

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

111 SOUTH CHURCH STREET
SMITHFIELD, VA 23430
OFFICE: 757-357-2826 OR 357-2810
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THE WORD MAY 2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Reverend Todd DeLaney Called as Rector

On April 19th, the Vestry announced that Father Todd has been called as our rector. He accepted the call and the bishop has approved. There will be a celebration of Todd's new position in the fall with the bishop. Stay tuned for more information about a specific date and time. (More photos under "April Memories")



AND THE WINNER IS:

Judy Cutler was the winner of the Egg Raffle and she has received her Easter Egg and her \$100 gift certificate. Congratulations, Judy!

St. Luke's Board Members Visit

Some of the St. Luke's Board Members visited us on April 19th. These members were Jim Henderson, Dave Hare, Matt Abbitt (President of the Board) and Suzie Cooper.

One of our initiatives this year is to improve our relationship through volunteering in our community. We have chosen St. Luke's (our mother church) and the IOW Christian Outreach Program to begin focusing on service to our fellow man as Jesus called us to do.

While the board was visiting, Wayne Willis and Bob McGreevy (two of our trustees) presented St. Luke's with their half of the Nannie Blackwell Fund for 2025 (approximately \$12,000). Nannie Blackwell was a long-time member of Christ Church. She established this fund in her will. The fund is managed by the Christ Church Board of Trustees. Half of the proceeds each year go to the support of Historic St. Luke's, and half are distributed as scholarships to Isle of Wight students



CREATION CARE

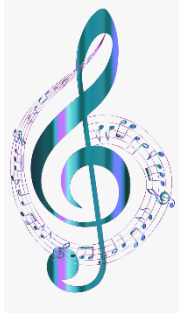
April is the month of Earth Day (April 22nd). I partnered with Smithfield Library on a display to feature some of the things that volunteer groups in our community are doing that support nature and help the earth. I was proud to include the following information about Creation Care efforts at our Church 😊❤️



Alison Crocker

Sundays at Four

Remaining Performances



Monday, May 4, 2026 -7:00 p.m.

US Air Force Langley Winds

June 7, 2026 – 4:00 p.m.

Solo Youth Recital – Lydia Li, Piano

August 2, 2026 – 4:00 p.m.

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 Street, Smithfield VA**



REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Kill 2 birds with one stone. Christian Outreach and Creation Care has a new way to carry out our mission as stewards of the planet. Please bring your plastic bags, FLATENED OUT so Christian Outreach can use them to bag food for the needy. Many thanks to those who have already contributed. Don't forget, leave the bags FLAT. Thank you so much.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Christian Outreach and St. Luke's can **ALWAYS** use volunteers. All you need to do is sign up. Go to the websites and fill out the information with a time you can help. lowcop.net (Christian Outreach) or <https://stlukesmuseum.org> (St. Luke's). Service to our community is desperately needed and we can help fulfill the needs of others.



Newsletter

**Deadline for
June WORD
Wednesday May 20, 2026
by 5:00 p.m.**



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

DONATIONS GO TO OUTREACH



Friday, May 15, 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,



Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers, visits, cards, and phone calls both times while I was in the hospital and then at Riverside Life-Long Rehabilitation recovering from my broken ankle, where I am now. It means a lot to me.

Love,
The Rev. Edith G. Raby



CEC WORKDAY

WOW! So much amazing stewardship displayed at our workday on Saturday, April 18th! Thank you so much to all of the people who came to work! Allison Callahan, Stephanie Callahan, Demere Bates, John Bates, Tim Jones, Alison Crocker, Chris Crocker, Leigh Abbott-Leaman, Bob McGreevy, Alex Fenton, Angie Garrett, Kim Leazar and Annamaria Pencola. This is what was accomplished:

- a. moved items to various places they belonged or will be stored up and down steps
- b. flower guild room cleaned out
- c. hospitality closet cleaned out
- d. upstairs classrooms dusted and vacuumed
- e. upstairs bathrooms cleaned
- f. 1st floor bathroom painted
- g. Todd's office painted
- h. most sanctuary front lights replaced
- i. Some grounds work completed

