



# Spring Chimes



March - May 2019

Quarterly News from St. James's Episcopal Church

VOL.8, No.2

## Lenten Series Incorporates Episcopal Conversion, Confirmation and Civic Engagement

### What's inside...



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**L**ent is a season of examination and discipleship, repentance and renewal, and our new approach to this season stitches together study and reflection intended to deepen the spiritual bonds between ourselves and Christ, as we approach the cross together.

On Ash Wednesday, March 6, we will hold two services, noon and 7:00 p.m., in the sanctuary to begin the season. The Reverend Laura Incoe will be our preacher.

Saturday, March 9, the Reverend Dr. Mark Cooper will lead a Lenten Retreat that centers on Mindfulness Meditation, a subject in which he is our resident expert. Learn what mindfulness meditation is and its benefits to the whole self – mind, body and spirit. The cost to attend is \$25 (make your check payable to St. James's Church), which includes snacks and lunch. To register by March 1, contact Anita Lisk (alisk@doers.org, 355-1779, extension 313).

One new addition to Lent, the Adult Confirmation Class, will include five weeks of classes and other study and replaces Pilgrims Path, which was held twice a year. This includes, starting Sunday March 10, our main Sunday adult formation that all parishioners are encouraged to attend in Lent entitled "Episcopal Church 101" covering the basic tenets and convictions of our faith. People who sign up for this class, which runs until Holy Week, will

also meet on Wednesday nights after our Fellowship Dinner to discuss these topics, as well as participate in Bible study and *please turn to page 13*

### Lent and Easter

#### Worship

Wednesday, March 6	
noon	Ash Wednesday Eucharist
7:00 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Eucharist
Wednesdays, March 13-April 10	
5:30 p.m.	Chapel Eucharist
Palm Sunday, April 14	
7:45 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
8:30 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast
9:30 a.m.	Stuart Circle Parishes Procession
10:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist and Passion Gospel
5:30 p.m.	Jazz Mass
Monday-Wednesday, April 15-17	
5:30 p.m.	Chapel Eucharist
Maundy Thursday, April 18	
7:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist and Foot washing
Good Friday, April 19	
noon	Good Friday liturgy
7:00 p.m.	Good Friday liturgy
Easter Sunday, April 21	
7:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m.	Festival Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m.	Festival Holy Eucharist

#### Office Closed

April 22-23  
Reopening April 24

Find us online all the time:





## So much music!

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

### THE PAGEANT AND CHRISTMAS EVE

The Cherub Choir, Children's Choir and Youth Choir sang for Christmas Eve Services.



### CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS

After celebrating the birth of our Savior with music of Handel's *Messiah*, the congregation, led by the Parish Choir, sang "Silent Night" on the steps of the church.



### MLK EVENSONG, JANUARY 20

Our annual service celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was attended by 880 people – our largest ever. One of the high points was the reading of Dr. King's "I have a dream speech" by The Honorable Roger L. Gregory, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, as well as the superlative singing of the Norfolk State University Concert Choir.



### WEST GALLERY CHOIR AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL, FEBRUARY 3

The West Gallery Choir returned to the Washington National Cathedral to sing an a cappella prelude that included Shape-note hymns, Gregorian chant, and 20<sup>th</sup> century compositions by Will Todd, Patrick Hawes, Eriks Esenvalds, Bobby McFerrin and Sufjan Stevens.



### 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ORGAN RECITAL, FEBRUARY 22



Damin Spritzer is Associate Professor of Organ at The University of Oklahoma. The recital was part of the celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the installation of our C.B. Fisk pipe organ. Dr. Spritzer performed music by Tournemire, Bach, Rowley, Willan, Howells and Becker.



The Rev. Dr. John McCard,  
Rector

# From the Rector's Desk

## Lenten Invitation

**D**ear Friends,  
The approach of the Lenten season always makes me nervous. As I get older there is, of course, the reminder of my own mortality. *Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.* The resonance of these words in my soul has changed through the years, as I have mourned the loss of good friends and moments in my life that have passed far too quickly.

As a priest, though, I sometimes feel I come to my observance of Lent spiritually out of breath. Lent usually starts after annual parish meetings, vestry elections, and special programs designed to provide spiritual renewal. There also seems to be an endless supply of well-meaning church members asking me what I am going to give up for Lent. As a priest, I have always felt an enormous amount of pressure to come up with something really great to inspire people.

Let's be honest, most people see the forty-day season of Lent as the perfect time to put their house in order. They are going to pray three times a day, read the Bible from start to finish, and lose twenty pounds. As your rector, telling people I am giving up dessert does not seem to cut it. I need to find something more impressive – like bringing peace to the Middle East.

