

THE MESSENGER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Help Winneba Read	2
Prayer Requests	2
Music Notes	3
Vestry Highlights	4
Picnic	4
New Adult Ed. Class	5
Atrium News	5
June Calendar	6
Youth News	7
Mission Report	8

The Messenger will take a break in July, but we will send out a calendar and a word from Paul.

CLERGY AND STAFF:

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- **Music Ministers** (ext. 110)
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A WORD FROM PAUL WALKER

“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” Matthew 6:24

Daily trouble – we all have it. Jesus understood that each day brings its own sufficiency of trouble. Job says *“Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward.”* Who doesn’t know this? Yet, somehow I still find myself surprised at the trouble in me and the trouble around me, not to the mention the trouble caused by me.

The Bible, however, tells us that everyday brings trouble. *“In this world you will have trouble.”* (John 16:33) When Lynn Anderson sang her 1970 hit “Rose Garden”, she must have been reading her Bible. “I beg your pardon, I never promised you a rose garden.” (Also covered by the likes of 10,000 Maniacs and Martina McBride – Bible truth has wide appeal!)

So, we all have daily trouble. But, we are not left alone with our trouble. With daily trouble we are given daily manna. When the Israelites wandered in the Wilderness, they were given manna from heaven each day. In Exodus 16, we read about daily Manna. Manna is the *“bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”* Each morning the Israelites would wake to find the day’s provision – food sufficient for the day. When they tried to hoard the Manna – not trusting the Lord to provide for the next day – the Manna “bred worms and stank.”

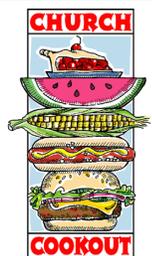
The Israelite’s experience is a powerful metaphor for life. We have daily trouble, yet we’re given daily Manna. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble, yet sufficient for the day is God’s provision for you in that trouble. Jesus picked up on this theme in the Lord’s Prayer: *“give us this day our daily bread.”*

All this is to say that God is trustworthy. He will provide for you day by day, day after day. He will take care of tomorrow and He will give you what you need for today.

Ever yours,

Paul

I hope to see all of you at the picnic on Sunday, June 1st. Look inside for details.



Join me in welcoming Sam Bush as our Summer Urban Missioner. Sam will be 4th year at UVA next year and has been part of our 5 p.m. Music Ministry Team. His contact information is in the adjacent column.

HELP WINNEBA READ

My Christ Church Friends:

Hello! My name is Nana Akyeampong-Ghartey from Winneba, a fishing town in Ghana, West Africa. I am an ordained Episcopal minister and have been living in Charlottesville since 1998. I have been a Special Education Teacher for 3 years and was a Chaplain Resident with the University of Virginia Medical Center. I am now a behavioral specialist with Region Ten Community Services Board.

Living in the United States, I have realized that a most vital possession in a free society is information. A reliable means of retrieving and using meaningful information allows people to solve problems, get new ideas, improve business, increase knowledge, and be more comfortable and productive in their surroundings. Information allows people to acquire skills to be increasingly effective in their roles as members of their family, community, and workplace. Lives can be changed by information.

Access to information is so easy in America. Increasing numbers of Americans have access, through personal computers, to the Internet. Even greater numbers can use their local libraries. There are 122,000 libraries in America where, in 1998, librarians answered almost 300 million reference questions. Access to information is so widespread and easy that it's taken for granted.

Unfortunately, that is not true elsewhere in the world. In Winneba, my town in Ghana, there are no computers or public libraries. Even the University of Education, the High School, the over 10 elementary schools and the major Police Academy for Ghana, which are all located in town, do not have adequate access to information. Yet the 100,000 people who live in Winneba are just as curious as in America and probably more in need of contemporary information.

Over the past 3 years I am happy to report that generous benefactors in Virginia and throughout the United States have donated 2 million books! Now I must focus on raising \$350,000 to build an acceptable structure for their use. Please help! Your financial support is urgently needed if we are to help the people of Winneba gain access to the information they so badly need and so eagerly desire. Please consider how the computer and your library have changed your life. Your donation can help change their lives too.

Christ Church has agreed to accept grants and donations for this project—code-named HELP WINNEBA READ—so all contributions are tax exempt.

Sincerely,
Nana

P.S. Please contact me for more information at ngharteyk@embarqmail.com or in the evenings at 434-296-0083.

