

# KINGSTON CRIER

JULY 2020

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

kingstonparish@verizon.net  
www.kpepiscopal.org

## ***Rector's Visions***

So here we are in week four-thousand-seven-hundred-and-twenty-three of the Corona virus blues – or did we just start all this yesterday? And if it wasn't enough to try to live in near surgical cleanliness all the time to avoid a disease that could pass us by or could kill us and those we love or give any of us strange physical and psychological disabilities for months or the rest of our lives, we are also dealing with issues of racial inequality, political upheaval, economic depression and psychological isolation. It is a bit much these days.

So how is your faith helping you through? Where is God for you these days? How are you living out your baptismal vows while keeping social distance? (Your vows are in the Book of Common Prayer, pp. 301-302.)

Fasting on worship in our church buildings, we have been reminded of the theological and biblical truth that the Church is the people who make up the Body of Christ and not a building we attend on Sunday mornings for an hour, nor an institution. Fasting on Eucharist, we have discovered the sacred nature of our own dining tables again.

We are more aware than ever that the people and prayers we have together are very meaningful for us, and we miss the "old" way of gathering deep in our hearts. Hopefully, we are also finding new ways to stay connected with people and also to be deeply connected with God. Our online worship has become a rich source of connection and prayer for me. It took a while, to be honest. At first, I was pushing through all the zoom meetings and preaching to a computer screen because I had to. But I have found you all through these tools and discovered God doesn't much depend on us being in the same room. I have also found God has a way of connecting us in the divine love in ways that are beyond my understanding – and definitely beyond my control.

Our ministry and worship are not only continuing, we are finding new ways of being faithful in our flexibility and in our deep rootedness in a God who is so much bigger than all those things that we are dealing with these days. I have never known so many challenges in my 30 years of ordained ministry. But I am constantly surprised and blessed with things in these days even as I also grieve what we are missing and have lost. The truth is, were we able to simply turn the clock back and return to the way things were, I would miss much of what I have learned and the ways the church has grown in these days. And, of course, we will not go back to where we were. Instead, God has called us into a whole new future that we are still only beginning to comprehend.

Perhaps you recall that when John the Baptist was in prison he sent some of his disciples to Jesus to ask if he was really the Messiah. After all, things were difficult. Surely the real Messiah was going to make it all easy and clear and strong and good. Jesus tells them: "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them.<sup>23</sup> And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." Basically, Jesus is saying: "Sure, it's not happening the way you expected or even wanted, but God is bringing good things; look!" (See Matthew 11:5 and Luke 7:22.)

We can sit and wait for things to get "better." We can even imagine that things will go back to the way they used to be. Or we can follow Jesus and do worship and walk in the ways of charity in these days and these times as they are given to us. What I am seeing again and again is that God is doing amazing things in us and through us at Kingston and in our larger church in these days. We may not be doing things the way we always used to, or the ways we always expected we would, but God is bringing the Kingdom still and blessing us with ministry to be disciples of the living God.

God's Peace,

**Gary+**

## Outreach Opportunities

The vestry has been looking for ways that we can continue to reach out in our community during the coronavirus season. Mary Kathryn Diggs, our Outreach Warden, discovered two programs that could use help: Lauren Cobb with Bay Aging works a program called "Helping Neighbors". They deliver meals on Monday and Wednesday from South Wind Restaurant. She needs two people for delivery those two days from the Port Haywood area down to New Point. Andy Jackson with "Hands Across Mathews" could use help on Tuesday with moving food to their main building from a building behind that building. About 10-12 am. And also volunteers to distribute it Wednesday morning 10-12am. If you are able to help with either one of these ministries you may contact Lauren or Andy, if you know them, or Mary Kathryn, 725-2763 or 384-7269.

## Snack Pack Ministry

The Covid-19 virus has caused major disruptions to the school system. Kingston continues to support the snack pack program, which plans to continue through the summer. We have sent some funds from our snack pack account and may do so again this summer. In the meantime, the program could use your monetary donations. You may also send donations to Nelda Gibbs at 72 Moon Drive, Moon, Va. 23119. Make checks out to MCPS Child Nutrition Program. Your donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.

