

CHRIST CHURCH

ANGLICAN

Off the Top of My Head...From the Bottom of My Heart

Silver Linings

In recent editions of “Living Stones” (yes, that’s the name of our newsletter these days), we have had wonderful reports of God’s blessings upon us through His gracious provision. During a recent staff meeting, I was struck by the consistent and faithful gifts of grace God has showered upon us since leaving the property on Johnson Square. Stop and think with me a moment...

We blew into Independent Presbyterian Church just two weeks before Christmas. One would have thought that our observance of the Feast of the Incarnation would have been helter-skelter, full of chaos and turmoil, and simply a logistical disaster. However, the staff all agreed it was one of the smoothest and most meaningful Christmas observances we have experienced in recent years.

It has been many years since this parish has celebrated an ordination, but in January we enjoyed the ordination of Nathan Bistis to the diaconate, the liturgy being held at St. Andrew’s Reformed Episcopal Church. Again, with a new Province, a new Diocese, and a new venue for the liturgy, all sorts of confusion could have taken place. Instead, the Saturday morning service was one of the most meaningful and moving ordinations I have attended.

Our Annual Parish Weekend at Villa Marie with the Rev. Phil Ashley came in February, and with all of the legal wrangling still in high gear, this could have been another distracted and fragmented moment in our parish. Instead, the Holy Spirit anointed Phil with great power and clarity, and all of the “behind the scenes” logistics went far more smoothly than we could have ever imagined – again, a great blessing of God’s grace and mercy.

Ash Wednesday came next, and we found ourselves with one service at IPC and another at St. Andrew’s, with a third (!) in the Choir Room in the Administration Building at IPC. All three services went well, and our Lenten journey together was blessed in

ways I could have never anticipated.

The end of March is, of course, our Tour of Homes, and from all accounts, this year’s Tour was filled with a spirit of hospitality, service, and family that was noticeable to all. Many said, “It was our best Tour ever!” Good leadership, extraordinary effort, and great teamwork contributed to a successful Tour, but in the final analysis, it was God’s most marvelous grace.

The staff review of Easter concluded in a similar fashion: the space at IPC worked very well for many of our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. If ever there were a time we would miss Johnson Square, this would be it. I’m sure some of us did indeed miss the old building, but our new venue, so generously offered us through IPC, reflected yet again God’s wonderful and perfect provision. For us, it was the smoothest and most Christ-centered Easter we can remember as a staff.

May saw the welcoming of a substantial number of new members, as well as one of our larger confirmation classes the following Sunday. As the staff reviewed the month of June, we gained reports of a terrific Bell Choir Tour that touched the lives of our youth and brought glory to God throughout the southeast, as well as one of the smoothest and most joy-filled Vacation Bible Schools on record.

If I’m dreaming, don’t pinch me... I don’t want to wake up!

“And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Philippians 4:19-20)

God has indeed supplied our every need. And to Him goes all the glory. May we look to our future with a confident expectation of His grace and goodness toward us; not because we deserve it, but because of His incredible love and faithfulness.

— Marc Robertson

JULY/AUGUST 2012

Contents

Pg 1	Rector’s Column
Pg 3	Parish Life Announcements
Pg 4	Report from ACNA
Pg 5	Future of the Church Report
Pg 6	Children’s Ministry
Pg 7	Faith to Foster
Pg 8	Music Ministry
Pg 10	Reflections of a Confirmand
Pg 11	Youth Ministry

Newsletter Deadline

Just a reminder that the **September** newsletter deadline is **Friday, August 10 by 12 Noon**. Thanks!

Christ Church is a member of the Anglican Church in North America and an affiliate of the American Anglican Council.

Smiths to Return to Soroti, Uganda

Carol and Clark Smith will once again lead a SOMA (Sharing our Ministries Abroad), mission to our former sheltering diocese of Soroti in Uganda. The mission will be organized in two parts with the first team comprised of Carol and Clark, The Rev. Joel Atong of Kenya, The Rev. Hannah Mudge of the Diocese of Albany and Brooke Brenthon, also from Albany, NY. The second team will be Carol and Clark and The Revs. Enid and James Hende of Rushere, Uganda. The first team will depart on August 3rd and the Smiths will return on September 5th.

The mission objective is to provide training, education and ministry to the Lay Readers and other key lay leaders of the Diocese of Soroti. The focus of the training will be the Person and Works of the Holy Spirit.

The Lay Readers are the “feet on the ground” for ministry in Uganda. In the Diocese of Soroti there are approximately 350,000 confirmed Anglican Christians but only 51 Parish Priests. There are over 700 Lay Readers. Most congregations are led by Lay Readers in church buildings, school buildings or in the open air. Ideally these Lay Readers receive a one year Bible education at a training center in the Diocesan headquarters. The reality is that the

need for Readers is so great that many never receive this training. Even those who do are not fully versed in the scriptural foundations of the Holy Spirit.

