

# THE ANGELUS

Volume 72 Number 6

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

February 2022

Dear People of Christ Church,

*Those Community Clergy who are Valley Health badged and fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are now permitted to visit non-COVID patients at Valley Health facilities with limited exceptions.*

Finally! With much appreciation for the work and care provided by the Winchester Medical Center through this pandemic, we are relieved to receive this welcome news. I am not sure if everyone understood about the community clergy and the hospital, but the only time we could work with the families and hospital to see parishioners were in extreme situations. So we are glad to be at this new moment.

If you need to let us know that you or a family member is in the hospital:

While email and phone are both options, if there is an urgent need, phone is the faster way to communicate with the clergy. Also, if you want to reach the clergy, please do not leave a message on other staff voicemails as all of our staff are part-time, working different days of the week, and messages may not be checked that day.

Also, both clergy participate in visitations. Martin's day off is Monday and Webster's day off is Friday, so there is always one clergy on call. You can leave a message on either or both of the clergy voicemails so we know what is going on. With our phone system, Martin and I can be reached via voicemail even if we are not in the office. Call 540-662-5843, and when prompted, press Ext. 1 for Webster or Ext. 2 for Martin. We also have direct phone lines if you prefer: Webster is 540-773-5562; Martin is 540-773-5564.

For pastoral emergencies, please contact us through our cell phones. You can leave a message, or even send a text. If you send a text, please include your name on the text so we know who you are. In this day of spam texting, identifying yourself in the text is necessary. Here are our cell numbers: Webster's is 540-931-5288; Martin's is 217-493-3188.

Our other valuable resource for medical advocacy, questions, and direction is our parish nurses, Helen Zearth and Rosalie Lewis. You can reach them at their phone numbers, which are listed in the parish directory or leave them a message on voicemail at the parish nurse office (540-662-5843, Ext. 3). If you would like them to contact the clergy, they will be sure to do so.

One of the biggest lessons we have learned from this pandemic how important DIRECT communication is. We all come from different communities and experiences growing up with church, and with different expectations of how clergy may or may not know what is going on. Many of the informal or indirect ways clergy would learn about hospitalizations and illness no longer work! With hospital and HIPAA regulations along with COVID, you cannot assume that the hospital will contact the Christ Church clergy. You have to give them explicit permission to do so, and they will try their best, but it is not a guarantee. For people living in communities such as SVWC and TVOR, while the chaplains are wonderful, they do not know which parishes residents attend. Unless you ask them to contact the Christ Church clergy, they will not know to do that.

Martin and I are glad to have the opportunity again to visit parishioners at the hospital. And, I do not think that we can do enough to thank our hospital staff for the care they have given to those who were sick through this most difficult experience. May we continue to find ways to care and support one another as we seek to make the love of Christ known in times of health as well as illness.

Faithfully,



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

## From the Clergy

During the Epiphany season, which we continue to celebrate all this month, the prayer over Communion includes this line: “In the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ.” That sums up many of the themes of the season: a focus on Jesus being revealed to us, and on how the light of Christ is present in our own lives. The hope of this season is that our focus on Jesus will help us better embody Christ’s light ourselves, and look for in places we might not expect to find it. Like the Magi, we’re called to go looking for Jesus wherever God calls us.

So the challenge for us is to figure out how we do that. What ways of living and being in the world help us see Christ’s light in ourselves and others? What does our journey toward Jesus really look like, day to day? We get one way of answering these questions from our Gospel readings this month, most of which come from Luke’s account of the beginning of Jesus’s ministry. We’ll hear about the call of Peter and James and John, who leave behind everything they are doing in order to follow Jesus. After that, we’ll hear parts of what’s known as the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus’s first major teaching in Luke.

If you read through the Sermon on the Plain, you’ll recognize it as very similar to the Gospel of Matthew’s much longer Sermon on the Mount. Both versions are a concentrated essence of Jesus’s teaching, a guide to what following Jesus looks like. And our readings from the Sermon on the Plain on Sundays contain some of Jesus’s most counter-intuitive teachings. First, in the Beatitudes, Jesus declares that those who are blessed by God are those who are poor, and hungry, and weeping. Then Jesus commands his followers to love their enemies, to give to those who are in need, and to avoid judgment. His teaching asks us to turn away from the way the world normally works, the ways we want to live, and to choose something different.

And at the core of that difference is the idea that Christian life means choosing love and generosity at every turn, even with people who have hurt us, or who we think don’t deserve it. That kind of life helps us make the light of Christ visible to others, and it helps us see God’s light in people we might have ignored otherwise. Jesus declares that God is especially close to those who are vulnerable and in need, and that therefore as Christians we should be too. He reminds us that following him means not only caring for people we like and who care for us, but offering love and care even when we would rather not do it. It’s in that way of living that we can expect to see the face of Christ.

