



“Making Disciples for Christ”

A Guide

‘Who, What, Where, & When’



**12201 Spotswood Furnace Lane
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22407
Phone: 540.786.3100**

**cotmfredericksburg@comcast.net
www.churchofmessiah.org**

**James G. Reed
Rector**



“Making Disciples for Christ”

<u>Contents</u>	<u>pg</u>
Overview	3
Mission, Vision, and Values	3
Communications	4
Bulletins, Announcements, Tracts, Newsletters, Web Site, emails, Directory, Vestry, & Staff Contacts	
Who Does That?	7
Vestry (Our Board)	7
Senior Warden, Junior Warden Discipleship, Fellowship, Missions/Outreach, & Worship	
Vestry Support	8
Registrar, Recorder, Financial Secretary, Treasurer Committees (Finance, Audit Worship, Family Ministry)	

Contents (Continued)	pg
Church Staff	11
Rector, Administrative Assistant	
Music Director, Family Ministry	
Director, Pastoral Assistant, Omega	
Youth Group Leaders	
Ministry Leadership	14
Opportunities to Grow and Serve	15
Services, Church School,	
Vacation Bible School, Bible Studies	
Prayer Ministries	16
Prayer Corner, Intercessory	
Prayer Team, Prayer Hotline	
Special Groups	17
Worship Service Lay Ministry Teams	19
Missions and Outreach at COTM	19
Other Things to Know	
Where do I find it? Church Facility	22
What is Stewardship	23
Tithes and First Fruit Giving	24
Brief History of the Church	26
Sunday Services Overview	Back page

Overview

This booklet provides an overview of the Church of the Messiah. You can learn a lot about us from this booklet.

Our church is operated by the rector, elected vestry members, a paid staff, and numerous lay members who are servant leaders for specific ministries. This brochure introduces you to many of these people and positions as well as to our slate of ongoing ministries.

We are affiliated with the worldwide Anglican communion of churches that derive from the Church of England. The Episcopal Church is the historic branch of the Anglican Church in America. Church of the Messiah is in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. Our rector and congregation have an orthodox view of the Bible and associated doctrine.

Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission: *“To Make Disciples for Christ”* is our stated mission and it is incorporated into our logo as simply “Making Disciples for Christ.” The mission statement is why we are here. It is simple and brief, but the task behind it is substantial and eternal. This is what Jesus told his followers to do after His resurrection, “...to go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you...” Matthew 28:19-20

Vision: Our stated vision is an expression of how we see our mission statement being fulfilled at Church of the Messiah. Our vision is *“To be spiritually empowered people*

who let the light of Christ shine through us, so others are drawn to God.” It guides us in formulating goals and objectives.

Values: Our core values help us set our priorities.

We value:

- The truth of God’s Word as revealed in Holy Scripture.
- Our personal relationship with Christ.
- The ministry and power of prayer.
- Worship as a response to God’s love.
- Others by sharing Christ’s love.
- Authenticity, honesty and integrity in our relationships.
- Christian education for all ages.

These statements of our mission, vision, and values are being used to shape the direction of the church for the coming months and years.

Being In The Know Communications

At Church of the Messiah, we communicate with members in many ways. These methods include:

Sunday Service Leaflets (Bulletins) – Weekly bulletins and inserts are a recurring source of brief information on ongoing ministries and prayer needs as well as a calendar of upcoming special events. They also list the lay ministry team and the scripture lesson citations for that day.

On Screen Announcements - Before each service begins, a series of announcements may be presented on the projection screen above the altar. After the passing of the peace during worship services, any special announcements are presented to call important matters to your attention. If you see or hear something of interest and need more information, contact the administrative staff.

Church Information Center (and Tract Rack) - There are multiple boards with information on various programs ongoing at Church of the Messiah as well as in organizations we support or encourage. These boards are located downstairs in the Fellowship Hall and make available numerous booklets and brochures you may find interesting and helpful, including two devotionals, “Our Daily Bread” and “Forward Movement.”

