



GOOD NEWS LETTER

"In a real sense all life is inter-related. All men are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny."

The above quote comes from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s powerful *Letter from a Birmingham Jail*. When I went to business school we spent three sessions discussing King's communication strategy and the poignancy of his words.

At that time, I understood the above quote in terms of widgets and productivity, i.e., a man of commerce must remain engaged in the outside world so that his/her products can be integrated and sold. If something is integrated into your life, let's say, you have to buy a can of Virginia Peanuts for a tailgate or a Virginia Country Ham for the Holidays, then the retailer is happy and so is the customer since the product is SO good (I know, shameless plug). The "buy local" and "farm to table" movements have captured the inter-connectedness of our lives so well. We all crave connection and human interaction.

However, over the last few decades our connections with each other have been split by the transient neighbor, ever increasing political discord, and the isolation that Facebook and other social media sites create. This latter point is the most dangerous, because it is seductive since it makes us feel as if we are connected with others "virtually" when, in reality, all of the studies show that we feel even lonelier than before - after our "30 minutes" of Facebook. The new iPhone operating system has a "screen time tracker" so now we can feel lonely *and* shamed for our time on the internet! Great.

Our lives together stand in opposition to the prevailing winds of the world. Fellow St. Markians gathered this past Saturday night for our annual Spaghetti Supper and we enjoyed being with each other in the flesh! We spent time, young and old, helping cook, serve tables, clean, and some of us just mingled! But we did it together and with one another.

The Gift of the Gospel is this connection with one another. When we realize that we have fallen short, that we are sinners and that we need a redeemer, and we realize that we have one in Jesus Christ; then our time together, or in Community, becomes just what the King set forth in His life and work and allows us to share in our same destiny, life everlasting with our eternal father in Heaven."

Love and Peace -

Willis

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A LOOK AHEAD

November 2018						
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	

Spaghetti Supper Pics



Ashley and Willis



George, Dan, Pete M.



Group from The Glebe



Patty and Richard, Pam



Pat, Sidney, Karen

Vestry Musings

By Pam Garrison

Not lucky, I'm Blessed.

Life is not always trouble-free and in those difficult times it is easy to find something to complain about. This is human nature and we call our complaining "venting". It works for the moment, but does not relieve the difficult issue(s) we are facing.

I know from past experiences that difficult times do not always pass quickly. They are moments in our life that offer great opportunities to grow and learn more about ourselves. However, we would often opt to pass up these "moments" just to avoid the accompanying emotional storm.

During one of the worst periods of my life, I was taught how to make the best of those bad times by developing a gratitude list. This one small act was not able to change the situation, but it was able to change my attitude toward it. This in turn changed my outlook from the negative to the positive and helped me glean the lessons from these times.

Try it the next time you have an overbearing problem or difficulty that makes you feel down. Sit down and list all the things in your life that you feel grateful for then place it where you will see it regularly. The issue won't go away, but you may be able to handle it differently.

Making a gratitude list is a regular habit I have developed and it keeps the "gratitude in my attitude". In our home, we have a sign that says "Not lucky, I'm blessed" because we are grateful for the blessings placed in our lives. It has made a difference and I am grateful for that.

I place St. Mark's and the many wonderful people that I know there as a blessing in my life.

Blessings, Pam Garrison



Choir rehearsals at St. Mark's are now meeting at 9:25am instead of 9:15.

The choir robes and leads worship at the 10:30 service each Sunday morning.

If you enjoy singing, please pray about joining this ministry. We always welcome new voices and would love to have you.

Supporting our liturgy and the worship of God through the choir ministry takes less than three hours each week. Curious? Questions? Contact Gret Kidd for more information!

*Gret Kidd, Choir Director
touchofivory@juno.com*

Dorcas Needlework Guild

We're knitting, crocheting, machine stitching and hand stitching! We're pressing and sorting and cutting into 'pieces!' We're researching and planning new projects! Most of all, however, twice a month, on the first and third Thursday afternoons about 1:00, we gather in the Dorcas Needlework Guild room, the first door on the right, in the Youth Center, to enjoy fellowship in the midst of needles and fabric and yarn galore! Who's 'we?' WE can include YOU! If you enjoy any kind of needlework, you're invited to join us and work on one of our projects or bring your own! Each of us arrives when we can and stays for as long or short a period as suits that day's personal schedule. We usually begin winding up about 3:00 – or so. Be sure to check the church calendar and weekly bulletin for any changes.



Currently we have in progress quilted and knitted lap robes and small quilts, as well as adult clothes protectors.

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

College students and parents of college students -- do we have your new address for this year?



