

CHRIST CHURCH FOREST HILL
ROCK SPRING PARISH

MAY, 2023

Springtime at Christ Church



Christ Church Rock Spring Parish

2100 Rock Spring Road

P.O. Box 215

Forest Hill, MD 21050

Phone: 410-838-6606

Email: ChristChrsp@gmail.com

Website: www.ChristChurchForestHill.org

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 10 – 2

Please call prior to coming...Other hours by appointment.

Priest-In-Charge: Fr. Kirk Kubicek

Parish Administrator: Anna Risdorfer

Sexton: John Tipton

Vestry Officers: Molly Neal, Senior Warden

Jane O'Leary, Interim Treasurer

Tony Davis, Junior Warden

Lyn Edmunds, Registrar

Cemetery Administrator: Leslie Amtmann

Music Team Leaders:

Robert Hitz—Choir Director

Lyn Edmunds—Song Leader

The Chimes



Priest in Charge

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! The Lord is risen, indeed! Alleluia! We are in the midst of the Great Fifty Days of Easter. From the earliest times in the Church's history, Easter and the fifty days until Pentecost have been considered the most joyous and holy time of the Church Year. And here at Christ Church Forest Hill Rock Spring Parish that has been the case. We celebrated Easter with our largest Sunday congregation in the post-Covid era! And attendance has continue to be strong throughout the Easter Season. We also celebrated an eight-day, two-Sunday Earth Day observance, reminding ourselves that Stewardship of the Earth is a central dimension of the Christian Life. The Christ Church Episcopal Church Women held their Annual Tea in the Parish House with attention to the life of the late Queen of England, Elizabeth II.

As we move toward the Sunday of Pentecost, May 28th , Christ Church will be hosting several other special events. **On Tuesday, May 9, we will host A Community Commemoration Ceremony for Fallen Officers sponsored by the Harford County Sheriff Department at 10:00am.** This ceremony will be held in our Cemetery and is open to the public. On Saturday, May 20th , in the Church, we will be hosting a wedding for a family with close ties to Rock Spring Parish.

Then, the day after Pentecost, Monday, May 29th , at 9:00am, Christ Church will host our Annual Memorial Day Observance in the Cemetery. Once again, we will be led in procession by the sound of bagpipes into the cemetery from the Parish House Porch, where we will have a service of lessons, prayers, and a reading of the Gettysburg Address. Then we fan out through the cemetery to leave flowers on the graves of those who in the time of need, rose to the defense of our nation. After which we gather for final prayers and a procession with pipes back to the Parish House for refreshments and fellowship. This, one of our most moving observances, is open to the public. Please help spread the word, and invite neighbors and friends to join us.

And of course, **Sunday, May 28th is Pentecost, sometimes referred to as the Church's Birthday. As recorded in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles,** it is the day on which Holy Spirit descended upon a household of Jesus's followers who became empowered to proclaim the Good News of Jesus far and wide in ways in which people of all different countries could understand in their own language. We are pleased to welcome The Reverend Eddie Blue as our guest celebrant and preacher this year.

May we all find the power and joy of Resurrection as we continue to celebrate The Great Fifty Days of Easter! Because he is risen, so are we. We are continually being raised and empowered to be those people who bring the joy and power of Jesus to the world around us!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Kirk Kubicek, Priest in Charge

The Campaign for Community Service

Last year the portable air conditioners in the Parish Hall met their demise. Even when functioning, they were inadequate to provide much relief in the summer months. Our vestry decided to look at options for more efficient cooling, and eventually settled on a proposal to install a series of split-system units in the Parish Hall and Kitchen – which would necessitate an upgrade to the electrical service to the building. The cost for installation and the electrical work came to \$21,500.

As reported at our 2023 Parish Annual Meeting and in Vestry Minutes published in The Chimes, a generous gift of \$10,000 towards making these improvements was received from Leslie Amtmann. To get the work underway, our vestry borrowed the remaining \$11,500 from the Cemetery Fund, with the understanding we would subsequently run a capital campaign similar to the one we recently retired for the new chiller at the church.

