



Hickory Neck Nuggets

May 2016

New Beginnings

By The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly

A WISE BISHOP ONCE TOLD ME that the way the relationship between a parish and its rector begins is an indicator of how the relationship will be for the tenure of the Rector. I have been thinking about that advice since I accepted the call to Hickory Neck. As I reflect back on the beginning of my relationship with the Discernment Committee and Vestry, the relationship has been marked by generosity. There was a tremendous spirit of generosity in our conversations – so much so that we found ourselves laughing frequently. There was a tremendous amount of generosity in our honesty and vulnerability – so much so that we found ourselves in deep conversations while answering what was supposed to be a simple question. And there has been a tremendous amount of generosity as the Vestry and Transition Committee have helped us slowly make our way to Williamsburg, making sure we had meals our first week in town, and checking in with us regularly as we settled.



I saw that same spirit of generosity on my first Sunday with Hickory Neck as well. You all did an amazing job of making my family and me feel welcome and embraced. The festive Coffee Hour, complete with an amazing gift basket, beautiful vestments, and an outstanding town crier to ring in my welcome, all displayed your spirit of generosity. And as my voice slowly faded by

the 11:15 am service, the congregants and musicians laughed with me as we joked about my attempts to keep the service going.

I suppose I should not be surprised by the spirit of generosity at Hickory Neck. We have simply observed the generosity and abundance of our Lord

and are attempting to live into that example. Whether through the repeated offering of covenantal relationship despite our sinfulness, whether through giving us God's only Son as a teacher and a redeemer, or whether through the abundant heavenly banquet we are promised, our God has always taught us to be a people of

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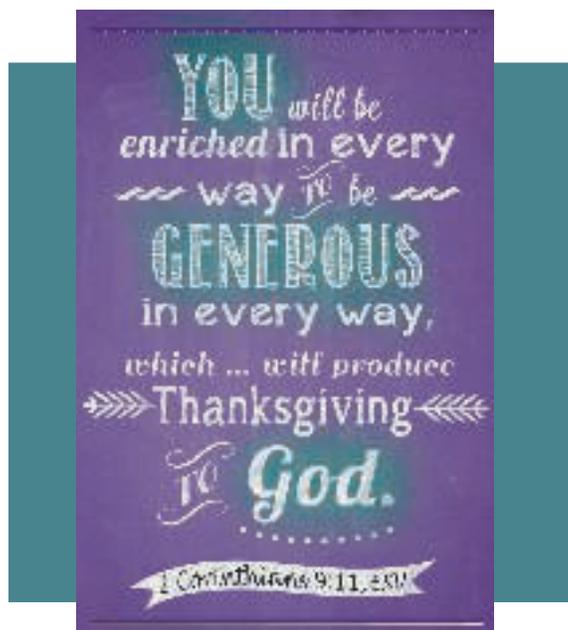
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generosity. I am humbled by the ways in which you all are reminding me of that example.

My invitation to us all is that we keep the generosity flowing. I hope to be generous with you as I listen to your stories, learn about your passions, and support your ministries. I hope you will be generous with me as I take time to do those things and set priorities for the beginning of my time with you. And I hope we all remember to be generous to our neighbors in these coming weeks. On my first Sunday here, we had several first-time visitors. As exciting a time as this is for all of us, there are people who want to be invited into our generosity as well.

Thank you for what has been a tremendous beginning. I look forward to the generous journey ahead. 🌿



Welcoming Our New Rector

By Sue Edwards

The Vestry appointed a Transition Committee to work with Mother Jennifer for the first year of her ministry. The members are Aaron Small and Terri Lensenmayer from the vestry, Jill Ramsaur and Fred Boelt from the congregation, and Betty Somloi and Sue Edwards from the discernment committee. Their job is to help Mother Jennifer and her family assimilate themselves to the Williamsburg area and the Hickory Neck Community.

