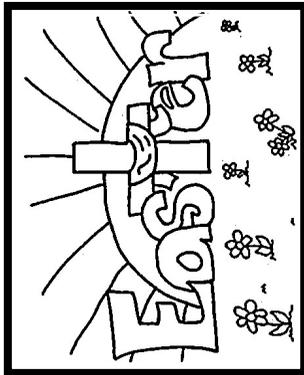
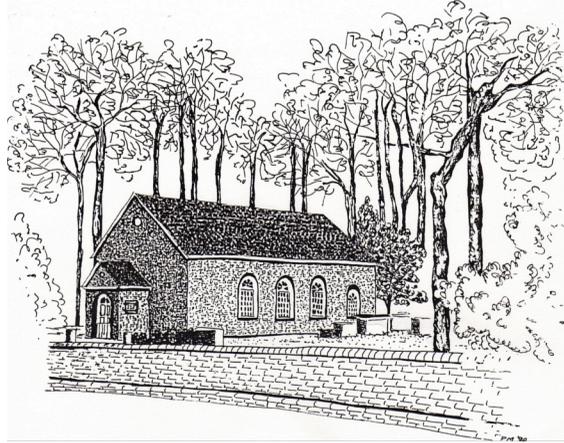


APRIL 2019



Happy Easter!!



Location:

Rt. 33 & 638

Christchurch, Middlesex County, Virginia

Mailing:

PO Box 476; Saluda, Virginia 23149

Telephone:

804-758-2006

E-Mail:

ccparish@verizon.net

Website:

christchurchmiddlesex.com

Sunday Services:

8:00 AM

A quiet traditional Service of Holy Communion

10:30 AM

A Family Service of Holy Communion

with Music and Choir

The Rev. Stuart Wood

Rector

A
P
R
I
L

2
0
1
9

Why do we use Votive Candles?

Not too long ago a parishioner asked me about the votive candles at the front of the church. Coming from a tradition that doesn't have any meaning or how to use them and with no explanation about their use, they might become a distraction instead of enhancing it.



parishioner asked me about the votive candles at the front of the church. Coming from a tradition that doesn't have any meaning or how to use them and with no explanation about their use, they might become a distraction instead of enhancing it.

The use of candles in thousands of years in pagan, Jewish, and not just for lighting but to remind people of a burning oil lamp or to show reverence to the Word of God, and a lit candle in a church near the Tabernacle shows reverence to our Lord and the Blessed Sacrament.

worship goes back and have played a part in Christian worship and as an offering to God. A candle was often used to show reverence to the Word of God, and a lit candle in a church near the Tabernacle shows reverence to our Lord and the Blessed Sacrament.

Light has always had a special significance in Christian Tradition – Christ. Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12) and “I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness.”

(John 12:46). And the Prologue of St. John's Gospel connects Christ and true life with the imagery of light, “in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. (John 1:4, 5 & 9).

This light is often passed on to the newly baptized in the symbol of a lit candle. This candle isn't simply lit, but it is lit from the Pascal Candle which was first lit from the new fire kindled at the Easter Vigil as a symbol of resurrection and new life. The Pascal Candle, therefore, burns at all services from Easter to Pentecost and is lit for all baptisms and funerals.

So back to the votive candles. When you light a votive candle, the light signifies your prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we lift our petitions and thanksgivings to our Lord in prayer.

The light also shows a special reverence and our desire to remain present to the Lord in prayer even though we may depart and go about our daily business.

In all, the usage of votive candles is a pious practice which continues today in many Churches. The symbolism does remind us that prayer is a “coming into” the light of Christ, allowing our souls to be filled with His light, and letting that light burn on in our souls even though we may return to other activities.

The Episcopal Church Dictionary describes votive candles “as short thick candles inserted into small glass cups which worshipers may light as an act of devotion. They may be placed on shelves or stands in front of the Blessed Sacrament, or in front of icons or statues of Our Lord or saints. Votive lights may also be used in the home, especially with a small crèche at Christmas time.” You may notice that there is a slot for money, and though a donation isn’t necessary in order to light votive candles, you may want to know that these funds enable the altar guild to purchase new votive candles for future use. So use them as the Spirit may move you.

