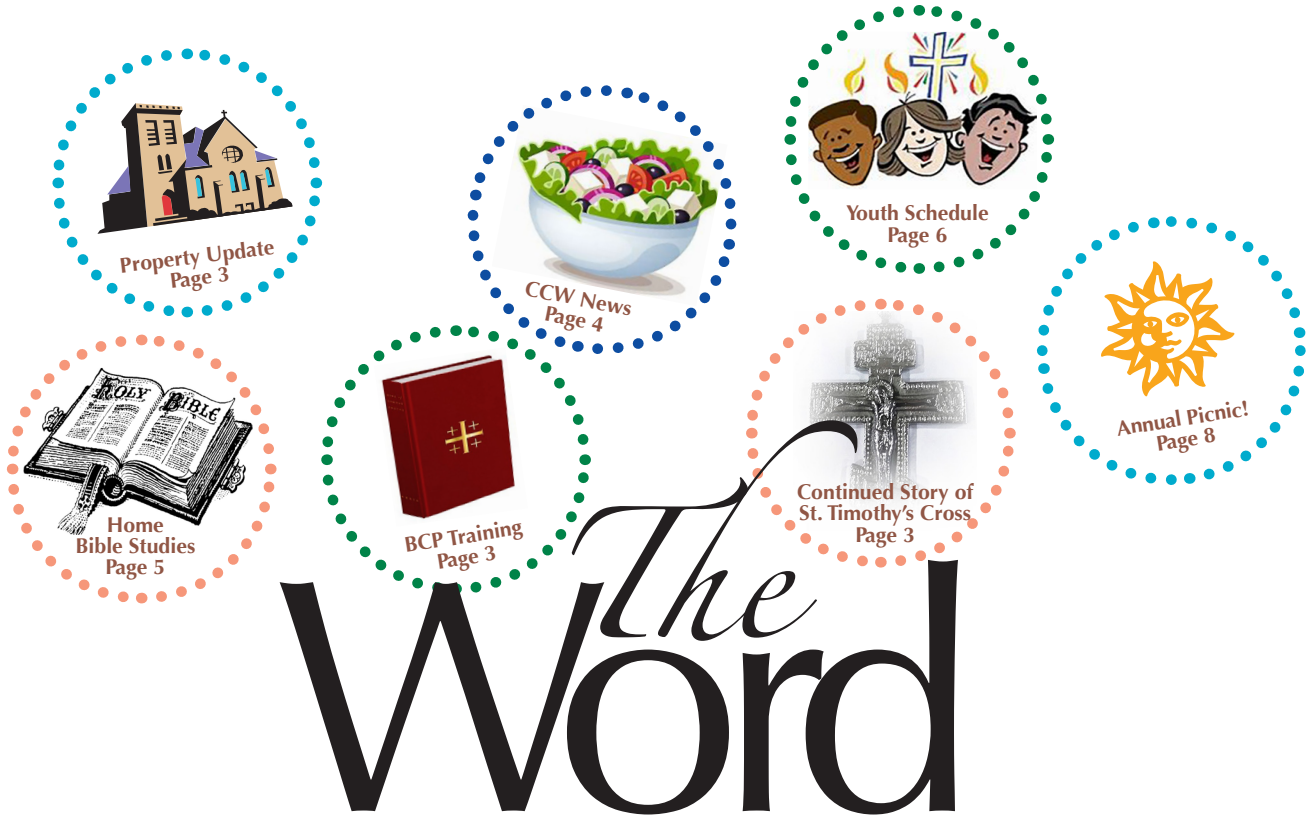


Autumn 2019



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## Back to School



### Reflections from Fr. Jeff

*"The mission of  
Christ's Church is to  
worship God and to  
make known the love  
and salvation of  
Christ."*

**I**t is hard to believe that summer is ending, and the new school year is beginning. My prayers are with these students for a safe, healthy, and intellectual deepening year. Along with the students, we, too, return to study with our new **2019 Book of Common Prayer**. I received my copy a few weeks ago, and it is beautiful. I cannot believe how much I missed praying out of a prayer book; I had to relearn a few practices to make prayer time more enriching.

