



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

November 2015

Spotsylvania, VA

Has It Been Fifteen Years?

This November marks fifteen years since I first came to Christ Church—at first as the priest in charge, then the rector in October the following year. The first thought that comes to mind when I think about that fact is, “Wow, it doesn’t seem like that long.” Then I remember that David, our youngest child, was just a babe in arms when we arrived here. Now he’s pushing 6 feet! Time flies. The second thought that occurs to me is how wonderful it has been to be a part of the life of this parish all this time, and what a privilege.

Clergy have the great privilege of being welcomed into people’s lives and families. We are often present at both the most joyous of occasions, like weddings or births, and the most sorrowful, like illness and death. In all these circumstances it is indeed a privilege to have been a part of your lives these past fifteen years. When I walk through the cemetery in our church yard I am among friends, many of whom I was present with at the time of their death, and many others whose burial I presided over. I remember each of them, and say a prayer for them any time I walk through. I have buried 73 people from this parish. As much as those saints who have gone on to their reward, I also remember the many whose lives I have been blessed to be part of on more happy occasions.

In the past fifteen years I have Baptized 90 souls here. I have presented 76 for Confirmation, and look forward to a new group in February. I have presided over 28 marriages; and done 4 blessings of a civil marriage. Every one of these numbers represents a beloved child of God, and they each represent hours of my time spent in preparation for these events either with the individual, the parents and Godparents, or the couple. There is no way to count the number of visits to hospitals or homes, the phone conversations, the emails and text messages. Nor is there a way to count the number of prayers that have been offered for the people of this parish, for this community, and for the people to whom we reach out in Christ’s name. The numbers aren’t really the important thing. It is the beauty of ministry to, and with, and for you—the people of Christ Church—that have filled my heart these years and made me so thankful to be among you.

I recall that during my interview with the vestry back in August of 2000 I was asked how long I thought I might stay at Christ Church. I explained that if we came here it would be the tenth move in our eleven years of marriage, and that we were looking for a place of stability for ourselves and our children. I think we found it. We found a place where our family could be part of the Christ Church family. For that I am thankful. And I thank God, and you, for the privilege of having served among you these fifteen wonderful years as I look forward to our future together.

NOVEMBER 2015 LAY MINISTERS SCHEDULE

Lector	Chalice Bearer	Acolytes	Ushers	Altar Guild	Nursery
<u>November 1</u>					
8:00 Thom Smelter	Margaret Haight		Joseph Ilk	ALL SAINTS DAY Williams Team	
10:30 Martha Clark	Tim Watts Alex Watts	Megan LeBlanc Stephen Wallach Colby Clifford	Cecil Jarman Missie Jarman		Erin Senters
<u>November 8</u>					
8:00 Dana Houck	Edd Houck		Barbara Deal	Magin Team	
10:30 Sian Packard	Joe Junod Kristi Gross	Hannah Clifford Hunter Clifford Ethan Goldberg	Hank Mausolf Tim Watts		Amanda Watts
<u>November 15</u>					
8:00 Beth Goshin	Ray Crafton		Robert Truslow	Wieland Team	
10:30 Ann Woolford	Jenny LeBlanc Jeff Massey	Rachel Stockli Chloe Stockli Justin Phillips	Frank Carosella Bill Estes		McKenzie Goldberg
<u>November 22</u>					
8:00 Thom Smelter	Tricia Smelter		Joseph L. Ilk	Williams Team	
10:30 Roy Smith	Donna Nuzum Linda Rooney	Aaron Packard David Packard Ian Gibson	Frank Stewart Werner Wieland		McKenzie Goldberg
<u>November 29</u>					
8:00 Dana Houck	Edd Houck		Calib Garland	Magin Team	
10:30 Anne Williams	Steve Clifford Werner Wieland	Aaron DiFilippo Jack DiFilippo Drew DiFilippo	Judi O'Neill Bob McGann		McKenzie Goldberg

You are responsible for finding your own replacement in the event that you cannot serve when scheduled. If you are 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).

