Joan Shisler Sr. Warden Parish Office 410-326-4948 www.middlehamandstpeters.org

The **CONNECTOR**

Jim Yoe Jr. Warden

Middleham and St. Peter's Parish

Karen Timmons Editor

The Rev. Dr. Linda Kapurch, Interim Rector The Rev. Skip Steiner, Adjunct Clergy Beth Lanier, Minister of Music

AUGUST 2020

KINDNESS

There is a quote from a famous author, Henry James that says, "Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind." We all need to take a lesson from Mr. James and heed his words.

Very simply, being kind means that you treat everyone with fairness and respect, no matter who they are or how you feel about them. Being kind means that you try to be nice to people and help then when they need help. We need to be civil and responsive to all people. Kindness is a virtue that seems lost to some people these days, and it needs to be cultivated as something that benefits us, the people around us, and by extension, the world. Being kind is contagious. Kindness matters. It matters to us and to those upon whom we bestow it. Life is full of joy and pain, triumph and tragedy, good and bad. How we live with it and deal with it is entirely up to us. Choose compassion, forgiveness, and generosity, especially in the face of meanness and fear. Showing kindness is one of the simplest and yet most powerful things that human beings can do for each other. We are social beings, and we need to be willing to nurture our kindness instinct by seeking out caring opportunities and demonstrate it especially among people who are different from us, but who, just like us, are all members of the human race.

The ABC's of Kindness

- A AFFECTION
- **B BENEVOLENCE**
- C COMPASSION
- D DECENCY
- E EMPATHY
- F FAIRNESS
- G GENEROSITY
- H HUMANITY
- I I (I have the power to change a person's life)
- J JUDICIOUS
- K KINDHEARTED
- L LOVE
- M MAGNANIMITY
- N NEIGHBORLY

Blessings,

Joan Shisler

Senior Warden

- O OBLIGING
- P POWERFUL
- Q QUESTION
- **R RESPECT**
- S SYMPATHY
- T TOLERANT
- U UNDERSTANDING
- V VALUE
- W WELL-DOER
- X (E)XPECTATION
- Y YOU (you are the key to changing the world)
- Z ZERO (the number of times you should pass up being kind to someone).

"Out from Under the Overhang" Pastor Linda's Reflections on Regathering, July 12th

On Sunday, July 12th, Middleham and St. Peter's took a small but significant step towards in-person re-gathering: the 8.30 a.m. Sunday Holy Eucharist was not only LIVE-STREAMED but all were invited to be present 'under the big top,' i.e., under the tent before the Parish Hall entrance. (When you think about it, most significant steps in life start out small...but that's a topic for another *Reflection*.) I'm happy to report that this 'first attempt' went exceedingly well: no small feat, because there were a myriad of practicalities and logistics which I and the entire Worship- and Production-Teams were facing for this first go-round. Those brave 'pioneers' who attended (numbering about 26?) and sat under the big top, as well as those preferring to remain in their cars, had what I would characterize as an experience that the French call, *Plus ca change, plus la meme chose: the more things change, the more they stay the same*.

The more things change...for us on the Altar Party, under the overhang, it just felt...different—as I'm sure it did for participants under the big top and in their cars. For me, apart from the requisite COVID-19 protocols which, thanks to the preparatory work done by MSP's Leadership,(particularly Joan Shisler and Jim Yoe and Company), were carefully adhered to, it was my experience as Presider: where I get to stand behind the Table and look out at all of you, that was, well...different. Everything that we'd been forced to undergo these relentless, endless months: of distance and loneliness and restriction and worry, were once again brought to my mind...and into my heart and soul. Yes, 'being church' together surely looked and felt differently.

But, *the more they stay the same*...As soon as I raised the host to consecrate the Holy Communion which, this time, we were all invited to receive, I knew that I was home. The taking, blessing, breaking,

and sharing of common, earthly elements—and making them Holy: God's Gifts for God's people, was the same! And would never change! This is the reality of what the Bishops have been preaching all along: STAY CALM...STAY CONNECTED...STAY CHURCH. All of the externals that we are being forced to endure—and rightly so, for safety's sake--the masks, the take-home bulletins, the ban on singing...not to mention, the ban on Coffee Hour!—are just that: externals. When the Service was over, despite everything, I heard laughter and chatting—as people found a way, under the big top, to engage one another again. The sure sign that our true togetherness will always be found is the oneness—that Jesus has already won for us, and that we come to share in the Holy Communion. I was home—under the overhang.