As I pray this new prayer book, I hear the echoes of Thomas Cranmer saying if this is a prayer book of the church, every member of the church should have one and pray it. I realize this book is not something you pick up and start praying if you have never used one. It is not difficult to use, just slightly different. I cannot overemphasize the importance for all of us to pray using this prayer book. That said, we are dedicating this year to learning not only how to use the prayer book, but also learn its history, richness, and beauty.

This summer, we've tweaked **The Word**. We reduced the frequency to four times a year to align with our liturgical seasons. In addition, we dedicated this year to the 2019 Prayer Book. Please attend the classes we will offer to learn how to use it. Our website links to training videos and other resources for using it. Finally, please feel free to call, text, or email me with any questions you may have, as I would love to talk to any and all about how to pray.

God Bless and Happy School Year!

In Christ's Love,

*Fr. Jeff+*



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**Vestry**

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## Notes from the Deacon's Corner

### Deacon's Discussion on Intercessory Prayer

**In** the 14th Chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus says to His apostles, "Believe in God, believe also in Me" (verse 1). Following this statement, Jesus describes His Father's House as having many rooms, and that He will go to prepare a place for them. He says, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take You to Myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going" (verse 3). Thomas, being confused, said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way? Jesus said to him, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him" (verses 5-7).

"For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all" (1Tim 2:5-6). The sight of Jesus, as described in His heavenly place with His Father, gives us all strength to pray in His name. We are not left alone in our prayer life as we pray for others. Our small prayers of intercession are completed and reinforced by the eternal Intercessor, Jesus Christ. So, how do we pray in Jesus's name? Jesus says to us, "If you abide in Me and My words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you" (John 15:7). To pray in the name of Jesus means to pray in full assurance of the understanding of the great gifts Jesus has given us by His life, death, and resurrection...and our eternal salvation. It means to appeal to the blood of Christ as the source of power for the life of prayer. It means that without Christ we are helpless apart from His intercession. Therefore the content of our prayers must be in unity with His nature. Our prayers represent Him abiding in us and we in Him.

When we move from asking God for ourselves and ask God on behalf of others, we are moving towards selfless, or self-giving prayer. In our lives now, in this 21st century, nothing is more critical than Intercessory Prayer. Just look around, be open to others. Share with others, and actively listen to others. No one is without some kind of a pain in their lives. Whether this is in marriages, with children, with elderly parents, with sickness, death, mental illness, addiction, or financial distress, no one is immune to suffering and pain in life.

When we begin to pray for others, besides ourselves, we soon discover that it is easy to become discouraged at the results, or apparent lack of results. We can become frustrated with the lack of outcomes. This process is laborious for us to accept, and we can quickly become so disheartened by it. It is easy to give up. But Jesus gives us an altogether different vantage point from which to view our prayer work. Prayer, he says is a little like a helpless widow who refuses to accept her helplessness and instead stands up to injustice, and her persistence wins the day (Luke 18:1-8) God wants us to be persistent in prayer. He wants us to keep asking, keep seeking, and keep knocking. One of the hardest things for us to accept is that His timing for answering prayer is not our human timing. We don't know why or when, God will answer our prayers, those for us, and those for others. Jesus teaches us to have patience, joy, understanding, courage, and strength. All of this, He gives us when we ask for His grace to help us in our prayer life. Intercessory prayer is selfless, meant to speak to God on behalf of others and always asking His Son to be the Way, the Truth and the Life, in interceding for us.

*Deacon Gretchen*

# St. Timothy's Cross

(Part II)

As promised, here is the follow-up to the article that appeared in the last issue of *The Word* regarding St. Timothy's Cross: As parishioners at St. Paul's Summerville (South Carolina), we were blessed to have four priests serving our parish.



