

The Rainbow



September, 2023

A Letter from Fr. Paul

Greetings and welcome to September! The fall season we are entering is a beautiful time of year with all the autumn colors and fragrances, cooler temperatures at night, the change from mowing grass to raking leaves, and football! We have much to be thankful for as we look back on a busy and enjoyable summer. I hope it was so for all of you.



Now, we look forward to a new program year with scheduled offerings of Children's Sunday School and adult education classes, fellowship activities, and active committees and ministries. Christ Church is an active faith community. It is so because of our loving and dedicated volunteers who have found a church group, committee or ministry, to be a part of and have chosen to serve Christ Church. I often refer to our narthex hallway with the volunteer sign-up sheets and that a sign of how active we are is the many sheets there. And sure enough, we are starting off this month with a lot! I invite those of us looking for a way to serve to check out the sign-ups and to prayerfully consider helping with one activity this month. Another way to keep in touch with your church community happenings is to receive our weekly email newsletter that is sent out every Friday morning. It is full of announcements and calendar reminders for the weekend and the weeks ahead. You can sign up to receive this on the Christ Church website, cecbf.org right on the first page. Also, when you're looking through our website, click on the "What's Happening"/News and Events tab and check out the newly placed Church Activities Calendar for all upcoming events. There are many ways you can stay in touch with your faith community, and we hope you do!

When we feel that small urge to do more for our church and for each other, we should act. When we hear the soft voice of God saying, "You know, I think you're ready to take some of this work on", we should act. The Christian life is an active life. Christ Church offers many opportunities for "In-reach", things members can get involved in as mentioned above, but also ways to help our friends and neighbors in need through one of the many "Out-reach" ministries. So, again, get the email newsletter, check out the website and keep up on all the happenings at Christ Church.

I wish you all many Blessings for this month of September, and the Peace of our Lord be with you always. Fr. Paul

SAVE THE DATE AND SAVE YOUR STUFF

The Christ Church ECW is having an indoor yard sale on Saturday, October 7 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Rowley Hall. Proceeds will support outreach projects and Church sponsored events and activities.

Suggested donations include: housewares, bed, bath, kitchen and table linens, working appliances and electronics, small furniture items, collectibles, baby and children's items, tools, sports equipment, books, toys, games, garden, decorative, seasonal and Christmas holiday items. We will also feature a Baked Sale and Craft items.

Please limit clothing to fall jackets, winter coats, gloves, hats, boots, etc. Baby and children's clothes and high school and collegiate items and costume jewelry will be appreciated. (Please include helpful information about sizing of linens, bedding.) Drop off of donations to Rowley Hall begins Sunday, September 24 and during Church business hours.

September 26, 27, and 28 (9:30 am to 3:00 pm).
Sunday, October 1
October 3 and 4 (9:30 am to 3:00 pm).
Thursday, October 5 is the last donation day and sale set-up.
Hours TBA for October 5^h.



Minutes-CEC Vestry Meeting August 16, 2023

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Vestry was held in Rowley Hall, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Present:	Absent:
Mary Catherine Williams	Betty Nash
Becky Beckett	Don Kersey
Peter Richardson	Suanne Pulse
Vic Bowman	Mimi Merritt
	Peter Taylor

Also present was Father Paul Barker

Father Paul called the meeting to order and declared a quorum.

For the devotional, the Vestry members talked about the good things that has happened this summer. Also each Vestry member talked about the first time they read the bible.

Vic Bowman made the motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting and Mimi Merritt seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved. There was no July meeting.

The Vestry members reviewed the financial documents. Financially the church remains in good condition. We started the year with significant income surpluses which are carrying us through the summer months which traditionally have been slow months for giving. Net income for the month was \$ 14,000 under budget but income for the year is \$14,000 over budget due to the beginning surplus. No significant unplanned expenses occurred in July. Our funds in our operating account decreased by \$14,000 which is due to the income shortfall for the month of July. Don Kersey anticipate another income shortfall in August, but this too should be covered by the additional funds in our operating account. Our endowment funds increased by over \$100,000 due to a rise in the stock market. Whether to switch the internet to Frontier was tabled for later discussion pursuant to a Motion made by Peter Richardson and seconded by Mary Catherine Williams. Peter Richardson made the motion to table the discussion on the money in the Columbarium account until later. Vic Bowman seconded the motion. Both motions were unanimously approved. Mary Catherine made the motion that we approve the financial report. Betty Nash seconded the motion and the financial report was unanimously approved.

Becky Beckett gave the Senior Warden's report. Jeff Lyngaas from the Church Insurance Agency Corp inspected the church building. He gave us suggestions on where to improve. The Bishop will be here on Sunday, October 22. He will meet with the Vestry on Saturday, October 21.

Peter Richardson gave the Junior Warden report. Door combination has been changed. A discussion was held on buying a new laptop for Father Paul which will cost approximately \$1,000.00. The Diocese should cover 1/4th the expense. Peter Richardson made the motion that we buy Father Paul a new laptop. Vic Bowman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Peter Taylor gave the outreach report. Food pantry will be August 17, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The Church received a letter from the Bluefield Beautification Committee asking the Church to share the \$5,400.00 cost for pruning the trees in the parking lot across from the Church. Peter Richardson made the motion that we decline that offer. Mary Catherine Williams seconded that motion and it was unanimously approved.

