

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

The church office will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27 for the holiday. Happy Thanksgiving!

PRAYER LIST

We beg you to feed the hungry, protect the refugee, embrace the distressed, house the homeless, nurse the sick, and comfort the dying. Especially we pray for Robyn Arrington, Diane Basta, Yvonne Butler, Langley Curry, Patty Sue Elder, Ronnie Elder, Lucy Hallman, Hillary Hettinger, Stacy Hettinger, Horace Higgins, Dianne Holloman, Jim Hunter, Katherine Miller, Lilly Rudd, Yava Scott, Mark Sheffield, Ted Simpson, Patricia Thorpe, Larry Tucker, and Cameron Wilson.

To send a note of encouragement to parishioners on the Prayer List, please use the on line church directory that you can find at www.christandgrace.org. Contact the church office 733-7202 for the log in password or for additional assistance.

STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S GIFTS/Every Member Canvass Update

First, thanks to those of you who have returned pledge cards representing your anticipated giving to the church for next year. Your fellow members and church planners appreciate your promptness and faithfulness. For those of you who were able to increase your weekly giving, we are most grateful.

Second, to those who find themselves in challenging financial positions, it is understood that every family may not be able to give or to give as much as they did last year. Your faithfulness to the congregation through attendance, worship, prayer, and giving of time, is sincerely welcomed - and needed.

The dollar amount for weekly offerings in next year's budget (the same as in the current year's budget) is approximately \$200,000. As of last Sunday, parishioners had pledged about half that sum. Offerings make up 60 percent of the income used to fund all church activities, pay utility bills, and keep up with salaries for our employees. It is, by far, the largest single piece of income in our budget and there is no other source of funding that could replace it.

We had planned for our every member canvass/stewardship focus month to end last Sunday, but we continue to welcome and to urge members to send in pledges for next year. Our expenses of all kinds are growing year-upon-year, so please consider whether it is possible for your family to increase its pledge for next year.

If you need a pledge card, please pick up one at church or call the church office and we will be glad to mail you one. When you have completed your pledge card, you may drop it off when you are at church or return it by mail. For your pledges, consider setting up an online payment at www.christandgrace.org and go to "Give" at the top of the page or sign up for automatic payments from personal checking or savings accounts through your bank. For more information please click on the button below.

As of today we have received 51 pledge cards out of 140 pledge cards mailed to the families in our parish totaling \$114,372.00. Thank you for returning your pledge card which allows us to plan for and continue the ministries of Christ and Grace. Your pledge will help keep our congregation living and thriving into the future.

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYERS

Advent is a time for watching, waiting, and hoping. Each Wednesday evening in Advent we will offer a quiet time of prayerful worship, helping us to be still in God's presence.

This brief time of prayer will be available on our YouTube channel at 5 pm each Wednesday in Advent beginning December 2. Christ and Grace YouTube channel <https://bit.ly/326ngmL>.

ADVENT WREATH WORKSHOP

Hopefully you have all picked up or received your Advent wreath supplies.

If you are making a live wreath using the oasis wreath form, watch this video by Missy Gates <https://youtu.be/L9AFQRmKwSo> which is available today on our YouTube channel and you can work on your wreath at your convenience.

If you are created a wreath from the Advent Kit for Kids, using the votive LED candles, watch this video by Samantha Ellis <https://youtu.be/c8YcfsvZ0xA>. Either video will show you some wonderful ways to create your wreath.

THEN - once you have completed your wreath, share a photo with us!

We'd love to see your masterpiece!

*Bonus points if your wreath is displayed in your Advent Home Worship Space

Send photos to churchoffice@christandgrace.org or rteasley@christandgrace.org

ADVENT AT CHRIST AND GRACE

Activities

- Virtual Advent Wreath Workshop - sign up now
- Children's Advent Activity Packs - pick up or request delivery
- Intergenerational Advent Devotional for the Parish - ""Naming Jesus - available at church
- What's in the Box for Advent? videos for the young and young at heart - coming soon!

Worship

- Holy Eucharist in Advent, Sundays at 10 AM, also live streamed on our YouTube channel
- Evening Worship in Advent, Wednesdays online
- Family Nativity Worship, Sunday Dec. 20 at 5 PM outdoors
- Christmas Eve Service, Thursday, Dec. 24 at 8 PM, also live streamed on our YouTube channel
- Holy Eucharist, First Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 27 at 10 AM, also live streamed on YouTube

BE A LIGHT IN SOMEONE'S LIFE THIS CHRISTMAS!

ANGEL TREE INSTRUCTIONS:

On the tree in the Sanctuary, there are Senior Angels from Battlefield Healthcare Center on Flank Road in Petersburg, and Prison Ministry Angels (children).

- Choose an Angel from the tree
- Take a picture with your phone of the Angel you have chosen or ask a friend to take a picture for you.
- Text or email the photo of the Angel along with your name to Sonyia Elder at 804-691-1735 or tselder@comcast.net
- \$25 Walmart gift cards are also appreciated

Please return the wrapped presents with the Angel label attached and the Walmart gift cards to Christ & Grace by Sunday, December 20 at 11 am. Thank you.

HOPE CENTER LUNCHESES

Thank you to all who helped make the Hope Center lunches a success on Thursday, November 12 & 19. From those that donated food items and helped prepare the meals to those that delivered the lunches to the Hope Center, all worked together to provide for those in need. A special thanks to Sonyia Elder for coordinating this event.