Messiah Messenger (Newsletter) - Currently a quarterly publication, the Messenger gives details on church activities with articles by vestry, staff, and ministry leaders. It’s a good way to get to know us better, see what has been happening, and know what’s coming up next. Our editor is our Administrative Assistant, Theresa Faulkner. Contact her for more information. The newsletter is emailed to everyone on our Church roster as a primary distribution, but printed copies may be picked up at the Church Information Center display in the fellowship hall. If you don’t have email, we’ll put you on the list for a printed copy by mail.

Web Site: Our web site, www.churchofmessiah.org, has a lot of information about the church and our programs that you may find useful. In particular, we provide the current list of the Sunday Services Lay Ministry Team and Bible lessons for each Sunday on the web site. If you are part of this ministry, you may want to check here to refresh your memory on the dates you are scheduled to serve. Weather

cancellations are posted on the web site, so it is a source of emergency communications.

Emails – We often send out reminders and special announcements by all church emails. To ensure that you get these communications, send your email address to cotmfredericksburg@comcast.net to be included or updated.

Directory – A directory of members is published once or twice a year to help us communicate and coordinate with one another. The directory has a list of vestry, staff, and ministry leaders in the front pages that will help get you to the right person quickly. Pick up a copy today if you don't already have one.

Vestry Points of Contact – Vestry members are assigned areas of responsibility for which they help formulate and coordinate church programs and activities. See a current Vestry Tri-fold brochure to know who is on the vestry and who does what.

Staff Contacts – Our paid staff of one full time priest and six part-time employees can often help you quickly find the information you need to do business with the church. Please call the administrative assistant who can guide you to the appropriate staff member to answer your questions or get you the help you need. Also, see a current tri-fold brochure on ministry Opportunities to know who is on staff and who does what.

Who Does That?

Vestry: The Vestry is a representative body elected by church members at an annual church meeting. Elected members serve a three year term, with one-third of the members rotating off each year. The vestry is responsible for managing our finances and property. They also advise the rector on general matters pertaining to church goals, objectives, and operations. As the group primarily responsible for the financial well being of the church, the vestry prepares, approves, and administers an annual budget.

They meet once a month (3rd Wednesday evening) to conduct business. The vestry is currently composed of the rector, a senior warden, a junior warden, and four ministry area representatives. The following position descriptions will give you an idea of the breadth of vestry responsibilities. The incumbents of these positions are typically listed in the frontispiece of the church directory.

Senior Warden: The Senior Warden acts as the primary interface between the church staff and the Vestry and attends church staff meetings periodically. The Senior Warden works closely with the rector on all church business.

Junior Warden: The Junior Warden oversees the upkeep of the physical plant of the church, including all buildings and grounds. The Junior Warden works closely with the employed staff to assist in scheduling repairs and upkeep. The Junior Warden often finds contractors/workers to make needed repairs and maintain the facility.

Discipleship: The discipleship representative helps coordinate all facets of Christian education and development, including church school, Vacation Bible School (VBS), and adult studies.

Fellowship: The fellowship representative oversees and coordinates ministry programs that facilitate opportunities to build our life together within the church, including social events, new member ministries, and coffee fellowship hour.

Missions/Outreach: This representative is responsible for church ministries that promote and encourage missionaries and their support as well as local outreach programs that help meet the special needs of the community and our congregation.

Worship: The worship representative oversees and coordinates activities that support worship services, including the music program, ushers, greeters, altar guild, acolytes, prayer team, and technology ministries.

Vestry Support

In conducting its' business the vestry is assisted by several individuals who serve as designated officers of the parish:

Registrar: The registrar (sometimes called the register) maintains the official membership lists of the church and submits official church documents (membership, confirmations, transfer letters, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and the like) to the diocese for approval and recording, and keeps a record of transactions for the parish.

Recorder: The recorder acts as the secretary for the vestry and makes notes of the transactions of the vestry and congregational meetings and submits draft minutes for approval at subsequent meetings. Official minutes of all meetings are maintained in the church records to document the policies and decisions of the vestry and congregation.

