

THE ANGELUS

Volume 69 Number 1

Christ Episcopal Church • Winchester, Virginia

September 2018

From the Rector

Dear People of Christ Church,

Welcome back, or welcome for the first time, to our new program year at Christ Church! I have written a couple of times about our work with the Invite/Welcome/Connect congregation development program (www.invitewelcomeconnect.com). As we have worked on the program with a group of parishioners through the summer, we have learned a couple of things. One is that we are fortunate to have people willing to help to develop our processes of life, growth, and incorporation into the community of Christ Church. They have also given some great ideas that you'll notice at church, such as a hosted welcome table/station to answer questions and greet people.

We learned quickly in our discussion that you don't have to be new to Christ Church to be unaware of what is going on in the parish! As we used evaluation tools, some in the group discussion learned that we have a Facebook page, lots of information on the church website, and a brochure in the pews each Sunday to help people participate in the service (and find the bathrooms). Newer parishioners and longtime members in the group did not realize that church office staff is only part time, and so are office hours, which means you do not often get an instant response to emails and messages. We talked about the parish directory and how parishioners must give us changes to contact information to stay up-to-date, and how our new directory, which you will learn about this fall, will include newer people in the parish community.

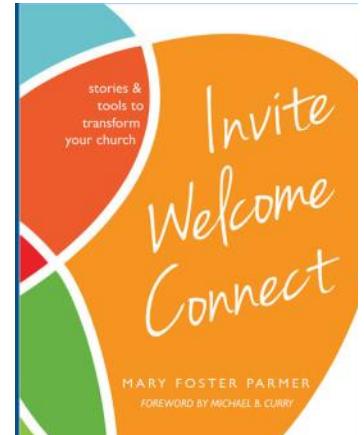
This type of conversation is helpful because people realize that they may not know what they think they know about what is going on at Christ Church. Our parish is a living and vibrant community that has shifts and changes going on all of the time – sometimes in small ways, other times in large ways. We may not be doing things the way we did them last month, or last year, or ten years ago. Each of us—new or old—needs to be proactive in keeping in touch with what is going on in the parish. Even when we have Vestry meetings, we are catching each other up on things that are going on in different ministries, groups, and committees. While we have many ways to communicate, from meetings to websites to newsletters to emails and phone calls, the challenge becomes taking time to pay attention to communications, especially at the beginning of the program year, to realize opportunities. When you make that happen, you might find a new study or ministry which speaks to your journey of faith.

Thank you to those who are working on the Invitewelcome/Connect program for our parish. Our work is not done, and anyone may join us for discussions and as we implement new plans. While the goal is to be a welcoming family for newcomers, the process is serving as a reminder for all of us to be aware and active in our Christ Church community.

Faithfully,



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



Contents

1 Rector's Message	7 Birthdays & Anniversaries
2 From the Diocese	8 Finance
3 Outreach News	9 Stewardship
4 Christian Formation	10 Parish News
5 Christian Formation	11 Parish News
6 Calendars	12 Nurse's Musings

From the Rector, Continued

Assistant Rector Search Update

One rumor floating around the community in recent weeks is that the search for the next assistant rector for Christ Church has been delayed because of the recent issues and transitions at the diocesan office. While the rumor identifies the concern that we have not called a new assistant yet, this has nothing to do with the diocesan office or the transitions. We are in a time of many clergy position openings (over 40), with few clergy to fill the positions. Christ Church continues to work with the diocesan transition officer to find suitable candidates to consider for the position. We will keep you updated as the process moves ahead.



From the Diocese

Helen K. Spence, president of the Standing Committee, issued a letter to the family of the Diocese of Virginia in late August. In it she advises that, “The Standing Committee is seeking a Bishop Provisional for election at the November convention... We want to make all of you aware of the steps involved in this process, as we work for the good of our Diocese.” Bishop Shannon Johnston will resign as our Bishop Diocesan during the Annual Convention in November 2018, and he will fully retire on June 30, 2019.

