



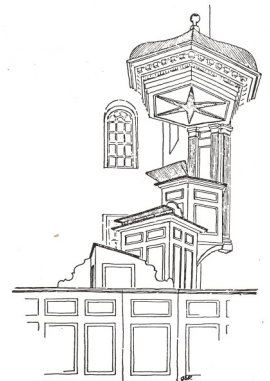
AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Cross Section

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

BE ALERT
AND ALWAYS
KEEP ON PRAYING
FOR ALL THE
LORD'S PEOPLE.

EPHESIANS 6:18, NIV





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

Assistant Treasurer

Charlie Bingay

Music Director

Trystan Bennett

Dir. Christian Education

Kristen Morgan

Parish Administrator

Dennise LaBarre

Executive Assistant

Sue Selz

Nursery Supervisor

Dawna Spaulding

FROM THE RECTOR

2021 Annual Meeting: August 22

On Sunday, Aug. 22, we shall conduct our parish's annual meeting for this calendar year. Ordinarily we prefer to hold this yearly event on the first Sunday of the new year, for a variety of reasons; but back in January the pandemic changed that plan, as the pandemic has changed so many other routines.

On Aug. 22, we shall meet in the great hall of the Christian Formation and Fellowship Building for that morning's one worship service (which will start at 9 a.m. and will proceed as quickly as feasible) and remain there for the main business session (which will begin in earnest after a brief break following the conclusion of the worship service). While the meeting for adults and teenagers is going on upstairs in the great hall, downstairs our Sunday school ministry will have some opportunities for young children to enjoy a variety of activities. Refreshments will be available that morning for folks of all ages.

An important item of business at this year's annual meeting, as always, will be the election of new vestry members. This year, as always, we need to choose four adults who are duly enrolled members of this parish, who are confirmed (or are preparing for confirmation), and who have been faithful in making a financial pledge and contributing toward it during the year prior to election. Those elected to the vestry on this occasion would serve until the 2024 annual meeting (so around two-and-a-half years). If you are able to serve on the vestry and willing to serve if elected, then simply complete a blue nomination form, which is available at the back of the historic church building or available from the church office. Since nominations cannot be made by someone other than the nominee herself or himself, and since nominations cannot be made from the floor of the annual meeting, completed self-nomination forms should be submitted to the church office by

the stated deadline, which is the end of Monday, Aug. 16.

During the business session, you will hear some brief reports and updates from some of our key lay leaders: Bill Hoffman (senior warden and acting chairperson of our administration committee), Ron Korth (junior warden and chairperson of our

buildings and grounds committee), and Chris Arey (treasurer and member of our finance committee). These lay leaders and other vestry members will be on hand to greet you and to answer your questions, either during the formal session or during informal conversation afterward. Vestry members who are rotating off will be thanked for their current term of service, which was extended

from the originally intended year to just over a year-and-a-half because of the pandemic: Christine Bowie, Michael Golasz, and Patricia Springer (with our thanks going also to the late Patty Montgomery, who died toward the end of her one-year appointment).

While the timing of this year's annual meeting is rather unusual for us, the reasons for our gathering remain unchanged: we shall celebrate the blessings of the year past, take care of present business, and lay the foundation for the future. The rector will also offer some words of encouragement and guidance in far less time than his usual seventeen hours. You know all too well the challenges that our parish has faced over the past months between the pandemic and other situations; and yet by God's grace Aquia Church has shown more than mere resilience amidst that adversity. I hope that you will make every effort to attend this annual meeting for some inspiration at a point in our parish's life and a point in history where such inspiration could certainly benefit us all.

Jay Morris



Annual Meeting



FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

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 love for Scripture and your diligent study of the same. Holy Scripture is the lens through which we see life as followers of Jesus. So, studying Scripture is incredibly important for us. As such, I encourage you to participate in either the Wednesday morning or Wednesday evening Bible study series that Fr. Jay and I offer weekly. I also encourage you to share with us any ideas or thoughts that you may have for series topics. Do you have a burning desire to study some of the Old Testament history books, like 1 and 2 Chronicles? Are you interested in a 2 Corinthians series as a follow-up to our series on 1 Corinthians? What themes in Scripture would you like to explore?

