



# Light of Christ Anglican Church

## THE BEACON

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## April 2020

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Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.  
Matthew 5:16



*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."*

*1Peter 1:3*



## Mike's Message

### **1 Peter 1:3-7 The Message (MSG) A New Life**

“What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have him, this Father of our Master Jesus! Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we’ve been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future. The Day is coming when you’ll have it all—life healed and whole.

I know how great this makes you feel, even though you have to put up with every kind of aggravation in the meantime. Pure gold put in the fire comes out of it proved pure; genuine faith put through this suffering comes out proved genuine. When Jesus wraps this all up, it’s your faith, not your gold, that God will have on display as evidence of his victory.”

As many of you know, my father lived with Teresa and me for many years before his death. One of the things that seemed to characterize his life as he grew older was regret. It likely became a part of his thinking because, due to his health, he was unable to do much other than read, watch TV or think.

Dad and I had a lot of conversations where he wanted to apologize for things he had done or not done that he regretted. Some of those things I remembered, and some were things that happened that really weren’t as bad as he recalled. It was a great time for me to listen and love my father. Some of his regrets involved things he had done to me or things he should have but didn’t. Again, it was a time for me to love him and let him know that I had already forgiven him. On a few of those memories I realized that I hadn’t forgiven him but had tucked them away undealt with. God was giving me the opportunity to be rid of unforgiveness that was certainly blocking my chance to know God more intimately. I want to share with you one of those times.

Dad and I were having breakfast together and he looked very serious and bothered by something. Finally, he looked up at me and said, *“Mike, I’ve been thinking a lot about my life and I want to apologize to you. You’ve been a better son to me*

*than I’ve been a father to you. I have nothing to leave you when I die, and I’m dependent on you instead of the other way around. I love you and am very proud of where God has taken you. I’m sorry that I’ve not been a better father.”*

I just sat there for a minute, unsure of how I should respond. He was apologizing for something that was somewhat true, from a worldly perspective and a hidden bitterness in my heart. I silently prayed asking God to show me how to respond to my father, who looked more vulnerable to me than ever before. There was a part of me that wanted to unload on him all the ways that he was right, but then there was the Spirit of God that I knew was inviting me to help my father face the burden of regret that he carried. As I looked up into his face I saw tears welling up and for maybe the first time I felt a deep compassion for the man that I had struggled to love most of my life. I said to him, *“Dad, I already know that you are not leaving me any material wealth and I have a lot of friends who are financially stable because of inheritances. But Dad, you showed me Jesus Christ, and that has changed everything in my life. It saved my life; it saved my marriage and it put me on the path that leads to the joy of God’s kingdom. My kids, your grandchildren are faithfully following Christ. The friends that I mentioned, don’t have that joy. What you gave me was far greater than any inheritance that you could have left me. Dad, thank you for giving me a better perspective on what’s important.”*

He went back to his breakfast smiling and I went back to mine released from a burden of bitterness that I had carried for many years. The most important thing was that I felt a new love and compassion for my earthly father, that I knew would change my relationship with my heavenly father. My father passed away on December 8, 2010. Because of God’s mercy in setting up that conversation, I have a fond memory instead of regret.

I love 1 Peter 1:3-7 because Peter was reminding his readers that God had changed their lives through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He reminds them that the evidence of what Jesus had done in their lives was the strength of their faith not the amount of their gold.

During this time in our world I believe that Christians around the world have the opportunity to reach out to those who are suffering or struggling, inviting them to have faith in Jesus Christ, instead of fearing that their wealth is diminishing. It might cost us some of our wealth, but Peter was showing them what real wealth was.

Blessings!



## *Senior Warden's Column*

The past 30 days have been maybe the least unforgettable time in most of our lives. Never have I been forbidden from church or the grocery store because I could contact the COVID-19 virus. Also, I have not experienced my nation arising to an almost solid position to fight for the protection of its citizens. I have watched and participated in the solidarity of the Anglican Church to continue its mission of providing love and religious support to its members through established means when possible and through new inventions such as "Zoom." Yesterday I attended Mike's heart-felt services in my living room and in the afternoon attended a "normal" Vestry meeting in my office with all of my fellow Vestry members watching them speak as though they were across my desk. The Lord does provide for His folks.

