

THE ANGELUS

Volume 69 Number 12

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

August 2019

From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church,

What is a theology of shared ministry?

With parish projects, retreats, and programs going on around the parish, I find myself pondering this question with parish leaders. It may seem like a simple question, but it is not. We have various groups wanting to hold meetings on the same nights as other groups. We have repair projects having to be scheduled to avoid Sunday services or receptions. We have different personalities and leadership styles bumping into each other at meetings and activities. None of this is bad. In fact, it is one of the symptoms of an active, living community.

So, what is a theology of shared ministry?

For me, it is simply OUR doing ministries together to make OUR Lord known in the world around us. Please note, while you and I each have our different gifts and talents which we bring to our Lord's service, it is the WE - the relationship between us - in our work together which is part of making the love of Christ known in the world around us.

Right now, people are watching the Church to see how much of this love of Jesus stuff we are willing to live into. The world loves a good fight with one person winning (top of the heap) and the other losing (bottom of the heap). The world has no idea what to do with a good debate in making decisions and doing projects. First and foremost, a good debate values the humanity in each person as a gift from God. Our trust in God's love and our love for one another is the basis for any debate, program, ministry, worship or other event done in the name of our Lord. Our care for each other as we work together reveals the love of Christ to the world.

I am fortunate to have people around the parish who make sure the parish hall is cleared out when we have wedding receptions or funeral receptions (which are even less predictable). Outreach is fortunate to have people give of their time to work together to serve our Lord by serving others in the community around us. Parish Life is fortunate to have people helping with our cookouts and cleaning up in the kitchen after events so people can enjoy working together and growing the fellowship in the parish. And the list goes on.

With our welcoming newcomers, people feel far more welcome to help in a ministry when someone personally invites them to participate, and helps them to know other people as well as participate in the ministries. Such an invitation might also require a person stepping aside to allow the newcomer to help in their place. Helping one another to participate, sharing stories with one another, hearing different perspectives while doing the ministries in serving our Lord are the basic steps of a shared ministry which the apostle Paul may have meant when talking about our gifts "building up the body of Christ."

As we head towards the new program year, you will hear a good deal about ministries starting up again and our need to have people, new to the parish or long time members, help. Please know that we mean it - we really want people to get involved. Our parish life has lots going on, and that activity is intended to help our parish do what we claim our vision calls us to do - "To know Christ and make Christ known." This is our call to our shared ministry. So we will try new ways, debate old ways, gather in worship, focus on Jesus, and seek to do

Continued...

AUGUST 2019

Contents

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 From the Rector | 7 Birthdays & Anniversaries |
| 2 From the Vestry | 8 Finance News |
| 3 From the Asst. Rector | 9 Properties/Outreach News |
| 4 Christian Formation | 10 Parish News |
| 5 Christian Formation | 11 Parish News |
| 6 Calendars | 12 Nurse's Musings |

Worship

the work of the Gospel. The world will watch, sometimes scratching its head with how we care for one another, seek to grow in our relationships, and doing so through our participation in the various shared ministries of Christ Church, striving to reveal our Lord's love in our care for one another and those whom we serve.

Faithfully,



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

**Daytime Faith Study
will meet on
Monday, Aug. 5, & Monday, Aug. 26,
at 10:00 am in the Commons.**

From the Vestry

At our June meeting, our interim assistant rector, The Rev. Jane Piver, gave the Vestry a summary of the project which she had completed at Christ Church as part of her interim clergy training program. We want to share some of what Jane shared with us.

The project looked at Christ Church as a parish in transition, both as a parish and in a community experiencing transition. The particular transition is around being in a growing community.

Jane appreciated all of the parish members who were willing to participate in the different surveys, Sunday Adult Forum programs, and conversations. Jane also shared a helpful model of congregational development called "The Life Cycle and Stages of Congregational Development," to help the Vestry see where Christ Church might be at this point in the life of the community. She also presented information on leadership structures in varying sizes of congregations, as she showed the Vestry how our parish growth changes how our leadership works with the parish.

