



# *Hickory Neck Nuggets*



God Willing and the People Consenting  
The Right Reverend Herman Hollerith IV  
Bishop of the Diocese of Southern Virginia

Will Ordain

Henry P. McQueen

To the Sacred Order of Priests

On December 15, 2012 at 11:00 am

At

Christ and Saint Luke's Church  
560 West Olney Road, Norfolk Virginia

Your prayers and attendance are most welcome.

## Hickory Neck to Participate in Emergency Shelter Ministry

The Reverend Henry P. McQueen

*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me”  
(Matthew 25:35)*

**O**UR CALL TO MINISTRY IS CLEAR. We are to minister to those in need. This winter an emergency shelter for the homeless will be available in the Williamsburg community from November through March.

Various churches have agreed to be host sites for a week at a time. Those members of our community without a warm or safe place to sleep will be welcomed into the shelter and provided with meals and a good night's rest. The HNEC Mission and Outreach Committee and the Vestry have considered this program and are excited to have HNEC participate as a Shelter Partner.

After much discussion, it was decided that the facilities of HNEC are too far from a bus stop for access and not optimal for use as a host site; however, the congregation will lend support to other parishes that are host sites. We will first partner with Saint Martin's Episcopal Church to provide shelter from January 12-19.

The volunteers will be asked to serve at the emergency shelter from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. during that week. Each day will be broken into three shifts. Volunteers can serve in multiple shifts and on multiple days as they feel called. The 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. shift will be responsible for check-in, dinner, and any activities, such as music or Bible study; at least nine people are needed during this shift. The overnight shift from 9:00 p.m. - 5:00 a.m. is staffed by four people; only two people need be awake at any time. These volunteers keep watch to assure the safety of the overnight guests. The nine volunteers on the morning shift from 5:00 a.m. -

8:00a.m. provide breakfast, and possibly lunch, as well as checkout for our guests each day, and after a final cleanup of the facility, everything is made ready for the evening shift. As you can see, this is a minimum of twenty-two volunteers each day. Training will be provided for all volunteers.

The program is currently set to serve 25 people each week. The organizers have visited numerous facilities in Virginia and North Carolina to learn what works. They have modeled the best from communities that are similar to Williamsburg. The Police and Fire Departments are supportive of these efforts, as are the social service agencies in the area. The community is coming together to make an impact on peoples' lives. It is also an opportunity that will impact your own life in ways that will surprise you. It is deeply moving to serve Christ and to be served by Christ through ministry to the homeless. With the efforts of each person who volunteers, lives will be impacted and it may be your life that is changed.

Soon you will see more information and sign-up opportunities to volunteer during our shelter week. There will be jobs available for everyone. High school students who are accompanied by a parent may also participate. Please mark January 12-19 on your calendar; your prayers and your participation will be most welcome. We need your help; the homeless of our community need your help. ❖

*“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?” “Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”  
(Matthew 25:37b,40)*





## Angel Tree

Nancy Snyder

This year, as in years past, we will be supporting the Salvation Army. They have asked the coordinator (me) to make sure there is a record of each Angel that is adopted from the Tree. It is also necessary that all items be returned to the church instead of taking the package to the Salvation Army, since a new procedure has been instituted by the Salvation Army and there will be a need to add some information by the coordinator after the packages are returned to the church.

The Salvation Army suggests that gifts for each child be at least \$45.00 and at a minimum one outfit and one toy. Several individuals or more than one family may wish to get together to purchase gifts for one Angel.

