

GOOD NEWS LETTER

Dear Friends:

It never fails. It's needed, always. It's timely. We beg for it. That most wonderful time of the year and, thanks be to God, it has arrived! The "it" is Christmas, of course, and I know for the liturgical purist, we haven't even begun Advent, but let's stop and celebrate that Thanksgiving came SO very early and that gives us more days to celebrate with our favorite traditions of this season! It might be movies, volunteering, parties, decorating or quiet time; the period between Thanksgiving and Christmas is a time of expectancy of the day when our troubles will be solved, and all will be made well. However, until Jesus descends from the clouds, again, we are embedded in the constant noise of natural disasters, a continued degradation in our political discourse, the markets rumbling and the ever-looming threat of violence home and abroad leave us weary and in need to replenishment. These daily headlines weigh on top of our already stressed and busy lives - illness, family strife, worries, and death mix together as we clamor for our Lord Jesus. And thanks be to God, He has come and will come again. Lo, in a short few weeks we will celebrate that night on which the world's axis began its bend, not towards sin and death, but towards love and grace. Soon we will all sing:

Silent night, Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord at thy birth;

A Most Holy and Blessed Advent and Christmas to each one of you!

Love -

Willis

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A LOOK AHEAD

January 2019						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



On December 2, Bishop Mark Bourlakas will be here for confirmation at the 10:30am service. There will be no 8:00am service that day and also no 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship time.

We will have a BBQ lunch in the Ministry Center celebrating our confirmands immediately following the 10:30

The

Bishop's

Visit

for Your

Help!

Dorcas Needlework Guild

Do come sit and stitch a while with us...

The Dorcas Needlework Guild meets two Thursdays a month, from 1:00-3:00, with ongoing quilting, sewing, and knitting projects just waiting for new *needlers* to add stitches! However, you're most welcome to just drop in with your own projects, to knit or crochet or mend or do any other kind of needlework in a delightful fellowship. In December the dates are the 6th and 20th, weather permitting. One of us tries to be there to open the Youth Center at the appointed time, even if it may be a slow day. Foul weather cancels and if the school district closes, we will not meet. The more stitching hands, the merrier!

For more information contact Carole Geiger at geiger.caroleb@gmail.com or Gret Kidd at touchofivory@juno.com.

The St. Mark's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) thank the congregation for using their Kroger customer card whenever they shop or buy gas at Kroger.

Money given to us by Kroger allows us to give

back to the community.
This year we were able to donate ---

\$250 to the Boys' Home in Covington
\$250 to the Honduras Mission Trip
\$150 to the Town of Fincastle for the
summer flower baskets and the Christmas
tree lights.

We have 48 members and guests attending our Christmas luncheon at The Glebe.

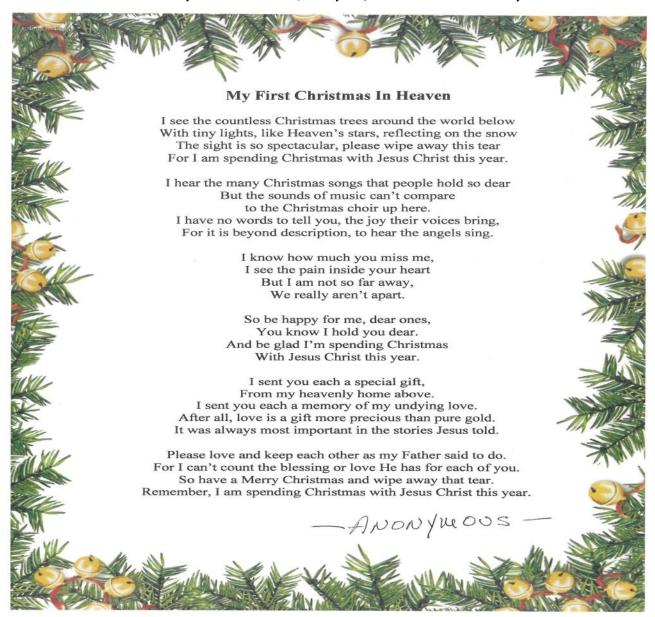
Appalachian Vespers

Come on out for Appalachian Vespers on Sunday, December 16th at 4:00pm! We will have a Christmas Sing Along with Christmas Lessons!

Musicians will be "Dollar & Walker" -- Dollar and Walker are a guitar/vocal harmony duo from Roanoke, VA, performing folk, rock, country, show tunes, classic covers and melodic originals. Performing together since 2009, Terry Dollar (vocals) and Randolph Walker (vocals, harmonica, guitar) have appeared on WSLS TV's "Our Blue Ridge," WVTF Radio's monthly open house, Third Street Coffeehouse, Floyd Country Store, Chateau Morrisette, Studio Roanoke's acoustic lounge and other venues. They have released one CD, "Dollar and Walker." www.facebook.com/dollarandwalker

Vestry MusingsBy Peter Howarth

For those of us who have lost a spouse, family member, loved one, or close friend



Vestry Elections

The Vestry is preparing a slate for the upcoming 2019 Vestry elections.

Would you be interested in being on Vestry?
Have you ever considered or have any interest in being on Vestry?
If so, please call Willis.



