

Christ Church

Good News & Notes!

Deadline for GNN submissions is Wednesday at noon.

A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.



Are you doing ok?

The winter storm from a week ago spared most of us major home damage or power outages **but that ice!** Alleghany County EMS reported high numbers of falls from folks just trying to walk to their cars or walk their dogs or get to the grocery store, etc. **Driveways were like skating rinks, and many still are!** That was the case for the one leading to Christ Church. After a little melting and generous salt, it was finally able to be scraped yesterday and we're thankful for that. The walks are not cleared yet but with salt out and a little sunshine, we hope to remedy that.

Meanwhile, we want to know how you're doing. Are you safe? Are you warm?

The Outreach Committee has several members who can safely drive and they have cleats that attach to their shoes so they can deliver food and supplies to anyone who is housebound because of the ice and snow. **Please contact the church office (by 1:00 pm today, Thursday, Jan 29), if you need assistance. After 1:00 pm, you can contact Patti (252.495.2444) or Mary Lee (336.705.3243).** Blessings to each of you!



On the first Sunday of each month, we collect offering for our local food closet – Solid Rock Food Closet (SRFC)

REMINDER: THIS Sunday, February 1st, is the first Sunday of the month. If you would like to make a contribution to Solid Rock Food Closet, there are a few ways you can do that: (1) bring non-perishable food and/or personal care items (eg, shampoo, soap, toilet paper, etc) and put them in our red wagon in the narthex, (2) bring a check addressed to “Christ Church” with SRFC written on the memo line, or (3) bring cash, put it in an offering envelope located in your pew backs, and put your name and SRFC on the envelope. Any gift you’re able to give will make a big difference. The Monday after, we’ll tally up the donations and write one check to SRFC for the month.



Please give as you’re able – every gift makes a difference!



Frances Robinson Huber

March 18, 1938 – January 22, 2026



Frances Robinson Huber, 87, was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on March 18, 1938, to James D. Robinson, Jr. and Josephine Crawford Robinson. She passed away peacefully in her

home surrounded by family and pets on January 22, 2026, leaving a legacy of faith, family, stewardship of the land, and love for all of God's creations.

Frances married Anderson "Andy" Huber in 1961. Together they raised a family and shared a deep commitment to church, community, and service. She was preceded in death by her beloved husband in 2000, as well as her sister, Josephine Robinson Westervelt, and her brother, James D. Robinson III.

Frances was fiercely devoted to her family and took immense pride in being the "Matriarch" of many. She is survived by her children: Andy Huber, Jr. (Pam) of Darien, Connecticut, and their children Tripp (Emme), Wesley, and Kathleen; Phred Huber (Lisa Ellis) of Atlanta, Georgia; Tim Huber (Pamina Gorbach) of Topanga, California, and their children Pi and Persie; and Rob Huber (Elizabeth) of Atlanta, Georgia, and their children Ann Riley and Blair. She also helped raise her stepchildren, Rhett and Merritt (Jan) as her own, and dearly loved their sons, Merritt (Sarah) and Blake (Taylor). Frances was a proud great-grandmother to three, Drew, Annie, and Henry Merritt. She is also survived by beloved cousins Harden Crawford and Josephine Phelps (John), and their children and grandchildren.

Upon Andy's retirement in 1994, Frances moved to a beautiful farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains, in Alleghany County, North Carolina, fulfilling a lifelong dream that began when she was six years old—to live on a farm and raise horses, inspired by memories of her grandfather's farm. After Andy's death, Frances chose not only to remain in the county but to become a farmer herself, humorously referring to her passion as "Mad Farmer's Disease."

In 2001, she and her daughter Phred founded The Little Farm, an educational petting farm open to the public and to schoolchildren, where countless young people learned about agriculture, animals, and care for the earth. Frances raised all-natural, grass-fed cattle, forest-raised pigs, and organic lamb, guided by deep respect for the land and conservation practices. Her work earned her recognition as runner-up for North Carolina's Farm Family Conservation Farm Award, followed by being named Citizen of the Year for Alleghany County.

After a life-changing encounter in 1978, Frances devoted her life to loving the Lord Jesus Christ and sharing Him with others so they might come to know Him as well. She taught adult Bible studies for more than 40 years. **Frances and Andy were founding members of two Episcopal churches—one in Atlanta and one in Sparta, North Carolina.** She was most recently a member of Christ Church Anglican in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

She never stopped learning—her family affectionately joked that her middle name was "Google." Frances loved nature and all "creatures—great and small," often reflecting on Scripture: "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His

hands.” (Psalm 19:1–6). She found joy in tending her garden and in her contemplative habit of making piles of fallen tree limbs. Frances was active in many community boards, including the Alleghany Hospital Foundation and the Roaring Gap Foundation. At the time of her death, she was working on her memoir, centered on the spiritual lessons that guided her life.

