

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:

During the Covid-19 Pandemic
An online Service at 10:00 AM
The Rev. Stuart Wood, Rector
The Rev. Dr. Bob Pritchard,
Priest Associate

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex Monthly Newsletter for August of 2020



To the Faithful of Christ Church Parish:

I miss seeing all of you, I miss worshipping with you in person, and I miss us greeting each other at the door of the church, at the peace, and then at coffee hour. I have to say, worshipping online might mean that you don't have to get dressed up and comb your hair and that you may sit there and have your morning cup of coffee or tea while watching, but it certainly misses that back and forth participation that we have when we're together. The reality is that worshipping online is so much more work for me than worshipping in person. I do hope that you're still saying "and also with you" or "and with thy spirit" whenever I say "the Lord be with you." I at least imagine hearing it in my head. And do you say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the responses to the Prayers of the People? If not, then you should be because I believe that it draws you more into the service rather than simply watching a service.

And has ministry come to a screeching halt during this pandemic? NOT AT ALL! So much is going on that I fear leaving some things out. In the Letter to James chapter 2 verses 14-17, and 26 we hear this admonition: ¹⁴ "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,' and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. ²⁶ For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is also dead."

I have to say that we are then a very **faithful** congregation. There were those of you who came out and helped with the renovations of the parish hall and kitchen – thank you to Jeff Loustaunau for your coordination of this work; there were still others that helped with the renovation of Ellen's trailer – and a big thank you to John Quilter and Henry Moncure for coordinating this project. Mike Floyd and Lydia Dudley have been working hard on getting the on-line directory up and running. Mike Floyd, Mike Gorin, and Jack Fackler have been working on our audio/visual technology so that services may still be on-line after we are back worshipping

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in-person. We have made contributions to the Food Pantry. Debbie Davis continues to play our music and Grace Parker continues to help with and find readers for our services. Robin Wells is still getting the newsletter put together and sent out. Committees are meeting and planning, the Vestry continues to carry out its monthly duties and we're already working on next year's stewardship plan. And for those of you who haven't been able to physically help with all of this, you have made these things possible through your participation by making contributions to these projects. We are in a so much better place to provide a safe environment for our parish and community life together once we can get back together. May God continue to bless us in our faith and may that faith continue to blossom into grateful good works. Continue to stay safe and well and if you need something, remember, I am only a phone call, email, or text message away.

Faithfully, Fr. Stuart

Vestry

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.”

The Vestry met on July 14 for our monthly meeting. We are “behind the scenes” working on many projects.

Our online directory is ready to go. Most of you have already registered. After we reopen, we will be able to take photographs for those of you who would like.

We have a team working on recording the live service so that many of you can watch it at home. We are working on our church re-opening plans.

The renovation project in the Fellowship Hall is completed, thanks to the hard work and generous donations of all.

Continued on page 3 Sr. Warden

Continued from page 2 Sr. Warden

We are launching our Stewardship Campaign for the 2021 church year. This year's theme is “Growing Our Faith Through Generosity.” Look for information in the mail and online.

As a result of our “Share the Love” Concert, St. Paul's Baptist Church was able to purchase wonderful altar furniture. Several of us visited this beautiful new church which has been completed. The Rev. Dunn and his congregation are anxious to begin worshipping in their church building. As we are, he is waiting until it will be safe. Once we are all open, he and Fr. Stuart will preach at each other's service. What a beautiful way to share the love! Faithfully yours, Pam McClelland, Senior. Warden



Hello Everyone,

Our fundraising events: Fall Fashion Show, Oyster Festival, and Wings Wheels and Keels have all been cancelled! I think our next possible event could be a Christmas Bake Sale, location to be discussed. Any other ideas greatly appreciated!

Thanks,

Karen

July Newsletter Input from the Junior Warden, Jeff Loustaunau

On Saturday, July 18th, the new kitchen floor was installed that completes all phases of the Great Hall restoration. Here is a summary of the costs of each phase along with the summary of donations for the project.