A Million Thank You’s

I want to thank everyone that to Christ Church Parish such attendance. The bishop was the way that it was put together. You all did an outstanding job with your participation in the service, the music, the flowers and the reception. I couldn’t be any prouder of all your efforts.

*Thank
you*

made Bishop Goff’s Pastoral visit a wonderful experience for all in very pleased with the service in the way that it was put together. You all did an outstanding job with your participation in the service, the music, the flowers and the reception. I couldn’t be any prouder of all your efforts.

And now I want to thank everyone that contributed to my installation gift. I haven’t seen the names of those that contributed to it, but I understand that many of you did. It was a gift certificate to Wippell and Company in England and I have used it to order a custom made Chasuble and stole that will coordinate with our olive green hangings and the needlepoint chairs and kneelers at the altar. It should be here before Pentecost so that I can begin wearing it on the 2nd Sunday after Pentecost when we return to the green hangings. Thank you again for allowing me to be your Priest and Rector.

Fr. Stuart

Father Bob



We are glad to report that Fr. Stuart's shoulder surgery was a success and in his absence, The Reverend Robert “Bob” Prichard, Ph.D. was our celebrant Sunday, March 24th and Sunday, March 31st. Fr. Bob recently retired from Virginia Theological Seminary. Fr. Bob is considered one of the most formidable professors and historians within the Episcopal Church. His sermons testify to this for sure. Thanks, Fr. Bob!

CCP CORRESPONDANTS

FROM THE VESTRY

At our February 2019 Retreat, the Vestry discussed the goals that were established for the previous year. Some were completed, such as disposition of the Rectory. Others were deleted or revised. We selected the following goals for this year:

- Ensure clarity of Committee missions
- Participate with local schools
- Identify our Church in the community
- Improve Ecumenical relationships in the community
- Increase active participation in adult Sunday school
- Maintain Vestry’s awareness of all fund control accounts
- Fully fund Endowment Fund
- Attract “newcomers” to our Church
- Maximize community outreach
- Develop an active youth program

We have revised our Church mission statement to include “service”. Our mission statement is:

We are a family of faith, growing in Christ through worship, learning and service, who strive to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

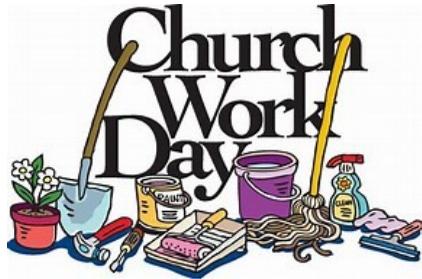
This mission statement should be the focus of every committee as they implement the appropriate Church goal(s). The Vestry will post the mission statement and the goals on our new Vestry bulletin board as reminders of the focus of Christ Church Parish (Episcopal). It will also be in future bulletins.

Just a reminder that we are YOUR Vestry. We welcome your input. As we adjourn every meeting, Father Stuart leads us in the prayer, "And now Father send us out to do the work you **have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**"

Pam McClelland, Senior Warden

Junior Warden Input for the April Newsletter:

REMINDER: Remember that on Saturday, April 6th we are having our 2019 Spring Clean-Up Day at Christ Church Parish. In preparation, please do the following:



Please plan on being there for our traditional clean-up starting at 8:30 that morning. Bring rakes, blowers, tarps, and pick-up trucks to support our efforts.

The Boy Scout Troop is also planning on attending.

We are looking at doing the traditional clean-up in the following areas:

- Along the front road to the church
- Throughout the cemetery area closest to the church and to the outer brick wall
- Along the perimeter of the Parish Hall
- Rake (with a tractor) the parking lot and parking areas on the west side of the Parish Hall
- Other???

If anyone has any other areas that they feel will require attention, please let me know at your earliest convenience so we can put those areas in our plans.

Jeff Loustaunau, Junior Warden

Christ Church Parish Episcopal

Elizabeth B. Sanders Educational Scholarship Fund

The Elizabeth B. Sanders Fund nominating committee is currently accepting applications for 2019-2020 scholarship awards.

