



Hickory Neck Nuggets

January 2014

Epiphany

By The Reverend Henry P. McQueen

Epiphany is almost upon us. On Monday, 6 January at 7 p.m. in the Historic Chapel we will celebrate the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. This is most often depicted in the giving of the gifts by the Magi, the first Gentiles to worship Christ. Tradition has it that the three kings Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar presented Christ the gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These gifts are said to foretell the story of Christ: gold signifies his royalty as King of Kings, frankincense, an incense, speaks to his divinity, and myrrh, an ointment used in burial rites, signifies his death, burial, and resurrection.

Epiphany is one of the seven Principal Feasts of the liturgical calendar. Please join us on Monday the 6th to share in this celebration.



O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

BCP, p. 214

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The flowers that adorn our altar on Sunday morning are given through the goodness of members who contribute for their purchase. A donation to the flower fund is a beautiful way to remember, honor or give thanks for loved ones. The 2014 Altar Flower Schedule is now posted on the kiosk located in the New Chapel. We can accommodate multiple donors on any Sunday, however, on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sunday of the month services are held in both Chapels. On these Sundays it is necessary to prepare arrangements for both Chapels, and therefore it is our hope we will have two donors. During Lent the altar is bare and during Advent greens adorn the altar. If this is a time you wish to recognize a special occasion a donation can be made to the flower fund. For more information please contact **Lucy Rothnie at 804-966-9811**.

A contribution of \$60 is suggested.



Time and Talent Festival to be Held January 12

By Margene Hartsough

God has given each of us talents, and we all find the time to do those activities that are important to us. Hopefully we all can devote some of our time during the coming year to share our God-given talents, by participating in one or several of the ministries at Hickory Neck. Many ministries take only a small amount of time; others take whatever time we are willing to give. Training is provided for those activities that may require special instruction or information, but none are difficult. Wherever you might choose to give your time and share your talent, it is certain you will reap more than you give.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, January 12, for the Time and Talent Festival immediately following the 9 a.m. service. Share your talents and a small portion of your time by participating in the joy of work on our holy hill.

Nuggets Staff

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Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month. Items received after this date will be considered for publication in a future issue.

Please send submissions to nuggets@hickoryneck.org

Should We Have a 14th Annual Fall Festival?

The 13th Annual Fall Festival is history. We did well, generating over \$8,000 for charity. Every group we support needs and appreciates our help. From 2007 to 2011 we raised around \$12,000 a year. In 2012 that number dropped to \$9,369, although we received \$4,600 in grants, so the charities we support did not notice a difference. This year has been a different story. Both the money raised and the number of parishioners helping dropped off. Are we tired of a Fall Festival? Is it time for a change?

We got together to discuss this the week after Thanksgiving. We came up with a number of ideas; some may have merit, and others we probably should not repeat. We started with the question: should we keep the same format but have the Fall Festival in May? The competition in the fall is intense. No weekend had less than two or three competing events. Do we bring back Bill Forloine's famous Brunswick stew? Do we have two smaller events? Do we have several parish dinners? Do we go to other events with David Ware's cooker under the name of Holy Smokes and sell BBQ?

What makes Hickory Neck so special is the spirit, creativity, and, quite frankly, the hard work of our members. A number of years ago we conducted visioning sessions. We came up with some great ideas; many were implemented, which improved our church. We think it is time for all who want to participate to come together and give their input on how to improve or change our Fall Festival. On Sunday, January 19th, during our Adult Forum between the 9 and 11:15 services, we will have a Fundraising Visioning Session. Together we can build on the great success of what was started 13 years ago to help make our Fall Festival, or whatever else we decide to do, become better than ever.

Fred Boelt, Mark Kintner, Henry McQueen, and Bill Teale



● Thanks so much to the very generous 40+ Hickory Neck families who supported the **Angel Tree**. The Salvation Army said there are 1037 "Angels" this year. I know that our contributions will be greatly appreciated and help 45 children in the Williamsburg/Toano area have a happier Christmas this year. **Nancy Snyder**

● 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.

