



Christ Episcopal Church Chronicle for Feb. & Mar. 2025

3245 Franklin Turnpike at the Corner of Ridgecrest Dr.
P.O. Box 10355, Danville, VA 24543-5006

Church Phone: (434) 836-2060
www.ChristChurchDanville.org

E-Mail: Info@ChristChurchDanville.org
www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalDanvilleVA



Some say it is just a building and I suppose it is, but our church building is home to me. It holds memories the way a home does. I remember annual bazaar sales, moving folding chairs, the sound of the window being rolled up in the old kitchen, the pancake suppers, stews and many youth events of my own youth. As an adult, my children and the youth of this church are building their memories of Sunday School, pageants, hanging out with friends and youth Sunday fun days. On Sunday, January 19th I witnessed my grandson receiving his first blessing at the altar rail. This is our home; the one that many of us have been baptized in, married, confirmed or witnessed these events for other family and friends. Christ Episcopal Church holds this for so many of us and the memories that once were are continuing to grow and shaping us for the future and the generations to come....hopefully.



Following the service on Sunday, January 19th the congregation met for our Annual Meeting. This meeting each year allows us to see the health of our church in ministry as well as finances. It is also a way to look towards the future. During the meeting we discussed decreasing the Vestry over time to reduce the Vestry size from 9 to 6 or 7. A big thank you to Nancy Sands who completed two terms and to Marge and Sherry who were elected to serve on the Vestry for a second term.

During the Annual Meeting, we also discussed options for the church parking lot as far as paving and expansion of the parking spaces. There was also some discussion about the placement of a gate at the Franklin Turnpike

Driveway with the upcoming possibility of traffic pattern changes to Franklin Turnpike. If you were not at the meeting please speak to a member of the Vestry for more information as we do want to hear your thoughts.

We also looked at ways of splitting tasks up to decrease the load on a few and allow others to have an opportunity to serve in various roles. There will be a sign up sheet for various areas that could use your help.

Following our meeting the Vestry met and voted on the slate of officers as follows:

- Kristi Ross - Senior Warden
- Tom Sadler - Junior Warden
- Marge Fifield - Clerk
- John Ross - Treasurer (non-Vestry position)

Please continue to pray for our church and our mission in the community and the World.

Faithfully in His Service,
Kristi Ross, Senior Warden



Angel Tree

The church donated \$803 to God's Pit Crew for their toy drive campaign to pay for the truckloads of bicycles they put together and took to the victims of the Hurricane in North Carolina.

We appreciate all those who donated to this worthy cause and the ministry that God's Pit Crew provides.



Starting in April, we will be transitioning the newsletter to a quarterly publication and focusing on church activities that were held during each quarter. The newsletter has always been called the “Chronicle” and we plan to expand the stories and photos of the life and work of Christ Church to preserve our history for future generations.

Upcoming activities will be published in the weekly news email and in the Sunday bulletin. Starting this week there will be 2 new sections in the weekly news; Service Assignments will show who is scheduled for the next three services with a link to a multi-month listing; and Upcoming Events will have a list of future events that are currently scheduled, with expanded information still being displayed at the top of the email as the date for the event approaches.

We need your input on what you like, don't like, and any changes that you think will make the information easier to view and/or retrieve.

Please speak to John or Kristi Ross with any questions or concerns and please continue to send news and event information to:

News@ChristChurchDanville.org



Following the Fourth Sunday of Advent service on Sunday, December 22nd all members were quick to pitch in and get the job of Christmas decorating done. In an hour or less the church was decorated and ready for the Christmas Eve service. The same was true of un-decorating on Sunday, January 5th. Many hands made light work. Thank you so much to all those who lended a hand in this task to make it go quickly.

Thank you to Cleon Ross and Sherry Gott for taking care of the Christmas flowers this year. The poinsettias and greens made the church especially beautiful for our Christmas Eve service. Thank you to all those who donated money for the flowers this year.



On December 22nd the youth members of the church once again portrayed the story of “The First Christmas”. Several of the members took turns being the Narrator and several of the members were in charge of bringing the Nativity pieces into the church to be placed when decorating.

The congregation chimed in for the Christmas hymns included during the pageant. Thank you to Kathy Northen for her assistance with the music and Pam Boor for keeping the kids lined up with the right pieces.

Thank you for your continued support of our youth.





On Friday, December 6th 19 women and friends of Christ Church gathered to fellowship and celebrate the Christmas season. The ladies had chicken catered

by Mount Herman Meat Market and the sides and deserts were provided by those in attendance. Following the meal there was a game of Secret Santa played while reading a Left Right Christmas Story. This game is always so much fun to play. The meal and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

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Lu Sullivan, ECW President

ECW Prayer

Almighty God, we pray that you will bless our work in our mission and ministry in the world. Help us to pray fervently, labor diligently, and give liberally to make known the power of your love given through your son, Jesus. Let us not forget the lessons from the past nor the challenges of the future. Anoint us with your grace and shine in our hearts as we reflect your light throughout the world. -Amen





We ended 2024 with a surplus of \$15,857.64 which was transferred into the McCollum fund. As of December 31st there was a total of \$337,425 in all of the church accounts.

The latest full treasurer's report is posted on the front hall bulletin board.

Below is a summary of the 2024 results. A more detailed report was included in the 2024 Annual Report.

John Ross, Treasurer

	2024 Budget	Actual 2024
Total Operating Revenue	\$55,980.00	\$68,121.00
Clergy Compensation	\$18,982.00	\$17,025.20
Building Expenses	\$13,622.00	\$14,194.00
Utilities Expenses	\$7,318.00	\$6,791.96
Program Expenses	\$10,775.00	\$8,698.08
Office Expenses	\$765.00	\$604.05
Other Expenses	\$5,044.00	\$4,950.07
Total Operating Expenses	\$56,506.00	\$52,263.36
Net Income	-\$526.00	\$15,857.64



"Shawls...made for centuries, universal and embracing, symbolic of an inclusive, unconditionally loving God. They wrap, enfold, comfort, give solace, mother, hug, shelter, and beautify."