The purpose of the fund is to assist in providing for the educational needs of children of Christ Church Parish, Middlesex under the age of 21.

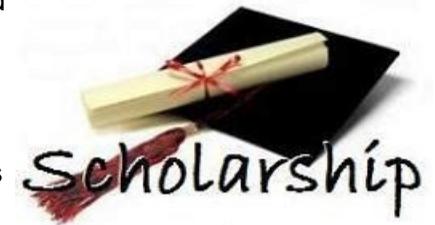
Fund awards may be used for, but not limited to, religious, elementary, secondary, undergraduate, special, technical, vocational, professional or other educational purposes.

Application forms may be picked up from the Parish office or downloaded from the CCP website:

<http://christchurchmiddlesex.thediocese.net/Elizabeth-B-Sanders-Educational-Fund/>

Applications must be submitted including all required documentation by April 8, 2019, to:

Christ Church Parish
Elizabeth B. Sanders Education Scholarship Awards
Attention: Nominating Committee
P.O. Box 476
Saluda, VA 23149-0476



The application may also be delivered to the Parish office during regular business hours Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. to noon.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Applicants will be notified of the decision by mail.

Any questions concerning the application form or process should be directed to the chairman of the nominating committee:

Ann Harris (804) 758-4090



ECW—Karen Gorin, President

Page Wittkamp, VP; Sallie Wells, Recording Secretary; Kathy Spence, Corresponding Secretary; Virginia Miller, Treasurer; Members: all Ladies of the Church

The committee for our April 26th Fashion Show has met. Our luncheon menu is planned. Please remind all your friends about our fabulous fashion show, luncheon and game day! We will be looking for extra hands to assist. Looking forward to seeing all of you Thank You, **Karen**

Please see the flyer on page 13 announcing the Annual Spring ECW Fashion Show, Luncheon and Game Afternoon.

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Brotherhood

President: Jeff Loustaunau
Vice President: John Hawkins
Treasurer: Mike Floyd
Secretary: Dave Wilcox



A big thank you goes out to Jeff Shaw, Jeff McClelland, and all those who participated in the cooking, set-up, serving, and clean-up of the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Everyone did a great job and it was greatly appreciated. We ended up netting roughly \$900 for our efforts so again, thank you to all who made it possible!!!

Also, thanks to John Hilliard for handling our March Breakfast on March 10th.

And don't forget our next Breakfast on April 14th where we'll have Matt Walker, the Middlesex County Administrator for our speaker. It should be a very informative program as the County budget is certainly in the news. Make sure you don't miss it!!!

Plans are still going forward for the Church Picnic on Sunday, June 23rd at the Chesapeake Bay Croquet Club in Hartfield. We'll have more information as the time gets closer, but for now, save the date as it's an event you won't want to miss!

And remember. — Breakfast is always better in the "Hood"!

Jeff Loustaunau

pjlous71@gmail.com, Phone: 207-469-8454

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Robin Wells, Chairman; Susan Neal, Vestry Rep; Miles Libbey, Vestry member; Bev Hart, Linda Irwin, Jack Helles, Liz Perkins, Roland Anderson; Mary Lynn Landgraf. Meets the 1st Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM.

Hospitality Committee



Movie Night

Movie Night Is Back... Please join us for the movie Instant Family starring Mark Wahlberg and Rose Byrne on Wednesday, April 24th at 7:00 P.M. From the creators of Daddy's Home, comes a heartwarming comedy for everyone. When Pete (Mark Wahlberg) and Ellie (Rose Byrne) choose to start a family, they stumble headfirst into the world of foster care adoption. After they learn their perfect foster child comes with two other siblings, Pete and Ellie find themselves speeding from zero to three kids overnight and must hilariously learn the ropes of instant parenthood if they hope to become a real family. Inspired by a true story and also starring Octavia Spencer and Tig Notaro. A must see for the whole family!



Annual Late Winter Dinner Extravaganza



This dinner party was held March 22nd at 6:00 P.M. and by all accounts was a great success. It was definitely a sold-out event. Hats off to newcomer Mary Lynn Landgraf and Bev Hart for grabbing the reins and doing a marvelous job of spearheading and organizing. It. I am told that the food was enjoyed by most everybody.