One of them, Fr. Gary Beson, became a close friend. Gary is a graduate of Trinity and served on the streets of Pittsburgh's south-side during and following his attendance at Trinity. Originally from Columbus, Ohio, his family relocated to Summerville when he was a boy. He is a "BROWNS" fan. Thus, you see the connection we had!! Gary was ordained an Anglican Priest by Bishop Mark Lawrence on October 17, 2014, shortly after we moved to Summerville. Cindy and I attended the ceremony!

For those that follow the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, and in particular, St. Paul's Summerville, you know that "OUTREACH" is the name of the game! Spreading the Gospel is paramount, and planting new churches is very high on the agenda.

As a new priest, the bishop assigned Gary to plant a new church. With the population in the Cane Bay area (where we lived) expanding very rapidly, this was a natural location.

Gary teamed up with Pastor Donnel Liferidge, Vicar of St. Paul's Reformed Episcopal Church. Pastor Liferidge granted use of their facilities for the new church plant to begin. It didn't take long for Gary to pull a team together and on November 29, 2014, services began on Saturday evenings. The name of the new church: St. Timothy's!

One Sunday, long before Gary's Institution as Vicar of St. Timothy's, he saw me wearing the cross and asked about it. He then said to me in jest: "You know Steve, you have to give me that cross as I will be the Vicar of St. Timothy's!" The very next day, I contacted my brother to send me another cross. On the eve of Gary's Institution, Cindy and I presented him with a gift of the cross. Gary was in tears and actually wore it to bed that night!

St. Timothy's has grown at a fantastic rate and outgrown their home at St Paul's and are looking to purchase land to build their own worship facility.

Indeed, Fr. Gary Beson continues to practice the Apostle Paul's words on the back of the cross:

*"Be an example to the believers in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12).*

For additional information, their website: [st-timothy.org](http://st-timothy.org)

*Steve Swencki*



## PROPERTY UPDATE *Fall 2019*

We are making steady progress on all our property initiatives, as tasks are getting done. The Eagle Scouts completed the playground project, and they did an outstanding job! We now have a new picnic table and a new bench that really adds a great touch. The boat has been repaired, has a fresh coat of paint along with a new rope for the ramp. It is now open for the kids to enjoy, but only when they are with an adult. Please walk to the C.E. Building and take a look at the exceptional job the Eagle Scouts did.

The other Scout project that is in progress is in the entrance area by the Diane Robertson room. New flooring is installed, and the area also has a fresh coat of paint. What a new coat of paint will do!

I also must thank Jeff and Leslie Simpson for the yardwork they have been doing. The shrubs in front of the C.E. Building has been pruned, and now they are working in the back! It was much needed, and they did this in all that awful heat! A huge "Thank You" to both of you. It is much appreciated!

Unfortunately, we had to close the wooden steps next to the C.E. Building due to the safety issue. They will be closed till we have the funds to do the extensive repairs. Sorry for the inconvenience.

*Gene DiPrimio,*  
Property



## 2019 BCP Online Training Resources

### Resources:

The American Anglican Council (series of video tutorials)

<https://www.americananglican.org/anglican-traditions/book-of-common-prayer-2019-introduction/>



*Mission Statement: "To glorify God in relationships and activities, and to encourage a servant's heart toward God, the church family, and our community."*

## "Thank You"

*to everyone who has supported our CCW events!*

Your delicious recipes continue to please and impress our guests. Also, we have the best team of helpers! A few more good women AND men are always welcome to join us. Just sign up in the undercroft. Did you know that at least 18 to 20 helpers are needed on the day of the salad bar??

*We are excited about this year and can hardly wait to share some awesome surprises. Stay tuned! The following is a detailed outline of our events for 2019 and 2020.*

## Important Dates for Your Calendar

### Salad Bars: (Fridays)

October 4, 2019, November 8, 2019  
February 7, 2020, March 6, 2020  
May 8, 2020, June 5, 2020

**Frozen Pie Sale** - November 20, 2019 (Wednesday)

**Lunch, Soup, and Bake Sale** - December 6, 2019 (Friday)

**Christmas Dinner** - January 4, 2020 (Saturday)

**Frozen Pie Sale** - May 20, 2020 (Wednesday)

## Salad Bars

Our salad bars offer one of the best opportunities for us to interact with our community. This tradition should be maintained to the highest degree possible. You have provided some of the best food, and requests for your recipes are not uncommon from our guests.