---

**It is very important that each person or persons who adopt an Angel fill out the information on the note pad which will be at the base of the Angel tree because this is the only record anyone will have of who has "adopted" which child.**

---

Our Angel tree is in the New Chapel Narthex with tags having an individual child's name on each one describing what that child wishes. Please make sure that the Angel Tree Tag is attached to the package when returned. The date for return of the Angel Tree items is December 7th. The Salvation Army asks that the gifts be unwrapped because of safety issues, but you may include wrapping paper with your gifts. Please help our needy children in the Williamsburg/Toano Area so that they too will have that special sparkle in their eyes come Christmas morning! In many cases

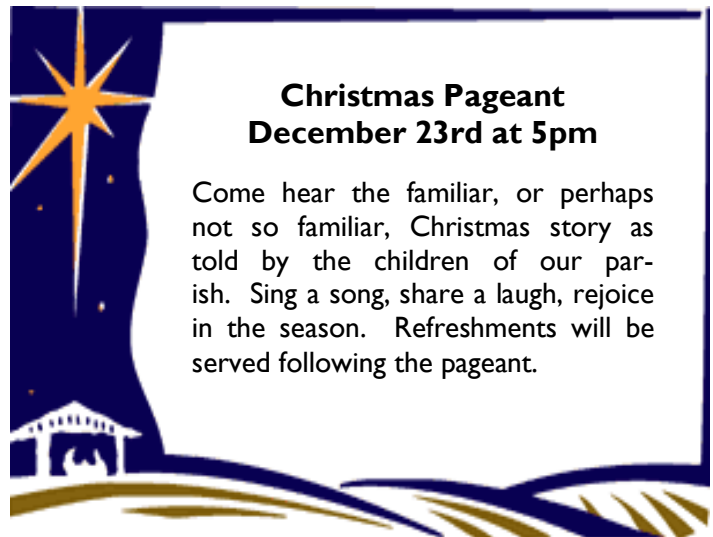
these gifts will be the only gifts these children will receive.

If you have any questions – either call me at (804)557-3175 or email me at [nansteve13@cox.net](mailto:nansteve13@cox.net).



## Nugget Notes

- ◆ At Hickory Neck, we welcome everyone to participate in everything freely, member or non-member. However, if you would like to become an official member of Hickory Neck, we want to make that happen for you. Simply call our office, 566-0276, or speak to **Father Michael** or **Father Henry**. There are several ways to join. If you have not yet been baptized, we would be overjoyed to speak with you about receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. If you are already baptized, we can transfer you in as a baptized member, and if your letter of membership resides in another congregation, we can write them and effect the transfer. Official membership entitles a person to vote and stand as a candidate in parish elections, but making the commitment of membership is also a good way to affirm your commitment to the mission of Jesus Christ in this place.
- ◆ Please remember the children at **El Hogar**, site of our 2010 Honduran mission, during this season of giving and joy. For information on how to support El Hogar, consult the brochures on the narthex kiosk or contact Norm Cooper at (757) 345-2629 or [norm\\_cooper@hotmail.com](mailto:norm_cooper@hotmail.com).



### Christmas Pageant December 23rd at 5pm

Come hear the familiar, or perhaps not so familiar, Christmas story as told by the children of our parish. Sing a song, share a laugh, rejoice in the season. Refreshments will be served following the pageant.

PEACE PEACE PEACE

## December Citrus Sale

Nancy and Steve Snyder

The first Hickory Neck Church citrus sale of the 2012 – 2013 season will take place this month, with delivery on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The fruit will arrive by truck from Florida sometime in the early afternoon on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup>, so please mark that on your calendar if you are one of the “unloader” volunteers. We’ll know more about the time of arrival as we approach the delivery date. These delicious Florida navel oranges and pink grapefruit will be available for pickup from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup>. To place an order, please

1. send us an email at [nansteve13@cox.net](mailto:nansteve13@cox.net) prior to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> (early email orders are encouraged), or
2. place a telephone order between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Monday December 3<sup>rd</sup> or on Tuesday December 4<sup>th</sup>. Telephone orders can be placed by calling us at 804-557-3175 or by calling 757-841-8776 and leaving a message.

All email and voicemail orders will be confirmed within 48 hours.

