



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

111 SOUTH CHURCH STREET
SMITHFIELD, VA 23430
OFFICE: 757-357-2826 OR 357-2810
FAX: 757-357-2810



THE WORD – FEBRUARY 2026

Pancake Supper



*Shrove Tuesday
Mardi Gras Celebration*

**Join us for fun, food
and fellowship!**

Information

Date: Tuesday, February 17th

Place: Christ Church Parish Hall

Time: 5:45-7:00 PM

Hosted by the Men of Christ Church

Come for this GALA EVENT!

Donations are welcome to defray the cost of the meal.

**You are cordially invited to the annual
Classics Valentine Luncheon*
Friday, February 13, 2026
At 12 Noon
Gatling Point Yacht Club
Let's wear red or pink!**



“If you are a Classic, (at least 70 years old) this event is for you! If you know of anyone of a “certain age” who may not have received this notice, please let them (and us!) know!”

**Please reply by Tuesday, February 10th to
Joanne Willis at jowillis2020@gmail.com**



Classic: adjective

- 1. Of the highest rank or class**
- 2. Serving as an outstanding representative of its kind; model**
- 3. Having lasting significance or recognized worth**

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

at 7:00 p.m.



PERCEIVING THE DIVINE PRESENCE IN ALL THINGS

Creation Care



Most of us know the Sacraments from the Book of Common Prayer. Contemplative author and artist Christine Valters expands how we understand sacramentality as a way of perceiving divine presence in all things:

Sacramentality is a quality present in creation that opens us up to the Sacred Presence in all things. Sacraments reveal grace. When viewed through this expansive lens, we discover that the more we cultivate intimacy with the natural world, the more we discover about God’s presence. All of our interactions with nature can be sacramental, and all the ways nature extends herself to us are sacramental as well. Sacramentality breaks through our surface obsessions in the world and plunges us into the depth of the Sacred at every turn. It is a spontaneous reminder of God’s creative upwelling and expansive love, calling us to love beyond boundaries. St. Isaac the Syrian defines a charitable heart as one “which is burning with love for the whole creation, for [humans], for birds, for the beasts, for the demons—for all creatures.”

There is a sense of God's incarnate presence in creation that shimmers forth to reveal the holiness of all things. Notice how your senses come alive when you walk out in the world aware of its sacramental nature. What do your eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and skin each reveal to you about how God is alive in the world around you?

Alison

Sundays at Four

PLANS A VARIED LINE-UP FOR THE WINTER/SPRING PERFORMANCE SEASON

Beginning on Sunday afternoon, February 22, Sundays at Four will return for a varied series of presentations showcasing spoken monologues, solo recitals, and chamber ensembles.

Valarie Gray Holmes, a costumed interpreter and highly sought-after actress at Historic Jamestown, will present, "Seeds of Knowledge: Angola to Academia (1619-1968)". Essentially a one-woman show interpreting the lives of four Black and enslaved women across four centuries, Valarie's program will also involve Jane Hanson, a former Colonial Williamsburg performing arts interpreter, who will add music for the time periods that Valarie Holmes is portraying. Drummer, Willie Wright, an interpreter of several free and enslaved Black men, will join bringing to life the four time periods and women created by Valarie's monologues.

The artists will hold a question and answer session immediately following the performance, after which, we will adjourn to the Parish Hall for a light reception to include several examples of foods eaten by the community.

The Sundays at Four line-up also includes another charming performance by *The Tidewater Cello Ensemble*, a group of teenage cellists and their directors, Susan and Erin Hines. Last year, the ensemble performed for us just before their trip and two concerts in Dresden and Salzburg. This Spring, the group will travel to Barcelona after the Smithfield performance on March 15, at 4 pm.

Soundscapes will present a program on Sunday, April 12. This group of seven student musicians is an ambassador group of paid teens, all members of the Peninsula Youth Orchestra, led by Rey Ramirez.

On MONDAY, May 4, at 7 pm (note the unusual day and time) the US Air Force Winds from Langley Air Force Base will present a concert at Christ Episcopal Church.

And the always heart-warming Solo Youth Recital will be held on Sunday, June 7, when Lydia Li presents her solo piano recital, a performance months in the preparing and quite an accomplishment for a teen.

As usual, the Sundays at Four year concludes with the annual August Terrific Teen Talent program on Sunday, August 2. Six teenage musicians will present their most polished pieces in an afternoon of mini-recitals. The teens are expected to work with their individual private teachers to determine the pieces they will present. An ice cream party follows to meet the teens.

All programs take place at Christ Episcopal Church, 111 S. Church Street in the Historic District of Smithfield, VA. Tickets for the February 22 concert are available at the door, or in advance at Humanitix.org (Adults \$25. Students \$10. Children under 15-free.) A QR code is visible for your quick access to ticket sales. All remaining concerts (March 15, April 12, May 4, and August 2) will encourage free-will contributions. SAF depends on ticket sales and contributions for their full support. We hope to see you soon.