Many of you have been quite generous with your food donations and your time as helpers. *Thank you!*

Just bear in mind that sometimes it is a challenge to keep the tables full of food selections.

We are proud to serve the best homemade food in town, and this is your invitation to join us for lunch. Don't forget to bring a friend!

You get TWO Sundays to sign up in the undercroft. *Don't forget to write the date on your calendar!* Food can be delivered to the undercroft on Thursday during choir practice (7:15 to 8:30 p.m.) or Friday after 8:30 a.m.

**REMINDER: Please use the flashers on your vehicle when parking by the door to the undercroft to avoid getting a ticket.**

Please label your containers AND lids, with your name. After the salad bar, the bottles are displayed on a table in the undercroft. Please get yours as soon as possible.

The young people from Clelian Heights, with adult supervision, continue to walk several streets in Greensburg to distribute our salad bar flyers to various businesses. Gwen Diddle is responsible for volunteering their services. Also, 80 copies are given to the courthouse for all of their mailboxes.

## Frozen Pie Sale

The Frozen Pie Sales are scheduled twice a year—November and May. The first one is **Wednesday, November 20**. The pies and pumpkin rolls are great for the holidays, and they also make thoughtful gifts. Please consider buying at least ONE so we can make our sales profitable.

*NOTE: Due to the scheduling of the church newsletter, an order form is included for this sale. Copies will also be available on the tables in the undercroft.*

## Lunch, Soup, and Bake Sale

The date is Friday, December 6, for this sale. The homemade soups and baked goods are always a big success, in addition to our salad bar. People shop first for soup and baked goods, then they eat! This is our biggest and most popular fundraiser and requires the most time and effort.

## Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas Dinner will be **Saturday, January 4, 2020**. Lakeview is our favorite location to enjoy their delicious food and lovely decorations. Prepare yourself to be entertained; it is always a fun-filled evening!!

## Summary



Our salad bars, six each year, continue to be a significant fundraiser and provide many opportunities for ministry and fellowship. Our church is recognized in Greensburg for delicious, homemade food. Fr. Jeff has been asked many times for prayers and counsel. Our goal is to serve 100 guests or more. Leftover food is offered to our helpers, shut-ins (we deliver to them), a needy person or family, whatever situation presents itself.

(Continued on Page 5)



(Continued from Page 4)

Our frozen pie sales, twice a year, are another vital fundraiser. Many of our orders come from outside the church on a regular basis.

The CCW also does the funeral luncheons to help and comfort parishioners in the death of a loved one. The CCW and the family work with a caterer to provide their choice of food. We serve the food, provide tableware and centerpieces, and do final clean-up. The CCW provides a sheet cake and beverages at no expense to the family.

The CCW also provides assistance in various Fellowship events as needed.

## Donations

Donations from our fundraising events during the past year helped us to be good stewards and **ambassadors of Christ's Church and our community as follows:**

**\$1,000.00** Five local charities at \$200 each: Blackburn Center, Noah's Ark Child Center, Union Mission, Welcome Home Shelter, Westmoreland County Food Bank

**\$25.00** Students from Clelian Heights – a gift card from Dairy Queen in appreciation for distributing salad bar flyers

**\$100.00** Christ's Church – Office – use of the copier

**\$500.00** Christ's Church – Fellowship – use of kitchen supplies

*Checks are written in June after the last salad bar.*

**NOTE: Every other year or so, a donation of \$5,000.00 or \$8,000.00 has been given to the Building Fund of Christ's Church from the CCW. A very significant contribution is planned for the 2019-20 season!**

## Expenses

**\$2,000.00** Approximate amount paid to Lakeview for Christmas Dinner after free-will offering

**\$500.00** Miscellaneous expenses (envelopes, labels, postage stamps, etc.)

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# Women's Day Out

**We** are starting the fall off with two Women's Day Out Bible Studies described below. We meet in the Diane Robertson room from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Please join us, we'd love to have you! We have people who have been with us for a while and people who started just last year. If you have any questions, contact Karen Artuso – ar2so@zoominternet.net or 724-423-6764.

