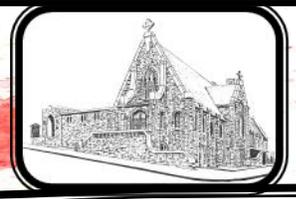


The Rainbow



November, 2021

The Rt. Rev. W. Michie “Mike” Klusmeyer, Bishop of West Virginia, visited Christ Church on Sunday, October 24, to commemorate the 100th birthday of our beautiful building. The church was filled nearly to socially distanced capacity for this very special occasion, with 70 in attendance. Participating in the service were a couple of Christ Church friends: the Rev. Russ Hatfield, Rector Emeritus of the Tazewell Cluster, who served as a co-celebrant; and the Rev. Paul Barker, Deacon at St. Paul’s Church in Mt. Lebanon, Pa., who served as deacon.



In his sermon, Bishop Klusmeyer asked the congregation to be a witness to the community, urging everyone to “get out of this building, get out on the streets, and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ.”

Though he spoke of the five types of prayer (adoration, thanksgiving, confession, intercession and petition), he said we must spend more time on adoration, praising God.

In addition to commemorating our 100th Anniversary, Christ Church had several other reasons to celebrate. Patricia Taylor, Benjamin Slater, and Emma Slater were confirmed in the service, and two-year-old Payne Nolan Mowery was

baptized. Ben and Emma Slater are the son and daughter of Father Chad and Jennifer Slater. Payne is the son of Jenna and Nathan Mowery of Winston-Salem, N.C., and the grandson of Peter and Patricia Taylor. Payne’s godparents, in attendance at the service, are his cousins Halen and Zane Anthony Perkins, children of Ashby Perkins of Wytheville, Va.



In addition to the three confirmations and the baptism, the church dedicated an altar bell, given by organist and choirmaster Terry Whittington in memory of his brother, William Gordan Whittington.

The church also debuted a renovated altar space, which includes gilding and paint to evoke the architect’s original design intent. The work was commissioned by the Christ Church Memorial Fund and done by local artist Beth Moore. If you would like to contribute to the overall cost of this handsome work, please send your donation to the church marked “Memorial Fund.”



Welcome Lilly Mae!

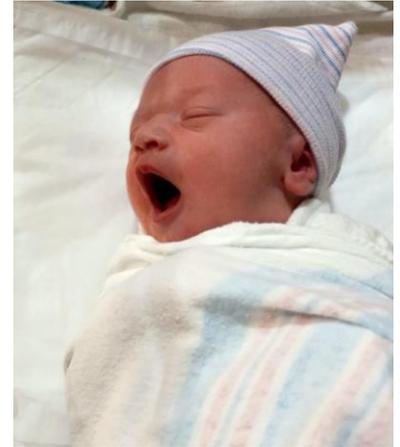
by Mimi Merritt

Christ Church's newest little member is Lilly Mae Cole, born October 19. Lilly Mae is the daughter of Jessica and Jason Cole, the sister of Liam Cole, and the granddaughter of Betty Nash and Charlie Blevins. Welcome, Lilly Mae!

For the Care of Children

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

BCP page 829



Letter from the Rector

by Fr. Chad

As you know, I love word studies. I love them because I feel that we can learn so much more about what the authors of Scripture are trying to tell us by delving into their language, culture, and history. It may also be because I'm a nerd. Since the month of November brings us Thanksgiving, I thought I'd share a favorite word study of mine.

Countless times throughout Scripture the word “thanks” is used. While certainly used throughout the Old Testament, particularly in the Psalms, it is even more prevalent in the New Testament. “Give thanks in everything,” Paul exhorts several times in his letters. “Give thanks to His Name,” the writer of Hebrews declares. “We give thanks to God for you,” Paul states in First Thessalonians 5:18 “Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” Paul, again in First Thessalonians (a really thank-filled letter), “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” A careful reader of Scripture would be led to believe there is an obsession with thankfulness in the Bible—and they'd be right.

But did you know the word “thanks” used throughout the New Testament is the Greek word “eucharisteo” – which is where we get our word “Eucharist?” Christ Himself uses this word repeatedly in the institution of the Lord's Supper. Literally every service of Holy Communion is a Thanksgiving Meal. Just like at Thanksgiving. We gather with friends and family and share a meal. Only at the Holy Eucharist, we feast around a table meant to fill our souls and not our bellies—one laden with the Bread of Angels and not turkey and stuffing.

When you come to the Lord's Table, do so with a thankful heart. You won't find turkey, but you will find grace. Amen.



