

THE ANGELUS

Volume 72 Number 7

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

March 2022

Dear People of Christ Church,

It is hard to believe, but these 40 days of Lent will mark the end of the longest Lent in my life. It began back in March of 2020 and now we seem to be at a different point looking towards Easter. Lent is about giving up and taking on. So we gave up community. We gave up singing. We gave up on a lot of ways we did things. We have taken on making sure we keep one another safe. We have taken on technology to allow for community and worship in different ways. We have taken on doing other things in different ways. I must admit, that is one thorough way to do Lent.

In some ways, this Lent will be an indicator of how our communities will be able to re-open. Our Lenten program for adults will gather on Sunday mornings in the Tilford Room at 9:30 am. On Sunday, March 20, we will have our annual meeting with Vestry elections beginning at 9:15 am. Vestry nominations will be posted after the first week of March. The end of Lent will have a return of the ecumenical Palm Sunday blessing of the palms on the walking mall, as well as Christ Church hosting the noon Good Friday ecumenical service. So, we do see parish and community life hopefully exiting the pandemic mode.

And then we leave Lent for the wonderful events of Easter. First and foremost is Holy Baptism. Our next date for the celebration of Holy Baptism will be at our Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 16, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Our service is for anyone seeking to be baptized, no matter the age. Parents of infants or adults wanting to be baptized need to call the Church Office to let the clergy know. We will find a time to meet and prepare for this most sacred event. For anyone interested in baptism who cannot make that day, we will also have baptisms on Pentecost Sunday, June 5, 2022.

There are also two other upcoming events of which to make note. We will sell parade seats for the Apple Blossom parades in April. Volunteers are needed for this effort—selling tickets, setting up, working the parades, cleaning up. Come be a part of the fun! All proceeds will support our Panda Packing/Bright Futures ministry. The other fun event is the return of our parish weekend at Shrine Mont, which is May 6-8, 2022. See the back page of this newsletter and watch for details to come.

From children, youth, and adult events and Sunday routines, please be sure to check the website, this newsletter and weekly emails (sign up on the website if you don't get them!) to make sure you know what is going on with our ministries. This has been a long Lent, and I for one look forward toward Easter with a renewed sense of encountering the love of Christ through the Easter mystery of our resurrected Lord.

Faithfully,



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



ANNUAL MEETING & VESTRY ELECTIONS
SUNDAY, MARCH 20, 2022
9:15 AM IN TILFORD ROOM

CHRIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA

From the Clergy

As we mark Ash Wednesday and Lent this March, I am reminded of how different and disrupted our last two seasons of Lent have been. During Lent of 2020, we were processing the beginning of the pandemic and dealing with the suspension of in-person services. During Lent of 2021, many of us were getting vaccinated, or anxiously waiting for appointments, and we as a church were enjoying some very chilly outdoor services. Although Sunday services have been inside for almost a year now, not everything is the same. Even as we plan to resume traditions like the Pancake Supper, and opportunities for worship like the Wednesday noonday service, this Lent will still feel different than in previous years.

The good news is that now matter how different our lives are, Lent points us to truths about God, and our relationship with God, that are always the same. Lent seems almost designed for times that are stressful or disrupted, or marked with grief, because it's a season all about refocusing on the central messages of the Gospel. Whatever chaos or disruption we deal with, Lent reminds us that God's message to us is of love and forgiveness. Lent has its origins in the tradition of new Christians preparing for their baptisms at Easter through a season of prayer and fasting, and so we continue it with prayer and study and self-denial. We don't do this to punish ourselves, but as a way of renewing and recommitting to our faith in the God we know in Jesus.

It's common in Lent to think about a Lenten discipline, a particular everyday spiritual practice for the season. Whatever Lenten discipline you may feel called to take on - whether it is a new habit of prayer, a practice of reading Scripture, something you are choosing to give up - the point of that discipline is about how it helps us pay attention to God. Our new habits are meant to be reminders of God's presence in our everyday life, little pointers of God's love and care for us, and our own need of that care. We almost certainly will not be perfect at whatever commitment we make - I know I rarely am - but even our failures can be reminders of God's love and forgiveness.