Prices are as follows:

Navel Oranges	Pink (Red) Grapefruit
• box \$33.00	• box \$34.00
• ½ box \$18.50	• ½ box \$18.50
• ¼ box \$9.25	• ¼ box \$9.25

1 box = 4/5 bushel (large box or 2 small boxes) = 40 pounds

½ box = 2/5 bushel (small box) = 20 pounds

¼ box = 1/5 bushel (1/2 small box) = 10 pounds

Navel oranges will also be sold in January, if available. Grapefruit will be on sale again in January, February and March. Honeybells/Tangelos will be sold only in January in ½ box and ¼ box sizes and will cost \$25/\$12.50. Temple oranges will be sold only in February and March in ½ box and ¼ box sizes and will cost \$18.50/\$9.25.



## The More Things Change

Martha W. McCartney



*“Plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.”*

Jean-Baptiste Alphonse Karr, 1849

There’s a great deal of truth in the saying, “The more things change, the more they stay the same.” In 1732 when the Rev. William Dawson, an Oxford graduate with a doctorate in divinity, preached a sermon at Bruton Parish, he chided parishioners about Virginians’ practice of observing Christ’s birth with feasting, toasting, and convivial celebrations. He was referring to the twelve days of Christmas, which were festive and often included elaborate parties, formal balls, gaming, horse races, and weddings. Houses great and small were crowded with guests and near-neighbors who came for the merrymaking, which sometimes lasted for several days. Mr. Dawson warned his parishioners that such secular expressions of “luxury and intemperance” could easily degenerate into “sin and sensuality.” How often that actually happened, we can’t be sure, and maybe that’s a good thing.

The Christmas season, which began on December 25<sup>th</sup>, ended on Twelfth Night, January 6<sup>th</sup>. Some people believed that it was unlucky to leave holly decorations up after Twelfth Night or Epiphany, but others were convinced that the prickly branches should be saved, to attract good luck or, as some thought, to prevent lightning strikes. The English and their colonists used the Julian or “Old Style” calendar as did other Protestant countries. It wasn’t until 1752 that England officially adopted the Gregorian or “New Style” calendar, which Roman Catholic Europe began using in 1582 because it conformed more closely to the solar year. It is the date-keeping system we use today. Some Orthodox communities of faith celebrate Christmas on January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Gregorian calendar equivalent of December 25<sup>th</sup>. ❖

## Morning Prayer

John Greenman

A web of relationships enlivens our worship when we read Morning Prayer each weekday in the Historic Chapel. Memories of former mentors and friends as well as the presence of current Hickory Neckers quicken the ancient words of the versicles and responses, the psalms and chants, the prayers and collects.

When I was ordained deacon in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, I became curate to the Rev. Canon A. Pierce Middleton, Ph.D., rector of St James Episcopal Church in Great Barrington in the Berkshire Hills. Dr. Middleton was a noted historian of Tidewater Maryland and Virginia and a published liturgical scholar taking a vigorous role in forwarding the reform of the 1928 Prayer Book in the second half of the twentieth century. Dr. Middleton had been formerly Director of Research at Colonial Williamsburg, and he had lived in Toano and served as priest-in-charge of Hickory Neck Church. Bert Geddy remembers Dr. Middleton when Bert worshipped at HNC as a boy. Tom and Louanne Martin were friends of Dr. and Mrs. Middleton, and Louanne worked as secretary to Dr. Middleton at Colonial Williamsburg.

During my days as his curate, I learned that morning and evening prayer were designed by Archbishop Thomas Cranmer in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century as liturgical settings for reading the Bible. At that time, the Bible had recently been translated into English, and the laity were hearing it read to them in their own language for the first time. This reading in the vernacular was an event with revolutionary implications because it opened the possibility that each person could interpret the Holy Scripture according to his own conscience. The daily offices of morning and evening prayer intended for the use of both clergy and laity and compiled from the nine hourly monastic devotions fostered the reading of the entire Scriptures in the context of worship. The Churches of the Anglican Communion throughout the world repeat this daily custom and are thus united in prayer and intercession. When we meet for Morning Prayer in the Historic Chapel, we stand with the holy church throughout the ages, the communion of saints, and our current friends and neighbors giving glory to God through the reading of God's Word and the prayers ancient and modern. ❖

