

KINGSTON CRIER

JANUARY 2021

P. O. Box 471

Mathews, VA 23109

804-725-2175

kingstonparish@verizon.net

www.kpepiscopal.org

The Rector's Visions

We have come to the end of 2020 and are about to begin 2021. Most everyone seems ready to be done with 2020. But here's the thing. January 1st is really just the day after December 31st. In our Christian calendar which does not really acknowledge the "new year," January 1 is the 8th day of Christmas after the 7th and we remember Jesus especially on the 8th day because little Jewish boys are circumcised and given their names on the 8th day after their birth. Jesus wasn't even named Jesus yet when the shepherds met him, in other words.

All this to say, time is a strange thing. And the only time we have is the present. Sure we can and should remember and learn from the past. We should anticipate and hope for the future. But the only time we actually live in is the present. or Christians, this present takes on even more meaning by becoming eternity or what the theologian Paul Tillich called "the eternal now." The present is not just a moment, but our life with God. And that eternity doesn't start when we die, but is now in our living in this world and in the next, as we say.

Many if not all of us are ready to put this pandemic stuff behind us. We want racism to end. We would like everyone to have enough. But the truth is, God comes to us – Emmanuel – in the imperfect present. We won't leave behind the challenges of 2020 by stepping into January 1 as if it were a different universe. Instead, we live out our faithfulness in the days God gives us, in the eternal now. And there is much to appreciate these days. There are many people to love. There is work to be done. People are getting sick. Our world is sick. Racism is clearly so deeply sown into our souls that we can't just forget it and imagine we are done; there is more work to do for us to love our neighbor as ourselves no matter what they look like. And there are many folks who are suffering anew in this time of economic upheaval with too little and maybe even no work to do. How do we reach out and help?

Looking with hope and anticipation for the year ahead, there is a vaccine coming. There will be rebuilding and starting anew. Sometime in 2021 I hope we will again be meeting as the people of Kingston Parish in our church buildings for worship and doing all the wonderful outreach things we do together. Finances are tough for the church these days too. And we are sadly saying goodbye to many of our beloved members through death or their moving on to retirement facilities. I have recently been joking that we may need to open a satellite congregation in Williamsburg where a number of our folks have moved. There are things we are learning these present days that will be invaluable in our rebuilding and starting anew.

Our days are challenging and sometimes just plain difficult. And they are glorious and full of God's Grace and Love. Let us face the challenges of each present moment with the eternal Grace and Love our God gives us.

God's Peace, *Gary+*



Online Service
January 6th at 6:00 pm

Congregational Annual Meeting for January 24, 2021

Well, needless to say, our annual meeting of the congregation will look a little different this year! Some time around the middle of January, after the vestry meets on January 11th in our monthly online meeting, we will announce nominations for new vestry and send out the reports of the ministries of our congregation for you all to read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest. We will offer as much thanks as we can muster to the folks on the vestry who served in 2020 for all the ways they met the strange and wondrous challenges of that year. We will then gather, via Zoom, online with as many of us as can for a virtual annual meeting. Now I know many of you cannot “zoom.” So we will ask you to fill out a paper ballot and sign it for the vestry election. The ballot will include a place for you to offer any special ideas you wish the congregation to ponder. All active baptized parishioners who worship with us in some form, minister in some way for God in their lives, and support the church financially (and at this point in the pandemic there is a fairly broad definition of all that!), are welcome to take part in the vote either by paper ballot or by online Zoom. We will require a quorum of not less than 15 people online to validate that meeting which will meet our canonical requirement.

Our Zoom Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, January 24, 2021, at 11 AM. We will not have our regular coffee hour that day. (And just for you Coffee Hour regulars, we will have a new Zoom link starting in February.)

Kingston Episcopal Parish Annual Meeting

Jan 24, 2021 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81044281921?pwd=Skw4a29CVy9SeWRMMGFMclo1b1BDUT09>

Meeting ID: 810 4428 1921

Passcode: Faithful

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,81044281921#,,,,*82351286# US (New York)
+13017158592,,81044281921#,,,,*82351286# US (Wash. DC)

If you have never “zoomed” before, but want to give it a try and join us for this and need help, let us know. If you have a computer with camera and mic (or Ipad or even a smartphone), really all you need is to click on (enter) the link in the middle above.

There will be more to come when you receive your packet later in January! Keep resilient and flexible! As one of my parishioners in a previous parish used to always say in difficult moments: “Blessed are the flexible of faith, for they shall not break!”

Vestry Notes

(from the December 16 vestry meeting)

- Work continues on updating internet and security systems
- Preventive maintenance was done at the Old Rectory. Thanks to Johnny Brown for his assistance.
- The vestry is working on a budget proposal for 2021.
- An article written by Ray Stubblebine, Ula Ilnytzky and Reed Lawson was published in the Gazette Journal about the organ installations and the online Christmas concert.
- An Advent/Christmas packet was sent out to our young children.
- The Annual Meeting will happen through an online “zoom” meeting along with mail-in ballots.
- Shannon Kirschbaum will be calling neighborhood leaders to make sure we are keeping up with each other.
- The vestry approved a motion to pay necessary bills in January until the budget is approved.

New Class Begins January 12th

The Great Communicator: God -- an adult Christian formation offering begins January 12, Tuesday, at 7 PM via Zoom. The first class reading will be posted by email to anyone who would like to receive it and on our Parish Facebook Page the Wednesday previous (January 6, The Epiphany). We will continue the same basic format we used last Fall with a reading and then a zoom discussion. The focus will be on all the ways God reveals God to us. If you have questions or special needs, contact Fr. Gary.

Change of Address

Jim and Sarah Renner have moved to a care center in Richmond near their daughter Rachel. When we get that address we will let you know.

Annual Reports

If you have an area of responsibility in our parish, we would appreciate your report for the annual yearbook. Submissions are due January 12th.

Prayer List

Pray For Our Parishioners

Jim Andrews for January 7 shoulder surgery (office)
 Nina Buzby for fatigue and vertigo (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)
 Tom Neiger for cancer of esophagus and stomach (by Pat Neiger)
 Dick Pogue for recovery from pacemaker installation (office)
 Mary Ellen Stimson for dislocated hip (by Paul Stimson)
 Amanda Taylor recovering from hospital stay (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 Morais 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)
 Clarence Minter (by Debbie Lambert)
 Harry Minuth for COVID (by Anita Minuth)
 Margaret Minuth for COVID (by Anita Minuth)

January Birthdays

Reed Lawson	2
Nancy Powell	2
Sarah Renner	7
Susan Greene	9
Gay Butler	16
Pat Bateman	16
Nina Allen	17
Allen Barringer	19
Janice Rae Lawson	22
Janet Husband	26
Kelsey Desmond	28

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

Kristen Moran for breast cancer (by Jan Mohr)
 Keith Morgan for prostate cancer (by Josie Thorpe)
 Kathy Nelson for pulmonary fibrosis (by Kathy Yent)
 Pete Nieman for kidney cancer (by ?)
 Lisa O'Connors for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Elizabeth Perkins for brain tumor (by Pat Elliot)
 Marsha Poland for pancreatic cancer (by M. Bowen)
 Stefanie Powers (by Lisa McCann)
 Josiah Raub for heart issues (by Hank Furniss)
 Gayle Robinson for knee replacement (by Jim Husband)
 Ginger Shackelford for Hodgkins lymphoma (K Yent)
 Tracy Shackelford for lymphoma (by Kathy Yent)
 Sue Ann Singleton (by Kathy Yent)
 Charlie Szeplin for heart surgery and memory (by Sig)
 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 artery 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

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
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.*