

The Grateful Heart

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL
January 2012 NEWSLETTER

Dear Christ Church Friends,

2012 has begun, and it's the beginning of a great year! The other day, at the Wednesday morning service, we spent a bit of time reflecting upon how in the scriptures twelve is one of God's favorite numbers...twelve tribes of Israel; twelve disciples/apostles. May it be these next twelve months as we write the year in letters, and forms, and other documents we take the action of writing "12" as a remembrance for how God is already at work in our lives, and the Church, and the neighborhood, and the world.

As 2012 begins, I want to share with you a few important things happening in our common life this month...

A visit to Christ Church by Brother Geoffrey Tristram. The weekend of Friday, January 13 through Sunday, January 15 we will welcome back to Christ Church Brother Geoffrey Tristram of the Society of St. John the Evangelist. Brother Geoffrey is a lively, humorous, gentle, and wise teacher. He'll be preaching at all three worship services that weekend, and on Friday evening and Saturday morning he is leading an on-campus retreat time called "Praying Your Life." A parallel experiential teaching on prayer, led by our Children's Minister Rebecca Guzman, also happens on Friday evening and Saturday morning. This is a retreat time for the entire family. For more information, please check the Christ Church website, and I look forward to seeing you there!

Stop Hunger Now. The afternoon of Sunday, January 22 from 3:30 to 5:30 we will gather in the GCC to participate in Stop Hunger Now. Stop Hunger Now is a ministry to provide meals for hungry people throughout the world. Our objective? To help people who are hungry not be hungry by packing 20,000 meals that Sunday afternoon. This is a community act we're doing together; it's a service and mission project for persons of any age.

We'll make friends of all ages by working together, and we'll do our part to help solve the problem of hunger. The more the merrier, so come on and I look forward to seeing you there!

One worship service and Annual Meeting at 10:00 AM on Sunday, January 29.

We are conducting our 2012 annual meeting a little bit differently this year than in years past. A congregational meeting is a time when we come together to hear where God has taken us, and imagine for a bit the future God has in store for us this coming year. We are the Church; a people God has created to be gathered together and sent into the world. So there will be one worship service on Sunday, January 29 *during which* we will conduct our annual congregational meeting. We'll sing, and hear the scriptures, and say our prayers; we'll hear about and reflect upon where God has taken us and is taking us; and we'll conclude our time together sharing the holy meal from the holy table. So we invite you to be present for this time together, beginning at 10:00 AM on Sunday, January 29. *We will also worship as usual at 5:30 PM on Saturday, January 28.*

And coming in February...The Big Listen: CHRIST CHURCH AT TWENTY-ONE. The Lord has been at work in this congregation for eighteen years, and there is a new future to imagine before us. The Big Listen: Christ Church at Twenty-One is a way we'll do that together. More information on the Big Listen is in this edition of *The Grateful Heart*, and you'll be hearing much more about this project over the next several weeks. Right now, we simply ask one another to prepare our hearts to participate in this common work.

A blessed beginning of 2012 to each of us, and I bid you God's grace and peace.

Faithfully,
Paul

The Big
LISTEN
...Christ Church at 21

**...Celebrating how we have been
blessed these 18 years**

**...Listening to how God is working
in our lives as we reach our 21st
birthday**

What is The Big Listen?

As God's people we are called to be ever vigilant, listening for what He has to say to us about our lives and community. We are called to do this individually and collectively. Several times throughout our 18 years we have taken time to deliberately stop, converse and listen, to each other to discern what God's will is for us. It's time to do that again, and this time we're calling it the **Big Listen: Christ Church at 21**. We will be thinking and talking about how God is calling us as we approach our 21st birthday in 2014.

Why Participate?

First, so we can hear one another's stories. And then, to hear how we believe God is calling us. We enjoy many opportunities, and we need to hear from the whole body to best understand how we can live into the church God calls us to be. The vision for our church does not rest alone with the staff or the Vestry, or ministry leaders. Our future belongs to ALL of us. Our stories, hopes and dreams are vital context for the many decisions that lay ahead.

Who

Everyone! We will use many means to enable everyone to participate. Adults and youth will be invited to special listening sessions, and children will participate in age-appropriate programs.