The weeks of Lent, and the disciplines we take on during them, help prepare us for Holy Week and Easter, for the time when we remember Jesus's passion and resurrection. If we allow the season to be a time of focusing our attention on God, it will help us deepen our understanding and joy when Easter arrives. This Lent will be different in many ways, but its fundamental purpose is still to prepare us to celebrate Jesus's resurrection, and to proclaim the new life he offers to the world!

Faithfully,



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

Participate in Worship

There are many opportunities to assist during services, but two roles need bolstering now. The first need is for **ushers** at our 10:30 am service. Familiarity with the service and punctuality are the only requirements! Training is provided and scheduling is flexible. Please contact Noelle in the Church Office (540-662-5843, Ext. 4) if you can serve.

The second need is for a volunteer **computer operator** to join the livestreaming production team at Christ Church on Sunday mornings during the 10:30 am service. If you have some familiarity with internet and computers with Windows 10, we will train you on the streaming software. It's a small time commitment and essential as we work to continue our livestream offerings. Contact Phil Sargent at psargent@su.edu to learn more.

Christian Formation

Sunday School during Lent

As we enter the Lenten season, our Sunday School theme will be Praying, Fasting, and Giving. We will continue to meet upstairs in the Parish Hall from 9:45-10:15 am and then continue into the Children's Chapel until the children are brought to the Sanctuary to join their parents at the Peace. Intermediate, middle, and high schoolers are invited to help any Sunday. Just come upstairs!

If you have young children, remember that there are materials for them to use in the bags at the back of the Sanctuary, as well as board books, coloring, etc. for toddlers. On the lower level of the Sanctuary, the first room to the left has a changing table, play mat, sofa, and a few toys for wiggly kids to take a break. That room also has the audio of the Sanctuary service available.

Once we have warmer weather, our Sunday afternoon service for young families will resume in the courtyard! Check the Weekly Update emails for any announcements/changes.

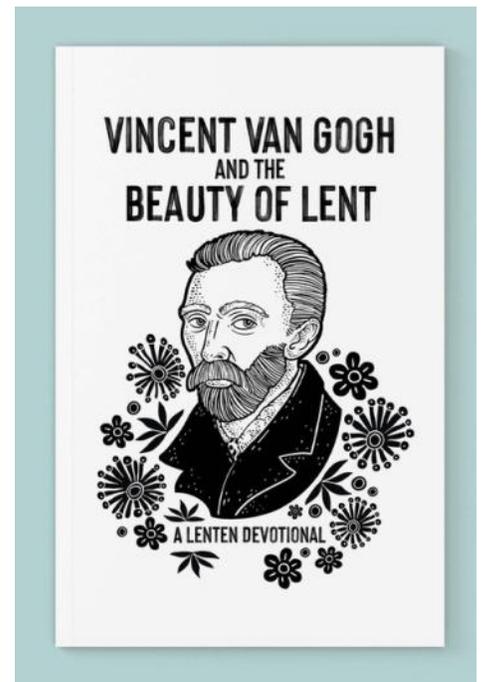
Lenten Program for Adult Forum

During Lent, we will offer a program called, "Vincent Van Gogh and the Beauty of Lent—A Lenten Devotional." Here is the description:

Vincent van Gogh devoted his life to light. The light of creation, the light of painting, the light of God's grace – and the light in humanity, mind, body, and soul. The son of a Christian pastor, Vincent fervently set out to be a preacher and missionary himself, but his ministry eventually took the form of nearly 900 paintings shimmering with dynamism, with passion, and above all, with light.

In this Lenten devotional, the words of Scripture and the paintings and letters of Vincent van Gogh will be our guides. Each week, biblical texts and Van Gogh's work throw light on each other, pointing toward simple, powerful practices you can try yourself, with your family or friends, or with your congregation. Week by week, we'll travel this Lenten journey together toward the light of Easter morning – with Vincent van Gogh as our guide.

Each Sunday in Lent, join us for Adult Forum on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Tilford Room, as we journey through this Lenten program together. The devotional is also available to you as a PDF file for your personal use—on your computer or printed. Please email Noelle at communications@christchurchwinchester.org if you would like the electronic version emailed to you.



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.

