

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

September 2016

Haitian Boys Choir to Visit Christ Church



Les Petits Chanteurs, the boys choir of Holy Trinity Music School (*Ecole de Musique Ste. Trinité*) Episcopal church, Anglican Communion in Port-au-Prince, Haïti, will visit and perform at Christ Church on Friday, September 16. The concert will be in the Sanctuary at 7:00 pm. This amazing group has performed in the United States many times since their first visit in 1984.

The choir was founded in 1960 by the Rev. Barry Borrows, an Episcopal priest. Upon Rev. Borrow's retirement in 1978, other conductors followed, all making tremendous improvements in this group. The leading conductor is Jean-Bernard Desinat. At age seven, boys may audition to join *Les Petits Chanteurs*. The choir accepts young students from elementary schools throughout the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.

The Holy Trinity Music School, in the past, has maintained (and is rebuilding) an enrollment of about a thousand students and a teaching staff of 45 full and part-time professionals. The school is located on the grounds of the to-be-rebuilt Holy Trinity Cathedral, the mother church of the Episcopal Diocese of Haïti, in

Port-au-Prince, and at St. James Episcopal Church in Petionville. Children attend elementary school each day until 2:30 pm. Music school staff members provide basic instruction for the elementary school in general music classes beginning at kindergarten and in music initiation, voice, winds, brass, strings and piano. The Music School operates during the afternoon and on Saturdays, and includes various beginner, intermediate and advanced orchestras and ensembles, as well as *Les Petits Chanteurs* for boys and young men.

The choir last visited Christ Church in September 2013. Please welcome them back! A free-will offering will be collected at their performance to support the Holy Trinity Music School. Hosts will be needed for these visitors for the night of September 16, and help is needed with the dinner and reception around the concert. If you would like to assist, please contact the Church Office (540-662-5843) and we will give you the details.



Sunday School begins Sunday, September 11



SEPTEMBER 2016

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Rector's Message

Dear People of Christ Church,

There is a wonderful scene in the movie *Forrest Gump* as Forrest prepares to get on the bus for the first time to go to school. When Forrest hesitates before climbing the steps, the bus driver asks Forrest what is wrong. He says, "Momma says, 'Don't take rides with strangers.'" After a thoughtful and awkward pause, Forrest asks the bus driver what her name is. She tells him her name. Then, he says, "Now we ain't strangers no more," and he gets on the bus.

When we come into September and begin the program year, I think about that scene because we find new people looking to either get back into church or come to church for the first time. For those of us already in the church, we are like the bus driver—assuming that everyone knows they are welcome to come through the doors and that they know what to do when they get inside. The reality for those looking to come in is often quite different. They may not know what to do when they come inside and they may even wait to be invited to come in because they are not sure if they will be welcomed.

Don't be like the bus driver. Don't wait for those coming in to ask your name in order to find reassurance before coming up the steps! Instead, ask them their name and then, tell them yours. Ask if they need a bulletin, if they need help to find a seat, if they need help to find the Sunday School class for their children. We do not need to tell them that we have never seen them here before or ask them if they have been to church before. There is no need when we first meet people to determine, or give the impression that we are trying to determine, if they are a "valid" church-goer or not. Instead, the first step is to learn their name and to share yours.

Publishers offer countless programs to help parishes be a "welcoming community," but my favorite feedback from visitors does not come from any of those programs. The feedback is when the newcomer is in church and someone in the pew next to them offers them a hymnal already open to the hymn we are about to sing, or the prayer book open to the page we are using. It is that sort of genuine expression of welcome which people hope to find in a church when they come up the steps.

Please remember that the facilities of Christ Church are beautiful and historic, but difficult to navigate at first. Be sure to invite newcomers and visitors to join us for Sunday School or coffee hour, and then escort them to the rooms so they do not get lost or frustrated as a first impression of Christ Church. Also, if you can, please introduce them to one or two other people to help them become better known. I do not think that it is just up to the Newcomers Committee or the designated greeters to greet new faces. It is up to all of us. Maybe we should rename the Newcomers Committee as "the committee to train parishioners to welcome newcomers." (We may have to shorten that...) Each of us, by virtue of baptism, are part of the actual newcomers committee called Christ Church.

With all of the concerts, Bishop's visit and worship, and other programs going on at Christ Church this fall, we have an opportunity for lots of practice at welcoming! If you are ever concerned where to begin, a handshake and telling of your name is always a good place to start.

