



• 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 12

Christ Episcopal Church

October 2017

I have the distinct pleasure of serving as the Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese. That means, essentially, that I am the Episcopal Church's representative to other churches across the state. One of my jobs as Ecumenical Officer is to sit on the Board for the West Virginia Council of Churches. The Council of Churches is a gathering of denominations from around West Virginia—Episcopal, Roman Catholic, United Methodist, Disciples of Christ, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Baptist, United Church of Christ, Orthodox, and others. This group sponsors education events, lobbies the state legislature on issues important to its members, provides emergency management, and offers grants to worthwhile causes in the state. This fall the Board met for a planning retreat and executive session in Huttonsville at the Bishop Hodges Pastoral Center—a retreat center operated by the Roman Catholic diocese—with a theme of “Faith in Appalachia.”



Rev. Chad

Now, I'll confess I have a special place in my heart for the Bishop Hodges Center. It was the location of most Commission on Ministry retreats before the regular use of our own facility in Wheeling, Sandscrest. As such, it was the place where I and Jennifer traveled to when I first began the discernment process toward becoming a priest. It is a beautiful facility, situated on a hillside overlooking a working farm, with wonderful staff (and great food!). I looked forward to spending time there, even if it was for just an overnight retreat. Another reason it stands as special in my heart is that it isn't an “easy to get to” location. Huttonsville is located in Randolph County, up in the rugged highlands of the state. There are lots of twists and curves, up and down mountains, just to get to the retreat center. My drive from Bluefield takes me across Monroe County, through Lewisburg, Pocahontas County, and finally around the mountain to the center. I adore the drive. It's remote, it's scenic, and above all it's quiet!

I thought it was especially appropriate that such a drive would lead me to a discussion about “Faith in Appalachia.” The rugged beauty of the land in which we live, work, and worship, I believe, lends itself to a centeredness or connectedness with Creation. I think most of us are familiar with the feeling of our bare feet on the soft grass, sun on our faces, cool mountain breezes flowing past us, and the sound of birds and cicadas filling our ears. We experience the fullness of God's majesty without the interruption of manmade distractions in the wild expanses so readily available to us in this part of the country. God's creation is a treat for the senses. For this I think we should all give thanks to God.

It is this sort of groundedness to the wonder of God's creation that we spoke about at the retreat as pervading the faith and spirituality of Appalachia. More than just the wonder of God's beauty, though, is the strong sense of community in our mountain homeland. The Rt. Rev. Matthew Riegel, Lutheran Bishop of West Virginia, gave

a presentation on how faith communities are formed by the size and context in which they exist as a subgroup (ie-rural churches exist in a way that is uniquely different from churches in towns and both are different from churches that exist in multicultural cities). In most places in America churches are either based around a few families, a certain socio-economic subset, or as a reaction to a specific issue or idea. In most of West Virginia, and indeed in much of Appalachia, our churches are based on the same notions. However, there is one striking difference between Appalachian churches and those elsewhere: our sense of community—of being a church “family”—is much stronger. This is a unique characteristic of being Appalachian. Whether or not your family moved here generations ago or you are a recent transplant, to survive and thrive in our mountain culture requires closeness and collaboration.

I love my mountain home and my mountain family—both my blood family and my church family. I love to watch the fog roll off of East River Mountain, I love phone calls and fishing trips with my family, and I love potlucks and Sunday morning with my church family. As Appalachians, we may still be the only group in America where it's still socially acceptable to openly insult or degrade, but we have a faith foundation that can never be rightly mocked. I am reminded of the words of the 16th Psalm:

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

We should be proud to be the faithful in Appalachia, and for Appalachia, we give thanks to God. Amen!

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THIS PLACE FREAKED ME OUT UNTIL I HEARD THAT FIRE AND BRIMSTONE EVANGELIST

News from DoK

Next DoK 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, October 17



Our Daughters of the King, Margaret of Scotland Chapter, will meet Tuesday, October 17 at 10:30 a.m. in Hobson Library.

