



# TIDINGS

The Newsletter of Christ Church – St. Michael's Parish (Episcopal)

December 2012

## Oh Yes: Slow Down, It's Advent!

*Advent Wreath Making Forum on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>*



*It all begins with creating an Advent wreath on the First Sunday of Advent!*

Slow down for Advent? Advent, means coming, and refers to the coming of Christ. This season of preparation begins on Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and continues through Christmas Eve. So, join us at 9 AM on December 2<sup>nd</sup> in Etherton Hall for our annual Advent Wreath Making forum as we prepare our hearts and minds for celebrating the first coming of Jesus at Christmas!

### ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

A Celebration of Advent Readings, Anthems and Hymns

Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5 PM

As we enter in Advent and prepare to welcome the Christ child on Christmas Day, set aside an hour of your busy holiday schedule to reflect upon the meaning of the season.

*And join us following the service in the nave for fellowship over Sherry or sparkling water.*

December Community

Fun Night:

### Caroling in St. Michaels!

*Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4 PM*

Meet at the Parish House and spend some time caroling with fellow parishioners as we walk the streets of St. Michaels and spread some seasonal cheer! Refreshments follow in Etherton Hall.

### Seasonal Services for Advent & Christmas

**Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*The First Sunday of Advent*

Advent Lessons & Carols at 5 PM

**Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

*The Fourth Sunday of Advent*

“People Look East” at 10:15 AM

**Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

*The Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord*

Family Christmas Eucharist with

Children's Sermon at 4 PM

Christmas Eucharist at 6 PM

Choral Prelude at 10:30 PM

Festive Christmas Eucharist with

Choir at 11 PM

**Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>**

*The Nativity of Our Lord*

Christmas Eucharist at 11 AM

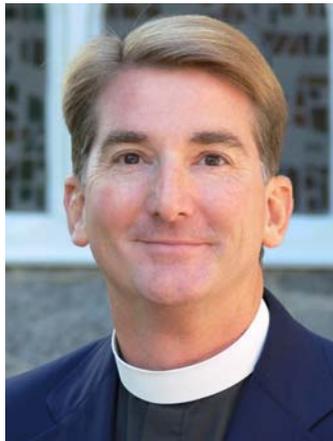


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Office Hours: 9:00AM – 4:00PM, Monday-Thursday  
Weekly Service Schedule:  
Morning Prayer – 9:00AM Mondays through Fridays  
Holy Eucharist (Londonderry) – 1:30PM 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays  
Sunday Services: 8:00AM & 9:30AM

Submissions to the *TIDINGS* monthly parish newsletter are due on the **10<sup>th</sup> of the previous month**. Please email items for publication to [peterhouck@aol.com](mailto:peterhouck@aol.com) or leave in newsletter editor's mailbox located at the parish house

Newsletter editor: Peter Houck



## Nostalgia, the Grinch and New Beginnings

Every year, December rolls around and we are treated to an onslaught of Christmas nostalgia. Carols have been playing in shops and stores since well before Thanksgiving. The U S Postal Service will select from some museum's collection another famous depiction of Madonna and Child to become one of the Christmas or "seasonal" stamps. And come mid-month, magazines such as *Newsweek* and *Time* will run a cover story on the Nativity. In that regard, this December may resemble every December since the middle of the last century. But, alas, not all is well in Christendom. Diana Butler Bass, a sociologist of religion and active Episcopalian, in her most recent book, *Christianity After*

*Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*, puts forth some stark facts to jolt us from our Advent slumber:

- Since 1960, the number of Americans claiming belief in God decreased from 97 percent to 71 percent--a 26 point drop.
- Only 20 percent of the population attends church each Sunday.
- The number of Americans who do not attend church has increased 97 percent since 1991.
- As of 2010, in a stunning change, America's third largest religious group is "unaffiliated"-- a group with no single issue, theology, or view of God.