Bishop George Erwau has requested that SOMA organize a series of training conferences for these Lay Readers and other lay leaders. Three-day conferences will be held in each of the 5 Archdeaconries.

- Each conference will include teaching sessions on:
- Anglicans and the Holy Spirit
- Who is the Holy Spirit and What Does He Do?
- The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Repentance
- Being Filled with the Holy Spirit (This session will include ministry time with the attendees)
- Praying for Physical Healing
- Praying for Inner Healing
- Deliverance Ministry
- Ministry in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Please pray for this mission throughout the month of August.

Save the Date

Christ Church Anglican Autumn Men's Hike

September 27 – 30, 2012



On July 4, Fr. Marc read the Declaration of Independence at Johnson Square to a crowd of one hundred.

First Sunday Brunch Continues on August 5th

On Sunday, August 5th, we will gather together for our much beloved fellowship time of breakfast and testimony. Sunday School will begin at 10:30 a.m. and we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 11:45 a.m. for a breakfast produced by the Christ Church Anglican Feastmakers!

(\$5 per person, \$15 per family, max.).



Parish Life Announcements



Congratulations to Warren and Nikki Schluter on the birth of their son Miles Ernest on July 11, 2012.

We offer our sympathies to Bob and Terry Franz on the passing of Norene G. Chamberlin Franz, Bob's mother, on June 13.



Left: The Young Women's Small Group which met with Liz Albert this summer.

Left to Right: Jill Luse, Jennie Ridley, Liz Albert, Allie Page, Ellie Harrison, Katie Beaumont, Heather Ford.

Our New Web Address

The web address for our church is now

ccasav.org

Christ Church (Anglican) - Savannah GA					
Treasurer's Report as of June 2012 for Operating Fund					
Account Name		YTD Balance	Budget YTD	% of Budget YTD	Annual Budget
Income					
Budgeted Pledges		303,481	303,811	100	660,000
Donations		58,760	38,175	154	80,000
Plate Offering		5,461	5,150	106	10,000
Other Contributions		423	498	85	1,000
TOH Proceeds		45,580	40,000	114	40,000
Money Market Interest		64	150	43	250
Christmas Offering		135	0	0	4,000
Total Operating		413,905	\$387,784	107	\$795,250
	Prior Year Pledges	8,695	8,000	109	8,000
Total Income		422,600	\$395,784	105	\$803,250
Expense					
Provincial Giving		19,742	31,125	63	67,500
Great Commission Cmte		961	20,689	5	47,500
Worship Ministry		1,848	700	264	1,600
Music Ministry		8,064	5,175	156	10,000
Evangelism		1,814	3,000	60	5,000
Discipleship		2,956	6,720	44	13,535
Personnel		235,900	238,776	99	480,794
Administrative Expenses		36,914	46,089	80	\$92,250
Total Expense		308,199	352,274	87	\$718,179
Difference		\$114,401	43,510		\$85,071

Reports from the Anglican Church in North America Assembly 2012

Dear Brothers and Sisters at Christ Church,

This June I had the pleasure of attending the ACNA (Anglican Church in North America) Assembly in Ridgecrest, North Carolina.

It was a great event. The teachers and presenters were effective, enthusiastic and knowledgeable. The plenary sessions and workshops were relevant and interesting. The opportunities to connect with Anglicans from around the world were frequent and pleasurable. I am glad I had the opportunity to attend.

The Assembly did not feel like a political gathering. It was a worshipful rally and a loving reunion of friends in Christ. By the time the conference had come to a close I was greatly encouraged about the gospel and mission potential of our Anglican community.



Archbishop Duncan addresses the Assembly

The Assembly stressed the importance of moving forward and spreading the Gospel through church planting and outreach. Churches in the ACNA Province were encouraged to move past our recent struggles and disputes by setting our eyes on what Christ has called the Church to do. The message that really stood out to me was the consistent call to gospel-based evangelism in the five commissions of Jesus that can be found in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts.

I hope and pray that those of us involved in Anglicanism in North America heed the call of our leadership and the plenary speakers at the Assembly. I am very excited about what God can do through a gospel-focused Anglican movement in North America. The Assembly should prove to be a great source of momentum and inspiration for all that attended.

For those of you that did not get the chance to make it to Ridgecrest- don't worry! Go to this link <http://www.anglicanchurch.net/?/main/assembly2012> and watch some of the teachings from the Assembly:

If you make the wise choice of viewing some of the Assembly online I strongly recommend uploading Singaporean Bishop Rennis Ponniah's teachings on Isaiah. I have now had the pleasure of attending two conferences featuring Bishop Rennis and he is truly excellent.

