

# THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

November 2021

Dear People of Christ Church,

As Noelle Creamer, the parish Communications Coordinator, has been reminding us over the past month:

*October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month so it's a great time to share information about how you can stay safe online, which we will be doing.*

*Here are some tips about protecting your "digital privacy." There are several links that lead to more information, including checking your credit reports for fraudulent activity, ways to manage all those passwords... And this article, AGAIN, mentions that if an email seems suspicious CALL the SENDER!*

With this being our season of stewardship, Angel Tree, and other ministries, I want to remind you that "phishing" (pronounced "fishing") is going on ALL OF THE TIME. Just to be clear, phishing is defined as:

*the fraudulent practice of sending emails purporting to be from reputable companies in order to induce individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers.*

If you get an email with my name or a family member's name, or a friend's name on it, it is NOT necessarily from me/them. Sometimes, the email is obviously fake with unspecific language such as, "Hi, I need your help." If they include a link to help with a "credit check" or "to find a lost package" or "to help with gift cards," that can indicate that the email is fake. That type of language is the scam to get your information or money. Unless you have spoken directly to the person (on the phone or in person, not just email) to confirm that they actually sent the email and need the help, you can get scammed if you click a link or reply to the email.

I do not, nor does Christ Church, send out emails soliciting money through links or asking your credit or other account numbers. Our committees are the same, as they will ask for your help to show up for a ministry, but not "click here to send us your money."

In the end, the best practice is the one in Noelle's information:

*And this article, AGAIN, mentions that if an email seems suspicious CALL the SENDER!*

The phone call is the key. In recent conversations with website developers as well as security people, they admit that some of these scams look very real. What do they do when they are not sure? They call the sender to make sure it is really their email.

I am sorry that people are so mean and cruel with these phishing scams. We have to be on our guard which is energy wasted in some ways, but important to help keep one another safe. We will continue to work to educate and inform you about these scams. In the meantime, if you are not sure, then the fall back is that old school option - call, go by and visit, talk with one another.

Faithfully,

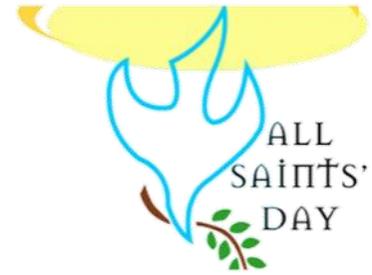


The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector  
rector@christchurchwinchester.org



## From the Clergy

This year, on All Saints' Sunday, Christ Church is going to remember two realities at once. On the one hand, we will remember people who have gone before us in faith—both the “big names” who have feast days on the church calendar, and the people whose faith mattered in our own lives. On the other hand, we will be celebrating baptisms, welcoming new members of the Body of Christ, whose lives of faith are just beginning. It will be a service of contrasts, looking both to the past and to the future, to both stories of life with Christ where we know the end, and stories that are at the very beginning. But I think that contrast tells us something very important about what we remember on All Saints'.



All Saints' is a day to remember that all of those different stories, all of the different places we are in our relationship with God, are actually part of one, much bigger story. That is the story of the Church, the Body of Christ that has been, and continues to be made present in the world. The saints we remember on church calendars are there because their lives were in some unique and powerful way reminders of that much larger story. But no matter who we are, or how minor we think our own witness may be, we all have a part to play in making Jesus's love visible to the world.

The Collect for All Saints' Day reminds us that God has knit us together in one communion and fellowship, and that is also what we remember in baptism. For all of our differences, and no matter where we may be in our own lives of faith, God has chosen to bring all of us together, in the fellowship of the Church. That's the fellowship we continue to invite people into, and the unity we try to uphold in our discipleship and faith.

A good way to reflect on this is to think of someone whose life helped you understand God better. Maybe that's a saint from the official calendar, or maybe it's someone you knew personally. What did you learn about God from them? How did their life point beyond themselves, to the larger Body of Christ they were part of it? What in their life made Jesus more visible in the world around them? And then comes the harder question: What can we learn from them about being part of the fellowship of Christ's body in our own lives? And how can we pass that on to those who will come after us?

One of my favorite All Saints' hymns reminds us that we can meet the saints of God anywhere—"in church, or in trains, or in shops, or at tea." My hope this November is that we continue to see witnesses to Christ all around us, and that, in the words of the hymn, we mean to be one too!

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin".

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

# Christian Formation

## Music Therapy at Christ Church

On October 17, parishioners were invited to a music therapy session in the afternoon to relieve some stress. DeLyn Celec is our director of the Alleluia Singers (children's choir) and a board-certified music therapist. Music Therapy is described by the American Music Therapy Association this way:

"Evidence-based music therapy practice integrates the best available research, the music therapists' expertise, and the needs, values, and preferences of the individual(s) served."

DeLyn was excited to offer music therapy at Christ Church during what are challenging days for many of us, using her expertise to lead a worshipful, spiritual session. The group, which was all ages and abilities, spent about 30 minutes with music therapy methods such as a drum circle, lyrical analysis, and singing/chanting. To start, DeLyn sang an invocation while attendees chimed and the session ended with a benediction which was chanted.