Debbie Lambert and Tuggie Hutson

## Shrine Mont Retreat Cancelled

We have decided to cancel our Wabingston Shrine Mont retreat for the weekend of July 24-26, 2020. If you sent in a deposit with your registration form, it will be refunded.

Shrine Mont has informed us that they are opening on June 19 with precautions that are necessary for the safety of guests. This will create differences in the Shrine Mont experience we have formerly enjoyed, and it will be difficult to be together as a group in fellowship at meals, in workshops, and even in worship at the Shrine.

However, the restrictions will NOT be too confining for families and those who feel comfortable being in contact with one another. You are encouraged to contact Shrine Mont for individual lodging and meals for this weekend or any other.

You can find information regarding the COVID-19 safety practices put in place, available reservations, and other information online at the website: [www.shrinemont.com](http://www.shrinemont.com), or by contacting guest services by email at [reservations@shrinemont.com](mailto:reservations@shrinemont.com) or by calling Donna or Janet in guest services at 540 856-2141.

Shrine Mont may be just the right place for families and small groups to gather with social distancing practices observed and a possible cure for the self-isolating blues! And the pool will be open!!

May we all stay safe and be well! Looking forward to our 2021 retreat.

Marti Bowen, Christian Formation Warden

## Outdoor Worship

Last Sunday we had our first outdoor worship service on the Parish House lawn. Nine of us worshipped together. We will worship July 5th in the Christ Church cemetery, and meet alternately afterwards. We will meet to worship at 8 AM before the heat of the day and while the sun is still lower in the sky. We will keep services relatively short. Bring your own face masks and chairs.

The bathrooms will be cleaned before Sunday morning and we will ask anyone who has to use the bathrooms to be especially careful to clean up after themselves for the next person. Only one person in the bathroom at a time. When possible the doors to the building will be propped open to minimize the need for people to touch the surfaces.

We will continue our online worship with the virtual choir and encourage especially those who are over 65 or have medical issues that make them vulnerable to the virus to worship with us online. If, for medical reasons, you cannot wear a mask, please do not attend the outdoor services but join us online.

Please email or call each week by noon Thursday if you plan to attend our outdoor service.

**In the event of bad weather, the outdoor service will be cancelled; the online service will still be available.**

## Organ Update

When the organ for Kingston Chapel was delivered we were made aware of an organ in a Baptist Church in Suffolk that would be a perfect fit for Christ Church and had just become available. Despite the timing, we felt that it was prudent to hear the organ before it was removed. We were highly impressed with the sound of the organ and its small size—but could we manage to buy it?

The price was divided into two segments and was offered on the condition that the organ would be delivered to Christ Church directly after removal, saving substantial storage and moving costs. The purchase would be \$9,000 and when we were ready the installation costs would be \$8,000, many thousands less than the original cost. We would have to provide an appropriate case to house the instrument because it was located in a separate chamber in Suffolk.

Having just raised \$8,100 to purchase a digital organ for the Kingston Chapel and build chambers to house it, the task seemed daunting to try to raise money again, especially since it was being removed in only six days! We had very little time to make a decision, but in four days \$11,000 was raised to buy the organ. With that support the vestry felt we should go ahead and buy the instrument, knowing that the current organ was near failure and that we would have several months to install the organ and raise the money to pay for the installation—without disrupting services since the church was closed.

*We still want to raise at least \$7,000 towards the installation costs and the materials for the case.*

22 families and individuals felt so strongly that we should make the jump and buy these instruments that they have donated almost \$20,000 to do it. Thank You!

The congregation has had the chance to hear the Rodgers digital organ now in the Chapel during our Online Worship Services, but no one has heard the Zimmer pipe and digital organ waiting to be installed at Christ Church. We have therefore posted on the website and our Facebook page two five-minute videos made as the organ was demonstrated for us, and they should give everyone an idea of what a bargain we have purchased.

Any amount, no matter how small, toward the installation of the Zimmer organ should be sent to Kingston Episcopal Parish, PO Box 471, Mathews VA 23109, with the notation that the check is for the Christ Church Organ Fund.

