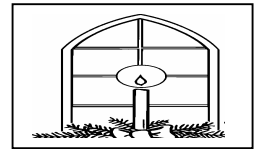


Christ Episcopal Church

428 Pee Dee Avenue – PO Box 657
Albemarle, NC 28002
(704) 982-1428

Rector's email: clergy@christalb.org
Church Office e-mail: info@christalb.org
Website: <http://www.christalb.org/>



- Sun., Dec. 7, 9:30 a.m. Single Service Holy Eucharist followed by Parish Meal and Annual Parish Meeting
2009 Class Vestry Nominations (others to be nominated at the meeting): Joe Burris, Tony Hinson, and Lisa Deese, Marianne Bumgarner-Davis
- Wed., Dec. 3, 10, & 17 12 Noon Ecumenical Advent Worship and Lunch at Christ Church
- Tuesday, Dec. 9, 6:00 p.m. Quilters' Guild Meeting
- Tuesday, Dec. 16, 7:00 p.m. Vestry Meeting
- Sat., Dec. 20, 9 a.m. Making of the Greens & Garlands--at home of Jane Almond – soup lunch will be provided—please bring Leland cypress limbs or let Jane know where they can be gathered—everyone is welcome and needed to help make the greenery and garlands for the church
- Sun., Dec. 21: (Deadline: Christmas Flowers Names/Donations, Donations for Church Staff Gifts & Needy Families)
Hanging of the Greens after the 10:30 am service with a hot dog lunch provided by the church and organized by the Parish Life Committee—everyone is welcome and needed to stay and help decorate the church for Christmas and have lunch!
- Mon., Dec. 24, Christmas Eve
4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist Family Christmas Service – Celebrant: Fr. Marvin Aycock
8:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Holy Eucharist Service with Reception in Parish Hall afterwards – Celebrant: Fr. Jim Bernacki
(This is a special service to remember those families who have lost loved ones during the year. Everyone is welcome!)
11:00 p.m. Christmas Holy Eucharist Service --with Special Music of the Season beginning at 10:30 p.m.
- Tue., Dec. 25, Christmas Day
9:30 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Eucharist Service
- Tue., Dec. 25, Christmas Day
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Community Christmas Dinner at Central United Methodist Church—carry-outs to the sick and shut-ins will be available for each church to deliver to their own shut-ins. EVERYONE is welcome to come have a wonderful Christmas turkey & ham dinner with all the trimmings and desserts! The food will be provided by various churches who have signed up (our church included). Volunteers to help serve the food and donations of food are needed—sign up sheets are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. **We have NOT had enough donations of food to cover what we have been assigned, and WE NEED YOUR HELP! WE MUST TURN IN OUR SIGN-UP LIST BY DEC. 15.**

***THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED WED., DEC. 24 THROUGH JAN. 2.
HAVE A BLESSED ADVENT SEASON AND CHRISTMAS! HAVE A JOYFUL NEW YEAR!***



Women's Group To Collect For Needy Families for Christmas

The Episcopal Women's Ministry at Christ Church will be sponsoring a Christmas tree in the Parish Hall filled with tags of items needed for gifts or cash needed for food for the needy families this Christmas. **The deadline is Dec. 21.** Bring the wrapped gifts you are providing by placing them under the tree in the Parish Hall where the tags were hanging. Please keep the tag from the tree to place on your already wrapped gift so that the gift is ready to be delivered to the child. Financial donations may be placed in the offering plate and marked "Christmas Families". We will take the funds received and purchase a grocery store gift certificate for each of the families that we are sponsoring this year. Please do not purchase gift certificates to donate.

FROM GOD'S WORD...

