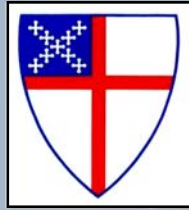


# *The Builder*

**Making Disciples for Jesus Christ**

St. Thomas's Episcopal Church  
(540) 672-3761  
Rector: The Rev. Dr. Lin Hutton



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Editor: Ann Wood

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**July-August 2020**

Issue No. 6

## *From the Pastor*

You have been asking: “When can we go back to Church?” or “Will it be safe to go back to Church?” Well, this has certainly been a challenging couple of months and we continue to work closely with our Diocese as we track the cumulative average rate of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, intensive care bed use, and deaths. So far, our Rappahannock-Rapidan Health District has seen a cumulative 3 week decline in all categories. Your Sexton, Virginia Donnelly, and Junior Warden, David Acree, have spent the past month working on a seating plan that maintains at least a six foot distance from any other seat, routing diagrams to those seats that do not pass any other member, acquiring the necessary disposable PPE and sanitizer, and developing a thorough cleaning program to ensure the safety of our members.

Although we have a maximum capacity in our church nave of 290, we have elected to mark seating for only 73, with an additional overflow of 10 individuals (more if a “family” unit) in the Parish Hall. We know that many of you long for in-person worship but I assure you that **we will not conduct in-person worship unless it is safe to do so**. It should be noted that if our specific Health District were to see an upswing in any of the categories noted in the opening line, we will again cease in-person worship until such time as a minimum two week decline occurs. Most important, you must not come if you do not feel well and you should seriously weigh participation if you are in an “at risk” category due to age or health. That being said, once we are cleared by our Diocese to begin in-person worship we will also post a video and written form of the Rector’s sermon online for those who prefer to stay at home.

Regardless, the work of the Church does not end. Our diocese conducts different weekly Zoom meetings and conference calls with rectors, wardens, treasurers, and stewardship committees. In our Episcopal hierarchy (remember the word: “episcopal” means: “bishop”), we have been exceedingly grateful to have such a dedicated diocesan staff to help shepherd us through the overwhelming data, processes, and considerations concerning public health, church finances, worship opportunities, and through a variety of other pastoral issues like funerals, weddings, and baptisms, as well as what “stewardship” might look like in the days to come.

Our Bishop has referred to this time as a “Fast from Worship” or a “Worship Sabbatical.” So perhaps now is a time for each of us to take a serious look at self care and how to handle the isolation of COVID-19. Consider this time as a space to ask yourself these questions: What parts of yourself are you Honoring? What parts of yourself are you Neglecting? What parts of yourself are screaming for Attention? Do not neglect the basics: Food, Sleep, Exercise. Work to maintain personal and collegial connections—do not isolate yourself from others. Set healthy boundaries for yourself, but also do not forget the healthy role that play, creativity, and humor can have in times of stress. Remember, the “Binding/Sacrifice of Isaac” [*Genesis 22:1-14*] was a challenge of faith for Abraham, but God provided a solution to that challenge. God always does. And God will provide a solution to our current challenges as well, for our God is an Awesome God. We merely need patience and faith.

*Pastor Lin +*

## *For All the Saints...*

### **St. James the Apostle ~ July 25**

Whenever we hear of “St. James” we generally want to clarify *which* “James” is meant. There are three prominent “James” in the New Testament. James Zebedee, a fisherman like his brother John, who was among the first disciples called by Jesus and is often referred to as “James the Greater.” The second “James” is another of the twelve disciples called by Jesus and often referred to as “James the Less.” James the Less is commemorated along with Philip, another disciple, on May 1<sup>st</sup>. The third “James” is the brother of Jesus and became the first Bishop of Jerusalem. He is often referred to as “James, the Brother of our Lord,” or “James the Just,” or “St. James of Jerusalem.” He was martyred in the year 62 A.D. and is commemorated on October 23.