Bass, whose book is reviewed by Robert Barrett in this issue of *Tidings*, argues that a status-quo and static-driven church, coupled with the toxic developments of the past two decades, including 9/11, the Roman Catholic sex abuse scandal, Protestant conflict over homosexuality, and the political exaggerations of a very vocal Religious Right, have resulted in disaffected believers and a rejection of religion by many within our country. But then, just when the last present and tree have been stuffed back up the chimney by the Grinch, Bass makes her main point: *the rejection of religion is also hope for the future of faith communities*. While Americans are increasingly wary of religion, they are searching for new paths of meaning, new ways to connect with God and neighbor, and with the very formation of new communities. These new communities revolve around relational community (belonging), intentional practice (behaving), and experiential belief (believing). Creating this type of community is challenge because it is predicated on deep commitment, prioritization of resources, and mutual accountability. Bass notes that one aspect many people seek when choosing a faith community is how it impacts and reaches out to others.

Much of the dynamic energy that Christ Church possesses is attributable to what we call "outreach and wider mission." I am struck by how many current and new members were originally drawn to Christ Church because of our work in the wider community -- what we do to serve others, be it the Back to School Project, rummage sales, food pantry, Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, or even the Parish's and ECW's direct grants. Of course, there is so much need in our community; and, at times, we may not feel like we have very much to give. Yet, I think when we engage with others -- especially those less fortunate -- we truly become aware of our blessings. Every December we set up a small Christmas tree in the church for the Angel Tree Project. The gender and ages

of “at-risk” and needy children within the St. Michaels community are written on ornaments and placed on the tree along with a description of one or two items they would like for Christmas. Each of us is invited to remove an ornament, purchase those items and then to return the wrapped presents for that child to ensure that he or she has some gift this Christmas. According to Diana Butler Bass, “all religion fails when it forgets the poor, the oppressed, the marginalized and the dispirited.” Unlike the Grinch, Christ Church already has a big heart, so let’s share that love this Christmas by remembering others.

--Mark Nestlehutt



## Light in the Darkness

By the time you read this issue of Tidings, we at Christ Church will have just celebrated the ending of the liturgical year with a day traditionally called Christ the King Sunday, or more recently, the Reign of Christ Sunday. In the Church, this Sunday marks the completion of a year-long cycle of worship by proclaiming our trust that, in the end, God will bring all things to a full and gracious conclusion, and goodness will have the final word. Or, in the words of the often controversial, young evangelical liberal pastor Rob Bell, “In the end, Love wins.” Then, as the Church has done for centuries, we will join the human race in lighting a fire against the gathering winter darkness, our Advent candles growing in brightness until we again celebrate the re-birth of Light itself, the One we name Emmanuel -- God with us. This is how we begin the liturgical year.

It is the gift and vocation of our Judaic Christian roots to live our lives in ways that testify to the faithfulness of God. For Jews, the faithfulness of God is celebrated in the events of leading an oppressed people into a new community marked by a vision of just and respectful community--where brother and stranger alike are valued and cared for. The exodus from slavery in Egypt and the giving of the Law are the defining events for the vision of God cherished by our Jewish sisters and brothers. Our own, Christian vision of God builds upon that vision and brings those of us who are not Jewish into relationship with God by proclaiming that this same God comes among us as a human named Jesus.

In Jesus, God enters the intimacy of our lives to bring us life and hope, with a love so persistent that, as John proclaims in his gospel, “A Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” So our Christian year begins with the lighting of the Advent wreath, our faithful testimony to the persistence of love and hope, even when life itself feels as dark and chilly as a late fall evening. My prayer for all of us is that as we light the candles of Advent this year, our homes may be blessed with a renewed awareness of how we are called to witness to the Light, as we manifest love, hope and the faithfulness of God in the living of our lives.

Advent blessings,

*Lynn*

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Christmas Caroling! -- Linda Norris

Family caroling is scheduled for 4:00 pm Sunday afternoon, December 23rd. This is your chance to sing Christmas carols before Christmas! Plan to gather at the Parish Hall dressed for the current weather. We will walk to both nearby homes and businesses to carol and then return to Etherton Hall for festive libations, warm drinks, and treats. A sign up sheet will be available in the Parish Hall to help us plan. We hope to see you there!



## ***Publish Glad Tidings!***

Would you like to receive your issue of *Tidings* on line and in color each month? If so, please e-mail the editor: [PeterHouck@aol.com](mailto:PeterHouck@aol.com). If you also wish to discontinue receiving *Tidings* by mail, please so indicate. Thank you.