Speaking of which, my time under MSP's overhang will be coming to its end. On August 30th, the Plan is for Fr. Skip to Celebrate and for me to preach my departing Sermon—under the overhang. Jim You is monitoring the weather in case we need to revert to LIVE-STREAM ONLY on that Sunday, so watch this space for further details. In any event, either inside or out, we will celebrate the Holy Eucharist together. Following the Service, starting at around 9.30 a.m. (or so), there will be an open, ZOOM 'Reception,' lasting for about an hour, if you'd like to 'stop by,' a.k.a. Log In, so that we can say our goodbyes. My plan for the future is to be called to my next Interim/Priest-in-charge position, date and location, as yet TBD. As you probably have noticed over the last 9 months, grass does not grow under my feet©...so I have begun my search process, and I ask for your prayer-power in this adventure. Meanwhile, I am excited about another time or two, under the overhang, with you. To God be All the Glory!

Faithfully, Pastor LindaK+

UPDATE ON FATHER NATHAN

We are so very excited that we have a new Rector! Father Nathan A. Beall (pronounced Bell) will begin his ministry with us on September 1, 2020. His first Sunday service will be on September 6, 2020. The service will be live streamed at 8:30 am with the option to gather onsite outside. We have held three outside services at 8:30 am so far and can accommodate a limited number of people, (35 under the tents and several more on the grounds or in cars). We are not having any indoor services at this time. We are following social distancing and mask wearing directives and other safety measures are being taken to protect the health and well-being of our parishioners. We appreciate that folks attending the onsite outside service are following the "rules" by maintaining the six foot or more distance, wearing masks, refraining from physical contact beyond members of their own household and respecting the safety and comfort level of others for gathering together.

Pastor Linda's last Sunday service will be August 30, 2020 at 8:30 am. It will be live streamed with the option to gather onsite outside. Due to the COVID-19 limitations we will not be able to have an in-person, onsite farewell. Pastor Linda has requested that we offer a zoom option where people can link on and say their good-byes and thank yous. The link will be provided at a later date.

Currently Father Nathan is in South Korea. After a 14 day mandatory quarantine he will be visiting with his fiancée, Hong Kyunghee (Hee) and her family. Hopefully Hee will be able to accompany Fr. Nathan when he returns to the United States at the end of August! As we receive more information from Father Nathan and the upcoming services we will let you know.

Lay Pastoral Visitors Group

One of the lessons that the Lay Pastoral Visitors Group studied last fall was developing our own pastoral identity. Pastoral identity is defined as being an internalized sense of oneself as the embodiment or incarnational agent through whom the Christ lives and breathes, ministering to those in need. We learned about four aspects of pastoral identity. The first was an attitude of humility, honesty, and tenderness. The second quality of pastoral identity is an ability which involves action, doing something as well as being and thinking something. It involves the ability to listen attentively, setting aside ones own ego needs, being accepting and non-judgmental, knowing when to speak and when to be silent. The third element of pastoral identity is authority. When one accepts the pastoral role, there is an intangible quality of authority in ministry. The fourth and last aspect of pastoral identity is accountability. We are accountable to God, accountable to our community that we represent, accountable to our peers and accountable to ourselves.

The following is a submission by Lay Pastor Care group member Kristin Sandusky:

This is the weekly posting that Community of Hope International (or COHI) team members use to share something about ourselves, to help you know us better so that when you need to feel caring from this community, you feel more comfortable reaching out to us, knowing we're here for you. I'm not great at sharing my own problems or asking for help when I need it and from what I've seen at MSP, I'm not alone. Please don't take this the wrong way but by and large, we're not a group of spontaneous sharers. But sharing is a two-way street, so we decided to open up first. If we're asking you to reach out to us, you should at least know who we are.

When it comes to COHI, most in the group have an aptitude or a lifetime of experience in caring. As for me, I have never worked in a caring profession. I'm a labor economist, which means I'm comfortable with a few things that some people dread like math and public speaking, but I'm not at all good in a crisis and maybe six times out of ten, I'll pass out when I get a shot or see my own blood. So I'm not an obvious choice to be anyone's helping hand. Far from it.

In my case, what I have is a longing. I grew up in Mississippi in a smallish town where my family has lived forever. Connection and the caring that comes with it were given to me at birth – I didn't have to do anything to build it or earn it, it was just a gift. Over the decades, I've pined off and on for this bone deep

