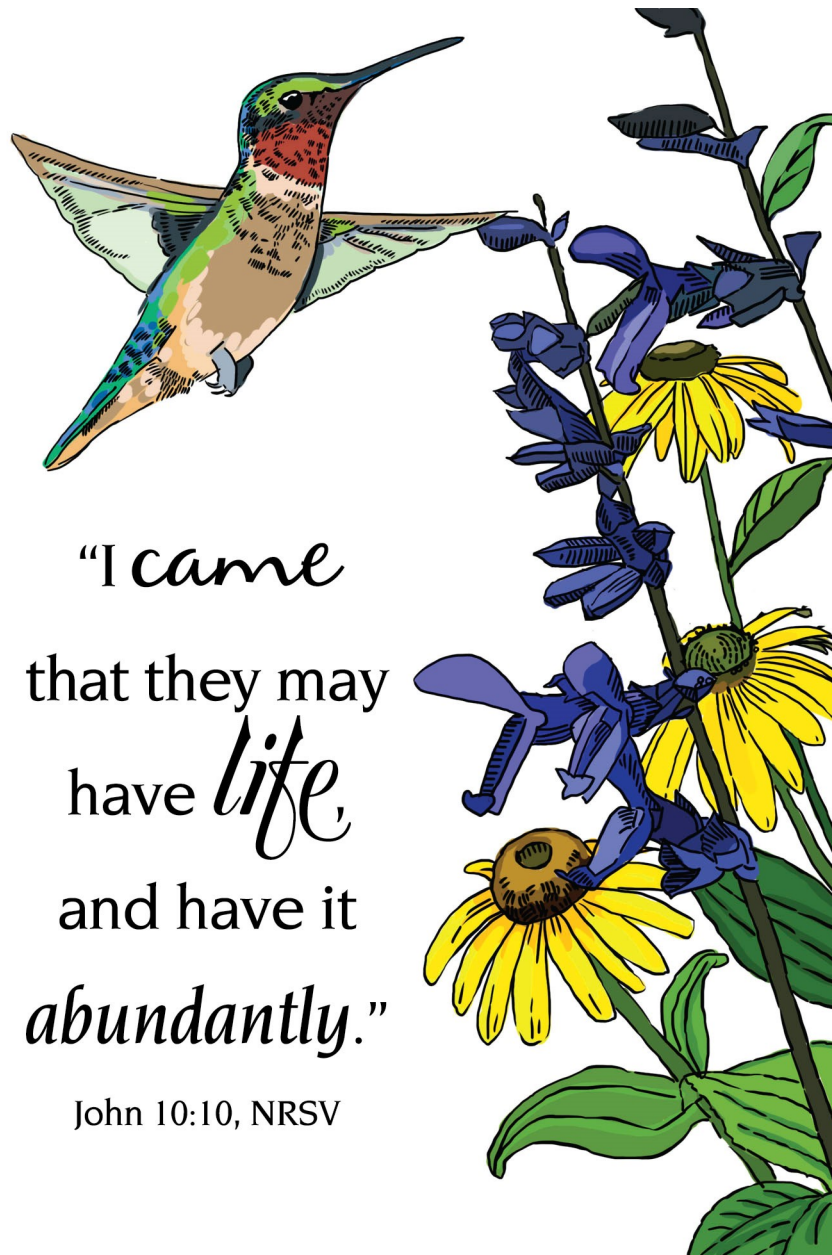




AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

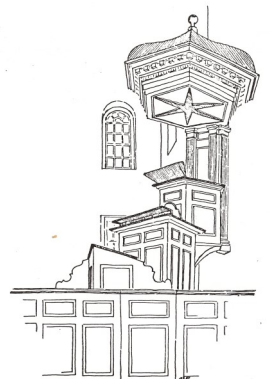
Cross Section

All of you are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it. 1 Corinthians 12:27



"I came
that they may
have *life*
and have it
abundantly."

John 10:10, NRSV





CROSS SECTION

Aquia Episcopal Church

2938 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
P.O. Box 275
Stafford, VA 22555

Contact us:

(540) 659-4007
office@aquiachurch.org
www.aquiachurch.org

Office hours:

8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Monday– Friday,
except Tuesdays (closed)

Rector

The Rev. Jay Morris

Assistant Rector

The Rev. James Rickenbaker

Treasurer

Chris Arey

Music Director

Trystan Bennett

Dir. Christian Education

Kristen Morgan

Parish Administrator

Dennise LaBarre

Executive Assistant

Sue Selz

Nursery Supervisor

Christine Hammer

Nursery Assistant

Dawna Spaulding

FROM THE RECTOR

Why Continuing Education?

