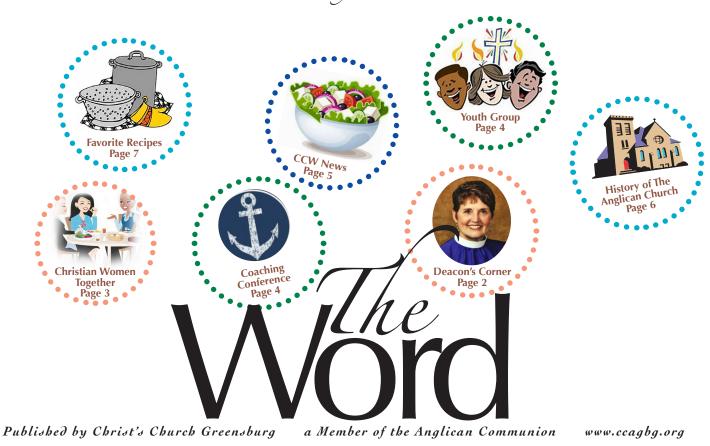
# February 2019



# The Way We Communicate!



Reflections from Fr. Jeff

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

Since I have arrived at Christ's Church, I have been struggling to communicate who we are and what we do effectively. The challenge: Meeting the preferences you have for receiving updates. Some of you still want items printed, as we have always done. Others want emails, some want texts, and the younger members want Social media updates. Bulletins are only useful for those who attend church. In short, there is no easy solution to keep everyone informed. With our current resources, it is becoming more and more difficult to send emails, mail through post office, update Facebook, Twitter, website, bulletins, The Word, SMS (text), and make phone calls. At this point, I do not see Twitter in our future. With Facebook, I need someone to take on that challenge.

Thanks to Lee and his amazing creativity, our newsletter has come back to life. But we struggle to make it meaningful when we receive too few stories and photos to make it worthwhile. Please send us some inputs, photos, quick stories, and more so we can keep this important medium a viable one.

Our website has changed positively over the past few weeks as it is becoming a formidable resource tool. It still has a way to go, but it is unrecognizable from the shell it was at Thanksgiving. The website is now a place to find out if church is canceled or other important information. Thanks to those who stepped up on the website. I challenge others to help initiate an email and text messaging program to leverage this technology. I look forward to seeing our continued growth both spiritually and numerically. I also look forward in refining our communication tools to more effectively convey how we feed spiritually, emotionally, and physically.

I am also so blessed in serving you here at Christ's Church!

Fr. Jeff



Christ's Church 145 North Main Street Greensburg, PA 15601 Parish Office: 122 N. Maple Avenue Greensburg, PA 15601 Office: 724-834-4750 Kitchen: 724-836-7140

Staff Rector: The Rev. Jeffrey Wylie Honorary Assistant: The Most Rev. Robert Duncan Deacon: The Rev. Gretchen Peske Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Ruth Manson Parish Administrator: Marsha Tallant Organist: Sara Frye Christian Education Director: Dennis Hyland

Vestry Senior Warden: Alan Fleissner Junior Warden/Property: Gene DiPrimio Secretary/Treasurer: Marsha Tallant Worship: Nick Lynch Communication: Amy MacMannis Christian Education: Tom Thompson Fellowship: Dee Claiborne Outreach/Mission: Ann Yutz

The Word Staff

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# The Liturgical Church as a Form of Prayer

Ly job as an RN Hospital Liaison for HomeHealth and Hospice includes many trips back and forth from Latrobe Hospital to Westmoreland Hospital on Route 30! Just prior to the West Newton ramp, I can't fail to notice the bill-board for the large church... Word of Life. Large "megachurches" can be very attractive to some and have become quite popular throughout the country. How does our small Anglican Church compare and differ from a large "megachurch?"

The choice of a church is a very personal decision. The length of time that a person remains with a church is also a personal decision. As churches are "human institutions" focusing on our God through prayer and worship, there are times when people become disgruntled with a church and look at other churches. or decide not to attend at all! The leadership of churches can "turn people off" when incidents occur among people. Many times, these sensitive incidents are a result of poor communication, lack of understanding, and even pride. Scripture tells us to "turn the other cheek" and to forgive our brothers (and I will add, sisters!). Through prayer, worship, and contemplating on scriptural passages, wounds can be healed.

