

Parish Notes

A message from the Rector

There's a lot of bad news confronting us daily. But if we are willing to look at the positive, some good things are happening in this new year. The new vestry has already met twice, albeit by Zoom. First, they elected officers for this year. Heyward Gould continues as Sr. Warden, Jimmy Sledge will serve as Jr. Warden, Ryan Stallings continues as Treasurer, and Madolyn Kirby will serve as clerk. Catherine and I then excused ourselves so the vestry could talk about the search process for new clergy. They selected two committee chairs. Loo Whitfield will chair the Self Study Committee, which will put together our Parish Profile to give to those who might be interested in becoming the new rector. Justin Hart will chair the Discernment Committee, which will review applications and interview candidates, ultimately making a recommendation to the Vestry. The two chairs will now recruit committee members and get to work.

We have several new outreach projects in the works. Christ Church Collectibles is planning a Valentine's Day flower service. Proceeds will go to Camp McDowell. The outreach committee is also recruiting small groups and families to prepare lunches for folks at the Salvation Army. Meanwhile, we have new opportunities for Christian formation. On Sunday mornings at 9, there is a class via Zoom on the weekly lectionary, that is, the readings we read in the service each Sunday. Several more projects for children and adults start this month.

And then, of course, there is the National Championship. I don't know why I love college football so much. Colleagues point out to me how brutal the sport can be, faculty friends argue that so much money and resources are consumed by football that it is the tail that wags the whole university dog, and I do absolutely hate it when a player gets hurt, no matter which team he's on; nobody should have to suffer just so I can be entertained. And yet ...

I do love college football. I find it often thrilling, and even heroic, especially this year.

This year's team accomplished so much. It defeated every team in the SEC it played, which was all of them except perhaps the two weakest teams. They did this with a very shortened practice season, and no so-called "cupcake games" to try out different things. These same SEC teams went on to win more post season bowl games than any other conference this year. Then they beat Notre Dame and Ohio State, two of the most respected teams in college football. And there were some spectacular moments, like when Najee Harris leapt over a Notre Dame defender, or when Mac Jones threw a perfect touchdown pass even when a defender had a hand on his shoulder, or any number of completions by DeVonta Smith, who won every award he was nominated for.

But none of that impressed me more than the way this team handled itself off the field. Who knows how many times individuals were tempted to go out with friends, or go home to see family, or sneak out without a mask? And don't you know they heard the same voices we hear, telling them, "It's not that bad. You probably won't catch it. Even if you do, you won't show symptoms, so you won't get caught." Yet, apparently even the players who never expected to play in a game made the hard decision every day to do the right thing. They put the safety of others, and the success of the team as a whole, ahead of their own enjoyment.

We could all learn from them, and not just about the pandemic. All of us face hard decisions every day to ignore the voices of temptation and do the right thing, even if no one notices. That's life, and we are called to do the right thing even if it means sacrificing our own enjoyment or convenience or comfort. May we let these champions inspire us!

David+



Katherine Gould *Outreach*

■ Outreach

Outreach in Action

New dates have been added to Meals on Wheels and The Community Soup Bowl. We also have a new opportunity for families or small groups, so be sure to check out all of our sign ups on the Outreach page of the website.

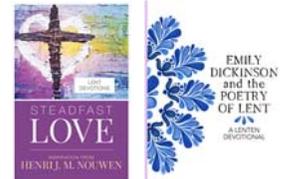
Christ Church Collectibles

Thanks to the generosity of donors and shoppers we have raised close to \$4000 since October 15th. We have given away almost \$2000 already. This is an ongoing ministry and someday soon, we hope to offer in-person shopping. In the meanwhile, contact Katherine Gould if you have items to donate.

Michelle Waits *Christian Formation*

■ Formation Offerings

- ★ We will host our adult Spring zoom formation sessions each **Sunday at 9:00 a.m.** We will follow a lectionary discussion format, led by parishioners. In an effort to keep things simple, we have made the church phone number (205 758 4252) our zoom login ID for all our Spring meetings. So, if you can't find the link, simply open your zoom app, click "join a meeting" and type in the church phone number and you will be placed in a waiting room for entry.
- ★ During the season of Lent, our parishioners will have two daily devotional offerings. The first is a printed devotional book inspired by the writings of Henri J. Nouwen. The second features the writings of Emily Dickinson. Both devotionals will be available in print for pickup from the box under the 7th Street porte cochere beginning February 1. The Dickinson devotional will also be available as an eBook downloadable from the church website.



