



# GOOD NEWS LETTER

Dear Friends:

We hurt each other.

I realize this is a dark opening statement, but we all know the truth of this claim. Humans hurt other humans through actions, deeds, and words. Acts and deeds that are deliberate or inadvertent have adverse effects on our neighbors each day. Words hurt the most, though. The harshest truth comes from the words that cut through us and leave us twisting in the air – criticisms, and condemnations that sear an indelible scar lingering long after the apologies.

So, then, why do we hurt each other?

Because we are human, and we are fragile – full of raw emotions, faults, and hurts (aka bumps and bruises). These places manifest in our relationships with others, and we live out the AA truism of “hurt people hurt people.”

However, none of us want to hurt others, it's just what happens! So, what do we do? Accept, Repent, and Give Thanks.

Acceptance of our fallen state as humans removes the shame and stigma to our mistakes, and it provides a window of empathy for our neighbor: We are all in this together.

Repent in our hearts, turning to God with prayer and our Ash Wednesday Collect is the perfect jumping off place when we petition to God: “...create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness...”

Give thanks that through the Good News Of Jesus Christ's death you have been made clean and whole, the jury has been thrown out, and you have been declared absolved of all charges: past, present, future.

With love and in thanksgiving for you and Jesus -

Willis



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April 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

## Celebration!

### of Gret Kidd (and Mahlon!)

Join us on March 22nd at 10:30am!

We will celebrate the innumerable contributions that Gret and Mahlon have given to our music ministry over the years. Their [gifts]ministry [have] has left an indelible mark on our parish in SO many ways (not just music), so join us as we give thanks for their ministry during this transition of leadership.

## Fifth Sunday Breakfast! It's baaaack!!!

Join us for our first FIFTH SUNDAY BREAKFAST of the year on March 29th. The breakfast will begin at 9:15am so, if you attend the 8:00am service, stay a little later. If you attend the 10:30am service, come a little earlier!

We will have a delicious breakfast catered by Schaal's Catering, so no need for lengthy clean-up afterwards. SEE YOU THERE!!

## We Care Team

The winter flu-and-'bug' season has kept our prayer ministries busy overtime! Please note that becoming a part of the We Care Team is as easy as asking to have your name put on the bcc mailing list. In addition to prayer, we offer small, short-term services as needed across the parish and in our wider community. For more information or to receive the mailings, please contact Carole Geiger at [geiger.caroleb@gmail.com](mailto:geiger.caroleb@gmail.com).

## CHURCH Anniversary PREPARATIONS

Want to get involved with our 250th Anniversary Activities?

**WE'D LOVE IT!**

Email or Call Danielle Alexander  
(remaka3@aol.com; 540-761-9836)

### Other Important Dates:

**Sunday March 29th** -- 8am and 10:30am  
== both services will incorporate liturgies from the 18th Century.

**Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>** -- 5pm - 7:30pm == BBQ on the Lawn / a family reunion.

**Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>** -- Single service at 10:30am with Bishop Mark Preaching and Celebrating. Parish Potluck on the lawn afterwards.