The committee compiled a list of doctors, dentists, grocery stores, etc. and sent it to the Andrews-Weckerly family before they moved. When they arrived in Williamsburg, they

received dinners prepared by parishioners for a week. In addition, they received a subscription to the "Virginia Gazette" and a packet of information about the area, maps, and pamphlets. Small group meetings are being planned for parishioners to get to know their new rector in the comfort of peoples' homes. Look forward to hearing more about these meetings after Mother Jennifer settles into her new job.

Mother Jennifer and Scott are encouraged to ask any members of the committee or any parishioner when they have a problem or a question. The goal is to make their transition as seamless as possible.



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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

Sarabande

By Sarah Ford Bland

This year our Parish Choir has enjoyed participating with other upper James City County churches in ecumenical services, and especially partnering with the Adult Choir from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Norge. Last November singers from their choir joined with us to sing Choral Evensong for All Saints' Day. On May 5 many of our choir members will reciprocate as we add our voices to theirs in a Holocaust Remembrance Service.

Pastor Jim Nickols and music director Gigi Paddock have wanted to hold a service of this nature for some time. Although the international Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Yom HaShoah, is January 27, in Israel it is held on the 27th day of Nisan, a 30-day month in April/May. Established in 1953 by the Israeli government as a national memorial day to remember the 6 million Jews who perished under the Nazis, it is a movable date, falling this year on May 5.

As time passes and there are fewer and fewer Holocaust survivors still living, it is vitally important to hear their first hand stories so that the past does not repeat itself. It can be a sensitive issue for Christians to hold observances, because the silence of so many Christians, estimated to be as high as 90% during the Nazi regime, made them complicit in the atrocities.

The service at Our Saviour's will be one of sensitivity, peace and reconciliation. There will be readings, prayers and lots of beautiful music sung by the combined parish choirs as well as an ecumenical a cappella mixed choir. There will be several guest speakers telling stories, including Mrs. Ethel Sternberg, a 91-year-old local resident who was one of the "hidden children" of the Holocaust. (Here is a link about the hidden children of the Holocaust: hmlc.org/hidden-child/) Reproductions of children's artwork from the concentration camps and ghettos will be on display, courtesy of The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education in Cincinnati, OH.

May 5 is Ascension Day in the Episcopal Church, but our rector wants to nurture our spiritual and musical partnership with our Lutheran friends. Please join us in worship at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church for Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, on Thursday, May 5 at 6 p.m. A reception will follow.



**A service of remembrance, music, and prayer,
with choirs of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Hickory Neck Episcopal Church,
and a cappella group Quintessential
A free will offering is designated for Lutheran World Relief/Syrian Crisis Fund.**



Visit our featured exhibit before or after the service:
"FROM THE CHILDREN, ABOUT THE CHILDREN, FOR THE CHILDREN:
ART OF THE HOLOCAUST," art created by children in ghettos and
concentration camps.
[Center for Holocaust & Humanity Education, Cincinnati, Ohio]

OUR SAVIOUR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
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We Welcome the Andrews-Weckerly Family!

On Sunday, April 17, Toano Town Crier Brody Cash officially welcomed The Rev. Jennifer Andrews-Weckerly as our new rector. The Parish Life committee put on a festive spread, and Mother Jennifer, Scott, Simone, and Cana were given a welcome basket of goodies from the local area. Mother Jennifer was also given 3 new sets of vestments as a gift from the parish.



Second Sunday Mission

May Recipient:

Meals on Wheels

Our Second Sunday Mission in May will be for Williamsburg Area Meals on Wheels, with loose plate collections donated to this

worthy charity. Meals on Wheels prepares and delivers nutritious meals at noon-time Monday through Friday, including holidays, to the Williamsburg, James City County, and upper York County areas.

They also provide additional services such as emergency shelf stable meal packages, breakfast foods to those most in need, nutrition supplements and education, social interaction, and “food for a collaborative congregate meal project.”

The primary volunteer opportunities involve food delivery. According to their website, “We offer a dedicated route and work with our volunteers to develop a schedule around your availability. Many of our volunteers find this to be such a rewarding opportunity that they have been with us for years.”