We had 8 members present in September. We are studying "What happens when women pray" by Evelyn Christenson. Please review chapters 1 and 2 for the October meeting. See Mary Catherine if you need a book.

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: Dorene Dimes, Wanda Myers, Rosemary, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Blevins, Tom Blevins, Marlene, Sierra, Lee Puckett, Sr., Linda, Valerie Mahood, Mary Hawthorne, Hal Gusler, Edi, Phyllis & Nelson Walker, Dennis, Alex B, Toni R, and Roy Abel.



In sure and certain hope of the resurrection, we commend our prayers for 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@cecblf.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.

Washington National Cathedral decides to remove windows with Confederate generals

By David Paulsen, September 6, 2017

[Episcopal News Service]

Washington National Cathedral and the Diocese of Washington announced Sept. 6 that the cathedral's stained-glass windows depicting two Confederate generals will be removed, bringing to an abrupt close a discernment process that was expected to last into next year.



"These windows are not only inconsistent with our current mission to serve as a house of prayer for all people, but also a barrier to our important work on racial justice and racial reconciliation," cathedral and diocesan leaders said in a written statement. "Their association with racial oppression, human subjugation and white supremacy does not belong in the sacred fabric of this Cathedral."

The expedited decision comes less than a month after the violent clashes between hate groups and anti-racism counter-protesters in Charlottesville, Virginia, that amplified the national debate over Confederate symbols in public places, including in Episcopal institutions.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry visited Charlottesville on Sept. 7 to meet with clergy, diocesan staff and Episcopal students from the University of Virginia. He also preached at an evening worship service near where Episcopal leaders and others joined in solidarity Aug. 12 against white supremacists who were rallying around a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee.

The melee, which left one counter-protester dead, prompted renewed scrutiny of Confederate symbols in Episcopal institutions, from Christ Church Cathedral in Cincinnati, Ohio, to a church named after Lee in Lexington, Virginia.

Washington National Cathedral had been halfway through a two-year period of discernment over its windows honoring Lee and Stonewall Jackson. That process began in the wake of the June 2015 massacre of nine members of the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. Gunman Dylann Roof's fondness for the Confederate flag sparked a broad re-examination of the flag as a controversial symbol of the South that had been co-opted by white supremacists.

October altar flowers

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



- October 1 Dr. Sheila Brooks, in memory of her parents and grandparents
October 8- Mrs. Linda Ammar
October 15 Dr. and Mrs. Rob Merritt
October 22 Judge and Mrs. David Faber
October 29 Mr. and Mrs. Buck Sowers

We thank them for their kindness and generosity.



**Minutes of the Vestry of Christ Episcopal Church
Bluefield, West Virginia
September 13, 2017**

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

The September meeting of the Christ Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order on September 13, 2017 by David Hardin who declared a quorum.

Linda Ammar led the Vestry in a short devotion.

The minutes of the August meeting were passed on a motion made by Kathy Burge and seconded by Linda Ammar.

The treasurer's report was given by Frank Dragotto. The financial reports were distributed and reviewed. A motion was made by Mary Catherine Williams to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Rob Merritt. The report was approved.

Senior Warden's Report: David Hardin suggested that the outgoing vestry members meet to discuss the prospects for new vestry members.

Junior Warden's Report: The Children's Chapel renovation is almost complete. The door next to Rowley Hall needs replaced. It will cost approximately \$1,500.00 plus the cost of installation. The men's group may assist in paying for the new door. The ceiling above the organ bench has developed a leak. Frye Roofing will be contacted to look at the leak. Father Chad's office still has a leak.

Communications: The new website will be completed and on line by October 1, 2017.

Education: Children's Sunday School will start Sep-

tember 17, 2017. It will be a combined Sunday School with the Lutheran Church and the Presbyterian Church. We expect 10-12 children to attend. Jeanna Anderson has been hired as the Sunday School teacher at \$40.00 a week. The curriculum is Godly Play.