Vestry Minutes

by David M. Kersey

The regularly scheduled Vestry meeting was held on October 20, 2021 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present

Delia Kersey

Elizabeth Clement

Peter Richardson

Peter Taylor

David Kersey

Vic Bowman (by Zoom)

Alyson Bowling (by Zoom)

Absent

Betty Nash

Linda Ammar



The presence of a quorum was declared and the meeting was opened by Father Slater, with a reading from Acts and the Collect for St. James.

Treasurer's Report: The balance sheet and income statement for September were reviewed. Due to missing the September meeting, August financials were not reviewed. A question was raised concerning the utility payments, reflecting no payment of an electric bill, but payment of a gas bill. Our gas service was terminated months ago, due to conversion to a totally electric HVAC. After discussion, it was agreed to defer approval of the report until next month and clarification. It was also discussed that we should have a statement from the treasurer concerning any unpaid/outstanding bills of the church. In years past, sometimes we have experienced inaccurate financial statements resulting from deferral of bill payment. Reverend Slater suggested that once or twice a month, it would be a good idea to meet with the church secretary to review account balances and spending.

Senior Warden's Report: Lambert's Excavating has removed the concrete between the curb and east wall of the church, along the driveway. Mr. Lambert expressed concern that based on what he observed, the planned work may not correct or improve the moisture problems in the office hallway and nursery. David Kersey and Peter Richardson inspected the work and surrounding circumstances and recommend that we ask Lambert's to price modifying the planned work to include a box drain in the alley at the top of the driveway, piped underground down the alley along the south wall and into Tazewell Street, to include a foundation drain in the ditch along the east wall and to raise the curb in certain places to help divert surface water away from the church. The vestry authorized the request for pricing the modification.

It was discussed that somewhere along the way, we have omitted approval of Vestry Minutes at each meeting. It was agreed that minutes from each meeting in 2021 will be emailed to vestry members and that the minutes will be opened for discussion and approval at the November meeting.

Junior Warden's Report: The church sign on Duhring Street has been repainted and reinstalled and looks great. Father Slater has written a thank you note to the anonymous donor who underwrote that project. The roof over the organ loft has been replaced with an EPDM membrane roof. Once we are certain that the leak issue has been corrected, we will explore fixing the water stains on the ceiling tiles in the coffee area hallway. The new HVAC project is near completion. We have HEPA/ultraviolet light air filters in the nave. They currently are operated with extension cords.

The vestry granted Peter Richardson authority to seek quotes on installing new receptacles in the nave to power those units. With the help of Peter Richardson, David Kersey has installed hand railings for the steps leading up to the chancel.

Committee reports:

Finance-The request for the St. Lucy distribution for the third quarter was discussed. Since we missed the September meeting, the vote to request the permitted withdrawal was accomplished by email at the end of the month. Upon motion of Peter Richardson and second of Alyson Bowling, the Vestry unanimously ratified that vote and the quarterly distribution.

Outreach-Peter Taylor advised that 50 bags have been prepared for October 21, Food Pantry. Kerosene vouchers will not be distributed until next month, temperatures having been moderate for this time of year. Art Meade and other members were acknowledged for the Union Mission Dinner ministry.

Rector's Report: Father Slater conducted a funeral service for a lady who grew up in Bluefield. A Bishop Coadjuter was elected at the virtual convention, after only 3 ballots. Matthew Cowden, a parish priest from South Bend, Indiana was selected.

Bishop Klusmeyer will be in town this Sunday, October 24 to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of dedication of our current church building. There will be one baptism and four confirmations at the service. The vestry will meet with the Bishop after the service. Due to Covid-19 concerns, there will not be an indoor reception, but a table will be set up outside the handicap access doors for grab and carry cookie bags and to provide an opportunity for members to visit with the Bishop.

Terry Whittington has donated an altar bell in memory of his brother. It will be hung on the wall in the sanctuary. Painted accents have been added in the sanctuary on the "This Do In Remembrance of Me" lettering behind the altar.

There may be an All Hallow's eve service on October 31.

There being no new or old business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned with prayer by Father Slater.



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our 2021 United Thank Offering Ingathering! Together we collected a total of \$536!



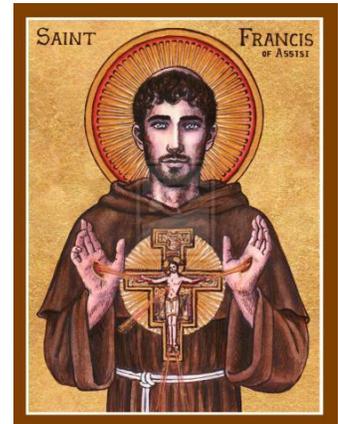
Thank You
VETERANS

**Christ Church Thanks All of Our Veterans
for their Faithful Service.**

Pet Blessing 2021

by Linda Ammar

For nine years, furry friends and critters of all sorts have been gathering at Christ Church with their human friends who want their pets blessed. This year was no exception as Father Chad presided over the blessing of animals on Sunday, October 10, a day filled with sunshine, wagging tails and meows, as well as other methods of four-legged communication! Afterwards, God's creatures and their owners enjoyed treats and refreshments.



