

The Angelus

January 2014



The **Angelus** is published 10 months a year.
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WHAT'S INSIDE

In **From the Rector**, Father John shares his thoughts on snow, Epiphany, our new Deacon, stewardship, and our Korean congregation. He also announces the visit of the Yale a capella group and the next Jazz Vespers.

The **Outreach Committee** provides insight into the English Conversation Club, including some wonderful success stories.

The Epiphany **Yoga Workshop** is announced – get your mats!

Booktalk announces its annual poetry reading.

The Sunday School announces its **Hat and Mitten collection**.

The **Adult Formation Committee** brings us a message from Ebenezer Scrooge about Lent.

There is an important update on the new system for **pledge envelopes**.

In the **Newcomer Corner**, we welcome yet another wonderful new family.

The Bargain Box has some excellent gift ideas, including the Bargain Box Cookbook, plus the Holiday schedule and a “Thank You” to all of the wonderful volunteers.

Do you love Christ Episcopal Church? Then “Like” Christ Episcopal Church on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/christchurchrockville>.

From the Rector



Fr. McDuffie

Dear Friends in Christ,

I'm writing this letter on December 10th, in advance of our Angelus publication deadline, but you won't read it until close to the New Year. The area is wonderfully paralyzed by three inches of snow. I'm sitting in my office – I'm the only one here – looking at the sunshine outside, and a mostly clear South Washington Street. Once again, where possible, folks have opted into an invitation to experience transcendence in the form of a winter weather event. It is indeed mysterious and joyful to feel yourself in the grip of something that is bigger than you are, and to give yourself over to it.

We are headed into January, and the season of Epiphany – a season of light, with all the childhood wonder of new possibilities on the horizon – and we are bidden to follow the stars!

I thought I'd share just a few miscellaneous musings with you. It was a joy to be at the Church of the Epiphany in Washington on Saturday the 8th of December, and to present our friend and brother George Wong to be ordained a deacon. This is the penultimate step in a journey that George began several years ago, and which will be realized fully when, God willing, George will be ordained a priest in June at the Cathedral. We had a great representation from Christ Church there on the 8th, and I know that George feels very affirmed and supported by our congregation. The work of raising up a person to enter the ordained ministry is shared by all of us – and as I offer George my heartiest congratulations, I also thank each of you for your part you've played – it takes a village!

Speaking of "it takes a village", I want to update you on our **stewardship campaign**, "Living by Faith". At this writing, we are at 79% of realizing our pledge income goal for 2014. There are a number of individuals and families who have not yet made their pledge, and they will have received a friendly reminder and invitation letter by the time you read this issue of the Angelus. If you are among those who have never pledged, or have not yet renewed a pledge, now is the time to do so! For renewals, an increase is welcomed. You can make a significant difference in our strength as a parish for this new year. If we cannot make our goal, it will be necessary to make modifications in our programmatic ministries, most particularly in outreach, children's and youth ministries, and music. Together, we can follow the stars, but it takes all of us to make the journey. Thanks to all who will help us!

January is also timely for another important reminder. Our Book of Common Prayer offers this rubric on p. 445:

The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, of the duty of all Christian parents to make prudent provisions for the well-being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable purposes.

Do you have a will? Do you have advance directives for health care decisions? And, have you ever considered making a bequest to Christ Church? In 2010, we received a bequest from the estate of the late Jack Oxley, lifelong member of Christ Church, which was unrestricted. That gift was used to purchase the new security system for our church building, which Jack loved, and to contribute toward new computers and a network for our Parish House. This is just one example of how your gift, no matter how large or small, can be received with thanksgiving and then contribute greatly to the well-being and life of our church.

I'm happy to report that our Korean congregation, while small in number, continues to thrive with the generous support of its members, and with the ongoing support of the Korean Episcopal Church. We are glad that the Diocese of Washington is sponsoring Fr. Choi and his family to obtain permanent residential status, which will happen soon. Also, plans are underway for the Chois to begin living next door to the church in the Hillstrom House, which for many years has served as a rental property. The Diocese of Seoul will contribute the funding for the family's residency, which will take the place of the proceeds that we have realized from renters in the past. Since this will no longer be a rental property, we will ultimately not have property taxes to pay or the necessity of having a rental agent. This will be a "win-win" situation for both Christ Church and for Fr. Athanasius and his family.

