



THE CHRIST CHURCH CHRONICLER

Christ Episcopal Church
Spotsylvania, Virginia

THE MISSION OF CHRIST CHURCH is to bring all persons to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ through Word, Sacraments, and instruction, as taught through the Episcopal tradition, that all may know the joy and grace of faith.

September

2011

A Message from the Rector

Angry Earth, Loving God

Boy! There's nothing like a 5.8 earthquake to make you reevaluate your priorities. The earth, the very foundation of our lives, the real and figurative *solid ground* of our existence, suddenly shakes angrily under our feet. What can we do about it? Nothing. We are at the mercy of forces far beyond our control. One of our Spotsylvania school principles noted that the disaster manual advises, in case of an earthquake, "get under something and hold on." Indeed.

As if we didn't already have enough to worry about. We are approaching the tenth anniversary of the terror of September 11th, and as I write this, we are bracing for hurricane Irene. Anxiety seems to be running high these days. It is easy to understand how the ancients interpreted things like earthquakes and damaging storms as the wrath of God. It sure feels like there is something wrong, like the world, or God, has a beef with us. Though I don't believe this is how God works, still a good, old-fashioned disaster does tend to focus one's attention.

So, if God isn't angry at us, what are we to make of all the disasters and problems around the world that we are instantaneously made us aware through the media? Well, part of the answer is in the electronic media itself. We are plugged in to the world these days, and we know everything as it is happening, even if it is happening on the other side of the globe. Eye witness accounts have been replaced by iPhone HD video posted on Facebook within seconds. And it turns out there is a lot happening at any given moment on this planet. Go Figure.

There is, however, more going on than the effect of the media. These are tense times. Socially, politically, philosophically there is a lot that seems to be in flux. That raises the stakes, so to speak. So any momentous events start to appear more momentous in light of everything else.

None of this is to say that we should stop trying to interpret the events of history in terms of what God wants for, or expects from, us. I do believe that God works through human history. The work of interpreting history might be a little more difficult in these turbulent and turbo charged times. Having a world view that includes scientific ways of knowing, having a global sense of what is good, being aware of and sensitive to other cultures and religions, all make the interpretation of history more complicated than it was for the ancients. It becomes a more communal endeavor, and requires deep humility.

The most important aspect of interpreting God's action in human history for the Christian has to be Jesus Christ as the lens through which all events are viewed. The God who loves us so much that he gave his only Son for our salvation certainly loves us enough not to destroy us with an earthquake. Whatever happens, remember that God loves us, and even suffers with us.

SEPTEMBER 2011 LAY MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Lector	Chalice Bearer	Acolytes	Ushers	Altar Guild	Nursery
<u>September 4</u>					
8:00 Dana Houck	Edd Houck		Joe Ilk	Wieland Team	
10:30 Roy Smith	Mark Walker Tim Watts	Matthew LeBlanc Megan LeBlanc Shelby Kuhl	Denise Crigger Frank Carosella		Suzi Zafrano
<u>September 11</u>					
8:00 David Lynch	Linda Salisbury		Henry Howe	Williams Team	
10:30 David Cain	Penny Knepp David Lynch	Gavin Smith Andrew Smith Jenna Phillips	Bob Massey Ron Magin		Suzi Zafrano
<u>September 18</u>					
8:00 Henry Howe	David Lynch		Thom Smelter	DiRusso Team	
10:30 Beverly McNeil	David Lynch Kristi Gross	Allison Eagle Jenna Phillips Hannah Lovell Clifford	Bill Palmer Tim Zafrano		Suzi Zafrano
<u>September 25</u>					
8:00 David Lynch	Harry Frank		Calib Garland	Magin Team	
10:30 Anne Williams	Judi O'Neill David Lynch	Dominic Cronin Christopher Cronin Alex Watts	Frank Stewart Werner Wieland		Suzi Zafrano

You are responsible for finding your own replacement in the event that you cannot serve when scheduled. Notify parish office of replacements.