Spence says, “The Standing Committee is working with the Presiding Bishop's Office of Pastoral Development to identify individuals who would be willing to serve as our Bishop Provisional for approximately three years, with extensions to that time frame, if needed, to be voted on at Diocesan Convention.”

The committee is preparing questions to ask of prospective candidates with input from diocesan staff, current and former bishops, and diocesan leadership. Interviews are planned in September. The Standing Committee will present the name of one candidate for the Diocese to elect in November. This election will be the final act of the Annual Convention.

“The Bishop Provisional will be an experienced bishop who will have the canonical authority of a Bishop Diocesan, and who will partner with us in a thorough diocesan review to enable us to prepare for a healthy call for our next Bishop Diocesan,” she says.

She adds, “Our Bishop Suffragan, Bishop Susan Goff, will serve the Diocese best by remaining our Suffragan. She will be an integral part of the new team of leadership of our Diocese and we are grateful for the gifts she will continue to bring.”

Additional details can be found on the Diocese’s website: www.thediocese.org.

Outreach News

New Project: Hygiene Kits

Our project to provide hygiene kits through Church World Services (CWS) is underway! Through CWS, we have learned that there is a great need for hygiene kits in many places around the world, but especially in refugee camps in the Middle East. Check out the CWS website for all the work they do: www.cwsglobal.org.

We are collecting items for the kits now. **These items are very specific.**

Supplies needed for one kit:

- One hand towel measuring approximately 15"x 28" to 16"x 32" (no fingertip, bath, dish towel or micro-fiber)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb removed from the package
- One finger nail or toe nail clipper removed from the package
- One bath size bar of soap in the wrapper
- One toothbrush in the package
- Ten standard size Band-aids
- One gallon-sized Ziploc bag

You do not have to donate *all* the items for one kit. It's great if you'd like to donate a box of Ziploc bags, or five washcloths, or ten bars of soap, for example. There are bins in the Tilford Room for each item. Monetary donations are also welcome. Please put "hygiene kits" in the memo line on your check. We will collect items throughout September and October and gather together to pack the kits in mid-November. Thank you for your support!



PLANS FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE YET?

Christ Church participates each year in First Night Winchester, a day-long family celebration of the arts downtown. In the evening, we host entertainers and welcome guests in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall. Volunteers are needed every New Year's Eve to be on hand for a short shift to check for tickets and answer questions. Volunteers also get free admission to all First Night performances! Plan now to join us as a volunteer for this fun evening. Jim & Ann Taylor can tell you all about First Night! Email them at annjimtaylor@verizon.net.

Christian Formation

Daytime Faith Study

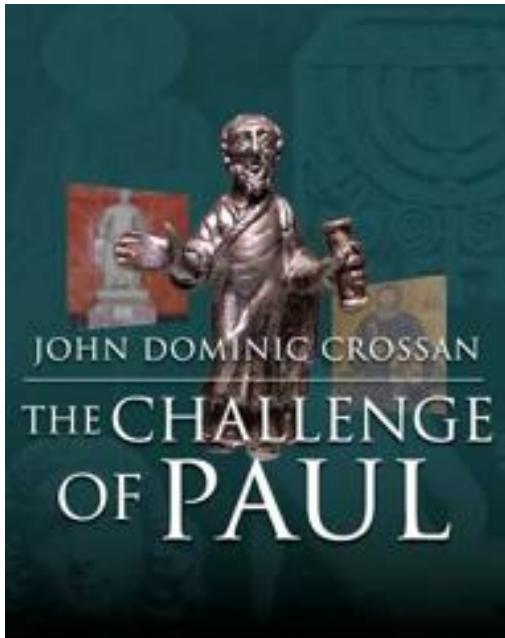
For the past few years, we have hosted daytime faith study to explore different ways for us to understand our faith, from social issues to Biblical sources and teachings. This year, we continue our study to broaden our understanding of the New Testament, not just from a Christian perspective, but also from a Jewish perspective. Utilizing various resources and guest speakers, we continue to look at books of the New Testament as they were understood when first written, as well as over the centuries to today.

