

Summer Chimes



June 2015-Aug. 2015 Quarterly News from St. James's Episcopal Church

VOL.4, No.4

Dreaming Our Way Ahead

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In a process kicked-off at the Strategic Planning Forum Sunday February 22, St. James's is dreaming for the future, says Dr. W. Victor Maloy, D. Min., of the Virginia Institute for Pastoral Care.

Maloy is guiding the planning process, working alongside the rector and members of the Strategic Planning committee. The process is going to take a year, which Maloy says is about the right amount of time for a church of our size and strength.

Along with the Sunday forum hour, where over one hundred parishioners were organized into small groups to perform a SWOT analysis (Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threats), the vestry has spent an entire Saturday morning in retreat on the plan and members of the committee have been individually leading similar sessions with influential groups throughout the parish. Additional meetings are planned with groups that intersect with us (AA and other 12 Steps, for example), Bishops at the Diocese, and selected churches in the Stuart Circle Parish.

Maloy reports that the "high level of engagement and interest that everyone [on the vestry] had in discussing these topics was really extraordinary and is a good sign."

He also pointed out an informal and accessible method of commentary called the "Wall of Dreams" is in full swing, with large poster sized blank displays including Post-it notes and pens available in several

spots around the campus for parishioners to put up brief thoughts about the future or the present.

Strategic Planning Committee

Margaret Corwin
Ida Farinholt
Suzanne Hall
Rosie Messer
Thayer Montague
Mark Shuford
Alex Slaughter
Bobbie Ukrop
Henry Willett

Maloy, who has a practice in Pastoral Psychotherapy and Leadership Consulting at the Virginia Institute for Pastoral Care, says the Institute has had a variety of connections with St. James's through the years and has a good sense of the range of ministries we undertake.

Even though it is early in the work, Maloy has been surprised by the level of engagement.

"I've just been wowed by that – the level of enthusiasm about being a member of the congregation, an overwhelming positivity about the future, universal renown for clergy leadership and the hospitality of everyone who has been in the process," he reported.

Please turn to page 13

Find us online all the time:





*The Rev. Randolph Marshall
Hollerith, Rector*

From the Rector's Desk

The Blessings They Bring

As I look back over the past 15 years, it amazes me to think about all the ways we have been blessed by the people who have served on our staff. All of them have left their mark, making us a better, stronger community. They stay with us for a while, doing their work for the glory of God, then life shifts and they move on, but each one leaves a wonderful legacy. We are stronger and better because of their ministry among us. I am so grateful to have served with them all.

This June we say farewell to another member of our staff who has blessed us for many years, the Rev. Dr. Mark Cooper.

Mark has been a part of our parish family for more than 10 years and he has served on staff in a part-time capacity since 2012. Mark is a renaissance man whose energy, love of learning, and extraordinary pastoral skills, have been a great gift. In the immediate future, Mark will be heading to Manhattan to pursue his interest in writing. On Sunday, June 14, following the 10:00 a.m. service, we will have a reception in Valentine Hall to thank Mark for his ministry. I hope you will join us.



At the same time, I am excited to welcome two new members to our staff. First, the Rev. Hilary Streever will become our new Associate Rector

for Adult Formation. Hilary is a gifted priest. Since her ordination in 2012, she has been serving as the Priest-in-Charge of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church in Abingdon, Virginia. Hilary has a B.A. in Leadership and Social Change and a B.S. in Wildlife Science from Virginia Tech where she graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2005. She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and in 2004 she was a Rhodes Scholar Candidate and a Marshall Scholar Candidate. She received her Master of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School in 2012. Hilary possesses a deep faith, a creative spirit, an inviting personality, and a passion for parish ministry. Hilary and her husband David will be joining the St. James's family in June. Her first day in the office will be Monday, June 15.

Also, I am pleased to announce that Suzanne Hall will become our new Director of Stewardship and Development. Suzanne has been a member of St. James's since 1977. For the past 29 years she has worked at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts where she most recently served as their Chief Communications Officer. Suzanne is an incredibly energetic and talented person of faith who loves St. James's. She has served on the Vestry and she has been involved with more ministries in the parish than I can count. I cannot think of anyone who has a more complete understanding of our community or who is more passionate about building



the Kingdom of God. It is truly a great blessing to have Suzanne join our staff.

What abundance! God has sent us so many talented people to help us in our ministry. I am very thankful for the gifts they have shared and I look forward to the future and new gifts yet to come.

