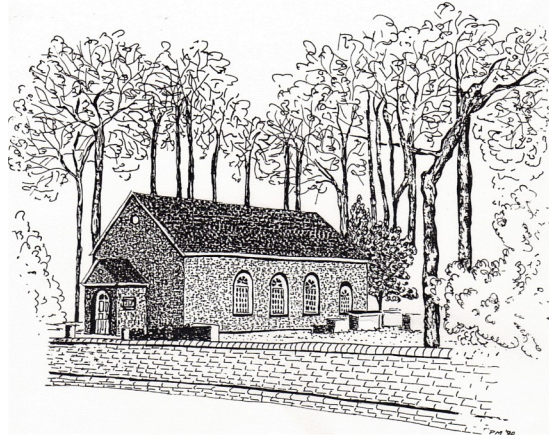




JULY
2020

Join us for Sunday On-Line Facebook Service



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 Clary Wood, Rector

¹² The Rev. Dr. Bob Pritchard, Priest Associate

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex

Monthly Newsletter for July of 2020

July Newsletter 2020



As we approach the 4th of July weekend, I am painfully aware that it has been fifteen weeks since we have been able to worship together in person with each other. I am aware that this is the longest time since I started receiving communion as a child that I have not received communion. The few times that I have celebrated, the host has been reserved for the future and the wine has been returned to the earth. We are all in this together and what you miss doing, I miss doing as well. I am grateful to know that some of you are viewing the services that are being recorded in the church and in parishioners' homes.

So much has happened over these weeks that have caused me to ask myself some hard questions and do some real soul searching. Several weeks ago there was a march in Saluda on Sunday that began at noon at the high school and walked peacefully to the old Court House. I had never participated in anything like that in my life, but I felt a need to experience it and participate. At first, I was only going to the Court House and wait, but then I said to myself that if I was going to experience it then I needed to walk as well. After arriving at the Court House, I found that some others from Christ Church had also participated. Masks, hats, and sunglasses made it difficult to recognize others, so there may have been more. I think that, like the Pharisees of old, I do not always hear, see, or understand the needs of others. The talks that day were respectful, educational and enlightening. I know that we can't rewrite history; facts are facts, but sometimes we do not include all of our history or we gloss over it. Acknowledging our past, both the good and the bad, help us realize not only where our ancestors excelled but also where they fell short. It also helps us to understand why others may see us differently than we see ourselves and vice versa. Right now, we are living in a stressful time due to many different factors, some of which are the pandemic, politics, socioeconomics, and racial equality. Many of these are divisive issues, but only if we make them so. (Continued on page 2)

(Fr. Stuart continued from page 1)

One thing that I can say has grown out of this for me is a need to listen to what others are saying, to share my thoughts and to develop a dialogue which is built around trust, compromise, and sometimes just agreeing to disagree. In doing this I am striving to live into the baptismal promises that I reaffirm several times a year by respecting the dignity of every human being.

Hopefully, this may be a conversation that we can all participate in someday. But until then, may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Faithfully, Fr. Stuart



“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.”

Preparations are being made for a partial reopening of in-person services. We will announce the date in advance.

Rest assured that all measures will be taken to ensure the safety of all who attend and/or assist with the service. If you are considered “at-risk”, not feeling well, or if you exhibit any signs of COVID-19, please do not attend. We will continue to provide online services for those who choose to stay safely at home.

This service will be a small step on the way back to the services we all love and miss so much. This is temporary. There will be no singing, no distribution of Communion elements, no touching, no fellowship before or after worship. Many of you will feel disappointed in these limitations. We may choose to participate in online services until we get back to closer to “normal”. All these restrictions are to protect you and every other member of our congregation.

(Continued as Senior on page 3)

(Continued from page 2 as Pam)

Some of the other procedures, as set forth by our Bishop, to expect during this phase are:

Physical distancing (6 feet) is required at all times

Wearing of face masks is required of everyone

Handouts will be provided in place of prayer books and hymnals; these will be disposed of in a receptacle when leaving the church. If you have a prayer book, feel free to bring it and then take it home.

There will be no collection plates passed. A plate will be placed near the entrance of the church.

A hand sanitizing station will be placed near the entrance. Please use this before entering.

A Vestry member will direct you to your seat(s), starting from the front of the church. Please remain in this seat during the service. Upon conclusion of the service, you will be dismissed from the back by a Vestry member. Please exit the building and return to your car. Remember, social distancing will be observed at all times (coming into the church, during the service, and leaving the church). This is to ensure the safety of all.

