

Christ Church Good News & Notes!

Deadline for GNN submissions is Wednesday at noon.

A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.



CORRECTION: We asked for prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of Ruth Maxwell's new *great* granddaughter, Elliott Mae. As it turns out, it was Ruthie's *great, great* granddaughter!



The annual palm cross making session

Photos by Jann Boggs & Patti Phelps



Bruce Smith is the palm cross-making guru! Here he's showing Karla & Ella



Here's Bruce showing Betsy how to make a cross



Crystal & Jason are watching and learning.



Look at the crowd learning how to make crosses! Bruce keeps holding a finished cross up after swiftly making it while the rest of us look at the palm strip in our hands.



Here's a table of wise adults – watching from a distance – Thomas, Frank & Ann, and Ruthie



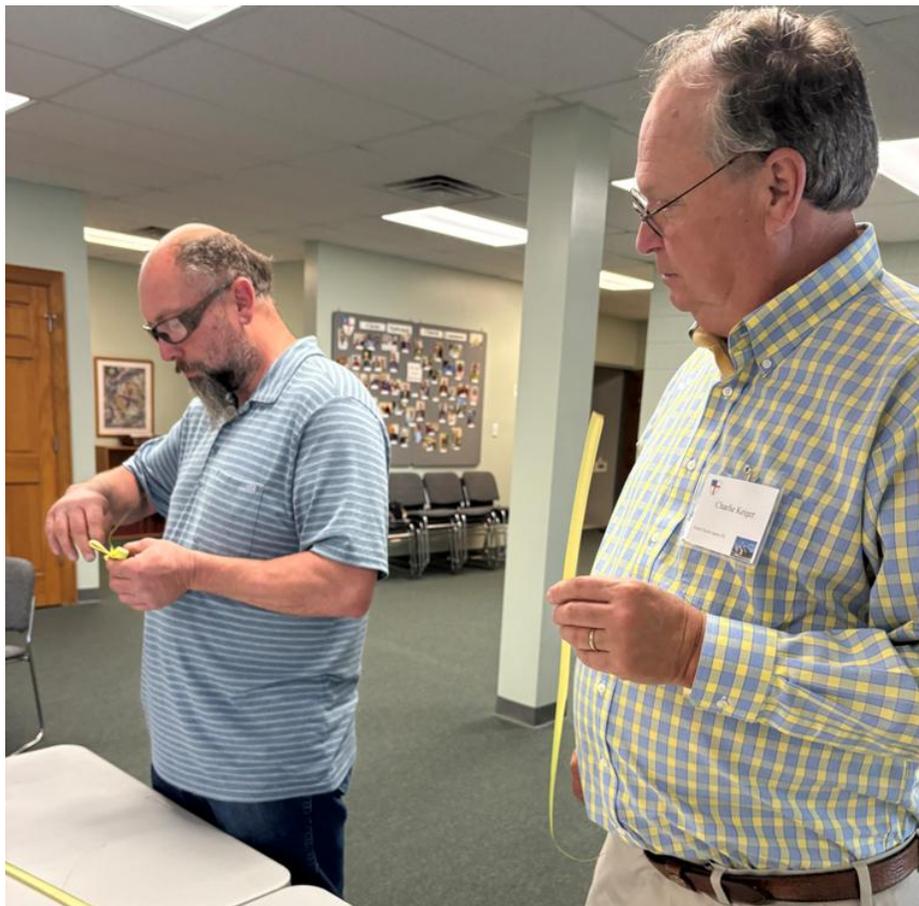
Mary Lee and Sara give cross-making a try. Sara made several. The arms with a palm strip belong to Karla, and it looks like Marybeth is coming in to check on progress.



Joan taking a break in the library



Kathy, Crystal, Sara and Patti all learn from Bruce



Jason and Charlie work on cross-making



Look at all the members & friends working together during coffee hour!



Bruce sharing his cross



Bob & Patty Mininni look like cross-making pros!



An appropriate end point. Check out all those palm-strip crosses!



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



Our Easter basket donations are due **THIS 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.*



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



The next class is **THIS 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's also a **BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch)** event but if you forgot, there will be some refreshments at coffee hour you can get. *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)*



The DEADLINE to purchase a lily or lilies is **TODAY** Thursday, March 26th

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. If you decide to purchase a lily or lilies, **please email the office no later than noon TODAY** with the name of the person, relation to you (eg, son, wife, etc), and if it should be 'in honor of' or 'in loving memory of' the person(s).

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



Retreat hike in Valle Crucis led by The Rev Karla Woggon



Some retreat art – Karla is on the left in a blue sweater and Elizabeth is on the right in a khaki vest



The retreat altar



Schedule

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**

Monday, March 30

1:00 – 3:00 pm – *Golden Gamesters at the Social Scene*

Tuesday, March 31

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Thursday, April 2

5:00 pm – Maundy Thursday service with The Rev Karla Woggon

Friday, April 3

12:00 pm – Good Friday service with The Rev Karla Woggon

Sunday, April 5 – Easter Sunday

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

Coffee hour follows the service

Monday, April 6 – The Office will be closed today

Tuesday, April 7

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Sunday, April 12 – The Second Sunday of Easter

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**

Tuesday, April 14

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group



Please join us in prayer...

Intercessions:

Ann Withrow, Antje & Bill, Bill Bedrossian, Bob Bamberg, Bobbie Clark, Brenda & Kelly Weems, Carl & Carol Greer, Charles & Christine McKelvy, Cynthia Grant & Phil Kwiatkowski, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Emily Buck, Gary Medley, Inza & Blair, Janice Harrison, 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, for Covenant House, for all the staff, volunteers, supporters & inmates at River North Correctional Center, and for Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

Departed: Jean Callison (March 18)

Birthdays: Bruce Smith (March 30), Frank Hazard (March 31)

Wedding Anniversaries & other Thanksgivings:



Jean Callison's Celebration of Life service will be held on Saturday, May 9th at 11:00 am here at Christ Church.



Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:

Date	Altar Flowers	Coffee Guild	Coffee Hour
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
April 19			Cynthia Grant



Spring has sprung!



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!

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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

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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.



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.



Elevator instructions with photos are 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.



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 – christchurchalleghany.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)

christchurchalleghany.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