



• Christ Episcopal Church, Bluefield, West Virginia 24701 •
 • 200 Duhring Street • 304-327-6861 • editor@cecbf.org •



• Established 1889 •
 The Beacon on the Hill

Volume 25, Number 4

Christ Episcopal Church

February 2017

February 2nd is one of the great feasts of the church—the Feast of the Presentation (coopted entirely by weather forecasting groundhogs!). On this day we celebrate the Presentation of Christ at the Temple in Jerusalem—that is to say, when Mary and Joseph first brought Jesus to the Temple; something expected of Jewish families when a newborn is 40 days old.



Rev. Chad Slater

The second chapter of Luke’s Gospel recounts that while Mary and Joseph are there to dedicate their new child to God, they meet Simeon and Anna. Both of these individuals “see” Jesus for who he really is—the Messiah.

Because these two figures “see” him, this day is often called Candlemass, or the Mass for Candles. Candles were for centuries the only real source for light outside of the sun and because of this were often used as imagery for sight. Candles would be blessed on this day for use in the church or in homes all across the Western church.

The name candle comes from the Latin candere meaning “to shine.” I think more than anything that is the message we are meant to take away from this festival occasion. We are supposed to shine for Christ.

This parish is often called the “Beacon on the hill.” We strive to do that in many ways here at Christ Church. We operate our food pantry for those who are hungry. We provide as much kerosene as we can to those who would otherwise be cold. Through the RDF, the Rector’s Discretionary Fund, we provide assistance to those who are struggling to make ends meet. We can, with God’s help, continue to be that beacon on the hill—a small glimmer toward that “light to enlighten the nations.”

We are called to be the Body of Christ in this world. We are called to serve those who are less fortunate, less cared for, those most vulnerable, those for whom society has all but thrown away. We are called to love the unlovable, care for the careless, and shine as an example of the love of God in this troubled world.

This February 2 I invite you to bring your candles to the Church at 5:30 PM. We will have a short service where we will bless our candles. Then, throughout this year, each and every time we light one, we can remember to let our light shine forth into the darkness. I hope that you will be able to join us.

Brothers and Sisters, whether or not you can make it on February 2nd, I pray that you let your light shine. I pray that you can be a beacon for hope in this lost world, filled with sin and shame. I pray that you can make your love be known through the works you do. It is by our light, no matter how dimly it may sometimes shine, that the world may come to know and love the true Light of the World.

Amen.





Meet Dallas Gray, new Parish Administrator

Dallas is married to David Gray, who works in Tazewell.

Dallas’s Birthday: 7/26
 Home: 115 Vernon Avenue
 Tazewell VA 24651-1432

Church Email: secretary@cecbf.org
 Home Email: dallasgreen94@gmail.com

Dallas is a graduate of Wake Forest University 
 David is a graduate of Virginia Tech 

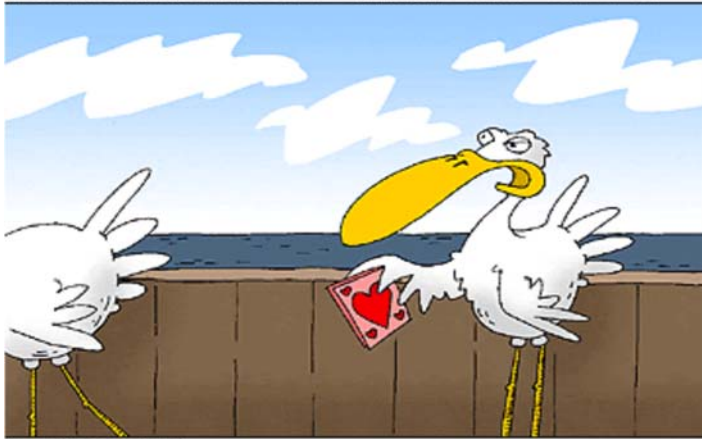
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(See Genesis 6-8)

FINE, DON'T BE MY VALENTINE ... I'M SURE THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER STORK GIRLS ON THE ARK WHO WOULD LOOOOOVE TO

News from DoK

Next DoK 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, February 21



Our Daughters of the King, Margaret of Scotland Chapter, will meet next at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 21, in Hobson Library. Our Study will be on the Holy Spirit.

