

# Christ Church Parish

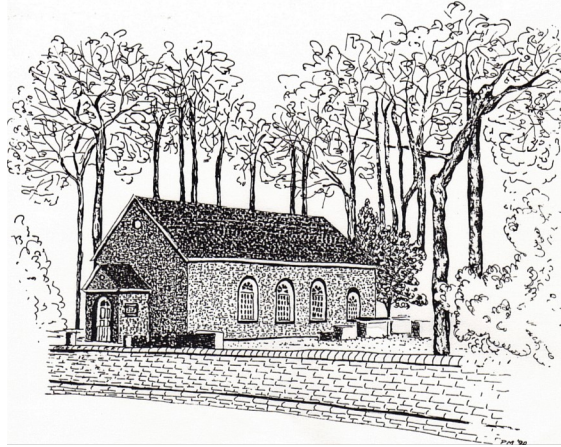
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March 2018



A joy-filled church



**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 AM

A quiet traditional Service of Holy Communion

10:30 AM

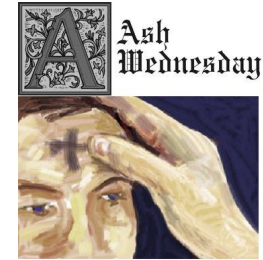
A Family Service of Holy Communion

with Music and Choir

The Rev. Stuart Wood

Priest in Charge

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**“I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see.”**

**At a recent vestry meeting we found ourselves talking about our blindness to the needs and issues of the people of Middlesex County.**

**We want to light up our county, a light that shows that we love Christ and are desirous of doing Christ's work.**

## Father Stuart's Message for March 2018

In the first verse of the hymn “Amazing Grace” John Newton wrote these words, “I once was lost but now am found, was *blind but now I see*.” John Newton was never physically blind, but he came to realize his spiritual blindness after a conversion experience in his life.

The gospels give examples of individuals that were physically blind that could “see” the goodness and love in Jesus and came to him for healing, while at the same time the Pharisees who had physical sight were, in fact, blind to God’s will, blind to who Jesus is, and blind to the needs of the people.

One Saturday in February, our vestry met for a retreat day where we prayed, shared, and made plans for the year. Often at these retreats, I find that we often focus on what is referred to as “bricks and mortar” types of things. Items that are more inward-looking; things like maintenance needs around the church and parish hall, the cemetery and grounds, programs, and finances.

But that Saturday took a totally different path and we found ourselves talking about our blindness to the needs and issues that surround us here in Middlesex County. Items such as homelessness, hunger, the opioid addiction problem (sp?), foster care, the elderly, abuse and the list, unfortunately, could go on. We may not see these things, either because they are literally out of sight, or because we choose not to see them, but they are there.

## Father Stuart's Message for March 2018

(Continued)

We are reminded on Sundays that after worship each week the God sends us out into the world to love and serve him as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord and to do the work God has given us to do, and that is to love and serve one another as Christ serves us. Can we as a church tackle all these problems? “No.” But we can possibly help in some way one or two of these areas. We can hold up our teachers, social workers, law enforcement personnel, and first responders in prayer for strength and guidance as they seek to serve our county and for the burdens that they carry. We can continue to bring to the attention of our church family the needs in our communities when we see them. We can educate ourselves about these needs for knowledge brings strength and strength can bring action.

We want to be a light to our county, a light that shows that we love Christ and are desirous of doing Christ’s work of reconciling love to the world. Prayer that the Holy Spirit may inspire and empower us.

*Fr. Stuart*

## MISSED OPPORTUNITY?

Recently your Endowment Fund Board sponsored a luncheon with Mike Kerr, CEO of The Trustees of the Funds (TOTF), Diocese of Virginia. Mike introduced to those in attendance, a new Gift service With a Gift Annuity, you can make an irrevocable gift of Cash or service provided by TOTF.

With a gift annuity, you can make an irrevocable gift of cash or securities in return for guaranteed quarterly fixed income payments during your lifetime. There are tax benefits available, including a tax deduction for a significant portion of your gift in the year the gift is made.

After your lifetime, 100% of the remaining funds are made available to the Episcopal Church ministry of your choice.

You are able to fund your needs of today and remember the church tomorrow. These charitable gift annuities are available to parishioners 65 years of age and older with a minimum amount of \$5000 and a maximum of \$100,000.

Should you be interested or have questions, please call Jack Hellems at 804-7581255 or Mike Kerr at 804-622-3186.

Jack Hellems, Endowment Board Chairman



Belle Bronner 3/6

Jim Dudley 3/11

Karen Gorin 3/17

Pat Durette 3/29

Meredith Caskie 3/9

Lydia Dudley 3/15

Susan Guillote 3/21

Jewel Ray 3/23

## Outreach at Christ Church Parish

In an effort to coordinate our Parish's efforts in promoting our various outreach projects, (projects already in place and new ones which come forward) the Hospitality Committee has formed a sub-committee for Outreach. Current members include: Jean Holt, Bev Hart, Clayton Neal, Bert Butler, Susie and Jeff Loustaunau, Grace Parker, Sharon Colston, Mary Jo Atterholt, Robin Wells and Fr. Stuart. Please share with one of these members your ideas and your desire to be involved.