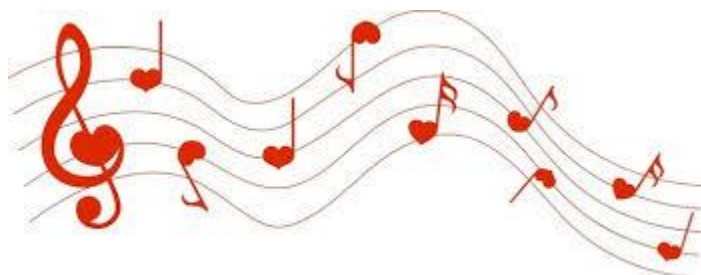
Heidi Bloch, Artistic Director

Sundays at Four

P.O. Box 61

Smithfield, VA 23431

Information contact Mary Cole, (757) 675-5777 marycole@tidewaterarts.com



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Sundays at Four



**“SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE:
ANGOLA TO ACADEMIA”**

The Journeys of Four Women

Valarie Gray-Holmes

- a theatrical presentation -

February 22 – 4:00 PM



Four Monologues presented with music interludes that tell stories of women across four centuries in America beginning with the arrival of African women as slaves in 1619. The stories tell of their knowledge, wisdom, resilience preserved and transmitted across four centuries despite laws and hardship.

Christ Episcopal Church, 111 S. Church St., Smithfield VA

Tickets (at door/online) Adults \$25; Students \$10; Under 15 Free

(online tickets: [Humanitix.com](https://www.humanitix.com) • Thanks to IWAL Supporters:



Sundays at Four

presents

The Tidewater Cello Ensemble

Susan & Erin Hines, Directors

March 15, 2026 at 4:00 PM



Christ Episcopal Church, 111 S. Church St., Smithfield VA
Free-Will Contribution Appreciated

Supported By



Sundays at Four

Concerts & Performances
January – August 2026
18th Concert Season

February 22, 2026 – 4:00

Valarie Gray-Holmes,
Historical Interpreter
- a theatrical presentation -

**“SEEDS OF KNOWLEDGE:
ANGOLA TO ACADEMIA”
(1619 – 1968)**



The Journeys of Four Women
Knowledge, Wisdom, Resilience
preserved & transmitted across four
centuries despite laws and hardships.

The ***Sundays at Four*** 2025-2026 Concert Season continues in calendar year 2026 with six (6) more performances as listed.

Only the February 22 performance, **“Seeds of Knowledge: Angola to Academia 1619-1968”** is a ticketed production. All other concerts will encourage Free-Will Contributions.

Tickets for the February production can be purchased online at [Humanitix.com](https://www.humanitix.com) (Scan the QR Code), or purchased at the door. Adults \$25; Students \$10; Under 15 – Free. Information: 757-675-5777 – leave message.

February 22, 2026 – 4:00 pm



March 15, 2026 – 4:00 pm

The Tidewater Cello Ensemble
Susan & Erin Hines, Directors
These young cellists will perform in Spain following our concert.

April 12, 2026 – 4:00 pm

**2025-2026 Soundscapes
Performance Ensemble**
Seven students from the *Peninsula Youth Orchestra* who serve as artistic ambassadors for *Soundscapes*.

Monday, May 4, 2026 - 7:00 pm

US Air Force Langley Winds

June 7, 2026 – 4:00 pm

Solo Youth Recital
Lydia Li, Piano

August 2, 2026 – 4:00 pm


Terrific Teen Talent Recital
Six Hampton Roads Teens selected by audition to present individual mini recitals on this Teen Concert.

Christ Episcopal Church
111 S. Church St., Smithfield VA

Ticketed Performances:
Adults \$25 Students \$10
Under 15 – Free


The ***Sundays at Four*** concert season runs from September through August each year and it provides a minimum of three professional concerts, and three opportunities for young musicians (Recital for 6 auditioned teens on the August Terrific Teen Recital, a Solo Youth Recital, and a Master Class, or in School Workshop). Applications are now available on the SAF FB page for the August 2 Terrific Teen Talent Recital.

We are pleased to have the **US Air Force Langley Woodwind Quintet** as guest during this 250th Anniversary Year. All concerts are held at Christ Episcopal Church, 111 S. Church St., Smithfield.



Open Mic Nite
Friday 7 PM
Musicians, Comics,
Poets, Stories

DONATIONS GO TO OUTREACH



Friday, February 20, 2026



Deadline for
March 2026 WORD
Wednesday February 18, 2026
by 5:00 p.m.



OPEN MIC NITE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16



Jam'n was up first.
They sang
"Never Can Tell"
"Fire on the Mountain"
"Listen"

Left to right: Tim Jones, Scott Hamilton, Jeff Bolt



Left to right: Jeff Bolt, Tim Jones, Scott Hamilton



Mark D'Echevery holding guitar, John Petrone on Drums, Jeff Bolt, far right



(top left) Mark D'Echevery; (bottom, left to right) John Petrone, Jeff Bolt, Scott Hamilton; (on floor, left to right) Alex Fenton, Tim Jones and Stuart Greenlaugh.



