



Hickory Neck Nuggets

August 2015



2015 FALL FESTIVAL

The 15th Annual Fall Festival is on September 19, from 10:00 to 3:00. Our goals continue to be introducing Hickory Neck to the greater Toano/Williamsburg area, getting to know each other a little better, raising money for local charities, and having fun!

Our usual activities include a silent auction, home-style cooking, Amazin' Grazin' bake sale, arts & crafts show and sale, Attic Treasures, tours of the Historic Chapel and grounds, live music, and free kids' events. This year the Williamsburg Area Bicyclists will fit and provide free bike helmets for all the children who attend.

Terry and Jim Day are chairs again this year. They would like to find someone to be a co-chair with them. A few captain positions are still open. They would appreciate it if you would answer the phone when they call!

Angels of Mercy Medical Clinic, Avalon, Salvation Army Transitional Housing, Williamsburg Faith in Action, and several other local charities benefit from our Fall Festival. We have raised \$127,363 for them since 2002.

Please sign up to help and invite your friends and neighbors. Let's make this Fall Festival the best one ever.

Bill Teale

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Sarabande

By Sarah Ford Bland

"This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new." (from a hymn text by Brian Wren)

I love the beginning of a new year—the school year, the liturgical year, the calendar year. I love the preparations, the planning, the organizing. I don't especially love meetings, but I DO like collaborating with others and becoming energized with new and shared ideas. I also like that beginnings offer the opportunity to reflect on the past year, to evaluate and take stock of what ideas worked and are worth keeping, and which ones would be better shelved. I enjoy the many parts of the process as well as the product.

August is the typical time for church musicians to think about the coming new choir season. I'm excited about planning the choral music for the fall and into the winter for the Parish Choir and Choral Scholars. There are resources available for choosing both anthems and psalms. My criteria for selecting choral music: theologically sound text that more or less fits the lectionary; intrinsically beautiful music; it can be sung well by the choir; and I like it! I like to program

a variety of musical styles, and a balance between new and familiar music. Our music library is adequate, but as the Parish Choir continues to grow I enjoy finding new music and adding titles to our collection. Several parishioners have shared music with me that they've heard or sung elsewhere. I appreciate suggestions and am always on the lookout for music that I think is suitable for the choir and will be meaningful to the congregation. I'm also happy to hear any hymn requests, since choosing the Sunday hymns is my responsibility. Please feel free to ask me to schedule your favorite!

The new Parish Choir season begins the first week of September. Rehearsals resume in the New Chapel on Wednesday, September 2 at 7:30 p.m. to prepare for leading worship on Sunday, September 6. New members are welcome!



Updating Member Information

One of our goals this summer is to update the church database, and we need your help. On the first three Sundays in August (August 2, 9, and 16) we will have a table with the information sheet printouts for households. Please take a few minutes before or after the service to review your information and make any additions or corrections. This information helps us to communicate with members in a way that works for them, as well as celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. Thank you for your help!

Nuggets Staff

Editor: Jim Izzo

Historical Reporter: Martha W. McCartney

Contributing Reporter: Mary Teale

Production: Rebecca Zoellner

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

Please send submissions to nuggets@hickoryneck.org

Second Sunday Mission

"For I was hungry, and you fed me. Thirsty and you gave me a drink; I was a stranger, and you received me in your home" --Matthew 25:35

Our Second Sunday Mission in August will be for **From His Hands**, a Christian Ministry made up of churches and other caring groups in our community that serves meals to those in need in the Williamsburg-James City County area.

From His Hands is a volunteer-run organization with an Executive Committee that oversees the operation. It is solely funded by donations from churches, individuals and other organizations.

On Tuesday evenings, one of the groups in the ministry, including the Hickory Neck Outreach, prepares and delivers hot homemade meals to families in need at the Grove Christian Outreach Center.

The ministry provides meat and canned items for the groups to use in meal preparation which helps defray costs for meals for the serving partners. Costs for food can also be reimbursed from funds donated to From His Hands.

So far this year, the HNEC Second Sunday collections have raised the following amounts for the charities listed below:

January – El Hogar, Honduras - \$187

February – Latisha's House Foundation - \$225

March - Proclaiming Grace Outreach - \$181

April – Prison Ministries - \$300

May – Meals on Wheels - \$161

June – Hospice House - \$213.50

July – Eastern State Hospital Cooking Class - \$139



Let's keep our lights shining this summer— make sure your pledge is up to date!

