

*Christ Episcopal Church...
Making a Difference*

The Mustard Seed

January 2019

Christ Episcopal Church
PO Box 488
534 Plantation Rd.
Lancaster, SC 29721

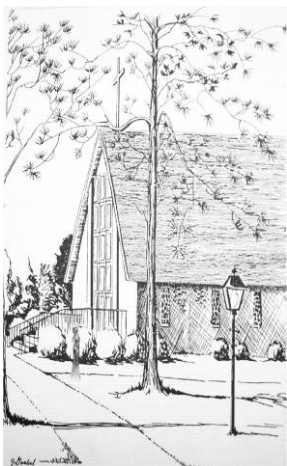
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**The Reverend
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**www.christchurch
lancaster.com**

***Christ Church –
where we gather to
worship, pray, sing,
and share so
together we may
serve our
community and the
world.***



New Year, New Beginning

As we all know, January 1st is New Year's Day; it is also the Feast of the Holy Name, formally the Feast of the Circumcision, in our Anglican Tradition. The practice of Judaism required that sons be named and circumcised on the eighth day after birth. As we celebrate our Lord's birth on December 25th, eight days later is January 1st. In our secular world this is also the beginning of a new year, and thus our celebration of New Year's. Both of these speak of new opportunities: the formal beginning of a new life for an individual and the start of a new year for all of us.

We often start off with a New Year's Eve celebration (or as I heard it called in Barbados, Old Year's Night). It is a time of resolutions, the hope that this will be a better year, and some of the past can be put behind us. In short the focus is on the future. The birth of a child often brings with it similar thoughts and hopes. We are heard to pray that this young child will have a better life than ours.

Yet how often do we really enter into this optimistic vision of the future for ourselves or others? The Birth of Our Lord for us Christians is a game changer. Through the Prophets and others, God throughout the Scriptures calls the People of God to return to a right relationship with God. Through Jesus, God has made the opportunity for this right relationship easier and more personal.

Nonetheless, we often persist in not fully beginning anew. We have good intentions, we want to believe, but "stuff" gets in the way. Life appears at times to be both simple and complex, and probably is both. Still when considering life, we can live it only one day at a time. Our past may remind us of where we've come from, and the future a possible destination, but we can only reside in the moment.

We can celebrate every New Year as the major time to start over. That policy however, limits us to only starting anew every 365 days, and some years 366 days. With God, every day is a new day, a new opportunity, and new beginning. All of us have a Birthday, and most of have a day of New Birth, our Baptism, but all of us have a new day every day. May this year, this month, this week, this day, this hour, this minute, and this second be a time of life, new life, full life in our Lord and Savior. As the angel explained to Joseph in Matthew 1:21, the name to be given to this child would be Jesus: "for he will save his people from their sins." In Hebrew his name means "Savior" or "Deliverer." It is not we will be saved, rather we have been saved; Happy New Year.

Peace,
Gordon+

January Anniversaries

January 20th – Mike & Kay Lamberton
 January 23rd – Bill & Dana Lee Walters



January Birthdays

January 2nd – Aubrey Crawford
 January 4th – Katherine Foo
 January 8th – Anne Marie Streeter
 January 8th – Faye Skipper
 January 21st – Krissy Gardner
 January 22nd – Judy Bell
 January 26th – Joan Crawford
 January 28th – Elizabeth Lopez
 January 30th – Jamie Griffin



**Wednesday Evening
 Services will be held
 January 2nd and
 January 16th
 at 6:00 pm.**

January Flowers

January 6th – The Epiphany – no flowers
 January 13th – Earle & Karla Holmes
 January 20th – George & Joan Crawford
 January 27th – Miller & Tric Deaton



Pastries in the Parlor

January 6th – open
 January 13th – Iris Hinckley
 January 20th – open
 January 27th - open



Please contact the office or sign the calendar on the bulletin board if you would like to provide snacks for open dates.

