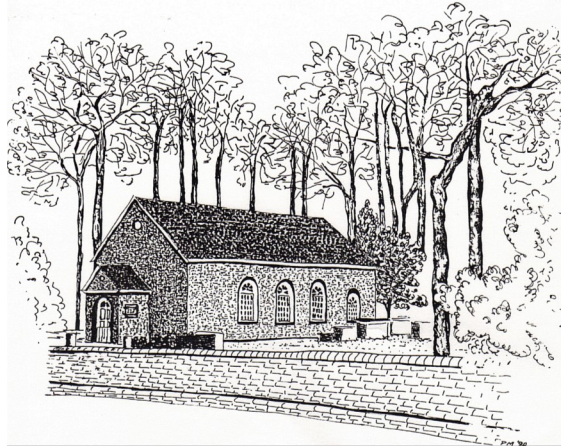




MARCH
2020

Join us for Sunday & Wednesday Services

16



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 Wood, Rector

The Rev. Bob Pritchard, Ph.D., Associate Rector

Christ Church Parish (Episcopal) Middlesex

Monthly Newsletter for March of 2020



(forty-six including the Sundays) that we contemplate the suffering of Jesus Christ and how that suffering makes the resurrection not only possible, but powerful.

Lent calls us to a period of penitence giving us an opportunity to reflect on how far we have wandered from God's grace, how much we stand in need of God's forgiveness, and how we might live our lives more closely aligned with God's desires for us. Grace must remain at the heart of our Lenten practice and devotion, for it is the grace of God that leads us to return to God once we have wandered away.

But, just as Jesus was tempted by the devil in the wilderness, we find that our Lenten journey is not always that easy. Lenten practices are often

As we approach Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent, we need to remember that this is our time of intentional preparation to receive with freshness and renewed vitality, the mystery of the resurrection of Christ. It is during this forty-day period (forty-six including the Sundays) that we contemplate the suffering of Jesus Christ and how that suffering makes the resurrection not only possible, but powerful.

countercultural and we may find ourselves facing temptations that we have resolved to refrain from. If we say that we're giving up sweets, or sodas, or alcohol for Lent; we need to know why. Giving things up, just to give them up for forty days can devolve into a competition of works-righteousness. Instead of that, our Lenten disciplines need to lead us into a deeper relationship with God, both as individuals and as a community of faith.

The Vestry at its annual retreat did something quite different this year. Instead of simply establishing a set of goals and priorities for the year, we began our year with a more spiritual foundation. We began discussing our "core values" and asking how they fit with our "mission statement." In other words, we began the work that will lead us into a deeper relationship with God. It is our hope, that we as a congregation will work together to strengthen the spirituality of our faith community and grow in God's grace and love.

One of the opportunities to do that, apart from our Sunday morning worship, is to join us Wednesday evenings for a simple supper, a time of study, and a time for worship. The evenings begin at 5:30 and end around 7:00. These will be held on March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th.

Faithfully,
Stuart +

1

VESTRY

“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.”

The Vestry’s monthly meeting was held on February 11, 2020. Among the topics discussed were researching how we may provide a secure online church directory and evaluating the structure and missions of the current church committees.

If any committee, ECW, Brotherhood, or individual would like to put an article in the Southside Sentinel (or other local paper)l, please submit it to Ann Padgett (4pars4me@gmail.com) by noon on Monday for insertion in that week’s edition. Ann is the Vestry representative for all publicity for our church.

LOST AND FOUND – Once again, we have a collection of “lost” items that need to be “found”. These items include sunglasses, keys, jewelry, some small purses, and various other items. They may be claimed in the front office in the “Lost and Found Basket”.

At the Vestry’s Annual Retreat in January, we began looking at the mission of our church, as it relates to our “Core

Values”:

- Sense of Community
- Acceptance of different cultures/ crossing boundaries
- Sense of history
- Sense of roots
- Joy

ALL of these Core Values were demonstrated at the “Share the Love” Concert on February 15. Thanks to the support of our congregation, local businesses, organizations, and other churches, a true sense of community was experienced. A personal thank you for your generous donations. The amount of the donations made in support of Saint Paul’s Baptist Church far exceeded our expectations. Donations are still being received so the full accounting will be made soon. What a perfect example of our loving congregation as we SHARED OUR LOVE!

Please take a few moments to look at the Vestry bulletin board as many newspaper articles and pictures of this wonderful community endeavor are posted there.