In addition to listening to one another, we also plan to listen to our community, through special events like coffees for parents of our preschoolers, and sessions with leaders of organizations we support. As a cornerstone of the Short Pump community and an important member of the Richmond Metropolitan community, it's important that our listening be both broad and deep.

How

Big Listen events will begin in the sanctuary, and then break out into small groups of 10-12. Our breakout time will focus on answering a few critical questions to help us understand how we got here, where we are today, and where we think we should go. We won't be searching for one right answer or debating our future; instead we'll be telling our stories and sharing wishes about our future.

What happens with all this information?

The team appointed by the Vestry to oversee the Big Listen will be doing a number of things: gathering demographic data from members and available from other sources about the larger community, collecting the summarized commentary from all Big Listen events, analyzing all this information, and then reporting a summary to the Vestry and congregation. The Vestry, Staff, and Ministry Leaders will use this report repeatedly in the months and years ahead as it makes important decisions about Christ Church.

**Listening will be done in facilitated
small groups...so registration
is requested.**

Please plan to attend one of these sessions:

February 7 Tuesday 7:00 pm- 9:00 pm
February 26 Sunday 4:00 pm-6:00 pm
March 10 Saturday 9:00 am-11:00 am

Childcare will be provided

Register on the Christ Church website

www.christchurchrichmond.com



STOP HUNGER NOW

Come help package 20,000 meals for hungry people all over the world.

This is a fun, hands on mission project for ALL ages

January 22 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

The Garage

The assembly process combines rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a flavoring mix including 21 essential vitamins and minerals into small meal packages. These meal packages are shipped around the world to support school feeding programs and crisis relief. The food stores easily, transports quickly and has a shelf-life of five years.

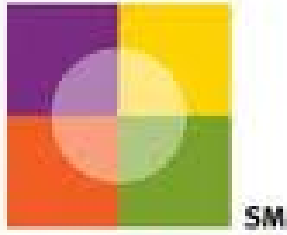
You are encouraged to raise (or bring) \$40/person to help pay for the meals (\$100 family maximum). (It costs \$0.25 for each meal that we package.) If you are unable to raise this amount PLEASE DO NOT LET THIS STOP YOU from participating.

This will be a fun and meaningful project for everyone !

Haiti Mission Trip

Planning has begun for our next mission trip to Haiti, March 2-9
If you are interested, please contact [Frank Blake](#) (910-398-7150)

Central Virginia Food Bank/ Feed More



**FEED
MORE**

Christ Church supports the Central Virginia Food Bank. On the first week-end of each month we accept non-perishable food items and cash donations to help fund their work.

**We recently received a report of our
donations for 2011:
2793 pounds of food and \$11,122 in cash
donations !**

Thank you to everyone who supported this work.

February 4/5 is the next collection week-end
...bring your donations to any of the worship services.

Find us on

facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/christchurchrichmond>

Sunday, January 22 – In lieu of youth group, we are teaming up with the Children’s Ministry to Stop Hunger. Now. 3:30—5:30, in the Worship Space. Bring your friends! Take a break from studying for exams and join us in making a difference.



January 21 – Journey Retreat, topic “Fellowship”. All students and sponsors should attend. 8:30 am – 2:00 pm in the GCC. Bring your bibles; breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Senior Highs – mark your calendars for an epic retreat....Friday Feb 17 (4:30pm) til Sunday, February 19 (1:00pm) at Eagles’ Landing. \$120 per person.

Small groups resume January 11/12

This is a great time to:

- 1. go back if you've missed it for a while,*
- 2. try one for the first time,*
- 3. bring a new friend!*

To find the one that's right for you, go to: <http://www.ccgauge.org/#/what-we-do/small-groups>

Annual Meeting: January 29

A congregational meeting is a time when we come together to hear where God has taken us, and imagine for a bit the future God has in store for us this coming year.

There will be one worship service on Sunday, January 29 during which we will conduct our annual congregational meeting.

(There will be the regular Saturday service at 5:30 pm , on January 28)

2012 Pledge Update

We have received 330 financial pledges for a total of \$1, 067, 900.

If you are yet to complete your pledge for 2012,
you may pick up pledge cards in the Milling Area or check
the Christ Church website for online pledging

Giving Tree: Hope for Humanity

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the 2011 "Giving Tree" to benefit *Hope and Resurrection Secondary School* in South Sudan. We had a great response!

