

# THE ANGELUS

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Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

April 2018

## From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church,

When we celebrate our risen Lord and the joy of Easter, many of us come to church in our Sunday finest - new spring dresses, hats, coats and ties. Why do we dress up so much for Easter, but maybe not other Sundays of the year? Do our neighboring Christian communities also dress up?

The “theology” of church dress is an expression that we want to look our best as we present ourselves, our souls and bodies, as a people who give praise and thanksgiving to God. Just as some may remember family Sunday dinners when you dressed up, you did not want to look sloppy or unappreciative as participants at that special dinner. For others, since our work clothes or our normal daily clothes are worn every day, we want to mark the Lord’s day as different or special, so we dress in a different way to remind ourselves that our time of worship with God is both different and important for us. For some, it may come back to that understanding if you want to be understood as being a certain way, then you dress that way. So, for all of our struggles and the sinfulness within ourselves, if you want to present yourself striving to be clean and whole because of God’s grace, which gives us hope to be our best, then you dress up, not down. These are the positive connotations.

But, there may be negative connotations to dressing up, too. There is an old joke about the pastor who invites a man to church. When the man says that he cannot come because he has no nice clothes, the pastor buys the man a suit for Sunday. After several Sundays of not seeing the man, the pastor finally bumps into the man on the street and asks him where he has been. The man says that the suit made him look so nice and professional that he thought, “Heck, I will go to the Episcopal church.” Clothing can express status and be a projection of wealth, and it does the same on Sunday mornings. Other challenges to dressing up include it being hypocritical since we are trying to cover up the ugliness, the pain, the suffering within ourselves. And, are we are trying to impress God, or are we are trying to look better than our neighbors?

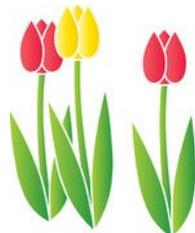
For every pro, there is a con to dressing up. Whatever way we view our Sunday attire, it says more about us than it does about God and the church family. In some ways, those who worry about a choice between dressing up or dressing casually are dealing with a first-world problem.

Over the years, as we at Christ Church have gone to the barrios of the Dominican Republic to help with summer Bible schools, I have always been impressed, if not in awe of, the firm desire of the people to look their best on the Lord’s Day. While the people may not be able to afford much, the families make it a priority to try and look their best when they come to church. The outfit might be a dress, or it might be their one nice pair of blue jeans and a collared shirt. It is not to impress God. Instead, it is their way of showing thanks and respect. Dressing up reflects the importance they see in their community of faith. It is like the special dinner party, the family meal which is not like any other day of the week.

*Continued, p. 2*



[www.firstpalette.com](http://www.firstpalette.com)



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## From the Rector, Continued

Some food for thought as we celebrate Easter. In some ways, the feast of Easter allows us to join in the “family celebration” of the risen Lord as we look our best for our Holy Eucharist, our Lord’s supper where we participate in that last meal Jesus has with his disciples. However, for us, we also have the joyous benefit of knowing that this holy meal is now to be understood in the light of the resurrection. No, the Lord of the resurrection does not care what clothes we wear to church. Yes, our clothes say something about how we view presenting ourselves at our special family sacred meal. It might be helpful to consider the offering of ourselves in service to our Lord as we say in the offertory sentence from Ephesians:

*Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. Ephesians 5:2*

Faithfully,



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

## End-of-Life Workshop

Thanks to the 50+ people who attended our end-of-life workshop last month! Our speakers were Dr. Shannon Dodd, internal medicine hospitalist at WMC, Erin Truban, from the law firm, Owen and Truban, and Josh Faulkner of Omps Funeral Homes. A special thanks to Christ Church’s parish nurses, Helen Zebarth and Rosalie Lewis, who helped to pull the event together

Two helpful documents were handed out from the church - “Five Wishes” and the Christ Church Funeral Planning Guide. Copies are available through the parish nurses or by calling the Church Office (540-662-5843).



## Parish Life

### Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont

*Who we are is how we pray.*

Our annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont will be May 11-13—Mother's Day weekend. As part of our weekend, we will explore where our life of prayer and the soles of our feet intersect as we look at prayer through music, games, crafts and discussion. The other part of our weekend is our time for s'mores, hiking, napping, and perhaps more games and puzzles!

