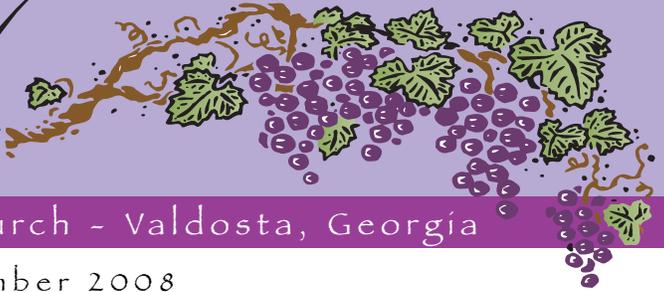
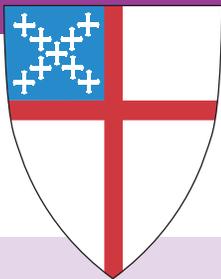


The Vineyard



Christ Episcopal Church - Valdosta, Georgia

December 2008



Mark Your Calendar

Dec. 6 - "Bishop Nicholas" in Valdosta Christmas Parade with EYC, 5 pm

Dec. 15 - Vestry Mtg.

Dec. 19 - Middle School Lock-in

Dec. 19 - 21 Winter Blast, Honey Creek

Dec. 21 - Organ Concert 3 - 4 pm

Dec. 21 - Open House at Rectory 4 - 6 pm

Dec. 24 - Services Children's - 5:30 pm Evening - Music at 10:30; Service at 11 pm

Dec. 25 - Service at 10 am

Dec. 31 - Feast of the Holy Name - Service at 6 pm

www.christchurchvaldosta.org

INTO THE LIGHT

There comes a moment in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist at the later service on Christmas Eve when the proclamation of the Incarnation has been made and the bread and the wine have been shared, the lights of the church are dimmed, and we see a small light of the flame of a candle in the darkened sanctuary. The flame is carried through the church, down each aisle, and from it a host of hand-held candles are lighted. The light spreads through the church,

reflected in the faces of our parish family, friends, and guests. In that candlelight we sing the familiar and beloved hymn, "Silent Night," a hymn superb in the simplicity of telling of the wonder of Christmas. The hymn was composed on December 24, 1818, by Franz Gruber, acting organist at Saint Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria, as the breakdown of the church organ disrupted plans for the Christmas celebration. "Stille Nacht," composed for two voices, choir, and guitar and sung that night, might have been forgotten save that the man repairing the organ heard it and spread the hymn throughout the churches of the Tyrol. Sung first by candlelight in a mountain village in the midst of snowy Alpine peaks by farmers and villagers, it is sung now in the smallest churches and the greatest cathedrals. It speaks of a journey, our journey, from the noise and distractions of our daily lives to the gentle, age-old light of candles, the melody of a single guitar, and the joy-filled word of the birth of a most holy child, Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



With Blessings, Peter+

Look for the Building Plan
Special Issue *Vineyard* in January



The Vineyard On the Web

The Vineyard is posted to the Christ Church Valdosta Web site in color at www.christchurchvaldosta.org. Double click The Vineyard tab to view this publication. The newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month. Send information to juliacariai@bellsouth.net or phone 229-559-7329.



A series of photos is displayed on the Christ Church event photo site: <http://picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta>.

Christ Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Henry I. Louttit,
Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Peter Ingeman, Rector
The Rev. Tar Drazdowski, Priest
in Residence
Stella Clark, Deacon
Patricia Marks, Deacon
Molly Greneker, Parish Secretary
Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper
Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist
Jessica Israels, St. Gregory
Choir Director
Dr. John Curtis and Maggie Roberts,
St. Francis Choir Leaders
Julia and Julius Ariail, Newsletter

Vestry

Mimi Allen	Sandra Fletcher
Hugh Bailey	Phyllis Holland
Clinton Beeland	Pepi Nelson
Charles Boatwright	Bill Nunn
Tom Carroll	Buddy Pitts
Jan Carter	Joe Singletary
Carolyn Eager	Al Turner
	Sylvia Warrick

