

THE ANGELUS

Volume 74 Number 10/11

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

June & July 2024

Dear People of Christ Church,

Over the next year, we are going to hear about the 100th anniversary of the consecration of our diocesan Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration, which takes place August 6, 2025. I have quite a bit of family history with Shrine Mont, so I have a personal interest in making sure that the congregation is aware of this special event! As I looked at the timeline of development of the camps and conferences in last month's newsletter, particularly the mention of my father, The Rev. Churchill Gibson, starting to serve as chaplain to the camps and conference center in 1964, I thought about our family summer ritual to pack up to move to Shrine Mont on June 1, and then move back to Alexandria on September 1 until the mid-1980s. I can honestly say that all of those camps starting back at my Baptism in the Shrine in July of 1967 have been a part of my life in more ways than I can imagine, even to this day.

With that in mind, I want to be sure that all of you have a chance to see and participate in one of the camps or conferences that are going on through next fall. People are often aware of our camps for children and youth, as well as the Shenandoah Music Festival. What many don't know is that there are additional offerings by Shrine Mont and the diocese for adults! There are art and yoga retreats. There are flower arranging workshops. There is the Fall Camp for retirees hosted by the Tri-Diocesan Council on Aging. If you go to the Shrine Mont website, you can find the calendar of events, as well as details for what is included.

Shrine Mont is not the same conference center it was when I was a kid! There was a time when Shrine Mont was a bit on the "rugged side" with cottages having doors barely close or the hotel having that old plaster look. Over the past few years, Shrine Mont has put a huge effort into modernizing the camp facilities and renovating the cottages. They have set up handicap accessible rooms. The kitchen menu has developed in order to respond to dietary needs. And the most recent renovation project of restoring the ballroom at the hotel, including redoing the floors, has a beautiful sight to see.

As part of this anniversary celebration, you will also hear about ways to support the future upkeep and care of the Shrine Mont Conference Center. To understand why Shrine Mont needs our support, it is important to understand that Shrine Mont is NOT owned by the diocese. Shrine Mont is self-incorporated since it was established. The diocesan camps and conferences that use Shrine Mont pay Shrine Mont for room and board. So if you are concerned that our diocesan pledge is somehow a part of this renovation work, please know that it is not. Our pledge supports the children and youth camps.



If you have not been to Shrine Mont, I encourage you to go. If you have children or grandchildren who want to go to one of the camps, I have scholarship assistance available to help if needed. The information for the camps is on the diocesan website (www.episcopalvirginia.org). Registration has already started, so be sure that the camps have spaces available.

As I said, I do have a long family connection to Shrine Mont. Since my brother, Kirk Gibson, is the director of development for Shrine Mont, that means that you will be hearing more about the anniversary over the next year! I will let you know of other ways our parish can get to know more about Shrine Mont to help introduce you to our Cathedral.

Faithfully,

Handwritten signature of Webster Gibson.

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

From the Diocese

Learn about Gift Giving to the Church

It's a wonderful legacy to contribute to the future generations of your church. Aside from your regular pledged giving and sharing your time and talent, a gift to the church can impact worship, ministry, facilities, and people. There are so many ways to give a gift to the church and so many opportunities—both while you are alive and when you die.