Financial Secretary: The financial secretary is responsible for receiving and recording the contributions and donations made to the church, by check or in cash. All donations are tracked as to whether they are pledged or are designated for general budget purposes or for a specific program. The financial secretary prepares interim as well as annual statements of all donations for contributors, enabling them to ensure accuracy and take tax deductions as allowed by law. The financial secretary is a member of the church finance committee.

Treasurer: The treasurer operates the expense side of the financial program. He receives all invoices and pays bills as appropriate. The treasurer reports each month to the vestry on the financial status of the church, providing a breakout of spending by categories of the approved budget and a list of specially designated funds. The treasurer is also a member of the church finance committee.

The vestry is also assisted in their responsibilities by various committees that support specific areas of ministry within the church. These committees are:

Finance Committee: The finance committee solicits requests from ministry leaders of their financial needs for the coming year. They then prepare and submit a draft budget to the vestry for review, adjustment, and approval. The committee is chaired by the Senior Warden and is

composed of the financial secretary, the treasurer, and any other members appointed by the vestry.

Audit Team: Each year the vestry appoints a team to conduct an audit of the church's finances and operations. The team is typically composed of 2 or 3 members with some financial and or management background or who have previously served in the church with financial responsibilities. The audit helps ensure financial integrity in the conduct of all business matters of the parish.

Worship Committee: The worship committee was initially formed to find a new music director, but meets periodically in an advisory capacity to the rector and the music director to bring a congregational perspective to the music and worship aspects of church life.

Family Ministry Committee: The Family Ministry Committee is a support committee for the rector and the Family Ministry Director to help formulate programs that serve our church families in their efforts to live in love and harmony in the midst of our busy culture with its many competing priorities.

Church Staff

The church employs one full time priest and six part time employees to help the congregation meet their spiritual needs individually, as families, and as part of the community. We currently employ a rector, an administrative assistant, a music director, a family ministry coordinator, and a pastoral assistant, and two OMEGA youth group leaders.

Rector James G. Reed

Jim is our chief leader in all respects. He is an Episcopal priest. He oversees the operation and direction of the vestry and the staff and every aspect of our church life. He is responsible for the worship services held at COTM and preaches and teaches at most of these services. He also provides personal counseling to individuals and families in need of spiritual guidance. Jim keeps periodic hours at the church for drop-in or scheduled appointments.

Appointments may also be made for other times, if necessary, by contacting our administrative assistant at 540-786-3100. Jim has been at COTM since 1995. He may be contacted directly at 540-785-4994.

Administrative Assistant Theresa Faulkner

Theresa is the primary worker who supports the general administrative needs of the church. She publishes the weekly church bulletin and edits the Messiah Messenger, our church newsletter. She is the primary contact for scheduling use of the church and keeping the church calendar. She is

the person to see for all your church supply and administrative needs. She also helps maintains the web site and prepares the media information to be projected at Sunday services in coordination with the rector, music director, and pastoral assistant. Theresa is normally at the church office Tuesday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and may be contacted at the main church number, 540-786-3100, or by email at cotmfredericksburg@comcast.net.

Theresa has been a member of Church of the Messiah since 1999 and employed as the Administrative Assistant since November 2010.

Music Director Rochelle Felsburg

Rochelle oversees the music for worship services each Sunday, coordinating with the rector and administrative assistant. She is also responsible for recruiting and developing people to sing and play instruments to enhance the worship service music program and hold rehearsals. She attends staff meetings but has minimal hours at the church proper. She may be contacted through the church office, 540-786-3100, or by email at rochellediane@comcast.net.

Rochelle has been a member of Church of the Messiah since becoming employed as the Music Director in January 2009.

Family Ministry Director

Anne Tower

As Family Ministry Director, Anne is responsible for church school, Vacation Bible School (VBS), our nursery program and workers, family events, and oversees the OMEGA Youth group leaders and programs. She obtains curriculum and recruits and trains teachers for her programs. She does not have an office or regular hours at the church, but can be reached at 842-5807 or at anne.tower@comcast.net.

