

THE ANGELUS

Volume 69 Number 5

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

January 2019

From the Rector



Dear People of Christ Church,

As we enter into the new year, I am excited that we have our new parish directory coming out soon to help us put names with the faces of people we have either met before or have just met for the first time. I want to thank Noelle Creamer, our communications coordinator, and Katie Harvard, who graciously agreed to help Noelle put this together, plus all of you who helped to sign up the picture times for making this process work. It did get a bit exciting with our early snow storm causing some cancellations and appointment shuffling. However, we look forward to being able to distribute the directories at the end of January.

As I observed the people coming in for their pictures, I could not help but notice the mix of new families, families with grown children, and the reality of changes among the congregation with changes as people come to Winchester, and changes which happen to us with time. One of the things that we will be working on over the next few months will be ways to help people visit and get to meet one another through various events. An example is the OWLs (Older, Wiser Laity) gathering on January 20. I am also working on some events for younger laity and other events for everyone. Stay tuned for more information for those dates and events.

A couple of people have asked me about becoming members of Christ Church as well as members of the Episcopal Church. This has led to conversations about what membership means for people coming from other denominations, and where confirmation and reception come into play with membership. Part of that conversation involves our annual bishop's visitation which will be next fall. The other part of that conversation is having the chance for people to ask their questions, share their faith journey stories, and be able to learn about this community called "Episcopal."

To help with these questions, the clergy will be hosting a tea on Sunday, January 13 from 3:00-4:00 pm here at the church to discuss all of these questions with anyone interested in learning more about Christ Church, the Episcopal Church, and where we fit in with our traditions. To help us know who can attend, we would appreciate your contacting the Church Office to let us know about your joining us (540-662-5843). If you cannot make it, but would like to find out more information, please call the office and let us know that as well.

The new year is starting of in full swing with new clergy, programs of fellowship and welcome, and other activities and programs for all ages. We will try and keep people up to date through various media outlets. However, if you find that you are not getting the information, please do not hesitate to call the office.

May all of you have a blessed 2019 as we continue to serve our Lord now, and into the future.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Webster".

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

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JANUARY 2019

From the Rector

Save the Date—Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont

Christ Church parish weekend will be Mother's Day 2019, May 10-12.

It's a chance for everyone in the parish to have a weekend retreat – getting away with friends and family to Shrine Mont – our diocesan conference center (www.shrinemont.org). The weekend provides plenty of food, fellowship, activities and fun for all. Stay tuned for more information.

Attend the Annual Meeting

On Sunday, January 27, we will have our Annual Meeting at Christ Church from 9:30-10:15 in the Tilford Room.

For those of you who may not have attended an annual meeting before, here is what you will find: First of all, it is the meeting where the congregation elects a new class of four people to serve on the Vestry. The Vestry is the group that serves as “agent and legal representative of the Parish in all matters concerning its corporate property and the relations of the Parish to its Clergy.” The members help the rector in mutual ministry of worshipping and serving our Lord. Of course, my favorite diocesan canon for vestry is: “Each Vestry member shall extend personally a hearty welcome to newly baptized, confirmed, received, or transferred members of the congregation.” Adult communicants in good standing are allowed to vote at the meeting. If you are not sure if you are technically a member at Christ Church, please call the Church Office prior to the Annual Meeting. We encourage those new to the parish, or not yet members, to attend the meeting because this is a good way to see what is going on at Christ Church.

We will also hear reports from officers of the Vestry—Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Treasurer—about the parish. We have the annual meeting between the church services to have as much of the faithful community attend as possible; to remind ourselves what nourishes us as a parish which is our worship of our Lord Jesus Christ and the opportunity to break bread at His table. Please be sure to be with us on Sunday morning, January 27, for this important part of our parish life.



Christian Formation

Sunday School



A special thanks to all who helped with the Christmas Eve family service and December activities in the Sunday School! You are a blessing!

Sunday School classes resume on January 6, as does Children's Chapel during the 10:30 am service. The group from Children's Chapel will join parents in the sanctuary at the Peace.