Transition Update

By Juliana Morris

The Discernment Committee is pleased to announce that we have entered the phase of accepting applications for the Rector Search. It is thrilling to receive applications and begin this new chapter of the search process. Applications will be received until August 15. After this deadline, we will decide which applicants become candidates and will conduct conference call interviews with these initial candidates.

The Discernment Committee receives applications from various sources, which include self-referral and the Bishop's referrals, as well as actively promoting our open position through our parishioners, friends of the congregation, our website, the Office of Transition Ministry, and social media. We received success stories from other congregations that actively sought applicants and agree that this is a wonderful addition to the traditional search process. Therefore, the Discernment Committee asks you to publicize the position through word of mouth, social media, email and other avenues to help us get the word out that our beautiful congregation has a Rector opening. Interested people can see our parish profile at hickoryneck.org/rector-search.

As always, the committee thanks you for the honor of serving Hickory Neck. We extend our gratitude for your prayers as we work hard to bring the right Rector to our congregation. ✚



From the Parish Nurse

By Carolyn Gaylord RN, FCN

On April 17th, I received an email from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) concerning the increased use of e-cigarette use among middle and high school students. It highlighted the possible dangers of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) "including e-cigarettes, vapor pens, and similar products." The VDH also stated that though the information focused on use of these products in children and teenagers, it is also relevant to adults.

On April 29th the Virginia Gazette published an article headlined, "Vape business heats up". E-cigarettes are available in many places around town such as convenience stores, gas stations, and Vape shops. "Vape shops" not only sell all the supplies and "juice," but a person can smoke there without restrictions.

E-cigarettes have been around for several years as an attempt by smokers to quit smoking tobacco. However, recent studies do not support this result versus a placebo. "E-cigarettes and similar ENDS have not been adequately tested as tobacco cessation devices." (VDH)

The VDH letter states that "E-cigarettes' emissions are not harmless vapor; the emissions can contain nicotine and other chemicals such as formaldehyde," etc. Therefore, VDH recommends that children be protected from exposure to the emissions from e-cigarettes and all

consumers cautioned that they may be exposed to varying levels of nicotine and/or other chemicals and contaminants in these products. Exposure to nicotine can be through ingestion (swallowing), inhalation (breathing), or absorption through the skin or eyes.

"It is illegal for a minor to purchase or possess any tobacco product, nicotine vapor products or alternative nicotine products, and it is illegal to sell or distribute those products to minors." (VDH) The liquid used or e-liquid, is available in many flavors which might be appealing to children such as bubblegum, cherry, chocolate, and gummy bear and they are not required to be in childproof containers. Which market base is actually being targeted here?

At this time, no state or federal agency regulates manufacturing of ENDS; most contain nicotine, and concentrations vary raising concern for nicotine toxicity for children AND adults. "One teaspoon of an e-liquid

with a nicotine concentration of 1.8% could be fatal for a 200 pound person. For a child, exposure to even a small amount of e-liquid could be life-threatening". (VDH)

Alarming fact from the CDC: more than

half of recent calls to poison control centers related to e-cigarettes involved children less than 6 years of age.

"Quit Now Virginia" is a toll-free tobacco cessation phone counseling and information service available to Virginia residents aged 13 and older, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call: 1-800-QUIT-NOW.

"God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world...." BCP p. 829



Chaplain's Corner

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. Luke 8:24

By Chaplain Don Seeterlin

When the waters get rough, and the ship of my life begins to rock, I have no trouble turning to God for help. I find comfort in His presence and embrace. I am strengthened with the realization that He loves me and has always been there for me. Handing him the rudder of my life, and trusting in His guidance seems natural and right. Yet it seems like once the storms have passed, and beautiful clear skies begin to appear, I am always too anxious to take back the helm, and begin charting my own course. I forget so quickly that it was only by following His ways, and not my own, that I found safe navigation through the storm, that the shoals of crises and confusion didn't claim me, and the rapids of temptation didn't scuttle me altogether. God sees things from a completely different vantage point than I do. His is an eternal and ever-present viewpoint, whereas I am burdened with linear time and a relatively small focus. His love and caring is complete and recklessly all embracing, whereas mine seems to be based more on what is in it for me, or how it makes me feel.

