

# Christ Church Good News & Notes!

*Deadline for GNN submissions is Tuesday at noon.*

**A home to all sharing God's unconditional love.**



**CORRECTION:** The graveside service for Jesse Williams will be on Sunday, August 16 at 2:00 pm. We originally listed the date of Mon, Aug 17.



## Solid Rock Food Closet (SRFC) Volunteers begin NEXT week!

The SRFC schedule for volunteers is posted on the office door and on the information table bulletin board. **Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm.** If you have any questions, contact Wanda McKnight at 615.707.0266 or [wandagmcknight@gmail.com](mailto:wandagmcknight@gmail.com).



**If you made a pledge for 2026 and have paid/are paying towards that pledge this year, you'll receive a mid-year statement soon; they were mailed out this week. These statements provide information through July. If you find any mistakes or have questions, please contact Mary Lee.**



Dear Church Family,

In order to keep everyone updated on the grounds of Christ Church, I want to make all of you aware of our concerns and accomplishments. At our June vestry meeting, the vestry voted for Larry Seckel and myself to seek bids on trimming our trees and clearing the holly bushes, which were covered with poison ivy. After seeking the bids, Jesus Aguilar was given the job and completed it the following day. I think all of us will agree that we opened up our gorgeous view. During this process, Jesus discovered that the maple tree in front of the church was dying. He removed it for us as well. He also trimmed all of the boxwoods in front of the church. In the fall, he will trim the maple, the three dogwoods, and all the forsythia bushes in the lower parking lot.

I met with Luke Edwards, a young man who does landscaping on the side, to give us an estimate on weeding our mulch areas, power washing our outdoor ramp, and maintaining our Memorial Garden. Hopefully, this work will be done quickly. We want our church to look its best when we drive up to worship.

As we strive to maintain the grounds of our beautiful church, please know you can touch base with me anytime regarding any concerns you may have.

Peace,

**Barbara Halsey**  
Junior Warden



**The Worship Team meets on Sunday,  
August 9<sup>th</sup> following the coffee hour.**



# The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Team meets on Monday, August 10 at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall



## Living & Dying Well

Sundays: Aug 30, Sept 27, and Oct 25

12:00 – 1:00 pm

What does it mean to live well, even as we near the end of life? Have you made arrangements for your funeral? Does your family know where all your important documents are? Do you know where your parents' or loved ones' important documents are? Or what their wishes are?

Join us for a three-week series exploring the acclaimed PBS Frontline documentary *Being Mortal*, based on surgeon and writer Atul Gawande's bestselling book. Through intimate stories of patients, families, and doctors, the film asks hard but important questions about aging, illness, autonomy, and what truly matters when time is limited. The first two sessions include a portion of the film followed by open, faith-grounded conversation. The third session will include practical handouts for planning your funeral and making sure your family has all the documents they need. You're welcome to attend one or all three weeks. This is a gentle, thoughtful space to reflect on mortality, care for loved ones, and hope. Led by Karla.

Space is limited. Please email your interest to  
[christchurchspartanc@gmail.com](mailto:christchurchspartanc@gmail.com) and we'll hold a spot for you.



# Ministerium Meeting

The Vestry encourages all church members to attend the monthly meeting of the **Alleghany County Ministerium** on **August 6, 2026, at 8:30 AM** at the SBA building beside the library.

The primary focus of this month's discussion will be the Ministerium-sponsored event **"Heart to Serve."** This event is a community connection opportunity for churches of all denominations to hear directly from leaders of local non-profits, agencies, and service organizations about unmet community needs and partnership opportunities. Christ Church Episcopal members are encouraged to start compiling a list of known organizations in the community that fit these criteria.