Blessings,

Summer Schedules

Sundays, May 24-Sept. 6

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II
5:30 p.m. Jazz Mass

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m. – noon
June 22-26

Office Hours until September 8

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday
Closed Friday

Summer Brunch Returns

July 12 and August 9 following the 10:00 a.m. service

The cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child. Credit cards are accepted and reservations by the preceding Thursday are definitely recommended. RSVP to Gina Young (gyoung@doers.org)



Mark Whitmire, Director of Music
Virginia Whitmire, Organist and Choir Director

Make Your Ministry Music

Join a Choir this Fall

There is a place for everyone in St. James's Music program. There are no auditions. Everyone is welcome. Please call the Music Office (ext. 323) to discuss which ensemble is right for you.

Cherub Choir (starts September 16)

- ✓ for children grades K-1-2
- ✓ rehearses on Wednesdays, 4:00-4:50 p.m.
- ✓ sings once each month at 9:00 a.m. services

Children's Choir (starts September 16)

- ✓ for children grades 3-4-5
- ✓ rehearses on Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m.
- ✓ sings once each month at 9:00 a.m. services



Youth Choir (starts September 13)

- ✓ for young people grades 6-12
- ✓ rehearses Sundays, 12:30-1:45 p.m.
- ✓ sings once each month at 11:15 a.m. services

West Gallery Choir (starts September 9)

- ✓ for adults who want to sing music in a variety of musical styles
- ✓ rehearses Wednesdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- ✓ sings at 9:00 a.m. services



Parish Choir (starts September 10)

- ✓ for more experienced singers who want to sing choral repertoire in the Anglican tradition
- ✓ rehearses Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m.
- ✓ sings at 11:15 a.m. services

Soli Deo Gratias.

Mark and Virginia



Music and Outreach – The Welcome Summer Recital Series

The Welcome Summer Recital Series was created as a way to share our beautiful space with the Richmond community and to give greater exposure to service organizations. The 18th annual series takes place on the first three Wednesday evenings in June at 7:00 p.m. There is no lovelier way to spend a summer evening than to listen to beautiful music in a beautiful space. Please join us and bring your friends.



June 3, 7:00 p.m.

Dana McComb (cello) and Loren Cony (piano)

Offering benefits St. James's Children's Center

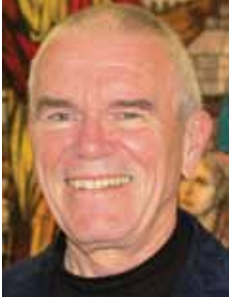
June 10, 7:00 p.m.

The Oberon String Quartet
Offering benefits FeedMore

June 17, 7:00 p.m.

All- Star Vocal Quartet
Philip Cave, Jacqueline Horner, James Kennerley and Gabriel Crouch
Offering benefits CARITAS

Ministry



*The Rev. Mark Cooper,
Interim Associate Rector*

I Will See You Soon

This will be my last article for the Chimes, at least for now. In June, I will give up my post as Interim Associate Rector and will head out into the world for a new adventure. I'll start out with a five-week trip to Europe, walking in the Czech Republic and in Ireland. I will follow that with a long bike ride on the Blue Ridge Parkway and, in the fall, I hope to be engaged in writing classes in NYC. That's the plan. We'll have to see what actually happens, but, after 45 years of ordination, it is time for a new challenge. I have a condo in Church Hill, covered parking for my car and an expectation that I'll make frequent trips back into Richmond to be with children and grandchildren, and my many friends here at St. James's and in Richmond.

My first Sunday at St. James's was a Confirmation Sunday. I was amazed to feel the energy, hear the music, to see a church filled with people and with 50 young people being confirmed. Randy's invitation to join in the fellowship was generous and he has been a true colleague in ministry. Our Lutheran/Episcopal churches share pulpit fellowship in theory. Randy and all the staff have made that theory a reality. I have had the opportunity to teach and learn in this parish. I have provided pastoral care to many of you. But, you have to know that I experienced your care in a deep way when Sandra became ill and later died. I have tried to be transparent

in sharing what it means to lose a mate, to welcome new sons-in-law, now five grandchildren, and to continue on with life. The Gospel talks at times about the compassion that Jesus shared for those who came to be near him. I have felt that compassion in the midst of our fellowship. We are not only a congregation of "doers," we are a group who care for one another. Thank you for these years together.

The Fall Adult Education program is starting to take shape. We'll start back in on Wednesday night programs learning about the Diaconate, about prison ministry, and other topics yet to be developed. On Sundays, we will continue to have Thom Blair's Adult Bible Study along with a variety of short courses and a monthly Forum. First, we have the opportunity to welcome the bike riders at our door. For two weeks our steeple will be the center of the world as 40+ million people watch Richmond and the World Road Cycling Championships. Look for more information over the summer about various programs and events that will involve us in providing hospitality to people who will come from around the world.

