

Commission Sunday 2025

February 16th

Information Packet

MEET commission members

DISCOVER who they serve

SUPPORT by joining or volunteering

Altar Guild

The mission of the Altar Guild is to carry out the Rector's wishes for the preparation of the altar in the midst of the People of God, who are gathered for worship in the presence of the Risen and Ascended Lord.

Chair: Linda Wieland

Altar Guild work itself may be considered an oblation, a loving labor offered to the glory of God, not merely a chore someone must do. The Altar Guild prepares the altar and provides the elements for all of our services. We also maintain common vessels, candles, paraments, linens, and other liturgical ornaments. Each Sunday we provide flowers for worship services. We decorate the church for all major feast days.

The Altar Guild works in well-organized teams. The time commitment is one to two hours every three weeks.

We are always looking for volunteers. No experience necessary. We provide training and support. There is an instruction book that can be used for reference. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Linda (lwieland55@hotmail.com).

Episcopal Christian Men (ECM)

ECM's mission is to unite the men of the parish to know Christ and to make Him known -- through worship, study, service, and fellowship -- in ways that will deepen and strengthen their own spiritual lives and lead them into service for the church in the parish, the Diocese of Virginia, the nation, and the world.

Chair: Bruce Adkins

The ECM supports the Rector, Vestry, and other church organizations in furthering the objectives of the church through our combined talents. Every male member of Christ Episcopal Church is automatically a member of ECM.

Volunteerism is a big part of what we do: the Spring and Fall Clean Up Days, ground maintenance and upkeep of our campus, ushering at our religious services and the Shrove Tuesday Pancake/Chili supper.

Our fundraisers include events such as: the annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner, a concession stand at the Spotsylvania Christmas Parade and our Annual Car Show. Our fundraising efforts provide monetary assistance to our Outreach and Newcomers Commissions.

The ECM meets on the third Saturday of each month in All Saints Hall from 8:00a.m. until 9:00. Each meeting consists of Communion, Bible study, and a breakfast.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Bruce (bermudafans@verizon.net).

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

The mission of the ECW is to unite the women of the parish, to know Christ and to make Him known -- through worship, study, service, and fellowship – in ways that will deepen and strengthen their own spiritual lives and lead them into service for Christ’s ministry in the world.

Chair: Ann Woolford

The ECW centers our work on volunteer activities that support the church and the Diocese. All women of Christ Episcopal Church are automatically members of ECW.

Volunteerism is a big part of what we do, including hosting receptions for the congregation.

Our fundraisers include Bake sales at the annual 208 Trail Sale and the Christ Church Car Show. Our fundraising efforts provide donations to support various Diocesan and local charities.

The ECW meets on the third Tuesday of each month over lunch at a local restaurant.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Ann (awoolford.singh@gmail.com).

Christian Education Ministry

The mission of the Christian Education Ministry is to plan, support, and evaluate Christian Education and Christian Formation programs for children, youth and adults at Christ Church. The Commission is responsible for Nursery, Sunday School, Youth Group and Adult programs. All children, youth and adults are invited to participate in our offerings.

Chair: Jill Bates

Our Programs

Nursery

Nursery care is provided during the 10:30 Sunday service for children 8 weeks to 5 years old.

Sunday School, Kindergarten through 5th grade 10:15-10:50 am, September through May

Our engaging curriculum, *Weaving God's Promises*, is created specifically for Episcopal children and youth. The program explores bible stories we are all familiar with but in a creative way, appropriate for each age group. The themes in the curriculum are:

- ♥ To teach how God's promise of salvation is woven into our lives.
- ♥ To teach the way of Christ, not only in the church but also in the world, as Christ's ambassadors.
- ♥ To give a solid grounding for future formation programs, which prepares them for Christian adulthood.
- ♥ To foster spiritual formation and growth in Christ's love and mercy and to teach the spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation.

Youth Group

Our Youth Group meets twice a month for fellowship, service and spiritual growth. Everyone in grades 6 through 12 is welcome. *Faith Lens* provides weekly lessons that connect the Gospel to current events. Discussion and activities are always thought provoking and allow us to openly share ideas. The YG serves others by participating in the Spotsylvania Clean-up Day and volunteering for the Food Pantry and Thrift Store. The group also engages in fun activities such as drive-thru holiday light displays, gingerbread house decorating, trivia nights and escape rooms.

Adult Education

Sunday Spirituality Discussion

Discussions are led by Fr. Daniel and are held Sundays from 9:15 am to 10:00 am in the Great Hall and also via [Zoom](#) (Meeting ID: 926 3421 4297, Passcode: 407286). Discussion focuses on books on spirituality, scripture, social justice, as well as our Episcopal traditions. Discussions are lively and often free-flowing, touching on various issues and topics. Check the weekly email blast for details.

