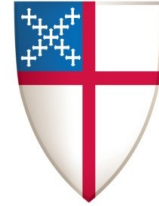




The Christ Church Parish

Messenger

April 2025



“Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”



The Lord

be with you.

From Rev. Randi Hicks Rowe, Priest in Charge

The Great Vigil of Easter is a great feast that celebrates God’s mighty acts of salvation history, culminating in the death and resurrection of Jesus. It marks the transition from dark to light that occurs as Jesus rises from the dead. Although the feast disappeared from our prayer book for several iterations (including 1928), it dates back at least as far as the 200s. Candidates for Holy Baptism who had undergone a long catechumenate were traditionally baptized at this feast, just after the crowing of the rooster.

The modern feast has four components: the Service of Light, the Ministry of the Word, the Ministry of Baptism, and the celebration of the Easter Eucharist. It begins in darkness with the lighting of the new fire, from which the Paschal Candle (the symbol of the Risen Christ) is lit. After the chanting of the Exultet, we read Scriptures from the Old Testament that show all that God has done for humanity. We then reaffirm our Baptismal vows because Baptism unites us to Christ’s death and resurrection. In Baptism, we die to sin and are raised to life. After the renewal of vows, as daylight streams into the church, we declare that Christ is Risen and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. The Eucharistic Feast foreshadows the great Messianic feast where people come from everywhere to feast in the Kingdom of God.

After the Eucharistic Feast, we will share a literal feast prepared by our Fellowship Committee to celebrate the Risen Christ. Reservations are required so that the Fellowship Committee can prepare accordingly.

The Vigil is the keystone for all other liturgies of the year. The Revs. Scott Krejci and Bob Prichard, as well as Deacon Peg and I, will participate. I invite and encourage everyone to attend the Vigil, which will begin at 5:30 a.m. on April 20. We won't have an 8 a.m. service since we will be enjoying our festive breakfast. We will have another service, with a Baptism, to celebrate the Resurrection at 10 a.m.

Randi+

TECH TEAM New Email Alert

To protect our personal emails from being hacked, we are moving to use emails for church business that will belong to the church and be “@christchurchparish.com”. Obviously, not everyone will have one, but there are key people who constantly use their email in the conduct of Church business. With the help of Greg Grichtmeier, we are starting this implementation officially on April 1st, but you can use these new emails immediately. Here are the key email addresses that we all need to start using.

When emailing our Priest-In-Charge, Rev. Randi Rowe, we should all be using:

Rector@christchurchparish.com

When emailing our Deacon, Peg Moncure, about church business, we should be using:

Deacon@christchurchparish.com

When emailing the church office, which means ViAnn Farmer, we should be using:

Office@christchurchparish.com

When dealing with financial matters handled by Tonya Spears, we should be using

Finance@christchurchparish.com

When emailing Mike Floyd about messaging the congregation, we should be using:

Communications@christchurchparish.com.

When emailing our Senior Warden, Bill Budd, about church business we should be using:

Seniorwarden@christchurchparish.com

When people want to simply contact the church, the email on our website will be:

Info@christchurchparish.com

During our transition to the above emails, we will continue to monitor ccparish@verizon.net which is the current address for the church office. And when emailing the people above on personal business, continue to use their personal emails. But it will be extremely helpful if all of us make a concerted effort to use the new emails when conducting church business. Thank you from the Tech Team!



The older we get, the more we have to pay attention to our bodies. Lately, it seems that I am spending more time at the dentist and with various doctors, dealing mostly with preventative checkups, with the occasional fix here and there. This must all be done to ensure that our bodies are functioning at peak performance and to avoid any unexpected issues. Christ Church Parish is much like our human body; it takes a lot of time and effort to ensure that our buildings and mechanical operating facilities are in good working order. Over the last few months, the Buildings and Grounds committee has been reviewing two major projects at Christ Church Parish that need attention. The first and most important project involves the roof on the old section of the Parish House. The Parish House consists of two parts: the new part to the west was constructed in 2005, the older part to the west is between 80 and 100 years old. The existing roof on the old part consists of two layers of metal with crimped seams between each panel. The top layer covers a built-in gutter system that is part of the original construction. There is an extended metal gutter system that is installed on the perimeter of the old part. This metal roof was recoated in 2012. The coating has begun to delaminate and fall away, exposing areas of rusted metal below. An additional issue that was identified is that there has been water intrusion into the Great Hall on the right side, which has caused some rotting of the flooring. This has since been repaired. The Buildings and Grounds Committee has reviewed and evaluated several solutions, including recoating the existing roof as well as relacing the roof. After considerable discussion, the Buildings and Grounds Committee reached a consensus that the existing roof be removed and replaced. The estimated total price for this project is \$80,000. To date, the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Vestry have voted to remove the old roof and replace it with a new roof. The Vestry voted on March 18 to approve this project after lengthy and serious discussion. Funding for the new roof is still being reviewed and is expected to be finalized over the next two months, with the project expected to begin in early spring 2026.

