



# Light of Christ Anglican Church

## THE BEACON

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## September

2018

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

### Unexpected Blessings

Have you had those times in your life when so-o-o many unwanted events occur? Of course, you have; it happens to us all. I find myself dwelling on them instead of the true, honorable, virtuous, just, pure, lovely, gracious things (Phil 4:8). It is like picking at a scab instead of letting it have time to heal. My last surgeon reminded me of this when I asked how much longer was I going to continue to hurt. He calmly answered that it just takes time. But Lord, I am not Paul. I am not doing well with this "thorn in the flesh." It keeps getting my attention-like the persistent 2-year-old tugging on his mother's apron. But if I am honest with myself, it does drive me to prayer. So, is this its purpose, not the unwanted annoyance, but God calling? Hmmm.

Only looking back, do I see the beauty in those menial unwanted tasks like washing Nonie's feet or Ben's feet. They remind me of "If you have done it unto one of the least of these you have done it for me." Oh, what beauty there is in the washing of the Lord's feet. The waking in the middle of the night to care for a loved one. I am reminded of Samuel who was awakened in the middle of the night. The Lord calls us in mysterious ways.

I love weeding the flower beds. You are probably thinking, ok, you can come do mine too. But I would not want to rob you of the blessings. I love this job because you see the results. There is great joy in just yanking out that unwanted growth. There are so many analogies that can be made. Getting rid of the unwanted things before they really take root. While keeping you eyes on the good, true, beautiful plants lest you mistakenly pull one of them out. This past Wednesday, I must admit, wasn't very joyful as the sweat kept dripping into my eyes and my thoughts were not on the beautiful, true, virtuous things, but more like a pity party on all that was not good.

Then our "Visiting Angel", Tee, called out from the house. "Sandi, you have a call from Uganda!" I have been on two mission trips to Uganda. Part of my heart is still there. Ben and I also had the privilege of having Bishop Stephen stay with us on his last trip to Heathsville, Virginia. The call was Bishop Stephen calling to inquire about Ben and me, and to assure us that he and his church were praying for us. With all of the responsibilities he has, he took time for us. It was an example of God's love for a single individual.

**Lord forgive me when I whine, I have you and all is fine. Sandi Ward**

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

#### Mark Your Calendars

**September 11**  
**September 15**  
**September 29**

**Alpha Series begins 5:30-8**  
**AMF 25th Anniversary Reception**  
**Beams of Light - See page 3 for information**



## Mike's Message

*“And he said, “Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the Lord to you, ‘Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God's.” 2 Chronicles 20:15*

*“For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.” 2 Corinthians 10:3-5*

*“Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4*

During the month of July and the first part of August, the sermon series at Light of Christ considered the teaching from Luke 22:66 to 24:53, covering the time from Jesus' betrayal to his ascension. The series challenged us to be faithful to the true Gospel of God and not give in to the demands of our culture to water down God's Word. Most modernists want us to remove the power and demands of a Holy God and only speak of how much he is like Mr. Rogers; and wants us to stay just as we are-if he even exists at all.

As the people of God, who know him intimately, we know that love demands that we speak the truth that all people are called to live according to the commands and truth of God's Word. We discussed the importance of the resurrection and how it revealed that God was able to do the impossible; even death and the grave has to submit to his power and authority. We spoke of the ascension of Christ and the hope and joy it reveals because Jesus is the Lord and King of all the universe and everything is under his authority and subject to his will.

As an old Lutheran hymn by Edward Mote says, *“My Hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness. I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ the solid rock I stand all other ground is sinking sand.”*

All these things revealed to us in the Bible show how those who have surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ should live. We are to live as those who have inherited all the power and blessings of the kingdom of God, but we must also see ourselves as those who are called to faithfully fight against the kingdom of darkness. We are to be kingdom warriors until that day when King Jesus returns to us in glory to fully establish his kingdom here on earth.

I have always loved college football and have to discipline myself to not sit for long hours watching games. One of the reasons that I love football is because I know what it is to play the game. I know what it takes to get into condition so that you can stand the physical beating and stress of exertion that it demands.

One thing that I find irritating is having to listen to commentators discuss what is happening down on the field when I can plainly see it, especially when it's someone who looks like he probably never played the game. However, I confess it's different when I listen to someone who played football professionally, because their analysis is based on experience and understanding of the game.

I've considered what it would be like for a soldier caught up in the thick of a brutal battle having to take orders from an officer fresh out of military college, who was depending on his understanding of the theory of battle. The soldier would most likely prefer to be next to someone who was battle-hardened and knew how to fight and win.