A Month of Birthdays *February*

Circle the Date . . .

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1st Sully Cochrane, Beji Fitts, Mike McWhirter, Mary Farley Poellnitz | 15th Katie Marie McEntyre, Brandon Williams, Thomas Scott Ford Partlow |
| 2nd Arthur Thompson, Riley O'Rear, Eloise Humber, Billy Howard | 17th Jan Bryant, John Chambers, Charlie Waters |
| 3rd Carly Standridge, Madolyn Kirby, Emma Waits | 18th Dax Parsons, Sara Katelyn Jolly, Marilyn Rudolf, Kenneth Wyant, Daniel Gaines |
| 4th Hilan Wilson, Beverly Bankhead | 19th Barbara Meginniss, Wilson Standeffer, James Anderson |
| 5th Ashley Ferry, Mary Winston Laseter, Sarah Cassel, Harrison Heifner | 20th Marion Chappell, Scott Holmes, Will Adams |
| 6th Fran Oneal | 21st Hill Warr, Will Patton |
| 7th Leslie Faucett | 22nd Charlotte Marshall, Leslie Davis |
| 8th Richard Gaines, Tommy Wade, Tyler Mathews | 23rd Dorothy Ferry, Cammie Cook, Reese Brooks, Jr., Elizabeth Moseley, Samuel Patterson |
| 9th Dodge Pearce, Chris Hargett, Case Dyer | 24th Sallie Watkins, Samuel Pointon |
| 10th Ralph Banks | 25th Sarah Kyle |
| 11th Jennifer Elebash, Nanci Stewart, Mary Harmon Hilburn | 26th Reuben Cook, Sarah Denney, Ford Simpson |
| 12th Will Humber, Mark Terry, Blanche Gunter, Jimbo Woodson, Tate Scott | 27th Mae Humber, Alston Poellnitz, Sister Wright, LuElla Tolbert, Evelyn Folse |
| 13th Hank Heath, Charlotte Allison, Jonesy Musgrove | 28th Connie Haas, Will Reel, Linda Stewart |
| 14th Beth Allaway, Martha Hinton, Rick Pearce | |

If your birthday is not on here for this month, and should be—it is because we do not have an updated membership information sheet. Contact the office to get one.

January 2021 Tributes and Gifts

MEMORIALS

In memory of Freda Thomas

Rosa Morrow
Martha and Sidney Cook
Mr. and Mrs. Bowen Hill
Camille and Shapard Ashley
Robert and Mary Farley Poellnitz
Forrest, Tabby, and Karen Brown
Martha Hinton
David and Deana Warren
Donald and Suzanne Crump
Dee Davis
Bee Cooper
Betty Shirley
June Nuessle
Sue Seale
Marly Thomas

The Lazarus Ministry
in memory of
Freda Thomas
Judy Phipps

In memory of Luther Richardson

Martha and Sidney Cook

In memory of
Carl Adams
Carole McQueen
Nancy Thomas
Emily Rogers
Freda Thomas

Betty and Lee Pike

The Lazarus Ministry
in memory of
Larry Pierson
Caroline Phifer

Day and Bob Weatherly

In memory of
Eloise Roberts

Carroll and Scott Phelps
Libby and Bob Shaw

In memory of
Carl Adams
Emily Rogers
Caroline Phifer

Mary Nelson and Mort Jordan

The Katherine Jolly Cork Preschool
in memory of
Caroline Phifer
Bill Goodman, Jr.