Our study uses the book, The New Testament: Methods and Meanings, by Warren Carter and A.J. Levine. Each chapter covers a book or letter of the New Testament. This year, we are working on the letters of the New Testament, beginning with Romans.

If you would like to join us, this is a good time to start as we shift our conversations from the Gospels to the letters. The book is available on Amazon, or you can come and join a class to see if it is something you want to consider joining. Please join us on the second and fourth Monday each month (September 10 and 24), in the Commons (upstairs in the Parish Hall) from 10:00 am until 11:00 am. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office (540-662-5843) or email Webster at rector@christchurchwinchester.org.



Adult Forum in September



We will use the new program, *The Challenge of Paul, Paul and Justice*, from the publisher "Faith and Reason." These programs from Faith and Reason have been popular with our Adult Forum in the past. In "The Challenge of Paul," John Dominic Crossan gives us the benefit of his lifelong search for the Paul of history to create a new understanding that sheds new light on Paul and why he is more relevant than ever today. We will review some of the previous themes which Crossan covered to help get our conversations started on September 9. We will go from there on Sundays following. While we encourage all to attend our Adult Forum regularly, these programs are self-contained so you can learn and participate in discussion even if you miss a previous Sunday.

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

Christian Formation

Sunday School News

Christian Formation for children and youth begins on Sunday, September 9. In addition to Sunday School classes, children and youth are invited to participate in choirs and Children's Chapel. See below for information on Sunday evening Youth Group for those in middle and high school.

The schedule for this year will be:

- ◆ Alleluia Singers (2nd to 8th graders) meet each week from 8:50 am—9:20 am in the Children's Chapel.
- ◆ The Cherub Choir (preschool to 1st graders) meets each Sunday from 9:05 am—9:20 am in the Grades 1/2 classroom.
- ◆ Early Sunday School arrivals in the preschool through grade 2 age group and not in the Cherub Choir will gather in the preschool room for gathering time activities until their class begins.
- ◆ Sunday School begins at 9:30 am.
- ◆ Children's Chapel resumes for ages 3-7 at 10:30 am. Children are brought into the Sanctuary at the peace to join their parents.

Our curriculum for preschoolers through Kindergarten is *Frolic*. It's a lively balance of stories, music and activities specifically age-appropriate for this age group - movement, giggles, and fun at the beginning of their faith formation. Our grades one through five classes are continuing in the *Whirl!* (welcome, hear, respond, and launch) lectionary-based curriculum this year. Its grade-leveled materials incorporate a brief animated video where characters model what it's like for kids to go through the questions and challenges of living out their faith, with discussion and activities to explore the theme of the week's lectionary readings. It's a lively pace that provides solid formation and fun.

Registration for Sunday School is ongoing. There is no registration required for Children's Chapel—just drop in when you choose. Sunday School registration forms can be printed from the website (www.christchurchwinchester.org) or found in the Commons. We need a form for each individual child with up-to-date contact, allergy, etc. information.

And an invitation... All adults are invited to help the teachers in our Sunday School classrooms on Sunday mornings. Volunteer just once a month. You do not need to have children in the program to help! All that is required is your presence and helping hands. Our goal is to have at least two adults in each classroom each Sunday morning. There are lots of Sundays in a year. We have excellent teachers but they can't single-handedly wait for someone outside the restroom, tell a story, and prepare a creative activity. We are all needed to provide a great program for the kids! Contact Margery Wingenbach (540-667-0386 or margerywingenbach@gmail.com) to offer your help or ask any questions.

Youth Group

Youth Group, for kids in grades 6-12, will also begin on Sunday, September 9. Meet with Webster in the Tilford Room from 6:00 pm until 7:30 pm. The other meeting in September will be Sunday, September 23. Parishioners are invited to lend support to Youth Group by signing up to provide a dinner for the group during their usual Sunday evening meeting time. Information and signup link is at www.christchurchwinchester.org/youth-program.