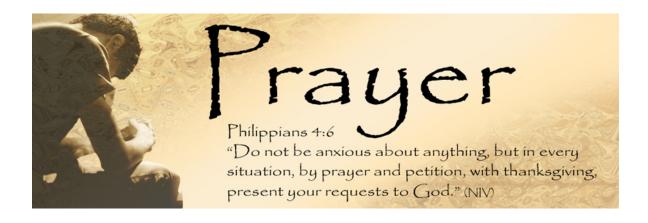
feeling of belonging but when my father became ill a few years ago, I found I need it as much as air. I went home to visit when my father didn't heal after minor surgery and instead got sicker and sicker. The horrible uncertainty of what was going to happen turned into the even worse knowing that his pain wouldn't stop and that he wasn't going to make it. Wrapping my head and my heart around the loss of a parent seemed to me like something I just couldn't do, but I was going to have to do it anyway. How do you conceive of the loss of the person who has been with you from day one, who has loved you no matter what ever since in a way that no one else ever will? How do you say a goodbye that profound and let that person go? How do you do all this while standing with them in their pain and their fear of the unknown? I myself didn't know how and I was unequipped to ask for help. But what I found was that I was completely and totally surrounded by people who did know, who didn't ask or expect me to know, and who were willing to lend their presence and their shoulders to me while I tried to find my own way. Who to call out first? Maybe the retired minister who came by and offered a simple prayer that brought stillness to my father (who didn't really do church) and a moment of release for my mother and me. There were the doctors and nurses who brought kindness and caring, explained the stages of dying, and let us know when the time was near. There were the friends, so many friends, who came by to sit with us, cry with us, or just read the paper with us and talk about nothing. Passing the staff coming and going when I wandered the hospital to get coffee or air left me blown away that so many people got out of bed in the morning knowing at some level that today they would inhabit space of profound meaning in someone else's life, today they would share someone's load, today they would guide someone struggling to do and make sense of the unspeakable

My father passed away but my longing for connection did not. A year or so ago I saw a call for volunteers at Calvert Hospice and I answered that call. The opportunity for COHI training showed up around the same time and I signed up for that, too, mainly as a way to help prepare for hospice work. COHI training was good but really, nothing prepared me for time spent with hospice patients. Spending time with someone who knows they won't be a part of the world much longer, spending time with the families who know they will soon be asked to let go, I found out right away I didn't have a clue what I was doing. But I also found out that that was ok. People are overwhelmingly kind and with each new patient, I stand in awe of their willingness to share this personal space with a novice and a stranger. Once again, I am guided.

I'm not sure I ever set out to be a COHI visitor but here I am. And my reasons for doing it are many but it boils down to the same hunch – that like love, church is a verb. My feelings about church have never been simple and to be honest, there are times when I'm not even sure why I go. But for me, it all comes back to moments of clarity found in the hospital, glimpses that left me feeling like that fish who swam off looking for water, the one who came home from his search and told his friends You're Not Gonna Believe What I Found Out. My feeling is we're each a part of the water. It surrounds us, sustains us, connects us, and maybe renewal may come from something as simple as being present for our own lives and for each other, in helping each other (and letting people help us) find meaning and grace in the midst of joy and pain and everything in between. For me, church is just that – a shared search for meaning and grace. How could I not sign up for COHI?

I'll admit I'm still learning but we're here for you if and when you need us. And the nice thing about COHI (for you and for me) is that when we visit, we go in pairs. I'm a novice but my current COHI teammate is not – she's a pro and she knows what to say and do. So I can guarantee you this: if and when you call us (and we hope you do), two visitors will come with the best of intentions and at least one of us will know how to help.

Pastoral care To be there in times of sickness and in joy, in sorrow or celebration, in crisis or transition. To pray. To listen. To share.





Middleham and St. Peter's Episcopal Parish

Middleham and Saint Peter's EPISCOPAL PARISH The Caring Network

Peace For Our Nation And Pray There Will Be No More Hurt Among All.

PRAYER LIST

Lisa Greenlee **Curtis Moore** Jayci Dale **Richard Dale The Spencer Family Helen and Lawrence Shea Dan and Mary Heflebower Dr. Joseph Kapurch Dr. Caitlin Kapurch Nick Lemaster Julie Kapurch** Wenda Yenson June Bessette **Rita Kapurch Peggy Hovermale Penny File Dana King Martha Matthewson Jonathan Seymour** Jenny Magee **Pam Bennett** Julia Ann Majsztrik **Jeremy Nazimek Buddy Haas Flo Russell George Buckler Bill Gallagher Dy-Anna Gallagher** Larry Greer **Brad Thomas**

Andrea Glasgow Danny Miller Dr. Elizabeth Rickerson Sarabeth Smith John and Abigail Wagner Sarah and Antonio Gaustafierro **David Schul** Sue and Dick Hu **lim Stevenson Virginia Krivos Barbara Fetterhoff Mary Ellen Elwell Maddie Olson** Theresa Eble **Bob Elperman Phyllis Duff Kotterwas Family Bob Tovar** Joan Agar **Donna Clark** Sue Ellen **Ron Gates James Hall Rose Long Susie Wheely Richard Jakubowski, Jr. Judi Jones Kristina Jedrey** Tim & Anna Mae Chelednik **McKinnon Bowen**