Of course, the whole trouble comes from Jesus' words about being perfect as your heavenly father is perfect. I use to have this inferiority complex about failing to live up to Lent until I read an interesting article about this word "per-

fect" in Christian Century by Kathleen Norris. She wrote:

*"The good news about the word 'perfect' as used in the New Testament is that it is not a scary word so much as a scary translation. The word that has been translated as 'perfect' does not mean to set forth an impossible goal, or the perfectionism that would have me strive for it at any cost. It is taken from a Greek word meaning to complete: entire, full-grown. To those who originally heard it, the word would convey 'mature' rather than what we mean today by perfect."*

Norris points out that in this sense, Jesus calls us to make room in our lives for growth. To seek a life of closeness with God that will result in our growing closer to being the type of spiritually mature person that does God's will out of joy and not out of the relentless pressure of perfectionism. In this sense, Lent should invite us to become the kind of "perfect" people that are mature enough to offer ourselves to others and to lose the self-focus so symptomatic of our society today.

Now I don't want to ruin your plans to lose twenty pounds, but as we approach Lent let me suggest that we put away our cultural notions of perfection. Instead, let's use the next forty days to see ourselves engaged in a struggle to grow, to mature, and to bring ourselves to the type of completion that honors the divine image that God has created. This might not be as flashy as giving

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

*Book of Common Prayer, page 265*

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

*Matthew 5:48 (NRSV)*

up dessert, but I feel it has much more potential for enriching our lives and the lives of those we serve as Doers of God's word.

Yours in Christ,

### For Pastoral Assistance Outside Office Hours

The Reverend Dr. John McCard  
404-408-8241  
jmccard@doers.org  
The Reverend Hilary Streever  
276-451-8809  
hstreever@doers.org  
The Reverend Dr. Mark Cooper  
703-980-0130  
markcooper1966@gmail.com  
The Reverend Dr. Bob Friend  
804-310-5713  
revbfriend@hotmail.com  
The Rev. Laura Inscoc  
804-564-6498  
linscoc@gmail.com



**The Reverend Hilary Streever** will return from maternity leave in March. Look for her column here in the next issue of The Chimes.

## Spring Pilgrimages, Faithful Fellowships

*Washington National Cathedral*



Thursday, May 16,  
9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Washington National Cathedral is not just a house of prayer for all people:

it is also the national cathedral for the Episcopal Church. People of all ages are invited to come with us to explore this holy and historic space with the Cathedral's Center for Prayer and Pilgrimage. After lunch nearby, we can attend Noon Eucharist, then spend the afternoon at the Cathedral for a contemplative and educational program led by their Center staff, concluding with Evensong at 5:30 p.m. Cost: \$85 non-refundable, includes bus ticket, pilgrimage ticket, boxed dinner. Register by April 7, 2019 at <https://goo.gl/forms/7iTRVQYah4bVZrpv1> (minimum of 30 participants, maximum of 38.) Questions: Dale Kalkofen ([dale-kalkofen@gmail.com](mailto:dale-kalkofen@gmail.com)).

*Rappahannock River Valley Churches*



Saturday, June 1 or 8  
(TBD), 7:45 a.m. to  
6:00 p.m.

Did you know that it was dangerous to be an Episcopalian during

and immediately following the Revolutionary War, due to the Church's ties with the British crown? Later, the church saw a boom in missionary activity. This pilgrimage visits three historic parishes planted between 1800-1869 by the Rev. John Peyton McGuire, "The Apostle of the Rappahannock." We'll learn about the history of the Church and its theology through these parishes and their architecture, and stop at the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge to learn more about the intimate connection between the Church and the land. Cost: \$65 non-refundable, includes bus ticket and boxed lunch. Register by April 20 at <https://goo.gl/forms/IKlIZvxMBtbfuH43> (minimum of 30, maximum 38). Questions: Mary Richie McGuire ([mrmcguire@me.com](mailto:mrmcguire@me.com)).

**Heartfelt Thanks** to all who participated in our winter season ministries, all of which provided an abundance of food, warmth, love, fun, and hope to so many individuals, children and parents:

Your gifts of food to FeedMore's food bank in the November food collection provided 1,354 lbs. of goods. Feed-More staff report, "You are helping us to better prepare children for learning, strengthen families, and enhance the quality of life for our elderly and disabled neighbors."

Christmas's Giving Tree ministry provided much joy this holiday season. Your beautifully wrapped gifts to 24 senior citizens included needed clothes and household items, and brought smiles of joy to many elderly friends of Peter Paul Development Center (PPDC).



*A truckful of wonders for our Giving Tree recipients at the Peter Paul Development Center.*

Your 120 gifts of toys, books and games, electronics, bikes, and clothing made 60 boys and girls and their parents very happy! Our gift delivery team of Katie and Whit Morris, Susan and Jonathan Sumrell, Dorothy and Eric Nelson, Pierce Rucker, and many children assistants provided many giggles and happy smiles for children of PPDC.

