



Sixth and Main Streets
Clarksburg

The Good News Weekly

February 16, 2014



721 Hall Street
Bridgeport

Happenings This Week

Sunday

- Following the 10:30 service—The Outreach Committee will be meeting in Anne's office.
- Noon to 5:00—Christ Church will host the Special Olympics Spaghetti Dinner. Take out is available. Come support Special Olympics and our great athlete, Nate Critchfield!
- 2:30 pm—Rescheduled Deanery meeting hosted by Trinity Church, Morgantown

Tuesday

- 5:30 pm—Thankful Tuesdays, free dinner (cabbage roll soup, salad, and rolls)
- 6:10 pm—Children's choir with Toni and Part II of the Gratitude Experiment with Guy Gage
- 6:50 pm—Candlelight Compline in the church
- 7:00 pm—Bell choir practice

Wednesday

- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm—St. Barnabas hosts Clergy Day with the Bishop.

Thursday

- 3:00 pm—Communion Service at Maplewood Retirement Community. All are welcome.

Next Sunday—February 23rd

During the 10:30 service Anne will be exchanging Altars and Pulpits with the Reverend Linda Muhly from St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Come meet Linda and hear her proclaim a Gospel message.

Diocesan Offerings

for Spiritual Growth and Community

March 8—The Diocese is offering an Enneagram workshop at St. Paul's Church, Weston. There is a fee for this workshop. Our Education budget can help with the cost.

May 12 to 15—Province III (of which the Diocese of WV is a part) will host the second Annual "Small Church" Conference at Shrinemont Conference Center in Orkney Springs, VA.

May 16 to 18—The WV Diocesan Annual Women's Conference at Peterkin

June 27 to 28—God in the Art II, an overnight retreat held at the Huntington Museum of Art.

Starting by end of June—Online eight-part series on the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer, led by President Roger Ferlo of Bexley Seabury.

- More information on each of these offerings is available on the Diocesan website:

www.wvdiocese.com

www.christchurch1853.com

is the place to go for all your church information.

knowing, living, and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Sewing Ministries

For Sunday, February 23

8:00 am at Christ Church

Chalicer/Lector, Jane Wade

Usher/Greeter, Zachary Steed

10:30 am at Christ Church

Chalicer/Lector, Bill Saviers

Ushers/Greeters, Bill and Dee Trimbach

Crucifer, Josh Limbers

Altar Guild, Jody Morse, Carol Rogers

5:30 pm at St. Barnabas

Chalicer/Lector, Doyle Sickles

Usher/Greeters, Tom and Becky Durrett

Altar Guild, Beth Sickles

Vestry Meeting Highlights

Information from Anne's Reflections on Stewardship

- Our Diocesan Apportionment is calculated at 17.5% of the past three years operating income average.
- Our apportionment for 2014 is \$36,625.
- Of the 62 parishes in the Diocese of West Virginia Christ Church ranks 14th in diocesan giving.
- Of the 62 parishes in West Virginia the average attendance in 2012 was 56.
- The average attendance for Christ Church and St. Barnabas in 2013 was 60.
- The average pledge in West Virginia in 2012 was \$2,526.
- Christ Church/St. Barnabas average pledge in 2014 is \$2,482.



As we celebrate Valentine's Day, it's helpful to reflect upon the *real* St. Valentine. Actually, there's some confusion over this since there appears to have been more than one St. Valentine. The feast of St. Valentine was first established in 496 to mark the death of a St. Valentine on February 14th. But even then it seems to have been a day to mark several martyred saints sharing the name Valentinus (from the Latin *valens* meaning worthy).

Nonetheless, the modern feast day likely commemorates the St. Valentine who was a priest in Rome during the reign of Claudius II (260-270 AD). He was arrested for marrying Christian couples and assisting those facing persecution – a crime in those days. Valentine tried to convert the emperor and was put to death.

It wasn't until 14th century England that the feast started to become a celebration of romantic love. The poet Geoffrey Chaucer is often credited with bringing together the romantic imagery of blooming spring and birds choosing their mates. In *The Parliament of Fowles* Chaucer's was the first mention of St. Valentine in a love poem.

None of this should actually matter to Episcopalians since Valentine doesn't appear on our official Calendar of Saints. Indeed we commemorate Cyril and Methodius on February 14th — a pair of 9th century Greek brothers who were missionaries to the Slavs — rather than Valentine.

(taken from "Building Faith" a weekly online Episcopal Resource)