**Tuesday, September 10 – October 15:**  
**Joshua - Winning the Worry Battle**  
by Barbara L. Roose

Have you ever tried to fight worry with faith and felt you were losing the battle? Have you said comments like "God's got this!" or "Just pray about it" only left feeling more burdened? We know we shouldn't worry, but the reality is that we all do at times. And whether it's personal worries about loved ones and daily circumstances or broader concerns about what's happening in the world, we long for something more than platitudes that will help us put real feet to our faith and win the worry battle. DVD and study guide. Cost for the study guide is \$14.00.

**Wednesday, September 11 – October 16:**  
**The Rock, The Road, and the Rabbi** by Kathie Lee Gifford and Rabbi Jason Sobel.

Kathie Lee invites you to join her as she visits sites in Israel that have impacted her life. As she shares her story, coauthor Rabbi Sobel, a Messianic Rabbi, provides fascinating background details that make the story of the New Testament come alive. As Kathie Lee and Rabbi Sobel reveal in this study, Jesus (the Rock) came into this world and walked the lands of Israel (the Road) to show us the way to God. And when we are introduced to the mysteries of God's Word (the Rabbi) and understand it in the context in which it was written, radical transformation begins to renew our hearts and minds. DVD & Study guide. Cost for the study guide is \$8.50.

## Announcing the New BCP Bookmark

Did you see it? It's inside the brand-new 2019 Book of Common Prayer. It's the colorful and useful bookmark!

Designed as a quick **Table of Contents**, the bookmark begins by listing the page numbers for the Holy Eucharist passages in our new BCP. It then lists page numbers of other services and resources, again, for quick reference.



## Home Bible Studies

Looking to grow your faith? Wanting to go deeper in your understanding of the Bible? Then consider being part of our fall Home Bible studies. Depending on interest, we plan to host different studies on varying topics, probably on different nights of the week. In the past, studies were on individual books of the



Bible, or subjects ranging from Praying the Psalms, to Christian Apologetics, to Bible Prophecy, and book reviews. If you are interested in attending, leading, or hosting a study, please contact the church office.

## Youth Schedule beginning September 15, 2019 ending May 17, 2020

Our Parish Youth Group will meet every Sunday evening from 6-8 pm unless it was a scheduled day off or because of inclement weather. As long as two youth can attend, our youth programs will be held.

### *Scheduled dates of No Youth Group*

- \* Sunday, September 29, 2019: return from Camp Allegheny
- \* Sunday, December 1, 2019: Thanksgiving Break
- \* Sunday, December 8, 2019: Meeting Saturday, December 7th 6-8 pm for Salvation Army Bell Ringing
- \* Sunday, December 22, 2019 through Sunday, January 5, 2020: Christmas break
- \* Sunday, April 5, 2020: Easter Egg Hunt, no Youth Group that evening
- \* Sunday, April 12, 2020: Easter Sunday
- \* Sunday, May 10, 2020: Mother's Day

