

KINGSTON CRIER

MAY 2020

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The Rector's Visions

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ... a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing ... (From Ecclesiastes 3).

We are in a season we have never quite experienced before. Yet it is still a season under heaven. That is not to say that God ordained this virus. Rather it is to say that God redeems all times and places. And God calls us to be a part of that redemption.

In this season of not leaving home in order to reduce the dangers of the virus spreading to ourselves, those we love, and especially those who are vulnerable because of age and medical conditions, we are blessed with the chance to be faithful by being disciplined at home. Even those of us who are, like myself, introverted homebodies by nature, are finding this discipleship challenging. But this is the season for a love that shows itself by staying home.

This is a season to stop and pray. This is a season to call a friend on the phone. This is a season to clean out that closet. This is a season to bake bread. This is a season to love those in your home with you. This is a season to stop all our busy-ness and face the reality of who we are by God' Grace rather than what we are by what we do.

Jesus began his ministry by going off alone for a long, long time. Moses spent – according to the people at the bottom of the mountain – way too much time away and alone with God. The great Celtic saints I love, notably Columba, Aidan and Cuthbert each had “hideaways” – places they would go alone to be with God so they could be grounded to do the ministry God gave them to do when the season came to be engaged in the community again. We have long been people who have neglected our time away. If we go to the desert, we go with an RV, picnics and televisions and smartphones. Mount Sinai is quiet not because God is not present, but because we are too busy to stop and wait and watch before the holiness of the burning bush. We don't want to take off our shoes on this holy ground; we have too many places we imagine we need run.

This is not a season of waste or a time only of trial. This is not a season only for fear and uncertainty, but a season for faith and worship. This is a time for us to engage in the deep and life-giving work of prayer. This is our time to set priorities and discover direction. This is our time to love from afar.

How are you living in this season? How are you being the church of Jesus Christ in this time? (For surely we have had to learn that church is not a building or an hour on Sunday morning, but just as Scripture tells us, it is the Body of Christ doing the work of God in the world; church is us.) May God bless you in this season of not embracing. And may we each bless God in these days also.

God's Peace, Be Safe, Be Faithful, Be Loving,

Gary+

WORSHIP: We continue to post our Sunday worship services on both Facebook and YouTube. Type in “Kingston Episcopal Parish” and find the latest posting. "Like" and “Share” what you see on the Kingston sites often and spread the Good News!

The Church in Action

In the midst of the coronavirus, needs continue to be seen and met by parishioners and members of the community.

As you see to the right, Mary Ellen Stimson came home from rehab in a wheelchair. A contingent from the Men's Sunday School class showed up and improved upon the ramp that Paul had already begun. The Stimsons are now ready for this time and for any other future need for a sturdy ramp. Good job, Guys!

As you see in the picture below, Berni LaCasse corralled a group of ladies with sewing ability to make face masks for the community. Thanks to everyone who contributed cotton material, elastic, round, stretchy hairbands, thread, etc., for the cause and to the ladies themselves who sewed: Reed Lawson, Becca Brown, Nan Cross, Lynn Abrams, Frances Hudgins, Kathy Stearns and Berni LaCasse. So far around 300 masks have been made, and the people keep coming. Nursing homes have been supplied as well as individuals. They have been mailed across the country. Thank you, Ladies!



Thanks to Ron Lambert and Jonny Brown for installing this ramp for Mary Ellen Stimson upon her return home.



The first batch of face masks to roll off the assembly line. Thanks to Kelsey Desmond for snapping the picture.

The Parish House also has the next publication of the Forward Movement's "Day By Day" devotional booklet on the pew with the face masks.

Some of you have contacted Karen and picked up toilet paper. That is something we still have available. Just call the office and leave a message, 725-2175, and she can arrange with you to put some in a small shopping bag and hang from the kitchen back door.

