



Hickory Neck Nuggets

April 2014

Holy Week & Easter Worship

By The Reverend Michael L. Delk

Some time between 381 and 384, a woman named Egeria made a pilgrimage from Western Europe to the Holy Land, an arduous and somewhat dangerous trek. The Roman Empire was falling apart, prey to bands of warriors descending from central Europe. Travel wasn't as safe as it once was, but Egeria went anyway.

After visiting Constantinople, many centuries before it was renamed Istanbul, Egeria went to Mount Sinai, and wound up in Jerusalem in time for the Holy Week festivities. It must have been a moving experience to worship on the Mount of Olives, in the Garden of Gethsemane, at Golgotha, where Jesus died, and to visit his tomb. The cycle of worship was veritably around-the-clock, all week long.

We've modified our worship over the centuries, compacted our observance of the events of the last week of Jesus' earthly life into discrete hour-long experiences. Try as I might to describe them adequately to you, the only way to get a sense of how powerful these ancient liturgies are is to experience them firsthand.

On Sunday, April 13th, we will celebrate Palm

Sunday. Our 8:00 a.m. Eucharist in the Historic Chapel will remain largely unchanged. Come in, sit down, say a prayer, and we'll bless the palms distributed as you enter worship. Eucharist at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. will begin in front of the Historic Chapel, where we will bless the palm fronds and crosses and process down to the New Chapel, weather permitting. This replicates, in

some small degree, the journey Jesus made when he entered Jerusalem triumphantly. We will hear a full account of his passion from one of the Gospels. It will be a solemn day, where, within thirty minutes, we will go from shouting "Hosanna" to hearing the chronicle of Jesus on the cross.

On April 17th, our Maundy Thursday worship will start at 7:00 p.m., in the New Chapel.

Perhaps no worship experience is more emotional than this one, when we commemorate Jesus' final night with his disciples before his betrayal and arrest. Why do we celebrate Communion every Sunday? It is because of this symbolic meal that Jesus shared with his original disciples on a Thursday night almost 2,000 years ago. Maundy Thursday brings us to the very roots of our faith

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and practice.

Foot-washing is an optional activity for those who wish to experience how Jesus served his own disciples at their last supper together. By washing the feet of another, we share in the humility of Jesus. By having our own feet washed, we experience a different humbleness, that of the disciples being served by their Lord.

Worship will conclude with the stripping of the altar. We will remove every decoration, leaving our sanctuary bald and empty, a symbol of what the disciples lost that night so long ago, when their Lord, and ours, was taken captive by armed men.

April 18th will be Good Friday, the only day on the Church's calendar when we cannot celebrate Holy Communion, because on this day we connect with Jesus' death. The exclusion of Communion is a symbol of his absence. At 12:00 p.m., in the Historic Chapel and at 7:00 p.m., in the New Chapel, we will offer the Liturgy of Good Friday, a somber service of song, prayer, and scripture.

Good Friday really hits home. If Jesus hadn't died, there would be no Resurrection. Easter makes no sense if we ignore what Jesus went through: the torture, the public humiliation, the agony of the cross. At 6:00 p.m., in the New Chapel, we will walk The Stations of the Cross, a fourteen-point journey through the final hours before Jesus' death.

April 19th, Holy Saturday, is a day of waiting. Jesus is in the tomb. Who knows what was going through the minds of the original disciples? After sunset, we gather for The Great Vigil of Easter. This used to last all night long, but we've scaled it down to about 90 minutes.

We begin outside the New Chapel, where we kindle the first fire of Easter, and light the Paschal Candle to symbolize the light of Christ present in our midst. Each person has a small taper candle, lit from the Paschal Candle. We process into a dark Nave, where we hear the ancient hymn of light, the Exsultet, in

my opinion the most beautiful hymn ever written.

