



CHRIST CHURCH COMMUNICATOR

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May 2010

Christ Church Christiana Hundred

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Sunday Services

8:00, 9:00, and 11:00 AM

Weekday Services

Tuesdays

9:20 AM Intercessory Prayer

Wednesdays

9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

Thursdays

6:30 AM Holy Eucharist followed
by breakfast and Bible study

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The season of Easter comes to a close with the third greatest feast in the liturgical year on May 23. We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, fifty days after the celebration of the Lord's resurrection. In our worship we will hear the account of the ecstatic experience the disciples had when wind and fire manifested the powerful presence of God. We baptize in the power of the Spirit. Each time we share in the liturgy of baptism, we join our lives to Christ's paschal mystery, the Passover from death to new life. We may not comprehend the mystery of this Passover, but we trust in its power and invite this Easter faith to shape our relationships, our values, and our identity.

What does it mean to be an Easter people? Look to the baptismal covenant (BCP 304-305) for a response. We believe in God as creator, in Christ as God's son who was born into human flesh, crucified at a particular point in history, and was raised on the third day. We believe in God as Holy Spirit and in other progressive movements that arise from God's power in our lives. After this summary of belief (the Apostles' Creed), the covenant asks five questions that define the Christian life.

The first question that follows the Creed comes from Acts 2:42. We are Easter people when we gather for Holy Communion, when we pray for others, when we continue learning and growing a life of Christian faith. The first question teaches us we belong. The second question teaches us that an Easter life is about the continuing transformation in rejecting evil, asking for and offering forgiveness. We are not the kind of people who hold grudges or destroy community by evicting people from our lives. Easter people work at becoming Christ, and forgiveness is paramount to that work. The third question teaches that Christians share the love of God and invite all others into relationship with Christ by word and example. Easter people want others to have the joy and peace and love we find in God's presence. The fourth question addresses our ministry. Christians are called to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves. In Christ God calls us to compassion and service, not just to those who are like us but to all humanity. The Easter life is continuous service without prejudice—a constant challenge in the midst of a world of selective service. Should the Church only address spiritual concerns? The challenge to that mind-set comes in the last question, when we affirm we will strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being. God sent a savior to redeem the lost and transform the whole creation into the paradise we call God's heaven. The faith we are called to manifest changes society, not by imposing one's ideology upon others but by living into the core values common in the world's religions: compassion and justice, peace and mercy. The Easter life is our work in transforming the oppressive culture of cynicism, anxiety, domination, and fear to the culture of dignity and worth, manifesting the peace of God.

I'm glad our promises are supported with God's help.

Ruth Lawson Kirk

Christ Church Communicator Goes Paperless

As good stewards of both our budget and our environment, the *Christ Church Communicator* will go paperless beginning with next month's issue. Those with an email address on file with the Church Office will receive this via email each month. To register your address, email slawtonfasic@christchurchde.org. We will continue to mail this publication to those in our parish without email access and to those who should receive this for pastoral reasons. If you wish to continue receiving a hard copy of this newsletter, please call the Church Office at 655-3379.

Women's Dialogue Group

Paying attention to children, spouse, household, and career all place demands on a woman. How can she find God at the center of it all? Join Ruth Kirk and Catherine Dolan in an offering for women of the parish and preschool. The Women's Dialogue will meet next on **Monday, May 10** at 7 PM in the Commons Room. Participation is limited to 20, so please RSVP by calling 655-3379 or emailing rsvp@christchurchde.org.

Ascension Day Celebration

Ascension Day is one of the seven Principle Feasts of the Church, putting it in the same category with Christmas, Easter, Epiphany, and All Saints' Day. Please join us this year on Ascension Day, **Thursday, May 13** at 7:30 PM in the Church for a special celebration of this important holy day.

Green Show Pantry Shelf

May's Pantry Shelf will meet on **Thursday, May 20** in the Parish Center Kitchen from 6 to 9 PM for dinner and Marinated Mushrooms. No experience required, and folks of all ages are invited to help. Let Maryann Younger (mady@youngers.org, 234-8229) or Chuck Durgin (chuckdurgin@gmail.com, 652-4033) know if you plan to join in the fun.