Evangelism: John Moir will have a children's music program.

Finance: There was a review of the short term deposit options for the sum of money which the Church expects to receive in the near term. Linda Ammar made a motion to put the proceeds in a brokerage CD for six (6) months. It was seconded by Mary Catherine Williams.

Outreach: Ron Martin at Grants was contacted to see if Grants would deliver the food for the food pantry. Patty Richardson is to follow-up with Mr. Martin.

Parish Life: The Church picnic was a huge success.

Worship and Spirituality: The pet blessing will be held on October 8 at the new dog park. An Advent Taize service was discussed.

Rector's Report: The Bishop will visit Christ Church on October 15, 2017. Father Chad officiated burial offices for Scott Hill and Virginia Shields. He will be assisting administration at Immanuel Lutheran Church.

New Business: Changing the Church's Worker's Compensation insurance was discussed. David Hardin moved that we change carriers from Hartford Insurance to Church Insurance Company. Kathy Burge seconded the motion.

Old Business: None

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

Respectfully submitted, *Susanne Pulse*, Secretary



To the left is our hero, John Beckett, re-painting the children's chapel in September. John and others have contributed their time and talents to refurbish our chapel for the fall Sunday School session, called Four Corners Sunday School. See more about Sunday School on the next page.

Did you miss Sunday's sermon?

Sermons at Christ Church are found in audio format (MP3) on the church Website at www.cecblf.org/ or www.christchurchbluefield.org/ (clickable on the Emailed version).

Then just click on "Click here for services, sermons and bulletins" on the front page of the Christ Church website. Recent sermons are in MP3 format.



WV Diocese Commission on Spirituality



In Jesus, you invite us to enter into a new covenant, in communion with all who seek to be faithful to you.

As people of faith, we are called into covenant.

Your covenant of faithfulness and love extends to the whole creation. We pray

for the healing of the earth; that present and future generations may enjoy the fruits of creation, and continue to glorify and praise you.

—National Council of Churches

The apostle Paul writes

By The Rev. Henri J. M. Nouwen



The apostle Paul writes to the Romans, "Bless your persecutors; never curse them, bless them...Never pay back evil with evil...Never try to get revenge...If your enemy is hungry, give him something to eat; if thirsty, something to drink...Do not be mastered by evil, but master evil with good" (Romans 12:14-21). These words cut to the heart of the spiritual life. They make it clear what it means to choose life, not death, to choose blessings not curses. But what is asked of us here goes against the grain of our human nature. We will only be able to act according to Paul's words by knowing with our whole being that what we are asked to do for others is what God has done for us.

Submitted by Bishop Klusmeyer

The Four Corners Sunday School



Sunday school for the new season started on September 17 in our newly-renovated Children's Chapel, with the help of folks from First Presbyterian, Immanuel Lutheran, and assistance from Bluefield Baptist Church.

Thanks to the folks from Christ Church who volunteered to re-paint and re-arrange the chapel and the classrooms for this new year: Mary Catherine Williams, John Beckett, Vanessa Hall, Elizabeth and Macon Clement, Sheila Brooks, The Rev. Chad Slater and Don Williams.

The combined program is called "The Four Corners Sunday School," named for the close proximity of each of our buildings.



Canterbury Club with the Slaters

We enjoyed great socializing at the home of Fr. Chad and Jennifer Slater for Canterbury Club on Sunday, September 24th.

22 folks showed up for a great carry-in dinner with friends. The highlight of the evening was Father Slater's smoked chicken and pork ribs.