Very careful sanitation procedures will be followed before and after the service. For this reason, there will be only one service, beginning at 9 AM. After the service, it will be available online for all.

As seating will be extremely limited, we will be requiring reservations in advance for those who would like to come. We will announce these reservation procedures as soon as we know the official start date.

Rest assured that Fr. Stuart and your Vestry are very carefully planning this first phase of reopening. We share your feelings that this period may not “feel like church”. Remember that this is the first step in returning to normalcy. Everyone’s cooperation with these guidelines is greatly appreciated and needed. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Faithfully in Christ,

Pam McClelland, Senior Warden

Junior Warden Input

Jeff Loustaunau, Junior Warden

As I have already mentioned in an update, the Great Room Project, which commenced on April 1st, is now complete! Many of you have offered very positive comments about the room and all of those are greatly appreciated. We have made many improvements to the room in addition to replacing the floor throughout most of the room, and they are all pretty obvious. One improvement that is not all that obvious is the acoustic tiles down the center ceiling area. This has made a difference in the sound quality in the room.

Thanks certainly need to go out to several folks that helped out through various phases of the project. These include Tom Clarke, Bob Guillotte, John Quilter, and Peg's husband, Henry Moncure. They all have some sweat equity in the room. But I felt the entire Parish supported the project, both financially and with positive attitudes. All along, everyone made me feel that this was a tremendous team effort. So, we all owe each other a big **THANK YOU!!!**

The date for completing the kitchen floor is July 17th. I will keep you all posted if there is a change. That will be the final step for the project. Once this is accomplished, I will report to you how the financial picture looks. I can tell you that yes, we did exceed my estimates, but still fell within the donated funds. The additional costs came from unforeseen issues that required work, such as the straightening of the ceiling beams, and the repairing of the floor near the restrooms and in the vestibule to the right of the stage.



It is also important to point out that this entire project took the efforts of nine local contractors, all of who did quality work and adjusted their schedules so that our project could be completed on time. The contractors involved were the following and I would recommend every one of them.

Percy Douglas - Completed the floor demolition and reconstruction
Armundo Juarez of Crossroads Interiors - Completed the plaster repairs
Roger Hubbard - Completed the painting of the entire room
Mike Longest - Straightened the beams in the ceiling
Chris Brown of FiberTec Insulation - Installed the dropped ceiling
Birdseed Electric - Installed the new LED lights
Ryman's HVAC - Renovated the ductwork beneath the new floor
Michael Johnson - Rewired the receptacles beneath the floor
Mill End Carpet - Refinished the stage floor and carpeted the room. Will also be completing the kitchen floor

All that remains to do, once the COVID-19 restrictions permit us, is to utilize the room to its fullest potential for both Fellowship and Outreach.

Another project that needs mentioning is that Tom and Cathy Clarke have installed a new hal-yard and hardware on our flagpole.

Hopefully, we can all get together soon! Stay Well!

From Your Editor

I know, I know—you've already seen these pics sent to you by our internet wizard, Mike Floyd, but I just can't resist including them here, particularly after Jeff's Junior Warden report.

As you would expect, Jeff didn't mention all the incredibly hard work he voluntarily put in. I am sure he wasn't counting on this project when he took the JW job! There are nine contractors listed in Jeff's report—what he didn't say was how many he had to meet and interview before anything happened. He also didn't tell you how many times he had to be at the Great Hall to make sure things were running smoothly and as promised by the contractors. He also didn't mention the "Finish Carpenter Crew" which include Jeff, Tom Clarke, John Quilter and Bob Guillotte. A talented bunch with some great tools to get the job done! Granted, he did mention them in other regards.

Jeff is my hero and he should
be yours too!





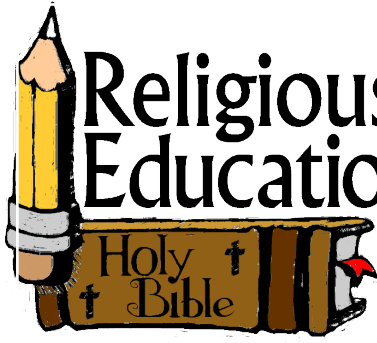
This is reprinted from last month but we want to make sure that everyone who wants to can participate in Fr. Stuart's Facebook Sunday Service.

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 Web Site 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.
- The website menu is on the left side of the page under HOME. 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 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? Pyjamas are perfectly acceptable.!



Religious Education

Catechism Corner

This catechism extract from the BCP (p.844) is meant only to be a point of departure for learning. Test your knowledge by comparing your answers with the book's, later in the newsletter on page 8.