Christ's Church Anglican is a Liturgical Church. We are not a "megachurch," but a Church grounded in the Anglican Way, in the Sacraments, and in Scripture. We preach the gospel, or "good news" of salvation through Jesus Christ. We repeat our Liturgy every day we celebrate together. The Celebration of Holy Eucharist mirrors Christ's Celebration and meal with His dedicated apostles, the few days before He died. As He gave us Himself at that time, we celebrate that over and over.

Last weekend, our almost 5-year-old grand-daughter, Harper, asked her Mom, "what's a service"? when Kristen told the children, they would be going to the church "service" the next

day. I began to think about the word "service" and "Eucharist" and realized that as we attend our Holy Eucharist, we are in the mode of "serving." We are on our knees (if we are able) and we are desirous of serving God through the prayers of our Liturgy. Our liturgy is made up of the "Word" and the "Sacrament." The first part of our "service" we concentrate on bringing us together as Christians as we study the Word. From the beginning of the "service" to and through the sermon, we all share "words" which focus on hearing God's Word for us, through the Scriptural readings, the Gospel, and the sermon.

We have the opportunity during every Eucharist to ask for forgiveness of those things "done and undone." With this prayer, we are reaching out to Him, in our personal way, asking for His forgiveness. When the Eucharistic Elements of the Bread and the Wine are taken up the aisle to the priest, we, too, are to offer ourselves to Our Lord. It is at this time that we move into the Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist. In the Anglican Way, all baptized Christians are welcomed at our Communion Table. Children are welcomed to receive Communion if their parents feel that the children are ready. Being spiritually fed by receiving the Holy Eucharist can give one strength, courage, a closeness to our Savior, Jesus.

All that we do together on a Sunday morning is a prayer! The priest and deacon might lead it, but our personal response becomes our personal prayer. The time we spend together is considered "corporate or public" prayer, and the time we are other places, we have opportunities for "private prayer." All of it is pleasing to God, Our Father and is the process of deepening our relationship with Him. So, think about your prayer, during your Sunday worship and how powerful it is when we all gather to praise and worship Him through the Word and Sacraments.

Christian Women Together



he CWT had a wonderful time at Rodney's in January. On a dismal day, we shared food, fellowship, and love. Consider joining the Christ Church Women, together @ 6:30 pm:

February 11 at The Boulevard Restaurant, off Rte. 30, Hempfield March 11 at Gianilli's Restaurant on Rte. 30, Unity Township



Being located in western Pennsylvania, we do suffer from unfavorable weather from time-to-time. To learn if the weather will impact any of our programs, visit our website at www.ccagbg.org or call the church office 724-834-4750 and select the number "8" which will give you an updated status report.

Ash Wednesday: March 6 Annual Parish Meeting: March 24 Easter Sunday: April 21



Don't forget!
February 10
is the deadline
for articles
in the March
issue of
The Word,

# Request for Renovation Volunteers

The new Diocesan Office will be undertaking a renovation project this winter-spring. We are particularly looking for tradespeople and contractors who are willing to offer their services at cost or for free. If you would like to "raise your hand," please let us know through the Contact Us page on our website, or email communications@pitanglican.org. More details to come.

Coaching Conference for Clergy & Lay Leaders

coaching relationship helps clergy and other ministry leaders to be more effective and reach their goals more quickly. Anchored Coaching, who is presenting the training, wants to see every Christian ministry leader have access to exceptional, affordable coaching.



Coaching 101 participants leave prepared to coach others at a basic, and effective, level. As one attendee reflected, "Coaching 101 helped me to see the benefit of leading others using tools that allow

them come up with their own solutions, instead of requiring me to be directive all the time. There is freedom in that!"
Coaching 101 will be held on March 15-16 at Mosaic Anglican Church in Imperial, PA. The early bird registration fee of \$60 is available until January 31. General registration is \$80. Attendees will receive a Coaching 101 book by Dr. Robert Logan and Tara Miller, slide notebook, and snacks. Lunch is available at a number of local eateries near Mosaic. Register Online.



### **JANUARY 2019**

YOUTH LOCK-IN INVITING EVENT: Youth arrived Friday evening at 7:00. They invited friends. The evening was filled with food, games, and movies! They were locked-in until Saturday 12th at 10:00 a.m. Breakfast was provided.

#### **FEBRUARY 2019**

STORYTIME FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS SERVING EVENT: February 3rd, Youth would like to read stories to our Sunday School kids. More details closer to date.



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## **Christ's Church Winter Schedule**

Character Qualities of Christ

ach week we will take a different character trait of Christ and discuss in detail with scripture stories and passages to support each lesson. Emphasis will be placed on helping our kids familiarize themselves with the Bible (learning to look things up) and understanding the difference between the secular/worldly the world approaches life vs. the way Christ calls us to do things.

