

# CHRIST COMMUNITY CHURCH

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## Newsletter September — October 2020

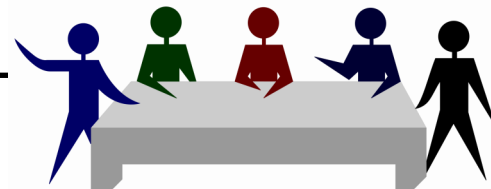
*On the following pages, you will find reports from several council members, committee chairs, and team leaders. Enjoy!*

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Governing Council - Bruce Gilbert, Chair



### GOOD NEWS!

God willing, Sunday October 11th has been set as the tentative date to resume indoor Worship Services at Christ Community Church with the option of listening from your automobile (Car Church) or continue sitting under the shade tree while weather permits. Indoor services will be quite different due to the ongoing and often changing pandemic conditions. More details will be sent as the date nears.

Until then regular Car Church continues at 10:00AM. We are blessed with a few visitors each Sunday. So why not ask or bring a friend or neighbor to enjoy Pastor Derek's outdoor sermons and the beautiful music and songs.

The work of many of our committees continues even during these difficult times. A big thank you to all.

Speaking of committees, the time of year has come again for the Nominating Committee to fill a slate of Church Officers and standing Committee Chairs.

Jim Wilson is chairing this committee and would surely appreciate your suggestions and recommendations.

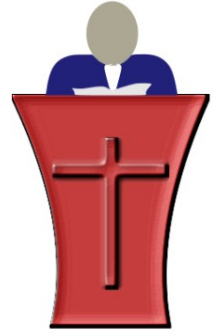
I also want to thank Anne and Gary Wood for their extensive research and ongoing hard work as Co-chairs of the Picnic Shelter/Playground Special Committee. Their Committee has been working hard to make these projects a reality.

I hope you and your families continue to be safe and well. Thank you for your continued support of Christ Community Church. Please pray for each other.

For The Governing Council

Bruce Gilbert, Chairman

# Pastor's Perspective



## Pastor's Perspective

14 Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump all over them every time they do or say something you don't agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently.

2-4 For instance, a person who has been around for a while might well be convinced that he can eat anything on the table, while another, with a different background, might assume he should only be a vegetarian and eat accordingly. But since both are guests at Christ's table, wouldn't it be terribly rude if they fell to criticizing what the other ate or didn't eat? God, after all, invited them both to the table. Do you have any business crossing people off the guest list or interfering with God's welcome? If there are corrections to be made or manners to be learned, God can handle that without your help. (Romans 14: 1-4 MSG)

In his letter to the Roman church, Paul addressed some differences of opinion that had arisen within the church which caused division and conflict. He addressed similar issues in his letter to the Corinthian church. In our current culture, it is hard for us to understand the issues he was addressing. One such issue pertained to the eating of meat that had been sacrificed to idols. One group of believers thought it was ok to eat meat sacrificed to idols while another group took exception to this idea as they believed doing so would indicate approval of such idol worship, or at the very least make them ceremonially unclean. Another issue Paul attempted to address was the perceived requirement to worship only on Sabbath. One group believed this was the only day acceptable for worship while another group believed any day was acceptable.

Although we face very different issues today, our culture is currently at odds with what is "right" or "wrong", especially as it pertains to politics. In his letters, Paul did not condemn either of the positions held on the issues he was confronting. He merely suggested each believer be convinced in his/her own mind and not act against his/her conscience. He reminded those churches of God's invitation to those people holding different opinions and convictions to be a part of His family, of His Kingdom. He reprimanded them for not displaying love and grace toward one another. In our current context, there are many divisive issues within our culture and the church (the collective body of believers). We find ourselves arguing with our brothers and sisters in Christ over points of conviction when we should be embracing one another in a spirit of love. If I polled our congregation, I would likely find a group of passionate Republicans and a group of equally passionate Democrats. If we knew the political positions and affiliations of others, would we allow that to divide us? Would we still have the same opinion of that person once their political affiliation is revealed as we did when we unaware? Can we sit at the table and worship with those with whom we disagree ideologically without secretly holding disdain for them in our hearts? Paul suggested to these churches that they should, that it's their duty as followers of Jesus Christ to do so. I believe this truth holds true for us as well.

34-35 "Let me give you a new command: Love one another. In the same way I loved you, you love one another. This is how everyone will recognize that you are my disciples—when they see the love you have for each other." (John 13:34-35)

Blessings!

Derek

**You may reach Pastor Derek at 540.420.6836**

## Outreach Committee - Randy Agee, Chair



Due to the Covid-19 Crisis, the Caring Crafters are working from their homes and the Youth Enrichment Program activities have been limited or delayed.

The Penhook Food Pantry dates are September 10th and October 8th. To keep everyone safe the Pantry will be a drive through with limited volunteers. Help a Neighbor in need with a donation to the Food Pantry. We continue to collect Coke product bottle caps, can tabs, and box tops for education. These items can be left in the narthex.

Our Glade Hill School Ministry will continue this fall with weekend backpack food, school supplies, Back to School clothing and family food. In the past, CCC has provided winter coats for the children of Glade Hill School. With the help of generous donors our church is blessed to be able to provide 1500 sweatshirts to schools in our community. They are Glade Hill, Rocky Mount Elementary, Gretna, Snow Creek, Sontag and a limited distribution in Roanoke County. Truly, God is working within our church to reach out to our communities and provide warm sweatshirts to our local children. Thank you to our donors for providing the funds for our Family Outreach Ministry. Amazing things happen when God gets the glory!

We continue to support the Franklin County Resource Center/Shelter, Franklin County Humane Society, Faith Network, Helping Hands, Lake Christian Ministries and other local organizations with financial resources.

You can be specific with your donations to CCC Outreach Ministries. Donations to the General Outreach will go to local organizations and Caring Crafters. Specify your gift for the Family Outreach or the Youth Enrichment Program and the funds will be used to help local families in our community. Please let me know if you have any questions about CCC Outreach ([randyagee360@gmail.com](mailto:randyagee360@gmail.com)). Thanks to all that help make the CCC Outreach Ministry possible. Be safe!

Blessings to all,  
Randy Agee