



Light of Christ Anglican Church

THE BEACON



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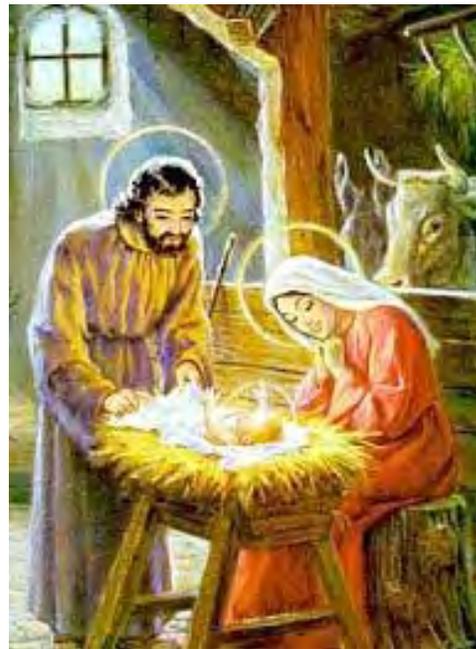
Anglican Frontier Missions



Let your light so shine before men
that they may see your good deeds
and praise your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

*Light of Christ Anglican Church
Wishes You and Yours a Blessed and
Joyous Christmas and a
Happy New Year.*



For Unto Us A Child Is Born!

Goings On Around The Light of Christ Congregation

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 12th following our morning worship. Stay tuned for more details.

Light of Christ Church is hiring for two positions: A Nursery worker and a Piano Accompanist. Please spread the word by telling your friends and neighbors. For more info call Leslye 703.725.2997.

Have You Met our Sexton?

The man behind the scenes is John Frederick, III. John keeps our church clean and running smoothly, but you hardly know he is there. John was born in Baltimore to a military family who moved around a lot. They moved to the Northern Neck when he was 12 years old. John keeps busy with three jobs - in the mornings he works for the Morrisons, afternoons from 2-6 p.m. at LOC and on Saturdays he delivers furniture. John is also a Callao volunteer fireman, but his passion is deer hunting. If you happen to see John around the church, say hello and thank him for keeping our church and grounds looking so nice.



Senior Warden's Column

We have recently celebrated a wonderful Veteran's Day weekend at Light of Christ Anglican Church.

On Saturday, with the assistance of our friends at Smithland Baptist Church, we packed sixty Christmas boxes for the Samaritan's Purse project. We began our gathering with a devotional given by Doris Myers. The fellowship flowed and as always, tasty refreshments were enjoyed.

Sunday's luncheon honoring our Veterans was very special. It was great to have First Baptist Church and other friends share in our celebration. The Parish Hall looked beautiful and once again, our LOC chefs provided a magnificent feast.

It took many hands to make these events such a success. My thanks and appreciation to each and everyone; especially Carl Smith, Marie Carstensen, and Father Ed Moore for their leadership.

As we celebrate a day of Thanksgiving, I recognize how grateful we should be to our Lord who has blessed and provided for us.

Although we continue to feel the weight of dear ones who have passed, and miss those who are currently suffering, we can also rejoice in answered prayers, the goodness of those angels in our midst who have seen needs and quietly met them. Thank you!

Veteran's Day weekend was a fine example that by working together, we can accomplish good things. Like the "Little Engine That Could" we're on track and chugging along. Team Work!

Psalms 118:24

Barbara Seed
Sr. Warden



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed time, money, and/or items to fill our shoeboxes this year!! We had a very successful day with a total of 19 people present to help with this project, including 2 men and 2 children. This year LOC extended an invitation to our neighbor, Smithland Baptist, who accepted and joined us! It was truly a blessed day together.

We also want to thank everyone who participated in this project. We started our day with a lovely breakfast provided by Donna Soule and Melinda Floom, followed by a devotion and scripture by Doris Myers. Melinda then gave instructions for the day, and we started packing. Thank you, Cheryl Swann, for your help in planning. Together, with Smithland Baptist, we packed a total of 60+ boxes. These boxes will find their way to children all over the world, spreading the love of Jesus. Our day ended as our Deacon, Mary Swann, prayed over the shoeboxes and for the children who would receive them.

We deeply appreciate the efforts of Julie Pritchard, who oversees this ministry throughout the year and keeps us on track to get our shoeboxes done. This is truly a gift of love on her part to work through all the organizational and administrative steps necessary. Thank you, Julie!

The Women's Ministry contributes funds for shoebox postage and shipping costs. This would not be possible without the proceeds from our successful Thrift Shop. Please continue to support the shop, so that we can continue to support our many outreach projects and local community organizations.

In all, it was a lovely day with lots of fellowship and laughter. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this year's Operation Christmas Child project successful.

Doris Myers

More Shoebox News

The comments below were given in writing by members of Smithland Baptist Church. They were four of the eight members of their church who joined us in packing the shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse on Nov. 9, 2019.