**SUNDAY,  
MARCH 8TH.**

## Adult Education

**SUNDAYS IN MARCH**

**Weekly topics:**

**1st -- Faith (Luke 17:1-10)**

**8th -- Duty (Luke 17:11-19)**

**15th -- Coming of the Kingdom (Luke 17:20-25)**

**22nd -- Persistence (Luke 18:1-8)**

**29th -- Fifth Sunday Breakfast**

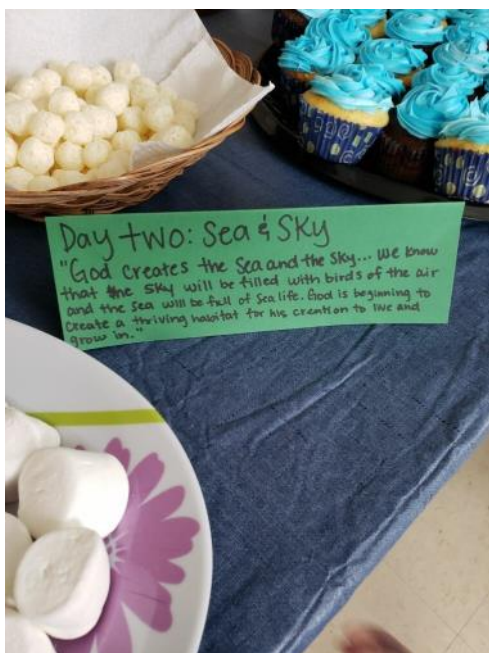
**Adult Education/Fellowship Time** meets at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in the Ministry Center Library.

# Meet Anna Preston ~ our new Music Minister

Anna is delighted to step in as the Music Minister at St. Mark's. In addition to teaching piano for 22 years, Anna has sung with the Cathedral Voices at the Washington National Cathedral. In her time at Westminster Choir College, Anna sang under the baton of Yannick Nezet Seguin with the Philadelphia Orchestra at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia and under the baton of Gustavo Dudamel with the Simon Bolivar Orchestra at Carnegie Hall in New York City. For the 2015-2016 season, Anna toured with the American Boychoir as their accompanist, giving 100 concerts in 20 states. She has been on faculty at Westminster Conservatory (Princeton, NJ) and Shenandoah Arts Academy (Winchester, VA), and has been on staff at Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. For 13 years, Anna has collaborated with conductors from across the world for the American Choral Director's Association Voices United conference held at George Mason University each summer. Currently, Anna collaborates with Opera Roanoke, the Roanoke Symphony Chorus, and has a piano studio of 15 students. She serves on the board of a non-profit, Woman, Cradle of Abundance, that empowers women in the Congo. Anna also is a co-Vice President for the Roanoke Valley Music Teacher's Association, where she helps create inspiring programs for local teachers. Anna loves living a rich life in Boutetourt, adores her stepchildren and her daughter, and is looking forward to planting a garden this summer.



## Coffee Hour hosted by Children's Chapel!





## Vestry Musings

By Dan Beasley

Lenten season has begun for Christian communities around the world. It started on Ash Wednesday, a day we go to church to receive ashes on the forehead to signify "we are dust and to dust we return".

Lent is an opportune time to reflect on what it means to be a follower of Christ. It is an opportunity to repent for our misdeeds and to increase the intensity of our prayers.

Lent is a time to grow in and strengthen our faith, which binds us together and makes all things possible because of our love and devotion to Jesus.

As the years have gone by I stopped giving up certain practices during Lent such as giving up sweets or beer, but never really felt that I had fulfilled the meaning of Lent.

Things changed for me when I started adding more time daily for prayers during Lent. Prayer is a powerful tool to make things right or better our lives. In the end, prayer leads us to a life of holiness towards God.

I know that my daily prayers have drawn me closer to God.

Get to know how the larger



Episcopal Church functions and operates and hear and participate in some great worship and workshops.

**Be a delegate or alternate at next year's Diocesan Convention.**

**Contact Willis if you are interested!**

## Appalachian Vespers

*The first Appalachian Vespers Service of the year will happen on Sunday, March 15th at 4:00pm at Emmanuel Chapel in Eagle Rock.*

**MUSICIANS TBA**

*After the service, please join us for refreshments and fellowship at the Eagle Rock Firehouse just across the street.*



*Come and hear Willis speak at the  
Lenten Lunch held at Fincastle United  
Methodist Church on  
March 18th at noon.*

**DONE!** Our first quilt for the Street Ransom ministry needs only a few stitches to complete the label and it will be delivered to bring comfort to a young woman traumatized by abuse. The



second one for Street Ransom will be finished soon. We meet at 1:00-ish each Thursday in the Youth Center needlework

room. Join us! You can bring a project of your own to continue or work along with us on a quilt. No experience necessary – and we have a few extra tools to share. For more information contact Gret Kidd at [touchofivory@juno.com/](mailto:touchofivory@juno.com/). You can also reach Gret, Sally Field, or Carole Geiger by phone – please see your church directory.