Were you wondering where the Magi were during the service on Christmas Eve? They will arrive to offer gifts during our 10:30 am service on Epiphany, January 6. After all, they had further to journey! January 6 is also the twelfth day of Christmas!

Happy New Year!

Youth Group

The Sunday evening portion of our Youth Group starts up again at 6:00 pm on Sunday, January 6.

Please help us provide sustenance (food) for our youth by going to the sign up on our Youth Program section of the parish website on finding a date to fix supper. You do not have to be a parent of the youth to care for our youth group. The youth are a pretty civil group (not perfect, but better), and they enjoy home-cooked meals, not just take out.

If you can help, there are further instructions on the website.

Remember, the Park Service asks that you do not feed the bears. However, you are always welcome to feed the youth.

Questions, please call Webster Gibson at 540-662-5843.

From the Diocese

Bishop's Listening Sessions

Bishop Goff will host five Community Listening Sessions around the Diocese in the season of Epiphany. "I invite us into renewed mission together in Christ's name. I invite us to look back – not to the recent past – but to our roots in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to a deep recollection of who we are called to be and what we are called to do in his name. Strengthened by that recollection, I invite us to connect more deeply than ever with one another as lay people, deacons, priests and bishops, and to connect more powerfully than ever with a world so in need of the Good News we have to share in Christ Jesus." Each session will include a time for you and your Bishops to share your dreams for our Diocese. We hope you can attend one of the sessions to be held at:

Thursday, January 17, 6-8 p.m. Christ Church, Spotsylvania

Saturday, February 9, 1-3 p.m. St. Barnabas, Annandale

Wednesday, February 13, 5-7 p.m. Emmanuel, Woodstock

Saturday, February 16, 5-7 p.m. Roslyn Retreat Center, Richmond

Monday, March 4, 3-5 p.m. St. Margaret's School, Tappahannock

Register at www.thediocese.net.



What we hear from each other in these sessions will shape subsequent opportunities for sharing as we deepen dialogue and grow in community. What we learn will strengthen us to go Now Into the World. Please do plan to be a part of this time.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan E. Goff". There is a small cross symbol above the first letter of the first name.

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan and Ecclesiastical Authority

Outreach News

Angel Tree Thanks

The busy Christmas season is at an end, but the Outreach Committee would like to thank our congregation for assisting the committee with making sure that the Angels from the Salvation Army all had a special Christmas morning! Everyone was very giving in so many ways this year. We give a special thank you to our volunteer helpers, who assisted the congregants in choosing their special Angel, and to those who both collected the filled bags and drove them plus the many bicycles to the Salvation Army Distribution Center!

We were given 145 Angel names to collect gifts for this Christmas. You met the needs and wishes of all of those children so their parents could offer a real Christmas morning to every one of those children. Here comes the special part. Through the cash donations by many remaining members of Christ Church, we were able to assist a shortage of gifts collected by the Salvation Army. Ann and I were informed the day before the gifts were to be distributed to the parents, that there had been a shortfall in the total gift giving to the Angel Tree program of 40 bags of gifts. Oh no! However, through your generosity, we were able to use the cash donations to go out on Monday evening and shop for seven male Angels plus two teenage boys who had come into the community too late to register their needs. The nine complete gift bags were taken early the next morning (the distribution day) to the Salvation Army in time to have enough gifts to help make up for the shortage. Several of the Salvation Army staff were in tears because your kindness made it possible to save the day! Thank you for your part in making Christmas morning to the community of 810 children a real Christmas joy! Thank you and Bless all who made the Angel Tree program such a special success. Let's keep the Christmas spirit alive each and every month of the new year!