I ask each of you to please take care of yourself and follow the guidance the experts are providing daily. We will be through this period soon and can return to what we consider normal life. Survival is the most important thing we can give to our families, LOC and America.

We continue to provide pastoral support to our members as best we can. If you need assistance please call Mike or your Vestry members and we will do the best we can.

The most impacting change we have encountered is a sharp decline in our revenues during the past month. Our expenses have not been reduced therefore, we do need you to continue to honor your pledges and contributions via mail, electronic payments or stopping by the church. Please help keep your church financially sound.

Leslye Morrison, our Northern Neck School leader, presented her plan for the 2020-21 school year. Depending on the number of students enrolled by September the school may be hosted by LOC as Zion Baptist Church is approved to support 10 or less students. As the year progresses we will have more information for you.

Sandi Ward presented her plan for a memorial walk that will be establish in the front of the church

close to the cross. Details of the garden are on the church's web site and the bulletin board. The garden will be an effort of Sandi's love for LOC without cost to the church.

The Memorial Garden, the internment area in the back of the church, is in need of a formal survey, placement of permanent markers, installment of identification tags and a concrete formation for the bench. Randy Smith, Howard York and George Kranda were requested to develop a plan and cost estimate and present to the Vestry for approval as soon as possible.

Joyce Olverson will develop a telephone notification plan for the Vestry members so that important information can be provided timely, especially for those who do not have email.

The Junior Warden is continuing his task of developing an exterior security plan suggested by the Northumberland County Sheriff security officers.

The Treasurer's Report of Operating Funds for February is included in the Beacon.

Again, please be safe. We pray we will be back to normal soon.

Blessings, George

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**Bless  
God,  
America!**

## *Reflections on Uganda*

It seems like a very long time has passed since Anna Brennan and I travelled to Uganda for the enthronement of our friend, Stephen Kaziimba, as the 9th Archbishop of Uganda. This was my second trip. The first was a mission trip to Mityana Diocese where I spoke to many school children, spoke with women's groups, visited health clinics, and preached.

This time, Anna and I were treated as very special guests! We were surprised and blessed to be staying in the Archbishop's Palace, his personal residence. There were many international guests attending the enthronement, but only four Americans were guests of the Archbishop in his home. The other two guests were Grace and Dave Altena from Holland, Michigan. Grace and Dave were called "Mama and Papa" as they were the couple who sponsored Stephen when he attended the Western Theological Seminary.

Overall, I felt like I was at an important event with global significance, especially for the church. This must be what it feels like at the inauguration of a president, or perhaps, Cinderella's Ball. We got to witness all of the activity behind the scenes to put on an event of this magnitude (and we had no responsibility!). We met many leaders of the Anglican Church and the Ugandan government. Here are some of my highlights:

+ Ugandans are known for their hospitality. We arrived at the house around 1:30 am and were met by members of the household and given a meal. One of our hosts was Lillian, whom many of you have met on previous trips. The next morning, the President of the Mother's Union in Kampala, arrived to welcome us. Others appeared all day to greet us! We were treated as very special visitors and staying in the Palace shows how much Stephen loves and appreciates his Virginia friends at LOC!

- I enjoyed getting to know the Ugandan women. They are strong and powerful, but loving and generous souls, and they could really get things done! There were women in high positions in the government, including the Chief Whip of Parliament, who, as one of the President's ministers, had the task of overseeing every aspect of the event. She also decided to decorate and "beautify" the archbishop's home. She was everywhere, and yet, she sat with us for several meals getting to know us and laughing with us. I will always remember the Hon. Ruth and her contagious personality!

+ The service lasted five and a half hours, but we were there for seven hours! It started a few minutes early, which is not normal for Africa. To be in the presence of so many Anglican Primates, bishops, clergy, visiting dignitaries, and top officials from the Ugandan government was truly amazing. It impressed me to see how closely the Ugandan government works with the Church of Uganda (Anglican), at least for right now. This has much to do with Stephen's leadership. Uganda is a country where approximately 75% of its people are Christian. The service was televised on every television station. What a joyful occasion to share with brothers and sisters from around the world!