*We will only provide a drink and snacks when we meet on Sunday evenings.*

### Scheduled Events

- \* Sunday, September 15, 2019: Welcome Back Evening in the park. 6-8 pm.
- \* Friday, September 27th – Sunday, September 29th: Youth will spend the weekend @ Camp Allegheny
- \* Sunday, October 20th: Hang a Halloween Bag! Local Middle School students will find Monday around the school. Bags will only be filled with school supplies / lollipops. Outreach
- \* Sunday, October 27th: Halloween party for Sunday School students. Must dress as a favorite Biblical person. There will be a lesson on pagan holidays.
- \* Sunday, November 10th: Youth Spaghetti Dinner, 5-7 pm. Fundraiser
- \* Sunday, December 8th: Salvation Army Ringing of the Bells, 6-8 pm. Outreach
- \* Sunday, December 15th: Youth Group Christmas Party. Invite a Friend!
- \* Friday, January 10th: Welcome Back Lock-In begins Friday @7 pm; pick up on Saturday 10 am. Inviting
- \* Saturday, January 25th: Afternoon Family Bowling. Details TBA. Inviting
- \* Sunday, February 9th: Valentines Dinner to Women Shelter, 5-7 pm. Details TBA Outreach
- \* Tuesday, February 25th: Youth Annual Pancake Supper. Fundraiser
- \* Sunday, March 8th: Afternoon Skating at Latrobe Roller Rink. Details TBA Inviting. Youth will begin collecting Prom Gowns for Angela Angels thru the month of March thru mid-April. Outreach
- \* Sunday, April 5th: Annual Youth Easter Egg Hunt. Inviting.
- \* TBA: Walk-in her Shoes Outreach. Inviting.
- \* Sunday, May 3rd: Sunday Funday for Sunday School students immediately after church no youth that evening. Inviting.



### New Members

#### Rodger & Candy Holsing

Rodger & Candy work with ALPHA in the county and transferred to us from the Lutheran faith.

### Baptisms

Beckett Sloan Baldwin baptized on July 28, 2019.

Parents: Tim and Jessica Baldwin, Grandparents: Charlie and Barbara Baldwin. Congratulations!

### Prayer Chain

Please add:

Anna Marie Wylie, Nancy DiPrimio, Keep Ruth Manson on the list

### Worship

We just placed copies of the 2019 Book of Common Prayer in our pews, so as you review them, look for what is new and what remains the same. Also, look for announcements about the different resources explaining the book that will be made available to you.

Do you feel that you are kind of lost and in need of a direction? Pray to God that He directs you to a ministry to be fulfilled. Positions to pray about that are vitally needed to make the church function are the Altar Guild, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Choir members, Acolytes, Greeters/Ushers, etc. If you have any questions about any of these ministries, please talk to Marsha Tallant, Worship Chair or Father Jeff.



# VESTRY Notes

**A**t their August meeting the Vestry approved the following items:

- \* A motion to send the City of Greensburg \$500 in lieu of taxes.
- \* A motion to pay \$148.70 for new purifications out of the Memorial Fund.
- \* A motion to accept the audit from 2018. Thanks to Jeff Simpson for his work to complete this.

## Other items of interest:

It was announced that Nick Lynch and Brandon Daily will be entering the seminary through our parish. They each have been awarded scholarships of \$10,000 through our Scholarship Fund.

Gretchen will take the lead on the Crop Walk on Oct 6.

A comedy called The Good Samaritan will be featured at Hoss's on Oct 10 at 1:00 p.m. There will be a sign-up sheet in the undercroft for those who would like to attend.

## Finances Through July

Income is \$129,126 which is 57% of our budget. We should be at 58.3% so we are slightly under budget.

Expenses are \$123,958 which is 53.3% of our budget.

This results in a current net gain of \$5168.

Total in checking was \$33,770, in savings and investments \$128,818.



Don't forget!  
November 10  
is the deadline  
for articles  
in the Advent/  
Christmas  
issue of  
The Word.

# Farewell Herb & Kay!



*Herb and Kay Ferree have been parishioners of Christ's Church for 60+ years. On Sunday, July 8th, we celebrated their life with us as their parish family and said our goodbyes to them as they prepared to move to Georgia. Their eldest son, Jim, and his wife live in the Atlanta area, and it was time that they move closer to family.*

*As a "goodbye gift," David and Sara Frye created a wonderful video of parishioners saying their goodbyes. We will miss parishioners such as Herb and Kay and wish them peace and comfort in their new home.*

## Bishop Henry Scriven appointed new EFAC General Secretary



The Evangelical Fellowship in the Anglican Communion (EFAC) is pleased to announce that at a meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday 16 July 2019 the Rt. Rev. Henry Scriven was appointed as interim General Secretary until the next meeting of the full Council. Bishop Henry

succeeds the Rev. Richard Crocker who did an important and much-needed work in reviving international co-ordination of the many EFAC national fellowships and promoting new EFAC fellowships.



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