

KINGSTON CRIER

AUGUST 2020

P. O. Box 471

Mathews, VA 23109

804-725-2175

kingstonparish@verizon.net

www.kpepiscopal.org

The Rector's Visions: Falling and Fasting

I love to watch goldfinches in flight, their bright yellow bodies punctuated with black and white make waves in the air. Their motion is not unlike the butterfly stroke that I could never get right when I was on swim team in college. One grand wave of wings or arms and then there is that arrow movement where the body is streamlined to flow through the air and water and fall forward. The goldfinches rise with the flap of their wings quickly and then fall slowly in a long arc until they flap their wings again. In a way, I think of this time of pandemic as a time when we are falling forward. We can't flap our wings for now. Yet we are moving ahead if we can just lean into the movement and have faith as we fall. I don't guess the goldfinches have to think about it much. They fall forward out of habit. But the same move in the butterfly stroke on swim team didn't come easy for me precisely because I couldn't get my body to just fall forward. I wanted to flail more, flap and wiggle. I wonder if we could fall forward in faith like the goldfinches if this time would be easier. We want to make it end. We want to continue to rise in altitude. We are afraid of falling, and for good reason. But what if our falling into the rhythm of staying at home and working at a distance and wearing masks and all the rest is actually precisely what will move us forward. If we would only lean into the fall and trust that all will be well.

These days are days of fasting. Sometimes we have to fast from seeing each other. We fast from travel and just "getting out." We fast from worship in church and from Eucharist where we commune with one another and our God. We streamline our bodies for the fall and stay at home, stay safe, worship online or at a distance outside, pray at home, commune with one another on the phone or in zoom on computer. It is all a bit strange and often I want to flail and wiggle. I want to get out and see friends. I want to receive and distribute the bread and the wine, the body and the blood. But right now, I am called to tuck my wings in and fall. And trust.

It is easy these days to imagine that this is detour from life as we know it. We await the time when we can go back to "normal." But perhaps it would be better to think of this the way the goldfinches fly. This is not a detour. This is actually a large part of the arc of our flight. We are traveling with God. We have ministry to do -- not flailing and wiggling, but new and powerful ministry to do. Watch a goldfinch. The flash of the wings takes a moment as the bird rises. It is the long slow arc of falling when the bird really moves. These days are not wasted days They are days of fasting that show us life with new eyes and give us direction. Don't just wait for the next time to flap wings. And don't give in to flailing and wiggling as I used to always do in the butterfly stroke. We are falling with God. We are fasting from some of what we love, but there is so much to love in our fasting and our falling.

We live in a culture that wants to rise and work and flap and flail all the time. But God reminds us that it is more faithful to stop and be, to be still and know God, to love our neighbor not just with another act, but with all our heart and soul and mind. We are practiced at flapping ahead. These days, may we practice the streamlined falling into the arms of God that is also moving forward. And may we remember we are not just coasting, but this too is the joyful work of flying.

God's peace,

Gary+

Thank You

Thank you for the Sunday bulletins. They are deeply appreciated. We have a bench at the end of our dock on East River and it is a perfect place for reading and enjoying each week.
Nancy and Bob Fisher

Vestry Notes

(from the July 20th Zoom Vestry Meeting)

- Treasurer Tom Reed reported that offerings continue to come in faithfully.
- Junior Wardens Ray Stubblebine and Jan Mohr continue to give attention to repairs of Christ Church and the Parish House. A design for the organ case at Christ Church was approved. Work at both buildings for the new organs continues to progress.
- Fr. Gary will take a week of vacation August 5-12.
- The Diocese of Virginia is allowing priests to visit their parishioners, so Fr. Gary has been able to visit a few people.
- Mary Chapman has agreed to serve as our Lay Delegate to the online Diocesan Convention in November.
- The Preschool Board voted to not open for the first semester of preschool; they will consider re-opening in January at their meeting in December.
- Marti Bowen directed us to several excellent resources for individuals and families on the diocesan website.
- School supplies are being collected for the "No Walls" program.
- The vestry discussed Fall Fair and various ways that we could sell items online to raise money for our Outreach Fund.
- The vestry will have an interim meeting August 3rd and a regular meeting August 17th.