### A sample of projects in the works, include:

- The ECW's **Acts of Kindness Cards** and their assistance with the **Clothes Closet** at Hands Across Middlesex.
- The Loustaunau's have begun a dialogue with Fr. Scott at **Christchurch School** as to building a relationship with the students and our Parish. Susie will be posting in our newsletter monthly activities
- **Duffle Bags for Foster Children in Middlesex County**- This project will be ongoing, to be able to help any child removed from their home to a foster home. So many times their belongings are thrust into a garbage bag and taken to a new place. Can you image how that child may feel? Instead, these children will have something that belongs to them and that they can keep. In cooperation with our Department of Social Services, we would like to initially gift to them 20 small duffle bags with the following items included: Toothbrush and toothpaste, comb and brush, blanket, body wash, shampoo and soap.( Also, for younger children—maybe a coloring book and crayons, - for older children, deodorant and/ or Sanitary products for girls.)

We will collect these duffle bags at church and once we have a supply, send them to Social Services. When Social Services lets us know their supply is low, we can send them more.

If you wish to purchase a duffle and the contents, that would be terrific, You may turn in your receipt to Carolyn and it may be marked on your Giving record as a gift given to the Duffle project and it will be recorded as part of donations toward our whole project. If you want to contribute monetarily, you may send in a check made out to Christ Church Parish, and in the memo, please mark for Duffle project. Approximate cost of a filled duffle is \$30.00.

Look for updates and news from the Outreach Sub-committee each month!

## Random Acts of Kindness

One of ECW's Outreach initiatives this year is ***Random Acts of Kindness***. We thought this outreach effort needed to be shared with our entire congregation.

So what is this – well some examples of Random Acts of Kindness could be...

1. Helping someone cross the street or parking lot.
2. Buying the next person in line a cup of coffee.
3. Holding the door for someone or helping them with their groceries.
4. Visiting someone in a nursing home.

The hope is when you do something nice for someone else that they will pass it forward.

We've made up these little cards for you to pass out when you do something nice for someone.

They read...

***Random Acts of Kindness***...You have been targeted with a random act of kindness. We hope that you can find an opportunity to pass a kindness along to someone else.

Pass it on...with this card.

## Hands Across Middlesex

Thanks to Emily Lancucki, Executive Director of Hands Across Middlesex, for speaking to us at our first General Meeting of the ECW. Emily spoke to the need of volunteers in the Clothing Closet at Hands. I am pleased to say we have covered shifts on Mondays in March. Thank you ladies for all you do to make our community a better place!

***“Volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”***

## Church Calendar for March 2018

Date	Time	Event
1	6:45P	Weekly BSA Troop 341 Meeting
4	8:00A	Holy Eucharist Rite I
4	10:30A	Holy Eucharist Rite II
5	8:00P	AA Meeting
6	12:00P	AA Meeting
7	9:30	Mid-Week Eucharist
7	12:00P	Noonday Prayers & Lenten Service
8	6:45P	Weekly BSA Troop 341 Meeting
11	8:00A	Holy Eucharist Rite I
11	10:30A	Holy Eucharist Rite II
12	8:00P	AA Meeting
13	12:00P	AA Meeting
13	6:00P	Vestry Meeting
14	9:30A	Mid-Week Eucharist
14	12:00P	Noonday Prayers & Lenten Service
15	6:45P	Weekly BSA Troop 341 Meeting

## Church Calendar for March 2018

Date	Time	Event
18	8:00A	Holy Eucharist Rite I
18	10:30A	Holy Eucharist Rite II
19	8:00P	AA Meeting
20	12:00P	AA Meeting
21	9:30A	Mid-Week Eucharist
22	6:45P	Weekly BSA Troop 341 Meeting
25	8:00A	Palm Sunday — Holy Eucharist Rite I
25	10:30A	Palm Sunday — Holy Eucharist Rite II
26	8:00P	AA Meeting
27	12:00P	AA Meeting
28	9:30A	Mid-Week Eucharist
29	6:00P	Maundy Thursday—Washing of Feet, Holy Eucharist, and Stripping of the Altar
30	12:00P	Good Friday—Stations of the Cross
31	7:30P	Easter Vigil—Holy Saturday Eucharist
1	10:00A	Easter Sunday Holy Eucharist Single Service

# Christ Church School

Show your support of Christ Church School by cheering for their sports teams! As a boarding school, there are not many fans in the stands so we can help support them by being there to cheer them on. Be sure to wear your nametag or CCP shirt!

Beginning March 15th the following teams will be playing: Girls LACROSSE and SOCCER and Boys BASEBALL and LACROSSE. Games are typically on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday around 4 p.m. For a complete listing go to: *Go Seahorses!*

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## Happy Anniversary

Susan & Gari Sullivan	3/6
Jody & Roger Anglin	3/12
Bev & Charley Hart	3/23
Cean & Bill Cawthorn	3/29
Susan & Bob Guillote	3/30
Marilyn & Dave South	3/30

# Coming Events

## Lenten Luncheon Series



Noonday Prayers in the Parish Hall followed by Soup, Bread and/or Sandwiches. Lenten program during lunch. Each Wednesday during Lent March 7th and 14th.

## Spring Fashion Show & Card Party

Looking forward to another exciting day of fun and fashion. The date is set for Friday, April 20, 2018. We will need lot's of help from our ladies for this one. More information to come!

## Trash & Treasures

WE HAVE A DATE – Saturday, August\_18, 2018.  
Start  
saving TODAY!!!