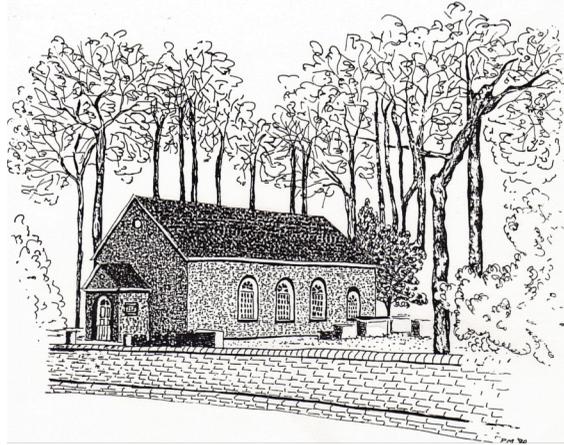




NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
URBANNA, VA  
PERMIT No. 6

JUNE  
2020



**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

The Rev. Bob Pritchard, Ph.D.,

Rector Associate

Join us for Sunday Services On Facebook

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

### June Newsletter



When we closed our doors to in-person worship back in mid-March, it was inconceivable that we wouldn't be back in the church buildings for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. In just a few days we will be celebrating the next great feast day of the Church year, Pentecost, and we will still not be back in our buildings for in-person worship and fellowship. But just because our church's doors aren't open on Sunday mornings, it doesn't mean that our worship has ended and the work of the parish has stopped.

I have been amazed at the creativity that continues to make worship and ministry possible. Some of the posts that I have seen from friends and colleagues continually

remind us that the Church is not shut, so we are not planning for reopening. Yes, the church building is closed but the church is still very much in the business of sharing the love of God and caring for our neighbors. Our Sunday services have continued without interruption, the Vestry, Peg, and I continue to stay in contact with individuals and families by phone, I recently donated to Hands Across Middlesex for the food pantry from the Discretionary Fund that Dave Cryer told me would buy 15,000 pounds of food to feed people here in our county. Dr. Prichard has been creating talks for Christ Church Parish and St. George's, Arlington that we can listen to. Peg is now posting inspirational messages on our Facebook page. Mike Floyd, Lydia Dudley, and Pam McClelland are busy working on our new directory. Your Wardens are hard at work and our new parish administrator is rapidly learning and catching up on all the paperwork in the office.

One of the bishops from another diocese wrote that "our churches are not closed - we only closed our buildings. Our worship and prayer have continued night and day. No government can stop the prayers of the church. Nor can the coronavirus stop the

*Continued as "Stuart" page 2.*

*“Stuart” - Continued from page 1.*

ministry of the church- for we are the Body of Christ, who rose from the dead!”

We did not simply close our buildings because the governor said that we should and we will not hastily reopen the buildings because the government says that we can. Our diocese closed our buildings because Jesus commands us to love our neighbor, to care for the most vulnerable in our communities, and to set an example of healthy living that others may follow. Walking in LOVE is not always easy but it is what God calls us to do.

There are now four tasks groups that have been set up in our diocese to develop plans and guidelines for safely reopening our buildings. It will be difficult moving into these new ways of gathering. Our church building is a small, close space which will make it a challenge to maintain proper distancing. The 10:30 service will most likely look and feel more like an 8:00 service with no singing. The offering plates won't be passed, the peace will be passed in word and with a wave of the hand or a slight bow, communion may not happen for a while or be only the bread. We may be asked to wear masks during the service. Whatever may come, we are still the people of God and followers of Christ and we continue to celebrate and practice our faith in ways that are truly life-changing.

God Bless,

Fr. Stuart

### **Oh, and By The Way...**

Have you gotten an email that looks like this?

“Hi, How are you doing?

I urgently need a favor from you. Please email me here as soon as you get this email.”

Was it from Fr, Stuart? Well, if you thought it was, it really wasn't. Once again, someone has gained access to Fr. Stuart's contact list.



