



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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URBANNA, VA
PERMIT No. 6

June
2021



Location:

Routes 33 & 638

Christchurch,

Middlesex County, Virginia

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CCParish1666@gmail.com

Website:

christchurchmiddlesex.com

Services:

Wednesday Eucharist 9:00 AM
Sunday Services: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
The Rev. Stuart Wood, Rector
The Rev. Bob Pritchard, Ph.D.,
Priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure

Join us for our Sunday On-Line Facebook Service
<http://www.facebook.com/christchurch.parish/>

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex Monthly Newsletter for June 2021

From Our Rector



Come Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of Your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of Your love.
Send forth Your Spirit
and they shall be created.
And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, Who by the light of the Holy Spirit,
did instruct the hearts of the faithful,
grant that by the same Holy Spirit

we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations,
through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.

My, how the Church year is flying by. So far we've passed through the closing days of Christmas, then Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Ascension, and now we've just celebrated the Feast of Pentecost. But we have even more to celebrate in the coming weeks and months, and that is the COVID restrictions have been greatly relaxed and beginning on May 30th our Sundays will start feeling a lot more normal. For those who are fully vaccinated you will no longer need to wear masks inside during our worship or at meetings. We will all be able to SING once again. Social distancing is no longer required so we can fill up the church at our worship services. Wouldn't that be great to see and hear. Communion will once again be distributed at the altar rail and the offering will be taken up by the ushers. Right now, the only thing not changing is that I still have to withhold the chalice from communion. Those who wish to continue wearing masks are welcome to do so and should feel comfortable when doing so. We each know our own needs at this time.

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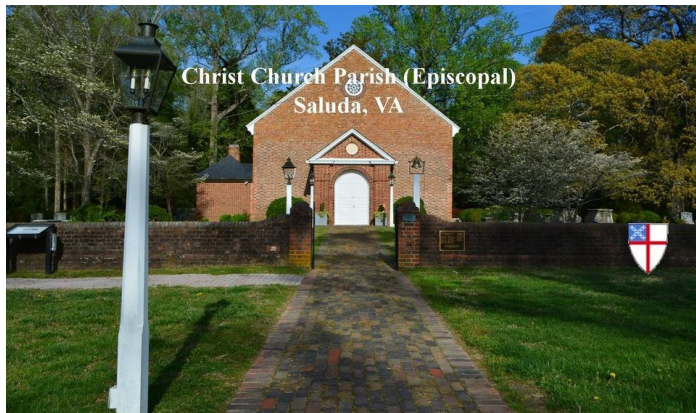
With so many things returning to normal around the church, we need to remember that it takes time and coordination to bring us back up to speed. The choir, altar guild, flower guild, acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, lectors, and ushers have been on break or reduced responsibilities for well over a year. Ephesians 4:11 – 13 says that “the gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” One of the things that we need to be really thankful for are the heads of these different ministries. They work hard to equip you, the saints, for the work of ministry here at Christ Church. We need to be thankful that we have such dedicated individuals who have taken on the responsibility of scheduling the altar guild, flower guild, ushers, lectors, acolytes, and choir. As members of these ministries, you make their jobs so much easier when you are quick to let them know of your availability to serve each month. I am thankful for the hard work that Thyra Harris has given to the ministry of hospitality as the person responsible for scheduling our ushers at each service. Thyra has decided to step down from this role and I am asking for someone to step forward to take on this important task. As ushers you are there to greet each of us as we enter the church and to offer a warm welcome to those who are visiting. This is one of the easier ministries that you can be involved in and I hope that you will consider being a part of this important ministry here at Christ Church.

God Bless,

Stuart +

Mid-week Eucharists Return

Please remember that we have once again started having our mid-week Eucharist here at Christ Church. The service is at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday mornings and will be celebrated in the chapel in the parish hall. There will **not** be a service on June 2nd, but as far as I know, the service will be celebrated on the other Wednesdays.



“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’s May meeting was mostly business as usual, that is, reviewing the church’s financial status, reports from the various church committees, and discussing the progress of new projects and programs underway. Little was discussed about COVID since all of the same restrictions and protocols remained in effect.

Then, in little more than a day, everything changed. First the State and then the Diocese reported that many of the procedures related to COVID were mostly gone. For our church this meant that we could begin to return to our regular in-person Sunday services.

I know that many of you have watched the services online, and I am so glad that we have been able to offer that option. Nonetheless, my hope is that in the coming weeks we will have many more of our church family worshiping together in person once again. I also know that I, and I suspect many of you, have also missed coffee hour and the opportunity it gave us to catch up with many of our church friends. So I think I can speak for all the Vestry when I say that we look forward to seeing the pews at our Sunday services filling up once again. God bless.

Lydia Dudley,
Senior Warden

from the Junior Warden's Workbench



Here's the latest...

Sacristy - Doors have been repaired and are in place. Thanks to Susie Loustaunau for the super paint job!