Mark your calendars now for next month's events:

- **June 9** – strawberry picking at Linvilla Orchards (meet at church at 9 AM)
- **June 10** – strawberry jam making at Christ Church from 6 to 9 PM
Maryann Younger

Interfaith Project & Potluck

Our
Congregation in
ACTION

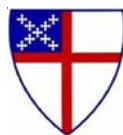
Join with our friends from Congregation Beth Emeth and Mt. Lebanon Methodist Church as we gather to work on this spring's interfaith outreach project on **Sunday, May 16** from 4 to 6 PM at Beth Emeth, 300 West Lea Boulevard, Wilmington. We will fill 200 eco-friendly bags to be distributed to Foster Care youth who have turned 18 and are no longer under the supervision of the Family Court. Bags will contain non-perishable, healthy foods and personal hygiene products that will help them stretch their budget.

FOR THE BAGS, we need donations of: *breakfast cereals, fruit/granola bars, prepackaged fruit, tuna fish, pasta and sauce, prepackaged dry macaroni and cheese, jello or pudding mix, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand soaps, and deodorants*. Bring your **non-perishable** donations (**no glass** please) to the collection bins in the Parish House by May 16. You can also help by sending a *monetary donation* (made payable to Christ Church, with "foster care project" on the memo line) to the Church Office.

FOR THE POTLUCK SUPPER, bring a main dish, salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Out of respect for participants' dietary guidelines, *dishes should not contain shellfish, pork products, or combine dairy products with meat*. RSVP at rsvp@christchurchde.org or 655-3379.

Upcoming Baptismal Service

The sacrament of Holy Baptism will be held on the Day of Pentecost, **Sunday, May 23** at 9 AM. A preparation meeting for parents and godparents will take place on Saturday, May 22 at 10 AM in the Church. To participate in this service, please contact Jane Rubini in the Church Office at 655-3379 or jrubini@christchurchde.org.



Bishop's Visit

The Right Reverend Wayne Wright, Bishop of Delaware, will be with us for his annual visitation on the Day of Pentecost, **Sunday, May 23**. We will celebrate Baptisms at the 9 AM service and Confirmations, Receptions, and Reaffirmations at the 11 AM service. A reception for all will take place at 10 AM in the Parish Hall. Please join us for this special day in the life of the Church.



It's Fiesta Time!

Please join us on **Sunday, May 23** for a delicious Dominican dinner prepared and served by the Jalonga Team and their families. Tickets are \$15 for adults; \$7.50 for children under 12; and \$40 for a family of four. Tickets will be sold on Sundays, May 16 and 23 in the back of the Church and during Coffee Hour.

Maryann Younger

An Anniversary

Thirty years ago in May, a family from Laos arrived at the Philadelphia Airport with baggage consisting of a meat cleaver, a boom box, and the clothes on their backs. They were the Sybounheuang family with the father, Bounmy, the mother, Simmaly, and their two adopted Cambodian children, Louam (12) and Long (4). Christ Church had agreed to sponsor a family in a displaced persons camp in Thailand at the request of then President Jimmy Carter. Betty and Bob Brandt led a team of more than 300 parishioners who volunteered to prepare an apartment, to help with grocery shopping, to help teach English, to carpool, etc. Today, Louam is married to Phon, and they have three daughters, two of whom are married and have children. The youngest finished high school last June. Long remains single and after serving three years in the US Army, works in commercial real estate. The family is totally independent; all are working. They own two homes and have helped other immigrant families settle in the US. They are always happy to see their many longtime friends at Christ Church. So let's celebrate this 30-year anniversary at Lemonade on the Lawn on **Sunday, May 30!**

Betty Brandt

May Outreach Collections

It's time to dig out those unused *tennis racquets* and bring them to Christ Church, along with some new *tennis balls*, to help the RODNEY STREET TENNIS & TUTORING ASSOCIATION start their summer program with each student well-equipped. Rodney Street provides at-risk youth with family-focused tutoring, college prep, and social counseling using tennis as the "carrot" for achievement. DELAWARE GUIDANCE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH provides quality mental health services for children, youth, and their families. They are in need of *children's toys, board and card games, books, coloring books, crayons, stickers, and arts and crafts supplies*. Collection bins are located in the back of the Church and in the Parish Center near the circle drive.

Planned Giving Committee

You may recall a 1976 pop hit by Fleetwood Mac with this refrain... "*don't stop thinking about tomorrow.*" The sentiment is certainly fitting with a new Planned Giving stewardship program which provides the means for active parishioners to supplement annual stewardship with a legacy gift. Look for more information coming this month, inviting you to become a part of the Legacy Society.