"The event was well organized and there were plenty of people packing. It did not take much over an hour and it is an event we look forward to every year." Gloria and Greg Johnson

"I think the joint packing was great. Well organized. It was great to share in an outreach event. I am glad there was not any "them and mine" mentality. It was GOD'S work. Glad I went." Pat Cole

"I love new ventures and do so appreciate all the effort, organizing, and warm welcome to us from Light of Christ. We make God smile when we work together. To God be the glory!" Saddle Piggott.

Melinda Floom





Northern Neck Christian School

- The NNKCS students are exploring many Montessori activities, they are singing and learning Bible verses about Jesus.
- In a group and individually they are learning the sounds of letters to lay the foundation for reading. Also learning numbers, counting and quantity.
- We'll be celebrating Thanksgiving with crafts, songs and special treats. The parents will join us for snacks.
- Students are learning the NNKCS Motto: "God is good all the time, all the time, God is good."
- Everyone has fun playing a game of tag.



The Bells of the West Point Cadet Chapel

Here at Light of Christ Anglican Church we have bells and bell ringers and enjoy their performances. But although not well known, even by West Point graduates, there are also bells in the protestant chapel at the United States Military Academy—12 bells, in fact, each weighing hundreds of pounds. You may know that the academy is located on the western bank of the Hudson River. And since the huge chapel stands on one of the highest sites of the academy grounds, when the bells are pealed, they can be heard for miles up and down the river. The chapel itself, built of granite in 1910, is one of the largest Gothic cathedrals in the US, and its famous organ is the largest church organ in the world, with over 21,000 pipes. But the organist does not play the bells. This is done by voluntary cadet chimers, of which I was one. How this works is a little-known story, even at West Point. In fact, the small group of chimers were almost like a secret society and didn't even know the names of all the others in the group. Few, if any, of my classmates to this day know that there were chimers, or even what being a chimer meant. But my dear wife Joan thinks I should tell my chimer story. So here goes.

The belfry of the chapel is a granite tower 60 feet above the ground. The bell rope of each bell drops down about 25 feet to an open space in the base of the tower where it is attached to its own lever in a strong wooden console. The console is about 8 feet wide and features a platform on which the chimer stands. Each lever has a polished wooden handle about a foot in length which extends out over the platform. To ring a bell, its respective lever must be pushed down by the chimer, who must move right and left along the platform in order to reach all the bell handles. Each handle requires a pressure of about 25 lbs., which requires the chimer to lean into the console with all his weight while at the same time moving constantly in order to reach the next note. Yes, there is music composed for just 12 notes, and the console also features a music rack which contains the small book of songs from among which the chimer can choose what to “play.” Some are well-known hymns, and there are Christmas carols for the Christmas season. So naturally chimers must be able to read music, in addition to being in good physical condition. During the academic year the bells are pealed each evening at 6:00pm for 15 minutes, beginning with a standard peal that uses

all the bells. After the opening peal the chimer can choose the remaining songs. The chimers, by the way, cannot see the bells from the console because of the vast masonry construction of the tower, which only allows room for the bell ropes to descend. There is no practice console, by the way. A new chimer goes up in the tower with an experienced chimer and watches for a couple of times, knowing that when he goes solo, thousands of people will hear any mistake he makes. So even though the 12-note music is not difficult, one's attention is required.

But that's not the whole story. The way the chimer gets up to the bell tower is quite an adventure. The chapel is a medieval design like the large cathedrals of Europe, with a huge vaulted and curved high ceiling over the nave. One gains access to the tower by ascending a narrow stone staircase near the main entrance. Public use of this staircase is prohibited by a metal gate which must be opened with a large metal key. At the top of the winding staircase is a plain wooden catwalk about 100 yds. long, lighted at night by only two bare bulbs. This rough catwalk is above the vaulted ceiling and extends the entire length of the cathedral to the masonry wall of the tower, at which point one must stoop low to pass through an opening in the wall only four feet high. Once there another bare light bulb hanging over the console can be switched on. So not only does the chimer see a part of the cathedral not open to the public, but in the fall and winter evenings he is all alone in the huge empty and darkened cathedral, having gained access using medieval-sized keys. *Phantom of the Opera*, anyone?

Tony Blackstone



Northumberland County Young Life & WyldLife Update

This month has been a busy one for Northumberland WyldLife! We had our monthly WyldLife Club at the beginning of the month and our kids had a blast dressing in their costumes, getting messy with some pumpkins, and hearing about how Jesus wants to know the real us. At Campaigners, we talked about Jesus washing the disciples' feet and the ways we can be humble like Jesus at school and with our families. We also took our fall trip to Great Wolf Lodge! We took 26 students and five brave leaders for a crazy 36 hours at this water park resort!