◀ Dec 2018 January 2019 Feb 2019 ▶						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Closed	2 Choir Practice 7:00 pm Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 pm	3	4	5
6 HOPE Sunday ECW after 10:30 Service	7	8	9 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	10	11	12
13 HOPE Sunday	14	15	16 Choir Practice 7:00 pm Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 pm	17	18	19
20 HOPE Sunday Vestry Meeting following 10:30 Service	21	22	23 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	24	25	26
27 HOPE Sunday	28	29	30 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	31	8:00 am H.E. Rite I 10:30 am H.E. Rite II 9:15 am Adult Study 11:45 am Pastries in the Parlor	

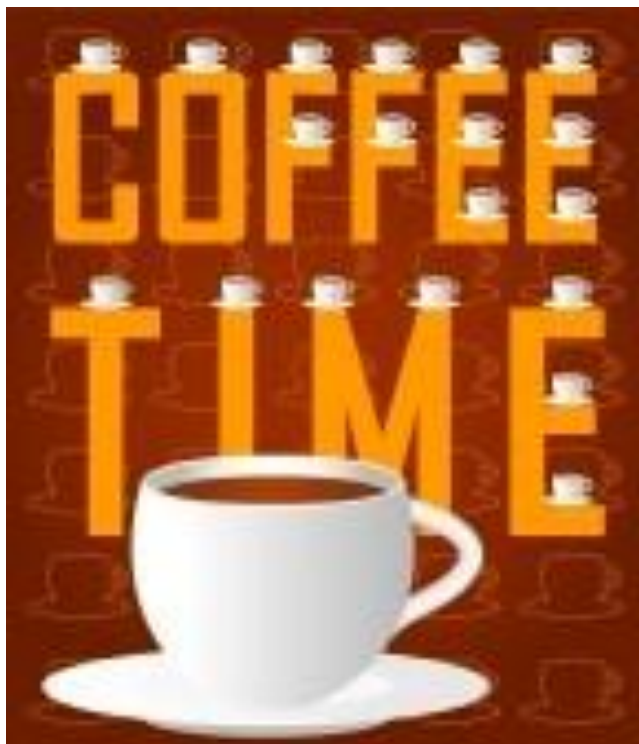
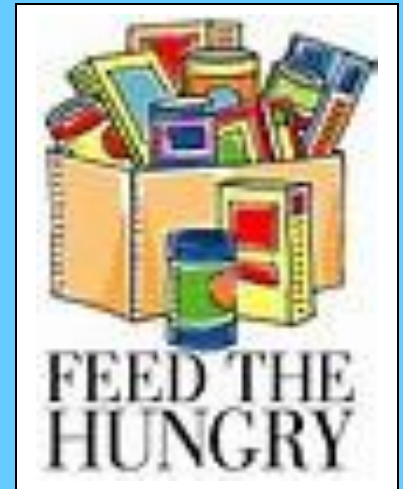
JANUARY/FEBRUARY PARTICIPANTS

DATE	CELEBRANT/ OFFICIANT	PARISH MUSICIAN	E M RITE II	ACOLYTE	USHERS	TELLERS	ALTAR GUILD	LECTOR
Sunday, January 06, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Robert Horton	Mary Bemis	Mike Sistare & Earle Holmes	TBA	Miller & Tric Deaton	JoAnn Riemann
Sunday, January 13, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Linda Baker	Mary Bemis	Jake Wilson & TBA	TBA	Miller & Tric Deaton	Robert Horton
Sunday, January 20, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Chris Smith	Mary Bemis	Mike Sistare & Earle Holmes	TBA	Miller & Tric Deaton	Kathy Sistare
Sunday, January 27, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Robert Horton	Mary Bemis	Jake Wilson & TBA	TBA	Miller & Tric Deaton	Mary Bemis
Sunday, February 03, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Chris Smith	Mary Bemis	Mike Sistare & Earle Holmes	TBA	George & Joan Crawford	Marilyn Ponzer- Morris
Sunday, February 10, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Linda Baker	Mary Bemis	Jake Wilson & TBA	TBA	George & Joan Crawford	JoAnn Riemann
Sunday, February 17, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Robert Horton	Mary Bemis	Mike Sistare & Earle Holmes	TBA	George & Joan Crawford	Robert Horton
Sunday, February 24, 2019	Gordon Hamilton/ Rocky Dworak	Dana Lee Walters, Director of Music/Organist Emeritus	Linda Baker	Mary Bemis	Jake Wilson & TBA	TBA	George & Joan Crawford	Kathy Sistare

The office will be closed Tuesday, January 1st.

HOPE Sunday – EVERY SUNDAY

Each Sunday will be designated as HOPE Sunday at Christ Church. Please consider contributing to this wonderful organization. They are especially in need of the following items: **canned chicken, peanut butter, jelly, juice, canned fruit, grits, instant potatoes, soup, stuffing mix, canned pasta, sugar free juice, sugar free jelly, and oatmeal.**



As the New Year starts, we again are asking for persons to sign up for refreshments for coffee hour. You are asked to bring treats, sweet or savory, and a cold beverage. You will also be responsible for clean up after coffee hour. It gives us all a chance to host our fellow parishioners. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board. Coffee has been provided by the church, but anyone who wishes to donate ground coffee at any time may do so.

