

# THE ANGELUS

Volume 76 Number 9

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

May 2026

Dear People of Christ Church,

As this program year comes to an end, there are a couple of items I want the community to continue to work on or be aware of:

## **Stewardship Time and Talent program:**

The last breakfast and presentation of ministries hosted by the Stewardship Committee is Sunday, May 17, between the services at 9:15 am in the Tilford Room. I cannot emphasize enough that the stewardship program's focus on time and talent is for you, as disciples of Jesus, to participate in the parish ministries sharing your time and talent in and around Christ Church because Jesus wants you to serve one another. We do not do the ministries for the clergy, the diocese, or to impress other churches. We do these ministries together, as the community of the faithful (koinonia), to grow in our faith and share the love of Christ in and around this parish. I am also working on a program to help each person find ways to align your talents with parish ministries, but that will be at a later date.

## **Christian Formation:**

While our program year of Christian Formation ends on May 24, we still have programs through the summer. Garth and I are working on the children and family ministry programs, and there are also adult opportunities. The Wednesday 10:30 am Zoom Bible study continues for most of the summer. If there is enough interest in a June Sunday Morning Bible Basics study at 9:30 am, I will let you know.

## **Communications in and around the parish:**

The Thursday Christ Church Weekly Update email continues through the summer with information about upcoming services and events. I continue to hear people say that they do not know what is going on in the parish. When I ask if they are signed up for the Thursday email, they say that they are not. This email is the most effective way we have to communicate. However, you have to sign yourself up to get it. If you wonder, the analytics show that of the 375 people that receive the weekly update, it's opened by only 35% (which is, sadly, above our "industry" average). The weekly email is designed to be short, listing the most current upcoming events in a basic format to help guide you to more information. Sign up on the church website and be sure to open it each week—even in the summer!

This is also the time of year people are in and out of town. The same with church staff. If you need to meet with church staff, please call ahead to set up a time with them before coming to the office. Call the main number (540-662-5843) and you will hear the list of extensions to reach us.

Faithfully,



The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector  
[rector@christchurchwinchester.org](mailto:rector@christchurchwinchester.org)  
540-662-5843, Ext 1 or 540-773-5562



## Pastoral Care Committee

### The Lay Eucharistic Visitation Ministry

You may have noticed our restarting the Lay Eucharistic Visitation (LEV) ministry from the Sunday services. We stopped this program during the pandemic and are beginning it again about every other week. Parishioners have asked some good questions about the program which we want to address.

The LEV ministers are selected by the clergy and given additional training in pastoral care, sacramental theology, and diocesan misconduct prevention training before they are licensed by the bishop. They go out in twos per diocesan protocol and they can go from either service, depending on whom they are visiting. The LEVs only go out from the Sunday services and then return the kit to the church after the visit. The idea is sending the communion out from the worshipping community to people who would otherwise be in church if they could. Any parishioner wishing to have the LEVs bring them communion needs to contact the rector to set that in motion. Please call 540-662-5843 and press extension 1 to leave a message.

For the other days of the week, the clergy takes communion to shut-ins. For anyone wishing to have communion brought to them on days other than Sunday, please call the rector at the Church Office to set up a time and day for the visitation. Visitations can be at home, in the hospital or other care facilities. Please call 540-662-5843 and press extension 1 to leave a message.

## From the Vestry

### Growth in our Town

While Bonnie Blue moving next to Christ Church has been a point of great interest at Christ Church, that is not the only change impacting the downtown area. The intersection of Boscawen and Loudoun Streets is now closed. Winchester is one of the fastest growing cities in the state. All of these are impacting the Winchester downtown area with more traffic and more parking competition. All of the downtown churches are feeling the change and working together and with the city to address concerns of safety and limited parking.

As discussed in church on Sunday, April 26, we do not know when exactly Bonnie Blue will be moving. However, in order to help better prepare for the move, there are a couple of points the Vestry has discussed.

At a certain point, parishioners will not be able to park in the Bonnie Blue parking lot and we will make that date known once we know.

The Properties Committee is already working on a redesign of the Baden Center parking lot and signage to help clarify our church parking and lot restrictions.

With the uptick in traffic along Boscawen, we ask families to please help keep the children safe making sure they stay within the churchyard area during coffee hour.

Much of this is common sense, but we want to make sure people know what is going on as the Winchester area grows and we work on developing new habits of living together with more neighbors.

# Christian Formation

## Program Year Ends

Please note that Sunday, May 24, will be the final Sunday for Sunday School, Children's Chapel and children's choirs before summer break. Have a great summer!



### Help Needed with Livestreaming!

The Livestreaming Team needs assistance during the 10:30 am service as they stream our services online. It's not complicated and ample training is provided! If you're curious about what helping entails, please ask Phil Sargent, Jimmy Downs or Jody Wall how it works.

Our 10:30 am service has been livestreamed on our YouTube channel since it was necessary to do so during the Covid pandemic. Much has been learned since then and cameras have been added. Each week, 40-50 people, many of whom cannot come to church in person, watch the Sunday service live or at a time of their choosing, and are able to participate in the life of the church via this technology. The livestreaming team has also been able to make funeral services available to friends and family who cannot attend.