Continued on the next page

Recently, one of the four 4 Mini splits that comprise our heating and air conditioning system has failed in the Great Hall. This mini-split is approximately 20 years old and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Our Junior Warden has been working together with the Finance Committee to move forward with the installation of a new replacement unit. The Finance Committee has recommended to the Vestry that a new replacement unit be purchased, utilizing donations from the congregation to cover the estimated cost of \$8,000.00. On March 18th, the Vestry voted to approve the new Mini-split and the funding plan.

The above two projects have been reviewed and evaluated over the past few months and weeks, including the provision of detailed quotations by industry experts, which were reviewed and discussed by our own committees that included in-house engineering professionals. We plan to proceed with these two projects, starting with the Mini-split project, followed by the roof project. In the event any parishioner has questions and would like to discuss the projects please reach out to myself, Scott Holt and Henry Moncure and we will gladly discuss any questions you may have. Please reach out to Scott Holt in the event you would like to help contribute to the Mini split project, as Scott will gladly accept any contributions you may wish to give.

Faithfully,
William Budd
Senior Warden

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education continues on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays after chapel, at about 10:15. We are watching and discussing videos of the Surprising Lives of the Saints. We've certainly found some surprises!

All are welcome. No reservations are required. These are stand-alone stories, so you can come without feeling you have to catch up! Snacks are also regular surprises...

VR, Grace



From the Deacon's Bench

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Please pray about and consider ways in which you will help for Fine Arts Camp.

Helping with Fine Arts Camp June 16th – 22nd. You do not have to work every day. There are many jobs, some big and some small. Please let me know, and we will arrange a time and day that work with your schedule.

We need prizes for our campers:

Please consider how you might help.

You may ask local businesses to donate items, and we will list their names in our program on Saturday.

or

You may donate items yourself.

Small prizes for daily incentives. Examples – candy, colored markers, small stuffed animals, special pencils or pens, etc.

Larger prizes for Daily Door Prizes – We want to encourage our campers to work together, help each other, and be kind to everyone. We will distribute tickets when we see positive developments. Those tickets will be used for the drawing at the end of the day.

Bake cookies, brownies, etc. for desserts so the Kitchen Team doesn't have to worry with that while preparing meals.

Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to provide. Please let me know how you will help.

The next announcement is a special one for ALL. An awesome opportunity for EVERY-ONE!!!! **“Come and see. Go and be.” Let’s go to Shrine Mont!!!!** The Wabingston Churches (Ware, Abingdon, and Kingston) have invited us to join them for their retreat this summer.

The dates are July 25 – 27. The cost is \$195 for double occupancy or \$250 for single occupancy. This includes two nights' accommodation and six meals. The food is very good, and the scenery is wonderful. Fun times, joyous music, relaxation, and meaningful experience at the Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration, the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Shrine Mont is truly a “Mountain Top Experience and this year, they are celebrating their **100th Anniversary.**

Contact me for more information.

Peace, Peg+



SHRINE MONT

◀ March	April 2025						May ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		1 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	2 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Christian Education 10:30 am Westminster Canterbury Eucharist 11:00 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Brotherhood Lenten Dinner 5:30 pm	3 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	4 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	5 Church Clean Up 8:00 am	
6 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Brotherhood 9:00 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	7 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	8 ECW 10:30 am AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Endowment Board 5:30 pm	9 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Outreach Ministry 10:15 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm ECW Lenten Dinner 5:30 pm	10 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Family Ministry 3:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	11 Finance Committee 9:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	12 RAIN DATE Church Clean Up 8:00 am	
13 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Taizé Service 7:00 pm	14 Elephant Committee 10:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	15 Fellowship Ministry 9:30 am Tech Team 11:00 am AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Vestry 4:00 pm	16 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Christian Education 10:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	17 Holy Thursday AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	18 Good Friday Good Friday Service 12 Noon CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	19	
20 Easter Vigil Service 5:30 am Breakfast 7:30 am Holy Eucharist Service 10:00 am	21 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	22 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	23 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	24 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm ECW using Kitchen	25 ECW Luncheon, Fashion and Games Day 11:00 am—4:00 pm	26	
27 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	28 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Newsletter Submis- sion	29 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	30 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm				



March was a busy month for the Outreach Ministry. At our monthly meeting on March 12, we discussed our annual budget, which will be reviewed quarterly. The Creation Care Garden is growing. Two new raised beds have been added, and seeds have been started. Before we know it, plants will begin to appear. You will often see Scott and Allyson Holt, along with volunteers, working in the garden. If you would like to help, contact Allyson.

