

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

May 2017

From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church,

Believe it or not, with May coming up, we find ourselves at the end of the program year and heading into summer. It will be a quick wrap-up because May begins with the Bloom, and then Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont, and then high schools start graduating on May 27th. We are not even to Pentecost yet (which is June 4th) and things are already wrapping up!

Before you get too comfortable for the summer, please note that the next program year will ramp up quickly in August and September. The year begins with our bishop's visitation on Sunday, September 10, with the Rt. Rev. Shannon Johnston. This means that we will begin our preparation for the Bishop's visit during the summer for those who wish to be baptized, confirmed, received or who want to reaffirm their faith. Even though we might think that we get the summer off, we will still have this preparation process to work on.

People often ask what these terms mean. Baptism is where we begin. Baptism is one of the two main sacraments (the other is Holy Eucharist), which were passed down from our Lord in scripture. It is the sacramental action whereby an individual is fully brought into the body of Christ, the Church. Baptism is a one-time event, so if you were baptized at any point in your life with water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, you are a member of the Holy Catholic Church. If you were not and wish to be, then the Bishop's visitation is a wonderful time to do that.

The other sacramental actions in our tradition involving our bishop's visitation are as follows:

Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands. What is required of those to be confirmed? It's required that they have been baptized, are sufficiently instructed in the Christian faith, are penitent for their sins, and are ready to affirm their confession of Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. As part of our Christian Formation program at Christ Church, adults and the youth in 10th grade and older who have not been confirmed by a bishop before are asked to consider participating.

Reception is the action of a person who has made an adult profession of faith in another denomination being received into the Episcopal Church. We recognize this reception by the person receiving prayers from the bishop in front of the congregation. This process also involves a time of preparation and is a wonderful way to learn more about Christian living, the Episcopal Church, and personal service to our Lord.

Reaffirmation is the opportunity for those Episcopalians who would like to reaffirm their faith and service to Jesus Christ. While Holy Baptism happens only once, people find the need at various times in their life to reflect and renew their awareness of how they are called to live out their baptism. The process of prep-

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From the Rector

aration is similar to the processes of confirmation and reception, but with a different focus on renewal. Those seeking reaffirmation will also stand before the bishop to receive a prayer for renewal and empowerment from the Holy Spirit.

The main thing to be aware of with all of these is that the time to ask questions and prepare will occur over the summer. Bridget and I are always available to answer your questions concerning any part of the bishop's visitation or baptism, confirmation, reception. We find that you get much more out of the process if you let us know earlier in the summer what you would like to do, so we can talk about how best to prepare you.

Our program year is wrapping up and the next one will start up soon enough. Fortunately, the bishop's visitation helps us to be aware that the family of faith is not only when we have Sunday School, but when we gather week after week to celebrate the fellowship of our parish and diocesan family and the presence of our Lord in those times which we celebrate as we grow and mature in our faith.

Faithfully,



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

Highlights from the April Vestry Meeting

- The Vestry, as it examines the committees of Christ Church, has asked the Outreach Committee to do a ministry review and report on goals and objectives.
- The Properties Committee continues work on its list of projects including progress with the new porch rendition for the Old Rectory, minor structural repairs to the Smith Building basement area, and some painting that needs to be done.
- Parish Life will organize two events in May and June to welcome new people to the community. The first in May will be focused on families and the event in June will have a more mature focus.
- Bridget reported that the youth retreat at Shine Mont was great. Martha Griffin and Barry Schnoor were the vestry members who participated.
- The Communications Committee is looking to convert the current website to a format that is more user-friendly for the website administrator. The new website would also be better suited for mobile viewing. Changes to the content would be minimal.
- Webster outlined a mini-retreat for the Vestry which would be done in three sessions at the church to inform newer vestry members, to talk about the organization of church functions, and to discuss ways of involving new people at Christ Church.

From the Assistant Rector

Dear Friends in Christ,

In her poem titled "The Church Year," Ann Weems writes:

The church is Easter.

Out of Death: Life.

Out of blackness: a lush green world,

flowers in the ice,

sunrays in the storm,

mustard seeds galore.

Our souls enter a spiritual springtime,

Our bodies given over to leaping and dancing,

Our very beings saturated in hosannas.

Our shouting crashes in upon this world:

The Lord lives!

We live!

Resurrection resounds throughout our community.

I love that phrase: "Resurrection resounds." On Palm Sunday, Jesus declares that if the people are silent, the rocks will cry out. When Easter comes, resurrection resounds. On the days following Easter Sunday, we read of Jesus' resurrection appearances. We read as he appears to various configurations of his disciples in the garden at the tomb, on the road to Emmaus, on the mountain in Galilee, in the locked upper room, Jesus appears and resurrection resounds. The story is retold; the truth that out of death there is life echoes and a new community is born.