September 21 Food Pantry report

- Grocery shoppers: Patty Richardson, Mike Sudduth
- Food baggers: Fr. Chad Slater, Kipp Cortez, Rob Merritt, Betty Nash, Charlie Blevins, John Beckett, Jim Justice, Ben Slater, Linda Ammar
- Food bags prepared: 71
- Refreshments furnished by: Linda Thomas
- Food Pantry volunteers: Betty Nash, Charlie Blevins, Wanda Myers, Fr. Chad Slater, Linda Thomas, Kipp Cortez



The bishop's mitre

By Carrie Stepp Graves



Today's American organizational landscape is arguably still very much a top-down model. From large corporations, to factories, to government structure and hierarchical churches, the pyramid-like shape of the bishop's mitre first the classical management style of many organizations. Although the entrepreneurialism of the 21st century allows many to be self-employed, self-employment today often falls under a classical management style. Companies, such as Uber, allow people the freedom to work when they want to, but offer few rewards to keep morale high.

Classical management does still have a viable place in today's organizations. Goals that require a tightly run ship, such as professional kitchens, military engagements, and volunteer efforts like those currently deployed to provide disaster relief and rescue in the wake of two major hurricanes, thrive on a strict flow-chart of top-down leadership and willing participants (employees or volunteers).

The Episcopal Church relies on a hierarchical structure that is descended from the Catholic Church. The beginnings of the Anglican Church (The Episcopal Church being a later branch-off from it) first lie in King Henry VIII's declaring himself, instead of the Pope, the head of the Church. One ruler, in essence, was exchanged for another. Over the centuries, The Anglican Church has maintained the hierarchical structure of its origins.

The Episcopal Church, on the other hand is set up in a somewhat democratic model. The rules that govern the Church are set up in the Episcopal Church Canons. General Convention meets every three years to make any needed changes to the Constitution or the Canons, to hold elections for office and to pass resolutions.

On the local level, the rector (head priest) heads the parish who rules in concurrence with a parish vestry. The parish is with the jurisdiction of a diocese which is supervised by an elected bishop. The General Convention is made up of representatives sent from the diocese. Priests serve under bishops and are subject to the canons (laws) of the Church, the discernment of the bishop and the local canons of the executive council of the diocese (geographic grouping) in which they are serving.

The Episcopal Church government is composed of two branches – the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops. Unlike representatives in the U.S. Government, the bishops and deputies are called to vote their according to their consciences and not necessarily according to the will of the people.

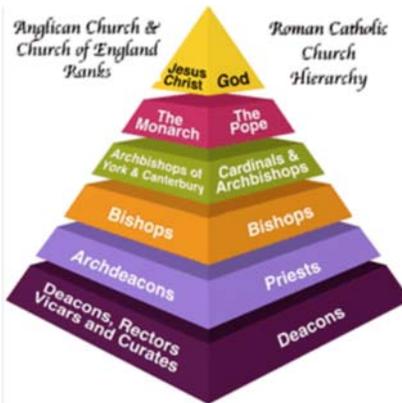
The Catholic model, from the Middle Ages, mimics the scientific management theory of Frederick Winslow Taylor in its efforts to control the behavior and actions of the people via the moral order (Eisenberg, Goodall & Tretheway, 2013, p.68). The Anglican model relies on Henri Fayol's centralization of decision making and respect for authority, the authority being the monarch (Eisenberg, et al., 2013, p. 72). The Episcopal Church at its best embodies the best aspects of Max Weber's (Eisenberg, et al., 2013, p.75) bureaucratic model, following set governance but embracing enchantment and mystery. At its worst, the machine is used to further the goals of those in power within a parish, a diocese or The Episcopal Church head offices. I would argue that the administrative side of offices with-

in The Episcopal Church uses a classical management style that is in conflict with the spiritual ethos of the Church itself.