Vicki Carter and Peggy Wintzer have made individual meals for anyone who wants them. Maybe you're just tired of your own cooking! These are available in the Parish House freezers. Contact Karen for pick up or Josie Thorpe for delivery, 703-201-6888.

Red Cross Blood Drive (from Nan Cross) 69 units of blood were collected at the Red Cross drive on the 21st (towards a goal of 62). Several of our members came out to help rebuild the blood supply. Social distancing was observed and masks, including many fabric ones made by our parishioners, were used by all. Thanks be to God. Please continue to pray for no infection from the day.



Pentecost Celebration

The last Sunday of May, May 31, was to be a Wabingston picnic as well as the celebration of the birth of the church when the Holy Spirit descended like fire on the faithful to send them into the world with Good News. It is pretty likely at this point that we won't be having a picnic or outdoor service together. But the celebration of the birth of the church and the renewed descending of the Holy Spirit upon us will surely happen! How can we celebrate and be the church together on this Holy Day? There are special things in the works. Among them, we will try a parish wide coffee hour time on Zoom for all who can. Stay tuned to the parish announcements as we prepare for this special day.

Vestry Notes

From the April 13th Online Meeting

- Fr. Gary is keeping up with pastoral issues by phone. The neighborhood groups have been a timely help in communication.
- The Holy Week online services shared with Abingdon and Ware were lovely and some registered over 600 views.
- Gary will begin a Pilgrimage Class this month.
- Gary has been in several Zoom meetings with the Bishops and Diocesan staff, as well as regional clergy.
- Our Preschool director/teacher will work from home preparing curriculum and lesson plans for Fall and continue to receive her salary.
- Karen Jones continues to work from home and do only what is necessary at the office.
- The Coxes continue to clean our church buildings, giving extra attention to special projects.
- Robert Petersen's Confirmation has been delayed until Confirmation services resume.
- Fr. Gary is working with Jim Andrews and others to prepare worship services online.
- People are continuing their financial giving, for which we are thankful.
- We will publicize the Shrine Mont Retreat July 24-26 in hopes that we will be able to attend.

A Message From Shrine Mont

Due to the most recent recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control regarding the COVID-19 Virus, Shrine Mont will delay opening until May 29th. We are currently working with everyone scheduled to come before we can open to reschedule for a later date in 2020 if at all possible.

Shrine Mont is working to make sure we are as safe we possibly can be for our guests and our staff once we are able to open. We will follow the recommendations of the Health Department and CDC regarding the cleaning of facilities and safe food service and continue to communicate with our staff and guests about the basic safe practices outlined by the CDC.

If you would like to help Shrine Mont overcome the loss of business, visit us online at www.shrinemont.com and click on "donate" to make your tax deductible contribution. Note that the recently passed CARES act legislation allows for up to \$300 in gifts to qualified nonprofit organizations can be deducted in 2020 under a universal deduction.

Because of COVID-19, Shrine Mont has to delay our opening until May 29 at the earliest. This delay will have immediate and long-term financial impact on our ability to serve our guests and our employees who count on us for their livelihood.

Shrine Mont's greatest strength in dealing with the current situation is our community – our loyal customers, guests, friends and donors. We are confident that when we open, we will welcome back many people who will enjoy our hospitality and a well needed retreat from the events of this year. Until we open, we count on this community to support us generously as each person is able.

What can I do to help Shrine Mont through this difficult time? If you have a reservation, please plan on coming if we are open. If you need to move your reservation, our guest services staff will be glad to work with you to reschedule your stay for later in 2020. We are currently posting available dates at www.shrinemont.com/open-dates with daily updates.

If you are unable to reschedule your reservation for 2020 and you are able to make a gift, please consider making your payment as a donation to Shrine Mont. Shrine Mont is a 501(C)(3) organization and your gift will qualify as a charitable donation.