Kerry White Virginia Binger Abby Renchan Maryellen Kalivoda Wendy Clowser **Cathy Prusia Tom and Lil Lauterbach Joyce Barony Judy Windham Judy Seymour** Pat Oliff **Vivian Kilsheimer** Paul Miller **Richie Peake Deborah Hanfman Sally Ray Rob Miska Brenda Hollweger Ryland Osborne Dottie Swan Nancy Zinn Josh Bowen Megan Lewis Steven Broadus Family Will Broadus Family Bill Broadus The Hayes Fsmily Susan Mattingly Richard Mattingly**

DECEASED

Dickie Hayes Tom Moorman Morris Dent Norma Wiberg Steven Lee Broadus Thomas Gordon Bennett III Dr. Lawrence Chairamonte David Hollweger

Middleham and St. Peter's Episcopal Parish



Middleham and Saint Peter's EPISCOPAL PARISH The Caring Network

PRAYER LIST FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY IN THE MILITARY

Chris Parkinson Joshua Kellerward James Butler Michael Taxiera Matthew Blackwelder Ryan Dement Lisa Tomlinson **Brandon Marshall RJ Brinegar Jared Goff Trey Fisher Joseph Entzian Isiah Jefferson David Schul Austin Cole Thomas Parks** Wendy L. Love **David Thomas**

Bruce Ussery Adam Smith Calvin Davies laret Dement **David Tonacci David Townsend Renaldo Ramirez Michael Ursic Miles Manchester TJ Dillon Mason Garland Andrew Terhark Karl Townsend Travis Park Austin Libby Garrett Libby** Alex Simmons **Chelsea Whealton**



IF YOU ARE NOT READY TO COME TO THE ONSITE OUTSIDE SERVICE, TUNE IN TO THE LIVE STREAMING HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE @ 8:30 AM FROM HOME ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.

Middleham and St. Peter's FaceBook Page

https://www.facebook.com/middlehamandstpeters/

Middleham and St. Peter's YouTube Channel

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkgSo1YCBue01RuEWhH974g/



www.stgeorgesvlorg www.ascensionlp.org There is an offering on Sunday Mornings Prayer Online worship opportunity hosted by Rev. Greg Syler, Pastor Linda Kapurch and Laura Carpenter Log-on or call in to our ZOOM online Morning Prayer by or before 10 am Sunday morning.

https://zoom.us/j/814070929 (Meeting ID: 814 070 929)

or call 301-715-8592 (Meeting ID 814 070 929).



SAFETY RULES FOR MIDDLEHAM & ST. PETER'S OUTSIDE CHURCH SERVICE

In order for us to do this service safely, several stipulations need to be followed based on directives from Governor Hogan, the Calvert County Health Department, and Bishop Sutton. These are as follows:

- 1. Masks are required for everyone not sitting in their cars
- 2. There will be ushers directing seating and parking options.
- 3. If communion (wafers only administered by tongs) is offered it will be done safely.
- 4. Singing will be limited to Beth Lanier at the keyboard. Humming is an option as on-site participants are encouraged to actively follow the words. Participants in their cars or at home are encouraged to sing joyfully out loud
- 5. No coffee hour / food / drink will be offered.
- Fellowship / small group gathering will be at the discretion of participants maintaining social distancing after the service
- 7. The Parish Hall will not be open to the general population
- Bathrooms are available upon request but must be sanitized by the user with cleaning supplies provided prior to exiting
- Paper copies of the service bulletin are available at the service, or you may access it online with your cell phone, tablet, etc.
- 10.A Covenant for Re-Gathering from the Diocese is available and should be read prior to Re-Gathering.
- Non-contact temperature taking measures will be administered to onsite participants.



The **Caring Network** is continuing to call parishioners on a weekly basis. If you are not receiving a phone call, please contact Diane Davies. 410-326-0370 <u>daviesd@comcast.net</u>

If you or someone you know should be on our prayer list please send it to <u>office@middlehamandstpeters.org</u> or <u>daviesd@comcast.net</u>

If you are having trouble accessing or logging on to view online worship opportunities, logging into zoom etc., please let us know and we will help you. Call Jim Yoe - 443-975-6797

If you have any questions, concerns or pastoral needs, please let us know. Thank you for your patience and stay healthy!

Joan Shisler Senior Warden 410-474-4849 jrbstiger@comcast.net Jim Yoe Junior Warden 443-975-6797 jmvoe@comcast.net

Rev. Dr. Linda M. Kapurch Interim Rector msppastorlinda@middlehamandstpeters.org Anne Gross 410-610-2706 grossanne@comcast.net office@middlehamandstpeters.org





Please remember during this time when Sunday

worship at our locations is not possible, that you can mail in your weekly pledge if convenient.