In the end, Jane emphasized that Christ Church is a strong parish. However, with growth also comes change, which means the Vestry has more work to do with the congregation on changes in leadership, in ministries, in our discipleship, and making sure our parish vision as disciples of Jesus is shared and understood.

Jane's work did not have answers, but gave the Vestry a good bit to consider and work on with the congregation. In the fall and at other times of the year, the clergy and Vestry will have opportunities to educate parishioners in the models Jane presented and ways the Vestry will need the help of the community as we see where God is leading us.

The Vestry thanks all of you for helping to support Jane in her work. We also appreciate all that you did to welcome her and then send her off to her next interim assignment. Jane is enjoying time with her family before she moves to her next position.

Worship

From the Assistant Rector

Let me start by saying a big “Thank You” to all of you for your help as I’ve been settling in here over the last month. I’ve enjoyed getting to know many of you, and I’m excited to get to know everyone better, and to learn more of your names. Thank you for being so helpful as I work on that. I’m very excited to be here at Christ Church, and for the ministry we’re going to do together.

One of the parts of my work I’m most excited about is my work with Christian formation, a lot of which will be with youth, but with other ages as well. I’ve done a lot of work with education over the years, from my first job after college in special education, to working in community outreach at a settlement house in St. Louis, to my time working with youth ministry for the Diocese of Missouri.

I see the work of teaching and offering guidance in formation as very much part of my own call to ministry. I discerned my call to ministry through the formation offered to me in the Episcopal Service Corps, and through my time in a college chaplaincy. I found a shared dedication to Christian formation in both those places, and I’ve been excited to find it here, and to have the chance to be involved with it. Though I was not expecting my first time with it to involve a Pharaoh costume!

One of my favorite passages of Scripture is a promise Jesus makes in the Gospel of John: “When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth” (John 16:13). For me, this means that we can trust God to be present throughout our lives, always guiding us into a deeper understanding of ourselves – and of God. This helps guide my approach to Christian formation – it’s about more than learning about God. It’s about developing deeper relationships with God and with one another. One of my favorite seminary professors says Christian formation should be “life-wide” – it should help us reflect on our whole lives, and see God’s presence throughout. It’s my prayer that we can dig into that kind of life-wide formation together, and deepen our relationships.

Please feel free to get in touch with me! I’m excited to get to know all of you better. Contact information for me is below.



The Rev. Martin Geiger, Assistant Rector
mgeiger@christchurchwinchester.org
540-662-5843, Ext. 2, or direct 540-773-5564



Join us in the Courtyard/Parish Hall on
Sunday, August 25, 2019 after the 10:30 am service.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share!

The Vestry and Parish Life Committees will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. Visit with parishioners representing various ministries at their “information booths” to learn what different groups are doing and how you can be involved this fall and through the program year. We hope to see you there!

Christian Formation

Vacation Bible School Was Great!

On behalf of all the children who laughed, learned, ate, and sang their way through this year's Vacation Bible School, **THANK YOU** to all who made the experience happen! Each July our VBS is an ever-lively celebration of God's love that plants seeds of faith which bring children back year after year. This year, our theme was *Roar: Life is Wild – God is Good*. The simple message to the children is that God is with us when life is unfair, when life is scary, when life changes, when life is sad, *and* when life is good. No matter what the situations or whatever happens, we are loved by God and can always count on that love and comfort being there in our every experience!