Brad and Susan Cork

The Lazarus Ministry
in memory of
Ed Davis

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hulgán

In memory of
Charles Ezell

Joe and Frances Fritz

HONORARIA

The Lazarus Ministry
in honor of
Gerry Green

Wilson Green and Amanda Adams

The Lazarus Ministry
in honor of
Laine Moore

Donna MacAllister

In honor of
Bob and Day Weatherly

Omer Baker

The Lazarus Ministry
in honor of
Jamie and Peyton Cochrane

Jessica and Bob Robertson



The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Freda Thomas
Carole McQueen
Emily Rogers

Bea and Paul Strong

The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Shelly Darling

Ed Darling and Grant Darling

The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Ruth Ann Neilson
Bubs Cummings
Mary Wright
Wayne Guy
Leah Ozmet

Sarah Wiggins
Luther Richardson
Carole McQueen
Larry Pierson
Freda Thomas
Eloise Roberts
Carl Adams

Cathy and Jimmy Adams

The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Freda Thomas
Eloise Roberts
Emily Rogers

Kathryn and Bernard Harwood

The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Annie Bills
Marlin Moore
Ann Manderson
John Pradat

Sue and Ronny Robertson

The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Henry David Cobb
Carl Adams
Emily Rogers

Pam and John Mantle

The Christ Church Foundation
in memory of
Caroline Phifer

Robert and Mary Farley Poellnitz

The Christ Church Foundation
in honor of
Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Windham

Anne Monfore

Leigh Cummings Ministries

■ Worship Opportunities

Join us for Come & See outdoor worship! Stay tuned to emails and social media accounts for the announcement of pop-up worship services with The Rev. Deacon Greg Evans. When the weather looks like it will be good for a Sunday morning we will offer Rite 2 Eucharist with music, outdoors at someone's home. Come as you are!



■ Transitions

Baptisms: Evelyn Osborne Folse, daughter of Sarah and Mark Folse; December 20, 2020
Elle Elizabeth Pradat, daughter of Kelly and John Pradat, III; January 9, 2021

Directory

Clergy

The Rev. David Meginniss
The Rev. Dr. Catherine Collier

Ministry Staff

Michelle Waits
Christian Formation
Leigh Cummings
Membership and Ministries
Katherine Gould
Outreach
Mary Margaret Murdock
Interim Youth Director

Music Staff

Doff Procter
Director of Music
Laurel Procter
Assistant Music Director
Steven Taranto
Organist/Assistant Music Director

Administrative

Valerie Starks
Financial Manager
Barbara Steimle
Communications Director
Dwayne Aull
Facilities Manager
Patricia Allen
Housekeeper
Albert Benderson
Security
Blanche Gunter
Librarian

Vestry

Term expires at the end of 2023
Rick Bryant
Julia Emrich
Sally Reel
Whit Whitfield
Steve Wiggins

Term expires at the end of 2022
Evans Fitts
Heyward Gould, Senior Warden
Amanda Humber
Madolyn Kirby, Clerk
Jimmy Sledge, Junior Warden

Term expires at the end of 2021
Rodney Haas
Kathy Harris
Jim Jolly
Ryan Stallings, Treasurer
Jackie Wuska

Preschool

Beth Zark
205-758-5704

Telephone

205-758-4252

Fax

205-758-0293

Email

bsteimle@christchurch1828.org



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
605 Lurleen Wallace Blvd. N.
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

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■ How to Beat the Winter Blues

Whether or not you believe in the winter blues it's fair to say that we have endured a lot in the last twelve months. With an unusual Christmas and New Year over and still enduring the pandemic, it's a good time to look at some self-care strategies to take us through to sunnier times.

New Year's resolutions are a good idea on paper and give us something to focus on. The problem is we often set goals that are unrealistic. This year perhaps we should just focus on being good to ourselves. This will be different for everyone. It might be learning to talk to yourself with the kindness you'd grant a friend. It could be about self-acceptance and learning to love your perceived flaws.

Usually our sleep patterns are a bit all over the place in January. For long term sleep health, it is important to figure out how much sleep you need and get into a routine. An hour before you go to sleep turn off screens and do something undemanding like reading or meditating.

Head outside or let nature in. Go for a walk or open the curtains to let the sunshine in. Winter is the perfect time to cozy up with a good book. Books give us a mental escape and can offer new perspectives on our current situation. Ask your friends what they are reading and share books. Reach out to your friends and family. Pick up the phone, schedule a video call, or write a letter. It's important to stay connected socially even when we are far apart. There's always something to chat about even if it's the weather, what's on TV, or what you look forward to doing after all this is over.

We are all in this together and it can be a relief to realize that others are feeling the winter blues too.

Hang in there. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine".