

THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

May 2025

Dear People of Christ Church,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of our Risen Lord!

I am looking forward to supplying here with you all during the Sundays in May. For those who I haven't had the chance to yet meet, my name is Rachel Rickenbaker, and I am a supply priest (which is a fancy way of saying, I fill in when needed at churches around the Diocese). I will be coming from Stafford, Virginia, where I live with my husband James, also an Episcopal priest (at Aquia Church), our two young daughters, Eleanor and Abigail, and our two kitties.

I have a lot of love for this church, as it was the parish I attended when I was a student at Shenandoah, from 2009-2013. It is through this parish that I was able to take two transformative mission trips to the Dominican Republic. It is through this parish that I found my call to ordination and was sponsored for seminary at Virginia Theological Seminary in 2013. My parents, Deb and Dennis Shows, are also Christ Church parishioners who regularly sing in the choir.

What a gift to be able to be here with you all! I often say what I love best about supply work is that I get to worship with different people every week and experience how they do things. For the month of May, as we celebrate the season of Easter and what our Lord has done for us in his Resurrection, I am excited that the people with whom I get to worship and serve are you all! See you soon!

Sincerely,

The Rev. Rachel A. Rickenbaker

*Rachel's Ordination in 2016 with
Christ Church clergy, Webster and
the Rev. Bridget Coffey*



From the Vestry

Introducing our Senior Warden

A parish senior warden is a member of the Vestry appointed for special duties for a one year term, usually acting as the spokesperson for the Vestry and working closely with the rector of the parish. In the absence of the rector, the senior warden assumes the rector's responsibilities. Barbara Downs is now Senior Warden at Christ Church.

While the work of the Vestry includes providing services, care for facilities, and financial management responsibilities, Barbara sees her specific role as senior warden as a bridge connecting our church community, parishioners and Vestry, parishioners and the clergy. Most importantly, she sees herself as a compassionate listener.

Her goal is to be present as often as possible – attending committee meetings, church events, and coffee hour. She says, “It’s important to listen to parishioners to ensure their spiritual and community needs are met.” She also sees her role working closely with the clergy to execute his vision, mission, and church events.

As a cradle Episcopalian, Barbara is familiar with the history of the church and has experience on previous church vestries. Her skill set, acquired during her 40+ years of federal service, puts her in a unique position to encourage communication across ministries, work with the Vestry and congregation to execute strategies to evolve the church even further from the pandemic, be part of teams to create solutions to any problem large or small, and create an environment that supports leadership growth within the church.

Barbara’s primary task in the immediate future is to support the church and staff in any way while Webster is on sabbatical this month. She says, “I want to hear you and see you. Please feel free to stop to talk when ever you see me, even in the grocery store, email me, text me, or contact me through the staff. I want to know you!”



A New Trustee

At the April Vestry meeting, the Vestry appointed Wilborn Roberson as a trustee of Christ Church. He is replacing Dixon Whitworth, who has moved to Richmond. Dixon has served Christ Church in a number of capacities over the years, mainly with stewardship and the finances of the parish. Dixon and Kay, his wife, have been faithful members of Christ Church. The Vestry thanks both Kay and Dixon for being a part of our community.

The Trustees of the Parish are a peculiar legal fallout from the American Revolution in the Commonwealth of Virginia, concerning church ownership of property on behalf of the Diocese of Virginia. While the property is owned by the diocese, the parish holds the property as trustees to be signatories when the parish acquires or sells church property, if there are variance adjustments with utilities or such actions. Per the diocesan canons: “Each Vestry, as the constituted agents of the Church, shall transact all its temporal business, e.g.: (a) providing for the appointment of Trustees pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia to hold title to the property of the Church;”

The Vestry appreciates Wilborn for joining our other two trustees, Bob Mitchell and Pem Hutchinson.

Christian Formation

Getting Ready for Summer

Join us for the remaining weeks of Sunday School and our grand finale on June 1st. Sunday School, Alleluia Singers, and Children's Chapel will continue through May 25.

