



321 E. Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
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We are a community of faith striving to love God fully and our neighbors as ourselves.

Dear members and friends of Christ Church,

Last weekend (Saturday, April 25), at least some of you received an email pretending to be from me and asking for an urgent favor in the form of gift cards. This was yet another scam, of a sort that has become extremely common in recent years as unscrupulous actors prey on the trust that exists within churches. Christ Church has been targeted by such scams roughly once a year (with the prior iterations being texts rather than emails), and it is likely that you will see them again. Unfortunately, there's not much we can do to stop you from receiving them: the problem is not that my email (or phone) has been hacked, but that someone is displaying 'John Adams' as the name on an otherwise unfamiliar email address (or phone number), and while the Office presently operates under a policy of distributing only physical copies of the Church Directory, we can't do anything to stop the electronic circulation of earlier directories (at least one of which has been in the possession of scammers for at least four years).

Whenever you see an email or text that says it is from me but does not sound like something you have seen from me before, I encourage you to **STAR** (or **STAB** or **STAD**):

- **STOP:** These scams often use words like 'urgent' in the hope of provoking an immediate, unquestioning response. But if I need to contact you urgently, I will call first, leave a voicemail if you do not pick up, and only then send a text or email, so unless you have heard my voice telling you it is urgent, it's not.

- **THINK:** The supposed urgency of the scam is designed to keep you from thinking very hard about it. I do not believe I have ever sent someone a text or email asking for an unspecified 'favor,' because if I need a favor from you, I will also tell you what it is. Likewise, when I ask you for money, I'm asking you to give to Christ Church (whether for general giving, a building campaign, or a particular account); even the Rector's Discretionary Fund (which is our tool for financially assisting individuals in need in our community) is a Christ Church account, so that all the money goes from parishioners to recipients through the church rather than through me personally. Which is to say, if a check written to the church is not a perfectly good way to fulfill the request, then it is probably not me asking.

- **ASK:** If you think about the communication and are still unsure, ask me or Deborah. Do not reply to the text or email but use the phone number or email for us that you have already saved (and if the sender's address or number does not match, then you know it is a scam). If you figure out that it is a scam without asking, then you do not need to call or text me.

- **REPORT** (or **BLOCK** and/or **DELETE**): If your email (or phone) has a tool for reporting spam emails/texts and you are comfortable using it, do so. Reporting helps train their software to recognize potential scams of this type, increasing the chances that the next such communication will arrive already labeled as spam. Blocking the sender prevents that same email address or phone number from attempting to scam you again and

increases the chances that the email or phone service will flag the address/number before the scammer stops using it. Deleting the communication is important because any response by you increases the chance that another scammer will try our contact list again.

These steps can also come in handy in dealing with other scams such as communications requiring personal data in immediate responses, notifications about unexpected deliveries, notices from services you've never subscribed to, and (one I've seen several examples of recently) invitations to parties from folks I've not talked to in years. Scams are an unfortunate reality of 21st-century communications, and it is important that we be smart in resisting them.

- Fr. John

Kings Grant Eucharist

Fr. John celebrates Eucharist in the chapel at Kings Grant monthly. The next services will be **April 30** and **June 4**, both at 1:30 pm.

Awards Sunday

At the 10:30 service on **May 10**, we will present the 2026 Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. award and offer a prayer for our graduates. We wish to celebrate our graduates by recognizing them in that Sunday's bulletin, so if you have someone graduating from high school, college, or a graduate, professional, or adult program, please send their information to Deborah at office@christchurchmvl.org or 276-632-2896 by **Thursday, May 7**.

Women's Club Meeting

You are invited to join us in the Parish House on **Tuesday, May 12, at 5:30** for the monthly Women's Club meeting. Beverages and paper products will be provided. Please sign up at the following link [Christ Episcopal Church - Martinsville, Virginia](#) if you plan to attend. **We are looking forward to our evening of fellowship!**

Public Theology

Public Theology meets on **May 13** at the Ground Floor (1 E Church St); food and drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) will be available from the usual menu. We begin gathering at 6:00 pm, with the program going from 7:00 to 8:00.

Monday Bible Study

Our Monday evening study is on summer break and will resume after Labor Day.

Wednesday Eucharist

In May, we will celebrate the Noon Wednesday Eucharist on **May 20** and **27**, **but not on May 6 and 13**.

Memorial Day

The Church office is closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of Memorial Day.

Altar Guild Open Date

We have **May 31 (The First Sunday after the Pentecost: Trinity Sunday)** open date for altar flowers if anyone wants to do a memorial in loving memory of... or in thanksgiving for... someone. It is available on a first come, first served basis. Please note that funerals, weddings, and baptisms take precedence over scheduled memorials. Let the Church office know if you are interested in this date. **Let us know if you want to change the previous Narthex to this Altar flower date.**

Loaves & Fishes

This month's Loaves & Fishes (our monthly free dinner, open to all) is on **May 27**. Dinner will be 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 or to bring something.

New Bishop Consecration

Registration for the Ordination and Consecration of the Rev. Karin MacPhail as the Seventh Bishop of the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia at St. John's Roanoke on **June 13**, is now open, via the [Diocesan website](#) or [Facebook page](#) or [direct link](#). Registration will close once the total capacity of St. John's has been reached.

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

Comfort and heal *Sue (Rosser), Julia (Hall), Jennifer, Mallory, Jay J., David C., Ashley F., Michael (Martin), Ann (Gardner), Jim A.*; and 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.

