

# The E-pistle

The eNewsletter for Eastern Shore Chapel

Nov 30 2018

ESC Mission Statement:

*To love all as Christ loves us, and to share the light of God through worship, service, and ministry*



I. Dear Friends,

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

*Collect for Advent Sunday December 2*



**Join us for  
ONE Worship  
Service**

**December 2, 2018**

**9:30 am**

*Reception in the Parish Hall after the service!*

**The loose offering at Sunday's service will be designated for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund, which is used for a variety of needs not otherwise provided for in the diocesan budget. These needs generally are charitable, educational, or medical and distributed for specific individual needs involving both clergy and laity.**

**The next Almoner's account collection will be on December 9, which is the fund that the office pulls from when someone comes into our office to ask for financial help (i.e. for rent or gas).**

# Happening This Week

## Sunday, December 2

8:45 a.m. Choir Practice

Service at 9:30 a.m. The Rt. Rev. Herman Hollerith, IV  
Confirmations and Ingathering (Pledge cards will be blessed by the Bishop.)  
Reception following the service in the parish hall

## Monday, December 3

8:00 a.m. Peanut Cooking, Parish Hall

## Tuesday, December 4

5:00 p.m. Chorister Practice, Choir Room

6:00 p.m. Handbell Practice, Church

6:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Meeting, Barton House

## Wednesday, December 5

5:45 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Chapel

6:30-7:15 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Parish Hall

(Pork Tenderloin with Cherry Port Sauce, Baked Rice Pilaf, Mixed Vegetables, Potato Leek Soup, Salad, Fruit, Bread)

7:15 p.m. Adult Choir Practice, Choir Room

## Thursday, December 6

7:30 a.m. Thursday Morning Peace & Bible Study, Narthex

## Friday, December 7

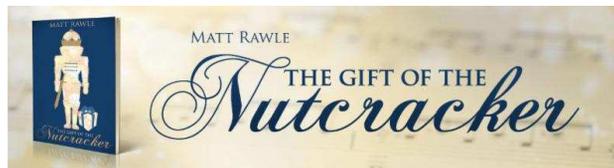
7:30 a.m. 1st Friday Men's Breakfast, Parish Hall

## Saturday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Grounds Clean Up

## Vestry Election

**Sunday Dec 9th at 9:15am/Adult Forum Time.**  
**Afterwards we will offer a class on the Nutcracker.**



### Led by Deborah Quam December 9, 16, 23

Using this Christmas classic, we will recall and celebrate the story of the Nutcracker through the lens of faith and the Gospel stories. Author Matt Rawle uses the iconic tale in our cultural context to help us understand God's greatest gift to us - the Christ Child. Among other topics, we will consider our anticipation in the 'in-between' time & what it means, examine the role of prophesy, reflect on the power of perspective in the gospel stories and encounter the incarnational work of Advent.

**December 9 - Clara: Waiting for Christmas**

**December 16 - Drosselmeir: A Godfather's Love**

**December 23 - The Mouse King: Changing Perspective**

Participant books are available in the Parish Book Store. Please read the introduction and chapter 1 for the first class.

### Church Poinsettia Donations

Your donation will help us decorate our church for the Christmas season. Use the form found in the narthex or parish office to submit your donation. Return your form with your donation to the office no later than **12 noon on Monday, December 10** in order to have your memorial/thanksgiving included in the Christmas bulletin.

### Help Deck The Halls for Christmas!

Volunteers are needed to help move poinsettias, hang swags and bows, as well as decorate the windows. All ages are welcome Sunday, December 23, after the 10:15 a.m. church service. Bring the kids, bring friends, or just stop by for a half hour or so. Any little bit would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please contact Audra Byrn at (757) 408-6916 or [fourdarts@cox.net](mailto:fourdarts@cox.net).



Everyone is welcome at Wednesday Night Dinner! \$6 per person & any proceeds beyond expenses go to the Chapel Pantry food budget. Dinner is 6:30-7:15 p.m. in the parish hall. No reservation needed! Please join us!

### December 2018 Wednesday Dinner Menu

12/5

Pork Tenderloin with Cherry Port Sauce

Baked Rice Pilaf

Mixed Vegetables

Potato Leek Soup

Salad, Fruit, Bread

12/12

Stuffed Peppers

Mixed Vegetables

Tuscan White Bean and Tomato Soup

Salad, Fruit, Bread

12/19

Baked Pasta with Pesto, Grilled Chicken and Tomatoes

Garlic Bread

Tomato Soup

Salad, Fruit, Bread

12/26

No Dinner. Merry Christmas!

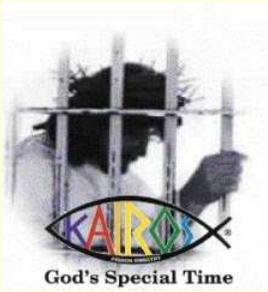
### Outreach for Christ Ministries of Virginia Beach

On Sunday, December 2 and December 9 ESC will be collecting toys for the *benefit of children whose parent(s) is incarcerated in the Virginia Beach jail* over the Christmas season. A collection container will be placed in the narthex. Items especially needed - toddlers up to 12 months and boys/girls 9 years to 16 years. Do not wrap the gift item and limit the gift to \$10. A financial contribution may also be made by making out your check to Outreach for Christ.



### Prison Ministry AND Stewardship!

The gospel readings for the last several Sundays have been messages about giving, about good stewardship, about what we do with what God has given to us. It's the fall season and it is the time of year we ask our parish family to make a commitment to giving to (sharing with, really) our beloved Eastern Shore Chapel. After all, we do have to keep



the lights on, pay the staff, and on and on.