Last month, Father Rickenbaker and I attended the diocesan clergy retreat, at which event we heard a set of lectures on “prayerful preaching” given by a nationally known professor of homiletics. That occasion was an important time for us to confer with clergy colleagues, to renew friendships from around the diocese, and to keep learning about one essential aspect of our ministry.

This month, both of your priests will engage in additional opportunities for continuing education. Father Rickenbaker will attend a conference at Trinity School for Ministry, just north of Pittsburgh, for a few days at the 2019 Ancient Evangelical Future Conference on “Modern Christians Seeking Ancient Roots.” A number of highly regarded faculty will join up-and-coming scholars in collaboration about renewing ancient practices of devotion and formation for adaptation to today’s circumstances and challenges. I attended last year’s conference, and I believe that our assistant rector will gain some good perspective from the guest speakers, from the table fellowship, and from the discussions he will enjoy with other leaders. I myself shall be away for most of the first half of June, first attending a seminar in Michigan on ways in which ministry with the younger generations (especially millennials and members of Gen-Z) is prompting the church to adapt, then participating in another seminary’s intensive course on Lesslie Newbigin, who was a British missionary and bishop in India, a profound theologian, and an ecumenist of great importance for the twenty-first century.

Your clergy are grateful to Aquia Church not simply for providing funds for engaging in this work, but for having the expectation that we continue the learning and training that began before our arrival here and that must be maintained and increased for everyone’s benefit. Not every parish or denomination places enough value on continuing education, and that is to

their detriment. A standard three-year period at seminary cannot possibly provide every kind of preparation needed for priestly formation and professional ministry, and in fact some things learned at seminary need to be unlearned. Surely it is as

important for clergy have the chance to learn new skills, gain new insights, and forge new friendships as it is for surgeons and physicians to study new procedures, for lawyers and accountants to examine new rules, and for firefighters and paramedics to implement new training. While those who benefit from clergy continuing education initially might be the clergy themselves, the main beneficiaries ultimately are the parishioners whose ordained leaders are refreshed and refocused for their collaboration with fellow Christians. My travel for such study programs enables me to hear in

detail what is going on in churches in other denominations and in other parts of the world, not only elsewhere in the United States. In clergy networks like these, we can share the benefit of our collective experience and expertise. Besides learning new information, we discuss best practices and exchange tips. When I learn through continuing education what others have discovered, the relationships formed thereby help to strengthen my preaching, my teaching, my pastoral care, and my spiritual disciplines.

Both of your clergy will take some time off in the months ahead for family vacation and personal renewal, just as we hope that you will be able to do the same. But we deliberately begin this summer of refreshment with the chance to develop and grow in our ministerial vocation, with time to study deeper and to reflect thoughtfully and to “ponder anew what the Almighty can do” (as we sing in the hymn “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”). The payoff from this careful investment will come in our ministry among our beloved flock.

Jay Morris



**Learn
&
Grow**



FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

Summer Attendance

Dear Family in Christ,
Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank our God for you, especially for your fervor in faith and your ardor in worship. Such is appropriate for Christians. It is for that reason that I want to encourage you to continue in the summer what we see year round. Simply put: just because school ends, that doesn't mean that church does. We have some important and good opportunities for worship and Christian education over the summer. We would love to see you any of the events and opportunities coming up.

Throughout the summer, we have church every Sunday as usual. The service times will not change: 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m., and 5 p.m. It is of course understandable that some of our folks travel during the summer, as school is out. But if we are honest with ourselves, no one goes away for three months straight. Outside of summer vacation, there are obviously some other summer considerations. Summer sports leagues start, as does the desire to catch up on rest. Please don't allow the temptation to sleep in on Sunday morning or to play summer sports on Sundays overcome the responsibility that we all have to worship our God in community, in church on Sunday. If you can't make it to Sunday morning worship, we offer a 5:00 p.m. service to accommodate that occasional possibility. But please, do remember as well that the worship of God is perhaps the most important thing that we can do as Christians. And as Jesus reminds us in Matthew 18:20, worship is meant to take place primarily in community.