May Server Schedule

10:30AM	May 3 The Fifth Sunday of Easter	May 10 The Sixth Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday) Mother's Day Morning Prayer Jay Dickens Officiant	May 17 The Seventh Sunday of Easter: The Sunday after Ascension Day	May 24 The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday	May 31 The First Sunday after Pentecost TRINITY SUNDAY
Lector Prayers	Pete Scouras	Bob Bushnell	Susan Critz	Hank Long	Will Zimmer
Chalists	Natalie Coleman Dawn Stone		Steve Keyser Tom Webster	John Swezey Chalists Needed	Rives Coleman Jay Dickens
Acolyte					
Ushers	Michael Hodges Ben Beeler	Pete Scouras Bob Weatherall	Gus Barber Hank Long	Dan Cahill Rives Coleman	John Swezey Ben Lewis
Camera Operator	Hank Long	Rives Coleman	Natalie Coleman	Linda O'Dell	Vicki Crosby
Counters	Steve Keyser Jay Dickens	Steve Keyser Jay Dickens	Steve Keyser Jay Dickens	Steve Keyser Jay Dickens	Steve Keyser Jay Dickens
Nursery Attendant	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis	Caroline Davis

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **May - June: Applesauce (24-32 oz) OR six packs of individuals.** For **May: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), 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.**

The Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. Christian Leadership Award

Christian, Scholar, Soldier

“May God grant that the spirit of this award will help us increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.”

Since 1957, whenever possible, Christ Church has presented this annual award to a young person(s) who best represent the spirit of Beverly S. Parrish, Jr. A plaque to honor his life and in recognition of our eligible youth who exemplify his admirable traits, is displayed in the narthex of the church.

Beverly S. Parrish, Jr., was awarded many academic accolades for his achievements as a young man. To name a few, he was an Eagle Scout, active youth member of Christ Church, a successful student of science and engineering, and a distinguished member of several military groups while attending college. He was a 1st Lieutenant in the United States Air Force.

Beverly S. Parrish, Jr., was an active member of Christ Church who served as a crucifer for many years. He continues to be remembered for his honors and achievements, but more importantly, for his personal qualities of kindness, strong sense of duty, and dependability. He had a “can do” attitude and was ready to assist his family and friends to the best of his ability. He was a Christian in every sense of the word.

Criteria for the Award

I. Service to Church (the Christian Spirit and Christian Leadership)

1. The Christian spirit: Acceptance of responsibility for Church, Sunday School, and other duties; Sense of acceptance of duty to God; Sense of reverence; Sense of loyalty to the Church; Humility and unselfishness; Friendliness and cheerfulness; Bible learning, prayer.

2. Participation in Church Activities: Choir, Crucifer, Acolyte, Youth Group, Young Altar Guild, Chalice Bearer, or Lay Reader.

3. Serving on committees.

4. Serving as a leader in Youth Group.

5. Serving at church activities such as Loaves & Fishes, mission trips.

6. Attendance in Sunday school and at church services

II. Service to school: Conduct/behavior; Special academic achievements; Extracurricular activities; Leadership experience; Sportsmanship/athletics; Artistic expression

III. Service to Community: Participation as a volunteer; Participation in organizations (Scouting, etc.);

Participation in summer/part-time employment; Participation in local arts groups; Participation in civic groups.

Beverly S. Parrish, Jr.
Young Christian's Award Recipients

1957	Ann Kearfott	2000	Megan Selman
1958	Duke Sutton	2001	Michael Gardner
1959	Benjamin Gardner	2002	Sarah Louise Lewis
1960	John Swezey		Tarleton Walmsley
1961	Suzanne West	2003	Jennifer Selman
1965	Susan Adams	2004	Page Wesley Cargill
	Joseph Kearfott	2005	Caroline Cain
1967	Paige Bishop		Banks Cargill
1968	May McCutcheon	2006	Sarah Beth Keyser
1969	Laura Hairston		Eliza Walmsley
1970	Sue Stiff	2009	James Hoy
	Bill Adams		Adrienne Joyce
1972	Jean Hairston	2010	Zachary Keyser
1973	Conrad Jones		Sallie Seiy
	Allyn Wright	2011	Lucy Hooper
1974	Nina McAdams	2012	James Coleman
1975	John Adams		Rebecca Moore
	Elizabeth Richardson	2013	McCay Ullstein
1976	Koy Edmiston		Lori Yeaman
1977	Kelly Jones	2015	Sophia Odachowski
	Clyde Toms	2016	Violet Mazurek
1978	Pete Scouras	2017	Anne Parker Coleman
1979	Kathy Bondurant	2017	Campbell Grace Pitzer
	Louise Simmons	2018	Benjamin Campbell Gardner
1982	Markley Shelton	2019	Macy Suzanne Wagoner
1984	Lewis Pitzer		Anneleise Suzanne Williams
1987	Russel Gardner	2020	Ann Mason Smith
1988	Rives Coleman		Landon Stone Wagoner
	Graham Gardner		Aurora Beth Wolchko
1989	Martin Gardner	2020	Alayna Gayle Williams
1991	John Gardner	2021	William Rhett Gardner
1992	Claudia Covert		Hadden Anne Probst
	Jason Farrar	2022	Emily Diane Williams
1993	Sarah Gautsch	2023	Claire Warner Coleman
1995	Andrew Rhett		Catherine deRosset Maxwell
1996	Melissa Edmonston	2024	Bradley Tyler Johnson VI
1997	J. Bryan Van Name	2025	Baylie Brown Coleman
1998	John Cargill		
	Thomas Gardner		
1999	John W. Selman, Jr.		