

CHRIST AND GRACE CHURCH  
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2018

See Inside

Outreach	pg. 2
Vestry News	pg. 2
Calendar	pg. 3
EYC Updates	pg. 4
ECW News	pg. 4
Did You Know	pg. 5

Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
 9:30 Christian Education  
 for Adults and Youth  
 10:30 Holy Communion  
 Sunday School Ages 3-11

Tuesday, February 13

Shrove  
 Tuesday

6-7 p.m.

Prepared and  
 served by the  
 EYC



# The Good News

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

Over the past fourteen months I have been blessed to serve along with you. Perhaps you were expecting a difficult time of transition. Any congregation experiences uncertainty about the future during a transition. And since Christ and Grace had had no such transition in over twenty five years, you were right to expect more uncertainty than most congregations as your search for a new Rector began. I hope that you can all look back now upon our time together and see how God led us to work through those uncertainties and has now brought you, well-prepared, to a new period in this parish's long and full life. I am exceedingly thankful that you treated me not as just a 'temporary Rector,' but engaged fully with me in our intentional interim activities of learning about yourselves and discerning God's direction in order to move more purposefully forward in your ministries.

These months have seemed to fly by. This parish has been a fulfilling place of ministry for me in so many ways. What I have learned from ministering along with you has helped me learn and grow in my ministry. I will take that learning and growth with me to help others learn and grow. Christ Church, Spotsylvania, where my next interim work will be beginning February 1, will benefit from my experiences with you.

Let me express my gratitude and thanks to all of you for your support of my ministry among you. Lynn Ellen asks that I express her gratitude as well. We will miss you and will continue to hold you in our memories and in our prayers. We will, as is proper, keep our distance from the church, in order to give your new Rector the space to start a new relationship with you. God has blessed Christ and Grace with many people who are gifted in ministry and who are committed to Christ. In the months and years to come I will look forward to hearing about how your ministries continue to grow and flourish in this corner of God's kingdom.

Yours in Christ,

*Bill Queen*

**TUESDAY LENTEN PREACHERS AND LUNCHEONS**

Join us on five Tuesdays during Lent at 12:15 p.m. for a short worship service and guest preacher followed by lunch in Lackey Hall. (\$5.00 per plate)

- Tuesday, February 20**    **Scott Fisher**, St Joseph's Catholic Church  
 Luncheon - **The 10 o'clock Circle**  
 Menu: Hot Chicken Salad
- Tuesday, February 27**    **The Rev. Willis Foster** Rector, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
 Luncheon Hostesses- **Dixie Lackey and Gerry Higgins**  
 Menu: Shepherds Pie
- Tuesday, March 6**        **The Rev. Eve Butler-Gee**, Rector, Martin Burrowsville  
 Luncheon Hostesses—**Valerie Jeter, Kitty Gwaltney & Night Circle**  
 Menu: Soup and Sandwich
- Tuesday, March 13**      **The Rev. Joe Lewis**, Pastor, Second Baptist Church  
 Luncheon Hostess - **Maureen McClure**  
 Menu: Chicken Spectacular
- Tuesday, March 20**      **The Rev. Rick Greenwood**, Rector, St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
 Luncheon - **Elizabeth Johnson**  
 Menu: Cheese Souffle

Considerable effort goes into the lunches each Tuesday by members of the church, and this is a major fundraiser for the Episcopal Church Women. Please plan to attend one or more Tuesdays.

**VESTRY NEWS**

As you all know, we have been diligently working towards hiring a permanent rector for our church. I am pleased to report that we are at the final stage of the process, but unfortunately, cannot make an announcement with this issue of the Good News. We expect to have a permanent rector in the very near future – we are all very excited by this! We are also very grateful for the valuable service of our interim rector, **Rev. Bill Queen**, and are sad to see him and **Lynn Ellen** go. We know that Christ Church in Spotsylvania is in good hands during their transition time!