Anne has been a member at church of the messiah since 2005 and employed as the Family Ministry Director since August 2009.

OMEGA Youth Group Leaders

Jordan Puig

&

Ellen Smethurst

Jordan and Ellen are a young and energetic team that leads our OMEGA youth group (Grades 6 – 12) in a Sunday evening program. They also help oversee special youth events like ski trips, lake day, field outings, and a summer mission trip. These ministries help our young people come to terms with living for Christ in a world of competing interests that may seem daunting and confusing. The OMEGA program can help them get grounded for life while having some fun and fellowship with others their age! Jordan may be reached at 845-3253 or by email at jpuig30@gmail.com. Ellen may be reached at 434-996-8580 or by email at esmethur@mail.umw.edu.

Pastoral Assistant Tom Tower

Tom serves as a special assistant to the rector for personnel management, parish administration, facility operations, vestry liaison, and any other area that needs special time and attention. Tom is also the church Treasurer and registrar. He is the liaison for the church web site content. His normal office hours are Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., as well as other times by appointment and special arrangement. Tom may be contacted at the main church number, 786-3100, or 845-6555, or email pastoralassist@comcast.net.

Tom has been a member at Church of the Messiah since 2005 and employed in this position since February 2007.

Ministry Leadership

While the paid staff may run the day to day operations, the heart of the church is the ministry programs that typically depend on servant leaders who have a special calling to oversee programs of the church that help us know one another and grow in love to serve the Lord and minister to others. The leaders of these programs are detailed below with the information describing the programs they conduct. Each of these is an opportunity for ministry and growth for our members. More servant helpers are always needed.

Discipleship

Opportunities to Grow and Serve

There are many opportunities to grow at Church of the Messiah with programs for children, women, men, and families. Programs are always changing, so this brochure may not detail every program on our current slate of events. Please be attentive for the latest changes by checking for announcements in the bulletin, the newsletter (Messiah Messenger), church emails, and Sunday morning on screen and verbal announcements.

Services of Holy Eucharist: Our primary worship services are held at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each Sunday. The main difference in services is a matter of length and emphasis and style of music. The earlier service is supposed to be shorter, more liturgical, and more traditional in terms of music style. The later service, on the other hand, is a longer service, less liturgical in total content, and has more contemporary music. See the back cover for more details of service times and other Sunday activities.

Church School: Child care is available for preschool children at both services at the nursery in the Parish house. Other classes vary by service.

Vacation Bible School: Church of the Messiah typically conducts a comprehensive one-week vacation Bible School in June following the end of the standard school year.

Bible studies: Several studies are conducted weekly, some at the church and others in private homes.

Men's Bible study: 7:30-9:00 a.m. Saturdays in the fellowship hall, September – May. Topics vary.
Contact: Gary Carlmark 972-2497

Women's Bible study: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. each Thursday in the Fellowship hall September – May/June. Topics vary.
Nursery is provided. Contact: Betti Small 752-9368

Women's Evening Bible Study, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Mondays at the home of Pam Sielicki. Topics vary.
Contact: Pam Siliecki: 850-8414

Prayer Ministries

Prayer is an integral part of Christian living and is a vital part of our life together. At Church of the Messiah there are several facets of prayer ministry. You can always call the church office (540-786-3100) and request prayer or see the rector for special concerns. There are also others in the body of Christ at Church of the Messiah who make themselves available for prayer needs. There are three designated ministries for prayer. The primary contacts for these ministries are Gary and Susan Carlmark who can be reached at 540-972-2497.

Prayer Corner: We have a team of trained people who are available to pray for or with others during the worship services. You will find them at the front left side of the sanctuary during the whole service or perhaps just during the time of receiving the elements of communion. They will be happy to pray with you for your concerns.

Intercessory Prayer Team: We have a team of people who are committed to pray daily for any requests. If you have a prayer concern for this team of intercessors, fill out a prayer request card near the pray corner and place it in the confidential request box and indicate how many weeks you want the request to remain on the prayer list.