Bible Study

Bible study is led by Fr. Daniel and held Wednesdays 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm on [Zoom](#) (Meeting ID: 940 9123 5470, Passcode: 750596). Everyone is welcome to join our bible study series at any time - regardless of familiarity with scripture. We laugh a lot and learn a lot.

Volunteering

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our programs. No experience necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Jill Bates (wenger1986@msn.com).

Fellowship Commission

The mission of the Fellowship Commission is to encourage and support relationship and community among the Christ Church family by providing opportunities for social engagement among its members, guests, and visitors.

Co-Chairs: Cindy Rooney and Bruce Adkins

Commission members plan, organize, and host a variety of activities: workshops, potlucks, day trips, and other activities that encourage and enable the congregation to develop the spirit of family and friendship. We collaborate with other commissions to develop ideas to promote parishioner involvement in our Christ Church family.

Programs and activities are reviewed annually by the commission, to answer the question: "What is it about Christ Church Fellowship that is inviting and friendly and aids in promoting the growth of the church?"

Volunteering

We are always looking for ideas and volunteers. No experience necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Cindy (crooneyis@verizon.net) or Bruce (bermudafans@verizon.net).

The Christ Church Food Pantry

The mission of the Christ Church Food Pantry is to help those people in our area who find themselves in need of support in their daily lives, particularly food insecurity.

Chairs: Roy and Stephanie Smith

People facing hunger face tough choices. Buy food or pay bills? Our all-volunteer Food Pantry distributes food to more than 70 families on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month between 10:00 a.m. and Noon.

We are a member of the Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank. We distribute food through three different programs:

- The Basic Pantry is open to anyone who asks for assistance during pantry hours. Each pantry client is offered a basic bag of food. Clients also may make selections from produce, bread, meat, and drug store items as available. At Thanksgiving and Christmas, a regular Food Pantry distribution date is substituted for a Holiday Distribution date to provide holiday-specific food items.
- The Food Pantry also distributes food from the TEFAP/USDA surplus program in addition to the Basic Pantry offering. This food is available to clients of any age who meet income guidelines established by the federal government.
- We also distribute food from the CSFP program, supported by the federal government. This additional box of food is available to clients over the age of 60.

Other Food Pantry support programs include:

- *Food Locker Program:* Eligible people who are unable to come to our Pantry during our regular distribution hours due to work conflicts may qualify for the Food Locker program. Eligible families will be able to retrieve food from lockers located on our campus at the end of their workday.

- *Backpack Program:* Prior to the beginning of each school year, Christ Church provides backpacks to school age children of Food Pantry clients. These backpacks are filled with supplies donated by our parishioners based on the school year supplies listings as provided by the school system.
- *Food Pantry Garden:* Christ Church volunteers each year plant and tend a garden that furnishes fresh fruits and vegetables to our Food Pantry patrons. This is a special benefit since fresh produce can be difficult to obtain for families in need.

Volunteering at our Food Pantry:

Volunteers are the engine that powers our Pantry. Our volunteers perform a variety of jobs:

- Pack bags for distribution
- Stock pantry shelves
- Distribute food on Pantry days
- Carry groceries to cars on Pantry days
- Clean up Pantry rooms after use
- Keep records for the Pantry
- Shop for food at the Fredericksburg Regional Food Bank

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our Food Pantry. No experience is necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please email: foodpantry@christchurchspotsy.com.

Newcomers Commission

The mission of the Newcomers Commission is to help make Christ Church a welcoming home to all -- visitors, new members and current parishioners.

Chair: Bruce Adkins

We create programs and events to help newcomers make connections and build relationships with other members and become involved in the life of the Christ Church family.

We collaborate with other commissions, especially the Fellowship commission, to develop ideas on how to attract new members and retain current members. Each year we review the Newcomers programs to answer the question: "What about Christ Church is inviting to newcomers and what is not?"

Current initiatives include a Welcome Packet, Ice Cream Social and Tables of Eight.

Volunteering

We are always looking for volunteers. No experience necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Bruce (bermudafans@verizon.net).

Parish Care Commission

The mission of the Parish Care Ministry is to support the spiritual, physical, and emotional wellbeing of our parishioners.

Chair: Fr. Daniel, O.P.A.

Our members support the rector in providing pastoral care and prayers, serving each other according to our various callings, and providing help through our various ministries listed below.

Healing Ministry – Fr. Daniel Johnson (Rector@ChristChurchSpotsy.com)

We embrace the belief that people who are hurting and broken should be given love, peace and healing. Our Healing Ministry offers services, hospital visits and emotional and physical prayers for healing. We also offer a healing service on the fourth Sunday of every month.

