

Christ Church Parish

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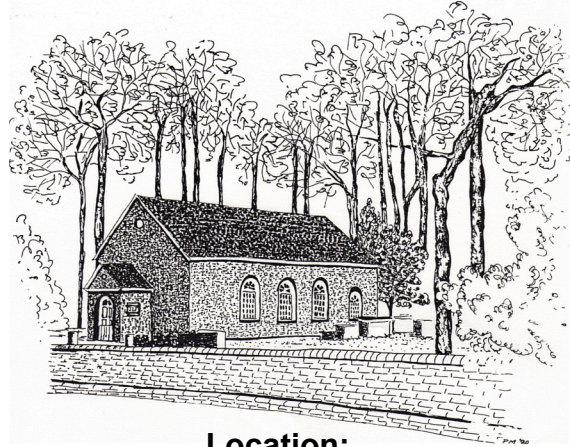
Post Office Box 476, Saluda, VA 23149



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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PERMIT No. 6

August
2024

Join us for our Sunday On-Line Facebook Service
<http://christchurchmiddlesex.thediocese.net/default.asp>



Location:

Routes 33 & 638
Christchurch,
Middlesex County, Virginia

Mailing:

PO Box 476; Saluda, Virginia 23149

Telephone:

804-758-2006

E-Mail:

CCParish1666@gmail.com

Website:

christchurchmiddlesex.com

Services:

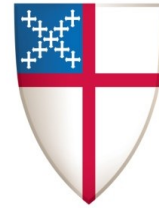
Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 AM
Sunday Services: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
The Rev. Bob Prichard, Ph.D.,
priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure



The Christ Church Parish

Messenger

August 2024



"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."



In case you have not noticed, the dreaded word "change" is upon us in Christ Church Parish. We have openly discussed change, and some have quietly discussed change, but there is no doubt about it: change has arrived.

The realization of change suddenly hit me during Father Stuart's last Sermon when I thought that I would never hear him again from the pulpit, and when I waited in line to greet him after the service, it dawned upon me that he would never be performing this simple task again at Christ Church. The Tuesday after his last Sunday, I was walking down the hall near Stuart's office, and his office was dark, no Stuart, no Icons on the wall, and a feeling came over me that this was final, and change was indeed here.

Now, let us look at the bright side of this change. We sent Father Stuart off to his long-awaited retirement in a fine fashion. His retirement party was a wonderful event, with great food and a wonderful turnout, and he left with several great gifts and a lifetime of memories. I am immensely proud of the way our church community came together to ensure that Stuart's sendoff was a first-class event complete with fine art, music, and great food, which are all of Stuart's favorite things in life. Bon Voyage and Happy Retirement, Stuart. You have earned this well-deserved retirement, and of course, we are already missing your presence at Christ Church Parish.

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I have always been told that when one door closes, another door opens. In this case, the Discernment Committee and the Vestry opened the door. Both are incredibly happy to announce that Christ Church Parish is welcoming The Reverend Randi H. Rowe as our new Rector. A few short weeks ago, the Discernment Committee brought the name of The Reverend Rowe to the Vestry as a potential candidate to become our new Parish Priest.

The Reverend Rowe comes to Christ Church from Lockport, New York, where she has been The Rector and Priest in Charge of St. John's Church in Wilson, New York, and St. Andrew's Church in Burt, New York. Reverend Rowe performed her Priest duties at both churches simultaneously.

The Reverend Rowe is a graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary with a degree of Master of Arts in Christian Education, a BS degree in Communications from Virginia Commonwealth University, and an MBA in Business from William and Mary.

Reverend Rowe and her husband, Tom, are looking forward to ministering to our congregation. Reverend Rowe and Tom have roots in Virginia, and both were born and grew up in Richmond. When Randi was a child, her family owned a beach cottage in Deltaville on the Rappahannock, where swimming, crabbing, and fishing were everyday occurrences. Randi's husband, Tom Rowe, had his first job as a reporter for the Daily Press covering the Middle Peninsula and was based in Gloucester. He went on from there to become suburban editor, which put him in charge of Middle Peninsula coverage. We are incredibly lucky and blessed to have a local Virginian come back to her roots, and we welcome her and Tom with open arms.

The Senior Warden will make a formal announcement on Sunday, July 21, at both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. Reverend Rowe is anticipated to start her official duties on September 1 at Christ Church.

Welcome Reverend Rowe and Tom to Christ Church Parish.