In terms of formation for kids, we have Vacation Bible School from June 17-21. That is a wonderful opportunity, through storytelling and play, for children to continue growing into the full stature of Christ (remembering that parents and godparents have promised to facilitate this process when the child was baptized). For adults, we have a morning Bible study series running the months of June and July

(after having begun in May) on the theme of evil and justice in Scripture. Stay tuned for the possibility of evening Bible studies in July and August as well. On Sunday mornings, we will offer Morning Call adult formation throughout the summer. There are ample opportunities for formation for folks to attend. This is done intentionally to reach those who have particularly tough schedules for work.

Our young adult group, What Would Jesus Brew?, will continue during the summer months after a strong couple of months of our joint endeavor with the Church of the Messiah in Fredericksburg. This group's membership is not set in stone. We are delighted to welcome new young adults to our group. Please feel free to contact me for more information if you are interested. My e-mail address is rickenbaker@aquiachurch.org. Keep your eyes open for more opportunities coming down the pike this summer for formation and fellowship.

As you can see, we have a lot going on this summer. There are lots of opportunities for kingdom work, fellowship, and formation.

Don't let the summer be a reason to disconnect from church. Join with us in the fun and continue to grow with us in relationship with our living Lord Jesus Christ. Use this time of freedom from certain responsibilities to connect more deeply with the Lord and with his church. Participate where you can. We look forward to seeing you.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*In Christ+,
Fr. James*



AQUIA CHURCH VESTRY

Chris Arey

Dickie Boes

Finance Committee Chairperson

Jackie Chichester

Jean Golas

Administration

Committee Chairperson

Bill Hoffman

Senior Warden

Ron Korth

Junior Warden

Building & Grounds

Committee Chairperson

Doug McGinty

Register

Larry Moxley

Mary Nixon

Kit Stoltz

Youth Representative

Chris Wanner

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

April 23, 2019

Dinner and Fellowship

The hosts were Dickie Boes and Bill Hoffman. In attendance were the Rector Fr. Jay Morris and Asst. Rector James Rickenbaker, as well as vestry members: Sr. Warden Bill Hoffman, Jr. Warden Ron Korth, Treasurer Chris Arey, Youth Rep. Ethan Shoen, Dickie Boes, Chris Wanner, Jean Golas, Jackie Chichester, Larry Moxley, Mary Nixon, and Register Douglas McGinty. Fr. Jay opened with a prayer and the Lord's Prayer.

Business Session (starting at 7pm).

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Chris Arey delivered the Cover Letter and balance sheets. There was a negative cash flow for the last month. Mike Kerr of the Trustees of the Funds (TOTF) has retired.

Minutes from Previous Meeting, presented by Register Douglas McGinty: The March minutes were accepted with a minor change. In summary, the following actions were taken in the March meeting:

- R-2019-05: Appointment of Audit Committee to Review 2018 Financials (approved 3/19)
- R-2019-06: Cemetery Mowing Contract (approved 3/19)
- Work of Committees: Goals for Each Committee (approved 3/19)
- Plaque honoring David Wirman (endorsed 3/19)
- Proposal for Eagle Scout project (endorsed 3/19)

New Business

Monthly Rent Increase Proposal at Clifton Chapel (Administration and Finance committees). Fr. Jay met with Rev. Metropolitan Jonah of St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church to discuss raising the monthly rent for Clifton

Chapel from \$385 to \$415 in a 5-year lease agreement starting in July 2019. St. Herman's bought a 5-acre plot off of Courthouse Road in Stafford. Construction may not start for years. The Finance and Administration Committees recommended a 5-year extension of the lease contract, with the specified rent increase and all other terms remaining in place. The vestry approved the contract unanimously, effective July 1, 2019. Aquia Episcopal Church will review annually.

Question of Parish Picnic in May (Rector). Pavilions at Patowomeck Park and at Smith Lake Park are not available on the Sunday on the Memorial Day weekend. The consensus of the vestry was to have the picnic at the church campus on June 9, 2017, at the fire pit next to the 1960 Parish House. The backup can be at the CFFB in case of inclement weather.

The list of adults and teenagers for the Youth Group Mission Trip in the Clergy Report was unanimously approved. Fr. Jay will let the vestry know when the drainage work by the sign is finished.