	0 -
<b>★</b> 1/6	Anger
<b>*</b> 1/13	Compassion
<b>*</b> 1/21	<b>Alertness</b>
<b>★</b> 1/28	Initiative
<b>*</b> 2/3	Decisiveness
<b>*</b> 2/10	Determination
<b>*</b> 2/17	<b>Enthusiasm</b>
<b>★</b> 2/24	Forgiveness
<b>★</b> 3/3	Generosity
<b>★</b> 3/10	Gratefulness
<b>*</b> 3/17	Humility
<b>*</b> 3/24	Love
<b>★</b> 3/31	Loyalty

# **Church Records**

Deceased: Dixie Page Herrington January 8, 2019



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

# **Important Dates for Your Calendar**

## Lunch, Soup, and Bake Sale

Were you one of the lucky people to buy soup with a "jar topper"? Nancy Clark and friends made these toppers from pieces of fabric with various decorations on top. Thanks for the great idea, Nancy!

Marsha Cook has been donating her Grandma's supply of quart jars, plus inserts and rings. Jars are seldom returned, so this donation is gratefully accepted.



### **Salad Bar**

Our next salad bar is **Friday**, **February 8**, NOT February 1. No one (guests, helpers, and contributors) remembers the date when the first Friday is the first day of the month!

Same message as always... we need food, and we need helpers. Please be generous with your recipes so our guests will have a fine selection of food. We invite you to come for lunch and to bring a friend.



## **Christmas Dinner**

Did you attend the Christmas Dinner on January 5? If you didn't, it was one of the best ever, so I'm told! Lakeview was decorated beautifully, as usual, and provided a delicious buffet. The roast beef and chicken romano were done to perfection, and the ice cream crepe with chocolate sauce and whipped cream was yummy. We had only two no-shows.

Ron Wylie, our emcee for the evening, did his usual great job. Fr. Jeff did the Compline again, with everyone using a specially prepared booklet for their responses. Lillian Cook read several verses of Psalm 31.

Our singer and entertainer for the evening was Gary Pratt. He is the owner and talented floral designer at Le Jardin in Greensburg. Singing is his passion, and he did not disappoint! We have future plans for him already!

Our next Christmas Dinner has been reserved at Lakeview for Saturday, January 4, 2020.

# History of the Anglican Church THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

(Continued from the January edition of *The Word*)

entral to worship for Anglicans is the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, also called the Holy Communion, the Lord's Supper or the Mass. In this offering of prayer and praise, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ are recalled through the proclamation of the word and the celebration of the sacrament. Other important rites, commonly called sacraments, include confirmation, holy orders, reconciliation, marriage and anointing of the sick.

Worship is at the very heart of Anglicanism. Its styles vary from simple to elaborate, or even a combination. Until the late twentieth century the great uniting text was The Book of Common Prayer, in its various revisions throughout the Communion, and the modern language liturgies, such as Common Worship, which now exist alongside it still bear a family likeness.

Both The Book of Common Prayer, and more recent Anglican liturgies give expression to the comprehensiveness found within the Church whose principles reflect that of the via media in relation to its own and other Christian Churches.

Another distinguishing feature of the corporate nature of Anglicanism is that it is an interdependent Church, where parishes, dioceses and provinces help each other to achieve by mutual support in terms of financial assistance and the sharing of other resources.

To be an Anglican is to be on a journey of faith to God supported by a fellowship of co-believers who are dedicated to finding Him by prayer and service.

#### From the website:

https://www.churchofengland.org/about/anglican-communion

# WANTED! THE FELLOWSHIP FOLKS ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW

THE FELLOWSHIP FOLKS
ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW
GOOD HANDS TO HELP OUT
WITH THE COFFEE HOUR

Please consider helping with COFFEE HOUR after the 10:30 service. It is not hard to do. If you like to bake, make a favorite and bring with you to serve or if you don't bake check the freezer in the church kitchen. Anything marked 10:30 can be used. Plates, napkins, etc. are in the cupboards in the kitchen. Please make sure the kitchen is cleaned, and serving utensils are washed and put away.

If you can't help with coffee hour, baked goodies or even store-bought ones are always welcome to add to the stash in the "frig." Just mark them 10:30 and put them in the freezer. They will be used for coffee hour.

Thank you, Dee Claiborne







Christ's Church Parish Office 122 N. Maple Avenue Greensburg, PA 15601