm with recitals at Grace Lutheran Church, Christ Episcopal, and Braddock Street United Methodist. Cost is \$20 per person for the evening. All proceeds will benefit the Shenandoah Valley Youth Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra, the Blue Ridge Choristers, and Top of Virginia Youth Ensemble. Advanced reservations are required. Please register online at braddockstreetumc.org under Events or call 540-667-3366 by May 3, 2016.

## 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

1st Mon: 7:00 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

Youth Group Sun: 6:00-7:30 pm

#### May

- 6-8 Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont
- 8 Mother's Day
- 13 AGO Dinner and Recital
- 14 Men's Fellowship
- 22 Graduate Recognition Sunday
- 24 Blue Ridge Hospice Remembrance Ceremony
- 25 Salvation Army Dinner
- 30 Memorial Day (Church Office Closed)



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.

## **May Birthdays**

- 2 Anne Drury, Pam McKinley, Katy Wiley
- 3 Jo Pilette
- 4 Karen Jagiello
- 6 Jane Troup
- 7 Wayne McKinley
- 8 Jackson Stock
- 11 James Northrup, Ted Gronauer
- 13 Teresa Jacobsen
- 14 Liz Lindon, Josh Waldie, Simon Barton
- 15 Allison Schain, Kathryn Ellington
- 16 Bill Jones, Bob Read, Patrick Northrup
- 18 Tom Larsen, Zoe Conrad
- 19 Linda Russell, Ryan Hinkle
- 21 Susan McGilvray
- 22 Jack Applin, Cole Jones-Purdy
- 24 Wilborn Roberson, Sam Harper
- 26 Kay Wise, Greg Jacobson, Lacie Harper, Jessica Pennypacker
- 27 Sara Bicking, Tim Waldie, Ben Gloster
- 28 Alix Cooper
- 29 Bill Drury, Walt McIntosh, William Walsh, Maggie Martin, Bobbie Gouldthorpe
- 30 Fenton Babcock



## **Wedding Anniversaries**

- 4 Glen & Paula Opheim
- 7 Ruben & Mary Rodriguez
- 8 Jim & Ann Taylor
- 14 Rob & Trish Boyd
- 18 Dan & Jody Wall
- 19 Gerald & Cheryl Crowell
- 24 Michael & Janie Mohn
- 25 Charles & Joyce Casey





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 Communications Committee

## **Keeping Information Safe**

As Webster references in his letter this month, Christ Church uses several methods to communicate with parishioners—some more secure than others. Anytime we use email, church-related or not, we must be vigilant to protect our personal information. Even phone calls can be a threat these days. We wanted to share some very basic information about staying safe when using email, the Internet, and responding to phone calls.

The Federal Trade Commission explains **Pfishing** this way: When internet fraudsters impersonate a business to trick you into giving out your personal information. Some examples of pfishing emails are:

- "We suspect an unauthorized transaction on your account. To ensure that your account is not compromised, please click the link below and confirm your identity."
- "During our regular verification of accounts, we couldn't verify your information. Please click here to update and verify your information."
- "Our records indicate that your account was overcharged. You must call us within 7 days to receive your refund."

The senders are phishing for your information so they can use it to commit fraud. These emails are crafted to look authentic. **Don't reply to email, text, or pop-up messages that ask for your personal or financial information. Don't click on links within them either – even if the message seems to be from an organization you trust.** It isn't. Legitimate businesses, banks, even the IRS, don't ask you to send sensitive information through insecure channels. Opening a file from someone you don't know could expose your system to a computer virus or spyware that captures your passwords or other information you type.

Vishing is a type of identity theft scam that uses the telephone to obtain personal information. This scam relies on techniques to trick you into providing information that others can use to access and use your important accounts. If you receive a phone call asking you to call and you suspect it might be a fraudulent request, look up the organization's customer service number and call that number rather than the number provided in the solicitation email or phone call.