As our Parish Hall is used every day of the week by outside groups from the Harford County community, it represents our primary outreach beyond our parish. People come for a variety of personal and spiritual growth opportunities including dance, 12-Step recovery, aerobics, wedding receptions, birthday parties and a host of other activities. With that in mind, we are calling this the Campaign for Community Service.

To date, our vestry has joined me in making pledges or one-time gifts to the Campaign for Community Service totaling \$3,740. We are asking you to join us to retire the remaining \$7,760.

You can make a pledge or a one-time gift by sending it in to Christ Church Rock Spring Parish, PO Box 215, Forest Hill, MD 21050, C/O The Treasurer. Together, we can retire our loan from the Cemetery Fund while continuing to serve the greater Harford County community!



Annual Memorial Day Observance

Monday, May 29th at 9:00am we will gather outside the Parish House for our Memorial Day Observance. There will be some flowers on hand, and you are encouraged to bring more from home. We process up into the Cemetery led by the bagpipes and the Boy Scout Honor Guard.

Gathered in front of the Carriage Stone, we will hear some lessons and prayers, sing patriotic hymns, before going throughout the Cemetery to place flowers on the graves of war veterans going back to the founding of our nation. Those graves are marked with American flags, placed there by the participating Boy Scouts under the supervision of Christine Miller.

We will then gather again at the carriage stone for a final hymn and prayer before processing back to the Parish Hall porch for refreshments and fellowship.

This Memorial Day Service is open to the public. Please let friends and neighbors know they are welcome to join us for this Annual Memorial Day observance!



Stewardship Pledge Form

2023

In prayerful consideration of my/our stewardship of God's resources, responsibility to Christ Church, and the desire to take the next step in my/our journey of faith, I/we pledge the following financial support to Christ Church for the 2023 church year:

Weekly \$ _____

Quarterly \$ _____

Monthly \$ _____

For a total of \$ _____ per year



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

- I would like to receive envelopes (circle one): YES NO
- Envelope # _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return to Christ Church by mail.

Christ Church, Rock Spring Parish
P.O. Box 215
Forest Hill, MD 21050



Thank you and God Bless!

Christ Church Altar Flowers Dedications 2023

Please indicate whether you would like to pick up the flowers after the dedication date or leave for church use.

I would like to **add** the following dedications in 2023:

Date	Preferred Sunday	Dedication (as will appear in bulletin ex: In memory of, In honor of, In thanksgiving for)	Pick Up ☐	Church Use ☐

NAME: _____ (PLEASE PRINT) Envelope #: _____

Method of Payment (**\$30 contribution per Sunday**)

Payment Included _____ Will send _____

☐ **Cash**

☐ **Check** (made payable to Christ Church Rock Spring Parish)

Should you wish to pick up the flowers, please do so after services on the 2nd week of flower delivery. (for more information, contact the parish administrator or a member of the altar guild).

Please mail this form to the office or place in the offertory plate.



Christ Church Vestry Minutes

March 15, 2023

[Virtual Meeting Via Zoom]

Attendance: Fr. Kirk, Molly Neal, Tony Davis, Jane O'Leary, Lyn Edmunds, Leslie Amtmann, Lois Tidey; warm welcome to new member, Peggy Reel

Meeting began at 7:00 pm with opening prayer (from John Philip Newell).

Vestry minutes from meeting 2/15/2023, approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Investment volatility continues: Edward Jones Fund down this month, awaiting quarterly report from T Rowe Price. Member pledges on target, Expense utilities are up in heating season (oil down, electric up). Senior warden tracking usage over year to reliably assess impact of new HVAC on utility costs.

Main issue is that CC is spending more than income (deficit budget). Treasurer to withdraw \$3,000 from TRPrice to meet insurance and payroll expenses; requesting vestry to address plan for deficit reduction. Fr. Kirk reviewed history of CC deficit, and how CC narrowed the gap with resulting help from diocese and good fiscal leadership (i.e., no withdrawals needed from TRPrice for 3 yrs). He explained combination of adverse factors in recent years (e.g., pandemic, increased utility costs, market volatility) associated with return to deficit budget.