Beginning February 4, The Rev. Ruth Partlow will be officiating our worship services. Ruth is retired from St. Luke’s Powhatan. I know that our transition period has seemed lengthy and difficult, but it is almost over. Our **Search Committee** has done a wonderful job to get us to this point, and I and the whole vestry thank them for what they have done for us as a church. **Andy Gates**, Senior Warden

Meeting Highlights from January

- New members **Mary Beth Bristow, Greg Gwaltney, Maureen McClure and Bill Miller** began their newly elected 3 year term.
- Officers elected: **Andy Gates**, Sr. Warden, **Greg Gwaltney, Jr.** Warden, **Paul Higgins**, Treasurer, and **Ann Riggs**, Register. Ann Riggs did accept the Register’s position with the understanding that a new Register would be sought.
- Paul Higgins asked our members to encourage our congregation to turn in their pledge cards so that he can present a final operating 2018 budget. It is difficult to plan the year when you do not have complete information. Pledge cards are available in the church office.

**OUTREACH**

Angel Tree 2017 Update by Sonyia Elder

**“For it is in giving that we receive....”**

Thanks to everyone who donated presents, money and gift cards for the Angel Tree Ministry. I thought you would appreciate some of the responses I received from the families we served.

*“...thank you so much for helping me”*

*“Thank you very much for the gifts. You were a life saver to me and them.”*

*“.... they didn't get anything for Christmas and I had no money to get them anything. I'm on a fixed income and had to pay bills. THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH.”*

*“...thank you again for everything. I picked up everything today. Have a Happy Holiday”*

The generosity of Christ and Grace members is infinite, I cannot wait for Angel Tree 2018.

**FLOWER ARRANGING CLASS**



Interested in learning how to arrange flowers for the altar? Come find out more! Kay Wray will be leading a class in Lackey Hall on Sunday, February 11, after the 10:30 am service. Soup and bread will be served. Please RSVP so we can have enough materials available. Contact Lee Adams with any questions at [shakubuku42@gmail.com](mailto:shakubuku42@gmail.com) or 243-3302.

**SEARCH COMMITTEE**

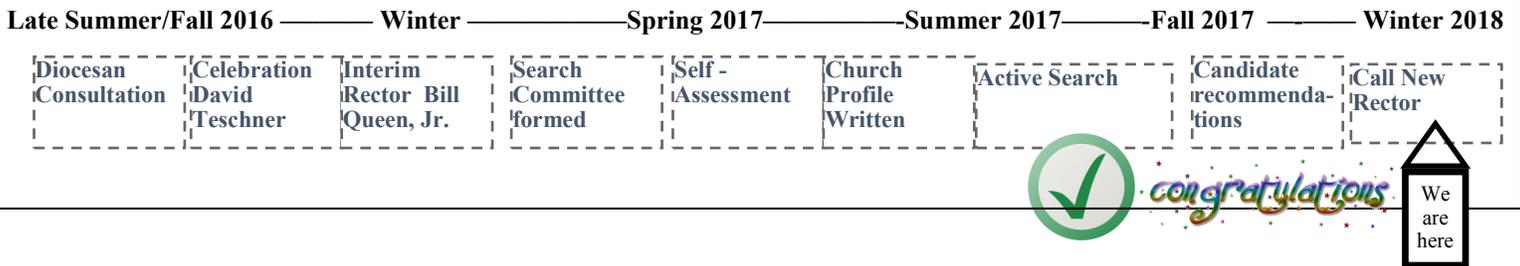
The Christ & Grace Rector Search Committee embarked on a year-long journey beginning with our first meeting on January 19, 2017. During our time together, we spent the period of Lent listening and engaging in conversation with you as Bill led us through exercises that had us looking at C & G’s past, examining the programs and activities that are most important to us, and thinking about the future and what that should look like. We delved deeper as we asked each of you to provide us information about what you need and are hoping for in a new rector and a large percentage of you responded. Thank you. Our church website was reviewed and adjustments were made. We compiled information about every aspect of our church and our wonderful staff responded to every request with a smile. From all of that preliminary work, we compiled a new Christ & Grace Profile that we believe captures the energy, enthusiasm and love that is Christ & Grace. If you have not read through it, I hope you will. It is available on the church website. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge all of the very special work undertaken by our technology and photography gurus without whom we could never have produced such a document.