Reports from Vestry Committees

Administration by Jean Golas: Robynn's Nest Cleaning Service has 30 days to consider proposed contract changes. The church will have a yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on June 8, 2019, with all proceeds going to the church's general fund. The Clifton Chapel and church picnic matters have been discussed already and noted above.

Building and Grounds by Ron Korth: The cemetery fence was damaged by a falling tree and will be repaired. The vestry commended Ron for the great work on the new sign at the church entrance.

Finance: provided in reports by Treasurer Chris Arey.



Vestry Highlights

Reports from Senior Warden and Junior Warden

Sr. Warden Bill Hoffman thanked Fathers Jay and James for the great Holy Week. There are lapel pins available for vestry members. Two headstones were damaged and sent for repairs. Another only requires a minor repair in the cemetery.

Jr. Warden Ron Korth reported on the Building and Grounds committee. He also noted that the Holy Week services were uplifting.

Report from Rector

Fr. Jay provided the Clergy Report. Easter attendance was 340.

Upcoming Dates

5/19 Heritage Sunday luncheon after 10 a.m. worship service
5/21 Vestry meeting (hosts: Arey and Korth)

Good of the Order, Closing Prayer by Fr. James Rickenbaker, and Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas McGinty

Register, Aquia Episcopal Church



WEDDING GUILD

The Wedding Guild received this lovely note of thanks following the Blessing of the Marriage of Charlotte Rose Smith and Matthew Bourne Kenkel on April 27, 2019:

To the Wedding Guild,

Henry and I cannot thank you enough for making Charlotte's and Matthew's wedding amazing. You are all a rare kind of generous.

We were so grateful for your support and encouragement to everyone. You all kept everyone calm and orderly. We appreciated everything.

Thank you so much to all you lovely, kind ladies.

Regards,

Tracey and Kenny Smith



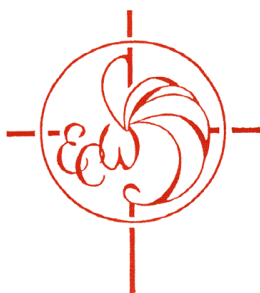
Perhaps you did not know that there is a wedding guild at Aquia Church. Members of this small ministry have the wonderful privilege of being the 'uninvited guests' in the back pew at each Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage held in Aquia Church. It is a joyful, occasional ministry that offers the priceless gifts of time and support to the couple, their families, and the clergy.

Our help begins several months before the ceremony, when a member of the guild meets with the couple to discuss the set-up of the church for their wedding, the greeting of guests, the positioning of the wedding party during the ceremony, the recessional, and all the fine points in between. Then we help at the rehearsal, and finally at least four members of the guild attend the wedding itself, coming early and then staying late to prepare the church for Sunday services.

By the time you read this article, we will have had two weddings in our church during 2019. Although there are none on the calendar for the rest of this year, we already have one in the planning for 2020. If you would like to know about the Wedding Guild, please let us know.

Mary Jane Cole,
(maryjane@cfsw.biz),
Margaret Hedger,
Barb Bingay,
Sue Selz,
Patricia Springer,
and Briget Kane





EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

It is mid-May as I begin to work on my article for our June newsletter. I am reminded that Memorial Day is the traditional kick-off for summer, vacations, and the awarding of the Anne E. Moncure Scholarship. During the 10:00 a.m. service in June 9th, the ECW will introduce the recipients and present scholarships. We hope you will join us in celebrating the accomplishments of these youth members of Aquia.

I have noticed lately just how often a phrase from a hymn or sermon or prayer pops back into my mind. I have often pushed the words or stanza back, not realizing it is something I need to re-think or contemplate on a much deeper level. Recently the hammer was tapping and I gave into those 'pop-ups.' "God lifted me" is mentioned many ways and times in verse and song. Recently I was confronted by despair, so I went to these words in prayer and knew that with God's love, once again I would be whole. I try to remember to be humble, a lesson I continue to learn.