God is truly among us.
Pam McClelland, Senior Warden

Junior Warden Input

Jeff Loustaunau

Editors Note: Your editor hung his head in shame as it came to light that he had published the valiant Junior Warden’s January report again as the report for February. The first report below, then, is actually February’s delayed report & the second is, therefore, the current report for the month of March.

Our quarterly meeting of the Building and Grounds Committee took place on Thursday, February 13th, at 9:00 AM in the Parish Hall. Our goal was to map out where we are on the maintenance plan for 2020 that will include jobs to be done and where the money is coming from.

This year our Church Clean-Up Day is being planned for March 28th, which is two weeks prior to Easter, which falls on April 12th. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate much better than last year so that we can get a good clean-up of the buildings and grounds. Our “rain” date will be the following Saturday, April 4th. We’ll publicize this event more as we get closer to the date, but at this point, please hold it open so we can get lots of participants. I am in the process of coordinating with the Boy Scouts.

Our biggest accomplishment so far this year is the removal of the old two-wire circuits in the church and sacristy. With the help of Bob Guillotte and Michael Johnson, we have been able to replace all the old wires.

In another area, we are coordinating with the Boy Scouts on our storage sheds. The Scouts are purchasing a new 12’ X 18’ white shed that will be placed where their shed and our small shed are currently located. In preparation for that, they are dismantling their shed, and we are moving our old shed to the back end of our large shed. The old one will also get a facelift of new siding and a new entry ramp, both of which will help the overall appearance of our grounds.

A major project that is being planned is the refurbishment of our great hall in the Parish Hall. At this point, the timing is not set, but the scope of work is looking to be quite a project. It includes the following steps and current estimates.

Repair the floor, which is sagging up to 3” throughout about half the room. It appears that this is the result of pilings below the floor not being set in concrete and actually slipping that allows the joists to sag. Our initial estimate from a very reasonable contractor is just under \$20,000.

Repair the plaster, which is cracking badly in a couple of areas, but requires attention in a number of areas. The quote on this work is \$3,000.

Repaint the walls and ceiling. This work has been quoted at \$2,500.

With the repair of the floor comes the replacement of the carpet, which we have a quote for \$8,900.



Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

And finally, we are looking to improve the acoustics in the room so that people can be heard at large meetings. The materials (acoustic panels) will cost just under \$12,000 and installation will cost a few thousand more.

To be able to pay for a project of this magnitude, we will certainly need creativity for funding. At this point, Susan Neal is working hard to obtain grant money to get this project moving. We'll keep everyone posted on our progress.

One part of the overall Parish Hall plan is the gradual repaint of the interior. This will be done largely with volunteers. This should not be too difficult a task or too expensive. Our plan for the rooms, hallways, and foyer is to keep the same color throughout the building as it exists today. If there are other ideas, please let me know. But they should have a complete color scheme in mind as it would be very easy to complicate this task.

Thank you and please let me or our committee members know when some part of our Buildings and Grounds requires attention!



Our quarterly meeting of the Building and Grounds Committee will take place on Thursday, February 13th, at 0900 in the Parish Hall. Although this is for our committee, all are welcome to drop by. Just let me know you'll be coming. Our goal is to map out where we are on the maintenance plan for 2020 that will include jobs to be done and where the money is coming from.

This year our Church Clean-Up Day is being planned for March 28th, which is two weeks prior to Easter, which falls on April 12th. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate much better than last year so that we can get a good clean-up of the buildings and grounds. Our "rain" date will be the following Saturday, April 4th. We'll publicize this event more as we get closer to the date. I will also be coordinating with the Boy Scouts.

In our Maintenance Plans for the Parish Hall, we are looking to do a new floor in the kitchen this year, continuing to replace the blinds in the offices and classrooms, and paint the interior

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

of the building gradually accomplishing this room by room over the next five years or so. A major hurdle will be to accomplish the repainting in the Great Hall. Before we can do that, however, we have some very significant steps we need to accomplish. First is to repair the floor so it no longer sags over by the kitchen. Then we have some plaster repair to do in the areas of the ceiling. Then we have the repainting, which will be followed by new carpeting. This one-room will probably not start for a few years but it is an important part of the plan for the Parish Hall.

One part of the plan for the Parish Hall is the gradual repaint of the rest of the interior. To do this part is not that difficult or expensive, but we should have a plan for colors of the rooms, foyer, and hallways. So is anyone willing to provide us guidance in doing this? One option is obviously to keep the same colors, but if you feel we're ready for a change, we need to know what colors to use. So if you have a desire to help in this area, please let me know. The sooner we can get this settled, the sooner we can start the projects.

