



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, and to share that grace through outreach.

The Chronicler

February 2017

Spotsylvania, VA

Church Mice

If you pay attention, you might catch a glimpse of them. They are very stealthy, often coming into the church when no one is around. You may not even notice them if you are looking right at them. Keep your eyes open to see the mice of Christ Church. What are these church mice doing? They are very busy indeed. They do all the stuff that no one notices, that is no one notices unless it isn't done. When you come into church on Sunday morning, have you ever thought about how the church got prepared for worship? How did the colored seasonal hangings, Communion vessels, flowers, and even the numbers on the hymn board get set up? Why, it's the church mice, of course.

Obviously I'm talking about the members of the Altar Guild, that band of unsung heroes who are dedicated to working behind the scenes making sure things are set, then re-set in between the two Sunday services, and cleaned up afterwards, week after week. If they do their job right, you would never notice them. The Altar Guild is one of many groups that we depend on to make things work at Christ Church, one that you may have never considered before. These are people who do not want to be up front; they do not want to get recognized for their work. In fact, they take quiet satisfaction in doing an invisible ministry.

The Altar Guild is not only responsible for cleaning and maintaining all liturgical vessels, vestments, and paraments (hangings), including laundering and pressing all the linens, they are also responsible for ordering supplies, like Communion wafers, wine, candle wax, and palms for Palm Sunday or ashes for Ash Wednesday. A subgroup of the Altar Guild—you might call them the Flower Guild—are the talented people who do all of the flower arrangements for the altar. Did you know that we do not have a florist do our altar arrangements, but handle it in-house? They also take charge in decorating for Christmas and Easter, and any other special events such as the Harvest Festival, or our recent anniversary festivities.

The Altar Guild fulfills its vital mission, supporting our worship of God, without receiving a penny from the general parish budget. (See samples of annual expenses on last page.) They are funded entirely by the money donated for flowers. So be sure to sign up for a Sunday on the flower chart at the Communications Center. They have been ably led by Linda Wieland for 17 years. She sets the tone of reverence and sacred duty that is reflected by all the members. If you speak to one of these folks, they will tell you that the very act of handling sacred things and carrying out their potentially boring duties is actually a spiritual practice itself. Setting up for church can be a prayerful, meditative experience. It affords quiet moments alone in the church when one can open one's self to the presence of God and find real joy in a humble task. So the next time you notice that you can see your reflection in the chalice, or wonder who polished the brass door knob on the front door, take a moment to say a little prayer of thanks for our faithful Altar Guild.

FEBRUARY 2017 LAY MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Lector	Chalice Bearer	Acolytes	Ushers	Altar Guild	Nursery
<u>February 5</u>				Williams Team	
8:00 Dana Houck	Edd Houck		Robert Truslow		
10:30 Ann Woolford	Penny Knepp Steve Clifford	Stephen Wallach Lilly Wallach David Packard	Judy O'Neill Bob McGann		McKenzie Goldberg
<u>February 12</u>				Magin Team	
8:00 Joan Gere	Deacon Margaret		Marv Pixton		
10:30 Martha Clark	Joe Junod Tim Watts	Rachel Stockli Chloe Stockli Hunter Clifford	Cecil Jarman Missie Jarman		TBA
<u>February 19</u>				Wieland Team	
8:00 Beth Goshin	Edd Houck		Joseph L. Ilk		
10:30 SCOUT SUNDAY	David Packard Boy Scouts	Boy Scouts	Werner Wieland Boy Scouts		Erin Senters
<u>February 26</u>				Williams Team	
8:00 Calib Garland	Deacon Margaret		Calib Garland		
10:30 Mary Williams	Mary Peterman Werner Wieland	Aaron DiFilippo Drew DiFilippo Jack DiFilippo	Frank Carosella Hank Mausolf		Molly Watts

You are responsible for finding your own replacement in the event that you cannot serve when scheduled. If you are serving as a Lector/Chalicer and unable to find one, please contact Penny Knepp at pnypitstop@aol.com or 891-6299 and she will assist you. Notify parish office of replacement(s).



2017
CHRONICLER



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Vestry

Senior Warden

Linda Wieland

Jr. Warden

Tim Watts

Treasurer

Mary Williams

Asst Treasurer

Linda Smith

Register

Martha Clark

Members

Bill Butler

Martha Clark

David Fagiano

Missie Jarman

Jim Kenkel

Beverly McNeill

Sue Roberts

Tim Watts

Linda Wieland



A warm welcome to the Gitzen family: Liz, Dan, Colton, and Kellan, of Spotsylvania, who attended our 4:30 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. We look forward to seeing this lovely family again soon and perhaps, one day, they will join our wonderful church family.

To Bill and Karen Estes on the passing of Bill's mother and our devoted church and staff member for many years, Sarah Herring Estes, who passed away on December 29, 2016 at the age of 87. Sarah was laid to rest in our church cemetery on January 5 and a reception, sponsored by the ECW, followed in the Great Hall. "May her soul and the souls of all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace."

To Gerald and Ellen Johnson on the recent death of Gerald's sister, Marilyn Masserant. "May her soul and the souls of all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace."





02/01 Olivia Gibson
02/01 Elaine Wyant
02/04 Stacey Erwin
02/05 Mollie Thommen
02/10 Jeffrey Packard
02/11 Carlos Valadez
02/11 Barbara Deal
02/12 Michael Cronin
02/15 Joe Junod
02/15 James Stewart

02/18 Winnie Bell
02/19 Scott Mitchell
02/21 Karen Watts
02/21 Drew Fristoe
02/22 Kim Hoffman
02/22 Linda Rooney
02/22 Michelle Bell
02/24 Terry Gibson
02/29 Marjorie Mausolf

Class Prepares for Confirmation

When Bishop Johnston visits on February 5, he will celebrate confirmations and a reception. The following people are completing the class as preparation for these sacramental rites: Jack DiFilippo, Kyla Houck, Tate Mattive, Trevor Mills, Will Sides, Denise Gregory, Olivia Johnson, Mary Peterman, and Ken Ramsey. Please keep these folks in your prayers as they prepare mentally and spiritually. Remember that there will be a potluck luncheon following the 10:30 service that day. We will celebrate the confirmands and welcome the bishop with this hospitality.