Ruth Lawson Kirk

The 90-Day Bible Challenge

By reading approximately 12 pages a day, you can read through the entire Bible in 90 days. The 90-Day Bible Challenge is not a speed-read through the Bible. Instead it is a Bible reading curriculum that helps people read attentively the entire Bible—from cover to cover—in 90 days. This summer at Christ Church, the 90-Day Bible Challenge begins on **Tuesday, June 1** and ends on **Sunday, August 29**. Optional weekly support and discussion meetings will occur Sunday mornings at 9 AM in Parish Hall A and end in time for the 10 AM service; child care will be available. While you can use any version of the Bible that you want, there is a specific version for this challenge. It is a good size with readable print and font, and it has the daily readings marked. Visit this link: www.biblein90days.org/en/catalogs/items/view.asp?catalogid=1. To join this challenge or for more information, contact Russ Bohner at rbohner@christchurchde.org or 655-3379.

Save the Dates – September 24-25, 2010

Prominent New Testament Scholar Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson will be at Christ Church for a lecture on **Friday, September 24** and a workshop on **Saturday, September 25**. Dr. Johnson is the Robert W. Woodruff Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University and is the author of more than twenty books. Dr. Johnson is an excellent speaker, and we are blessed and honored to welcome him to Christ Church this fall.

Russ Bohner

Outreach Committee Members Needed

The Outreach Committee is looking for new members! If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Barbara Cairns at beccairns@verizon.net, (610) 925-0801; Tomoko Werbe at tswerbe@yahoo.com, (610) 324-2326; or Russ Bohner at rbohner@christchurchde.org, 655-3379.

Owen Sabbatical 2010-11

I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the plans for my sabbatical leave which begins on the first of May. One of the great gifts of my position as Organist/Choirmaster at Christ Church is the opportunity for a 6-month period of not only rest and reflection but the time and energy to devote to a special project. After discussions with Ruth and David Hearn, we elected to split my time over the course of two years—four months in 2010 and two months in 2011. This will increase my options and possibilities for the project that is taking shape.

My work in oral history, which I revived after about 20 years during my last two sabbaticals in 1998 and 2003, has resulted in the Sir David Willcocks Oral History Project which resides in the archive at Yale University (where I worked in the late 1970's until coming to Christ Church in 1983) and a book (*A Life in Music: Conversations with Sir David Willcocks and Friends*) published by Oxford University Press in 2008. The important aspects of oral history are to preserve a person's history in his or her own words and to have a good representation of the subject's personality.

My plan for the 2010 (extending into 2011) sabbatical is to begin another oral history project—this one with the senior generation of cathedral and collegiate organist/choirmasters (retired) in the Anglican Church. Several of these men are in their 90's—so time is obviously becoming critical! Sadly, one of the men with whom I had scheduled interviews, Stanley Vann, died the week before Holy Week. The interviews,

which are recorded on a small digital recorder and later transcribed, will cover a wide range of subjects from family/educational backgrounds to teachers, instruments, and pupils—and, of course, important posts and innovations in the field. These men do have amazing stories to tell, and while many of them have been interviewed and have even written autobiographies, I plan to follow some common threads—such as the introduction of Girls' Choirs into Anglican tradition. The beauty of these interviews for me is that we simply sit and chat and reminisce; yes, the recorder is running, but this is where editing skills later come into play. The real point of oral history is not to simply collect facts which are readily available (especially today with the internet) but rather to record what the person remembers about various times, events, and people. What motivated them? Enthused them? Frustrated them? How did the changes in styles of worship affect their music-making? I expect for some funny and hysterical stories and certainly some sad and heartbreaking ones too. These reflections can give a realistic picture of what life was like making music in these cathedrals and collegiate chapels at a certain time.

This list of eminent musicians I am scheduled to interview has been developed with the assistance of John Rutter, Stephen Cleobury, Philip Ledger, and David Willcocks, to whom I am most grateful. To the Rector, Vestry, David Hearn, and the people of Christ Church, I extend my sincere thanks for this wonderful, once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. *William Owen*

England 2011

Seven spots remain on our pilgrimage to England to hear some of the finest choirs in the world singing Services in some of the great Cathedrals and Collegiate Chapels there. The group will depart from Christ Church on **Thursday, February 3** and return on **Saturday, February 12, 2011** to hear the choirs of Westminster Abbey, St. Paul's Cathedral, Winchester Cathedral, King's College, Cambridge, New College, Oxford, Lincoln Cathedral, York Minster, and others. Led by Ruth Kirk, Anne Gross, and Bill Owen, we will stay in London for five nights and journey to the north for three nights in the Lincoln/Peake District area. The cost is \$3,000 a person, which includes airfare, hotel, buses, admissions, tours, and many meals. Please contact Anne Tatnall Gross (atgross@udel.edu, 425-0331) for a full itinerary and more information.