Pam Kennedy attended the session and said, "It was an excellent opportunity to 'heal our souls' through music and activity and guided reflection in a positive environment, surrounded by caring people. Everyone who attended left with a smile on his/her face and peace in one's heart. We just wish it had lasted longer!"

DeLyn uses many of these music therapy methods in rehearsals with the Alleluia Singers in normal times and looks forward to that group resuming their contribution to worship at Christ Church. They plan to have a pre-recorded piece of chiming and singing to be used in worship on Christmas Eve this year.

In the meantime though, we will offer additional music therapy sessions. DeLyn says, "Whenever we can be together in community, doing something to reduce anxiety and promoting a sense of well-being, it's a great thing!" Please watch for upcoming sessions!

## Christian Formation for Children

Our next service for young families is Sunday, November 7, at 4:30 pm. The focus will be learning about the Angel Tree program our parish participates in each year and the ways the children can be part of it.

As we look forward to Advent and December, we will offer a children's program each Sunday morning beginning November 28. We will gather, masked and well-spaced, in the Sunday School Commons on the second floor of the Parish Hall at 9:45 am for the lighting of the Advent candle(s) and break out into age groups for an activity. St. Nicholas and St. Lucy will be visiting the children after missing their visits in 2020. Together again, we will prepare for the Nativity!

The children's area in the Fairfax Room (downstairs from the sanctuary) will continue to be staffed during the 10:30 am service each week as well.

# Church Calendar

## Sundays at Christ Church

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
in the Sanctuary  
4:30 pm Service for Young Families  
(on November 7)  
Masks required for everyone.

Please refer to email updates and website for updates and changes.

The Church Office is open Tuesday—Thursday  
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

It's always a good idea to call ahead!

Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843



Look for

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

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

## Committee & Group Meetings

Online Bible Study	Wed: 10:00 am (online)
Outreach Committee	4th Tues: 7:00 pm
Properties Committee	3rd Tues: 7:00 pm
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Daytime Faith Study	2nd & 4th Mon: 10:00 am (online)



The Treasure Box is happy to announce the thrift shop's re-opening on Wednesday, November 3. Hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays. If you are interested in volunteering, morning or afternoon, for three hours a month, please contact Sally O'Neil (reidybobby@yahoo.com) or Carole Ann King (mainelady92@gmail.com). Donations of gently used and clean clothing and small housewares are accepted when the shop is open!



# Church Calendar

## November Birthdays

- 5 Kenneth Vicchio
- 6 Laura Button-Cain
- 10 Delores Wheatley, Bill Jarvis, Scott Arthur
- 11 Katie Clarke
- 13 Jeffrey Dodd
- 14 Bill Old, Kim Pifer, Marrea Riggs
- 16 Jason Conrad, Ann Taylor
- 17 Farley Massey
- 18 Steven Martin, Koy Mislowsky, Wendy Breslin
- 19 Steven "Tuffy" Whitacre
- 20 Rosa Gibson
- 21 Joy Nesselrodt
- 22 Alex Waldie
- 23 Arlene Hill
- 24 Emilie Pifer
- 25 Dorothy Gibson
- 26 Sally O'Neil
- 27 Dennis Shows
- 29 Jay Russell
- 30 Ned Howard



## November Anniversaries

- 5 Fritz & Jean Trumbore
- 10 Christopher & Adelaide Turnbull
- 28 Nick & Kathy Nerangis
- 28 Frank & Sandra Armstrong
- 30 Robb & Cathie Russell

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.

## Thanksgiving Service

10:00 am, Thursday, November 25



*Did you get your flu shot yet?  
Don't forget!—the Parish Nurses*

# From the Treasurer

## 2021 Results & 2022 Budget

### 2021 Results

Historically, our net position (revenues minus expenses) at the end of September is usually our low point for the year. Our 2021 budget planned for us to be at \$ -123,237. Fortunately, we are much better than budget for the first three quarters of 2021, but we are still in the negative (about \$ -45,900).

The table below shows the summary revenue and expense results for the month of September, as well as year-to-date for the first nine months of 2021:

2021	Month of September			YTD Through September		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Revenues	\$38,195.02	\$41,750.00	-\$3,554.98	\$377,119.56	\$302,180.00	\$74,939.56
Expenses	\$59,924.14	\$53,617.26	\$6,306.88	\$423,020.67	\$425,417.34	-\$2,396.67
Net Position	-\$21,729.12	-\$11,867.26	-\$9,861.86	-\$45,901.11	-\$123,237.34	\$77,336.23

Looking at just September, you can see that Actual Revenues were less than budget and that Actual Expenses were higher than budget resulting in a loss for the month of about \$21,700. A main reason expenses were higher in September than budget was due to a maintenance contract that was budgeted for August but was received and paid for in September.

The year-to-date values show that we are right in line with Budgeted expenses and that Actual revenues are about \$75,000 ahead of budget.

A strong fourth quarter along with the 2021 PPP loan being forgiven will hopefully get us near to a break-even position for the year.

### 2022 Budget Work Beginning

We have started to work on the 2022 budget. Our first step is to look at all the expense categories in planning for the next year. The revenue numbers get examined later in the year as the stewardship campaign comes to an end.

