

# Christ Church Parish

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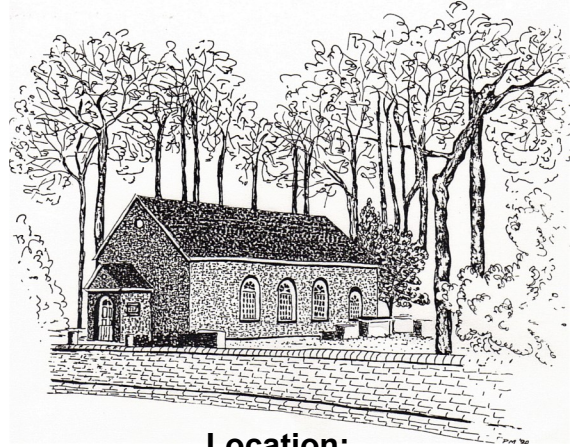
Post Office Box 476, Saluda, VA 23149



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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PERMIT No. 6

June  
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. Stuart Wood, Rector  
The Rev. Bob Prichard, Ph.D.,  
Priest Associate  
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure

# *Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex*



## *Monthly Newsletter June 2024*

### **Message From Our Rector**



# **Thank You**



Created by Rev. Stuart C. Wood

### Coming Home

Jane Bunnell and I just returned from a long-planned and highly anticipated trip through northern Spain and Portugal. It was all that we had hoped. We drove over 2600 miles, quite a bit of which was in challenging, tight spaces with cobblestone streets. We saw towering gothic cathedrals and charming medieval villages. We watched pilgrims arrive at the end of the Camino de Santiago with great celebration.

And then we came home. Home is a warm hug at the end of the day.

Coming home also means coming home to Christ Church. A country church so different from the grand European cathedrals, it too feels like a warm hug. For several years now, part of that warm hug was reconnecting with Father Stuart Wood. Soon, that will feel different as Father Stuart retires and moves on to his own new adventures. We will adjust, but we will miss him and we send him on with our love and wishes for an exciting and fulfilling new chapter. As the Irish blessing goes, May the road rise to meet you. May the wind be at your back...May God hold you in the hollow of his hand. VR, Grace



Greetings,

Christ Church Parish is a buzz of activity as the Vestry, Discernment Committee and many of our ministries are working hard to complete their many tasks before the active summer season begins. The Vestry team has been involved with numerous projects as well as assisting with many of our ministries to keep our Parish running smoothly.

Scott Holt is working hard to complete the sidewalk project along the brick wall in time for the celebration of Father Stuart's retirement. As I have watched the progress, I am very impressed with the work being done and am positive that Scott will meet his completion goal in plenty of time.

One of the projects that I wanted to tackle as Senior warden was to simplify and construct a procedure for the church calendar. There currently seems to be confusion as to how one can get an event posted on the calendar. Karen Brown and I have worked to develop a procedure that the Vestry has approved and one that we expect all who use the calendar will follow. Below is a summary of the new procedure.

One of the easiest ways for all parishioners to check the daily and monthly activities at Christ Church is to utilize the church calendar. The calendar shows a complete monthly listing of all reoccurring events, meetings and outside activities that are held in Christ Church. This calendar can be found in the Parish monthly newsletter as well as located on the bulletin board in the parish hallway near the office.

There are certain guidelines that need to be followed to maintain the calendar and to ensure that all events are posted properly and accurately. The keeper of the calendar is the Vestry and all events that wish to be posted on the calendar need to go through Karen Brown. Karen is the Vestry contact until her term is completed, and we will then reassign a new contact person. Calendar information can be sent to Karen either by e-mail or by a telephone call. Karen then coordinates all requests with ViAnn Farmer, our Church Administrator, who will then add the event to the calendar. All reoccurring events, such as Vestry Meetings, Finance, etc., will be added automatically as long as the same date

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is used each month. Events such as Boy Scouts, AA, etc. will also be added automatically by ViAnn unless she is notified of a change of date. PLEASE NOTE: This is the only way you can get an event posted on the calendar. Telephone calls/e-mails to Jeff McClelland, Mike Floyd and others will not be guaranteed a place on the calendar.

