

Christ Church Bell

Volume XXXIX, Issue 1

January 2025



Happy New Year and continued Christmas blessings to all!!

Each year, the first six days of the New Year are rich, full...and potentially dizzying for Episcopalians and other persons of faith who follow the liturgical calendar. These six days mark the final days of the Church's Christmas Season AND the first days of the New Year. While this might sound a bit nerdy, these transitional days offer unique opportunities, especially for parishes, like Christ Church, who are themselves in transition.

The season of Christmas is a holy and nostalgic time. We remember and hold close to our hearts those generational family traditions; treasured traditions we expect to carry into the future. And for some, memories of past Christmas celebrations can be both holy and wholly troubling.

The BIG Question for both Christmas celebrations and transitional time is, "How do we hold onto all that we treasure while opening our hearts and minds to new opportunities in God's call to us?"

This is a question of faith, especially throughout the process of searching for, listening to, discerning and choosing a new Rector. It is a process that invites vulnerability, uncertainty, identifying and letting go of preconceived notions, and trust. God calls us to trust the process as a godly process; trust our companions in discernment; trust the shepherds who lead the process; and trust that God will lead us to the priest intended to serve all the faithful of Christ Church, past, present and future.

Lucretia+

CHRIST CHURCH PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following parishioners and items in your prayers:

Joys / Thanksgivings

- Historic witness and mission of the parish in Calvert County, in Maryland and worldwide
- Buildings and 47 acres of grounds entrusted to the parish. For our Interim Rector, Dr. Lucretia Mann.

Military

- Aaron Boudreau, Thomas Garcia, Michael Harris, Robert Harris, Clay Liles, Evan Metz, Brian Riva, Peeter Pleake-Tamm, Caidyn Nolan, Kamryn Nolan

Homebound and Long-term Care

- Erich Fronck, Jessica Lewis, Vera Lind, Elaine Williams, Anne Yoe

Sick / Hospitalized / Recovering

- Linda Battenfield, Johnny Brodigan, Tom Cavin, Nancy Dare, Gloria DeBolt; Mason Lee Gott; Cindy Horsmon, Gil Masters, Shannon Masters, Virginia McCreedy, Ted Money, Sheila Pitcher, Kirk Taylor, Joe Wegner, Mary Linda Wegner, Joan Wood

- Special Needs / Concerns of our Parish

- Discernment and labor for strengthening faithful parish witness & mission
- Ukraine
- Turkey
- Syria
- Israel
- God's guidance for our self-study and search for our next rector

-Friends of Parish

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| - Molly | -Kay Hoile | -Little Woody Lee |
| -Ben Norfolk | -Viola Carroll | -Billy Bonolis |
| -Dorothy Franklin | -William Johnson | -Charlotte Hayman |
| -Ann Garner | -Josh Nudge | -Roland (Sonny) Hayman |
| -Tommy Rosnage | -Daniel Carter | -Kathy W. |
| -Ronnie Bowen | - Carrie | -Jaylyn Almond |
| --Bill Lerch | -Amy Marburger | Joyce Spangler |
| -Jamie Gurney | -Catherine Howanstone | -Barbara Clem |
| -Linda | -Shannon Persetic | -Jean Bates |
| -Carole Mistarka | -Gaylyn Krenik | -Cindi Cauffman's Family |
| -Norma Jean Welch | -Lisa Porter | -Pat S. |
| -Roberto Dennis | -Lynn H | -Carolyn M |
| -Richard Geffin | -Thalbert Wilde | -Anjie McCollumn |
| -Shelia | -Valarie | -Charles |
| -Ronnie | -Franklin King | -Christine Reczuch |

We will pray for members of the parish who are sick, hospitalized, or recovering for three Sundays in church, and then remove their names from the prayer list, unless specifically renewed. We will list Friends of the Parish for one month and then remove their names from the Bell, unless specifically renewed.

Year of Transition

December, 2024, was very busy at Christ Church.

The Search Committee is meeting weekly in person or by ZOOM. The rector search closed on **Sunday, December 1, 2024 with no applicants. The deadline has been extended to January 15, 2025.** Shannon has given this update from the Search Committee: **The search for our new rector continues. At the December 2024 meeting the Vestry approved the funding for the placement of classified ads on the Episcopal News Service (ENS) website and in the *The Living Church* magazine, January edition. Please help spread the word about our rector search by liking and sharing the banner posted on the Christ Church Facebook page. The Search Committee, is Shannon Campbell, Chair, Norm Prince, Philip Yeats, Heather Brady, Nicole Foveaux, Bill Wright, Patti Ritter, Jimmy Coffren, James Briscoe, Brian Williams, and Terri Beck. Continue to pray for the search and the Search Committee.**

Dec. 1, Helen Prince lead the Advent Wreath Workshop. Helen had 9 or 10 participate in this beautiful Advent Wreath making. Thank you Helen for providing this workshop.