Narthex - The wainscot installation will take place very soon. The plaster/painting will follow shortly thereafter.

Church Windows - Rotten window frames will be repaired. Glazing will be done on the window behind the choir and upper Narthex windows.

Church walkways are to be grouted to channel water away.

As always contact me with any questions.

John Quilter
Junior Warden

◀ May	June 2021						July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm	2 Connecting Threads Group 1:00 pm	3 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	4	5	
6 Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	7	8 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm	9 Eucharist 9:00 am	10 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	11	12	
13 Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	14 Flag Day	15 Finance 9:30 am AA Group Noon-1:00 pm Fellowship 11:15 am Vestry 5:30 pm	16 Eucharist 9:00 am	17 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	18	19	
20 Services 8:00 am 10:30 am Father's Day	21	22 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm	23 Eucharist 9:00 am	24 Worship Com- mittee 9:00 am AA Group Noon-1:00 pm Boy Scouts 6:30 pm	25 Endowment Board 9:00 am	26	
27 Services 8:00 am 10:30 am	28	29 AA Group Noon-1:00 pm	30 Eucharist 9:00 am				



I thought I'd take some months to muse over some Christ Church history.

I don't imagine many of you have worked your way through our colonial vestry book, the oldest in Virginia. However, if you did, you might have noted that we had a minister in 1666 named Richard Morris. He had served us without issue for two years, when the vestry book simply notes that he was paid his 16,000 pounds of tobacco and dismissed. The record then says that Mr. Gabrielle Comberland was appointed to be the reader until another minister could be found. (p 9 of our colonial vestry book). So what on earth did poor Mr. Morris do that caused such an abrupt dismissal?

Minutes of a previous vestry meeting notes that Mr. Morris had asked the vestry to present him to the Governor for induction (similar to receiving tenure for professors). It was the norm in Virginia that vestries only granted their clergy yearly contracts and never presented them for induction (something now done by our Bishops). The vestry wasn't a bit interested in involving the Governor and refused Mr. Morris request. He in turn refused their offer of a continuing annual contract and was therefore, fired. This narrative was found in *Damned Souls in a Tobacco Colony* by Edward Bond.

The next note of a minister at Christ Church isn't until June of 1668 when Mr. Shepherd was hired. We paid him a half year's salary and provided the use of a horse "as long as he stays with us..." Vestries were powerful!

Grace Parker
Verger

Catechism Corner



Mission: A small corner of faith, understanding and education

Church Seasons and Observance Opportunities

The 23rd of last month brought us The Day Of Pentecost, marking the end of the Easter Season (50 Days after Easter). To remind, the seven church seasons in order are: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, and the Season after Pentecost—this long season lasts until Advent and is sometimes called Ordinary Time as we use “ordinal” or ‘counting’ (first, second,...tenth...) numbers because the weeks of Ordinary time are numbered, e.g., The Second Sunday after Pentecost.

While the seasons set the annual macro mood, within them there are five kinds of special days to provide focus and celebration: Principal Feasts, Sundays, Holy Days, Days of Special Devotion and Days of Optional Observance. So perhaps as a way to grow in our spirituality we can review our seasons and special days to find reminders to make more room for God by increasing our pace and depth of observance.

Miles Libbey

Outreach Ministry



Thanks to parishioners who document Christ Church events with their cameras, this spring our Ministry was able to assemble photo highlights of outreach activities undertaken by our church into a short entertaining video scheduled to debut on June 1 on the church's YouTube channel. Expect an email with a link that will take you directly to the video. This project has several objectives. It is intended for everyone's use to showcase some of the things we do that may attract non-members in our area, and especially younger people, who may be looking for a church home with an active service presence in the community. Other objectives are to encourage other outreach collaborations, and of course monetary or in-kind donations for our many outreach causes. Last but hardly least, we think many of you in our parish will be astonished and pleasantly surprised by the great variety and number of service and fundraising accomplishments by our small but awesome church membership. This video can be updated periodically with new activities, so we encourage all community event organizers to remember to take pictures and short video clips of your efforts and bring your best and most representative creations to our attention. We sincerely appreciate everything you do to further Christ Church Parish's outreach mission!

Many thanks to Ann de Peyster for her creative work in putting this video together.



From the Deacon's Bench

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

In the very near future, please be on the lookout for some exciting new ministries. While beginning to serve as a deacon, I have found some needs which I believe we can help with in our community.

Middlesex Social Services would like for us to have another book drive. So, we will be requesting donations of new and used books of all types. Details to follow.

And

There is a need at our area nursing homes for us to minister to their residents.

You will be hearing more about those programs so please be ready to volunteer for those important ministries.

Another very big project that we are working on is a new one for Christ Church Parish. When I began my internship in January of 2020, Fr. Stuart wanted to have a music camp for children in our community. This, of course, had to be put on hold due to COVID. Now, it looks like we will be able to make this extremely important program happen. Plans are underway and we will be letting you know details very soon. We will need many volunteers so please be willing to help make this a great success. Also, we will be inviting grandchildren of parishioners to participate if they would like to do so.