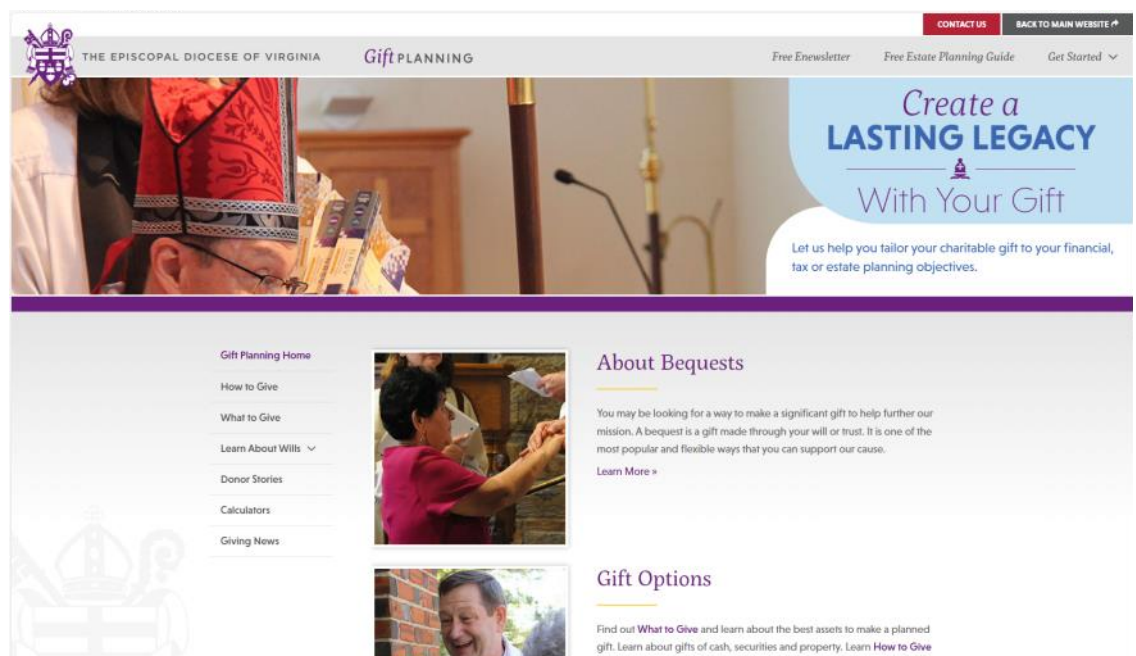
The Diocese has a very informative section on its website about gift giving: [Planned Giving Home | The Episcopal Diocese of Virginia \(giftlegacy.com\)](#).

The site has sections that talk about how and what to give to the church, and compelling donor stories. There are presentations that show the income and tax benefits for you for a unitrust, annuity trust, gift annuity, deferred gift annuity, sale and unitrust or gift and sale. The Learn About Wills section gives an overview and explanation of the language used for bequests, and there is a free estate planning guide. You can also sign up for an email newsletter.

Often the season of our life and the composition of our assets will determine how we give, especially to the church. “Blended gifts” take this into account and allow you to maximize your giving both now and into the future. Blended gifts use different types of charitable gifting strategies, such as outright gifts, planned gifts, and estate gifts to accomplish your giving desires. Which combination you use depends on your unique situation.

Outright Gifts of cash can include appreciated assets, Donor Advised Funds, and IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions. Planned Gifts can include charitable gift annuities/charitable remainder trusts, charitable pooled funds, or charitable lead trusts. Estate Gifts can be by bequest, beneficiary designation, and transfer on death.

The Diocese has people to work with you and your advisors to design a blended gift strategy that best fits your personal situation and will also create a meaningful legacy. Please see the information on the website, or call Webster to discuss.



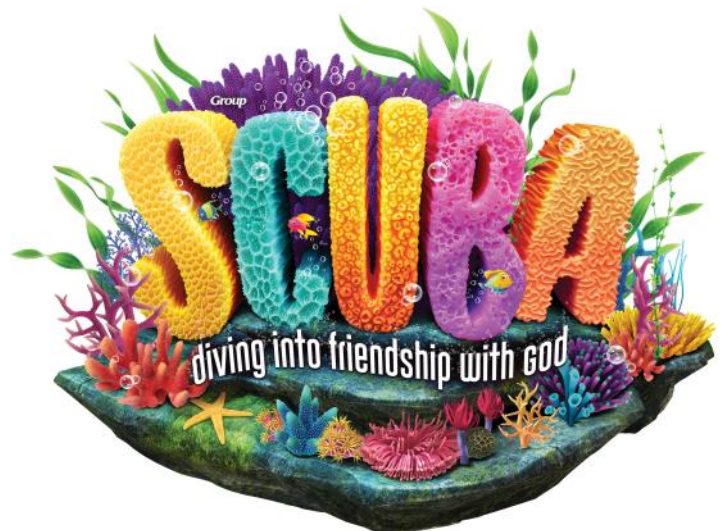
Christian Formation

Vacation Bible School 2024

*Mark your calendars for **Scuba: Vacation Bible School**. It will be held July 8-12, 2024. There will be classes for kids from age 2 and up to those who will just be finishing 6th grade. It's 9:00 am to noon each day, FREE, and all kids are welcome!*

In partnership with our neighbors at Grace Lutheran, we are planning classes for preschool (beginning with age 2) through kids who have completed 6th grade. It's a fun time of scripture-based learning with lots of music, arts and crafts, games, and yummy snacks from 9:00-noon for the entire week with no fees. It's open to all - neighbors, visiting cousins, friends, etc., are invited to come. Registration forms are on the website.