Faithfully,



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



From the Vestry

Highlights from the August Vestry Meeting

- The budget forecast bottom line through July was within \$157.50 of Actual vs Budget! Revenue is tracking as expected, though we had hoped for a mid-year bump on unpledged contributions. We weathered the added properties expense for an elevator control board, the new duct and smoke detectors, and other painting and repairs.
- The Outreach Committee reported that American Woodmark Foundation donated \$2,000 to WATTS in the name of Christ Church. We received an unexpected gift of \$500 from the diocese for Panda Pantry.
- Webster noted the need to plan a celebration in September for the completed financial campaigns, probably on a Sunday morning. He also advised that the diocesan annual council will change from January to November, which will affect our budget process.
- Sunday school starts September 11 and ends at the end of April. A new curriculum has been ordered. There will be some changes in Youth Group, moving from meeting every weekend to the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

From the Church Office

Church Office Reception Ministry



Many thanks to our recently retired Church Office volunteer coordinator, **Jim Petrie**. Jim served a long tenure scheduling volunteers and logged many hours himself in the Church Office greeting visitors, answering calls, and mailing newsletters. Thank you for your time, Jim!

Another Jim will take over these duties—Mr. Jim Taylor. Thank you to him for stepping into these big shoes!

As we transition from Jim to Jim, and continue to get used to a new telephone system, we will be restructuring the volunteer program in the office. We will move from having two shifts of volunteers each day to having only one on duty from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. (The office will remain open until 4:00 pm on Monday–Thursday.) This will cover the busier times for visitors and phone calls, and reduce the number of volunteers needed each week. We will improve training for office volunteers to ensure they are confident using the new features of the phone system. And, we will clarify the policy for handling requests

for financial assistance so that volunteers are better prepared to handle those visits/calls. For those who wish to help in the office, but may prefer to do so for a shorter amount of time than a whole shift or those who may not want to work with the phone system, there are many opportunities to do administrative tasks like folding newsletters, stuffing bulletins, filing, shredding, and more. Please call Noelle in the Church Office (540-662-5843) or speak with Jim Taylor if you are interested in joining this ministry.

Christian Formation

Sunday School News

When Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 11, children in preschool through 5th grade will be introduced to a new, fun lectionary-based curriculum. It's called *Whirl* (for **W**elcome, **H**ear, **R**espond, and **L**aunch). Its age-appropriate materials incorporate a brief animated video where characters model what it's like for kids to go through the questions and challenges of living out their faith with discussion and activities specific to each class to explore the theme of the week's lectionary readings. It's a lively pace that provides solid formation and fun. If you would like to learn more about the program, please visit their website: <http://wearesparkhouse.org/kids/whirl/lectionary/>.

Registration for Sunday School is ongoing. You can find a registration form in the Tilford Room, in the Commons area on the second floor of the Parish Hall, or on the website (www.christchurchwinchester.org) Be sure you have completed a form so we will have up-to-date information for your child/children. We need a form for each individual child.

Adults are invited to help the teachers in our preschool through 5th grade classrooms on Sunday mornings. All that is required is your presence and helping hands! Our goal is to have at least two adults in each classroom each Sunday morning. There are lots of Sundays in a year. We have excellent teachers but they can't single-handedly wait for someone outside the restroom, tell a story, and prepare a creative activity. We are all needed to provide a great program for our kids! Contact Margery Wingenbach (540-667-0386 or margerywingenbach@gmail.com) to offer your help.

Formation curriculum for middle and high school classes will also be new this fall. Stay tuned for details!



Youth Group

Youth Group had its first gathering on Sunday, August 28. This year, youth in grades 6-12 will meet on the second and fourth Sundays each month for worship, study, fellowship, and community service. Meetings are at 6:00 pm on these Sundays in the Tilford Room. Please contact the Rev. Bridget Coffey (bcoffey@christchurchwinchester.org) for information.

Christian Formation

Adult Daytime Faith Study

We are exploring the Old Testament using the Great Courses DVD, "The Old Testament." The most recent lectures in this program are about the book Exodus. The study meets in the Parlors at 10:00 am on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month (September 8 and 22). All are welcome to join us! Questions, please call the Church Office (540-662-5843) or email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.