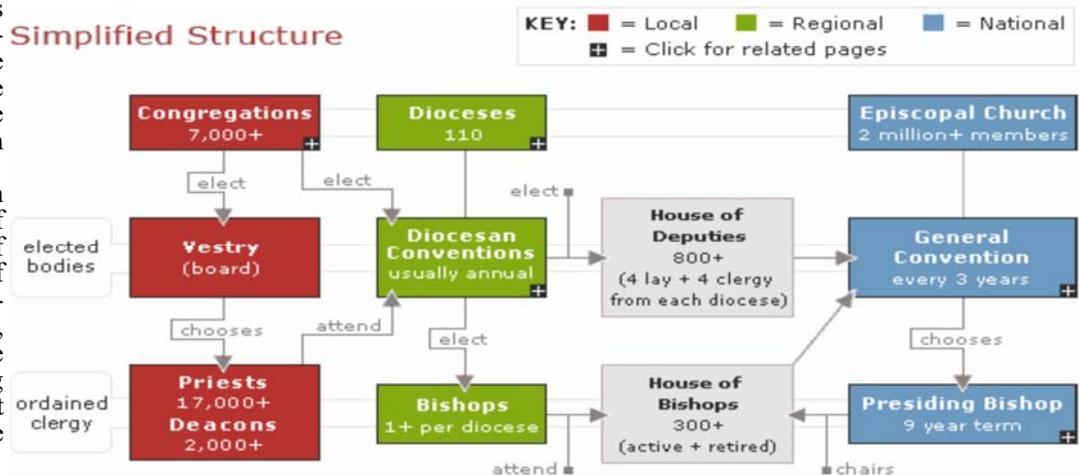
Classical management in offices within The Episcopal Church keeps the machine running in an organized way, maintains and orderly and transparent, safe house. It also has the potential to block passion, spirit, and squash the creativity of the individual wishing to achieve a calling and self-actualization within the Church. Church staff cannot be considered as less than or not needing to achieve self-actualization. Because church members in The Episcopal Church are part of the discussion of the

ongoing life of the church, so should staff be. Good management within parishes assures the vitality of a congregation using a participative model of self-discovery of God's call in one's life.

Former Home Depot CEO Bob Nardelli revitalized the company with strict militaristic-style management. This method is not workable for Church employees. The Episcopal Church ideally balances creativity and constraint, using its legislation and canons as guard rails while allowing for the creativity and passion of its people and clergy. How can the administrative offices honor the aspects of classical management that give it structure while not ignoring the human resources and relational aspects that give it life?



Simplified Structure





Time includes Katharine Jefferts Schori in series on women changing the world [Episcopal News Service]

Time magazine's new multimedia project, Firsts: Women Who Are Changing the World, features the Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, 26th presiding bishop, as one of 46 profiled women.



Jefferts Schori was the bishop of Nevada when she was elected in June 2006. She was installed as presiding bishop in November of that year. Her term ended in November 2015 when current Presiding Bishop Michael Curry succeeded her.

She is now serving as assisting bishop in the Diocese of San Diego while that diocese discerns who to call as its next bishop.

The Time project, which debuted Sept. 7, uses the metaphor of the glass ceiling. "What a jagged image we use for women who achieve greatly, defining accomplishment in terms of the barrier rather than the triumph. There she is up where the air is thin, where men still outnumber women, but where the altitude is awesome," the introduction says. "Our goal with Firsts is for every woman and girl to find someone whose presence in the highest reaches of success says to her that it is safe to climb, come on up, the view is spectacular."

The list of the other 45 women is here, and includes such women as Hillary Rodham Clinton, Serena Williams, Oprah Winfrey and Kellyanne Conway.

<http://time.com/collection/firsts/4921998/firsts-full-list/>

Time published a book from the series September 17.

Your diocesan Commission on Spirituality

invites you to make space in your life to consider matters of the spirit. Here we offer a prayer for those who continue to recover from the effects of flooding in West Virginia during 2016; for those suffering the consequences of wild fires and earthquakes hroughout the world; for those in the wake of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose, and others in the path of hurricanes, and for those who live with economic uncertainty; for the storms of our hearts, we pray:



O God, our times are in your hand. In the midst of uncertainty lead us by your never-failing grace as we seek to be agents of healing, hope and care. Walk with us through difficult times; watch over us in danger; and give to us a spirit of compassion for all who suffer and mourn. And finally, remind us that you have promised never to leave us, so that even in the valley of the shadow of death your love may be felt, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Rainbow Recipe of the Month