**“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 Tuesday, May 12, via teleconference. We are adjusting to our new way of communicating with each other. Until we can meet in the Vestry room, face to face, we are managing to move forward with church business. It is amazing how adaptable you can be in times of change! We begin each Vestry meeting with prayers led by F. Stuart. This helps to remind us why we are here and doing what we are doing for the good of our church. At the conclusion of the meeting, we pray together, “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.” This is why we are all here. Thank you for entrusting us to always do what is best for the greater good of our church.

More and more of you are participating in the online services that Fr. Stuart is leading every Sunday. Many people outside of our congregation are also viewing these services. Thanks to the hard work of several parishioners (Grace, Miles, Sharon, Dave, Peg) who are helping to make these very special. The Diocese is working on a phased-in approach to eventually “return to normalcy”. We all miss celebrating with each other. It is hard to remain patient as we wait, but we must do this for the greater good of all our parishioners. “All things come to those who wait.”

Thanks to our incredible Junior Warden, Jeff Loustaunau, his team of hard workers, and the generosity of our congregation, our Great Room project is really progressing. The timing could not be better since the building is closed anyway. We look forward to eventually celebrating its grand opening.

Upcoming information will be announced about our new online directory and changes to our internet service resulting in a change to the church email address.

Faithfully,

Pam McClelland, Senior Warden

## Junior Warden Input

Our project on the Great Room is proceeding nicely at this point. As has already been reported, the floor is totally rebuilt and ready for carpeting. In addition, the plaster repairs have also been completed, with a lot of repairs being made. The good news there is that we found no new areas of moisture problems or large areas of loose plaster. So, going forward, the walls and ceiling should remain in good shape.

The painters, Roger Hubbard and his wife Crystal, are hard at work and have completed the stage walls and ceiling. They will complete the rest of the area probably by Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The new drop-ceiling and LED lights should also be completed around that timeframe. The new kitchen floor will be completed by then as well.

That will leave the carpeting to be done along with the baseboard installation to be completed the third week of June. As always, I will try to provide pictures and updates along the way.

As to the grounds, our groundskeeper, Jimmy Bristow will be working on weeding the beds along the front of the parish hall and killing the weeds in the parking areas surrounding the building. He has been keeping the lawns and cemetery in good shape this spring.



Thanks again to everyone for their support of all that is going on!

Jeff Loustaunau, Junior Warden

## **From the Brotherhood President:**

What an interesting time we are experiencing.

The COVID-19 pandemic has surely shaken even the most stable among us. Anxiety, fear, health concerns, loss of jobs, hunger for many, and an uncertain future have been with us daily for more than two months. While some experts predicted such an earthshaking pandemic at some point in modern times, most of us (like me) have been somewhat complacent, taking a comfortable life for granted in many ways. Navigating the changes and loss of connection in our daily lives has been a challenge for many, and overwhelming for some. On a different level, however, what's truly important and meaningful in our lives may become more clear. A strong core spirituality, centered in Christ's love that binds us together in even the most difficult times can and will help us through. The simple message of love and compassion, taking care of each other, and reconnecting in a deeper sense to help one another can guide us to a closer connection with God and ourselves.

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## **From our Deacon in Training**

For those who do not know me, I am Peg Moncure. I am a Candidate for the Vocational Diaconate\* in the Diocese of Virginia and am currently serving a one-year internship in this lovely parish.

It is so difficult not being able to be together at this time. I would like to offer a small way in which we can be somewhat connected. I will post daily, or almost daily ☺, a short meditation or song or scripture, etc. for us to share.... **"Moments of Comfort"**. Maybe knowing we are reading the same words will give us a sense of togetherness. If you have a favorite you would like to share, please email it to me and include the source (we want to be legal ☺) and also your name so I can give you credit for contributing. My email address is [Peggy\\_Moncure@live.com](mailto:Peggy_Moncure@live.com)

I look forward to the time when we can once again be together in person. Click on the link below to go to the Christ Church Parish Facebook page.