Reaching out to 307 children from Christ Church and our partner Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, as well as to the many from our community at large, takes many, many hands and all generations. Overall this year, our program was supported by almost 100 people! We are especially grateful this year for the following volunteers and supporters from or through association with Christ Church: Olivia Adams, Gardner and Kathy Bates, Tessa Childs, Michael Cipiti, Reed Constantino, Rose Eberhardt, Susan Francis, Martha Griffin, Gerry Kiefer, Gil Kesser, Marge Kesser, Riley Martinez, Evan Francis Moore, Kylie Moore, Jack Nelson, Barb Pearson, Karla Reyes, Martha Roberson, Michael Roberson, Sarah Roberson, Glen Rudy, Theresa Seitz, Amy Stock, Susan Taylor, Caitlin Verela, Amy Whipkey, Laken Whipkey, Tuffy Whitacre, Judy Whiting, Jan Woodward, Molly Young, and, of course, Webster and Martin (a.k.a. Pharaoh!). Thanks, too, to all you parents, grandparents and friends who shared children with us during our fabulous week and supported us with so many generous donations of supplies and snack items. God is good!

Next year's dates are July 6-10, 2020. Plan to be part of the fun!

From VBS volunteer, Judy Whiting:

I am always astonished at the number of amazing volunteers of all ages who help with the children—from the helpers in the kitchen putting out snacks to the teenagers assisting the teachers in all sorts of ways. It is so wonderful to partner with another church and to get to know the people there who are behind the scenes to make the program successful.

Many of the volunteers would leave at noon and go to their real jobs! I don't know how they had the energy! After the first day, I went home, had lunch, and took a nap! I woke up three hours later!

Our Martha Griffin was just spectacular as the music woman, teaching the kids the songs and motions. I am in awe!

So happy I got to participate again and be Michael Cipiti's helper!



Christian Formation

Sunday School Starting Soon

The next session of Sunday School at Christ Church is nearly upon us! Children and youth of all ages are invited to be an active part of our church family! Our 45-minute Sunday School classes begin **Sunday, September 8, at 9:30 am**. Classes for children and youth meet in the classrooms on the second floor of the Parish Hall (also known as The Commons). You can find a registration form to print and submit on the website: www.christchurchwinchester.org, or you may complete one in person on September 8.

Sunday School classes aren't the only learning opportunities on Sunday morning! **Children's Chapel** is an option for young parishioners **ages 3 through 7** during the first portion of the 10:30 am service. It has a very simple child-sized liturgy with activities and games to get the wiggles out before joining parents in the Sanctuary at the Peace. A rotating team of parent leaders offers this ministry. There is no registration. Children are invited to participate every Sunday, or from time to time, as their parents choose.

Children in 2nd to 8th grade are invited to participate with our youth choir, the Alleluia Singers. They meet just before Sunday School on Sunday mornings to learn and sing, and sing several times a year at church services. And, the Cherub Choir is for our youngest Sunday School singers!

As parents we are called on to set the model of regular attendance for our children and to participate in their faith formation. And adults of the parish, without children or youth in the program, are encouraged to participate in formation, as well. If you are not called to be a Sunday School teacher, consider being a substitute and/or helping with Children's Chapel, in the nursery, or even informally with the younger ones during Coffee Hour. Children see where we place our values by what we do. Don't overlook the volunteer opportunities listed on the registration form! Please email Margery Wingenbach (wingenbach@comcast.net) with any questions.



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

Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:50 am
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 Thurs: 11:30 am
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Women's Book Studies	Tues: 10:30 - Noon Thurs: 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm
Youth Group	Sun: 6:00-7:30 pm



- 1 Women's Lunch Group
- 10 Men's Fellowship
- 12 All Abilities Worship
- 13 Vestry Meeting
- 20 Knit Unto Others
- 25 Parish Cookout



