THE ANGELUS

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Dear People of Christ Church,

As our stewardship program has emphasized the giving of our time and talent as well as our treasure in service of the church, people have asked me to clarify what we mean by time and talent. It is a good question because I do not think people realize how many different ways they can offer their time and talent to the church unless it is in some specific way like finance, facility maintenance, teaching or some unrealistic notion of being able to save the world. Another side of that is people say that they do not have time so they give in order for someone else to do the work. Such confusion unfortunately limits how we can be disciples of Jesus as the body of Christ.

I have encountered some wonderful examples of people whose desire to serve led them to try out ministries they had not considered before, but they knew how to learn, and we have people who enjoy teaching. For our Sunday livestreaming ministry, our team are faithful in their willingness to learn and grow, but they are not professional videographers. Our altar guild has a wonderful manual to guide the teams in setting up for services. The office and facility constantly need help, and we show people what they need to do. What I find with the idea of time and talent is the willingness to take the risk to offer yourself, and the need for leadership to invite others to come and serve. Our leadership is working on new ways to invite people. We also encourage people to join in the ministries.

To help frame this gift of time and talent and treasure in Christian discipleship as the giving of ourselves back to God in service of the church, we always want to affirm that we are giving of our full selves to God and not just a couple of parts of ourselves. It only makes sense when you consider that all of who we are and what we have came from God in the first place. An image I was taught is to see ourselves as gifts of God and when the offering plate comes around, if it were big enough, we would put our whole selves into the plate as an offering to God. It is not a part of ourselves, but our whole selves. It is our time AND our talent AND our treasure. With time and talent and treasure – you are the full gift from God. We do not substitute one part of ourselves for the other. We give ourselves.

At the 8am service, as we present ourselves with our offering in the plates as well as the bread and wine, we remind ourselves of King David's wise words from I Chronicles, "all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee." The full verse goes even further saying, "But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee." It can seem intimidating if we wonder how much is enough to satisfy God. Fortunately knowing God to be a God of grace loving us unconditionally, God would say it is not about enough as if we buy God's affection.

From our side though, there is the growing and stretching a learning about ourselves and our giving. The theory is God is significant to us. The challenge is how do we show that significance? The theory is we want to prioritize growing our faith as disciples of Jesus. The challenge is how do we show that in what we do? In a world of options vying for our attention, how do we make decisions when we want it all? Since we cannot do everything, we need to make decisions and set our priorities. There is no simple guaranteed solution. It is a challenge. Which is why our stewardship committee talks about giving in a prayerful setting. How do you consider and live out your practice of giving of your full self – time AND talent AND treasure?

Continued...

Worship

October 24th hopes to be a day to practice the big "AND" of our full selves, as stewards with additional help needed. The Outreach Committee and Vestry set out to challenge our parish family to consider doing more when they utilized our treasure to work with Rise Against Hunger to host a Saturday morning event to pack 20,000 meals to feed communities around the world. You can go their website to see how they do that. For our part, that is twice what we have done before, but the parish leadership believes we can do it. Our time and talent working together as well as a chance to invite a friend to help. The goal is to be done by noon.

After that, the Stewardship Committee will host our parish family for a dinner to celebrate what our time and talent and treasure create and sustain – our relationships with one another as fellow disciples of Jesus who gather in worship, discipleship, breaking of bread and prayers.

We are a work in progress growing our faith as disciples of Jesus. Even those first twelve disciples had quite a bit of growing to do. While I don't think we will ever be finished in our growing, the community at Christ Church has a tremendous amount of love of God to offer in the world today. Seeking to be "the gifts of God for the people of God," may we continue to grow in offering the gift of our full selves to the glory of God in all parts of our lives every day.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector
rector@christchurchwinchester.org
540-662-5843, Ext 1 or 540-773-5562

Come Sing with Us!

The Adult Choir at Christ Episcopal Church is a welcoming group of singers who help lead and enrich our worship through music. I'm Jean Lin, the church's Music Director and Organist, and I'm excited to be working with our choir this year!

Our choir sings for the 10:30 am Sunday service, preparing a different anthem each week in addition to hymns and other service music. We also provide special music for Christmas, Holy Week, Easter, and other services throughout the year. There are opportunities for singers of all experience levels, and you do not need to consider yourself a "professional" or even an especially confident singer to participate.