Phil Sargent has been leading livestreaming efforts (while he sings in the choir) for the past six years now, with assistance from Jody Wall and Jimmy Downs, but they need more help on the schedule. Anyone with basic computer literacy can be trained to help! Please consider if you can help.

And, if you're not familiar with it, check out our YouTube channel via the link on the church website or search Christ Episcopal Church—Winchester, Virginia on YouTube.

# 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



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
Common Ground Discussion Group	Currently On Hold
Properties Committee	3rd 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 Studies	Tues: 1:30 pm—at Westminster- Canterbury OR First & Third Thursday at 5:30 pm —Parlors



*The Angelus* is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

# Church Calendar

## May Birthdays

- 1 Michael Phelps
- 2 Anne Drury, Pam McKinley, Katy Wiley
- 3 Jo Pilette
- 4 Karen Jagiello
- 8 Jackson Stock
- 13 Teresa Jacobsen
- 14 Liz Lindon
- 21 Bobbie Gouldthorpe
- 22 Jack Applin, Linda Miles, Bob Puttock
- 24 Wilborn Roberson
- 26 Kay Wise, Greg Jacobsen, Tonia Graves
- 27 Sara Bicking, Tim Waldie
- 28 Alix Cooper
- 29 Bill Drury, Walt McIntosh,  
Caroline Wingebach



## May Anniversaries

- 8 Jim & Ann Taylor
- 14 Rob & Trish Boyd
- 18 Dan & Jody Wall
- 19 Gerald & Cheryl Crowell
- 24 Michael & Janie Mohn
- 28 Mark & Nancy Baker

### 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.

celebrate!



### Shop at the Treasure Box Thrift Shop!

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

Donations accepted  
during business hours.

*If you need a copy of the parish directory,  
please email Noelle at  
[communications@christchurchwinchester.org](mailto: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

## One More Stewardship Ministry Fair & Breakfast

As you may have read in last month's Angelus, a church's stewardship campaign is something that is traditionally thought of as an annual commitment to give money to the church, and certainly this is very important, as without it the Vestry is unable to budget meaningfully to support the many ministries we carry out. If you have not yet completed a pledge card, it's not too late!

There is much more to stewardship, though, and this year in particular we will be looking at how we can all support the church's ministries with our time and talents, and BE THE CHURCH. Christ Church has a strong history of involvement with the wider Winchester community, as well as supporting our own congregation, but these require input from everybody.

In that spirit, the Stewardship Committee launched Christ Church's Ministry Fairs in March to highlight the many ministries currently active in our parish. The goal of the fairs is simple and joyful: to help our congregation see the breadth of work Christ Church and its members are doing—both within our parish family and throughout the wider community. So many good works are underway—often unnoticed but deeply impactful. Join us and see the remarkable ministries that shape our life together!

**There is one more ministry fair scheduled this spring.** On May 17, we will have breakfast with the Properties, Finance and Stewardship Committees and learn what they do. The Ministry Fair event will begin at 9:15 am in the Tilford Room and will include breakfast provided by the Stewardship Committee. Please share these opportunities with friends and others in the Christ Church community—everyone is warmly encouraged to attend!

Many thanks to committee members and all who have joined us for our previous breakfasts. We hope that you learned much about the work happening at Christ Church and feel called to share your time and talent.



# Outreach Committee

## Outreach Collection Item for May

Feed your sisters and brothers! This call to reach out with food and prayer is critical for our neighbors.

The need to keep local food banks supplied is a constant challenge.

Local grocery stores, bakeries, and restaurants weekly answer the call.

It is our turn as a congregation and as neighbors to assist The Salvation Army and its food bank.

During the month of May, the Outreach Committee asks for donations of:

- \* pasta sauces
- \* cereals
- \* Poptarts
- \* flavored rices and noodles

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



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THE MOST  
GOOD<sup>®</sup>

## Parish News

### Tip of the Month: Altar Flowers

On Sundays throughout the church year (aside from during Lent), there are two arrangements of flowers on the altar donated by parishioners. The scheduling of the donations is handled by parishioner Polly Nesselrodt. Many Christ Church families donate flowers each year on the same Sunday in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for people or occasions. Polly confirms with each family and, when there is an opening for a donation, she contacts those who have expressed interest to her. She can be reached at [pollyness@yahoo.com](mailto:pollyness@yahoo.com), or call the Church Office to leave a message for her.

When a family donates flowers, they contact the florist to order and pay for the flowers, and work within the parameters specified by the Altar Guild. The cost is approximately \$50 per arrangement, but varies depending on the florist and flowers used. Polly provides all the information necessary weeks in advance. Artificial or silk flowers are not permitted. Families also indicate how they would like the remembrance to be worded in the bulletin and Prayers of the People that Sunday. Families can choose what is done with the arrangements after the service, too—some take them home, some ask that they are delivered to someone who can't attend services.



**Hosts needed all summer!  
Sign up on the church website!**