**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**

August Birthdays

- 1 Nancy Brown, Jody Wall
- 2 Margery Wingenbach
- 3 Gail Walsh
- 6 Thomas Rockwood, Tracy Tilling
- 7 Lucia Thomas
- 8 Paula Opheim, Elizabeth Browning,
Dick Clarke
- 10 Bart Hansen, Marsha Baden, Mary Gloster
- 11 Zachary Barton
- 13 Emily Dodd, Tom Stouffer
- 14 LaVerne Sargent
- 15 Kay Whitworth, Jim Miles
- 24 Rosalie Lewis, Joan Burgess, Becky Anders
- 25 Julia Menge
- 26 Kay Keely, Mary Gage
- 27 Ellen Morgan, Clare Dame
- 29 Nancy Mitchell
- 30 Greg Hutchinson, Judy Pennypacker
- 31 Donna Bennett, Caroline Cooper



August Anniversaries

- 1 David & Stephanie McWhorter
- 2 Chris & Melissa Ferguson
- 5 Kent & Mary Stevens
- 14 Roger & Helen Zearth
- 25 David & Sara Bicking
- 29 Bob & Mary Puttock

celebrate!



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

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.

Committee News

From the Finance Committee: Operating Budget Performance

2019 is half over and we are still BETTER than Plan! Repeated from a previous Angelus: *“The pledge pre-payments (paid at year-end of 2018 for 2019), along with the \$46,653 2018 Operating Surplus that was carried forward into 2019 (as a Budget Challenge) to help balance the 2019 budget, have 2019 ACTUAL still ahead of BUDGET”* through June 30. The details of Actuals vs. Budget through the first half of 2019 are shown below:

Year-to-Date through June 2019	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenues			
Pledged	\$ 255,559.52	\$ 236,100.00	\$ 19,459.52
Unpledged	\$ 30,105.00	\$ 18,600.00	\$ 11,505.00
All Other	\$ 59,639.00	\$ 57,203.00	\$ 2,436.00
Total	\$ 345,303.52	\$ 311,903.00	\$ 33,400.52
Expenses			
Personnel	\$ 207,961.74	\$ 218,370.00	\$ (10,408.26)
Utilities	\$ 14,250.25	\$ 15,920.00	\$ (1,669.75)
Property/Maintenance	\$ 25,592.47	\$ 23,730.00	\$ 1,862.47
Office	\$ 12,319.23	\$ 11,860.02	\$ 459.21
Christian Education	\$ 1,125.00	\$ 2,360.00	\$ (1,235.00)
Music	\$ 6,935.30	\$ 5,110.00	\$ 1,825.30
Worship	\$ 659.61	\$ 590.00	\$ 69.61
Stewardship	\$ 62.99	\$ 150.00	\$ (87.01)
Outreach	\$ 28,439.00	\$ 28,700.00	\$ (261.00)
Pastoral Care	\$ 29.88	\$ 530.00	\$ (500.12)
Parish Life	\$ 1,123.40	\$ 1,090.00	\$ 33.40
Communications	\$ 857.40	\$ 848.00	\$ 9.40
Total	\$ 299,356.27	\$ 309,258.02	\$ (9,901.75)
Net Total	\$ 45,947.25	\$ 2,644.98	\$ 43,302.27

Revenues: About \$24,000 was donated at the end of 2018 for 2019 that we had budgeted to receive over the 12 months of 2019 and this early pre-payment has us still ahead for pledged revenues. The unpledged revenue also has some lump sum payments that we have actually received already in 2019 that were budgeted to be received over the 12 months of 2019. So, though revenues are ahead, we are not sure if this is just due to timing of actual receipts versus planned timing in the budget.

Expenses: Total Actual expenses through the first half are about \$9,900 below budget with the main portion of this being in the Personnel line item. Our interim assistant departed a little earlier than planned, our music director retired, and some other lower-than-expected actual expenses are due to timing.

Conclusion: Though we are ahead of budget, a great deal of the difference can be explained by actual vs. budget timing. Consequently, there is still uncertainty about how the year will end.

Next Month: more on Annual Budgeting and information about expense trends.