Prayer Requests

Pray for your fellow parishioners:

Louise Taylor, Kay Orrick, Frank Thomasson, Wally Tymoff, Bev Cibbarelli, Betsy Tremain, Ruth & Emma Snyder, Helen Wick, Alison Iannelli, Alice Davis, Marie Wood, Randall Steffenhagen.

Pray for friends and relatives of parishioners: (Unless requested, remain on list for 1 month.)

Judy Taylor (Tricia Witherow's mother); Kaki Pearson (Kay Orrick's daughter), Amy Carter Pharr (Janice & Rick Carter's daughter), Lisa Goodman (Betsy Boswell's sister), Sarah (friend of Andrew Kensington), Annie Wright (co-worker of Rhonda Corbin), Jason Corbin (Rhonda Corbin's brother).

Pray for expectant parents: Kate & Jeff Bloxson, Meredith & Matthew McClellan

Pray for the deceased: Sybil Cooper (Georgia Davidson's sister), Carrie Sjostrom.

Please make your requests for prayer known to us: 100 W. Jefferson St. / Charlottesville, VA 22902; Phone: 293-2347 / Email: cec@ntelos.net

Welcome Alex!

Beginning June 1st, Alex Mejias, our 5 p.m. worship leader, will join the Norfreys at the 9:00 a.m. service to lead the Praise Band. We are grateful for this new opportunity to develop and enhance our unique blend of traditional organ music and Praise Band worship at the 9 o'clock service.

Good News! Our United Thank Offering Spring Ingathering yielded \$926.02 and our Easter collection for the Lacor Secondary School in Uganda brought in \$3,173.17. This will enable the school to purchase materials and build new facilities. **Thank you!**

Music Ministry News—Elizabeth and David Norfrey

Choral Evensong: Sunday, June 8th, 5:00 p.m.

Invite friends and family members to experience the beauty of traditional Anglican worship at the last Choral Evensong (sung Evening Prayer) of the season. The Rev. Dave Johnson will officiate and preach; the choir will sing Howells' "My Eyes for Beauty Pine," and Rudolph's *Magnificat* and *Nunc Dimittis*.

Singing for "Non-Singers": Free Vocal Coaching Sessions

Do you believe you "can't carry a tune in a bucket"? Do family members tell you not to embarrass them by singing in church? Did your 3rd grade teacher tell you to "mouth the words"? If so, you are encouraged to make an appointment with Elizabeth this summer and prove everyone wrong. If you can talk, you can sing. It just requires a little concentration and instruction. Call the church office today!

Music Ministry Appreciation

Thanks to all those who have served God through the music ministry this past year! We are grateful for the opportunity to work with so many wonderful people, both long-time members and relative newcomers to the church. Participation in a music ministry group is a great way to build community!

These children/youth participated in the Cherubim/Seraphim Choir (gr. 2-8) this year: **Sally Barr, Annabelle Castleman, Georgia Castleman, Christine Cole, Ashley Gitchell, Jackson Gitchell, Emily Lichtenberger, Banks Northington, Peter Owen, Stephanie Owen, Martha Roszak, Zack Russell**. Special thanks to **Jo Gitchell**, our faithful choir parent and to **Kathryn Humphreys**, who worked with the choir at Christmastime. The choir, who participated in the 9:00 a.m. service once a month, enjoyed a variety of activities: instruction in vocal technique, choir chimes, basic music theory, studying one hymn per month, and learning praise songs and anthems.

Thanks to those who rang Handbells this year, some with previous experience and others completely new to handbells: **Tracy Byam, Bowie Carpenter, Louise Gregory, Ann Hardinger, Allison McCue, Debbie Owen, Ben Paris, Charlotte Paris, Martha Sikes, Don Wells, Erin Wells**. The group played at the both 9:00 and 11:00 worship services several times as well as for the memorial service of Suan Woodward.

Thanks to the 9:00 a.m. Praise Band members: **Jill Bascom, Jimmy Downing, Bill Duxbury, Laurie Duxbury, Ben Farmer, Ron Jenkins, Ruthanna Jenkins, Stephanie Johnson**. The group offered a blend of musical styles, drawing from the 1982, Renew and RUF Hymnals, and contemporary praise and worship songs, teaching one new song a month.