Thank you and please let me know when some part of our Buildings and Grounds requires attention!

Please join us for our next Celtic Service

March 8th at 5:30 p.m. in the church.

For those who attend this service, **PLEASE REMEMBER** that one of the key components of this service is **SILENCE**. If you need to talk (even before the service) please go outside. Some people like to come early in order to quiet their minds and bodies in preparation for the service and have said that even quiet conversations are distracting. I am pointing this out because this has been brought to our attention after the previous services that we have had.

This service continues to draw in people from our communities that normally do not worship with us, such as people from Saluda Baptist, Clarksbury United Methodist, Lower United Methodist, as well as some of our neighboring Episcopal congregations.

Thank you, Fr. Stuart



Worship Committee



Borrowing from Walk in Love, here is the short version of the meaning of Lent: “The season of Lent is a time of discipline and self-denial that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, for a total of 40 days not including Sundays. The forty days of Lent remind us of the forty years the Israelites were wandering in the wilderness and the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness tempted by Satan. The devotion of Lent is meant to be a time of preparation, not punishment. We follow the example of Jesus, who prepared for his earthly ministry with a time of prayer and fasting. We engage in disciplines and devotions that draw us closer to him so that we are ready to walk with him toward Jerusalem and the cross. During Lent, we often pray the Great Litany or read the Decalogue.”

Note that it is during Lent that our faith asks us to fast, on Ash Wednesday and on Good Friday. If you are of good health, this is a very meaningful practice. If you’ve never done a day of fasting, this could be a new Lenten discipline you will come to look forward to as a way to more deeply feel closer to Jesus.

The Celtic World



Well, we learned in our last meeting that a Torc is worn around your neck, and a carnyx was designed to scare your enemies into submission, what lies ahead for our March 11th gathering? Lecture 5 covers Caesar and the Gauls and Lecture 6 covers Celtic Religion and the Druids. Will you come away with a different idea of the Celts as barbarians? Who are Druids? What is all that about severed heads? If you want to know, come be with us following the mid-week Eucharist on Wednesday, March 11th. The Verg

First things first! How to pray and what to pray

It’s a matter of setting priorities. First things first. To avoid chaos, most of us are likely to support a lifestyle that, at the least, gives a nod to deciding what’s important to do, how to do it, and when to do it.

First things first. In the faith tradition I follow, Jesus, as reported by the gospel writers Matthew and Mark, gives us such a clear order in the prayer he shares with his followers.

In that prayer, most commonly called The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13, Luke 11:2-4), Jesus teaches his followers how to pray and what to pray. In our day, Matthew’s version is most universally used.

In this version, the first words make it very clear that we people of faith approach God reverently as Holy Other who is inclusive (“our” not “my”) and a living goodness (“in heaven”).

Only then, as we acknowledge our relationship (lesser than) to the Divine, can we dare to offer requests. And the first: God’s kingdom is to be the defining rule for life. “Thy kingdom come.” And the second petition is, perhaps, a further clarification of that kingdom. “Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

That’s where the rubber

begins to really hit the road. Yes, Jesus teaches that God wants earth to look like, be like heaven....that place we understand as perfectly good.

Only after we give first place to God and God’s dream for earth and thus for us can we dare to bring up our own needs.

Give us a reasonable share, a day’s need. Not to worry about a laying up excessive treasures for the days and years to come. Forgive us our sins as we forgive others’ sins against us. Now, it’s easy to hear that, as God forgives us, we gratefully pass it on.

More discomfoting (and to some, heretical!) is a reading that God’s forgiveness may be proportional to our willingness/action to forgive. Ouch.

Then, Jesus says to pray that God will protect us from the wiles of temptation. A more accurate translation might be “save us from the time of trial” or from being “tested” and keep us safe from evil.

With words most scholars believe were added later, the prayer closes with a final acknowledgment of our place in the Divine order. First things first: Kingdom, power, and glory all belong to God, not to us.

For centuries, this prayer has assumed a radical way of living in and with God. It’s a challenge of responsibility and humility in a few words. God, Jesus insists, waits for us to be good and to do good. And to know and admit when we fail. Period.

Life in the here and now, Jesus teaches is not merely an evacuation plan to heaven. God expects the blessings of the kingdom right here. Justice that leads to peace, compassion that gives a preferential option to the poor, the vulnerable, the stranger.

And the most amazing assertion that this prayer from Jesus makes is implicit – and really good news. Why would God give us an impossible task? To expect that we do what we cannot do would be the ultimate cruelty.