Then we hear the history of God's saving deeds in history, starting with the story of creation, the Exodus of Israel from Egypt, and prophetic writings that point to the arrival of the Messiah. About midway through, we renew our baptismal covenant, and we shout out, "The Lord is risen. He is risen indeed." All the lights come on. It's an exhilarating experience, going from almost total darkness to very bright light, similar to what you might expect from exiting a sealed tomb into a new dawn. We conclude, of course, with the first Eucharist of Easter. Of all our beautiful ways to glorify God, nothing compares to The Great Vigil of Easter.

Finally, April 20th is The Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, a.k.a. Easter Day. Worship on this day is really very much like any other Sunday, except people make a special

effort to be together on this day. Our 8:00 a.m. Eucharist will occur in the Historic Chapel. I know that usually the third Sunday of the month we hold the 8:00 in the New Chapel, but we have a lot of musicians that need the space to prepare for the 9:00 Eucharist. Our Parish Choir, Praise Band, and some visiting brass will provide special music at 9:00. At 11:15, the Choral Scholars and a brass quartet

will be present. In between our 9:00 and 11:15 Eucharists, we will have a traditional Easter egg hunt for our children, weather permitting.

Egeria took considerable risks to make her once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage. She travelled far from home and underwent intense and lengthy worship experiences. The practices of Holy Week in Jerusalem took some time to be adopted by Christian congregations elsewhere. We are fortunate that we can enjoy some of what she experienced, not far from home, and in a truncated but immensely powerful format. I encourage you to make time in your busy schedule to be present for these holy days. Every year, it's a pilgrimage of the soul for all of us, and where it leads us is wonderful. ✨

Of all our beautiful ways
to glorify God, nothing
compares to The Great
Vigil of Easter.

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. Items received after this date will be considered for publication in a future issue.

Please send submissions to nuggets@hickoryneck.org

Sarabande

By Sarah Ford Bland

Spring has barely arrived, yet most parents are already looking ahead to summer for enriching activities and camps and fun for their children. May I suggest one? **Williamsburg Summer Music Camp** is an ecumenical music and arts day camp, celebrating its 22nd year this July. It was founded by several local church musicians, including me, when I was director of children's music and hand bells at Williamsburg Presbyterian Church, "to provide children with unchanged voices a summer singing experience and to introduce them to new forms of musical and artistic expression, all to the praise of God." We organizers wanted to have a high quality camp that emphasized singing, was supplemented with a variety



of musical arts and craft electives, and was very affordable. The volunteer faculty is drawn from many churches, including Hickory Neck this year (Terri Lensenmayer and I are both teaching). For many years the camp's location rotated among several churches. Now it is always held at Williamsburg United Methodist Church because of its central location, spacious facilities and plentiful parking. In addition to choir, this summer's 19 arts and craft offerings include clowning, guitar, hand bells, knitting, woodworking and jewelry-making. Brochures with registration forms are available at church, the Williamsburg Regional Libraries and for download at www.williamsburgumc.org.



Our Holy Week services will be richly enhanced by musical leadership and offerings from our parishioners and guest musicians.

Palm Sunday	
9:00 a.m.	Praise Band and Parish Choir
11:15 a.m.	Choral Scholars
Maundy Thursday	
7:00 p.m.	Choral Scholars
Good Friday	
7:00 p.m.	Parish Choir
Easter Vigil	
8:00 p.m.	Choral Ensemble
Easter Sunday	
9:00 a.m.	Praise Band, Parish Choir and Trumpet
11:15 a.m.	Choral Scholars and Brass Quartet

Fundraising for the Future at Hickory Neck

By The Reverend Michael L. Delk

On Sunday, January 19th, we held a session during adult forum to share ideas about how Hickory Neck can enhance our fundraising efforts for local charities. It was well-attended, and a number of good ideas were offered. We also received more good ideas in person and via email after the 19th. Every suggestion we received was carefully considered, and all had merit in terms of their potential for some kind of ministry. Over the past six weeks, a small group has met three times to review your suggestions and how we can best move forward as a parish in the ministry of raising funds for the neediest in our broader community. That team consisted of our most recent Fall Festival chairs, Mark Kintner and Bill Teale, our Treasurer, Fred Boelt, and both Father Henry and me.