All meeting/ministry heads are responsible for notifying their respective teams should a meeting be canceled or rescheduled. There is no need to contact Karen or ViAnn if this occurs. If these simple procedures are followed, it will make life easier for those involved with the calendar.

As we continue our search for a new Parish Priest, I would be remiss not to mention how hard our Discernment Team has been working on their search. This dedicated group led by Jeannette Adkins has spent endless hours in meetings with various candidates, as well as spending discussion time amongst themselves and many, many hours away from home. I applaud these individuals for dedicating their time to focus on finding the best possible candidate for our new Parish Priest. This undertaking is not an easy job and want to personally thank all these folks for their time, dedication, and love for Christ Church Parish. Thank You!

Faithfully  
William Budd  
Senior Warden



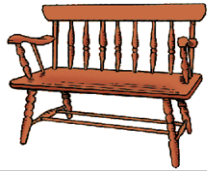
Trash or Treasure?! Saturday, June 8th  
Drop Off Items and Pricing Items  
June 6th and 7th - Parish Hall



Our Trash and Treasure event is almost here! Please bring all your "trash" or "treasures" items to the Parish Hall on Thursday, June 6th from 8-12. We will be pricing and organizing items on Friday. We would appreciate any collectibles, crystal, kitchen or garden items, and furniture. We would also welcome cookbooks and gardening books.

We need your help on Saturday to welcome our visitors and assist them with their purchases. We hope to see you there. This is an important fundraising event for the ECW. Thank you.

◀ May	June 2024					July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	<b>5</b> Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am	<b>6</b> ECW 9:00 am—5:00 pm AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>7</b> ECW 9:00 am—5:00 pm	<b>8</b> ECW Trash and Treasure 9:00 am—5:00 pm
<b>9</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	<b>12</b> Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am  Outreach 10:15am  Christian Education 10:15 am	<b>13</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>14</b> Flag Day Tech Team 11:30  Marine Corp Setup 12 noon—2:00 pm	<b>15</b> Marine Corp Chesty Puller Birthday 10:00 am—3:00 pm
<b>16</b> Father's Day Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am	<b>17</b> Fine Arts Camp	<b>18</b> Fine Arts Camp AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Finance 9:30 am Vestry 1:30 pm	<b>19</b> Juneteenth Fine Arts Camp Church Office Closed	<b>20</b> Summer Fine Arts Camp AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>21</b> Fine Arts Camp Newsletter Submission Deadline	<b>22</b> Fine Arts Camp
<b>23</b> Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am  Fine Arts Camp	<b>24</b> Robotics 9:00 am—3:00 pm	<b>25</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Robotics 9:00 am—noon	<b>26</b> Holy Eucharist Service In the Chapel 9:30 am  Robotics 9:00 am—noon  Newsletters Mailed	<b>27</b> AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	<b>28</b> Christian Education 10:15 am	<b>29</b> Reception for Father Stuart 4:00 pm—7:00 pm
<b>30</b> Combined Holy Eucharist Service 10:00 am						



## *From the Deacon's Bench*

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Well, that special time of year is almost here. Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Fine Arts Camp will begin on Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, and end on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year, we have 37 campers. We need your help with this important ministry.

We need volunteers. You may help every day, just a few days, or even one day. You may serve in a big way or a small way. ALL jobs are important. Please consider giving of your time to help us make camp a fun week for these children. Volunteers receive a special camp T-shirt.