William Owen

Education for Ministry

Grace Episcopal Church on Concord Pike will be starting its next year of Education for Ministry (affectionately known as EFM) this coming September on Monday evenings from 7 to 9:30 PM. What is EFM? It's a 4-year extension program for small groups developed by the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Year One members study the Old Testament; Year Two focuses on the New Testament. Church History and Liturgy make up Years Three and Four. Many people decide to do just one year of EFM. Others complete all four years. If you have an interest in learning more about the Bible and our Christian heritage, think about EFM. If you want to zero in on your own personal ministry or want to be part of a group that learns to reflect theologically, sharing plenty of laughs in the process, then call Grace Church at 478-2123.

Vestry Meeting Highlights from March and April

- The Vestry is spending time at several meetings viewing and discussing the Safe Church video provided by the National Church.
- Updates were given by various Vestry members about our Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, Adult Christian Education, Newcomers Evangelism, Parish Life, and our Service to Others teams. A parish survey is being developed to gather information on parish members' involvement in community activities. Training continues for adults involved in our youth ministry. A small group is working on a redesign of our parish website. All groups have begun planning for the fall season.
- Our youth are raising funds and preparing for mission trips to Jalonga, Harrisburg, PA, and the pilgrimage to Italy.
- Motions were approved to move the date of the Annual Meeting to May and to hold Vestry elections prior to the date of the Annual Meeting.
- First quarter 2010 pledge reports have been delayed and will be mailed to parishioners in May.
- The Vestry acknowledged with thanks the hard work of our Altar Guild and Adornment Committee and their leaders during all of the services of Holy Week.
- The position of parish associate for stewardship has been filled, and Michael Sayer begins his work at Christ Church on May 3.

Dana Robertson

Tracking Our Time and Talent

Christ Church contributes to area agencies through the Outreach program. Priority is weighted toward those agencies with parishioner involvement. Coming soon is a brief survey by the Christ Church Outreach Committee to gauge parishioner involvement in various agencies so that we can construct a composite of members' interests. Stay tuned!

Position Filled

Please welcome Michael C. Sayer to the Christ Church staff. Mike begins as the Administrative Associate for Stewardship on May 3, 2010. He brings a background in business management, both in manufacturing and in parish administration. He comes to us from our Rector's former congregation in Pennsylvania, where his full-time position was recently reduced due to financial constraints. Having been raised in the Episcopal Church, Mike has knowledge and experience that will prove as valuable as his skills in finance and facilities management. If you are visiting on the third floor, please introduce yourself.



Muchas Gracias!

A heartfelt thank-you to all who embraced the call for food, funds, and fun to help families served by La Comunidad Hispana in Kennett Square celebrate Easter. With your donations we were able to provide each family with a box filled with dried and canned foods, a \$50 gift card to Giant Food Store to purchase fresh produce and meat, plus very creative Easter baskets for each child in the family. The baskets made by parishioners were customized for the age and gender of a specific child. In all, we served 17 families and 39 children. The response from the parish was robust—a real loaves and fishes experience as monetary gifts provided the generous gift cards, plus a little extra cash helped to round out the boxes of dried foods, while the baskets were bountiful. It was heartwarming to deliver your gifts and see the joy and appreciation of the staff at La Comunidad; for the parents and children it must have been even greater. Thank you for helping to build strong families, faith, and community with these Easter celebrations.

Barbara Cairns

Renovating a House, Building Lives

The renovation work at Epiphany House, a new shelter for women in transition from incarceration, is steaming along toward a June 6 opening. The larger renovation work is completed; Christ Church youth tackled the yard cleanup on April 24; parishioners are currently working on painting crews. The mission to help open the house continues as Christ Church parishioners commit to provide the furnishings and household items that make a house a home, while others make monetary donations to cover items that have to be purchased by the project manager—from small items such as curtain rods to larger items such as shutters for windows.

If you would like to lend a hand to this new, life-changing ministry, contact Linda Boyden (linda@theboydens.com); to join the work crews or to donate furniture, contact Diane Mateson (dmateson@msn.com); regarding the new household items needed to provide a "start fresh," see the display board opposite the Commons Room in the Parish Hall or go to www.christchurchde.org/outreach/cap.asp. Monetary donations can be sent to the Church Office or put in Sunday's collection plate. For other questions about the project and ministry, contact Tom Scott at tscott@inciteoffice.com or Barbara Cairns at beccairns@verizon.net.