Adult Forum in September

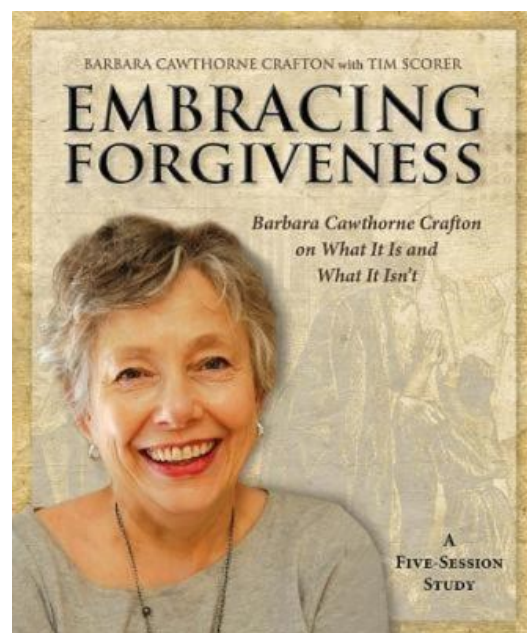
Adult Forum meets on Sunday mornings through the program year in the Tilford Room at 9:30 am. There is no registration required, so please join us when you can.

Our forum this fall will have two parts. The main part of the program will use the DVD series, "Embracing Forgiveness: What It Is and What It Isn't," by Barbara Cawthorne Crafton. This is part of *The Embracing Series*, which we have used on such topics as the prophets and in conversations about adult faith.

"With wisdom, wit, and theological depth Barbara Cawthorne Crafton explores the perennial topic of forgiveness from the perspective of gift rather than duty. Along the way, she exposes patterns of resistance and popular understandings that undermine our ability to receive and share the gift with others..."

—Frank T. Griswold, 25th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

The other part of Adult Forum will feature occasional speakers. For example, on September 25, we will hear more about the Christ Church Panda Pantry Ministry. Additional guests will be announced in the Angelus and Sunday bulletins.



The Tri-Diocesan Council on Aging Annual Fall Camp at Shrine Mont

October 24-27, 2016

Key Note Speaker: The Rev. Barbara Crafton

Fall Camp is an opportunity to spend time in the mountains of Virginia with other seniors (there isn't an age requirement). The Camp is an attempt to take seriously the spiritual needs and journeys of primarily retired people. We attempt to challenge participants through keynote speakers, workshops, worship and interaction with one another. We worship together in daily sessions, explore various issues, and participate in one or two session workshops (each session is an hour and a half) on a variety of topics. A social "half-hour" is held before dinner with appetizers provided by a different diocese each evening. There is plenty of time to sit on the porches, visit with friends, relax, and enjoy the amazing scenery and to explore the surrounding area. Please call the Church Office (540-662-5843) if you would like a registration form.

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

September

- 11 Sunday School & Adult Forum begins,
Bishop's Visit at 3:00 pm
- 12 Special Needs Service at 6:30 pm
- 16 Les Petits Chanteurs concert at 7:00 pm
- 28 Salvation Army Dinner—Ft. Collier Campus

Committee & Group Meetings

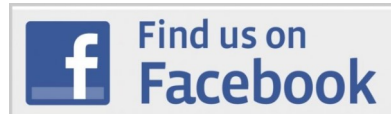
Adult Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:45 am
Daytime Faith Study	2nd/4th Thurs: 10:00 am
Knit Unto Others	3rd Tues: 2:00 pm
Liturgical Bible Study	Wed: 10:30 am
Community Fellowship	2nd Thurs: 7:00 pm
Men's Fellowship	2nd Sat: 7:30 am
Outreach Committee	4th 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
Youth Group	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!

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.



**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

September Birthdays

- 1 Ty Lawson, John Nelson
- 2 Robb Russell
- 3 Gary Edwards
- 5 Jake Sheppard
- 6 Tom Dame, Joyce Casey
- 7 Joan Bronson, Virginia Rae, Laurel Jones-Purdy, Mary Pat Gronauer
- 8 Sharon Lower
- 9 Vicky Arculin
- 10 Judith Anderson, Frank Rupert
- 11 David Sperry
- 13 Pete Gronauer
- 14 Carolyn Lewis, Barbara Rupert, Lindsay Pifer, Debra Shows, Dawson Wiley
- 15 Sue Jones, Ashley Major Haines
- 18 Polly Nelson, Isabella Dastjerdi
- 19 Cheryl Crowell, Sandy White
- 20 Carolyn Morgoglione
- 21 Allison Donahoe, Patricia Stierhoff
- 22 Bill Major, Charles Turnbull
- 23 Bill Davis, Churchill Gibson
- 25 Roberta Gunnell
- 27 Gus Wise, Maggie Wise, Valarie Kitchen
- 28 Katlyn Wall
- 29 Ann Poling, Pem Hutchinson, Adelaide Turnbull, Justin Raymond
- 30 Sue Bonnett, Andrew Major