## December Celebrations



### Birthdays

1 Doug Mistler	19 Donna Culp
3 Benjamin Delk	20 Bill Harrison
4 John Dutro	20 Shannon Houser
4 Madison Vogt	22 Angela Casanave
5 Nancy Snyder	22 Joseph Pruitt
6 Bryce Corlett	23 Vicki Parker
7 Caroline Dozier	24 Michael Wilson
7 Karen Small	25 John Culp
10 Doug Smith	26 David Forrest
10 Jarrett Vogt	26 Tori Otsot
11 Don Seeterlin	28 Debby Corlett
14 Eve Beisch	30 George Bridewell
15 Joseph Banks	30 P. J. Casanave
17 Julian Vogt	31 Joy Tanner
18 Sue Edwards	31 Bruce Hill
18 Noel Sinclair	

### Anniversaries

1 Alita & Bill Small
12 Kay & Norm Cooper
19 Diane & Henry McQueen
21 Mary & Clay Brittain
21 Sue & Chuck Edwards
22 Bonnie & Ben Manning
26 Melissa & Chris Casheros
28 Charlotte & Chris Ellmers
28 Toni & Aaron Small
31 Esther & Bob Gay

If your birthday or anniversary is this month and you are not listed above, please send the appropriate information to [nuggets@hickoryneck.org](mailto:nuggets@hickoryneck.org).

## A Gift for Hickory Neck for All Seasons...

### The Annex

Mary Teale

THE ANNEX MAY BE HICKORY NECK CHURCH'S BEST KEPT SECRET. Even the directions to get there are mysterious. Drivers are directed to turn right at the small white sign with the number 2896 on it. At 55 mph this sign is well-nigh impossible to see. However, if one successfully makes the turn onto the dirt road, one seems to be going off into an uninhabited cornfield. In fact, on a dark night, drivers have missed the road entirely and gone directly into the field. But that is another story.

Moving slowly up the road, newcomers are encouraged to see a farmhouse appear behind its sheltering trees. And then, "What is that?" Peacocks are seen picking their way through the tall grass. Peacocks! Behind the farmhouse, more peacocks are strolling, long feathered tails brushing the grass. A flurry of geese hurries across the green space as if driven by an unseen hand.

The farmhouse is the Annex. First time visitors should be forewarned; everyone goes in the back door. In 1976 Fred Boelt purchased it from Joan Forrest's uncle and moved in with his young family. Since then he has made many additions to the original building, adding four bedrooms on the upper floors and a great room that was built specifically to accommodate a large pegged mantel built by his grandfather of 18<sup>th</sup> C. heart pine wood. It is a formal room with the mantel dominating one wall. Over the mantel is a wooden representation of the shield of the royal coat of arms of the United Kingdom. An 18<sup>th</sup> C. painting of a woman in a blue silk gown hangs above a bowl of peacock feathers that echoes the blue of her gown.

The rest of the first floor rooms are interestingly unpredictable with different floorings and unexpected door frames and sizes that may be explained from various additions done over the course of 125 years. The contents represent the interest of the owner including dishes and furniture from eight generations of

Fred's family and books from three family libraries on history, genealogy and birds. The kitchen has a nicely framed picture of an Old English Gamecock rooster. Little rooster pieces may be found scattered about on tables and shelves.

Why is the house called the Annex of Hickory Neck Church? It is an affectionate term given because the farm has been the location of church receptions, lunches, dinners, meetings, vestry and staff retreats, and interviews for new staff since 1984 when Bishop

Vache was entertained there. In 1986 Jim Kellett was interviewed after a dinner of company chicken, wild rice, broccoli and a special dessert, brought by Mary Brittain from Thalhimer in Richmond. Ann Dieterle and Lauren McDonald were also interviewed after dinner. When the peacocks screeched outside during the interviews, everyone laughed and said that if the peacocks screamed, it was a good sign. When Henry McQueen was interviewed, the peacocks did not scream. Was that a bad omen? No, as it turns out, for when he

left with Fr. Michael, the rare white peacock was seen on the roof over the doorway. It was a good sign.