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 All Abilities Worship —Sanctuary

September

- 3 Labor Day—Church Office Closed
- 8 Men's Fellowship (see p. 10)
- 9 Christian Formation begins—Adult Forum, Sunday School, Children's Chapel, Youth Group
- 9 Bishop's Visitation to St. Paul's on the Hill in Winchester
- 10 All Abilities Worship

Committee & Group Meetings

Adult Choir Rehearsal	Wed: 7:00 pm
Adult Forum	Sun: 9:30 am
Alleluia Singers	Sun: 8:50 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

September Birthdays

- 1 Ty Lawson, John Nelson
2 Robb Russell
3 Gary Edwards
5 Jake Sheppard
6 Joyce Casey
7 Joan Bronson, Virginia Rae,
Laurel Jones-Purdy, Mary Pat Gronauer
8 Sharon Lower
9 Vicky Arculin
10 Judith Anderson, Frank Rupert
11 David Sperry
13 Pete Gronauer
14 Carolyn Lewis, Barbara Rupert,
Lindsay Pifer, Debra Shows,
Dawson Wiley
15 Sue Jones, Ashley Major Haines
18 Polly Nelson, Isabella Dastjerdi
19 Cheryl Crowell, Sandy White
20 Carolyn Morgoglionne
21 Allison Donahoe, Patricia Stierhoff
22 Bill Major, Charles Turnbull
23 Bill Davis, Churchill Gibson
25 Roberta Gunnell, Mary Puttock
27 Gus Wise, Maggie Wise, Valarie Kitchen
28 Katlyn Wall, Katie Smith
29 Ann Poling, Pam Hutchinson,
Adelaide Turnbull, Justin Raymond
30 Sue Bonnett, Andrew Major



September Anniversaries

- 3 George & Patricia Stierhoff
3 Kirk & Linda Gibson
4 Stephen & Nancy Brown
9 David & Carolyn Lewis
20 John & Joan Claybrook
21 Steve & Terry Cluss

CELEBRATE!



October 22-25, 2018

Hosted by the Tri-Diocesan Council on Aging

[https://shrinemont.com/events/
conference/the-tri-diocesan-council-on-
aging-annual-fall-camp-2018](https://shrinemont.com/events/conference/the-tri-diocesan-council-on-aging-annual-fall-camp-2018)

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.



The Treasure Box is open
Wednesdays and Fridays
10 am—4 pm
Saturdays 10 am—1 pm
at 114 W. Boscawen St.

Finance News

Operating Budget Performance

Uncharted Territory? As the summer months pass, we expect, and budget, to be in the negative. We usually experience our biggest deficits during the third quarter. We then expect the fourth quarter, with a surge of year-end gifts, to bring us back to a break even (balanced budget) for the year.

Through July, we are about \$63,000 ahead of budget! **Yes, \$63,000 ahead of budget.**

We are about \$49,000 ahead in revenue. We feel that most of this is due to timing where pledges were actually paid (or paid in full) earlier than planned. We really will not know until year-end if the actual revenue will still be higher than budgeted for the year.

We are also about \$13,500 under in expenses year-to-date. Part of this is due to budgeting for an assistant rector starting in mid-year with the position still open. We are also under in Office, Christian Education, and Outreach expenses at present. Again, this may be timing, where actual expenses in 2018 may well occur later in the year than budgeted.

The table below gives summary detail by account.

Year to Date through July	Actuals	Budget	Difference
Revenues			
Pledged	\$282,005.68	\$250,318.00	\$31,687.68
Unpledged	\$34,426.00	\$21,600.00	\$12,826.00
All Other	\$21,418.18	\$16,515.00	\$4,903.18
Total	\$337,849.86	\$288,433.00	\$49,416.86
 Expenses			
Personnel	\$197,826.71	\$205,570.57	-\$7,743.86
Utilities	\$16,149.14	\$17,470.00	-\$1,320.86
Property/Maintenance	\$26,187.23	\$25,230.00	\$957.23
Office	\$11,449.38	\$13,977.00	-\$2,527.62
Christian Education	\$6,509.72	\$7,619.00	-\$1,109.28
Music	\$6,174.18	\$5,030.00	\$1,144.18
Worship	\$787.98	\$1,085.00	-\$297.02
Stewardship	\$184.19	\$150.00	\$34.19
Outreach	\$24,679.00	\$27,200.00	-\$2,521.00
Pastoral Care	\$404.60	\$530.00	-\$125.40
Parish Life	\$1,200.53	\$1,060.00	\$140.53
Communication	\$1,042.71	\$1,190.00	-\$147.29
Total	\$292,595.37	\$306,111.57	-\$13,516.20
Net Total	\$45,254.49	-\$17,678.57	\$62,933.06