Phone Numbers

Church Office	242-5115
The Rev. Ingeman	245-0799
The Rev. Drazdowski	249-0895
Deacon Clark	559-6159
Deacon Marks	244-5159
Molly Greneker	292-8215

www.christchurchvaldosta.org

Special Vineyard Edition in January

by Pepi Nelson, Senior Warden

Christ Church's Facilities Committee has worked countless hours in planning for the first expansion and new construction in many years of our beautiful Patterson Street property. Many parishioners have had opportunities to dream and suggest changes and additions to a professional architectural firm. Their Phase 1 report and drawings are available in the parish hall and online at www.christchurchvaldosta.org. Several parishioners have read through the report and made additional suggestions. We are still in the very early stages of the

project, and the Vestry and Facilities Committee are committed to ensuring that parishioners are informed and involved as we move through the process.

A special edition of *The Vineyard* is being produced that will outline preliminary plans and review the needs that have been identified by the congregation. This communication tool will provide all parishioners with an opportunity to stay informed and involved as we proceed through this long term commitment toward providing more space and opportunity for us to live and work in community.

Advent and Christmas at Christ Episcopal Church

Year B Lectionary Readings Begin

First Sunday of Advent - Nov. 30
Second Sunday of Advent - Dec. 7
Third Sunday of Advent - Dec. 14
Fourth Sunday of Advent - Dec. 21
Las Posadas - Nov. 30 - Dec. 24



Greening of the Church -
Dec. 23, Time TBA
Christmas Children's Service -
Dec. 24, 5:30 p.m.
Bring a candle and a bell.
Christmas Evening Service
Dec. 24, Music begins at 10:30,
Service at 11 pm
Christmas Day Service - Dec. 25, 10 am
Feast of the Holy Name - Dec. 31, 6 pm
Church office closed - Dec. 26

Words for Season of Advent
Gospel Baptism Prayer

Youth News and Events



Youth Sunday

by Beth Baker

This year's Youth Sunday was exceptional! New activities, like Junior Altar Guild and Greeters, were incorporated into this year's service. Ms. Laura Paine graciously spent the Saturday before Youth Sunday teaching the young girls about the duties of the Altar Guild. Stephen Sandbach did

a glorious job with the Homily while Rachel Greneker and Gus Elliott were the readers. Mallory Lind and Claire Hanson spent an early Saturday morning learning about the Chalice and all the details that go along with being a Chalice Administrator. Then, at the service, they served the wine. All in all, almost 30 children participated in Youth Sunday! Thanks be to God!



Youth Sunday Participants

Sermon: Stephen Sandbach
 1st Reader: Gus Elliott
 2nd Reader: Rachel Greneker
 Chalice: Mallory Lind, Claire Hanson, Rachel Greneker
 Acolytes: Grace Diamond, David Holland Christopher Hanson, Joshua Hanson
 Ushers: Alex Elliott, Matthew Barnes, Chase Adams
 Prayers: Mitchell Beeland
 Oblations: Robbie Beeland, Thomas Greneker
 Altar Guild: Erin Carter, Cecilia Carroll, Julia Copeland, Caroline Prine, Grace Tanner
 Orders of Worship: Pierce Baker, Noah Carroll, Olivia Nunn, Kate Hanson, Ellie Copeland, Brooklyn Prine
 Soloist: Mary Peeples
 Anthem Pianist: Katie Wisenbaker
 Co-Director: Elizabeth Hanson
 Coffee Hour: The Holland Family and the Christ Church Youth

Christmas Ornaments

The Second Annual Christ Church Christmas Ornaments are now on sale in the church office or see a CC youth member. The cost is \$12, and all proceeds go directly to

Christ Church Youth funds. The ornaments are beautiful this year!



Do you have a Facebook account?

Add V-TOWN EYC to your "groups" for updates and emails about upcoming events of the Christ Church Youth.

Add Canterbury Club at VSU for the college group news.

Upcoming Events

Dec. 6th is the Christmas Parade, EYC has a float

Dec. 19th is the Middle School Lock-in at Christ Church.

Dec. 19 - 21 Winter Blast at Honey Creek for high school and college.