## **Celebrate the Coming Light!**

Advent is the season when we prepare, “in heart and mind,” to welcome, again, God into our lives and homes. This year we have Advent Table Cards available for you to use during your family mealtime. If you are a family of one or a family of 10, these cards provide conversation ideas for older participants, and a simple, hands-on activity for younger participants. There is a card for each week of Advent, with the suggested activities to be used on the Sunday of that week. Please look for the Table Card packets at the Advent Wreath workshop, during coffee hour and Cider in the Hall on Nov. 25 and Dec. 2. – Lynn Hade

## **ECW Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, December 8th** -- Lynn Freeburger

Christmas is just around the corner. It is time to get ready for our annual Christmas Bazaar, set for Sat., Dec. 8, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

We will have five tables overseen by the following chairpersons:

**Blings and Things** - Fine jewelry - Alice Utterback.

**Cookie Corner** - Cookies, brownies and bars - Lynn Barrett.

**Greens** - Handcrafted holiday arrangements - Carol McCanna.

**Needlework** - Hats, scarves and other handmade goods - Beth Driggs.

**Treasures** - Decorations, ornaments and small gifts - Lillian Watts.



We need your help in all areas. **Bazaar setup** is Friday, December 7th from 10:00 on. We appreciate any help you can provide. The **Greens Workshop** is Thursday, December 6th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We will collect greens on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 4th and 5th. If you have **greens and branches with colorful berries** to donate, call Carol McCanna on 410-745-5373. We also need plastic containers to put in the bottom of the arrangements along with the foam oases. Call Beth Driggs on 443 786-5110 if you have **knitted items** for us. If you want to bake, we are looking for small bags of **cookies, brownies and bars**, because they sell better than cakes and pies. We are also looking for **preserves, pickles** and other homemade treats that we will present at the cookie corner. Please call Lynn Barrett on 401-745-9772. Call Lillian Watts (410-745-9999) if you have **treasures** to donate, and call Alice Utterback (410-745-6010) if you'd like to donate **fine jewelry**.

## **Advent Wreath Workshop, 9:00 am, Sunday, Dec. 2 in**

**Etherton Hall** -- We will provide rings, candles, greens and decorations. If you saved your candle ring from last year, please bring it so it can be reused. Call or email **Lynn Hade** if you have greens to donate.



## **Two New Films Added to Christ Church's Lea Library**

On Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, a crowd of more than one hundred people welcomed filmmaker and human rights activist Ronit Avni of Just Vision to our Adult Forum. She was an engaging and powerful speaker, and that evening we screened her first documentary *Encounter Point*. We have now added a DVD copy of her award-winning films, *Encounter Point* and *Budrus*, to the Lea Library, which may be checked out by parishioners.

## Step Out in Faith So We Can Do More

As the December Tidings goes to press, 153 pledge cards for a total of \$399,196 have been received. We are well on the way to meeting our 2013 goal of \$495,000. There are many ways to describe how our pledge money makes a difference: The Parish infrastructure, clergy, and staff; services for the Congregation; helping our community; and outreach beyond our local community. This year we are focused on increasing our outreach by using the income from our investments to bolster our outreach and help those who need the help in our community. To do this, we need to fund our operating budget from Pledges. For those of you who have not yet returned your pledge cards, we ask that you Pledge now and Pledge generously. -- George Dixon and James Vail, Stewardship Co-Chairs



## Looking Ahead to the Future . . . . -- Carolyn Wasdyke

As you may recall, the last two adult forums held in the spring of 2012 focused on end-of-life decisions; the first on Wills, Advanced Directives and Funeral Planning, and the second on Planned Giving. It was also last spring that the few remaining niches in our columbarium wall were sold. Therefore, in an effort to meet our parishioners' future needs, a Columbarium Committee was formed to explore the feasibility of expanding the columbarium facilities and integrating a structure into our churchyard, both aesthetically and functionally. After an extensive six-month study of options, the Columbarium Committee presented its conclusions to the vestry at the October meeting. At the November vestry meeting, after a one-month, thoughtful review of the study, the vestry concluded that the addition of a new columbarium structure in our churchyard is not recommended. You are welcome to contact any of the committee members: Fritz Riedlin (chair), Pat Martin, Lesley Moyer, Kay Perkins, Sid Smith or Carolyn Wasdyke, for additional information.