Your gifts of \$1,290 in financial assistance to our emergency outreach fund provided home stability, lights and water, and warmth so that families in our community could remain together in their homes.

Your nightly hospitality for CARITAS women has been amazing and greatly appreciated. You faithfully welcomed and embraced our guests, provided special treats, and secured our building each night at the close of the nightly gathering.

Many thanks to one and all for your generosity and love. Your compassion and support provided joy and hope. You "served the least of these" and made a joyful difference in many lives this winter season.



Nancy Warman,  
Director of Servant Ministry

## Some Simple Truths

**S**ome simple truths...

We the people of St. James's call ourselves Christians. Most of us are Baptized Christians. We are members and friends of St. James's. Many of us call ourselves Doers of the Word. Most of us bear witness to be followers of Christ Jesus.

*Some simple truths...*

Our world is without peace. Our country is in turmoil. Our metro Richmond community has countless people in need and countless people who feel anxious, lonely, and afraid.

*Some simple truths...*

We are called to bring light, joy, hope, peace and respite to others.

We, the people of St. James's can and do make a difference in the lives of others.

We, each and all, have a critical role in the life of our church and community.

Each of us, each day, can embrace others with God's love and hope.

The Lenten season is upon us and with it comes an opportunity to reflect upon your Christian life and journey. It is a time to consider your role as a follower of Jesus and as a doer of St. James's. I invite you to consider the following passages as part of your Lenten discipline and in discerning your call to serve.

Servant Ministry derives its meaning from the life and ministry of Jesus as "one who comes to serve," and one who calls forth his followers to do the same. It bears witness to our Baptismal covenant and is grounded in the Christian under-

standing of the Great Commandment to *"love the Lord your God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself."*

Matthew 22:36-40

*"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."*

Micah 6:8

*"When did we see you hungry and give you food? When did we see you thirsty, and give you a drink? When did we make you feel welcome or give you warm clothes? When did we see you sick and come to visit you? And I will say to them, 'Whenever you showed love to other people, even people who seemed unimportant, you showed it to me.'"*

(adapted from Matthew 25:34-40)

*"But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers"*

James 1:22

*Some Simple truths...*

Your role as a "doer of the word" is critically important to the vibrant life of our church, the well-being of our community people, and the peace of the world. How will you serve? What difference will you make?

Not Hearers Only

Start Doing

Love and Serve the Lord with just the click of the RED Button at the top of the church website ([www.doers.org](http://www.doers.org)).

Contact Nancy Warman, Director of Servant Ministry if you need assistance in discerning your ministry fit.

## Here's the plan!



CARITAS Shelter week will be March 23-30. Mark your calendar and watch for details soon!

*Nancy Warman*



*Mary Beth Abplanalp,  
Director of Youth and  
Young Adult Ministry*

## ... for Youth and Young Adults

### Flowering the Easter Cross

**A** longstanding Easter tradition in churches is the “flowering of the cross.” Parishioners bring and place colorful fresh flowers on a drab wooden cross on Easter morning. The flowering of the cross represents the transition from Good Friday to Easter, from meditation and mourning of Jesus’ death to joyful celebration of his resurrection. This practice transforms a barren cross, a reminder of Jesus’ death and sacrifice, into an Easter symbol. Covered with fresh, living flowers, the cross serves not only as an emblem of Jesus’ resurrection, but also of the continuing presence of Christ among us today.

While this may seem to some like an exercise in artistic decoration, and indeed results in something quite beautiful, I’ve come to appreciate some beautiful traditions and meanings associated with the flowering of the cross.

The sixth century hymn (#166) often sung on Good Friday celebrates this beauty with these words: “Faithful cross! Above all other, one and only noble tree! None in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be.”

The tree of life in the Garden of Eden has often been seen as a foreshadowing of the cross. Some legends even say that the wood of Christ’s cross came from the tree of life or from a tree that grew from its seeds.

There is another legend that says at Christ’s death the cross burst into blooming flowers. Art work from the

sixth century shows a flowering cross.

This year, instead of the wooden cross children have covered with mite boxes and flowers in years past, everyone will have the opportunity to participate in the flowering of the cross on Easter morning. Children still may bring their mite boxes, which will be placed in a basket in front of the flowered cross. At SYF youth group during Lent, our 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students will actually build our new “flowering cross” from raw wood and wire mesh as they learn about this and other Easter customs.

As you prepare for Easter worship on April 21, St. James’s invites you to bring with you to church fresh flowers and greenery, perhaps from your own garden. Our new wooden cross will be displayed on the portico where parishioners of all ages can place their flowers on their way into worship. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate in flowering the cross. We’ll have some extra flowers available in case needed.

Over the course of the morning, the cross will eventually be covered in beau-



tiful flowers in a brilliant array of color, light, and lovely fragrance. A symbol of death, darkness, and pain will be transformed into something beautiful, new, and alive in celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Together, we can transform the cross and help make this Easter a celebration of new life. What a beautiful sight that will be!