This school is a program of Hope for Humanity, Inc. formed to provide educational opportunities for the youth of southern Sudan. Founded in 2004, it has built and supports Hope and Resurrection School.

You can see pictures of the first graduating class here:
<http://smilebox.co/ziNQT4>

For more information about Hope and Resurrection School, please visit:

www.hopeforhumanityinc.org

or contact Jennifer Ernst at Jpe60@aol.com.



I always advise my community that they should put their effort on education, because then they will be good citizens who will head the Sudan well, without discrimination, no nepotism, decentralized ruling and others that affect unity in relation to peace.

Abraham, age 19 Class of 2011

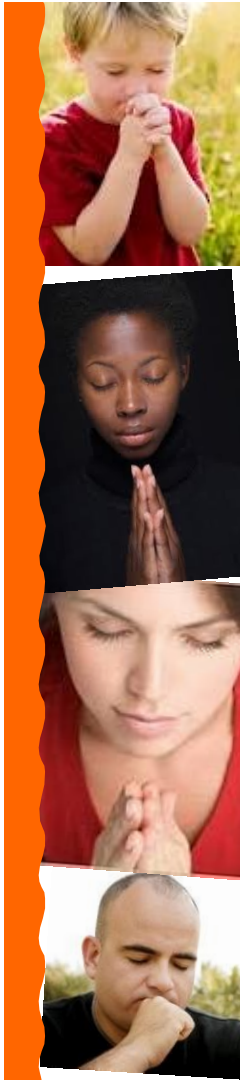
Mission trip to Sudan

A trip is being planned to visit Hope and Resurrection School in 2012. Interested in learning more about this possibility?

There will be a meeting on January 15, after the 10:45 service.

We'll meet in the GCC.
Everyone is welcome.

Questions? Contact Elizabeth Bolin (elizabeth.bolin@gmail.com) or John Snuggs (jsnuggs@aol.com).



Praying your life

...ancient wisdom for

Join Christ Church for a retreat and teaching time.

...for the entire family

Friday, January 13

6:30 pm

Registration and Refreshments

7:00

Program

Saturday, January 14

8:30 am

Continental Breakfast

9:00 - Noon

Program

Register on the Christ Church website:

www.christchurchrichmond.com



Furniture POD

The CARITAS Furniture Bank has located a permanent furniture POD on the Christ Church campus. This drop off site will be available to anyone in the area with items to donate.

The POD will be unlocked Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 4:30PM, Saturday 10:00 to 5:00PM and Sunday 8:00AM to 2:00PM.

To drop off at other times, please contact Christopher Pandak (357-9216) to get the combination for the lock.

Furniture and household goods that you donate will be provided free through CARITAS to individuals and families who are exiting homeless shelters and crisis-intervention programs.

Essentials we collect and distribute:

(If you have questions about what is accepted please contact Christopher Pandak)

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Mattresses | Bed Linens |
| Sofas/Loveseats | Bath Towels |
| Bed frames (all sizes) | Dishes/Flatware |
| Dining tables and chairs | Chairs |
| Dressers | Lamps |
| Pots and Pans | Rugs |
| | Small Appliances |
| | Heaters |

Year To Date Financial Results As Of 11-30-11

P & L Summary

	Actual Results Through November	Budgeted Through November	Difference	Full Year 2011 Budget
Pledge Income	\$872,051	\$901,633	-\$29,582	\$1,049,024
Non-Pledge Income	\$326,040	\$123,118	\$202,922	\$173,500
Total Income	\$1,198,091	\$1,024,751	\$173,340	\$1,222,524
Total Expenses	\$1,145,042	\$1,167,120	-\$22,078	\$1,274,428
Surplus/Deficit	\$53,049	-\$142,369	\$195,418	-\$51,904
Total Cash and Investments	\$1,042,960			
Construction Loan Balance	\$326,038			

Total income through November 30th is \$173,340 more than the budget. In September the church received several large gifts in addition to non-pledge income being consistently higher than the budgeted amount all year (Non pledge income is all gifts received not associated with a pledge). Expenses are under budget by \$22,078 primarily because some ministry teams will spend the balance of their allocations in December.