Please let the church office or Trudy Trammell know if you have a new address for this year!

ocean1@rbnet.com
office@stmarksfincastle.org

We Care Ministry

It's a GREAT prayer-starter when Willis begins with "WHOSE FATHER?" and we all respond "Our Father," leading into The Lord's Prayer. Likewise, we can ask "WHO CARES?" and everyone at St. Mark's can respond "WE CARE!" What a loving, giving, generously-serving parish family with which we are blessed! When we have a call for a meals ministry, my email and telephone fairly light up! When someone needs a card or a call, a visit, or a ride to the store or a doctor's appointment, folks step right up. When we have prayer requests, *everyone prays!!!*

Just look at the Spaghetti Supper on Saturday, Sept. 29, at the Firehouse! You all turned out in droves for whatever tasks in advance and whatever part of the day you could devote to making our community dinner such a huge success. Shopping, hauling supplies out of the Ministry Center basement storage, creating signage, putting out posters, setting up, decorating, baking, cutting/boxing/plating the desserts, preparing the sauce kits, cooking the sauce and pasta, making salads, preparing the bread, plating meals, serving drinks, waiting tables, manning the ticket desk, manning the dessert tables, delivering seconds (& thirds &...), scrubbing pots and pans, scouring the kitchen clean once again, UN-decorating, taking-down-&-putting-away, sweeping and mopping – and MORE: YOU DID IT ALL – with smiles and laughter and welcomes all around!

Together we care for our church family, our neighbors, and strangers in need. Want to receive the bcc We Care emails? Contact Carole Geiger at geiger.caroleb@gmail.com.

Confirmation Classes

Interested in Confirmation?

What's That?

Confirmation is the profession of our faith and symbolizes joining the St. Mark's community – the rite is administered by the Bishop during his visit in December.

Interested?

Call or email Willis! Anyone currently in seventh grade and up is eligible for Confirmation.

What about Reception and Reaffirmation?

Reception into the Episcopal Church is offered for confirmed members in Lutheran or Roman Catholic traditions. Reaffirmation is open to any previously confirmed Episcopalian who desires to stand before the Parish and profess their faith.

Classes?

Beginning in October, Willis will be teaching a six-part class called: Understanding our Faith. The class will be from 9:30am-10:15am on Sundays in the Library of the Ministry Center and will be open to the entire Parish.

Please contact Willis with any questions!

Here is the schedule:

October 21 - Class 1
Creation

October 28 - Class 2
Fall + Sin

November 4 - Class 3
Atonement/Cross

November 11 - Class 4
Resurrection/Redemption

November 18 - Class 5
The Episcopal Church I (Prayer Book)

November 25 - Class 6
The Episcopal Church II + Wrap Up





2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>7</p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education Fellowship Time 9:25am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Columbus Day - Office closed 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Gina on vacation 12:00pm Southern Bolelourt Clergy Group at St. Mark's 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Gina on vacation 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Gina on vacation 12:05pm Brown Bag Bible Study</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>14</p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education Fellowship Time 9:25am Choir Rehearsal 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Willis - Continuing Education 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:30pm Vestry Meeting 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Willis - Continuing Education 2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Willis - Continuing Education 1:00pm Dorcas Needlework Guild in the Youth Center Community Blood Drive at the Fincastle United Methodist Church Family Life Center from 12 to 6 p.m.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>21</p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education Fellowship Time 9:25am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Confirmation Class 1 10:30am Holy Communion II 10:30am Children's Chapel 4:00pm Appalachian Vespers at Emmanuel, Eagle Rock</p>	<p>22</p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>25</p> <p>12:05pm Brown Bag Bible Study</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Office Closed 8:00pm Open AA</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:00am Altar Guild 9:30am Fall Convocation at Christ Church, Blacksburg 9:30am Food Pantry 8:00pm Open AA</p>
<p>28</p> <p>8:00am Holy Communion I 9:15am Adult Education Fellowship Time 9:25am Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Confirmation Class 2 10:30am Children's Chapel 10:30am Holy Communion II</p>	<p>29</p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:00am Holy Communion at The Glebe 8:00pm Open AA meeting</p>	<p>31</p> <p>2:30pm Homework Helps program</p>			

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ACOLYTE CRUCIFER</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>YOUTH CHAPEL/ NURSERY</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
OCTOBER							
10-7	C. Geiger W. Michael	A. Layman	Ana U. Amie U.	T. Trammell S. Loeschen	C. Echols J. Echols	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	J. Gordon C. Geiger
10-14	J. Howarth P. Mahony	S. Field	Gabriella B.	S. Hays L. Jacobi	B. Heartwell S. Field	A. Palmer A. Caldwell	P. Garrison D. Beasley
10-21	L. Jacobi R. Hagan	J. Gordon	Mark P.	E. Moore S. Sydnor	G. Sydnor S. Sydnor	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	P. Howarth B. Heartwell
10-28	P. Garrison Emily T.-G.	P. Gordon	Amy W. Stephen W.	P. Gordon P. Garrison	J. Gordon K. Beasley	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	M. Parish K. Beasley