Wed., December 11, we had the Blue Christmas Service at 4 pm. It was a beautiful service much better than the weather outside as it was pouring rain all evening. Fourteen attended the service. Thanks to all who made cookies for this.

Saturday, December 14, was Clean Up Day at 8 am. Thanks to all who came out and helped with Clean Up which Bart said

was a really good crew. **At 10 am,** we gathered at the front of the Church for the **Wreaths Across America.** We had over 80 wreaths that were laid on the veterans graves. Thanks to Allyson Sigler, Dru Estabrook Branche, and Mary Gott for organizing this special event.

December 18 was the deadline for the 66 gifts for the **Angel Tree.** Thank you Karen Ritter for organizing this.

December 22, the Church partnered with the Friends of the One Room School for the Christmas Open House. Allyson Sigler had Christmas Attic Treasures, Patti Wahl had Crafts in the Parish Hall, Santa was in the One Room School and crafts were also there. Richard Dodds had tours of the church and gave treats to those who found the Church Mouse! Refreshments were in the Parish Hall. It was a very cold day but it was very warm in the School and Parish Hall. Thanks to Chloe Ewalt, Allyson Sigler, and Patti Wahl for organizing this new event!

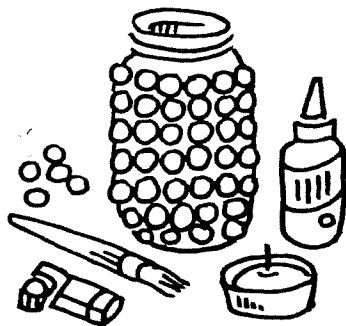
Dec. 23, Helen Prince and her group decorated Christ Church for Christmas. This year Helen added tobacco to the sprays on the columns. Thanks to all who helped make Christ Church the prettiest church in the USA.

Christmas Eve, we had a Service at 3 pm where the children processed with the figures for the stable. 104 attended the 3 pm service. We had Carol's at 10:30 pm and the service at 11 which 34 attended. Christmas Day, we had a service at 10 am which had 24 attend.

Thank you for all you do for Christ Church.

MASON JAR nightLight

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.



Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY:



" _ _ M TH _ L _ GHT _ F

TH _ W _ RLD. WH _ _ V _ R

F _ LL _ WS M _ W _ LL N _ V _ R

W _ LK _ N D _ RKN _ SS."

J _ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV

“The Wise May Bring Their Learning”

The wise may bring their learning, the rich may
bring their wealth,
And some may bring their greatness, and some bring
strength and health;

We, too, would bring our treasures to offer to the
King;

We have no wealth or learning; what shall we
children bring?

We'll bring him hearts that love him; we'll bring him
thankful praise,

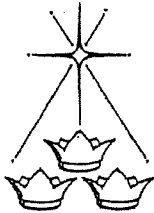

And young souls meekly striving to walk in holy ways;
And these shall be the treasures we offer to the King,
And these are gifts that even the poorest child may
bring.

We'll bring the little duties we have to do each day;
We'll try our best to please him, at home, at school,
at play;

And better are these treasures to offer to our King;
Than richest gifts without them — yet these a child
may bring.

—Anonymous

CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wedn
<p>Christ Church Website – christchurchcalvert.org Rev. Lucretia Mann's e-mail lwm9795@gmail.com Cell 831-295-2617</p>			1
5 8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:15 Fellowship 10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:15 am Fellowship ZOOM @ 10:00	6  — EPIPHANY — 10:00 am Holy Eucharist – The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.	7	8 7:00 pm –Wed Bible Stud
12 8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II ZOOM @ 10:00 11:15 Fellowship	13 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.	14 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	15 7:00 pm –Wed Bible Study
19 8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II ZOOM @ 10:00 11:15 Fellowship	20  Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.	21	22 7:00 pm –Wed Bible Study
26 8:30 Holy Eucharist Rite I 10 am Holy Eucharist Rite II ZOOM @ 10:00 11:15 Fellowship	27 6:30 pm Alcoholics Anon.	28 Bell Deadline	29 7:00 pm –Wed Bible Stud

Deacon Beth Bellner's e-mail –
eabellner@gmail.com Cell 407-256-3298

410-586-0565

January 2025

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	2	3 11:30 am – Juliets Luncheon	4
Wednesday Evening via Zoom	9 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Prayer Ministry 10:45 am Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	10	11
Wednesday Evening via Zoom	16 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Prayer Ministry 10:45 am Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18
Wednesday Evening via Zoom	23 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Prayer Ministry 10:45 am Thursday Morning Bible Study 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25
Wednesday Evening via Zoom	30 10:00 am Holy Eucharist & Prayer Ministry 10:45 am Thursday Morning Bible Study – In Person 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	31	



Bible Quiz

In Matthew 13, to what does Jesus compare the kingdom of heaven?