The vestry further recommended that if any future exploration of providing a final resting place for our parishioners were to be considered, a memorial garden or a labyrinth within our churchyard; or perhaps an offsite cemetery may warrant further consideration. If you have an interest in pursuing the above options, please inform Mark, Lynn or any member of the vestry.

## December Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Birthdays

12/1	Wally Jansen, Georgia Robertson	12/19	Lee Thomas
12/2	Annie Sanford	12/20	Betty Hurford, Fritz Riedlin
12/3	Sal Simoncini	12/21	Neil Armstrong, Jim Vail
12/4	Harvey Stewart	12/22	Frank Hopkinson, Irene Valliant
12/6	Tom Farrell	12/23	Helen Fegan, Janet Raitt
12/7	Luci Esposito	12/24	Carol Kilbourn
12/9	Ab Kingman, Elizabeth Morgan, Linn Ong, Logan Rogers	12/25	Barbara Jablin, Leslie Stevenson, Carol Stewart
12/12	Charlotte Stolz	12/29	Jack Hughes, Tom Orem
12/13	Norma Harris, Darlene Leach	12/30	Elizabeth Guthrie
12/14	Tom Hamilton	12/31	George Dixon, Laurie Driggs, Barbara MacInnes
12/15	Jane Hopkinson		
12/16	Ned McCall		
12/17	Robert Moore		
12/18	Sue Brannegan, Debbie Gregg, Lillian Watts		



### Anniversaries

12/3	Art & Nancy Waxter
12/8	Harry & Linda Seemans
12/29	Roger & Aly Valentine, Robert & Alice Petizon

### From the Parish Register

<b>Baptism:</b>	Emma Lynn Burkhouse Nov. 4, 2012
<b>Funerals:</b>	Peter Ricketson Imirie (Oct. 22, 1941 – Nov. 1, 2012)
	Mildred E. Mendenhall (Aug. 18, 1922 – Nov. 6, 2012)

# Lessons For Us From Far Away

-- Judy Sandground



Thank you again to Tom and Cathy Mendenhall for introducing us to Ronit Avni, our speaker at the Nov. 4 Adult Forum. If you weren't there, you missed an amazing 45-minute presentation. Ronit (below right) is an award-winning, Canadian\Israeli\American filmmaker, media strategist and human rights advocate. On Nov. 4, she shared her experiences as an advocate for peace in Israel and Palestine through her organization, Just Vision. At the morning Forum and the evening screening of her documentary, Encounter Point, many ideas were



explored, two of which stood out as relevant to us in our own community outreach.

- A minority, disenfranchised population often feels unheard and invisible, resulting in distrust of those who are trying to help.
- Assisting that population requires engagement at a personal level to understand what they need to make their lives better.

As Mark discussed in a previous issue of Tidings, we plan to introduce a new model for awarding community grants next year. We hope to use what we can learn from Ronit Avni's experience and work. Please contact me or John Hunnicutt if you have ideas on this subject.

## REACHING OUT

### The Christ Church Angel Tree Coming December 2nd



Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to help children of St. Michaels have a happy Christmas. Christ Church is again committed to being a strong partner in our community's Angel Tree Project, which supplies Christmas gifts for children who might not otherwise receive them. Our Angel Tree will be set up in church on December 2nd. On each "angel ornament" (decorated by our Church School children) you will find the name of a St. Michaels child along with the information you require to purchase the perfect gift or gifts. Your gifts can be brought to church on the 9<sup>th</sup> or at the latest on December 16<sup>th</sup> or if you like, you can take them to the church office. We will collect the gifts and deliver them to the community Christmas party where Santa will distribute them to the children. We understand that many of the children so cherish these gifts that they save opening them until Christmas morning. If you have any questions, please contact Susan or Neil Armstrong (410-745-8579).



### Gift Donations for St. Michaels Food Pantry – Beth Eckel

If you are wondering about the PERFECT gift for that fortunate person on your list who already has everything, please consider a donation in his/her/their name(s) to The St. Michaels Community Food Pantry. The neighbors-in-need whom we serve will be very grateful. Gift cards for this purpose are available in the church office.