Next, do yourself a favor and upload the messages from Ed Stetzer. Dr. Stetzer knows a great deal about church planting and instilling a Gospel-based mission within existing churches. His teachings will better equip you to contribute to Bishop Duncan's inspired call to plant 1,000 Anglican churches.

Finally, you should upload the presentation from Baroness Caroline Cox. She has an incredible calling to minister to people in the most desperate situations on earth. At 70 years of age, she is actively and passionately involved in lifting up and ministering to persecuted people in Burma, South Sudan and Northern Nigeria..

Please enjoy the Assembly's inspiring content from your PC or Mac and join in its call to be mission-minded, bold proponents of the Gospel!

—Brian Dennison

As the second Assembly of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) came to a close Archbishop Robert Duncan commented that we had shown that a Province could come together to worship and focus on mission instead of following the model of 18th century church governance. That notion was emphasized by visiting Archbishop Eliud Wabukala of Kenya when he noted that the Anglican Church in Africa could learn how to conduct a synod from his experience at the Assembly in Ridgecrest, N.C.

The Assembly was conducted with a strong emphasis on moving forward in the mission of Jesus Christ and not looking back or falling into complacency. During the three day gathering there was only one two-hour business meeting with the rest of the time spent with motivational teachings, worship, witnessing and plenty of one-on-one networking.

Above, Brian Dennison urges everyone to view some of the presentations on-line. I heartily second his recommendation!

A few comments from the talks have really spoken to me. The Rev. Dr. Ed Stetzer in his opening teaching on "The Local Congregation: Engine for Discipleship" strongly urged us to follow new models of churchmanship.

(continued on page 5)



Bishop Geurnsey Delivers the Sermon

He stated, “Don’t let your church be a cul-de-sac on the road to salvation.” Now that we are free from the culture driven gospel of our old affiliation we should use that freedom to respond to the Great Commission and not return to old complacent habits.

Stetzer drew a compelling analogy just days after the anniversary of D-Day. He noted that the war in Europe was won on D-Day but the war was not over until VE Day some eleven months later. The war against the powers and principalities of the world was won by Jesus on the cross but we are living in the end times awaiting the second coming. The war is won but is not over; the church must stay engaged in the campaign!

The closing Eucharist sermon was delivered by Bishop John Guernsey. He reviewed the six examples from the Book of Acts where Luke noted that the church “...added to their number.” Each such statement followed some crisis in the church. For example the growth of the church following the persecution by Saul as noted in Acts 9:31. Bishop John drew four significant lessons from his review.

1. The Lord uses our sufferings to refine us to be more Christ-like.
2. Adversity, crisis and persecution spur church growth.
3. We can not assume that after one crisis we will be attack free from that time on. After all, the early church grew through the six documented crises in Acts.
4. Prayer is the central response to crisis and is the essential work of the Kingdom.

So, clearly, I would add watching and listening to Bishop John’s sermon to Brian’s list of videos to watch.

In summary, we once again were in awe of the spiritual strength and commitment of our new Province. A powerful, two hour healing service was led by our bishops. Our leadership at all levels is totally sold out for the Gospel and answering the call to join Jesus Christ in His mission of offering eternal life to those who believe.

– Clark Smith



Opening Eucharist Service

Future of the Church Report

The Future of the Church Committee was formed to address the need for both a potential intermediate site as well as a permanent place for Christ Church Anglican to “land” after the departure from our Johnson Square location. The members of the Committee are Scott Glass, Bob Hallock, Stephen Lufburrow, Murray Marshall, Laraine Papa, Adam Ragsdale, and Nancy Solana, along with *ex officio* members: The Rev Marc Robertson, Rector; John Albert, Senior Warden; Joe Park, Junior Warden; and, Joan Malley, Parish Administrator.

During our “home meetings” held this past winter and early spring, Committee members listened carefully to your dreams and desires and have sought to discern God’s will as we examine various options for our parish. We have personally reviewed a number of pieces of real estate, including (but not limited to) the Sears building, the Ramona Riley School, the African Methodist Episcopal church building southwest of Forsyth Park, and other properties near Forsyth Park, Oglethorpe Avenue, and Montgomery Avenue, as well as some unlisted properties that are still under consideration. All of the above were deemed either too small or too expensive to renovate for the needs of a working parish.

It is indeed a blessing to be at IPC: No folding chairs to set up or take down early on a Sunday morning, no make-shift Sunday School rooms, no portable electric piano or other instruments, no loss of a sense of “sacred space.” Nevertheless, we understand the extra burden placed upon a number of our parishioners, from altar guild to hospitality to youth and many others as we juxtapose our schedule with IPC and St. Andrew’s, deal with lack of parking, storage in boxes, and limited worship and meeting times. Ultimately, we simply want to find our “home,” some place that is truly ours. I am confident God has a place for us. The more faithful we are in following Him, the closer we will come to that place where we will re-establish ourselves in this city.

