

# CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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## THE WORD – NOVEMBER 2022



### A LETTER FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

As the end of the year draws near, there is one last task the 2022 Vestry needs to tackle. That task is finding new people to lead the church for the coming **2 years**. I have loved serving on vestry as a member as well as BOTH Junior Warden and as Senior Warden. We have faced MANY challenges along the way in the last 3 years, including challenges of COVID 19, no permanent rector, no music director, and no cleaning service. Through prayer, and with the efforts of many of you who have given your time, talents, and treasure, we have successfully tackled many of these issues. Your vestry set 15 goals for the church for the 2022 year. We feel that 5 of our 15 goals were accomplished completely and the other 10 are in some stage of completion or implementation.

Our main challenge is still that of finding a priest. The Search Committee has done a terrific job of preparing materials, setting the stage, and is prepared to interview candidates, but like many churches in our diocese, there have been no candidates presented. We need prayers as we continue the SEARCH process. WE ALSO NEED YOU! 4 vestry positions need to be filled. You will not need to “reinvent” the wheel, but rather keep it spinning on the road of our “VISION” and plan for the future.

If you are asked to serve, you need to prayerfully consider serving your church in a leadership position. If you feel called to serve, **PLEASE** step forward.

When I came back to CEC, I heard many say, “I’ve already done that”, or “I am just too busy, or too old” in reference to serving on the vestry. That is all understandable. However, look around you in church on Sunday morning. Whom do you see that will make a good candidate that has not already been on the vestry? If nobody is able to fulfill the calling, then, who will lead? Many of you worked very hard throughout our preservation project

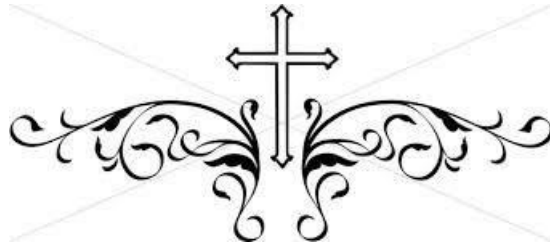
and continue to maintain patience as we continue to hold services with supply priests. There is “new life” in our church family with a teen group of 12 on Sunday evenings as well as a few new families arriving.

So, the question posed to us by Jesus is: WHOM SHALL I SEND?

HERE I AM LORD, SEND ME.

In the service of Christ at CEC,

Annamaria+



## AROUND CHRIST CHURCH



\*EYC-Our new youth program is underway. So far, we have had 6-12 participants. In addition to getting to know each other we are discussing the Beatitudes. On October 29<sup>th</sup> we will sponsor a community food drive in the South Church Street neighborhood, and additional plans are in the works. Please keep this effort in your prayers. Age range includes grades 5-12+.





\*Souper Saturday was held on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Some of our members prepared foods for the event. 14 of our parishioners attended the “all you could eat” meal to support the Isle of Wight Christian Outreach Fuel Assistance Program. If you missed it, plan to attend next year. The food was delicious and fellowship with other churches was fulfilling as well.



### \*Workday

Once again, we had a successful workday. Many thanks to the labors of the following people: Bill Egan, Sue Plummer, Mary Cole, Anita Wyrick, John Bates, Demere Bates, Tim Jones, Annamaria Pencola, Martha Underwood, and Donna Stanton. There is STILL much to be done. If you can do ANY of the following tasks, please contact Tim Jones so we can get our work complete before winter sets in. Thanks.

### Outside

1. Trim pecan tree
2. Weed all flower beds and flowerpots as needed
3. Clean behind the church

### First Floor

4. Chisel out and install knob on parish hall double door
5. Replace light or ballast in parish hall
6. Install deadbolt on sacristy (keys)
7. Install locking knob and dead bolt on rector's office main floor

### Basement

8. Repair rector's desk
9. Install smoke/ carbon mon. detector on wall in basement
10. Install new exterior door handle by Beth's office

Many hands make light work. We need YOUR help.