More information to come very soon!!!

Peace, Peg+



Tech Team Bulletin



As we are now able to regather for our worship services, we want to let you know where we stand on our efforts to record and livestream our services. We are very excited to report that as of now, we are livestreaming all of our 10:30 worship services to Facebook, and the recording is also being put on the church's YouTube channel. This is allowing members of our congregation who are unable to physically attend our services to still worship with us, at least virtually.

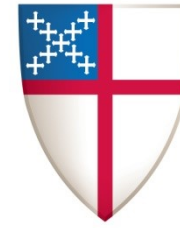
This would not have been possible without the efforts of our Technical Team (Tech Team), which is made up of Greg Grichtmeier, Ann de Peyster, Mike Floyd, Mike Gorin, Jack Fackler, and Jeff Loustaunau. All of them have put in countless hours into making livestreaming of our services a reality and something that will continue weekly, even after our services have returned to "normal".

I am sure that those of you who have been able to attend our services have noticed the two tripods with cameras, along with a table with a computer, additional monitor, and what looks like a myriad of cables. This daunting array of "technology toys" will be gradually refined to include cameras that will be wall mounted, eliminating tripods; and a workstation that will house the equipment in a back corner of the church that will be far less noticeable going forward.

One important addition is still needed for us to sustain this new avenue of worship for Christ Church Parish. And that is some additional volunteers to share the duties to actually "operate" the equipment during the service on a rotating schedule. This is not something that is difficult to do, but it will require some training to ensure we are providing a quality livestream. The Tech Team members will gladly train you on what is actually a very simple process so that you can help us by participating in this avenue of worship. We will promise you a fun and rewarding experience in learning this process. And your tech friends, children and grandchildren will be impressed with your new-found technological skills!

So please contact anyone of the Tech Team members listed above to find out more about becoming one of the "operators".

We are also seeking at least one other helper, preferably with some experience using PowerPoint, to share the responsibility of updating slides each week. If you want to get a better feeling for what this involves, take a close look at any of our past productions or stop by our workstation after any 10:30 service.



**THE BROTHERHOOD
OF
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH (EPISCOPAL)**





Worship and Pastoral Care Committee

If you know of someone who needs a little lift from a note, a card, a call or a visit, please let us know. It has happened that people would have appreciated hearing from us, but we didn't know they had some event in their lives that we could have prayed over or talked over. Our parish nurses try hard to keep the "pulse" of the parish, but they, too, need to know. Contact Father Stuart, Deacon Peg, Grace Parker, Jean Holt, Pat Anderson, Bev Hart...just let someone know!

And how much does it mean?...

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all who have sent me beautiful prayers, thoughts and cards while I was recuperating in Florida. It was wonderful to be embraced by my Christ Church family.

As my son Rob said "you know mom has been here awhile because she gets more mail than I do."

I pray that I will soon be able to attend church and thank each of you in person.

With heartfelt thanks,
Betty Evans

June



June is the sixth month of the year in the Julian and Gregorian calendars, the second of four months to have a length of 30 days, and the third of five months to have a length of less than 31 days. June contains the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, the day with the most daylight hours, and the winter solstice in the Southern Hemisphere, the day with the fewest daylight hours. June in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to December in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa. In the Northern Hemisphere, the beginning of the traditional astronomical summer is 21 June. In the Southern Hemisphere, meteorological winter begins on 1 June.

Special June Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 2 The Rev. Robert "Bob" and Barbee Phipps
- 12 Steve and Jackie Gahan
- 13 Rich and Anne Donoff
- 15 Rusty and Tonya Spears
- 19 James W. and Lydia B. Dudley
- 20 John and Susan Hilliard
- 23 David T. and Anne G. Wilcox
- 28 Bruce V. and Susan C. DeSimone
- William "Chris" and M. Roxie Jones

Birthdays

- 1 Mike Floyd
- 11 Pam McClelland
- 13 Beverly M. Barnhardt
- M. Roxie Jones
- 16 Amy H. Schacht
- 21 Sarah Geeson
- 23 Mike Moore
- Virginia "Ginny" Hartung
- 27 Howard W. Reisinger, Jr.



ARTICLES ACCEPTED!

This newsletter is for information and articles that are germane to Christ Church Parish. That being said, if you are a member of Christ Church Parish you may submit an article of interest for consideration to be published in the newsletter.

To ensure that the newsletter is published and distributed in a manner that all will receive it before the month it pertains to begins, the submission deadlines for 2021 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline</u>
July 2021	Friday June 25, 2021
August 2021	Monday July 26, 2021
September 2021	Thursday August 26, 2021
October 2021	Friday September 24, 2021
November 2021	Monday October 25, 2021
December 2021	Friday November 26, 2021

All submissions are to be emailed as a **word document** to wire-paladin@hughes.net. Pictures may also be submitted and will be used on a "space available" basis.