"O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker!" –Psalm 95:6 (NRSV)



Merry Christmas!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

OCTOBER

1 Dillon Harris
4 Laura Lowder
5 Deena Collins
9 Joe Burris, Mitchell Mayer
11 Zachary Lowder
12 Lisa Deese
16 Tim Burris, Clegg Mabry
18 Kay Throneburg, Jim Irvin
20 Craig Kennedy
22 Alexis Covington
24 Gary Deeck
30 Heather Russell

NOVEMBER

5 Terri Dunlap
10 Allison Poplin
14 Briley Burris
14 Casey Poplin
15 Barbara Ward
28 Alex Brown
29 Roy Dominick
29 Susan Knowles
29 Bo Burris
29 Poss Wilhelm
30 Marvin Aycock

DECEMBER

5 Helen Harris
6 Don Hinson
8 Jessica Conley
12 Coy Ritchie
13 Allan Russell
14 Stan Scheer, Stephen Conley
15 Thomas Covington
16 Robin Hughes, Claudia Covington
18 June Mabry
19 Jim Bryfonski
20 Kate Mabry
21 Fr. Jim Bernacki
23 Jane Scheer
26 Brenda Huneycutt



We served food at the Fair Booth again this year to a new crowd of fair workers, and we made some new friends. Despite the rain and one day less scheduled for the fair, we took in \$7,258.80 at the fair, \$51=Tip Jar, and \$6.50=Cuss Jar. We also had several donations through the church offerings to bring the total donations and deposits to \$9,739.59. After paying all the expenses, which totaled \$4,014.54, we had a **net profit of \$5,725.05**. Special thanks to Joe Burris, Dewey Preslar, Judy Ross, and all the workers who prepared and served food and those who donated food for the fair. We want to especially thank those who prayed for the fair booth ministry. This is a vital ministry to folks, and it was a blessing to talk with and minister to those at the fair. We could not have done it without everyone's help!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to **Elizabeth Deeck**, who was listed with others in an article in the Stanly News and Press Newspaper, Oct. 2, who won straight sets in tennis for the North Stanly High School tennis team.

God places all of us in a position to shine for Him! We all have a work to do, and Elizabeth has done a great job! We are very proud of you! Keep up the great work!

Dear Pastor & Congregation,

The Stanly Community Christian Ministry gratefully acknowledges your donation of \$612 given in August. [**Editor's Note: \$570 for Soup Kitchen Utensils Shower, \$42 for General Expenses from our Loose Plate Offering, the 1st Sun. of the month**]. We really appreciate your donation, as it will carry on the charitable work of this Ministry. No goods or services were received for this donation.

Serving together,

Barry Whitley, Exec. Dir., SCCM

FIRST ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE -- SAT., SEPT. 13

The yard sale at our church parking lot on Sat., Sept. 13, was a success! We received \$160 in rent from those who rented a space to sell their merchandise. This money will be kept in the church funds to pay for items/food needed for the Saturday Soup Kitchen. The youth made \$16 profit.

The Annual Pregnancy Resource Center's Walk-for Life was held Sat., Oct. 18, at 9 am at the YMCA Pavilion. The proceeds totaled more than \$15,000 and will go towards their annual budget expenses.



We are so blessed! Thank you for your generous contributions to:

UTO Fall Ingathering Offering = \$58

Thompson's Child & Family Focus Thanksgiving Offering (formerly Thompson's Children's Home) = \$275

Emergency Winter Housing Donations: (from Wed., Dec. 3 Advent Noon Worship/Lunch) = \$135.37

2009 BUDGET=\$171,824 2009 PLEDGES RECEIVED AS OF DEC. 5: \$75,270 (30 pledges, 5 zero pledges)

Bread & Wine

Bread & Wine Articles DUE December 16!