<u>Financials of the Project:</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	
Phase I: Rebuild the Floor	\$39,763	Church Reserves	\$24,400
Phase II: Re-plaster the Walls	\$3,900	ECW	\$4,100
Phase III: Paint the Room	\$5,000	Brotherhood	\$4,000
Phase IV: Drop the Ceiling	\$10,140	PJL Grant	\$5,000
Phase V: Carpet the Floor	\$9,280	Donated Funds	\$38,164
Phase VI: Kitchen Floor	\$3,884		
Miscellaneous Supplies	\$896		
<u>Total for all Phases:</u>	\$72,863		\$75,664

Thanks to the tremendous support and generosity of our congregation, we were able to accomplish all of the Great Hall projects that we had in our Maintenance Plan for completion in the next five years while being able to return the \$2,800 difference to our Reserve Funds.

Please note that we have closed the kitchen for a period so we can wax the floor to seal it, and to also get a "deep cleaning" done throughout the kitchen before we use it.



Continued on page 5 Jr. Warden

Continued from page Jr. Warden

The Building and Grounds Committee met this past month to review and update the Maintenance Plan, which has been posted on the Vestry Bulletin Board. For the remaining period in 2020, we have no additional major projects planned. But there is still work that needs to continue, such as determining the source of water that has started to leak into the basement of the Parish Hall; following up on restoring the window in the church behind the choir; switching from Verizon to Atlantic Broadband for internet service; verifying surge protection for the church organ; removing the old paint cans from the Parish Hall, and replacing the blinds in the library and vestry room. And as always, please let me or the Building and Grounds Committee members know of things that may require our at-

Outreach Ministry



During this time of interrupted work and stay-at-home mandate, many in our community have been affected, especially the elderly. As work on our Parish Hall was documented, we were made aware of another need – Ellen Johnson also has a safety issue in her home with weak flooring, a result of a longtime kitchen sink leak. After a lot of talking and listening with Ellen, she allowed as how she did not know how to find the help to fix this problem. Her son, Michael, has been working bit by bit on several areas, but he only has so much free time to work at his mother's home. With Ellen's and Michael's permission, Jeff Loustaunau assessed the needs in Ellen's home. Not being experienced with trailers, Jeff reached out to Cullen Walker, from Hands Across Middlesex, to assess the needs. Mr Walker stated that the issues in Ellen's home are definitely warranted to be repaired for her safety. Also, Mr Walker committed to contributing to the costs from his budget at Hands, if we are willing to organize the work.

So, the ball started rolling- to not overwhelm Jeff with his Parish Hall oversight duties, John Quilter has volunteered to oversee Ellen's project. John, Tom Clarke, Clayton Neal, and Bobby Guillotte have met with Michael and Ellen, to identify her needs and nice-to-haves and determine what Michael is willing to assist.

How can you help? John has worked up a list of needs and is looking for several items, which are listed below. Do you have any of these gently used items that you want to donate to this project? Do you know of any places to look for these items? Do you want to help work with John on the worksite? Please let John Quilter (804-347-0763) know of your possible items to help with this project or your willingness to work with him. Ellen is overwhelmed

Continued on page 8 Ellen

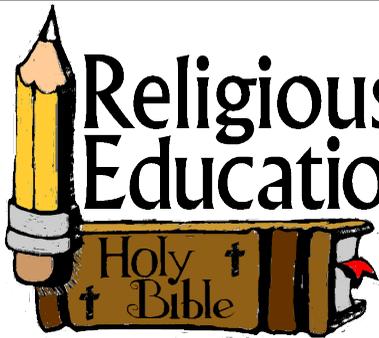


ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

This is reprinted from last month but we want to make sure that everyone who wants to can participate in Fr. Stuart's Facebook Sunday Service.

There has been some feedback about confusion while using the Christ Church web sight when folks do not use the options on the left side of the screen and see services on the right side of the page. The services mentioned on the right side of the page are "in church" services and have been cancelled. What you need to do is as follows:

- ◆ Go to CCP Website by clicking on this link— <http://christchurchmiddlesex.thediocese.net/default.asp>. You can also highlight the link, copy it (click CTRL C) and then paste it (click CTRL V) into your browser.
- ◆ Under the **Home** on the upper left side of the page, scroll down to +Worship Services at Christ Church Parish Prerecorded.
- ◆ When the cursor hits this link it will turn **red** and will show a menu, that will also be **red**, of all the services that have been prerecorded since Easter.
- ◆ The service of the day will not show up until the appointed time.
- ◆ You do not have to be on Facebook to see the service or "attend".
- ◆ One of the beauties of these virtual services is "you can be late getting to church" and not miss anything! And no one will stare at you!
- ◆ Also, you can go anytime you want after the appointed time.
- ◆ And, guess what? Pajamas are perfectly acceptable!