Words for Season of Christmas

Annunciation Celebration Nativity

Bishop Henry Louttit visits Christ Church Valdosta



Sunday, November 2, Christ Church welcomed former rector and current bishop, the Right Reverend Henry Louttit and his wife Jan. Bishop Louttit baptized, confirmed, and received into the Episcopal Church the following people: Chase Hunter Reed, James Eric Herndon, Lauren S. Tudor, Lawrence Carter Elliott, Robin Guice, John Kunath, Jean Oliver, Katie Querin, Gene Seago, Sandra Fesler Seago, Saber Simmons, David Singleton, Paul David Stevenson, Hudson Tanner, Emily White, Katie Wisenbaker, and Emily C. Rogers.



Ted Peters Lecture



Episcopal College Ministries sponsored noted theologian and educator Ted F. Peters, Ph.D., Professor of Systematic Theology at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, California) as a speaker in Christ Church parish hall on October 24. His topic, "Do we have a Post-human Future? Nanotechnology, Genetics, and Transhumanism in Theological Perspective" intrigued over 30 guests. Afterwards, he fielded a number of questions from the audience. A reception was held in the parish hall where additional interchange took place. ECM hopes to bring future scholars like Dr. Peters to speak to the campus community. Several VSU faculty members, science and philosophy students, and Canterbury Club members attended the event. For those who were unable to attend, Michael Black recorded the session and placed 3 DVDs of the lecture in the church library for checkout.



Butterflies are Free and unpredictable at St. Marks

The timing of the annual Monarch butterfly migration to Mexico depends heavily on wind and weather. Sometimes that coincides with the planned festival and sometimes not. This year the majority of Monarchs chose a different weekend for take-off from St. Marks, Florida. However, there were representatives being tagged and flying about the lighthouse on Saturday, Oct. 25. A small group from Christ Church enjoyed seeing the butterflies as they do every year.



Jerusalem Prayer

by Cecilia Carroll

Kneeling upon the pillow
Letting the wind rustle my hair and
make my shirt billow
I make my lips silently move
To my prayer leaving my heart.
I know the angels are watching
over me
And you, which makes we
I have let my hopes flow to the
angels above
In hopes they will send down
answers and love.
My mouth cracks a smile
As I walk across the cool green tile
To my bed where I dream
Of my hopes coming true.

Cecilia is the 10-year-old daughter of Tom and Stefani Carroll.

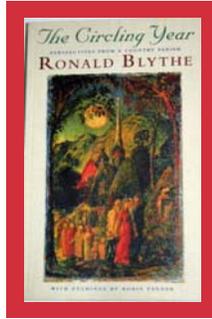


Cecilia Carroll

She and her brother Noah and parents are members of Christ Episcopal Church. She attends S. L. Mason School.

The Church Bookshelf

by Patricia Marks



*The Circling Year:
Perspectives from a
Country Parish*
(Canterbury Press,
2001)

By Ronald Blythe

Come on an *adventure*, Ronald Blythe invites us; begin the circling year with *Advent*, a time both thrilling and solemn, exciting and risky. Blythe is a Church of England Reader, a widely-published writer and poet who lives with his cat in a cottage at Stour. And while devotees of the *Church Times* can read his weekly column, here is a thoughtful and inviting collection to serve as the year's companion.

He urges us to travel the Advent season with the same expectation of love and, yes, fear, that Mary and Joseph had as they traveled to Bethlehem. His reflections are a call

to think seriously about how we respond not as a whole church but individually to the new birth about

to come into our own world, our own selves. It will change us, he says; and it should. For this is a time when "God ventures toward us, we venture toward him." And so it is a time of waiting, but also a time of preparation and hope

There are thirty-five reflections in all, each based on readings for the church seasons. And scattered throughout are illustrations by Robin Tanner, whose etchings capture the dense vegetation of the English countryside illuminated with the light of hope. Altogether, *The Circling Year* is a small treasure.