Often, in our lives, it seems we notice more easily the presence of death - anxiety, loss, fear, hatred. It can be hard for many of us to see beyond what fills our days with what seems like an endless stream of death such as this. They are a reality of the world we live in, but we have a choice in how we respond because we believe in something, someone that conquers death itself. We who have joined with those first disciples, who have been changed by the presence of Jesus in our lives, are called to have a resurrection perspective. It does not mean that we ignore the deaths we encounter, but it does mean that we see and share that the Lord lives. We are called to be people who see and acknowledge the presence of life.

In the days following Jesus' resurrection, as he appears to his disciples there is often a common theme: go, tell, share that out of death comes life, out of the darkest of darks the light of the world shines brightly one, that resurrection resounds. I invite you, during this glorious Easter season to take notice of where you see resurrection resounding? I would encourage you to pay attention to where you see glimpses of resurrection, in your own life or in the world. And consider how you as a disciple resound resurrection in this world.

Resurrection resounds; thanks be to God!

Blessings,



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

Worship

The Parochial Report

Each year, Episcopal churches are required by canon to submit a Parochial Report to the Diocese which includes information on membership and finances. We just finished the report for 2016 and wanted to share some interesting information from it:

Average Sunday attendance at Christ Church in 2016 rose to 216 from 209 in 2015. Of the numbers the churches report, this is the number least subject to “interpretation” as it is simply an average of those counted on Sunday mornings. We also report the number of baptized members and communicants in good standing, which are harder to measure accurately than attendance.

This year, we recorded 42 people who are active in the church but not members or communicants in good standing. These are people who are involved in the parish community but not technically members. This is a wonderful number to report as we welcome new faces into the community. This number was just 14 in 2016.

We reported two marriages, four burials, seven baptisms, and ten confirmations. We had 65 youth and children in the Sunday School program.

In the financial section, one interesting note is \$21,520 in “Other income.” This money largely comes from the successful rummage sale we have each fall. It is a huge fundraiser for our parish. The financial section clearly demonstrates how our parish relies on giving to operate, while other churches may rely on endowments.

If you have specific questions about the parochial report, please email Webster

Christian Formation

Adult Forum in May

In May, Adult Forum will meet on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30 am, except for Sunday, May 14, which is Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont. This month, we will explore the Easter season readings from the Acts of the Apostles. Every year during the Easter season, we read from Acts to help us get an idea of the early church and how the Resurrection and Ascension impacted the first Christian communities.

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

Adult Daytime Faith Study

In May, we will conclude our exploration of the Old Testament using the Great Courses DVD, “The Old Testament.” The study meets in the Commons (all the way upstairs in the Parish Hall) at 10:00 am on Thursday, May 11 and May 25. All are welcome to join us! Questions? Please call the Church Office (540-662-5843) or email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.

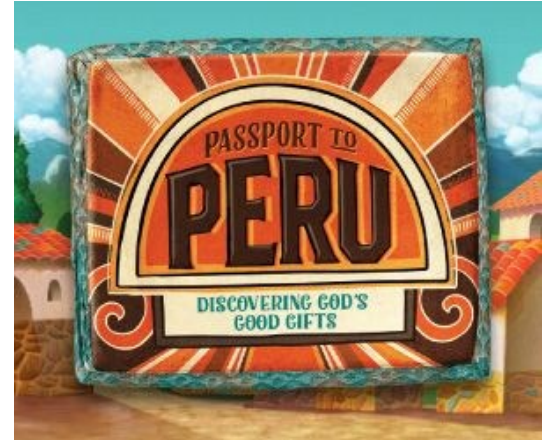
Christian Formation

Sunday School News

Vacation Bible School This Summer

Mark **July 10-14** on your calendars now for *Passport to Peru: Discovering God's Good Gifts*. Our program is from 9:00 am until Noon each morning at Grace Lutheran Church. There is no cost and children ages two through 6th grade are welcome.

Vacation Bible School always has a theme that is intended to help children remember their experience throughout the year. This summer, we will immerse kids in this vibrant culture where they discover God's good gifts for us all, based on stories from Psalms, Mark, Luke, and Acts. The stories will "help kids discover God's eternal love for the world and help them understand the power of Jesus' love in a diverse world."



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.

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

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

We would love to have **youth** who are currently in 7th grade or older serve as helpers in the classrooms and at games. Contact Margery Wingenbach (540-667-0386) to see how you could be a part of VBS! Volunteer Forms will also be in the Tilford Room or on the church website (www.christchurchwinchester.org).

