

Christ Church Parish

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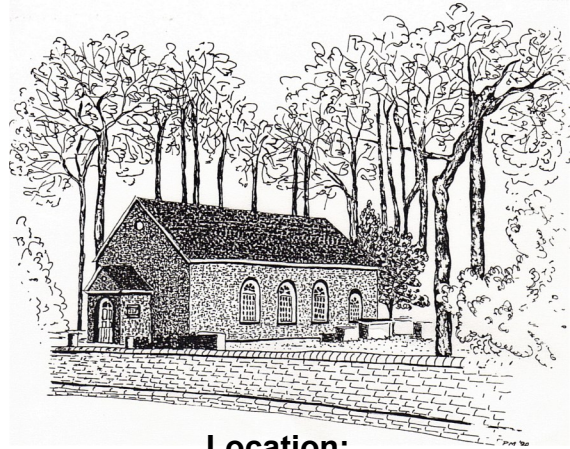
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July
2024

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:

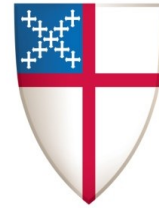
Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 AM
Sunday Services: 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM
The Rev. Bob Prichard, Ph.D.,
priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure



The Christ Church Parish

Messenger

July 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.”

Message From Our priest Associate

Who chooses the rector of an Episcopal Church?



When a beloved clergyperson retires or moves to another position, churches need to choose a replacement. They do not all do that in the same way. In the case of a Baptist Church, the congregation elects a successor. In the case of the Roman Catholic Church, it is the bishop who selects the next clergyperson. In the Episcopal Church in the United States, it is the vestry that makes the choice.

That is not the case in most other churches in the Anglican Communion (the worldwide fellowship of churches, of which the Episcopal Church is a part) and was not always the case with the Episcopal Church. Interestingly, the idea that it was up to the vestry to call a clergyperson began in Virginia in the middle of the 17th century--about the time that Christ Church was created as a parish. For the colonial period, only Virginia vestries claimed that right of appointment; it would be after the American Revolution that the practice spread to other parts of the country.

The old pattern in the Church of England—dating to before the Reformation of the 16th century—was that the founder of a church retained the right to choose its clergyperson. The bishop would then confirm that choice by issuing a letter of institution giving the candidate tenure (life rights to holding the position). The practice was old enough that the English retain a Middle English word for the exercise of this right of appointment—the advowson.

The founder's descendants were known as patrons. Often it was a local family, but it could also be a bishop or noble, or institution such as a university or a larger parish. This system survives to this day in England, though early in this century English canon law was changed to allow some voice to the parish council (as vestries in the Church of England have been called since the 1920s)

The Virginia Company (also called the London Company) claimed the right of patronage for the first clergy to serve in the Virginia colony. The company would investigate the background of interested candidates and then ask them to preach a sample sermon at the London office of the company.

This system broke down in the 1620s. King James I dissolved the Virginia Company in 1624 and made it a royal colony. His son Charles I, who acceded to the throne on death of James in the following year, could logically have exercised the right of appointment for clergy in Virginia, as a result of the colony's new royal status. He did not, however. He was apparently more interested in finding ways to tax the colony than in tending to its spiritual health. The result was confusion throughout the colonial period about who actually had the right to appoint clergy.

Over the years at least three different answers were given to this problem: some colonial governors began to act as patrons (the solution that would become the rule in Maryland), the leadership of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG), which paid the salaries for many clergy outside of Virginia (particularly in New England) presumed it had the right to choose the clergy for whom it provided funds. Virginia vestries gained the undisputed right to choose clergy in the middle of the 17th century, when the English Civil War (1642-51) and Interregnum (1649-60) led to confusion about the authority of governors and English bishops over the colonial churches and a power vacuum in regard to church authority.

At the Revolution the members of the colonial Church of England, who renamed themselves the Protestant Episcopal Church, adopted the Virginia pattern of clergy selection. It remains in place to this day, though with some variations. In 1789, the General Convention adopted a canon requiring the vestry to notify the Bishop when a rector was elected. The General Convention of 1904 added a provision allowing the Bishop up to 30 days in which to respond to the election. In the 1970s a newly created

Continued on the next page

Clergy Deployment Office began to ask vestries to set up search committees to interview potential candidates, but the right to act on such recommendations remained with the vestry.