Again, deepest thanks for the opportunity to be minister and ministered to in your midst. No goodbyes, more like "I will see you soon."

Take care,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark".



This Road is Our Road

A World Class Bike Race Comes to Richmond

September 19-27, 2015

Richmond has been selected to host one of the most important bike races in the world. While not well known in this country, people around the world follow the UCI World Championship Bike Races. Race teams will represent 75 countries including the United States. There will be 1,000 riders and 450,000 people will come to watch the races, while an estimated 40 million people will watch us on TV. The steeple of St. James's will be recognized around the world after this event. A Vestry Committee is coordinating our plans and the opportunities we will have to extend hospitality to the thousands of people who will line our streets and will see Richmond for the first time.

A number of the races will use Franklin Street in the course, and it will affect both our office hours and our worship schedule.

Staff has been meeting with those planning for the event and over the summer we will have more information on our plans. We will begin our fall schedule on September 13 with regular worship schedule 7:45, 9:00 & 11:15 a.m. with the usual meeting for Sunday School and Thom Blair's Bible Study. That evening we will join together for the Parish Picnic at Rock Bottom.

For information on the race, visit <http://richmond2015.com>.



*The Rev. Carmen Germino,
Assistant Rector*

Living In A Fixer-Upper

Matt and I bought our first house this spring, and it's a bit of a fixer-upper. If you've noticed paint in my hair or spotted us wandering in a daze around Lowes/Pleasant's/Home Depot, that's why. As I write, we're still living in our rental house while the new house is covered in drywall dust and dropcloths. We're working hard to get it updated and by the time you read this, we should be moved in (although not necessarily unpacked). It's a ton of work, but it's also really satisfying. And fun! Along the way, we're learning firsthand some of the universal truths of homeownership:

- Home improvement always takes longer than you expect.
- Home improvement is always more expensive than you expect.
- Home improvement always makes a bigger mess than you expect.

Ministry is the same, is it not? It is not quick, it is not cheap, and it is not tidy. Our universe was created by a master builder, but we tenants have let it fall into disrepair. We live in a fixer-upper world, and we are called to work with God to build the Kingdom of Heaven here on earth. This work cannot be rushed. Transformation rarely happens in an instant, and it seldom happens without some investment on our part. And change – even healthy change – is messy. As followers of Christ, we are in the business of transforming lives

through God's love, and that requires patience, sacrifice, and the ability to tolerate some temporary disorder. So as you begin your summer, give some thought to how you would like to participate in God's mission of building the Kingdom of Heaven in this upcoming season. And don't be surprised when it is messy, costly, and slow. I promise it will also be satisfying. And fun!

Faithfully,

Carmen

P.S. While our adventures in home improvement will continue throughout the summer, here are a few other things I'm excited about for the upcoming months:

Summer Supper Clubs: They're back! This has quickly become a favorite parish fellowship opportunity – it is a great way to build new friendships within our large church family. The deadline to register for a summer supper club is June 15. You can sign up online at www.doers.org or call me at (804) 355-1779 x319. After the deadline, those who have signed up will be divided into groups of 8-10 people. Together, your group will come up with two mutually agreeable dates in July and August to get together for a potluck meal. Check our website for details.

Richmond Mission/Outreach Week (August 10-14): Our own city has many needs, and this local mission allows participants to make a difference in our own community. We will partner again with project:HOMES and Virginia Supportive Housing, two excellent nonprofit groups serving low-income and formerly homeless neighbors in Richmond. Work will include construction projects, assisting formerly homeless VSH residents, and more. To get involved, contact Kyle Martin (kyle@bkmartin.com).

World Pediatric Project: Over the past three years, we have sponsored three children who came to Richmond for much-needed surgery. Sometime this summer, we expect to be matched with another WPP family! This is a wonderful mission opportunity for parishioners to build international relationships without traveling far from home, and the whole family can be involved. Contact: Lisa Rossi (lyrossi@aol.com).

These are just a few of the things I'm looking forward to – plus there's Summer Jazz Mass, VBS, summer brunches, welcoming a new clergy colleague, sending off our youth and Honduras mission teams, planning for the big UCI bike races in the fall, planning for WomanKind 2016, and maybe even a week or two of vacation! Yay, summer!

