

Christ Church Parish

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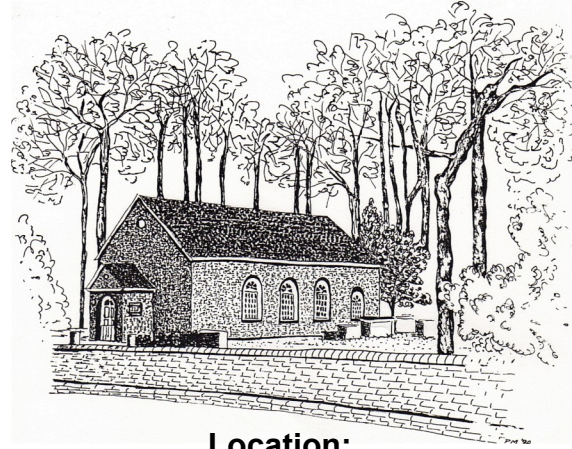
Post Office Box 476, Saluda, VA 23149



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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March
2025

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

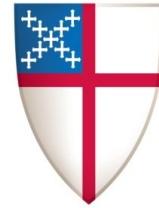
The Rev. Randi Hicks Rowe,
Priest in Charge
The Rev. Bob Prichard, Ph.D.,
priest Associate
The Rev. Deacon Peggy Moncure



The Christ Church Parish

Messenger

March 2025



“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.”

The Lord



be with you.

From Rev. Randi Hicks Rowe, Priest in Charge

One of the many gifts of being the priest at Christ Church is being able to work with the awesome vestry. These positive, forward-thinking people met for a retreat on February 22. Using a well-known model of organizational development of change that was beautifully reproduced by Anne Wilcox, the vestry considered the church’s position now and path for the future. The vestry then came up with some terrific ideas to move toward the future we envision. We have formed working groups to explore or further develop many of these ideas and report back to the vestry. These working groups and ideas include:

Exploring the hiring of an individual to establish connections, events, and programs to serve and potentially attract more families with teens and children. The vestry generated several ideas of events or programs this person might possibly coordinate or help to coordinate. The working group will examine the feasibility of this position and develop a job description. It would also examine potential sources of grant funding for the position for an initial period (perhaps three years). Tom Clarke will chair this working group.

Continued on the next page

Look at ways in which we can build on our current online and social media presence possibly adding more photos or other postings, and streamlining the design. The working group will look at what we can do within our current budget and what might be done if we can obtain additional funds in the future. Delois Greenwood will chair this working group.

Explore and develop fellowship events geared toward roughly 15 percent of Middlesex's population that is over 65 and lives alone. The vestry also had some ideas for these events; the working group will examine these and potentially develop others. Mary Lynn Landgraf will head this working group.

Determine the feasibility over the longer term of building a pavilion on our grounds. The working group will develop plans and determine costs. The pavilion and its functionality might be phased in gradually over several years. The pavilion could be used for various church and community activities. Henry Moncure is chairing this group.

With the consent of Christchurch School, repair a small waterfront outdoor amphitheater on school grounds that once was used as an outdoor chapel. We envision potentially holding a worship service on a weekday evening during the summer where attendees could arrive either by car or boat and bring meat to grill and eat after the service. We might also host outdoor services jointly with the school. Henry and Bill Budd are working on this.

In addition, the vestry enthusiastically endorsed two ideas that Deacon Peg brought. The first is a grief group for widows and widowers. Deacon Peg will be determining the feasibility of this group and, if feasible, organize it or equip another person to organize it. The second idea is a team ministry of service primarily to older people that might include friendly visits and making minor house repairs. Deacon Peg will work to build a team for this idea, as well.

I am excited to see how these ideas will develop over the coming months.

Randi+



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.



The women of the church have embarked on a study to learn more about the Order of the Daughters of the King. We meet at 9 AM on Sundays between services in the vestry room. Those of us engaged in the study in preparation for becoming a Daughter will learn much more about prayer. So, just as food for thought, do you know the types of prayer we most often use? From *Walking in Love* and in your *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 857.

Adoration: Lifting up of the heart and mind to God, asking nothing but to enjoy God's presence.