The Chronicler

September 2011

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Junior Warden Bill Butler
Treasurer Sarah Estes
Asst. Treasurer Mary Williams
Register Ann Woolford
 Danville Fourie
 Judy Fristoe
 Jim Kenkel
 Josh LeBlanc
 Tricia Smelter
 Betsy Warne
 Brad White

WELCOME

The Christ Episcopal Church family extends a warm welcome to: Raymond and Ruth Brancolini who transferred their membership from Trinity Church in downtown Fredericksburg; James and Linda Salisbury, transferring their membership from St. James in Louisa, VA, and Jay D. Fuller, who transferred from Good Shepherd Lutheran in Woodbridge. We are thrilled to have all of you as part of our church family!

Region One Says Goodbye to Bishop Jones

On the evening of October 8th, the Region One Council will host a dinner at St. Stephen's, Culpeper, in honor of the Rt. Rev. David Jones, who is retiring in February. Bishop Jones has been a good friend to Christ Church, acting as our supervising bishop during the search for a new rector that ended with the calling of Father Packard, and offering helpful advice and support to our vestry over the years. Participation in the dinner and celebration of ministry will be limited. Look for more details soon.

Sunday School

Sunday School and Children's Chapel will resume on September 11th downstairs in All Saint's Hall from 9:15 – 10:15. Children's Chapel is held in the Great Hall, beginning at 10:30, we will join our families in church for Eucharist. Jenny will be in front of the church after each service on September 4th taking registration.

The adult education forum, which meets in the Great Hall, will begin the year with an extended study of the Gospel of John. Speak to Father Packard for more details.

CONDOLENCES

The Christ Church family offers its deepest sympathy to:

Ken Wilson and Kathy Greer and their families on the death of their mother, Lois Wilson;

Kelli White and her family on the death of Kelli's aunt, Lorraine Drewry;

and Michele Schiesser and her family on the death of Michelle's aunt, Ellen McMenamin.

"May all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace."



SEPTEMBER
BIRTHDAYS 2011

02 T.J. Amato
04 Morgan Andrew White
07 Elyce Wieland
08 Joseph Clarkin
April Ketchem
10 Dottie Wells
Suzi Zafrano
11 Edd Houck

13 William Gibson
Nicholas Knepp
14 Charles Linton
19 John Fristoe
Leslie Bates
20 Meredith Lake
21 Aaron Packard
Vicki Duperock

26 Lester Kidd
Kristie Gross
Kelli White
Tricia Smelter
27 Diane Clarkin
28 Cecil Jarman
29 Alex Barnes
30 James Stewart

STORK UPDATE!



Our Christ Church Family sends congratulations to first time great-grandparents, Howard and Bobby Canaday. Born to their granddaughter, Shannon and husband, Chris Norfolk on July 16th, was Kalib Michael, 8 pounds, 12 ounces. Congratulations to all!

Our Christ Church Family sends congratulations to Thom and Tricia Smelter on the healthy birth of their eighth grandchild, Owen Thomas, born to Craig and Mirna Smelter on July 25th. Owen, born with a head full of black hair, weighed in at 8 lb, 11 oz. Mirna and Craig are doing well. Congratulations to all!

**Ecumenical Variety Show
October 9th 2011**

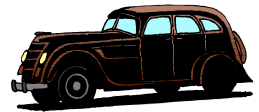
Christ Church will be hosting an ecumenical variety show on Sunday afternoon, October 9th at 4:00 in the Great Hall. Resurrection Lutheran Church and Peace United Methodist Church will be participating as well. A free will offering will be received at the show, and will benefit the various feeding ministries at the participating parishes. Refreshments will also be provided. Spots are limited, so if you want to perform in the show, speak to Father Packard, Jenny LeBlanc, or Kris Clifford as soon as possible.

Wreaths Across America



A non-profit organization, is celebrating twenty years of placing wreaths on the graves at Arlington National Cemetery at Christmastime. This fall they will offer us the opportunity to help sponsor this touching tribute to our service men and women. We will make order cards available for anyone who would like to make a contribution to help pay for the wreaths, 225,000 in all. Plus, if you want to you could actually participate in the laying of the wreaths. More information will be available soon. *(Note: This is not a Christ Church endeavor; we have been asked to promote it.)*

**CHRIST CHURCH
TENTH ANNUAL CAR SHOW
OCTOBER 1st 2011**



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. . . START YOUR ENGINES!!!