Ministry

... for Youth and Young Adults



Mary Beth Abplanalp,
Director of Youth and
Young Adult Ministry

Summer, Plans and More



Youth Ministry Strategic Planning

Parents, teachers, youth, clergy, staff, and parishioners met for a 3-day Vision Retreat in April to think collaboratively, creatively, and strategically about the mission, values and long-term goals of the Youth Ministry at St. James's. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the 50+ individuals at the retreat defined our purpose (mission) and the spirit in which we do youth ministry (values) as follows:

Mission – St. James's Youth Ministry loves and supports our youth through joyful Christian community, so that they may explore their relationship with Christ, find their identity in God's love for them, and serve God as Doers of the Word.

Values – Community, Love, Acceptance, Faithfulness, & Fun

Youth Summer Mission Trips

Russell Lawson and I are taking 12 high school students to Montana July 11-18, to work with the people at Blackfeet Nation Indian Reservation. Bob Siegfried, Kent Duffey, Caroline Noble, DeWitt Casler, and Sarah Hubbard are taking 16 middle schoolers to the Eastern Shore of Virginia July 10-12, for a Mini-Mission trip serving with Harvest of Hope gleaning crops. Join us at the 10:00 a.m. service on June 28 for a commissioning,

Summer Volunteer Opportunities for Youth

Vacation Bible School can use children and youth (rising 4th - graduated seniors) as Shepherds. June 22–26

St. James's Children's Center needs high school and college-age volunteers for the Summer of Wonder Exploring Nature Program. June 17–August 19.

Clare's Kids Camp, a weekday camp for children of Peter Paul Development Center that is held at Roslyn, needs youth volunteers to lead crafts, sports, music, stories and other fun

A Graduation Blessing

(Source: Prayers from the Heart)

God of wisdom, bless these graduates whose hearts you have fashioned for beauty and grace. Bless those who love them and those who have guided them to this holy time and place. Call them to discovery, to seek their truest self, to fall in love with wisdom and claim her as their wealth. Send them forth in knowledge, your teachings be their guide. Watch over them, protect them, and walk softly by their side. Amen.

*Congratulations to
all our graduating seniors!*

activities. August 10-14

Visit <http://bit.ly/SJECYouth> for more details.

Love ya! Mean it!

Mary Beth

Were You There?



(L to R) PYM 5th-6th Grade Weekend at Shrine Mont, Young Adults Open House Social, Young Adults Day of Service at Anna Julia Cooper School, Youth Ministry Ski Trip at Bryce Ski Resort.



Becky Page
Director of Children's Ministries

Children Get Communion

"Let the little children come to me"

Matthew 19:14

We are blessed to have such a large and energetic group of children at St. James's. Their enthusiasm as they skip down the aisle to participate in the celebration the Eucharist, often with a little brother or sister in tow, brings a smile to my face. The following article from the blog "Be The Change" (<http://www.jasonvalendy.net/>) reminded me our youngest St. Jamesers. I hope you will enjoy it and that it might inspire you to embrace the celebration of the Eucharist with the wholeheartedness of a child.

10 weird things kids do at communion I wish more adults would do

By Jason Valendy

Over the past several years I have had the joy of administering a sacrament in the Church called the Eucharist or Holy Communion.

Maybe it is because of the fancy word Eucharist or the purity invoked when we call something "holy" but adults, for the most part, are funny when it comes to teaching kids "how to take communion." Mainly there is a strong reverence that is attempted to be transmitted from the adult to the child. But as children are not that keen on reverence and can "say the darndest things." Communion with kids is something to behold. Mainly because the theology a child has at communion is more profound than most adult's understanding of communion.

Here is some cool stuff kids teach me about communion based on things that have happened to me:

1. Run down the aisle. It is okay to run down the aisle for communion. In fact shouldn't we all be running to feast with Christ? Next time, don't walk to communion – run.
2. Take your stuffed animal to communion with you.... Kids understand that everyone is welcomed to the table. Human and teddy bear alike.
3. Drink every drop. It is critical that every drop of grape juice and morsel of bread is consumed at communion. Who cares if people are waiting behind you to move back to their pews, you do not leave that table until you have been able to take ever last moment you can with Christ.
4. Ask for a "big piece". Why settle for just a little bit of Christ? Don't we all want a "big piece" of Christ?
5. Dunk the whole piece into the cup. If you get to dip the bread into the juice, soak that bread and be sure to not worry about drips or stains (see points 3 and 4 for justification).
6. Seek out the leftovers. The bread of Life is too good to discard in the trash or fed to the birds. That is why we eat all the bread after worship.
7. Being shy is okay. Kids understand

that it is an honor to be at the table of God and they do not demand a place, but know that it is a treat to be there. Being shy to kids is like being humble to adults. Humility at the table of God? Great idea.