Faithfully,

William A Budd,
Senior Warden





Join Us in Our Journey of Faith and Stewardship

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with gratitude for the blessings and challenges that have brought us closer as a faith community. Your generous contributions have been the cornerstone of our achievements, allowing us to spread love, provide support, and make a significant impact both within our congregation and in the wider community.

This year, as we embark on our annual giving campaign titled "Sharing the Gifts We Have," we invite you to continue walking this path of generosity with us. Your continued support will enable us to reach our mission endeavors, community outreach programs, and our new priest's initiatives.

Please recall more than 77% of our annual operating revenue comes from those who pledge and give regularly. Every contribution we receive serves to sustain the breadth, health, and future of our community of faith.

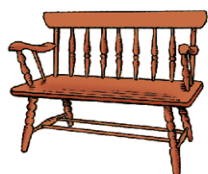
Save the Date – September 29th – Stewardship Sunday

September is the time when we begin to express our gratitude as a congregation for all God is doing in our midst and prayerfully discern our commitment to looking ahead to 2025. Please save September 29th as our Celebration and Stewardship Sunday, when we will be "Sharing The Gifts We Have" by pledging our financial support to ensure our church continues as our community of faith and provides the worship and services we have come to love.

Join us for Breakfast at 9 AM – September 29 in the Parish Hall

Until then, we ask that you prayerfully consider renewing your pledge, becoming a first-time pledger, or pledging once again as you have done in the past. Join the overwhelming generosity of the people who know themselves to be Christ Church Parish.

*With heartfelt thanks,
Stewardship Committee*



From the Deacon's Bench

O taste and see that the Lord is good; happy are those who take refuge in him. Psalm 34:8 (NRSV)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

First, I need to apologize for not submitting an article last month. Life just got a little overwhelming, and my article did not get written. It's Nothing bad; I was just busy. I am thankful that Jeff McClelland submitted some photos (taken by Ann de Peyster) with captions so that there was at least something in this section.

Those pictures were from our very successful Fine Arts Camp. Many thanks to everyone who helped. The camp was successful due to the hard work of camp staff, many volunteers, food donations, and the generous financial support of the Tan Sanders Fund. It definitely "takes a village". Thank you to everyone who helped in any way. We truly could not do this without you. This is a great way to reach out to our community, and many of our campers' parents were very complimentary and expressed their thanks.

If you have not noticed, we have added some members to our family. A hive of honeybees has moved in behind the parish hall. They will be a nice and welcome addition to our Creation Care Garden. This is just one more way we are caring for the beautiful world with which God has blessed us. Please consider volunteering to help with this very important ministry. There are jobs, both big and small, and ALL of them are important.

I also wish to thank everyone for your kind support during my recent medical issues. I have received the "Watchman," which will hopefully prevent me from having to take a blood thinner in the near future. Other issues found while preparing for this procedure are being treated, and I am getting better each day. Your words of encouragement, calls, texts, etc., are greatly appreciated. God has blessed me richly with His healing touch and a cherished Christ Church Family.

Peace, Peg+

◀ July		August 2024					September ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	2	3	
4 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	5 Elephant Committee 10:00 am	6 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm	7 Christian Education 10:15 am	8 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	9	10	
11 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	12	13 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm	14 Outreach Committee 10:15 am	15 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	16 Finance Committee 9:30 am Homecoming Committee 10:00 am	17 Choir Practice 10:00 am— 12:00 noon	
18 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	19	20 Tech Team 11:30 am AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm Vestry 1:30 pm	21 Christian Education 10:15 am Tech Day 2:00 pm— 5:00 pm	22 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	23 Newsletter Submission Deadline	24	
25 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	26	27 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm	28 Newsletters Mailed	29 AA Group 12 noon— 1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	30	31	



THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF VIRGINIA

Dear Siblings in Christ in the Diocese of Virginia,



I write to inform you that James Williams, Director of Shrine Mont Camp, has submitted his resignation to take effect at the conclusion of this summer 2024 camping season to embark on the next chapter of his career. He is currently hard at work at Shrine Mont Camp leading a staff of nearly 70 counselors, nurses, chaplains, and administrators while shepherding hundreds of campers. James has faithfully led our diocesan camping ministry since September 2022 and his last day on diocesan staff will be August 30.