- We were able to visit the Museum of the Martyrs. It is hard to see in a very graphic way just how cruel humans can be towards others. We were led to sing Amazing Grace in the chapel there and it was deeply moving. In Uganda, these martyrs, who refused to turn away from their faith in Jesus, are remembered and spoken of often. The national day of remembrance is June 3rd, but they are never forgotten. You have probably heard that the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church and this is evident in Uganda. We were told that the revival is still going on! I didn't realize how much Uganda played a vital role in the separation of faithful Anglicans from the Episcopal Church and others in the Communion who have moved away from a Bible Centered faith. Our own bishop was consecrated as bishop in Uganda, which I knew, but it made a deeper impression as I heard so many primates speak of the way Uganda stepped up to lead the way.
- On our last day, Rev. Rocky took us to Mityana Diocese. We met the church leaders in the diocesan office, visited with the new bishop, and visited Rocky's church and school. We were welcomed everywhere! Bishop James was very warm towards us and dropped what he was doing to spend extra time with us. Mityana still needs our support as they are a poor, rural diocese, and very large in area and people.

There were so many experiences that I cannot relate here, but would love to speak with anyone who wants to know more! I couldn't help thinking of Ward LeHardy while there because he told me for years that Stephen Kaziimba would be the next Archbishop of Uganda! He would have loved being there!

Mary Swann

## *My first trip to Uganda following in my daughter's footsteps.*

Our congregation has had a long relationship with Bishop Stephen since 2003. Shortly after Stephen was elected Bishop of Mityana, on Christmas day 2008, our church sent a mission group, which included my daughter, Tricia, so I was following in her footsteps. This time was not a mission trip. On this trip, Mary and I were honored to represent Light of Christ at the enthronement of Stephen Kaziimba to Archbishop of Uganda. We were esteemed guests because we came as the face of LOC. Of all the invited guests to this auspicious event, Mary and I and a couple from Holland, Michigan, Dave and Grace, were the only honored guests to stay in the Bishop's Palace. It was good to put faces to Stephen's Michigan connection.

We arrived on Friday, Feb. 28 at about 1:30 am but were warmly greeted with a meal of chicken and rice. The next day, I cannot tell you how many people greeted us and saying, "Thank you for coming. You are most welcome."

The Ugandan people have a sweet spirit and show the love of God with their warm, welcoming embraces. This was a few days before the government restricted personal contact to elbow bumps.

Sunday, March 1st was the big day. Mary and I were blessed to have Very Special Invitations, so we had priority seating just behind the foreign bishops and archbishops. We were seated practically under the pulpit where Archbishop Foley Beach preached. His message included how the Church of Uganda reached out to Anglicans in the US when we were orphans. (In fact it was during that time our Bishop Guernsey was installed as bishop in Uganda.) The ceremony was attended by more than 3,000 guests including the President of Uganda, the Queen of Buganda, the Prime Minister, and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Words cannot describe the music and pageantry. Some of the highlights of the 5 ½ hour ceremony were the procession, Archbishop Foley Beach preaching on going out and making disciples, Archbishop Stephen's reading of his 27 page charge, which included a nod to "Friends from Light of Christ Church, Virginia" and hearing his four sons sing together. After the service, we were treated to a lovely lunch for 1,000 in the Bishop's

Garden. The next day, we were invited to have breakfast with the GAFCON primates before their meeting. Later, Johnson, Archbishop's chaplain gave us a tour of Kampala diocese, which included All Saints cathedral, the construction site of the much bigger cathedral, and the Uganda Martyrs Museum. In 1877, the king of Uganda asked for English missionaries be sent to Uganda.

In 1886, the new king demanded everyone renounce the Christian faith. Twenty-six refused and were martyred. We almost missed this site because of a downpour, so I'm glad we got a little wet to see it. We had a sweet moment at the end as Johnson led us in singing, "Amazing Grace."