Many of the ideas shared at our January 19th meeting seem more like fellowship or formation opportunities than fundraisers. Those ideas are being directed to the leadership of the appropriate ministry teams, and I hope we can begin implementing some of them soon. Others will take more time.

One idea was to have a dinner in the spring with both silent and live auction items. The cost of the meal would be covered by reasonably-priced tickets, so that all of the proceeds from the auction can be given directly to our charitable partners in mission. We realized that we did not have enough time to have the

event this year so we are looking at the spring of 2015. We plan to speak with St. Martin's and Bruton Parish about making this a tri-parish event. If they agree to join us, we'll have a larger crowd and be able to put up a larger number of enticing auction items to bid than any single parish could collect alone. This will be a really fun fellowship activity, and could build stronger connections with our two closest sister parishes.

A number of ideas we received involved enhancements to our principal fundraiser, the Fall Festival. Of course, the Fall Festival involves much more than mere fundraising. It is an excellent fellowship event for us, and it invites the broader community to visit and share the fun with us. The hope is that this might be a "back door" of helping people reengage their faith with a loving community. However, fundraising is a key component of the event. I'm confident the beneficiaries of our efforts feel that way.

Our next Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 20th, and will be somewhat different. We plan to offer plots of ground for people to hold their own yard-sale. If enough people take a plot, for which we will charge a nominal fee, we could have the mother of all yard sales at Hickory Neck. People in our area like yard sales, and they tend to come early. So we are reviewing the feasibility of selling a simple breakfast

for people to nibble on as they seek out that ever-elusive yard sale treasure. This will not displace our Attic Treasures, which will continue as before, a locus of pure profit without a penny of overheard, consistently one of the biggest fundraisers of the entire Festival. Most of our other activities will continue as well, though some in a modified form.

We have reconfigured the organizational chart of the event, with the intent of simplifying preparations, especially for key leadership. Being in charge of the entire Festival or even one component of it can be incredibly taxing. We think this new system of organization will help spread the work around, so that everyone can enjoy the Festival more. However, we face a significant challenge. To date, we do not have co-chairs for the Fall Festival. We need two people to accept this ministry leadership responsibility, soon, or we will not be able to have a Fall Festival in 2014. We simply cannot ask the same people year after year to take on these major tasks. It's a recipe for ministry burnout, the last thing we want at Hickory Neck.

We hope that in the future, a modified Fall Festival will enable us to raise funds, enjoy fellowship more, make a strong witness of Christ's love to the broader community, and not lay too great a burden on any person. We also hope that by having two principal fundraisers each year, perhaps by

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collaborating with other congregations, we can have twice the fun and take our annual fundraising efforts to a whole new level to support those in our community in greatest need.

If we don't have a Fall Festival in 2014, it won't be the end of the world. Every ministry follows a cycle. Each waxes and wanes. A year off might yield some positive results, but a lot of people, most of them in dire poverty, depend on our help. The funds we raise help to provide services they otherwise might do without. Please contact Father Henry or me if you are interested in serving as a co-chair of our Fall Festival. ✨



God's Love for Us Is Unconditional

By Chaplain Don Seeterlin

All we know about God is what He has revealed to us over the ages. He has continuously showed us His love and mercy, even in times when we may not have been in the most receptive mood to experience them.

I was driving down the road the other day, and I was not in the best of spirits. My mind was racing in a hundred different directions, and I found myself sorely short of temper. I realized that in this mood, I was not going to be of any use to anyone: my neighbor, my fellow drivers, myself, or my God. I knew also that I needed to take the time and make the effort to try and center myself, to allow the peace of God which envelops and surrounds each one of us, to enter into me and thereby help me to rest in His Love and allow the daily clutter to dissipate. But I was **angry!** Still, I knew that God would listen and love me despite my emotions. I realized then again that this God who loves me despite my humanness loves me in my humanness: warts, anger, emotions and all. His love is continuously available to me; I needed only to acknowledge it to experience it. I realized that God was not the one who put restrictions or conditions on His Love; I did.