Annual Parish Meeting, February 12

Christ Church will have its Annual Parish Meeting following the 10:30 service on Sunday, February 12. The meeting will be followed by a potluck luncheon. As of print time, we have two people who have submitted their candidacy forms to run for the vestry. The two candidates are (in alphabetical order) Joe Junod and Bob McGann. Their profiles are elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter. We will elect three people to fill the expired terms of Missie Jarman, Beverly McNeill, and Tim Watts. Many thanks to those who have served for three years, and thanks to those willing to run for three year terms.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

ECW begins our year in September after summer break but we do kick off the calendar year in January with our “giving” meeting. This is where we vote on which diocesan charities to support for the coming year. February is our “iffy” month because a warm December and January usually means an icy and snowy February and in years past, this has caused cancellation of our meeting day. In March we start planning for our April plant and bake sale. We choose which plants to purchase, how many, etc. and which baked goods are our biggest sellers. **April 29** is our only fundraiser, our annual plant and bake sale, so our meeting is geared towards that. We close out in May with a trip to an area historic Episcopal church. This year we are thinking about Wicomico Parish Church in the Northern Neck. Plans for this trip are done at the March or April meeting. This year our meeting programs are about women in the Bible - very interesting with a life lesson at the end of each. Come join us for a couple of hours of fellowship, learning and just plain fun on the third Tuesday of the month at 11:30 in the Great Hall of All Saints Hall.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH MEN (ECM)

Preparations are underway for our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake/Chili Supper that will fall on **Feb. 28** this year. Tickets will be ready for distribution within the next few days/weeks. This event will begin at 5 PM and end at 7 PM with a price of **\$7** for individuals and **\$25**/family with the Scout troop assisting.

Our church garden, primarily maintained by Mark Svare, will be expanded this year. Further details on ground preparation, planting, etc. will be discussed at our next meeting.

A St. Patrick’s Day dinner on Friday, March 17, 6 PM, will be open to the community. Tickets will also be made up for that event for a price of **\$10**/person. The menu will be decided at our next meeting in February.

ECM will again do flowers for Mother’s Day May 14; 208 Trail Sale (Sept. 8-10); Car Show October 7; and Christmas Parade December 2. We hope to have other events for the community throughout the year.

With such a good turnout for the Breakfast Meeting, it was decided that we will have at least 2 other Breakfast Meetings in the future as well as a couple of Dinner Meetings.

Our next luncheon meeting will be held Wednesday, **February 22 @** noon at Scafa’s Restaurant, 10349 Courthouse Rd., across from Giant @ Leavells and Courthouse Road.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Scout Sunday, February 19

There will be some new faces in the 10:30 service on February 19. Boy Scouts from Troop 165, now sponsored by Christ Church, will be taking leadership roles in the worship that day. So look for these boys to be serving as ushers, readers, acolytes, even chalice bearer. Also look for their families in attendance. A special fellowship hour will follow the service hosted by the Harry and Michelle Ruth and Mark and Mary Svare—both families with ties to the troop.



Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday

~ Two Services ~

Lent begins on Wednesday, **March 1**. We will have two services, at **noon** and **7:30 p.m.** As usual, ashes will be imposed at both services as a sign of our humility before God, our sinfulness and penitence, and our mortality. It is only through the grace of God that we are able to approach his holy throne. Lent is the season when we remind ourselves of both the awesome grace of God and our responsibility to repent of our sins. So start your Lent off on the right foot by attending one of these services.

For those interested, we will have a limited number of booklets entitled “Lenten Meditations, 2017” that will be available in the next few weeks in the back of church by the usher table, and in the Communications Center. Help yourself.



Family Friday Lenten Pizza Nights

Pizza nights start again on **Friday, March 10 and run through April 7**. Dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. and the evening will end by 7:30. Program details will be released as they become available.

Christ Church February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Region I Mtg, GH 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	2 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8	3 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	4
5 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Ed./Youth Group Mtg 10:30am HE Rite II (Bishop Johnston Presiding) 11:45am Potluck, GH	6 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 165	7 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	8 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	9 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8 7:00pm Worship Comm., ASH #5	10 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	11 9:00am Classroom Reserved for Diocese Mtg
12 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Ed. 10:30am HE Rite II 12:00pm Annual Meeting Followed by Potluck	13 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 165	14 8:00am RAAI, ASH 9:00am Morning Prayer, Food Pantry, GH 10:00am Food Pantry, ASH 6:00pm Sunlight Garden Club, ASH #6,7	15 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Youth Group Mtg, ASH #6/7	16 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8 7:00pm Vestry Mtg, ASH #8	17 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	18
19 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Ed. 10:30am HE Rite II & Boy Scout Sunday 11:45am Fellowship, GH	20 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 165	21 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 11:30am ECW Meeting, GH	22 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am TOTF Mtg (Diocese), GH 12:00pm ECM Luncheon, Scafa's Rest..	23 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8	24 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	25 7:00pm Eagle Court of Honor-Ethan Wheatly/Church & GH
26 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Ed. 10:30am HE Rite II 11:45am Fellowship, GH	27 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 7:00pm Boy Scout Troop 165	28 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:00am Food Pantry, ASH 5:00pm Shrove Tuesday Dinner, GH				