While still in the planning phase, the Ministerium has tentatively invited three guest speakers:

- **Mitch Calloway**, Stone's Throw Ministry (Elkin)
- **Tim Sizemore**, Bridges Affordable Housing Services
- **Melissa Fitzgerald**, Director of Student Services for **Alleghany County School**

## Save the Date:

- **When:** October 3, 2026 | 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM (includes a light lunch)
- **Where:** Sparta United Methodist Church
- **Cost:** Free



**The Office will be closed next Wednesday, Aug 5 for the Audit and Mary Lee will work from home next Thursday, Aug 6**



# Please join us in prayer...

## **Intercessions:**

Allan Joyce, Buck Hunnicutt, Chris, Denise Seckel, Denise & Larry's friend, Diana Asher (Les' friend), Edwin (Nancy's brother), Erin Mohr & her family, Gwen (Ann), Isabel Tomé & her daughter Vanessa & family, Karen & Dick Dewald (Erin's parents), Leann & Hywel & Emrys & Lillwen (Ann), Linda Williams & David Williams & family, Mindy (Vanessa's friend), Rita Woodruff (Jay's mother), Shannan Roark, Steve (Vanessa's friend), Terry & Bess (Ann's BIL & sister). We also pray for all those impacted by violence, war and/or weather disasters, our local neighbors that fear detention, and Christ Church, its leaders & ministry teams.

## **Long-term prayers:**

Angelia Miller, Antje & Bill, Brenda Weems, Carl & Carol Greer, Cathy Davis (The Rev), Coralie & her mother, Mary, Donna & Mike Hohnstine, Gary Medley, Inza & Blair, Janice Harrison, Jonathan, Linda/Cindy/Trent (Ann's friends), Lynn Ellis, Lynn & Ajit, Margaret, Raymond Hindman (Cara Todd's father), Rudy McKnight, Susan & Jim Doss (The Rev), Tom & Kate Warndorf (Larry & Denise's friends), and Vanita.

## **Departed:**

## **Birthdays:**

**Wedding Anniversaries & other Thanksgivings:** John & Pat Bassett (Aug 3)



## Please pray for the inmates, staff, and volunteers at River North Correctional Center in Independence, VA

*Limited religious programs have resumed at River North but scheduled (and at times, unscheduled) lockdowns continue to occur. Please keep River North in your prayers every week.*

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.” *Proverbs 3:5-6*

Pray that we all get out of here and be with our families and friends. Pray for all the women and men that are locked up to be able to go home. God bless us all.

Pray for our families and other relationships we have. Pray for the spirit to be here.

Pray for my children, my brothers, sisters, nephews, and wife.

Pray for everyone who needs Christ in their life.

Pray for mankind, for me. I am struggling with addiction. Love to all.

Pray my family and for my daughter who has had triplets this month. Pray for the mother who is in the hospital. Pray for them all to leave the hospital and be safe at home.

Pray for our family. Give praise to God. Pray for our children. Pray for love, peace, and unity upon the world.

Pray for this facility and all facilities alike that house men and women. Pray that we all come to God through Jesus.

Pray for strength in the Lord. Pray for brothers and sisters in Christ.

God bless the United States. Keep her in Your hands and Your will.

Let go. Let God be. God bless you and yours.

God is love.

Pray for our country.

Pray for peace.

Pray for my mother who will be 100 this weekend. Give thanks.

Pray for my cellmate. He has had a seizure. Pray for his family who visits him. Lord, please provide for him as he struggles with his faith.

Pray for my wife's health. Pray God's healing hands are upon her.



**The Outreach Team meets on  
Tuesday, August 11 at 3:15 pm in  
the Parish Hall**



# Christian Formation:

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer

2:00 – Book Discussion

Every Tuesday at 1:00 pm, Patti Phelps leads a group in Centering Prayer. The group begins with a check-in and anyone with a prayer request can share it then. After that is 20 minutes of Centering Prayer – a time to listen for God. Do you have questions about Centering Prayer? Patti has very helpful information in a trifold leaflet and they can be found on the rack in the narthex. But the easiest way to have your questions answered is to ask Patti. She's at church most Sundays or you can email her at [frankandpatti@yahoo.com](mailto:frankandpatti@yahoo.com).