On June 1st, we will share a family VBS experience with our neighbors from Grace Lutheran Church. Using a similar format to what we did during the pandemic, we will meet from 11:30 am -1:30 pm in the Braddock Street Parking Lot (behind the Smith Building at 114 W. Boscawen St.) for a fun learning experience complete with stations to visit including crafts, storytelling, games, and music. Lunch will be provided. There are no fees to participate. Plan to join us for an experience of celebrating what we have learned this year in Sunday School and to enjoy our lesson outdoors. Dress casually!

Registration is not required although a signup will be posted in the Sunday School Commons to help us with the number of people to expect. And, watch for additional family worship opportunities later in the summer.

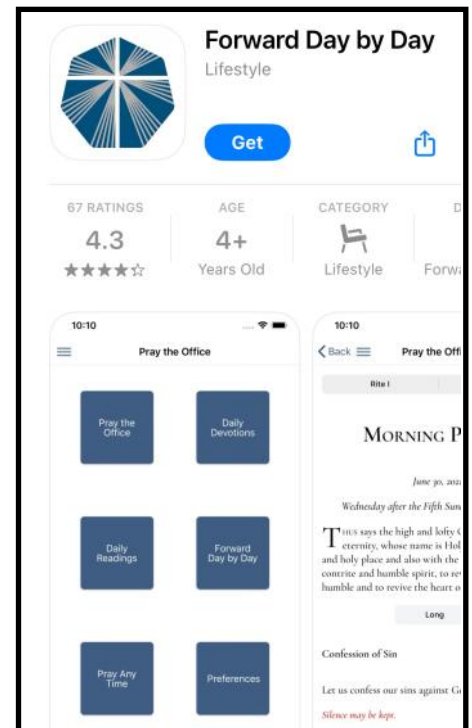
The Alleluia Singers will sing for worship on Pentecost Sunday, June 8, and then start their summer break, too!

Forward Movement

As we head into summer, maybe you have more time to devote to daily prayer. Maybe you will be traveling and would like to have prayer resources available while you are away from Christ Church. It's a good time to remind you of the Forward Movement website (www.forwardmovement.org).

Forward Movement sells many prayer resources, but they also offer many free options. If you click on the **Online Prayer** tab, you will find the Daily Office (to read or to listen to), Forward Day by Day, Daily Devotions, Daily Readings, all the Prayers and Thanksgivings. You can even add your own prayer intentions or comment in the group for Forward Day by Day. You can adjust settings to help make it more accessible.

They also offer a free app with all of these resources that you can download on your phone or iPad from the app stores, so you can take prayers with you wherever you go!



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: 6:00 pm
Bible Study	Wed: 10:30 am via Zoom
Outreach Committee	1st Tues: 6:00 pm
Common Ground Discussion Group	4th Wed: 4:00 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: 1:30 pm—Parlors OR First & Third Thursday at 5:30 pm —Parlors



The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Church Calendar

May Birthdays

- 1 Michael Phelps
- 2 Anne Drury, Pam McKinley, Katy Wiley
- 3 Jo Pilette
- 4 Karen Jagiello
- 8 Jackson Stock
- 13 Teresa Jacobsen
- 14 Liz Lindon
- 19 Linda Russell
- 21 Bobbie Gouldthorpe
- 22 Jack Applin, Linda Miles, Bob Puttock
- 24 Wilborn Roberson
- 26 Kay Wise, Greg Jacobsen, Tonia Graves
- 27 Sara Bicking, Tim Waldie
- 28 Alix Cooper
- 29 Bill Drury, Walt McIntosh,
Caroline Wingenbach



May Anniversaries

- 8 Jim & Ann Taylor
- 14 Rob & Trish Boyd
- 18 Dan & Jody Wall
- 19 Gerald & Cheryl Crowell
- 24 Michael & Janie Mohn
- 28 Mark & Nancy Baker

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.

If you need a copy of the parish directory, please email Noelle at communications@christchurchwinchester.org to make arrangements to pick one up in the Church Office.



Shop at the Treasure Box Thrift Shop!

Open on Wednesdays and Fridays 10—4 & Saturdays 10-1
at 114 W. Boscawen St.

Donations accepted during shop hours!

**To submit a prayer request, please visit
the website and click on
“Add a Name to the Prayer List”
in the Quick Links section.**

Outreach Committee

Parades and Paper Products!

