

# THE ANGELUS

Volume 68 Number 6

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

February 2018

## From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church,

This year, the holy seasons of Lent and Easter give an interesting opportunity for reflection because of their starting dates. Ash Wednesday falls on February 14, which is Valentine's Day. Easter falls on Sunday, April 1, which is April Fool's Day. In some ways, this is very appropriate.

There is an ancient tradition on Easter Sunday to begin the sermon with a joke, like those popular on April Fool's Day. Joking on Easter is not to make the sermon more amusing; it acknowledges the Christian community's awareness that we know that an empty tomb and a Lord who has risen sound preposterous, almost joke-like. Yet, despite what may seem absurd, Christians believe that Jesus overcame death and we place our hope in Jesus as the risen Lord.

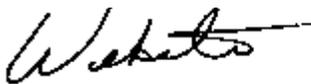
As for Ash Wednesday falling on Valentine's Day, I do not expect Hallmark to be celebrating those two days on one card like this, "I love you. Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." A card with that phrase and a dozen black roses for one's beloved may not go over so well! And then for some, there is the disciplinary challenge of no sweets for the next forty days—starting on Valentine's Day with those heart-shaped boxes of chocolate.

This collision of dates and themes should help us as Christians remember that we are aware that life (and its relationships) is like a box of chocolates, as Forrest Gump tell us. We know that our faith is not about convenience or naïve belief. Being aware of such realities, we have the ability to engage in life without having to think that we are denying things such as the frailty of the human condition, the ability to live in meaningful relationships, or the reality of death as a part of life.

While Ash Wednesday seems depressing, the counter of that is the joy of Easter. We do not get one without the other, and in the end, Ash Wednesday does not have the last word. So as you go into Lent on Valentine's Day, you can know that love is not all sweet and nostalgic. And as you celebrate on Easter what some consider to be a huge April Fool's joke, you can know God's wonderful sense of humor often challenges what we think we know to be true.

It is not often that we see our secular celebrations bump into our religious observances in such a dramatic way. I hope to see you at church on both days.

Faithfully,



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



**February 14 Services at**  
**7 am—Pilgrim's Chapel**  
**Noon—Sanctuary**  
**7 pm—Sanctuary**



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## News from the Diocese

### Update on the Search for a Second Bishop Suffragan



Significant progress already has been made in the process to elect a second Bishop Suffragan, with the formation of a Search & Nominating Committee.

The search process was launched in November when the Annual Convention of the Diocese consented to the call from Bishop Shannon Johnston and the Standing Committee to elect a second Bishop Suffragan. The new Bishop will become the third member of an episcopal team that includes Bishop Susan Goff, who also serves as a Suffragan.

In consultation with Bishop Johnston, the Standing Committee named a Search & Nominating Committee, whose members hope to announce a slate of nominees by early fall. After the slate is announced, additional nominees could be named through a petition process, according to guidelines to be developed later this year.

To learn more about the search, check our website ([thediocese.net](http://thediocese.net)) for regular updates and look for an article in the upcoming Virginia Episcopalian. Please keep the members of the Search & Nominating Committee in your prayers as they discern God's call for service in His kingdom.

#### *A Prayer for the Search and Transition Process*

*Almighty God, Shepherd and Bishop of our souls, who calls, guides, and empowers us as your Church; Bless us as your people. Create in us discerning minds as we seek to elect a Bishop in this Diocese. Open our ears, broaden our vision, and enliven our hearts for the work that lies before us. All this we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever, Amen.*

## Christian Formation

### Sunday Adult Forum

Beginning on Sunday, February 11, our topic for Adult Forum is: Most everything you want to know about the Episcopal Church and the terms which we use in ministry... such as Laity (who are they), Bishops (what are they and what the heck is a suffragan?), Priests (or presbyter?), and Deacons (not Wake Forest).

With the current search and election process for the Diocese of Virginia's next Bishop Suffragan (see opposite page), some questions have come up in the parish, region and diocese. This process can be a teaching moment in the parish about the Episcopal Church and its leadership. There is the recognition that new leadership is needed in different ways around the diocese as our diocese grows and changes, but people want to know more before getting involved. There is also a request from the Bishop Suffragan search committee for our prayers and support. That support includes ways to make nominations, learn what is going on in the process, and the chance for congregations to discuss roles and expectations of the bishops which may help identify questions for the search committee to consider as they move ahead.