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Choir Director

Denise Gregory
mdgregorymusic@gmail.com

Organist

Hannah Massey
hannahmassey7019@gmail.com

Secretary

Ruth Feltner
secretary@christchurchspotsy.com

Newsletter Coordinator

Ruth Feltner
secretary@christchurchspotsy.com

Christ Episcopal Church

8951 Courthouse Road
Spotsylvania, Virginia 22553
Phone (540) 582-5033
www.christchurchspotsy.com

Rector

The Reverend Jeffrey A. Packard
rector@christchurchspotsy.com

Director of Christian Education

Jenny LeBlanc
fmc@christchurchspotsy.com

Vestry

Senior Warden

Ray Crafton

Jr. Warden

Linda Wieland

Treasurer

Mary Williams

Asst Treasurer

Linda Smith

Register

Jeri Phillips

Members

Linda Wieland

Bill Butler

Ray Crafton

Missie Jarman

Beverly McNeill

Jeri Phillips

Roy Smith

Tim Watts

Sue Roberts



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We extend a warm welcome to Janie Cudworth who recently visited to worship with us on a Sunday.

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

Our Christ Church family extends their sympathy to Erin Senters and her family on the death of Erin's mother Karen Merriman on October 2. "May her soul and the souls of all the departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace."

happy,
happy
birthday
to you!



11/1	Frank Stewart McKenzie Goldberg	11/14	Robert Baker Mary Elizabeth Roop
11/2	Olivia Erwin	11/16	Bill Smith
11/4	Rena Parker	11/17	Roger Bomgardner Cheryl Moynahan Steve Clifford
11/5	David Cain	11/19	Allison Eagle
11/7	Cliff Knepp Abigail Roberson	11/22	Barbara Canaday Sarah Thommen
11/8	Jan Massey Joe Wieland	11/23	Megan Mills Christine Howell
11/11	Anna Thommen	11/24	Ian Gibson
11/12	Kristi DiFilippo Andrew Howell	11/27	Jennifer Perry
11/13	Jeri Phillips Calib Garland	11/29	Sian Packard
		11/30	Jennifer Stockli

Annual Parish Meeting January 31, 2016

The vestry has set the date of our annual Parish Meeting. We will meet after the 10:30 service on Sunday, January 31 next year. The good news is that this is not Super Bowl Sunday. The bad news is that the Super Bowl will be the following Sunday (February 7) when our bishop will visit. The meeting will convene in the Great Hall of All Saints Hall around noon that day. It will be followed by a potluck luncheon. At the annual meeting we will present the budget for 2016 and elect three new members to serve three year terms on the vestry. Other reports and information will be presented as well.

Vestry Candidates Needed

At the Annual Parish Meeting on January 31 we will elect three new members to serve three year terms on the vestry, our parish governing board. Speak to a current member to find out what service entails. Candidate forms can be found at the Communications Center and at the table in the back of the church. Attached to the form is a vestry member job description that includes all of the qualifications and requirements.

Annual Episcopal Visitation February 7, 2016

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, bishop suffragan of the Diocese of Virginia, will preside and preach at the 10:30 service on the morning of Sunday, February 7. She will celebrate confirmations, receptions, and reaffirmations. The service will be followed by a special fellowship hour in honor of the confirmands and the bishop. Our annual visit from a bishop reminds us that we are part of a Church that is bigger than ourselves. We are part of the greater Body of Christ that has influence and challenges beyond any we know of here in Spotsylvania. The bishop not only represents the diocese and the concerns of the diocese to us, but she represents us and our concerns to the greater Church as well. You may notice that this will be Super Bowl Sunday. We promise that if you come to church in the morning you will be home in plenty of time to enjoy the game.

Thanksgiving Baskets

Sign up at the Communications Center to help prepare for the distribution of Thanksgiving Baskets providing a traditional Thanksgiving meal to 130 of our food pantry families. They will be packed starting at 7:00 the evening of Thursday, November 19. Then packing will be completed at noon on Friday, November 20. Distribution will take place starting at 9:00 AM on Saturday, November 21. We can use your help to complete this large project. Speak to Jim or Janice Kenkel if you have any questions. You may also make a monetary donation to this effort by utilizing the envelopes in the pews in the church. You'll notice when you go to the grocery store that turkeys are a lot more expensive this year. Then we will do it all again in December for Christmas. More information on that will follow.