At that point we were ready to entertain candidates! We received portfolios from candidates who self-nominated, we received them from the Diocese of Southern Virginia and we reached out to Episcopal rectors that we knew in other parts of Virginia to make certain that we made every effort to cast the net broadly. Your committee members painstakingly analyzed portfolios, conducted telephone interviews, entertained candidates here for in-person interviews, and had conversations with references. What a privilege it has been for me to work with my amazing eight fellow committee members, who never hesitated to put in the work, attend the meetings and think seriously about the task at hand.

On January 6, I was very proud, on behalf of the Search Committee, to present our unanimously recommended candidate to the Vestry and to “pass the baton” so that they can conclude the process. This work remains confidential; however, I am very confident that our new rector will be joining us very soon. Thank you for all of your support and your prayers.

Martha Burton

**PROJECTED SEARCH PROCESS TIMELINE**



## CLAIRE'S CORNER

Over the last weeks in our Adult forum, we have learned much from our video presentations and discussions led by Bill Queen around Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his invitation to be a part of the *Jesus Movement*. He speaks with such wisdom and encouragement to people everywhere about the wonders of God's love and his purpose for us in this life. As carriers of this love through our creation, we are given the power to bring reconciliation to the hurting places of the world. It is what constitutes the essence of life. The work of reconciliation is often the road less traveled, however it offer us an adventure of finding true meaning in a world that can be so superficial. To be further equipped for this work, we need to gain greater understanding of our God. And what better way to gain understanding than to study the work of Jesus through the reading of scripture.

During this Lent and Easter season, I am planning to focus a Bible Study on the books of Luke/Acts. Luke-Acts provides a wonderful two-part narrative. Luke tells the wondrous story of Jesus' birth, ministry, teaching, death, and resurrection. Acts picks up where Luke leaves off and tells the story of the earliest disciples through the lens of Peter and Paul and the real star of the show — the Holy Spirit. I will be using a format for this study developed by the Forward Movement called the **Good Book Club**. If you read the Forward Day by Day, you will already be a part of this study as the daily readings will reference this scripture. If you want to grow and strengthen your faith, reading scripture is the

perfect exercise. And why not join with many others that already will be joining this endeavor.

On Sunday, February 4, I will introduce this study at the Adult forum. You can also visit <http://www.goodbookclub.org/> and learn more about this as well as sign up for daily emails and resources. On my Thursday morning Bible Study at 7:30 am, we will discuss our daily readings from the previous week. What might we learn, what might we encounter? I do not know, but I trust that it will be an place to witness the Holy Spirit at work.



## EYC NEWS

**January 28<sup>th</sup>** - Marigene Little will meet with the youth downstairs in the EYC room at 9:30 a.m.

**Sunday, February 4<sup>th</sup> (SUPER/SOUPER BOWL!!)** - In addition to talking about the Super Bowl and picking the WINNER, we will take part in a powerful exercise put together by World Vision U.S. The illustration will help us understand the realities that children living in poverty around the world face every day. We also plan to support a youth led movement called the Souper Bowl of Caring again this year. EYC families are invited to bring canned goods, dry goods (rice, noodles, cereal, beans, oatmeal) or Food Lion / Walmart gift cards to church over the three weeks leading up to the Super Bowl. Below is a link to a short video that explains the Souper Bowl of Caring initiative in more detail. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4RWCSOGZxbw>

**Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** - We are going to start a series of lessons called "*Life is better connected*" downstairs in the youth room at 9:30 a.m. We will discuss Biblical perspectives on various topics related to living in community (what makes a good friend, respect for others, being a good neighbor) and also brainstorm how we can best handle relational challenges (resolving conflict, bullying, navigating social media in healthy ways).



**Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>** - Youth on deck to set up, serve and clean up 5 - 8 p.m.

**Pancakes served from 6-7 p.m.**

Cost \$5.00 per person with maximum of \$20.00 per family

**February 18<sup>th</sup>** - Visit Petersburg Home for Ladies..

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** - Marigene Little will meet with the group downstairs in the youth room at 9:30 a.m.

**SAVE THE DATE, March 24<sup>th</sup>** - We will join FOLAR (Friends of the Lower Appomattox River) for a "spring clean-up" along the Appomattox River. This is a great chance to enjoy the great outdoors while improving one of our community's most important natural resources.



## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

On February 15, 2015, our annual ECW luncheon was held in Lackey Hall. After a wonderful lunch served by the ECW Board, we heard from our guest speaker Gini DiStanislao who always brings a burst of sunshine when she returns to Christ and Grace. Her sharing of her continuing ministry experiences and her words of wisdom were greatly appreciated. Installation of two officers, President, Valerie Jones and Secretary, Kitty Gwaltney took place. This is a new office for Valerie, who has served on our board as Historian. The gavel was passed onto her from our outgoing president, Carolyn Thacker who has served us so well over the past 4 years. A donation from the church to the United Thank Offering was made in her honor for her service and presented to Carolyn at our previous Sunday worship service by Bill Queen. The office of secretary is not a new office for Kitty, and we are grateful she has renewed another term in this capacity. Samantha Ellis and Linda Crocker will continue their terms as Vice-President and Treasurer respectively. We are grateful for all the support we receive from our church family in all our endeavors.

**CHILI AVAILABLE FOR SUPER BOWL SUNDAY** - Please sign up if you would like to order a quart(s) of chili made by the Episcopal Church Women. It will be available for you to take home after church on Sunday, February 4. A sign up sheet is in Lackey Hall for your order. Cost is \$10/quart.

**FRAMEABLE CHURCH PRINTS AND NOTECARDS** are available for your purchase. The 10x12 prints are \$5.00 and note cards are \$1.00 each or 6/\$5.00. This print is one that was made in 1988 from a painting by Boots Holden. Copies for purchase are available in Lackey Hall. Proceeds will benefit the ECW.

**LENTEN LUNCHEONS** - SEE SCHEDULE/MENUS ON THE FRONT PAGE

**ANNE RUSMISELL CPC BOOK SALE** will begin on Sunday, February 18 and continue throughout the season of Lent. Please begin bringing in your used books, CD's, games, historical, biographical and children's books and place in the back room of Lackey Hall. (Please do not bring Reader's Digest or text books.) The ECW contributes all proceeds to the Church Periodical Club. Cindi Hardy will be organizing this sale.

**REMINDER TO OUR LADIES: PLEASE CHECK IN THE KITCHEN** to see if you may have a dish that needs to be picked up. There is quite a collection of dishes on the counter in the far end of the kitchen.

# FEBRUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:30 am Bible Study 7:00 pm AA Adult Choir	2	3
4 8:00 HEII 9:30 Adult and Youth Sunday School 10:30 HEII Sunday School Ages 2-11	5 7:00 pm Tri- Cities Band Rehearsal	6 7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	7	8 7:30 am Bible Study 7:00 pm AA Adult Choir	9	10
11 8:00 HEII 8:45 Big Break- fast 9:30 Adult and Youth Sunday School 10:30 HEII Sunday School Ages 2-11	12 7:00 pm Tri- Cities Band Rehearsal	13 Pancake Supper 6-7 pm  Shrove Tuesday	14  Ash Wednesday 5:30 pm <u>One service only</u>	15 7:00 pm AA Adult Choir	16 Diocesan Annual Council Williamsburg	17
18 8:00 HEII 9:30 Adult and Youth Sunday School 10:30 HEII Sunday School Ages 2-11 5:30 Celtic Service	19 6:30 Vestry Mtg. 7:00 pm Tri- Cities Band Rehearsal	20 12:15 Lenten Series & Lunch 7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	21 6:00 pm Potluck 6:45 Movie / Program	22 7:30 am Bible Study 7:00 pm AA Adult Choir	23	24 8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
25 8:00 HEII 9:30 Adult and Youth Sunday School 10:30 HEII Sunday School Ages 2-11	26 7:00 pm Tri- Cities Band Rehearsal	27 12:15 Lenten Series & Lunch 7:00 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	28 6:00 pm Potluck 6:45 Movie / Program			