Vestry discussed options to address deficit, what tends to work (e.g. Vestry leads by increasing own pledges, inviting congregation to consider also; cutting budget). Initially Vestry favoring formation of smaller Finance Committee within leadership to explore deficit reduction strategies. The audit committee soon begins 2022 audit, and could conduct quarterly reviews. The Diocese would be a resource also.

Treasurer's report accepted.

Cemetery: Paperwork in process for sale of plot in urn area. County Sheriff to hold annual commemoration of fallen officers at CC on May 9th. Noted that first deputy killed in line of duty is buried here. Keepers and other members are sprucing cemetery grounds in advance. Dying cherry tree to be removed March 16th. Utility pole is cleared of vines and trash.

Aaron Stevenson, CC agent from Edw. Jones advises staying with lower risk investments. Cemetery anticipating outlay of \$8,000 for mowing. Some stones need up righting, but will await market upturn before incurring expense.

Rector's Report: Fr. Kirk getting Holy Week Bulletins together. He would like services to return to pre-pandemic form as much as possible, including foot washing and music on Maundy Thursday. Noon service only on Good Friday, to include music.

Fr. Kirk to attend clergy retreat at Claggett tomorrow. Discussed impressive slate of candidates for Bishop Co-Adjutor, and explained voting process (one lay and one clerical vote from each parish).
p. 2.

Senior Warden: Parochial report submitted early! Report has been received, but no feedback yet. Quilters happy in new quarters; to hold open-house for congregation on March 19th after service. Hand-Me-Down Hub has moved into former quilting space.

Adopt-A-Plot working out well in lieu of Property Committee, all areas are adopted.

Wedding to be held at CC on May 20th. MJ Parrish to be contact for couple.

Senior Warden to be away from 4/30-end of June. Asking others to step in during absence.

The Campaign for Community Service, the plan for Vestry leadership to initiate cemetery debt reduction by designated pledge/gift, was discussed. Two members have responded so far.

Junior Warden: Parish Hall HVAC, temp currently set at 64 degrees. When electric use has been tracked over time, the thermostat will be programmed to coordinate with the hall usage schedule, avoiding extreme changes which require costly full recovery. Furnace inspection successfully completed. Left Parish Hall door is chipping; Dave Martell will help with temporary patch. Tony to seek quote to replace doors.

Stove repair: Will obtain quote, but aware parts hard to find, Not critical item now. Shades in quilt room are much appreciated.

ECW: Events: Quilter's Open House 3/19. On 3/27/2023, will prepare 40 meals for homeless as part of community-wide program.

ECW tea to be held 4/30/2023.

Rock Spring Keepers: Using start-up grant to purchase a small, all weather, lockable equipment shed to be attached to posts on the cement slab behind the Parish Hall. Seeking Vestry input, consensus of which is that this seems a good location. Earth Day service on 4/23/2023, will be followed by coffee hour eco-activity, planting for pollinators.

Fr. Kirk ended meeting at 8:10 pm with prayer, "Glory and Peace to All."

Next Vestry Meeting will be April 19, 2023, at 7 pm via Zoom.

Blessings,
Lyn Edmunds, Registrar





Episcopal Church Women

ECW MEETINGS: are held on the **SECOND WEDNESDAY** of the month.

MAY 10— ECW 7 PM in the Annex

JUNE 14—Our meeting tonight will be dedicated to the final sorting and pricing of donated items for the Rummage Sale on Saturday, June 17!



ROYAL-TEA!

The Ladies Tea, held on April 30, will have a write-up and photos in the next edition of The Chimes.

MEMORIAL DAY MAY 29—ECW will be coordinating refreshments following the commemoration service.



**Memorial
Day**

*Never Forget
Ever Honor*

THE RUMMAGE SALE IS COMING!

The big day of **Saturday June 17** will be here soon and we are gearing up to accept your donations of gently used household and outdoor items. **No clothing or books please.** We will be accepting donations according to this schedule:

- **Sundays** after church—**May 21-June 11**
- **Saturdays**
 - ♦ **May 27** 11 AM—1 PM
 - ♦ **June 3** 11 AM—1 PM
 - ♦ **June 10** 11 AM—3 PM
- **Tuesdays**
 - ♦ **May 23** 10 AM—2 PM
 - ♦ **May 30** 10 AM—2 PM
 - ♦ **June 6** 10 AM—2 PM
 - ♦ **June 13** 10 AM—2 PM

Need to drop off donations at a different time? Please call:
Kate **443-910-3671**
MaryJane **410-456-7931**
to schedule an appointment.