We are racing toward the Tenth Annual Car Show on **October 1st, 2011!** Please don't be left in the dust! The Car Show officially starts at 8:30 in the morning. The cars, trucks, tractors and anything else people bring, from motorcycles to fire engines, will be coming in until noon. Trophies will be given out at 2:30 PM.

Our Christ Church Quilters have spent the last year working on and completing a handmade quilt to raffle off at this event. Tickets will be available beginning at both services on Sunday, Aug 28th or see Ruth in the Parish Office Tuesday through Friday.

Various food items, including baked goods, will be provided and sold. For those of you who still wish to donate baked goods, contact a member of the ECW.

There will also be the 50-50 chance and a Chinese Auction.

ALSO



**CHRIST CHURCH THRIFT SHOP
FEATURES**



CLOTHES SALE, \$5.00 A LARGE BAG AND \$1.00 SMALL BAG

**ALL PAPERBACKS, 5 CENTS; VHS TAPES, 10 CENTS and DVD'S \$1.00!
A WHOLE LOT MORE!**

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND 50% OFF FURNITURE
AND A FREE MUG WITH PURCHASE**

COME SPEND THE DAY WITH US!!!



Thanks to all who stepped up to help cover summer hours in the Thrift Shop. Sales were up because of the additional help we received; however, we continue to need additional volunteers and more donations, particularly gently used furniture. Please continue to clean out those closets, attics, basements and garages. We need more donations, Note: We can no longer accept computers or TVs (except for flat screens). For assistance, contact Cheryl at (540) 972-1891 or Kelli or Mary at 582-5508 (Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat.).

Christ Church Concert Series

Singer/songwriter/actor Ronny Cox will return to Spotsylvania County in September for his second appearance in a Christ Church concert. In a previous performance, he was well received and we look forward to seeing and listening to his outstanding music and showmanship again. Cox is well known as a movie actor, featured in such iconic films as *Deliverance*, *Beverly Hills Cop*, *RoboCop* and *Total Recall*.

Joining him will be his new partners: Karen Mal and Radoslav Lorkovic. Lorkovic's piano style draws on classical, jazz, blues, country and soul. His tenure on the R&B and folk circuits has culminated in five critically acclaimed solo recordings. Mal is a singer, songwriter, mandolin and bass player who has released three CDs and won numerous awards in the folk and bluegrass circles.

The concert starts at 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 18th, in the church. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by contacting Ruth, the church secretary, at 540-582-5033 or secretary@christchurchspotsy.com. Season tickets are \$50. They can also be purchased at the door. A reception will follow each concert in All Saints Hall.

The remainder of the 2011-12 Christ Church Concert Series includes:

Massaponax High School Choir	Nov 6, 2011
Washington Camerata	March 25, 2012
Dana & Sue Robinson	May 13, 2012

Want to advertise your business or take run a special ad in the series program? Contact Jeff Massey jeff@mortonsbmw.com or Roy Smith rsmith@umw.edu.

Parish Picnic September 25, 2011

On Sunday, September 25th, our 10:30 service will be outdoors, weather permitting. Following the service will be our parish picnic. The Episcopal Church Men will cook hot dogs and hamburgers, and provide the buns, condiments, and drinks. You are asked to join us and bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share.

Food Pantry Update

The Christ Church pantry is open the second and fourth Tuesday of every month from 9:30 a.m. to noon. We need help on the days the pantry is open, but we really could use your help in pre-packing food and cleaning up. Bag packing can be done at your convenience after you have been trained. The people we serve really appreciate all the food we give them. Ask anyone who volunteers, it's a lot of fun! Call Stephanie Smith at (540) 582-6162 or email ssmith@umw.edu for more information.

Harvest Festival October 30th 2011



Plans are underway for the Harvest Festival which will take place at 4 PM October 30th. There will be activities for children and adults as well as lots of good food. If you came to the festival last year, you know we had a great time. If you missed it, here is your chance to enjoy an evening with your parish family. More details will follow in the Sunday bulletin announcements soon. If you want to help with the planning, please speak to Lydia Pozzato.