Thanks to the 11:00 a.m. Adult Choir, full-timers and part-time helpers for special services and projects: **Timothy Allen, Sally Cochran, Jimmy Downing, Margaret Embree, Brett Ferrell, James Fishwick, David Franzen, Eleanor Franzen, Ann Hardinger, Carol Harlee, Hock Hockensmith, Sue Honour, Mike Kavanaugh, Melville Krebs, Lindsey McKillican, Carey Morton, Consi Palmer, Ken Scully, Monica Shenouda, Bill Sublette, Kathy Sublette, Jane Varga, Don Wells, Caroline Wilhelm, Lester Wilson**. Thanks to our Music Librarian, **Barbara Chapdelaine** who always helps us keep our choir music organized! A highlight of the year was the offering in worship of Bach Cantata 61 on the second Sunday in Advent.

The following people provided special music (preludes, offertories, etc.) during the year: **Timothy Allen** (piano/organ), **Richard Baritaud** (viola-Bach Cantata), **Adriel Barrett-Johnson** (piano), **Nick Berkin** (piano), **Barbara Chapdelaine** (organ), **Christine Cole** (piano), **Jimmy Downing** (voice/ guitar), **Laurie Duxbury** (violin), **Clair Holland** (carillon), **Kathryn Humphreys** (piano/vocals), **Addison Josey** and friends (string quintet), **Emily Lichtenberger** (violin), **Ted Lichtenberger** (bass-Bach Cantata), **Banks Northington** (piano), **Stephanie Owen** (piano), **Charlotte Paris** (organ), **Clair Robison** (carillon), **Kathryn Scott** (flute), and **Anna Wilhelm** (piano). We are blessed!

Thanks to **Bach's Lunch** crews who provided five weeks of delicious lunches and gracious hospitality: **Coordinator extraordinaire Donna Murray** and team leaders, **Melville Krebs, Merle Robertson**; and helpers, food preparers and servers: **Jill Bascom, Anabel Bowen, Maria Carlton, Bowie Carpenter, Sally Cochran, Carol Craig, Anne Dodge, Judy Drayer, Laurie Duxbury, Courtney Elliot, Amy Graeser, Carol Harlee, Joyce Harlee, Carol Harrell, Julie Matsumoto, Susan McConnell, Lindsay McKillican, Edna Morgan, Kelly Ogles, Debbie Owen, Martha Pace, Libby Palmer, Charlotte Paris, Karen Warnecke, Caroline Wilhelm, Connie Woodruff, and Lynne Wooten**. Your generosity of time and talent helped to make our series welcoming to visitors!

Vestry Highlights—April 15, 2008

Treasurer's Report: Compared to the 1st quarter, the 2nd quarter budget is down because we are critically low in our cash account and we must plan to conserve cash.

The plan to improve the cash position is to:

1. Complete the fund-raising for the Hook organ.
2. Complete the pledge drive.
3. Cautiously review any discretionary spending proposals.
4. Make plans for a fund drive for Tradition and Mission (TAM) in the future.

For members of the Vestry who had been unable to attend, Harry Bowen, Senior Warden, provided an overview of a forum that had taken place with parishioners who had questions about the process by which Paul Walker was called to be Priest-in-Charge.

Vestry Nomination Process: Proal Heartwell, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that the following parishioners had been selected to serve on the Vestry—Catherine Baritaud, Carol Craig, Bill Gordon, Consi Palmer, Lester Wilson.

Harry Bowen provided the Vestry with a history of the Hook organ and advised that a committee is being formed to produce a plan for the Music Program, which includes finalizing the purchase and installation of the Hook organ.

Paul Walker praised Dave Johnson's contributions to Christ Church and advised the Vestry that liturgical oversight is now under Dave's purview (lector, acolytes, etc.).

Dave Johnson advised that Evening Prayer during the months of April and May will be held on Wednesday evening only. He reported on youth confirmands, then concluded by announcing with joy that he had marked his one year anniversary of service at Christ Church.

Prior to the meeting's conclusion, the Vestry passed a resolution that would allow St. Luke's Simeon to finalize its disassociation with Christ Church in order to become a Diocesan Mission church.



Sunday, June 1st
12:00 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Jill & Bill
Bascom's home
in Keswick:
866 White Hall Rd.

We hope to see everyone there! If it rains we will gather in Meade Hall.