Following God and allowing Him to guide your life is not a once and done process. Giving yourself to God, and becoming obedient to His call and plan for your life is not something you decide to do on a weekend, and complete within a week or so. There is no set time line, no list of technical qualifications requiring mastering, and no graduation ceremony. It's a continually evolving, ever-changing, ever-refreshing, and ever-emptying process. Everything you see can become something new and different. Every person you meet may begin to radiate a resemblance to God. The earth, stars, planets and sun may cause you to pause and reflect on their beauty and the awesome God who created them. Even more importantly,

every act of kindness and compassion you experience may help you realize the Love God has for you, and all of His children. Yet the more you learn and grow, the more your sense of humbleness and thankfulness that such a loving and caring God would care so deeply for you as an individual seems to increase.

Yes, loving God and turning your life over to Him can be both scary and comforting. Many times after the initial or repeated vow to trust God in all things, to follow in faith alone where no predictable map or chart exists, we may be tempted to take back control, because we think we can see where He wants us to go. It can even become a bargaining with Him. Until that is, the storms of life once again begin to blow, and we find ourselves tossed to and fro. Then again we turn to God, and profess our undying belief and trust in Him.

It makes me wonder how many times we miss some great opportunity and end up having to go through untold trials and struggles, not because it was God's will, but because we didn't listen to His guidance and act in faith to follow where He would have us go. How many times we have sailed past some beautiful port of peace, security, and opportunity, because we couldn't see over the waves of life, and were too timid to trust God to guide us safely in. The Israelites did something similar in the desert when they first reconnoitered the Promised Land, and were too afraid to trust in the God who had led them thus far to give them safe passage into the land of milk and honey. It wound up being 40 years and another generation before they again had the opportunity to realize God's promise for their lives.

Let us trust God to be with us in the still waters, as well as during the storms. ✠



AUGUST



CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

| | | | |
|----|------------------|----|------------------|
| 2 | Ervin Best | 15 | Laurie Brown |
| 2 | Gay Forloine | 16 | Ben Lensenmayer |
| 7 | Jeff Seiler | 16 | Sam Lensenmayer |
| 7 | George Loving | 17 | Tanya White |
| 8 | Bunky Garfield | 18 | Ethan Ross |
| 8 | Elizabeth March | 22 | Parker Kindley |
| 8 | Pete Haines | 25 | Steve Snyder |
| 9 | Claire Ferguson | 25 | Martha McCartney |
| 10 | Martha Millhouse | 26 | Kathy Balentine |
| 12 | Sue Banks | 28 | Ann Cooper |
| 13 | Brette Miller | 28 | Wilson Simmons |
| 13 | Lisa Small | 30 | Janet Parsons |
| 13 | Andrew Small | | |

Anniversaries

| | |
|----|------------------------------|
| 6 | Terry & Jim Day |
| 7 | Janet & Ken Parsons |
| 8 | Paula & David Simmons |
| 23 | Pam & Kevin Maddox-Jefferson |
| 23 | Janet & David McConaughy |

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



(06/30/15)

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Budget Income | \$216,459.46 |
| YTD Actual Income | \$219,307.95 |
| Budget Expense | \$216,959.62 |
| YTD Actual Expense | \$208,497.73 |

As reported previously, we had a strong increase in income in May, but that reversed itself in June. Pledge income for the month was below budget by \$5,784, and year-to-date, it is below budget by \$1,613. Non-pledge income continues to reach above budget while our loose plate offering is running a little behind this year. Expenses for both May and June and year-to-date ended below budget on June 30th.

Looking at the first half of the year, our total income is over budget by \$2,848, and our total expenses are under budget by \$8,462. Thus, we continue to operate in the black by \$10,810. This may look like an enviable position as we move into midsummer. However, our operating expenses continue and our program expenses begin to increase as we prepare for fall activities and intensified search expenses.