Taking kids out of the area and to a camp experience is one of the favorite parts of my job. Something special happens when the kids our leaders have been working hard at building relationships with get to be away from home in a different, Christ-filled environment. This weekend serves as an awesome launching point for deeper conversations about Jesus and opportunities to follow up and keep strengthening relationships with kids. Some of our kids whom we have known for over a year now are starting to have deeper questions about faith and it is clear that they trust us enough to ask those questions. What a privilege! This year I was especially surprised at how the Lord moved by bringing three new students that signed up literally the morning we left! I met them on Saturday morning and they were shy and nervous to be going away with strangers. However, by Saturday night we were dancing and singing at the top of our lungs to karaoke together! This is why weekends like this are special. Whether we have known the students for 2 years or 2 hours, we get to show them that we care for them and invite them into a full life with Jesus. Please continue to pray for all our students to have a desire to know Jesus, and especially for the new students we have just met that we can continue to build our relationships with them and continue to point them to Christ.

WyldLife will be selling our extra wreaths and greenery items again this year! We have four 28" evergreen wreaths, four 22" evergreen wreaths, five garland strands, three centerpieces, and two door swags available. Please call Laura at (540)333-4593 if you would like to reserve an item, otherwise we will be selling them after the service on Sunday, December 8.

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

Acolytes

- Dec. 1 Ed Feddeman
- Dec. 8 Marie Carstensen
- Dec. 15 Jane Wrightson
- Dec. 22 Constance McDearmon
- Dec. 24 Ed Feddeman
- Dec. 29 Marie Carstensen

Lesson Readers

- Dec. 1 Tony Blackstone (L) Joan Blackstone (P)
- Dec. 8 Jeanne Hickey (L) Ernie Proctor (P)
- Dec. 15 Howard York (L) Sandi Ward (P)
- Dec. 22 Jim Conley (L) Lyn Conley (P)
- Dec. 24 Charlaine Andrulot (L) Marie Carstensen (P)
- Dec. 29 Phyllis TeStrake (L) Betty Dillingham (P)

Eucharist Ministers

- Dec. 1 Harrison & Priscilla Williams
- Dec. 8 Tom Zamaria, Lucy Logan
- Dec. 15 David Gwaltney, Lucy Logan
- Dec. 22 Tony Blackstone, Suzy Norman
- Dec. 24 Harrison & Priscilla Williams
- Dec. 29 Tom Zamaria, Constance McDearmon

Ushers

- Dec. 1 Bill & Charlaine Andrulot
- Dec. 8 David Gwaltney, Jim Logan
- Dec. 15 Tom & Alison Kimmitt
- Dec. 22 Howard York, Dave Peresluha
- Dec. 24 Stan Rasberry, Chris Cralle
- Dec. 29 Doug & Courtney Ludeman

Altar Rail Ministers

- Dec. 1 Ernie Proctor, Marion Mitchell
- Dec. 8 George Beckett, Lyn Conley
- Dec. 15 Jim Conley, Constance McDearmon
- Dec. 22 Steve Proctor, Marion Mitchell
- Dec. 24 Ernie Proctor, Donna Soule
- Dec. 29

Greeters

- Dec. 1 Phyllis TeStrake
- Dec. 8 Julie Pritchard
- Dec. 15 Cheryl Swann
- Dec. 22 Doris Myers
- Dec. 24 Jeannette Cralle
- Dec. 29 Fred Wimberly

Counters

- December Bob Norman, Courtney Ludeman

**Nursery will be closed until
Further notice.**

Vestry Person on Duty

- Dec. 1 Dave Peresluha
- Dec. 8 Alison Kimmitt
- Dec. 15 Barbara Seed
- Dec. 22 Ernie proctor
- Dec. 24 Randy Smith
- Dec. 29 Dave Peresluha

December Birthdays

- Dec. 2 Bob Norman, Fred Woodard
- Dec. 5 Bonnie Odend'hal
- Dec. 10 Jim Logan
- Dec. 17 Daniel Mochamps
- Dec. 18 Carl Smith
- Dec. 26 Ernie Proctor
- Dec. 27 Jan Beckett, Hannah Hamlett
- Dec. 28 Marion Mitchell

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants named above, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

December Anniversaries

- Dec. 22 Herb and Pam Smith
- Dec. 28 Joan and Tony Blackstone
Linda and Rich Riddell

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants [as they begin another year], that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.



Those who leave
everything in
GOD'S HAND
will eventually see
God's hand in
everything.

The Beacon
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December



afm

ANGLICAN FRONTIER MISSIONS
going where the need is greatest

It was a joy to have Chris Royer, Executive Director of AFM, with us in November to lead Sunday school and then to preach in our worship service. Although our church is small, he encouraged us to stand firm in our faith, and shared his story of spending seven years in Turkey, where he and his family suffered persecution because they were Christians. The spirit of fear seeped into his heart, and to combat this, he sent his sending church six sentences each week - three prayer requests and three praise reports. This prayer support helped to sustain him and his family to continue his ministry in that place. Chris exhorted us to keep our support for our cross cultural worker in Asia alive and vital while she is serving in Asia.

The Barnabas Team plans to post prayer requests and praise reports for our worker, hopefully every week, on the church bulletin board under the missions section. We encourage you to pray for her protection and that the Lord will guard her heart against the spirit of fear as she goes out in the field to an unreached people group.

Jesus says in Matthew 10:16: ***I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.*** As her sending church, let us lift her up daily to stand firm in God's power and grace.

The Barnabas Team