Praise: The act of glorifying God because of God's goodness.

Thanksgivings: Giving thanks to God for all the blessings of this life, for our redemption, and for whatever draws us closer to God.

These first three kinds of prayer are described in the Catechism are prayers of joy.

Penitence: In penitence, we confess our sins and make restitution where possible, intending to amend our lives.

Oblation: Oblation is an offering ourselves, our lives, and our labors in union with Christ for the purpose of God.

Intercession: These are prayers where we bring before God the needs of others.

Petition: In this prayer, we present our own needs, that God's will be done.

I imagine we all say these prayers without thinking about the category, but I think this is good to know. Our prayer lives are about to be strengthened. That is my prayer for you and for me.

Grace Parker, Verger



January 1 was the beginning of a new year for your Christ Church Vestry. Since our first Vestry meeting of the new year, we have been off and running, each of us with our own assignments and tasks to perform. On February 22, we will have our first Vestry retreat under the guidance of Reverend Randi Rowe, and we are sure that it will be exciting and stimulating as we chart our direction for 2025. We have not yet been informed about what to expect at our retreat; however, with Reverend Randi at the helm, we are excited and anxious to see where she will take us. There will be more to come next month!

With February soon ending, we have been planning our series of Lenten dinners over the next few weeks, each dinner to be prepared by one of our Christ Church ministries. Vestry, ECW, Brotherhood, Outreach, and Fellowship will all be taking turns preparing and serving dinners to our parishioners. Please follow the Church Calendar to see what ministry will be preparing and serving your Lenten dinner each week.

March will be a busy month in our Parish, starting with the Brotherhood's annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on March 4 from 5 pm – 7 pm. In the event you need a ticket for yourself or your family and friends, please reach out to any member of the Brotherhood, and we will be happy to assist you. Tickets will also be available at the door, so please come out and enjoy the evening on Wednesday, March 4. In March, we will also have Sunday morning meetings of the Daughters of the King at 9 am, a basic First Aid and AED Program sponsored by the Brotherhood on March 9th, as well as our Ash Wednesday Service and Lenten Dinners. We are truly set for a busy March, please come out and support our Church and the various ministries that work hard to make all of this happen.

For some time now, the Buildings and Grounds Committee has been researching and looking into two potential projects at Christ Church Parish, both of which will probably need some attention sooner rather than later. The roof on the Parish Hall has shown considerable deterioration over a period, most recently causing leaks and water issues due to corrosion of the metal roof. Vestry has been made aware of this issue, and we are

Continued on the next page

awaiting Senior Warden reports and cost estimates on how we should approach this situation. Once we have more solid information, we will supply additional information to the congregation and offer a plan for repairing the roof. The second potential issue concerns the parking lot and entrance driveway. You may have noticed the potholes and deteriorating parking areas as you enter the driveway and parking lot. Buildings and Grounds is gathering information and will suggest how to approach this situation. We believe we will soon have some additional information and a plan to proceed with these projects. At that time, our information will be shared with the congregation.

Faithfully,

William Budd



FROM THE JUNIOR WARDEN'S WORK BENCH

We want to welcome Maria, our new cleaning person. She is doing a great job. If you happen to see her, please welcome her!

Our Spring Clean Up is coming up, so please mark your calendars for April 5th. Our rain date will be April 12th. Bring your rakes, blowers, and tarps. We will also include work inside the church and Parish Hall projects. We will work on cleaning up the nursery and back hallway, so if you have anything that belongs to you there, please kindly remove it. The Boys Scouts will be here to help. Please let me know if you have a specific cleaning request for this day. We will be serving lunch to all participants and are looking forward to seeing all of you there!

We want to keep everyone informed about an upcoming project to replace the old roof over the Parish Hall, specifically the area over the stage. We will pass this information along as more details become available.

Scott Holt

804-814-8126



From the Deacon's Bench

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:13-16)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Please pray about and consider which ministries you may be called:

- Helping with Fine Arts Camp June 16th – 22nd. You do not have to work every day. There are many jobs, some big and some small. Let me know and we will set you up with times and days that work with your schedule.
- ACTS Ministry: **A**cting and **C**aring as **T**abitha **S**erved. We have tried this a couple of times, but it did not work because of COVID and other issues. We are trying once again to revive this important ministry. Part of this involves visiting people in nursing homes who have no one to visit them. A new part of this ministry will be helping our parishioners who need help with grass cutting, rides to doctor appointments, shopping, simple home repairs, etc. Please let me know if you are willing to help with this ministry.