Love ya! Mean it!

*Mary Beth*



Becky Page  
Director of Children's Ministries

## ... for Children

### Who is my neighbor?

On January 20 during the Christian Formation hour nearly 100 parishioners gathered to listen to Richmond City Police Officer Carol Adams share ways we can help our homeless neighbors. The group then had the opportunity to join in a service project which created more than 250 "Love Your Neighbor Bags." The bags included food, a hand decorated note, a resources card, as well as sanitary and comfort items. Participants took bags home to share with those they encounter who are in need. Extra bags were placed in the narthex to share with folks who come to church on Sunday looking for help.

In February and March, all the Sunday School children had the opportunity to learn more about who their neighbors are through the *Godly Play* Good Samaritan story. This parable appears only in the Gospel of Luke as Jesus's response to a question about which is the greatest commandment.

Jesus answered, "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 10:27

After hearing the parable the children are asked to wonder "Who was the neighbor to the person who was hurt, broken, and in desperate need?" Often we can think of neighbors as those who live beside us in our neighborhoods. I believe Jesus is calling us through this



parable to expand our definition of who our neighbor is and who our neighbor could or should be. How can we love our neighbors?

Through the *Growing in Faith* Rotation model the elementary age children also had the opportunity to participate in a cooking workshop for the Good Samaritan lesson. Through that workshop they had an opportunity to experience what it is to be a good neighbor. They discussed helping neighbors and if they could be neighbors with someone they did not know. They then made cookies and were encouraged to deliver them to police precincts or fire stations – an idea we borrowed from Officer Carol Adams' January presentation – to let them know they are our neighbors and that we appreciate them.

I wonder who is your neighbor?  
I wonder who is a neighbor to you?  
I wonder what we can learn from our children about being good neighbors?

I wonder how we can be neighbors to those who are hurt, broken, and in desperate need?

I wonder how we can work to make the greatest commandment part of lives in big and small ways each and every day?

Live expectantly,

Becky

# Winter Fellowship, Fun



November's Young Adults' Coffee on the Playground had these special guests with their parents.



Confirmation Camp brought our ninth graders together for a weekend of prayer and fellowship at Camp Hanover.



The Advent Fair had participants of all ages preparing wreaths and other home decorations to be used with our prayer materials for celebrating the season leading to Christmas.



## Shutterbug Squad



*Calling all lens pros*

The Communications Office would like to invite photographers who are looking for a ministry to join the Shutterbug Squad. Your help is needed at church events and services, on trips and retreats, throughout the year. Contact Russell Lawson (804) 355-1779 or [rlawson@doers.org](mailto:rlawson@doers.org) to get on the list for assignments. And bless you for doing it!



The Christmas Pageant brought our children into traditional roles to tell the story of the birth of Jesus Christ through readings.

After the Dr. MLK Jr. Evensong, Kyle Martin, youth and leaders worked during the SYF Lock-in to rehabilitate the Catacombs for our 12-step groups.



# n, Service and Stories



*Advent's Alternative Gift Market brought ministries together to give parishioners a way to apply their faith in Christmas giving.*

*Baked good, soups and special recipes were the things that made parishioners happy at November's Taste of St. James's, benefitting our food ministries.*



*Children and youth of the miraculous and music.*



*In January, our second intergenerational outreach project worked with the Richmond Police's H.O.P.E. program to assemble a supply of helpful items that can be used to greet and attend to the needs of our community's homeless citizens. (See Becky Page's article on page 7.)*



*Debbie Lickey*  
*Executive Director*



## New Beginnings



I am a gardener and have been as far back as I can remember. It is one of those invaluable treasures my dad gave to me that has been a gift for my entire life. One of the things that my dad taught me about gardening is that things change. You can plant something that works in your yard for years and then something changes, perhaps the canopy of the trees increases and that sun loving plant now needs to be replanted in a different place. And he pointed out that now there is an opportunity for a new type of plant to flourish that holds just as much beauty. But he also taught me that there are some constants that are needed for every kind of garden – the work that creates the beauty and the pruning, watering, and feeding are essential both for new growth and to maintain the garden that has been

established.

I have always considered my career working with young children as a kind of gardening of the soul. You take what that child brings and nourish them according to their needs, strengths and joy. The last six years of leading the Children's Center in its mission have been a dream come true for me as an Early Childhood professional. With the support of this church and the Board of the Children's Center, we have done the work and experienced growth and beauty in the beautiful faces of the children we serve.

As most of you know, I will be retiring from a full time career in June. And although this is one of the hardest things I've experienced in my life, I go back to my dad's wonderful advice: sometimes you have to change things up in the garden, it's just part of life. I also know as I leave this position that the constants that make the Center a magical place will remain. The Church family, the Board, the volunteers, and most especially, the teachers and staff are

constants that will continue to nurture this 'garden' of young lives. And like my lifelong gift of gardening from my father, the work that is done here will continue to make its mark on the children and families for their lifetimes.