Due to concerns with the weather the funeral service in Winston Salem has been postponed, a new date will be updated.

Separately, there will be a private interment service February 11, 2026 followed by a Celebration of Life at 11:00 AM at Westview Cemetery, The Abbey, officiated by The Most Reverend Foley Beach, former Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America.

The family will have a private interment service in Roaring Gap, NC at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a Memorial contribution to The Alleghany Education Foundation PO Box 33, 114 Main Street, Sparta, NC 28675 or The Roaring Gap Foundation PO Box 576, Roaring Gap, NC 28668-0576.



Schedule

Sunday, February 1 – The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

Worship team meets with Karla following coffee hour

Tuesday, February 3

No groups today

Sunday, February 8 – The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 am – Morning Prayer with Bruce Smith

Coffee hour follows the service

Tuesday, February 10

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Sunday, February 15 – The Last Sunday after the Epiphany

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

12:00 – 1:30 pm – Confirm, not Conform class

Monday, February 16

10:00 am – Vestry meeting

Tuesday, February 17

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Wednesday, February 18

12:00 pm – Ash Wednesday service with The Rev Karla Woggon

Sunday, February 22 – The First Sunday in Lent

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev Karla Woggon

Coffee hour follows the service

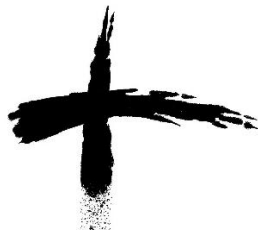
6:00 pm – Lenten Taizé service with The Rev Karla Woggon



Ash Wednesday Service:

Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, February 18th



On this day, we enter the season of Lent, receiving ashes as a sign of our mortality and our hope, and beginning forty days of prayer, repentance, and renewal. *The service begins at 12:00 pm.*



Rooted in Scripture, shaped by worship, and informed by reason and lived experience, this series invites participants not to memorize beliefs, but to discover how the Episcopal Church holds faith with humility, beauty, and depth. The class will serve as intergenerational confirmation preparation as well as a welcoming introduction to the Episcopal Church for those who are new, returning, or simply seeking a deeper understanding of our shared life of faith. The Rev Karla Woggon will teach the classes.

Monthly meetings Sunday from 12:00-1:30

- Sunday Feb. 15: So, What's Our Story: The History of the Episcopal Church
- Sunday March 8: The Book of Common Prayer
- Sunday April 19: Sacraments and the Church Year
- Sunday May 17: The Baptismal Covenant
- Sunday June 7: From Pain into Power (The Eucharist)



The NEW Coffee-pot Guild!



We need volunteers to serve on this Guild. The responsibilities include: unlocking the Parish Hall no later than 9:45 am on Sundays and making

the coffee for coffee hour. **That's it!** You don't have to clean-up or stay late locking up. So far, we have a few members willing to participate. If you think serving on this guild is something you'd like to do, please email the office at christchurchspartanc@gmail.com or sign-up on the sheet in the Parish Hall. **The more the merrier!**



Lenten Taizé Service

1st Sunday of Lent

Sunday Feb. 22 at 6:00 p.m.



Set your intention for a holy Lent while resting in God's loving presence. Rooted in simple chant, silence, and contemplative prayer, the Taizé service offers you a time to listen, to rest, and to open your heart to God's presence.



Please join us in prayer...

Intercessions:

Ann & Frank Withrow, Antje & Bill, Bill Bedrossian, Bob Bamberg, Bobbie Clark, Brenda & Kelly Weems, Carl & Carol Greer, Cathy Davis, Charles & Christine McKelvy, Chuck & Sally Besaw, Diane & John, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Emily Buck, Frances Huber's family as they grieve her death, Gary Medley, Ina, Isabel Tomé, Jana, Janice Harrison, Jean Callison, Jesse James, JoAnn Andrews, Jonathan, Lucy, Lynn Ellis, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Maria Chance, Martha Adams, Rita Woodruff & Angelia Miller, Rudy McKnight, Savany Demmink, Stella Daniel, and Vanita. We also pray for all those impacted by the winter storms, our local neighbors that fear detention, the River North Correctional Center inmates & staff, Covenant House, and Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

Departed: Frances Huber (Jan 22)

Birthdays: Grace Mauney (Jan 30)

Wedding Anniversaries & other Thanksgivings:



**Please pray for all the staff, volunteers, supporters & inmates at
River North Correctional Center, Independence, VA**

This center has been on lock down since the killing that took place in late 2025. The inmates & staff need our prayers more than ever as they handle life in extended-lockdown mode and without any organized religious or spiritual service.