8. Laugh. Partaking in the banquet of God is a joyful event! Smile, laugh and if you need to, put a rubber crocodile on your head and make the pastor laugh with you.
9. Express thanks. One thumbs up at the meal is something, but two thumbs up is great.
10. Save some for later. Putting bread into your pocket seems like a reasonable way to take Christ into the world.

Blessings,

Becky

All Ages Spring into Mis



(above and below) Parish youth led both services on Youth Sunday, accompanied by the Youth Choir.



(clockwise from left) Mardi Gras for Missions co-chairs Sara Cann and Jennifer Sisk, the Men's Cooking Team and auction leaders Suzanne Hall and Mark Shuford with Carmen Germino.



(below) Over 100 parishioners hiked Stations of the Cross on Belle Isle on Holy Saturday.



(above) Fifth and sixth graders manned the cooking line for Palm Sunday Pancake breakfast.

(below left to right) CARITAS hosted mothers and children during February and parish families prepared and served their meals.



John Winn and his group Jazz Eucharist featuring... mire, making this the



sion, Ministry and Music



Leaders in Sunday school attendance were recognized in April.

(above left to right) Mary Beth and Chris Abplanalp spoke with Bishop Ogé Beauvoir of the Diocese of Northern Haiti on the mission trip to Cap-Haitien, where our team helped begin the building of a diocesan center.

(below) Lenten Sunday school classes built scenes of the Last Supper with Legos.



The Youth Choir thrilled parishioners with an a capella blessing conducted by Grace Jennings at the Youth Choir recognition service.



Snow at Shrine Mont was the perfect complement to the Youth Ski Trip.

Group played another electrifying service featuring the music of Dr. Mark Whitcomb at the twelfth service they have led.

We were privileged to host Magnificat, an international vocal ensemble lead by Philip Cave, as a part of our Diocese's Episcopal Arts Series.





Nancy Warman,
Director of Servant Ministry

Serving...It's for "Doers"

...as Mentors in goodChoice

"The goodChoice ministry is really powerful because it involves such a personal connection," says St. James's parishioner and goodChoice Lay Leader Katie Morris. "It requires trust and quite a leap of faith for participants to open up about their often dire financial situations. Once they've done that, there is an opportunity for a profound positive change. I feel privileged to be a part of this transformative process in participants' lives."

goodChoice is a community partnership between St. James's, Goodwill Industries and Virginia Credit Union (VACU) which promotes financial education to help individuals identify and break the cycle of debt, thus allowing them to become more financially stable. What started as a pilot program in 2010 is still going strong today and has evolved into a component part of Goodwill's Financial Stability and Family Strengthening program.

Participants first complete financial classes by VACU and then are partnered with a St. James's mentor for two to three coaching sessions. In these coaching sessions, the discussion is of financial goals, budgeting and creating an action plan. Upon completion of the program, a one-time incentive grant is awarded to each participant. The grant is intended to encourage participants to develop saving skills.

Over the past five years the mentors provided by St. James's along the way have been of the utmost importance to the program's success. As with so many

ministries, it is the personal connection and one-on-one attention that helps clients stick with the program and enjoy a positive outcome from the experience.

We currently have a waiting list of clients seeking mentors, so we are in need of more St. James's Doers who are willing to serve in this important ministry. Mentoring does not require professional financial experience or credentials; just a listening ear and a willingness to share some common-sense financial know-how go a long way. Mentors coordinate with clients on a case-by-case basis to set up coaching sessions, so there is a great deal of flexibility with scheduling. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Katie Morris at 804-615-2161 or morriskatier@gmail.com.

...Low-income Families in ACTS

Calling forth children, parents, grandparents, and all church friends to come to a "packaging party" in Valentine Hall on Sunday, June 28, immediately following the worship service!

For three Sundays in June, the ACTS House will be located on the Michaux House front porch to collect personal hygiene/toiletry and household items. On Sunday June 28, we need "all hands on deck" to package these gift items in appropriate bags for distribution to those individuals and families served by ACTS. One of St. James's signature ministries, ACTS prevents people from becoming homeless by providing emergency financial assistance and case

management so that those in homes can remain stably housed. Our gifts, which are received with much gratitude, help low-income families stretch their dollars and bring with them our love and care.

Let's do ministry together! Make it a family affair or come on your own to enjoy this festive event, including light snacks, fun with church friends, and an opportunity to serve others. (Should only take about 30 minutes with everyone helping!)

...Children in St. James's Children's Center

If you love children, the Children's Center needs you! Volunteers serve in many capacities and ministry of presence is most important – reading to a child, playing a game together, having conversation, playing on the playground, walking together on a field trip, or just sitting next to a child.