In the case of congregations in the United States that receive financial aid from the diocese, the assumption made is that the Bishop is the rector of the parish and has the right to name an assisting clergy person, called a vicar in the United States. Even in such cases, however, the Bishop routinely consults the lay leadership of the mission.

In choosing a new rector, the vestry of Christ Church, has exercised an historic right that originated in colonial Virginia and is still not enjoyed by most parishes in the Anglican Communion.

Bob Prichard, Priest Associate





The last few weeks have been busy with many ministry meetings, the preparation of the Trash and Treasures event, and, of course, the anticipated retirement gathering for Father Stuart. The planning, the organizing, and the Trash and Treasures event turned out to be wildly successful. It was reported to me that the event was, as usual, a tremendous hit, and there were many treasures to be found. I was the recipient of several of these treasures and was grateful for the great deals I found. People came from everywhere to scout out the deals and were not disappointed. Thank you, Grace Parker and team, for a wonderful event. We cannot wait for the next one after you all take a breather and relax.

Ann DePeyster has been working frantically to prepare for Robotics Camp, and we know it will be a remarkable success. As I understand it, the event will be held later in June, and a number of students have already expressed interest in attending.

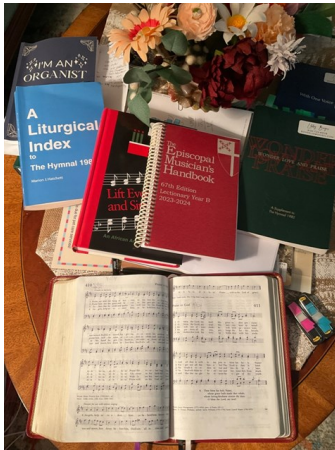
Finally, I personally am sad to see Father Stuart retire. However, I know he is ready to explore new avenues, have a few adventures, and relax. I have had the pleasure of getting to know Father Stuart over the last few months and can truthfully say that I have enjoyed every minute of working beside him as Senior Warden. Father Stuart and I had some serious discussions and a few laughs along the way. I will miss him tremendously as he has taught me some valuable lessons in humanity, given me a better understanding of the Episcopal Church, and made me realize that there are things that I can do to be a better person. It is a sad and joyous time for Father Stuart and the many members of our congregation who love and respect this man. As they say, the only thing you can be sure of is change, and yes, we are about to experience several changes in our church. However, I have no doubt in my mind that Father Stuart will leave here a loved and respected person and a person who has guided all of us with love, great vision, and friendship. God Bless you, Father Stuart. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement! Please stay tuned for the next chapter of Christ Church, as I understand the Discernment Team is working hard and may have a major announcement soon.

Faithfully,
William A Budd
Senior Warden

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



Many thanks to all who donated or volunteered to work at our recent Trash and Treasure Sale. We had a Parish Hall full of donations and made approximately \$2,125 which will help various community organizations in our area.



FROM THE ORGAN BENCH

The Mystery of Those Music Titles

If you are in church on July 7, you may notice the Opening Voluntary is titled Westminster Abbey. Yes, it is named after the famous royal chapel in London, but not for the reason you might think. The composer was not enamored of the great building but of the hymn tune named after the place.

A hymn tune is the title given to the music used with a hymn. Most hymns have texts by one person and music by another. If you look at 518 Christ is Made the Sure Foundation in the hymnal and go to the bottom of the page, you will find the authorship info for both text and tune. Notice the tune is called Westminster Abbey and is by Henry Purcell. Most hymn tunes have a connection with the composer, and many are place names. Purcell was an organist at the Abbey during his brief thirty-six years. The mystery of the naming is solved!

Another example is the communion music that day, titled Dunedin, based on the sequence hymn tune. It was named after the place in New Zealand where the composer lived.

A hymn may often be sung to a number of different tunes. A great example is the beloved Christmas carol, O Little Town of Bethlehem. We get two versions of the hymnal. Number 78 is the hymn tune Forest Green, best known from the King's College Lessons and Carols service on Christmas Eve. The next page, #79, is the tune most familiar to Americans. It is called St Louis and was composed in 1894 by a Philadelphia real estate agent and part-time organist, Lewis Redner. He wrote this after the children of the congregation made a trip to Bethlehem - Pennsylvania, not the Holy Land. Something I know you will now think about Christmas Eve!

