



321 E. Church Street
Martinsville, VA 24112
276-632-2896
www.christchurchmvl.org



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

Dear members and friends of Christ Church,

Following the 10:30 service on **November 10**, we will gather for the **Annual Meeting of Christ Church**. If you are not already planning to do so, I highly encourage you to attend that Sunday. Beyond the usual business (electing four new members to the Vestry and receiving reports), our Wardens and Treasurer will offer reflections on the present and future: Senior Warden Jay Dickens will summarize the themes that emerged from this summer's discernment conversations and discuss next steps the Vestry has identified (and, in some cases, already begun), Junior Warden Andy Williams will share the major work that has been done on our buildings these past three years and the priorities for the near future, and Treasurer Beverly Lyle will offer an overview of our current financial situation and the challenges the Vestry and Finance Committee will be wrestling with as they draft the 2025 budget. We must hear these presentations so we can be informed of the state of our church (as a community of people and a building) and the finances that support the church in both senses of the word.

- Fr. John

2025 Pledges

For our annual stewardship campaign, we are presently seeking your pledges of financial support for 2025. These pledges help us in prayerfully putting together our budget for next year, through which we both support the church's ministry (as a community of people) and maintain the church (as a building). We will gratefully receive your pledges anytime, but hope to receive as many as possible **on or before November 10**, when we will offer a prayer of thanks during the service. If you did not receive a pledge card in the mail or need another one, they are available in the narthex.

Giving to the Church - by Mail

You can mail a check or money order to the Church office at:
Christ Episcopal Church
311 East Church Street
Martinsville, Virginia 24112

Give with PayPal, Debit or Credit Card

You may give online, safely and securely, through your PayPal account or with any major credit card.

[Christ Episcopal Church - Martinsville, Virginia \(christchurchmvl.org\) on our homepage](#)

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=Z52WJPBKZN96L on PayPal

A Prayer for the Election

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*
(from the *Book of Common Prayer*, page 822)

History of the Early Church

On **Wednesday, November 6** at 10:30 am in the Undercroft (attendees are welcome and encouraged to stick around for Eucharist in the Chapel at Noon), our topic will be Mysterious Ways, reflecting on the means by which the Spirit grew the Church over its first three centuries. There's no assigned 'homework,' but if you're interested in reflecting ahead of time, contact Fr. John for a handout with excerpts from the Acts of Thomas, the Acts of Paul and Thecla, and the Martyrdom of Perpetua.

Kings Grant Eucharist

Fr. John celebrates the Eucharist in the chapel at Kings Grant at 1:30 pm on the first Thursday of each month. The next services will be on **November 7** and December 5.

Public Theology

Public Theology meets on **Wednesday, November 13**, at Mountain Valley Brewing (4220 Mountain Valley Rd, Axton). In this season of Thanksgiving, our meal will be a **Potluck**, and Rev. Jennifer Coffey will lead us in the 3Practices model for conversation as we tackle the question, "Why can't we have difficult conversations in our communities of faith?" We begin with socializing and food around 6:00, with the discussion going from 7:00 to 8:00.

Thanksgiving Holiday

There will be no Wednesday Eucharist on November 27, and the Office will be closed Thursday and Friday (November 28 and 29).

Loaves & Fishes Hiatus

Loaves & Fishes will be taking November and December off, as the last Wednesdays in those months are Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Day. We will resume our regular schedule on January 29.

Angel Tree

This Advent, members of Christ Church will again be invited to purchase Christmas presents that we will distribute to local families in need through the Boys & Girls Club. **Specifics about the gifts to be purchased will be posted before the end of November, with a due date for delivery in mid-December.**

Christmas

Our Christmas service will be at **5:00 pm on Tuesday, December 24**. During the service, Will Zimmer will lead an anthem during the offertory, and he invites any children who will be present to join him. If you have children or grandchildren who would like to sing, please let him know (wilzim61@yahoo.com) by December 18.

Prayer List

Every week during the Prayers of the People, we pray for the sick, injured, and those otherwise in need of our prayers; included is the list of (first) names of members of Christ Church for whom prayers have been requested and folks for whom members have requested prayers. To clear up confusion and provide more information for those who pray for the list during their daily prayers, we include the annotated prayer list in our Friday email (along with the bulletin and announcements). When you send a prayer request to Deborah or Fr. John, please let us know how much or little you would like shared with the congregation.

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

Comfort and heal *Sue (Rosser), Julia (Hall), Betty (Budde), Nathan, Linda (Isley), Betsy (Smith), Mary Ruth (Reynolds), Nancy, Mark (Gauldin), Morgan (Holland), Jennifer, Frank, Pat D, and Lucia*, 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.

Grace Network

Our Grace Network Assignments for **November through December: Jiffy Cornbread Mix.** For **November: bath soap, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrush (individually wrapped), and hygiene items.** Grace has been experiencing a large increase in clients needing food, household, and hygiene items. As a Church family, we have committed to helping Grace Network with 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.

November Server Schedule

10:30AM	November 3 All Saints Sunday	November 10 The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	November 17 The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	November 24 The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King
Lector Prayers	Hank Long	Pete Scouras	Bob Bushnell	Jay Dickens
Chalist	Bob Bushnell Natalie Coleman	Nancy Spilman John Swezey	Beverly Lyle Tom Webster	Hank Long Dawn Stone
Acolyte				
Ushers	Rives Coleman John Swezey	Ben Lewis Trippi Penn	Kyle Trent Jay Dickens	Bob Weatherall Hank Long
Camera Operator	Andy Williams	Andy Williams	Andy Williams	Andy Williams
Counters	Natalie Coleman Ben Beeler	Natalie Coleman Ben Beeler	Natalie Coleman Ben Beeler	Natalie Coleman Ben Beeler
Nursery Attendants	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed

Altar Guild

Altar Guild: Team #1 – Beth Sibbick, Stuart Webster, LaRue Powers,
Jane Thomasson, Beth Cahill, Dan Cahill, Bill Sibbick