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Christian Formation for Children

– Lee Thomas

Auditions for the Christmas program will be held during the first weekend in December to prepare for our presentation of “People Look East” during the family service on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Rehearsals and costume fittings will be scheduled during the month so we’ll be sending email to parents with more of the details. It should be another special Christmas gift for all to enjoy!



In November, our lesson and activities were centered on the story of Jacob and his dream of a ladder to heaven – we made angels for our Angel Tree over several Sundays. I had the chance to work with the new Beulah Land material and like the way it engages the children in the story.

It’s also great to have our support team working behind the scenes to bring so many ideas together for Sunday mornings! We continue to meet on Wednesday evenings for dinner and a service in the Children’s Chapel. Despite the imminent storm, we had one very special evening on October 28<sup>th</sup> with Reverend Lynn and some special saints – we hope to do it again next year and hope more of you will be able to join us then.



**Above left:** the children act out the story of Jacob’s ladder. **Above Right:** Jessica Morris as St. Mary and Mason Roe as St. Francis. Photos by Lee Thomas.

## Youth Group News for December!

In the month of December, our Youth Group (children in grades 6-12) will have two opportunities to get together:

### Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM – Packing the Christmas Dinner Baskets

With Christmas Day falling on Tuesday, we need to assemble the Christmas boxes on a weekday this year. So, plan on meeting in Etherton Hall at 4:00 pm on Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup>!

### Sunday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4 PM – Christmas Caroling

Calling all youth group members--we need carolers! So join us on the 23<sup>rd</sup> for a parish-wide caroling event. Refreshments will follow in Etherton Hall!

## Sunday Morning Adult Forums in December

Sunday Morning Adult Forums are held in Etherton Hall of the Parish House after Coffee Hour (9:15 to 10 am).

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** – “Intergenerational Advent Wreath Making Forum”

**December 9<sup>th</sup>** – “The Gospel of Luke: Part One” – Christopher Whyman

**December 16<sup>th</sup>** – “The Gospel of Luke: Part Two” – Christopher Whyman

**December 23 and 30<sup>th</sup>** – *No Forum* - Christmas Recess

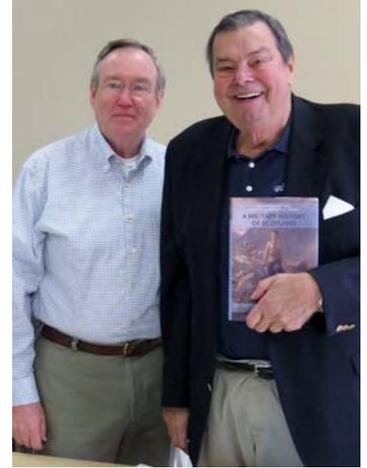
## CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

### The Lay Weeders -- Lin Clineburg



The Lay Weeders spent a Monday morning in October cleaning up the Parish House garden beds and planting 11 flats of sunny yellow and multi-colored pansies to cheer visitors throughout this fall and next spring. Lay weeders pictured at left are L-R, Irmay Webster, Sara Walker, Mary Riedlin, Lin Clineburg, Katie Hunnicutt, and Kay Perkins.

Photo on the left was made by Karon Simmons of Bay Hundred Botanicals. Bud Keiser made the photos on the right and below.



### Men's Club Looks to 2013 – George Dixon

On Nov. 10th, the Men's Club thanked Leo Foulds for eight years of leadership as President and presented him with a book entitled "A Scottish Military History."

**(Right)** Every man in the Parish is a member of the Men's Club, so our 2013 commitment is to create a program that will bring together the men of the Parish. A new speaker program is being designed, and we are looking for other activities to enhance the club. Let me know your ideas at [georgedixon@mindspring.com](mailto:georgedixon@mindspring.com). Stay tuned. Our next meeting is December 1<sup>st</sup>—the first Saturday in December. Come join us at Etherton Hall at 8:00 am for a great breakfast. Tim Junkin, Executive Director of the Riverkeepers, is our speaker with a Riverkeepers film.