This is still very much in the planning stages, but we need to see who we might have in the way of volunteers. We would like to offer homework help/ tutoring for students in our community. Would you be willing to give one night a month to help students with their homework in the parish hall? If you have skills in the subjects of math, science, language arts, foreign languages or any other areas students may have difficulty with, please let me know.

Thanks in advance for any help you may be able to give.

Peace, Peg+

◀ February	March 2025					April ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	3	4 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Shrove Pancake Dinner 5:00pm—7:00 pm	5 Ash Wednesday Westminster Canterbury Eucharist 9:00 am Christian Education 10:30 am Ash Wednesday Service 12:00 pm	6 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	7	8
9 Daylight Saving Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Brotherhood 9:00 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	10	11 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm	12 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Outreach Ministry 10:15 am Fellowship Lenten Dinner 5:30 pm	13 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	14	15
16 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	17 St Patrick's Day Finance Committee 9:00 am Elephant Committee 10:30 am	18 ECW 10:30 am Tech Team 11:30 am AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Vestry 4:00 pm	19 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am Christian Education 10:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Outreach Lenten Dinner 5:30 pm	20 Fellowship Ministry 9:30 am AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	21 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	22
23 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	24 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	25 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm	26 Wednesday Eucharist 9:30 am CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Vestry Lenten Dinner 5:30 pm	27 AA Group 12 noon—1:00 pm CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	28 CCS Yoga 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm Newsletter Submission	29
30 Holy Eucharist Services 8:00 am and 10:30 am Daughters of the King 9:00 am—10:00 am	31					



The Winds of Change Dispel Solitude and Usher in a Sense of Community

We are on the threshold of March—a windy month that signals change and heralds Spring, specifically on 20 March! Everyone loves the month of March! March days offer longer days of sunshine and light to enjoy life. Let's explore the March calendar and April's list of activities at our church. The Brotherhood's Pancake dinner on 4 March. Come one. Come all to this festive, fun event.

Lent comes with a sense of expectation. Lenten Dinners offer renewed opportunities for fellowship and community as we celebrate together on March 12th (Fellowship), March 19th (Outreach), March 26th (Vestry), April 2nd (Brotherhood), and April 9th (ECW). Father Bob Prichard will offer special Lenten lessons after each meal. Meals are complimentary, but donations are accepted.

This year, we are making the "Great Vigil of Easter" a true focus and celebratory event where man's journey to salvation is in the passages of the Old Testament. The Great Vigil is the first service of Easter Day. The Great Vigil consists of four parts: 1. The Service of Light, 2. The Service of Lessons, 3. Christian Initiation (Renewal of Baptismal Vows), and 4. The Holy Eucharist with the administration of Easter Communion.

Join us on Easter morning, April 20, beginning at 5:30 am. After the service, we are serving a hot breakfast with Quiche Lorraine, chocolate-dipped strawberries, fresh fruit medley, coffee cakes, coffee, champagne, and juice. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board on March 3rd. Please sign up early so we can judge seating in church and at breakfast.

May 2nd is Concert Night in the Parish Hall. Clayton Neal and his band and young newcomers will treat us to an evening of music spanning decades of songs for our enjoyment. Beer, Wine, and soft drinks, fresh popcorn, chips, pretzels, and chocolates will be offered.

There will be fairly priced snacks and to assist in covering expenses rather than having an admission charge. Donations will be graciously accepted also.

Remember that we are the Fellowship Committee and we "Play where we Pray." Come join our committee and have fun with us too.

Fellowship Committee
Bev Hart and Mary Lynn Landgraf



Three members of our Ministry handed out warm socks and Valentine's chocolates at the Cryer Center food pickup on February 11. Despite the cold, snowy weather, we were greeted with many smiles and appreciative comments ("Bless you!" "Thank you") that kept us warm throughout the delivery to over 60 cars. Watching the many dedicated workers who do this regularly made us appreciate the outreach performed at the Cryer Center. Pictured below are Pam McClelland (in the hood), Susie Loustaunau, and DeLois Greenwood.