Welcome Bishop Porter Taylor

(copied from the E-Communiqué of the Diocese of Virginia)

Bishop Porter Taylor, our new Assisting Bishop, marked his first official day on the job July 1.

"I am delighted that Bishop Taylor is now a part of our team," said Bishop Goff. "It is a strange time to begin a new ministry, but we've got the technology to make it work. I am excited for the people of the Diocese to meet and get to know this wise, compassionate man."

Bishop Taylor is the retired Bishop of the Diocese of Western North Carolina and comes to the Diocese of Virginia from Wake Forest University Divinity School, where he served as a visiting professor of Episcopal Studies. He will maintain an office in Northern Virginia. He and his wife Jo, an artist, will live in Arlington.



Fall Fair?

The vestry has been discussing various options for our Fall Fair, which would have been October 17th. One option is an online sale of items, which several shop owners in Mathews have been doing successfully, as well as taking orders and distributing Brunswick stew and barbecued pork. We are open for any other suggestions you may offer.

For now, please refrain from bringing items to the Rectory until a firm decision is made. If you plan to move and have items to donate, please contact the office.

Preschool Update

The Board, and our wonderful director are saddened to say we have decided to close the Preschool temporarily because of the corona virus. Hopefully this is not forever. We will relook at the state of the virus in December and see if we can reopen the second semester of the 2020,2021 year.

We are sad to see this happen because with Rachel Musick we were on our way to a very successful Preschool. She worked hard looking at all avenues to reopen and we thank her for that.

We pray for the good health of all children and for the reopening of our beloved Preschool program in the near future.

Kelsey Desmond, Preschool Board Chair

In Remembrance

The next few pages of this *Crier* are dedicated to three members of Kingston Parish who have died since the coronavirus epidemic began: Betsy Ambach, Jo Ann Hunley and Edward Renner. We were unable to mark their passing with burial services and receptions, so we remember them here. Thank you to those who contributed their memories.

[In the past week two more members and friends have died: Martha Anne King and Mae Montague. We hope to feature them both in the September *Crier*. Please send in your remembrances of them for inclusion in the next newsletter.]



Obituary: Betsy Ambach of Mathews, Virginia, passed away on Thursday, July 2, 2020, of heart failure. Betsy was preceded in death by her husband Dwight, her sister Nancy, and her brothers-in-law, Gordon and David. She is survived by son Hunter and his wife Kathleen; daughter Nancy, and son Jim and his wife Kim. Betsy was also a beloved Grammy to five wonderful grandchildren, Jimmy, Emily, Jack, Ben and Ali. She is also survived by her sister-in-law Lucy and many loving nieces and nephews.

Born April 26, 1932 in Rhode Island, Betsy's younger years were spent living in the historic Nayatt Point Lighthouse in Barrington, Rhode Island, which nurtured her fondness for lighthouses as well as her lifelong affection for living by the water. After earning her degree in education at Wheelock College in Boston, Betsy's love for children led her to a career in teaching, including at the Beauvoir School and at the Concord Hill School, both in the Washington, D.C. area. Betsy met Dwight one summer when they were both working at a camp in Rhode Island, and the spark that began that summer endured as a love that lasted over 50 years. In 1955, Dwight and Betsy began a wonderful journey in the Foreign Service, which took

them to posts in Germany, Chile, and Austria. After retiring in 1992, Dwight and Betsy were the first of four close friend couples to build their own retirement home in Mathews County.

Betsy was an active member of the Mathews County Historical Society, Garden Club, Women's Giving Circle, and Kingston Parish Church. In retirement, Betsy continued to share her love for teaching by volunteering at the local elementary school and by reading to children at the library. Additionally, she volunteered with the American Red Cross blood drives and delivered hundreds of Meals on Wheels. Betsy was also known for being a very enthusiastic Mahjong player and member of her book club. Although she truly enjoyed all her activities, perhaps Betsy was best known for the exuberant joy she brought to every person she loved so dearly. Like a colorful quilt, woven in fine linen, Betsy will continue to bring laughter, kindness and optimism to our memories.