In my five-plus years at Aquia, we have covered a lot of ground in Bible study. We have completed a survey of the Old and New Testaments with the Kerygma series. We have studied Old Testament history in Genesis and Exodus. We have read some of the prophets like Daniel and Malachi. We have gone through some of the Old Testament writings like Proverbs and Job. I have taught a series on the Gospel according to Matthew as well as one on the Gospel according to Mark. We've read a large portion of Paul's letters: 1 Corinthians, Galatians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus. We also have made our way through 1, 2, and 3 John, 1 and 2 Peter, Jude, and, of course, Revelation. We have explored some themes like "Hard Sayings of the Bible." And who could forget the series we had called Lectionary Leftovers, where we went through some key passages that we don't hear in the Sunday Eucharistic Lectionary? All of that is wonderful. But can you believe we have just scratched the surface?

In the upcoming months, I am looking at going through several books: the Letter to the Hebrews, Joshua and Judges, and 2 Corinthians. I am also contemplating doing



a series on the theme of violence in Scripture. However, I am always open to ideas for potential Bible study topics. Please do feel free and empowered to send me any ideas you may have for books of the Bible or themes in the Bible that you would appreciate exploring together. You can email me at rickenbaker@aquiachurch.org.

The study of Scripture is truly of central importance for us as Christians. As Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 15:3-5, "For what I received I passed on to you as of **first importance**: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve" (emphasis added). Learning about what God has done for us in Christ Jesus is of **first importance** for who we are as believers. In learning about what God has done for us and in having the Word of God in Scripture opened to us by the Holy Spirit, we learn the truth of who we are and who God is calling us to be. The study of Scripture is vitally important for us. Come and join us in order to hear how God is at work in the world!

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

Finance Committee

Charlie Bingay

Finance Committee

Dickie Boes

*Finance Committee Chairperson
Building & Grounds Committee*

Chris Bowie

Administration Committee

Bob Brandon

Building & Grounds Committee

Carrol Frederick

Michael Golasz

Building & Grounds Committee

Bill Hoffman

*Senior Warden
Acting Chairperson of
Administration Committee*

Ron Korth

*Junior Warden
Building & Grounds
Committee Chairperson*

Patricia Springer

Administration Committee

Christopher "Kit" Stoltz

*Youth Representative
Administration &
Finance Committees*

Chris Wanner

Buildings & Grounds Committee

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

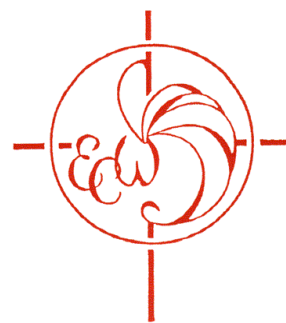
“**T**hrow on the brake!” That is what one part of me keeps telling myself as we continue to live a new norm at this stage in the pandemic. The other, more social part of me is fighting back, saying, “Throw caution to the wind, proceed with haste, and return to pre-pandemic activities of church and life.” This is a struggle that I am sure many of us are facing as we continue to live in the day-to-day barrage of news and social media posts. I had created a ‘safe place’ for my mind where I could find peace, reflect, and pray. It became a place for me to gather strength, learn more, and apply what I was learning during this time. I am grateful for the means to revisit a sermon, daily prayer posts, broadcasts of church music, lessons, and Bible studies because of the commitment of our clergy, our music director, and all those in our parish who continued to affirm Christ’s love through their service and gifts in our daily lives. I still have my ‘safe place’ and continue to go there now to plan the ECW activities for the months ahead, still listening to the news and social media posts. We now are able to share in person as each week adds opportunities to our parish lives.

As the Aquia branch of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of

Virginia constitution states: our purpose shall be to offer a program of worship, study, service, gifts, and fellowship that will deepen and strengthen the spiritual lives of those women it touches, and lead them into service for the church, in the parish, the community, the diocese, the nation, and the world, so that we can support fully and continue the ideals of the national and diocesan organization of which we are a part.