Christ Episcopal Church
Mail: PO Box 657
Albemarle, NC 28002

Time sensitive material

Mailed on December 5, 2008

*A parish of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina ,
The Episcopal Church of the United States of America (ECUSA),
and the Worldwide Anglican Communion*

Rector – The Rev. Dr. James Bernacki
Senior Warden – Russ Hollins
Jr. Warden – David Wilhelm
Treasurer – Archie Chase
Vestry Clerk – Allison Poplin
Parish & Financial Sec’y – Carol Bowman
Organist & Choir – Jane Scheer
Acolytes – Cindy Moore
Altar Guild – Pat Bryfonski
Flower Guild – Beth Chivington
Christian Ed.—Cindy Moore, Lisa Deese

Columbarium – Helen Harris, Allison Poplin
Coord. Of Relig. Formation – Lisa Deese
ECW – Shelia Chase, Pat Bryfonski, and Jane Scheer
Lawn Care – Craig Kennedy
Lay Eucharistic Ministers – David Cook
Lectors – Dr. Marianne Bumgarner-Davis
Men’s Group – Walter Davis
Nursery – Diane Robinson, Cindy Moore
Evangelism/Outreach –Lana Erickson, Matt Amick

Parish Life – Beth Olivieri, Michael Lowder
Pastoral Care –Walter Davis, Lisa Brandyberry
Buildings & Grounds-David Wilhelm
Stewardship & Finance- Russ Hollins, Archie Chase
Ushers – Wayne Davis
Worship – Tom Lowe, Matt Irvin
Youth – Nancy Deeck
Church Kitchen Coordinator – Doris Stickney
Parish Nursing – Becky McKeon, Felicia Amick

8:30 Sun Advent Wreath

Nov. 30 = Clegg & June Mabry
Dec. 7= Russ & Elaine Hollins
Dec. 14= Rich & Lana Erickson
Dec. 21= Matt, Felicia, and Abigail Amick

10:30 Sun Advent Wreath

Nov. 30 = Michael, Laura, Haley, and Zachary Lowder
Dec. 7 = Jeff, Beth, Isaac, and Emma Irvin
Dec. 14 = Walter Davis & Marianne Bumgarner-Davis, Danielle Davis, and Joseph Misenheimer
Dec. 21= Geoff, Beth, Gavin, and Graylin Olivieri

Primary Teachers for Christian Formation:

1st Sun = Marianne Bumgarner-Davis
2nd Sun= Elaine Hollins
3rd Sun = Beth Olivieri
4th Sun = Lisa Deese
5th Sun = Anne Harwood

Yuletide

GAMES

Enjoy the Christmas season with these games, centered around the theme of Jesus, our greatest gift.

JESUS' BIRTH FROM A-Z

What you need:

- Paper
- Pencils or pens
- Bibles (optional)



What you do:

Instruct players to think of as many Christmas-related words as they can that start with each letter of the alphabet. Start with A and give everyone a minute to brainstorm words for each letter. For example, M words include manger, Mary and miracle. If you get stuck, look at the Nativity accounts in Matthew 1 and 2, and also Luke 2. Players get a point for each word not repeated by others.

PIN THE STAR ON THE MANGER

What you need:

- Butcher paper, poster board or plain wrapping paper
- Markers, paint or crayons
- Construction paper stars
- Tape
- Blindfold



What you do:

On large paper, draw a picture of a stable. Give each player a star cutout. Put a small + above the manger where the star led the shepherds and wise men to baby Jesus. Like in Pin the Tail on the Donkey, the blindfolded person who puts his or her star closest to the + wins.

The Story of Jesus' Birth

Jesus' birth is recorded in three New Testament chapters: Matthew 1 and 2, and Luke 2. Follow some important words about our Savior's birth by starting at a word beginning with the letter A and finishing with a word starting with the letter Z.

	angels	Bethlehem	car	dance	esel
cat	bear	child	donkey	egg	fast
holy	glory	flocks	Earth	feathers	gap
in	jacket	grapes	peace	quiet	hat
Joseph	King	Lord	only	righteous	shepherds
kelp	loop	Mary	night	unique	tidings
last	maze	paper	wise men	virgin	water
open	nest	word	excitement	young	zillions saved by this baby called Jesus

Answer: angels, Bethlehem, child, donkey, Earth, flocks, glory, holy, in, Joseph, King, Lord, Mary, night, only, peace, quiet, righteous, shepherds, tidings, unique, virgin, wise men, excitement, young, zillions (saved by this baby called Jesus)