Committee News

From the Properties Committee

- Conversation continues with the security firm. They have submitted their proposal for keyless locks and video monitoring. A sub-committee of the Properties Committee is studying the proposal now in preparation for a meeting with the security firm. More to come...
- Architect Andrew Boyd has visited the church to take exact measurements and photographs of the area for a proposed access ramp in the Sanctuary. We expect his design proposal soon.
- If you haven't seen it, please be sure to walk through the Tilford Room. The fresh paint job and new window treatments are fabulous. Special thanks to Properties Committee members Marsha Baden and Bill Pifer for their efforts on this project.

From the Outreach Committee



As school begins in August, the Summer Food Program wraps up. The Outreach Committee reports that they packed 125 bags, with two meals in each, for eight weeks. That's **2,000** meals for kids in Winchester this summer! Nearly 100 Christ Church parishioners participated in some way—by donating money, snacks, shopping, packing, delivering bags, and more. And we had volunteers as young as eight and older than 80, and even one sheep dog. And, word has it that the kids loved to see the Christ Church bags delivered as we “give the GOOD snacks!”

Vicki Lagdon is fairly new to Christ Church and found participating in this ministry was both rewarding for helping the kids, but also a great way to meet people in the church. She says, “I have recently moved to the area and wanted to get active in the church and get to know people. I have been very fortunate to have my life and family, and feel that this is a good way to give something back. Children are the ones who need the most attention and help. I like to see the smile on their faces when we deliver the bags! It gives me a warm feeling and reminds me how blessed I am.”

Thanks to all who supported this local outreach this summer! Please watch for details about Panda Pantry as we continue to fight childhood hunger in our community.



Parish News

2019 Rummage Sale

Many Hands Make for Light Work!

Over the last seven years, our church family has enjoyed the fun and community fellowship of an annual rummage sale that has raised over \$86,000 for Christ Church ministries. Our ABC annual sale has been a tremendous success in the Winchester community. As we've grown, we've welcomed people from all walks of life through our doors, shared wonderful stories, and most importantly—gotten to know one another a little better through the years. For 2019, we have established a goal of \$10,000 or more. For the fifth straight year and with your continued help and support, we will raise this and more and break the \$100k barrier in funds raised since 2012! The executive committee and Vestry look forward to working with everyone again this year.

We will be open for business on October 25 and 26 and we need volunteers in the following categories:

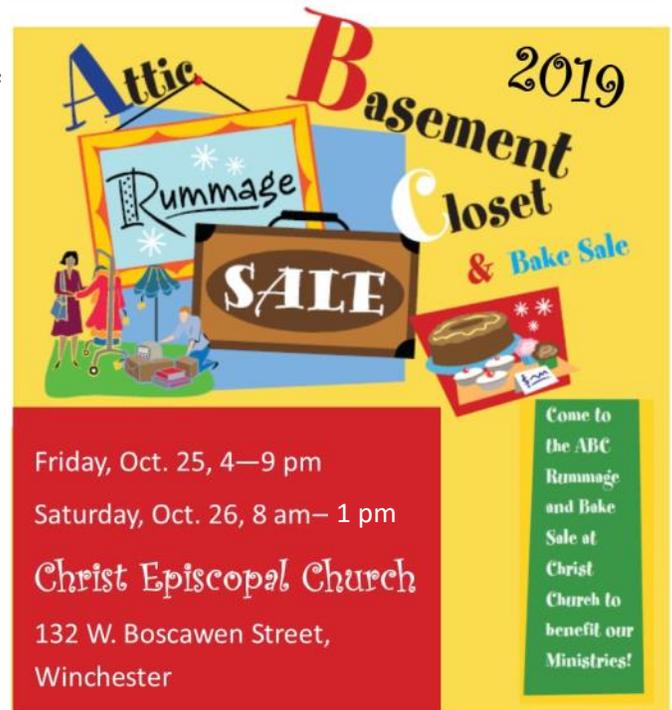
- Set-up and take-down of the Tilford Room the entire week, October 20-27
- Pricing of all items donated for sale—schedules to be announced weekly in August
- Cashiers
- Floor monitors to help customers and answer questions
- Delivery volunteers for larger items
- Drivers to pick up and deliver large donations to the church
- Posting of advertising flyers in area businesses or your own business
- Support for and donation of baked goods to bake sale
- Kitchen support and clean up
- Official greeters at the entrance to the Parish Hall, both days