Mission

By The Reverend Henry P. McQueen

Each Sunday when the offering plate is passed, many parishioners add their pledge envelopes or checks to the alms basin; these donations are credited to them. However, we are blessed to receive an amount of cash each week in the plate that we call "loose plate." These are really free will offerings and important to the work of the church.

In addition to these regular offerings, we are instituting a Second Sunday Mission. On the second Sunday of the month we will donate the total "loose plate" received to an organization in our community. It would be wonderful if attendees, in addition to their regular contributions, would add a loose-cash offering to be included in this donation.

On 12 January the collection will go to Angels of Mercy, a medical clinic that offers compassionate care regardless of the ability to pay. Since this organization was the first recipient of the proceeds of the Fall Festival, it is only fitting that they are also the first recipient of the distribution from our initial Second Sunday Mission collection.



Vestry *Highlights*

The vestry met on December 10, 2013 in the Narthex. Fred Boelt gave the treasurer's report. In November, our income was under budget by \$1979.16, and our year to date budget was over by \$19,773.25. We have received 112 pledges for \$392,918.

We welcomed new vestry members Linda Becker, Larry Kelley, and John Rothnie, and shared in a Holy Eucharist.

The next vestry meeting will take place on January 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Wilkinson Center.

Jean Jundt, Register

Saraband

By Sarah Ford Bland

“Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place. . .” (from *“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”*, Hymnal 1982 # 105)

As I write this column we are in the middle of Advent. By the time you read this we will have experienced the remainder of Advent’s hopeful preparations and promises, fulfilled in the wonder and glory of Christmas. Music will have enriched our celebrations, music lovingly presented by our own choirs and instrumentalists as well as by guest musicians. Many thanks are in order! The Parish Choir and Praise Band will have put in many hours of rehearsal to share their musical offerings. The choir has welcomed some additional singers for regular and special services. Several of their anthems featured instrumentalists on violin and flute. A guest soloist and our own mother-daughter duo Rebecca and Marta Zoellner provided special music for the 11:15 service after the Choral Scholars left for their holiday break. And an advance “thank you” to a special women’s ensemble who will sing at services January 5.

Early in December Hickory Neck hosted the vocal chamber ensemble, “Cantori”. Despite the nasty weather a respectable audience of parishioners and townies were treated to their exceptionally fine music making. “Cantori” was equally happy to perform for us. Here are excerpts from the thank you note the director, Agnes French, sent the next day:

“On behalf of Cantori, I'd like to express our appreciation to Hickory Neck. . . We very much enjoyed singing there and felt a very warm welcome from your members. . . thank you for the many details you took care of in regard to logistics, and to the rector and assistant rector . . . Thank you to Mark for running around taking care of everything before the concert, from heat to sewer backups, to personally seating our good friend who is a former pastor who has no feeling in his feet now. Thank you to the ladies who provided such yummy food for a reception afterward. . . Thank you to those who helped move the chancel furniture out - and who now have to move it back! - and to the usher, whose name I didn't catch. (John Greenman) And our thanks to all who braved the ugly weather to come hear us sing. We'd love to come back in the future, if you'd like us to! So - thanks and more thanks!”

I also would like to add my thanks to Sue Dugan and her reception committee for readily agreeing to provide refreshments. Audience and performers lingered for some time enjoying the delectable food and drink and sharing fellowship and thanks.



JANUARY



Birthdays

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Allyson Houser | 12 Wanda Adsit |
| 3 Charles Hunter | 15 Marie Wilkinson |
| 3 Quinn Casheros | 16 Kathryn Bridewell |
| 4 Buddy Matthews | 17 Judy Kintner |
| 4 Marilyn Hughes | 17 Maggie Newson |
| 5 Marta Zoellner | 18 Lauren Bridewell |
| 6 Katrina Buckley | 18 Rebecca Zoellner |
| 7 Jim Ball | 19 Rylie Baum |
| 7 Kathryn Parsons | 21 Robin Seeterlin |
| 8 Tom Martin | 24 Chris Casheros |
| 10 Dave Hartsough | 31 Mary Beth Collier |
| 12 Gayle Bangert | |