Other parts of this Adult Forum series (Episcopal 101) will explore the ministries of the baptized (that means everyone, not just clergy) in the parish, regional, and diocesan levels. To help with that, we will explore differences among the various denominations as related to the Episcopal Church because so many parishioners are coming to the Episcopal Church from other denominations or none at all. Come with questions!

Please join us in the Tilford Room on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Coffee always provided!

# Christian Formation

## Sunday School News

Are you already making summer plans? Remember that our **Vacation Bible School** will take place July 16-20. Put it on your calendar!

### Epiphany to Lent Lessons

During Epiphany, our preschool through 5th grade classes explore many of the stories of Jesus's teaching and healing, working to understand Jesus's 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.

### Lenten Mite Box Offering

Our yearly Lenten Mite Box offering will begin February 14. Expect your children to bring home information on his/her class's choice of a goal on Sunday, February 11, so they'll be ready to begin on Ash Wednesday. Each class member will be asked to bring in a weekly offering so we can continuously measure how close we are to our class goal. Classes will learn the project they have chosen helps others and offer prayers together for the recipients of our gifts. Expect a weekly update from your teacher. Please help us remember that weekly offering. The offering will conclude the Sunday after Easter. As always, anyone is invited to participate!



## Youth Group

On the first weekend of March, the youth group will head to one of their favorite spots for retreat – Shrine Mont. The youth, chaperones, and clergy will stay in one of the newly winterized cottages, St Andrew's, and have the chance to play games, hike, explore faith in today's world, and perhaps see the wonder of God's creation if the weather cooperates. The cost is \$25 per youth. Scholarships are available to make sure everyone can go. Please see Webster, Barry Schnoor or Martha Griffin to find out more.

Our middle school youth will begin their preparation for pilgrimage in 2019 or 2020. Pilgrimage is a part of their confirmation process. The congregation is invited to support the youth by bringing friends and neighbors to our annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner, which is a fundraiser for pilgrimage. The youth will start selling tickets in mid-February, so please be on the lookout! The dinner is Saturday, March 17.

## End of Life Workshop at Christ Church

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on Saturday, March 10, from 10:00 am until Noon for a workshop to learn about and discuss ways that we can prepare ourselves and our families for end of life issues. When we held this workshop in 2015, the feedback we received included, "Our children need to be here with us to learn about this stuff." As we set up the workshop, we hope this early notice will give you the opportunity to ask family members to attend with you. We will include discussion with lawyers about wills, with clergy about funeral planning, with funeral directors about funeral homes, with the parish nurses and other medical professionals about medical and end of life issues, and other guests.

There will be more information to come in the next Angelus, but please note the date. The workshop will be followed by lunch. Please call the Church Office or speak with our parish nurses, Helen Zearth or Rosalie Lewis, if you have any questions or suggestions.

## From the Vestry

### New Vestry Members

#### *Martha B. Roberson*



Martha has been a member of Christ Church for 16 years. She has been involved as a Christ Church Vestry member and Senior Warden, Parish Life Committee Chair, Altar Guild Team Captain, Special Needs Service Coordinator, Greeter, Funeral Reception Monthly Coordinator, ECW Diocesan Meeting Co-Chair and Children's Chapel Leader and Substitute Sunday School Teacher. Martha is a cradle Episcopalian, born in North Carolina. She is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and is married to Wilborn, with three children growing up in Christ Church. She volunteers in many capacities with schools and as a member of the Healthy Families Board of Directors. She considers serving on the Vestry a position of great privilege and responsibility and is committed to honoring the mission, vision, and values of Christ Church.