As the landscape changes, I look forward to watching the continued growth of this Center as new ideas are planted, new passions encouraged and the constant love that is the basis of this place continues to grow and bloom.

*Debbie*



# With Our Gratitude

A regular feature of the quarterly Chimes where we thank lay leaders and parishioners who have been exemplary Doers recently.

**M**any dedicated lay volunteers take part in our music ministry, both to shepherd and assist our choiristers and to prepare delicious refreshments in connection with our music recitals, concerts and special services. Let's thank them when we see them in church.

Cherub Choir Mother: Lian Bily

Children's Choir Mothers: Louise Bald and Joy Jones

Youth Choir Mothers: Elizabeth Harvard and Debra Krey

Adult Choir Mother: Mary Alice Dirks

Music Hospitality Committee:

Alice Campbell, Chair

Margaret Bloor

Dale Kalkofen

Mary Lou Lee

Molly Priddy

Carol Searce

Laura Shuford

Beth Skidmore

Sharon Wayne

## 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 catechumans 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.

## Earthly Matters

by Monica Lewis

Stewards of the Earth Committee

### Three Scoops of Green Goodness

What makes an ice cream sundae so much fun to eat? Is it the ice cream or the toppings or the sauce? Or all of it combined? Sharon Wayne and I mused over this concept of so much goodness as we realized how many benefits come from opting for natural, non-polluting choices. Sharon has attended St. James's for over 20 years and she has lived in Church Hill as long. This past fall she put 30 solar panels on the roof of her historic home. The 3-by-5 foot panels are already bringing about savings on her monthly electric bill and she received a tax reduction as well. She sought out ways to reduce her carbon footprint with updates to her home because she saw how going green made sense for her budget, her health, and the environment with which God has blessed us: "It is a dual – a triple – goal for me. It has greatly affected my intentional wellness and it has connected me with my beloved mother earth." All while saving her money. How did Sharon find her way to this sundae of abundance and goodness and peace of mind? She took responsibility for learning what was available and she was willing to do the reading, listening, and "some digging" required to make environmentally conscious choices. From big solar panels to small changes such as natural cleaning products, she is committed to making good choices.

The benefits keep multiplying as she envisions the Good that could come about from more and more people, schools and churches being able to generate their own power and achieve energy independence.

## Mission Teams Forming for Summer

The summer mission season is a busy one and offers a rich array of experiences and opportunities to serve our community and the wider world. First time missionaries may also benefit from the **Passport to Missions** program that will partially fund the cost for a new missionary. Ask Andy Smith (smitha@stcva.org) about applying.

*Honduras at Our Little Roses Home for Girls in San Pedro Sula - July 22-29, 2019*



An intergenerational trip to Our Little Roses Home for Girls, a refuge for girls aged 9 months to 20 years, whose families cannot care for them. We plan and lead a “summer camp” for the girls, which can include games, sports, arts and crafts, Bible school, cooking, science experiments, field trips to pools, the beach, the movies, etc. The Honduras mission is open to adults of all ages or youth (current 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders) who are accompanied by a parent or responsible adult. This is a great opportunity for a parent/teen experience! The projected cost for the trip per person is \$1,400. The deadline to sign up and send your deposit is March 15. For details and sign up, please contact trip leaders David Wade (davidpwade@gmail.com), Stacey Branch (branch.stacey@gmail.com) or Robin Jager (robinjager5@gmail.com).

*Richmond Mission – June 17-21, 2019*

Working with project:HOMES among our neighbors in areas of need, light construction, painting, cleanup and landscaping are typical tasks. Project:HOMES is a community agency that embraces the needs of low-income Richmond city senior residents. Volunteers will assist with yard cleaning and house repair/renovation. No experience is needed! Each team will have a trained/experienced leader. What is needed is a bright smile, a joyful heart, and a willingness to serve with the understanding that meeting new friends and making a difference is the week’s accomplished outcome! Participants will

work each day, generally from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m, go home for shower and rest, and then return to a designated place for dinner, fellowship, and conversation regarding the day’s mission. The fee, which will help cover expenses for food and supplies, is \$100 each. Please make check payable to St. James’s, marked “Richmond Outreach/Mission” and send to Nancy Warman. To register, please contact team leaders Andy Smith (smitha@stcva.org) or Nancy (nwarman@doers.org).