We had five members present last month.

Please contact Mary Catherine Williams at 276-326-2411 if you have questions or comments. All women from Episcopal, Lutheran, and Roman Catholic churches are eligible for membership.

Our Prayers are offered

For Healing and God's Presence for our members, and relatives and friends of our members:



In sure and certain hope of the resurrection, we commend our prayers for Dorene Dimes, Jim Mahood, Wanda Myers, Bonnie Taylor, Joe & Janice Sanders, Karen Hayes, Grace Litzenberg, Amanda, Raymond Slater, Harold Paul, Velma Walker, Sharon Curry, Zac Carter, Doug Thompson, Betty Compton, Isaac Meade, Kimberly Shrewsberry, Amanda Shrewsberry, and Donna Keffer And we pray for Maude Baker and those unknown to us who have died. We pray that God will grant his peace to all who mourn.

To list someone for addition to the Prayer List, please contact the office, email secretary@cechlf.org, or telephone at (304) 327-6861. Please note that the prayer list in the Sunday Bulletin is purged at the end of every month. If you want names to continue, please contact the church office.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

On extremely bad days, if our Sunday service is canceled, it will be posted on our church website at: www.christchurchbluefield.org, WVVA-TV Channel 6, and on www.WVVA.com. If you do not have access to a computer or television, you may telephone The Rev. Chad Slater at 304-325-5730 or (Cell) 304-543-5296 or Senior Warden David Hardin at 304-327-8040 or (Cell) 304-320-2322.

January 19 Food Pantry report

- Grocery shoppers: Frank and Bernadette Dragotto
Food Baggers: Frank & Bernadette Dragotto, Fellowship Home workers
Bags prepared: 100
Refreshments furnished by: Linda Thomas and Fr. Chad Slater
Food Pantry volunteers: Linda Thomas, Fr. Chad, Frank and Bernadette, Fellowship home workers.
Kerosene vouchers awarded: 57
Special gifts for month: Coats, scarfs, hats, gloves, comforters, sheets



PLEASE NOTE!! Food Pantry hours are now 9-11AM

February altar flowers

The following persons have graciously offered to donate altar flowers during the month of February:



- February 5: Denise Melvin
February 12: Kathy Burge
February 19: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pulse
February 26: Staci and Tripper Thomas

We thank them for their kindness and generosity.



**Christ Episcopal Church
Draft Vestry Minutes
January 11, 2017**

Present: David Hardin, Linda Ammar, Kathy Burge, Marc Meachum, Rob Merritt, Teresa Paine, Mary Catherine Williams, Susanne Pulse, Rev. Chad Slater, and Frank Dragotto, Treasurer.

The January meeting of the Christ Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order on January 11, 2017 by Father Chad Slater who declared a quorum.

Linda Ammar led the Vestry in a short devotion.

The **minutes** of the December meeting were passed on a motion made by Marc Meachum and seconded by David Hardin.

The **treasurer's report** was given by Frank Dragotto who announced a new accounting system is in place. Marc Meachum and Frank Dragotto discussed the ongoing issues with the 2016 financial reports and that an End of Year summary should be expected by the February meeting.

Father Chad Slater nominated **David Hardin to serve as Senior Warden, Dee Puckett as Junior Warden, Linda Ammar as Chaplain and Susanne Pulse as Secretary.** Mary Catherine Williams made the motion to accept the nominations and it was seconded by Kathy Burge.

Committee assignments are as follows: **Communications: Susanne Pulse; Education: Kathy Burge; Evangelism: Rob Merritt; Finance: Marc Meachum; Outreach: Linda Ammar; Parish Life: Mary Catherine Williams; Worship and Spirituality: Teresa Paine**

Rector's Report: Father Chad reported that the Christmas Services were well attended – 33 at the early service and 68 at the late service. In case of inclement weather, an e-mail will be sent to the parishioners that church has been cancelled. An announcement will also be sent to WVVA. Craig Hammond asked if we will continue to serve dinner once a month at the Union Mission. It was agreed that we would continue that ministry. Father Chad asked for Agenda items by the Monday before the Vestry meeting. He is working with Rotary International on a project to bring water to the rural homes in Mercer and McDowell Counties.