With that in mind, in the month of September into early October, we will begin a 6-week series on how we are to “Put on the whole Armor of God”, based on Ephesians 6:10-20. Please be reading and praying through that passage as we invite the Holy Spirit through his Word to prepare us to be battle-hardened warriors for the Kingdom of God. The fight is already engaged, and we must be engaged in it if we would shine the light of Christ into the darkness.

Blessings!

## From the Senior Warden

*Dear Light of Christ Family,*

*As you may know, we have held two very successful fundraisers, one in 2012 and another in 2014, to help build our new church.*

*The Vestry has approved a final 12-month fund raiser be held from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019, to pay off the remaining \$350,000 of our mortgage.*

*Mike will be sending a letter to all with details. Please pray how you might contribute to make this a debt-free church.*

Blessings,

Bart

## CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

**As of July 2018**

By Jan Beckett, Treasurer

Year-to-date income totals \$208,706, which is \$13,570 below plan, whereas total expenses amount to \$203,708 or \$27,940 below budget. When taken together, income minus expenses stands at \$4,998 ahead of budget, due to the reset of our mortgage liability this year.

Mortgage principal is now \$351,636 and commands an annual payment of just over \$25,000. If we can reduce this liability by 50% or more, the result will be a sustainable payment flow over the long-term.

For budget details, see the Treasurers Report posted on the bulletin board.



## Deacon's Corner

### Auction Update!

We now have a name for our Fall Auction –  
**Beams of Light!**

The planning committee felt it needed a more appealing name that could be used again for other events.

If you have not heard our latest plan, we are moving everything inside. The cost of the tent was too much and it might be a rainy fall day, so the auction will take place in the Parish Hall with use of the narthex and outside covered walkways for lunches, bake sale, and display of items.

Some items such as the jon boat and garden equipment will be outside. We also plan to have a few theme baskets for a raffle of some smaller items. Of course, we will rent portable potties to avoid overusing our septic system.

Items will be on location during the week preceding the auction. If you are donating an item, we ask that you hang on to it until September 26, or let us know if we need to arrange pick up and storage.

We are grateful to Bonnie Odend'hal for providing use of her building to store items prior to the event. Anyone who submitted a survey will be contacted soon. We will need you! Watch for sign-up sheets for different work teams coming soon in the Parish Hall.

We ask that everyone help us get the word out about this event. It's the first time to do something like this and it won't work unless we have people attending, so please tell everyone!

Deacon

Mary Swann

## REPORT ON THE ANNUAL WOMEN'S RETREAT

On Saturday, July 28, forty-two women gathered in the lovely Rappahannock Room at RWC for our tenth annual retreat. The theme for the day was Gifted for the Glory of God, and our guiding scripture verse was from Ephesians 2:20, *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* This theme was conceived by Courtney Ludeman after viewing some of Connie deBordenave's artwork, and she served as moderator for our program.

We started with a time of worship led by Judy Rasberry on the piano and Jeanne Hickey directed our singing to the glory of God. During this time, Judy shared with us her testimony and how God had led her to use her gift of music to bring her into her current position as minister of music at Light of Christ. Jeanne also shared with us her own witness to the Lord's use of her gifts to bring glory to His Name. Then Mary Swann prepared the women sitting around our five tables for a Bible Study on Romans 12:4-8. At each table, a facilitator led a time of sharing on this passage and how it spoke to each woman about the spiritual gifts that God gives us.

Connie deBordenave was our guest speaker and she related how her artistic talent had led her into painting pictures to highlight the plight of the refugees around the world. Her story highlighted how God had moved her into using her gift of painting to educate the viewer about these people who have left their homes and everything they know behind to escape to safer shores. Connie's paintings are poignant and certainly touch the heart for these lost souls, communicating to the viewer their worth and dignity as they face the trials and aspirations of fleeing from their homelands.

After lunch, Mary set up a discussion about spiritual gifts at the individual tables which took up the rest of our time together. There was much prayer and sharing during this afternoon session, and deeper relationships were formed among the individuals in each group. Melinda Floom, Gail Marston, Eleanor Semerjian, Mary Swann, and Sandi Ward were the coordinators who served at the tables. To end our day together, Mike Moffitt and his wife Teresa joined us to lead us in a communion service, and Mike brought a special message to encourage us as women of God. In departing from RWC, I think that our women had a stronger sense of their own gifts as well as how to look for God's handiwork in those around them and appreciate how they are using their gifts to build up the Body of Christ.