*Youth Middle School Mini-Mission – July 12-14, 2019*

We will again partner with the organization Harvest of Hope to learn about the issue of hunger and how we are called to assist our neighbors in need in Exmore, Virginia, on our Eastern Shore. We will work in the fields together to harvest seasonal vegetables to donate to local food banks. What we harvest will likely be on the dinner table within 24 hours. We will work hard and play hard...before we head home we will enjoy some recreation time together at the beach! Complete the 2019 Summer Youth Missions Application (found online) and enclose a \$50 deposit check payable to St. James’s Episcopal Church with the memo “Youth Mission.” Scholarships are available by contacting John McCard. Space is limited and will be granted in the order applications are received. Hand-deliver or mail registration material to Mary Beth Abplanalp at St. James’s Episcopal Church, 1205 W. Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23220. Questions? Contact Mary Beth at mbabplanalp@doers.org or 804-355-1779 ext. 334.

*Youth High School Mission to Appalachia – July 14-21, 2019*

We will return to Hurley Community Development Center in Hurley, Virginia, in the southwest Virginia coal fields of Appalachia. We will help local residents with home repairs, cleaning projects, painting, yard work, farming, etc. Our days are full of projects and time interacting with local residents, and during the evenings we enjoy free time to relax, hang out, worship, and explore the local area. We stay in bunkhouses at the Center and eat in their dining hall. At the end of the week we spend a day or two enjoying fun recreation in the Shenandoah Valley. Complete the 2019 Summer Youth Missions Application and enclose a \$50 deposit check payable to St. James’s Episcopal Church with the memo “High School Mission.” Scholarships are available. Space is limited and will be granted in the order applications are received. Hand-deliver or mail registration material as above for the mini-mission. Questions? Contact Mary Beth.

*Lent, continued from cover*

prayer. Contact Anita Lisk, Parish Coordinator, by March 6 to enroll in this series that prepares new members for confirmation, reception or reaffirmation in the Episcopal faith.

Wednesdays, we will hold our 5:30 p.m. chapel service as usual, and then the Fellowship Dinner and Study. For parishioners not in the confirmation track, our “Faith-based Civic Engagement” series will focus on “living out our faith” as members of our community.

Reverend Hilary Streever notes, “Many Christians wonder how can I live out my faith in the community or the public square and certainly the answer is unique to each Christian.”

“During Lent, we will hear from five agencies how they have heard the Good News and translated it into action in our community by caring for our neighbors,” she explains.

Additional special services and events

in Lent will add a rich context to these discussions of faith and action. On March 24 at 3:30 p.m., we will convene our second 2019 Interfaith Dialogue with our neighbors at Beth Ahabah in their sanctuary, where we will discuss the content of *Yizkor Requiem* that will be sung by the Richmond Choral Society in that space at 4:00 p.m. *Yizkor Requiem* was composed by Thomas Beveridge as a liturgical and musical conversation between Judaism and Christianity. This free concert will bring a chorus and orchestra into the historic sanctuary at Congregation Beth Ahabah.

Throughout the season, clergy and Education for Ministry students will reflect on the Gospel of Luke in our God in Your Inbox email series. If you have not yet signed up for this forty days of scripture and spiritual contemplation, simply visit the [doers.org](http://doers.org) website and click the “Email” link at the bottom right of the home page.

## Lenten Series for Conversion, Confirmation and Community

### ***Lenten Retreat: Mindfulness Meditation***

March 9, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Join the Rev. Dr. Mark Cooper for a day of quiet mindfulness meditation.

### ***Sundays in Lent (Valentine Hall, 10:15 a.m.)***

March 10: “Introduction to the Anglican Tradition”

with the Rev. Dr. John McCard

March 17: “God Said What? Episcopalians and the Holy Word”

with the Rev. Dr. Mark Cooper

March 24: “Beyond Henry VIII and his Wives: A Brief History of the Episcopal Church”

with the Rev. Dr. Bob Friend

March 31: “Outward & Visible Signs of Inward & Spiritual Grace: Sacraments”

with the Rev. Hilary Streever

April 7: “Worship, Prayer, the BCP and Spiritual Leaders in the Anglican Tradition”

with the Rev. Dr. John McCard

### ***Wednesdays in Lent (Valentine Hall, 6:45 p.m.)***

March 13: “The History of Poverty in Richmond”

with Dr. John Moeser

March 20: “Repairers of the Breach: The Bus Rapid Transit Project”

with The Rev. Nelson Reveley and Ross Catrow

March 27: “Resettling Refugees”

with John Baumann, Director, Virginia Refugee and Immigration Program

April 3: “Climate Change and Care for the Environment”

with The Rev. Weston Matthews, Rector of Grace Episcopal Church, the Plains

April 10: “Health Care for All”

with Kim Bobo, Executive Director of the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

Adult Confirmation Class meets each Wednesday for study and prayer at 6:45 p.m.

# Stewardship



*Suzanne Hall  
Director of Stewardship and  
Development*

## A Great Deal for You and for St. James's

by Berno Hamilton

I'd like to tell you about a way to be generous to St. James's and to yourself. With a Charitable Gift Annuity you can make a nice gift to our church and secure a handsome fixed income for life (for you and/or a spouse or another beneficiary). You also will reap a number of tax benefits.