Along with his brother John, James Zebedee was the son of a prosperous Galilean fisherman. He and his brother immediately left their boats to follow Jesus’ call to discipleship. James, along with brother John and with Peter, were among a privileged group whom Jesus chose to be witnesses to the Transfiguration, the raising of Jairus’ daughter, and the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. James was apparently hot-headed like his brother John because Jesus referred to them both as the “Sons of Thunder” [*Boanerges*].

James asked to “share the cup of Christ” and he later became the first Apostle to die for Christ. As Luke records for us in the Acts of the Apostles: “Herod the King laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the Church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword.” [*Acts 12:1-2*]

History records that after King Herod Agrippa I had St. James the Apostle beheaded, according to tradition the headless body of James was taken back to Compostela, Spain where James had served as an evangelist. Meanwhile the head was lovingly buried in Jerusalem. In the 11<sup>th</sup> Century, the Armenian Church built the Armenian Cathedral of St. James on the burial site in Jerusalem, which contains the holy remains of both St. James the Apostle and James the Brother of our Lord. It remains a holy Christian pilgrimage and shrine to this day.

Among the Spaniards, James remains one of the most popular saints. In the Middle Ages, under the title of Santiago de Compostela, his aid was especially invoked in battle against the Moors.

### **Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Seminarian & Witness for Civil Rights, 1965 ~ August 14**



Valedictorian of his graduating class at VMI, this New Hampshire native went onto study at Harvard before entering the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In 1965, Jonathan Myrick Daniels was a 26-year-old Episcopal seminarian who answered the appeal of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to come to Selma to help secure the voting rights of all citizens. While trying to protect a young black girl in Hayneville, Alabama, Daniels was shot in the chest by Tom L. Coleman, an unemployed highway worker and unpaid special deputy.

Daniels had headed south to spend his summer with the Episcopal Society for Cultural and Racial Unity. On August 13, he was jailed with over 20 black companions in Hayneville on vague charges for joining a picket line protesting whites-only stores in nearby Fort Deposit. Six days later, he and his companions were unexpectedly released and left with no transportation. Aware that they were in danger, four of them walked to Varner’s Grocery store, one of a few that would serve non-whites.

A white Roman Catholic priest and two young black protestors accompanied Jon Daniels. As sixteen-year-old Ruby Sales reached the top step of the store entrance, Coleman appeared with

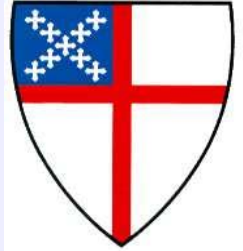
a gun, cursing the black girl. As Coleman began to pull the trigger, Jonathan pushed Ruby down to shield her. Daniels received the full blast from the 12-gauge gun and died in the entrance to the store.

[As an addendum: Coleman's second shot hit the fleeing Catholic priest in the back and severely wounded him. Accused of Manslaughter, Coleman was immediately acquitted by an all-white jury. A member of one of the most prominent families in the county, Coleman was found not guilty on the grounds of "self-defense," against an unarmed seminarian and fleeing priest. Coleman died in his Hayneville home in 1997.]

## MORE, "101 Reasons to be an Episcopalian"—

**Reason # 42:** "We honor tradition but do not fossilize it." *Lee Canipe, Diocese of Virginia*

**Reason # 99:** "Our Eucharistic table is not made less special if all are invited, which is contrary to the understanding that I grew up with. Adjusting to the idea that everyone is invited to this most holy meal took me some time, but it has become one of the things I love most about the Church. Understanding that the true presence in the body of Christ is strong enough to survive inside someone who might seem less worthy requires more, not less, faith in its power. I am saddened that I cannot share in communion at my parents' church, and that they will not receive in mine, but I would rather be in that position than the other way around." *Sean P. Hackett, Diocese of Bethlehem*



Grandparents Malaika and David Rogers invite you to join us in welcoming Briella Michelle Halstead, born June 19, 2020, to proud parents Lexie and Greg Halstead. Congratulations and Welcome!



In July, we are collecting backpacks and supplies for the Orange Office on Youth's distribution to students in grades PreK-3.

