

THE ANGELUS

Volume 70 Number 6

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

February 2020



Dear People of Christ Church,

I know for those reading this that I am preaching to the choir. No, not the choir that Ted works with, but rather the 30-40% of the congregation that reads the newsletter. We know, statistically speaking, that the average readership of church newsletters is about 30-40%, and we are not unusual. The challenge is communicating with the 60-70% of the congregation who may or may not know what is going on at Christ Church.

So, I ask a favor of those who read communications from us: Please help make others aware of what is going on by simple actions such as inviting them to come with you to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at the end of February, or helping WATTS volunteers pack up cots, or helping to cook a meal for Youth Group, or hosting coffee hour, etc. A personal initiation is the best way to engage someone in the life of the congregation.

In this month leading up to Lent, if people wonder what they might give up or take on, I am going to encourage everyone to take on the habit of learning what is going on around Christ Church, the Diocese of Virginia, and the National Episcopal Church. I will use bulletins to promote different websites and resources people might look at so that they know what is going on, ways they can get involved, and even more basic, what these ministries offer to help Christian disciples make God's kingdom known in their own lives and communities.

Not all of these resources will be about service projects. We will use programs from the Society of St. John the Evangelist and Virginia Theological Seminary to teach us in our Adult Forum. We will look at resources from the Presiding Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, for personal growth as a disciple. And then there are boundless resources to learn the language of the Episcopal Church, our history, some theology and even aspects of our lives in prayer.

I want to encourage people to explore and learn about our local parish, our diocese, and our national church to help our personal growth and development in our faith journey, but also to make sure you know ways to help people new to the parish or the Episcopal Church find answers to their questions about Christ Church and the larger church. The easiest way to learn more is to look at our website (christchurchwinchester.org), the diocesan website (thediocese.net), and the national church website (episcopalchurch.org).

As I work with the new Vestry and new leadership on our committees, I am fortunate to have them ask questions about our parish, or other organizations, because I learn where we need to work on informing and educating the parish. I also appreciate the feedback that the Vestry and I have received around the annual meeting so we can continue to answer parishioner questions about our community. Becoming better informed is a discipline people can take on during Lent, and hopefully, it will become a habit that will continue long after Easter.

As I said, I know that I am preaching to the choir since you are already reading this. But as the choir, you can help lead other people in living informed lives with clear ways to grow and serve our Lord. Don't worry, I will not ask you to sing in part. I just want people to hear the good news!

Faithfully,

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

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

February 2020

New Vestry Members

Bob Puttock grew up in the Chicago area and upstate New York, where he attended Zion Episcopal Church in Wappingers Falls, NY. He went to Michigan State University, studied industrial administration and information technology, and met his wife, Mary. In 1970, he was commissioned an officer in the US Army Medical Services Corps, and he and Mary were married. They have two sons and daughters-in-law and five grand-daughters. He earned a Masters degree from George Washington University. He retired from active duty in 1990, but retired permanently in 2017, and moved to Winchester from Fairfax. They were members of St. Peter's in the Woods Episcopal Church in Fairfax Station, where he served as an usher, LEM, and four years on the Vestry. Bob and Mary feel they've hit the jackpot by finding Winchester, a city with a very rich colonial and civil war history and such welcoming people! His interests and hobbies are the stock market, woodworking, and ballroom dancing. He and Mary try to go dancing at least twice a week with favorite dances being the rumba, waltz, and west-coast swing. At Christ Church, Bob serves as usher, LEM and is on the Properties and Finance committees.



Joan Bronson has been a member of Christ Church for more than 40 years and served on the vestry several years ago. She works at Handley Library and is on the board of the Friends of Handley Library. She lives downtown and enjoys walking. Joan serves on the Pastoral Care Committee, heading up the card ministry at Christ Church. She is also a First Night Winchester volunteer and Altar Guild member. She has one son, Robert. Joan enjoys the fellowship at Christ Church and looks forward to sharing her insight as a vestry member.



Steve Martin has been a Special Deputy with the Winchester Sheriff's Office since 2004. He works exclusively in the General District and Circuit Court room, providing security and protection to judges, prosecutors, attorneys and the public. From 2005 to 2016, he owned and managed six rental properties. In 1997, he built a car wash and a 324-unit storage facility where he functioned as project manager during design and construction, as well as general manager once the facility opened. In 1980, he earned a Masters Degree from the Rhode Island School of Design and worked as a graphic designer and exhibit designer, working with designers and architects in North Carolina, Boston, and Washington, DC. He and his family have lived in Winchester since 1997 and joined Christ Church a few years later and have been members since. His wife, Neile, is finishing a term on the Vestry. Steve has been active at Christ Church this past year, consulting with Webster and the Vestry on church security issues and believes that from a position on Vestry, he would be able to further guide and enhance those efforts.