In these days when violence is prevalent in words and deeds, when the wealth gap grows larger and larger, when children are used as political pawns, when the care of creation is too easily sacrificed to the gods of power and profit, the words of Jesus promising that the kingdom is our nearby option (Eternity is God’s work!) are deliberate and hopeful.

It is possible to live God’s way on earth. To be realistic, partnering with the Holy One to bring about the peaceable kingdom is not, will not be easy. Such work requires wisdom, skill, courage, and above all, self-offering.

But putting first things first, that work is doable.

Isabel F. Steilberg is a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia. She can be reached by email at Isabel.steilberg@gmail.com

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| <i>March</i> | | <i>Christ Church Parish</i> | <i>Calendar of Events</i> | | | <i>2020</i> |
|---|---------------------------|--|---|--|---------------------------------|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| 1 27 11111kdfghjklkkkk 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II *Father Stuart is partici hijjij:30arist Rite | 2 Oct. 28 8p AA | 3 Oct. 29 Noon AA 9:30 Hospitality Committee Noon AA | 4 9:30a Holy Eucharist 1p Connecting Threads 5:30p Lenten Supper & Program | 5 Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts | 6 | 7 |
| 8 Day Light Savings!! 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9a Brotherhood breakfast 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II 5:30p Celtic Service | 9 8p AA | 10 9a Finance Committee Noon AA 5:30p Vestry | 11 9:30a Holy Eucharist 10:15a The Celtic World 5:30p Lenten Supper Program | 12 Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts | 13 | 14 |
| 15 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II | 16 8p AA | 17 Noon AA | 18 9:30a Holy Eucharist 9:30a Visitation Singers 5:30p Lenten Supper & Program | 19 9:30a Outreach Committee Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts | 20 | 21 |
| 22 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II | 23 8p AA | 24 Noon AA | 25 9:30a Holy Eucharist 5:30p Lenten Supper & Program | 26 9:30a Worship Committee Noon AA 6:45p Boy Scouts | 27 9a Endowment Board | 28 CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY!!! |
| 29 8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15a Adult Sunday School 10:30a Holy Eucharist Rite II | 30 8p AA | 31 Noon AA | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

OUTREACH COMMITTEE



Our long-awaited "Share the Love" Concert was held Saturday afternoon (3-5 pm) at St. Clare Walker Middle School. Doors to the auditorium opened at 2:30 pm. So, many came early to get a good seat.

What an incredible outpouring of love for our neighbors. Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, would say "Now that's what I am talking about!" since he is the prime proponent of a message of Love in our Church.

We had an excellent turn out from the whole community and we filled the buckets with "love" from many. As the Senior Warden stated in her letter to us on page 2, the final tally is not yet known but it is exceeding all our expectations!

It goes without saying that this all would not have been possible without all of the extremely talented musicians and their support crew for lights and sound. Every bit of all the hard work and planning was donated to the cause—incredible! And God bless Middlesex County and its School System for allowing us to use the auditorium at no cost!

The weather was predicted to be chilly and sunny which it was and made for perfect weather to SHARE our LOVE!



Historical Relics & Treasures of Christ Church Parish (Episcopal), Middlesex

By Marilyn South

I am collecting another photo from Gordon White and will search our archives for a photo of the church when the keys were being used. The keys were given to me by Ann Harris and she is compiling information about her family as to why they had the keys.

The keys are to the old sacristy doors and we will display them once we have a lock placed on the display case.



Catechism Corner

The catechism section of the BCP is not meant to be a complete statement of beliefs and practices; rather, it is a point of departure. Test your knowledge; and after some reflection compare your answers with the answers from the BCP later in the Newsletter on Page 15.

- Q1. What do we mean by everlasting life?
- Q2. What, then, is our assurance as Christians?



Catechism

Catechism Corner continues on page 15

More great advise from our Cyber World Guru,
Mike Floyd

Don't click on a link in a text message you get on your phone that says you've won a terrific prize or a gift card or a delayed FedEx/UPS package or or or. **Don't reply either.** It's probably a scam.

The Federal Trade Commission settled charges with a group of marketers that were part of a scheme that sent millions of unsolicited spam text messages promoting supposedly free merchandise like \$1,000 gift cards for Wal-Mart and Best Buy, then directed to Amazon, or other unrelated sites.

People who clicked the links in the messages didn't get the promised prizes. Instead, they were taken to websites that asked them to give personal information and sign up for multiple offers, often involving purchases or paid subscriptions.