Total cash on hand includes proceeds from the sale of the land to the County of Henrico, temporarily restricted cash and unrestricted cash. Unrestricted cash available for operations is \$214,397. Temporarily restricted cash is gifts received where the donor has specified a specific purpose for the gift.

The construction loan is related to the Growing for the Generations Campaign. Gifts received to fulfill Growing for the Generations pledges are being used to make payments on this loan.

Food bank collection on November 5th and 6th was \$670

Thank you for your support of Christ Church and our ministries which allows all of us to be the hands and feet of Christ in the World.

David Latham, Treasurer david.latham@comcast.net



We invite you to consider us
for your child's preschool in
2012-2013!

Preschool registration takes place for church members beginning January 11, 2012.

If you are interested or know of someone that might like to attend our preschool for 2012-2013, please call the preschool office at 364-5905 to schedule a tour. You can also find more information on our website at www.christchurchpreschool.com.

**Registration begins Wednesday, January 4 for our existing preschool families,
Wednesday, January 11 for church members, and
Wednesday, January 18 for the general public.**

All children must be potty trained with the exception of our 2 year old class.
Preschool hours are 9:00-12:00.
Additional enrichment classes are offered on select days.

2012-13 Class Offerings

2 Day Two Year Olds -Meets on Tuesday/Wednesday.
(Must be 2 by 12/31/12) – Children do not need to be potty trained.

3 Day Three Year Olds – Meets on Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday.
(Must be 3 by 12/31/12) – Children must be potty trained.

4 Day 4 Year Olds – Meets Monday through Thursday. (Must be 4 by 12/31/12)

PreK 4 Day –(Meets Monday through Thursday. (Must be 4 by 9/30/12)

PreK 5 Day – Meets Monday through Friday. (Must be 4 by 9/30/12)

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at [c
heri@christchurchpreschool.com](mailto:cheri@christchurchpreschool.com). or by phone at 364-5905.

"Let Your Light Shine" – Matthew 5:16
Cheri Erk – Executive Director

Emmaus Groups: Winter Session

**A fun and easy way to connect with others in the community
and grow spiritually together.**

Led by a trained facilitator, the groups meet each week to reflect on scripture, pray, support one another, and serve together. Meetings last from 60 to 90 minutes, and typically consist of six to fifteen members.

There are 3 groups meeting this winter:

Tuesday 7:00 pm	Mixed Group
Tuesday 7:00 pm	Mens Group
Sunday 10:30 am	Mixed Group

You can register for one of the groups by going to the Christ Church website

The winter 2012 (10 week) session is scheduled for January 29 - April 1.

The discussion materials are prepared by clergy and include reflection questions to help the group engage with the scripture passage selected for that week's sermon.

The format works well for those with many years of Sunday school training, as well as those who are new to bible study. No "homework" is required.

Emmaus groups are inspired by the events described in Luke 24:13-35. On the first Easter day, two travelers meet a third person who engages them in conversation and teaches them about the scriptures. When they reach their destination, the town of Emmaus, the travelers invite the stranger to stay and share a meal. Over the breaking of bread, their eyes are opened, and the travelers recognize the "stranger" as the risen Lord.

By joining an Emmaus Group, we seek to put ourselves in the position of Luke's travelers. We commit to study, fellowship and service, as we seek to draw closer to God. We hope you'll consider walking with an Emmaus group in the new year.