Stewardship News

Something to think about...

Why do we have an annual pledge campaign?

At Christ Church, we ask the congregation to prayerfully consider their giving each year. Think of it as an annual financial review. Our parishioners have given generously when asked. We have completed successful Capital Campaigns, accomplishing repairs to the bell tower and the organ restoration, and multiple smaller projects. However, our annual pledging has not significantly changed in recent years. This year especially, our goal is for everyone to assess their giving potential and pledge accordingly.

Why should I pledge?

Pledging is an intentional decision of giving. When giving is planned, there are conscious choices about spending which reflect your faith and values. The Vestry uses our pledges to establish a budget for the upcoming year and determines which programs we are able to fund. While plate offerings are important to the parish, your pledge lets the Vestry plan more accurately for the ministry we can accomplish.

How do I know if my pledge is enough?

Determining the amount of your annual pledge is between you and God. As you make this important decision, reflecting on your vision of stewardship may be helpful. We all go through several stages as our personal vision of giving matures:

- Duty – I give because I’m supposed to give. A sense of duty or obligation.
- Fairness – I give to pay my own way. A sense of fairness or equity.
- Gratitude – I give to return a portion of my blessings. A sense of gratitude or thankfulness.
- Generosity – I give to keep church ministries free to all. A sense of generosity for the benefit of others.

Where do you find yourself? There is no secret to how one moves along this progression in giving. However, when you push yourself to another level, the joy of giving and a sense of faithfulness expands as well.

We don't know our annual income, how can we pledge?

Many household's finances fluctuate throughout the year, so anything pledged may be more of a guess. In a situation like this, it may be useful to pledge one hour of income each week. The pledge is more of a minimum goal with the expectation things will improve and the pledge will be exceeded. Pledging gives the Vestry a baseline from which to plan our expense for the upcoming year. While your pledge is for a calendar year, we also realize people's situations change during the year. Promotions, layoffs, bonuses, or retirements—each change in your financial situation may be a time to amend your pledge during the year.

Do I have to put an envelope in the plate each week?

Your pledge is an annual pledge and can be fulfilled at any time of the year. People give to Christ Church in many ways. We have parishioners who pay weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or annually, and any other timeframe. Some write checks, some use their bank's online bill pay, some give cash, and some give stocks. However you wish to give is appreciated. We are hoping to have an eGiving solution available for 2019 to accept electronic payments.

Parish News

Men's Fellowship

The Men's Fellowship meets in the Tilford Room on Saturday, September 8, at their normal 7:30 am slot, where we will watch the 2017 American Christian feature film, *Same Kind of Different as Me*, starring Greg Kinnear and Renee Zellweger. We choose this film as we prepare for the 2018-2019 WATTS season, and in an effort to keep our focus on homelessness in Winchester and elsewhere. The movie chronicles the life of a homeless man and a selfish art dealer who is told by his wife to volunteer at a local homeless shelter after having an affair.



All men of the parish are welcome to attend and breakfast will be served. Anyone interested in learning more should speak with Chris Ferguson or call the Church Office (540-662-5843).

Women's Lunch Group



The Women's Lunch Group meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month (September 6 & 20 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. Please come when you can!

CCAP Collection Item for September

The clients at CCAP are truly grateful for your generosity in helping to fulfill their needs each month! The hearty soups and chili you have been filling the shelves at CCAP with are very much appreciated.

In September, CCAP asks us to fulfill an additional need for their clients. Please help by furnishing men's cotton **boxer briefs** (not simply boxers) underwear in sizes medium to XXL.

The men at CCAP are also in need of cotton **t-shirts**, sizes medium to XXL.

Please leave donations on the shelf marked "CCAP Donations" in the foyer of the Parish Hall (under the window).

CCAP (Congregational Community Action Project) is a ministry of 46 worshiping 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.



Parish News



During the last six years, our church family has enjoyed the fun and community fellowship of an annual rummage sale that has raised over \$60,000 for Christ Church ministries. Our ABC (attic-basement-closet)-styled event continues to be a tremendous success in the Winchester community. As we've grown, we've welcomed people from all walks of life through our doors, shared wonderful stories, and most importantly---gotten to know one another a little better through the years. For 2018, we have established another goal of \$10,000 or more! For the fourth straight year, and with your continued help and support, we will raise this and more! Our organizing committee looks forward to working with everyone again this year.

We will be open for business on October 26 and 27 and we need volunteers in the following categories:

- Set-up and take-down of the Tilford Room the entire week, from Sunday afternoon, October 21-28
- Pricing of all items donated for sale (now ongoing)
- Cashiers
- Floor monitors to help customers and answer questions
- Drivers to pick up and deliver large donations to the church
- Posting of advertising fliers in area businesses or your own business
- Support for and donation of baked goods to sale
- Kitchen support and clean up
- Official greeters at the entrance to the Tilford Room, both days

As for donations, here is a list of what **we cannot accept**: (Anything else is fine.)

- Encyclopedias/yearbooks/textbooks or magazines—all other books are fine
- Entertainment centers
- Gas grills
- TVs—except for flat screens in good working order
- Computer monitors or keyboards---unless they are tested to be in working order
- Most electronics (please see or speak with Chris Ferguson)
- Large appliances such as washers, dryers, stoves, etc.
- Damaged, soiled, or furniture in need of significant repair
- Paint of any kind
- Broken or badly stained collectibles or glassware

Outside of the above items, please donate only what we might be able to sell! **Donations are being accepted in the Parish Hall any Sunday morning and Tuesday and Thursdays from 10:00 am until noon.** Please call if you need to make other arrangements for delivery.

- Box or bag your donations—please ensure they are secure.
- Mark items “FRAGILE” to prevent breakage.
- **Bring only items that are clean and in good repair. The committee does not have time for cleaning items to sell!**

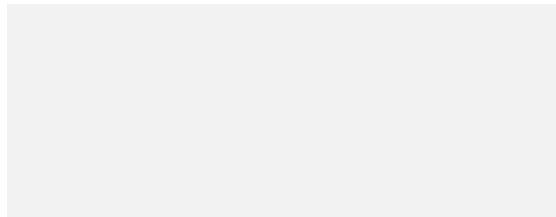
Should you have general questions about our 2018 event, please see or call Chris Ferguson at 978-360-4501.

**Can you post
a flier at your
business?
Call us!**



THE ANGELUS
Christ Episcopal Church
114 West Boscawen St.
Winchester, VA 22601-4116

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Winchester, VA
Permit No. 216



The Angelus is a monthly publication of Christ Episcopal Church.

Parish Nurse Musings



Now that September is here, we don't want to experience high humidity, but the fact of life is that we probably will have humidity here in Virginia. I know you have endured it all summer, but let's look at what perspiration means to your body: God created our bodies so that we could maintain homeostasis (internal stability). One of the ways we do that is sweat. Sweating serves as a means of thermoregulation. Some of the positive benefits are: detoxification, healthier skin, protecting the heart, lowering stress hormones, decreasing the risk of Alzheimer's, and lowering the risk of kidney stones. Thomas Edison said, "Genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration." The next time you begin to complain about sweating, thank God that he engineered our bodies the way he did.

Have a fun September and enjoy sweating.

See you in church!

Your parish nurses, *Helen and Rosalie*