### **Camp Schedule:**

Monday -Friday. 9 am – 3 pm

Saturday. 9 am - 11 am

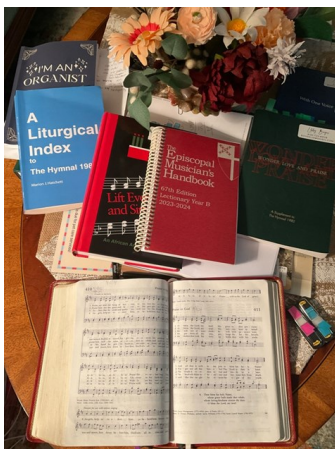
Sunday:. 9:30 – 11:30 – Warm up and Church Service

11:30 – Camp Picnic (All food provided)

We also need bakers. This helps our kitchen team focus on fixing the meals for 37 children plus volunteers and not having to worry about desserts. Please consider baking cookies, cupcakes, and other small desserts. You may also buy desserts and donate them. We really need your help to make this a successful camp that ministers to children in our community. Please contact me if you are willing to help. [Peggy\\_moncure@live.com](mailto:Peggy_moncure@live.com) or 804-869-3867

Thank you for the help you always give. Peg+





## RETURNING TO THE ORGAN BENCH

As I write this in mid-May, a lot of things are in limbo. We are waiting on a decision about a new rector. I am waiting to see when I can return to playing. My cornea transplant went well, and the stitches came out this week, but I still need a few weeks for my eye to heal.

Even though I have been away from church this past month, I have continued to work from home, selecting the hymns and choir music for the rest of the year. That process takes a lot of time. First, I read the appointed lessons for each Sunday, then reference several books that recommend hymns appropriate for those readings. Next, I look at the hymn and see if I know it and make a guess as to whether or not the congregation knows it. Then I check against my master list to see when we last sang it. I try not to repeat hymns more than twice a year if possible.

For choir music, I start by researching anthems that fit the lectionary and are within the choir's capabilities. I determine if we have an appropriate piece or if I need to order music. When I came here, I found very limited choir music available. I have been adding to our choral library, purchasing thirty new pieces for this year. I do not photocopy music, which violates copyright laws, so each week, the music for an anthem can cost about \$40. Only a small portion of that is covered by the approved budget. The rest must come from other sources.

The choir has generously donated a new file cabinet for the choir room to hold our growing library of music. They also pitched in to help purchase new folders. Why do we give our time, talents, and money for this? Because we believe it is our ministry. We would love to have more of you will join us. All are welcome!

Libby Boyer, Music Director



## OUTREACH MINISTRIES

The Outreach Ministry met on May 8. We discussed the following activities:

### **Teacher Appreciation Week**



Kathy Clarke (l) and DeLois Greenwood (r) delivered goodie baskets to the staff members of Middlesex Elementary School, St. Clare Walker Middle School, Middlesex High School, and Christchurch School. They were very well received. This has become a tradition for them, and they look forward to it each year!

### **Newcomers Reception May 5, 2024**

All had a good time, with good food and great company. This is a delightful way to welcome our newcomers, and we hope it becomes an annual event.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Trash & Treasure – June 8, 8 am – noon.** (Sponsored by the ECW)

Donations can be dropped off on June 6 & 7. Volunteers are needed on all three days. Contact Judy Quilter.

**Fine Arts Camp – June 17-21** Peg Moncure reports that 36 children have already signed up! This will be the program's fourth year, and it has grown steadily. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Peg.

The celebration picnic will be held on Sunday, June 23, after the 10:30 a.m. service. Food will be provided, and everyone is invited to celebrate this special event.

**Robotics Camp – June 24-26** (sponsored by the Tech Team & Outreach Ministry) Ann de Peyster and her husband, Mike, started this last year. It was a huge success! This camp is in conjunction with the Kiwanis, Rotary, and Moose Lodge and is a great outreach to middle school students. Not only will the students build robots, but they will also learn some computer programming. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Ann.

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**Father Stuart's Retirement Event (June 29)** (sponsored by the Fellowship Ministry)  
This will be from 4 to 7 pm. Please bring your favorite dish to share at this potluck.  
There will also be a dedication of a new Historic Christ Church sign.

**Sunday, June 30** will be Fr. Stuart's final sermon. He will be missed by all.



### Coffee Hour in the Creation Garden



Please join us between services on June 9<sup>th</sup> for a tour and coffee hour in the Creation Garden. Light refreshments will be served.

Weather permitting, we will be in the garden from 9:15 to 10:15.