Please continue to pray for our Committee, that we might be clear about God’s will for us and that we might walk in step with the Holy Spirit, not running ahead nor lagging behind. With those prayers, if you hear of any property that might be suitable for our mission and ministry, please pass the word along to any member of the Committee so we can follow up. We hope to bring you another report in the early fall. Look for details in future newsletters or parish announcements.

– David Reeves, Chairman

Christ Church Anglican Children's Ministry

Vacation Bible School

The Lord continues to be faithful and kind to our parish, as was witnessed during VBS. There were 79 children in attendance and you could tell by the looks on their faces that they had a wonderful week! Their parents could tell that a lot of time and energy went into the week's preparations! This was made possible by the many church volunteers, who gave of their time and talent. Thank you to Emily Stubbs (Director) and Sally Roth (Assistant Director) for their gracious and cheerful leadership! VBS would not have happened without these two ladies and the many volunteers! The volunteers chipped in to purchase special gifts for the leaders—a silver-plated serving tray for Sally and a pewter pitcher for Emily, both symbols of service, that we hope will remind them of the many lives that were blessed by them this summer!



Emily Stubbs, Sally Roth, and Meg Welch

Hear what the greatest blessings of the week were to some of the volunteers:

Getting to know 10 precious children! (Dottie Courington)

Getting to spend more time with the kids and members of the church (Stephanie Luse)

Getting to know people from our church better (Deborah Evans)

Trying to be a positive role model/leader for the kids and being humbled by God. (Brian Kerr)

Seeing all the kids enjoy their time here. (Sarah Lavinder)

Kids were sweet and open. I learned a bunch of stuff along with the children. (John & Liz Albert)

Meeting more wonderful adults/children and loving their dedication/service/love for the Lord. (Mary Pitcher)

Working with amazing people and enjoying spending time with all of the children (Ramona Parsaei)

Working with the children. The young ones were so fun to teach. I loved singing, dancing, and working with them. (Stephanie Meredith)

I really enjoyed leading the music and seeing the kids respond well to it and learning the songs. From a teacher's perspective, I loved getting to know the rising 6th graders that are coming into the youth group and to have a full week of relational investment. (Katie Beaumont)



Heather with Colin

Opportunity to serve Ugandan Children's Sunday School... It's not too late!

Mary Jane Dennison has recently taken on the responsibility of coordinating their Children's Sunday School program, and while they are blessed with many children, they do not have many basic materials. Any donations of the below items are appreciated and can be dropped in the marked baskets after both Sunday services at IPC. They can also be dropped off at

the church office or given to Meg Welch.

- Crayola crayons
- Colored card stock
- Plastic nametags (about 250-300) that clip on easily. (Ours come from Office Depot and have held up well.)

Financial contributions with "Dennisons/Children's Sunday School" on the memo line for Meg to make needed purchases.

Needs—Time/Treasure/Talent

Sunday School Nursery Volunteers— We are still looking for several new nursery volunteers for the Sunday School hour, from 10:30 to 11:45. Thank you to those who have responded! It will be so much fun to lead our babies and toddlers in a simple song, a Bible story, and a coloring activity! Please contact Becca Bistis at 312-3828 or rebeccabistis@gmail.com to sign up for this ministry.



The boys collecting money for charity

Ministry Safe—This is an online child safety program that our diocese has adopted and is required of all who work with children and youth. The Children's and Youth Ministries would benefit from help managing this on the computer. This could be done from home.

Thank you to Liz Mays for helping to keep track of children's Sunday School and nursery attendance.



Brian Kerr leading games

— Meg Welch
Children's Ministry Coordinator

THANK YOU to all VBS Volunteers, Leaders, Teachers and Supporters

Emily Stubbs	Sally Roth	Meg Welch	Carolyn Glendye
Heather Ford	Kendall Gardner	Carol Kuhn	Stephanie Meredith
Sarah Lavinder	Marian Thomas	Deborah Evans	Annie Childress
Lucy Biemiller	Mallory Bilyeu	Hunter Reed	Sharon Mays
Kayron Stevens	Sharon Lawson	Diane Saturday	Helen Marshall
Liz Albert	John Albert	Lauren Cobb	Martha Ellzey
Matthew Robertson	Joan Cribbs	Wray Williamson	Wayne Cribbs
Dottie Courington	Katie Beaumont	Bridget Gardner	Zander Roth
Stephanie Lynch	Chip Welch	Tamara Hansen	Ramona Parsei
Brent Beaumont	Tom Cooper	Brian Kerr	Sarah Roth
Joe Saturday	Cindy James	Meredith James	Jeni-Ellis Riggs
Amy Cobb	Cathy Shoemaker	Maryann Cela	Joe T. Stubbs
Alton DeLoach	Mary Pitcher	Martha Hicks Ellzey	Carmike Theater
A&C Lawns	Sam's Club	Piggly Wiggly	Chic-Fil-A (Abercorn Ext.)
Publix	McDonald's	Veritas Academy	St. John's Episcopal Church