Deacon Patricia Marks

Liz Powell, Canterbury Club Leader



Liz Powell

Liz Powell is a native of Virginia Beach, VA and grew up attending Eastern Shore Chapel Episcopal Church. She is newly engaged to Phillip Boyd of Nashville, GA, and they are looking forward to their upcoming wedding. Liz has a younger sister who works in Environmental Services for the city of Virginia Beach and younger brother who attends West Virginia

Wesleyan College. Liz earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Radford University in Radford, VA and a Master of Science in Education from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA. Through her educational experiences she found that her true passion lies in working with college students and helping them to make their experiences positive. Liz currently works in Housing and Residence Life at Valdosta State University. She is the Complex Director in

Hopper Hall and supervises the Graduate Hall Director and Resident Assistants in the building. She is responsible for the day-to-day management and maintenance of this building, which houses more than 500 undergraduate students.

Liz is thrilled about the opportunity to work with the Canterbury Club! Feel free to contact her if you want to get involved with the Episcopal Campus Ministries or just want to chat, at 333-5245 or through email, <barpowell@valdosta.edu>.

Daughters of the King Celebrate 21 Years

The Saint Nino Chapter of the Daughters of the King (DOK) was formally commissioned at Christ Church, Valdosta, on July 14, 1987. Representatives of DOK chapters from other parishes in the Diocese of Georgia participated in the service as did the Diocesan DOK President. The original chapter consisted of 14 Daughters from the parish. The DOK serves Christ Church through a strong and faithful ministry of prayer.

The Christ Church Daughters of the King order currently has 29 members and meets twice a year. At the November 9, 2008, meeting the group elected Patricia Bezona as president and treasurer, Francis Guice as vice president, and Molly Greneker as secretary.

"Our sole purpose is prayer and what Fr. Peter would have us to do," said Pat Bezona. "We also follow the national guidelines and attend the diocesan meetings when held."

On the Web site: <http://www.dok-national.org/> the national



organization of the DOK publishes the following vision statement: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, our vision as Daughters of the King is to know Jesus Christ, to make Him known to others, and to become reflections of God's love throughout the world.

The Order of the Daughters of the King (DOK) is a spiritual sisterhood of women dedicated to a life of prayer, service, and evangelism. They have made a commitment to Jesus as Savior, and follow Him as Lord of their lives. They are an Order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the historic episcopate. Today the membership includes women in the Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran (ELCA) and Roman Catholic churches.

The Daughters of the King describe themselves as an order, not an organization. An order is a community under a religious rule; especially one requiring members to take solemn vows. They don't just enroll as members and attend meetings; they take life-long vows to follow the Rule of Prayer and Rule of Service.

What is a rule? A rule is a prescribed guide for conduct or action by laws or regulations prescribed by

the founder of a religious order for observance by its members.

The Order of the Daughters of the King was founded in 1885 by Margaret J. Franklin at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in New York City. Members of the order undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and Service. By reaffirmation of the promises made at Baptism and Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service, and evangelism, dedicated to the spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish.

The emblem of the Order is in the form of a modified Greek fleury cross inscribed in Latin, "Magnanimiter Crucem Sustine," the watchword of the Order, meaning "With heart, mind and spirit uphold and bear the cross." At the base of the cross are the letters "FHS", initials that stand for the Motto of the Order: "For His Sake".

A new DOK class will start in January at Christ Church, and all are welcome. Please contact one of the officers for information.

"Our parish is blessed by the dedication of the Daughters," said Fr. Peter Ingeman.



Fr. Peter Ingeman and Pat Bezona



Pencil & Paper Project

Iraqi Children's Fund

More exciting news! On October 28th, Christ Episcopal Church sent 15 more boxes of school supplies to Iraq. This shipment included donations from Valdosta-Lowndes Retired Educators Association members, Learning Tree, Park Avenue Bank, Office Depot, Christ Church members, friends in the community, and discounted supplies from Wal-Mart. First Sergeant Thomas Price delivered these supplies November 9th to a very needy school near where he is stationed. Since the Project started, 49 boxes of supplies have been sent. Sergeant Price will be returning home soon, but he is setting up a new contact for us so we can continue the project. Thanks to your support and generosity, this mission has blossomed and has blessed many people!



Make donations for Christmas Flowers by e-mail to the church office at office@christchurchvaldosta.org. Please include the names to appear in the bulletin as either memorials or in thanksgiving, then mail your check.