Libby Boyer

Organist, Choir Director, Keeper of Trivia

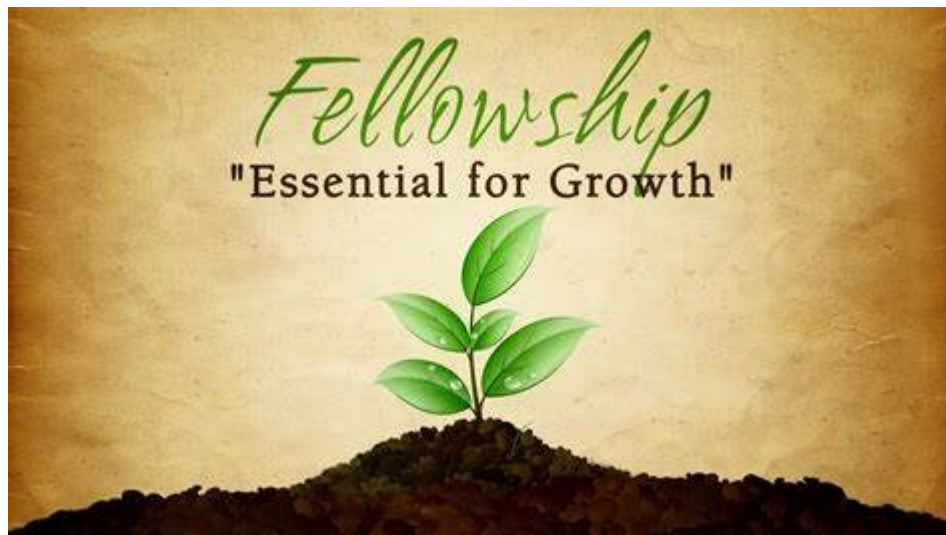


Members of the Outreach Ministry were involved with the Fine Arts Camp, the Robotics Camp, and Fr. Stuart's Retirement Party. June was a very busy month! We join all Church members in wishing Fr. Stuart a well-deserved retirement. One of his main goals when he joined Christ Church Parish was to increase our outreach to the community. We certainly have done that and plan to continue these efforts. In the fall, we look forward to being involved with "Wings, Wheels, and Keels" (September 28) and "One Community Under God" (October 6), among many things.

We will participate in our new Annual Homecoming, which will be held on Sunday, September 8, at noon, following the 10:30 a.m. **service. Mark your calendars for this annual event!**

Other members of our Ministry are Jeannette Adkins, Kathy Clarke, Tom Clarke, Ann de Peyster, De Lois Greenwood, Peg Moncure, Clayton Neal, and Judy Quilter. Let us know if you would like to join us!

Susie Loustau and Pam McClelland (co-chairs)



My Mother always said life is a series of hellos and goodbyes.

We have witnessed the end of Father Stuart's time with us as our priest, spiritual leader, and friend. We wish him the best in his travels and new adventures in life. Now, we look to the future with excitement and anticipation of our new priest and friendship. The future promises important things to come.

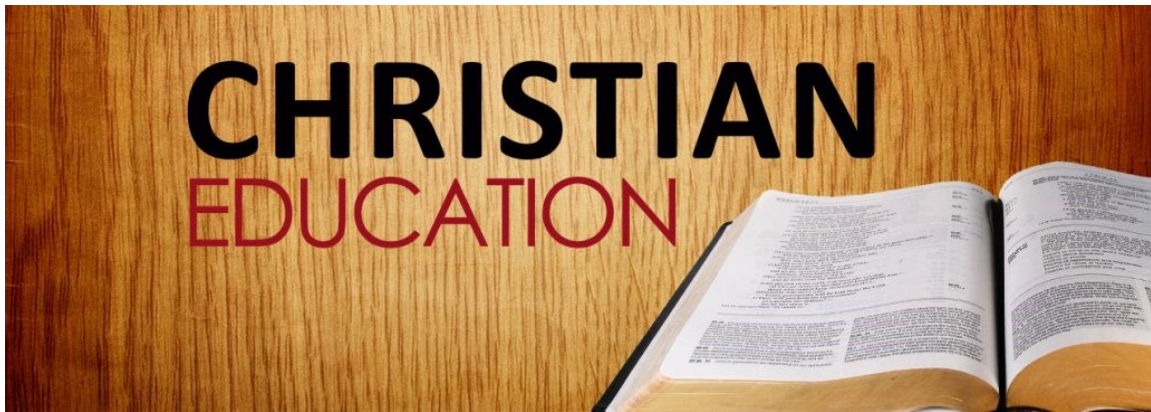
With Father Stuart's fete completed, attention is focused on the upcoming Veterans Day celebrations, which will feature guest speaker Heath Lee, author of *The League of Wives*. A catered Veteran's Day dinner and program are planned.

