

Christ Church Good News & Notes!

Deadline for GNN submissions is Wednesday at noon.

A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.



Our 2026 Vestry



Nancy Wilson, Louise Law, Barbara Halsey (Jr Warden), Elizabeth Barr Bryant (Sr Warden), and Frank Hazard. Not pictured, Larry Seckel.



**We're making Easter baskets for our
friends at Sam Evan's!**



We're making Easter baskets for Linda, Terry, Sabrina, and Vanessa, and we need your help! If you haven't signed up to bring a donation, there's still time. The sign-up sheet is in the large basket in the narthex. I just checked and there are 3 more items that are needed. Check it out this Sunday or call the office this morning (til 12:50 pm) and I'll relay the needs. There is, of course, a **deadline**. We'll need everything dropped off at the church **no later than Sunday, March 29th**. And then baskets will be created and will be waiting for our friends when they get to coffee hour on Easter Sunday. *If you have questions about anything, ask Patti Phelps; she's coordinating this effort.*



Coffee Hour Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to bring refreshments for coffee hour. Coffee will be made by a Coffee Guild member so you just need to bring a food item or two. If you feel more comfortable having a partner, you can sign up with a fellow church member. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall so we can continue to have this time for fellowship.



Elevator training is available on Sundays; new instructions with photos available at each elevator door

Anyone interested in learning how to use the elevator is encouraged to meet Mary Lee after worship services for training. After recent training sessions, new instructions were created that include photos. They've been laminated and are available at each elevator door. In the Parish Hall, the instructions will hang above the elevator light switch and control panel. In the sanctuary, the instructions will be stored in the pew back closest to the elevator.

To answer the question about why we don't have the instructions taped everywhere, it is our nod to security. We leave the red doors unlocked 24/7 but we lock the Parish Hall doors. If we have the instructions available in the sanctuary on the door, we increase the risk that anyone popping in could review them and access the Parish Hall via the elevator. This was considered when the elevator was first installed, and the keys (switch key and elevator door key, that are now in place) were stored in the pew back, as well.

Our elevator is maintained at great expense and needs to be used. We absolutely understand that some members & friends are claustrophobic and not interested in using it. But if you *are able* to use it, please do.

In case you missed it last week, here's a little information about our elevator...

- it's actually a 'lift' and not an elevator.
- It's designed to help someone with walking aides or a wheelchair fit comfortably inside and ride from one floor to the other.
- Heavy items, like books or small pieces of furniture, can also be moved floor to floor.
- Our lift is open and not enclosed like an elevator.

- And unfortunately, it is rarely used. That means that it sits more than it works and when it *is* used, it is *not whisper-quiet*; it squeals on its way down and sometimes on its way up. That noise has **nothing** to do with its function, it's just a little annoying.
- Our lift moves very slowly.
- And its serviced and tested annually so it is safe to ride.

To learn more about how to use the lift, join us on Sunday!



CONFIRM
NOT CONFORM

The next class is on Sunday, March 29th. The topic will be *The Book of Common Prayer*. A change in scheduling – the April class will be on April 12. Update your calendars and plan to join us. This class is open to everyone!

It will also be a **BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch)** event. *Coffee and water will be provided.* If you need to leave something in the refrigerator, feel free. Just be mindful that the fridge already has food and drinks in it so space is limited.

Monthly meetings on Sundays from 12:00-1:30 pm

- Sunday, March 29: *The Book of Common Prayer*
- Sunday, April 12: Sacraments and the Church Year
- Sunday May 17: The Baptismal Covenant
- Sunday June 7: From Pain into Power (The Eucharist)



It's time to order Easter lilies!



Remember those you love by placing an Easter lily/lilies at the altar for Easter. Gifts can be made *in thanksgiving for* or *in loving memory of*. We ask that you **EMAIL** the office at christchurchspartanc@gmail.com with the following information:

- Your name and the name of the person(s) you want to honor/remember;
- How are they related to you, eg, friend, sister, parents, etc.;
- If you are remembering them (*in loving memory of*) or honoring them (*in thanksgiving for*); and
- How you'd like his/her/their name listed.

Contributions for the lilies are usually between \$15-25, and you can drop it in the offering plate or mail it. The mailing address is: Christ Church, PO Box 1866, Sparta, NC 28675.

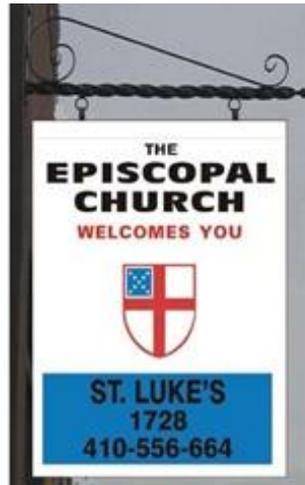
The deadline to email this information is **NEXT Thursday, March 26th**.

If you have any questions, please call the office at 336.372.7983.



A unique opportunity to help

Our Vestry has decided it's time to purchase new Christ Church road signs; the ones that are posted at the 4 entrances to Sparta on HWY 18 and HWY 21. {See the example below - only "Christ Church" will be in the blue box because anything other than that is too small to read when driving by.}



Time and weather have impacted our signs. The cost to replace them is over \$400 per sign (two-sided) plus tax/shipping costs and \$75 per scroll used to hang them. We've had the cost of 3 signs donated by 3 members! A **BIG THANK YOU** to them! We need your help paying for the 4th sign.