Well, I think I will shuffle off somewhere to do some Christmas shopping. The stores ought to be less busy, with snow fever engulfing the populace.

This letter comes with my every wish that you will have a blessed Christmas, and a happy, healthy, and hope-filled New Year! Let us follow the stars.

Faithfully and Sincerely,
John+

The Spizzwinks Visit Christ Church!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, January 8, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. when the Spizzwinks of Yale University will give a concert at Christ Church. The Spizzwinks are an a capella singing group of undergraduates at Yale, and are the oldest such group in the country, originating in 1914. They go on national and international tours three times a year, and there will be an admission charge to help with the group's travel expenses. The current edition of the Spizzwinks is graced with the presence of Christ Church's former chorister Chase Renfro, who is now in his sophomore year at Yale.

For further information and to hear a sample of their marvelous vocal talents, visit their website at www.spizzwinks.com.

Jazz Vespers Returns on Sunday, January 26



Join us for another inspirational service of evening prayer accompanied by the sounds of jazz on Sunday, January 26, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. in the church. This is our annual pre-Valentine's Day session, so we'll feature some of the many songs of love in the Great American Songbook. A free-will offering will be gratefully received to benefit Episcopal Relief and Development, which is helping to fund relief efforts in the Philippines, as well as in other troubled areas.



Inside Outreach

English Conversation Club

Every Monday night for the past 12 years, Christ Church has played host to a group of our neighbors who would like to speak English more clearly. This year, Pleiades spoke about how her grandparents, originally from Japan, ended up working in the sugar fields in Brazil. Luda, from Russia, shared with us wonderful stories about the long journeys on horseback she took as a child. Haoua, from Mali, told us about how she struggled in school because it was taught in French, a language she didn't speak at home.

Our students have become like a family, sharing the challenges of leaving children, parents, and friends in their country and finding jobs and making new friends here. We get to share the good parts too, like when a student finds a new, better paying job, or is able to bring a parent to the US for a visit or, best of all, finally gets a green card.

Please feel free to drop in on our class any Monday night September through May. The teachers, Emily Correll, Joyce Byant, and Mary Belknap work hard to help our students connect with English speakers. For further information, contact Mary at 301-251-1486.

The Outreach Committee meets the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish House. All are welcome to attend and learn more about the opportunities to live our faith through service to those who need us most. For further information, contact Kelvin Dowd at KJDowd24@gmail.com

Newcomer Corner

The Kaufmann Family

Doreen and Wes Kaufmann and their daughter Christine began attending CEC about a year ago. The Kaufmanns were drawn by the sermons and the choirs. They look forward to Christine, age 12, becoming involved with CEC's youth group.

Doreen is originally from New Jersey, and Wes from Michigan, but they have lived in Maryland for 14 years, currently in Laytonsville. Wes works for Hewlett-Packard. Doreen is an attorney, formerly with the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, and currently a Mobile Signing Agent. Christine is a 6th grader at Gaithersburg Middle School.

Welcome to Christ Church, Wes, Doreen, and Christine!



Worship

Pledge Envelopes



Pledge numbers are remaining the same this year. We now have boxes of blank envelopes, weekly and monthly. In order not to overburden our counters, when you get your box of pledge envelopes, please take a few minutes and write your pledge number on every envelope in the box. The boxes will have your name and number on a label. This new system while responding to the concerns of some in the parish is also saving us money as we can cut down on paper waste and the boxes can be used year after year. Thank you for your patience as we fine-tune our system. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Suzanne Viglianti at 301-929-3128.

Epiphany Yoga Workshop



Join us for a very special Yoga and the Spirit on Sunday, January 19, 2014 from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m. in the Murdock Room. We'll explore "Being a Vessel of Light", the light embodied in the star and the magi.

We're all on a journey. We often find ourselves wandering. Yoga can help center both the mind and body. Together we can discover what this means for our health by breathing, moving, and meditating.

Everyone is welcome! Yoga and the Spirit provides a well-rounded physical practice for those at every level of experience. We strive to go deeper in our faith and yoga. It's great sharing together!

Bring a mat (or let me know if you need one in advance). Enter the building from the back parking lot directly through the outside Murdock Room doors (which face the Parish House). The classes are free. If you want to contribute, donations will be given to Episcopal Relief and Development. Contact parishioner Cindy Cotte Griffiths, RYT-200, at Cindy@OnlineandInPerson.com with any questions.