- A. A farmer sowing seed
- B. A mustard seed
- C. Yeast
- D. Hidden treasure
- E. A merchant who finds a pearl
- F. A fishing net
- G. All of the above



Answer: G (See Matthew 13:24-51.)

CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF PARTICIPATION

End of Life Workshop. On **Saturday, 11 January 2025**, Christ Church Port Republic will be hosting an End-of-Life Seminar for the local Episcopal Churches in the region, from **9 am-3 pm**. Guest speakers will include a representative from Hospice to talk about palliative care and Hospice care, Rick Lloyd, a lawyer who deals in estates, trusts and wills, Margaret Phipps, Calvert County's Register of Wills, a representative from Rausch Funeral Home, and a minister to discuss funeral planning and church funerals. People are asked to bring their own lunches, but drinks and snacks will be provided. This is not just for the elderly! People of all ages could benefit from the information in this seminar. **Please RSVP to pattiwahl@comcast.net by Saturday 4 January**

Will try again at a later time!

Christ Church Bell is a parish newsletter published by:

Christ Church

3100 Broomes Island Road

Port Republic, MD 20676

410-586-0565

Rev. Lucretia Mann, Interim Rector

Production Staff:

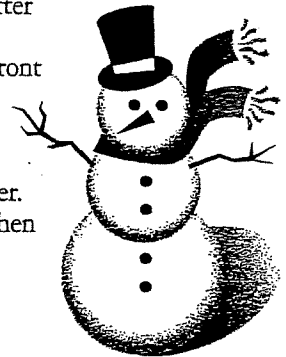
Dotty Greene, Mary Linda Wegner

Nancy Zinn, Editor

Deadline for next issue: January 28, 2025

Lessons from a snowman

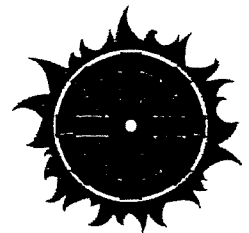
- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- Sweating too much can be disastrous!



"Because he works from home. That's why we never see God in person."

CHRISTIAN SYMBOL

WHEEL — A rotating wheel symbolizes God's divine force. Wheels with flames shooting out often portray God's throne, based on Ezekiel's vision (see 1:1-18). Some artists also show a burning wheel when God sends Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden.





JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Prayer is offered for each person posted on the birthday list by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, The Daughters of the King, and other parish prayer ministries and intercessors.

Birthdays are posted from the most current records. Please provide updates.

- 2 Jack Maguire
Danny May
William Woodward, Jr.
- 3 Jeffrey Joy
- 4 Jennifer Gallagher
Locklan Weems
- 6 Amy Buckmaster
Robbie McCready
- 7 Mike Manning
- 8 Amy Pleake-Tamm
- 9 Erica Davis
Megan Coffren
Hayley Fridman
Arthur Harkness
- 10 Danny Baker, IV
Tom Sickle
- 13 Michael Weems
Becky Weems
- 14 Joe Kurley
- 15 Billy Keeley

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- Todd Cotner
- Jeremy Litka
- Michaela Pitcher
- Rich White
- Cindy Yoe
- Brenda Moore
- Sharon Myers
- Katie Goucher
- Pete Fisher
- Philip Johnson
- Evan Stinnett
- Clark Wood
- Jessica Lewis
- Arleen McGinley
- Heather Marney
- Charles Lusby
- Reece Smith
- MaryJo Sweitzer
- Christine Coffren
- Natalia Dunlap
- Crystal Hill
- Samantha Litka
- James Johnson
- Keith May
- Sara Yoe

JANUARY ALTAR GUILD

- Beverly Lusby
- Linda Battenfield
- Marcia Hammett

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Port Republic, MD 20676

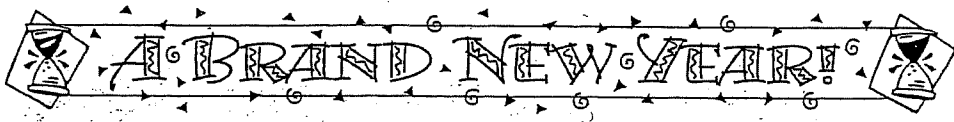


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Search Prayer. Please pray daily for our search for our next rector: *Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SNOW REMOVAL

During a snow event, it is very important to have snow promptly removed from all entrances, walkways, and steps of all parish buildings. (Parking lots and roadways are professionally plowed.) To add your name to a list of persons contacted during a snow event to assist with snow removal, please speak with **Bart Ewalt.**

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2025 *Altar Flower Calendar* is located within the sign-up book placed at the Church entrance. When giving Altar flowers as memorials or in thanksgiving, please sign-up on this Calendar.

A variety of Sundays within most months are available to donate flowers.