We have already seen that health insurance costs and planned utilities cost will need to be increased for next year. We are in the process of reviewing health care options and estimates. We have also reviewed utility costs so far this year and will continue into the fourth quarter to better estimate costs for 2022.

# Stewardship

## Reflections

As I continue to reflect on stewardship, I'm reminded of Hebrews 12:1: "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Who are these witnesses? Some of them are the past generations of Christ Church who kept this place going as a place of worship, hope, education, and fellowship despite a Civil War, the Great Depression, the 1918 Pandemic, and two World Wars.

Keeping Christ Church alive as a community to pray, worship, baptize, serve others in our community, educate our children, celebrate marriages, and mourn deaths...

It's a place of hope for us, as it was for previous generations. It's a responsibility of ours to carry it forward for future generations. We are going through our own "trial by pandemic" right now as a church family. May we act, as previous generations have done, acknowledging our responsibilities, facing our challenges with hope and faith in the future, by continuing our giving of our time, our gifts of talents, and our money to God's service at Christ Church.

Marty Tabaka

### CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH PLEDGE CARD FOR 2022

My/Our TOTAL pledge for 2022 will be: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I/We will pay (*choose one*): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Weekly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly

OR, as a one-time payment in the month of: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to receive offering envelopes: Yes  No

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to know more about Planned Giving at Christ Church.

**"for we walk by faith,  
not by sight."  
(2 Corinthians 5:7)**

Please make your pledge known by any of the following:

- Mail to Christ Church Office, 114 W. Boscawen Street, Winchester, VA 22601.
- Place in the offering in church on Sunday.
- Use electronic form on church website: [www.christchurchwinchester.org/stewardship](http://www.christchurchwinchester.org/stewardship).
- Email your pledge information to our bookkeeper, Theresa Seitz ([tseitz@christchurchwinchester.org](mailto:tseitz@christchurchwinchester.org)). Use this specific address to assure confidentiality!

## From the Outreach Committee



### Angel Tree 2021

The Angels have arrived! Please be an angel by helping the Salvation Army brighten Christmas for underserved children in our area. With COVID still looming, and some parents unable to work, the need is great.

Starting on Sunday, November 7, the angels will be available for choosing in the Tilford Room after the 8:00 am and 10:30 am Sunday services. If you are not able to attend services, but want to take an angel, you can contact us at [540-486-4003](tel:540-486-4003) to obtain an angel. Leave a message and one of our volunteers will be in touch to bring your angel which will include the child's wish list, sizes, etc. You may also request an angel via the church website: [www.christchurchwinchester.org](http://www.christchurchwinchester.org). Volunteers will be calling past participants to see if you would like to be involved again this year. If you would like to participate but cannot get out to shop, please consider sending a check to Christ Church and write "Angel Tree" on the memo line.

Shopping for children in need can be a meaningful family event. Once you have completed your shopping, fill the bag with the "angel" stapled on the inside. You can deliver your bags to either of the locations shown below or you can call us at [540-486-4003](tel:540-486-4003) or contact Dan Shaner (703-963-1483 or [dshaner40@gmail.com](mailto:dshaner40@gmail.com)) to arrange to have your gifts picked up November 29—December 11.

Drop-off sites are open November 29 to December 13. The first site is 443 Millwood Ave. (the previous Goodwill)—open Monday through Friday from 9:30 am—5:30 pm. And the second site is the Salvation Army at 300 Fort Collier Rd.—open Monday through Sunday from 8:00 am—8:00 pm.

If you would like to participate in the Angel Tree program by taking an angel, making calls, helping with angel selection at church (volunteers especially needed for after the 8:00 am service) or delivering angels and gifts, please call us at [540-486-4003](tel:540-486-4003) and leave a message!

### CCAP Donations for November

Once again, it is time to help CCAP provide complete Thanksgiving dinners for 300 local families! CCAP is helping Bright Futures meet the needs of their clients also. Christ Church has been asked to donate **300 cans of sweet potatoes/yams** by November 14. Please bring cans of sweet potatoes/yams to Sunday services (there is a basket at the doors to the church) or to the Church Office at 114 West Boscawen St. on Wednesdays between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm before November 14. The need is great in our community, so let's collect a mountain of sweet potatoes! After November 14, we switch to collecting **boxes of stuffing** for Christmas dinners! If you can volunteer to help at CCAP, please contact Jim Taylor at 703-403-5264.



### New Casserole Ministry

Do something small but make a big difference! Don't have much time, but want to help the less fortunate in Winchester. Make one casserole a month and feed 25 people! The Winchester Rescue Mission feeds approximately 75 homeless and hungry citizens of Winchester each evening. By making a casserole a month you can help with their mission.

We will all make the same easy recipe in the comfort and familiarity of our own kitchens and then deliver it either to church on Sunday or to the home of Clare Dame. If you can make a casserole, but can't deliver it, we can pick it up from you.. Christ Church will provide the recipe and the pan, you supply the ingredients, effort, and time to create the casserole. For more information, please contact Clare Dame at [claremdame@gmail.com](mailto:claremdame@gmail.com).