On Saturday, March 15th, the Ministry supported the Hartfield Volunteer Fire Department Community Breakfast in Hartfield.

Our group set up and manned a coffee bar, complete with specialty coffee flavorings and homemade biscotti. We handed out literature about our church activities. We got to greet and talk to many of our neighbors whom we either had never met or hadn't seen in a long time.

The firefighters could not have been more gracious and welcoming. We were given a demonstration of new firefighting tools that can be shared with the public upon request. We look forward to more opportunities to join community activities.



In the picture: Jeannie Alcott, Ann Padgett, Pam McClelland, and the head chef for Engine 53, Perry Mason Forrest

The long-awaited ramp has been completed for Dolly Cronk! After numerous weekends of bad weather, ten volunteers from the Mid-Tidewater Baptist Association and three of our own (Jack Fackler, Jeff Loustaunau, and Jeff McClelland) built a beautiful, sturdy wooden ramp to Dolly's front door in four hours!

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Several of our Outreach members treated the workers to a lunch donated by an anonymous congregation member. It was served and set up in the Bristow Pavilion at Tabner Park in Urbanna.



We enjoyed serving the Lenten Dinner on March 19 and look forward to handing out treats after the 10:00 a.m. Easter service.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9th, at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Come join us!

HAPPY SPRING

LENTEN SERVICES

The Book of Common Prayer: Where it came from and where it is going.



During the first five weeks of Lent, the Rev. Dr. Robert W. Prichard, our priest associate, will be offering reflections on the Book of Common Prayer (1979) following the weekly Lenten dinners on Wednesdays at 5:30 P M. In each session, Bob will look back on the 16th century editions of the Book of Common Prayer (1549, 1552, 1559) that provided the basis for a continuing prayer book tradition and reflect on the ways in which

the current prayer book edition of 1979 reshaped that tradition. Bob, who served as the secretary of the Joint Committee on Prayer Book, Liturgy, and Music at the Episcopal Church's General Conventions of 2015 and 2018, will also share his thoughts on the ways in which the prayer book is being supplemented and revised in the 21st century. Individual topics will include:

April 2. The Daily Office and the Lectionary. Prior to the Reformation, most lay persons had no exposure to the Daily Office in their local parishes, though they could witness the service by visiting monastic institutions. The first prayer book created a simplified daily office that involved two services (Morning and Evening Prayer) rather than the eight services celebrated by monks and nuns. The prayer book directed that all clergy read the services in church daily and prescribed a lectionary that directed reading of the entire Psalter each month and of most of the rest of the Bible each year. American Episcopalians changed the expectation of that frequency after the American Revolution and, for a century following the Civil War, read Morning Prayer chiefly as a Sunday service that alternated with the Eucharist. The 1979 prayer book attempted to restore the Daily Office as a weekday service, reserving Sunday for celebrations of the Eucharist. Some in the 21st century are rethinking that change in the light of declining church membership.

April 9. Confession. The vision of the editors of the first Book of Common Prayer of 1549 stepped back from the late medieval understanding of sin and repentance as a pastoral matter to be handled in private with a priest. The first prayer book followed a different path, adding confession and absolution to the regular public services of the church. They eliminated the expectation that private confession was needed for reception of the Eucharist, though they allowed for private confession as an option for those with a

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troubled conscience and those facing death. They did not, however, provide any liturgical form for it. The 1979 prayer book is the first American Prayer Book to reintroduced a set rite for private confession. In the past three decades, the Episcopal Church has offered supplemental materials intended to expand our understanding of that for which we should seek forgiveness.

Please join us for the Lenten dinner and for the education presentation that will follow.



On April 8th at 9:30 am, all ladies are invited to join in welcoming Amanda Doggett, Director of Community Engagement for Avalon, a safe haven for women. She will share information about the programs offered by Avalon that support women in crisis.

You are encouraged to visit the Avalon website at <https://avaloncenter/In-kind-Gifts> and select items from the “Daily Needs List” to bring. Examples are, but not limited to, hand soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, toilet paper, Clorox wipes, dish soap, over-the-counter medications, and school supplies.

Light refreshments will be served at the meeting.

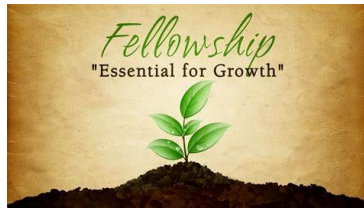
On April 9th at 5:30 pm, the ECW will be preparing the Lenten Supper. Please contact Jeannie Alcott at jalcott@comcast.net if you can help prepare and serve this meal.

