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APRIL 2016


ALLELUIA!
CHRIST IS ALIVE!

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace;

through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. (Collect for Monday in Holy Week)

“Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.” With these words, we began our Easter celebration and we announced and affirmed the central conviction of our faith; that God raised Jesus from the dead. The tomb was empty, and not because Jesus’ body had been taken from it, but because God said “yes” to Jesus and “no” to the powers that killed him. Jesus lives, and because he lives, he is as much a part of our lives as he was in the lives of his first disciples. Jesus’ presence has been affirmed throughout the centuries through the experience of Christians since that first century.

In the book “The Last Week” by Marcus J. Borg and John Dominic Crossan, we are reminded by the authors that Good Friday and Easter, death and resurrection together, are a central image in the New Testament for the path to a transformed self. They remind us that as Christians we follow a path that involves dying to an old way of being andcontinued...

Location:
Rt. 33 & 638
Christchurch, Middlesex County, Virginia

Mailing:
PO Box 476; Saluda, Virginia 23149
Tel:
804-758-2006
E-Mail:
ccparish@verizon.net
Web:
christchurchmiddlesex.com

Sunday Services:
8 am
A quiet traditional Service of Holy Communion
&
10:30 AM
A Family Service of Holy Communion
with Music and Choir

Christ Church Parish
Address Service Requested

*“A joy-filled church
with a heart and place for all.”*



and being reborn into a new way of being. Good Friday and Easter are about this path, the path of dying and rising, of being born again.

St. Paul says it this way, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me." (Gal. 2:19-20) We experience this ritually in baptism as we are symbolically buried with Christ in the waters of baptism and raised to new life as a new self, a new creation. In that rebirth, we are to embrace Jesus' passion for the kingdom of God and to take up our cross and follow him into the way of life and peace.

Jesus' passion for the kingdom of God, his passion toward the poor and needy, the sick and the outcast, his passion for justice - this is the passion that brought him life and vindication on that Easter morning.

This is the good news of Jesus. This is what we celebrate and this is what we are called to live in our own faith journeys. For with God's help, all things are possible. Alleluia.
Fr. Stuart

Lovely English Gardens will be transported to our historic Christ Church Parish, which is celebrating its 350th year, in the form of an English Festival of Flowers. This tradition of celebrating the glory of fresh flowers will emphasize the charm of our historic churches and traditions. Enjoy this event which is open to the public and free of charge. April 29 10am to 4pm



Happy Birthday

April 2 - Jim Hill
April 2 - Susan DeSimone
April 6 - Connie Cross
April 7 - Miller Smither
April 9 - Mavis Mangum
April 12 - Elaine Meyer
April 13 - Dave South
April 19 - Susie Loustaunau
April 20 - Homer Hartung
April 23 - Wayne Lloyd
April 24 - Grace Parker
April 30 - Bob Kluge

Anniversary Blessings

April 2 - Lurlene and Llew Samuel
April 7 - Patricia and Dennis Durrette
April 24 - Cindy and Richard Naylor
April 26 - Ginny and Homer Hartung
April 30 - Victoria and Matt Rosendahl
And
Christ Church Parish
Celebrating its 350th anniversary



If we have forgotten to list your birthday or anniversary, please contact the Parish Office (758-2006) so we may correct our records.

Special Calendar Notes:

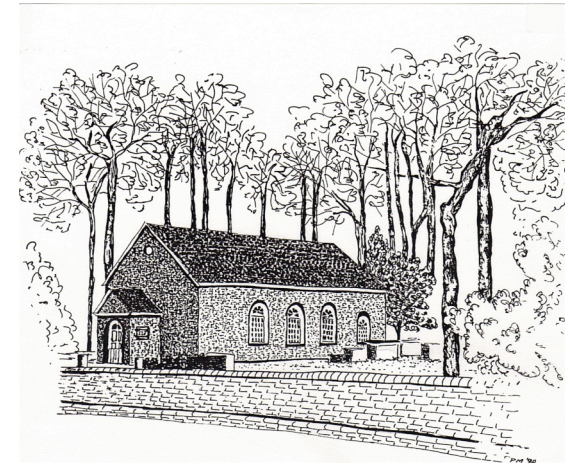
- April 6 – Connecting Threads knitting group 10:45AM
- April 10 – Brotherhood Breakfast 9AM
- April 13 – ECW Spring Fashion Show/Luncheon/Game Day 11:00AM
- April 13 – Vestry meeting 6:00PM
- April 24 – Presiding Bishop Michael Curry visits for celebration of Christ Church Parish's 350th Anniversary, 10:00AM service and reception to follow
- April 29 – Festival of Flowers, 10am to 4pm in conjunction with Historic Garden Week, open to the public and free of charge



IS ANYONE OUT THERE 350 YEARS OLD? OF

course we are all not that fortunate but we are looking for some history of our church over the last 350 years. We would welcome any photos, stories or memories of our church to help celebrate its long history in our community and in our lives.