[http://www.facebook.com/christchurch.parish/?view\\_public\\_for=1034815926571047](http://www.facebook.com/christchurch.parish/?view_public_for=1034815926571047)

Peace, Peg

### **\* Vocational Diaconate Program**

A deacon is a **baptized person** called and empowered by God and the Church to be a model of Christ's servant ministry for all people. As agents of God's compassion and reconciling grace, deacons are missionaries to the world and messengers to the Church of the world's needs, hopes, and concerns.

### ***JW continued from page 4***

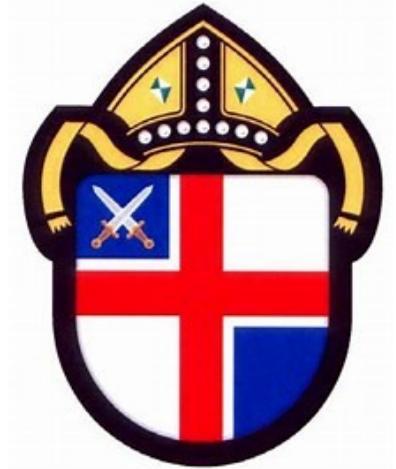
The stillness and quiet that has come with this pandemic can allow thoughtful reflection about our planet, loved ones, and what is really important. Time for contemplative prayer and meditation. A simple walk with my spouse and dog. The laughter and joy my granddaughter shares. With love and caring, the blessings of life shine through and attachment to all the material things, the frenzy of our modern world can somehow fall away and become less important.

I have missed seeing my friends and fellow parishioners, meeting together as a Brotherhood and Church family. While the future is uncertain, our current difficulties may create opportunities to grow stronger.

Stay safe and healthy, you are in my prayers.

5

John Hawkins



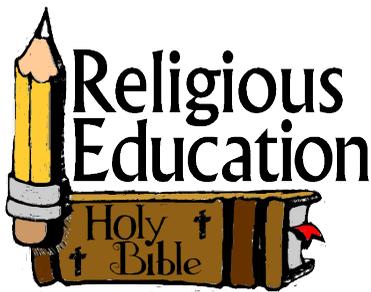


### ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICES

There has been some feedback about confusion on 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 were “in church” services and have been cancelled. These have now been changed to show they are on Facebook. What you need to do is as follows:

- ◆ Go to CCP Web Site by clicking on this link—[http://www.facebook.com/christchurch.parish/?view\\_public\\_for=1034815926571047](http://www.facebook.com/christchurch.parish/?view_public_for=1034815926571047). You can also highlight the link, copy it and then paste it into your browser.
- ◆ Under **Home** on the left side of the page, scroll 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 prerecorded services.
- ◆ The service of the day will not show up until the appointed time.
- ◆ You do not have to have a Facebook page 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? Pyjamas are perfectly acceptable



## Religious Education

The catechism section of the BCP (p.844) is not meant to be a complete statement of belief and practices; rather, it is a point of departure. Test your knowledge by comparing your answers with the book’s, later in the newsletter on page 14.

- Q. What do we mean when we say that Jesus is the only Son of God?
- Q. What is the nature of God revealed in Jesus?



[This Photo](#)

## Christ Church Parish Prayer Shawl Ministry



shutterstock - 225887329

### St.Teresa of Avila Guild

“Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes with which Christ looks out his compassion to the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now.” ~ Teresa of Avila

**What:** This is a ministry to crochet/knit prayer shawls for others.

**How:** We will gather to create prayer shawls while sharing devotions and prayer. This work may also be done from home in between our meetings. There are special patterns that may be used but you may also create a shawl in any way you wish. The shawls will then be blessed by Fr. Stuart and taken to those who are ill or grieving or celebrating a special event.

**Who:** Everyone is invited to join us in this special ministry. If you do not knit or crochet, we will teach you. We also need people to donate yarn.