Celebrating its 30th year in 2016, and one of our signature ministries, the center is an early childhood education program that serves economically at-risk and special needs children ages 2 to 10 years old.

Can you be a loving presence in the life of a child this summer? If so please contact Winnie Perilla Canup at 358-9788 ext. 320/wpcanup@doers.org

Nancy Warman

Summer Jazz Mass Begins June 14



On June 14, we will return to a worship schedule that includes evening Jazz Mass in the Michaux House.

Every Sunday at 5:30 p.m. through August 30, our clergy will lead Richmond's finest jazz players, along with cantors from our choir and congregants, through a specially designed liturgy that is open to the improvisation that is the heart of jazz music.

Readings may be from Scripture, thoughtful theologians, poetry, novels, really anything that reaches for the sacred and calls for our response. We will gather around a table set with the kinds of food our Lord and his disciples might have brought for an evening meal. Sharing bread and wine and fellowship, we will invite the presence of the Holy Spirit in our Eucharistic feast.

This is a service that is grounded in our ancient liturgical traditions and yet derives its energy from jazz. It is just the way you would want to conclude your Sunday and a perfect place to invite your friends and family to join in. Great music, great liturgy, great spirit and great goodness abound. Please come often.

WomanKind

Who Cares? Cultivating Compassion for the Saint, the Sinner, and the Self February 26-27, 2016

Calling All Sinners & Saints – Save the Date for WomanKind 2016

For more than a decade now, St. James's has hosted WomanKind – a unique and powerful event that offers attendees an opportunity for introspection in the companionship of other women who wish to explore the mysteries of our faith. WomanKind doesn't preach – it invites participants to search their souls for a deeper understanding and peace with themselves and our world. It is a rare opportunity to explore within the context of our faith community how we might better strengthen our spirit and each other.

On Feb. 26 and 27, 2016, WomanKind will explore the theme of "Who Cares? Cultivating Compassion for the Saint, the Sinner, and the Self." Our keynote speaker, Nadia Bolz-Weber, promises to bring her passionate, irreverent, humorous and insightful perspective to a beautifully honest address about what it



means to be a non-conformist Christian. Nadia is the founding pastor of House for All Sinners and Saints in Denver, Colorado and the author of the New York Times best selling theological memoir, Pastrix: the Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint.



Becca Stevens – one of the premier preachers and speakers in the United States – will lead the worship service. Becca, most recently featured in the PBS documentary "A Path Appears," is an author, Episcopal priest, and founder of Thistle Farms-Magdalene, a community of women who have survived prostitution, trafficking and addiction. Workshops will feature Nicole Unice (from HOPE Church), Gena Adams-Riley, meditation teacher, and others.

Mark your calendars now for this not-to-be-missed event! Connect with us for current updates on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/woman-kind.richmond>.



Reflections and New Beginnings

by Debbie Lickey

Executive Director, St. James's Children's Center



We are in full bloom at the Children's Center! It is hard to believe that, once again, a school year is coming to a close. As I near my second year as the Director at St. James's Children's Center, I am so very grateful to our teachers, the administrative staff, our many volunteers and the Board for



Caiden, a member of our three-year-old class and Board member Nancy Jordan peek inside an Easter egg.

their diligence in helping to create a vision and path for our center. A look at our current state:

- **VSQI (Virginia Star Quality Initiative) has named the curriculum we have implemented, 'The Creative Curriculum', as one of the top three curriculums suggested for the state,** citing it as:

- ❖ Aligning with the Virginia Foundation Blocks for four year olds and pre-K readiness
- ❖ Evidence based and developmentally appropriate; and
- ❖ Created to address individual children's progress through the developmental stages.

- **Each classroom has at least one teacher with an Early Childhood certification, or an Associate's**

Degree in Early Childhood, with additional teachers in the process of furthering their education in the field. This is an important feature for our school and rare in most early childhood settings. This knowledge of development provides teachers with skills to approach each child at his/her developmental level and the tools to take him/her to the next level!

- **We participated in the State sponsored health project NEMOUR, created to provide information to staff and children and raise awareness of healthy habits.**

- **Several family events were offered (Open House, Harvest Fest, Friendship Luncheon, Valentine Literacy event) and we plan to offer additional opportunities to involve parents, including two Parent Forums.**

- **We implemented a screening process for each child's developmental level.**

- **We now have a lending library in place for families.** (Thank You Miss Patsy!)