OCTOBER

DUTY ROSTERS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEM</u>	<u>LECTOR</u>	<u>ACOLYTE CRUCIFER</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>YOUTH CHAPEL/ NURSERY</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
NOVEMBER							
11-4	C. Geiger K. Cahoon	M. Parish	Ana U. Amie U.	T. Trammell S. Loeschen	M. Dudding S. Waid	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	G. Sydnor L. Jacobi
11-11	J. Howarth O. Manley	J. Powers	Gabriella B.	S. Hays L. Jacobi	J. Woodson W. Michael	A. Palmer A. Caldwell	D. Beasley S. Diez
11-18	L. Jacobi R. Manley	D. Collins	Mark P.	E. Moore TBD	K. Cahoon P. Neil	Emily T.-G. A. Caldwell	P. Garrison C. Geiger
11-25	P. Garrison W. Michael	G. Sydnor	Amy W. Stephen W.	P. Gordon P. Garrison	C. Echols J. Echols	T. Trammell A. Caldwell	P. Howarth J. Gordon

NOVEMBER

FALL MISSION DAY - ROANOKE CONVOCATION INFORMATION

This fall we will begin a preliminary celebration of the 100th anniversary year of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.

All convocations in the diocese will unite for one **Fall Mission Day** at **Christ Church, Blacksburg** on **Saturday, October 27th, 2018** from **9:30 AM-2:00 PM**. **Bishop Nick Baines** from the *Diocese of Leeds, England* will make a special presentation.

Clergy delegates and elected lay delegates and lay alternates to Diocesan Convention will be attending for official convocation business including fall elections and nominations. **However, all interested lay leaders and guests are welcome and**

encouraged to attend this event. There will be no other separate convocation meetings this fall.

Fall Mission Day will begin with a service of public worship in the church, after which Bishop Baines will address those who are gathered. Then, after lunch, each convocation will break out to attend to official business including elections and nomination.

Refreshments will be available. Lunch will be served at a cost of \$12 per person. If you'd like to attend, please register in advance, so that diocesan staff can prepare for the day. If you plan on having lunch, advance registration is required.

The registration form can be found at the following link:

<https://alliance.wufoo.com/forms/zm30t0w0q36mx7/>

The registration deadline is October 12th.

If you have questions about registration, please contact Elizabeth Bishop, Administrative Assistant at Evans House.

Location:

Christ Episcopal Church
120 Church Street, NE
Blacksburg, VA 24060

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

The Brown Bag Bible Study will continue in October with the study of Romans and continue through November with a couple of days off. It will pick up again in January.

Here's the schedule:

- 10/4 - Romans 5:12-21
- 10/11 - Romans 6
- 10/18 - No study, Willis gone
- 10/25 - Romans 7:1-14
- 11/1 - Romans 7:15-25
- 11/8 - Romans 8
- 11/15 - Romans 9
- 11/22 - No study, Thanksgiving
- 11/29 - Romans 10

Study goes from 12:05pm to 1pm
Bring a bag lunch; coffee and water provided.

Sessions are designed for drop-in, so come when you are able!

New meeting day for The Glebe services!

**Service of Holy Communion -
Tuesday, October 30th, 11am.**
Join us on the day before
Halloween. After all, the
commercial expression of Halloween
is the purest form of the Christian
Gospel out of all Holidays. Yep,
Halloween should be exalted by
every Christian!
Come and Hear!

**Note: The Glebe Communion Services
will now meet on the last Tuesday of
the month.**



**October 18, from 12-6 at
the FUMC Family Life
Center**

Appalachian Vespers

Please join us for Appalachian Vespers on
Sunday, October 21 at 4:00pm in Eagle Rock at Emmanuel Chapel!

Musicians: Like the Moon

Like The Moon is a folk-rock harmony trio based in Roanoke, Virginia, featuring the lead vocals of Lisa Angell and original songs and instrumentals by singer-songwriters Randolph Walker and Marian McConnell.

They have performed at festivals, churches and coffeehouses across Western Virginia, Floyd Country Store, and at the WVTF Public Radio studios. Their CD was released in fall 2018.



Their mission is to reflect the light of the Son onto the face of the earth.
For more information, see the band website: www.likethemoonband.com.

Refreshments afterwards at the Eagle Rock Firehouse

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

Heavenly Humor



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

10-3	Nathan Preston
10-5	Anna Guillote
10-6	Peggy Crosson
10-16	Willis Logan
10-17	Ana Uotinen
10-19	Emily Talbot-Guillote
10-24	Harmon Logan
10-25	Peter Dunn
10-28	Amy Woodson, Al Suite
10-30	Sue Loeschen