I believe it is innate in all of us to try and place some kind of condition on God's love, for us, for others, for the world. We may do this for myriad reasons, each one with some sense of righteous reasoning. But most times the reasoning is based on our imperfect (human) perceptions of what God should do or

Chaplain's Corner

be concerned about, and it may or may not be exactly what God is concerned about. As long as we concern ourselves with these man-made conditions, with trying to do God's job for Him, we have trouble allowing ourselves the time needed to "*Be Still, and Know that I am God*" as Psalm 46:10 reminds us.

I found that God was there, ready and willing to accept me despite my anger, once I allowed myself time to be still and just share the moment with Him. He is there for all of us, despite our preconceived notions and inhibitions. God doesn't place conditions on our relationship with Him; we do. While *our* love for Him and others may contain some conditions, *His* perfect love for us is totally and freely shared, like Grace; totally unearned and unmerited. He loves us with a love beyond conditions; a love so deep that it spans all eternity. He knows each one of us for the beautiful person He created us to be, and He sees us as being that beautiful creation; even though we may have trouble seeing ourselves in the same way.

So the next time you are feeling stressed out, anxious, over-taxed, just plain **mad**, or any other form of being unlovable, rest assured that God is still there, waiting quietly and patiently for you to be still, turn around, look toward Him and experience His never-ending and *unconditional* Love and Peace.

Grief Support Program at Hickory Neck

Aging, moving, changing jobs, and dissolving relationships are some of the many changes we face in life. We tend to talk openly about these challenges and seek guidance from friends, family, and clergy. There is one passage in life, however, that we do not talk about very much. We often ignore it in the hope that it will not happen. We do not discuss it because it is personal and scary. That change is death and its partner, grief. Many of us experience grief everyday and most often alone. It is the misunderstood emotion about which we are typically ignorant, but to survive, those who grieve must find answers.

Sue Edwards and Ann Cooper will lead a nine-week grief support group for HNC members beginning April 23. Anyone who is grieving is invited to attend. It doesn't matter when the death occurred, because grieving does not have an expiration date. We will meet on Wednesday evenings in the Wilkinson Center from 5:30-7:00 p.m. (or at a time that best suits the needs of the group) Our study will be based on a

grief support and ministry program by Julie Yarbrough entitled "Beyond the Broken Heart: A Journey Through Grief."

We invite anyone who is grieving to attend this program. Books will be provided by the church. We will study, share, and pray, and together we will heal. If you want to be a part of the class, please call Sue Edwards at (757) 206-1029 or email at suedwards@cox.net by April 15.



Vestry Highlights

The monthly Vestry meeting took place on Tuesday, March 11, in the Narthex of the New Chapel.

Sue Edwards presented her report on the Pastoral Care ministry. Parish members show continual outpourings of love all year through cards, prayers, meals, rides, prayer shawls, lay Eucharistic visits, and health education/outreach. Both Sue and Ann Cooper will lead a grief class starting after Easter, based on the book "Beyond the Broken Heart: A Journey through Grief." Brian Manning reported on the Worship committee, highlighting the new acolyte training held on February 15, and on the new volunteers received from the successful Time and Talent Festival. Hickory Neck has received the second shipment of much needed new albs for acolytes and chalice bearers. Linda Becker reported on the ever busy Parish Life ministry. One of the next parish-wide events to put on your calendar is the annual Clean-Up Day of the Hickory Neck grounds, to be held on April 5.

The Vestry recently participated in the Diocesan training for Vestry members in Virginia Beach. Hickory Neck was the best represented Vestry there, and all enjoyed networking with other churches and learning new concepts to bring back to their own parishes. All Vestry members will also undergo required SafeChurch training in the upcoming weeks.

Fr. Michael reported on the retirement of Hope Brans, Parish Administrator. A celebratory reception will be held in her honor on Sunday, March 30. The hiring process is underway for Hope's replacement, with the intention that the position will be filled and in place by April 1. The Jubilate concert held on March 2 was wonderful and well attended, with over 100 people. A new Adult Formation series, entitled "Shame: Healing the Hurting Heart," began on March 9 and will run through April 6.