Directions to the Bascom's:

Take I-64 East from Charlottesville; get off at exit 129 (Keswick/Rte. 616). At the end of the exit ramp turn **right** on Rte. 616. In 1/2 mile, turn **left** at the light onto Rte. 250 (East). Go 1 mile and turn **left** onto White Hall Road. Follow signs to the first driveway on the **right**, which will be marked for the picnic and parking.

We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs and fixin's. Please bring a side dish, dessert, or drinks as follows:

Last names A-H Vegetable, Salad, or Starch

Last names I-Q Dessert

Last names R-Z Drinks (cans or individual bottles preferred)

Moon Bounce! Music! Softball! Races!

Swimming! Fellowship!

You May Also Bring:

Frisbees, Outdoor Games, Picnic Blankets or Chairs. Swimming Gear: There is a pool (max. depth of 6 ft) available for anyone who wants to swim. Changing areas will be provided. Children must have a parent with them at all times in the pool area.

New Adult Sunday School Class

During the five Sundays in June, Justin and I will be teaching a five-week adult Sunday School class on Paul's Letter to the Philippians. This is a phenomenal letter in which the Apostle Paul beautifully describes what God has done for the world through Jesus Christ. One of the overarching themes of this letter is joy—the joy God gives us through Jesus Christ. There are also many key theological themes addressed in this letter. This class will be held in the Gibson Room from 10:10-10:50. Here's what we'll be covering each week:

June 1	Founding of the Church in Philippi and an Intro to Philippians
June 8	Chapter 1—Intro, Thanksgiving, Suffering
June 15	Chapter 2—Christ's Humility, Timothy and Epaphroditus
June 22	Chapter 3—Righteousness through Faith
June 29	Chapter 4—Unity for the Sake of the Gospel and Summary

Each week we will have a handout, so even if you miss a class or two, you will still be able to get a sense of what we covered. Justin and I are very excited to teach this class together and hope you'll join us. We'll have fun with it! 😊

Yours in Christ,

Dave Johnson

News from the Atrium

June 1 is the last day for Sunday school and marks the third year of my time here at Christ Church. Many physical changes have occurred – most notably, the reconfiguration of the rooms for the two atriums and the opening of the second level atrium this fall. Additionally, we began a training course that has been attended by both our own parishioners as well as others from Church of our Savior. The course ran from November to May and will pick back up in September.

The biggest change by far, however, has been in our children. The other catechists and I have observed a

growth in the children's personal relationship with God; in their self-control, and in their independence.

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd's goal for the 3 to 6 year old child (Level I Atrium) is to "help them to do it by themselves." So the environment, which we call the atrium, facilitates that growth toward independence. Because the catechists are careful to maintain the spaces, the children can rely on everything being available to them every Sunday. They can work with the materials with very little assistance from the adults, pondering the scriptures that are presented to them week after week.

The 6 to 9 year old atrium (Level II Atrium) included the third graders this year, and they have responded beautifully to (for them) the new environment. This year they studied God's History of Salvation, several moral parables, the Maxims, the Holy Bible and ended the year with an in depth look at the Lord's Prayer. It has been fun year for all of us.

The 4th and 5th grade classes continued with the Faith Weaver's curriculum. They also prepared the Christmas Shoeboxes and made greeting cards and sent care packages to Marines serving in Baghdad.

When you see your children's catechists, please thank them for fostering a special relationship with your children, for all of the hours put in planning, facilitating and training. And I want to say a public thank you to all of the wonderful people I worked with this year:

Pam Desmond, Anne Russell, and Mary Caldejon in the Level I atrium

Elizabeth Bradley and Michelle Jennings in the Level II atrium.

Joe Jennings, Andy Krouse, and Rosanne Simeone in the 4th and 5th grade class

And Jo Gitchell for being our faithful substitute!

Have a safe and fun-filled summer!