### Docents' Guild – Linda Makosky

Imagine walking into Etherton Hall to find tables elegantly set with white tablecloths, silvery napkins, bouquets of roses, and a mouth-watering brunch buffet! This was the scene on November 10th, when members of the Christ Church Docents' Guild combined their annual Fall Meeting with a Twenty-Fifth Anniversary party. The transformed setting and feast were supplied by two talented Vestry members, Bevelee Kegan, (herself a docent), and Pat Martin, who learned of the special occasion and offered to host the party.

**Above left:** Docents Bevelee Kegan, Lee Thomas and Alice Utterback.

The idea was born last March, when the Docents gathered for their spring meeting to prepare for another season greeting visitors to Christ Church. Archived records showed 2012 to be the 25th year since Alice Cohee proposed the formation of a "Visitor's Guild." The group agreed to celebrate the conclusion of the 25th season with a party in November. Invitations went out to all former docents who could be located. Honored guests included two former chairs, Betty Mitchell and Joan Frey, and former secretary Ginny MacLeod, who held the post for 15 years! All the guests joined current Chair Irmay Webster in thanking the two hostesses who created the magic!

## Book Review by Robert Barrett

Bass, Diana Butler, **“Christianity after Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a new Spiritual Awakening,”** Harper One, 2012, 295 pages.



In Part 1 of her book, Diana Butler Bass presents a clear picture of the growing irrelevance of Christian churches in the United States which have strayed from Jesus’ message. The claim that liberal churches are in decline while conservative churches are growing is not true. She believes that all churches are in the same situation: a religious bear market. Bass cites several well-known clerics and scholars, and some less well known, who have been moved to reject the familiar brick and mortar churches in favor of a new spirituality, because orthodox Christianity no longer satisfies. Instead it has become involved with wealth, injustice and redemptive violence – the very opposite of Jesus’ teaching.

In Part 2, the author discusses how believing can sometimes not be possible. She cites a commencement sermon she heard some 20 years before, wherein Jesus was in the end times to become a warrior (like Caesar) and redeem the world from evil. She could not believe such a scenario coming from the mouth of an educated member of the clergy. After that experience, she writes that hundreds of people have trusted her with their stories of not believing: “...Not believing that wives must submit to husbands, not believing in the virgin birth, not believing in an inerrant Bible, not believing in hell, not believing that Jesus is the only way to salvation, not believing that only one religion is true, not believing that the institutional church is important, not believing in the resurrection, not believing that God cares or heals or loves, not believing that God exists. If I no longer believe, am I still a Christian? Am I spiritual, but not religious? An agnostic? An atheist?” Here she quotes Harvey Cox, who writes that we have entered a new phase of Christian history, which he calls the Age of the Spirit. If the Age of Faith was a time of “faith *in* Jesus” and the Age of Belief a period of “belief *about* Christ,” the Age of the Spirit is best understood as a Christianity based on the “experience of Jesus.” The Age of the Spirit is non-dogmatic, non-institutional, and nonhierarchical Christianity based on a person’s connection to God’s Spirit through mystery, wonder and awe. Cox claims that “Faith is resurgent” while dogma is dying.

In Part 3, Bass talks about the three “Great Awakenings” in Christian history and wonders if the age of the spirit may not be a fourth. Dietrich Bonhoeffer, when he was imprisoned by Nazi Germany, wondered if Christianity as we have known it might be over, and he pondered what Christianity without dogma would be like. This theme was taken up in the 1950s, and the old garment of belief was taken off, and something new emerged from beneath the worn cloth. One thing is constant, that no matter what particular road we travel, if we practice our faith in imitation of Jesus, the outcome will be justice.”

The author was born in Baltimore and grew up in Scottsdale, AZ. For as long as she can remember, she's been interested in religion, history, and politics--the passions she intertwines in her books and writing. She holds a Ph.D. in American religious history from Duke University. After a dozen years teaching undergraduates, she became a full-time writer, independent researcher, educator, and consultant. Although Bass covers much the same ground as covered by other eminent scholars we meet in ‘Living the Questions,’ her presentation is informed by anecdotal evidence and personal experiences that enliven the telling. Indeed, all of her books that I have read draw the reader into a deep appreciation of her faith and her erudition. Other books by Diana Butler Bass in the Lea Library are :

*Standing Against the Whirlwind*, 1995, 283.7, studies evangelicalism in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the Episcopal Church. *Broken We Kneel*, 2004, 261.7, reflects on faith and citizenship. *The Practicing Congregation*, 2004, 250.9, describes emerging forms of congregational life of unexpected vitality, adaptability, and faithfulness. *Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith*, 2006, 280.4, relates characteristics of vital, progressive congregations.