# POT LUCK LUNCHEON



Our church family had a potluck luncheon on October 16<sup>th</sup>. All the food was outstanding. We are sorry that some of you were sick or out of town and unable to attend. Annamaria reintroduced the mission statement (this tells who we believe we are right now). This mission statement is as follows:

## Mission:

Christ Episcopal Church (c.1832), in Smithfield, VA is a welcoming, inclusive community that seeks to celebrate our unity with God and serve Christ by following His example through our worship, outreach, and hospitality within our community and beyond.

Next, we discussed stewardship recognition month which Anita did in September. (This is how you serve the Lord by sharing your time, talent, and treasure.) To emphasize this, we sang The Servant Song in church. Ways that we can serve the church were distributed among our attending parishioners. Pledge cards were mailed with a letter on October 10<sup>th</sup>. If you did not receive one, but wish to pledge, please pick up a card from the Narthex, fill it in, and place it in the collection plate (or in Bob Amato's box). We need cards by November 6<sup>th</sup> (commitment Sunday) to plan for next year. Thanks.

We finished up with the presentation of our VISION statement (where we want to go in the future). A sign was displayed that said: SHARE THE VISION. We sang "Be Thou My Vision" to emphasize the unveiling of our church developed vision statement. The vision statement is:

To **seek** God through our worship, **nurture** God's creation, and **grow** by sharing Christ's love and WORD with our diverse community.

How do we achieve this vision? The answer to that will be determined in one final step called a strategic plan. You will hear more about this at a later time.



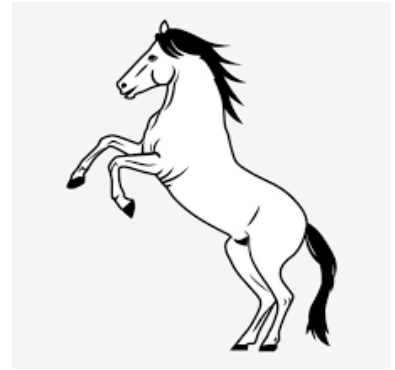
After all of this, Carleton blessed the food, we ate, and shared in some great fellowship time. We also welcomed some guests Devin, Patricia and Leo. We hope they will be back again soon.







# White Horse Fellowship



People of all ages  
are invited to join us  
for our Christmas Dinner at  
**Tokyo Thai**  
on Tuesday, December 13, 2022  
at 6:30 p.m.  
for fun, food and fellowship.



Call or email Edith Raby – 757-605-8020 –  
[egrhosanah@aol.com](mailto:egrhosanah@aol.com)  
for more information or if you have any questions.

## THE MARY MARTHA CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

will be rescheduling our **Open House** for a Saturday in January 2023. Anyone, women & men, who interested in learning more about what the Daughters of the King do are invited **More information** will be available in the December WORD and email.





# LOST BOYS OF SUDAN MINISTRY

- Feel free to ask me for details if you missed previous articles about this ministry. Also, some prior articles are on the back hall bulletin board.

-Please, write checks: "TO: Christ Episcopal; FOR: Lost Boys of Sudan Ministry" and put in the Sunday plate offering. THANK YOU! Any amount is hugely appreciated. Outreach Africa (501-c-3 in Norfolk) disburses funds and is all volunteer, so all funds go to the kids/young adults.

## -Appeals and Updates:

A. Please, join the support through June 2023 of the last three of our 'Original 6' Dinka refugee Boys' "family" still displaced in Uganda. CEC has been helping the 6 since 2006.

2023 is Manyang Jambo Puondak's last year of Medical School in Uganda!

Our last payment will be in March, 2023. I am in touch via email with Manyang Jambo. He, Manyang John and Peter Laat are so very appreciative of CEC's help all along the way.

In November, 2022 we will send funds to Outreach Africa (Norfolk) to go towards Manyang's lab's, books, fees, room and board to cover the 1st 4 months of 2023. He will graduate in June! After that the final three "boys" plan to repatriate to their new country of South Sudan where they will be allowed to work - unlike Uganda. The 1st three have made it home to South Sudan. They will assist repatriation of the last three.

B. Moses' Group of 47 Dinka kids (in Kakuma Refugee Camp) also needs our help with very basic necessities: supplemental food, medical, build a shelter for the new arrivals in the compound, household items. The kids (ages 5 to early 20's) just want stability and are so thankful for any help says Julie Hill of Outreach Africa.