#### Here are some tips:

- Scrutinize emails before opening them. Delete email and text messages that ask you to confirm or provide personal information (credit card and bank account numbers, Social Security numbers, passwords, etc.).
- Don't reply, and don't click on links or call phone numbers provided in the message. These messages direct you to spoof sites sites that look real but whose purpose is to steal your information so a scammer can run up bills or commit crimes in your name.
- Area codes can mislead, too. Some scammers ask you to call a phone number to update your account or access a "refund." But a local area code doesn't guarantee that the caller is local.
- If you're concerned about your account or need to reach an organization you do business with (including the church), call the number on your financial statements or on the back of your credit card.
- It's always important to have updated anti-virus software, anti-spyware software, and a firewall on your computer. Keep your passwords secure. Backup important files.
- Before you send personal information over your laptop or smartphone on a public wireless network in a coffee shop, library, airport, hotel, or other public place, see if your information will be protected. Look for signals that the site is secure, like a URL (address) that begins **https.** (The "s" stands for secure.) If you use an encrypted website, it protects only the information you send to and from that site. If you use a

#### From the Communications Committee

secure wireless network, all the information you send on that network is protected. It's **never** a good idea to send financial information via email.

• Be cautious about opening attachments and downloading files from emails, regardless of who sent them. These files can contain viruses or other malware that can weaken your computer's security.

Please treat any communication from Christ Church with the same scrutiny that you would any other email or phone call. If you have any questions about an email or phone message from the Church Office, please call us at 540-662-5843 and ask about it. The website www.consumer.ftc.gov and many others provide useful advice for keeping safe.

## From the Finance Committee

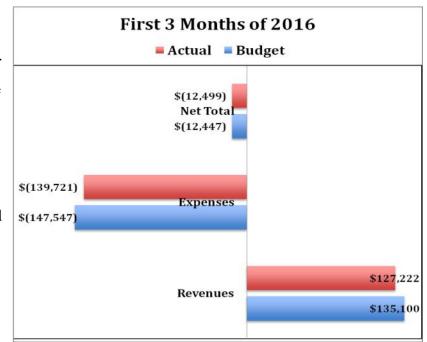
#### 2016 Budget & Actual: A New Look

On this month's graph, the bars going to the right represent money coming into the church. The bars going to the left represent money leaving the church. The top two bars show we are in a deficit, but almost exactly what was planned and budgeted for the first quarter!

**Revenues:** From the beginning of the year, with a big snowstorm in January, actual revenue has been behind budget. Through three months, we are now about \$7,900 below budget and almost all of that is due to pledged revenue being behind.

**Expenses:** Some actual expenses are down due to timing. (Some expected bills will be in months later than we had budgeted.) And fortunately, expenses in total are down by about the same amount as revenues are down.

**Balance:** The result for the first quarter is we are only about \$50 off of our budget!



**Summary:** We are very confident that those expected bills that have kept our expenses down in the first quarter will be arriving soon, just a little later (second quarter) than we had planned. Consequently, we must focus on getting revenues back to their budgeted amounts.

First quarter statements were mailed in April. If you are behind in paying your pledge, please consider ways to bring your pledge up to date.

If you have questions about this financial information, please submit them by e-mail to Theresa Seitz at tseitz@christchurchwinchester.org

## **Parish News**

#### **Rachel Shows Ordination**



We are happy to share with you that our seminarian, Rachel Shows, will have her ordination to the Transitional Diaconate in June. Here is the invitation from the Diocese:

God willing - and pending the consent of the Standing Committee and the Bishop's approval - the Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston, Bishop of Virginia, will ordain Jordan Casson, Catharine Gibson, Kristine Johnson, and Rachel Shows to the Sacred Order of Deacons (transitional) on Saturday, June 11 at 10:30 am, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Alexandria. The Bishop and the Standing Committee request the honor of your presence.

## Thank you!

The April 2<sup>nd</sup> yard sale, or the "nickel and dime sale," netted the church close to \$1700 to use as "seed money" for our annual rummage sale (scheduled again for this October). We would like to thank everyone who helped with set up, take down, cashiering, working the floor, visiting with us, shopping... and for stopping by the church to enjoy some hamburgers prepared by Dan Wall. Your commitment to our annual rummage sale is very evident and we appreciate the support. We look forward to working with everyone again this fall, which will be our last year as co-chairs. Our hope is to exceed \$10,000 for the second straight year and with your continued support, we can all make it happen together! ~ Chris and Melissa Ferguson

# Graduating this spring?

Please let us know!