A celebration of her life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Meals on Wheels: Bay Aging, P.O. Box 610, Urbanna, Va. 23175 and Mathews Volunteer Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 723, Mathews, Va. 23109. Foster-Faulkner Funeral Home, Mathews, is assisting the family.

From Nina Buzby: *When Betsy and Dwight Ambach retired to Mathews, they didn't really retire. They got involved, and the county is better for all of us as a result of their efforts. Their list of accomplishments is long and impressive, but I'll share my favorite memories of Betsy. I spent many hours at their home playing music with Dwight (who played viola). We were either playing for fun or rehearsing for a performance. Betsy was always the gracious hostess and she would ask me to stay for refreshments and conversation after the rehearsals. Betsy was so very easy to talk to with a wonderful laugh and sense of humor. We talked about everything. I think she asked me how I met Dick, and I remember asking her how she met Dwight. Bits of the story are fading now, but as I recall he was a very handsome lifeguard at a pool where she and her friends were sun bathing. She said one look at him and she was hooked. I enjoyed Betsy for many things but especially for those genuine, down-to earth conversations.*

From Vicki Carter: *Dwight and Betsy began and financed the project for the plant hangings on Mathews Main Street until Dwight's passing. That was a very special and important project for them.*

Dwight and Betsy moved to Mathews with three other couples, including Dick and Adele Pogue, who all met in diplomatic service and maintained their friendship through to retirement. They settled in a "compound" in Susan named Aldendale, and enjoyed many years together as involved citizens of Mathews County.

Dwight wasn't "religious" but Betsy faithfully attended Christ Church services until the 11 AM service was no longer offered. Unable to rise early, her attendance waned. But her contributions of time, talents and treasure to the church continued. I (Karen) would try to call her whenever we had a 10:30 service at Christ Church so that she could attend. A visit from Betsy in the office was always a treat. Such a lady.



Obituary: Jo Ann Bertschy Hunley, 88, of Mathews, died June 12th, 2020. She was born July 23, 1931 in Syracuse, New York, and moved to Mathews as a young child. She became a member of Christ Episcopal Church, made many friends, and helped at the family-owned Be-Jo Theater. She graduated from Mathews High School in 1948. In her early years, Jo Ann was very active in many church and community organizations, including the Kingston Parish Sunday School, the Saint Andrew's Guild, the Mathews Junior Woman's Club, and the John Clayton Garden Club. She was also a lifetime charter member of the World War II Memorial Society.

While a member of Flotilla 36 of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary she served as secretary-treasurer, training officer, and vice-commander. She was installed as commander of Flotilla 36 in 1971 becoming the second woman to head a flotilla in Division III. She later received retired status in recognition of her significant contributions. Those contributions included teaching safe boating classes, performing courtesy boat inspections, performing water safety patrols, and co-chairing the annual Shad Bake where as many as 3,000 people were fed. After 17 years at Cheatham Annex where she earned many awards and commendations, she retired from the federal government in 2001 as a transportation agent.

Jo Ann enjoyed many summers with her friends and family at Mathews Yacht Club as a member and club manager, receiving honorary lifetime membership in 2005. During her approximately 10 years as manager, she planned and organized many parties, dinners, dances, and pig roasts. Over the years, she also enjoyed traveling with friends and family, playing board games and card games (especially bridge), sewing, knitting, needlework, and socializing with her many friends. Her vivid memory of local historical facts and events will be greatly missed.

Jo Ann enjoyed many summers with her friends and family at Mathews Yacht Club as a member and club manager, receiving honorary lifetime membership in 2005. During her approximately 10 years as manager, she planned and organized many parties, dinners, dances, and pig roasts. Over the years, she also enjoyed traveling with friends and family, playing board games and card games (especially bridge), sewing, knitting, needlework, and socializing with her many friends. Her vivid memory of local historical facts and events will be greatly missed.