Middleham and St. Peter's Parish P.O. Box 277 Lusby, MD 20657



Also we have our online giving option through Vanco.

Middleham and St. Peter's Online Giving Option Steps

http://www.middlehamandstpeters.org/giving/givingonline/

St. Peter's Chapel Update

The large tree next to the chapel with significant rot in the upper portion of the tree was

removed.





Next Big Conversation: *Many Wounds to Heal: Health Care (In)Equity –How does it affect me?*

Sunday September 13, 2020 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Why this event is important for you. During this time, many of us are deeply concerned about systemic racism and the disparate impact of Covid-19 on the health of African Americans and other racial and ethnic minorities. Furthermore, you may be frustrated by limitations on what you can do personally. The Big Conversation on September 13 is an excellent opportunity for you to be involved in addressing racism by hearing from an expert panel, exploring the issues in small group conversations and proposing ways to address concerns in our community.

Our parish initiated The Big Conversation to explore and find common ground around issues of community concern. *"Many Wounds to Heal: Health Care (In)Equity –How does it affect me?"* is the eighth Big Conversation. Beginning in 2011, community conversations addressed immigration, health, veterans support, inequality, and gun violence. In 2016, focus was directed to racism, with the steering committee broadened to be more diverse and to include key organizations in a partnership – the Big Conversation Partners in Dismantling Racism and Privilege in Southern Maryland. Since then, two Big Conversations were held on racism in general and on racism in education. Several smaller events were held as well, including sessions on bias and white privilege. For the past year, our focus has been on racism and health care.

<u>What is a Big Conversation?</u> Persons from throughout Southern Maryland (Calvert, St. Mary's, and Charles Counties) are invited to the events. Well over 200 people have attended each of the last two. The event includes 1) the full audience hearing an expert panel, 2) attendees breaking out into small and diverse discussion groups and 3) reconvening to hear the small group observations and recommendations. Individual responses from attendees are also gathered through exit cards. An executive summary of the event is shared throughout the community, including next steps to be taken. The most important part of the Big Conversation is having attendees listen and learn from each other through civil discourse.

<u>The Big Conversation in the time of Covid-19</u>. The Big Conversation on September 13 will be presented in accordance with the limits on convening large groups specified by the Governor and the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. We will provide the event within those limits using technology. The panel presentation will be a Zoom Webinar on YouTube and the facilitated, small groups and report out sessions will be convened using Zoom. A small number of registrants, who cannot access technology, may be able to participate on site. All participants will need to pre-register. Instructions on how to register will be available by mid-August, including in the Weekly Messenger and September Connector.



Brought to you by Middleham and St. Peter's Parish with **The Big Conversation Partnership for Dismantling Racism in Southern Maryland** including: All Saints Episcopal Church – Sunderland, Calvert County Public Schools, CalvertHealth, Calvert Library, Calvert NAACP, Charles County NAACP, Community Mediation Centers of Calvert, Charles and St. Mary's Counties, Concerned Black Women of Calvert Co, Emmanuel SDA Church – St. Leonard, Harriet Elizabeth Brown Scholars, Patuxent Quaker Friends, St. Mary's NAACP, St. Mary's Co. Public Schools



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News from the Planned Giving and Endowment Committee

The "Personal Growth Fund"

This fund continues to be available to provide support for the participation and/or enrollment needs of parish members and/or their children as well as members of an organization directly connected to the parish – namely Boy Scout Troop 1684.

Awards from the fund may support such activities as (but not be limited to) church-related conference costs, summer camp attendance, scouting activities and events, tuition or supplies for skilled trades training, and support for higher education expenses. Awards will be made on the basis of need and the suitability of the activity. The objective is to enable individuals to participate in self-improvement or life-experience activities that they would not otherwise be able to, due to expense.

Interested applicants should complete the attached application and submit it to the committee as indicated. Total funds available during 2020 are limited to \$1500. Individual awards may be no more than \$500.

Personal Growth Fund Application:

<u>Submission:</u> Applications are to be submitted to: The Planned Giving and Endowment Committee Middleham and St. Peter's Parish PO Box 277 Lusby, MD 20657

Applicant name: Address:

Email: Phone:

Affiliation with the Parish (Member, Family, Scouting, etc.):

Describe the purpose and amount of your award request (you may use the opposite side of the application if you need more space):

When do you need the award?

Describe why, without the award, you wouldn't be able to experience this opportunity (travel expense, tuition/fees, supplies/equipment costs...)?

Note: there is a required post-activity follow up report: "How this award helped me grow personally...."