Donna Soule

## Politics in the Pews

The political season is once again upon us. It is that time of year when we are inclined to express our opinions regarding matters political and seek to convince our neighbors to embrace those opinions as their own. The situation is especially true where one is a member of a body such as LOC, where it seems that many other members of the body are, or certainly should be, of like mind as we are.

The great problem is that Christians are not all of one mind regarding political candidates or political questions. I learned this many years ago at my former church in Fairfax County. There I came to know a young man who was both a practicing Christian and a Socialist. A Socialist! He worked at the British Embassy and happened to believe that Socialism was the right course for a nation to follow. This was during the apex of the power of the Soviet Union. It is fair to say that most evangelicals viewed Socialists as having horns and a tail then. But this young man had neither. He was a real believer.

So, how are we to regard those fellow Christians whose opinions are unlike ours? Aren't we free to hold whatever political opinions we choose? Certainly. Aren't they? Certainly. We are to regard them with love in spite of their opinions, as they are likewise to regard us with love. Galatians 5:13-15. After all, it is the love that Christians have for one another that tells the world who we are.

So, beloveds, be gentle with one another and sensitive to those who may not believe just as "we" do. Avoid political comments that could be hurtful to another. No political opinion on earth is worth making my brother or sister in Christ stumble or become discouraged. Maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace is far more important.

Respectfully,  
Your fellow-servant of Christ

Ernie Proctor

## LOC Brochure Available!

Peggy Lassanske created a wonderful brochure about our church that is available at the Welcome Center, either on the counter or underneath. Please check it out and spread it around in the community! We print these in house, so take as many as you want.

# IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

## Acolytes

Sep 2	LeAnne Nguyen
Sep 9	Hannah Hamlett
Sep 16	LeAnne Nguyen
Sep 23	Hannah Hamlett
Sep 30	LeAnne Nguyen

## Lesson Readers

Sep 2	Bill Tracey (L) Charlaine Andrulot (P)
Sep 9	Constance McDearmon (L) Dick Seed (P)
Sep 16	Frank McCarthy (L) Sandi Ward (P)
Sep 23	Betty Dillingham (L) Howard York (P)
Sep 30	Joan Blackstone (L) Tony Blackstone (P)

## Eucharist Ministers

Sep 2	Ward LeHardy, Lucy Logan
Sep 9	Bart Morrison, Priscilla Williams
Sep 16	Tony and Joan Blackstone
Sep 23	Frank McCarthy, Constance McDearmon
Sep 30	Harrison and Priscilla Williams

## Ushers

Sep 2	Stan Rasberry, Jim Logan
Sep 9	Courtney and Doug Ludeman
Sep 16	David Gwaltney, Julie Pritchard
Sep 23	Pam and Herb Smith
Sep 30	Barbara and Dick Seed
Oct 7	David and Cindy Peresluha

## Greeters

Sep 2	Lynn and Howard York
Sep 9	Fred Wimberly, Phyllis TeStrake
Sep 16	Ernie Proctor, Doris Myers
Sep 23	George Beckett, Julie Pritchard
Sep 30	Bonnie Odend'hal, Peggy Lassanske

## Counters

September	Jan Beckett, Laura Woodard
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## Altar Guild

September	Donna Soule, Eleanor Semerjian
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## Nursery

Sep 2	Doris Myers, Jeanette Cralle
Sep 9	Julie Pritchard, Saunee Hamlett
Sep 16	Alison Kimmitt, Doris Myers
Sep 23	Jeanette Cralle, Julie Pritchard
Sep 30	Saunee Hamlett, Alison Kimmitt

## Coffee Hour

Sep 2	Alison & Tom Kimmitt, Fred & Laura Woodard
Sep 9	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>
Sep 16	Jim & Lyn Conley, Courtney & Doug Ludeman
Sep 23	Betty and Jeanette Cralle
Sep 30	Jeanne Hickey, Randy Smith and Sharon Baldacci

## Altar Rail Ministers

Sep 2	Ernie Proctor, Teresa Moffitt
Sep 9	Jim Conley, Agnes Burke
Sep 16	Walt and Phyllis TeStrake
Sep 23	Stan Rasberry, Constance McDearmon
Sep 30	George Beckett, Mary Swann

## Vestry Person on Duty

Sep 2	Barbara Seed
Sep 9	Bart Morrison
Sep 16	David Peresluha
Sep 23	Alison Kimmitt
Sep 30	Harrison Williams