Virginia Hospitality

Brown Rice with Peas

Ingredients

- 1 c. rice
- 2-1/2 c. boiling water
- 1/2 c. butter
- 1/4 c. onions, chopped
- 10 oz. frozen peas, thawed
- 1/4 c. sliced mushrooms, drained
- 8 oz. canned water chestnuts, drained and diced
- 3 T. soy sauce

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°. In a dry skillet, brown rice, stirring often. Turn into a 1-1/2 qt. casserole; add water and stir with fork to separate grains. Cover and bake for 30 minutes or until rice is tender. Meanwhile in skillet, over low heat, melt butter, add onions and mushrooms and sauté. Remove from heat; add peas, chestnuts and soy sauce. Add to rice and blend gently. Bake uncovered for 15 minutes. Serves 8.

Hint: Add 1 Tsp oil, butter or margarine to rice before boiling to make grains separate and rice will never stick to pan.

October 1, 2017

Editor's note: The Rainbow Recipe of the Month is a regular feature in The Rainbow. If you have a recipe to submit for consideration, please bring it to the church office or E-mail to editor@cecblf.org

Don Williams, Editor
The Rainbow
412 Ridgeway Dr
Bluefield, VA 24605-1630

Or mail it to the following address:

Other Ministries at Christ Church

By Mary Catherine Williams



We will be collecting blankets for our Food Pantry friends to be given out at the regular October 19 Food Pantry day. You may bring the blankets to the church any time before October 19.

If you want to give money instead, we will be happy to purchase blankets for you.

For November and December we will be collecting hats, scarves and gloves to be given out. We will take hand-knitted and purchased items.

As a side note, the Bluefield Yarn Company has Stitch Nite on Thursday nights from 6-8 p.m. Bluefield Yarn Company is located at 313 Federal Street in downtown Bluefield. Come and join us. We have three or four people from Christ Church that come. Sometimes it is cancelled, but you can contact Susanne Pulse, Wanda Myers, or me to check. Or you can become a friend on Facebook. The Facebook page is "Bluefield Yarn Company."

Bluefield Yarn Company is owned by Karen Rideout. Her website is bluefieldyarncompany.com



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).



Office hours are 9-2 Tuesday through Thursday

Sunday	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Pentecost 17 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	2 Office open by appointment	3	4	5 	6 Office Closed	7
8 Pentecost 18 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	9 Office open by appointment	10 	11 6:00 Men's Dinner in Rowley Hall 7:00 p.m. Vestry meeting in Hobson Library	12 	13 Office Closed	14 6:00 Canterbury Club with the Justices
15 Pentecost 19 Bishop's Visit 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist. Confirmation and Reception Reception afterwards in Rowley Hall	16 Office open by appointment	17  10:30 DoK Meeting in Hobson Library	18	19 9-11 a.m. Food Pantry	20 Office Closed	21
22 Pentecost 20 9:00 Senior Class 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards	23 November Rainbow Deadline Office open by appointment	24	25 4:30 p.m. Bluefield Union Mission Volunteers	26	27 Office Closed	28
29 Pentecost 21 9:45 Beginner and Junior class 10:00 Holy Eucharist Followed by coffee hour Choir practice afterwards 6:00 Canterbury Club At the Slater's	30 Office open by appointment	31 Halloween 	2017			

DIOCESAN CONVENTION
OCTOBER 27-29

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

- 1 Michael Parks
- 3 Sheila Brooks
- 4 Deak Kersey
- 8 Elizabeth Clement
- 8 Don Williams

- 9 Grace Taylor Sudduth
- 11 Bill Whittington
- 16 Burt Kersey
- 16 Emma Slater
- 20 Bruce Puckett

- 21 David Faber
- 21 Phyllis Walker
- 24 William Joseph Allen
- 24 Bernadette Dragotto
- 26 Nelson Walker



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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Canterbury Club 6 PM October 14 at Justice's
Annual Bishop's visit with
reception and confirmation October 15
Reception afterward in Rowley Hall

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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