Barbara Cairns

Children and Youth Ministries

Those who minister to children and youth wear many hats. They are the evangelists who regularly and faithfully issue a call to Christ. They are the midwives who assist as the Holy Spirit births children into the Kingdom. They are pastors guiding and counseling their charges. They are shepherds seeking lost lambs tending the flock. They are leaders smoothing hurts. They are judges who call to account and mothers and fathers who love unconditionally. Most of all, they are teachers who make Scriptures come alive because they know the Living Word. Those who minister also receive ministry from the children and youth—laying on of hands, smiles, handmade gifts, encouragement, and hope. They are given the gift of seeing the Gospel through fresh eyes, renewing and increasing their own faith.

There is a serious side to children's ministry—the prayer circles where children thank God for good grades or for small victories over temptations and where they call upon Him to give their parents jobs, renew marriages, and restore health. There is committing the Word to heart and exploring new Bibles, learning to find a favorite passage or verse. There is looking out on a wider world described by visiting missionaries. And there is time for reflection...how does what God has to say apply to me? Most importantly, they learn that God loves them...despite their mistakes and failures and that adults other than their parents care about them and their spiritual growth.

But the purpose of children and youth ministry—drawing kids to Jesus—never changes, whether the approach is fun and games or serious Bible study. For the facts are sobering. Most of those who receive Jesus as Savior give their hearts as children or young adults. And how can they respond unless someone invites them? Those called to children and youth ministry are called to make an eternal difference. What could tug at the heartstrings more than the opportunity to welcome children in Jesus' name and point them to his loving arms? Are you being called to make an eternal difference?

Children's Ministries

Thank you to Erin Schlerf and family for leading the Easter Egg Hunt this year!

In April both the Godly Play and the 3rd-6th Grade classes met with Jennifer in the Chapel to take part in an instructed Eucharist. The children learned the names of all the elements used during communion and had the opportunity to ask plenty of questions.

The last day of Children's Enrichment will be **Sunday, May 16**. The Summer Sunday School program held in the undercroft of the Church will begin on **Sunday, June 13**. We will explore the Saints of God this summer.

Youth Ministries

The Rite-13 class went to Friendship House on Easter morning to serve breakfast. It was a transforming experience for all!

A group from the Rite-13 class also participated in the Autism Walk on April 11. The Kempner family and Rite-13 families raised over \$5,000 for Autism!

These youth made their Rite-13 on April 18: Sarah Aurelia Abramczyk, Luke Hopkins Borda Jr., Margaret Culpepper Chesser, Grayton English Downing, James Harold Erskine IV, Molly Catherine Harper, John Ryan Nilsen, Clayton Douglas Scott, Eliza Finley Williams, and Brooke Ann Winfield.

Over 30 youth from around the Diocese gathered at Christ Church for 30-Hour Famine the weekend of March 26-27. Over \$500 was raised for Haitian earthquake relief, and a great time was had by all. For service projects, a group of youth went on the Homeless Walk in Wilmington, another helped out with Winter Sanctuary in Wilmington, and another group volunteered at the Food Bank.

Pilgrimage Preparation

Please keep those youth preparing for their Pilgrimage in your prayers. The group continues the process of planning their travels to Italy with a special emphasis on following St. Francis. Look for ways of supporting the pilgrims along the way!

Thanks so much for all your support for the Garage Sale. It was a great success! Over \$4,000 was raised for the pilgrimage trip.

Like to support the Pilgrimage? Buy a foot for \$10, \$20, \$25, or \$50 toward our miles along the way. Give a donation to Christ Church by buying a foot, and we'll include your name in the caption and add it to the bulletin board in Parish Hall C. All donations of \$20 or more will be entered in a contest for an Italian dinner given by the pilgrims after the Pilgrimage.

Our next Charcoal Pit fund-raiser will be held on **Tuesday, May 18** from 5 to 9 PM at the Concord Pike location. Come enjoy a great dinner, and a percentage of the night's proceeds will benefit our youth for their pilgrimage. *(continued on page 7)*

Youth Ministries *(continued from page 6)*

J2A Youth Leaders Training

Anyone interested in teaching in the Rite-13, J2A, or YAC programs is invited to a training session on **Saturday, May 8** from 9 AM until 4 PM. Gregg Morris, a training and consulting services specialist with Leader Resources, publisher of the Journey to Adulthood Program, will lead this session. Pre-registration is required. Contact Lynne Jensen at ljensen@christchurchde.org or 655-3379.