## Happy August Birthdays!

Sep 1	Lucille Logan
Sep 2	Charlaine Andrulot
Sep 7	Peggy Lassanske
Sep 15	Pam Smith
Sep 20	Alison Kimmitt
Sep 23	Dick Seed
Sep 25	Henry Fife
Sep 29	Dan Hickey

## Happy August Anniversaries!

Sep 1	Sharon Baldacci and Randy Smith
Sep 8	Jane and Charles Wrightson
Sep 15	Irene and Allen Haley
Sep 17	Eliza and Dan Gulbransen
Sep 18	Dixie and Jim Sanderlin
Sep 25	Wendy and Carl Smith
Sep 29	Jan and George Beckett

*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;*



**WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOU ATTEND  
THE ALPHA COURSE**

**BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 11 AT 5:30-8 P.M.  
DINNER, VIDEO AND DISCUSSION**

**INVITE FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS!**

Please let us know if you plan to attend and if you are bringing someone.

We need an accurate count so that we can plan appropriately  
for dinner and materials.

**SO DON'T FORGET TO**

**FILL OUT THE SIGN-UP SHEET**

**SEE YOU THERE!!**

## Laura's WyldLife Update



Can you believe it is almost time for our middle school friends to go back to school? This summer has flown by and there have been so many great victories for our ministry with WyldLife. We took our first camp trip to NorthBay, and 8 sweet middle school students got to hear about Jesus' love for them. We get the chance to build a foundation of faith for these students and I am so thankful that I get to do this work.

This fall, we are gearing up for one amazing year of ministry. We have plans to begin events in September, and hopefully bring 20 students to our fall camp in October. I am also going to be at NMS almost everyday, volunteering with the new volleyball team and hopefully in the classroom!

Have you been wondering how you can support our ministry? There are a few ways right now that you can help Northumberland WyldLife thrive this year!

**Pray** for our ministry. Pray for adults to serve as leaders for these students as our ministry grows. Pray for students and their families. Pray for me as I verbally and nonverbally share the gospel with them.

Do you have a **CDL license** or know someone who does, who wants to serve some awesome kids? We are hoping to take a mini-bus to our camp trip this fall, October 20-21, to Williamsburg VA and that requires an individual with a CDL license. Email or call Laura if you have any leads!

**Volunteer** with us. We are always in need of adults to serve as supervision and in the background to help things go smoothly. We are planning most events on Friday nights this fall. If you are interested, let Laura know!

Make a one-time gift to our **camp scholarship fund**. It is our hope to bring 20 kids with us to our fall camp this October. The camp cost is still being finalized, but it is likely that it will be around \$150 per camper. By making a donation to our camp scholarship fund, you will be allowing a student in Northumberland County to experience a weekend where they will get to hear the Gospel and get a chance to consider a new life with Jesus. Checks of any amount can be made payable to "Young Life" and sent to:

Northumberland Wyldlife  
Attn: Laura Raciborski  
PO Box 603  
Reedville, VA 22539

Thank you for your continued support of our ministry with Northumberland WyldLife. I have a big vision for what the Lord is going to do this year and am so excited to continue to share in this mission with you!



## *The Beacon*

LIGHT OF CHRIST ANGLICAN CHURCH  
P.O. BOX 609  
9500 NORTHUMBERLAND HIGHWAY  
HEATHSVILLE, VIRGINIA 22473

July 2018

### **CHURCH & COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Alpha Series  
September 11, 5:30-8 p.m.**

**A wonderful opportunity for family, friends, and neighbors to come together and enter into a non-threatening conversational look at the claims of Jesus.**

**We plan to begin with a dinner, video and discussion.**

**If you are interested, contact Mary Swann for more information or sign up in Parish Hall.**

**We encourage everyone who can, to attend.**

**The Board of Directors of Anglican Frontier Missions cordially invites you to join them in celebrating 25 years of outreach to the least evangelized.**

**Date: September 15, 2018**

**Time: 4:00—6:00 p.m.**

**Place: Redeemer Anglican Church  
2715 Grove Avenue  
Richmond, Virginia**

**BEAMS OF LIGHT  
Live Auction & Bake Sale  
Light of Christ Anglican Church  
September 29**

**Preview and Registration from 10:30 a.m.**

**Live Auction begins a noon**

**Cash or Check**

**Boats, vacation rentals, porcelain, collectibles, nautical items, garden equipment and so much more**