Thank you to Independent Presbyterian Church for their gracious hospitality to Christ Church Anglican during this week. The facilities have been a tremendous blessing to us!

**Faith to Foster**

See page 10 for more pictures!



Currently in Chatham County alone, there are approximately 320 children in the foster care system. Unfortunately, there are fewer than 70 foster homes for these children. Many children are placed in group homes. Others are placed in foster homes throughout the state of Georgia. Christ Church believes that the large and committed Christian population in Chatham County can and will make a difference in the lives of these children. We can offer safe and loving Christian homes for every child in need, right here in Chatham County.

Faith to Foster (www.faithtofoster.org) is a coalition of Savannah-area churches, serving foster children and birth families. Our vision is to mobilize and train families and individuals in Christ-centered churches, to serve as Christian foster parents. Around each foster family we also develop a church-based support system called a Community of Care. Our ministry partner, Faithbridge Foster Care

(www.faithtofoster.org), developed the Community of CareSM model. The Community of Care is a team of volunteers who act as a support system to Christian foster families and foster children. They help find resources, such as clothes and toys, and act as an extended family, providing respite services, mentoring, special recreation and extra-curricular activities. Faithbridge Foster Care also provides the training, case support and other resources for each family.

David and Kelly Bringman on why they are involved with Faith to Foster

On November 6th, 2011, we welcomed our second baby, Zebedee into God's family through baptism. Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and friends were all there to celebrate this tiny life. The speaker for the First Sunday breakfast that followed told us of children who don't have any stability in their lives. Not one single person as a constant. Here we were, surrounded by our very stable and deep support network. And God asked us to help. We, who have been blessed with so many others in our lives, were asked to be a network of support for tiny lives who are all alone in this world.

When asked why we chose to serve with F2F, I ask how we could choose to turn away. Widows and orphans. So basic, so Biblical. And so, we've completed the process for foster parenting and are choosing to provide respite (long-term babysitting) for others while we prepare our home and our children for the mission that lies ahead. Over the next 10 years, we will probably help out by making casseroles for families welcoming a new child, securing materials for children who arrive with nothing, tutoring kids, transporting kids, babysitting, offering respite and fostering. How wonderful that we can serve on levels that flex to meet our family's changing dynamic.

Treasure In Our Midst



Serving this past year as the chairman of the Christ Church Anglican Music Committee has opened my eyes to much hidden treasure in our midst. I've always had an affinity for music, but only recently did I learn to sing in a choir. As a new attendee of Christ Church in 2009, I quickly developed an appreciation for the quality of the offerings by the Parish Choir, Choristers, and Bell Choir on Sunday mornings. It was only after joining

the Parish Choir in the fall of 2010, and subsequently joining the Music Committee, did I come to know how incredibly blessed we are in the richness of our musical worship. This is not hyperbole!

When you are worshipping on Sunday mornings, I invite you to consider how the hymns and anthems selected for any given service reveal the intimacy between scripture, music, and liturgy. How many of you were aware that many of the arrangements offered during Compline on Sunday evenings each week were composed by Mark Williams, our Parish Musician? Consider the range of composition in our Parish Songbook compiled by Mark.

After the Bell Choir Concert a few weeks back, I overheard the comments of a lady from North Carolina who was completely in awe of the concert (and this is a lady who herself conducts bell choirs and follows all of the professional bell choirs in the US). Not only was she enamored with the skill of our ringers (skills that few professional ringers develop), but especially with the adaptations of the music. She knew every piece that was played and what had been modified. It was Mark Williams, with input from the ringers, who "toyed" with the pieces until they were just right. Did you catch the bird whistles at the beginning of, "Peaceful Waters" or the Irish drum used in "Celtic Praise"?

Despite many transitions this past year, our choirs reached new heights in achievement and excellence under the inspired instruction of our Parish Musicians, Mark Williams and Cindy Marshall. Mark recently began his 15th year of service to this church family! Praise God for Mark's presence among us! Cindy Marshall has been traveling every week, twice a week, from Statesboro for 12 years now to accompany our choirs during Wednesday practices and Sunday services, as well as offer Preludes, Postludes and hymns on the organ, and ring and travel on tour each summer with our Bell Choir! We, as a congregation, are especially blessed with two gifted, loving musicians who joyfully share their God-given talents through both instruction and musical offerings. They both truly are treasures in our midst.