Please send them to the church office, open 9am to noon, Monday through Thursday or email at ccparish@verizon.net



Christ Church Parish Celebrates 350 Years of Worship - 1666 to 2016

On Sunday, April 24, Christ Church Parish will “kick off” the beginning of a long term effort to collect artifacts, documents and photographs of our rich history to archive and display on a rotating basis for the church and public. The church is most privileged to have Presiding Bishop Michael Curry deliver the sermon at a celebratory service with Confirmation and Holy Communion. Interim Rector Stuart Wood will participate at the service.

The public is invited to this service which will be telecommunicated to the Parish Hall for overflow attendees. A reception will follow the service in the Parish Hall and we invite all to join us at this very special start to celebrating our 350 year history.



Annual Cleanup Day

To all who answered the call, I thank you for making our church cleanup day an overwhelming success. A special thanks goes to our Scout Troop 341. They're a great bunch of kids! We are standing tall, thanks to y'all!
Bob Guillotte, Junior Warden



A Giant Thank You Note to everyone who helped make my surprise birthday party such a wonderful treat for me. I appreciated the cards, the cake, the well wishes and hugs, and great surprise so much. It was also wonderful to have the support and caring thoughts during the services for my nephew, Lydell. Thank you to all of you.....Love, Ellen

A very big thank you to Victoria and Matt Rosendahl for their generous gift of a piano to Christ Church Parish. We wish them every happiness in their new home.



ECW Spring Fashion Show, Game Day & Luncheon



April 13, 2016 11:00 A.M.

Christ Church Parish Hall

Cost \$25.00 Reservations: Grace Parker 758.3640

or parkergrace2010@verizon.net

The women of Christ Church Parish are again hosting a Spring Luncheon Fashion Show with an optional afternoon of games of your choice. Fashions will be from Cyndys Bynn, Bristows and Lowe Tide, all of Urbanna.



Get together a table of 4 and reserve your table for a fun afternoon. Those not wishing to stay for games are free to come for just the fashion show and lunch.

Reservations are required. Space is limited for this popular event, so reserve early!



Confirmation Classes -

The Most Rev. Michael Curry will be with us to celebrate the 350th anniversary of Christ Church Parish, Middlesex on April 24, 2016.

Anyone desiring to confirm their faith or be received into this branch of the Church should notify

Father Stuart so that we can arrange confirmation classes. Those wishing to re-confirm their faith are also welcome to participate.

Please visit our website often at:

www.christchurchmiddlesex.com



The volume of visitors will contribute to our recognition success out in the cyber world so that more online searches will show OUR Parish for those looking for a wonderful new church to visit!

And of course, you will be up to date on all the

latest news. Our newsletter is shown in color too!

VESTRY INFORMATION:

Next Vestry meeting will be Wednesday, April 13 at 6PM

For all interested members' viewing, Vestry Minutes, after approval, are placed in a file folder on the west Parish Hall wall between Fr. Stuart's office and the Church Office.

ATTENTION !!!

The Elizabeth B. Sanders Fund nominating committee is currently accepting applications for its 2016-2017 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, under graduate, special, technical, vocational, professional or other educational purposes.

Application forms may be picked up from the Parish office or downloaded from the CCP website. Applications must be submitted, complete including all required documentation, by April 30, 2016 to:

Christ Church Parish, Middlesex

Elizabeth B. Sanders Education Scholarship Awards

Attention: Nominating Committee

P.O. Box 476

Saluda, VA 23149-0476

The application may also be hand delivered to the Parish office during regular business hours.

Applications that are incomplete or received after the return deadline will NOT be considered. It is not the committee's responsibility to complete the required information.

Applicants will be notified of the decision of the Board of Directors by US Mail.

Any questions concerning the application form or process should be directed to the chairman of the nominating committee for the Elizabeth B.

Sanders Fund:

Bob Guillotte



1st Wednesdays - Connecting Threads ~~~~~



The inaugural gathering of knitters, cross-stitchers, etc. met on March 2nd with 5 members of CCP and 2 “friends” for a pleasant day of blending fibers and conversation. For now, this group will continue to meet on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 10:45am - mark your calendars and spread the word to your fellow knitters, crochet lovers, needlepoint and cross-stitch lovers to join in our community!



Next gathering: Wednesday, April 6th at 10:45am (after the 10:00am Wednesday Eucharist service)

Bring a sandwich !!



*Getting to Know You.... Please welcome our latest entry in our new column! Entries may be any length, from one paragraph to several. We look forward to learning about our fellow members. Getting to know **Who Is Next?***

Moments with Moose.....



Grandma D. used to say: My goal in life is to be as good a person as my dog already thinks I am. It's a very popular saying.

I like to make a good impression on everyone I meet.

I get noticed easily because I am so big. One day I was shopping in Lowes and we saw a tiny dog's head sticking out of a pocketbook. That is impossible for my Mom. Its hard to hide 130 pounds of fur.

Once someone sees me, I know it and I try to be a "good boy" and be on my best behavior. Its not that I worry too much about what other people think of me but I do care. Some dogs probably worry about it too much and try too hard to impress others (have you seen those haircuts on standard poodles.....really?) And maybe some dogs should try a little bit harder; we've all heard those growls under their breath that aren't exactly welcoming and have way too much teeth in them.....ouch! I think I will try to wag more and sniff less.