Another very different 'pop-up' came again as I was reflecting on my previous paragraph. I was listening to a statement made about Mary. The speaker noted that Mary was God's first disciple. I immediately thought how wrong the statement was until I re-said the words out loud in questioning the statement. My 'aha' moment: the speaker said God's disciple, not Jesus' disciple. What an enlightened moment! It allowed me to reflect on the role of women throughout our biblical history. It reinforced the importance of the Episcopal Church Women and all women of the church. The women who make up the ministries and do the work of these ministries fulfill many important roles in our church. Perhaps none as great as Mary, God's first disciple, who we honor in our ministry and Sts. Mary and Martha Guild.

Briget Kane
President

The Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Virginia, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, share the love of God by making Christ known in the world through prayer, education concern for others and joyful service.

Thanks to the members of Aquia Church who were working [on 4/15/2019] to prepare the church for Easter.

I brought my brother and sister-in-law to see the historic church. We were invited to enter by Mary [Jane], who then gave us a history of the church. Great tour. Very thoughtful of her to come to invite us inside and then to tell us about the church.

In appreciation - a small contribution.

Ruth Heal



STS. MARY AND MARTHA

Worship, Service and Fellowship

As your family heads off on vacation, please remember that Sts. Mary and Martha Guild collects travel-size toiletries to take to Micah Ecumenical Ministries for the chronically homeless. The small bottles of shampoo and bars of soap, etc., are greatly appreciated by these folks. If you would please leave your donations on the picnic table, we will deliver them. Visit their website www.micahfredericksburg.org to learn of other ways to help.

Sts. Mary and Martha Guild is looking forward to a busy summer of making crafts for the Fall Fest Craft Room. We are also making extra Blessed Wax Angel ornaments because we have started to receive 'orders' for them. We have made these ornaments for years, but recently

the Diocesan Altar Guild Chair, Sharon Nachman, asked us for a brief article to put in the National Altar Guild Association's newsletter, *The Epistle*. The Blessed Angels were the great idea of Joan Nebel and are made from the stubs of our altar candles. You will find them on the ECW sales table at Homecoming as they were as Fall Fest.

During June, Sts Mary and Martha will be meeting on the 6th and 20th in the parish hall starting with Morning Prayer at 9:30 a.m. Please join us for worship, study, fellowship and a bit of crafting. All ladies of the parish are welcome. Bring a friend!

Mary Jane Cole
(maryjane@cfs.w.biz)



Dear Sue,

I want to thank everyone from Aquia Church for the beautiful flowers that you had that very kind altar guild bring to me. The flowers are a great comfort, and bring to mind the wonderful support of our clergy and parishioners.

Thank you very much!

Karen Burrell





OUTREACH

The Outreach Committee did not have a formal meeting in May. Instead, we worked hard at the pig roast/craft show/rummage sale on May 4. Many thanks to everyone who came to help out on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. It is a big job to move all those tables and chairs around and then clean up. Your assistance is greatly appreciated. The best news from the day is that it did not rain and the pig roast sold out of food. Proceeds from the pig roast go to the historic church. Proceeds from the craft show and rummage sale help fund Outreach projects.

The Cash for Cows and Change for Chickens campaign started on Mother's Day and will run through Father's Day. The rain on the first Sunday forced us inside the great hall, but we hope to have the banks outside in front of the church for the rest of the Sundays. This year we would like to purchase goats (\$80), fish fingerlings (\$300), chickens (\$20 per share), or maybe a water buffalo (\$250).

The last two weeks of June we will be collecting shoes. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins will provide the collection boxes and will pick up the shoes when the campaign is over. Their ministry provides shoes for those who need shoes but cannot afford them.

On June 13 we will be participating in a stuff-the-truck volunteer day at a local grocery store. Two volunteers per shift are needed and shifts are 90 minutes long.

Another project for this summer will be the school supply collection. School starts earlier this year in Stafford County, so we will need to ask Social Services when they need our donations.

We also want to thank all who contributed to Outreach through the Lenten Cross. Your generosity will help us with our projects throughout the year.

Our formal meetings will begin again in September. We will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the great hall.

Johanna Jones

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Vacation Bible School 2019

Join us *In the Wild* on June 17-21 for our annual Vacation Bible School as we have amazing encounters with Jesus. Children ages 3 (must be potty trained) through fifth grade should register by June 15. Forms are available on the church website (www.aquiachurch.org) and in the church office. Completed forms should be turned into the church office or emailed to christianed@aquiachurch.org. We are in need of volunteers. If you are able to help decorate the week prior to VBS or volunteer during VBS week, please contact Kristen Morgan as soon as possible.