C. what a joy to have a surprise visit from Akau Jambo Puondak on August 22, 2022! Akau is a talented up and coming comedian in Africa. He finished a 3 month grant at Michigan State in August. He is one of the 'Original 6.' We are in touch by email.

Photos on the next page are of Akau and Julie Hill, the director of Outreach Africa. They had lunch at Warf Hill, shot photos at CEC and then visited me.



Akau has been awarded another grant to work, live and study at the Steel City Art Foundation (SCAF) in Pittsburgh, PA for 9 months. His J-1 visa has expired and is not renewable for 2 years. To seize the SCAF opportunity means obtaining an O-1 visa which costs \$6000. Akau has set up a crowd fund at a bank in New York, but any funds we raise can go through Outreach Africa. Akau has raised \$1000 so far with his comedy gigs in Africa.

Akau needs help with the initial \$2700 (of the \$6000) to retain the lawyer to start the O-1 visa process. This is a well-deserved and great opportunity for Akau. SCAF's founder, Steve Hofstetter will be a perfect mentor for Akau, combining Comedy and humanitarianism. Akau performs benefits in several African countries for (and at) African refugee camps. He hopes to have funds to start the Visa process soon. He is very grateful for CEC's help all along the way.

At the age of 12, as one of the older of the 'Original 6', Akau's good humor and positive spirit were instrumental in helping the 6 leave Kakuma Refugee Camp and get safely to Uganda. Akau and 2 others became the Elders at 13. They formed a caring family unit to survive with spirit, spunk, wisdom, and success by themselves in the Sudanese diaspora. Along with Mading and Mabil, Akau are dedicated to make repatriation smoother for their cousins and brothers: Manyang Jambo-, Manyang John-, and Peter Laat- Puondak.

God's blessings,  
Betsy Egan



# **OUR CHURCH HISTORY AND STORIES THROUGH THE VOICES OF MEMBERS**

**Tell Your Story: When & Why You Decided to Make Christ Episcopal Church Your Home.** Write about your time here, and the ministries, events, work, contributions, etc. you have enjoyed while here. Tell interesting stories about happenings that you remember. How is the church different now from what it was when you first arrived? What is your hope for the future!

**Example:** Recently, I was told that in 1975 the church was locked up all the time. If you needed to get in to prepare the altar for Sunday morning, you had to walk to the service station on the corner, where the Chamber now is, and borrow the church key that was hanging on the Wall of the Service Station there. **Objective:** To capture our Christ Episcopal Church history through the stories and experiences of church members. What interesting stories can you tell about yourself, your family, your children here, or about members who are no longer with us.

**Expectations:** To share our experiences and stories, whether as a new member, or a member of long standing. Initially, write, or record without a lot of editing. Try to make it as natural as possible.

**Deliver to:** Mary Cole as an email attachment, or if you do not have email, place copy in my church mailbox. My email address: [marycole@tidewaterarts.com](mailto:marycole@tidewaterarts.com)

I have some good stories, but would like to hear from everyone. This is a great project for us, but we need everyone's story. Give a little of your history, and then when did you come to CEC? How were you initially greeted? What have you enjoyed? What have you participated in? What has kept you at CEC? What would you like CEC to do, or not do going forward? Tell about your family, if they grew up at CEC. What funny things happened? What will you remember the most? What one or two things keep you coming to CEC? Would you like to be more involved? What new ways would you like to serve?

Who would like to work with this project? Please let me know. The Preservation Team is looking for a leader to Chair this, and those who would like to work this project.

Thanks,

Mary Cole 757-675-5777 [marycole@tidewaterarts.com](mailto:marycole@tidewaterarts.com)

# CHRISTIAN OUTREACH PROGRAM

This program was born here in CEC and started by Gene Lowery and Fred Glanville. We deliver food to the Isle of Wight County facility on an on-going basis. Our food is currently being delivered by Wayne Willis after donations are given by our congregation at Christ Church. Christian Outreach ALWAYS needs volunteers (2-4 hours per month) to help distribute and take in food, diapers, etc. If you can volunteer to work for the COP please call for details of hours of operation or check out their website at: <https://iowcop.net>. Thank you.