To start the year off right, we will be trying our best to go green. As of January 1st we are asking each of you to bring your own, easy to identify coffee mug. They will be stored in the credenza in the parlor. It will be there for you to use each Sunday; after use, please wash and return it to the shelf. There will be several cups available for visitors. It is our small way of helping the pollution of Gods earth, which he has entrusted us with.

I want to thank everyone at Christ Church for the extremely generous love offering.

There have been a lot changes for many of us this year. My last day at Christ Church was supposed to be December 27th, but a few weeks ago circumstances changed and we will be staying in Lancaster. I've never been so happy that something didn't work out. God has a plan. It's like the military, a need to know basis and we don't need to know. We just need to trust that everything will be taken care of when He is ready.

I've said many times that I love my job and everyone at Christ Church. I especially love my "fluid" job description. I still haven't had the same day twice in almost eleven years. One of my favorite parts of the job is helping out with things that aren't "church related," but make some of your lives a bit easier. That brings me a joy that I can't express.

I'm so very thankful for many things this year, especially knowing that I get to stay at Christ Church a bit longer.

I hope all of you have a blessed holiday and hope that we all have a wonderful 2019!

A generous memorial donation was made in memory of Tim and we felt the note needed to be shared with everyone.

We loved Tim so much! He was our longtime organ tuner. We are so sorry for your loss and know he is in Heaven playing beautiful music for all his angel friends and family.

Orangeburg Lutheran Church

Many thanks to all who helped make the Angel Tree a success. Please know that every gift put a smile on a child's face.





Budget Box for January 2019



Greetings to all and most wonderful best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Here's hoping that everyone had a joyous and family filled Christmas holiday! Advent and the celebration of the birth of our Lord are certainly a core of our faith and worship this time of year. I wish to offer my thanks to the response to my request for a holiday Love Offering for the staff. We were able to gift very nicely to all our wonderful staff the week before Christmas.

As of this writing, we have received 11 pledges for 2019 representing only 61% of our needed pledge receipts. In addition, we have received 7 pledges for \$1 per day in response to our additional request for donations to the Diocese. These will bring in an additional \$2600 to go with our designated budget line item to the Diocese.

Thank you to all those who have pledged and an additional request for those who have not done so to please consider a faithful pledge to Christ church.

Chris

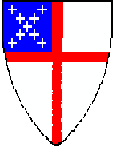
Mike Sistare is in search of large grills to borrow to prepare Boston butts this year for the church's annual fundraiser. If you are in a position to loan Mike the use of your grill, please contact Mike or the church office. Thank you for your support !

Boston Butts will be available for pick up on Saturday, February 2nd at Noon. Tickets will be available January 2nd.
More details will follow.



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PO Box 488
Lancaster SC 29721



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(See Matthew 17:20) 01-24-2000

THEY SAY THAT FAITH CAN MOVE
MOUNTAINS ... HOW MUCH FAITH YA GOT?

Miscellany

Adult Sunday School Class

Please make plans to join
us at 9:15. Coffee is
being served.

ECW

The first Sunday of each
month after the
10:30 a.m. Service

Choir Rehearsals

10:00 a.m. each Sunday
7:00 p.m. each
Wednesday

Sunday Service Times

8:00 am Rite I
10:30 am Rite II
Education Classes
9:15 am Adult Classes

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Terry Michaelson*, Edith Burns, Sloan McLaughlin, Maxcy
Westmoreland, Lois Scott*, Brooke Hamilton, Makenzie White,
Philip, Miller Deaton*, Marilyn Morris, Amanda Ford*, Matt
Williamson, Sara Anne Foster*, Tracey Davis, Charles Ballard,
Julie Percival, Maureen Blanchard, Nicholas, Glinna Higgins,
Janet Amsler, Buck Sistare, Sherry Stalvey, Pierre Cunningham,
Gene Alexander*, Libby Woodruff, Robert Richards*, Mike
Lamberton*, Susan DeVenny, Becky Stevenson, Jon Bryson,
Dixie Roberts, Amanda Aycock, Hayes Robinson, Shirley
Bowers, Richard Knight, Joan Bixby*, Geary Yamashita,
Donnie Wright