In addition, We are continuing to support "school snacks" for our at-risk Orange County youth. These include individually packed, shelf-stable granola bars, power bars, applesauce containers, crackers, etc. Please do not send in drinks or glass containers. Check donations are also gratefully appreciated. Please make checks payable to "St. Thomas" and include "General Outreach" in the memo line.

Backpacks and food donations may be dropped off in the Blue Bucket in the Church Office foyer: Monday-Thursday from 10:30am – 2:30 pm. Checks can be mailed in or dropped off at the Parish office.

Thank you for your continued support of our most vulnerable in the community!



## COVID-19 Worship

We hope to begin limited seating, Socially-distanced, in-person worship this month of July. When that occurs, we will also upload a video of the sermon to YouTube for those who do not or should not yet attend a worship service. Because we care deeply about the health and safety of all members of our Parish those attending must be willing to wear a face mask throughout the service and to sit only in pre-designated socially-distanced seats. Sadly, singing even with masks on is considered a “super-spreader” as it forces out moist air farther so no singing will be allowed. However, we will play a stanza or two of well-known hymns.

Although disposable masks (and if desired, but not required, gloves) will be available on Sundays, you are welcome to be creative and wear your own mask. Perhaps on our “return to in-person worship” we can take note of the interesting and/or entertaining options some of you have created during this pandemic season.

## A Little Covid Humor



Cats practicing social distancing!

Just a friendly reminder for when we return to in person worship. LOL...



## Birthday Greetings!

Pastor Lin stopped by the Robison's house twice this spring to bring birthday greetings to Ellie and Lily Robinson on their special days! We hope you enjoyed this special surprise!



Ellie turned 19 on April 30th and Pastor Lin stopped by to brighten her day with a birthday greeting!



Lily turned 16 on June 17th. Once again, Pastor Lin stopped by to provide the birthday girl with driveway birthday greeting!

## *Church Members march in several Black Lives Matter Marches in Orange*

Several parishioners participated in multiple peaceful protests in Orange in June in remembrance of George Floyd and to call for racial equity and justice for all.

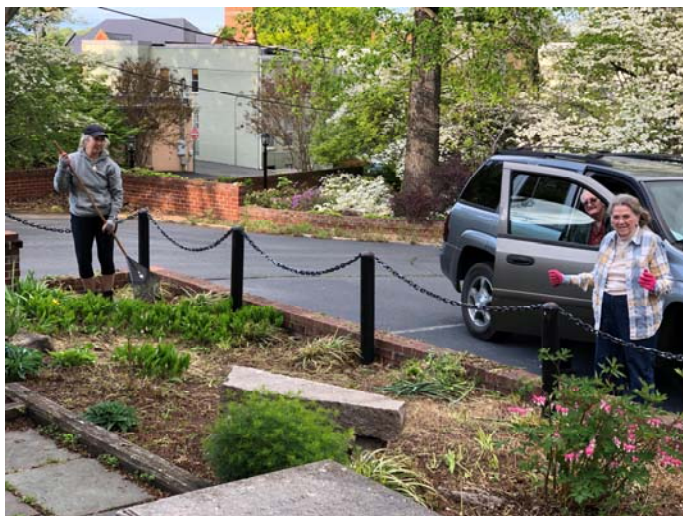


Orange Police Chief Jim Fenwick marches with the demonstrators protesting against racism. The peaceful march began at the Food Lion parking lot and made its way along Madison Road to the historic courthouse on Main Street.



## *Memorial Garden Clean Up*

Thank you to the Baskerville's and Yowell's for taking the time to clean up the church's memorial garden!