Prayer Hotline: Another major element of the prayer ministry is the emergency prayer hotline. You can call Gary and Susan Carlmark at 972-2497, at any time, night or day, for emergency prayer requests such as life threatening accidents and injuries and medical conditions. While you should feel free to call in an emergency, please do not call for routine matters. These should be submitted on a form through the prayer chest on the left side of the sanctuary (Nave).

Special Groups

Boy Scout Troop 77 – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Contact: John Ball, 785-0421

Girl Scouts Brownie Troop 551: 4:15-6:00 p.m. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the fellowship hall.

Contact: Becky Weber 548-4834

Wednesday Night Prayer Warriors: Meets at 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays in the sanctuary for a time of study, personal prayer and sharing of praises before the Lord. All are welcome. Contact: Robert Dickenson, 786-7613

The Order of the Daughters of the King; Saint Monica Chapter: This group is an order of women under a religious rule requiring solemn vows. Members take life-long vows to follow the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of

Service; rules are prescribed as guides for conduct or action to be observed by members. They are pledged to a program of prayer, service, and personal evangelism. Contact: Betty Massey, 371-9614.

Episcopal Church Women: The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) empowers women to do Christ's ministry in the world. This group of women focuses on service to others along with other groups in the Episcopal Church and other affiliated churches. All women of the church are automatically members and are welcome to attend meetings and events of the ECW. Their motto is "Joy in Service." Contact: Maria Yates, 972-3447

Men's and Women's Retreats: Periodically, there are organized retreats for purposes of spiritual development as well as personal fellowship and fun for either men or women. These events are done as interest and opportunity provide.

Drama Team: We are striving to develop a drama group to present skits and other dramas at Church of the Messiah. Contact Anne Tower, 972-5807, for more details.

Worship Service Lay Ministry Teams: Worship services require the support of a variety of lay people who perform various tasks, including the following areas listed with the current contact person and their number; or simply call the church office at 540-786-3100.

Altar Guild - Betty Massey, 371-9614

Acolytes – Chris McCrae, 809-0394

Ushers, Greeters, and Lectors –

Theresa Faulkner, 786-3100

Chalice Bearers – Mark Wakeman, 972-3460

Projectionists – Nancy Ball, 785-0421

Coffee Fellowship – Holly Perrow, 3379-5966

Music/Resonance Praise Team

Bell Choir (Tone Chimes)/ and Youth Ensemble

Rochelle Felsburg, 710-0104

Confirmation – Confirmation classes are conducted as needed by the rector for interested youth, ages 12 and up.

Mission and Outreach Committee – A portion of the church budget goes to help local and worldwide organizations that respond to the plight of the needy in our community and the world, particularly those who have not heard the good news of Jesus Christ. Committee members meet to share needs of worthy groups and organizations and make recommendations for the allocation of resources. Contact: Charlie Bee, 561-504-9486

India National Inland Mission – Dr. Paul and Annie Pilai and the Reverend Ajay and Heather Pilai are in full time mission service spreading the gospel to the peoples of India. Their work includes Grace Bible College and the associated orphanage of Bethesda Children’s Home. The impacts of the ministry are far reaching and a testimony to the power of God in reaching the lost. Ajay has visited us

several times and he has many powerful testimonies to share that will inspire you and strengthen your faith.

SAMS Missionary Bishop Mike Chapman: Mike Chapman is an Anglican Priest who felt called to serve the church needs in Peru. We met Mike and his wife Linda through former members of the church who were inspired by their ministry. Mike and Linda have shared their vision and labors with the church two or three times. The church recently sent a team of three parish members to minister with and encourage the Chapman's in their ministry and determine how we might best support them in the years ahead.

Wycliffe Bible Translators: We are affiliated with two highly talented ladies who have been serving the Lord as Wycliffe Bible translators for more than twenty years. Each of them has progressed within the organization to now manage entire areas of translation. Debbie Hatfield is the director of translations for French speaking Africa, and Clare O'Leary is the Overseas Program Director serving in Malaysia. Both Clare and Debbie have visited us in the past and we are always excited to hear how their work is progressing.