Ann and Jim Taylor for the Outreach Committee



Calendar and Upcoming Events

Church Services

Sunday

Holy Communion Rite I 8:00 am
Holy Communion Rite II 10:30 am

Wednesday

In the Pilgrim's Chapel at noon
(Healing Service 3rd Wed)

Second Monday

6:30 pm All Abilities Worship —Sanctuary

January

- 6 Epiphany, Christian Formation resumes
- 12 Men's Fellowship
- 14 All Abilities Worship
- 20 OWLs Gathering
- 27 Annual Meeting

Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:50 am
Contemplative Prayer	Wed: 1:00 pm
Daytime Faith Study	2nd/4th Mon: 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, Sat 10 am-1 pm
Women's Lunch Group	1st & 3rd Thurs: 11:30 am
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Women's Book Studies	Tues: 10:30 - Noon Thurs: 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm
Youth Group	Sun: 6:00-7:30 pm



**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.
Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843**

January Birthdays

- 1 Olivia Adams, Steve Martin
- 2 Nancy Davis, Chelsea Trant
- 3 Jim Griffin, Sara Major
- 4 Neile Martin
- 5 Ben Sheppard, Sam Wise
- 7 Alexandra Barton
- 9 Owen Turnbull
- 11 Caroline Lawson, Clarke Wiley, Susan Ross
- 12 Sam Leinbach, Jr.
- 13 Thomas Ellington, Jim Petrie, Stephen Pettit
- 15 Amy Whipkey
- 16 Betsy Young
- 18 Pam Lamborne
- 24 Margaret Arthur, Helen Zebarth
- 25 Robert Bronson
- 26 Ned Stock
- 27 JoAnn Larsen, Jonathan Sheppard
- 28 Roger Lamborne
- 31 Jazmine Pellot, Kim Gronauer,
Ruben Rodriguez



January Anniversaries

- 1 Wayne & Pam McKinley
- 11 Frank Baxter & Skip Bowling
- 16 Robert & Edna Chase
- 29 Ron & Koy Mislowsky

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.



The Treasure Box is open
Wednesdays and Fridays
10 am—4 pm
Saturdays 10 am—1 pm
at 114 W. Boscawen St.

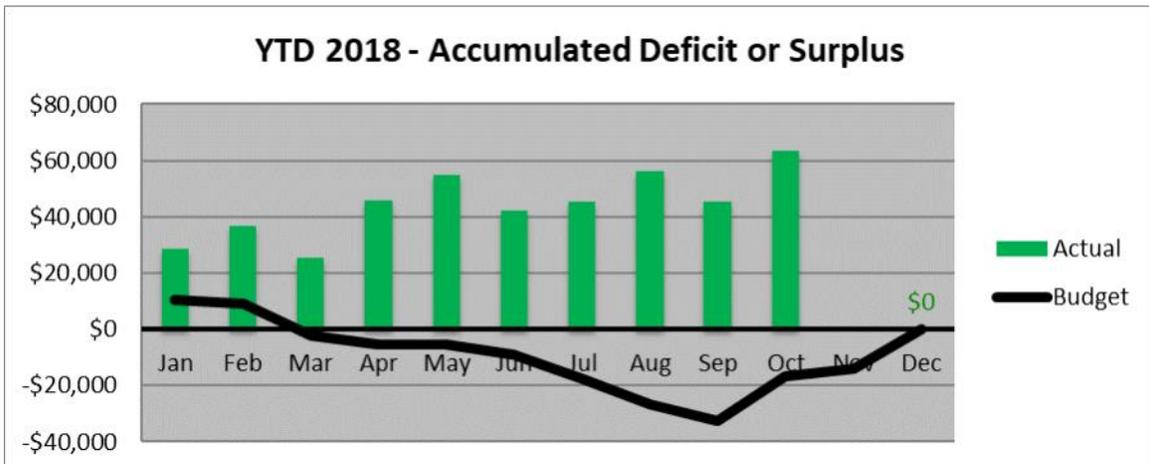
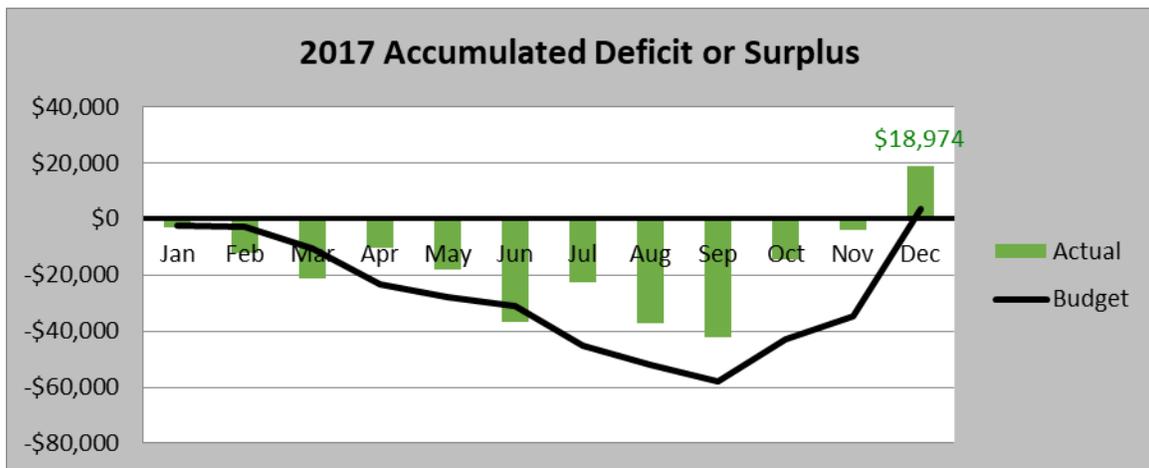
Finance News

