

KINGSTON CRIER

FEBRUARY 2021

P. O. Box 471
Mathews, VA 23109
804-725-2175
kingstonparish@atlanticbbn.net
www.kpepiscopal.org

Rector's Visions

The Gospel for the Sunday we elected new vestry has a strange line in which Jesus seems to respond to the news of John the baptizer being arrested by saying: the time is fulfilled and the Kingdom of God has come near! How do you get that good news out of the bad news? But then, that is what Jesus is about. He will eventually take a brutally evil form of savage killing called crucifixion and make it life and forgiveness and Easter joy.

We live with some present darkness these days. Pandemic, economic and political upheaval, racism in our nation. And at church, we have some darkness, too: most especially we are a largely older congregation in a largely older community with too many of us dying or moving away to find a new life in a "retirement community."

Where is Jesus going to bring light and life in the midst of this darkness for Kingston Parish and for each of us and for the world? It would be easy to freeze up and expect the worst. John is in prison. How long can it be before they will take Jesus too? Woe is us. Or we could jump into optimism and say that out of these ashes there will be wonderful success, and we will all live happily ever after. Neither of those is particularly the Christian perspective. Sure we need lamentation. Remember there's a whole book of Scripture called Lamentations and Jesus wept at the tomb of his friend Lazarus. And we do know that everything will work out to the glory of God in the end, so some optimism isn't bad either.

But we also need active prayer with God. We are apt to rush into new programs and ideas at Kingston to "fix" our fix. If we just bring more people who have wealth (in terms of ministry gifts and finances) to share, we will be successful again! Here's the thing: I'm all for a vibrant and full congregation as you might guess, but the way to get there is not to try to be successful, but to try to be faithful. If our goal is to have more bodies in church and more dollars in our church bank account, we have already failed. If our goal is to serve Christ with worship and study and outreach and pastoral care and evangelism, then we will live in Christ, and that is true joy.

John in prison is going to send a question to Jesus: are you really the one? Isn't this all supposed to look more "successful?" And Jesus responds: the deaf hear, the hungry are fed, and the poor have good news preached them. Of course, I'm the one! As we begin a new vestry year and begin to see hope of a little light at the end of a long pandemic tunnel, we need to seek God's success and not our own. "Seek first the Kingdom of God, and God's righteousness, and everything else will fall in place," Jesus tells us. We have dreams to dream and hopes to fulfill in the days ahead. Let's dream with God and work with God.

God's Peace,

Fr. Gary

SUNDAY ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

Join our Coffee Hour Zoom Meetings each Sunday at 11:30 AM. No matter how far away you live, you can see your Kingston family on your tablet or computer and spend time together! If you need help getting started, please contact the office.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87219621765?
pwd=cWNmZlZtQW9seU9EUzJoUEtBUUQ5dz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87219621765?pwd=cWNmZlZtQW9seU9EUzJoUEtBUUQ5dz09)

Meeting ID: 872 1962 1765 Passcode: Friends



Worship Opportunities

Online “spiritual communion” services continue to be offered each Sunday. We use the liturgy for a Holy Eucharist service, minus the actual Eucharist. Hence the term, spiritual communion. We look forward to the day when we will actually be able to partake of Christ’s body and blood together, but for now are grateful we can gather together online.

February 17th is Ash Wednesday. We will have an Ash Wednesday service online through Facebook and YouTube. The Diocese of Virginia has these instructions on the imposition of ashes:

Because infection and death rates from the novel Coronavirus continue to increase, in-person gatherings for worship on Ash Wednesday 2021 will not be possible. This includes Ashes to Go activities, since one cannot impose ashes in a public setting while maintaining six feet of distance.

Worshippers may receive the ashes, however, in their own household settings during a Zoom, live-streamed or recorded church service. Any baptized persons, including older children and teens, may place the ashes on the foreheads of others in their households, or on their own foreheads. One does not have to be ordained or licensed to impose ashes on others or on themselves.