<u>DATE</u> <b>MARCH</b>	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ALTAR</u> <u>GUILD</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
3-1 Lent 1	W. Michael Emily T-G	A. Layman	T. Trammel S. Loeschen	P. Neil G. Sydnor	M. Parish P. Garrison
3-8 Lent 2 Copenhaver supply	L. Jacobi R. Cecil	P. Gordon	S. Hays L. Jacobi	M. Dudding S. Waid	P. Suite K. Beasley
3-15 Lent 3	J. Howarth R. Hagan	J. Gordon	E. Moore P. Gordon S. Cullum	W. Michael S. Frechette	L. Uotinen C. Geiger
3-22 Lent 4	C. Geiger W. Michael	M. Parish	P. Garrison D. Wood	B. Heartwell S. Field	D. Alexander J. Gordon
3-29 Lent 5	C. Geiger P. Mahony	D. Collins		J. Gordon G. Sydnor	D. Beasley P. Howarth

**M**  
**A**  
**R**  
**C**  
**H**

## DUTY ROSTERS

<u>DATE</u> <b>APRIL</b>	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ALTAR</u> <u>GUILD</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
4-5 Palm Sunday	P. Garrison Emily T-G	G. Sydnor	T. Trammel S. Loeschen	C. Echols D. Collins	C. Echols P. Garrison
4-12 EASTER	L. Jacobi R. Cecil	K. Beasley	S. Hays L. Jacobi	D. Beasley K. Beasley	B. Heartwell K. Beasley
4-19	J. Howarth R. Hagan	E. Moore	E. Moore P. Gordon S. Cullum	G. Sydnor S. Sydnor	M. Parish C. Geiger
4-26	C. Geiger W. Michael	S. Field	P. Garrison D. Wood	M. Parish R. Cecil	P. Suite J. Gordon

**A**  
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# 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Ed. / Fellowship Time 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II	<b>2</b> 2:30pm Homework Helps	<b>3</b> 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>4</b> 2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper and Talks	<b>5</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild	<b>6</b> 9:00am Office Closed 8:00pm 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>7</b> Move your clocks forward 1 hour before bed 8:30am Episcopal Men's Fellowship 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA meeting
<b>8</b> 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Ed. / Fellowship Time 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II	<b>9</b> 12:00am Willis on vacation 2:30pm Homework Helps	<b>10</b> 12:00am Willis on vacation 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>11</b> 12:00am Willis on vacation 2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper and Talks	<b>12</b> 12:00am Willis on vacation 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild	<b>13</b> 12:00am Willis on vacation 9:00am Office Closed 8:00pm 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>14</b> 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA meeting
<b>15</b> 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Ed. / Fellowship Time 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II 4:00pm Appalachian Vespers at Emmanuel Chapel	<b>16</b> 2:30pm Homework Helps	<b>17</b> 5:00pm Vestry Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>18</b> 12:00pm Willis speaks at FUMC Lenten Lunch 2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper and Talks	<b>19</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild	<b>20</b> 9:00am Office Closed 8:00pm 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>21</b> 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA meeting
<b>22</b> 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Ed. / Fellowship Time 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel	<b>23</b> April Newsletter Deadline! 2:30pm Homework Helps	<b>24</b> 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>25</b> 2:30pm Homework Helps 6:00pm Lenten Supper and Talks	<b>26</b> 12:00pm Brown Bag Bible Study 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild	<b>27</b> 9:00am Office Closed 8:00pm 8:00pm Open AA meeting	<b>28</b> 9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA meeting
<b>29</b> 8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Fifth Sunday Breakfast! 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II	<b>30</b> 2:30pm Homework Helps	<b>31</b> 8:00pm Open AA meeting				