Mary Lynn corralled 8 gals from the Middlesex High School Varsity soccer too and they were a real hit! We had tip jars on all fourteen tables which I collected at the end of the evening and gave \$379.00 to their Coach. I later found that the kitchen

One Great Church and two Amazing Services

By Robin Wells

In less than a month's time, we have been blessed by two incredible but totally different ways to worship

First, on February 24 we held a Celtic ion service. It was begun at 6:00 P.M. the service pro- evening hours de- made the candlelight lit the Sanctuary with This is a service that the service itself and sonally. It is certainly the activities in the



the time to pray unhurriedly and without distraction. As always, music is of great importance to most Episcopalians and Christ Church Parish is no different, but there is no doubt that the Music of Spencer & Bean is a great addition to our ability to worship our Lord in a way that seems somehow to bring us closer than at many other times. If you've never been to a Celtic Evensong Service, I believe that you owe it to yourself to experience one soon. Worry not – your Worship Committee has scheduled several more this year and you'll be kept informed as the time approaches.

Second, on March 3rd, which was the last Sunday after the Epiphany, we held a single 3:00 P.M. service to celebrate "The Renewal of Ministry with Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation; and with the Welcoming of a New Rector". What a joy-filled gathering and service! Would you believe, there were 50+ participants in this service: The Bishop, our Rector, 2 visiting Clergy, 17 Servers, 5 former or present Senior or Junior Wardens, 9 choir, 1 organist, 3 confirmands, 2 being Received, and 1 reaffirming her Baptismal vows. We were also blessed with several other visiting clergy and our own Rev. Judy Short, all of whom processed with the Bishop and our Rector. Where the Celtic Service is a quiet, peaceful, introspective celebration, this service was joyfully proclaimed to the mountain tops with everyone in attendance participating in one way or another. Our responses to the Celebrant forcefully proclaimed our love of the Lord, our God. As above, the music was a most integral part of the Service with all joining in, even for the communion hymns. As always, our choir and organist showed themselves as being joyful participants and contributors. Many of the hymns were some of the old

as previously reported, Evensong and Communion purposely scheduled to as dusk approached. As gressed, the darker scended upon us. This even more special as it an almost mystical glow. allows time to reflect on its meaning to you per- a time for us to reflect on weeks past and gives us

favorites that many sung from memory with great joy. Father Stuart and Verger Grace Parker should be thanked and praised for this wonderful service. And last but certainly not least, Bishop Susan Goff's Homily was most inspiring and makes us look forward to hearing her again.

Ash Wednesday Services

By Robin Wells

Two Ash Wednesday Services were held at Christ Church Parish on March 6th, with the first being held at noon and the 2nd at 6:00 P.M. The Officiant was Fr. Stuart Wood with Verger Grace Parker assisting.

Ash Wednesday



*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

ECCLESIASTES 3:20

What a beautiful, bright, cold day to start the Lenten Season. And it was a real joy for us to see Br. Christopher Hamlett in attendance. We are so happy to see him looking so well and hope this means we will see him more often.

Fr. Stuart reminded us of the great difference between Shrove Tuesday which we joyously celebrate with our annual pancake supper and Ash Wednesday. Where Shrove Tuesday seems so often to be a raucous, noisy party atmosphere (you well know that if you've ever been to New Orleans on Shrove Tuesday) where Ash Wednesday is a quiet solemn day of new beginnings. We are also reminded that it is a season of penitence and fasting to prepare us for the days of our Lord's passion & resurrection. Fr. Stuart reminds us as he affixes the cross made from the ashes from last year's palms from Palm Sunday that we are dust, and to dust we shall return.



Continued from page 7

crew topped off the donations to make it an even \$400.00! What a group!

Once again, Mary Lynn exceeded all expectations as she went about the County gathering many valuable door prizes! We will keep the poster beautifully done by Ann Wilcox posted in the hallway in the Parish Hall to remind you of those who have supported up so we can support them!