Prayer Wheel – Judi O'Neill (judiandbob13@comcast.net)

If you need something extra to help you through an emergency or trying time, the Prayer Wheel is here to help you by providing personal, confidential prayers. These are not published in the bulletin.

Parish Cycle of Prayer – Missie Jarman (missiejarman66@gmail.com)

Each Sunday, Christ Church says a special prayer for a different parishioner during the Prayers of the People. The highlighted parishioner is invited to offer their own prayer if they wish. Emails are sent to the selected parishioner two weeks in advance asking for prayer information.

Meal Ministry – Anne Williams (aewilliam52@hotmail.com)

Meal Ministry volunteers are happy to prepare and deliver hot meals to your home when you are experiencing disruptive life events such as hospitalization or major illness so that you can focus on taking care of loved ones and yourself.

Volunteering

We are always looking for volunteers. No experience necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please reach out to the contact person listed for each ministry.

Quilters Group

The mission of the Quilters is to provide fellowship to members of the congregation who wish to share their talents via the Christ Church Quilters meetings.

Chair: Alice Daniels

The Christ Church Quilters Group was formed by Elizabeth Marshall in 1979, and the first quilts were raffled in 1981. Following Elizabeth's death in 1983, the group has continued to make a quilt to be raffled most years since. Recently, the Quilters have produced quilts to be raffled at the annual Fall Festival/Car Show.

We are currently working on a quilt for raffle in the near future. Occasionally, we produce a personally commissioned quilt. Our group has made many donations to the Christ Church throughout the years. We are grateful to the church family that has supported us.

Everyone is welcome to join the group. We meet most Thursdays from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm. Visitors are always welcome to come and see what we do, sit and chat or bring their own crafts. Hand quilting is enjoyable and not difficult. Bring a bag lunch and learn our craft.

For questions or more information, contact Alice (alice_daniels@verizon.net).

St. Francis Pet Ministry

The mission of the St. Francis Pet Ministry is to provide pastoral care, limited financial resources, and comfort to all God's creatures and the individuals that love and care for them in the Spotsylvania community.

Chair: Martha Clark

The St. Francis Pet Ministry is an integral part of our Christ Church family. You can often see our therapy dogs at the 10:30 Sunday service. You will always see one or more of them at Father Daniel's 10:30 healing service on the 4th Sunday of the month. They are available for pats and hugs.

Pets are our four-legged children. We have a pet prayer chain for pets who are ill or who may be having a procedure. We are there for parishioners and community members who would like a comforting presence with them when they must euthanize their pet.

Sometimes circumstances make keeping a pet healthy and well-fed difficult. We are able to provide limited financial support to assist with the costs of emergency food and medical treatment.

We are involved with our local community in several ways: making visits to nursing homes and assisted living facilities, visiting schools so children can read to our therapy dogs, making home visits to bring comfort and smiles to those who in need.

Each year, we organize and host the annual Community Pet Fair and Blessing of the Animals event at Christ Episcopal Church. The petministry has been featured in the Free Lance Star for its community outreach work in the article "[Ministry Serves God's Creatures.](#)"

The Pet Ministry accepts donations which help us provide these services.

Volunteering

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our programs – people and dogs. No experience necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Martha (stfrancispetministrycc@gmail.com).

Thrift Shop

The mission of the Thrift Shop is to use resources provided by the community to bless and offer hope and opportunity to those in need. The Thrift Shop has been part of the Christ Church Outreach commission since 2008.

Volunteer Managers: Connie Hockaday and Linda Wieland

The Christ Church Thrift Shop serves our local community by providing gently used clothing, shoes, household items, linens, books, furniture, and more at affordable prices. All items are donated by the congregation and the greater community. Proceeds from Thrift Shop sales go towards supporting the ministries and missions of Christ Church including our Food Pantry, our Backpack Program, and others.

The Thrift Shop is 100% supported by congregant volunteers who give their time and talents to support our community and Christ Church. Volunteers perform a variety of tasks including accessing donations; managing, pricing, and staging items for sale; establishing displays for holiday and seasonal sales; assisting clients with specific needs; event planning and coordination with other Christ Church activities. We provide Christian fellowship to all who visit and promote Christ Church services and other ministries.

We are always looking for volunteers. No experience necessary. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Connie (ccthriftshopspotsy@gmail.com) or Linda (lwieland55@hotmail.com).

Christ Church Thrift Shop Prayer

O Lord our God, you supply every need of ours according to your great riches: Help us to be grateful for all you have given us; help us to be generous in our volunteering of time and in our giving of donations; and help us always to be gracious in serving our customers; we pray that through our Thrift Shop those in need may readily find the necessities of life, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who came among us as one who serves. Amen.