Excellent CEEP Webinar Opportunities

Middleham and St. Peter's is a member of the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP), which is a national organization that provides training and education for Episcopal and other churches. During the period of the pandemic, they have offered excellent webinar programs that may be of interest to many of you. Try one or more that interest you! Current offerings include:

- How to Achieve Impact with Cash and Fixed Income Investing 8/10 at 3pm EDT
- Anglican Social Ethics and the Search for Justice 8/13 at 3pm EDT
- Painful Legacies: Systemic Racism in America and Britain 8/14 at 3pm EDT
- Resource Development: Weaving Together Strategic Planning, Communications, and Fundraising 8/18 at 3pm EDT
- From Inspiration to Illumination, an Exploration of The Saint John's Bible 8/19 at 3pm EDT
- The Role of Liturgy and Music in Formation 8/20 at 3pm EDT
- Right Sizing Webinar 8/26 at 3pm EDT
- Investing in Racial Justice through an Endowment 8/27 at 3pm EDT
- Post-Emergency COVID Communications: How Episcopal Churches Can Adapt, Engage, and Thrive 9/16 at 3pm EDT

To participate in any of these, just go to the website below and sign up! https://www.ceepnetwork.org/upcoming-webinars/



All service and other offerings are now located on the website Homepage and in the Calendar with links.





SUNDAY STREAMING WORSHIP @ 11:00 AM SERVICE FROM THE CATHEDRAL OF THE INCARNATION,	EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
BALTIMORE. LIVE STREAMED from the Cathedral of the Incarnation	ONLINE SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL CATHEDRAL
https://marylandepiscopalian.org/2020/03/18/episcopal- diocese-of-maryland-livestreamed-worship/	https://www.facebook.com/WNCathedral/

Episcopal Diocese of Maryland At Cathedral of the Incarnation

Every Tuesday Live on Facebook Noon Day Prayer

https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalMaryland/

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Exciting Updates

We will be returning to in person Sunday School on September 13th.

This will not look the same as it previously has, there will only be two classes and they do not meet at the same time. We will meet in the parish hall to ensure all the safety measures for the kid's health can be met. As it is right now, Elementary will meet following the service (in what ever capacity that is to be held). The Middle School and High school will meet in the late afternoon/evening, as they would for youth group. Youth group will also still occur, it will also look different, as we will not be able to share food or play the types of games we have been. Youth group will just be incorporated into Sunday school, so a rotation of 3 weeks of Sunday School and one of youth group...or something similar.

Confirmation Class

The goal is to offer a confirmation class this year. If you have any questions about confirmation, I will happily answer them. Any student that has the desire to be confirmed should have turned 15 by the time of the confirmation service (usually that would be in the Late April - Early June range). I will get more out about this, but I wanted to start the conversation now.

In reach

We have begun to receive requests for in reach projects, we have two that we are currently looking to complete in the next few weeks. As of right now, the only projects I am currently comfortable doing are outdoors, that is for the youth and the parishioner both. If you or your child(ren) would like to join us for mulching, gardening, fence building... those types of activities, please let me know. I will email out the dates and times as they become available.

Acolytes

As of right now, we do not know when acolytes will be returning. What I do know, we will have to re-fit many of the vestments. I will work on how to work that out, but for right now **please do not drop off vestments to the parish hall**, if you can hold on to them for a bit longer it is very appreciated. If for some reason you need to get them back this instant, call me and I will come get them or meet you.

I know I have given you a lot of information, and of course, I still have more... but that will be for a different day. I will send emails out prior to our start date with all the changes that we are making, and if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

I miss you guys and look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Anne Hayes, Youth Ministry

GOD AND THE PANDEMIC A CHRISTIAN REFLECTION ON THE CORONAVIRUS AND ITS AFTERMATE N. T. WRIGHT

GOD AND THE PANDEMIC Summertime Adult Formation Book Study

Wednesdays on Zoom, 7pm - July 8, 15, 22, 29, Aug.12

What are we doing? What are we supposed to doing? How do we re-gather as the church, the Body of Christ? The coronavirus pandemic has been profoundly challenging and a

real struggle. Also, if we turn to scripture and the way Jesus lived, perhaps this moment can open for us new ways to see our place in the world, and God's presence and power! Join us for a special summertime Adult Christian Formation offering, Wednesday evenings on Zoom. We'll reflect on the events of today through the light of Jesus' death and resurrection, and draw on the power of our scriptures - reading Bishop and New Testament scholar, N. T. Wright's newest book, God and the Pandemic. (Available in paperback or Kindle on Amazon. Order it today!) There are five short chapters in this short volume, and we'll take it one chapter at a time, one week at a time.