# July 2020

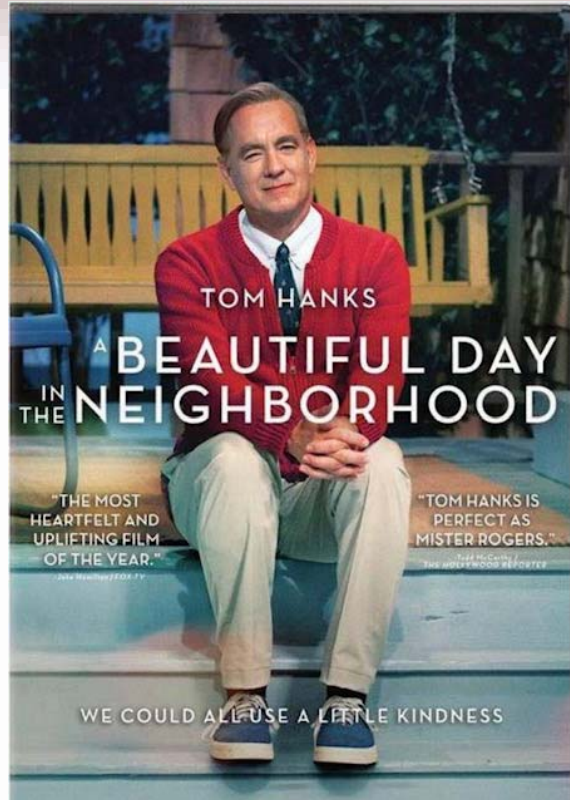
## St. Thomas Church



Key: Chapel (C); Conference Room (CR); Holy Eucharist (HE); Rector's Study (RS); Robertson Hall (RH); Youth Room (YR)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>Consider a "staycation" in July. Summer provides many opportunities to get out and explore, while</p>			1	2	3	4 Independence Day 
	<b>5 The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	6	7	8	9	10
<b>12 The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>19 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost</b>	20	21	22	23 Vestry meeting 5:30 pm	24	25
<b>26 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	27	28	29	30	31 Movie night: A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood ?	

**NOW SHOWING**



Based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Lloyd Vogel.

Two-time Oscar-winner Tom Hanks portrays Mister Rogers in *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, a timely story of kindness triumphing over cynicism, based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. After a jaded magazine writer (Emmy winner Matthew Rhys) is assigned a profile of Fred Rogers, he overcomes his skepticism, learning about empathy, kindness, and decency from America's most beloved neighbor.  
~IMDB

**Friday, July 31st at 7pm in Robertson Hall**

**~ cost of admission is one non-perishable food item ~**

# August 2020

## St. Thomas Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2</b> The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>9</b> The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	10 Orange County Schools resume	11	12	13	14	15
<b>16</b> The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	17	18	19	20	21	22
<b>23</b> The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	24	25	26	27	<b>28</b> Movie night: Richard Jewel	29
<b>30</b> The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	31					



**NOW SHOWING**

During the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, security guard Richard Jewell discovers a suspicious backpack under a bench in Centennial Park. With little time to spare, he helps to evacuate the area until the incendiary device inside the bag explodes. Hailed as a hero who saved lives, Jewell's own life starts to unravel when the FBI names him the prime suspect in the bombing. Stars Paul Walter Hauser, Sam Rockwell, Jon Hamm, Kathy Bates, and Olivia Wilde. Directed by Clint Eastwood.~ *IMDB*



Friday, August 28th at 7pm in Robertson Hall

~ cost of admission is one non-perishable food item ~

# Anniversaries

## ~July~

Doug & Cynthia Arnold  
Brandon & Katie Barfield  
Terrell & Elaine Baskerville  
Chris & Ginny Dulin  
Eric & Emily Hohman  
Diane Line & Christina Cheshire  
Jack & Linda Miller

## ~August~

Grayson & Jeremy Butterfield  
Doc & Barbara Garnett  
Randy & Caroline Merrick  
Jeff & Sarah Rogers  
Bucky & Adrianna Waddy

## *Stewardship Reflection*

“*The Light of the World is Jesus*” is a familiar, recurring tune that I learned as a child in Sunday School. I find myself humming its’ melody from time to time – out of the blue, so to speak – usually when I feeling grateful.

Have you ever looked up and thought about the ceiling lights while sitting in church? They are more than the light needed to see the bulletin and hymnal each Sunday. These are the lights that have shone for years, and still do, when we have beautiful weddings, sacred baptisms, musical events and honoring funerals. Think of the many times you and your family have benefited from these personal services.