**When:** We will officially start as soon as we are able to resume group gatherings. **However, in the meantime, you may begin this ministry now, from home.**

More information about this special ministry may be found at: [www.shawlministry.com](http://www.shawlministry.com)

If you have questions, please contact Peg Moncure, Parish Intern – 804-869-3867 or [peggy\\_moncure@live.com](mailto:peggy_moncure@live.com)

"The surest way to determine whether one possesses the love of God is to see whether he or she loves his or her neighbor. These two loves are never separated. Rest assured, the more you progress in love of neighbour the more your love of God will increase." ~ Teresa of Avila

### Hello Everyone from the ECW

It has been a quiet spring with our isolation for Covid-19. Hope all are well. Dave Cryer had two informative articles in Southside Sentinel on April 2nd and 9th. They need cash donations if anyone can help. Their supplies have dwindled from local stores. They can buy from Feedmore, the central food bank in Richmond when funds are available. The address is:

Cryer CenterFood Pantry, P.O. Box 85, Locust Hill, VA 23092

We will pursue our coverage of helping them open on Mondays when it is safe for all of us. They are only open for Food distribution at this time. They are on the school schedule. Our Spring Fashion Show has been rescheduled until September, date TBD. It will be a busy fall. Thanks, Karen

## *So What are we up to these days?*



This first picture becomes a CONTEST. Just who are these masked people?

Hint #1 & Hint #2: None are the Lone Ranger & all have been seen at CCP!

"Well, I ain't no scaredy cat! I got my gloves on, I got my mask on (I made it myself along with a bunch of other), I have washed my dad burn hands 50 times today, so what more can I do? Besides the Red Cross really needs my blood. "

There ya go, Miss Ann (Padgett if you don't recognize her all masked up). Doing your civic duty the best way you can!



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## **And the Mail lady sends us some mail!!!**

Dear fellow CCP people,

*This feels pretty silly because we were boring BEFORE the virus but here goes! Who knew being a homebody could be classified as "social distancing" and sound so fancy?*

*As a non-essential essential employee (yes, only the government could create such a thing), in March, the post office allowed me to stay home if I so desired since I was high risk, translation: old. I jumped into yardwork, adding top-soil, compost and mulch, all long overdue in the beds. Bobby has been addressing outdoor window repairs and repainting, after giving the tractors a spring work up. I have been cooking a lot and we have tried very hard NOT to gain weight! For our anniversary, at the end of March, we treated ourselves to a drive-thru burger from Hardees; the staff wished us a very Happy Anniversary! We try to walk the Jersey Girls every morning around the property or down the street a ways. We still have our 3 cats; would anyone like a kitten? Comes WITH a \$500 college fund!*

*I started back to work last week. With so few cases in the county (thankfully), it feels absurd to stay home from work when I can go to the grocery store and Home Depot, etc.*

*We miss everyone. Kudos to Stuart for trying so hard to bring the church to our homes. We toast him with our coffee mugs!*

*Love to all, S & B Guillotte*



**Since I'm not an outside gardener, I've been tending my indoor garden. Violets and orchids remind me my blessings every morning. But we did find this Lady slipper in our yard!**

**Bevie**



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**And we hear more  
from "Up County"!**

*We are following all of the guidelines for dealing with the pandemic. We very seldom go anywhere but, when we do, we wear our "designer" face masks. (See attached photos).*

*Missing personal contact with our children, grandchildren, and wonderful church friends.*

*Love Pam & Jeff*



**Good to hear  
from Mike!**

Hello all: I recently picked a book off a best seller list with an interesting title: "Heaven and Hell a History of the Afterlife" When the book came in I opened it up and was surprised to find it was written by the instructor of our Sunday School video class, Bart D. Ehrman. I've enjoyed the book and found it compelling reading. I'll leave it in the library when the doors finally re-open.

I've continued to work at the boat yard because we are considered essential and we can operate in a way that allows distance between employees. I was uncomfortable wearing a mask for the first few times going into a grocery store, but it's becoming routine and sometimes kind of fun. I've found that a "neck gaiter" works best and is not as awkward as a surgical-style mask. They are available online but with a long wait.



Not Mike Moore, but this is a neck gaiter.

The croquet courts at Chesapeake Bay Croquet Club have been a good physical and social outlet for me where I can get outside and be around people but still keep distance. There is typically open house Sunday afternoons for anyone interested in trying it out.