APRIL		Christ Church Parish	Calender of Events			2019
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 8p AA	2 9:30a Hospitality Committee Noon AA	3 9:30a Holy Eucharist 1p Connecting Threads 6-7:30p Lenten Supper	4 Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts	5	6 8:30a Clean-up Day
7 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II	8 8p AA	9 Noon AA 9a Finance Committee 4p Endowment Board 5:30p Vestry Meeting	10 9:30a Holy Eucharist 6-7:30p Lenten Supper	11 Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts	12	13
14 Palm Sunday 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II	15 8p AA	16 Noon AA	17 9:30a Holy Eucharist	18 Noon AA 6p Maundy Thursday Service 6:45p Boy Scouts	19 Noon Good Fri- day Ser- vice	20 7:30p Easter Vigil Service at Christ- church School Chapel
21 Easter Sunday No 8:00 or 10:30 Ser- vices. One joint service at 10:00 AM	22 8p AA	23 Noon AA	24 9:30a Holy Eucharist	25 9:30a Outreach Commit- tee Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts	26 11a ECW Fashion Show, luncheon, Game Day	27
28 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II	29 8p AA	30 Noon AA				

Worship Committee

Grace Parker, Chairperson; Fr. Stuart Wood, Rector; Pam McClelland, Vestry; Dave Wilcox, Steve Richardson, Jane Bunnell, Thyra Harris



The evening begins at 6:00 PM. with soup & bread in the Parish Hall, followed by the Program and ending with the service of Compline.

We have four great cooks lined up for Lenten Suppers which start on March 20, 27, April 3rd and 10th. There will be sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall as we get closer.

In our Lenten Program, we will explore Centering Prayer and Meditation as an invitation into the stillness of God's presence. Centering Prayer is a prayer without words, a meditation of the heart. It enables us to leave the bustle of our lives and open to His Silence. In our exploration, we will practice ways to still the mind, quiet outer distractions, and simply sit with God.



Mary Ann Carr will be leading our programs on March 20th and 27th, and also on April 3rd. She is a member of Kingston Parish Episcopal Church in Mathews, and has taught classes in Mindfulness Meditation, Meditation, and Centering Prayer and has lead workshops on walking the Labyrinth.

On the Verge

by
Grace Parker

Recently I was introduced to a group of newcomers as "The Verger" followed by a disclaimer that my duties were not well known. So, I'm inspired to write an occasional column for this newsletter from the verger's viewpoint. Sometimes they will deal with history, but often they will try to explain some points of our worship service. This one opens the subject of what a verger is and does.

We have many new members since I was installed as your verger in 2012, so

Continued on page 14

Ladies Luncheon



**The Women of Christ Church Parish
Annual Spring
Fashion Show, Luncheon
&
Afternoon of Games
Friday, April 26th
11:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Tickets are \$25.00 per person**

The ladies are preparing a delicious Luncheon served following the Fashion Show, and then—Game ON! Mah-jongg, Canasta, Bridge, Samba and more are played by our enthusiastic guests.

Tables sell out quickly so to reserve a tables please call Grace Parker 758-3640 or email her at parkergrace2010@verizon.net to reserve your table of 4. Those not wishing to play games in the afternoon are still more than welcome to enjoy the Fashion Show and Luncheon.



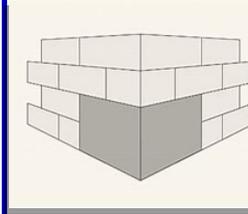
the church and the preferences of the rector. The office of the vergers is an ancient one in the Church of England, perhaps as early as the 12th century. At that time, the procession often started well outside the church or cathedral; the vergers were responsible for clearing the way with his “virge” or beedle pole, sweeping aside stray dogs and errant choristers (OK, maybe not the choristers). This job did not translate well in the new world of small churches and a decided lack of emphasis

on ceremony; in fact, there were no processions for a very long time in colonial America. Today, however, the number of vergers is ever growing; there are over 2000 members of the Vergers’ Guild across the U.S. And, at the last count I saw, there were also over 350 “Fellows of the Vergers’ Guild,” those of us who had completed a rather lengthy training course prepared by the Guild. I completed that training in 2013.