Additional News

- Gary has been asked to serve on a Task Force for the Diocese to plan for the eventual opening of churches. The Task Force began Zoom meeting the last week of April.
- Roslyn Retreat Center in Richmond has announced that they will remain closed for all of 2020 and have made plans to continue to keep their employees.
- Shrine Mont is exploring ways to be open this summer. The Covid -19 shut-down has been hard for them, especially financially. If you are able, you may wish to make a donation to the ministry of our camp and retreat center (featured on page 2).
- One of the strange, sometimes difficult and sometimes glorious realities of doing much of our teaching and worship online these days means that some folks who do not “do” electronics are shut-in who we have never thought of as shut in before. If you know someone in the parish who does not have connect with computer and smart phone, offer a friendly call sometime. The other part of this is that we are able to reach people who “do” electronics but were unable to attend services physically. We may need to find ways to do this in the years to come also! Especially as more and more of us who age also know how to “do” electronics. Our services and classes have reached people in Canada and Great Britain.
- We can't say often enough how pleased we are that the people of Kingston have continued to send in their pledges and donations for the work of the church even though we cannot physically meet together.
- We are so thankful for the alternate worship experiences being offered, thanks to the work of Fr. Gary and his son Zach, Jim Andrews and Nina Buzby, our musicians, Ray Stubblebine, our tech-savvy worship support warden, Karen, our bulletin maker, and soon our virtual choir members, who will lead hymns and make music offerings.

Instant Church Directory™ Online

We have purchased an online program that allows each parishioner whose E-mail is listed in our directory to access it on their computer and smart phone. Go to <https://members.instantchurchdirectory.com/> and create a login name (your email address) and password to access it. On your phone, install the Instant Church Directory app from your Google Play Store, the Apple App Store or the Kindle Fire Store, then create a login name (your email address) and password. This is a wonderful new feature and can be updated by the office at any time. We welcome more current pictures to replace the old ones Karen used from our last photo directory. This is a new program to Karen as well, so we will learn how to use it together.

Thank You

Hi, Karen,

4/22/20

Thank you so much for the masks. They are quite unique. I love the daffodil and sailboat material. If one should wear a mask, they're quite fashionable! I will send my son two. I might even send him the mask with the sailboats since he's in New Mexico. I think he'd be amused by that. Thanks again for EVERYTHING. I got them the day after I talked to you. That was quick!

Sincerely, Jackie (in Gloucester)

Dear Kingston,

The Easter services were wonderful. Thank you for the entire packet. It was so helpful!

Susan Ewing

A Special Thank You Letter

One of the many blessings to come out of what feels as a mostly difficult time of separation is the way our church services are reaching people who might not come to church with us! One Sunday, we had more than 600 "views" for church! This is a lovely little note from a couple in Ontario, Canada who worshipped with us for the Easter Vigil:

Our own small diocese whose see is Kingston, Ontario, Canada usually has a diocesan-wide Easter Vigil at our Cathedral. Due to the Corona Virus they did not hold one and apparently did not film or tape or upload one. My priest sent me the link to yours and my wife and I had a blessed time worshiping via the YouTube video premiered by a consortium of keen volunteers. We felt right at home, for although we currently worship at an Anglican church, we have attended Evangelical Lutheran worship and in fact were married in a Lutheran church. Thank you, thank you, thank you and bless everyone for the effort that went into the virtual vigil. Alleluia! -- The Tates of Ontario, Canada

Parish Prayer List (names before June, 2018 have been removed)**Pray For Our Parishioners**

Lori Black for Mast Cell Activation Syndrome (MCAS) (by Jay Black)
 Jimmy Eaton quarantined with the Princess cruise ship (by Rosemary Eaton)
 Hank Furniss for non-tremor Parkinsons (by Mairi Furniss)
 Mairi Furniss for upcoming knee replacement (office)
 Paul Gibson for heart issues (by Jan Mohr)
 Nina Guy hospitalized for mild heart attack (office)
 Peggy Hudgins for pulmonary fibrosis (office)
 Jo Ann Hunley for back injury from fall (office)
 Martha Anne King for cancer (by Mary Chapman)
 Martha Knight for stomach cancer (office)
 Tom Neiger for cancer of esophagus and stomach (by Pat Neiger)
 Gay Pfister for upcoming heart surgery (by Carol Swartz)
 Mary Ellen Stimson for fractured tibia/leg wound (office)
 Martha Ellen Traband for recovery from hip replacement (by Jan Mohr)