Religious Education

Catechism Corner

This monthly short peek at Catechism-related subjects is meant to remind us of basic information...as we are still kept away from weekly services maybe we can enhance our spirituality by studying Scriptures.

The Holy Scriptures, commonly called the Bible, are the books of the Old and New Testaments; other books, called the Apocrypha, are often included in the Bible.

Continued on page 8 Catechism



From the Verger

Know that we are connected in ways that are terrifying and beautiful.

(You could hardly deny it now.)
Know that our lives are in one another's hands. (Surely, that has come clear.)
Do not reach out your hands. Reach out your heart. Reach out your words. Reach out all the tendrils of compassion, that move, invisibly, where we cannot touch.

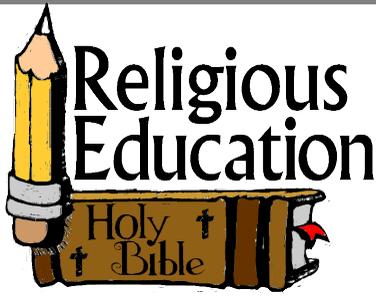
What if you thought of it as the Jews consider the Sabbath—the most sacred of times?
Cease from travel.
Cease from buying and selling.
Give up, just for now, on trying to make the world different than it is.
Sing. Pray. Touch only those to whom you commit your life.
Center down.

Promise this world your love—for better or for worse, in sickness and in health, so long as we all shall live.

—Lynn Ungar 3/11/20

And when your body has become still,
reach out with your heart.

You can read more of Lynn's poetry or buy her book *Bread and Other Miracles* at Lynnunger.com



Continued from page 6 **Catechism**

The Old Scriptures consists of books written by the people of the Old Covenant, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to show God at work in nature and history.

While the New Testament consists of books written by the people of the New Covenant, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, to set forth the life and teachings of Jesus and to proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom for all people.

Finally, The Apocrypha is a collection of additional books written by people of the Old Covenant, and used in the Christian Church. We understand the meaning of the Bible by the help of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in the true interpretation of the Scriptures.

Continued from page 5 Ellen

with our willingness to help her, again. She has been so lost without being able to see us all and to get into our parish hall kitchen to help with our food events. Ellen has been a hard worker all her life, raising 3 children on her own, and is not comfortable asking for help. Gaining her trust that Christ Church Parish wants her to be safe in her home, which she owns, has been growing with each visit and our genuine desire to “help”.

Needed Items:

- Floor boards
- Upper Cabinets with Exhaust fan
- Lower cabinet with a double sink
- Reworked water drain for better flow
- Sanding and painting Kitchen Ceiling
- Bathroom vanity
- Linoleum for kitchen floor

Nice-to-have items:

- Stackable washer/dryer
- new Storm door
- tiling for Shower
- Paint for living room and kitchen