There will be no Good News Letter In January!

Look for Gina's "Weekly Updates" and in the bulletin for info and upcoming events.



Please dedicate flowers for 2019. There will be a new sign up sheet and forms outside the sacristy.

There are so many good reasons to remember someone

with an altar flower dedication --- flowers for loved ones who have passed, special occasions, family.

The Altar Guild



For those of you who have returned your pledge cards, thank you! For those who have not, please remember to return your pledge cards as soon as you can. We base our yearly budget on these pledges and need to finalize our 2019 budget soon. You can also send an email to treasurer@stmarksfincastle.org with your pledge info. Please indicate whether or not you want pledge envelopes.

Ola Manley, Treasurer



We Care Ministry

Thank you so very much, We Care Team, for the tremendous outpouring of offers to help with the funeral for our very dear church family member Warner Barnett. We cannot possibly gauge how deeply our obvious regard and love for Warner resonated with his family, who have different strong church families, yet who honored Warner's love for ours.

If you're reading this and wonder who the We Care Team is, well, it's YOU...and me...and all those who choose to receive the periodic e-updates and requests for prayer, small services lovingly delivered to others, and the use of our individual God-given blessings of time, talent, and opportunity to bring God's Light into the lives of our church family and our neighbors. The one commitment each of us makes in common is to pray – other participation depends on God's Call to each of us individually.

Here's how I sign off each bcc We Care email: Please note that this is a blind copy, so you will see only your own name when it reaches your inbox, even though the tone should sound as though I'm talking to more than one personbecause I am! I update the bcc list frequently. If you think someone might not be on our list and needs to know, please feel free to forward this... and let others know they can contact me to be put on the list. If anyone wishes not to receive these We Care notices, just let me know

(geiger.caroleb@gmail.com or 473.2033).

Thank you for the JOY of sharing this ministry – we add new names to our 'team' all the time and if you're not receiving our e-updates, please let me know!

be on the lookout for a Homework Helps Angel Tree.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						30am Episcopal Men's Fellowship at Greenwood Restaurant 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:30am Food Pantry
2 No 8:00am Service today 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion I Bishop's Visit, Confirmation 10:30am Children's Chapel	3 11:00am Christmas Luncheon at The Glebe 2:30pm Homework Helps	4 12:00pm Botetourt Clergy Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting	5 2:30pm Homework Helps	6 7 12:00pm Clericus Meeting Office Closed 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild 8:00pm Open AA in Youth Center	7 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA	8 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA
8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel	10 2:30pm Homework Helps	11 8:00pm Open AA meeting	12 2:30pm Homework Helps	13 7:00pm Community Service of Lessons & Carols	14 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA	15 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA
16 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehears al 10:30am Chidren's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II 4:00pm Appalachian Vespers Christmas Sing-Along with Christmas Lessons!	17	18 11:0lam Holy Communion at The Glebe 5:30pm Vestry Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting	19	20 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center	21 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA	22 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA
23 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II	24 Office Closed 4:00pm Christmas Eve Service	25 CHRISTMAS DAY Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA meeting	26 Gina - vacation day	27	28 Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA	29 Willis - vacation 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA
Willis - vacation 8:00am Holy Communion I - Fr. Bob Copenhaver supply 9:15am Adult Education/Fellowship Time 9:30am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion II - Fr. Bob Copenhaver 10:30am Children's Chapel	31 Willis - vacation		The January 2019 Good News Letter will COMI Community Lessons & Carols Service at St. Holy Communion at The Glebe will be on E calendars! Fr. Bob Copenhaver will be our Supply print from December 28th to January 4 Appalachian Vespers will feature musician Christmas sing-a-long with Christmas	take a vacation NG UP! Marb's on Decemb becember 18 instea est on December 3 th. "Dollar & Walker mas lessons D	. Next edition in February! er 13 at 7:00pm! d of December 25! Mark your D when Willis is on vacation " who will lead us in a on't miss it!	

D

DATE DECEMBER	<u>LEM</u>	LECTOR	ACOLYTE CRUCIFER	ALTAR GUILD	<u>USHERS</u>	YOUTH CHAPEL/ NURSERY	COUNTERS
12-2 Advent 1	W. Michael P. Mahony	K. Beasley	Ana U. Lauren U.	T. Trammell S. Loeschen	B. Heartwell S. Field	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	M. Parish B. Heartwell
12-9 Advent 2	J. Howarth R. Hagan	L. Webb	Gabriella B.	S. Hays K. Beasley	G. Sydnor S. Sydnor	A. Palmer A. Caldwell	G. Sydnor K. Beasley
12-16 Advent 3	W. Michael O. Manley	G. Simcoe	LEM	E. Moore TBD	J. Gordon K. Beasley	Emily T-G A. Caldwell	D. Beasley L. Jacobi
12-23 Advent 4	P. Garrison K. Cahoon	E. Moore	Mark P. Amy W.	P. Garrison P. Gordon	M. Dudding S. Waid	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	P. Garrison S. Diez
12-24 Christmas Eve		M. Parish			P. Neil J. Gordon		
12-30	C. Geiger Emily TG.	J. Gordon	LEM Stephen W.	TBD	J. Woodson W. Michael	Emily T-G	P. Howarth C. Geiger