In prison ministry we don't talk much about "stewardship" as we Episcopalians understand it. We talk mostly about love and forgiveness. But the giving necessarily follows.

We use a post office box to receive mail from residents of the prison we visit. From there it is forwarded along to the team member to whom it is addressed. Just this week I found in the PO box an envelope from a resident who had attended our most recent Kairos weekend. In it was a money order made out to Kairos Prison Ministry. No note, just the money order. It's remarkable on the face of it but even more so when you realize jobs are extremely hard to get in prison. If you are lucky enough to get one (shower cleaner, cook, House Man) the pay is minimal, \$0.11 to \$0.14 per hour - and the work week is short. That's eleven to fourteen

cents an hour!

The resident who sent the donation will most likely never see the other side of the gate. He is in the belly of the whale all day every day. He has made mistakes, really bad ones probably; he has been convicted and is where society says he should be. He has acknowledged his sins and he has asked our Loving God to forgive him. He has found he is not at the end of the road. He has found that there can be peace. He recognizes that he is blessed indeed and he wants to give back, as he knows in his heart that he should. He doesn't have to, he wants to.

I am reminded of the gospel reading November 11<sup>th</sup>, Mark 12:38-44, it's called "The Widows Offering". She didn't have to give either, she wanted to.

November 17, 2018

### **A Prayer for the Military**

*Lord, we thank You for the men and women that protect this nation. As they protect us, we pray that You will protect them. You know where they will be today and we pray that You will be there with them to guide them through whatever challenges and trials they face.  
Amen*

### **A Prayer for Government Leaders**

*God of power and might, wisdom and justice, through you authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment is decreed. Assist with your spirit of counsel and fortitude the President and other government leaders of these United States. May they always seek the ways of righteousness, justice and mercy. Grant that they may be enabled by your powerful protection to lead our country with honesty and integrity.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

**PRAY for military and spiritual victory over those who promote terrorism and unrest in many countries. Ask the Lord to divide and disperse them and cause them to lose their will to fight, and to flee before those who fight for peace. PRAY for our Military Ministry of Cru staff in Kenya, Gabon, Cote D'Ivoire, Chad, Central African Republic, Ukraine and other nations be encouraged as they continue to minister the hope found in the gospel message.**

*"But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory [making us conquerors] through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

*1 Corinthians 15:57(AMPC)*

Calling all  
**ANGELS, SHEEP, and  
SHEPHERDS!**



**CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT is  
coming!  
December 24 at 4pm**

If your child would like to participate, please  
come to the *Pageant Practice*  
Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:15am in the Church.

Any questions please email Molly Vaughn at  
[mollygvaughn@gmail.com](mailto:mollygvaughn@gmail.com).

If you are interested, please email [mollyvaughn@gmail.com](mailto:mollyvaughn@gmail.com). Reader practice will be Sunday, December 16 at 9:15 a.m. in the church. Entire cast practice will be Sunday, December 23 at 9:15 a.m. in the church.



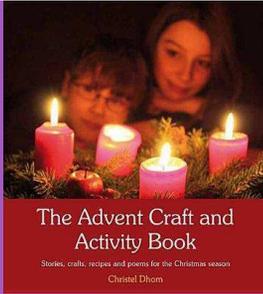
**Our next Friday men's breakfast will be Friday, December 7 at 7:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall.  
Join us for a good breakfast, fellowship & fun Bible study.**



**The Third Tuesday Supper Group will meet on Tuesday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m.  
at the home of Linda Brown, [1337 Baycliff Drive, Virginia Beach](#). All are welcome.  
Please bring a dish to share. Call Linda at 757-777-6577 for directions.**

## Parish Book Store

Lots going on at the Parish Book Store! Toffee-to-Go is here, open house December 9 at 11:30 a.m. featuring Allie-Blue Everett's jewelry, and our book drive for children of the Mission of the Holy Spirit continues. We still have gingerbread boys and girls on our tree waiting for you to select one and purchase an age-appropriate book for that child. Deadline is December 12.



Support the Parish Book Store. All profit made by the book store is used to support seminarians and deacons in our diocese.

Hours:

M - F - 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Sat - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
Sundays between worship services



Advent is here and the Parish Book Store is your source for Advent devotions (Richard Rohr's *Preparing for Christmas*, *Christmas is Not Your Birthday* and Sybil MacBeth's *Season of the Nativity*), books with activities for families (*What We Do in Advent: An Anglican Kids' Activity Book*, *Advent A to Z* and *The Advent Craft & Activity Book*), and advent wreaths and calendars. The Parish Book Store Book Group's next selection is Anne Lamott's latest book, *Almost Everything: Notes on Hope*. Copies are available in the book store. Our discussion will be in January. Come in, find just what you are looking for, and happy reading!

Parish Book Store \* (757) 425-0114 \* [books@easternshorechapel.org](mailto:books@easternshorechapel.org)  
Visit the Parish Book Store online at [parishbookstore.blogspot.com](http://parishbookstore.blogspot.com)

*Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services*  
**4:00 pm Christmas Pageant**  
**8:00 pm & 10:30 pm Full Choir & Strings**  
**Christmas Day 4:00 pm**

**Quick Links**

[Our website](#)  
[Our Facebook page](#)  
[Camp Chance](#)  
[Diocese of Southern VA Episcopal Church](#)

**About the E-pistle**

Welcome to the e-mail newsletter for Eastern Shore Chapel. It is published on the 15th & 30th of the month. We hope this publication provides you with helpful information about upcoming events and topics of concern to our parish. If you would like to contribute information, please contact Rita Waldeck, [waldeck@easternshorechapel.org](mailto:waldeck@easternshorechapel.org). The deadline is 5:00 p.m. on the 10th and 25th of each month.