James generously gifted us with significant notice of his plans which provides us the invaluable opportunity to proceed strategically as we continue to steward the mission and ministry of Shrine Mont Camps. There is too much at stake to rush this search process or neglect the essential ongoing work of planning for summer 2025. For these reasons, I'm delighted to announce I have invited a team of ministry consultants from **Ministry Architects** to partner with us as we navigate this staff transition and the ongoing work at hand. On the team from Ministry Architects is **Mary Beth Abplanalp**, a long-time lay professional in our Diocese, a former Shrine Mont board member, and good friend of Shrine Mont Camp. Mary Beth and her colleagues will work closely with an appointed search committee to facilitate the search process for the next Director of Shrine Mont Camps. They will simultaneously support program planning for summer 2025 and the development of essential operating systems for our camping program. Updates about this process will be provided via our diocesan **e-Communiqué newsletter**.

The summer 2024 Shrine Mont Camp season is already underway and will continue as planned for the remainder of the season. I just had the privilege of spending a few days on the mountain sharing joyful fellowship with our campers and camp staff, and Bishop Ted Gulick is

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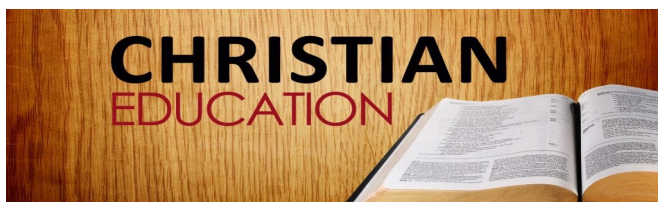
currently there serving as one of the chaplains. The Holy Spirit is undeniably present in our camps.

I am extremely grateful for James's ministry among us and ask your prayers for James, our camp staff, and our entire Shrine Mont Camp community. May God bless us all in this season of Pentecost, remembering that we are called to love Jesus, embody justice, and be disciples.

Yours in Christ,

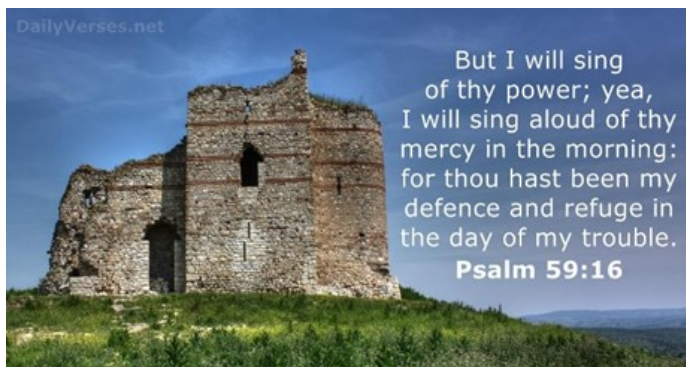


The Right Reverend E. Mark Stevenson, Bishop of Virginia



Our little band of seekers is coming close to completing our course on Lost Christianities. We've learned about books that didn't make it into the New Testament and why, who actually decided on the 27 books and what criteria they used. It has been eye-opening, often complex, and at times just hilarious! Our last lectures cover Interpretation of Scripture, Orthodox Corruption of Scripture, and Early Christian Creeds. If you're curious, join us at 10:15 on August 7 and 21st as we wrap up and discuss what we've learned. Spoiler alert...you could also look in the back of your Book of Common Prayer for some of the answers...

We've also decided that we don't want to take a summer break, so we are considering a number of topics for our continuing education. If YOU have a subject you'd like to explore with us, let me know and we'll add it to the menu. We've generally met for about an hour or sometimes 90 minutes; that isn't so much time to dedicate to understanding more about our faith, right? All are welcome all the time! The Verg



FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

Singing the Psalms

If you have ever been to a big Episcopal cathedral, you have probably heard the choir sing **Anglican Chant**. Our canticles, which are the heart of Morning and Evening Prayer, are sung to Anglican Chant notation.

Ideally, both according to Prayer Book tradition as well as the general history of Christian worship, the Psalms are most appropriately sung, not simply read aloud. They were the hymnal of the Hebrew people and should be sung whenever possible.

Over the coming year, I hope to include more sung Psalms in our services. The choir is beginning to learn Simplified Anglican Chant. On occasion, there may be a cantor singing the verses while the choir leads the congregation in a refrain. We did this at Easter and Christmas this past year. There are also hymn setting of psalm texts which provides a good way to introduce a congregation to sung psalmody. So, stay tuned for exciting new things in worship.