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**In case of snow** on any given Sunday this winter, please use your best judgment and all precautions when venturing out. Sunday services are rarely cancelled, but if you think it is too dangerous to drive, by all means, stay home. In severe storms, cancellation notices will be listed on CBS Channel 6, NBC Channel 12, and Facebook as well as at [www.chrstandgrace.org](http://www.chrstandgrace.org).

**MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The Men of Christ and Grace meet every month on a Saturday morning for breakfast from 8:00 – 9:00. This month they will meet on Saturday morning, February 24. You are welcome to attend anytime. Come hungry! **Andy Gates** has a great breakfast planned.

**WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THE MUSIC SURVEY?**

After online and paper surveys were made available for the entire month of November, only 23 completed surveys were returned. Unfortunately, such a low response rate does not give any meaningful information about music preferences for a congregation of our size. Thank you to those who did take the time to express your opinions.

**THE STAFF OF CHRIST AND GRACE** thank each and every one of you for your many kindnesses during the Christmas season. Your cards, donations in our honor, gifts and tasty treats were most appreciated. May the New Year bring you many blessings.

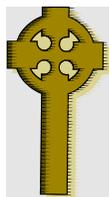
**SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION (9:30 A.M.)**

**February 4** - Intro to **The Good Book Club**

**February 11** - What to expect at Annual Council?

**February 18** – *Post Council Talk* by Tom Little and Bill Miller, Annual Council Delegates

**February 25** –

**CELTIC SERVICE**

Please join us for our next Celtic Evensong and Communion Service on Sunday, February 18. Harpist Louise Daniel will be the featured musician. Pre-service music begins at 5:15 p.m. and the service begins at 5:30. Casual dress is encouraged. Please bring a friend and plan to stay for the reception that follows the service.



**ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

**ONE SERVICE THIS YEAR AT 5:30 PM**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT POTLUCKS**

**Followed with movie feature, THE LION KING**

**OR KARUNA: A Way of Life**

Beginning Wednesday Feb. 21 and each Wednesday evening for the following 4 weeks, you are invited to bring your favorite dish to share at our potluck suppers. This is a great time to invite a friend to join in the fellowship of our church.

At 6:45 you are invited to stay for our movie segment of **The Lion King** which will be shown in Lackey Hall **or** join the study group upstairs in the Hale Library for "**Karuna: A Way of Life.**" Curious?? Join Sonyia Elder for reflection and journey through the Lenten season. All materials provided. Sonyia is asking you to sign up on the sheet provided in Lackey Hall in order to prepare for this group. She may be reached to answer any question at 691-1735 or [tselder@comcast.net](mailto:tselder@comcast.net)

**Staff**

The Rev. Ruth Partlow, Supply Priest

Claire Brill, Lay Assistant

Jill Donnelly, Parish Secretary

Marwee Walsh, Kitchen Coordinator

James Harris, Sexton

Greg Gwaltney, Parish Administrator

Kitty Reed, Bookkeeper

**Contact the Church**

Phone: 804-733-7202

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Website: [chrstandgrace.org](http://chrstandgrace.org)

**Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday, 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*The Good News is published*

*monthly, Sept.—June.*

*Deadline is the 15th*

***Christ and Grace Church***

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Petersburg, VA 23805

**Address Services Requested**