Global Teams Missionaries - We have been supporting David and Deborah Hamilton and their children, Marlee and Liam, as Global Team missionaries in Madagascar. They have visited us on furlough and shared a powerful testimony of how lives are being changed by the light of Christ in Madagascar. They are in a volatile mission field and we support them regularly through prayer and financial assistance.

Fredericksburg Area Fellowship of Christian Athletes:

One of the local outreach ministries we support is the local Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the director, Mr. Kerry O’Neil. This is a vital part of our efforts to encourage young people of our community and introduce them to vibrant Christian leaders in their midst.

Campus Christian Community of Mary Washington

University: Another local ministry we support is the Campus Christian Community of Mary Washington University and their director, the Reverend Bob Azzarito. This ministry serves as a Christian fellowship base for college students at Mary Washington University. It provides a place to come and associate with other college age Christians and find some opportunities to grow and serve their community.

Younglife and YoungLives of Fredericksburg: One of the most dynamic ministries for young people in our community comes through the Younglife organization. This group brings Christ to the teens of our community and gets them started in their faith and hopefully helps them find a church home. We support both of the affiliated organizations of Younglife and the local leadership team of Cliff and Laura Wright and Katie Pirch.

COTM Mission to Peru: See earlier item on SAMS Missionary Bishop Mike Chapman.

COTM Youth Mission Trips – Middle and senior high students often are given the opportunity to serve on summer mission trips. Those participating in these mission trips work on projects with other teams in a community that has been identified and prepared by a professional mission support group such as the Group Workcamps or Youth works organizations. This enables them to see

meaningful results in their week of service. Adult leaders oversee the effort with devotionals and other group activities that are included in the program.

Contact: Anne Tower, 842-5807

Where Do I Find It? Church Facility

Church of the Messiah is situated on a fairly sizeable piece of property between the Riverbend High School facility and the neighboring shopping center, Harrison Crossing. The main church building is a two story facility with a sanctuary on the upper floor and a fellowship hall and one fairly large classroom on the lower level. Behind the main building is a Parish House where you will find our Nursery, one elementary classroom, and the staff and administrative offices.

The main floor of the church building has vestibule (narthex) with the entry way to the sanctuary (nave), male and female restrooms, the nave itself with a media operations booth at the back, an altar area, prayer corner, the vesting room, and the sacristy (where the communion elements are prepared along with altar hangings and other service equipment.

On the lower level of the main building you will find the fellowship hall, a large classroom, and a church library. The fellowship hall is a place to meet and greet other members and is the site of our fellowship coffee hour on Sunday mornings.

Our church library is a very special resource located in classroom of the fellowship hall in the lower level of the

main building. The contents of the library are catalogued and listed in a binder in the library (which will soon be on the web site). There are more than 750 selections organized topically. The library has been outfitted and organized with help from the Daughters of the King member Tanny Beeman. It is need of some ongoing assistance from a willing servant: Please contact the church office for information.

What is Stewardship? Time, Talent, and Resources

Generally, there is a teaching series in the Fall that helps us focus on the stewardship principles of giving of our time, talents, and finances. At the end of this teaching series, the congregation comes together on Commitment Sunday to commit themselves to support the church in the coming calendar year with their time, talent, and finances.

At The Church of the Messiah, we encourage members to consider tithing their income to the Lord by pledging and giving to the church a full 10% of their income. While not every member can give at this level, many do, and we believe that God honors their special commitment to the principle of giving first to the Lord! The Church itself practices this principle through the designation of a tithe that goes outside the church to meet the needs of the Diocese, support missions at home and abroad, as well as encourage local outreach in the community. We believe that God will honor this commitment by meeting the financial needs of the ministry programs to which He calls us!

These pledges guide the vestry in preparing a budget (essential a fiscal plan of programs and associated expenses) for the coming year. In addition to pledges to support general expenses (operating budget), many members give regularly to support the capital expenses and special programs of the church. The capital expenses associated with the physical plant of the church are supported by the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF). Giving to this fund should not be included in the pledge made for budget operations.