Confirmations at Immanuel Lutheran



This year's Youth Confirmation Class was a joint program between Christ Church and Immanuel Lutheran. Benjamin Slater and Emma Slater from Christ Church and Mara McPherson and Sammy Kinser from Immanuel studied together in this unique class.

Fr. Chad officiated at a special Reformation Sunday liturgy at Immanuel on October 31st. Mara and Sammy were Confirmed by Fr. Chad at this service (unlike in the Episcopal Church, Lutherans are Confirmed by local clergy instead of a Bishop).

Each set of students traded off serving as acolytes in each other's Confirmation services. All should be proud of our young people's accomplishment and dedication!

Monthly Ministry Report – October

Union Mission Report

by Art Mead



Wednesday, October 13, 2021:

Meals prepared - 103 (72 served on Wednesday: 31 served on Thursday.)

Menu - BBQ on a bun, cole slaw, baked beans and candy kisses.

Volunteers:

Sheila Brooks, Tedd Lewis, Art Mead, Shirley Ofsa of Christ Episcopal Church, WV

Charlie Helmandollar, Christ Episcopal Church, Pocahontas, VA

Marjorie Justice and Betty Watson of Bluefield, VA

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

Meals prepared - Total of 61

Menu - Ball Park hot dog, served with chili, vanilla cream dessert bars, cheese puffs & juice.

Volunteers:

Sheila Brooks, Delia Kersey, Art Mead and Shirley Ofsa of Christ Church. Marjorie Justice and Betty Watson of Bluefield, VA.

Notice: November 10th will be the only Episcopal Dinner at the Union Mission during the months of November and December. We will resume our normal schedule (the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month) on the 12th of January.

Food Pantry Report

by Linda Ammar

Peter and Patricia Taylor volunteered at Food Pantry in October and distributed 34 bags. Kerosene Vouchers will be distributed next month.



Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bea Paine, the family of Lynn Burney, Bob and Peggy Walk, John Kersey, Martha Linkous, Jay Kephart, Buck and Louisa Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Sarah Irwin, Janet Slager, Dean Farmer, Haddon Lazenby, Jack Burchette, Nick, Randy Snider, Margarette Joplin, David, Martin, Harry, Ben Rose, Jack, Sheri, Dan, Kensley, John, Betty, Matt, Eric, Carol, Dave, Gail, Jean, Lane, Loraine, Sherry, all Healthcare Personnel and Frontline Workers, Ivy and the Gaines Family, John, the Rev. Brian Shoda, the Patterson Family, Velma Harmon, and Taylor Frazier, III., Maggie Casto

If you or a loved one needs prayer please let the Church Office know. We are honored to add those who need our love and support to our Prayer List. Likewise, should you desire a name to be removed please let us know. Thank you.

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 All Saints Day	2 All Souls Day	3	4	5	6
7 All Saints Sunday 10:00 Holy Eucharist	8	9	10 3:00 Union Mission	11 Veterans Day	12	13
14 Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	15	16 St. Margaret of Scotland	17 7:00 Vestry	18	19	20
21 Last Sunday after Pentecost Christ The King 10:00 Holy Eucharist	22 6:00 Thanksgiving Service at ILC	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Day	26	27
28 First Sunday of Advent 10:00 Holy Eucharist	29	30 Saint Andrew The Apostle				



The following people have graciously donated flowers for the month of November:

November 7, 2021	Peter & Patricia Taylor
November 14, 2021	Teresa Paine
November 21, 2021	Paul & Rebecca Broyles
November 28, 2021	Stan & Gray Kiser



Altar Guild for November:
Betty Nash and Linda Ammar

Birthdays:

11-1	Eleazer Resurreccion	11-6	Tricia Hein Brewster	11-14	Rob Merritt	11-22	Linda Ammar
11-3	Charlie Blevins	11-9	Frank Dragotto	11-15	Art Mead	11-23	Bill Denney
11-3	Chas Davis	11-9	Russ Hatfield	11-18	Debbie Faber	11-24	Patrick Paine
11-4	Kate Faber Tombillo	11-10	Kathy Burge	11-19	Jaret Taylor	11-28	Grey Kiser
						11-30	Elizabeth Burton



Christ Episcopal Church
200 Duhring Street
Bluefield, West Virginia 24701

To our friends and family:



November 2021

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