Meals on Wheels can be contacted at (757-229-9250) or by email through their website www.wmbgmealsonwheels.com

Two Choral Scholars Look Forward to Teaching Careers

Each year brings the bittersweet task of bidding farewell to one or more of our Choral Scholars who are graduating from William and Mary. While we wish them all the best in their future endeavors, we will miss all that they have done to enrich our worship. This year we say goodbye to the tenor section.

Richard Rossini is a graduate student at William and Mary's School of Education who will be qualified to teach English, Social Studies, and ESL (English as a Second Language). As part of the work toward his Master's degree, he has been student teaching in an English classroom at Warhill High School. Richard studied History and English as a William and Mary undergraduate, and in addition to singing with the Christopher Wren Singers *a cappella* group for all four years, he also worked as a consultant and administrator at the Writing Resources Center. This past summer, he joined the Spotswood Society and gives tours of the Sir Christopher Wren Building. His family lives in Fairfax, Virginia. He has sung with the Choral Scholars for four years, serving as president for the past two. Richard looks forward to teaching English, History, or both at the high school level.



Dereck Basinger grew up in Richmond, Virginia before attending William and Mary. At the College, Dereck has majored in Classical Studies. Outside of the classroom, he has been a four-year member of the William and Mary Choir and the Christopher Wren Singers. For the past three years he has enjoyed participating in Opera Workshop as well as being a cast member in the Sinfonicon Light Opera Company for the past two years (indeed, he is the very model of a modern Major General). He has been a member of the Choral Scholars for three years. He is excited to spend the next two years pursuing an MA in Classical Studies at Washington University in St. Louis where he will be under full scholarship. After his graduate study he intends to teach Latin or History at either the college or high school level.

A Stellar Student

Brook Byrd, daughter of Bob and Nancy Byrd, has been awarded the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, a prestigious award bestowed on 252 undergraduates studying the sciences and engineering from across the nation. Brook, a rising senior at Christopher Newport University, is an applied physics major and is the first student in the history of the school to be awarded this distinction. During her college years, she has maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA while also participating in the University's President's Leadership Program, conducting research at Jefferson Lab and playing on the women's tennis team. Brook will spend the summer at Jefferson Lab conducting research on the physics of medical imaging and will later travel to Cambridge, Massachusetts where she has been awarded a Research Experience for Undergraduates internship at Harvard University. Congratulations, Brook!



Mary Teale



From the Parish Nurse

Spiders and Ticks, Hornets and Bees, Mosquitoes and Fire Ants Oh My!

Warm weather means garden and yard work, outdoor events and activities, and increased chances of insect bites and stings. Most bites and stings can be treated at home and resolve quickly with first aid care and watching for signs of infection. However, some people with severe allergies, especially to bee stings, have life-threatening reactions called anaphylactic shock, which requires calling 911 immediately for medical treatment to prevent death. People with a history of severe reactions should always carry an auto injector (epi-pen, Auvi-Q, etc) for use until help arrives and wear a medical alert bracelet or tag. While waiting for help to arrive: loosen tight clothing, cover with a blanket, don't give anything to drink, watch for choking or difficulty breathing and be prepared to start CPR.

Bites and stings from bees, wasps, and hornets cause mild localized swelling and redness, stinging sensation, and pain. Mosquitoes usually cause a "bump" at the site, redness, mild stinging and itching. Spider bites are usually mild, but brown recluse and black widow spider bites can be serious and require immediate and often long range treatment.

Some insects carry disease. Diseases transmitted by ticks include Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. West Nile Virus, dengue and Zika virus are caused by infected mosquitoes. Specific blood tests determine the diagnosis and treatment. Zika virus is confirmed by blood test and causes very mild or no symptoms. The only treatment for Zika at this time consists of relieving any symptoms if they occur.

If you have a bite or sting, wash the area with soap and water, apply cream or lotion to relieve swelling, pain and

itching, and apply a cool compress. Remove the stinger by wiping a gauze or plastic card across the area. NEVER use tweezers. Squeezing the stinger releases the venom into the skin. Scratching the area of a bite or sting increases the swelling, itching, and chance of infection.