In 2012 Fred has hosted two Vestry Retreats, four lunches or dinners for prospective staff, two Personnel Committee meetings, a Meet and Greet reception for Henry McQueen and a Stewardship meeting. All of these events involved food for many people who could be counted on to be well fed with Fred's southern food – ham biscuits, sweet tea, and his aunt's special recipe for baked beans. Another crowd pleaser is his apple dumpling dessert, sweetened with Mountain Dew, which has caused unseemly jockeying for position by church members, eager to get second helpings.

The farmhouse has been a place where Hickory Neck members can meet in private to discuss matters of importance to the functioning of the Church. They can



relax in the comfortable surroundings and bond together over food and conversation shared.

A few years ago, Hope Brans, Parish Administrator, was inspired to give Fred a little brass plaque for Christmas. It states simply "HNC Annex". It has been hanging on Fred's back door ever since.

Thank you, Fred, for allowing us to gather at the Annex. ❖



Darren Stone

*"When he is King we will give him King's gifts,  
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,  
Beautiful robes," said the young girl to Joseph,  
Fair with her firstborn on Bethlehem Down.*

*Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight,  
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold.  
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music,  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.*

*Here he has peace and a short while for dreaming,  
Close huddle oxen to keep him from cold,  
Mary for love and for lullaby music,  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.*

*From Bethlehem Down by Bruce Blunt*



(As of 10/31/12)

YTD Budget Income	\$337,705.80
YTD Actual Income	\$336,636.25
YTD Budget Expense	\$333,444.94
YTD Actual Expense	\$324,234.37

Hurricane Sandy spared us major damage in late October. However, the threat of severe weather on the 28<sup>th</sup> slowed our income stream, but we are a diligent parish. Income for the first Sunday in November was above normal, and we thank you for catching up after the storm passed.

October income was under budget by \$6,909, and year-to-date income was under budget by \$1,070. Expenses for October were over budget by \$3,336, and year-to-date under budget by \$9,211. October finished in the red by \$13,631, but year-to-date, we are in the black by \$12,402. The cushion from prior months came in handy in October. We did make a payment of \$2,000 toward the principal of our loan, bringing the balance to \$326,463.07 as of November 1<sup>st</sup>.

We have just passed through the harvest season, culminated with a day set aside to give thanks to God for all of the many blessings bestowed on us. We are particularly thankful for all of your giving of Time and Talent and Treasure that you share so freely at Hickory Neck. Advent approaches. It is a time of new beginnings, a time of preparation for the birth of Christ, a time for renewing commitments. As we prepare for the New Year, be ever mindful that through the Grace of God and your ongoing commitment of Time, Talent and Treasure, our beacon will shine like the star over Bethlehem, calling many to our Holy Hill.

**Fred Boelt, Treasurer**



Hickory Neck Episcopal Church  
8300 Richmond Road  
Toano, VA 23168

Tel (757) 566-0276 Fax (757) 566-0081

*“Rooted in history and embracing the future, through Christ”*

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
WILLIAMSBURG, VA 23185  
PERMIT NO. 125

## Hickory Neck Happenings



On November 11th over 100 parishioners gathered to celebrate the many blessings we share here at Hickory Neck. Good food and great fellowship were enjoyed to the music of the Moon Sherpas



Photos by Gay Forloine & Parr McQueen

### Nuggets Staff:

Editor: Jim Izzo  
Spotlight Reporters: Mary Teale  
Tori Otstot

Historical Reporter: Martha McCartney  
Production: Rebecca Zoellner

January Deadline – December 10<sup>th</sup>

E-mail articles to [nuggets@hickoryneck.org](mailto:nuggets@hickoryneck.org)