## HELP FILL THE COP FOOD PANTRY SHELVES



Christ Church participates in collecting non-perishable food items on Sundays for the Food pantry at COP (Christian Outreach Program). This is an important ministry to those who are hungry. Many in the community are still unemployed due to COVID. Anything you can drop off at church in the “outreach” basket will be greatly appreciated. The basket is located under the mailboxes. Thank you KINDLY and GOD BLESS!.

### COP Shopping list

- ☐ Canned Fruit
- ☐ Canned soups
- ☐ Canned vegetables
- ☐ Pasta
- ☐ Peanut Butter

- ☐ Cereal
- ☐ Baby food
- ☐ Granola Bars
- ☐ Diapers – size 5 or 6



Last time I sent this, 15 people did not get the newsletter because the file was too large. I have split it into 2 sections. Can't tell if both MS Word doc & pdf affected so you will receive two more emails; one with doc. & one with pdf.

## November WORD, 2022 – Part 2

### People and Events

12

#### 1. Guest Organist

November 20 and 27 All Saints Day we will have organist Jean Marshall at CEC. Jean was the organist at Trinity Methodist Church for many years, and is now retired. She played for us at St. Luke's the last 5th Sunday. We appreciate her providing the music for these Sundays.

Elsa Bakkum has been our guest organist for several Sundays. Most recently October 23 and she will play our 5th Sunday service at St. Luke's on October 30. It has been a real treat having her partner with her husband, The Rev. Carleton Bakkum. We hope to have her with us often.



2. November 27 at 4:00 PM is Sundays at Four's Holiday Special called *"Herald the Season"* for Brass Quintet and Organ. Performing are The Second Ending Brass and Heidi Bloch on organ. There will be music from Thanksgiving to Christmas. This concert has returned this year by audience request. We know it will be enjoyed. Sundays at Four is supported by ticket sales and contributions. See attached

poster (you can select)

3. "A Colonial Christmas in Smithfield" supported by Historic Smithfield. Christ Church has been invited to participate along with the 1750 Courthouse and Windsor Castle Manor House and Farm Yard on Saturday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and Sunday, Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM. We will need our members' assistance to make our part successful. We need help in the following areas:



Historic Tours to highlight our 1832 church and the beautiful stained glass windows - See Mary Cole



A Light Lunch will be offered of Soups, Sandwiches, and desserts. This is a money maker; we encourage everyone to help - See Joan Lee Mikulas



Our special Ornaments designed like our windows are offered for sale - See Sue Plummer.



**Freddie Chapman selling our Ornaments at the Farmer's Market in December 2021**





## Carolers (we still have openings - rehearsal at 1:00 pm today, Saturday, November 29<sup>th</sup>



Joy Vernon, Director of the Carolers for "A Colonial Christmas in Smithfield."



Carolers from 2021's "A Colonial Christmas in Smithfield" event.

5. Signs: You will see new parking signs of the columns when you arrive on Sundays. ***Do Not Park In The Verizon Parking Lot.*** You can park on the grass which is ours.



# **Herald the Season**

## **November 27 at 4:00 PM**

*A Sundays at Four Holiday Special*

at

Christ Episcopal Church



Come and enjoy music that celebrates  
Thanksgiving to Christmas

Requested for a second year by the audience!

The Second Ending Brass

Heidi Bloch, Organ

# RICKY GOODWYN TO SING ROLE OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

EMU MUSIC DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL

## Gala TRUTH & Light CONCERT:

A special evening of **MUSICAL UNITY** and **COMMUNITY** that speaks truth and celebrates light.

The evening will feature the speeches of **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** as sung by powerful baritone **Ricky Goodwyn Jr.** in a multimedia performance of Flagello's choral masterwork *The Passion of Martin Luther King Jr.*, as well as the joyful light-filled music of internationally award-winning Balafon virtuoso and Malian folk musician **Balla Kouyaté**.