Laura and I set up Gift Annuity for St. James's a few years ago. I had a low basis stock that paid no dividend and whose prospects didn't look great, despite having had a significant run-up after many years of "hibernation." I contributed the stock (you also may contribute cash) to a Charitable Gift Annuity via a simple contract with the St. James's Endowment Fund. We locked in a fixed rate of return, far higher than the return on many investments, for our lifetimes. Our capital gains liability was greatly reduced, and what we did owe is spread out over 14 years. We also were entitled to an immediate income tax charitable deduction for a large portion of the gift value. Each quarter we receive an income payment that is GUARANTEED by the St. James's Endowment Fund. After both Laura and I die, the principal in the annuity will go to the Endowment Fund to support the church.

Laura and I have been really pleased with our Gift Annuity, and the icing on the cake is that it will benefit St. James's for future generations. If you would like to learn more, please contact Suzanne Hall in the Stewardship Office. She can provide you with a no-obligation illustration of the specific benefits a Gift Annuity would have for you. A Gift Annuity minimum is \$25,000. It is indeed a generous deal for you and for St. James's!



*Laura, Pepper and Berno Hamilton*

### Planned Giving Secures the Future of St. James's

The St. James's Whitlock Legacy Society honors stewards who make financial provisions for the future of this parish. The health and well-being of St. James's is built upon the generations of saints in our community who have left a legacy intended for the long-term benefit of the church. You can become a member of the Whitlock Legacy Society by naming the St. James's Endowment Fund, Inc. in your will or planned gift. Once you make known your intention to St. James's, you will become a member of the Society, and your name will be added to the list of the Whitlock Legacy Society members unless you prefer to remain anonymous. You'll also be invited to the annual spring party in celebration of our church's many who know that the health of our church is built on the generosity of many.

If you have not notified us of your plans, we would greatly appreciate your letting us know. If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Suzanne Hall, Director of Stewardship and Development, at 355-1779, extension 335.

# The Interview

**F**or this edition of The Interview, we are including the biographies of our new vestry members, elected at the February 24 Parish Annual Meeting. We thank them for their willingness to serve on our leadership group.

## **Lile Benaicha**

Lile is a lifelong member of St. James's, baptized, confirmed and married here. She and her husband, Rob, have two children – Carson (7) and Cabell (6). Lile has been a Sunday School teacher for four years and has served on the committee for Taste of St. James's. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Northstar Academy, the Virginia Leadership Board of the Arthritis Foundation and the Community Advisory Board of the Junior League of Richmond. She graduated from the University of Virginia and Washington & Lee School of Law. She's currently an attorney with the real estate group of Troutman Sanders.



## **Andy Bennett**

Andy and her husband, Dick, have been members of St. James's for 17 years, returning to the church attended by Andy's mother and grandmother. Her sister, Dr. Mary Harrison, is also a member of St. James's. The Bennetts have two grown children, Molly and Kent, and five grandchildren, one baptized at St. James's. Andy has co-hosted the Feast twice. She has been co-chairing the "Doers Dining" initiative and is currently serving on the Stewardship Committee. She and Andy graduated from VCU with a BS in Psychology and was the Relocation Director for The Steele Group SIR Realty Company for 12 years. She is the acting Secretary/Treasurer for Westhampton Citizens Association.



## **Susan Christian Coogan**

Susan and her family joined St. James's in 1990. Susan has served as a lay leader in children's ministries, including leading Vacation Bible School and the Christmas Pageant. She was Mark and Virginia Whitmire's first "choir mother." She and her father, Punky Christian, chaired the Every Member Canvas and she served on what is now the Outreach Committee. Susan is currently a member of the Annual Giving Committee. Prior to moving to Richmond in 1990, Susan enjoyed a 15-year career in finance. Since moving, she has worked in philanthropy as both a professional and volunteer for non-profits. All three of Susan's grown children, Hank, Meg and Emma, were baptized and confirmed at St. James's. Susan is a graduate of St. Catherine's School, Hollins University and the UVA Darden School of Business.



## **Campbell Delk**

After growing up in Smithfield, Campbell graduated from the University of Virginia and the Medical College of Virginia School of Dentistry, then established his own dental practice in the West End. He began attending St. James's when he moved to Richmond after college in 2000. A life-long Episcopalian, Campbell instantly found a home and spiritual connection at St. James's. He and his wife, Jessica, participated in the Pilgrim's Path class and were married here in 2007. All three of their daughters, Burnley, Cooper, and Tilly, have been baptized here. Campbell and Jessica served as table hosts at The Feast often. He served on the Rector Search Committee that called John McCard and is currently a lector.