**Carol Harrell
Director of Children's Formation**

JUNE 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Church Picnic! 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:10 AM Christian Ed 11 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 5 Holy Eucharist & Baptism	2	3 Noon Loaves & Fishes 4 Finance Committee	4 4 Executive Committee Meets 5:30 Evening Prayer	5	6 Paul Walker on vacation. Returns June 24.	7
8 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:10 AM Christian Ed 11 AM Morning Prayer w/ Holy Eucharist 5 Evensong	9	10 Noon Loaves & Fishes	11 10 AM Shawl Ministry 5:30 Evening Prayer	12	13	14
15 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:10 AM Christian Ed 11 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 5 Holy Eucharist	16 Marcy Hooker serving at a Credo Conference. Returns June 24.	17 Noon Loaves & Fishes	18 5:30 Evening Prayer	19	20	21
22 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:10 AM Christian Ed 11 AM Morning Prayer w/ Holy Eucharist 5 Holy Eucharist	23 Dave Johnson Continuing Ed week. Returns June 30.	24 Noon Loaves & Fishes 5:30 Vestry meets	25 10 AM Shawl Ministry 5:30 Evening Prayer	26	27	28 11 AM Terry/Elliott Wedding Rehearsal
29 7:45 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 9 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II 10:10 AM Christian Ed 11 AM Holy Eucharist Rite I 2—Terry/Elliott Wedding 5 Holy Eucharist & Baptism	30	Days Off: Monday —Liz Edrington, Elizabeth and David Norrfrey Friday —Dave Johnson, Paul Walker		Summer Office Hours Monday—Thursday: 9 AM– 5 PM Friday: 9 AM—Noon (through August 29)		

Schoooooool's Out for the Summer!



Coming Up

***June 7: High School Scavenger Hunt... best way to kick off the summer!**

***June 14– 7:30, DC United vs the NY Red Bulls (which is awesome, because Liz's friend plays for the Red Bulls)**

***June 28—Middle School National Treasure Hunt in DC**

I just want to thank everyone who made it out to Luke's farewell cook-out April 27th; it was absolutely wonderful to get to see so many of you all together, and I was so encouraged at the outpouring of love for Luke. What an incredible blessing it is to get to be your Youth Minister! We played a sweet 20-on-20 game of basketball, we tie-dyed shirts, we played bocce, and we devoured mass quantities of burgers and dogs in classic Christ Church picnic fashion. Praise God; I can't wait for the next time we get to throw down like that.

As the summer gets rolling, let me just say that I am pumped to be here to hang out with you guys. Bryan and Ethan can't wait to get to know you all, and we are looking forward to relaxing and enjoying the sun (and a lack of school work!). We're here for you guys—just let us know if you ever get an urge to do something adventurous, fun, or chilled, and we'll be there.



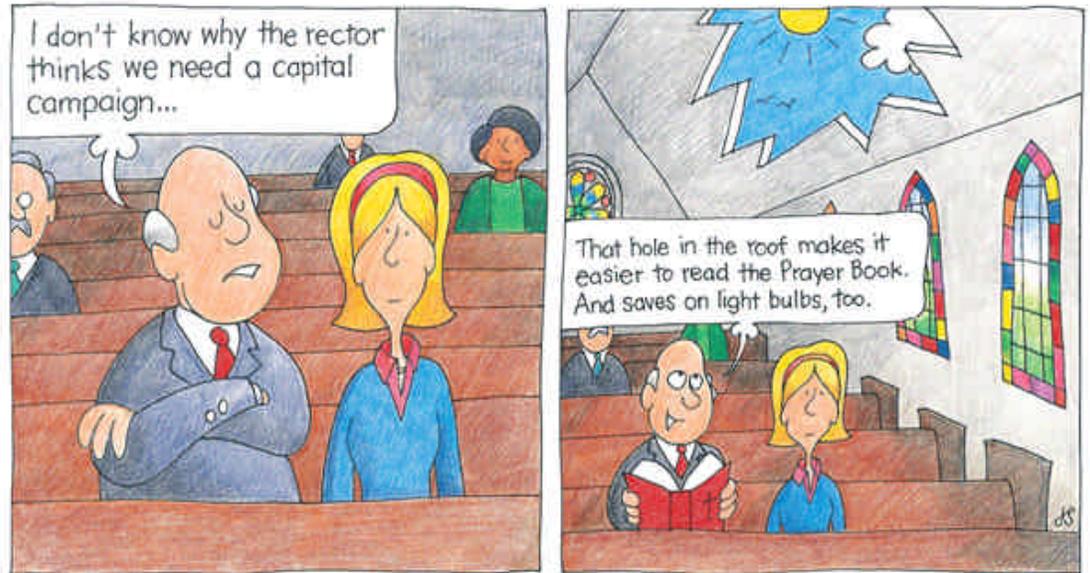
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Join us in saying farewell to Emily, Jane, and the rest of the wonderful Hornsbys for the year; they are headed to Uruguay to live, learn the language, and serve the community there. We will miss them dearly— but we are so excited to hear about how the Lord will use them and about the adventures He has in store for them. We will be praying for them and hope to keep up with them while they're away. Blessings and God speed, friends!