Jody Wall is a lifelong member of Christ Church. She was baptized, confirmed, and married here. She has been actively involved in the parish, serving as Senior Warden in 2018. She currently serves as an Altar Guild member, Parish Life Committee chair, and Coffee Hour Chair. Jody is employed by the Top of Virginia Regional Chamber, is a member of the Kiwanis Club of Winchester and board member of the Child Safe Center/CAC, a local non-profit organization. She is married to Dan Wall and has one daughter, Katlyn Wall Painter, who was married at Christ Church in 2019. She is committed to upholding the mission of Christ Church, helping to grow our congregation, maintaining our historic buildings, and supporting valuable programs to enrich Christ Church members and our greater community.

From the Clergy

Dear Friends in Christ,

There's something I find particularly challenging about the month of February. I think it comes from my college years in upstate New York, dealing with the long winters of Ithaca. February in Ithaca is after the excitement of the holidays, but it's still cold, and snowy, and dark. It's the month where you're done with winter, but spring hasn't arrived yet. Even if February in Virginia isn't quite as snowy, I still find myself impatient for spring, and ready for the days to get longer right now.

So I'm particularly grateful for the way the season of Epiphany focuses us on light. We begin it by remembering the light of the star that guided the Wise Men to Bethlehem, and we end it by recalling the light of Christ that was made visible to the disciples in the Transfiguration. Just as the days begin to get longer, we turn our attention to the way Christ's ministry made God's light visible in the world. And we contemplate the ways in which that light is made present to us as well, the ways God has "caused a new light to shine in our hearts," in the words of the Prayer Book.

Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, has a beautiful reflection on what it means to contemplate the light of Christ, in a short book he wrote on icons called *The Dwelling of the Light*. He writes about icons of the Transfiguration that in them, the disciples see Jesus "coming out from an immeasurable depth." The light of Christ that the disciples see isn't just another created light, but a direct sign of God's presence with them. Encountering the light of Christ changes us. It causes us to see the world in new ways, and it reminds us that God is at work in the world in ways we cannot always see. Like the new life of spring getting ready to take shape, the light of Christ is always coming into the world in new ways.

Our job, then, is to figure out how we can look for the light of Christ, and how we can be bearers of it for others. The Epiphany season is a reminder that the light of Christ comes into the world in a season of darkness, that "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5). Our call, as people who have seen and known that light, is to follow Christ into those dark places that especially need it, and to bring God's love and hope there. We can go there in confidence that we do not go alone, because Jesus has gone ahead of us. In Rowan Williams' words, "With him the door is always open, and no one can shut it."

Faithfully,



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



Christian Formation

Sunday School News

Are you already making summer plans? Our **Vacation Bible School** will take place the week of July 6-10, 2020. Our program is Rocky Railway: where trusting Jesus pulls us through life's ups and downs. Put it on your calendar!

Epiphany to Lent Lessons

During Epiphany, our Sunday School classes explore many of the stories of Jesus' teaching and healing, working to understand Jesus' ministry as *God with Us*. It's a great time to re-read these stories with our children and share them together. Our children are guaranteed to amaze you with what they understand and what they help us understand!

The Youth Group packed sandwiches for WATTS guests.

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*Youth Group
in the Tilford Room,
6:00 pm, on Sunday, Feb. 9 &
Sunday, Feb. 23.*

Contact Martin at
mgeiger@christchurchwinchester.org
for more information about Youth Group!



Adult Forum in February

The Sunday Morning Adult Forum begins at 9:30 am in the Tilford Room in the Parish Hall each Sunday morning. There is always coffee! Adult Forum has a variety of topics. Please note that we will not have Adult Forum on Sunday, February 2, because of the WATTS program in the Parish Hall.

As part of the diocesan interim-bishop process, the bishops have invited the people of the diocese to attend visioning sessions. The closest session for us is at Calvary Episcopal Church in Front Royal on Saturday, February 8. The clergy and lay delegates of the parish plan to attend. On Sunday, February 9, for Adult Forum, we will share what we learned at the visioning session—not just ideas or discussions, but also information about the next series of events. (If you would like to attend a visioning session, see the diocesan website (thediocese.net) to register.