And on a personal note:

Thanks for all the kind wishes. My eye surgery went very well. My new cornea is better than my old one by far. The recent flare-up of what I thought was dormant MS was a mild and temporary relapse not helped by all this heat. But I am on the mend. So, thanks. It is good to be back.

Libby Boyer, organist, and choir director

The Fellowship Committee is on the Move Again

A special thanks to all the CCP parishioners who helped us stage a successful Bon Voyage fete for Father Stuart on 29 June. The unveiling of the new church sign, which was cleverly located near the church, added a special high note to the celebration. All systems were on "GO" that day, and the party hopefully made some lifetime impressions on Father Stuart.

We are in high gear again as we plan the minutia for the next two important events: The Marine Corps Run on 11 October, The Veterans Day luncheon on 11 November, and the highlight of our gift to the community is the lecture by Heath Lee, author of *The League of Wives*, on Sunday 10 November. The community is invited to attend the lecture for free. We will be in contact with schools, universities, service associations, and more.

There is a professional fee for Ms. Lee's presentations on Sunday at the lecture and Monday as the keynote speaker for the luncheon. The Fellowship Committee is shouldering the raising of funds to cover her activities here. Advance donations can be made. Contact me, please, Mary Lynn Landgraf, if you or your organization would like to donate.

We are interviewing caterers for the luncheon and securing student participation in the Color Guard, choir, and servers.

With an estimated 10 percent of Middlesex citizens having had military service ties, we are relaunching our Gallery of Heroes Video. Phase One is for CCP members/relatives (living or deceased), and Phase Two is for Middlesex residents. The applications are not the same, so let us know if you have interested parties. We can get the applications to you quickly. All the details will be in the newspaper as well.

Advent looms large, and we hope to kick in the themed dinners of Advent like we had last year.

Mary Lynn Landgraf
Bev Hart



Fine Arts Camp -- The camp was a resounding success with a total of 41 students attending! We may need to put a cap on attendance in the future. There were many volunteers, and it was a fun week for everyone.

Fr. Stuart's Retirement Party – What a special send-off!! Fellowship, the Brotherhood, and ECW, along with many other parishioners chipping in, did a fantastic job, and we wish Fr. Stuart a happy retirement and the best of luck!

Robotics Camp was also a huge success. Nine campers built and programmed robots. This effort was led by Ann de Peyster and her husband, Mike Kirk, and supported by The Middlesex Library, Moose Club, Kiwanis, and Rotary. We are looking for mentors to work with these bright middle school kids.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHOOL SUPPLIES – August



Once the supply list is available announcement will be made. This is a good way for Parishioners to be involved in a simple yet valuable Outreach project.

Continued on the next page

WINGS, WHEELS & KEELS – Sept. 28th

This fall we are looking forward to supporting the ECW's Wings, Wheels & Keels bake sale. We will once again ask for you to put on your bakers hat and provide us with baked goods!



ANNUAL HOMECOMING (Potluck Luncheon) – Noon Sunday, September 8th after a joint 10:00 am service. The Outreach Ministry, Fellowship Ministry, ECW, and Brotherhood will host the 2024 Annual Homecoming. This will now be an ANNUAL EVENT ON THE 2ND SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER EVERY YEAR! We had a phenomenally successful Homecoming in December of 2022 thanks to Grace Parker and Ann Padget. We are currently working on the guest list for September. We hope our new Rector will be able to join us!

ONE COMMUNITY UNDER GOD – October 6th

Planning is underway, and once again, Outreach has committed to providing 50 box lunches for the day. Judy Quilter is heading this effort, and Pam McClelland and Susie Loustaunau are strong proponents of Christ Church's involvement!

NEW PROJECTS

MIDDLE PENINSULA YOUNG'ISH PROFESSIONAL GROUP

The first meeting of this group was on Wed. June 12th from 6-8 pm and is headed by Lindsay Adkins. These gatherings provide a unique opportunity for these young adults to share their experiences and enjoy fellowship. It is also a great opportunity to get young people familiar with Christ Church. Several Christchurch alumni and current teachers have expressed interest in joining when they return for the next school year. Advertising has been done by creating flyers and starting a Facebook Group page. There were 9 people at this first meeting and the feedback has been very positive. The next meeting will be scheduled for the early fall.

Pam McClelland and Susie Loustaunau (co-chairs)

TECH TEAM



Mark your calendars for another Tech Day at Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) in Saluda, VA. The event will take place on Wednesday, August 21st, from 2pm to 5pm. Christ Church is sponsoring this event to benefit the Middlesex community. During Tech Day, attendees can come in with their technology-related questions. We encourage you to bring your devices.