Household Goods - ~~Books~~ - Craft Supplies - Tools - Sports Equipment

PLEASE NOTE: Our SHARING LIBRARY is full to overflowing! We are NOT accepting books at this time. We suggest you contact your local branch of the Harford County Public Library and inquire whether their Friends group is accepting donations for upcoming book sales. The Bel Air branch is currently closed for construction and not accepting donations.

VOLUNTEER



The Rummage Sale is always a **big** fundraising event with plenty of volunteer opportunities!

Please let us know if you can help:

Sorting & Pricing June 11-16

Sales Help June 17

Sorting & Boxing leftovers June 18-24

ECW Officers 2022-2023

President

Colleen Murphy 410-925-5875

Corresponding Secretary

Janet Clifton 410-838-5072

Recording Secretary

MaryJane Parrish 410-456-7931

Treasurer

Melinda Chase 443-866-1134

COMMUNITY RUMMAGE SALE

June 17, 2023 RAIN OR SHINE!

8 AM—2 PM

CHRIST CHURCH, ROCK SPRING

2100 ROCK SPRING ROAD, FOREST HILL, MD 21050

Entrance on ROCK SPRING CHURCH ROAD

(parallel to Route 23—turn in from either Rock Spring Road
or Grafton Shop Road)



***WE ARE THE HISTORIC STONE CHURCH WITH THE CHIMES
AT THE CROSSROADS OF ROUTES 23 & 24!***

- Household Goods
- Books
- Craft Supplies
- Tools
- Sports Equipment



For Information
call the church office
410-838-6606

OR

Colleen 410-925-5875

OR

Christine 410-941-5067



Bring your appetite! **JOHN'S BACKYARD BEEFSTRO** will be fired up,
selling breakfast and pit sandwiches and more!

KEEPER'S CORNER

EARTH SUNDAY April 23, 2023: CC PARISH HALL BECOMES POLLINATOR PARADISE

Following a lovely and meaningful service featuring Earth themed readings, prayers, and music, members gathered in the Parish Hall for herb infused refreshments, a talk on pollinators, especially butterflies, the herbs that attract them, and hands-on activities related to butterflies and a keystone species, the beaver.

There was a selection of take-home herbs that can be simply grown in pots, and which will attract insects and the larvae of local butterflies. Folks could also make a butterfly mobile and beaver puppet. The fabulous eco-themed raffle “bucket” netted \$345, and was won by Georgette Mingle, who is a member of the quilters guild at Centre Methodist Church and friend of Lois Tidey.

Thanks to all who contributed items for the bucket, especially Site One Landscape Supply and the Keepers who filled the gardening tub to overflowing.

Fun Fact: The nifty countertop compost bin in the raffle bucket is produced by Molly Neal’s brother, Mike O’Leary’s business, Reotemp? Check it out: <https://a.co/d/7sBcEBw>

Keeper’s have been busy in the warmer months of spring. All Adopt-a-Gardens on the Church property are claimed and being cared for, and it shows! Rock Spring is running clear, and there is a cleared path behind the Parish Hall if you wish to visit. Elsewhere, invasive vines have been cleared, and the dying cherry tree in the cemetery has been removed. Rock Spring Church Road is looking good; we’re seeing overall less trash on the road! Thanks to everyone involved for investing time and energy in our watershed.

There is also a new lockable shed on the patio containing tools and equipment for landscape maintenance projects, with a wheelbarrow next to it. Please feel free to use the items in the shed, but initially ask a Keeper to help you open the lock and door to the shed. Please keep it locked when not in use. If you wish to leave personal tools in the shed, please initial or label them. There is also a small first aid kit, which has already been useful. We are in need of a pitchfork to turn the compost pile, so a donation or loan of this item would be much appreciated. We were able to use funds from the IPC start-up grant to purchase the shed, which MJ got at a great sale price. Way to go, MJ!