Tony Sullo played “Feels So Good” and “Baby, Baby” on the horn.



Alex Fenton on piano.

Jeff Bolt, singer



Band Medicine sang: “Hungry Heart”, “Please Don’t Go” “Don’t Worry b’out a Thing”, “Turn the Page”, “Margaritaville”, and “You Never Call Me”.

Left to right: (on floor) Larry Pike, Walt Trimble, Alex Fenton; (on stage) Fred Andy, David McLellan



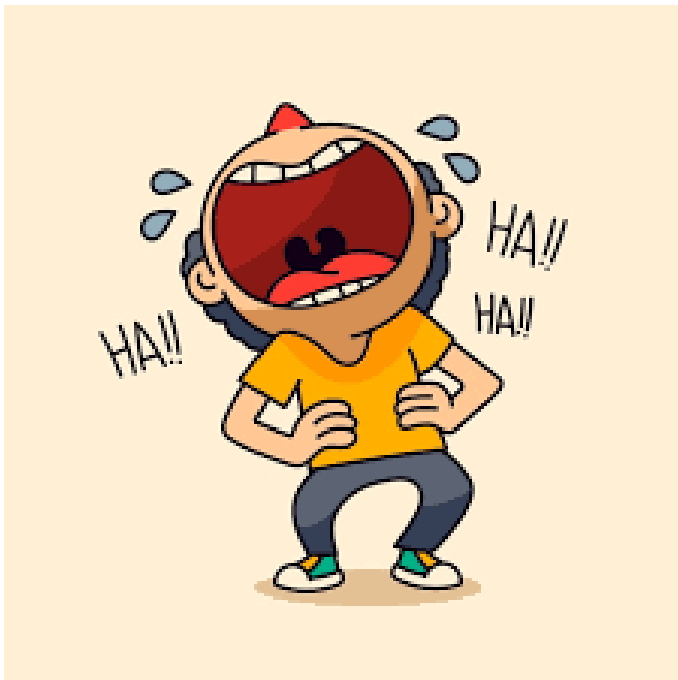
Darryl Yandle sang an original song to the tune of “Christopher Robin and Pooh”; “Don’t Pull Your Love”, and “Father & Son”.



Nancy entertained everyone with her comedy routine.



Captain Laura (on right) & Vince (on left) sang “Why Worry”, “Crossing Muddy Waters”, “Bones”, “Rain or Shine”, “Folsom Prison”



Paul Sobby performed a comedy routine.

COP FOOD PANTRY SHELVES

This program was born here at CEC and was started by Gene Lowery and Fred Glanville. We deliver food to the Isle of Wight County facility on an on-going basis. On the fourth Sunday of each month, our donations are placed at the altar to be blessed by the priest. Our food is then delivered to COP 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.



Christ Church participates in collecting non-perishable food items on Sundays for the Food pantry at COP (Christian Outreach hungry. 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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	2	3	4	5	6 12:30-3pm SAF Rehearsal (Jane, Valerie, Lee Ann) in Church & Choir Room	7
8 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II 2-3:30pm SAF Rehearsal (Jane, Valerie, Lee Ann) in Church & Choir Room	9	10 10am-12pm SAF Rehearsal (Jane, Valerie, Lee Ann) in Church & Choir Room	11	12	13 12 noon Classics Valentine Luncheon at Gatling Point Yacht Club	14 
15 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	16 	17  5:45-7pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	18  7pm Ash Wednesday Service	19	20 7pm Open Mic Nite 	21 10:15-11:30am Pop-Up Choir Rehearsals 11:30am-2:30pm SAF Rehearsal (Jane, Valerie, Lee Ann) in Church & Choir Room
First Sunday of Lent 22 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 4pm Sundays at Four "Seeds of Knowledge: Angola to Academia" The Journeys of Four Women	23	24 6pm Vestry	25	26	27	28



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Second Sunday of Lent 1 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	2	3	4	5	6	7
Third Sunday of Lent 8 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	9	10	11	12	13	14
Fourth Sunday of Lent 15 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	16	17 	18	19	20 7pm Open Mic Nite	21
Fifth Sunday of Lent 22 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	23	24 6pm Vestry	25	26	27	28
29 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite I	30	31				



FEBRUARY

1 Anita Wyrick
7 Chris Crocker
24 Will Leaman

9 Bill Wyrick
12 Fred Stanton
17 Angie Garrett
20 Cory Webb
22 Tim Jones
Martha Underwood

24 Judy Cutler
Betty Dubinsky
Bob McGreevy
25 Ricky Goodwyn, Jr.
26 Martin Mikulas
27 Bobbi Grimsley
31 Amanda Worcester

MARCH