Anniversaries

- 4 Penny & Joe Orth
- 15 Ambler & George Loving
- 25 Laurie & Roland Todd
- 31 Phyllis & Don Faas

Did we miss your big day? If your birthday or anniversary is this month and you are not listed above, please send the information to Nuggets@hickoryneck.org



(11/30/13)

YTD Actual Income	\$397,411.75
YTD Actual Expense	\$381,487.00
YTD Net	\$ 15,924.75

In November, income was down by about \$2,000, mainly in the pledge category. The end of the year is approaching, and it would be great to end with all pledges being current. Five Sundays in December will be helpful. Expenses were also under budget for the month, but the month still ended in the red. Year-to-date, we are in the black as noted above, but we have lost some of our headway. Again, in November, generous parishioners made it possible for us to pay \$6,500 toward the principal of our mortgage, reducing that total to \$251,000 at the beginning of December.

Another year is coming to a close. We have moved through Advent, journeyed to Bethlehem to celebrate the birth of Christ, and are now following the star with the Magi. As Epiphany approaches, let us remember that just as there was a bright star leading the wise men to the stable, there is also a bright light shining from our Holy Hill. May this light of peace, love and joy be a constant guide throughout the coming year!

Fred Boelt





Our Prologue

by Martha W. McCartney

Another View of Hickory Neck

Between 1932 and 1937, the Virginia State Commission on Conservation and Development's Division of History and Archaeology received funding from the Works Progress Administration for what was known as the Federal Art Project. The project's goal was creating a series of drawings that could be used to publicize Virginia's historic sites and buildings. The Division of History and Archaeology hired five well qualified artists, who were selected from numerous applicants to local emergency relief offices. Those five men and women, most of whom had some academic training in fine arts, commenced work in 1932.

First of all, field assistant and artist Rex M. Allyn took photographs of historic buildings while he was on assignment to the Division of History and Archaeology's highway marker project. Afterward, he and four other artists created pen-and-ink or pencil drawings from those photographs. Sometimes, the artists were asked to ignore imperfections in the buildings they drew or to omit visual clutter, such as unattractive landscape features. Although the WPA artists' drawings never were published, their illustrations

captured the appearance of 140 historic buildings that were distributed throughout 39 Virginia counties.

During 1934, Elsie Josephine Mistie, a 27-year-old artist from Chicago, Illinois, made a detailed sketch of Hickory Neck Church. The twenty-one drawings she completed as part of Virginia's Federal Art Project included buildings that were in



Charles City, Gloucester, Hanover, Henrico, Isle of Wight, James City, King William, Mathews, New Kent, and Warwick counties. After Mistie completed her assignment in Virginia, she went on to produce stamp designs, while working under the auspices of the National Recovery Act.

Elsie Josephine Mistie gained recognition as an accomplished artist and, over the years, she received commissions for a variety of art projects. Today, her collection of 500 drawings and paintings of wildflowers is preserved in the Arts and Sciences Center for Southeast Arkansas. Other examples of her work can be found at the Rogers Historical Museum in Arkansas. Mistie died in March 1960. ❁



HNC

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Good Things from the Sunshine State

Our December citrus sale was again a success thanks to the volunteers who helped retrieve 177 boxes of navel oranges and pink grapefruit from Richmond, as well as those who participated on sale day. Also, thanks to Mary Teale for her continuing efforts to publicize each sale in the Virginia Gazette which resulted in new customer orders each month. Our next sale on January 15th will include honeybells/tangelos as well as navel oranges and pink grapefruit. The deadline for orders is January 7th. Please email orders to Nancy and Steve Snyder at nansteve13@cox.net, or call them at 804-557-3175.



Stephen Greenhow helped out with the December citrus sale.



On December 15, we were blessed to have Ann Dieterle as our guest preacher. Ann was our first Associate Rector and served at Hickory Neck from 2005 to 2008. She is currently working at St. James in Richmond. She is shown here greeting Barbara Johnson after the 8 o'clock service as Father Henry looks on.

Oh, and the Sunshine State connection? Ann is a transplanted Floridian.