Most importantly, I have had the honor of watching children and teachers walk their own paths of new ideas, collaborations and new skills. Walking into the pre-K room I see children's 'driving licenses' (a skillful way to teach children to learn to write their names and addresses) along with plans

to build a train! The four year old class has a gallery of self-portraits. Three year olds have each created their own vision of a garden in paint. And two year olds' unique personalities have been captured in a lovely display outside of their room. I am delighted to witness how each teacher has found a way to celebrate each child in some way that represent who he/she is at this point in life.

The teachers, families, and staff of St. James's Children's Center are very cognizant of how much we are supported by St. James's. We would love to welcome the congregation members to volunteer in any form that speaks to you. We love just having people come to play in the block area, paint with a student, or walk to the park. One more person to talk with the children makes more difference than you can know!

Always in Partnership,

Debbie



Tristan (left) and Treniya were eager to tell the story of this drawing.

PLAN *continued from cover*

Maloy said the work done by the forum, vestry, interior and exterior influentials will be distilled and summarized by the committee and will be complemented by a subsequent congregational survey.

The committee wants “to be sure that folks who may be only marginally related to the congregation or work be included in the conversations about the future – newcomers, one-time visitors, even departing parishioners,” Maloy said.

“Over the summer, we will begin to do some writing on a preliminary strategic plan document for vestry review and eventually presentation to the parish,” explains Maloy.

Current Roll of St. James's Legacy Society

Anonymous: 15 donors
 Todd Anderson
 Anne Arritt*
 Tom Baker
 Hunter Barksdale*
 Ferd Baruch
 Ruth Randolph Walker Beazley*
 Wyatt & Mason Beazley
 Chris & Betsy Bredrup
 Virginia Brent*
 Brink & Stacy Brinkley
 Jody Brinkley*
 Rebecca Brockenbrough*
 Jane Brooke
 Frances Caldwell
 Ann Taylor Campbell
 Carter Chinnis*
 Peggy Christian
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 Bill Clarke*
 Kitten Clarke
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 Mary Laurie Cooke*
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 Cary Doyle
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 Ellen Gilchrist*
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 Bill Gregory
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 Bill Hall
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 Alex Hamilton
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 Mary Hamilton*
 Jan Harris
 Jane Harrison
 Mary Harrison
 Betty Hartigan*
 David Johnson &
 Mimi Herington
 Helen Kemp
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 John & Rhoda Mahoney
 Kyle Martin
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 Amanda Morton
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 Alexander Neal*
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 Cousie Roberts*
 Sue Robertson
 Newnie Rogers
 Sandra Rose
 Calvin Satterfield*
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 Anne Sinnott
 Alex Slaughter
 Betty Stuart
 George Summers*
 Evelyn Sutton
 Helen Tanner
 Maggi Tinsley
 Betse Trice
 Ranny Trice*
 Virginia Trice*
 Wilson Trice
 Rose Tucker
 Jim & Bobbie Ukrop
 Chip Valentine*
 Massie Valentine, Jr.
 Massie & Virginia Valentine
 Henry & Peggy Valentine
 Hudnall & Betty Byrne Ware
 Harry Warner
 Sharon Wayne
 Carolyn Welton*
 Wiley Wheat*
 Charlie & Norvell Whitaker
 Armistead Williams
 Otto & Vann Williams
 Jeffrey & Tamra Wilt
 Brent Winn
 Dorothy Young

* Deceased

Sacred Spaces

by Harry Moore



Narthex

The entry way to the church is called the narthex, a word that comes from the Greek for “small case.” Originally, it was the enclosed vestibule or porch to a basilica, where penitents and catechumens stood during a service.

St. James’s narthex is where first impressions of our church are made. It’s a place for a warm welcome for all who enter. An usher will always greet you with a handshake and copy of the Sunday Chimes that includes the order of service and the many opportunities for learning and fellowship offered each week.

When you are next at St. James’s, take a few minutes to look around the narthex. It holds many of the historical treasures of our church. You will discover tributes to our fallen soldiers and servants of many ministries, all faithful “Doers of the Word.” Many of these memorials date to the early 1800’s during the very formation of St. James’s.

As you enter the church, always remember that it is a sacred space of worship and greet one another joyfully, but quietly and with reverence. If you ever have questions about when to enter the nave once the service has begun, the ushers will be happy to assist you with the doors at the appropriate time.



FOUNDERS SUNDAY

On Sunday, June 7 we will hold our annual “birthday” event for St. James’s, Founders Sunday. Sponsored by the Planned Giving Committee and recognizing members of the Legacy Society, parishioners who have declared their intention to remember the church with a contribution in their estate planning, we will pray for our church and celebrate with a cake and reception.