2008 Las Posadas

by Beth Baker

In villages and urban neighborhoods throughout Mexico youngsters gather each afternoon to reenact the holy family's quest for lodging in Bethlehem. The procession is headed by a diminutive Mary, often perched on a live burro, led by a equally tiny San José. They are followed by other children. The parade of Santos Peregrinos (Holy Pilgrims) stops three times but are turned away. They are offered the stable as shelter for the family.

Our version of Las Posadas can be anything you would like it to be...cookies and milk, a quick get-to-know you chat, a chance to teach your loved ones a different culture's tradition, a fiesta or a short visit. Please keep in mind that you may be visiting someone who has done a lot of planning or has gotten excited about your visit. No quick "drop-off's" on the back porch, please.



Make sure that your entire family gets involved (if you can). The Las Posadas sign-up sheet is hanging in the Parish Hall.



Christmas in El Pedregal

Christ Church has been active in the Christmas celebration in El Pedregal, Dominican Republic, for many years. The joy it brings the children and their parents is hard to explain. I am sure that you can imagine that the gifts bought with our donations bring tears to the eyes of the children and parents alike.

We will be collecting donations until December 14. You can write a check to Christ Church and put DR Christmas in the memo line. Once the funds have been collected and delivered, Judixa, the school administrator, will shop and deliver gifts to the children on Kings Day which is the traditional gift giving day in the Dominican Republic.

I thank you for supporting our mission in so many ways. Our Christmas donation is so special because it will provide gifts for children who would not normally receive a gift at all. Tar+

New Year's Day at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

For the past 23 years, rain or shine, many Christ Church members have celebrated the start of the New Year with a trip to St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge for a day of outdoor fun, fellowship, birdwatching, and eating. We meet at 8:30 a.m., January 1, in the Christ Church parking lot and head to Florida and the Gulf where colorful migrating ducks pause for the winter in the St. Marks ponds. After a bit of walking and lots of visiting, we gather at noon in the picnic area between the lighthouse and restrooms for a shared lunch. Bring your favorites. Someone will bring black-eyed peas for New Year's luck. After lunch we look for the bald eagles that nest at the refuge and then head to Wakulla Springs for a boat ride. Then it's on to Spring Creek Restaurant for a seafood feast. It's a delightful day. Join us for any or all of it. Contact Julius Ariail for more information at 559-7329.



Special Days Remembered in December



BIRTHDAYS

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Kathryn Adams | 15 Tar Drazdowski |
| 2 Diane Holliman | Sheri Gravett |
| Loyce Turner | Chase Miley |
| 4 Julie Savoie | 17 Len Carter |
| 5 Harry Cotterly | 18 Sue Bentley |
| Katie Schutt | Noah Carroll |
| 8 Thomason Gilchrist | 19 Nathaniel Balanis |
| Dylan Whiddon | Bubba Campbell |
| 9 Frances Guice | Alden Myddelton |
| Mark Weston | Thomas Myddelton |
| Elaine Yontz | 20 Mary Tunison |
| 10 Miss Wilby Coleman | 21 Elaine Cloney |
| Ricky Johnson | Jack Warren |
| Griffin Kirk | 23 Chris Cody |
| 12 Frank Corker | Patricia Grieve |
| Jodie Hummel | Hulyn Smith |
| Katherine Miley | 26 Melanie Schwallenberg |
| 13 David Schert | 28 John Kunath |
| Joe Stubbs | Keith Tucker |
| Maddie Yarbrough | 29 Tina Nunn |
| | 31 Tammy Bezona |
| | Susan Chamberlain |

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Brad & Ann Burnette | 21 Jimmy & Ingrid Carroll |
| 2 Daniel & Katherine Mayer | 23 Emory & Sylvia Warrick |
| 7 Harry & Nina Cotterly | 26 Buddy & Dottie Pitts |
| 12 Emory, Jr. & Summer Warrick | 27 Andreas & Sara Lazari |
| 15 Mike & Amber Tanner | Ed & Jennifer Powell |
| 16 Danny & Kim Clark | 29 Jack & Marge Fitzsimons |
| Fred & Juanita Quinn | Mike & Susie Kaiser |
| Mark & Margaret Weston | 30 Julius & Julia Ariail |
| 17 Joe & Ann Singletary | Tal & Norma Barnidge |
| 19 Ron & Pat Bezona | |
| Richard & Robin Coleman | |
| Sandy & Elise Sandbach | |

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 7 Georgianna Manning | 20 Joyce Dunmire |
| 9 Tristen Carter | Meghann Hummel |
| 10 Vangie Marshall | 23 Ellis Moser |
| 11 Frances Guice | 24 Emory Warrick, Jr. |
| 14 Sally Baker | 26 Walter Hobgood |
| 19 Grace Tanner | 29 Beth Curtis |

If your special day is not included in our calendar, please call the church office at 242-5115 to let us know.