Ticks should be removed as soon as possible. Removal is done by using tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to your skin as possible and pull the tick from your skin with a steady motion. Wash the area with soap and water and watch for signs of infection such as fever, rash, body aches, stiff neck and headaches. If symptoms develop, see your doctor. DO NOT use matches, sewing needles, etc to remove ticks. When removed, the tick should be sealed in a plastic bag and thrown away- DO NOT burn the tick with matches or flush down the toilet.

Fire ants sting AND bite, injecting venom causing a burning sensation and bumps at the site, which become filled with fluid (like white blisters) in a day or two. Do not stand on or disturb ant mounds. Fire ants can also be in trees or in the water so check outdoor areas closely. If stung, brush them off as quickly as possible so they can't attach themselves to your skin. Wash the areas with soap and water and apply cool compresses. For all multiple stings and bites, signs of severe reactions or infections, call 911 or get medical attention as soon as possible.

Prevention is key. Wear light loose-fitting clothing, avoid perfumed soaps, deodorants, colognes, etc. Avoid infested areas or places where insects are extremely active. Do not disturb nests, hives, or mounds. Check yourself, your clothing and your pets for ticks when you return from the outdoors. We can enjoy being outdoors. We simply have to be aware of our surroundings and willing to move to safer grounds.

Carolyn Gaylord RN, FCN

Sources: Medline Plus, National Institutes of Health, Mayo Clinic, CDC



Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain Don Seeterlin

Generation to Generation

"We are only one generation away from losing all sense of meaning and understanding of the Scriptures, and God's Love in our lives." Rev. James Smith, my former Christian Ethics and Moral Theology instructor, was fond of repeating this statement. He implied that without our continued conscious effort at evangelization and spreading the Good News of the Bible, it could theoretically disappear from our consciousness and codes of ethical behavior.

I have been reminded of this numerous times recently. Through our Baptismal covenant we each are called to an active ministry in this world. Our ministries may be different on the outside, but at heart we are all charged with sharing the Kerygma, the Good News of God's love and forgiveness to a world in need. We are charged with sharing the message in our own words, in our own actions, in our everyday lives, so that Christ might be seen and understood just a little better, a little more clearly by those who may not have had the opportunity to know Him on a personal level. Our calling is to help others and to realize ourselves that the Scriptures are much more than antiquated dictums and stories from long ago that have lost all sense of relevance to today's life and times.

One of the goals in teaching and witnessing in the church, and in the world, is to build a bridge between the ancient words of scripture and the lives of believers today. If we do not build this bridge, then we are only studying ancient biblical history. The scriptures are the word of God for living as God's faithful people today. Therefore, it is important to spend some purposeful time on a regular basis making connections between the "Bible then" and faith and life now. The ultimate goal for all Christians is to help the Bible and God's love become more than a theory or nice metaphor, but an ever present part of one's daily life. We are called to be creative translators of the scriptures for those who are watching us, so that they too may find meaning and an ever increasing sense of intimacy with God. Jesus designed His teachings to be carried out by others. First, the Apostles carried on the teaching, and then their successors, leading ultimately down to you and me. Now it's our turn to keep this wonderful story alive. We get the chance to pass this on to another generation. Let's keep Jesus' final instructions in our hearts: *"Go therefore, and make disciples of all nations...and remember, I am with you always, even to the end of time."* Matt 28:19-20



MAY



Birthdays

1 Lily Dutro	15 Margaret Sutton
2 Mary Jo Smith	18 Linda McGee
3 Nancy Byrd	19 Seth Ross
4 Lynn Kelley	22 Diane Perry
5 Bob Pringle	22 Amanda Buckley
5 Neal Lensenmayer	23 Sherron Ware
8 Bob Byrd	26 Trevor Simmons
9 Bert Geddy	27 Joanne Izzo
9 Gary Lensenmayer	29 Jamie Seeterlin
10 Jennie McCray	30 Kathryn Thomas
12 Alita Small	30 Paul Casanave

Anniversaries

14 Debbie & Bob Coles
17 Tara & Ervin Best
19 Lisa & Douglas Cash
20 Tanya & Chuck White
22 Barbara & George Johnson
24 Shannon & Ron Houser
24 Barbara & Ray Laroche
27 Tina & Noel Sinclair
30 Jessica & Stuart Hughes