These same lights shine during our festival services during Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. They illuminate our worship place so that the choir, organist, and Pastor can lead us week after week when we meet as a congregation to *Pray and Give Thanks to God*.

We are the “*Light of Christ*” radiating from St Thomas to illuminate our Community of Orange and the World. Our Outreach Programs are beacons that radiate so loudly and clearly, *Love thy Neighbor!* Our children grow up and carry “The Light” as they live their lives. When our parishioners move away, they take that same radiance and spread the Good News in their new communities.

So, when we give our offerings back to God through pledging, donations or special offerings, we say yes to being *The Light of Christ*. The hours we volunteer and the time we commit are of no less importance. Are we ever grateful enough? NO NEVER! Should we remain intentional in financially supporting our church budget? YES!

When we gather again in worship, look up at the ceiling and give thanks for the light that has and will illuminate your path. What unique light do you see? Maybe hum softly, *The Light of the World is Jesus*.

*Barry Barr* Co-Chair Stewardship Committee

## **St. Thomas Preschool—We still have a few openings for fall and are enrolling daily!**

As for the fall opening of St. Thomas Preschool, our plan is to open normally, after Labor Day in September with all safety guidelines in place. We are in currently in compliance with all regulations statewide with the Department of Social Services and the CDC as far as numbers and space of facility. Of course, with this whole pandemic we must be fluid and continue to monitor the situation at hand. It is our intention to give our families the best preschool experience available within the guidelines set forth by our governing bodies. We will continue to move forward and keep you informed as we know more.

# Birthdays



## ~July~

7/04 Mack Cowan  
7/07 Zan Thomas  
7/08 Mary Queitzsch  
7/09 George Colby  
7/11 Chip Queitzsch Jr.  
7/16 Duff Green  
7/18 Sonja Scott  
7/24 Jeff Matthews  
7/25 Elizabeth Ward  
7/26 Vera Barfield  
7/26 Shirley Wendell  
7/28 Ed Wendell

## ~August~

08/01 Christine Cheshire  
8/02 Nora Butterfield  
8/03 Kristen Brockman  
8/04 Matthew Keating  
8/05 Suzanne Bresee  
8/05 Bobbi Jo Phillips  
8/06 Malaika Rogers  
8/08 Gerry Dulin  
8/10 Chuck Mason  
8/10 Erich Uhlmann  
8/14 Gary Barrett  
8/19 Joseph Wagner  
8/26 Beth Yowell  
8/29 Mary Green

## Food Pantry



Special requests for July are laundry detergent, kool aid, tea, and baked beans. Special requests for August are canned fruit, peanut butter, and peas. All food items and cash gifts are always welcome and appreciated. You can drop off donations at the Love Outreach Food Pantry each Tuesday from 9:00-10:30 and on Wednesday from 8:30-12:00. Their mailing address is: Love Outreach Food Pantry, Inc., P.O. Box 788, Orange, 22960. You may also bring any donations to the church to be delivered.

## Prayer List

### We pray especially for our church's leadership:

Michael, Presiding Bishop; Susan, & Porter, bishops for this diocese

Our country: President Donald, Vice President Mike, & Governor Ralph

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation:

**For:** All those working on the front lines to combat the COVID-19 outbreak and our men and women in our armed forces who are serving our nation around the world.

**And Especially for:** Briella, Carol, Ellen, Emily, Greg, and Lexie

*Please feel free to submit your prayer requests via phone (540-672-3761) or email ([stthomas3@verizon.net](mailto:stthomas3@verizon.net)) for inclusion in the morning prayer bulletin.*

*The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.*

*Numbers 6: 22-26*

Please submit entries for the September issue of *The Builder* by August 22nd to [annwood304@gmail.com](mailto:annwood304@gmail.com) or to the church office.

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
**119 Caroline Street**  
**Orange, VA 22960**

**July/August 2020**