Jo Ann was preceded in death by her husband of 33 years, Joseph Hunley; parents, Robert and Helen Bertschy, and sister, Betty Lou Grachan. She is survived by two daughters, Deborah Ripley and Stephanie Hamlett (Curt); three grandchildren, David Hamlett, Suzanne Ripley Phillips (Jay), Steven Ripley (Jessica); four great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

(More on page 5)



JoAnn Hunley with daughters Deborah and Stephanie at Deborah's wedding held at Christ Church.



From Nina Buzby: *I first knew Joann Hunley as the daughter of Robert and Helen Bertschy. The Bertschy's were active members of Kingston Parish when my husband and I first came to Mathews. And later, I knew Joann as the mother of her oldest daughter, Debby Ripley, a teacher and close colleague of mine in the Gloucester School System. So, my favorite memories of Joann were the times when I would meet this very attractive lady with beautiful hair at the post office or in town. We had wonderful conversations about the family members we had in common. Her first grandchild was in my first grade class and Joann was a mighty proud grandmother and great grandmother. I know she will be missed, but I also know she leaves behind happy memories of love and support for a beautiful and well loved family.*

From Elsa Verbyla: *Her obituary pretty much summed up my memories. We spent a lot of time with Debbie and Steffy, her daughters, especially in church activities. Jo Ann was active in the St. Andrews Guild. Her sister Betty Lou and her children visited from Richmond often. Her parents were Helen and Bob Bertschy. Bob had the Be-Jo Movie Theater and Be-Jo Bowling Alley, among other businesses, and Helen was a partner in a yarn shop. I wish that I could fill in the blanks but the obit itself brought back a lot of memories. Jo Ann was always on the go!*

Continued on page 6

Obituary: Edward Galileo Renner passed away on June 14, 2020 upon the beach of New Point Comfort, following a swimming accident, at the age of 44.

Having been a resident of Mathews for nearly all his life, Edward was a mechanic by trade and a tribe of one.

Edward's passing is mourned by his daughter, Sarah Mae; his parents, James and Sarah; his sister, Rachel, and his cat, Shadow.

From Vickie Carter: *After Jim's stroke, Edward always made sure that Jim and Sarah were at the lobster dinner. He even stepped in that first year after Jim's stroke and helped Charlie in the back with the lobsters.*

From Nina Buzby: *Edward Renner and his family started coming to Kingston Parish soon after we arrived in Mathews. Not too long after that his sister Rachel was born. I remember Edward being a very sweet, quiet child and Rachel being very outgoing. But Edward always had a smile for me when I saw him; even when I would see him at high school concerts supporting his daughter Sarah. I'm so sorry we didn't have more time to get to know him better.*

From Karen Jones: *I got to know Jo Ann Hunley through her regular phone calls to the office. She was most vocal when we did something she disagreed with, and she could give me the entire history of the subject (like the organ), tell me who paid for it, who installed it, etc. Her memory was amazing.*

In reading her obituary I realized she wasn't just a little old lady at Christ Church. She was a young girl moving to Mathews, a teenager, a young wife and mother, a young widow, a working woman, and an involved church worker who invested much of her life and heart into Kingston. I will miss her.

Scholarship Fund Report

Bert Cross, Reed Lawson, Martha Story, Mary Kathryn Diggs, Deirdre McElroy and Kippy Gilbert met "6 plus feet apart" at the picnic tables of the Mathews Pavilion to select the recipients of the 2020 scholarships from Mathews High School.

Caroline Evans, who will attend Rappahannock Community College in the Fall in pursuit of a business degree, received a \$2,000 scholarship.

Jessie and Alexandra Mills, twin sisters, will attend Mary Washington. They each received a \$1,500 scholarship. Jessie will major in Biology. Alexandra will pursue a career in the medical field.

Kippy Gilbert, Chair

Thank You

Dear Kingston Parish,

Thank you so much for awarding me with the extremely generous gift of a \$1,500 scholarship. As I prepare to attend the University of Mary Washington I know this will be very helpful in going towards the cost of tuition. Your gift is greatly appreciated by my family and by me.