The series begins Wednesday, July 8 from 7-8pm on Zoom.

Here's the Zoom <u>link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83728440238</u> Meeting ID: 837 2844 0238 One tap mobile +13017158592,,83728440238# Or call (301) 715-8592, Meeting ID: 837 2844 0238

EfM

Education for Ministry (EfM), administered by the Sewanee School of Theology, is a unique four-year distance learning certificate program in theological education based upon small-group study and practice. Since its founding in 1975, this international program has assisted more than 80,000 participants in discovering and nurturing their call to Christian service. EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together.

EfM has been in the Parish over 25 years and graduated more than 35 participants from Middleham/St. Peter's and other local churches. We will recognize our 2 newest graduates and invite past Students and inquirers to join us on August 27^{th.} at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. More information on EFM and possible scholarships will be discussed. This year I plan to start the first session on September 3rd at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. We meet almost every Thursday through mid-May.

For more information you can contact me at <u>Billm1@comcast.net</u> or the EfM website at http://efm.sewanee.edu/

Bill Miller, Certified EfM Mentor



Come Join Us! By Zoom on Friday AUGUST 21st at 10:00 am

We will send you the study materials and zoom instructions the week before the meeting. Program leaders Dr. Charles Bennett, Claude Martin and Hugh Davies want you to know that, while our program has a foundation of Bible study (the Reading Between the Lines curriculum), our focus is on the discussion.

Call Hugh if you have questions at 410-326-0370.

daviesh@comcast.net

Hugh Davies, Charles Bennett and Claude Martin

PARISH HEALTH



What's going on in the midst of the Pandemic?

So, here it is August- about 5 months into the coronavirus/pandemic. Folks are trying to find more things to do; parents and teachers are trying to figure out how to

keep our descendants safe and well educated; and our parish is trying to figure out how we can safely get together with our church family to worship together.

Most have come up with great answers to questions we have, but the skeptics abound. Who do we trust? What activities can we plan for now? The projects that we postponedcan we do them now? So- as of this writing- I don't have a lot of answers, but I know this.... If we believe and trust in God, we believe and trust those much more intelligent that us in the scientific fields, we can move on- but with caution.

We, no doubt, will be wearing masks for a long time. We will all need to be tested at some point and yes- some will get the virus along the way. So- as I and others take your temperature, ask Covid- related questions, and hand out hand sanitizer, please believe that we are doing all we can to keep you and our entire community safe. Wear a mask. Wash your hands and of course Pray!

Dale Yoe, Parish Nurse

OUTREACH

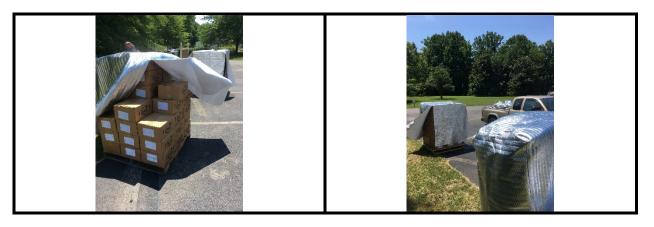


Carolyn Steiner, Outreach Coordinator

The Food Distribution was very successful on July 21st. These two pictures show the 20 pound boxes that were delivered on the pallets from Maryland Food Bank. The coverings help to keep the produce cool while waiting to get loaded onto delivery trucks. The delivery drivers were very patient and did a wonderful job delivering the boxes to multiple addresses on their delivery route.

Food distribution provided 9,000 lbs. of produce from the USDA's Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) and were distributed to 242 families representing 1,026 people on Tuesday, July 21 through Middleham St Peter's Pantry On the Go (POTG) event. Thanks to all the volunteers who participated in the event, including individuals from Middleham St Peters Parish, SouthPoint Church, United Way, SMILE Food Pantry, and Other Area Churches.

Mark and Kristin organized the entire process including arranging all of the home deliveries. Mark Pesola - <u>mark pesola@hotmail.com</u>





Food Drop Delivery Driver Opportunity- Safely Help Others

We need volunteers to deliver Food provided by Maryland Food Bank to recipient homes. No-contact food pick-up at church, food is dropped off outside of recipient homes to avoid contact, routes include up to 5 closely grouped addresses in SMILE service area. If interested and would like more detail or are ready to sign up as a driver.

Please contact Mark Pesola at <u>mark pesola@hotmail.com</u>



HeartFELT

The fall 2020 school situation has evolved over the summer and will likely encompass a combination of part time in school and online learning. HeartFELT is on pause until guidance counselors and school administrators can assess student food needs and identify any required safety protocols for HeartFELT distribution.

Updates as I get them!