Rite-13 Mission Trip

Those who are rising 8th and 9th graders are invited to participate in this year's Rite-13 Mission Trip. The cost is \$350 per person. The group will leave Christ Church on **Sunday, June 20** at 2 PM to arrive in Harrisburg, PA. While there, we will partner with local organizations and programs that seek to address the very basic needs of residents in places like children's camps, senior centers, soup kitchens, and homeless shelters. Evening activities are designed to give participants insight into the lives of local residents and the culture of the area. Our group will have the opportunity to enjoy the city of Harrisburg, spend time with the community, and spend time together as a large group. On **Friday, June 25** the group will leave Harrisburg to arrive at Hershey Park for the day. We will return to Christ Church by 7:30 PM that evening.

Lynne Jensen

Jalonga News

Youth and adult leaders are preparing for their upcoming trip to Jalonga by spending time with each other in retreat, by fund-raising for our friends in the

Dominican Republic, and helping out our Wilmington community through service projects. Can you help?

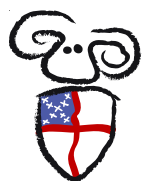
Our retreat was held on April 9-10 at church. Time was spent learning Spanish, playing games, sharing our past experiences, planning for future events in the Dominican Republic, and worshipping and spending time with one another. Many thanks to Trish Johnston, Tom Marcin, and Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly for planning this worthwhile time with one another.

This month's collection on **Sunday, May 9** is for the people of Jalonga. We will be collecting: *artist supplies like paints and unframed canvases* and *any kind of baseball equipment, especially balls and gloves*, for the children and youth in the Dominican Republic. There will be a bin in the back of the Church on May 9 for your donations.

We continue to serve our local community this month by working at one of Christ Church's partner agencies, SOAR, on **Saturday, May 15**. We encourage anyone who is willing to spend some time to come out and join us from 9 AM until 2 PM. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Tom Scott at 655-5613, tscott@inciteoffice.com or Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly at 655-3379, jandrewsweckerly@christchurchde.org.

Be sure to join our fiesta on **Sunday, May 23** as well. A delicious Dominican dinner will be prepared and served by the Jalonga Team and their families. Tickets will be sold at church on May 16 and 23.

Many thanks for all of your prayer support as we prepare for our work in June. *Maryann Younger*



Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

CCEP Spring Gala – Imagine a warm spring evening, good friends, laughter, fabulous hors d'oeuvres and beverages...sounds like fun, yes? Throw in a silent auction with all sorts of desirable items and activities, a live auction, and the opportunity to support our Church Preschool, and you have all the ingredients for a memorable evening! Join us on **Friday, May 14** from 6 to 9 PM for the CCEP Spring Gala. Tickets are \$60 per person and can be purchased online at www.ccepde.org or by calling Denise Harris at 472-0021.

In other news... On another warm spring evening in mid-April, in celebration of Earth Day, the environment, and our school's young children, we had a wonderful dedication of the new Outdoor Classroom. A Scavenger Hunt was enjoyed by all, and the children were able to plant nasturtium seeds in handmade paper pots to take home as mementos of the event. Author Jamie Klemen read her new book to the children as they sat on the retaining wall or played on the playground in the afternoon sunlight. Bishop Wright officiated at the ceremony, and Ruth Kirk had children "volunteers" spray each area of the classroom with a boxwood "sprayer," which had been dipped into water from a small, beautifully turned, wooden bowl. Psalms were read, songs were sung in rounds, food was enjoyed, and the dirt cake and cupcakes were delightful and gorgeous! It was a lovely afternoon, and God's presence was felt all around.

Carol Mongan

From the Christ Church Register

- Baptism of John Edward Downs Jr., son of John and Carole Downs; Justin Imere Hill, son of Christopher Hill and Robin Jordan; and Kendall Anne Massett on April 4.
- Burial Office for Elisabeth Pike Hillyard Levine on April 7.
- Burial Office for Joy Vance Mount on April 21.

From the Prayer Ministry

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and further us with your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy Name, and finally, by your mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Editor's Note

Please address your suggestions for articles, questions, and/or comments on the *Communicator* to: slawtonfasic@christchurchde.org; P. O. Box 3510, Greenville, Wilmington, DE 19807; or 655-3379. **The deadline for articles and news for the *Christ Church Communicator* is the 18th of each month.** *Sherry Lawton-Fasic*

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