Not only is the weekend known for fun and fellowship, but Shrine Mont is also famous for their home-cooking—fried chicken, meatloaf, roast beef, and all the fixings. Plus, there's Shrine Mont's own Apple Butter! Shrine Mont's website is [www.shrinemont.com](http://www.shrinemont.com). On the site, you can learn about The Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration, an open-air cathedral of the Diocese of Virginia, that was consecrated in 1925. Plus, there are maps of the facilities and information about on-site and local activities.

If you'd like to learn more about parish weekend, please talk with Wilborn & Martha Roberson, Kirk & Linda Gibson, Barry & Diane Schnoor, Jim and Ann Taylor, or Webster. We will have a meeting for anyone interested in helping with the parish weekend on Sunday, April 8, in the Parlors, following the 10:30 am service. This is also an opportunity for anyone who has not gone on the retreat before or has questions about Shrine Mont to come and learn more!

Brochures and registration forms will be available soon!



# Christian Formation

## Youth Group Fun

The youth group had a busy March on the weekends! On March 4, twelve youth and three adults went to Shrine Mont for our annual winter retreat. On a blustery day, we were fortunate to have the sun come out for hiking to the Cross and a bit of full-contact basketball. Once you were numb from the cold, the incidental contact on the court did not hurt as much! The youth did an impressive job consuming all of the food we brought, and the games by the fire helped warm up the group.

The youth also appreciated your help and support with the annual St Patrick's Day dinner. The dinner helped to raise about \$3,000 toward youth pilgrimage. Next year, we will have a silent auction instead of the dinner. If you have unique or special items that you think you may want to donate to the silent auction, please hold on to them until we get closer to the event!



# Christian Formation

## Sunday School News

**Lenten Mite Box Offering:** We will hold an in-gathering of our mite box offering on April 8, the Sunday after Easter, and vote on which projects to support. If you're not in church on the 8th, offerings will still be accepted through the end of April. Help your child to remember to bring in that offering! All are welcome to contribute.

**Vacation Bible School: July 16-20, 2018.** Mark your calendars now for *Shipwrecked: Where Jesus Carries us Through Life's Storms*. Look forward to tons of learning and fun in our yearly program and its outreach to our community's children. Based on stories from Luke, Matthew, and Acts, kids will learn to depend on Jesus to anchor them through life's storms.

**Registration forms** will be distributed in Sunday School classes after Easter and available on the website ([www.christchurchwinchester.org](http://www.christchurchwinchester.org)). Our program is from 9:00 am to noon each morning. Please note that the dates do **not** correspond to those of SINGGG camp this year.

This is a **large scale children's outreach**. Together, with our neighbors at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, we make it one of our primary goals to reach out to the whole community. Remember, we include more than just the children of our two congregations. Let's include as many two year-olds through current 6<sup>th</sup> graders as we can – neighbors, visiting cousins, children of co-workers and anyone in between are all welcome.

**Adults:** Do you often think you would like to work with our children's program but aren't able to take a role during the regular program year? VBS always needs support! Your time, talent, and treasure can be a big part of what we, as a community, do to help children to grow spiritually. We offer an energy-filled, fun experience in which every parishioner can play a role. Virtually everything is provided for volunteer teachers - plans, materials, all kinds of support, and lots of fun. And there are lots of ways to help in addition to being a teacher.

And, we would love to have **youth** who are currently in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, or older, serve as helpers in the classrooms and at games. Call or text Margery Wingenbach (540-667-0386) or email [wingenbach@comcast.net](mailto:wingenbach@comcast.net) to see how you could be a part.