New Business: Father Chad hired a new administrative assistant, Dallas Gray. Mrs. Gray will work 15 to 18 hours a week. Father Chad asked the Vestry members to review the Mission Statement.

Old Business: All parts have been ordered for the handicapped doors.

There being no further business, Father Chad dismissed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted, *Susanne Pulse*, Secretary



JESUS TAKES A SELFIE





Jeff Collins in his bike repair shop

One Man, One Mission, Episcopal

A Huntington Man is Living Proof of Hope

By The Rev. Dr. Chip Graves, Trinity Episcopal Church

Jeff Collins is a hero in Huntington. He rebuilds bikes for Veterans and others in need. He asks for no money. He asks for no gratitude. He asks for no special attention. He simply wants to help people. Jeff is a true hero. Jeff, a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Huntington, WV, has set up a workshop in Trinity's parish house (photo) to support those needing transportation. Every day, one will find Jeff fixing, rebuilding broken bikes for someone in need.

Jeff is intelligent, unassuming, and ever listening to the needs of others. He began volunteering at Trinity two years ago, at its weekly outreach dinner, the Gathering. Then he began to assist. First, in clean up. Then, in the kitchen. Jeff now helps manage this project, providing over 6,000 hot meals each year to those needing a helping hand. But Jeff did not stop with this ministry. He expanded upon it. Many of those attending the weekly meal needed a mode of transportation.

They had no car, no minivan or access to public transportation. Therefore, Jeff stepped in with his bike ministry. Jeff loves bikes. In fact, he has several. On any given day, you will see Jeff riding his bike around town. He loves the feel and freedom of the ride. And the ride allows him to think and ponder new ways to support others. Jeff has already repaired over 50 bikes and has recently received over 30 more to repair and give away. He receives broken bikes from all sorts of folks in Huntington. He has become known as the angel who repairs bikes. Furthermore, Jeff has a relationship with local Veterans agencies that forward names of those in need.

Jeff's ministry began on a shoestring. He's a true entrepreneur, utilizing his own tools, donated bikes and supplies. And his workshop reminds me of a Santa workshop for toys. But instead of toys, it's filled to the brim with broken bikes in need of repair and a new home. Perhaps Jeff is a sort of Santa Clause in our contemporary world. Wouldn't that be awesome.

Jeff's ministry is but one of several stemming from

Trinity Episcopal Church, developed out of its Metro Theology concept. Metro Theology matches the assets of a church to the needs of its local community. Alas, many new ministries have blossomed. In essence, Trinity has become a thank tank and incubator for new and creative ministries, supporting its local community of Huntington.

Peterkin Summer Camps

IMPORTANT: Many of our age limits for camps have changed this summer. Please check to make sure you are enrolling your camper in the correct age group before registering.

College & Young Adult Camp (May 30-June 3, 2017)

(College Students/Young Adults)

Staff Training (June 4-10, 2017)

Mini-Camp (June 11-14, 2017) (Ages 3-8, plus guardian)

Beginner Camp (June 14-17, 2017)

(Students entering 1st - 4th grades)

Day Camp (June 19-23, 2017)

(Students entering K - 6th grade in the fall)

Senior Camp (June 25-July 1, 2017)

(Open to youth entering 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade)

Day Camp Bible School (July 5-7, 2017)

(Students entering K-8th grade in the fall)

Family Camp (July 9-15, 2017) (All ages)

Intermediate Camp (July 16-22, 2017)

(Students entering 5th - 8th grade in the fall)

MAD Camp (July 23-29, 2017)

(Students entering 4th - 12th grade in the fall)

NOTE: See <http://peterkin.org/pages/camps.html> for more information

The Rainbow Recipe of the Month

From Virginia Hospitality cookbook (1975)

Ham and Egg Pudding



Ingredients:

1/4 cup butter, melted

1 pound sliced ham

white pepper

6 eggs, well-beaten

2 cups milk

2 cups flour, sifted

1 teaspoon salt

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425°. Spread butter evenly in a 9x13 pan. Line bottom of pan with ham slices and sprinkle with pepper. Beat eggs until light. Beat in milk. Add flour and salt, beat until smooth. Pour mixture evenly over ham. Bake for 40-45 minutes or until brown and crusty. Cut into squares and serve. Can be topped with your favorite brown gravy if desired. Serves 8.