On Sunday, February 16, and Sunday, February 23, our topic is getting ready for Lent according to the prayer book. There are two wonderful litanies that we use when we head into Lent - one is in the Ash Wednesday service and the other we will use on the first Sunday of Lent, which is The Great Litany. Using these and other often-missed instructions in our Ash Wednesday service, we will consider what it means to "give up" and also to "take on" in the season of Lent and why.

Beginning on Sunday, March 1, Adult Forum will utilize resources exploring our faith, how we understand it, and why it matters. Stay tuned for more information on the Lenten program!

Music

A Note from Ted Dix

Greetings Christ Episcopal Church members and friends!

I am both honored and proud to have been selected by the search committee as your organist and director of music. Many miles and many years have brought me to you, and I think that I have finally found a home. I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the welcome that you have all shown me since my interview/audition in October.

I hail from Westminster, Maryland, where I was a graduate of Westminster High School in 1991 and a graduate of Towson University in 1995. After receiving my masters in organ performance from Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ, in 1997, I returned to Westminster where I served for ten years at St. Paul's United Church of Christ; earned a second masters degree in music theory from Peabody Conservatory in 2006; and served an additional ten years at Grace Lutheran Church. My children, Katherine Lee (Katie), 9, and Anthony Charles (Tony), 6, still reside in Westminster with their mother, Gretchen.

The music program at Christ Church has enjoyed a long history of excellence, of which I am excited to be a part.

The Senior Choir, open to anyone high school age to adult, rehearses in the Fairfax Room on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm; and again, in the Sanctuary choir loft on Sundays at 9:15 am. We enjoy making music and sharing fellowship, presenting a range of music from spirituals to Anglican choral music. On April 12, Easter Sunday, in addition to the full Rite II 11:15 am choral worship service, some of the Senior Choir members will adopt an Alleluia Singers "buddy" and sing a two-part anthem at the 9:00 am service.

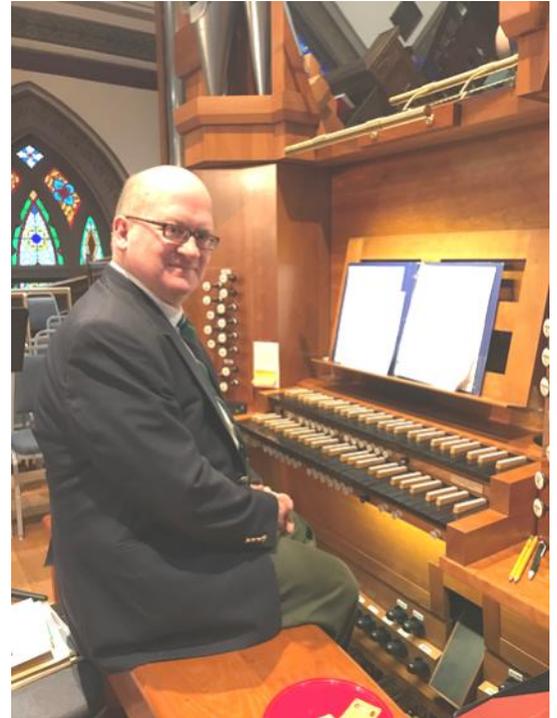
Be on the watch in the next few months for extra solos and, of course, brass quartet and timpani on Easter Sunday at both 9:00 am and 11:15 am services!

The Alleluia Singers and Ringers rehearse on Sundays in the Children's Chapel at 8:45 am. They are preparing to present at the 9:00 am Easter Sunday worship service, where each chorister will adopt a Senior Choir "buddy" and sing a two-part anthem.

The Cherub Choir also rehearses on Sundays in the Children's Chapel, however, at 9:15am. They are also preparing to present at the 9:00 am Easter Sunday worship service, as well as sometime late in February.

If you or your child would like to participate in our many musical opportunities, please feel free to contact us. The commitment could either be long-term or seasonal.

Thank you for your continued support of our music ministry!