## **Leigh Hulcher**

Encouraged by four long-time members of St. James's, Leigh, with her daughter Kate Gareau and Kate's three children, came to St. James's in 2013, and immediately joined the Shrine Mont Parish retreat. They then created and co-chaired the Shrine Mont Retreat committee. Leigh has also co-chaired the Bakeshop for the Taste and co-taught Dave Ramsey's financial program. She volunteered with WomanKind 2014 and co-chaired logistics for WomanKind 2018. A member of the advance team to Thistle Farms in 2017, the next year she co-chaired that mission trip to Nashville. She is a member of St. James's Whitlock Legacy Society, on a Wednesday Dinner Team and attends the Brown Bag Book Club. Leigh has been with Napier ERA since 1994 and in 2017 was named Realtor of the Year by the Richmond Association of Realtors.



## **Rob Reed**

Rob and Katie Reed have been members of St. James's for seven years, since moving from Washington, D.C. Their daughter, Ruby (6), and son, Wells (4), were both baptized at St. James's. Rob has regularly attended the Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study and currently serves as a lector. He is an avid distance runner and has volunteered with CARITAS's The Healing Place to help those in recovery train for the Monument Avenue 10K. The Reeds annually attend the parish retreat at Shrine Mont, where for six summers Rob was a counselor at Explorer's Camp and St. George's Camp. Rob serves as Vice President for the National Alliance for Mental Illness Virginia Board and is on the Board of Governors for the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. He graduated from Boston College and Washington & Lee University School of Law, and practices trial law at Allen, Allen, Allen & Allen.





## St. James's Episcopal Church

1205 West Franklin Street

Richmond, Virginia 23220

*Address Correction Requested*

The Reverend Dr. John McCard, *Rector*

Russell Lawson, *Editor*

Church Office: 804-355-1779 **www.doers.org**

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## The Staff

Mary Beth Abplanalp  
*Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry*  
mbabplanalp@doers.org

Winnie Perilla Canup  
*Development Director*  
*St. James's Children's Center*  
wpcanup@stjameschildrenscenter.org

The Rev. Dr. D. Mark Cooper  
*Associate Rector for Small Group Ministry*  
markcooper1966@gmail.com

Donna Ellis  
*Administrative Assistant*  
dellis@doers.org

The Rev. Dr. Bob Friend  
*Associate Rector for Pastoral Care*  
revbfriender@hotmail.com

Suzanne Hall  
*Director of Stewardship and Development*  
shall@doers.org

The Rev. Laura Inscoc  
*Associate Rector for Pastoral Care*  
linscoco@gmail.com

Russell Lawson  
*Director of Communications*  
rlawson@doers.org

Debbie Lickey  
*Executive Director*  
*St. James's Children's Center*  
dlickey@stjameschildrenscenter.org

Anita Lisk  
*Parish Coordinator*  
alisk@doers.org

The Rev. Dr. John McCard  
*Rector*  
jmccard@doers.org

Becky Page  
*Director of Children's Ministries*  
bpage@doers.org

Gene Roland  
*Facilities Manager*  
groland@doers.org

Delaine Sanders  
*Stewardship Assistant*  
dsanders@doers.org

Laura Shuford  
*Facilities Coordinator*  
lshuford@doers.org

The Rev. Hilary Streever  
*Senior Associate Rector for Adult Formation*  
hstreever@doers.org

Poconna S. Thiel  
*Financial Secretary*  
pthiel@doers.org

Emily Thrower  
*Communications Assistant*  
ethrower@doers.org

Nancy Warman  
*Director of Servant Ministry*  
nwarman@doers.org

Dr. Mark Whitmire  
*Music Director*  
mwhitmire@doers.org

Virginia Whitmire  
*Organist and Choir Director*  
vwhitmire@doers.org

Gina Young  
*Administrative Assistant*  
gyoung@doers.org

**REMINDER:** Update your e-mail address and other pertinent information by contacting Anita Lisk (alisk@doers.org or 355-1779) and the leaders of your ministry teams.

## 2019-2020 Vestry Members

Lile Benaicha  
liletrice@gmail.com

Andy Bennett  
andyharrisonbennett@gmail.com

Brink Brinkley  
Arthur.Brinkley@RaymondJames.com

Susan Coogan  
scoogan154@gmail.com

Melinda Davis  
mdavis81@gmail.com

Campbell Delk  
campbelldelk@gmail.com

Jim Goggins  
jim.goggins@wellsfargo.com

T. A. Hickman  
thomas.hickman@dom.com

Leigh Hulcher  
leigh.hulcher@gmail.com

Scott Hurt  
wscotthurt@hotmail.com

John Mahoney  
jmahoney@vcu.edu

Rob Reed  
robctreed@gmail.com

Trey Sibley  
gsibley@hunton.com

Michael Smith  
msmith@advicecoach.com

Karen Stanley  
kstanley3200@gmail.com

Laura Strickler  
laurastrickler@gmail.com

Michael Whitlow  
whitlmd@gmail.com

Annie Witthoefft  
anniewitthoefft@gmail.com