



321 E. Church Street  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
276-632-2896  
[www.christchurchmvl.org](http://www.christchurchmvl.org)

July 2025



*We are a community of faith striving to love God fully and our neighbors as ourselves.*

Dear members and friends of Christ Church,

Hopefully toward the end of this month, work will begin to address some issues with the exterior of the church building. As was the case with the parish house three years ago, the major presenting issue is rotting wood trim, which will be replaced, along with other painting of the roof and steeple. Among the smaller parts of the project is replacing the exterior door to the lift, which has suffered significant rot along the bottom and no longer sits flush in the frame (complicating the ushers' task of relocking the door after services).

Over the past several months, Senior Warden Rives Coleman, Treasurer Butch Hamlet, and former Senior Warden Jay Dickens have begun collecting pledges and gifts toward a 2025 Campaign, to pay not only for this work but several other projects: replenishing the cash reserve after we replaced two air handlers last summer, developing and executing a plan to landscape the campus and replace and/or add signage, replacing two other aging air handlers before they irreparably break, and saving toward the next large, unexpected building expense.

At present, we have received pledges totaling \$127,502 (that's 64% of our \$200,000 goal) and have nearly \$60,000 in hand, which has allowed us to complete our first objective (replenishing the cash reserve) and to contract for our second objective (the church exterior work beginning soon). If you have not already done so, you are invited and encouraged to make a pledge and/or send in a gift (checks with '2025 Campaign' in the memo can be left in the offering plate on Sunday) to help us maintain a lovely (and cool) church for years to come.

- Fr. John

### **Kings Grant Eucharist**

Fr. John celebrates Eucharist in the chapel at Kings Grant at 1:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. The next services will be **July 3** and August 7.

### **Church Office Closed**

The Church office is closed on Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

### **Nursery Attendant**

Our new nursery attendant, Caroline Davis, began on June 29. Caroline is a nursing student at Patrick & Henry Community College. When she is present, and with the assistance of parents and other Safe-Church-trained volunteers, the nursery is open to infants and young children from ten to Noon on Sunday mornings. Please welcome her as you see her, and thanks to Steve Keyser, Beverly Lyle, and Senior Warden Rives Coleman for a successful search and interview process.

### **Summer Sunday Lemonade**

Continuing a summer tradition, we will have fellowship time with lemonade and cookies on the patio (or in the undercroft if it's raining) after the 10:30 service June 8 through August 24; if you are willing to help bring beverages and treats or set up and clean up, *please [sign up](#)*.

### **Church History Class**

Our monthly Church History class will begin diving into the **Reformation** on **July 9** at 10:30 in the Undercroft. This month, we will consider Martin Luther and the start of the Reformation on the continent.

### **Wednesday Eucharist**

On Wednesdays, we celebrate Holy Eucharist at Noon in the Chapel (enter via the glass Undercroft door at the back of the church building). These brief (thirty minutes) spoken services commemorate the saint of the day from the Episcopal calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts, and are perfect for those who want to attend a service but are unable to come Sunday mornings or who want an additional gathering for corporate prayer to help them through the week. As of now, we are planning to gather every Wednesday in July.

### **Public Theology**

Public Theology meets on **Wednesday, July 9** at **Mountain Valley Brewing** (4220 Mountain Valley Rd, Axton). We begin with socializing and pizza around 6:00, with the discussion going from 7:00 to 8:00.

### **Loaves & Fishes**

Loaves & Fishes (our monthly free dinner, open to all) is on **July 30**, with dinner being served **from 5:00 to 6:00**. Even if you are not helping with cooking, serving, cleaning, or donating fruit or dessert, church members are encouraged to come and sit down for a meal with our neighbors in the community. Sign up at [Christ Episcopal Church - Martinsville, Virginia](#) to volunteer, be a table host, or to bring something.

**Let Deborah or Fr. John know if anyone needs to be added or removed from the list.**

Comfort and heal *Sue (Rosser), Julia (Hall), Betsy (Smith), Jennifer, Carleigh, Sanddii, Millard (Hall), Will (Zimmer), Virginia (Huckfeldt), and Donald*, all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation. Lord, in your mercy.

### **Sunday Bible Study**

Our Sunday morning Bible study is on hiatus beginning June 22; we will resume with Paul's First Letter to the Church in Corinth on **September 7** (the week after Labor Day).

### **Monday Bible Study**

The Monday night Bible will be on hiatus until **September 8** (the week after Labor Day).

## July Server Schedule

10:30AM	July 6 The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	July 13 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	July 20 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	July 27 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Lector Prayers	Ann Gardner	Bob Bushnell	Jay Dickens	Hank Long
Chalist	Rives Coleman Dawn Stone	Bob Bushnell John Swezey	Jay Dickens Natalie Coleman	Hank Long Tom Webster
Ushers	Hank Long Pete Scouras	Gus Barber Dan Cahill	Rives Coleman Michael Hodges	John Swezey Ben Lewis
Camera Operator	Andy Williams	Andy Williams	Andy Williams	Andy Williams
Counters	Natalie Coleman Bob Bushnell	Natalie Coleman Bob Bushnell	Natalie Coleman Bob Bushnell	Natalie Coleman Bob Bushnell
Nursery Attendants	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis

**Altar Guild Team #4 – Becky Farrar, Susan Smith, Natalie Coleman, Ashley Ullstein,  
Dawn Stone, Kyle Trent**

### Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **July – Sept.: Potato products (mashed, scalloped, or au gratin)**. For **July: toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, and hygiene items**. As a Church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network by stocking their food pantry for those in need. Please remember to pick up our assigned item the next time you visit the grocery store. **You can bring your items to the Church office OR put them in the little red wagon in the Narthex.**

Hi, Church Families!

Greetings from Grace Network and I hope your summer is going well! Unfortunately, there are many families in our community that struggle even more during the summer without their kids getting regular school meals. But your participation in our mission to help is priceless, and we thank you so much for your dedication. Please pick up your assigned item when you visit the grocery store.

Thank you for helping to make the new year better for so many that are hurting. Your generous donations are essential in helping our mission and we simply cannot do what we do without your help.

Happy Summer!! God Bless You All!

In Christ, Tracy L Hinchcliff

Executive Director

Grace Network (276)403-4222

[Tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetworkmhc.org](mailto:Tracy.hinchcliff@gracenetworkmhc.org)