Personally speaking, I have been singing in choir for less than two years, and what I have learned under Mark's and Cindy's guidance is nothing short of a miracle. When I joined the Parish Choir in August 2010, I had never sung in a choir, nor did I know how to read music. All I had was the desire (and a little "encouragement" from a special friend). I have been personally blessed by our leadership's care and inspired by their enthusiasm.

What about you? What is your musical treasure? Have you had the desire to sing in a choir but keep putting it off for various reasons? Do not pass up a golden opportunity to develop this talent through Mark and Cindy's nurturing instruction. I encourage you.....don't let your treasure or desire lay fallow any longer! Join the Parish Choir! Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, August 29 at 7 pm (preceded by a community dinner at 6 pm).

Do you play an instrument that would enhance the Folk Group? If you are a skilled singer, consider auditioning for Compline. If your child is in at least second grade, consider giving them the gift of song by allocating time for participation in Choristers. Are you a teen or college student who would like to ring hand bells and tour with a fabulous bell choir?

Please call my cell phone (404) 797-3000 or email me at bobmcwjr@gmail.com to learn how you can enhance the Christ Church Anglican Music Ministries. Who knows what buried treasure you may find!

Joyfully in His service,

Bob McWilliams

Dear Christ Church Anglican,

We are happy to report we've made a smooth transition welcoming baby Eddie into our life! We had a lot of friends and family come to visit and help, but what we didn't anticipate was the help we received from our church family. Many of you brought us meals - so much we had to freeze most of it and we're just finishing those meals now! Others of you came to help so I could take a shower or a brief but much needed catnap. More of you actually came and brought us gifts—GIFTS! We never expected people to buy anything for our sweet boy. We are grateful and have been so blessed by everyone's thoughtfulness and generosity; our parents were utterly impressed how well taken care of we were for being so far from them!



This really is our family away from our own and we are so blessed to be a part of this congregation. We really can't say thanks enough, so we'll keep it simple and just say: Thank you for such a warm welcome for our son!

Love,

Zach, Allie and Eddie Page

The Bells of Christ Church—2012 Tour Review

The 2012 Tour of The Bells of Christ Church Anglican was one like no other. While this year's bell choir and tour experienced the most obstacles of the group's six past June tours, it created a choir and a tour that was characterized by teamwork and unity.



The group in a devotional, led by Katie Beaumont, in Birmingham, AL.

What stood out to me, and what was strengthened even more while on the tour, was the deep camaraderie within the choir that exceeds what has existed in years previously. Never has the choir had such an evenly balanced range of ages, 12-22, with no large clumps at one age or school grade. They were constantly building each other up on the tour and encouraging one another.

One particular aspect of their good attitude, which I witnessed unfailingly was a void of complaining. Throughout tour, there were several difficult instances that led to a massive showing of teamwork without complaining. One such instance was when our equipment truck broke down and we had to transfer our boat-load of equipment to a local church's bus in 90-degree heat. The task was done quickly and efficiently with smiles on everyone's faces!

Another instance was when the group went white-water rafting and an entire raft was overturned, leaving those inside it and all their equipment floating separately outside it in the very cold water. The raft in front of them paddled dutifully upstream to "rescue" those floating and their equipment—again without complaint!

The bell choir first was faced by a massive obstacle beginning in December: not having hand bells to ring! However, this need was filled first by Independent Presbyterian Church, who lent us bells to practice on for awhile, and then by Bull Street Baptist Church, who lent us bells to practice on and take on tour. The generosity of these churches is a tremendous witness to the church's unity found in Christ.

After finding bells, the choir was then able to focus on their week-long tour. For our June 2012 trip we traveled to Statesboro, Atlanta, Nashville, and Birmingham ringing for both retirement communities and some very large churches (e.g. Peachtree UMC in Atlanta and Covenant Presbyterian PCA in Nashville). As I returned from my first year of college and rehearsed with this bell choir to prepare for tour, it was interesting to see how the bell choir has changed and evolved in the past year.



Getting some food after a long afternoon of whitewater rafting the Hiwassee River.



The bell choir warming up at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Nashville, TN.

Throughout the entire tour, even at the small things, there was a constant sense of unconditional friendship that was shown through continual joy. They then took this joy and presented it consistently during their evening concerts. In this, I can testify that our bell choir did a fantastic job of presenting the message of the Gospel through music. Clearly, this year's bell choir tour was a great success!