**SPECIAL GUEST ARTIST BALLA KOUYATÉ**

Also featuring performances of the EMU University Choir, EMU Wind Ensemble, EMU Jazz, Chamber Singers, The EMU Chamber Orchestra, and Shenandoah Valley Youth Symphony

**Friday, November 11, 7 p.m.**  
**Lehman Auditorium, EMU**

Also available via livestream:  
[facebook.com/EasternMennonite/live](https://facebook.com/EasternMennonite/live)

**EMU** Free Admission  
Donations to the EMU Music Program are welcome [emu.edu/music](https://emu.edu/music)

Thanks to our partners: **SVPM** **ANY GIVEN CHILD** **SV Bf** **SHENANDOAH VALLEY BACH FESTIVAL** **shenandoah valley children's choir**

**Ricky Goodwyn Jr., a graduate student singing the role of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg November 11, 2020. He is a member of Christ Church in Smithfield where he has sung**

numerous recitals. This role in this Chorale Masterpiece, *The Passion of Martin Luther King, Jr.*, by Nicolas Flagello is a challenging contemporary role based on speeches of Dr. King.





**Newsletter**



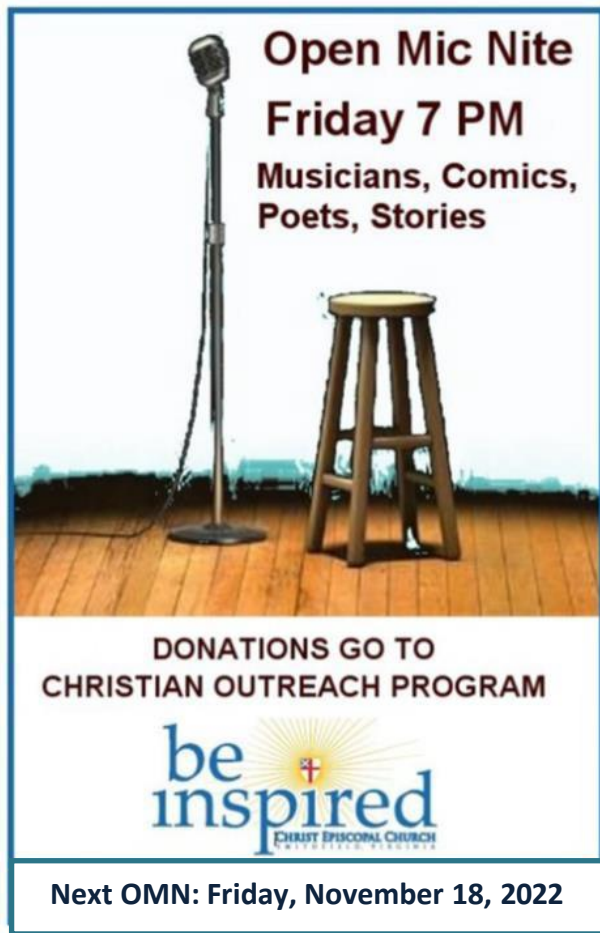
**Deadline**

For December WORD

**Monday,**

November 21, 2022 by

**5:00 p.m.**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

EYC Every Sunday at 6:30

November 6th- ALL SAINTS DAY and Commitment Sunday (turn all pledge cards in please)

November 27th-Herald the Season Holiday Concert \$20 adults \$10 students NO EYC

November 27th Advent 1

December 3rd Christmas in Smithfield-ornament sales, tours, food items sale, carolers

December 4th Church Tours and ornament sales

December 4th Advent 2

December 11th Annual Meeting/snacks after church  
New Vestry Installed

December 18th Advent 3

December 24th Christmas Eve Service 5PM FAMILY service

December 25th-Christmas Day-no service

## OPEN MIC NITE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2022

**We had  
a small  
group  
on  
Friday**

**a few  
performances, we  
had a Jam Session.  
We all sang along  
and anyone who  
wanted to came up  
and joined in with  
their guitars.  
Audience members**



**sang  
along  
and a  
great  
time  
was  
had by  
all.**



Vince Falcione and Lee Harper lead off the evening.





John Savarese and his wife came up for the weekend from Richmond to celebrate their wedding anniversary. He played guitar and



We took a break from singing to listen to Tim Jones read a bad poem. The poem was bad, yet it was hilarious! We all had a good laugh from it.