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

- ◇ Encyclopedias/yearbooks/textbooks/magazines—all other books are fine
- ◇ Entertainment centers
- ◇ Gas grills
- ◇ Most electronics, TVs, computer equipment
- ◇ Large appliances such as washers, dryers, stoves, etc.
- ◇ Damaged, dirty or broken furniture or anything that would not sell at your own yard sale including broken, chipped, or stained collectibles or glassware

To better organize the process, we are accepting donations on Tuesdays and Thursdays in August from 9:00 am-12:00 pm, or on Sunday mornings in the Tilford Room. DO NOT leave donations at other times or in other places. Please box or bag your donations securely. Mark items "FRAGILE" to prevent breakage.

Should you have questions about our 2019 sale or would like to volunteer your help, please call Chris Ferguson at 978-360-4501.



Please donate ONLY what we will be able to sell, and ensure everything is CLEAN and in proper working order.

Volunteers have much to do and cannot clean or fix items to sell.

Parish News

Men's Fellowship Meets

The Men's Fellowship meets on Saturday, August 10, for breakfast and fellowship at their normal 7:30 am time in the Tilford Room. Our new Assistant Rector, Martin Geiger, will join us breakfast and share his journey to priesthood in a brief presentation. All men of the parish are welcome to attend.

Women's Lunch Group



The Women's Lunch Group meets on the first Thursday of each month (August 1) 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!

Tip of the Month: Services on TV (sort of)

Did you know that you can watch the Sunday service in the Sanctuary downstairs in the Fairfax Room? There is a new TV screen which presents the sights and sounds of the services. So, if you need to step out of church to use the bathroom or the baby-changing station, stretch, or need a little extra space, head down the stairs! Ask an usher if you need directions.

CCAP Donations for August

In August, CCAP wishes for us to donate more **White Rice**. Let's aim to fill the shelves marked for CCAP in the foyer of the Parish Hall (under the window) with more white rice, a staple that CCAP clients always need and use.

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 about CCAP or would like to volunteer for them, please contact Jim Taylor (annjimtaylor@verizon.net or 703-403-5264). There are many volunteer opportunities at CCAP in the clothing house, as well as the food pantry.

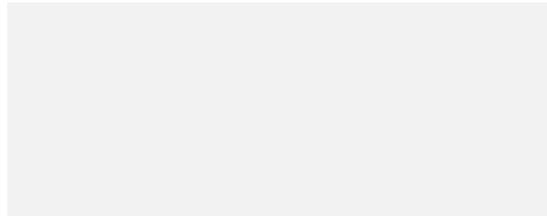




THE ANGELUS

Christ Episcopal Church
114 West Boscawen St.
Winchester, VA 22601-4116

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



The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Parish Nurse Musings

Rosalie and I are hoping you are having a great summer!

Here are a few suggestions to keep you safe and worry-free:

- I know many security agencies want you to put your security sign out so everyone can see it, but security people are saying this only allows thieves to break into your home. They have learned how to use the systems and get into your house more easily.
- Don't leave your keys in your car, even if you lock it. If the thieves get in, they may be able to tell your mobile app to go home and they can get into your garage and into your home.
- Even if you enjoy having your front door open, be certain to have the storm/screen door locked.

Now for some relaxation! Start a gratitude journal. I learned about this at the parish nurse retreat and have enjoyed putting down something daily, or more often, that I am grateful for each day. I can even put down the same thing daily. It makes me happy and relaxed.

See you in church!

Your parish nurses, *Helen and Rosalie*