— Sharon Mays (Sophomore at Samford University)

Our New Web Address

The web address for our church is now

ccasav.org

Reflections of a Confirmand



I began attending Christ Church 1986. It happened this way. I had just returned from a short tour of duty as a US Army Chaplain to troops stationed at an Air Defense Artillery base in Wertheim, Germany.

After arriving home and getting settled, Margot mentioned that she had gone to a Thursday night prayer service at Christ Church with her friend Lynn.

She suggested that I might find it much to my liking. I accepted her suggestion.

I had been attending the Roman Catholic Church with her since she was confirmed on Easter of 1985. For myself, I did not feel that I could make the RC my spiritual home.

As an ordained clergy with the Christian Church (Disciple of Christ) I was no stranger to attending services of different denominations. But in all honesty, I don't think I would have chosen to visit the Episcopal Church at that time. Margot's suggestion seemed the right course to take so I went one Thursday evening.

I remember the singing, the joy of praying and taking communion. I don't remember the lesson or homily from the Rector but I remember the sense of being with a strong fellowship that helped me to feel like I belonged.

You see, I was in a struggle with myself to "plant my feet" securely in a church home, but somehow in my denomination, the ground under me kept slipping. I also was still recovering from much of my self-inflicted broken past that needed further healing thanks to God.

I started to attend Sunday morning services. Margot began to come with me. I found myself getting more involved as I was asked to become a Lay Eucharistic Minister. I participated wherever I could. I was even asked to be Chairman of the then, Missions Committee since I now was volunteering time with a small mission board with work in Russia and Armenia. In a sense Margot and I were involved in the life of Christ Church as any member would be though we were not confirmed. With Fr. Marc's encouragement, we attended Cursillo and had the opportunity to enrich our spiritual lives.

As a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I also had to come to the point where I also could be "ministered to." During times of our sickness and hospital stays, Fr Marc, Fr Layne and the fellowship offered their many prayers for our healing. In 1996, Margot suffered a bad fall and broke her right leg beneath the knee. It was a serious fracture that limited her mobility. She already was limited by a neurological condition called cerebellum ataxia but now she would no longer have the ability to walk. The ministry of Fr. Marc, Fr. Steve and the prayers of the people made a big difference to this very day.

It was that one day that many of us sat at St. Andrews Church discussing the future of Christ Church (Anglican) that I decided that Christ Church Anglican was really my "spiritual home." I suddenly saw what great sacrifices my brethren were

offering to make as a witness to our community (if not the whole world). I also came to further appreciate that Christ Church (Anglican) was a strong evangelical, liturgical, charismatic, and missions minded church that was paying the price to be the great church that Jesus wants! Here I believe that the Holy Spirit helped me to decide that I wanted to be included in this glorious witness!

The event of confirmation was not the first time that hands were placed on my head! That took place in my ordination at the Little Brown Church in 1963 in North Hollywood, California. At that time, I was being "sent out" as God's messenger.. But this time, when the hands of Bishop Neil was placed on my head, I found myself united with a fellowship of Believers who together were mobilized to carry out God's will !

Many thanks to Fr. Mark and Fr. Layne and many saints of Christ Church Anglican for their constant patience with my years of hesitation. Fr Marc said many times to me that I was an Anglican but just didn't know it! Amen!

— John Novikoff

More Pictures from VBS!



christ church youth

VBS Middle School Class a Success!

What a wonderful week we had in the VBS Middle School class with 6 youth and 2 teachers! We did a study on "What is Truth" and explored how our culture defines truth as compared to what Scripture says about truth. "Jesus said, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'" (John 14:6) We also discussed the essential role that Scripture plays in the life of a Christian desiring to live out a life of truth. "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to Your Word." (Ps. 119:9)



The main highlight was a visit to the VBS Mission project on Wednesday, Women to Womens Clothes Closet at the Baptist Center. Our group got to experience hands on service by delivering and sorting the clothing that the VBS children had brought in and in preparing some every day items for a group of homeless men that come to the center each week. A big thank you to Matt Robertson who was an amazing assistant teacher for the Middle School class and to all the other people that made VBS possible!



Announcing.....The First Annual Youth Week!

This summer, we are having our first annual Youth Week. Youth Week is a time for strengthening friendships, helping others, growing in our relationship with God, and having some fun along the way. It is open to all rising 6th-12th graders and will be held on August 1st-3rd. The first two days we will be volunteering locally, and the third day we will spend its entirety at Splash in the 'Boro. It should be a fantastic three days and I'm looking forward to it with great excitement. All students should've received in the mail a flyer with more information and a registration form. We have kept the price of youth week very low at \$18 and there are partial scholarships available if needed. The registration due date is July

Upcoming Calendar Events :

Summer Sunday School - Every Sunday through Aug. 19th and continuing our series on the "Basics of Christian Theology."