VBS is a huge program and it takes volunteers from both congregations to staff and help those mornings. Consider the gifts you can share with the children. Maybe you enjoy teaching or being a teacher's assistant, or maybe can you be a helper in the kitchen to prepare snacks, or help out with games, or possibly man the registration desks for last-minute signups. It takes many adults and youth to make it all happen smoothly, so think where you fit in and contact Margery Wingenbach (wingenbach@comcast.net or 540-667-0386).



Don't forget to keep up with your pledges this summer!

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: 7:00 pm |
| Bible Study | Wed: 10:30 am via Zoom |
| Outreach Committee | 4th Tues: 7:00 pm |
| Knit Unto Others | 3rd Tues: 2:00 pm |
| Properties Committee | 3rd Tues: 7:00 pm |
| Vestry | 2nd Tues: 7:00 pm |
| Daytime 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: 10:30 am—Parlors OR First & Third Thursday at 5:30 pm —Parlors |



The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Church Calendar

June & July Birthdays

June

- 1 Jim Taylor
- 2 Bernice Brown, Nancy Tabaka
- 3 Florence Elwood
- 4 David Bicking
- 5 Gregory Elwood
- 11 Evelyn Gibson
- 12 Kay Jones
- 16 Gerald Crowell, Lokie Voight
- 18 Jim Wiedower
- 21 Suzanne Pettit
- 22 Christopher Francis
- 23 Kathryn Schain
- 24 Maria Tedesco
- 25 Walter Jagiello
- 26 Bill Wiley



July

- 1 Ann Crocker
- 3 Gil Kesser
- 5 Mark Pennypacker, Sr.
- 6 George Gibson
- 7 Nick Nerangis, Philip Sargent
- 9 Eve Brown, Bob Mitchell
- 11 Pat Leinbach
- 14 Kirk Gibson, Linn Power
- 15 John Claybrook, Ron Mislowsky, Ron Graves
- 17 Julie Read, Pat Shaner
- 18 Karey Starnes, Rebekah Wiedower
- 19 Stacy Talbott, Luke White
- 21 Kylie Moore
- 22 Holt Roberson
- 23 Cathie Russell
- 25 Arthur Sperry
- 30 Doug Thomas

June & July Anniversaries

June

- 1 Jared & Katlyn Painter
- 8 Bill & Katy Wiley
- 9 Tim & Cathie Waldie
- 9 David & Margery Wingenbach
- 9 Tom & Lori Ellington
- 10 Joe & Caroline Wingenbach
- 12 Jim & Martha Griffin
- 12 Dick & Katie Clarke
- 13 Rob & Susan Ross
- 16 Bob & Nancy Mitchell
- 18 Dan & Pat Shaner
- 19 Bill & Anne Drury
- 19 Nelson & Barbara Keech
- 20 Mark & Judy Pennypacker
- 26 Ashley & Betty Futral

July

- 6 Webster & Rebecca Gibson
- 7 George & Tricia Glass
- 9 Gary & Susan Sheppard
- 16 Jim & Diedra Kriewald
- 24 Damian & Nancy Sawle
- 24 Tim & Amy Whipkey
- 30 Steve & Loretta Johnston
- 30 Roger & Pamela Lamborne

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.

Committee News

Outreach Committee: Collecting Donations for Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is requesting canned chicken or canned tuna donations for the month of June. Please bring donations to church on Sundays in June or to the Church Office lobby on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.



Properties Committee: Church Doors Update

You may have noticed the new plexiglass windows in the doors to the sanctuary. These are temporary as we wait for the glass panes that will be permanently installed. There are several reasons that the Properties Committee recommended and the Vestry approved the installation. We wanted the church to be more open and welcoming to people passing by or entering the church. The thermostats controlling the air conditioning and heating of the sanctuary had to be located next to the doors. If the ushers can open the doors to welcome people in rather than propping the doors open, we will be able to regulate the temperature more effectively. And, most importantly, there was the safety issue of opening the doors into people standing unseen on the other side.



Committee News

Pastoral Care Committee: There's a Plan for That!



We remember when the Pastoral Care Committee and our Parish Nurses were busy looking out for us during the pandemic with masks and sanitizer and plexiglass shields, but their work to keep us healthy in church is ongoing and multifaceted!