We would like to recognize high school and college graduates in June. Please email communications@christchurchwinchester.org or call the church office (540-662-5843) with graduate's name, where they are graduating from, and where they are heading!





#### **Parish News**

#### It's Here! Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont

Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont is May 6-8, 2016—Mother's Day weekend. Registration continues with forms available on the website, in the Tilford Room, and the back of the church on Sundays. Our theme this year is "LEGO® my Gospel: Building Community." We will gather as a community of neighbors, getting to know one another better, guided by LEGOs and the Parables in the Gospels. Retreating to the peaceful mountain, we find ourselves in a different setting to enjoy each other's company, learn about our parish family, and understand why it's important for us to know who our neighbors are. Don't miss this special weekend away with your parish family!



## **CCAP Collection for May**



In May, we will collect **Rice-A-Roni, Knorr Rice side dishes, and Zatarain's boxed rice** for 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!

## Men's Fellowship Meets

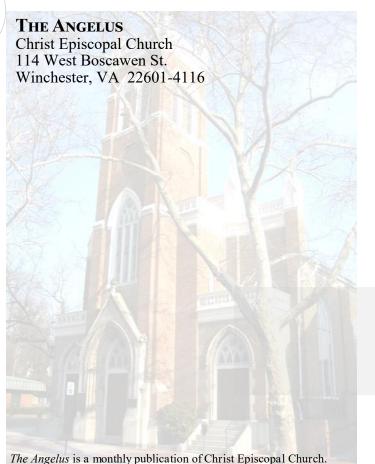
The Men's Fellowship will meet on Saturday, May 14, at the Firefly Café, to discus the movie, *On A Clear Day*. Even if you did not see the film, the issues raised in the movie are ones Christian men face every day. Please join in the conversation. Our fellowship runs from 8:00 am (30 minutes later than normal) until 9:15 am. Please see Chris Ferguson with any questions.



The Treasure Box is open Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 am—4 pm. 114 W. Boscawen St.

The Treasure Box sales are going well for the spring season thanks to a steady flow of donations, Saturday openings, and new customers coming to check us out for the unexpected "finds" that make thrift shopping fun. Recently, a couple day-tripping from Cumberland, MD were delighted to find an ornate little nightstand clock with a beautifully-styled Roman numeral face. "Perfect," they said, "to fit the Mad Hatter theme of their guest bedroom!"

Sales have been so brisk that some racks are looking bare. We especially need more men's clothing of all kinds—sport coats, slacks, ties, belts, outerwear. Please consider us when you need to clean closets. Towel sets, stylish purses, and jewelry are also very popular and sell fast. Shop volunteers once again thank our parish supporters. Your donations are key to sustaining our mission to serve the neediest in our community.



Non-Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Winchester, VA Permit No. 216

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

# Parish Nurse Musings

As I complete my 19<sup>th</sup> year as your parish nurse, I am so grateful for all the times we have been together and promoted health. Thank you to everyone. As I continue with gratitude, it is that time of year when we congratulate the senior students who have been in the parish nurse office and around the community. So many of them in the past have thanked me for the opportunity to visit with you and get to know you. So, congratulations to Markus Calabro, Blake Parkes, Katelyn Gregory,



Sarah Hankins, Catherine Cassell, Amber McConnell, Courtney Short and Nicole Whewell. Graduate and go into the world to make it a better health care place with your love and compassion for your patients! To the wonderful families who hosted the students, we all want to say THANK YOU. They are Don Netschke, Polly & Elwood McIntire, Marsha & James Baden, Helen Bird, Ann & Jim Taylor, Bill Davis, Mona & Clyde Pressley, Joy Nesselrodt, Fenton Babcock, and Bettie Johnston. The students learn so much from all of you. Have a wonderful month and will see you in church.

Your Parish Nurse, Helen