Family Ministry Corner

Jenny LeBlanc, Family Ministry Coordinator



When you read this, we will be saying farewell to a long hot summer and returning to our normal structured schedules. Even though we enjoyed spending extra time with our kids, most of us are ready for them to return to school. As kids were lying in bed wishing for just one more week of freedom, parents were laying in bed thinking “Thank you God!” However with our schedules back in school mode we find ourselves going from a slightly laid-back schedule to a very busy schedule filled with homework, practices, football games and more. A month from now we will be joining the kids in wishing for those lazy summer days to come back! Yet, however busy it was, we always look forward to it because we love watching our kids grow and see them through all these special moments in their lives.

This year is a big one in our house, Shelby is a senior, Matthew is starting middle school, and it’s Megan’s last year in elementary school. Talk about an exciting and momentous year! Part of me is excited, but part of me is thinking, “Wait, this is all moving too fast!” Sometimes it seems like life is in fast-forward and it leaves us wishing for a pause button.

We run around so busy always looking forward to upcoming events that we forget that everyday is special. Sometimes it is a momentous event, but most of the time it is something so small that we are too busy to recognize how special it is. A new friend, a hug from a loved one, a joke that made you smile, and a simple thank you, these are all special and unfortunately most are taken for granted. We are so busy spending all our time getting to the big moments that the everyday things go unnoticed. We forget to slow down and make time to appreciate all the gifts God has given us, great and small. So when you lay in bed tonight don’t wish for something different, instead ask yourself...what was special about today?

Vacation Bible School Feedback

Our theme this summer for VBS was PandaMania. Our message to all was “God is Wild About Us.” Forty children attended, ages 3-16, and most impressive was the great number of adult and teen volunteers that assisted. Thanks to all for taking the time and effort to support the youngsters of our church. **NOTE:** Although our VBS students learned many, many things related to God, most importantly of all, they learned God made you; God listens to you; God watches over you; God loves you, no matter what; God gives good gifts, and God loves you.

BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

During the two pantry Tuesdays in August, we provided a total of 153 backpacks with school supplies to the children of our food pantry patrons. We gave out 84 for pre-K to 5th grade; 35 for 6th to 8th grade, and 34 for grades 9 through 12. Of course, we owe this to the generosity of our church family; without you, we could not have met our goal. Thank you all so very much. God Bless You!"



YOUR voice is requested!
Join the Choir today!
Rehearsals Sundays at 10 am
Sing & Pray at the 10:30 am Service
No experience necessary

The Christ Church Quilters

The Christ Church Quilters invite you to join their group Thursday from 10:30 to 2:00 PM in Rm #8 of ASH if you would like to learn how to quilt, they'll teach you. For more details, please contact Alice Daniels, (540) 786-8038 or alice_daniels@comcast.net

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew Saturday meetings include fellowship over breakfast, a brief Bible study and prayer. All members of the parish are invited. The summer schedule is as follows:

Sept.	10 th and 24 th
Oct.	8 th and 22 nd
Nov.	12 th and 26 th

We meet in the Great Hall at 8 AM. Contact Ray Crafton at (540) 785-7840 for more information.

Calendars for Sale

This fall we will have photo wall calendars for sale that feature Christ Church and other historic parishes in Virginia. They will make a wonderful gift for friends and family, or a keepsake for parishioners.

Book Club Group

The book chosen for the September 12th get together is *Still Alice*, by Lisa Genova. This is a true story with fictional characters about a psychology professor who knows she has early onset Alzheimers. This book is available at the public library and, hopefully, you still have time to read it, join us from 11:30 to 1:00, and bring a bag lunch.

For the October 3rd book club meeting, we will discuss *Pope Joan* by Donna Woolfolk Cross. This is a historical novel about an actual female legendary Pope, set in the middle ages. We look forward to some lively discussions.

The November Book Group will discuss *I Am the Clay* by Chaim Potok. The setting is during the Korean War where the author served as a Jewish Army Chaplin in Korea for 16 months. This novel tells a story about an elderly Korean couple and a 10-yr old boy whose lives are turned upside down by the war.