If there's a medical emergency in church is there someone there to help you? Yes!

A whole team of people at Christ Church are trained and educated about best practices in various medical situations. It's the ushers that are on the front line. Many ushers have been trained in CPR, use of the AED, and the steps to take should someone fall ill in church.

Chris Francis, who works closely with the Parish Nurse team and the ushers, suggests that the whole congregation works as a team—“from keeping an eye out for anyone in distress, to checking on someone who steps out, to seeking assistance for someone who needs a hand moving around the church. We all take care of each other!”

The ushers keep a close eye on the congregation from the back of the church and can react quickly in an emergency. We are fortunate to have nurses and doctors in our congregation and, if needed, emergency services can be called and are here very quickly (since they are down the block!). You may even advise an ushers when you arrive if you are not feeling well, so they can look out for you during the services.

The AED we have in the church was given to us by the Winchester Medical Center Foundation in 2018 and we are fortunate to have it on hand for any cardiac emergencies. The Parish Nurses maintain the device and check that it's operational monthly.

To minimize falls around church, ushers are available to assist parishioners from their car into the church, downstairs to the restrooms, or to and from the lectern or altar. They would remind you to keep an eye out for objects (toys) on the floor in the back of the church that could be a tripping hazard!

And, to minimize the spread of illnesses in the congregation, Parish Nurse Rosalie Lewis says, “We love you, but we don't love your germs! Please stay home if you are not feeling well.” The 10:30 am service is available via livestream, so you can attend virtually without possibly infecting friends.

As you travel this summer and visit other parishes, see if you notice their best practices for keeping everyone in church healthy and safe. The Pastoral Care Committee is always open to hear how things are done well elsewhere to improve the worship experience here at Christ Church. Our Parish Nurse team is Helen Zebarth, Rosalie Lewis, and Susan Francis, and Chris Francis works with the team and the ushers.

Other News

Parish Nurse Helen Zearth Honored

An excerpt from the Winchester Star, May 21, 2024 article by Brian Brehm

BERRYVILLE — [Blue Ridge Hospice](#) holds its cofounder in such high esteem, it has created a legacy society and named it in her honor. The new Helen Zearth Legacy Society aims to honor Zearth's vision, inspire philanthropy and ensure the continuity of compassionate end-of-life care for generations to come, according to a media release from Blue Ridge Hospice in Winchester.

Blue Ridge Hospice was formed after Zearth visited England while her husband, Roger, was stationed in Europe on a military assignment in the 1970s. She previously told *The Winchester Star* that was the first time she saw a hospice facility where terminally ill or mortally injured patients were kept as comfortable as possible during their final days, surrounded by loved ones and treated with the utmost dignity.

When the Zearths returned to the United States in the late 1970s, Helen Zearth, a former nurse at Winchester Memorial Hospital, got in touch with the hospital's CEO, George Caley, and told him they needed to start a local hospice.

Zearth and Caley called the new nonprofit Blue Ridge Hospice. In a nod to Zearth's South Dakota heritage, she integrated a butterfly into the organization's marketing materials because the Lakota tribe has a legend that says a person is never closer to God than they are when a butterfly lands on his or her shoulder.

On February 14, 1981, Blue Ridge Hospice accepted its first patient. Forty-three years later, the nonprofit serves about 2,000 patients per year.

On May 8, the nonprofit's surviving founder was honored with the inaugural ceremony of the Helen Zearth Legacy Society at the Historic Rosemont Manor estate in Berryville. According to the Blue Ridge Hospice media release, prominent members of the community gathered to celebrate Zearth's enduring impact on the Northern Shenandoah Valley and to induct the first members of the society.

The purpose of the Helen Zearth Legacy Society, the media release states, is to recognize and celebrate individuals who have made legacy gifts to Blue Ridge Hospice, including bequests, donations of stock, retirement assets, artwork or real estate.

The ceremony in Berryville also included the unveiling of "Helen's Honey Flutter," which, the media release states, is a signature ice cream flavor crafted by [Kimberly's](#) of Winchester to symbolize the essence of Zearth's compassion and dedication.

To learn more about making a legacy donation to Blue Ridge Hospice, visit brhospice.org/legacy or contact Dawn Draayer, director of philanthropy, at ddraayer@blueridgehospice.org or 540-431-8335.



Photo courtesy of Sharon Fisher

Congratulations, Helen!