Q. What do we mean when we say that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became incarnate from the Virgin Mary?

From the Verger

Thinking of our way ahead—for Lectors and Altar Servers

It has certainly been a quiet few months for those of us in the Guild, used to serving at the altar and sharing scripture with our fellow congregants in the pews. It seemed that the world stopped in March. The March schedule still hangs in the sacristy, rather like a clock that shows the exact time of an earthquake. There are similarities. On Easter Sunday, as we prepared to record the service in the church, I had to do something I hope NEVER to do again...I had to lock the door so no one would come in! It was not what the verger wants to do in a welcoming ministry.

The iceberg (to mix meteorological metaphors) is beginning to thaw a bit, but it's going to be messy. On page 3 of this newsletter, the Senior Warden lays out the plan for resuming in-person services in our beautiful church. Please read this with as open a mind as possible, looking for the positive rather than what we're going to be missing.

For the servers' Guild, I expect to resume monthly scheduling in August. Assuming we are still going, to begin with, a single service each Sunday, there will be fewer lectors and acolyte/crucifers and lectors serving and no Eucharistic ministers. So, those of you who feel uncomfortable returning to church, do not fret. We will be enough. But I will provide more information as we come closer to having these services. Finally, we thank Miller Smither and Steve Richardson who are retiring from the Guild. We will miss them, and thank them for their service.

Stay well. Very Respectfully, Grace Parker, Verger

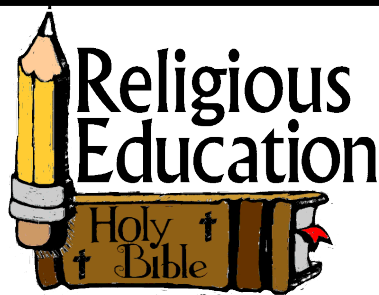


Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex Monthly Newsletter

Your editor intrudes once again, but this time it is to let you know that he is **retiring as your faithful servant editor**. It has been a very rewarding ministry, fun as well as challenging at times.

The Newsletter is produced on a Church-owned laptop computer and is done on Microsoft Publisher software. If you are interested but don't know Publisher, Mike Floyd, Tanya and I are all proficient & are ready willing & able to help you learn. I typically set a schedule with deadlines. I write it on Monday, let it marinate overnight then check it over Tuesday morning and send a copy to Mike Floyd to post on the website. I then go to the office Tuesday afternoon to print it which take a couple of hours. Virginia Miller and a crew of helpers come in Wednesday to fold and stick on address labels so they can go out on Wednesday afternoon. Please call 804-832-3849 or email rockfish.robin@gmail.com to volunteer or ask questions!

P.S. BTW, NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS JULY 25th!



Catechism Corner answers:

Q. What do we mean when we say that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became incarnate from the Virgin Mary?

A. We mean that by God's own act, his divine Son received our human nature from the Virgin Mary, his mother.

The 1666 Society and New Endowment Fund Board Members

Your Endowment Fund Board has continued to work toward building the Fund to the \$250,000 threshold which is the minimum level required before we can disburse funds for needs identified by the vestry. We are not there yet, but we have received many generous donations in the last few months, generally from those who were already members of The 1666 Society. New leaves will be sprouting on our Legacy Tree also as we have several new members of the Society. We are very encouraged by both the continuing support of existing members and the addition of new ones.

Many of our plans were put on hold during the March-June isolation. Hand over of materials and plans to new Board members was delayed and outgoing Board members Robin Wells and Grace Parker, lame ducks both, continued to maintain records and add to the Legacy Tree. By the time you read this, the transfer of information will have occurred. We welcome Dave Wilcox and Bill Budd to 3-year terms on the Board. Continuing members Page Wittkamp and Phil Brown and Vestry representative Lydia Dudley provide great expertise and dedication. We thank them all.

Our church has gone through much worse than this pause in our normal rhythm. The Endowment Fund is testimony to our trust that Christ Church will not only survive but flourish. We have Pride in our Past and Faith in our Future. Thank you for sharing that vision.

Grace Parker, lame-duck Chair, Endowment Fund Board



July Newsletter Altar Guild Article

"Our Altar Window"

There are very few Sundays when someone does not say how beautiful our altar window is. This drawing from Gordon White's book "Christ Church Parish Middlesex, Virginia 1666-2016" shows the altar window as specified by the Vestry on April 7, 1712. Note that the window was visible from the nave of the church, though there was an openwork "commendable screen" separating the nave from the chancel.