Thank you,  
Ray Stubblebine, Worship Support Warden

## Vestry Notes

The Vestry had a Zoom meeting June 22nd.

- Tom Reed expressed his appreciation for the church's faithfulness in keeping up their pledges and offerings.
- Online services continue each week.
- Outdoor services will be attempted beginning Sunday, June 28th on the lawn of Kingston Chapel, and then July 5th at Christ Church cemetery.
- Discussion of the organ purchased for Christ Church after an online vestry vote June 8th continued. Paul Vanden Bout, Bert Cross and Paul Stimson have volunteered help with its installation. Much of the cost of the organ has been donated, but more is needed to help with installation.
- The Rectory was inspected by the Junior Wardens.
- Fr. Gary shared some of his pastoral concerns and the difficulty of pastoring from a distance.
- Sven vanBaars, Rector at Abingdon, met with a group of clergy online to plan a "sermon swap" to give us an opportunity to meet some local clergy and hear them preach and to give the clergy a mini-break. Sven will give the first sermon during the online service July 5th.
- Rachel Musick has prepared a proposed plan for reopening our preschool, but we are waiting for a certain plan from the public school system before making any decisions.
- A few parishioners have volunteered to help pass food out at Hands Across Mathews, but no one has offered to help with the Southwind Pizza's food distribution on Wednesday afternoons.
- The vestry will have an interim meeting by Zoom on July 6th and an official vestry meeting by Zoom on July 20th.

*Thanks to Marti Bowen for taking minutes during this time of online meetings.*

## Thank You's

June 8, 2020

Dear Kingston Parish Members:

For many students, scholarships from community organizations are the only hope they have to pay for college tuition and expenses. Your contributions to our students' goals for higher education are to be commended and are received with much appreciation.

I would like to sincerely thank you for your scholarship. You should not be disappointed in the selection of Caroline Evans, Alex Mills, and Jessie Mills for the Kingston Parish Scholarship.

Caroline Evans will be attending Rappahannock Community College in the Fall. Alex Mills will be attending the University of Mary Washington. Jessie Mills will also be attending the University of Mary Washington in the Fall.

Once again, thank you very much for your interest in our students and your help in fulfilling their goals.

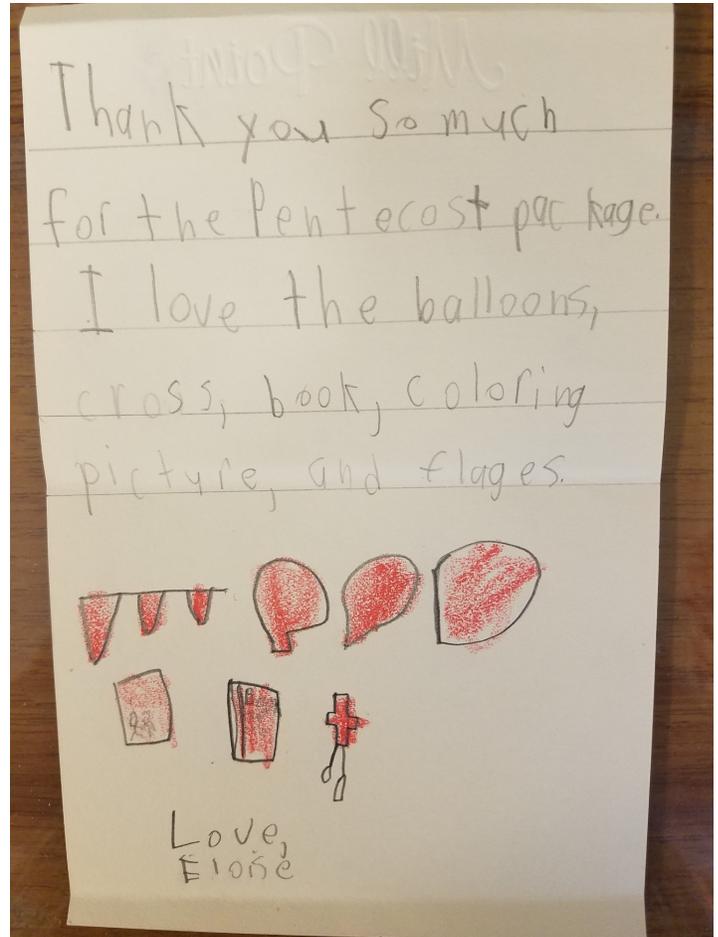
Sincerely,  
Lori Mountford, Registrar, MHS