For more details, full sets of all previous months' Vestry minutes are posted on Hickory Neck's website. The next meeting of the Vestry will be held on April 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Wilkinson Center.

Jill Ramsaur, Register

Florida Citrus Sales

By Nancy and Steve Snyder

Thanks to many people and a lot of help, we made it through our second year of citrus sales, and Fred Boelt has applied the proceeds from the November through March sales to our mortgage. The final figure for the five sales was a little over \$3,500.00.

The following volunteers participated in these sales, either by helping to load or unload fruit, collecting payments and maintaining records during the sale, or assisting customers by loading fruit purchases into their vehicles: Gayle Bangert, Fred Boelt, Tony Casanave, Chris Casheros, Kay Cooper, Terry Day, Dave Forrest, Stephen Greenhow, Peter Haines, Dave Hartsough, Margene Hartsough, Chuck Jundt, Mark Kintner, Ken Parsons, Jeff Seiler, Bill Small, Randy Tanner, Bill Teale, Mary Teale, Linda Wever and Bob Zoglman. Again this year, Mary Teale helped by writing articles about the sales and getting them published in the Virginia Gazette (with pictures). Those articles continued to bring in new customers.

A special thanks to the following volunteers who made one or more trips to Richmond and/or Kilmarnock, Virginia, to unload our fruit from the H&S Citrus truck into their vehicles, and drive back to Hickory Neck where they unloaded the same fruit again: Mark Kintner, John Rothnie, Jeff Seiler, Bill Teale, Mary Teale and Bob Zoglman.

Finally, we want to thank Hope Brans, whose Thursday and Friday mornings after sale days were complicated by visits from customers who had not picked up their fruit, and our church Treasurer, Fred Boelt, for paying our bills and keeping the financial records.

We had a very successful year, and we certainly could not have done it without these volunteers!

Our next sale will be in November, when we will again be selling navel oranges and pink grapefruit. Pecans should again be available in November and December. Keep in mind that boxes of fruit and bags of pecans purchased in December will make excellent Christmas presents.

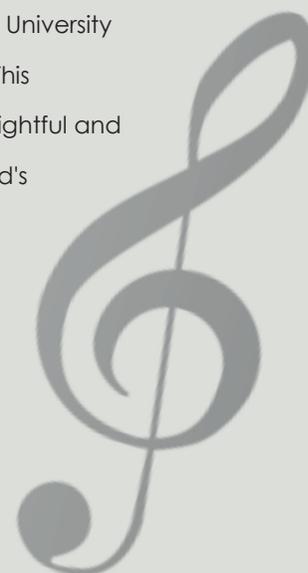
People who ordered fruit this year will automatically receive information regarding the 2014-2015 season. If you did not order this year but would like to be on our email list (U.S. mail if you don't have an email address), please give us a call at 804-557-3175 or email us at nansteve13@cox.net.



Over 100 people turned out to hear the Jubilate ensemble from University Baptist Church, Charlottesville, on March 2 in the New Chapel. This talented group of University of Virginia students presented a delightful and varied program ranging from Baroque to Broadway. Sarah Bland's daughter Mollie, pictured at left, is a member of the group.



Photos by Mary Teale



APRIL



CELEBRATIONS

Birthdays

7 Bill Small	19 Mary Brittain
7 De Fehrenbach	20 Carol Hearn
9 Luke Barnes	22 Daniel Zoellner
11 Mike Willoughby	22 Brody Cash
11 Marcia Kirkpatrick	23 Dal Bailey
11 Collin Koob	24 Carol Smith
11 Aubree Koob	24 Betty Somloi
13 Ambler Loving	24 Adam Otstot
13 Lauris Zeni	26 Carol Fraize
13 Brian Hanlon	28 Janet McConaughy
16 Chuck Jundt	29 Brian Manning

Anniversaries

5 Christine & Brian Hanlon
6 Mary Jo & Doug Smith
24 Lucy & John Rothnie
28 Margene & Dave Hartsough
30 Karen & John Dutro

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



(02/28/14)

Budget Income	\$73,231.48
YTD Actual Income	\$70,063.67
Budget Expense	\$75,217.36
YTD Actual Expense	\$73,417.60

February was a short, cold month that brought us “short” revenue. Income for the month was under budget by \$3,928, and year-to-date, we are now under budget by \$3,168. The main short-fall is in the pledge area. I feel confident that warmer weather will rectify this situation.