Pray For Our Family and Friends

Keith Brown for a broken hip (by Ethel Brown)
 Mickey Burchell for lung cancer (by Valerie Lewis)
 Duncan Campbell for colon cancer (by Mary Kathryn Diggs)
 Joe Carter with end stage cancer (by Vicki Carter)
 Linda Crowe for lung cancer (by Duffy Crowe)
 Nancy Donnelly (by Kathy Yent)
 Tommy Dutton for hip repair (by Becca Brown)
 Stephanie Fleming (by Trish Reed)
 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)
 Franklin Furey for mantel cell lymphoma (by Ethel Brown)
 Peggy Gallagher for recovery from COVID-19 (by Kathy Yent)
 Anna Garrett for coronavirus (by Kathy Yent)
 Doris Gibson for complications from shingles (by Paul Gibson)
 +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)
 Carole Hirose for anxiety (office)
 Grady Hudgins (by Pat Munz)
 Nancy Hunley for undiagnosed seizure disorder (office)
 Tom Hunley for recovery from back surgery (office)
 Andy James for lymphoma (by Valerie Lewis)
 Kyle Johnson for cancer (by Martha Ellen Traband)
 Eugene Jones for Parkinson's Disease (by Robert Petersen)
 Rick Jones from injuries - hit by a car (by Richard Jones)
 John Michael Jones (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Andrea Krause for breast cancer (by Gay Pfister)
 Skip Lewis (by Valerie Lewis)
 Don Loving for multiple illnesses (by Jan Mohr)
 Emily Lyth for recovery from COVID-19 (office)
 Allison Malise (by Shannon Kirschbaum)
 Dave Martin (by Gay Butler)
 Melissa McCarter for Parkinson's (by Eleanor Woollard)
 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 for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)
 Mary Newell for Bell's Palsy (office)
 Lisa O'Connors for lung cancer (by Kathy Yent)

May Birthdays

Mac Butler	1
Mary Ellen Stimson	1
Jessica Story	1
Amanda Taylor	3
Sandy Warren	7
John Brown	8
Will Story	9
Ralph Lawson	10
Anita Minuth	13
Paul Stimson	18
Beverly Holmberg	20
Alexa Husband	22
Bruce Cargill	22
Page Herbert	22
Elisa Wheeler+	22
Jim Andrews	24
Neil Holmberg	24
Patricia Elliot	25
Martha Ellen Traband	27
Ginger Richards	28
Wendy Super	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 Scarletk
 Jennifer Schmidt
 Zach Schmidt
 George Truscott
 William Truscott
 Dawson Turner
 Nicholas Webster

Elizabeth Perkins for brain tumor (by Pat Elliot)
 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 (Kathy Yent)
 Bella Silvus for Lyme's Disease (by Marti Bowen)
 Sue Ann Singleton, mother of Lisa O'Connors (Kathy Yent)
 Bruce Spain for a broken femur (by Mary Dabney Webster)
 Amy Suppes for removal of spleen (by Rosemary Eaton)
 Marsha Threlkeld for breast cancer (by Debbie Lambert)
 Joe Tomlinson (by Josie Thorpe)
 Grace Van Burkirk hit by a car (by Nina Guy)
 Harry Ward for brain tumor (by Jay Black)
 Kate Warfel for auto-immune disorder (by 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 Jennifer Brooke-Davidson, 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. Holy Eucharist Rite I at Christ Church
9:15 a.m. Sunday School in the Parish House
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II at Kingston Chapel

Wednesday

12:00 p.m. Healing Service/Holy Eucharist in the
Meditation Chapel of the Parish House