Wednesday Noonday service in the Sanctuary



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

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)
Women's Book Study	Tues: 10:30 am Thurs: 5:30 pm Tilford Room



**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

The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.



Church Calendar

March Birthdays

March Anniversaries

- 1 Janie Mohn
- 2 Sandra Armstrong
- 3 Gwendolyn Conrad
Michael Roberson
- 6 George Glass
Kent Stevens
- 8 Dreusilla Koonce
Connie Pettinger
- 11 Susan Sheppard
- 12 David Lewis
- 13 Steve Cluss
Landon Haines
- 15 Mary Stevens
- 19 Eddie Richard
- 20 Frank Baxter
- 27 Lori Ellington
Jack Nelson
- 28 Ann Thomas
- 31 Deanna Stouffer

- 16 Jim & Rebekah Wiedower

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.



Now OPEN! Starting on March 2, hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays, and 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays. The shop is located at 114 W. Boscawen Street. To make donation to the shop, please contact Martha Lauve at 540-662-3616 or 202-365-9181 (cell) .

From the Treasurer

Feeling 22

2021 ended strong and some carry over from December helped 2022 start off strong as well! The table below shows the summary Revenue and Expense totals for Actual and Budget for the first month of 2022. The table also shows that Actual Revenues were greater than budget, and Actual Expenses were just slightly lower than budget for January.

2022	Jan Actual	Jan Budget	Jan Diff
Revenues	\$ 73,874	\$ 66,800	\$ 7,074
Expenses	\$ 41,801	\$ 42,492	\$ (692)
Net Position	\$ 32,073	\$ 24,308	\$ 7,766

2022 Budget: 2022 Annual Budget compared to the 2021 Annual Budget

Category	2021	2022	(22 - 21) Diff \$	(22 - 21) Diff %
Pledged	\$ 385,000	\$ 451,000	\$ 66,000	17.1%
Unpledged	\$ 75,000	\$ 91,000	\$ 16,000	21.3%
All Other Revenues	\$ 41,100	\$ 26,159	\$ (14,941)	-36.4%
Total Revenues	\$ 501,100	\$ 568,159	\$ 67,059	13.4%
Personnel	\$ 430,997	\$ 437,540	\$ 6,543	1.5%
Utilities	\$ 22,000	\$ 26,075	\$ 4,075	18.5%
Property/Maintenance	\$ 43,596	\$ 44,092	\$ 496	1.1%
Office Expenses	\$ 20,775	\$ 22,437	\$ 1,662	8.0%
Christian Education Expenses	\$ 1,350	\$ 1,325	\$ (25)	-1.9%
Music Expenses	\$ 3,390	\$ 3,030	\$ (360)	-10.6%
Worship	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$ -	0.0%
Stewardship	\$ 700	\$ 700	\$ -	0.0%
Outreach	\$ 52,450	\$ 66,450	\$ 14,000	26.7%
Pastoral Care	\$ 800	\$ 600	\$ (200)	-25.0%
Parish Life	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,300	\$ 50	4.0%
Communications	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,430	\$ 430	21.5%
Total Expenses	\$ 580,408	\$ 607,079	\$ 26,671	4.6%
Net	\$ (79,308)	\$ (38,920)	\$ 40,388	-50.9%

Revenues: Pledged & Unpledged are up for 2022, but All Other is down. Overall 13% increase over 2021.

Expenses: Increased for Personnel (raises and insurance), Utilities (adjusted based on 2021), Office, and Outreach (Diocesan pledge increase moving to guidelines).

Outreach News

Another Successful WATTS Host Week

Thanks to all who helped make the recently concluded Christ Church WATTS Host Week a resounding success! Due to Covid, we again had to host at the former First United Methodist Church, which presented numerous obstacles, but our volunteers rose to the occasion. During our host week, over 45 Christ Church volunteers provided 294 nights of shelter, which is an average of 42 guests per night. We gave our guests nutritious dinners and breakfasts, and our Youth Group made sandwiches, which the guests took, along with fruit and snack foods we provided, to sustain them during the day. Our partners included the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, who provided and served Saturday dinner, the Alamo Cinema and Draffhouse, who provided Sunday dinner, the Life in the Word Church of Jesus Christ, who provided Monday dinner and McDonalds, who provided breakfast sandwiches. Thanks to our Knit Unto Others team, who provided wash cloths, soap and Prayer Squares, and thanks to all of our parishioners who cooked and served dinners and breakfasts, registered guests, changed bedding, set up and took down the shelter, and provided camaraderie to our guests. We are thankful for the opportunity to serve a very gracious group of guests and for great support from the WATTS managers, but most of all we are thankful for our awesome volunteers who are the backbone of WATTS. ~ Pat Kofalt