Our Ministry will provide lunch for the workers who will be building a ramp for Dolly Cronk at her home. Due to many weekends of inclement weather in February, the event has been rescheduled to mid-March. Devoted members of the "Middle Tidewater Baptist Association," assisted by several members of our congregation, will be building the ramp. Future projects include a Lenten Dinner on March 19 featuring New England clam chowder and an expansion of the Creation Care Garden.

Our next meeting is on March 12 at 10:15 am. Come join us!

DeLois Greenwood and Pam McClelland, Co-chairs

LENTEN SERVICES

The Book of Common Prayer: Where it came from and where it is going.



During the first five weeks of Lent, the Rev. Dr. Robert W. Prichard, our priest associate, will offer reflections on the Book of Common Prayer (1979) following the weekly Lenten Dinners on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. In each session, Bob will reflect on the 16th-century editions of the Book of Common Prayer (1549, 1552, 1559) that provided the basis for a continuing prayer book tradition and reflect on how the current prayer book edition of 1979 reshaped that tradition. Bob, who served as the secretary of the Joint Committee on

Prayer Book, Liturgy, and Music at the Episcopal Church's General Conventions of 2015 and 2018, will also share his thoughts on how the prayer book is being supplemented and revised in the 21st century. Individual topics will include:

March 12. The creation of a single book. Prior to the mid-16th century, the materials needed for regular worship were divided into multiple specialized volumes, which were too expensive for ordinary church members. In 1549, the leaders of the English Reformation brought all this material together in a single volume that contained everything needed for regular worship—a Book of Common Prayer. The advent of online publishing in the late 20th century has led some Episcopalians to re-think this idea of a single comprehensive volume.

March 19. The Baptizing Community. While baptism has been a regular element in the life of the followers of Jesus since the first century, the manner in which it has been administered and the relationship to a sometimes separable office of confirmation have varied greatly over time. The editors of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer recast the Baptismal office in ways that we are only beginning to understand.

March 26. The Holy Eucharist. The service of Holy Communion included in the first Book of Common Prayer of 1549 was a conservative editing and translation into English of materials from the late Medieval Roman Catholic liturgy. Three years later, the second prayer book (1552) followed a path more in line with the Reformed Church of Switzerland and the thinking of John Calvin. It has been argued that the multiple editions of the Book of Common Prayer since 1552 have wrestled with finding a balance between these two approaches to the celebration of the Eucharist. The 1979 edition continues this process but also reflects new insights from the 20th-century Liturgical Movement.

April 2. The Daily Office and the Lectionary. Prior to the Reformation, most lay persons had no exposure to the Daily Office in their local parishes, though they could witness the service by visiting monastic institutions. The first prayer book created a simplified daily office that involved two services (Morning and Evening Prayer) rather than the eight services celebrated by monks and nuns. The prayer book directed that all clergy read the services in church daily and prescribed a lectionary that directed reading of the entire Psalter each month and of most of the rest of the Bible each year. American Episcopalians changed the expectation of that frequency after the American Revolution and read Morning Prayer chiefly as a Sunday service alternating with the Eucharist for a century following the Civil War. The 1979 prayer book attempted to restore the Daily Office as a weekday service, reserving Sundays for celebrations of the Eucharist. Some in the 21st century are rethinking that change in light of declining church membership.

April 9. Confession. The vision of the editors of the first Book of Common Prayer of 1549 stepped back from the late medieval understanding of sin and repentance as a pastoral matter to be handled in private with a priest. The first prayer book followed a different path, adding confession and absolution to the regular public services of the church. They eliminated the expectation that private confession was needed for the reception of the Eucharist. However, they allowed for private confession as an option for those with a troubled conscience and those facing death. They did not, however, provide any liturgical form for it. The 1979 prayer book is the first American Prayer Book reintroduced a set rite for private confession. In the past three decades, the Episcopal Church has offered supplemental materials intended to expand our understanding of that for which we should seek forgiveness.

Please join us for the Lenten dinner and for the education presentation that will follow.