DUTY ROSTERS

DATE JANUARY 2019	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	ACOLYTE CRUCIFER	ALTAR GUILD	<u>USHERS</u>	YOUTH CHAPEL/ NURSERY	COUNTERS
1-6 Epiphany	J. Howarth B. Wilsie		Ana U. Lauren U.	T. Trammell S. Loeschen		T. Trammell TBD	M. Parish J. Gordon
1-13	C. Geiger P. Mahony		Gabriella B.	S. Hays K. Beasley		A. Palmer TBD	G. Sydnor B. Heartwell
1-20 Annual Mtg.	P. Garrison R. Hagan		Mark P. Amy W.	E. Moore TBD		Emily T-G A. Caldwell	D. Beasley K. Beasley
1-27 No Services. Everyone at Convention							





JANUARY

January 20th - St. Mark's Annual Meeting (no Sunday School)
January 27th - St. Mark's worships with Bishop Curry at the
Berglund Center

P.O. Box 277, Fincastle, VA 24090-0277 Ph. (540) 473-2370 Email: office@stmarksfincastle.org December 1, 2018

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mark's:

St. Mark's Episcopal Church comes to you again this holiday season asking for your continued generous support of the Fincastle Community's Twelfth Night Charity Concert. This community-based program has made a needed, positive, and substantial difference for many individuals and families in the Roanoke Valley, thanks to you. The name, "Twelfth Night," comes from the Feast of the Epiphany, which celebrates the twelfth day after Christmas when the Magi brought gifts to the Christ Child in Bethlehem.

Each year the Twelfth Night Charity presents a concert of free family entertainment for the entire community. This year's performance will feature Junior Sisk and his bluegrass band. Junior Sisk is widely recognized as one of today's top bluegrass vocalists and is a constant reminder that traditional bluegrass is still alive and well. A longtime resident of the Virginia Blue Ridge, his bluegrass pedigree runs deep. Junior Sisk first made his mark in bluegrass as a songwriter in the early 1990s, penning classic Lonesome River Band songs like "Game (I Can't Win)" and "Tears Are Blinding Me." As a member of Wyatt Rice & Santa Cruz and Blueridge, he helped define the sound of driving, modern traditional bluegrass. Sisk founded Ramblers Choice in 1998, releasing *Sounds of the Mountains* on Rounder Records. After leaving Blueridge in 2006, he reformed Ramblers Choice and began a successful career with Rebel Records.

The concert will be held on Saturday, January 5, 2019, at 7 p.m., at the Attic Productions Theater, 7490 Roanoke Road in Fincastle. Admission is free although tickets are required due to limited seating. Attendees are asked to make cash and/or packaged food donations at the concert. These gifts will go to support two charities: the Botetourt Food Pantry and the Botetourt County Social Services' Energy Assistance Program. Cash donations will be divided between the two charities. Food donations are given to the Botetourt Food Pantry. All concert workers are volunteers.

Please consider this very important Community event and send your donation to: Fincastle Twelfth Night Fund, Attn: Treasurer, P. O. Box 277, Fincastle, VA 24090-0277. If you wish to receive tickets, please include your mailing address. Also, indicate the number of Reserved or General Seating tickets you desire. Do not send cash. We cannot accept credit card donations. The Twelfth Night Fund is a 501c(3) organization. All gifts are IRS approved as a charitable deduction for tax purposes.

Program recognition and Reserved Seating tickets are given to major supporters: Underwriters (\$1,000+) up to ten tickets; Sponsors (\$500 - \$999) up to five tickets; and Contributors (\$100 - \$499) two tickets. Donors (under \$100) whose gifts are received by January 2nd are also listed in the program and receive General Seating tickets.

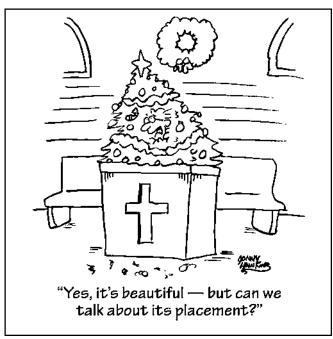
If you would like to underwrite a particular aspect facilities are provided through the generosity of	of the performance, such as "Attic Production Theater " or "Performer's appearance
is made possible by a gift from	", please contact me to discuss details.
Ron Manley, Coordinator Fincastle Community Twelfth Night Charity Conc	r a special Holiday Season of joy and remembrance.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church (111 S. Roanoke St.) P.O. Box 277 Fincastle, VA 24090-0277



willis@stmarksfincastle.org (The Rev. G. Willis Logan) office@stmarksfincastle.org (Gina Painter) 540-473-2370 (Phone) stmarksfincastle.org





12/8 Kim Swanson 12/9 Walter Michael 12/10 Russ Rosenberger 12/11 Mahlon Kidd 12/14 Danielle Plumb 12/20 Emily Moore 12/22 Anne Palmer 12/23 Art Heberer 12/25 Bette Mahony 12/31 Kate Parish, Danielle Alexander