Tuesday morning, Rev. Rocky picked us up for a tour of Mityana, and to meet the new Bishop, James Bukomeko. He greeted us warmly and was familiar with our relationship with his diocese. After our meeting, he joined us for tea, then gave us a tour of the completed cathedral, after which we had the pleasure of meeting his wife. During our tour of Mityana, we saw the Mother's Union building, Rev. Rocky's church and school. We kept hearing, and saw on the wall of Rev. Rocky's church: "God is good, All the time, All the time, God is good!"

All too soon, we were headed to Entebbe Airport and a long trip home. Mary and I were blessed on this trip.

Keep Archbishop Stephen Kaziimba, Maama Margaret and Uganda in your prayers.

Anna Brennan



Rev. Rocky, Archbishop Stephen, Maama Margaret, me, and Mary.

**Light of Christ Anglican Church  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
Operating Funds**

	2020				
	Budget		Actual		Budget (YTD)
	Annual	YTD	February	YTD	Variance
<b>Income:</b>					
Plate Collections	15,000	2,500	1,408	2,120	(380)
Pledge Receipts	250,000	41,667	13,318	32,491	(9,176)
Thrift Shop Contributions	0	0	0	0	0
Other Receipts and Funding	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>265,000</b>	<b>44,167</b>	<b>14,726</b>	<b>34,611</b>	<b>(9,556)</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>					
<b>PERSONNEL</b>					
Rector	101,564	16,927	11,539	21,374	(4,447)
Office Manager	21,419	3,570	1,720	3,440	130
Sexton	13,865	2,311	774	1,857	454
Pianist	2,000	333	0	0	333
Nursery Attendant	1,000	167	208	208	(41)
Payroll Taxes	10,980	1,830	812	1,709	121
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>150,828</b>	<b>25,138</b>	<b>15,053</b>	<b>28,588</b>	<b>(3,450)</b>
<b>MISSIONS/OUTREACH</b>					
Missionary	3,600	600	100	300	300
Young Life	10,200	1,700	850	1,680	20
Other Outreach	10,000	1,667	2,500	2,500	(833)
Anglican Pledges *	10,865	2,000	5,433	5,433	(3,433)
<b>Total Missions/Outreach</b>	<b>34,665</b>	<b>5,967</b>	<b>8,883</b>	<b>9,913</b>	<b>(3,946)</b>
<b>OPERATIONS</b>					
Church Office	15,000	2,500	1,649	2,430	70
Worship Service Supplies	750	125	143	143	(18)
Education Programs	1,400	233	139	169	64
Hospitality (Special Events)	3,000	500	0	565	(65)
Publicity	1,000	167	54	597	(430)
Insurance	10,000	1,667	0	0	1,667
Equipment Rental	500	83	0	0	83
Mortgage Debt Servicing	14,016	2,336	0	1,168	1,168
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>45,666</b>	<b>7,611</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>5,072</b>	<b>2,539</b>
<b>FACILITIES MAINTENANCE</b>					
Facility Supplies	3,000	500	327	875	(375)
Interior Cleaning and Disposal	1,000	167	52	104	63
Grounds Maintenance	500	83	0	0	83
Building Repairs and Services	5,000	833	99	248	585
Utilities	15,000	2,500	0	1,255	1,245
Capital Expenditures	3,000	500	0	0	500
<b>Total Facilities</b>	<b>27,500</b>	<b>4,583</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>2,482</b>	<b>2,101</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>258,659</b>	<b>43,299</b>	<b>26,399</b>	<b>46,055</b>	<b>(2,756)</b>
<b>Income minus Expenses</b>	<b>6,341</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>(11,673)</b>	<b>(11,444)</b>	

\* The second half of 2019 tithe was paid in February, but not included in this report.

# IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

## Acolytes

- Apr. 5 David Gwaltney
- Apr. 9 Jane Wrightson (Maundy Thursday)
- Apr. 10 Constance McDearmon (Good Friday)
- Apr. 12 Ed Feddeman (Easter Sunday)
- Apr. 19 Anna Brennan
- Apr. 26 Jane Wrightson

## Lesson Readers

- Apr. 5 Charlaine Andrulot (L) Ed Feddeman (P)
- Apr. 9 Jim Conley (L) Lyn Conley (P)
- Apr. 10 Julie Pritchard (L) Bill Tracey (P)
- Apr. 19 Betty Dillingham (L) Ernie Proctor (P)
- Apr. 26 Jeanne Hickey (L) Bart Morrison (P)

## Eucharist Ministers

- Apr. 5 Lucy Logan, Tony Blackstone
- Apr. 9 Bart Morrison, Constance McDearmon
- Apr. 10 Suzy Norman, Tom Zamaria
- Apr. 12 Bart Morrison, Lucy Logan
- Apr. 19 Frank McCarthy, Priscilla Williams
- Apr. 26 Tony Blackstone, Constance McDearmon

## Ushers

- Apr. 5 Tom & Alison Kimmitt
- Apr. 9 Howard York, Jim Logan
- Apr. 10 Doug Ludeman,
- Apr. 12 Bill and Charlaine Andrulot
- Apr. 19 Chris Cralle, George Beckett
- Apr. 26 Howard York, Bill Tracey

## Altar Guild

- Apr. 5 Suzy Norman, Marie Carstensen
- Apr. 9 Wendy Smith, Donna Soule
- Apr. 10 ?
- Apr. 12 Julie Pritchard, Barbara Seed
- Apr. 19 Anna Brennan, Bonnie Odend'Hal
- Jan. 26 Doris Myers, Lucy Logan

## Altar Rail Ministers

- Apr. 5 George Beckett, Agnes Burke
- Apr. 12 Teresa Moffitt, Steve Proctor
- Apr. 19 Ernie Proctor, Marion Mitchell
- Apr. 26 Walt & Phyllis TeStrake

## Greeters

- Apr. 5 Marie Carstensen
- Apr. 9 Lynne York
- Apr. 10 Bonnie Odend'Hal
- Apr. 12 Julie Pritchard, Anna Brennan
- Apr. 19 Phyllis TeStrake
- Apr. 26 Cheryl Swan

## Tellers

- Apr. 5 Courtney Ludeman, Bob Norman
- Apr. 9 Courtney Ludeman, Priscilla Williams
- Apr. 10 Courtney Ludeman, ?
- Apr. 12 Courtney Ludeman, Jan Beckett
- Apr. 19 Courtney Ludeman, Bill Andrulot
- Apr. 26 Courtney Ludeman, Pam Smith

## Vestry Person on Duty

- Apr. 5 George Beckett
- Apr. 9 Alison Kimmitt
- Apr. 10 Dave Peresluha
- Apr. 12 Randy Smith
- Apr. 19 Anna Brennan
- Apr. 26 Carl Smith

## Nursery

- Apr. 5 Dana Reese, Julie Pritchard
- Apr. 12 Dana Reese, Susan Moore
- Apr. 19 Dana Reese, Joyce Olverson
- Apr. 26 Dana Reese, ?

## April Birthdays

- Apr. 1 Michael Nguyen
- Apr. 2 Chris Cralle
- Apr. 3 Eleanor Semerjian
- Apr. 6 William Ressler
- Apr. 9 Bobby Edmonds
- Apr. 11 Bob Dalzell
- Apr. 15 Susan Moore
- Apr. 19 Sally Custer
- Apr. 22 Agnes Burke
- Apr. 28 Edward Ulfig

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants named above, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## April Anniversaries

- Apr. 1 Charlaine and Bill Andrulot
- Apr. 28 Doug and Courtney Ludeman

*O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your servants [as they begin another year], that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.*

Those who leave everything in GOD'S HAND will eventually see God's hand in everything.

*The Beacon*  
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April

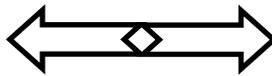


**Mityana Cathedral outside and inside**



**Pictures from Archbishop Stephen's Enthronement**

**The Archbishop's Palace**



**Procession of clergy at the Enthronement**



**St. Paul's Cathedral where the enthronement took place**