## Ministry Areas of Christ Church

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Adult Forum	Ray Wasdyke
Adult Inquirers	Mark Nestlehutt
Church School:	
Ages 3-Grade 4	Lee Thomas
Rite 13	Ann Roe
Youth Confirmation	Mark Nestlehutt

### OUTREACH & WIDER MISSION

Back to School Project	Gillian Whyman, Judy Sandground
Children's Home Found.	Nance DuPont, Martha Austin
El Hogar Project	Bill Corba
Environmental Issues	Margie Steffens
Episcopal Relief & Dev.	Pamela McCloud
Grants Committee	John Hunnicutt
Habitat for Humanity	John Hunnicutt
Honduran Dental Mission	Jim Campi
St. Michaels Food Pantry	Beth and Howard Eckel
Talbot Interfaith Shelter	Pamela McCloud
United Thank Offering	Carol Carlson

### PARISH & COMMUNITY LIFE

Coffee Hour	Mike Clark
Covenant Churches	Mark Nestlehutt
Disaster Preparedness	Linda Norris
Docents' Guild	Irmy Webster
Episcopal Church Women	Lynn Freeburger
Kitchen Committee	Mary Riedlin, Nancy Sipe
Lay Weeders	Lin Clineburg
Lea Library	Robert & Marilyn Barret
Lemonade/Cider in Hall	Alison Sanford
Men's Club	George Dixon
Parish Paparazzi	Bud Keiser
<i>Tidings</i> Newsletter	Peter Houck
Welcoming Committee	Cathy Mendenhall

### PASTORAL CARE

Eucharistic Visitors	Jessie Weddle
Pastoral Care Team	Mark Nestlehutt
Prayer Chain	Alice Utterback
Stephen Ministry	Ann Roe

### STEWARDSHIP

Finance Committee	Tom Orem
Property	Elizabeth Foulds, John Masone
Stewardship	George Dixon, Jim Vail
Senior Teller	Larry McCanna

### WORSHIP & MUSIC

Acolyte Guild	Sparrow Rogers, Ann Roe
Altar Guild	Helen Bower, Judy Hause
Choirs:	
Chancel & Youth	William Thomas
Handbell	Lynne Phillips
Euch. Ministers & Readers	Martha Austin
Flower Guild	Nancy Besso
Greeters/Oblation Bearers	Sheila Vaughan
Ushers	Robert Burger

## Finances for the Months Ended Oct. 31, 2012

### Revenues

Actual – Current Month	\$ 38,675	
Budget – Current Month	39,246	
Over / (Under) – Current Month	(571)	Unfavorable
Actual YTD	445,040	
Budget YTD	414,238	
Over / (Under)	30,801	Favorable

### Pledges

Actual – Current Month	34,507	
Budget – Current Month	35,567	
Over / (Under) – Current Month	(1,060)	Unfavorable
Actual YTD	389,714	
Budget YTD	377,088	
Over / (Under) – YTD	12,626	Favorable

### Expenses

Actual – Current Month	49,485	
Budget – Current Month	52,923	
Over / (Under) – Current Month	(3,438)	Favorable
Actual YTD	439,927	
Budget YTD	449,067	
Over / (Under)	(9,140)	Favorable

### Excess of Revenues over Expenses or (Expenses over Revenues)

Actual – Current Month	(10,810)	
Budget – Current Month	(13,578)	
Over / (Under) – Current Month	2,868	Favorable
Actual YTD	5,113	
Budget YTD	(34,828)	
Over / (Under) YTD	39,941	Favorable