Sincerely, Jessie Mills

Dear Members of Kingston Parish,

Thank you so much for the generous scholarships that were awarded to our daughters, Jessie and Alex. We were truly excited when they received them. Tuition for two at once is expensive and we would like to apply them towards this cost. Please extend our thanks to your kind church family. We are prayerful that all our college kids will be safe and can stay there.

In Christian love,
Laura Lane and Danny Mills

Zoom Meetings Each Sunday

Here is the link for Zoom coffee hour in August (Note that the link changes from month to month!). Remember we won't meet on August 9 while Fr. Gary is on vacation, but otherwise please try to show up sometime to see your church family and just chat!

Topic: Coffee hour for Kingston in August

Time: Aug 2, 2020 11:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every week on Sunday through August 30, 2020
Aug 2, 2020 11:30 AM

Aug 9, 2020 11:30 AM (Gary Away, **No Coffee Hour Zoom this Sunday**)

Aug 16, 2020 11:30 AM

Aug 23, 2020 11:30 AM

Aug 30, 2020 11:30 AM

To join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85062865159?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85062865159?pwd=Y0x2UktrWHZaTEovQ3ZiNmxbTkVZz09)

[pwd=Y0x2UktrWHZaTEovQ3ZiNmxbTkVZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85062865159?pwd=Y0x2UktrWHZaTEovQ3ZiNmxbTkVZz09)

Meeting ID: 850 6286 5159

Passcode: Friends

Outdoor Worship

We will continue our outdoor worship services in August. This will be the schedule:

August 2 8 AM at Christ Church Cemetery

August 9 (NO Outdoor Worship)

August 16 8 AM at Kingston Chapel Lawn

August 23 8 AM at Christ Church Cemetery

August 30 8 AM at Kingston Chapel Lawn



Parish Prayer List

Pray For Our Parishioners

Nina Buzby undergoing tests for fatigue and vertigo (office)
 Clement Dickey for stroke in left eye (by Pat Dickey)
 Hank Furniss for non-tremor Parkinsons (by Mairi Furniss)
 Paul Gibson for heart issues (by Jan Mohr)
 Peggy Hudgins for pulmonary fibrosis (office)
 Martha Knight for stomach cancer (office)
 Deirdre McElroy for treatment of cancer (office)
 Tom Neiger for cancer of esophagus and stomach (by Pat Neiger)
 Dick Pogue for recovery from pacemaker installation (office)
 Jim and Sarah Renner mourning death of son Edward (office)
 Mary Ellen Stimson for fractured tibia/leg wound (office)

Pray For Our Family and Friends

Mickey Burchell for lung cancer (by Valerie Lewis)
 Duncan Campbell for colon cancer (by Mary Kathryn Diggs)
 Thomas Cross for work injury (by Nan Cross)
 Linda Crowe for lung cancer (by Duffy Crowe)
 Nancy Donnelly (by Kathy Yent)
 Mary Doyle for hydrocephalus (by Valerie Lewis)
 Bill Drumel for cancer surgery complications (by Wendy Super)
 Tommy Dutton for hip repair (by Becca Brown)
 Glenda Flippin for ovarian cancer (by Jay Black)
 Walker Linden Ford for Sturge-Weber Syndrome (by Kathy Yent)
 Harriet French for COPD (by Mary Ann Gilman)
 Lori Fuller for cancer in lymph nodes (by Joe Mereness)
 Peggy Gallagher for recovery from Coronavirus (by Kathy Yent)
 Anna Garrett for Coronavirus (by Kathy Yent)
 +Susan Goff for breast cancer (office)
 Pat Graveline for colon/liver cancer (by Joe Mereness and Richard Scott)
 Helen Graves for congestive heart failure (by Paul Gibson)
 Cathy Heach for breast cancer (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Carole Hirose for anxiety (office)
 Nancy Hunley for fractured shoulder from seizure (office)
 Tom Hunley for recovery from back surgery (office)
 Kyle Johnson for cancer (by Martha Ellen Trabant)
 Eugene Jones for Parkinson's Disease (by Robert Petersen)
 John Michael Jones (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Rick Jones from injuries - hit by a car (by Richard Jones)
 Marlene Jordan by Pat Dickey
 Andrea Krause for breast cancer (by Gay Pfister)
 Skip Lewis (by Valerie Lewis)
 Don Loving for multiple illnesses (by Jan Mohr)
 Dave Martin (by Gay Butler)
 Sudy McKnight for cancer (by Reed Lawson)
 Michele Meaney for return of cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Kristen Moran for breast cancer (by Jan Mohr)
 Kathy Nelson for pulmonary fibrosis (by Kathy Yent)
 Steve Nelson in hospice for lung cancer (by K. Yent)
 Pete Nieman for kidney cancer (by ?)
 Lisa O'Connors for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Elizabeth Perkins for brain tumor (by Pat Elliot)