Garden Update: In the month of May, 45 heads of lettuce and beautiful radishes grown at the garden were distributed to grateful recipients through the Cryer Center. Folks were excited to receive the fresh produce and eager to receive more in the future.

We welcome all to come and be a part of this meaningful ministry!

# FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

The Fellowship Committee Finetunes Father Stuart's Farewell Party Plans

Come one, come all on Saturday afternoon, 29 June from 4 pm to 7 pm as we celebrate Father Stuart's 8 years of service to us all at Christ Church Parish and his retirement after 36 years in the priesthood.

We have a host of events including the dedication of the new Virginia Historic Highway Marker sign at 4 pm. The location is beside the corner of Christchurch Lane and General Puller Highway.

The return to the Parish Hall finds Saxophonist Peyton Brabrand awaiting us with some cool jazz to moderate the heat of the day. Presentations are made to Father Stuart, gifts are given out, mini speeches by Deacon Peg and Father Bob, a short "This is Your Life" style video, and even some "happy" tunes by our church choir will be sung with gusto.

The Brotherhood will assist with parking. They have also donated enough fried chicken and watermelon to feed the estimated 130 guests, including Father Stuart's family and friends and our parishioners.

"Potluck" is the order of the day for food. Parishioners are invited to bring their favorite sides, meats, and desserts. With fried chicken as the main entrée, you can bring what you think coordinates with chicken, melon, and other meats. Our Christ Church Foodies can pull out all the stops on this party and bring whatever makes you happy.

It promises to be a day of merriment and good cheer as we offer our hearty appreciation to Father Stuart for his service and wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement ahead.



## Mid-week Eucharist

Please remember that we have a midweek Eucharist here at Christ Church. The service is at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday mornings and is celebrated in the Chapel in the Parish Hall.

### **Father Stuart & Christ Church Parish from Nigel Mac-Fall**

You can imagine my delight when I discovered my ancestor Deuel Pead was your 3rd rector back in 1683 and unbelievably, his church still exists and is thriving. You can imagine my joy when I visited your lovely church on a glorious sunny Summer Sunday in 2016 and was greeted with typical US warmth by yourselves, Verger Grace and the church,s 43rd rector, Father Stuart Clary Wood.

Father Stuart welcomed me like a long-lost friend, we went into his office and he showed me his wonderful icons, this is something I had not expected, the man is a bit of a genius.

Andrea and I had the privilege of entertaining Father Stuart for a few days in London, this was during his sabbatical. He gave me one of his superb icons featuring St Francis of Assisi which now hangs in pride of place alongside the portrait of his predecessor some 320 years later.

Covid 2020 and the church services continued uninterrupted every Sunday but this time the services were online. Boy, did Father Stuart's strength of character shine through during that dark time, leading the worship from his home, armed with a good strong singing voice and some dodgy recording equipment (it was like witnessing a scene from a Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney film - "Hey, why don't we put the show on right here in the garage?) His carefully chosen words were a constant source of warmth, comfort, reassurance, and hope.

If anything good came out of that crazy Covid epidemic, it was the live streaming from CCP. I love the spontaneity of the 10:30 service, I love the sound of everyone greeting each other so enthusiastically before the service begins and when the service is over. I love it when things go slightly awry, the order changes from the bulletin or the sound recording is misbehaving or there's no organ accompaniment. The good-natured Father Stuart rides the mishap with the practiced skill of a seasoned campaigner, he announces a slight adjustment with a smile and all is ok.

Week after week the church is immaculate, the flowers are stupendous, even the animals behave on their chosen day. Deacon Peg, Verger Grace, the servers, the ushers, the choir, the organist, your amazing video production crew and above all, Father Stuarts flock, his fantastic congregation, you really are very special.

Bishop Mark Stevenson's visit in March was a triumph, he praised the great spirit in

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the church, and he rightly singled out Father Stuart as being responsible for that spirit by dedicating his life to the ministry and the care and nurturing of his flock. Bishop Mark blessed Father Stuart and announced, "I think it's appropriate to applaud your rector", I echo that statement, from over the pond, I think it is appropriate for me to applaud you Father and say thank you.