Wedding Anniversaries

- 3 George & Patricia Stierhoff
- 3 Kirk & Linda Gibson
- 4 Stephen & Nancy Brown
- 9 Conrad & Robin Koneczny
- 9 David & Carolyn Lewis
- 20 John & Joan Claybrook
- 21 Steve & Terry Cluss

celebrate!

Save the Date!

On **Sunday, October 2, 2016, at 5:00 pm**, the Winchester American Guild of Organists (WAGO) presents a Choral Evensong led by Ronald Stolk (Dutch organist of St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Washington, DC) at Christ Episcopal Church. All welcome!



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.

August Events



The Christ Church OWLs enjoyed a visit from storyteller Donna Hughes.

Below—A group from Christ Church worked on a Habitat for Humanity home in Winchester as part of an Interfaith Build. Webster supervised!



All smiles at the Ice Cream Social and Bingo night!

From the Committees

Finance Committee

Capital Campaign Update

Congratulations to all! We have paid back in full to our Unrestricted Endowment the \$300,000 self loan we made to help pay for the Bell Tower project. There are still some outstanding pledges that we hope to receive and will invest to assist with other future projects that arise.

Organ Renovation Finance Update

We have paid back in full the self loan from the Sanctuary Fund that was needed to help provide cash for the Organ Renovation project. We will now begin to pay back the self-loan from the Organ Fund that was also needed to help provide cash for the Organ Renovation project.

Pledges for the Organ Renovation have time durations out through 2017. We will report our progress as we continue to receive money and pay back the Organ Fund self-loan.

Actual vs. Budget

We are now right on track! A few expenses that were budgeted earlier in the year (i.e. maintenance contract) have been received and processed, such that total expenses are now just slightly ahead of budget. Fortunately, revenues are also slightly ahead of budget. Though total expenses are now \$40,000 greater than total revenues, this is right where our budget planned for us to be.

Summer months, when attendance is lower, mean that revenues are typically down while our expenses continue at their normal levels. Our budget plan includes a year-end surge of revenue (some pledge gifts are one-time gifts received near the end of the year), where total revenue finally catches up to total expenses and the plan is to break even for the year. The table below presents a summary of revenues and expenses:

Through July 31	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total Revenues	\$ 298,924.15	\$ 297,855.00	\$ 1,069.15
Total Expenses	\$ 339,048.99	\$ 338,137.34	\$ 911.65
Difference	\$ (40,124.84)	\$ (40,282.34)	\$ 157.50

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

Properties Committee

Update on current projects:

- Painter Roger Barnes and crew have been painting the church roof, window frames and sills, and railings over the past several weeks.
- Asbestos removal from church basement is complete. Thanks to the contractor, Bryan Hodge of Waco, for completion of this project. Sealing and painting of the space is next.
- As announced last month, the restoration of the Old Rectory porch is another project in very early stages. Stay tuned for updates on progress.

Parish News

Christ Church Annual Rummage Sale



During the last four Octobers, our church family has enjoyed the fun and fellowship of an annual rummage sale that has raised \$35,000 for Christ Church ministries. Our attic-basement-closet styled event continues to be a tremendous success in the Winchester community and among parishioners, and we hope to keep the momentum going for our event again this year—with a another goal of \$10,000 or more—for

the second straight year! We will be open for business on October 21 and 22, 2016. We need volunteers in the following categories:

- Set up and take down of the Tilford Room the entire week before through the end of the sale
- Pricing of all items donated for sale
- Cashiers
- Floor monitors to help customers and answer questions
- Delivery volunteers for larger items
- Drivers to pick up and deliver large donations to the church
- Posting of advertising flyers in area businesses or your own business
- Support for and donation of baked goods to sell
- Kitchen support and clean up (please see Dan Wall)
- Official greeters

Please see Chris Ferguson or any member of the Vestry to volunteer.