## Calendar and Upcoming Events

### 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 Special Needs—Sanctuary

### April

- 1 Easter Sunday
- 8 Apple Blossom Ticket Sales at church
- 9 Special Needs Service
- 14 Men's Fellowship
- 25 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**

## April Birthdays

- 2 Martin Tabaka, Dan Wall
- 3 Ali Mislowsky , Larry Pettinger
- 4 George Gunnell
- 6 Toni Sloan
- 7 David McWhorter, Stewart Wiley
- 8 Mary Rodriguez, Scott Collie
- 12 Nora Garber, Brock Whipkey
- 13 Hayden Armstrong, Alexandra Dastjerdi
- 14 Dixon Whitworth, Elizabeth Raymond
- 16 Sylvia Petrie
- 17 Dennis Wise, Ben Arthur
- 18 Kevin Kennedy, Kathy Nerangis,  
Maria Nelson
- 19 Michael Mohn, Dan Troup, Victoria Ellington,  
Thomas Northrup
- 20 Leslie Harper, Tom Wise, Nathan Crowell,  
Don MacDonald
- 21 Diedra Kriewald
- 22 Laken Whipkey
- 23 Ruth Gregory
- 24 Joan Claybrook
- 27 Melissa Ferguson,  
Nicholas-Ryan Herrington,  
John-Henry Herrington



## April Anniversaries

- 8 Larry & Connie Pettinger
- 19 Bernie & Rosemary Swope
- 26 Scott & Leslie Harper
- 30 Bill & Sue Jones

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



# Finance News

## Operating Budget Performance

### Net Position Tracking for 2018

As reported in an Angelus issue last fall, the Christ Church operating budget normally operates in a deficit from the beginning of the year right up until a year-end surge of revenues finally has total revenues equaling total expenses. The 2018 budget that was approved by the Vestry in early January actually had total revenues exceeding total expenses for both January and February, before dropping into a negative position until year-end. This two-month net positive position is due to early pre-payment (at year-end of 2017) of some 2018 pledge gifts.

Here is the budgeted net position (Revenues minus Expenses) for 2018.

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Net Position	\$10,564	\$9,001	-\$2,374	-\$5,294	-\$5,331	-\$8,833	-\$17,779	-\$26,730	-\$32,600	-\$16,858	-\$13,774	-\$1

### Actual Performance – First Two Months

The news is still very good! We were ahead of budget last month and we are in even better shape after two months of 2018.

In addition to normal revenues in February, we received a few pledge payments that we expected to receive in March (normally received at the end of the first quarter). This resulted in actual February revenue being higher than planned. Actual expenses for February were right on budget, but we are still under in total expenses for the year by almost \$3,000.

The table below shows that, largely due pre-payment of pledges, we have a current net position of about \$36,700 and are ahead of budget by about \$27,700.

Feb 28, 2018	Actual	Budget	Difference
Total Revenues	\$106,954.75	\$82,050.00	\$24,904.75
Total Expenses	\$70,272.64	\$73,048.02	\$2,775.38
Net Position	\$36,682.11	\$9,001.98	\$27,680.13

### Funding of Capital Projects: Old Rectory Front Entrance and Steps

Hopefully, you have seen a drawing of the new front entrance to the Old Rectory building. Construction will begin in April. We will continue using some Unrestricted Endowment money to help pay for this project.

## Outreach News

### The Impact of Panda Pantry

The Outreach Committee wishes to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of our parishioners for the incredibly wonderful impact the Panda Pantry ministry has had – and continues to have – on the children in our community! During 2013, when we first discerned the need not being filled by school lunch and breakfast programs and realized that so many school kids were going home to families that could not feed them over the weekends, the Outreach Committee investigated to see how ‘backpack ministries’ were being used in other areas to get weekend nutrition to kids. We looked to see what worked (and didn’t work); we looked to see what it would cost; we looked to see if you, our church family, would be willing to step in and make a difference. We contacted the Winchester City School Board and asked them to identify where the highest need in the city was occurring and they identified Frederick Douglass Elementary as a school in need. Following discussions with the principal and lead guidance counselor, the Outreach Committee recommended to the Vestry to start this new ministry beginning in January 2014 and the Vestry approved.

We started out providing weekend food to about 30 school kids when the ministry started. Now, just over four years later, our contribution of food and time has increased the number of kids served to about 100! Plus, we feel it safe to say that your actions in supporting Panda Pantry raised a great deal of awareness about child hunger within the community and the schools; so much so that Bright Futures – a non-profit organization that combines and leverages the giving resources within communities (much like the United Way) has joined us in feeding additional school kids in both the city and Frederick County. The combined effort now provides weekend nutrition to almost 1,000 children!