#### *Christopher Francis*



Chris has previous Vestry experience at Christ Church, serving two terms and as the chair of the personnel committee. He was one of the founders of the Men's Fellowship Group in the 1980s. He is currently an usher at the 8:00 am service and is a prayers reader. He also assists the parish nurse. Chris came to the U.S., and Christ Church, in 1973 from Sri Lanka with the tremendous help and sponsorship of parishioners, the late Drs. Meredith and Robert Green. He is retired from Winchester Medical Center where he was director of several inpatient and outpatient departments, and now owns and manages his own rental properties company. He is married to Susan and has two daughters and three grandchildren. Chris will contribute to the Vestry in the areas of pastoral care and communications, with listening, providing feedback, and follow-up.



## Attention Newcomers!

The Christ Church OWLs (Older, Wiser Laity)  
invite all to a wine & cheese in the Tilford Room on  
Sunday, February 11, from 3:00-5:00 pm.  
Speaker to be announced!

## From the Vestry

### New Vestry Members

*Jim Lum*



Jim attends 8:00 am service and serves as an usher. Has been a member of Christ Church for more than 30 years. He moved to Winchester in 1984, from Shreveport, LA. He graduated from Rappahannock Co. HS and Louisiana Tech, with a BS in Professional Aviation. He has been married to Dixie just over twenty years, a second marriage for both, and they have five children and four grand-children. Jim retired five years ago after spending thirty-six years as a professional pilot. He and Dixie now manage their rental property. Jim holds a Class A Contractor's license and feels this experience could best be put to use working with the properties side of the Church.

*Bruce Trant*



Bruce has been a member of Christ Church since 1996 when a job change brought his family to Winchester from Virginia Beach. He has served as Acolyte Warden, Sunday School Teacher, Properties committee, Stewardship, Finance committee member and past Chair from 2006 to present, Vestry from 2006-2009, assisted with Rummage Sale, and volunteered time during WATTS. Bruce is a lifelong Episcopalian, grew up in Portsmouth, VA, and attended Virginia Tech. He retired after 36 years in the property insurance industry and now works part-time at Lowe's. He married Doris in 1981 and they have two daughters. Bruce feels like his retirement allows him to contribute more time, talent, and treasure, as God asks of us. It is his desire to further renew his service to Christ Church through the Vestry, where he brings experience from prior vestry service and the Finance Committee.

Thank you to the Vestry members who have completed their terms -  
Chris Ferguson, Karey Starnes, Barry Schnoor, who served as Junior Warden,  
and Martha Griffin, who served as Senior Warden.

Thank you for sharing your time and talents at Christ Church!

# Calendar and Upcoming Events

## Church Services

### Sunday

Holy Communion Rite I 8:00 am  
Holy Communion Rite II 10:30 am

### Wednesday

12:00 pm Pilgrim's Chapel  
(Healing Service 3rd Wed)

### Second Monday

6:30 pm Special Needs—Sanctuary

## February

- 2-4 Youth Retreat at Shrine Mont  
(No Youth Group on February 4)
- 8 Bingo Night
- 10 Men's Fellowship
- 11 OWLs Gathering
- 12 Special Needs Service
- 13 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper  
(Vestry Meeting to be rescheduled)
- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 19 Presidents' Day—Church Office Closed
- 20 Knit Unto Others
- 28 Salvation Army Dinner

## Committee & Group Meetings

Adult 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
Women's Lunch Group	1st & 3rd Thurs: 11:30 am
Vestry	2nd Tues: 7:00 pm
Women's Book Studies	Tues: 10:30 - Noon Thurs: 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm
Youth Group	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.  
Church Office Tel. 540-662-5843**

## February Birthdays

- 1 Kay Teachout
- 2 Al McGilvray, Jr.
- 5 Scott Harper
- 6 Dee Johnston, Sean Raymond
- 7 Bobby Arthur, Bebe Tischler
- 8 Bill Endorf, Glen Opheim
- 10 Reed Constantino, Rick Constantino
- 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 Bruce Allen, Willie McGilvray
- 23 Richard DeBergh, Roger Zearth, Skip Bowling, Bill Jones
- 25 Beth Conrad
- 28 Todd Barton



## February Anniversaries

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

celebrate!



Save the Date for our  
**St. Patrick's Day Dinner**  
Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 6:30 pm  
Tickets on sale soon.  
Proceeds support the next  
Youth Pilgrimage

### 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. Please let the office know the school addresses of our college students.