As for donations, here is a list of what we **cannot** accept:

- Encyclopedias/yearbooks/textbooks—all other books are fine
- Entertainment centers
- Gas grills
- Magazines
- TVs—except for flat screens in good working order
- Computer monitors or keyboards—unless they are tested to be in working order
- Most electronics—please see or speak with Chris Ferguson
- Large appliances such as washers, dryers, stoves, etc.
- Damaged or furniture in need of significant repair
- Soiled furniture
- Paint of any kind
- Broken or badly stained collectibles or glassware

Outside of the above items, please donate only what we might be able to sell! Please make arrangements for the delivery of your donations by calling Chris Ferguson (540-662-4219, 978-360-4501) or they may be delivered on any Sunday morning to the Tilford Room. Please ensure one of the following:

- Box or bag your donations. Please ensure they are secure.
- Mark items “FRAGILE” to prevent breakage.
- **Bring items that are clean and in good repair. Volunteers do not have time to spend cleaning items for the sale.**

Thank you for your continued support of this important fundraiser and wonderful opportunity for fellowship. If you have any questions about the Rummage Sale, please call Chris or Melissa Ferguson at the numbers above.

Parish News

Men's Fellowship Meets

Men's Fellowship will meet on Saturday, September 10, at the Firefly Café (3035 Valley Ave.) at 8:00 am to discuss the movie, *The 33*, that we viewed together in August. All men are welcome!

CCAP Collection for September

In September, we will collect DIAPERS, size 2 and size 5, 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!



Help Needed with Bishop's Reception!

The Rt. Rev. Ted Gulick's visit to Christ Church is Sunday, September 11, 2016. He will join us for a 3:00 pm service for the celebration of confirmation, reception and reaffirmation. There will be a reception after the service. If you can help with the reception (setup, cleanup, bring food, etc.), please call Martha Roberson at 540-662-3211 or sign up in the Tilford Room.

Calling all Singers

Adult Choir begins its rehearsals this year on Wednesday evening, September 7, at 7:00 pm. There are openings in each section. If you would be interested in joining the choir, please see Dr. Kriewald after Sunday's service or call him at 540-539-0000.

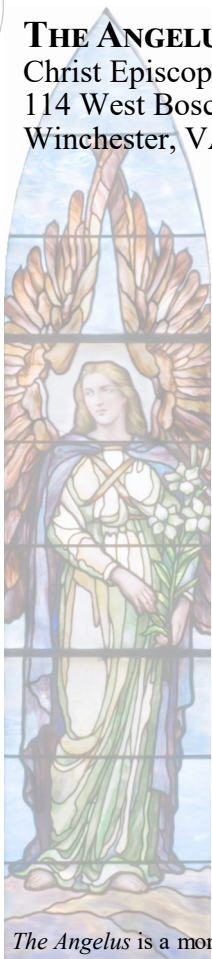


The Treasure Box opens this month completely restocked with fall/winter fashions. There's a great variety of men and women's styles and sizes, so we are calling all shoppers to come browse and buy while the selection is excellent. We want to thank everyone who has remembered us with donations during spring cleaning and downsizing. As a result, our sales reports are looking good, and we are on target to maintain our charitable giving level this year, both to outside groups and to supplement Christ Church Outreach programs such as Panda Pantry, Salvation Army meals, and WATTS week. A complete list of beneficiaries is posted in the shop for anyone wanting to know exactly how Treasure Box profits from no-longer-needed items go back to the community--providing food, clothing, shelter, and enrichment to those most in need.

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

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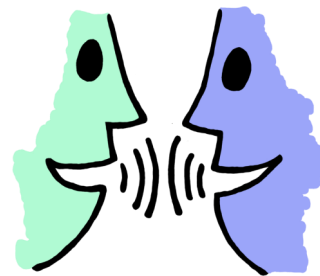


The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Parish Nurse Musings

As you send your children to school—grade school, high school, or college—remember that you raised them correctly and give them room to show that you did a good job. Don't be a helicopter parent. Expect the best!

We have been told so many times to "Say what you mean!" which is to be clear when communicating. Say it in ways that the other person can understand what you are trying to tell them. And, "Mean what you say." There is not time to play games if you want results. Communicate in the fewest number of words what you are trying to convey. Last, but not least: "Don't be mean when you say it!" There are all kinds of ways to get your point across and being unpleasant is the best way for the person hearing it to be offended and not do what you are asking. This may seem that I am saying this to parents, but I am saying this to all of us as we talk to those around us. Gentle speech is better than mean speech.



Have a great day and see you next month!

Your Parish Nurse, Helen