The question the Gospel asks us, this month, and every month, is: Are we looking for Jesus in the places he said he would be? If we want to know him and follow him, are we ready to live up to the call he has given us?

Faithfully,



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



*Note: Ash Wednesday is March 2, 2022.*

## Christian Formation

### Children's Chapel Continues

Despite unpredictable weather, we are continuing to offer a Sunday morning program for children from 9:45 am until 10:15 am each week. We are meeting in the Sunday School Commons, on the second floor of the Parish Hall. Children's Chapel or a play group, depending on the age of the children present, will meet beginning just after the earlier program. Should you arrive after 10:30 am, you might find the front door to the parish hall locked. If so, just come into the sanctuary where one of the ushers will direct you up the side aisle through the doors to the Tilford Room where you can go up the stairs to the children's area. As always, your children will be brought into the sanctuary to meet you at the Peace during the 10:30 am service. Come join us! The lessons of Epiphany are some of the most appealing to children so bundle up and plan to be there.

### Daytime Faith Study

Daytime Faith Study will be starting again in February, studying the Gospel of John using the Anglican study guide "Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of John" by Cynthia Briggs Kittridge. We will explore the text and themes in John's Gospel discussing not just what John meant then, but also how the Gospel speaks to us now. We meet on the second and fourth Mondays of each month from 10:00—11:00 am. Our meetings will begin on zoom February 14. We hope to move to an in-person component when it is safe. This study does not require your being a part of the faith study before, so please join us! If you would like to join us, please email Noelle ([communications@christchurchwinchester.org](mailto:communications@christchurchwinchester.org)) for the link. You can order the study guide online. If you have specific questions about our gatherings, please call Webster at 540-662-5843, Ext. 1.

## Pastoral Care



### Thank Health Care Workers

The Pastoral Care Committee wants to send our church community's appreciation to staff at Winchester Medical Center. We will be collecting Valentine's Day cards, thanking them for their efforts, and treats. All treats must be individually-wrapped and favorites at the hospital are candy, chocolate, granola bars, k-cups, and fruit snacks. There is a collection bin in the back of the church and you can also leave donations in the foyer of the Church Office during the week. Last day for donations will be **Monday, February 7.**

## Outreach News

To continue our support of Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter (WATTS) past our host week (February 5-12, 2022), please consider donating tall socks for men to wear with boots and waterproof gloves in all sizes. Please contact Martin Geiger at 540-773-5564 to donate.

# Church Calendar

## Sundays at Christ Church

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
in the Sanctuary  
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.  
Call ahead before you visit!

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

Bible Study	Wed: 10:00 am (online)
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 (online)
Book Study	Tues: 10:30 am Thurs: 5:30 pm Tilford Room



# Church Calendar

## February Birthdays

- 1 Kay Teachout
- 2 Steve Haines
- 4 George Burgess
- 5 Scott Harper
- 8 Bill Endorf
- 11 Rebecca Gibson, David Wingenbach
- 12 Tricia Glass, Ann McQuinn, Bernie Swope
- 14 Martha Griffin, Lucy Rockwood
- 17 Stephen Brown
- 19 William Wingenbach
- 21 Maureen Huff
- 23 Roger Zebarth, Skip Bowling
- 25 Beth Conrad
- 27 Bill Tedesco

## February Anniversaries

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

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.



In anticipation of the reopening of the Treasure Box, Martha Lauve will be accepting spring and summer items at this time. We are not certain when the shop will reopen, but Martha may be contacted (540-662-3616 or her cell at 202-365-9181) to make an appointment for donations. Please make an appointment to bring items in and please DO NOT leave items outside of the shop or in the back hall of the Church Office. As always, we thank all of you for your support!

# From the Treasurer

## Looking back at 2021

### *The second PPP Loan turns a NEGATIVE 2021 into a positive end of year result!*

Without the aid of the forgiven second PPP Loan, the 2021 Final result really would have been a **loss of \$14,017.65**.

The Year End table below has four columns. Along with the normal three columns (Actual, Budget, and Difference), the fourth column on the right highlights in yellow the impact of receiving \$85,825 as unexpected revenue.

The bottom row shows that, instead of a \$14,017.65 loss, we ended the year with a **positive net position of \$71,807.35**