February expenses were over budget by \$785. While many expenses remain under budget, we are required to pay our annual Worker’s Comp. premium and 30% of our liability insurance in advance. Year-to-date, expenses are under budget by \$1,800. Consequently, February ended in the red by \$5,268, and year-to-date, we are in the red by \$3,354. While this financial position is not as enviable as it was in January, it is not unusual for the time of year.

As we make our spiritual journey through Lent, we anticipate the new life to come with the resurrection. We have just come through the Vernal Equinox, and now “We plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land.” And when the blade shoots forth on our Holy Hill, may we find renewed energy and scatter God’s abundance far and wide!

Fred Boelt



Burials:

David Edward Eybers, died February 8;
Requiem, March 1
Charles Edward Newbaker III, died
February 27; Burial Office, March 4



Our Prologue

By Martha W. McCartney

Hickory Neck's Rebirth and Renewal

In 1912, the Rev. E. Ruffin Jones of Bruton Parish commenced campaigning for colonial Hickory Neck Church, which had served as a public school since 1825, to be restored to use as an Episcopal house-of-worship. His lobbying was successful and when members of the General Assembly convened in March 1912, they authorized the James City County School Board to convey the historic building and the lot on which it stood to the trustees of the Hickory Neck Protestant Episcopal Church. Several months later, the School Board executed a deed, transferring Hickory Neck Academy's one-acre lot to Hickory Neck's first trustees, J. G. Carlton, W. Walker Ware, and D. Wesley Marston.

In June 1913 Mr. Ruffin published a fundraising pamphlet in which he appealed for donations that could be used to repair and remodel the church "to what extent is necessary to make it fit as a house of worship." He said that he'd already raised about \$300 of the \$1,000 needed to restore the church to useable condition and indicated that he expected another \$200 to be forthcoming. When arguing for Hickory Neck's restoration, he added that "The country about the old church is developing rapidly, and we trust that everyone to whom this paper comes will help to

rehabilitate this old landmark not only as a historic witness to our faith but as a House of Prayer for a growing community." Thanks to the Rev. E. Ruffin Jones' diligence, regular worship services resumed at Hickory Neck Church in 1915. During that summer, the



The Fenton men, c. 1905. B.W., who built the pews in the Historic Chapel, is at the left rear.

vestry hired G. P. Sweeney to build a sacristy or robing room at the north end of the church and a small covered porch at its entrance. It was then that fragments of Colonel Lawrence Taliaferro's tombstone were embedded in the cement flooring of the new porch. B. W. Fenton, who was employed to fix a leak in church's roof, also raised the chancel rail. Mr. Sweeney's fee for constructing the sacristy and covered porch was \$175, whereas Mr. Fenton charged \$4.71 for the repairs he made. In November 1915 the vestry hired B. W. Fenton to fabricate pews for the church. They also sent a letter to

Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad officials, asking them to stop the "fast train" on Sundays "to allow a preacher to come up from Williamsburg" to conduct services at Hickory Neck. Finally, during 1917 Hickory Neck Church was re-consecrated by Bishop Beverley Dandridge Tucker and was fully restored to ecclesiastical use. Thus, in 2017, historic Hickory Neck will celebrate a very special anniversary!



Tai Chi



Tai chi originated in China as a martial art and has been practiced there for thousands of years. As it evolved, it took on the purpose of improving physical and mental health.

It involves slow, gentle movements, deep breathing and what is often referred to as “moving meditation”. It is said that Tai chi provides a healthy balance of the opposing forces within the body (yin and yang) improving the flow of vital energy. It is a low impact exercise which puts minimal stress on muscles and joints. Movements are focused, graceful and done without pause so that the body is in constant movement.