When there is snow on Sunday, please use your best judgment about attempting to attend worship services. When in doubt as to whether services have been cancelled, you may call the parish office to listen to the message on our answering machine, check out the parish web page or www.Fredericksburg.com. Also listen to the following FM radio stations: 93.3 WFLS, 95.9 WGRQ, 96.9 The Rock, 99.3 The Vibe, 101.5 WBQB, 104.5 WGRX.

Special Advent Program Intergenerational Education

This Advent, we will do something a little different. We will combine our children, youth, and adult Christian Education classes for one intergenerational class. The program is called Sent. It consists of a brief video for each of the Sundays, followed by discussion and activities for all ages. Join us in the Great Hall at 9:15 on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29. We hope this program will help to prepare us all for the joyful season of Christmas.

Holiday Concert

The Chamber Chorale of Fredericksburg will offer its annual Christmas concert on Saturday, December 12 at the Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site), 801 Sophia Street. There will be two shows that day, at 3:00 PM and 7:30 PM. They are pleased to present a Musicological Journey through the Twelve Days of Christmas, bringing you centuries of styles from Palestrina to Pentatonix, with a Traditional Candlelight Carol Sing. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students. You can order tickets and get more information at ccfbg.org.

Gateway to Christmas Concert at St. Matthew Roman Catholic Church

There will be a pipe organ dedication at the Ecumenical Concert Series, the Gateway to Christmas on Sunday November 22, 2015 from 4:30 to 5:45 PM at St. Matthew Catholic Church, 8200 Robert E. Lee Dr., Spotsylvania. Over 110 area musicians are gathering to share their favorite music in a festival of praise to God. The Hamner Dill pipe organ will be in concert as well. The dynamic Gateway Chorus will conclude the concert with Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus". The concert is free. A collection will be taken up to help reduce the pipe organ debt.

Blue Christmas: A Service of Comfort and Joy December 20, 2015

We started the tradition of having a Blue Christmas service a couple of years ago. This has quickly become a beloved and important part of our holiday celebrations. It is a Christmas service, meaning that it is a joyous celebration of the birth of our Savior. However, the tone of the service is not as exuberant as the Christmas Eve service. We recognize that, especially at the holidays, people can feel lonely or depressed. It is during the season of joy that we often feel most acutely the loss of a loved one. So this service is offered as either an alternative to the main services on the 24th, or as a prelude to strengthen you for the more upbeat service. During the service we will have ways to acknowledge loss and to memorialize those we love but see no longer.

Christ Church November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Education 10:30am HE Rite II 11:45am Fellowship, GH	2 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	3 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	4 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 6:00pm Region I 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	5 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8	6 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	7
8 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Education 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am HE Rite II 11:45am Fellowship, GH	9 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	10 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:00am Food Pantry, ASH 6:00pm Sunlight Garden Club, ASH #6,7	11 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	12 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8 7:00pm Vestry Meeting, ASH #8	13 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	14 8:00am ECM Mtg/Breakfast, GH 9:00am Ref. Tng (RM)
15 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Education 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am HE Rite II 11:45am Fellowship, GH	16 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	17 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 11:30am ECW Meeting, GH	18 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	19 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer 10:30am Quilters, ASH #8 7:00pm Pack Boxes/Food Pantry, ASH	20 8:00am RAAI, ASH 12:00pm Pack Boxes/Food Pantry, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	21 9:00am Distribute Boxes/Food Pantry, ASH
22 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Education 10:30am HE Rite II 10:30am Children's Chapel 11:45am Fellowship, GH	23 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	24 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	25 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer	26 OFFICE CLOSED THANKS-GIVING 8:00am RAAI, ASH	27 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:00pm AA Mtg	28
29 8:00am HE Rite 1 9:15am Christian Education 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am HE Rite II 11:45am Fellowship, GH	30 8:00am RAAI, ASH 8:30am Morning Prayer					