As you read this, we have passed through the Summer Solstice, the period of the year that has the longest amount of sunlight. The Dog Days encroach with their heat and humidity. Even with the added sunlight, the electric bill soars as we need cooling during the heat of the day. But at Hickory Neck, the beams from our parish continue to shine brightly, radiating love and hope for all. As you enjoy the pleasures of summer, please keep those contributions of Time, Talent and Treasure flowing to our Holy Hill.

Fred Boelt





Our Prologue

By Martha W. McCartney

Our Holy and Historic Hill

Most of us, when entering historic Hickory Neck Church, probably have noticed the little metal plaque which states that our wonderful old house-of-worship is on the National Register of Historic Places and the Virginia Landmarks Register. Hickory Neck was added to the registers in 1973 and since that time, only seven other buildings in James City County have achieved this special recognition: Carter's Grove, Hickory Neck, the Norge Train Depot, Pinewoods, Powhatan, Whitehall, and Windsor Castle. Also within the county are five archaeological sites that have been named to both registers: a prehistoric site at Croaker Landing, the Chickahominy Shipyard, the Governor's Land (not to be confused with the modern development of that name), and the Pasbehay Indian settlement. Jamestown Island in its entirety is on both the State and National Registers.

The Virginia Department of Historic Resources manages the Virginia Landmarks Register program, and all sites added to the state register are proposed for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. Both register programs are designed to recognize our state's historic resources and to encourage their preservation. The National Register, established in 1966 and managed by the National Park Service, is the official list of structures, sites, objects, and districts that embody the historical and cultural foundations of the nation. The National Register currently includes almost 3,000 properties in Virginia. The Virginia Landmarks Register, also established in 1966 and managed by the

Department of Historic Resources, is the state's official list of properties important to Virginia's history. The same criteria are used to evaluate resources for inclusion in the state register as are used for the National Register.

Why is being a registered historic landmark important? Most Americans take pride in their heritage and strive to preserve its tangible reminders. In Virginia, the state's rich history is reflected in both vernacular and high-style

architecture, acknowledged to be some of the best in the United States. Evidence of our past also is preserved in the state's numerous archaeological sites, battlefields, and historic districts. The hilltop on which our historic church is perched is a large archaeological site that includes a graveyard; the remains of the main body of Hickory Neck Church, built in 1734; the wall that surrounded it;

and Hickory Neck's north transept, built in 1774. In 1825 the oldest part of our historic church was razed and the north transept was elongated and converted into a public school, Hickory Neck Academy. Hickory Neck was used as a hospital during the American Revolution and it was the site of a Civil War encampment.

There is a liminal quality about our historic worship space, a quiet sanctuary from which thousands of prayers have emanated over the centuries. Stop by on a quiet day and experience that special feeling, intangible but almost tangible. ✠



Conjectural rendering of original church showing 1774 addition, by Sidney Eugene King,



HNC

HICKORY NECK CHURCH
8300 Richmond Road
Toano, VA 23168
Tel (757) 566 0276
hickoryneck.org

Vacation Bible School

Hickory Neck will be alive with activity during the week of August 3-7 as we host Vacation Bible School. While much of the fun will take place in the New Chapel and Narthex, the Historic Chapel and the Wilkinson Center may also be used. The sessions will run from 9 a.m. to noon each day, so if you come out to the church during that time, you can expect to see children and adults engaged in *Building Faith Brick by Brick*. Contact Paula Simmons at vbs@hickoryneck.org or at 564-7998 for information.

This year, the outreach focus for Vacation Bible School will be **Grove Christian Outreach Center** and **Avalon**. Cartons will be available in the Narthex for any contributions members of the congregation would like to add to the ones the children bring. These groups really appreciate our kindness. Listed below are items each center can use for their children:

Grove Christian Outreach Center:

- School Supplies
- Items for Christmas planning –
 - baby blankets
 - toys for the blessing room
 - Dollar Store items for shoe boxes
- Diapers
- Pull ups
- Wipes
- Underwear and socks for youth – all sizes

Avalon:

- Paper two-pocket folders without metal clasps
- Composition notebooks
- Spiral notebooks
- Pens and pencils
- Backpacks (for all ages)
- Children's scissors
- Glue sticks
- Binders
- Pencil cases
- Hand sanitizers
- Tissues
- Cleaning supplies

Thank you for anything you can give for these centers that do so much for children in need!!

Ann Cooper