© dak



Annamaria Pencola, Vince Falcione, Lee Harper, Scott Hamilton, John Petrone, and Richard Rhodes during one of the songs.



# Blessing of the ANIMALS

**Sunday,  
October 9, 2022**

**It was a beautiful  
afternoon for  
Christ Church to  
hold the Blessing  
of the Animals.  
Parishioners and**

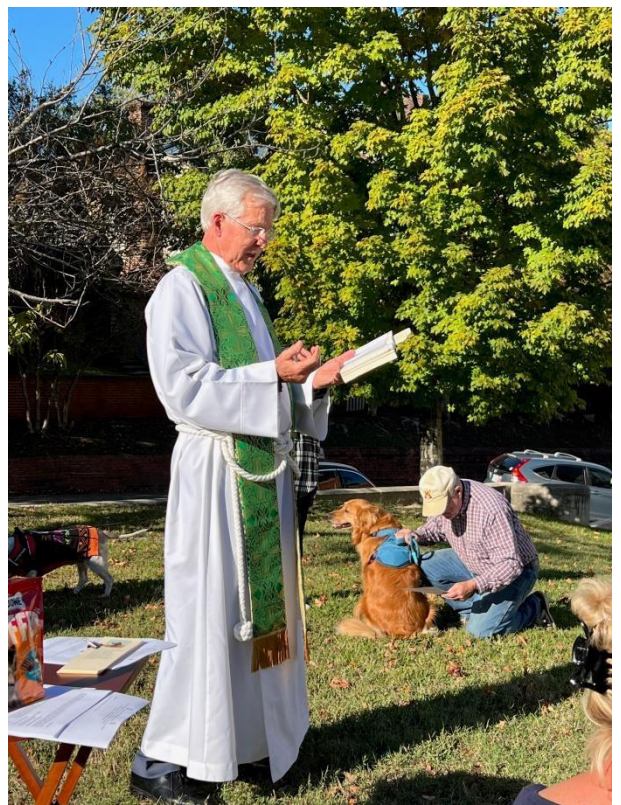


## Blessed pooches

Christ Episcopal Church in Smithfield had its annual Blessing of the Animals on Oct. 9. Among those bringing their family pets to be blessed by the Rev. Carleton Bakkum were Smithfield residents Sam White with dog Peaty (photo above), Azna and Betty Dubinsky (upper right) and Annamaria Pencola (photo at right). (Photos by Brianna Hill)



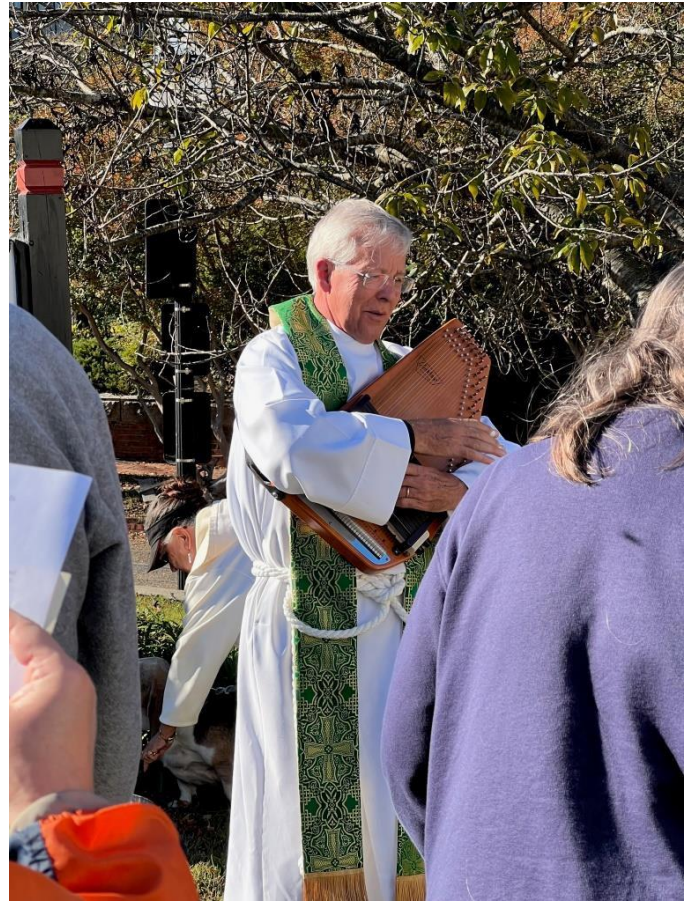
Photo article from The Smithfield Times











**Carleton serenaded people and animals with a rendition of “All God’s Critters Got a Place in the Choir”. This is a great song that includes so many animals and imagines them singing together in a choir.**