2021 FULL Year	Actual (No PPP)	Budget	Difference	Actual With PPP Forgiven
<b>Revenues</b>				
Pledged	\$411,831.54	\$385,000.00	\$26,831.54	\$411,831.54
Unpledged	\$115,585.00	\$75,000.00	\$40,585.00	\$115,585.00
PPP Loan Forgiven				\$85,825.00
All Other Revenues	\$32,734.06	\$19,100.00	\$13,634.06	\$32,734.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$560,150.60</b>	<b>\$479,100.00</b>	<b>\$81,050.60</b>	<b>\$645,975.60</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Personnel	\$429,532.32	\$430,997.00	(\$1,464.68)	\$429,532.32
Utilities	\$24,991.19	\$22,000.00	\$2,991.19	\$24,991.19
Property/Maintenance	\$40,803.88	\$43,596.00	(\$2,792.12)	\$40,803.88
Office Expenses	\$19,670.21	\$20,675.00	(\$1,004.79)	\$19,670.21
Christian Education Expenses	\$802.41	\$1,350.00	(\$547.59)	\$802.41
Music Expenses	\$2,670.00	\$3,390.00	(\$720.00)	\$2,670.00
Worship	\$942.26	\$1,100.00	(\$157.74)	\$942.26
Stewardship	(\$323.66)	\$700.00	(\$1,023.66)	(\$323.66)
Outreach	\$52,450.00	\$52,450.00	\$0.00	\$52,450.00
Pastoral Care	\$305.92	\$800.00	(\$494.08)	\$305.92
Parish Life	\$257.32	\$1,250.00	(\$992.68)	\$257.32
Communications	\$2,066.40	\$2,000.00	\$66.40	\$2,066.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$574,168.25</b>	<b>\$580,308.00</b>	<b>(\$6,139.75)</b>	<b>\$574,168.25</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>(\$14,017.65)</b>	<b>(\$101,208.00)</b>	<b>\$87,190.35</b>	<b>\$71,807.35</b>

**Highlights from the table show:** All three major revenue categories performed **better than budget** and 10 of the 12 major expense categories also performed **better than budget**.

#### Revenues:

- In the spring, we received a few late 2021 pledges that we did not count on when budgeting. These helped our pledge total for the year exceed budget by almost \$27,000.

## From the Treasurer

- In December, we also received some generous unpledged donations. The late donations helped our unpledged total for the year exceed budget by about \$40,500.
- All other revenues (particularly Plate, Holiday giving, and even Building Use) exceeded budget by about \$13,600 in total.
- Actual Total Revenues were 16.9% higher than what was budgeted.

### Expenses:

In creating the 2021 budget, EVERY expense category was looked at closely and cuts were made in personnel and in programs.

- Once again, by managing programs (Music, Christian, Education, Worship, etc.) and other expenses (Personnel, Office, etc.) through the year, the result was total expenses being under budget by about \$6,100.
- The total drop from budgeted expenses was about 1.1%.
- The utilities expense actual total did exceed budget by about \$3,000 and the communications expense actual total was over budget by about \$66.
- All other expense categories finished the year under budget

So, 2021 was ACTUALLY much better than budget, but still resulted in a NEGATIVE year of \$ -14,017.65!  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> PPP loan turned 2021 into a positive year – leaving about \$71,800 to place in the operations reserve account.

### 2022 Budget

The 2022 budget will first appear in the March Angelus, along with the actual results for January. (The Angelus financial information is always two months behind due to the deadline information must be submitted).

### Some 2022 highlights:

- Total Pledged giving is up from 2021 budget by about \$66,000.
- Total Unpledged giving has also been increased in the 2022 budget.
- **No More PPP Loans – without it the last two years we would have had deficits!**
- Modest raises for personnel in 2022 per levels recommended by the Diocese.
- Every other expense item was reviewed (Pandemic = anticipated continued lower attendance).
- **UNFORTUNATELY, the net full year 2022 bottom line is Negative once again, by about \$39,000!**

*If you have not made a pledge and plan to do so, please send it in to the Church Bookkeeper.*

## From the Parish Nurses

Brrr-----it is cold outside! We all are aware of the hazards of driving in winter weather - especially if you were stuck for hours on Interstate 95 a few weeks ago! Here are some reminders when considering driving in snow and ice:

- Check the forecast. Any weather advisories?
- Map out your route. What's the weather where are you now and where you are going?
- Check car fluid levels, wipers, tire pressure and tread.
- Wear weather appropriate clothes.

What to have in the car:

- Blanket
- First-aid kit (Check for expired content!)
- Working flashlight
- Snacks and bottled water
- Charged cell phone

Now you are ready to drive! Are your windows clean? What is your visibility? Do you need sunglasses (for the snow glare)? Maybe you need “non-clumping” cat litter or a bag of sand in your car.

Happy safe driving!

See you in church!

Your Parish Nurses, Rosalie & Helen



### Joan Bronson Retires!

Congratulations to our Joan Bronson on her retirement from the Handley Regional Library after 42 years of service! Joan recently moved to Westminster-Canterbury from downtown Winchester. She says, “I’ve liked every job I ever had. I like working and being busy and helping people.” And, we at Christ Church know that to be true as Joan, currently serving as a Vestry member, is always on-hand for services, events, meetings, and especially dinners!

Best wishes to Joan as she enjoys her retirement.

Please see the Winchester Star’s January 15, 2022 issue for an article about Joan.

Photo by Jeff Taylor/The Winchester Star.