August Birthdays

Scooter Ransone	4
Mari Bowen	5
Cooper LaCasse	6
Cara Christopher	6
Richard Jones	7
Jon Lewis	10
Thomas Lewis	10
Tuggie Hutson	11
Cindy Machen	13
Tom Neiger	15
Marilyn Overstreet	15
Frances Hudgins	16
Carol Swartz	18
Pete Guy	20
Betty Salley	23
Pat Dickey	25
Martha McCartney	25
George Truscott	28
Jim Taylor	30

Serving in the Military or Diplomatic Corps

Colin Bucknor
 BJ Cavazos
 Yvette Gaither
 Chris Ivy
 Joe Kraynak
 Megan Kraynak
 Hib McNeilly
 Joey Plotino
 William Story Scarlett
 Jennifer Schmidt
 Zach Schmidt
 George Truscott
 William Truscott
 Dawson Turner
 Nicholas Webster

Stefanie Powers (by Lisa McCann)
 Josiah Raub for heart issues (by Hank Furniss)
 Debbie Roberg for oral cancer (by Cathy Hinson)
 Ginger Shackelford for Hodgkins lymphoma (K Yent)
 Tracy Shackelford for lymphoma (Kathy Yent)
 Sue Ann Singleton (by Kathy Yent)
 Harry Ward for brain tumor (by Jay Black)
 Kate Warfel for auto-immune disorder (Jen Kimball+)
 Jennie Whittle for ovarian cancer (by Mary Chapman)
 Kitty Witty for stage 4 bone cancer (M. E. Trabant)
 Catherine Worley for breast cancer (by Gay Butler)

Kingston Parish
PO Box 471
Mathews, VA 23109
Address Service Requested

KINGSTON PARISH

P. O. Box 471
Mathews, VA 23109
804-725-2175

www.kpepiscopal.org
kingstonparish@verizon.net

In The Diocese of Virginia and the Upper Tidewater Region

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff, Bishop Suffragan
The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, Assistant Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, Assistant Bishop

The Very Rev Gary Barker, Rector
(757)371-9382; barkergaryj@gmail.com

THE VESTRY

Senior Warden	Valerie Lewis
Junior Warden/Preschool	Jan Mohr
Junior Warden/Worship	Ray Stubblebine
Christian Formation	Marti Bowen
Fellowship	Shannon Kirschbaum
Outreach	Mary Kathryn Diggs
New Vestry	Nina Allen
Treasurer	Tom Reed
Recorder	Carol Swartz

TRUSTEES

Vicki L. Carter Timothy W. Hudgins John Machen, Sr.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL & REGION II

Mary Chapman, Lay Delegate

STAFF

Jim Andrews	Choir Director/Organist
Karen Jones	Parish Secretary
Vicki Carter	Bookkeeper

KINGSTON PARISH PRESCHOOL

725-3211

Rachel Musick Preschool Director

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship alternating between the
Parish House Lawn and
Christ Church Cemetery
After 8 a.m. Online Worship Service on Facebook and
YouTube.com
11:30 a.m. Zoom Coffee Hour

*The Office is closed during this time. Please contact Fr.
Gary at (757)371-9382 or Karen at the office (804)725-
2175 or her cell phone, (804)725-8480.*