We are thinking of installing a small pollinator bed on church property with native plants. Let us know where would you like to see this. Be sure to enjoy the greening of Earth this spring, and visit the local farmer’s markets for native plants and locally produced items. And hug a pollinator, figuratively.

By Lyn Edmunds



4/23/2023





*** A hearty welcome to our new parishioners, Wendy and Rick Baker.**

*** Congratulations to Georgette Mingle who won the RSK's raffle bucket. Georgette is a member of the quilters guild at Centre Methodist Church and a friend of Lois Tidey.**

*** From Marianne Kidd and the Hand Me Down Hub (HMDH)—two of our helpers who assisted us in moving into our new space. HMDH continues to help families in Harford & Cecil and Baltimore Counties!**



Daffodil Hill



Joy Mayfield raking the Urn Garden area on April 14th



The Harford County Sheriff Department will be holding a Community Commemoration Ceremony for Fallen Officers on May 9th in the loop of Christ Church Historic Cemetery.

Tuesday, May 9th—10:00 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

All are Welcome!

Interesting Fact: The 1st Harford County Sheriff who died in the line of duty is laid to rest in our Cemetery.



On Memorial Day, the US Flag should be flown at half-mast from dawn until noon only. From noon to dusk it should be flown at full.

Some people wear a red poppy in remembrance of those fallen in war—a tradition that began with a World War I poem.



Memorial Day wasn't the first name of the holiday. It was called Decoration Day first, because it was a day to decorate the graves of lost loved ones.

Thank you to all for your kindness as I came to terms with my brother's unexpected passing. Your cards, words, and hugs were very much appreciated as was letting me tell you about him. I'm so fortunate to have this church family to help when times get rough. 😊 Colleen Murphy

WEEKLY ENVELOPES

BLESSINGS REPORT

April total - \$8,599.00

We need \$2,000 each week
to meet our expenses.



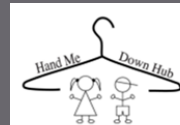
**Please remember to
mail your offering to:**

**Christ Church
P.O. Box 215
Forest Hill, MD 21050**

HAND ME DOWN HUB

Marianne Kidd
410-937-0865

HMDHub@gmail.com
www.Facebook.com/HMDHub



**Infant to Teen sizes available.
Send a request for yourself
or another.**

PLEASE REMEMBER

INCLUDE YOUR PARISHIONER NUMBER ON THE
ENVELOPE. IT HELPS ENSURE ACCURACY OF OUR RECORDS.

If you need envelopes or have questions regarding your giving statement, please contact the office.



Christ Church Rock Spring Parish
In the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
2100 Rock Spring Road
P.O. Box 215
Forest Hill, MD 21050



MAY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Jazzercise 5:30— 7:00pm AA—Mon Night Raw 7:30— 8:30 p.m.	Jazzercise 9:45— 11:15 a.m. 10 am Quilters (annex) Jacki's Aerobics 6:50—8:00 p.m.	Jazzercise 6:15—7:30 p.m.	Jazzercise 9:45—11:15 a.m. Jacki's Aerobics 6:50—8:00 p.m.	AA—Fri Night Group 6:30— 8:00 p.m. (chairs stay up)	AA—New Beginnings 9:00—11:00 a.m.
	1 Apostles St. Philip & St. James 	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:45— 5th Sunday of Easter A.G.— *Kate	8	9 Harford County Sheriff Commemoration Ceremony 10:00 a.m. Christ Church Cemetery	10 <i>Episcopal Church Women</i> ECW Meeting 7:00 p.m.	11	12	13
14  9:45 — 6th Sunday of Easter Rogation Sunday A.G.— Melinda	15	16	17  Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m.	18 Ascension Day	19	20
21 9:45— 7th Sunday of Easter—Sunday after Ascension Day A.G.— *M.J.	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Whitsunday  9:45 — Day of Pentecost A.G.—Debbie	29 Memorial Day Service 9:00 a.m. Christ Church Cemetery 	30	31 The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary			

Harford 250 Celebration—Begins March 2023; Ends March 2024

Office Phone: 410-838-6606

Email: christchrsp@gmail.com

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