“This outreach was extremely successful with a lot of compliments from WATTS staff and guests. We would not have been as successful without the dedicated efforts of Pat Kofalt. He made many trips to and from our church to First Methodist bringing needed supplies. He did a great job on supplying the food, bringing only that which was needed so we could keep the kitchen orderly. It also saved money as we didn't have excess food at the end. It was a lot of fun working with Pat and the other volunteers!” ~ Gary Sheppard

CCAP Easter Basket Giveaway

CCAP is asking Christ Church for help as they look to provide Easter dinners and Easter baskets to local families in need. They are asking for donations of Easter baskets (empty), Easter candies (individually wrapped) and tinfoil roasting pans for those Easter hams! All donations must be received by Sunday, March 27. Donations can be left in the entrance to the church on Sunday mornings or dropped off in the foyer of the Church Office at 114 W. Boscawen Street on Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

CCAP has a great new website, ccapwinchester.org, and will list other donation needs there and ways to volunteer at CCAP. Their holiday giveaways reach hundreds in our local area, so thank you for your continued support! Please contact Jim Taylor (annjimtaylor@verizon.net) if you have any questions about CCAP's work or volunteer opportunities there.



Parish Life

Update from the Committee

The Parish Life Committee is gearing up in hopes of restarting some programs that we've had to put on hold for a while. The church continues to follow recommendations of the Lord Fairfax Health District and these recommendations will determine how we conduct our activities in the near future. Some of the traditional events may not look quite like they used to, and we will re-introduce them gradually to gauge interest and attitudes about regathering. As the weather gets warmer and Covid restrictions ease, we plan to bring back coffee hour in the weeks to come. We welcome the opportunity to gather with our friends and re-engage as a church family.

Our first get-together is on March 1 with the Vestry-hosted Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. It's been met with lots of enthusiasm! We're excited to provide a festive and yummy dinner but still observing some pandemic protocols such as distancing and masking.

Look for more information in the weeks to come as we plan to gather together in closer community. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont 2022

Our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont will be May 6-8, 2022—Mother's Day weekend. Our theme this year is **Mindfulness and Movement on the Mountain**.

Shrine Mont is often called *a place apart*. But in a world with constant activity and endless distractions and demands, how do we slow ourselves down enough to actually 'be' apart?

Join us as we explore various ways to cultivate mindfulness and calm. Bring a yoga mat if you have one. No prior experience or acrobatics required!

The rest of the weekend is to experience Shrine Mont. This includes opportunities to sample the wonderful cooking, hike the various trails, rock on the porch with friends, do a puzzle, or take a nap.

We are fortunate, because of a generous gift, to be able to have all parish youth and children over the age of four come with no expense to parents.

Registration forms will be available soon. If you'd like to learn more about parish weekend, the Church Office is happy to put you in contact with families who have attended previous years.

Apple Blossom Parades!

We all are so excited for Apple Blossom this spring! We will return to selling tickets for parade seats. All proceeds will go to support our Panda Packing/Bright Futures outreach, helping to feed school kids in our local area. Watch for more information in early April, but we will sell tickets to parishioners after services on Palm Sunday, April 10th. Ticket sales will begin for everyone in the Parish Hall on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, beginning on April 12. All sales are in-person by cash or check. Tickets will be \$5 each for the Firefighters Parade on Friday, April 29, and \$8 each for the Grand Feature Parade on Saturday, April 30. We will not sell any parking spots this year.

There will be a Signup Genius on the church website soon for volunteers to sign up to help sell tickets both during the sale hours and on parade days. Many hands are needed—from selling tickets, to setting up chairs, to taking tickets, selling water, cleaning up. It's a great way to be part of the fun! Please contact Katie Harvard (klhwsh@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.