The Christ Church Women are offering a fun Fashion Show/Luncheon/Game Day on April 25th. These events have been enjoyed by all in the past, so share this information with all you know and join us for a great day. There are door prizes, including one very generous one from Ross Fine Jewelry, and some surprises as well.

All the details are on the flyer page on page 13 of this Newsletter. Judi Snider will be taking your reservations. You can come to the fashion show and luncheon. Any game is great; just come and have fun! Please spread the word!

Grace Parker



Charitable Gifts Christ Church Parish Endowment



A new year provides an excellent opportunity to consider plans for charitable gifts in 2025. These gifts to the Christ Church Parish Endowment could include an IRA charitable rollover.

The IRS refers to the IRA charitable rollover as a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). An individual over age 70½ can make a direct transfer from his or her IRA custodian to a qualified charity. The transfer is not included in taxable income. If the IRA owner is over age 73, the distribution may fulfill part or all of the IRA owner's required minimum distribution (RMD).

Since many individuals have invested their IRAs in stocks, bonds, or other securities, it may be necessary for the IRA custodian to exchange the IRA stock or bond account for a money market fund before the distribution. Talk with your IRA custodian to determine the next steps to make a QCD.

There are some limits for the IRA charitable rollover. The IRA owner must be at least age 70½, and the maximum transfer in 2025 is \$108,000. The transfer must be to a qualified exempt charity and may be for a designated purpose or a field of interest fund. Transfers to donor-advised funds or supporting organizations are not permitted. In addition, transfers may not be for a charity dinner or other event involving a partial donor benefit. The entire QCD must be for a qualified charitable purpose.

Contact your Financial Advisor to initiate a tax-advantaged charitable gift to our beautiful church.

Christ Church Parish Endowment Board
Jack Hellems, Chair
The Reverend Randi Hicks Rowe, Priest In Charge
Bill Budd, Senior Warden
Grace Parker, Secretary
Jim Knupp

Christ Church Parish Episcopal Church Women Presents

Spring Fashion Show, Luncheon, & Game Day



Christ Church Parish



Friday, April 25th

11:00 AM - Until

\$35 per person

Reserve your table of 4 for bridge, canasta, mahjong, or scrabble

Ladies wishing just to enjoy the fashion show and luncheon are more than welcome

All Reservations should be made with Judi Snider

Please reserve early to Judi Snider, Phone: 804-402-1624

Cut off date for Reservations is April 22nd

Checks payable to Christ Church ECW for your entire table

mailed to Judi at 856 Felton Road, Deltaville, VA 23043

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Christ Church Parish
Parish Hall
56 Christchurch Lane
Christchurch, VA 23031

Special February Celebrations

Anniversaries



- 6 Phil & Karen Brown*
- 9 Jamie & Beverly Barnhardt III*
- 18 Rev. Randi & Tom Rowe*
- 23 Charlie & Bev Hart*
- 29 Bill & Cean Cawthorn*
- 30 Dave & Marilyn South*

Birthdays

- 1 Bill Budd*
- 2 Michelle Meredith*
- 9 Joey Humphreys*
Meredith Caskie
- 11 Jim Dudley*
- 13 Paula Saddler*
- 15 Lydia Dudley*
- 17 Patricia "Pat" Anderson*
Karen Gorin
- 18 Jimmy Meredith*
- 20 Bill Newman*
- 23 Jewel Ray*
- 24 Fernando Melendez*



NEWSLETTER ARTICLES WELCOMED!

This newsletter contains information and articles relevant to Christ Church Parish. If you are a member, you may submit an article of interest for consideration for publication 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 2025 are:

<u>Month Published</u>	<u>Submission Deadline by the ...</u>
April 2025	March 28, 2025
May 2025	April 28, 2025
June 2025	May 28, 2025
July 2025	June 27, 2025
August 2025	July 28, 2025
September 2025	August 27, 2025
October 2025	September 19, 2025
November 2025	October 27, 2025
December 2025	November 25, 2025
January 2026	December 29, 2025

All submissions must be emailed as a Word document to jeff.of.jamaica@outlook.com. Pictures may also be submitted and will be used as space becomes available.