**St. Mark's Lenten Suppers & Historical Talks with Q and A:  
A Reflection on 250 years of Anglicanism in Botetourt County and Beyond  
WITH FEATURED SPEAKERS  
Wednesdays, March 4 - April 1 from 6:00 -7:30pm**

**Speaker Schedule:**

**March 4: "Anglicanism: Jamestown to Botetourt"**

**Dr. Hannah Matis** teaches American Christianity at Virginia Theological Seminary and will be discussing *Anglicanism: Jamestown to Botetourt*. She is currently at work on a book project she is tentatively entitling, *A Women's History of Christianity*. In addition to a master's degree and a doctorate in Medieval Studies from the University of Notre Dame, Dr. Matis also holds a master's degree in medieval history from the University of Durham. A convert to the Episcopal church and the Anglican tradition, she remains by choice a devout layperson. She has a longstanding love of film, knitting, cooking, period music, and fantasy literature.



**March 11<sup>th</sup> – "Stories"**

**The Rev. Robert McRae** is currently editing information about Botetourt Churches during this 250th anniversary year and will be sharing some of his stories with us. In June of 2019, he and his wife Jane celebrated fifty-five years of marriage and are the parents of four adult children and eight grandchildren. After sensing a call to ministry, he moved with his family to Richmond to attend Union Theological Seminary, where he received a Doctor Ministries Degree in 1984. He was then called to Galatia Church in Eagle Rock where he served as pastor until his retirement in 2016 as Pastor Emeritus. He enjoys carpentry, cooking, hiking, biking, and camping.



**March 18<sup>th</sup> –**

**The Right Rev. Heath Light** studied at Hampden–Sydney College from where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 1951. He earned his Master of Divinity in 1954 at the Virginia Theological Seminary. He married Sarah Ann Jones on June 12, 1954 and together had four children. In 1979 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity by the Virginia Theological Seminary. Light was ordained deacon on June 11, 1954 and priest on June 24, 1955 in Christ and St. Luke's Church. He has served many churches in Virginia and North Carolina and also has served as deputy to the General Conventions of 1969, 1970, and 1973 from the Diocese of Virginia. Light was elected Bishop of Southwestern Virginia in 1979 and was consecrated on June 2, 1979 in the Salem Civic Center in Salem, Virginia. He was consecrated by Presiding Bishop John Allin. Throughout his tenure, Light was a prominent supporter of the ordination of women and appointed numerous women to different positions in the diocese. He retired in 1996.



**March 25<sup>th</sup> –**

**The Rev. Dr. Helen Beasley** has been Rector of three Diocese of Southwestern Virginia parishes, and was Rector of a parish in the Diocese of New York before returning to this area in 1999. She is a former Hospice Chaplain and did hospice work in Manhattan and in the other boroughs. She has founded four HIV/AIDS outreach programs and has also designed and directed a 240-member HIV/AIDS outreach center for women, men, and children. She received her Master's of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary, Manhattan, where her thesis received "distinction." She received her Doctor of Ministry degree from Virginia Theological Seminary, in Alexandria. Her two adult daughters live in Westchester County, NY, and North Bergen, New Jersey.



**April 1<sup>st</sup> – "Show and Share"**

**The Rev. Willis Logan** will share research of early Anglicanism and Botetourt County, specifically. He will share a little family biography that overlaps with the history of St. Mark's. Part of the talk will focus on the Protestant Roots of Virginia and our legacy. The 250th Anniversary Committee will share some pictures, videos and other research and preparations for our big family reunion on May 2nd. More surprises this night, so come and enjoy some April Fool's fun!





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office@stmarksfincastle.org (Gina Painter)  
540-473-2370 (Phone)  
stmarksfincastle.org



## March Birthdays

3-4	Robin Collins
3-5	Patty King
3-7	Channing Preston
3-14	Sally Waid, Tom Edwards
3-17	Robert Bowman
3-19	Gret Kidd
3-24	Ross Wilsie
3-26	Stan Diez