Guidelines:

At home before the service

Gather ashes and place them in a small dish or bowl. Ashes may be from your own fireplace or fire pit, or from the burning of leaves. If you have palm branches or palm crosses from previous years, these are particularly appropriate to burn. Very little ash is needed. Some choose to mix a drop of oil with the ashes. Determine which household member will place the ashes on the foreheads of others. Have a service bulletin available to ensure that the person imposing ashes will say the appropriate words.

At home during the service

Tune in to the online service on Facebook or YouTube. Listen to Fr. Gary’s instructions before the service begins. After the readings, the homily and the call to a holy Lent, Fr. Gary will say the prayer that references the ashes. He will then pause and the designated member of the household will stand before other members, dip a thumb into the ashes, then trace the sign of the cross on the forehead of each family member while saying, “Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return.” If you are alone in your home impose ashes on your own forehead, saying the same words.

Our 2021 Vestry

Thank you for delivering your votes to the Parish House on January 23rd and to Gary’s email address. We would like to introduce our new vestry:

Marti Bowen	Jan Mohr
Mary Ann Carr	Trish Reed
Mary Chapman	Ray Stubblebine
Cindy Machen	Martha Ellen Traband
Lisa McCann	

We are so thankful for a full slate of vestry members. Remember each one in prayer as they begin working together this month.

Rachel Musick Update

Rachel Musick was hit by a car while crossing the road to her home early January and, in spite of several breaks and contusions, is projected to have a full recovery. She has recently been transferred from Riverside Hospital in Newport News to the Riverside Rehabilitation Hospital on Hwy. 17 in Yorktown (across from their WalMart). This facility has a strenuous program, so Rachel will be greatly helped there.

You may continue to send correspondence to Rachel at PO Box 231, Mathews VA 23109. Rachel is allowed one visitor each day between the hours of 6 PM and 8 PM. If you would like to visit, call her mother Loretta (832-6668) to make sure no one else is visiting that day.

A text from Rachel: *I want to thank Kingston Parish so much for the well wishes and the prayer shawl. It has been such a comfort through all of this. I have appreciated the Kingston Parish community and their generosity so much through all of this. I am making progress, even if it is slow. I am really enjoying this rehab hospital. Everyone is very nice and they are keeping me busy with physical therapy and occupational therapy.*

Bring your non-perishables to the Parish House

Food For Hands Across Mathews



Thank You

From the Mathews County Schools Food Services: January 2021
Happy New Year!

I would like to thank the folks in your congregation that donated to our "students in need" in our school division. We were able to help many families during the holiday season and it's because of people like you. Since COVID the needs have been great, but I feel so blessed in so many ways. We are meeting the demands and I feel so fortunate to live and work in Mathews County. Thank you for helping me help others!

With love and gratitude, Nelda Gibbs

From Eloise Leslie, Martha Ellen Trabant's granddaughter:
Dear Kingston Friends,

Thank you for the Back to School skittles activities, I love skittles so much! Mrs. Tomcany is my third grade teacher in Mathews, She is the best! I will have fun with the prayer coloring.