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<http://www.cpg.org/onlineresources/cartoons.cfm?event=cartoonDetail&cartoonID=216&category=2>

THE VESTRY

Harry Bowen,
 Senior Warden
 John Warnecke,
 Junior Warden
 Kemp Hill,
 Register
 Dale Varga,
 Treasurer

Catherine Baritand
 Rick Carter
 Carol Craig
 Mike Dickens
 David Drayer
 Bill Gordon
 Kemp Hill
 Hock Hockensmith
 Donna Murray
 Andrew O'Shaughnessy
 Clair Robison
 Lester Wilson

Vestry Contact info:
bowenb@msn.com

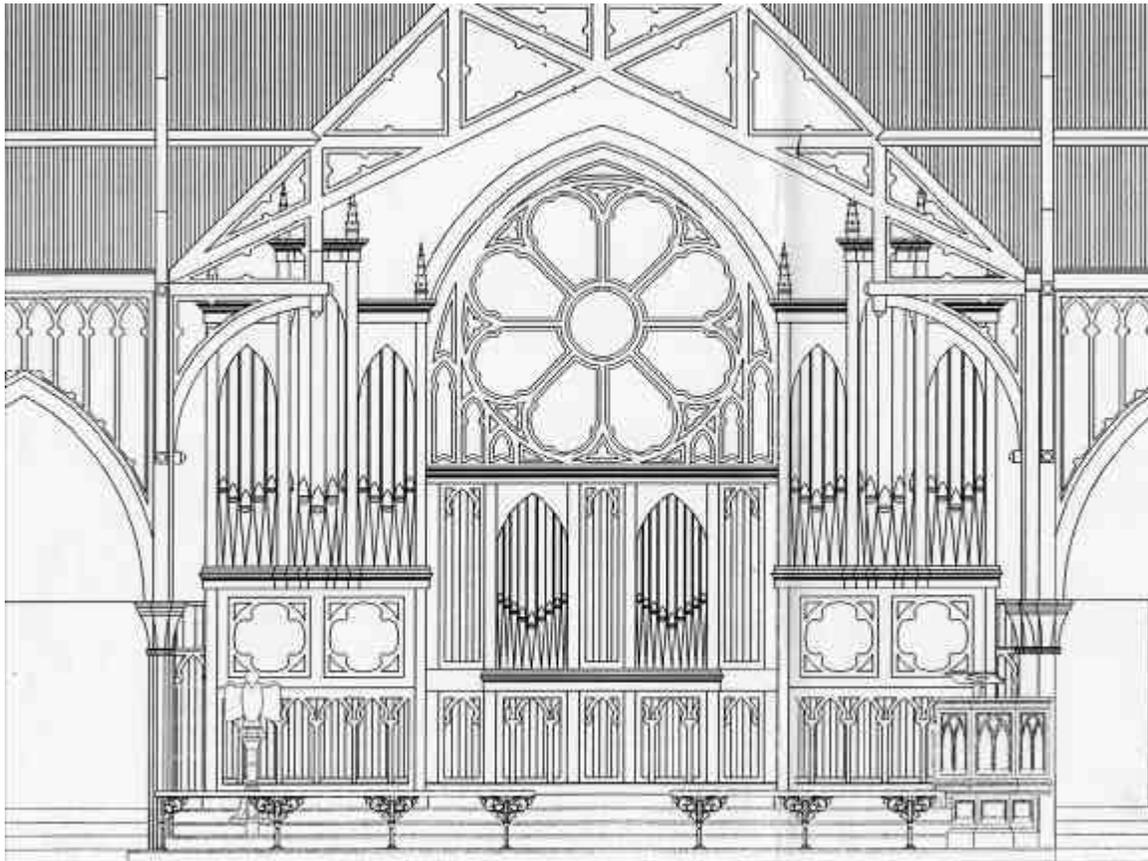
Mission Report

Christ Church changes lives! Not only does it do this right here in Charlottesville, but it did it in Uganda and it will be doing it in Uruguay.

That was the testimony of Jeff and Karen Adams and Jonathan and Paige Hornsby when they spoke during the church's adult education hour May 18. Of course, God gets the credit for inspiring both families to enter the mission field, but part of the process took place at a Christ Church women's Bible study back in 1999, when Karen and Paige and the assembled group of women prayed for God's will to unfold in the lives of loved ones.