King James Bible Reading September 16, 2011

This year marks the 400th anniversary of the translation of the Holy Scriptures into English, the Authorized Version, commonly called the King James Version. Fredericksburg area churches will mark the anniversary with the reading of this beautiful landmark in English literature in its entirety over twelve sessions hosted by different churches. Christ Church will kick off the celebration with the reading of Genesis and Exodus beginning at 5:00 PM on Friday, September 16th in the Great Hall. Speak to Father Packard or Penny Knepp if you are interested in reading.

In addition there will be two lectures offered. Our lecturers are Daniel Dapaah and Tarma Toom of the faculty of the John Leland Center for Theological Studies in Northern Virginia. Lectures will be: September 19 "Appointed to be read in churches: the King James Bible" by Tarma Toom; and on September 26 "English Translations Since the King James Version" by Daniel Dapaah. Times and places for lectures will be available soon.

Directory Update

Thank you to all who came in to have their picture taken for the upcoming directory. Because of your response we will have a wonderful portrait record of our church family!



Sunlight Garden Club

The Sunlight Garden Club's next meeting will be on Tuesday, September 13th at 7 PM in ASH 6/7. For more information, please contact Shirley Main at (540) 373-1230 or Sue Ann Thomas, (540) 891-7458.

Nursery Update

We sure can use some helpers in our Nursery! Come and have fun playing with our little ones! Anyone can volunteer to help. Teens: What a great way not only to gain experience but work on your community services hours as well. If you can assist or have questions, please contact Suzi Zafrano at



Fellowship Commission

We need you to share yourself and your time hosting Fellowship on Sundays. Fellowship hour is a very important ministry as it gives us time to socialize once a week as a church family. Talk to Bill Butler about hosting and then sign up at the Communication Center. Even once a month will help.

Yoga Class

Yoga class is held on Monday and Wednesday, 8:30-9:30 AM in the Great Hall. If interested, please contact Missie Jarman at missiejarman@starpower.net (540) 582-8831 or just show up.



St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals October 2, 2011



Once again this fall we will celebrate the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, who espoused a love for all of God's creation, and have a blessing of animals on Sunday, October 2nd, at 2:00 PM. However this year will be a little bit different. We have invited the Spotsylvania SPCA to join us that day. They will make this an *adopt a pet* event. They will also be inviting all those who have adopted from them recently to join us for the blessing. We expect this to be fun event for all ages of animal lovers. Refreshments will be provided for all creatures, great and small. Please bring pets under appropriate restraint, and be prepared to clean up any mess they make.

The Christ Church Columbarium and Cemetery

The Parish Office is accepting applications from church members to reserve a niche for inurnment in our Columbarium. Space is also available in our cemetery. A diagram of available niches as well as cost of each is available in our Parish Office. If you are interested in pre-planning, please contact Ruth in the office at 582-5033.

Christ Church July Finance Report

July Finance Report: We Switched Lenders and Save Nearly \$5,500 a Month

In July, the big news was that we switched lenders and, as a result, will save nearly \$5,500 a month in mortgage costs. Christ Church's remaining \$475,000 mortgage is now financed by the Diocesan Missionary Society. Our relationship with PNC has ended. Also in July, we received **\$15,884** in pledge income, 98% of what was pledged, not bad for summertime, when pledge income often falls short. Total income for the month was **\$47,471**, compared with a budget of **\$30,341**. The large overage was due to \$19,397 the parish received in cash when we switched lenders. For the year, total income is 11% above budget, due to the bequest received in January and the cash received in July. Total expense in July was **\$35,376**. Budgeted expenses were **\$35,264**. For the year, expenses are 4% under budget.

DON'T FORGET!

Sunday morning worship schedule and Children's Church and Sunday school:

Two services 8:00 and 10:30, with Christian Education for all ages from 9:15 to 10:15.

Episcopal Church Women meet every 4th Tuesday of the month at 11:30 AM in All Saints Hall.

Episcopal Church Men meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM in All Saints Hall.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew meets the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in All Saints Hall.

The Vestry meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM in room 8, All Saints Hall.

Sunday bulletin announcements due by: **noon Wednesday**, call 582-5033.

The Chronicler deadline for submissions is **September 19th** for the **October Chronicler**.

Please send submissions (**preferably as a Word Document**) to **Mary Kovach, Chronicler Editor;**

trmary@comcast.net or call (540) 972-5405.