As we continue to reopen, opportunities are here for you. The Sts. Mary and Martha Guild is meeting in person again on Thursday mornings, so check Sunday’s announcements for more details. Our Homecoming will be held on Sunday, Sept. 12, and our Fall Fest on Saturday, Oct. 2 (with much to do in preparation for both occasions and on the day of both events). The ECW is also available to support grieving parishioners at funeral receptions. We invite and encourage you to share our joy in service to others by participating, donating, or volunteering. For more information, simply e-mail me (bkwings_n_things@yahoo.com) or check with the church office or parish directory for my phone number.

Homecoming Sunday on Sept. 12 is on the calendar! We’ll celebrate this occasion in ways that comply with dioc-



esan and commonwealth protocols for the pandemic.

Magnets and bumper stickers: The ECW is selling Aquia Church magnets and bumper stickers after the 7:30 a.m. service and before the 10:30 a.m. service. The magnets (\$5 each) and bumper stickers (\$3 each) are a wonderful way to show your Aquia Church spirit! See the display at the picnic table outside the historic church or in the foyer of the Christian Formation and Fellowship Building or contact the church office.

Mission Statement: *The Episcopal Church Women of Aquia Church, with the grace of the Holy Spirit, wish to know Christ and make him known through prayer, education, concern for others and joyful service.*

Briget Kane



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.



STS. MARY AND MARTHA

Worship, Service and Fellowship

It is late summer, and the Sts. Mary and Martha Guild is shifting into high gear to prepare for the Fall Fest craft area. Among the crafts we are making together this summer are letter-block elves, fun fabric pumpkins, and, of course, several angel ornaments. By the way, if you have a craft in any medium that you enjoy making, please consider making a few extras for Fall Fest.

Our next huge request is for costume jewelry for the extremely popular Fall Fest jewelry table. This treasure-trove of necklaces, earrings, bracelets, trinkets, treasures, rings, and bling is every little girl's delight. Please search through your jewelry box this summer and save for us whatever you no longer want.

All ladies of the parish are welcome to attend our Sts. Mary and Martha Guild meetings. Our August meetings will be on the 5th and the 19th, starting at 9:30 a.m. with Morning Prayer in the parish hall downstairs. We are looking forward to tucking into our study book, *Unshakable Hope* by Max Lucado. After reading

aloud and discussing a short chapter, we will work together on a craft, wrapping up at noon. Please come even if you do not feel that you are a crafter, because we all can use our own God-given unique talents to prepare for Fall Fest. Come to our meetings and enjoy a summer break with your sisters in Christ! For more information, contact Mary Jane Cole (maryjane@cfsw.biz) or Carolyn Hendrickson (cvhendrickson35@gmail.com).

Mary Jane Cole



Sunday school will resume on Aug. 22. Sunday school registration is available for students in pre-K through 12th grade on the church website at www.aquiachurch.org; scroll down to the Sunday school icon, then click on "Sunday School Registration." If you are interested in helping with our Sunday school program this year, please contact Kristen Morgan at christianed@aquiachurch.org.

Kristen Morgan





Fall Fest Auction Action



Our list of auction items grew a bit longer this past month! We have received three more wonderful gifts from our fellow parishioners:

Mouth-watering Pies: a pie a month for 4 months baked by Pat Moncure, retired pastry chef of The Happy Clam

Washington Football Team Tickets: two tickets to the Washington Football Team vs. Seattle Seahawks game on Monday, Nov. 29 at 8:15 p.m., given by Marion Wall

A handsomely matted and framed **Pen and Ink Print of Aquia Church** given anonymously

We have also received:

The Alpine Chef Restaurant in Fredericksburg: \$50 gift certificate

All of the above are in addition to the gifts we announced last month:

Hiker's Hideaway Romantic Cabin, a two day stay in an Airbnb near the Shenandoah National Park, offered by Caroline and Dale Hendon (<https://abnb.S.me/TVcWzjfOEgb>)

Made in Virginia Basket offered by Briget and Tom Kane: A fun basket of foods and beverages from across the Commonwealth

Guided Fishing Trip offered by our Senior Warden Bill Hoffman: An awesome eight-hour fishing trip on the Potomac River in his boat. Bill's motto is: "No Fish Left Behind."