# Finance News

## Financial Report

### Budget Performance

2017 is over and the good news is that there was an operating surplus of \$15,423.73! The summary table below shows actual, as well as budget values, at year end. The Vestry approved the Finance Committee's recommendation to keep this surplus in the "Operating Surplus" account to help cover any possible cash flow needs during the years ahead.

2017 Full Year	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total Revenues	\$594,903.09	\$615,467.00	(\$20,563.91)
Total Expenses	\$579,479.36	\$615,467.00	(\$35,987.64)
Net Position	\$15,423.73	\$0.00	\$15,423.73

Unfortunately, this good news does not really tell the whole story. If the Assistant Rector position had been filled for the entire year, we would have had an operating deficit of over \$10,000. The reason we would have had this operating deficit is due to the loss of some major donors in 2017 due to deaths and donors moving out of the area. This loss of major donors is a concern and may be felt in the years to come unless we find ways to generate more revenue (donors each giving more, more donors giving, or a combination of the two).



# Finance News

## Financial Report

### Cash Flow During the Year

The Vestry is well aware that Christ Church operates almost the entire year at a negative cash position. Our expenses, as they accumulate each month and through the year, exceed our accumulated revenues. This has been the historical cash flow pattern for many years and we budget for this accordingly. The table and graph on the right help tell the story – so that you too can understand Christ Church’s normal “net position” during the calendar year.

You will notice that during the summer months, when attendance and donations tend to be low, we plan for and experience pretty large deficits. Expenses do seem pretty predictable and constant through the year, and fortunately, revenues seem to always catch up at year-end when donations are the most plentiful.

Please note that we can have a net cash position of \$ -40,000 to \$ -60,000 during our slow summer months. We handle this with the accumulated surplus funds from previous bountiful years. The year 2017 surplus of over \$15,000 that the Vestry placed into the operating surplus account will help make sure that cash on hand during the year is available to pay for all our expenses.

Actual 2017 Results	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Accumulated Revenues	\$44,193	\$77,511	\$124,313	\$188,314	\$220,855	\$254,586	\$316,645	\$346,626	\$390,825	\$454,240	\$503,333	\$594,903
Accumulated Expenses	\$47,288	\$89,466	\$145,772	\$198,561	\$239,006	\$291,466	\$339,151	\$384,043	\$433,107	\$468,883	\$507,450	\$579,479
Accumulated Position	\$(3,095)	\$(11,955)	\$(21,459)	\$(10,247)	\$(18,150)	\$(36,881)	\$(22,506)	\$(37,417)	\$(42,282)	\$(14,643)	\$(4,117)	\$15,424



# Parish News

## New Board for the Treasure Box

Congratulations to the 2018 Treasure Box Board. The Board members are Carole Ann King (President), Sally O'Neil (Vice President), Judith Knopp (Secretary), Barbara Nelson, Martha Lauve (Marketing Manager), and Melissa Ferguson. The Board appreciates the ongoing support and wisdom from Pam DeBergh, Kay Jones (Treasurer), and Roberta Gunnell (Purchasing Manager). For 2017, the Treasure Box was able to net over \$13,000 in proceeds to be distributed to organizations around the community. At our annual meeting in November, the Treasure Box volunteers celebrated their hard work completing their list of recommended organizations for the Treasure Box to support. The Board approved the following organizations from that list:

Rector's Discretionary Fund	\$1,000
Christ Church General Fund	\$1,500
CCAP	\$2,000
Salvation Army Shelter	\$1,000
Winchester Day Nursery	\$1,000
Freemont Street Nursery	\$1,000
Laurel Center	\$1,000
Laurel Center Capital Campaign	\$ 500
Evans Home	\$1,000
ADAPT	\$1,000
Winchester Rescue Mission	\$ 500
Men's Fellowship for the Winchester Rescue Mission	\$ 500
Bright Futures (previously Panda Pantry)	\$ 500
	\$12,500



The Treasure Box is open Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 am—4 pm at 114 W. Boscawen St.