Here we are in action:



Leigh Abbot-Leaman and Alison Crocker



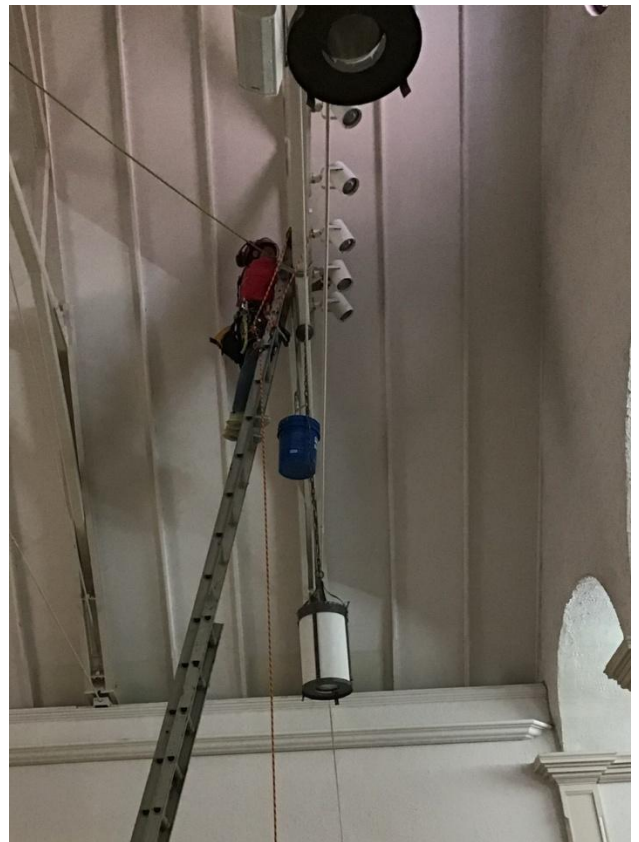
Background – Annamaria Pencola;
Foreground - Allison Callahan



John Bates, Alex Fenton & Chris Crocker preparing the ladder to change a light bulb in the ceiling of the Church.



John Bates, Chris Crocker & Alex Fenton sending up the lines to keep Alex safe when he climbs the ladder to put the bulb in.



Up, up to the ceiling.



Painters: (left) Leigh Abbot-Leaman and...



...(right) Tim Jones



Demere Bates working on make the front of the church look beautiful.



Alison Crocker cleaned up the Altar Guild Room.



Top left photo: Kimberly Leazer on the ladder and Angie Garrett on floor.

Middle right photo: Kimberly Leazer

Bottom left photo: Angie Garrett



APRIL 19TH POTLUCK & TODD'S RECEPTION

April 19th Holy Eucharist



Potluck & Reception

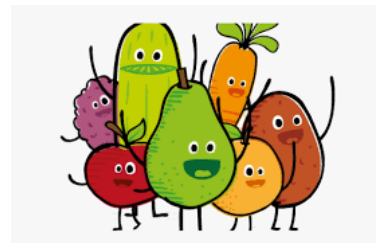








FUN & FELLOWSHIP



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



2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					 1	2
3 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	4 7pm SAF - US Air Force Langley Winds	5 	6	7	8	9
 10 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	11	12	13	14 12-6pm Smithfield Community Blood Drive at Trinity UMC	15 7pm Open Mic Nite 	16
17 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II After church – Vestry meeting	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II at St. Luke's						



2026

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	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	15	16	17	18	19  7pm Open Mic Nite	20
21 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II After church – Vestry meeting	22	23	24	23	26	27
28 10:30am Holy Eucharist, Rite II	29	30				



- 4 Ani Crocker
- 9 Nate Newman
- 12 Ray Payne
- 19 Wayne Willis
- 21 Len Krzywicki
- 22 Michael Worcester



- 1 Betsy Egan
- 6 Todd DeLaney
- 11 Barbara Stafford
- 19 Carson Worcester
- 29 Curtiss Peterson
- 30 Romeo Worcester