Take care,

*Mike Moore*



Since your editor can't grow it on his head, he thought he'd try it on his face. Wouldn't grow on the sides either, so he went with the chin. I call it my CV beard and it will probably go when all this mess is over and done with—if it ever is!



Miss Sallie is taking the mask proclamation very seriously! She's making a patriotic quilt in red white and blue for a Veteran if we ever get to have the annual luncheon for them.



### Appreciating the usage of Votive Candles

The altar guild is very diligent about making sure our votive candles are in place with plenty of wax. Recently, new votive candles were ordered that have a burning time of 10 hours. To decrease the likely hood of hot wax igniting paper in our trash can, the candles are extinguished after the service and allowed to cool.

Appreciating the usage of votive candles. Here, as in early Christian times, we light a candle before a statue or sacred image of our Lord or a saint. Of course, we do not honor the statue or the image itself, but whom that statue or image represents. The light signifies our prayer offered in faith coming into the light of God. With the light of faith, we petition our Lord in prayer or petition the saint to pray with us and for us to the Lord. 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.

Interestingly, in the Middle Ages, the symbolism of the votive candles was elaborated. St. Radegund (d. 587) described a practice whereby a person would light a candle or several candles which equalled his own height; this was called "measuring to" such a saint. Although it may seem peculiar to us, this "measuring" actually reflects the idea of the candle representing the person in faith who has come into the light to offer his prayer.

Also, some Medieval spiritual writers expanded the imagery of the candle itself: beeswax symbolized the purity of Christ; the wick, the human soul of Christ; and the light, His divinity. Also, the burning candle symbolized a sacrifice, which is made in both the offering of the prayer and the acceptance of the Lord's will.

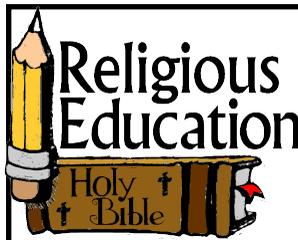
In all, the usage of votive candles is a pious practice which continues today in many Churches. The symbolism does remind us that prayer is a "coming into" the light of Christ, allowing our souls to be filled with His light, and letting that light burn on in our souls even though we may return to other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

Blessings & Prayers to all! Marilyn South—AG Chair



Mike Floyd	1-Jun
Buddy Wyker	4-Jun
Pam McClelland	11-Jun
Libby Allen	12-Jun
Roxie Jones	13-Jun
Janie Allen	14-Jun
Anne Lewis	14-Jun
Arthur Wilton	14-Jun
Amy Schacht	16-Jun
Sarah Geeson	21-Jun
Ginny Hartung	23-Jun
Mike Moore	23-Jun
Mike Gorin	30-Jun

Robert & Barbee Phipps	2-Jun
Rich & Anne Donoff	13-Jun
Paige & Virginia Bishop	13-Jun
Bill & Jackie Brown	15-Jun
Fritz & Suzanne Berry	17-Jun
Jim & Lydia Dudley	19-Jun
John & Susan Hilliard	20-Jun
Dave & Anne Wilcox	23-Jun
Chris & Roxie Jones	28-Jun
Bruce & Susan DeSimone	28-Jun



A. We mean that Jesus is the only perfect image of the Father, and shows us the nature of God

A. God is love.



### CHRIST CHURCH ONLINE DIRECTORY

We are forging ahead with plans for our Online Directory and will shortly be sending out a letter with a form for all our parishioners to complete. We want to be sure that we have your current information. We will need information for each individual family member including any children who are also a part of our Christ Church family.

So please be on the lookout for a mailing from the church. We would really appreciate receiving your information as soon as possible so that we can be ready to take photographs once we commence services in the church.

This will also be your opportunity to provide us with your own photographs. The Directory is setup by families with individual listings appearing under the family name. Therefore directory photographs should be a photograph of the church member's family listed under that family's name in the directory.

If you do not wish to be in the directory, there will be a place on the form to opt out. This directory will be easy to update as your information changes. If you have any questions, please call me at 540-207-4962.

Lydia Dudley

Examples:

Family Photo



FLOYD, Mike & Harriette



Individual Photo



FAKLER, Jack