Ted Dix, Organist and Senior Choir Director
tandyedwardd@gmail.com
DeLyn Celec, Alleluia Singers and Ringers Director
Marsha Baden, Cherub Choir Director

Church Calendar

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



- 1-8 WATTS Host Week
- 8 Diocesan Visioning Tour—
Calvary, Front Royal
- 10 All Abilities Worship
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Presidents' Day—Church Office Closed
- 25 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 26 Ash Wednesday

Committee & Group Meetings

Senior Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:45 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	2nd/4th 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.
The Assistant Rector's day off is Monday.**

Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843

Church Calendar

February Birthdays

- 1 Kay Teachout
- 2 Steve Haines
- 4 George Burgess
- 5 Scott Harper
- 6 Dee Johnston
- 7 Julia Smith
- 8 Bill Endorf, Glen Opheim
- 11 Rebecca Gibson, David Wingenbach
- 12 Tricia Glass, Ann McQuinn, Sally Megeath, Bernie Swope
- 14 Martha Griffin, Lucy Rockwood
- 15 Kathi Adams
- 16 Bruce Trant, Teresa Barton
- 17 Sarah Browning, Stephen Brown
- 19 William Wingenbach
- 21 Maureen Huff
- 23 Richard DeBergh, Roger Zebarth, Skip Bowling
- 25 Beth Conrad
- 27 Bill Tedesco
- 28 Todd Barton



February Anniversaries

- 2 Steve & Neile Grady Martin
- 3 Jim & Sylvia Petrie
- 4 John & Mary Margaret Applin
- 8 Martin & Nancy Tabaka
- 12 Dan & Mary Gloster

celebrate!

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020

Services at 7 am in the Pilgrim's Chapel, and Noon and 7 pm in the Sanctuary



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

From the Treasurer

Looking back at 2019

2019	Budget	Actual	Difference
Revenues	\$ 628,013	\$ 662,201	\$ 34,188
Expenses	\$ 628,013	\$ 608,429	\$ (19,584)
Net	\$ -	\$ 53,772	\$ 53,772

Revenues:

- Pledged over budget by \$13,416 (Some were still unpaid, but some paid extra!)
- Unpledged over budget by \$47,557 (some new donors and some unexpected large gifts)
- All Other Revenues over by \$19,868 (Rummage, Plate, Holiday all over budget)
- Total Revenue over Budget: \$80,841
- Real Total Revenue Over Budget \$34,188 *(5.44% over total budget)*
⇒ \$80,841 less budget Challenge of \$46,653

Expenses:

- Personnel under by \$23,022 (Director of music retired and no section leaders in fall)
- All other expenses up by \$3,438 (Substitute organists and Property & Maintenance over for the year)
- Total Expenses under by \$19,584 *(3.12% under total budget)*

Net Position:

Year-End Operating Surplus \$53,772 *(8.56% surplus)*

For the third year in a row, we did not have the full staff that was budgeted for that year. Each of those three years, it resulted in expenses being less than budget and contributed to an operating surplus at year-end. Unfortunately, during that same time period, our total Pledged Revenue amount has decreased such that each year, the operating budget has had to have a Revenue “Budget Challenge” line item target amount to help balance the budget.

For 2020, our Total Pledged Revenue budget amount has dropped again!



From the Treasurer

Looking ahead at 2020

	2020 Budget	2019 Budget	Change 2020 - 2019	Change %
Total Revenues	561,200	581,360	(20,160)	-3.47%
Total Expenses	631,263	628,013	3,250	0.52%
Net Position	(70,063)	(46,653)	(23,410)	
Budget Challenge	70,063	46,653	23,410	50.18%



Revenues:

Total revenues are DOWN 3.47%, down \$20,160 from 2019 total.

- Some Unpledged moved to Pledged.
- However, **Pledged in total went down for 2020.**
- All other revenues slightly up over 2019 budget.



Expenses:

Total expenses are UP 0.52%, up \$3,250 from 2019 total.

- Personnel is up by 1.4 %
- Outreach down 5.2%
 - ⇒ Diocesan Pledge as % of total Pledged has dropped.
 - ⇒ Outreach Committee budget is unchanged from 2019.

Net Position:

Change from 2019 is \$23,410 MORE budget challenge.

Budget Challenge for 2020 up from \$46,653 in 2019 to \$70,063 for 2020.



Parish News

Treasure Box News



In January, the Treasure Box Thrift Shop's Board of Directors elected a new set of officers, as follows: Carole Ann King serves as president. Kay Jones is vice president. Opal Davis is secretary. Martha Lauve (Board member) and Liz Couture will be co-treasurers. (Thank you to Kay Jones and Sally O'Neil for their several years of service as treasurers. Sally retired as president, and is now an ex-officio member of the board.)