We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm and gather on Sunday at 9:30 am for a warmup before the 10:30 am service. In addition to making music together, choir is a wonderful opportunity to get to know other members of the church and build friendships with amazing people.

If you enjoy singing, are curious about choral music, or simply want to become more involved in the life of the church, we would love to have you join us. You can come to a rehearsal and see what you think. There is no audition required! If you have any questions, please email me at jyoyulin@gmail.com or catch me on Sunday after church. I'm always happy to chat!

Worship & Formation

All Mobilities Music Program in October

All ages & abilities are welcome throughout October for a fun, multi-sensory musical experience! Whether you love to sing, ring handbells, or just want to make music in a welcoming space, there is a place for you. Rehearsals are Wednesdays in October, from 5:00 – 5:50 pm in the church. Adults, please accompany your children under 12. The culmination will be leading worship on All Saints' Day (Sunday, November 1) at the 10:30 am service with the song we've learned. Please contact De Lyn Celec (dcelec@su.edu or 520-977-2848) to register or with questions.

Women's Book Study Group Invites You

The Women's Book Study group invites women to join them on the first and third Thursday each month at 5:30 pm in the Parlors at 132 W. Boscawen Street for discussion and fellowship. No registration is required. The group will read *Theo of Golden* in October and *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson in November. The meeting on December 3 will be a holiday gathering. Please contact Pam Kennedy (pamandkevin68@gmail.com) with any questions.

Monday Faith Study Group Continues

This fall, the Monday Adult Faith Group studies the Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, and how they help to shape us as disciples of Jesus in the Episcopal Church. The group meets in the in the Smith Building Conference Room (114 W. Boscawen, upstairs). This study is a hybrid study so those who cannot attend in person may join on Zoom. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month.

It is recommended that you bring your own copy of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer in case you want to make notes as we go through the class. While Bibles are provided, if you want to mark yours as you go through the class, please bring your own copy. Additional materials will be provided as we go through the class.

If you would like to participate, please contact Webster Gibson (rector@christchurchwinchester.org) for the Zoom link and study materials.

Church Calendar

Services at Christ Church

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II in the Sanctuary

Holy Eucharist at Westminster-Canterbury
Every 1st & 3rd Thursday at 10:30 am

Find us on Facebook

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

The Church Office is open Tuesday—Thursday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.
Call ahead before you visit!

Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 6:00 pm
Bible Study	Wed: 10:30 am via Zoom
Outreach Committee	1st Tues: 6:00 pm
Properties Committee	3rd Wed: 7:00 pm
Stewardship Committee	2nd Wed: 7:00 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Faith Study	2nd & 4th Mon: 10:00 am
Treasure Box	Wed & Fri: 10 am—4 pm Sat: 10 am—1 pm
Women's Book Study	First & Third Thursday at 5:30 pm — Parlors

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Church Calendar

October Birthdays

2 James Baden, Madison Talbott Truong
4 Patricia Barnes, Martha Roberson, Eric Kalbaugh
8 Rosemary Swope, Pam Kennedy, Dan Gloster
9 Loretta Johnston
10 Pam DeBergh
14 Margaret Kesser
15 Jean Trumbore
16 Dick Arculin
17 Mary Beth Compton
20 Katy Schain, John Wiedower
21 Megan Paul, Glenn Rudy
22 John Applin
26 Bill Thompson, Tom King
28 Cathie Waldie
29 Judy Whiting
31 Amy Stock, Sue Jarvis

October Anniversaries

1 Bill & Maria Tedesco
7 Ned & Amy Stock
8 Dennis & Debra Shows
14 Bill & Sue Jarvis
26 Eric & Jillian Kalbaugh

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.

Shop at the Treasure Box Thrift Shop!

Donations accepted during business hours.

Open Wednesdays and Fridays
10—4 & Saturdays 10-1
at 114 W. Boscawen St.

If you need a copy of the parish directory, please email Noelle at communications@christchurchwinchester.org to make arrangements to pick one up in the Church Office.

To submit a prayer request, please visit the website and click on "Add a Name to the Prayer List" in the Quick Links section.

Stewardship Committee

Gearing up for Stewardship!

Last month's Angelus submission by the Stewardship Committee reminded us that stewardship is never a once-a-year exercise. It's a 24/7 commitment to living as disciples of Christ — offering our time, talent, and treasure in gratitude for all God has given us.