This will be a chance for parishioners to say “happy birthday” to each other, enjoy the fellowship of a summer morning and review the membership of the Legacy Society (*please see page 13*).

The Legacy Society’s first member was Mrs. Elizabeth Whitlock, who bequeathed a sum of \$5000 to the church in 1930. Given without any restriction on its use, the vestry at that time wisely decided to invest this gift, thus creating St. James’s Endowment Fund. Today, the Society recognizes more than 150 parishioners, past and present, who have followed Elizabeth’s example by remembering our church in their estate plans. This year, the income from Elizabeth’s bequest alone will provide about \$3500 for current church programs. Since it was given, the income on the Whitlock endowment has provided over \$175,000 for St. James’s, making it truly the gift

that keeps on giving.

The practice of testamentary giving has changed greatly since the 1930’s and today there are many ways that we can benefit our family and our charitable interests through “planned” gifts. These include not only simple bequests, but various charitable trusts, gifts of paid-up life insurance, gifts of real property (like The Michaux House) and gifts of excess retirement assets. Of course, any estate remembrance or other planned gift should be discussed with trusted financial and legal advisers.

As we age, the matter of estate planning is vital to ensure that our treasured people and organizations are remembered and thrive. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we all followed Elizabeth Whitlock’s example by providing for St. James’s in our final act of faith and charity?

Thank you, Elizabeth Whitlock, and God bless.



The Interview

The Chimes asked Britt Van Duesen, co-chair of the Stewards of the Earth committee, about the recently begun effort to compost kitchen waste at the Michaux House through Natural Organic Process Enterprises (NOPE).

Chimes: Tell us about the composting effort and how the Stewards of the Earth Committee came to support this effort.

BVD: The Stewards of the Earth committee was created in the summer of 2014, and right from the start, we knew that we needed to “plant seeds” in the minds of the congregation, seeds that would help us to grow into a more “green-conscious” church. We decided to increase the visibility of our recycling program which was already in place, and then we were looking for other ways to reduce our waste output. Composting was a natural fit with our goals.

Chimes: Why composting? What is the ministry here?

BVD: Composting is such an easy and relatively inexpensive way to dramatically reduce our waste. Instead of sending plastic bags full of trash to landfills, where they will be sealed up and unable to decompose, we are sending our food waste, paper products and more to a composting plant where they will immediately begin a transition to rich compost. The Stewards of the Earth feel that our greatest calling right now as Christians is to save the precious resources that God has given us. By composting, we are removing a good portion of our waste from the landfills. We are also using our waste to create nutrient-rich earth which can be used to nurture the plants on our own church grounds or elsewhere.

Chimes: What happens to our waste once it is collected?

BVD: All of the food waste from meal preparation as well as any uneaten food from the plates at Wednesday night

suppers, along with soiled paper towels, napkins and even pizza boxes will be collected in compostable plastic bags which are then placed in the alley, in a large container kept behind a locked gate with a firm lid to keep pests out. Once a week, NOPE will remove this waste and haul it to an industrial-sized composting plant where it is turned into nutrient-rich compost.

Chimes: Who can participate in the composting collection at the church?

BVD: Everyone. Literally everyone. That is part of what makes this green project so exciting. Our entire church can “own” this project simply by showing up to Wednesday night suppers and at the end of dinner, scraping their uneaten food into the special containers. We can also participate by placing used paper towels in the special containers that will be in all restrooms. Those of us on cooking teams can take part by placing all waste from food preparation in the composting collection containers that will stay in the kitchen.

Chimes: Are there going to be special benefits of the project besides our stewardship of the kitchen waste?

BVD: In addition to the satisfaction of knowing that we have contributed to a better use of God’s gifts to us, we will



Britt Van Duesen with representatives of Natural Organic Process Enterprises kicking off the composting project.

also have the benefit of receiving back 40 pounds of compost for every 2000 pounds of waste that NOPE collects from us. We can use this compost in our Memorial Garden or designate it to be given to a local garden-oriented charity.

Chimes: How can parishioners be more actively engaged in the work of the Stewards of the Earth committee.

BVD: You can participate in this composting program when you are at church events, and you can also work to “green” your daily life by making small changes at home – recycling, switching out burnt-out incandescent lightbulbs for LED ones, or perhaps taking lunch in re-usable containers to work or school at least once a week. The members of the Stewards of the Earth committee feel strongly that every parishioner can be a “steward of the earth” whether you come to our meetings or not. Start right now by recycling this Quarterly Chimes when you are done with it! We all must invest in our earth’s future if we have any chance of it remaining the beautiful, healthy and nurturing place that God intended it to be for all of his children.



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