Girls High School Small Group - Every Thursday night at the Panera downtown from 7 - 8:30 for 9th - 12th graders.

Girls Middle School Lunches - July 29th and August 19th, Sundays after Sunday School for rising 6th - 8th graders.

Guys Night Out - Every 3rd Thursday: July 19th and Aug. 16th, fun and fellowship for all the youth guys.

Sand Gnats Game - Monday, Aug. 13th at 6:30pm, \$1 each, a final burst of Summer.



2012 VESTRY

John Albert , Senior Warden
Joe Park, Junior Warden/Treasurer
Jim Gardner, Chancellor
Frank McNeal, Clerk

Marc Biemiller
Terry Franz
Scott Glass
Bob Hallock
Carol Kuhn
Stephen Lufburrow
Linda Savage
Bob Sisk
David Solana
Lynn Tootle
Paul Webb
Chip Welch

The Right Reverend Neil Lebharr, Bishop

CLERGY

The Reverend Marcus B. Robertson, Rector
The Reverend Layne C. Hansen, Assistant Rector
The Reverend Gregory J. Malley, Deacon
The Reverend Sally Lufburrow, Deacon
The Reverend Nathan Bistis, Deacon
The Reverend Bob Lefavi, Priest Associate

PROGRAM STAFF

Katie Beaumont, Youth and Family Ministries
Mark K. Williams, Parish Musician
Cindy Marshall, Assistant Parish Musician
Meg Welch, Children's Ministries Coordinator

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Joan Malley, Parish Administrator
Becky Hughes, Clergy Assistant

MAINTENANCE STAFF

Jesse Dillard, Sexton

CHRIST
CHURCH
ANGLICAN

JULY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8 AM Worship (I) 9 AM Worship (II) 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM 1st Sunday Breakfast (FH) 9 PM Compline	2	3	4 12 PM Worship (St. Andrew's)	5 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	6 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	7
8 8 AM Worship (I) 9 AM Worship (II) 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Hospitality (FH) 9 PM Compline	9	10	11 12 PM Worship (St. Andrew's)	12	13 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	14
15 8 AM Worship (I) 9 AM Worship (II) 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Hospitality (FH) 9 PM Compline	16	17 4 PM GCC Mtg (O)	18	19 4:30 PM Executive Cmte 6 PM Finance Cmte Mtg 6:30 PM Youth Guys Night 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	20 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	21 6:30 PM Youth Girls Movie Night
22 8 AM Worship (I) 9 AM Worship (II) 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Hospitality (FH) 9 PM Compline	23	24	25 12 PM Worship (St. Andrew's)	26 6 PM Vestry 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	27 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	28
29 8 AM Worship (I) 9 AM Worship (II) 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Hospitality (FH) 12 PM MS Girls Lunch 9 PM Compline	30	31				1 = IPC O = 65th Street Office BSB= Bull Street Baptist FH=Fellowship Hall

CHRIST CHURCH

AUGUST 2012

ANGELICAN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>I = IPC</i> <i>O = 65th Street Office</i> <i>BSB= Bull Street</i> <i>Baptist</i> <i>FH=Fellowship Hall</i>			<i>1</i> 9 AM Youth Week	<i>2</i> 9 AM Youth Week	<i>3</i> 9 AM Youth Week 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i> 8 AM Warship (I) 9 AM Warship (I) 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM 1st Sunday Brunch (FH) 9 PM Compline	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> 12 PM Warship (St. Andrew's)	<i>9</i> 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	<i>10</i> 12 Noon Newsletter Deadline 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i> 8 AM Warship (I) 9 AM Warship (I) 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Hospitality (FH) 9 PM Compline	<i>13</i> 6:30 PM Youth Sand Gnats Game	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> 12 PM Warship (St. Andrew's)	<i>16</i> 4:30 PM Executive Cmte 6 PM Finance Cmte Mtg 6:30 PM Youth Guys Night 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	<i>17</i> 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i> 8 AM Warship (I) 9 AM Warship (I) 10:45 AM Sunday School 11:45 AM Hospitality (FH) 12 PM MS Girls Lunch 9 PM Compline	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> 12 PM Warship (St. Andrew's)	<i>23</i> 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	<i>24</i> 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	<i>25</i> <i>Vestry Retreat</i>
<i>26</i> 8 AM Warship (I) 9 AM Warship (I) 10:45 AM Discipleship Cmte. Meeting 9 PM Compline	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 4 PM GCC Mtg (O)	<i>29</i> 12 PM Warship (St. Andrew's) 6 PM Choir Dinner (I) 7 PM Choir Rehearsal (I)	<i>30</i> 7 PM HS Girls Small Group	<i>31</i> 12 Noon Prayers at St. Andrew's REC	