Every Tuesday at 2:00 pm, Patti leads a book discussion group. Some of the Centering Prayer group members attend that group, too, but not all of them. You can decide what works best for you. The book discussion group has just started a new book – *The Enneagram of the Soul* by Nhien Vuong. This follows the enneagram class recently taught by Julie Smith, an Enneagram Consultant and someone who works at the Center on Action and Contemplation. *The book can be purchased on Amazon or other online bookstores.* Once again, if you have questions, Patti is at church most Sundays or you can email her at [frankandpatti@yahoo.com](mailto:frankandpatti@yahoo.com).

**Everyone is welcome to join either or both groups!**



Try out our new QR code to connect to our website:



# Soul Sauntering opportunity

**UPDATE:** The Soul Sauntering opportunity in September at Lake Logan has been cancelled, but Karla will be planning a similar event. *Details will follow.*



## Schedule

**Sunday, August 2 – The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

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

Coffee hour follows the service

**Tuesday, August 4**

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

**Wednesday, August 5**

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

11:00 – 1:00 pm – Annual Audit (Office will be closed)

**Thursday, August 6**

Mary Lee will work remotely

**Sunday, August 9 – The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

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

Coffee hour follows the service

**Worship Team meets**

**Monday, August 10**

**10:00 am – 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning meeting in the Parish Hall**

**Tuesday, August 11**

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

**3:15 pm – Outreach Team meets in the Parish Hall**

Wednesday, August 12

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

Sunday, August 16 – The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Coffee hour follows the service

Monday, August 17

10:00 am – Vestry meeting

Tuesday, August 18

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Wednesday, August 19

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

Sunday, August 23 – The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

10:30 am – Holy Eucharist with The Rev George Greer

Coffee hour follows the service

Tuesday, August 25

**Volunteers are at SRFC**

1:00 pm – Centering Prayer group

2:00 pm – Book Discussion group

Wednesday, August 26

**Volunteers are at SRFC**



## Altar Flowers and Coffee Hour sign-ups:

| Date   | Altar Flowers | Coffee Guild   | Coffee Hour           |
|--------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Aug 2  |               | Cynthia Grant  | Louise Law            |
| Aug 9  |               | Marybeth Lentz | Jane Franck           |
| Aug 16 |               | John Franck    | Arnold & Rebecca Gain |
| Aug 23 |               | Jim Halsey     |                       |



# Solid Rock Food Closet (SRFC)

If you are able, please bring one or more of the items below:

TOILET PAPER

LAUNDRY DETERGENT

DISHWASHING SOAP

SHAMPOO/COMB

**For the children's summer backpack program, they need sweets!**

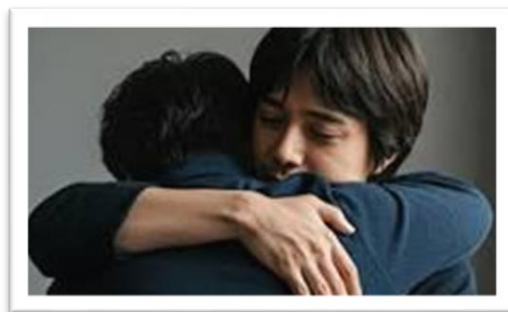
During the summer, the children get something sweet to eat in addition to the healthier options. Good options: individually packaged cookies, juice boxes, raisins, pudding cups, etc.

**The other way to give is with a gift of cash.** We collect a special offering the **first Sunday of each month** specifically for SRFC. You can write a check and SRFC on the memo line or put cash in an offering envelope with your name and SRFC. **THIS** Sunday is the first Sunday of the month so don't forget to bring your donation.

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



## 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.



## 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!**



## 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](mailto:frankandpatti@yahoo.com).



## MEMBERS ONLY

Our updated website ([christchurchalleghany.org](http://christchurchalleghany.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](mailto:christchurchspartanc@gmail.com) and she'll provide you the password.*

We also invite you to share our website – [christchurchalleghany.org](http://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

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[christchurchalleghany.org](http://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