Booktalk

BOOKTALK invites you to its *Annual Poetry Reading* on Monday, January 13, 2014, at 1:00 p.m. in the Dining Room of the Parish House. This is a very popular event, and we would love to have you join us to share the works of two or three of your favorite poets or poems with the group. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Hat & Mitten Collection



The CEC Sunday School invites you to contribute

New Hats & Mittens for local needy children

during this season of Epiphany, Jan. 6th – Feb. 15th



Please drop off your donations on one of the

Collection Trees located in the church or the Dining Room.

Thank you for helping honor God's message to all of us

that it is in Giving that We Receive!



A Message from Scrooge...about Lent

As you read this, you might have just donned your stocking cap and settled down for a little holiday reading before drifting into a restful slumber.

I envy you. I can't go to sleep tonight until Jacob Marley's annual visit is over. Ahhh, right on cue: the telltale clanging of chains and mournful moaning.

"Oooooooh! Scrooge...you will be visited only by one spirit this year. (Budget sequesters. Don't ask.)"

A frigid breeze swirls about my room as the Ghost of Future Fasting appears before me. He points a bony finger at the 2014 calendar already hanging on my wall. I adjust my glasses. He's pointing at March 5th.

"No, Spirit, it can't be. I'm not ready. Go away!"

Again, he taps insistently on the calendar for March 5th: Ash Wednesday...the start of Lent. Wait, what's this? He's handing me a pen and paper.

"What do you want me to do, Spirit?"

He gives me a Lenten devotional booklet. I shiver.

"You want me to write a...gulp...short devotional essay...by when?"

The Spirit points to the deadline on the calendar: February 2nd. Then he hands me a note which reads:

Look for the special puzzle poster in the Narthex starting January 6th so you can pull off the scripture readings for a specific day of Lent about which you'd like to write. And come to the adult forum on Sunday, January 12th for insights into writing for the 2014 devotional booklet. Email any questions to: lent2014@comcast.net.

The Ghost of Future Fasting departs from me with an icy swoosh. I mark my calendar, relieved that at least Lent 2014 arrives later than the past two years.

Meanwhile...Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

Ebenezer Scrooge
(**on behalf of the Adult Formation Committee**)



The Bargain Box

Thrift and Consignment Shop

An Outreach Ministry since 1957

398 Hungerford Drive, Rockville 20850

301-762-2242

Email: bargainbox@cecrockville.org

On the web: www.christchurchrockville.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/BargainBoxRockville

Monday – Saturday, 10 am – 4:30 pm

Donna Wolohojian, Manager

All our profits fund outreach projects in the community and diocese.



For inclement weather, we use MCPS as a guideline. However, please check the website or Facebook page to see our open/closed status. Without risking life and limb, and if the power is on, we aim to be open!

THE BARGAIN BOX COOKS

Have you bought your copy yet?

"The Bargain Box Cooks" cookbook will be available at Coffee Hour every Sunday, or you can pick one up at the store during the week. Cost is \$12, cash or check.



As 2013 draws to a close, we wish to thank the dedicated volunteers who help The Bargain Box fulfill its outreach mission.

- Four volunteers work as sales clerks at the front desk each day, two in the morning and two in the afternoon.
- Several volunteers handle consignments on Thursday and Friday morning each week.
- Volunteers sort and tally consignment tickets so consignors are paid each month.
- Many volunteers work behind the scenes to sort and price clothing, purses, shoes, books, greeting cards, dolls, vintage items, and jewelry.
- Volunteers polish brass and silver and hand wash delicate glassware.
- A volunteer tests all the toys, appliances and gadgets.
- A volunteer serves as treasurer, pays the bills and writes a monthly financial report.
- A volunteer serves as "sunshine lady", sending cards and birthday wishes.
- A volunteer keeps our website and Facebook pages up-to-date with photos and information. *(Like us!)*
- Volunteers deliver items we are unable to sell to Interfaith, the Rockville Senior Center, Habitat for Humanity, animal shelters and other local charities.
- Several volunteers serve on a committee to manage the store.

Make a Resolution for 2014 to be more involved in helping others...

Volunteering at the Bargain Box is a great way to use your time and talent and meet new friends. Please consider joining our growing number of couples, families, friends and neighbors who volunteer together.

DONATIONS WELCOME! We accept donations during store hours and provide a receipt for your taxes. Please note...