Judith Knopp will work on publicity and Martha Lauve will lead a new shop maintenance committee. Martha and Wendy Breslin will head the committee for the Treasure Box Volunteer Tea, which is held annually in May. Ginny North and Judith will co-chair the charitable donations committee. All these chairpersons will be looking for help and ideas from volunteers in the coming months!

Please note these dates:

February 28—March 2: Treasure Box will be closed to take down winter and set up for spring.

April 10—11: Shop closed for Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

A message from Carole Ann King: "It is a pleasure and an honor to represent the volunteers and board as president, but no president can do this job alone. I count on all of you to let any board member and officer know of your suggestions. The volunteers of the Treasure Box are ultimately the ones who make the shop run smoothly and are on the front lines serving our customers and donors and ultimately the community at large. The board of directors is set up to serve and support the volunteers and to make sure we are true to our mission: i.e., to provide our customers with quality and affordable merchandise in a welcoming atmosphere and to pass the proceeds of our efforts out into the community with our charitable donations."

Tip of the Month: Eat pancakes before Lent starts!



Christ Church
*S*hrove
Tuesday
Pancake
Supper

February 25, 2020 • 5:30 pm • Tilford Room • Hosted by the Vestry

Parish News

Men's Fellowship Supports WATTS

The Men's Fellowship will actively participate in our 2020 WATTS host week (February 1-8). On Thursday, Feb. 6, we will prepare and serve our guests the nightly meal and handle intake and registration. All men of the parish are welcome to sign up and help through the sign up genius found on the church website or by responding directly to Chris Ferguson at Chrisferguson_41@msn.com. Please feel free to sign up for other days of the week--especially as overnight hosts.

Women's Lunch Group

The Women's Lunch Group meets on the first Thursday of each month (February 6) 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 Donations for February

In February, CCAP asks us to donate **feminine hygiene products**, specifically tampons. Yes, they are fairly expensive, but if every Christ Church family can furnish just one package, it would make a huge impact for CCAP's female clients. **New ladies underpants** (all sizes) **and new bras** (a variety of sizes) are also welcome. Again, these are expensive items, but necessities. And the spirit of giving continues!

Please leave donations on the bookshelves marked "CCAP" under the window in the foyer of the Parish Hall. CCAP is very thankful for your efforts to help all of our neighbors.

And in this time of year that we typically give up something for Lent (like sweets, sodas or Starbucks), maybe instead (or also) choose to take on a new discipline to serve our Lord. Maybe each of us could seek to be part of a ministry to support by volunteering regularly. You could investigate the volunteer opportunities at CCAP located only six blocks away from Christ Church at 112 South Kent Street.

CCAP stands for Congregational Community Action Project and has served our community since 1975. Community is a key word here. As a volunteer, there is the opportunity to assist members of the Winchester/Frederick County community. By volunteering only a few hours a week or every other week or once a month, you could feel good about helping so many men, women and children. CCAP operates Monday – Thursday 8:30 am until 2:30 pm and Friday hours are 8:30 am until 11:30 am. There are many opportunities to meet other volunteers from our community and it is a wonderful way to know that we are helping serve the vulnerable in our community. Maybe you could be a part of a CCAP client finding their own Easter outfit and dressing their children in all the finery to spend Easter Sunday at their own church!

Thank you for your generous contributions every month. If you wish to be part of this ministry in our community this Lenten season and beyond, contact Jim Taylor (annjimtaylor@verizon.net) or call 703-403-5264. Be a blessing to others this Lenten season!



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.

From the Parish Nurse

I want to elaborate just a little bit about putting mindfulness into practice. The first is to “Pay Attention.” Stay in the moment. If your mind starts to wander, bring it back. Witness not only what you see, but what you hear. Notice the sound of water as you pour a glass of water. Second would be “To Remove Judgment.” Look at the world and try not to interpret it according to your own standards. Look with appreciation and curiosity. Third would be “Breathing.” If your mind begins to wander, go back to taking the three breaths in and out. Remember breathe in via nose and exhale via mouth. Last, but not least, would be to “Meditate.” This is not fancy, but just setting time aside to be mindful of yourself and how wonderful you are and do nothing.

I just received information about a local program called “I’m Just Me Movement.” It is about promoting inclusion, diversity, and self-pride, as well as overcoming adversity. To learn more about the program go to www.imjustmemovement.org.

I am also following Unapologetically Episcopalian on Facebook. They post daily verses and a song in the morning and again in the afternoon.

See you in church!

Your parish nurses, *Helen and Rosalie*