Vestry Report from the October 20 Meeting

- Reviewed cleaning proposal from new vendor that could result in significant savings. Tabled until Junior Warden can clarify some of the contract items with the vendor.
- Received report of progress of renovations and furniture purchases for Louttit Hall. A handicap ramp is still being constructed.
- Received report that the Historical Preservation Society has approved the move of the Miller House. The house will be offered as a gift to a person who will have it moved.
- Received treasurer's report. The main church account has been moved to Park Avenue Bank. The finance committee met on September 25 to review records and procedures. The vestry



Pepi Nelson, Senior Warden and Clint Beeland, Junior Warden

voted to continue the cash management procedures in place for the small amount of cash collected at services and functions.

- Received report that the files from the pending legal case were reviewed at the church by an assistant from the D.A.'s office, as well as by the defendant and her attorney.
- Voted to create a special edition of *The Vineyard* that will outline

the plans of Phase I of our master facility report along with sketches of the proposed buildings.

- Voted to authorize Sandra Fletcher to engage First Community Development Company of Atlanta to do a basic cost study that will assist in fund-raising strategies.
- Received report from Fr. Ingeman that he has hired two new staff members: Liz Powell as Canterbury Club leader and Jessica Israels as St. Gregory choir director. Voted to compensate 2 VSU students to add professional voices to the choir.
- Reviewed parish activities and plans from the Associate Rector, Deacon and Youth Director.

Christ Episcopal Preschool Halloween Parade



Every year the Christ Episcopal Preschool children parade from their building down the College Street sidewalk to the Church office, through the building, out the back door, and back to their building to show off their costumes and be rewarded with a treat from Happy and Fr. Ingeman.

Oktoberfest - October 30, 2008



The annual Oktoberfest dinner featured bratwurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad and lots of good fun and fellowship for Christ Church parishioners and guests. The kitchen crew in signature t-shirts enjoyed the feast as much as any of the 125 "Germans for a nacht."



Canterbury Club members hosted Senior EYC members for the 1st Annual Jack-o'-Lantern Carve on October 26. After dinner, 18 students teamed up to design and carve 10 pumpkins. Savannah Spivey, CC member, organized the event which provided an opportunity for interchange between the two groups. Some teams used patterns while others exhibited their creativity free-handed. The pumpkins were awarded meritorious titles that evening and were lit and displayed at the Oktoberfest dinner on October 30 for all to enjoy.

Saturday Evening Eucharist



The Stitches of Love create knitted, crocheted, and sewn items that are blessed at the Christ Church altar. Many of the items are given as gifts to those in need. The group meets in the church library some Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m. All are welcome. Members of the group are willing to share their talents to teach anyone who is interested.



The second Saturday Evening Eucharist, held on November 8, featured music from youth events and Cursillo led by guitarists Pam Guice, Merrill Guice, Jim Drazdowski, Bobbie Warren, and David Schert. The Rev. Tar Drazdowski officiated at the multi-generational special service.

John Hiers, Jerry DeMott, and Steve Roberts treated the group of over 40 people to a hamburger and hot dog cookout following the service. Many who attended brought side dishes to share. The next Saturday Evening Eucharist is scheduled for Dec. 13. All are welcome and encouraged to invite friends and neighbors.

Join us for Regular Services

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion* 10:45 a.m. Christian Education*
 11:30 a.m. Holy Communion* 6:00 p.m. Vespers
 Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. @ Langdale Place Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.* Thursday: 7:00 a.m. *Nursery Available

Christ Episcopal Church

1521 N. Patterson Street • Valdosta, GA 31602

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 8
Valdosta, GA

Return Service Requested