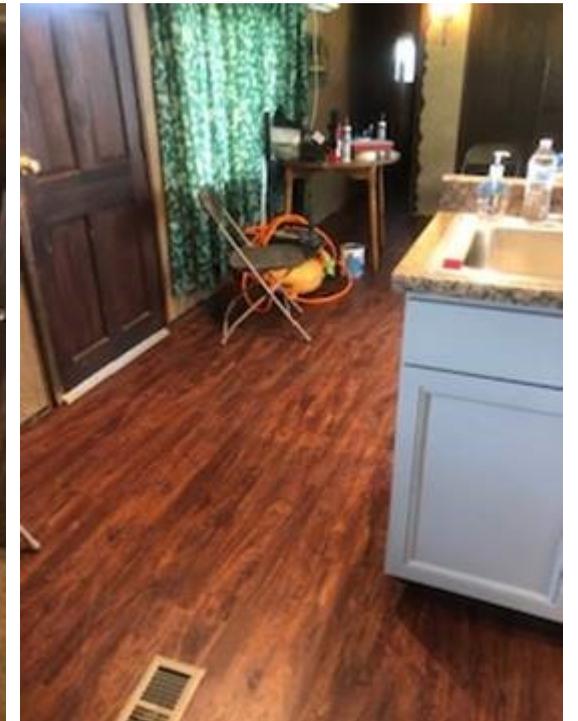
Please see follow up article on page 9

FOLLOW UP TO JEAN’S ARTICLE

John Quilter made a report that total expenditures of almost \$4000.00 have been covered by \$4000.00 in donations. \$1000.00 of these donations is from Hands Across Middlesex’s trailer refurbishment fund. Also, the workgroup will purchase more molding for the bathroom once the shower is completed. There is a possibility of gathering a painting group, in the cooler Fall, to spruce up the outside of Ellen’s trailer.

Many have asked how you may help with this project—monetary donations can be made to Christ Church Parish with a note in the memo for Ellen’s Project. Thank you to all who have already made contributions—Ellen is so very thankful to our Church community!

To recap: All of the floorings have been redone in the kitchen, family room, hallway and bathroom.



New cabinets have been installed in the kitchen with a new kitchen sink and exhaust fan over the stove.

Continued on page 11 John Q.



Bill & Sue Newman	3-Aug
John & Judy Quilter	8-Aug
Don & Ann Harris	9-Aug
Arthur & Evie Wilton	17-Aug
Allen & Jenni Brockman	17-Aug
Andrew & Ellie Wilton	26-Aug
Rip & Doris Radcliffe	27-Aug
Byron & Linda Parker	28-Aug
Chip & Mary Buxton	31-Aug

Jack Fackler	1-Aug
Betsy Evans	2-Aug
Jean Hill	2-Aug
Henry Moncure	2-Aug
Jack Tarran	2-Aug
Anne Wilcox	2-Aug
Vernon Norris, Jr.	6-Aug
Jenni Brockman	9-Aug
Linda Irwin	11-Aug
Gibbie Mangum	11-Aug
Virginia Bishop	12-Aug
Kelly Pollok	12-Aug
Ginger Hellems	13-Aug
Barbara Cockrell	18-Aug
John Hilliard	20-Aug
Rosanne Moncure	21-Aug
Clayton Neal	22-Aug
Jack Hellems	23-Aug
Jane Bunnell	25-Aug
Andrew Wilton	30-Aug

SOME Covid Thoughts

1. So let me get this straight, there's no cure for a virus that can be killed by hand sanitizer & hand soap?
2. If you believe all this will end and we will get back to normal because we re-open everything, raise your hand. Now slap yourself with it.
3. Whoever decided a liquor store is more essential than a hair salon is obviously a bald-headed alcoholic.
4. The spread of Covid-19 is based on 2 factors: 1. How dense the population is and 2. how dense the population is.
5. It may take a village to raise a child, but I swear it's going to take a whole vineyard to home school one

Continued from page 9 John Q.

Michael stippled the ceiling in the kitchen and painted the panelling in the kitchen area, as well as did the electrical and plumbing work in the kitchen.

- ◆ A new vanity is ready to be installed in the bathroom once the new shower is completed.
- ◆ A washer/dryer stackable unit has been donated and when it comes in, we will help to install that unit in her bathroom.
- ◆ A new storm door has been installed on the main door.
- ◆ New fascia board has been installed around the roofing and painting was done to complete that job.
- ◆ A new television has been donated and will be installed in her living area when it arrives.
- ◆ Meals for the workers have been provided by Peg Moncure, John Quilter and Jean Holt.

A huge thank you to a fantastic crew:

John Quilter (coordinator), Henry Moncure, Bob Guillotte, Bill Budd, Tom Clark, Jeff Loustaunau and Michael Johnson.

ONLINE DIRECTORY

To all who have returned our survey, thank you. We already have 61 families registered in the new online directory. We hope to be receiving more responses in the coming weeks. So, it is not too late to send in your information on the form we sent out a few weeks ago. Our webmaster, Mike Floyd, is in the process of sending out instructions to all who register in the directory explaining how to log in from your computer, mobile phone and tablets.