Financial Report

2018 has been a **very unusual year!** Right from the start, we received a number pre-payments of pledges. These pre-payments then occurred a few more times during the year. Also, beginning mid-year, actual personnel expenses were lower than budget since we were unable to hire an assistant rector.

The graphs below show the dramatic difference between 2017 and the year-to-date 2018.

- In 2017, we were in a deficit (accumulated expenses exceeded accumulated revenues) for the first eleven months of the year. This pattern, where we break even at the end of the year, follows several years of actual history and the solid budget line reflects our expectation for the year.
- In 2018, we have been in a net positive position every single month! This started with the unexpected early payments and then has grown from mid-year with no assistant rector on staff.



This January Angelus “goes to press” in late-December, so the information is out-of-date. It will not be until the Annual Meeting and the February Angelus that we can actually present the final numbers for 2018.

Finance News

Operating Budget Performance

Here is the latest summary table showing performance year-to-date:

At 11/30/2018	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total Revenues	\$ 527,138.18	\$ 489,553.00	\$ 37,585.18
Total Expenses	\$ 457,301.05	\$ 503,224.61	\$(45,923.56)
Net Position	\$ 69,837.13	\$ (13,671.61)	\$ 83,508.74

As of Mid-December:

(The below summary points are actually a repeat of information that appeared in an Angelus issue earlier in the fall.)

- We will not know until year end if Actual total revenue will exceed budget for the year. We do know we have actually received revenue earlier than we have budgeted.
- We know that expenses for 2018 will be below budget because we have not hired an assistant rector as was budgeted for half of 2018.
- We also realize that some of the 2018 surplus may be needed to help balance the budget for 2019 if a full time assistant rector is hired during 2019.

Parish News

OWLS to Gather



All of our “older, wiser laity” (also know as Christ Church OWLs) are invited to join us in the Tilford Room on Sunday, January 20, for fellowship and discovery about Christ Church and Winchester. The Rev. Dr. John Kater grew up here in Winchester as a member of Christ Church before going off to serve the church in parishes and seminaries around the world. He now resides (at least a few months out of the year) at the Village at Orchard Ridge. John will talk about changes in the Winchester community over his lifetime, and at Christ Church as well.

The OWLs will gather from 3:00—5:00 pm and will be hosted by the Welcoming Committee. Please join us!

Tip of the Month

Where do I park when I come to Christ Church?

On the weekends, there are a few options for parking near Christ Church. The parking lot behind the church, which is most easily accessible from Braddock Street, is available as Winchester Public Schools does not use their lot on the weekend. There are some parking spots for parishioners in the Baden Center parking lot at 11 N. Washington Street. And parking at meters on the street is free after 6:00 pm on weekdays, Saturdays, Sundays and most holidays. Please do not try to park in the parking lot across from the Parish Hall. It is a private lot and not available to us.