~ December 2012 ~

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> 8 AM Men's Club Breakfast 10 AM YMCA Holiday Shopping Babysitting 4:30 PM Parks/Plack Wedding
<b>2 1 Advent</b> 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9 AM Coffee Hour 9:15 AM Adult Forum 10:15 AM Parish Family Eucharist 11:30 AM Cider in Hall 12:00 PM Children's Christmas Program Auditions 2 PM "Ten Minutes" Motivational Theatre 5 PM Advent Lessons & Carols	<b>3</b> 5 PM Christmas In St. Michaels Meeting 5:30 PM St. Michaels Art League Arty-Party	<b>4</b> 2:30 PM Staff Meeting 6 PM Bell Choir Practice 7:30 PM St. Andrew's Society of the Eastern Shore Board Meeting	<b>5</b> 9:30 AM Welcoming Committee Meeting 1 PM St. Michaels Woman's Club 6 PM Youth Choir Supper 6:30 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 7 PM Middle Convocation Meeting at Trinity Cathedral	<b>6</b> 9 AM Christmas Bazaar Greens Workshop 1:30 PM Holy Eucharist at Londonderry 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>7</b> OFFICE CLOSED  10 AM Christmas Bazaar Set-Up	<b>8</b> Christmas Bazaar 8 AM - 1 PM
<b>9 2 Advent</b> 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9 AM Coffee Hour 9:15 AM Adult Forum; Church School; 'Coffee & Dialog with parents 9:30 AM Children's Christmas Pgm rehearsal 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM Cider in Hall 12 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting 6 PM Celebration of Choirs at Union United	<b>10</b> TIDINGS Deadline	<b>11</b> 10 AM ECW Board Meeting 11:30 AM ECW Meeting & Easton High Chamber Singers 2:30 PM Staff Meeting 6 PM Bell Choir Practice 7 PM Vestry Meeting	<b>12</b> 5:00 PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal 6 PM Youth Choir Supper 6:30 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b> 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>14</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>15</b>
<b>16 3 Advent</b> 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9 AM Coffee Hour 9:15 AM Adult Forum; Church School; 'Coffee & Dialogue with Parents' 9:30 AM Children's Christmas Pgm rehearsal 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM Cider in Hall 12 PM Prayer Chain Mtg 5:00 PM Talbot Bird Club	<b>17</b> 4 PM Pastoral Care Team Meeting 5 PM Christmas In St. Michaels Meeting	<b>18</b> 12 PM Staff Christmas Luncheon 2:30 PM Staff Meeting 6 PM Bell Choir Practice	<b>19</b> 4 PM Christmas Basket Assembly 5:00 PM Children's Program Rehearsal 6:30 PM Youth Choir Rehearsal 7 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b> 9 AM Christmas Basket Distribution 1:30 PM Holy Eucharist at Londonderry 5 PM Stephen Ministry Supervision 8 PM AA Meeting	<b>21</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>22</b> 2:00 PM Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal
<b>23 4 Advent</b> 8 AM Holy Eucharist 9:15 AM Church School; 'Coffee & Conversation with Parents' 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist & Children's Christmas Program 11:30 AM Cider in Hall 4 PM Christmas Caroling	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> OFFICE CLOSSES AT NOON 4 PM Family Christmas Eucharist with Children's Sermon 6 PM Christmas Eucharist 10:30 PM Choral Prelude 11 PM Festal Christmas Eucharist with Choir	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> OFFICE CLOSED  11 AM Christmas Eucharist	<b>26</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> OFFICE CLOSED	<b>29</b> 8 PM AA Meeting
<b>30 1 Christmas</b> 8 AM Holy Eucharist 10:15 AM Holy Eucharist 11:30 AM Cider in Hall	<b>31</b>					

## Staff

The Reverend Mark S. Nestlehutt, *Rector*  
The Reverend Lynn A. Hade, *Associate Rector*  
Mr. William R. Thomas, *Director of Music*  
Ms. Carol A. Osborne, *Parish Administrator*  
Mr. George E. Short, *Sexton*  
Ms. Anne Whyman Esposito, *Nursery Director*

## Vestry

Judy Sandground, *Senior Warden*  
Carolyn Wasdyke, *Junior Warden*  
Larry McCanna, *Treasurer*  
Mary Ellen Olcese, *Registrar*

George Dixon 2013  
Pat Martin 2013  
John Masone 2013  
Fritz Riedlin 2013

Bev Kegan 2014  
Lesley Moyer 2014  
Linda Norris 2014  
Tony Vaughn 2014

Elizabeth Foulds 2015  
Tom Orem 2015  
Sparrow Rogers 2015  
Hanna Woicke 2015

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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