The Marine Corps run to Christ Church at the end of October is scheduled. Soon after, Advent dinners begin.

Be on the lookout for our marketing efforts to generate community-wide interest in the Veterans Day events and fundraising.

Bon Voyage to Father Stuart and Godspeed.

The Fellowship Committee
Mary Lynn Landgraf



Lessons (video) and discussions are normally on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 10:15 a.m. in the Parish Fellowship Hall. The Remaining 2024 Schedule is as follows.

- Jul 3 Forgeries in the Name of Paul
The Epistle of Barnabas
- 17 The Apocalypse of Peter
Formation of the New Testament Canon
- Aug 7 Interpretation of Scripture
Orthodox Corruption of Scripture
- 21 Early Christian Creeds



October 1775 the Pine Tree Flag with the motto, "An Appeal to Heaven," indicating that the New England Colonial Patriots were hearty—the pine tree, their cause was pure—the white, and their cause was justified by a higher power than King George was created. It flew over the ships that Gen. George Washington purchased with his personal money to found the Colonial Navy. It was named "The Washington Cruisers Flag" and was an early forerunner to Old Glory...

Long may Old Glory wave. Dear God, long may it wave!



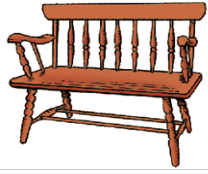
I've been thinking about change often lately. Perhaps that's not surprising, given the changes we see before us here in our Christ Church home with Father Stuart's retirement; that is a big change in our lives. In every aspect of our lives, though, we experience change. Some take to that most eagerly; others resist even small changes. Which are you? Do you look forward to the unknown in your future, or do you wish everything would stay the same?

Some changes are most unwelcome...for example, a medical emergency that leaves one with a bleaker future than ever imagined. Other changes seem to usher in opportunities. As one who has moved 39 times, most often to places where I knew no one, I am not afraid of change. I do know, however, that change works best when we've done some planning. Insurance, estate plans and communications with your family are all prudent steps that facilitate smooth changes.

Your church has done prudent planning for this transition. We hope the changes we will inevitably experience will please you and even if they don't, we hope you will give them a chance and you may find delight in new ways. For change will come.

Grace Parker
Verger





From the Deacon's Bench

Fellow Parishioners,

Our 4th Annual Fine Arts Camp has come to fruition. I want to thank the numerous people that contributed to its success. Without you it would not have been a success. A picture is worth a thousand words and owing to the artistry of Ann DePeyster, here are a few.



Graduating Ceremony



Service practice.

Continued on the next page



Father (Professor) Stuart



Peg's Chior



What it is all about!

Special July Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 1 Page Wittkamp & John W. Hawkins*
- 5 Joe and Laura Jones*
- 9 Jack & Ginger Hellems*
- 22 Greg & Tori Rollins*
- 24 Roland & Pat Anderson*

Birthdays

- 2 Kathy Clarke*
- 3 Beth Woolford*
- 7 Phil Brown*
- 9 Jeff Loustaunau*
- 10 Jeffrey "Jeff" Shaw*
Sally Austin
- 11 William "Chris" Jones*
- 12 Brenda Brizendine*
Justin Wilton
Ken Alcott
Bob Lamb
- 15 Judy W. Quilter*
- 20 Jeannette Adkins*
- 22 Roland Anderson*
- 23 Cindy Naylor*
- 25 Harriette Floyd*
- 25 John H. Quilter*
- 26 Peg Moncure*
- 27 Michael Kirk*
- 28 Marcia J. Prichard*
- 30 Joseph T. "Chip" Buxton*
Evie Wilton
Lisa Booth





Rosslyn Chapel in Scotland was originally built as a Collegiate Chapel in the 15th century but was never completed. The exclusive remit of its monks was to pray in perpetuity for the souls of the builder and benefactor Sir William St Clair, Prince of Orkney, and his family. Sacked during the Reformation, the building fell into disuse and disrepair until, in 1862, it was re-consecrated under the auspices of the Scottish Episcopal Church as St. Matthews and remains active today. The chapel is held in the greatest respect by the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar U. S. A.

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 Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:

August	July 16, 2024 NEW DATE
September	August 23, 2024
October	September 20, 2024
November	October 25, 2024
December	November 15, 2024
January 2025	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.