February 1, 2017

Editor's note: The Rainbow Recipe of the Month is a regular feature in The Rainbow. Please submit your recipe for consideration. Bring it to the church

office or E-mail to editor@cecbf.org

Don Williams, Editor
412 Ridgeway Drive
Bluefield, VA 24605-1630



Office hours are 9-2 Tuesday through Thursday

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Please contact Dee Puckett, Junior Warden, if you notice needed building maintenance.

Contact Dee at dpuckettwv@yahoo.com

276-322-1832 (Home), or 304-320-4640 (Cell).



Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Saint Margaret's Chapel	2 Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple 5:30 Blessing of Candles	3 Office Closed	4
8 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Saint Margaret's Chapel 6:00 p.m. Men's Dinner in Rowley Hall 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting in Hobson Library	9	10 Office Closed	11
15 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Saint Margaret's Chapel	16 9-11 a.m. Food Pantry	17 Office Closed	18
22 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Saint Margaret's Chapel 4:30 p.m. Bluefield Union Mission Volunteers	23	24 Saint Mathias the Apostle Office Closed	25

Sunday	Mon	Tue
5 Epiphany 5 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior Class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	6 Office open by appointment 	7 
12 Epiphany 6 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	13 Office open by appointment	14 Valentines Day
19 Epiphany 7 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	20 March Rainbow Deadline  Office open by appointment	21 10:30 DoK Meeting in Hobson Library 
26 Epiphany Last 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	27 Office open by appointment	28 5:30-7:00 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Admission \$5.00 Children \$3.00

2017

NOTE: If you have information for a Sunday service bulletin, please remember that the church office needs it by Tuesday if possible. Please send an E-mail with your information to secretary@cecbf.org or call 304-327-6861.

If your birthday is not in our database, please contact Don Williams at 276-326-3338 or editor@cecbf.org

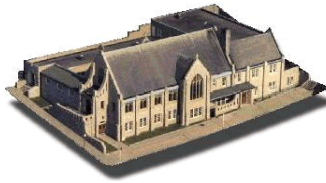
3 Missy Thomas
4 James Patrick Paine
10 Nathaniel Taylor
13 Lucy McCue Dancer

13 Jim Justice
16 Harris Tyler
17 John Wimmer
19 Denise Melvin

19 Jim Pulse
22 Margaret Marra
22 Rick Wilkinson
25 Kay Sudduth



Christ Episcopal Church
 200 Duhring Street
 Bluefield, West Virginia 24701-2910
The Rainbow—February 2017



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper February 28, Admission \$5.00 Children under 12 \$3.00

To our friends and family:



Our mission statement:
 Christ Episcopal Church will live,
 Celebrate, teach and radiate
 The joy of Christian discipleship

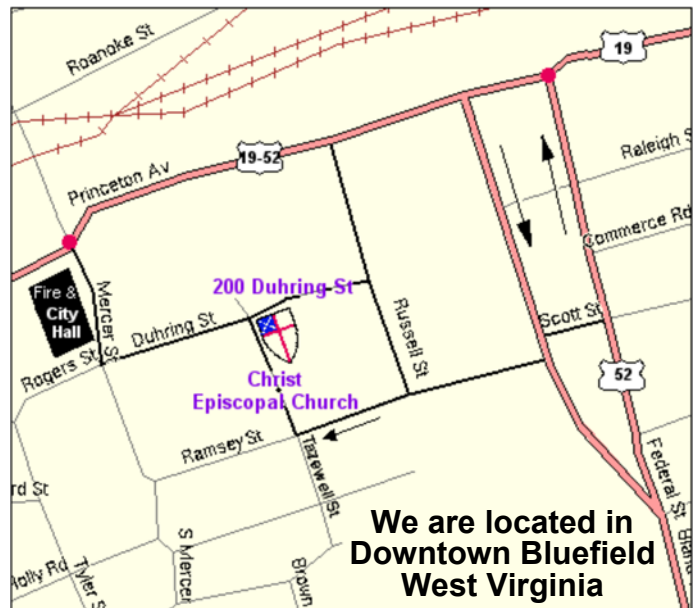
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