Love, Eloise

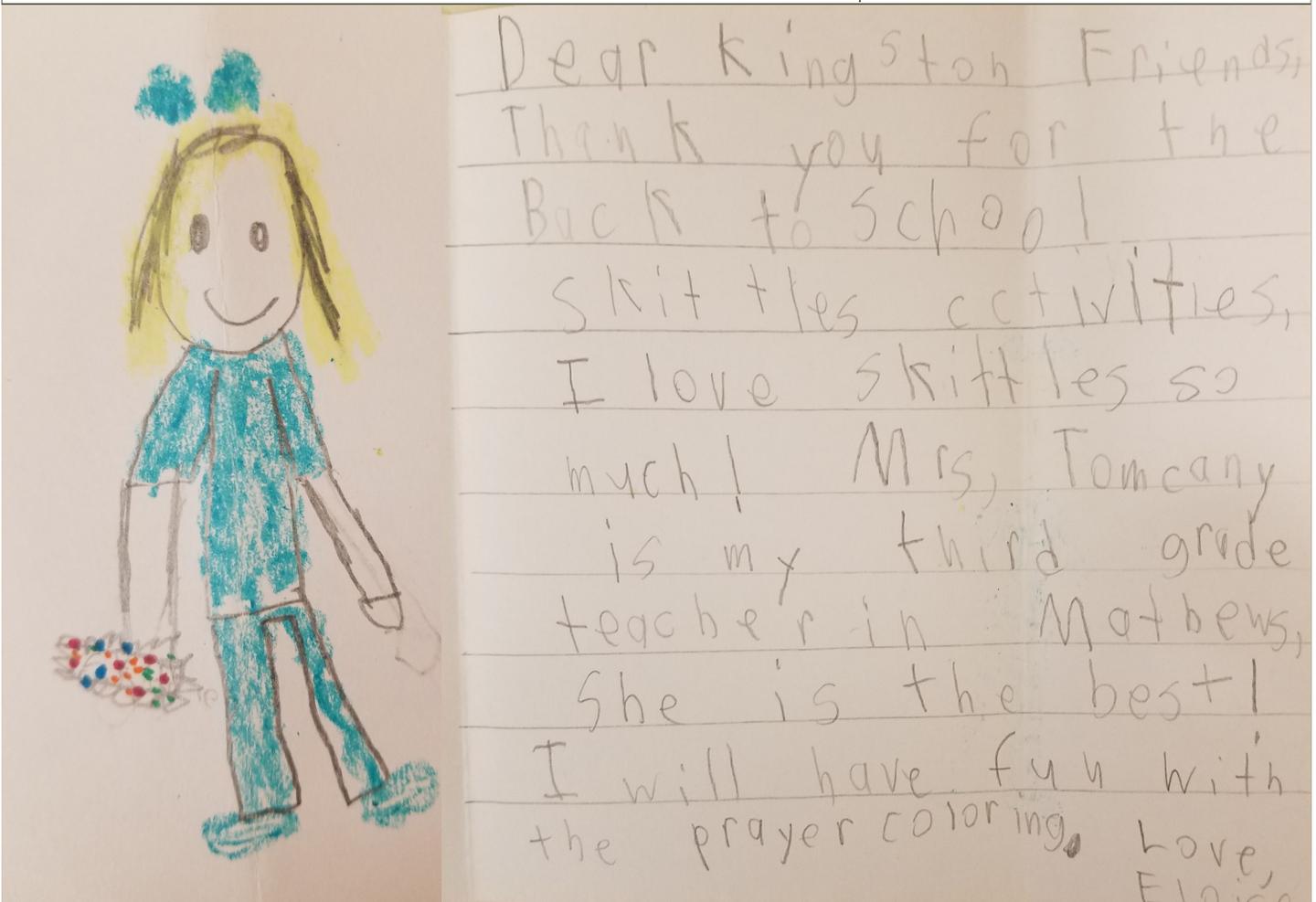
(the picture and actual words are below)

Change of Address

1. Jim and Sarah Renner have moved closer to their daughter Rachel. Correspondence can be sent to them at:
7380 Lexington Drive
Mechanicsville VA 23111
2. Josie Thorpe has regained the use of her old cell phone number and email address:
(703)201-6668
ljbthorpe@gmail.com
3. Kingston Parish has a new email address effective the first week of February:

kingstonparish@atlanticbbn.net

We will still be able to go to AOL to retrieve emails for a time, but please change our email address in your computers. This will take some getting used to!