# THE HOLY BAPTISM OF

*Jennifer Anne Worcester*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2022



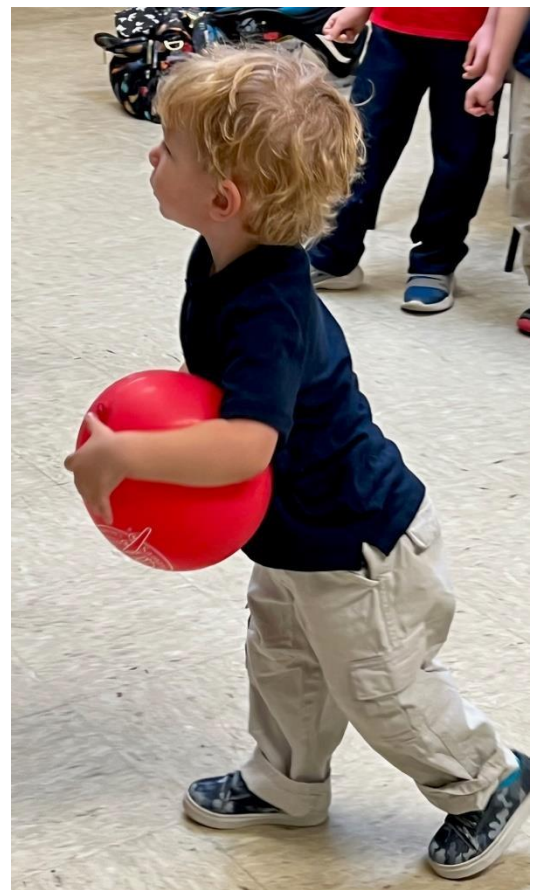








Jennifer's Brothers (from left to right) Michael, Romeo, Carson and Charles (Charlie).



Charlie with balloon.




Jennifer with her Daddy, Brogden



(left to right) Carson, Romeo and Michael enjoying refreshments with family friend, Sheryl Bice



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		 1	2 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	3	4	5
<b>All Saints' Sunday &amp; Commitment Sunday</b> 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 6:30 EYC	7	8	9 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	10	11	12
13 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 6:30 EYC	14	15 6:30pm Vestry Meeting Vestry	16 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	17	18 7pm Open Mic Nite	19
20 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 6:30 EYC	21	22	23 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	 24	25	26
<b>Advent 1</b> 27 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 4pm Sundays at Four – "Herald the Season" Holiday Concert 6:30 EYC	28	29	30 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts			



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 11am-4pm "A Colonial Christmas in Smithfield"
<b>Advent 2</b> 4 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 12pm-4:00pm "A Colonial Christmas in Smithfield" 6:30 EYC	5	6	7 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	8	9	10
<b>Advent 3</b> 11 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II followed by Annual Meeting with snacks 6:30 EYC	12	13 6:30pm White Horse Fellowship @ Tokyo Thai	14 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	15	16 7pm Open Mic Nite	17
<b>Advent 4</b> 18 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 6:30 EYC	19	20 6:30pm Vestry Meeting	21 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	22	23	<i>Christmas Eve</i> 24 5pm Christmas Eve Family Service
<i>Christmas Day</i> 25 No church Service 	26	27	28 9am-2pm Hands & Hearts	29	30	31
30 9:30am Adult Class 10:30am Rite II 6:30 EYC	31					



8 Mandy Dubinsky  
10 David McLellan  
27 Priscilla McGreevy



1 Ed Mortimer  
2 Eric Leaman  
3 Deborah Webb  
4 Beth Harris

6 Annamaria Pencola  
14 Maryann Amato  
24 Mary Linder  
30 Walter Odipo