Parish Life: Mary Catherine Williams gave the Parish Life report. The Parish picnic will be on August 27 at Bluefield City Park.

Father Paul gave the Education report. Sunday School will begin on September 10 and will be every other Sunday. Mary Catherine Williams and Elizabeth Clement cleaned up in the Sunday School area. Volunteers will be needed for Sunday School. Each volunteer will need to review Safeguarding God's Children before volunteering. Father Paul will lead Christ Church 101. It will be four sessions of Christian education. This will also serve as confirmation classes.

Betty Nash gave the Evangelism report. The community picnic is Thursday, August 17. Helpers should arrive at 4:00 p.m. Betty Nash will schedule a refresher course for use of the defibrillator.

Communications. Susanne Pulse gave the communications report. The Rainbow continues to be published once a month and a weekly e-mail is sent out. The communication committee needs to review the website.

Rector's Report: Father Paul will hold a Wednesday evening service during Advent. He will be out starting October 29 and return November 11. Father Russ Hatfield is scheduled for November 5. (Father Russ is now scheduled for October 29)

The next Vestry meeting will be September 20, 2023.

Pastor Paul closed the meeting with a prayer.

MONTHLY MINISTRY REPORT

AUGUST 2023

FOOD PANTRY

AUGUST 17, 2023

Number of bags distributed: 33

Volunteers: Art Meade, Liam Cole, Betty Nash, Patricia and Peter Taylor

FELLOWSHIP HOME

Volunteers from Christ Church prepared a dinner of roasted chicken, salad, corn, bread and dessert for the men at the Fellowship Home. The dinner was delivered on Thursday, August 17th. Thank you to Mary Catherine Williams, Elizabeth Clement, Jim Pulse, Teresa Paine and Betty Nash for helping prepare the dinner.



BIRTHDAYS

September 7 McConni Meachum	September 13 Samantha Kinney	September 23 Norma Mahood-Bay
September 8 Mark Van Dyke	September 16 Will Czarnik	September 25 Patrick Anderson
September 8 Terry Whittington	September 19 Becky Beckett	September 25 Gina Wilkinson
September 8 Bill Wimmer	September 22 Don Kersey, Jr.	September 27 Mimi Merritt
September 10 Bobbie Kersey	September 23 Lynn King	September 30 Trey Snidow



Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers: Dorene Dimes, Bonnie Taylor, Joe Sanders, Bob and Peggy Walk, Martha Linkous, Buck Sowers, Donna Fortune, Ed and Gladys Fortune, Jim and Chris Justice, Ivy and the Gaines Family, Russ and Debbie Hatfield, Mary Lou, Brian, Don Harris, Ted Lewis, Lane, Sherry, Scot, Max, Brad, Sandi, Joan, Mike Boosier, Pam Spracher, Barry Dinger, Joel Hammond, Martin and Ethan, Jim, Joan Gray, Rosemary, Eddie Hughes, Doug Truter, Jenessa, Ameiah, and Beth Kane.

Annual Church Picnic – Mary Catherine Williams and Linda Ammar, Co-Chairperson

Sunday August 27 Christ Church met at City Park in Shelter One for our annual picnic. The weather was great and we had a good turnout. We want to thank everyone for helping with this event. There was plenty of great food to choose from. We have reserve Shelter One for next year for August 25. Be sure to mark your calendar.



THIS SEPTEMBER, TAKE THE TIME TO KNOW THE SIGNS

More than 80% of sepsis patients are
50 years of age or older.



TEMPERATURE
that's abnormal

Signs of an
INFECTION

MENTAL
DECLINE

Feeling
EXTREMEY ILL

**For every hour treatment is delayed,
the risk of death increases by as much
as 8%. If you suspect sepsis, seek
urgent medical care.**

SEPSIS >> SAY SEPSIS
SAVE LIVES
SEPTEMBER
SepsisAwarenessMonth.org

"For more information, visit sepsis.org".

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
ALTAR GUILD: Patty Richardson, Becky Beckett and Linda Ammar					1	2
3 The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 The Fifteenth Sunday Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	11	12	13 4:00 Union Mission	14 HOLY CROSS DAY	15	16
17 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	18	19 10:30 DOK	20 6:00 Men's Dinner 7:00 Vestry	21 Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist 9:00 – 11:00 Food Pantry	22	23
24 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Holy Eucharist	25	26	27 3:30 Union Mission	28	29 Saint Michael and All Angels	30

The following people have graciously offered to donate flowers for the month of September:

September 3, 2023	Richard and Carolyn McCue Matthews
September 10, 2023	Ted and Katherine Lewis
September 17, 2023	Frank and Bernadette Dragotto
September 24, 2023	Sheila Brooks

Lectors and Acolyte Schedule for September:

Lector:	Acolyte:
Don Williams	Mike Lilly
Cameron Clement	Becky Beckett
Don Williams	Rob Merritt
Rob Merritt	Katherine Lewis

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
200 DUHRING STREET
BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA 24701

To our friends and family:



September 2023

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