Dear Friends in Christ,

It is hard to believe that the summer is nearly over and children are back in school. The days are shorter and we seem to have more to do. One of the Farmer’s Almanacs that I looked at is predicting a colder than average winter. I am planning for that eventuality by helping to get wood in, as we supplement our heating with a wood burning stove. It is harvest time on the farm, and there is much to accomplish this fall. The same is true for our church.

Our church activities are gearing back up after a summer which was characterized by great church family get-togethers, including our movie nights and 10AM (an hour earlier than regular) Sunday services. I’ve been contemplating a "Plan of Work" for us for the coming year. I will be seeking the input of the Vestry this month, and then we will share it with all of you. This plan attempts to outline the tasks that I hope we can accomplish over the course of the year.

We will be looking at programming for our adult Sunday School as well as Advent, Christmas, and Lent. We are beginning to plan for our stewardship campaign. The children’s Sunday School is orienting our new nursery staff, including the Safeguarding God’s Children program training. We hope to provide more programming for our young and young at heart by extending our Prayer and A Movie Night into the school year. We're changing the night (going forward, we will do this on a Sunday evening), the time (beginning at 5PM), and frequency (at least once a month). We will be setting goals for care of our building and grounds. Our monthly outreach efforts have been spectacular and will go forward as the Spirit leads us. There is so much more! Please help us by giving us your ideas so that we may serve Him.

Why, you may ask, do we do this? Christ Episcopal Church exists first and foremost because of God’s life and love for the world. We must freely share our lives and love with others. Jesus the Christ calls us to do this. Praise God.

In peace and love,

Emily+

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Have you noticed how beautiful the front of our church is now? Many thanks to Sam Boyd for his landscaping talents!

Rev. Emily and lay reader Jim Patterson serve Communion at Frances Marion Manor on Wednesday, September 4th. What a great experience!
September Calendar of Events

1  **11:00 AM**  Holy Eucharist

8  **9:45 AM**  Sunday School starts!
    10:30 AM  Choir Practice resumes
    **11:00 AM**  Holy Eucharist
      5:00 PM  Pizza Dinner
      5:30 PM  Family Movie Night!

9  **5:30 PM**  Vestry Meeting

15  **9:45 AM**  Sunday School
    **10:30 AM**  Choir Practice
    **11:00 AM**  Holy Eucharist

22  **9:45 AM**  Sunday School
    **10:30 AM**  Choir Practice
    **11:00 AM**  Holy Eucharist

29  **9:45 AM**  Sunday School
    **10:30 AM**  Choir Practice
    **11:00 AM**  Holy Eucharist

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**September Volunteers**

**Lay Readers**

1  Jim Patterson
8  Paul Richard
14  Cathy Hambrick
21  Dalia Obregon
28  Henry Brant

**Altar Guild**

B.B. Derian, Shirley Blackwell, D.D. Brant, Faire Patterson

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**Thank You!**

Thanks to your generosity in August, we were able to send a check to the Mel Leaman Free Clinic of Smyth County for $452.00!

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**Our Adult Bible Study** begins on September 8th. For eight weeks we will study the Women of the Bible.

This Bible Study was compiled by Rhonda Kindig, who resides in Abingdon, attends St. Thomas, and is an accomplished author. Rhonda has graciously agreed to join us for the first week of her Women of the Bible Study to give us her personal perspective.

This Bible study is for all adults—both men and women. Each session will start at **9:45 AM**. You don’t have to sign up for this class—you just need to show up.

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**Leader Needed**

Your Vestry is searching for someone to lead this year’s Every Member Canvass. If you would like to help in any way, please contact a Vestry member or Emily Edmondson.
Sunday, September 8th
Family Movie Night Dinner, A Prayer, and a Movie Night

Pizza will be served at 5:00 PM.
The movie will start at 5:30.
Please sign up at church by the morning of the movie
so we will have enough pizza for everyone!
Bring a friend, something to sit on, and your family's favorite drinks.
Popcorn is provided.

Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry
Our church continues to support Loaves and Fishes by collecting food and monetary
donations. We have also been to their location to help with the distribution of their
food boxes. Our help is still needed in all these ways. They need several folks to
help them in the office during their distribution times. If you have any questions you
can contact Patty Fields at 276-492-8130, or just show up and they’ll put you to work!
Please remember to bring non-perishable food items for our basket on Sundays.

Our 2013 Sunday School
Kick Off at the Brants
on August 28th.
A good time was had by all!!

Choir practice begins on Sunday,
September 8th, at 10:30 AM!
Come join us and share your
musical talents.
Last Chance for Photos for Directory!
If your family has not had a picture taken at church recently, please stay for a few minutes this Sunday so Emily can take one. If you prefer to send one of your favorite family pictures to Carolyn Cattle to include in our new directory, the last day they can be received is Sunday, September 22nd.

Information to be printed in the directory will be available for you to check on Sundays at church. Please check the address and all phone numbers and email addresses (that you would like to share) for everyone in your family.

Feeling lost? My Book is your map.
—God

It's Calendar Time Again!
Faire Patterson has asked for all changes for next year's calendar to be given to her by Sunday, September 29th.