Happy Apple Blossom, Christ Church!

Thank you to all Apple Blossom “seat holders” and to the volunteers who help in the selling and setting up of chairs for the parades, especially Katie Harvard and Jody Wall who organized efforts again this year. Should fair weather reign on the weekend, it is hoped seating around Christ Church will be **SOLD OUT!**

Proceeds from the sales go directly to the congregation's support of the Bright Futures program—providing food items to school children in our area who suffer food insecurity. This is one of our largest fundraisers for our ministry with Bright Futures, though we do have some other things planned for this summer when the kids are out of school and need support, and as they head back to school in August.

And, due to your generosity in April, loads of paper products are being delivered to the **Winchester Rescue Mission**. They provide food, shelter, and opportunities for recovery to the homeless in our area. Christ Church provides a dinner for them monthly—we shop for food, prepare, and serve the meal. There will be opportunities for parishioners to assist with this program as it expands. Please, consider being part of this ministry. To learn more about how it works, please talk with Sally Megeath or Pat Kofalt. You can learn more about Winchester Rescue Mission here: <https://www.winrescue.org/>



Winchester Rescue Mission's Impact in 2024

- 15,060 nights of shelter provided
- 133 unique individuals sheltered
- 34 people found employment
- 36 chronically-homeless individuals housed
- 14 individuals reconciled with family
- 87,368+ meals provided
- 21 community partnerships
- 15,672 volunteer hours served

Pastoral Care Committee

What is Pastoral Care?

During Webster's sabbatical in May, we are missing a large component of our pastoral care team—him! So, it's a good time to remind the parish what pastoral care is and how the clergy works with this standing committee at Christ Church and to what end. And, to assure you, even in Webster's absence, the mission of the committee will be executed by the caring individuals on the team!

The definition of pastoral care varies from church to church, but basically includes concern and care for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of a congregation, often given by the rector/pastor/priest.

At Christ Church, there is a committee who works with the rector to provide pastoral care. Their vision statement is: *The parishioners of Christ Church will feel supported and cared for in body, mind and spirit during their times of need.* And, their mission statement is: *The Committee will work closely with the clergy and Parish Nurse team to provide compassionate care for the parishioners of Christ Church in body, mind and spirit.*

Christ Church is also fortunate to have a team of parish nurses, who work with the clergy and Pastoral Care Committee to serve parishioners. Parish nurses are instrumental in caring for the congregation and working with the committee on their mission.

The current ministries of the Pastoral Care Committee include:

- **Shepherd's Table**—Meals are provided on a short-term basis for parishioners who need them due to illness, surgery or other life events, such as a time of bereavement. Meals are provided by parishioners and coordinated through a confidential, restricted website.
- **Knit Unto Others**—Blessed Prayer Shawls are given to parishioners and their families as requested. Blessed Prayer Squares are given to WATTS guests, those having surgery or just for comfort. Knitters provide their own materials and equipment. Knitters are invited to join with others as they knit, but also knit in their own time.
- **Card Ministry**—Handwritten cards are mailed to celebrate birthdays and anniversaries to parishioners who have given the appropriate information to the office. Condolence cards are also mailed at a time of bereavement. The cards are generated through the parish office, the greetings are handwritten, and the cards returned to the office for mailing.
- **Prayer Ministry**—The Pastoral Care Committee maintains two prayer lists, a Quiet List and a Published List. The Published List appears in the weekly bulletin and reflects prayer requests made by parishioners. The Quiet List is a confidential list with requests for prayer made by parishioners who do not want names published. A small group of people pray daily for those on the Quiet List and meet in person quarterly to pray together at an Evening Prayer service. Parishioners on this Prayer Chain are trained in maintaining confidentiality and receive only the names of those requesting prayer.
- **Educational Programs**—Programs and workshops, such as the End of Life program, are offered to parishioners when appropriate.

If you are interested in participating in any of these ministries, please contact Noelle in the Church Office (540-662-5843, Ext. 4 or communications@christchurchwinchester.org) and she will give you the contact for the group you're interested in. Or, contact Sue Jarvis, the Pastoral Care Committee chair.

Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont Memories