The Adams, who just returned from three years in Uganda, said that Christ Church touched the lives of many Ugandans through its partnership with their family. "Our relationships here fostered the growth of your relationships there," said Jeff, who gave illustrations of how he and Karen became friends with Ugandans, whose faith journey was deepened in the course of their time together. The Adams's talk awakened many of the listeners to the way in which cultural differences change people's reactions to Christianity. One Ugandan woman, after becoming a Christian, was told by her father that she was no longer his daughter. On a lighter note, one man expressed his appreciation for Jeff's mentoring by saying that Jeff was "the ant hill that this old goat has rubbed up against."

The prayers of many at Christ Church have also helped the Hornsbys in taking their first steps toward fulfilling their commission to spread the gospel in Uruguay. Jonathan reported on how he recruited prayer support from friends here when he ventured to Uruguay for a "scouting trip" a month ago to establish a relationship with the Bishop there and to find a house for his family. God answered everyone's prayers by helping the Bishop and Jonathan come to the same conclusion in discerning that Jonathan would be ministering to the homeless through the Anglican church. The Hornsbys plan to spend one year as Missionary Interns in Montevideo.



Dear Members and Friends of Christ Church;

I wanted to tell you about Christ's blessings in my life and also to share with you my deep commitment to the future and growth of this church. I wrote this letter and requested that it be sent to all of you because I needed to make you aware of a very serious situation we are facing.

In late 2002 I was looking for a traditional, Christ centered church. I mentioned this to my sister Lisa (who lives in Alabama) and she encouraged me to visit Christ Church in Charlottesville. The Assistant Rector, Paul Walker, had just accepted the position of Canon at the Cathedral of the Advent, Lisa's church in Birmingham. Lisa had gotten to know Paul quite well and she held him in high regard. She had spoken with Paul about my search and he assured her that this was indeed a church deeply grounded in Christ and the Bible. So I visited Christ Church for several weeks and felt so comfortable that I took the new members class and was received that May of 2003. I really felt like I'd found my spiritual home. Isn't it uncanny that the Lord, working through Paul Walker (when he wasn't even here) brought me to Christ Church – and now Paul is my Pastor!

I firmly believe that the Lord calls us all to do many things in life. The more I learned about our church and its needs, the more I knew that God was asking me to be *right here, right now*, writing to all of you. I want to talk about our pipe organ – and why you may hear weird notes at strange times, not at all connected to the actual music being played.

But first, allow me to share a little bit of background information... Sometime in the 1960's (after checking far and wide for the best price) our pipe organ was sent away to a small organ repair shop in (I think) North Carolina. Because of the organ's age, it was due for some major mechanical work that could only be done away from the church location. The long and short of the story is that the small repair shop went bankrupt... but not before the owner had sold off a large number of our organ's expensive parts, just to keep himself financially afloat. Our church had no recourse against the man since he had declared bankruptcy and no legal ability to get back the parts which he had sold. So we brought home the remaining pieces of our own organ and tried to find other used pieces to replace the missing ones.

Imagine for a moment that you owned a really fine, antique Rolls Royce automobile. You had sent it far away to a specialist's shop for preventative maintenance and found that instead, it had been horribly cannibalized for its valuable parts – oh, and by the way, the owner had suddenly gone out of business. Let's say that the only parts you could find (or afford, to put your wonderful car back into *some* kind of operating condition) were from other kinds of old cars and trucks. And the replacement parts weren't of the same quality or in very good condition, either...

Now back to our reality here at Christ Church. Over the last 8 – 10 years, several highly regarded, professional, organ technicians have examined and worked on our organ because of increasingly challenging problems. They have all confirmed that it is no longer repairable due to the failure of so many of its mechanical systems. Like an aging car that has been pieced together one too many times, with ill-fitting “junkier” parts, our current pipe organ is too far gone to save.

Our dear, old church – this most holy place – has been the spiritual home to so many generations of families, that the very idea of Christ Church without the stirring and triumphant music of a pipe organ is unthinkable. This church building was originally designed and the acoustics planned to perform magnificent music, during our worship services, on a large pipe organ. We are now frightfully close to completely losing this exquisite part of our worship and tradition.