The Prayer Shawl Ministry was introduced to Christ Church in 2008. We are approaching close to 500 shawls that have been made since then. As you go by the Prayer Shawl room, you'll see that the shelves are pretty empty.

We have a group that meets every other Saturday. Some come to knit or crochet, and some come for friendship and conversation. If you like to knit or crochet come and join us, we will provide the yarn, or if you just want to get together for friendship and conversation, come on in. The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Christ Church is a place for us to share God's Love and Prayers.

Lu Sullivan
Prayer Shawl Coordinator



We had 50 people in attendance on Christmas Eve with many arriving early to listen to Kathy Northen's extended prelude.

Rev. Grayce O'Neill Rowe celebrated the Holy Eucharist and gave an inspiring sermon with her husband and daughter Christine in attendance. Shazam!

In keeping with tradition, Silent Night was sung by candle light after communion. Following the service many stayed for the finger food reception and enjoyed some Christmas fellowship.





Harrison Danger Overly was born on Saturday, December 21st at 1:48 a.m. and weighed 6lbs 9oz. Harrison is the son of Anna Ballenger and Joel Overly. Mom, Dad and baby Harrison are doing well but are exhausted. Please keep Anna and Harrison in your prayers.



Noah Troy Marlowe was born on Friday, December 27th at 8:54 p.m. and weighed 7lbs 4oz. Noah is the son of Mary Ross and Matthew Marlowe. Mom, Dad and baby Noah are doing well and working on finding a routine. Please keep Mary and Noah in your prayers.



Birthdays & Anniversaries



February

Shane Hall	2
Zach Haney	4
Mollie Huemoeller	4
Melissa Brummett	10
Autumn Hall	10
Cheyenne Hall	10
Jake Howard	11
David & Bonnie Hill – Anniversary	17
Bonnie Hill	19
William Barksdale	23
Phil Huecker	24
Shane & Mikelle Hall – Anniversary	24
Kyle Pruitt	26

March

Carl Rowe	1
Carl & Rev. Grayce O’Neill Rowe - Anniversary	5
Matthew Marlowe	10
Angie Daniel	16
Cathy Hyler	23
Selena Fifield	23
Sam Smith	25
Jim Hall	26
Kathleen Hoffman	26
Jennifer Cuff	27
Brittany Barnett	29
Andy & Sharon Sands - Anniversary	30
Tom & Laura Sadler - Anniversary	31



"A volunteer group of the parish whose ministry is to care for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish." We have 8 people serving on the Altar Guild at this time and sometimes a child or two who want to help.

A special thanks goes to Fr. Ross, who had the cross on the shelf at the back of the church refinished along with one of the processional crosses.

Another special thanks goes to all who helped put up and take down Christmas this year. If anyone would like to join the Altar Guild please see me or any other member of the Altar Guild. As I always say...Many Hands Make Light Work! - Lu Sullivan, Altar Guild Director

Mary Elizabeth Biddlestone

November 29, 1943

December 23, 2024



A funeral service for Mary Biddlestone will be held at Christ Church on Saturday, February 8th, at 2:00 p.m.

Reception hosted by the ECW following the service



Mary was born in Huntsville, Alabama and was a graduate of George Washington High School, the College of William and Mary and received her Masters Degree from Tulane University.

Ms. Biddlestone is survived by her sister, Rebecca Scarce, step children Beth (James) Baker, William R. Biddlestone, Paul (Elayne) Biddlestone, and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She is predeceased by her husband Robert Biddlestone, her parents Leon and Elizabeth Smith, and a stepson, Fred Biddlestone.

Mary was a very active member at Christ Episcopal Church. She was a past member of the Vestry.



- Sat. Jan. 25 Crafting Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. Jan. 26 ECW Meeting following the service
- Sun. Feb. 2 Bible Study Resumes 9:00 a.m.
- Sat. Feb. 8 Mary Biddlestone Funeral Service 2:00 p.m.
- Sun. Feb 9 Vestry Meeting following the service
- Tue. Feb. 11 Lunch Bunch 12:00 p.m. - Nonnie's
- Sun. Feb. 16 ECW Meeting following the service
- Sat. Feb. 22 Crafting Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
- Tue. Mar. 4 Pancake Supper 5:00-7:00 p.m.
- Wed. Mar. 5 Ash Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
- Sat. Mar. 8 Crafting Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. Mar. 9 Vestry Meeting following the service
- Tue. Mar. 11 Lunch Bunch 12:00 p.m. - Ciro's
- Sun. Mar. 16 ECW Meeting following the service
- Sat. Mar. 22 Crafting Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
- Sat. Apr. 5 Crafting Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. Apr. 18 Palm Sunday 10:00 a.m.
- Thu. Apr. 17 Seder Supper 5:30 p.m.
Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m.
Gethsemane Watch
- Fri. Apr. 18 Good Friday Stations of the Cross 6:00 p.m.
- Sat. Apr. 19 Crafting Fellowship 10:00 a.m.
- Sun. Apr. 20 Easter Sunday 10:00 a.m.



Tuesday, March 4th, 5 - 7 p.m.
\$8 / adult and \$5 / Under 12

This is the main fundraiser for the church and we are excited to be able to open it for the public again this year. We encourage everyone to share and promote this wonderful event.

Tickets will be available to sell and we will be looking for volunteers to help with the setup, cooking, serving and cleanup. More information will be in weekly news closer to March.