We are well into planning an excellent event to celebrate Spring and a time of pure pleasure at our Fashion Show/luncheon/game day set for April 25th. We have already received an outstanding response to our initial notice, and we are expecting this to be an exceptional celebration.

Remember, if you love any game, put together a table to play. Any games are welcome, such as Mah Jong, Bridge, Canasta, Scrabble, and Dominoes. If you play it, play it here! And if you don't want to play a game in the afternoon, you'll also find the fashion show and luncheon to be a lovely time.

Judi Snider is taking the reservations...Don't miss out!

Grace and Ann



Spring Is in the Air!

No matter how you wish to define the word "Spring", there will always be a host of multifaceted descriptive words to capture this glorious time of the year and tease your senses and perspectives. Like the winds of change, the breezes are unpredictable yet welcome, often perfumed with floral scents and the scent of freshly cut grass. Lush, vibrant, color-rich, breezy, floral, green pastures, longer days, healing sunlight, bouquets of wildflowers, and EASTER, the crown jewel of the season and the Christian year, incorporate the sounds, scents, and colors of the season.

In the Christian world and, for that matter, the Western World, no other such event as the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ altered the hearts, psyche, and minds of civilization like the miracle of The Resurrection. For over 2,000 years, we have celebrated his death and resurrection, the new light and life, the unprecedented Grace, Hope, and Everlasting life.

Join us for the moving Great Easter Vigil Service on Easter morning, April 20, at 5:30 a.m. We begin the service in the dark outside and light our candles from the cauldron in front of the church. Scriptures are read, chanting reverberates, and we enter the church. At sunrise, we acknowledge the Resurrection and the Living Lord among us. The service continues with the renewal of our Baptismal vows and lessons from all the books of the New Testament. We understand, then, that all the promises and prophecies of the Old Testament have come to fruition in the New Testament.

A first-time celebratory Easter Breakfast follows in the Parish Hall. Hot quiches, coffee cakes, fruit salad, chocolate-dipped strawberries, and champagne crown the morning with warm camaraderie and the "peace that passeth understanding." Please make reservations to join us for this two-part event.


As we spring into May, the Fellowship Committee invites you to join us in the Parish Hall on May 2 for a Music Fest at 7 p.m. with Clayton Neal and his band, Jumbo Lump Daddy and the Backfin Boys, and Peyton Braband, Saxophonist. In addition to this fine musical evening, we will be serving snacks, beverages, and hot dogs and offering some exciting raffle opportunities. Come join us and bring a friend for fun and fellowship.

As the Fellowship Committee says, "We play where we pray."

Mary Lynn Landgraf and Bev Hart

Easter Flower Donation Form

Suggested donation \$25



Donation made in Memory of

Or
In Honor of

Donated by

Return this Form to the Church Office no later than April 14th.
Place it in the Alms Basin on Sundays, or Mail To
Christ Church Parish
P.O. Box 476
Saluda, VA 23149-0476

If you'd like to honor a loved one or remember someone special this Easter, please consider donating to our Easter Lily Flower Fund! A suggested donation of \$25 will help fill our church with beautiful lilies and enhance our Easter celebrations. You may complete the form below and drop it off at the church office, mail it to us, or place it in the Alms Basin during service. The deadline to remember or honor someone is Monday, April 14th. Thank you for helping us make this Easter season truly special!

Harriette Floyd, Flower Guild Chair

Special April Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 14th Ann de Peyster and Michael Kirk*
- 24th Richard and Cindy Naylor*
- 26th Homer and Ginny Hartung*
- 30th Joey and Kathryn Humphreys*

Birthdays

- 2nd Susan DeSimone*
- 8th Victoria "Tori" Bess Rollins*
- 9th Mavis Mangum*
Scott Holt
- 13th Dave South*
- 18th Harold Johnson*
- 19th Susie Loustaunau*
- 20th Homer Hartung*
- 23rd Nicole Davis*
Harwood Hall
- 24th Grace Parker*
- 25th Rick Smith*
- 27th Nigel Mc-Fall*
- 29th Sue Newman*



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WELCOMED!

This newsletter is for information and articles that are germane to Christ Church Parish. 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 2025 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline by the ...</u>
May 2025	April 28, 2025
June 2025	May 28, 2025
July 2025	June 27, 2025
August 2025	July 28, 2025
September 2025	August 27, 2025
October 2025	September 19, 2025
November 2025	October 27, 2025
December 2025	November 25, 2025
January 2026	December 29, 2025

All submissions are to be emailed as a **word document** to jeff.of.jamaica@outlook.com Pictures may also be submitted and will be used on a “space available” basis.