As we move toward the official kick-off of Christ Church's Annual Giving Campaign on November 1, our focus naturally shifts to treasure, but time and talent continue to knit us together as a community grounded in Christ's love.

Our theme this year, "Upholding One Another in Love" (Ephesians 4:1–2), calls us to remember that we belong to one another. God invites us to build a community rooted in grace, generosity, and faithful love — the kind of love we see when we walk beside a neighbor in crisis, bring children together in joyful celebration, when leaders are formed to guide with wisdom and compassion, and when we choose to remain in loving relationship with one another. This is stewardship in action.

On Saturday, October 24, we'll put a crescendo on that theme. Stewardship Day begins with service: from 9:00 am to noon, Christ Church will host a **Rise Against Hunger** event, packing meals for those facing food insecurity. See p. 8 for details — but know that this event brings together all three pillars of stewardship: time, talent, and treasure.

That evening, we shift from serving others to celebrating one another. Our unofficial campaign kick-off continues with a festive Oktoberfest from 5:00-7:00 pm in the Tilford Room. Brats, sauerkraut, potatoes, and German music – and, of course, our parish family – will fill the parish hall with the unmistakable joy of community. Nonalcoholic drinks will be provided; feel free to bring your own beer or other beverages. A short presentation from the Stewardship Committee and conversation starters at each table will help us connect — or reconnect — as neighbors in Christ. Bring a friend. Truly, the more the merrier. There is an RSVP link on the church website.

Looking ahead, Pledge Sunday on November 15 will be a special moment in our life together. Pledges will be placed in a basket on the altar, blessed, and lifted up in prayer as signs of our shared commitment to Christ Church.

We look forward to walking through this season with you — serving together, celebrating together, and upholding one another in love as members of this remarkable Christ Church community.

Pastoral Care Committee

Caring for Loved Ones: Planning Ahead
Guidance for families on healthcare, Hospice and estate planning

On November 9, 2026, the Pastoral Care Committee is hosting an event that, in recent years, we have called the “End of Life Planning” session. This fall, we are “re-branding” this session in hopes that its value will be recognized by families who would benefit from the discussion.

The American Bar Association tells us, “End-of-life planning is important because it ensures your personal, medical, and financial wishes are honored while relieving your family of heavy emotional and administrative burdens during a crisis.”

And most in our Christ Church family who have lost a loved one unexpectedly can vouch that if there has been some planning, it helps immeasurably while navigating grief.

It is a difficult subject sometimes for parents to broach with their adult children, and also difficult for concerned children to discuss with aging parents. Let this session, hosted at church, be a conduit for such discussion by attending together - parents and adult children. Learn ways that personal, medical and financial wishes can be explained and then honored. Learn about the resources available in our community. Learn what to discuss with your attorney, or how to get an attorney.

The session will include remarks from attorney Josh Hummer on estate law. Dr. Sonja Richmond, Chief Medical Officer for Blue Ridge Care, will discuss the difference in palliative care and hospice care. Ben Weber, Vice President, Business Development, Community Care for Blue Ridge Care, will present the PACE program, which is all inclusive care for the elderly. And, Jenni Martin, RN and Chief Growth and Access Officer, will talk about advance directives.

The session will begin at 9:00 am on Saturday, November 9, 2026 in the Tilford Room. There will be time for Q&A and a break for refreshments. If you would like to attend or have questions, please contact Noelle in the Church Office at 540-662-5843, Ext. 4.

Outreach Committee

October Donations to CCAP for Holiday Food Baskets

Among the projects of the Outreach Committee at Christ Church is the monthly collection during Sunday services of various items to help support different local non-profit organizations. The congregation is always very generous, and donations are very much appreciated by the agencies that we serve.

In October, we are collecting canned yams, green beans, and mixed vegetables for CCAP's Holiday food basket drive. CCAP provides meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas for hundreds of families in our local area each holiday season.

You can bring donations to church on Sundays in October or drop off at the Church office at 114 W. Boscawen Street on Wednesdays from 10-2.

CCAP
CONGREGATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROJECT EST.1974
Committed to helping our neighbors

Food-Packing Event on October 24

Rise SM
AGAINST HUNGER
food • community • sustainability

We will particpate in a meal-packing event for Rise Against Hunger on Saturday, October 24, 2026. We will begin at 9:00 am. If you can help unload the truck, please sign up to help at 8:00 am. All ages are welcome! It's an assembly-line style event. Please register using the link on the church website or here.