We look forward to continuing our involvement in feeding hungry children. We have more people volunteering to pack food than ever before and we are anticipating many new opportunities for our congregation to become involved in many more of the needs faced by the littlest among us.

And this is all due to your love, commitment, and generosity. Please accept this huge THANK YOU from the Outreach Committee!

*Panda Pantry volunteers (from left to right) Cathie & Robb Russell, Joan Claybrook, Janie Mohn, Melissa Ferguson and Ann Taylor filling Easter baskets for CCAP in March.*



## Parish News

### Apple Blossom Parade Seats

It's that time of year again in Winchester and, once again, Christ Church will sell seats for parade-watching! This year's proceeds from parade seats will support youth pilgrimage. Each year, we are fortunate to not only earn money for a specific ministry, but to spend this time in fellowship and in our community.

Many hands are needed to assist before, during and after both parades. Chairs are set up on Friday morning, May 4, at 9:00 am. We also need help selling tickets, seating people, and picking up the chairs after the parades. If you can help, please call the Church Office (540-662-5843).

Parishioners are invited to purchase tickets on **Sunday, April 8**, between services and during Coffee Hour. Come early and pick your favorite seats! Tickets cannot be reserved. Payment by cash or check is required at the time of sale.

Tickets will go on sale to the community on Monday, April 9, in the Church Office. Hours for ticket sales will be Monday through Friday from noon until 4:00 pm.

Tickets for the Firefighter's Parade (Friday, May 4, at 5:30 pm) are **\$5**.  
Grand Feature Parade (Saturday, May 5, at 1:30 pm) seats are **\$7**.

Four parking tickets for the Baden Center lot are available for **\$50** each. They can be used Friday and Saturday, and each ticket includes two parking spaces—one in front and one in back. These tickets can be purchased on Sunday, April 8, or during sales hours in the Church Office.

If you have any questions about ticket sales, please call the Church Office at 540-662-5843.



## Parish News

### Spring at the Treasure Box

Did you know the Treasure Box is open on Saturdays? Most Saturdays, the ladies are there from 10 am until 1 pm. Stop in to see what's new in April!

Begun in November 1959, the Treasure Box is Winchester's oldest thrift shop. Our mission is to provide quality merchandise from donations at affordable prices. Please stop in to donate, shop, or visit! Proceeds support local ministries.



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

### Women's Lunch Group



The Women's Lunch Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month (April 5 and 19 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. The ladies plan to meet throughout the summer, so please come when you can!

### CCAP Collection Items for April

As we move into the spring, CCAP requests donations of toilet paper to give to their clients. It is cost effective if you purchase large, economy-size packs of toilet paper. The volunteers at CCAP will repackage the rolls for distribution to clients. Currently, CCAP has NO supply of toilet paper, so this is a definite and immediate need.

Please place packages of toilet paper on the bookshelf in the foyer of the Parish Hall marked CCAP. Thank you for your generosity!

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.

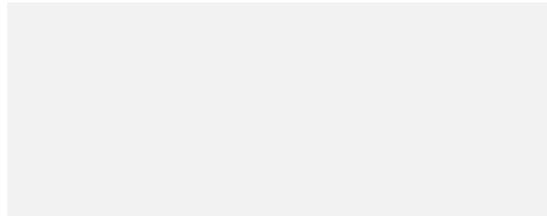
Contact Jim Taylor (703-403-5264) with any questions.





**THE ANGELUS**  
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## **Parish Nurse Musings**

Now that it's spring, it's time to EXERCISE outside!

**E**nergize

**X**tra energy

**E**asy—no cost

**R**educe back pain

**C**alming

**I**mprove health

**S**leep better

**E**ncouraging to see God's creations!



Start slow. Exercise is important for all of us, but no one reaps the rewards more than seniors! Exercise protects each of us from disease, boosts the mood, and “outshines” almost everything else one can do for better health. Remember, no one is too old to start exercising, one step at a time!

See you in church!

Your Parish Nurses – Rosalie & Helen