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



(03/31/16)

Budget Income	\$105,989.74
YTD Actual Income	\$103,086.38
Budget Expense	\$ 96,043.57
YTD Actual Expense	\$ 93,955.21

March income was under budget by \$4,088, and year-to-date, under budget by \$2,903. In both cases, the shortfall is in the pledge income. Non-pledge and loose plate income categories are both healthy. The Easter offering was also under budget in March. First quarter contribution statements have been issued. Please take a moment to review your statement. We send hearty thanks to all who are up to date with your pledges. And to those of you who are behind, please make an effort to bring your account current.

Our March expenses were over budget by \$2,543, largely due to HVAC repairs. Year-to-date, expenses are under budget by \$2,088. Consequently, we remain in the black for the year. Overall, our ministry leaders are doing a great job of holding expenses under budget. This will prove to be even more important in the months ahead.

These are exiting times! Our new rector has just begun her call to Hickory Neck. Undoubtedly, in the coming months, we will experience new programs and projects as we continue our spiritual journey. Now is the time to rally our resources of Time, Talent and Treasure to offer the support that will be needed. As a team, we will increase the brightness of the Light that shines from our Holy Hill, radiating hope and comfort for all.

Fred Boelt





Our Prologue

By Martha W. McCartney

Serving God Since 1734

When the vestry of Blisland Parish convened on December 11, 1733, its members decided to build a new church in the easternmost or “lower” part of the parish. Mrs. Mary Holdcroft, the widow of former churchwarden and parish clerk Henry Holdcroft, donated an acre of land on which the new lower church was to be built. Her acreage, part of Hickory Neck Plantation, was situated on the main road that led in an easterly direction toward Williamsburg, the forerunner of Route 60. On February 1, 1734, the vestry hired John Moore and Lewis Deloney to build the new church. Deloney was a respected builder and had been heavily involved in the construction of Bruton Parish’s second brick church. At a later date, he also helped to rebuild the colony’s capitol, which burned in 1747.

Blisland Parish’s new lower church was to be fabricated of brick. It was 60 feet long and 26 feet wide and in accord with Anglican tradition, was oriented on an east-west axis. The flooring of the box pews was one foot from the ground and the plate, which provided support to the roof, was 15 feet above the floor. The church had a compass or arched ceiling and its center aisle was paved with Bristol stone. There were three windows in each side wall and two windows in each end. The altar, located in the east end, was set off by a curved railing and banisters. Builders Moore and Deloney were supposed to provide a table and font for the altar. The main entrance, situated in the church’s west end, opened toward the main road. Overhead there was a 12-foot gallery. The church’s box pews, pulpit, and desk or lectern had raised panels, wainscoting, and modillion trim. The roof was covered with planks to which wooden shingles were affixed. The interior of the new church

was lathed, plastered, primed, and whitewashed.

In 1774 a north transept was added onto the oldest part of what had become known as Hickory Neck Church: our eighteenth century building that is still used for worship services. When the transept was built, it was just over 25 feet long and 25 feet wide and was set back approximately six feet from the east end of the older part of the church. The 1774 addition had two windows on each side, an arched ceiling, and perhaps an entrance in its northern end.

Our priceless Sidney King painting, displayed in the narthex of Hickory Neck’s new house-of-worship, shows the church as it would have appeared after the north transept had been added. Hickory Neck is unique among eastern Virginia’s churches inasmuch as we are fortunate enough to have our north transept and our colonial vestry records, which span the years 1721 to 1786.





HNC

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Welcome, happy morning!

Easter Sunday was indeed a happy morning, if a wet one. Wonderful music, a festive coffee hour, and an indoor egg hunt all added to the joyful celebration of Jesus' Resurrection. Our joy was tempered a bit by saying goodbye to the McQueen family. On the Tuesday after Easter a dinner was held to say farewell and to thank Henry for the tremendous job he did in ministering with us and to us over the last three and a half years. Godspeed to Henry, Diane, and Parr!