What can you do about unwanted text messages?

- **Delete unwanted text messages** that ask you to enter a special code, or to confirm or provide personal information. Legitimate companies won't send you a text asking for sensitive information.
- **Don't click on the links in the text message.** Links can take you to spoof sites that look real but will steal your personal information.
- **Report spam texts to your carrier.** Copy the original message and forward it to 7726 (SPAM) free of charge, if you are an AT&T, T-Mobile, Verizon, or Sprint subscriber. **This works and helps.**

How to be realistic about your online presence

Understand that you're an attractive target for cyber criminals.
If you have **money** (doesn't matter how much), **data** (usernames, passwords, documents, emails, etc.) or **a place to work**, you're going to be targeted.
It's not even personal, as cyber criminals automate most of their attacks.
Don't ever say "it can't happen to me."

Lock it up

Never leave your laptop/smartphone/tablet unlocked while you're away. Don't make it so easy for anyone to get into your system.

How to check for fake social media profile photo

Here's a simple way to check if a social profile is fake or not.
Step 1: Download the profile person's picture to your computer.
Step 2: Use [Google image search](#)

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

MARCH 28th

ALTAR and FLOWER GUILD SCHEDULE

| Mar. 1 | Mar. 8 | Mar. 15 | Mar. 22 | Mar. 29 |
|--------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Team 1 | Team 2 | Team 3 | Team 4 | Team 5 |

USHER SCHEDULE

| Mar. 1 | Mar. 8 | Mar. 15 | Mar. 22 | Mar. 29 |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 8:00AM | 8:00AM | 8:00AM | 8:00AM | 8:00AM |
| The Shaws | The Shaws | The Shaws' | The Shaws' | The Shaws |
| 10:30AM | 10:30AM | 10:30AM | 10:30AM | 10:30AM |
| The Guillottes | The Guillottes | The Guillottes | The Guillottes | The Guillottes |

Christ Church Parish Servers' Schedule

| | Mar. 1 | Mar. 8 | Mar. 15 | Mar. 22 | Mar. 29 |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | | | Healing Svc. | |
| 0800 | Rite 1 (HE) | Rite 1 (HE) | Rite 1 (HE) | Rite 1 (HE) | Rite 1 (HE) |
| EM//Ac./Le. | Dave W. | Amy S. | Peg M. | Grace P. | Jeannette A.. |
| 1030 | Rite II (HE) | Rite II (HE) | Rite II (HE) | Rite II (HE) | |
| | | | | Healing Svc | |
| EM/Ablutions | Grace P. | Ann P. | Sharon C. | Harriette F. | Steve R. |
| EM/Prayers | Harriette F. | Jean H. | Jack H. | Ann P. | Jean H. |
| Crucifer/Acolyte | Robin W. | Tom C. | Peg M. | Nicole D. | Robin W. |
| Lector | Lydia D. | Nicole D. | Miles L. | Peg M. | Chip H. |
| Gospel Bk Bear | Harriette F. | Jean H. | Jack H. | Ann P. | Jean H. |

Catechism Corner

Catechism Corner answers come from the BCP page 862:

By everlasting life, we mean a new existence, in which we are united with all the people of God, in the joy of fully knowing and loving God and each other.

Our assurance as Christians is that nothing, not even death, shall separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.



Catechism



| | | | |
|-----------------|------|-------------------|------|
| Bill Budd | 3/1 | Michelle Meredith | 3/2 |
| Meredith Caskie | 3/9 | Jim Dudley | 3/11 |
| Pat Anderson | 3/17 | Karen Gorin | 3/17 |
| Bill Newman | 3/20 | Susie Guillotte | 3/21 |
| Jewel Ray | 3/23 | Dennis Durette | 3/29 |



| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Phil & Karen Brown | 3/6 |
| Charlie & Bev Hart | 3/23 |
| Bill & Cean Cawthorn | 3/29 |
| Bob & Susie Guillotte | 3/30 |
| Dave & Marilyn South | 3/30 |



2020 Spring United Thank Offering.

Please pick up your UTO box in the church narthex or parish building hallway. We will collect the Spring UTO in May. The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to

God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box.

The Christ Church Parish Kitchen

I know that you all are well aware of how important our kitchen is to us when it comes to fellowship. After having “managed” the kitchen’s preparedness, cleanliness and making sure it was well supplied for many years, I am proud to announce that Roland Anderson has volunteered to take over that duty. We all thank you for your support!