Additionally, there will be educational sessions starting at the top and bottom of each hour, covering various technology topics. The schedule for the education sessions is as follows:

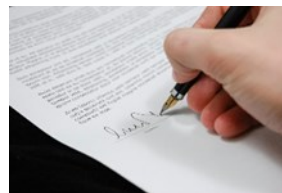
- 2:00 pm: Password Management / IOS Share
- 2:30 pm: Artificial Intelligence Demo
- 3:00 pm: End of Life Planning
- 3:30 pm: Phishing Scams / Malware / Secure Email
- 4:00 pm: QR Codes / RFID Tags

The event is organized by Greg Grichtmeier of SeektheGeek.com. He will be joined by Chris Henley from Mill Creek Geek, along with other local experts.

For any questions regarding the event, contact Christ Church Parish or Greg at 804-803-3532. You can also find more information about the event on the website www.seekthegeek.com.



CHRIST CHURCH PARISH'S ENDOWMENT BOARD



Gifts of Life Insurance Policies or Proceeds

The primary purpose of life insurance is to provide a safety net for those who depend on you financially. A life insurance policy also can allow you to leave a legacy—not just for the people you love but also for organizations and causes that are important to you. That's because a charity like Christ Church Parish can be a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.

Since life insurance provides a death benefit several times larger than the premium paid, it is a great way to boost your charitable giving.

You can donate a term life or permanent life insurance policy. Your gift of term life will need to arrive at the charity during the policy period and for a permanent policy during your life. That's because a term policy has a specific expiration date, and a permanent life insurance policy stays in force throughout your life as long as you continue to pay premiums. Plus, Christ Church Parish will also have the option of surrendering the policy for cash, if you transfer policy ownership before your death.

A big benefit of donating an insurance policy vs. cash donating, a life insurance policy is a simple way to leverage charitable giving. For the recipient, the benefit is receiving a much larger donation than they would otherwise. When you can't afford a large lump-sum payment, you can make smaller monthly or annual premium payments for a life insurance policy. Those amounts you're paying might not make a big impact, if you paid them directly to a charity. But by putting that money toward an insurance policy with a sizeable death benefit, your generosity will be multiplied.

In future newsletter entries, we will discuss how insurance may assist your charitable giving by naming the Charity as the Beneficiary of a Policy, Transferring Ownership of a Policy to a Charity, or giving Dividends from a Life Insurance Policy.

Bless you. Watch this space!

Your Christ Church Parish Endowment Board

Special August Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 3 *Bill and Sue Newman*
- 8 *John H. and Judy W. Quilter*
- 9 *Don and Ann Harris*
- 13 *Gordon E. White and Mary Anne Harris-White*
- 17 *Arthur & Evie Wilton*
- 26 *Andrew and Ellie Wilton*
- 28 *Byron and Linda Parker*
- 30 *Bill and Judi Snider*
- 31 *Chip and Mary Buxton*

Birthdays

- 1 *Jack Fackler*
- 2 *Anne G. Wilcox*
Elizabeth "Betsy" Evans
Henry Moncure
Jean Hill
- 5 *Merri Hanson*
- 6 *Vernon W. Norris, Jr.*
- 11 *Linda Irwin*
- 12 *Virginia Dare Bishop*
Kelly Pollok
- 13 *Ginger Hellems*
- 18 *Barbara Cockrell*
- 20 *John Hilliard*
- 21 *Roseanne Moncure*
- 22 *Clayton Neal*
- 23 *Jack Hellems*
- 25 *Jane Bunnell*
- 27 *James M. "Jamie" Barnhardt*
- 29 *Steve Gahan*
- 30 *Andrew Wilton*



CHRISTIAN CELEBRATIONS IN AUGUST



Lammas (also known as Lughnasadh) falls on **August 1**. It marks the beginning of the harvest season and is associated with the first grain harvest and bread baking.

Transfiguration is observed on **August 6**, this feast commemorates the event when Jesus revealed His divine glory to Peter, James, and John on Mount Tabor.

The Assumption of Mary is celebrated on **August 15**. This holy day commemorates the belief that after the Virgin Mary died, her body ascended into Heaven where she was reunited with Jesus Christ.

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 2024 are:

Month Published

September

October

November

December

January 2025

Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:

August 23, 2024

September 18, 2024

October 25, 2024

November 15, 2024

December 23, 2024

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.