If you saw the royal wedding in May, or the funeral of President Bush in December, you probably noticed vergers on duty in England and in The National Cathedral in Washington D.C. While you mostly saw them in their ceremonial roles, escorting lecturers to speak or leading processions, you can be sure they had a much larger behind-the-scenes role in minute planning of these events. Most of the work done by vergers is unseen and that is intentional. Modern vergers do whatever is needed by the Rector, helping with planning, training, rehearsing and reminding. Some vest in their chimere every Sunday; some (like me) only on special holy days or for a Bishop’s visit. That seems most appropriate for our country church.

My major role at Christ Church is to train and schedule crucifers, eucharistic ministers and lecturers. I help plan special services and I serve on the Worship Committee, currently as chair. Those duties are always subject to change, based on the preferences of the rector. So, that is what this vergers does!

Cornerstone Committee



Marilyn South, Chair: Garry Clay, Barbara Cockrell, Vel Gray, Gordon White, Fr. Stuart Wood, Robin Wells, Pam McClelland.

We met at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday, March 24th. The major topic of conversation was what do we do with all of the historical printed material we have accumulated over the last 250 some years. Gordon White has done Yeoman work and brought to our attention the fact that The Library of Virginia will digitalize all of this accumulation and store the originals for us at no cost. At present, most of the material is stored in unprotected spaces. Pam McClelland will take this recommendation to the Vestry for their approval.

There was also some discussion of what will be put in the cornerstone. We have determined that media such as “floppy disks” and thumb drive are not suitable because they will degrade in a relatively short period of time. It was decided that the Congregation should have a say in what will be included. We are, therefore, asking all members to put on their thinking caps and let Marilyn South at marsouth05@aol.com know what you think ought to be in it.

St. Paul Baptist Church, Nesting, VA

This tragic fire took the St. Paul Baptist building but it did not take the heart and soul of its congregation. The fire occurred on Saturday, November 17th at 10:45 P.M. but they had a service the following day to celebrate the love of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Susie Guillotte has kept us up to date including a fundraising dinner that sold out quickly in March. I am very sure that they would gladly accept any donations from individuals who want to help them rebuild. Shirley Bagby at 804-758-3205 or Alice Bagby at 804-346-6444 were the ladies who worked on the Fundraising Dinner, but I am sure that either would be able to tell you where you could send a check if you are so inclined. We talk a lot about Outreach but this truly is an opportunity for us to do something good in our community.



Easter Flowers Donation Form

Suggested Donation \$25



Donation made in Memory of:

or

Donation made in Honor of:

By

Please Return to the Parish Office ASAP or no later than April 15th

Christ Church Parish
P.O. Box 476
Saluda, VA 23149

MAY Newsletter Deadlines

April 20, 2019

ALTAR and FLOWER GUILD SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

April 7th	April 14th	April 21st	April 28th
	Palm Sunday	Easter Sunday	
Team 6	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3

USHER SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

Services Times	April 7th	April 14th	April 21st	April 28th
		Palm Sunday	Easter Sunday	
8:00 AM	Gari Sullivan	Gari Sullivan	One Service at 10:00 AM	Gari Sullivan
10:00 AM	Pat Anderson Roland Anderson	Pat Anderson Roland Anderson	Pat Anderson Roland Anderson	Pat Anderson Roland Anderson

APRIL SPECIAL SER

April 18th	Maundy Thursday	6:00 P.M.	Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing & Stripping of the Altar
April 19th	Good Friday	Noon	Good Friday Service Stations of the Cross
April 20th	Easter Vigil	7:30 P.M.	Joint Service with Christ-church School in their Chapel

BIRTHDAYS

Jim Ray	2-Apr
Susan DeSimone	2-Apr
Connie Cross	6-Apr
Miller Smither	7-Apr
Mavis Magnum	9-Apr
Elaine Meyer	12-Apr
Dave South	13-Apr
Susie Loustaunau	19-Apr
Homer Hartung	20-Apr
Nicole Davis	23-Apr
Grace Parker	24-Apr
Doris Radcliffe	29-Apr



ANNIVERSARIES

Pat & Dennis Durette	4/7/1983
Ginny & Homer Hartung	4/26/1975
Cindy & Richard Naylor	4/24/1976