A special thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who help to make the Treasure Box ministry happen! We appreciate all of the donations parishioners have given for the Treasure Box to sell. We will keep you up to date with our next sales as we head towards spring. Further information can be found at [www.christchurchwinchester.org/the-treasure-box](http://www.christchurchwinchester.org/the-treasure-box)



February 13, 2018 • 5:30 pm • Tilford Room • Hosted by the Vestry



February 14  
Services at

7 am—Pilgrim's Chapel

Noon—Sanctuary

7 pm—Sanctuary

## Parish News

### Women's Lunch Group



The Women's Lunch Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month (February 4 and 18 this month) 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.

### Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship will meet on Saturday, February 10, at 7:30 am in the Tilford Room. We will watch the second half of the movie, *Do You Believe*. Breakfast will be served via Chick-fil-a and McDonald's. All men of the parish are welcome to attend.

### CCAP Collection for February

In February, we continue to ask for feminine hygiene products, specifically tampons and bladder control pads (the ones that aren't like diapers) to support CCAP's female clients. Yes, these items are fairly expensive, but if every Christ Church family can furnish just one package, the ladies would be so grateful. CCAP is very thankful for your efforts to help all of our neighbors.

CCAP (Congregational Community Action Project) is a ministry of 46 worshipping communities in Winchester and Frederick County that have come together to support our neighbors in need with financial, material, and other assistance. There is a bookshelf in the foyer of the Parish Hall marked CCAP. Please leave items there and thank you for your generosity! Contact Jim Taylor (703-403-5264) with any questions.

### Bingo Night at Christ Church



Come out with family and friends to our annual Bingo Night on Thursday, February 8, from 6:00-8:00 pm in the Tilford Room. Kids are welcome! Nick Nerangis is always entertaining as our bingo caller. Pizza slices, soft drinks, and baked goods will be on sale. Admission is free, but donations will be collected to support dinners for the Winchester Rescue Mission, which provides shelter, sustenance, spiritual support, and case management to the neediest members of our community. During the month of December 2017, Winchester Rescue Mission provided 907 nights of shelter, 2,961 dinners, 441 food bank pickups, and 10 Mission residents got jobs! Currently, it is a male-only facility, but plans are in place to open a facility for women soon.

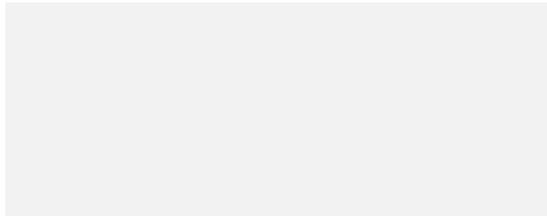
Anyone wishing to donate a small gift as a bingo prize or baked goods for sale should leave them on the table in the Tilford Room that is marked for bingo gift donations. Please contact Chris Ferguson (CFerguson@zwickercpc.com/978-360-4501) or Pat Kofalt (patkofalt@gmail.com/540-722-0429) for additional details. See all of you on February 8!

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## Parish Nurse Musings



**BRRR!**

Winter will probably be with us for a while! Here are some tips to keep you and your home safe:

**In the snow and ice:** Try spraying non-stick cooking spray on your shovel. Snow slips off easily! If your car is stuck in the snow, use kitty litter or car mats to get out of slick spots. Ice on the door handles will melt off with hand sanitizer. WD-40 can keep keyholes from getting frozen.

**For the pets:** If temps are frigid, walk your pets a short distance to relieve themselves. Salt on the roads and sidewalks is toxic to pets. Try pet socks or put petroleum jelly on their pads. Use pet-friendly ice melts. Try pet moisture pads.

**Traveling a distance?** Check the weather report and make sure a relative or neighbor knows your plans. Have in your vehicle items such as non-perishable food, water, outdoor clothing, blankets, charged cell phone, flashlight, batteries, and kitty litter in case you get stuck.

**Children playing outside:** Keep kids hydrated if outside and do not place on ponds! (Ice may be thin.)

**Fire safety:** Have your fireplace checked routinely. Dirty chimneys cause fires! If using space heaters, make sure they are placed three feet from flammable objects and **TURN OFF** if leaving house.

See you in church!

Your Parish Nurses – Rosalie & Helen