So what are we doing about this problem? Several years ago an organ committee began searching for a replacement to the existing instrument. They contacted a number of firms for bids to replace our pipe organ. Eventually, the Andover Organ Company in Massachusetts was chosen. They had found a fantastic pipe organ located in Grace Episcopal Church, just outside Chicago. The instrument was built around 1868 by the Hook Organ Company of Boston, MA. Grace Church was found to be nearly identical to our own church in terms of internal architecture and acoustics! Best of all, this fine, old instrument could be purchased, completely reconditioned and restored,

delivered and installed here at our church for around \$475,000! Hook organs are known to be some of the finest tracker organs ever built in this country, at any time! **What a miracle!** Other bids the committee received for comparable new pipe organs were more than double or triple the cost.

Our Vestry and the organ committee also learned that there would be other required costs for the prep work to install any replacement organ, no matter what was selected, new or old. These costs included: the complete removal of the old organ; excavation under the chancel area for a new blower and mechanical room; the complete reconfiguring of the chancel area to accommodate new organ pipes across the front of the church; the relocation of the lower four panels of stained glass across the top of the altar area, and finally; the re-working of the chancel to return it to a proper and traditional appearance. Originally, the numbers came in between \$650,000 and \$1,000,000 for the required additional work.

You probably already know that in 2005 the Vestry voted to move forward with the purchase of the Hook organ as part of our “TAM” or “Tradition and Mission” program. This is the “first phase” of a program to install the Hook organ and then complete the repairs, updating our church. So we all understand where we are, Christ Church has signed a legally binding contract with the Andover Organ Company to purchase and install the Hook organ. We have already paid a substantial amount of money toward completing that purchase.

The next logical step in the “TAM” program was a campaign to raise the monies so desperately needed. Unfortunately, our fundraising efforts fell seriously by the wayside in the midst of the painful controversies within the Anglican Communion. Recently we experienced another setback – the unexpected resignation of our Rector, Jeffrey Fishwick. But God, watching lovingly over us, got Christ Church back on track with the appointment of Paul Walker as our Priest-in-Charge.

I know that God has given us the opportunity to acquire a fantastic pipe organ for a very reasonable price. With this fine instrument, our traditional music program can continue to move forward as we worship Christ Jesus. I really believe that it is our responsibility to finish the work He has begun. We need to raise the rest of the money so we can install the new organ with minimal down-time for our church. Through some very generous gifts, we have already paid in excess of \$125,000 toward the cost of the Hook organ. The balance due Andover is still about \$325,000. Our Senior Warden, Harry Bowen, has just received up-to-date cost estimates totaling \$550,000 for the re-configuration and other required construction in the Chancel area. The Hook organ can then be installed and it will be protected from the effects of the remainder of “TAM” construction in the church building.

Imagine two huge meteors hurtling toward each other! That's what we are facing right now. Our existing organ is self-destructing at an incredible rate and our legally binding purchase contract for the Hook organ states that it must be completely paid for in less than 12 months!

Ladies and Gentlemen, we need approximately \$875,000 now, to complete the purchase and prepare for the installation of the Hook organ. This will complete the first and most critical phase of the "TAM" project for the Church. This isn't a "maybe" situation, this is very real and we truly need the money now.

In March of 2007, Christ Church sent our membership a packet with information and a DVD about the "Tradition and Mission" Project (or "TAM" for short). The \$875,000 I'm imploring you all to give to Christ Church will enable us to pay off the Hook organ and also to do the necessary prep construction for its installation.

The wonderful DVD presentation mentioned above was created to explain the plans for our church's future needs, like the Hook organ. Completion of the "TAM" project will bring our physical plant into updated condition by replacing our failing pipe organ and also providing some very basic handicapped facilities -- like accessible walkways, bathrooms, etc. -- for those who are elderly or disabled.

If you can't locate your copy of this DVD, or if you never received one, please call Lyn at the church office. There are still copies available. I urge you to take the time to watch the DVD and please listen to the music! It is being played on the Hook organ we have purchased from Andover!

Please think and pray about what I've asked of you, today. Be a part of this wonderful and important opportunity the Lord has given us. We really need your help now. All gifts of any size will be received with heartfelt thanks.

Thank you all so much for your time and may God richly bless you and your families!

Yours in Christ,

Jane Nagy Varga

P.S. Please send your tax deductible donation to Christ Episcopal Church and note Andover organ on the memo line of your check (100 W. Jefferson; 22902)