



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,

I want to thank you all for your participation in discernment conversations with the Vestry this summer. This has been a good opportunity to prayerfully reflect on this church's past, present, and future, and to make new connections between members of this congregation. Between now and our Annual Meeting on November 10, the Vestry and I will read your responses to identify recurring themes and ideas in which the Holy Spirit points us to actions we should take now or goals to work toward in the next couple of years. I ask your continued prayers for us in this next stage of our discernment process, and as we look toward budgeting and making financial plans for 2025 considering what we learn.

- Fr. John

A prayer for Christ Church in discernment

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family of Christ Church. Send your Holy Spirit to speak through us, that we may discern your will and be the community of faith you call us to be, striving to love you fully and our neighbors as ourselves. Guide our conversations, grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church: through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Trivia Night October 2

On **Wednesday, October 2**, the **Men's Club** presents **Trivia Night** hosted by Fr. John. **All are welcome, and no sign-up is required.** The game entails dividing into teams of 4-6 people, writing down answers to trivia questions (on an American theme), and, for the winning team, receiving a prize to divide among themselves. Beer and wine will be available (\$5 donation encouraged) and a light snack will be provided (it is recommended that you eat dinner beforehand or bring it with you). We will begin gathering at 6:30 pm in the Undercroft (enter by the glass doors at the back of the church) with the game going from 7:00 to 8:30 or so.

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 **October 3** and November 7.

History of the Early Church

On **Wednesday, October 9 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 Father Knows Best, considering orthodoxy and heresy in the Second Century, with particular attention to Gnosticism. There is no assigned 'homework,' but if you are interested in reflecting ahead of time, contact Fr. John for a handout with excerpts from Ignatius, Irenaeus, and a couple of Gnostic gospels.

Public Theology

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

Nursery – October 13

Our Nursery Attendant, Emily Williams, will be off on **Sunday, October 13**. Emily Hylton has volunteered to be in the nursery with James and any others. **We need another volunteer, please.**

Loaves & Fishes – October 30, 2024

Community members are invited to this free meal in our Undercroft from **5:00-6:00 p.m.** Spread the Word!

We need volunteers to help prepare, serve, clean up, and to send desserts, fruit, and items listed below. Please sign up on the following link [Christ Episcopal Church - Martinsville, Virginia \(christchurchmvl.org\)](http://christchurchmvl.org) to help or to bring something. Donations may be brought to the Office or Undercroft in the days leading up to each meal. We are serving dine-in only, with leftovers distributed as takeout only at the end of the meal.

Additional needed items include individually wrapped snacks, hygiene items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant), and household items (dish and laundry detergent - small bottles) to be handed out to the L&F attendees. Thank you for being so supportive! Andy & Tara Williams and the L&F Team.

The Dan Prince and Gene Medley Oyster Roast 2024
Take advantage of the NEW, easy online registration system.
You can pay by cash, check, money order, or credit card

One month from today, on **November 1**, Christ Church will hold its annual Oyster Roast. The night begins at **6:00 p.m.** with freshly steamed oysters directly from the eastern shore of VA! The fun continues with a delicious buffet dinner serving BBQ, Brunswick Stew, and all the fixings! The entire night is complemented by an open bar and fabulous live music! Remember the Silent Auction, Bake Sale, and 50/50 Raffle. This is one you do not want to miss!

Make a reservation on our Oyster Roast Sign-Up page or contact the Church office.

The deadline to register is Monday, October 21. Only 21 more days.

Contact Person: Pat Russell at 864-430-4527; patbrussell@yahoo.com.

Ways to Volunteer – Oyster Roast 2024

There are many ways to assist in making the CEC Oyster Roast a success.

- Prepare Food for Meal
- Work a shift the night of the event
- Send items for Bake Sale
- Sell Raffle Tickets
- Monetary Donations
- Set Up/ Clean Up

Baked Goods Sale at the Oyster Roast

Sign up on the following link under volunteers [Christ Episcopal Church - Martinsville, Virginia \(christchurchmvl.org\)](http://christchurchmvl.org) to donate baked goods items for sale at the oyster roast on the church website.

Raffle Tickets ARE HERE!

Tickets for the 50/50 raffle are on sale from your Vestry members (Betty Budde, Jay Dickens, Beverly Lyle, LaRue Powers, Pat Russell, Andy Williams, and Will Zimmer) and the church office. The cost is \$10.00 per ticket or \$100.00 per book, with the maximum winnings of \$2,500.

Grace Network - Our Grace Network Assignments for **October - December: Jiffy Cornbread Mix. For October: toilet paper, feminine products, deodorant, 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.

Parish House Lift

As of September 18, the Parish House again has a functioning lift so that those in wheelchairs or who otherwise need an alternative to the stairs can access the main floor; the lift occupies the same footprint as its predecessor (outside the office door, at the back left corner as you face the front of the house). Many thanks to those who gave to make this happen before November 1! To save electricity and prevent folks from sleeping in it, the lift requires keys to enter and operate. For those who need to use it, we will have it open and ready for the Oyster Roast, receptions, and other big events; at other times, please let Deborah or Fr. John know so we can have it ready or get you the keys. If you would like to know how to access and operate the lift so you can help others (particularly if you already have an office key), Deborah or Fr. John would be glad to show you.

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)

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Christ Church will take place after the 10:30 service on **November 10**. Lunch will be provided. In addition to discussing themes and ideas from the discernment process, the state of our buildings, and our current finances, we will elect four members to three-year terms on the Vestry. If you are interested in serving on Vestry, please talk to one of our outgoing members (Ben Beeler, Jay Dickens, Beverly Lyle, and Andy Williams).

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 \(christchurchmvl.org\)](http://christchurchmvl.org) on our homepage

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

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, and Pat D*, 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.

October Server Schedule

10:30AM	October 6 The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	October 13 The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	October 20 The Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Morning Prayer Jay Dickens Officiant	October 27 The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost
Lector Prayers	Kelly Cain	Pete Scouras	Ann Gardner	Susan Critz
Chalist	Rives Coleman Steve Keyser	Natalie Coleman Dawn Stone		Beverly Lyle Tom Webster
Acolyte		Elizabeth Maxwell		
Ushers	Kyle Trent Jay Dickens	Bob Weatherall Hank Long	Pete Scouras Dan Cahill	Michael Hodges Ben Beeler
Camera Operator	Andy Williams	Andy Williams	Andy Williams	Andy Williams
Counters	Bob Weatherall Andy Williams	Bob Weatherall Andy Williams	Volunteer Needed Andy Williams	Bob Weatherall Andy Williams
Nursery Attendants	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed	Emily Hylton Volunteer Needed	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed	Emily Williams Volunteer Needed