www.christchurchrichmond.com

2012 Rev. 1/5/12	January 1		January 8		January 15		January 22		January 29 Annual Meeting 10:00AM	
	9:00 AM	10:45 AM	9:00 AM	10:45 AM	9:00 AM	10:45 AM	9:00 AM	10:45 AM	9:00 AM	10:00AM
S (Senior Acolyte)	Shajun Chappelle Sahana Tharakan Morgan Castellano	Emma Garnett Britt Anderson Anna Phares'	James Sylvester Brady Goode Kristen Lalayette	Carsten deWolff Tyler Phillips Sierra Loudemilk	Haley Bunting Mee Shan Bright Veronica Will	Philip Crump Stephen White Leigh Rogers	Shajun Chappelle Barnett Goode Rhiannon Kennedy	Tyler Phillips Britt Anderson Sierra Loudemilk	James Sylvester A.C. Robertson Mee Shan Bright	Carsten deWolff Phillip Crump Stephen White
Acolyte Master	Charles Moncure		Greg Phillips		Sheryl Will		Greg Phillips		Jennifer Robertson	
Lay Worship Leaders	Addison Jones paulette Schwaning	Joe Jagdmann Rebecca Guzman	Robert Nicol Ryan Baldwin	Lee Muckey Joe Gallagher	Mary A. Cooley Steve Foster	Hugh Greene Chris Schools	Rebecca Maguire David Maguire	Joe Todd Lily Andrews		
Chalicers 1	Addison Jones	Joe Jagdmann	Barbara Case	Kay Holmes	Mary A. Cooley	Elaine Maniontelli	Susan Darden	Michele Damasco		
2	Sharon Fairbanks	Rebecca Guzman	Robert Nicol	Diane Muska	Steve Barnett	Bill Beattie	Joe Jagdmann	Lorraine Gawronski		
3	Rebecca Guzman	Tricia Williams	Jim Heck	Matt Thayer	Steve Foster	Robbi Schleicher	Susan Tyler	Sharan Dunham		
4	Judy Bunting	Judy Bunting	Lee Heck	Lee Muckey	Kevin Kinter	Hugh Greene	Susan Manning	Susan Rowland		
Bread 1 & 2	Paul / Barbara		Laura Lafayette	Margaret Crews	Mason Harper	Gemy Escalera	Bill Manning	Kevin Kinter		
Distributor 3			Melinda Hancock	Laura Cockran	Pam Board	Jen Sullivan	Harry Kelso	Jen Wasik		
4			Jen Rose	Libby Bush	Laura Lafayette	Deborah Pierce	Jennifer Ernst	John Napier		
Bread Baker(2 loaves)	Holly Borden		Chris Robertson	Judy Heppert	Rebecca Guzman	Chris Schools	Amy Goodman	Carol Napier		
Trellers	Holly Borden/Coordinator Lin & Carol Bottoms, Bob Watts, Kammy Hambrick, Lisa Radez		Paul / Barbara		Paul / Barbara	Paul / Barbara	Paul / Barbara	Paul / Barbara		
Greeters / Hosts	Fred Shultz Anne Atwood	Gwen Harding Debbie Noble	Matt Carr Kelly Carr Shelly Nicol	Carol Harms Shelly Putney Margaret Popik	Keach Legrand Pete Gallagher Betsy Gallagher	Nan Pascal Tom Crockett Susan Crockett	Ken Wayland Marilyn Wayland John Daylor	John Napier Carol Napier Tom Valiquett	Michael Heppert Judy Heppert Tom Valiquett	
Ushers	Deborah Pierce Jonet White TBA TBA	Mike Nelligan Lynn Foster Bonnie & John Shelhorse	Will Watkins/Head Steve Cannella Bob & Sara Watts Sarah Fogler Bill Torney	M. Heppert/Head Lisa deWolff & Theo deWolff Lynn Foster Michelle Kovacs Borden Ellis	Sara Watts/Head Bob Watts Mary Beth Smith Bob Smith Betsy Hall Charles Hall	Donna Weed/Head Tom Weed Betsy Gallagher Pete Gallagher Jonet White	Grayson Johnson Revere Johnson Dave Hasek Rebecca Knotts James Knotts	H. Handshaw/Head Anne Atwood, Martin Atwood K. Handshaw, Ron Andrews Deborah Pierce, Mike Nelligan D. Buringdiner, L. Loudemilk Judy Bunting, Kevin Bunting		
Altar Guild	Elaine Maniontelli	Linda Anderson	Carol Napier	Janis Todd	Barbara Slatte	Gemy Escalera	Carla Beattie	Lee Heck	Cynthia Oliver	
vestry Person	Kevin Kinter		Barry Hayes	Jennifer Sullivan					Louanna Heuhsen	
Activity Bags	Kelly Carr		Heide Knopik	Elizabeth Rivello					Jen Hoerner	
S. Board/ Computer										

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Sunday
January 29

ONE SERVICE
10:00 am

We will hold the
Annual Congregational Meeting
during this service.

www.christchurchrichmond.com

Christ Church Episcopal
5000 Pouncey Tract Road
Glen Allen, VA 23059