Prayer List

Pray For Our Parishioners

Jim Andrews recovery from shoulder surgery (office)
 The Carter Family (by Vicki Carter)
 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 return of cancer (office)
 Cheryl Lamport having trouble standing/getting around (office)
 Deirdre McElroy for treatment of cancer (office)
 Rachel Musick recovery from auto accident (office)
 Tom Neiger for cancer of esophagus and stomach (by Pat Neiger)
 Dick and Adele Pogue dealing with illness and a move (office)
 Mary Ellen Stimson for dislocated hip (by Paul Stimson)
 Will Story for illness (by Martha Story)
 Amanda and Jim Taylor as she is in hospice care (by Jim Taylor)

Pray For Our Family and Friends

Tom Blatt, hospitalized, and wife Lynn (by Kathy Yent)
 Mickey Burchell for lung cancer (by Valerie Lewis)
 Duncan Campbell for colon cancer (by Mary Kathryn Diggs)
 Yolanda Conaway (by Kathy Yent)
 Linda Crowe for lung cancer (by Duffy Crowe)
 Livia Gama de Moraes for kidney transplant (by Kathy Yent)
 Nancy Donnelly (by Kathy Yent)
 Mary Doyle for hydrocephalus (by Valerie Lewis)
 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)
 Lori Fuller for cancer in lymph nodes (by Joe Mereness)
 Peggy Gallagher for recovery from Coronavirus (by Kathy Yent)
 Helen Graves for congestive heart failure (by Paul Gibson)
 Cathy Heach for breast cancer (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Carole Hirose for anxiety (office)
 Julie Hoe for breast cancer (by Nancy Powell)
 Jerry Johnson for Huntington's Disease (by M Bowen)
 Michael Johnson for throat cancer (by S. Langschultz)
 Carolyn Jones (by Josie Thorpe)
 John Michael Jones (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Rick Jones recovering from injury (by Richard Jones)
 John Kratzer for rotator cuff surgery (by Kathy Yent)
 Andrea Krause for breast cancer (by Gay Pfister)
 Skip Lewis (by Valerie Lewis)
 Joy Long (by Jan Mohr)
 Don Loving for multiple illnesses (by Jan Mohr)
 Dave Martin (by Gay Butler)
 Robert McCreary for cancer (by Willie Hubbard)
 Sudy McKnight for cancer (by Reed Lawson)
 Michele Meanley for return of cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Janet Mikionis for cancer pain (by Kathy Yent)
 Art Miller for 3rd degree burns on legs (by K. Yent)
 Kristen Moran for breast cancer (by Jan Mohr)
 Keith Morgan for prostate cancer (by Josie Thorpe)
 Kathy Nelson for pulmonary fibrosis (by Kathy Yent)

February Birthdays

Pat Neiger	1
Bill Higdon	3
Cabell Chase	4
Ellis Chase	4
Kathy Yent	4
Karen Ransone	7
Lisa White	9
Janet Gallaher	10
Rachel Renner	14
Amy Gregg	18
Edwin Hudgins	20
Ula Ilnytzky	20
Amy Chase	20
Signe Langschultz	25
Joyce Deputy	25
Alex Miller	26
Mary Chapman	26
Nina Buzby	27
Jeanine Booker	27
Bert Cross	28
John Robert Fisher	28

Serving in the Military or Diplomatic Corps

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

Pete Nieman for kidney cancer (by ?)
 Lisa O'Connors for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Elizabeth Perkins for brain tumor (by Pat Elliot)
 Stefanie Powers (by Lisa McCann)
 Josiah Raub for heart issues (by Hank Furniss)
 Ginger Shackelford for Hodgkins lymphoma (K Yent)
 Tracy Shackelford for lymphoma (by Kathy Yent)
 Sue Ann Singleton (by Kathy Yent)
 The Studer family for daughter's suicide (by Neigers)
 Charlie Szeplin for heart surgery and memory (by Sig)
 Marsha Threlkeld for terminal cancer (by D. Lambert)
 Richard Wahl for metastasized cancer (by MK Diggs)
 Harry Ward for brain tumor (by Jay Black)
 Kate Warfel for auto-immune disorder (Jen Kimball+)
 Jennie Whittle for ovarian cancer (by Mary Chapman)
 Catherine Worley for breast cancer (by Gay Butler)
 Kristina Zaruba for bypass surgery (ME Traband)

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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

Vestry: Marti Bowen
Mary Ann Carr
Mary Chapman
Cindy Machen
Lisa McCann
Jan Mohr
Trish Reed
Ray Stubblebine
Martha Ellen Trabant

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

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday
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.*