Lenten Mite Box Offering

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 the Heifer Project. Well done!

**The last Sunday of Sunday School and Children's Chapel will be May 28th.
We will finish the year with fun and refreshments.
Be sure it's on your calendar!**

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

May

- 5-6 Apple Blossom Festival
- 12 American Guild of Organists Event
- 12-14 Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont
- 21 Newcomers Event—Details TBD
- 29 Memorial Day (Church Office Closed)



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
Men's Fellowship	2nd Sat: 7:30 am
Outreach Committee	4th Tues: 7:00 pm
Properties Committee	3rd Tues: 7:00 pm
Treasure Box	Wed & Fri: 10 am-4 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Women's Bible Studies	Tues: 10:45 - Noon Thurs: 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm
Youth Group	2nd/4th Sun: 6:00-7:30 pm

Children's Chapel

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



Look for

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

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

Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843

May Birthdays

2	Anne Drury, Pam McKinley, Katy Wiley, Cameron Richard
3	Jo Pilette
4	Karen Jagiello
6	Jane Troup
7	Wayne McKinley
8	Jackson Stock
11	James Northrup, Ted Gronauer
12	Jennifer Groves
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, Barbara "Bobbie" Gouldthorpe
22	Jack Applin, Linda Miles, Cole Jones-Purdy
24	Wilborn Roberson, Sam Harper
25	Carter Lawson, Elizabeth Preston
26	Kay Wise, Greg Jacobson, Lacie Harper, Jessica Pennypacker
27	Sara Bicking, Tim Waldie, Ben Gloster
28	Alix Cooper
29	Bill Drury, Walt McIntosh, Chase Richard, William Walsh, Maggie Martin
30	Fenton Babcock
31	Stephen Gregory



Wedding Anniversaries

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

celebrate!

Please Note:

We will publish birthday and anniversary information only with explicit permission. Please contact the Church Office if you wish to be added to or deleted from these lists. Please keep the Church Office informed of any changes to your address, phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Please let the office know the school addresses of our college students.

Finance Committee

Financial Report

Budget Performance: Unfortunately, the March results were very similar to February. (Revenues were down and expenses were slightly under budget.)

- Total revenues were again below budget for the month and the total for the quarter ended up below budget by about \$16,000. (It was about \$10,000 below through February.)
- Total expenses were also below budget slightly in March and the total for the quarter ended up below budget by about \$5,000. (It was about \$1,000 below through February.)

Most of the revenue shortfall is in the Pledged category and we are hoping that recently mailed 1st quarter statements will remind pledge donors to get caught up! In summary, we are about \$11,000 behind plan, because revenues are down. The table below summarizes with actual dollar values:

	Through March 31, 2017		
	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenues	\$124,313.27	\$140,097.00	\$(15,783.73)
Expenses	\$145,771.86	\$150,745.41	\$(4,973.55)
Net Total	\$(21,458.59)	\$(10,648.41)	\$(10,810.18)

Investment Funds:

This section continues with brief descriptions of Christ Church's investment funds.

YOUTH FUND

Established: 2014 (Combining Marshall 1963 & Steck 1994 Funds)

Restrictions: Not to be depleted, use income only

Purpose: Used for sending youth to conferences, youth camps, and supports youth ministry

Recent Contributions: 0

Recent Uses: Interest used for youth scholarships or youth-related ministries

Market Value: \$54,555 on 12/31/16

LIVING MEMORIAL FUND

Established: 1955

Restrictions: Used for, but not limited to, the purchase of permanent objects used in worship, church furnishings, and scholarship for seminary students

Purpose: to receive contributions of sorrowing friends, in lieu of flowers, at funerals

Recent Contributions: 0

Recent Uses: none

Market Value: \$20,319 on 12/31/16

2017 Youth Pilgrimage

Update from the Team

As we, the youth planning for pilgrimage, get ready to go in just a couple months, we wanted to catch you up on some of the things we are doing and ask for your help!

The most frequent question we, the youth, have been asked is where we are going. From July 19th until July 26th, we will be in England and will visit some of the most sacred sights of our Anglican heritage. This includes cathedrals in Canterbury and London, as well as touching base with our ancestors on a quick visit to Winchester.

Over the next couple of months, we will continue our meetings, which help us get to know each other better for this trip. The meetings also make sure that we have all of our travel plans and paperwork done, and learn different ways such as prayer, journaling, reflection, and even a bit of family history, to help us appreciate this great opportunity in our lives.