During the week, street parking is a quarter for 20 minutes, and there is some metered parking in the parking lot behind the Smith Building (114 West Boscawen, where the Treasure Box and Church Office are located). The downtown parking garage on Braddock Street is \$1 an hour all of the time. Also, there are also some side streets nearby which do not have meters, but you might have to walk a block or two. Winchester’s parking enforcement crew is very attentive, so please park legally!

Directly behind the Smith Building, there are parking spots reserved for Christ Church clergy and staff. Please do not park in any of the Staff spaces during business hours; they are needed for the staff! The two spaces marked Christ Church Clergy are reserved 24/7 for clergy use only.

If you have questions about parking at Christ Church, please call the Church Office at 540-662-5843.



The 2019 Parish Directory should arrive late January. It will be distributed in church, so please watch for announcements. Please remember, if you did not have your photo taken, you can purchase one for \$5.

Parish News

Men's Fellowship Meets

The Men's Fellowship meets on Saturday, January 12, at 7:30 am, in the Tilford Room where we will hear from our parish nurses about all they do to minister to our parish and the greater Winchester community. Breakfast will be served and all men of the parish are welcome to attend. Please see John Applin with any questions.

Women's Lunch Group



The Women's Lunch Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month (January 3 & 17) this month) at 11:30 am at the Firefly Café and Bakery (3035 Valley Ave.). The food is excellent, the conversations are lively, and there is much laughter – everyone is welcome! No RSVP is necessary. Please come when you can!

CCAP Collection Item for January

We start off the New Year just the way we finished 2018, by aiding our neighbors in the city and the nearby counties. We have not completed the season of giving; we are charged with partnering with the clients of CCAP all year round! CCAP is always assisting those who are either homeless or receiving poverty level income in the workplace. One way that CCAP is able to help is through our donations each month of food items or clothing.

For the month of January, CCAP has asked for **donations of underwear for both women and men**. For women, the need is for new bras/underwear in all sizes. For men, they request new underwear to include the boxer brief style underwear, as well as t-shirts in all sizes.

Please leave your donations on the shelves marked "CCAP Donations" in the foyer of the Parish Hall (under the window).

CCAP (Congregational Community Action Project) is a ministry of 40 worshipping communities in Winchester and Frederick County that have come together to support our neighbors in need with financial, material and other assistance. Thank you for your generous contributions every month. If you have any questions or wish to volunteer with CCAP, please contact Jim Taylor (annjimtaylor@verizon.net or 703-403-5264).

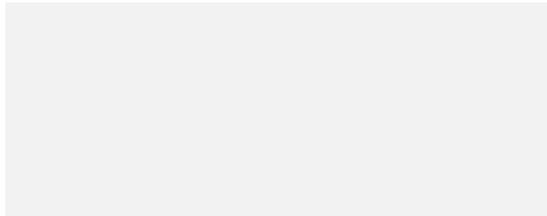




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Parish Nurse Musings

grateful

Being grateful is a huge part of the Christmas season and should continue into the new year!

We want to take this time to say "thank you" to the people who helped with the flu shots this year. Thanks to Chris and Susan Francis for administering the shots, and to Roger Zearth for checking each person in, collecting payments, etc. And, a special thank you to Kay Keely for providing Prayer Squares to each of the graduating senior nursing students. December 14 was the "Pinning Ceremony" for those graduating nursing students. Thanks to all the families who hosted nursing students this semester. Those parishioners include: James & Marsha Baden, Mr. McIntire, Ann & Jim Taylor, Bill Davis, Sylvia & Jim Petrie, Wendy Breslin, Carole Ann & Tom King, and Kappy White. Now, to congratulate the graduates: Kaitlin Bentley, Tucker Hackett, Brad Jenkins, Roberto Merrera, Joseph Montgomery, Aneta Olorife, Wyatt Schriever, David Segovia, and Emily Van Roe.

Blessings to each of you as you take care of God's Family!

See you in church!

Your parish nurses, *Helen and Rosalie*