Elizabeth Broadus, MSP Coordinator for HEARTFELT

State of the Garden, 7/25/2020

General - It's hot out! The garden is yielding. Free Vegetables piled at SMILE for anyone to take home for themselves on Wednesdays and Saturdays during SMILE hours.

Inside the Wire - Japanese Beetles working over green beans, hoping to enjoy continued generations in area. The plan is to remove green beans with hope of reducing beetle count next year, because they are not yielding as hoped. The ground is being broad forked to prepare for the winter garden. Weeding, fertilizing and harvesting continues.

Outside the wire – We are working on the new garden area near the white shed. Topsoil from the parking lot construction has been added to the area. We plan to establish a kale patch in that area.

Under the wire - The woodchucks are being monitored and the deer are showing preference for other areas

Back corner - 3 bee hives being fed 20 lbs. of sugar on weekly basis; water being provided – hope they set up some honey during August.

Pictured below are some of the community garden vegetables. Anyone who wants to help can show up on Saturdays around 8am . Anyone who wants to look around can swing by at any time. Hope everyone is well.





1) PLEASE PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING 2) ONLY 4 BAGS OR BOXES PER VISIT

AS ALWAYS, ITEMS MUST BE CLEAN AND UNBROKEN SEASONAL CLOTHING ONLY NO MEDICAL EQUIPMENT NO LARGE OR HEAVY FURNITURE NO UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE NO LARGE APPLIANCES *FOR THE SAFETY OF OUR VOLUNTEERS, DO NOT DONATE IF ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS NOT FEELING WELL*

MESSAGE US IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

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Calvert County Online Market



Shop with the Calvert County Farmers Market Association from the convenience of your home. Calvert's farmers, ranchers and producers

update their offerings weekly. Market products include: Meats, eggs, produce, herbs, baked goods, wine, beer and soaps. Shop Thursday-Sunday for pickup the following Friday at Cardinal Creek Plant Farm in Prince Frederick. Delivery options also available. The Calvert County Farmers Market Association can also be found on their <u>Facebook Page</u>.



Date: Tuesdays Time: 2:30-6:30 p.m. Place: CalvertHealth Medical Center

Respecting social distancing requirements, the market will be drive-thru. Shoppers will have a few

minutes at each stand to place their orders and should have payment ready to expedite the process. Some, but not all, vendors accept credit card payment. Please have multiple forms of payment available. Happy shopping!



The thrift store and the food pantry are open and we need your help! The current COVID crisis has severely limited the number of volunteers able to work at SMILE. If your health would allow you to volunteer, please contact Sally Hamilton (thrift store) 410-610-0909 or Kathy Mazur (food pantry) 240-434-2643 for more information and to sign up.

We have redesigned our work flow to comply with MD social distancing and other requirements, including the wearing of face masks. In the food pantry and the thrift store we also limit access to our volunteers by clients and customers for the safety of our volunteers.

During this crisis we have been forced to limit our hours of operation. The thrift store hours are 10-2 WTF. Beginning August 1 the store will be closed on Saturday due to lack of volunteers. The food pantry shortened schedule is Monday 9-10, Wednesday 10-2 and Saturday 9-12.

Your volunteer hours can be adjusted to fit your schedule. For high school students (15 and over) SMILE hours can be used to satisfy community service requirements.

Thank you for your help and God Bless you.

Bill Brier President 410-610-9134 <u>billbrier1@gmail.com</u>



http://www.middlehamandstpeters.org/resources/



SEPTEMBER CONNECTOR EDITION IS

MONDAY AUGUST 17TH

Thanks so much, Karen Timmons, Communications

communications@middlehamandstpeters.org





AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Ethan Carpenter	08/01
Emily Richardson	08/01
Mason Garland	08/03
Bill Favor	08/06
Evan Shisler	08/09
Susie Wheeley	08/09
Teagan Stanley	08/10
Wilma Garcia	08/10
Sam Bergeson-Willis	08/10
John Pardoe	08/11
Perrin Hupp	08/14
Sharleen Wagner	08/15
Katie Shepherd Dredger	08/15
Jordan Jedrey	08/16
Louise A. Smith	08/19
Lainey Kury	08/19
Caleb Patten	08/23
Sally Arbuthnot	08/24
Vivian O. Kilsheimer	08/27
Sally Ray	08/29
Connor Davies Townsend	08/31
Tom Briggs	08/31



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jeffrey & Anna Hall	08/08
Skip & Linda Barrett	08/09

Mark Pesola & Kristin Sandusky 08/14

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Each month birthdays and anniversaries of parishioners are listed in the Connector. But our records are not perfect. Even some very longstanding parishioners are not listed. Have you seen your date(s) listed? If not or if you are not sure, please call the office (410-326-4948) to check. We want everyone included!