When the church was rebuilt in the early 1840s the window was walled off from the nave and space made there for a sacristy, or robing room. As sad as it is to contemplate now, our beautiful window was invisible to the congregation for almost 90 years, until 1931, when the present Sacristy was built on the north side of Christ Church and the dividing wall inside the church removed.

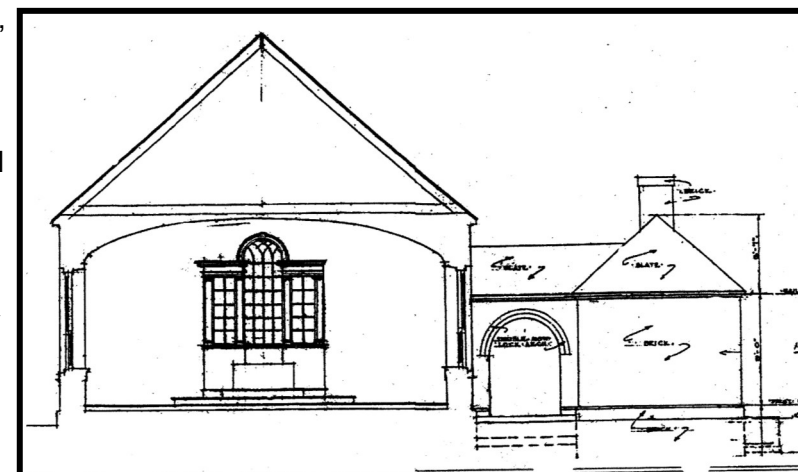
The work was done with \$4,500 (\$72,000 in 2020 dollars) raised through special donations. Architects Baskervill and Lambert, of Richmond, had planned for the window to be opened to its full 1714 width, but that was not done.

After church one Sunday, walk behind the church and view the brick pattern and shadows that are the site of the original larger window.

References: Drawing was done by Baskervill & Lambert and comes from our Vestry records.

Blessings & Prayers to all!

Marilyn South—AG Chair



The architects drew plans that envisioned tearing out the wall that divided the east end of the church into a sacristy and moving the sacristy to a small brick structure on the north side. They planned that the east window would be enlarged, returning it to its original width.



John Hawkins & Page Wittkamp	1-Jul
Joe & Laura Jones	5-Jul
Butch & Theresa Liverman	22-Jul
Jack & Ginger Hellems	23-Jul
Roland & Pat Anderson	24-Jul

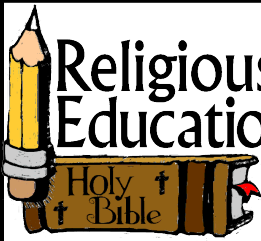


Kathy Clarke	2-Jul
Don Stebbins	2-Jul
Vivian Milby	2-Jul
Phil Brown	7-Jul
Jeff Loustaunau	9-Jul
Sally Austin	10-Jul
Jeff Shaw	10-Jul
Chris Jones	11-Jul
Brenda Brizendine	12-Jul
Justin Wilton	12-Jul
Evelyn Turner	14-Jul
Judy Quilter	15-Jul
Jeanette Adkins	20-Jul
Roland Anderson	22-Jul
Cindy Naylor	23-Jul
Harriette Floyd	25-Jul
John Quilter	25-Jul
Peg Moncure	26-Jul
Michael Kirk	27-Jul
Marcia Prichard	28-Jul
Chip Buxton	30-Jul
Evie Wilton	30-Jul

My good friend Scott Krejci & I decided that with all that's going on around us, what we need is a little humor to get us through it all. So here goes—if you don't like them, if you don't think it's as funny as we do or if you're offended, we sincerely apologize !

Church Ladies With Typewriters

They'll be Back shortly! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank Goodness for the church ladies with typewriters These utterances actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:
The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.
(Continued on page 11)



Catechism Corner answers:
Q. What do we mean when we say that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and became incarnate from the Virgin Mary?
A. We mean that by God's own act, his divine Son received our human nature from the Virgin Mary, his mother.
Q. Why did he take our human nature?
A. The divine Son became human, so that in him human beings might be adopted as children of God, and be made heirs of God's kingdom.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days. (You may substitute any names you'd like!)
AT THE EVENING SERVICE TONIGHT, THE SERMON TOPIC WILL BE 'WHAT IS HELL?' COME EARLY AND LISTEN TO OUR CHOIR PRACTICE.
Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.
*The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility. **Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.***
This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
Low Self Esteem
Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM . Please use the back door.
Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
And this one just about sums them all up:

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."