When learned correctly and practiced regularly, Tai chi can be an addition to improving health. It is said to reduce stress and anxiety and increase flexibility and balance which leads to reduction of falls. Other benefits are said to include reduced pain and joint stiffness, increased muscle strength and coordination, enhanced immune system, improved quality of sleep, help lower blood pressure and provide a general sense of calmness and well-being.

Tai chi can be done indoors or outside, with a group or alone. It is not a replacement for conventional medical care and should be discussed with your doctor as some medical conditions might require modification or avoidance of certain movements. Although videos and books about tai chi are available, in order to learn the proper techniques, a qualified tai chi instructor is highly recommended.

Tai chi has been offered at Hickory Neck Church on Wednesday mornings from 9 -10 a.m. for two 10-week classes. Our instructor is Bill Hansell who has been teaching tai chi in Williamsburg for many years. Join us, improve your balance and coordination, learn meditative breathing, improve your qi, learn how to “part the wild horse's mane”.

Carolyn Gaylord, RN, Parish Nurse

Just in time for Mother’s Day, we will be selling jewelry and decorative objects made in Africa to support **African Team Ministries**. This Ministry works as an intermediary between African and American churches to fund orphan and refugee relief missions and evangelism in East Africa. The funds raised go directly to African Bishops to fund tuition, school fees, books and uniforms for children in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. Please stop by our display in the Narthex on **April 27 and May 3** to browse and purchase these delightful objects—your purchases will help to fund a great cause (and will make Mom happy too).



Dressed for God's Glory

By The Reverend Henry P. McQueen

Soli Deo Gloria, or S.D.G., was often hand written on the compositions of Johann Sebastian Bach, George Frideric Handel, and Christoph Graupner to distinguish their secular work from the compositions that they wrote for God's Glory. The Latin is translated 'Glory to God alone'.

The liturgy found in the Episcopal Church also reflects this focus. Prayers, music, flowers, and altar dressings are all chosen and presented to reflect God's Glory. The vestments worn by the priests and servers as well as the altar dressings, or paraments, reflect both seasonal focus and our service to Christ the King in our Eucharistic meal and all our doings.

Just as someone brings out their finest china and table linens when guests arrive, so too we adorn our altar. Over time though even the best fabrics wear and fade. The green paraments in the Historic Chapel are approximately 50 years old and several experts have declared them to be beyond repair. Following the construction of the New Chapel a set of green paraments for that space was never purchased. Liturgical green paraments are used approximately 2/3rd of the year, these are the most visible of all our paraments. After consultation with several suppliers of vestments and paraments our focus for replacement is upon a regal dignity expressed in simplicity and style; quality materials and workmanship will reflect the focus of God's Glory.

A tapestry design has been chosen for the Historic Chapel. This is appropriate for the space as well as functional. The design is suitable for use in every season except Lent and Holy Week. This affords us the flexibility that as the other altar coverings age beyond useful life



they will not need to be replaced; in a chapel that does not have as much use as the primary worship space this also reflects good stewardship of our resources. The accompanying digital rendering is not a photo but a representation of the altar covering and as such does not fully represent its beauty. However, it should be evident that with the new paraments the focus will be properly drawn to the altar.

The simplicity of design and the elegant material chosen for the New Chapel will also focus our attention on the altar. Even from a great distance the eye is drawn to the altar, a very powerful embodiment of God's Glory. The fabric from the altar is also used in partnership with a complementary fabric to create the priest's chasuble. These are designs that will stand the test of time and reflect God's Glory.



Quality workmanship is not inexpensive; however, with the expected life span of 40-50 years these vestments and paraments are a good value. Through the generosity of several members of the congregation, as well as memorial funds, we have been able to order these paraments and vestments and look forward to blessing them and placing them into service for worship in the spring.

Soli Deo Gloria, as God's Son was clothed in majesty and glory we adorn our worship space; let us show forth his eternal splendor. ✨