With warmest good wishes to you all,  
Nige



**THANK YOU FOR CONTRIBUTING TO  
CHRIST CHURCH PARISH'S**



Keep Estate Documents Up to Date

Oh, the things some people will do over inheritance dollars and final plans.

There is a reason inheritance strife is so common: Older Americans hold a large majority of the Country's personal wealth, much of which will be passed on to younger generations. No matter how rich or poor a family is, every dollar has the potential to spark a disagreement.

The cruelest thing you can do to your heirs is to simply expect your estate and final plan nonchalance to be easily rectified, understood, or appreciated.

The answer is to set your family's expectations by planning ahead and documenting financial matters such as wills, insurance beneficiary specifications, trusts, and, for sacred matters, Funeral, interment, and Church Funeral Service plans. Perhaps the most important step after setting up these plans is to keep them up to date with your wishes as things change.

Please contact our Rector for assistance in making these plans.

Christ Church Parish Endowment Board.

Stuart Wood, Rector

Jack Hellems, Chair

Bill Budd, Senior Warden

Grace Parker, Secretary

Jeannette Adkins

Jim Knupp

## Robot Cars Returning to CCP



The Tech Team and Outreach Ministry are pleased to offer an expanded robotics/STEM educational experience for youngsters ages 12-15 on June 24-26 in the Fellowship Hall. Our Build-a-Robot Day on January 15, 2024, was considered a great success, with several applicants wait-listed. Some participants had expressed interest in programming/coding the little robot cars to perform more complex tasks. On the first day, 9 am-3 pm, we will again

assemble robot cars from kits. The second and third mornings, from 9 a.m. to noon, will be computer programming exercises.

We are now seeking more volunteers! Volunteering as a mentor is not only a great way to give back to our community but also a fun and rewarding experience. No engineering or computer science degree is needed to be a good role model and help any kids who need encouragement. The robot car kits come with detailed instructions.

Suppose you consider yourself at least somewhat computer literate. In that case, you can also be helpful on days 2 and 3 and very likely learn a whole lot yourself---no prior experience with programming is expected! Encouraging and working with these curious and motivated youngsters is tons of fun. It has also surprised and encouraged us to see how much they already know and what they can accomplish independently.

Please help us spread the word if you know anyone else who might be interested in being either a mentor or a potential participant. This program is free of charge and open to all, regardless of background or experience. Registration forms must be received by June 20 and can be obtained from Ann de Peyster ([adepeyst@sdsu.edu](mailto:adepeyst@sdsu.edu)).

Finally, it is important to emphasize that this latest robotics offering represents a new partnership for CCP with the Middlesex Library. They will be responsible for maintaining new laptops purchased for our robotics programming exercises, thanks to generous donations from Middlesex Rotary, Kiwanis, and Moose Lodge members.

## *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  
    Bill & Jackie Brown  
17 Fitz and Suzanne Berry  
19 James W. and Lydia B. Dudley  
20 John and Susan Hilliard  
28 Bruce V. and Susan C. DeSimone  
    William "Chris" and M. Roxie Jones*

### *Birthdays*

*1 Mike Floyd  
11 Pam McClelland  
12 Libby Allen  
13 Beverly M. Barnhardt  
    M. Roxie Jones  
14 Janie Allen  
    Judi Snider  
    Arthur Wilton  
16 Amy H. Schacht  
21 Sarah Geeson  
23 Mike Moore  
    Virginia "Ginny" Hartung  
26 Katy Breuer  
30 Mike Gorin*





## FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN'S WORK BENCH



May has been a busy month! The sidewalk renovation is now complete! We are very pleased with the results.

During June, we will continue prioritizing projects including pricing paving the driveway and replacement of the roof on the Parish Hall.

As always, please reach out if you have any suggestions!

Scott Holt

804-814-8126

## 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:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline is before 5:00 pm on:</u>
July	June 21, 2024
August	July 22, 2024
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](mailto:jeff.of.jamaica@outlook.com)  
 Pictures may also be submitted and will be used on a "space available" basis.