December 24 – 26 Closed for Christmas

December 31 – Jan. 1 Closed for New Year's

January 2014

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



OTHER PARISH EVENTS

(Date/Event/ Time/ Location)

- 1 New Year's Day (*office closed*)
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7 Pastoral Care Committee Meeting **7:30pm** (PH LR)
- 8 A capella Group "The Spizwinks" Program **7:30pm** (Church)
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12 Animal Welfare Group Meeting **1:00pm** (PH DR)
Holy Eucharist at Rockville Nursing Home **1:30pm**
- 13 Booktalk **1:00pm** (PH LR)
Outreach Committee Meeting **7:00pm** (PH DR)
- 14 *The Angelus* Submission Deadline for the February 2014 issue
Adult Christian Formation Meeting **7:30pm** (PH LR)
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19 "Rockville Help" Sunday (*Third Sunday of each month*)
Loaves & Fishes carpool **10:15am** (leave from Church)
Sunday School Outreach Project **10:15am** (Dining Room)
Yoga and the Spirit **4:00pm** (Murdock Room)
- 20 Martin Luther King Day (*office closed*)
Dine & Deal **6:30pm** (MR)
- 21 *The Angelus* Printing
Pastoral Care Committee Meeting **7:30pm** (PH LR)
- 22 Holy Eucharist at Collingswood **2:00pm** (Rockville)
- 23 *The Angelus* Assembly
- 24
- 25
- 26 Jazz Vespers **5:00pm** (Church)
Diocesan Ice Skating Party **6:00pm** (off campus)
- 27
- 28 Vestry Meeting **7:30pm** (PH LR)
- 29
- 30
- 31 Diocesan Convention

JANUARY 2014 WEEKLY SCHEDULE

**Regular Sunday Schedule
Services at 7:45, 9:00 & 11:00am**

- 7:45 AM** Holy Eucharist Rite I
a spoken service with Sermon
- 9:00 AM** Holy Eucharist Rite II
*with Sermon, Service Music, Hymns, and Anthems
Choristers of Christ Church*
- 9:00 AM** Children's Church – Murdock Room
*a service for children, using a story-telling theme with music
for young children. 9:00-9:30am*
- 11:00 AM** Holy Eucharist, Rite I
*with Sermon, Service Music, Hymns, and Anthems
Christ Church Choir*
- Nursery** 8:45 AM – 12:15 PM *for infants and toddlers
6 months to 4 years old*

ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS

- 8:25 AM** Choristers Warm Up – Choir Room & Church
- 9:00 AM** Studies in Christian Faith (*led by Fran Palmer-Hill*)
- 10:10 AM** Adult Forum – Murdock Room
- 10:15 AM** Sunday School – Classrooms Preschool-8th Grade
- 10:15 AM** Choir Rehearsal – Choir Stalls
- 10:15 AM** Coffee Hour – Dining Room
- 12:45 PM** Korean Worship Service – Chapel
- 2:10 PM** Korean Congregation Coffee Hour – Parish House

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday

7:00 PM English Conversation Practice (CEC DR)

Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting (PH)
6:30 PM The Story Discussion Group (CES DR)

Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study (PH LR)
12:10 PM Holy Eucharist Rite II (Church)
8:00 PM Korean Congregation Prayer Group (CES DR)

Thursday

12:00 PM AA (PH)
4:30 PM Chorister Rehearsal (Church)
7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal (Church)

KEY

CEC = Christ Episcopal Church
PH = Parish House CES = Christ Episcopal School
LR = Living Room K = Kitchen
DR = Dining Room N = Nursery
MR = Murdock Room YR = Youth Room



THE YALE

America's oldest underclassman **a cappella** group

SPIZZWINKS(?)

Since 1914

Wednesday, January 8th, 2014

7:30 pm

**Christ Episcopal Church
Rockville**

107 South Washington Street
Rockville, MD 20850

An **evening** of fine **a cappella**:

Adult: \$15 - Child: \$10

The Spizzwinks(?) are America's oldest underclassman **a cappella** group. Since 1914, we've been delighting audiences with our unique blend of musical excellence and tongue-in-cheek humor. Join us at Christ Episcopal to hear Spizzwink(?) and Silver Spring native **Chase Redfren**, YC '16, as part of our 100th anniversary Winter Tour!



To purchase tickets in advance, visit: spizzwinks.ticketbud.com/rockville