No groups NEXT Tuesday, February 3rd

Centering Prayer meets Tuesdays at 1:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Our Book Discussion group, which meets on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm, is reading and discussing **Richard Rohr's book, *Falling Upward***. It is a book about spirituality in the two halves of life and is considered one of his most influential and important books. We know that the first half of life is about projects, goals, striving, discovering who we are meant to be. But what do we do with this in the second half of life? This is the stage which everyone in Christ Church is in, and Richard Rohr will give us practical guidance on this brand-new time in our lives.

Everyone is welcome to both the prayer time and the book discussion. If you only want to participate in one, we'd love to have you. If you have any questions, get in touch with Patti Phelps at frankandpatti@yahoo.com.



2026 sign-up sheets for coffee hour refreshments & altar flowers are on the information table

Would you like to provide **altar flowers** 'in memory of' or 'in honor of' someone? Could you sign up to bring something to share **for coffee hour refreshments**?

If you sign up to bring flowers or an arrangement for a specific Sunday, please make sure you write down the name of anyone you want recognized. *If that space is blank, Mary Lee will leave that part off on the bulletin.* Recognizing someone is not required but we don't want to miss including a name if you intend to do that.

If you sign up for coffee hour refreshments, as you see above, you'll have a person making the coffee so bringing refreshments, helping anyone needing supplies, and cleaning up afterwards are what you'll do.

The sign-up sheets are on the information table.



Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:

Date	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour
Feb 1	Cynthia Grant	Cynthia Grant
Feb 8		Morning Prayer - coffee only
Feb 15		Wanda McKnight
Feb 22		



Weather Cancellations

In the event the weather forecast is for inclement weather, the Sr Warden will assess and make a decision about whether or not to cancel services and/or meetings. The decision will be made either Saturday evening or Sunday morning before 8:00 am when our priest, The Rev Karla Woggon, leaves her home in Hickory to travel here. If the decision is to cancel, the Sr Warden will alert Karla and the admin. The admin will create and send out an automated call alerting the congregation of the cancellation.

If you *do not* receive an auto-call when services are cancelled, please alert the admin so she can add your phone number to the list.



The Prayer Shawls/Lap Blankets are available



The prayer shawls/quilts have been moved **under the table in the narthex**. Please feel free to take one for someone you know and love who would benefit from being wrapped in love from Christ Church. Be sure to fill in the book in the box which tells who and why. We've had thanks expressed from new mothers to a death in the family to surgery.

These are gifts made by parishioners who want to share their talent. If you're interested in making a shawl or quilt, please contact Patti Phelps at frankandpatti@yahoo.com.



PRESCRIPTION BOTTLE DROP-OFF

We **recycle prescription bottles with lids** and *with the labels pulled off*. There is a bag attached to **the water fountain just inside the Narthex on your left** for you to leave your pill bottles in. **A BIG thank you to Ann & Frank Hazard for delivering the bottles to the vet's office!**



Need prayer now?

If you have a prayer need, for example, illness, upcoming surgery, death in the family, big life decisions or needing comfort/support, there are a few ways to communicate that need. You can call or email our Priest in Charge, The Rev Karla Woggon; call or email Mary Lee at the office and she'll email the members with a Prayer Request; share your request with a Vestry member; or fill out a Prayer Request Card (found in the pew backs in the sanctuary).

If you're sharing information about another individual(s), *please make sure you have permission to share the need*. If you prefer not to share any details, you can simply email or call and ask for urgent prayer.

Also, if there are reasons to remove anyone from the prayer list, please let us know that, too.

We know the power of prayer and if each of us stops and takes a few minutes to pray for the individual(s) in need, it will have a great impact.



Our website Members Only section



Our updated website (christchurchallegghany.org) has a **Members Only** page that contains the most updated financial reports, Treasurers' Report, Vestry minutes, and the 2026 budget. Once you get on the website, you can easily navigate each page to review the information. *If you're interested in accessing the Member's Only section, email Mary at christchurchspartanc@gmail.com and she'll provide you the password.*

We also invite you to share our website – christchurchallegghany.org – to introduce the Parish and encourage others to visit.





Dial 988 for crisis line support



Christ Church Episcopal of Alleghany County,
also known as Christ Church

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priest.christchurchspartanc@gmail.com (Priest)
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Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday	8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Wednesday	Mary Lee works remotely and can be reached via text or email