Tithes and First Fruit Giving

Tithe – The Vestry at Church of the Messiah, in preparing the annual budget, provides a tithe from our income as a God-given principle for allocating our financial blessings. The tithe is 10% of our income. 5% goes to the diocese and the balance to other organizations specified by the vestry. Two requirements made by various donors complicate this simple formula.

Designated Gifts – Some gifts carry a designation that requires the money be spent for a specific purpose. This giving is classified as “designated income” and is not used in the tithe computation. The rest is classified as “undesignated income” and is used to compute the full 10% tithe.

Diocesan Restricted Giving – Some “undesignated income” also comes with a requirement, not stating how funds are to be spent, but stating that they are restricted from sharing with the diocese. These undesignated donations are included when we compute the 10% tithe, but are excluded when we compute the diocesan share of the tithe.

Tithe Allocation - Typically, about 20 percent of undesignated giving carries the diocesan restriction. COM gives the Diocese of Virginia 5% of income that is both undesignated and unrestricted. The balance of the tithe is

given to organizations designated to receive our First Fruits. Thus, while the full tithes remain 10% of undesignated income, the diocesan restricted donations shift the distribution from 50% diocese and 50% First Fruits to about 40% diocese and 60% First Fruits.

Currently, ten organizations receive a portion of the First Fruit giving. These are:

- Young Life of Fredericksburg
- Young Lives of Fredericksburg
- Campus Christian Community at UMW
- Fredericksburg Area Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Fredericksburg Salvation Army
- Wycliffe Translator Debbie Hatfield
- Wycliffe Overseas Director Clare O'Leary
- India National Inland Mission
- SAMS missionary, Bishop Mike Chapman in Peru
- Global Teams Madagascar Missionaries, the Hamiltons

Each group receives an identical portion over the course of the year.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND (CIF) – The cost of making facility improvements has been accomplished through an operational bank loan and from contributions to our Capital Improvement Fund (CIF). We also set aside some funds for our continuing need for facility improvements that go beyond normal operations and maintenance. Contributions to the CIF are sought as giving in addition to normal pledged income and general giving which support budgeted requirements for church operations.

Brief History of Church of the Messiah

The Church of the Messiah (COTM) is over 20 years old. There was a grand celebration in 2008 to observe our 20th anniversary. On the second Sunday of the Easter, April 10, 1988, the Church of the Messiah held its first public worship service in the gymnasium of the Seventh Day Adventist Academy on Plank Road. The celebrant was the Reverend Bev Barge, founding vicar of the church as a newly planted mission church in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. It was the first church plant of Bishop Peter James Lee after becoming Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia.

Property on Plank Road, four miles west of I-95 was purchased on loan from the Diocesan Missionary Society, on property made available by special consideration of the Dickerson family. A multipurpose building was constructed there as Phase I of a capital campaign. Other churches of the diocese (Region I) heavily supported the new church with both financial and moral support.

Reverend Barge was followed by the Reverend Joy Charity-O'Halloran as the second vicar in 1991 and the Reverend James G. Reed replaced her in 1995. The church was granted full church status in the Diocese in 2007 with Reverend Reed becoming the first, and current, rector.

The church is known for its warmth and friendliness. The fellowship hour following Sunday Services has become a time of meeting and greeting new members as well as catching up with friends and associates who call Messiah their church home.

SUNDAY SERVICES

We Welcome You

9:00 a.m.

This service lasts about 60-70 minutes.
The music is a blend of hymns and praise songs.

Child care for infants is available
in the Parish House Nursery

Sunday School Classes
See ushers and greeters
for specific locations.

Join us for coffee, food, and fellowship
downstairs after the service.

10:30 a.m.

This service lasts about 70-80 minutes.
The music is more contemporary
with a Praise Team assisting.

Child care for infants is available
in the Parish House Nursery

Sunday School Classes
See ushers and greeters
for specific locations.

Join us for coffee, food, and fellowship
downstairs after the service.

September 2011