If you would like to know what we most need when on the pilgrimage, it is prayer. For some of us, this is our first big trip without our parents. For others, it will be the first time to Europe. For all of us, this will be the first pilgrimage we are taking together as a group. We ask that you keep us in your prayers for safe travel, for greater awareness of God's presence on our journey, and for the care and love of the parish community who has graciously supported us on this journey.

We will continue to update you before, during, and after the pilgrimage, so please keep an eye out in the Angelus and on the website!

The 2017 Pilgrimage Team (left to right): Webster Gibson, Alex Gray, Luke White, George Gibson, Kathryn Schain, Jack Applin, Ella Schnoor, and Sue Jarvis. Graham Becker-Welts not pictured.



Parish News

Project Updates from Properties Committee

The Properties Committee thanks everyone who helped us with Keep Day! The clean windows, raked leaves and tidy churchyard left us ready to greet the community on Easter morning.

As the work in the churchyard has been finished, upcoming projects include minor structural repairs to some of the Smith Building basement area, working with the Winchester Board of Architectural Review on the front porch of the Old Rectory, and ongoing painting around the church and parish hall windows.

Did you notice the new stone foundation for the courtyard bench?



Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont



Our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont will be May 12-14 — Mother's Day weekend. We are looking forward to this special time of fellowship.

If you have registered, please watch for additional details via email as the weekend draws closer. And, feel free to call the Church Office with any questions.

If you are not able to be with us for the whole parish weekend, but would like to join us for **Sunday morning worship** in the Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration, on Sunday, May 14, at 11:00 am. Be sure to arrive early.

While you're there, stay for lunch! This is the annual **Shrine Mont Mother's Day Lunch**, served "Southern style" in Tucker Dining Hall. The usual menu is fried chicken, lima beans, rice and gravy, biscuits, coleslaw, cucumber salad, a special Mother's Day dessert, iced tea and coffee. Contact Shrine Mont directly (540-856-2141) to make your lunch reservation. Be sure to mention that you are with Christ Church so they will put you with us in the dining hall! You'll pay Shrine Mont for lunch that day.

Parish News

Men's Fellowship Meets

The men's fellowship will enjoy an off-site gathering on Saturday, May 20, at the Firefly Café and Bakery at 3035 Valley Ave. #101 starting at 8:00 am. This will be a good time for men to meet, greet and just enjoy the morning over breakfast at the Firefly. All men of the parish are welcome to join the conversation.



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 12, 2017, 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. For more information and to register online, visit braddockstreetumc.org under Events.

CCAP Collection for May



In May, we will collect **CEREAL** to fill the pantry at CCAP. CCAP (Congregational Community Action Project) is a ministry of 46 worshipping communities in Winchester and Frederick County that have come together to support our neighbors in need with financial, material, and other assistance. There is a bookshelf in the foyer of the Parish Hall marked CCAP. Please leave items there and thank you for your generosity!

Graduating this spring?

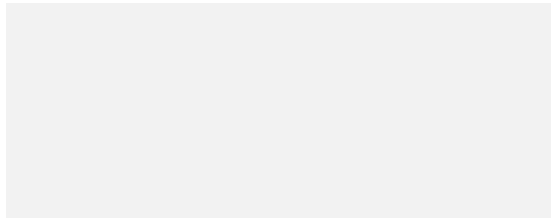
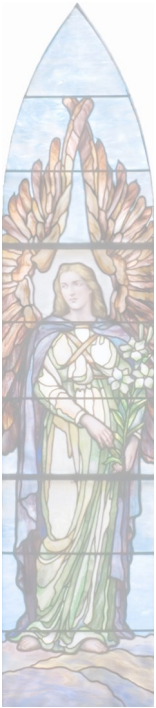
Please let us know!

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!



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Parish Nurse Musings

I have often spoken about gratitude in my musings and, again, this month, I have two things to be very thankful for from my parish nursing experience with this parish. First, in the middle of March, I completed 20 years as your Parish Nurse. What a wonderful experience this has been! From telling Rev. Doug McCaleb that I didn't have time to become a Parish Nurse to enjoying every moment of it, I say thank you. Also this month, I want to congratulate my eight students who will graduate on May 13, 2017. Congrats to Melanie Arfuso, Justine Barrow, Brian Brewer, Kirk Brosnahan, Kriti Hada, Le-Leah Hopkins, Kelly Miles, and Douglas Shaw. And thank you from the bottom of my heart to the parishioners who had them visit in their homes and taught them so much about what a nurse needs to know to be able to be an excellent nurse. Thanks to Bill Davis, Lynda Smith-Bugge, Marsha and James Baden, Fenton Babcock, Joy Nesselrodt, Jim and Ann Taylor and family. Your wisdom and caring are unbelievable.



See you next month!

Your Parish Nurse, Helen