Kristen Morgan

REGISTER BY JUNE 15!



AQUIA CHURCH COMMUNITY YARD SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

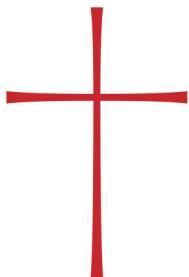
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

\$20 for a 2-car space



**Call (540) 659-4007
to reserve a space**

Food will be sold.



We, as Aquia Church, joyfully respond to the grace, love and fellowship
of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit at work in our midst
by celebrating His presence, sharing His abundance,
and proclaiming His word throughout the world.



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Funerals: *"Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord; and let the light perpetual shine upon them."*

Sandra Elizabeth Goulet, 1936-2018.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AT AQUIA CHURCH

New Babies: Thanksgiving for the birth of a child will be offered as part of the service on the second Sunday of the month (youth Sunday). This will be scheduled as needed. Please call the church office the week prior, if your family would like to be included.

Also, please call the church office after a birth so that a red rose can be placed on the altar in thanksgiving.

Those being deployed: Please call the church office so that we can offer special prayers at a service prior to your departure. Also we would like to put you on our prayer list for all those who are deployed in the service of our country.

FUTURE BAPTISMS

The next scheduled date for a baptism is June 9, 2019. If you would like to have a baptism on this date, or if this date doesn't work for you and you would like to request another date, please contact the church office so that counseling with the clergy can be scheduled.

PRAYERS FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS

Derek and Emily (Selz) Wiser; Brett and Sarah (Selz) Moran

BLESSINGS
from GOD



www.aquiachurch.org

office@aquiachurch.org

(540) 659-4007

Aquia Church Prayer List – June 2019

Faye Andrews, Rhett Blythe and Family, Edward Chaplin, Judy Chaplin, Elijah Colliver, Jeff Davis, Donnie Davis, Scott Davis, Robert & JoAnn Feldman, Hank Grizzard, Larry Hartzler, Carolyn Hendrickson, Chris Hundley, Carol LaPorte, Elaine Lewis, Lori, Ken & Anne Luehrs, Pat Moncure, Rebecca Poole, Kenny Reilly, Landon Santelli, Janice Shelton, Scott Smith, O.D. Taylor, John & Pam Tompkins, Kenneth Tompkins, Tom Tremper, Patrick Weber.



Fall Fest Auction Action

Excitement is building! It is time to mark your calendar. **Fall Fest 2019** will be **Saturday, Oct. 5!** The live auction starts at 11:00 a.m. in the great hall. Shields Jones, award-winning professional auctioneer and fellow Aquia Church parishioner, has volunteered to conduct our auction again this year!

Our auction list is just beginning to build:

- **A night at the historic Red Fox Inn and Tavern in Middleburg, Virginia**
Check it out at www.redfox.com. This charming inn, built in 1728, offers romantic accommodations adorned with colonial décor.
- **Vintage Primitive Rustic Artisanal Spinning-Wheel Chair** (pictured right)
- Tastefully matted and framed **Pen and Ink Print of Aquia Church**



The auction committee is now ready and waiting for your great ideas and contributions. We rely heavily on the generosity and imagination of our fellow parishioners to make the auction a success. Do you have a talent to teach or a service to offer? Do you have an antique in your attic, a drum set in your basement, or an extra week of time-share? Perhaps you have season tickets to the Caps or the Redskins and could donate a pair of tickets to be auctioned. Unused, unexpired gift cards are always welcome, as are moose heads, cigar humidors and cedar chests. How about offering an evening of baby-sitting, or an afternoon of raking and bagging leaves? Could you build a themed gift basket with a friend? If so, please let us know.

Would you be able to join our team of solicitors who, with a letter of introduction in hand from our clergy, approach local merchants for contributions? We could certainly use your help.

We have a long way to go before we reach our goal of forty items for the Fall Fest 2019 Live Auction. Any leads, offers of help or suggestions will be gratefully received. Contact Shields Jones, Becky Monger, Brenda Monger, or Mary Jane Cole for more information. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Mary Jane Cole
maryjane@cfsw.biz





AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Aquia Episcopal Church
Post Office Box 275
Stafford, VA
22555

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Stay Close
TO
God
THIS
Summer