*Dear Kingston family,*

*Thank you all so much for the prayers, calls, and concern during my accident, surgery and healing. The surprise Pentecost package kept Eloise entertained for days. The three red balloons became her friends!*

*Cordially, Martha Ellen Traband*

Special thanks to Marti Bowen, Christian Education Warden, for thinking to send out activity packets to our children for the Pentecost Sunday celebration.



From Eloise, granddaughter of Martha Ellen Traband

### Changes of Address:

Jim and Ginger Richards  
408 Laurel Grove Court  
Seneca SC 29678 (same cell phones, emails)  
Landline Number: 864-973-8133

Terry Messer  
1250 Lacebark Circle  
Chambersburg PA 17201



We want to congratulate our high school graduate from Mathews High School, Sarah Mae Renner. We were not able to recognize Sarah for her achievements in the usual way, but her gift and card are being mailed to her.

Since the untimely passing of Sarah Mae's father, Edward, a memorial fund has been established:

#### **Ed Renner Memorial Fund for Sarah**

c/o Chesapeake Bank  
P. O. Box 1078  
Mathews, VA 23019

If you would like to send Sarah Mae a note of congratulations, her address is: 6131 Westower Drive, Richmond VA 23225.

## Parish Prayer List

### Pray For Our Parishioners

Hank Furniss for non-tremor Parkinsons (by Mairi Furniss)  
 Mairi Furniss for recovery from knee replacement (office)  
 Paul Gibson for heart issues (by Jan Mohr)  
 Peggy Hudgins for pulmonary fibrosis (office)  
 Martha Anne King for cancer (by Mary Chapman)  
 Martha Knight for stomach cancer (office)  
 Deirdre McElroy for return of cancer (office)  
 Tom Neiger for cancer of esophagus and stomach (by Pat Neiger)  
 Marilyn Overstreet for recovery from knee replacement (office)  
 Dick Pogue for recovery from pacemaker installation (office)  
 Jim and Sarah Renner for 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)  
 Franklin Furey for mantel cell lymphoma (by Ethel Brown)  
 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)  
 Grady Hudgins (by Pat Munz)  
 Nancy Hunley for fractured shoulder from seizure (office)  
 Tom Hunley for recovery from back surgery (office)  
 Kyle Johnson for cancer (by Martha Ellen Traband)  
 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)  
 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)  
 Kristen Moran for breast cancer (by Jan Mohr)  
 Kathy Nelson for pulmonary fibrosis (by Kathy Yent)  
 Steve Nelson in hospice for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)  
 Lisa O'Connors for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)  
 Elizabeth Perkins for brain tumor (by Pat Elliot)

## July Birthdays

Jimmy Eaton	1
Joan Hammond	3
Sterling Ransone Jr.	7
Joe Bridgforth	10
Jay Black	10
Sally Bridgforth	12
Cheryl Lamport	15
Bob Lewis	15
Harriet Galbraith	17
Bud Shinault	18
Carl Aschman	20
Mae Montague	20
Jesse Lockaby	20
Hank Furniss	20
Nina Guy	22
Kathy Mallory	23
Tom Bowen	24
Charlie Carter	25
Rosemary Eaton	27
Lynn May	28
Danny Webster	29
John Deputy	30

## Serving in the Military or Diplomatic Corps

Colin Bucknor  
 BJ Cavazos  
 Yvette Gaither  
 Chris Ivy  
 Joe Kraynak  
 Megan Kraynak  
 Hib McNeilly  
 Joey Plotino  
 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)  
 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. Traband)  
 Catherine Worley for breast cancer (by Gay Butler)

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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
New Vestry	Nina Allen
Treasurer	Tom Reed
Recorder	Carol Swartz

### **TRUSTEES**

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

### **DIOCESAN COUNCIL & REGION II**

Reed Lawson, Lay Delegate  
Mary Chapman, Alternate

### **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.*