If you're able to donate a portion of the cost, that would help us greatly! If you use a check, please make it out to "Christ Church" and put 'sign' on the memo line. If you give cash, use an offering envelope, write your name and 'sign' on the envelope. Both can be dropped in the offering plate or mailed to Christ Church, PO Box 1866, Sparta, NC 28675.



Schedule

Sunday, March 22 – The Last Sunday in Lent

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

Coffee hour follows the service

Tuesday, March 24

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

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

Coffee hour follows the service

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



Holy Week Schedule



Sunday, March 29 – Palm Sunday

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist
Coffee hour follows the service

Thursday, April 2

5:00 pm – Maundy Thursday service

Friday, April 3

12:00 pm – Good Friday service

Sunday, April 5 – Easter Sunday

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist
Coffee hour follows the service



Please join us in prayer...

Intercessions:

Ann Withrow, Antje & Bill, Bill Bedrossian, Bob Bamberg, Bobbie Clark, Brenda & Kelly Weems, Carl & Carol Greer, Cathy Davis (The Rev Dr), Charles & Christine McKelvy, Cynthia Grant & Phil Kwiatkowski, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Emily Buck, Gary Medley, Inza & Blair, Isabel Tomé & Vanessa Cottrell, Janice Harrison, Jesse James, JoAnn Andrews, Jonathan, Lynn Ellis, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Maria Chance, Martha Adams, Patricia Gaskin (Rebecca's mother), Rebecca & Arnold Gain, Rita Woodruff & Angelia Miller, Rudy McKnight, Savany Demmink, Stella Daniel, Sue & Jim Doss (The Rev), and Vanita. We also pray for all those under attack and at war, those who are traveling, our local neighbors who fear detention, the River North Correctional Center inmates & staff, Covenant House, and Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

Departed: Peggy Beaver Keasler (Janice K's aunt), Dolan Huffman (Janice K's dear friend), Lucy (Marynell McPherson's mom), Una Lee Lindh

Birthdays: Janice Harrison (March 22)

Wedding Anniversaries & other Thanksgivings:



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



Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:

Date	Altar Flowers	Coffee Guild	Coffee Hour
March 22	<i>Altar Guild</i>	Marybeth Lentz	Jane Franck
March 29	<i>Palm strips</i>	Marybeth Lentz	Jeanne Green
April 5	<i>Easter lilies</i>	Marybeth Lentz	Sara Brown Davis
April 12	<i>Easter lilies</i>	John Franck	Wanda McKnight



My friends, let us stand shoulder to shoulder with each other in unity. Our baptism calls us to this work as the body of Christ, choosing the way of true peacemaking that begets love and dignity, and forsakes violence. May we move forward in boldness and in faith, trusting the Spirit to lead us.

— José A. McLoughlin
Bishop of
Western North Carolina



Solid Rock Food Closet (SRFC)

We've been asked to **EXPAND** our monthly donation to the Solid Rock Food Closet. **This is a time of great need.** Our money donation allows the SRFC to purchase food, and the bulk of the donations are food items.

What's in **GREAT NEED** right now are **PERSONAL CARE ITEMS**, eg, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant, soap, shampoo, feminine hygiene items, etc. When you're at the store this week, throw one of the items in your cart and bring it on Sunday to donate. The red wagon in the narthex is the place for all

donations. Jeanne Green continues to pick up donations and take them to the food closet when they're open.

Please give as you're able – EVERY gift makes a difference!



The poster features a yellow background with a dark purple border. At the top left, a speech bubble contains the text "Social Scene" in a stylized font. To the right, there are illustrations of playing cards (10, 5, 4, 20) and dice. The main title "Golden Gamesters" is in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below the title is the Episcopal Church logo and the text "Presented by the Episcopal Church Vestry OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY". A pink box contains the event details: "Last Monday of every month beginning 3/30/26", "1:00 - 3:00PM", and "22 S. Main St. Sparta". A dark blue circle lists game types: "Rook, Spades, & other favorite card games", "Scattergories", "Quirkle, Scrabble, Rummikub", and "Many more!". A red circle at the bottom left says "\$5 to play". To its right, text reads "Golden Discount of 15% off game passes and concessions to those 55+ for these events".

Social Scene

Golden Gamesters

Presented by the Episcopal Church Vestry
OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Last Monday of every month beginning 3/30/26
1:00 - 3:00PM
22 S. Main St. Sparta

- Rook, Spades, & other favorite card games
- Scattergories
- Quirkle, Scrabble, Rummikub
- Many more!

\$5 to play

Golden Discount of **15% off** game passes and concessions to those **55+** for these events

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.



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?



Shutterstock photo

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.



MEMBERS ONLY

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

The Rev Karla Woggon, priest-in-charge

2543 HWY 21 S

PO Box 1866

Sparta, NC 28675

336.372.7983

{continued on the next page}

christchurchspartanc@gmail.com (office)

priest.christchurchspartanc@gmail.com (Priest)

christchurchallegghany.org

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Wednesday

Mary Lee works remotely and can be reached via text or email