A Scrumptious Dinner Party for 8 Guests prepared and served at his home offered by **Father Jay Morris**

Beautiful Food & Wine Basket from **Potomac Point Winery** offered by **Cindi and Skip Causey**

Dinner for Four at Potomac Point Winery offered by **Cindi and Skip Causey**

What a fabulous start on our 2021 Auction! A huge thank-you to all these folks who have already stepped forward with their gifts of time and treasures and talents.

Have we heard from you yet? Do you have an item you could offer or a talent to teach or a service you could provide? Could you build a pair of cornhole boards for the auction? Could you put together a themed gift basket with your friends or ministry group? This year, more than ever, we are relying heavily on the imagination and generosity of our fellow parishioners to make the auction a success. We are hoping for gifts such as antiques, novelties (perhaps a moose head or a unicycle), sporting event tickets, sports equipment, childcare hours, and, oh yes, your unused, almost-forgotten gift cards!



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

June 15, 2021

In Attendance: Rector, the Rev. Jay Morris; Assistant Rector, the Rev. James Rickenbaker; Treasurer, Chris Arey; Senior Warden, Bill Hoffman; Junior Warden, Ron Korth; Bob Brandon, Dickie Boes, Chris Bowie, Michael Golasz, Patricia Springer, Chris Wanner.

Business Session

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer:
The Rev. Jay Morris

Treasurer's Report:

- As of Sept. 30, 2021, there will be 11 months of mortgage payments in the account for the CFFB.
- Some online giving was reduced, probably due to the return to in-person worship and subsequent in-person giving.
- Treasurer's Report accepted unanimously by the vestry.

Minutes from Previous Meeting:

May vestry meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Old Business:

- **R-2021-15: Increases in Hourly Rates for Nursery Workers (approved 5/18)**
- **R-2021-16: Replace Rectory Windows (approved 5/18):** Junior Warden reported that the windows were in the process of being manufactured. 50% payment was required to begin the work, with the other 50% due upon completion. After this task is completed, the Rectory budget will be significantly depleted.
- **R-2021-17: Replace Audio System in Historic Church (approved 5/18):** \$1900.00 in donations already received for the replacement and upgrade to the sound system in the historic church; compliments are already being received by the clergy re-

garding the improved sound in the historic church.

New Business:

- **R-2021-18: Policy About Contracts (Administration Committee):** Policy is to ensure that all contracts have vestry oversight and approval. *NOTE: calling the question regarding this item has been postponed until the next meeting, to study thoroughly the proposed policy regarding contracts. Thus, it will be the first item of business to be discussed at the July 2021 meeting.*
- **R-2021-19: Additional Authorization for Forms of Payment (Finance Committee):** Due to the changing personnel in the office and the expectation of employing a new bookkeeper, increased options for office personnel to use some forms of electronic payment would ease the payment process for recurring charges; proof of payment by personnel would be mandatory. Any new authorization would be effective in September 2021. Unanimously passed.
- **R-2021-20: Corrections about Purchases of Burial Rights (Rector):** Resolution shows corrections to: R-2021-13 burial rights for Heather Joy Lynch, previously reported as Lot 206-8 to the corrected Lot 206-6; correction to R-2021-11 burial rights for Felicia Parlier, previously from Lot 206 to Lot 207 throughout the resolution; burial rights for spaces 1-3 and 6-8 in Lot 207. Unanimously passed.

Reports from Committees:

Building and Grounds: Report filed electronically.

Finance Committee: Mid-year review will occur in July 2021, and budget adjustments will be proposed as a result of the review.

Administration Committee: Bulletin boards have been transferred from the 1960 parish house and reinstalled inside

the CFFB, with an outside display pending.

Reports from Sr. and Jr. Wardens:

Junior Warden: No further information.

Senior Warden: Grateful for vestry's and parishioners' assistance filling in duties for worship now that in-person worship has been reinstated.

Rector's Report:

- Return to inside activities following suggested guidelines and at our own pace is now occurring.
- On 7/4/2021, 7:30 a.m. worship service will begin in-person but will still offer a virtual service at the same time through use of a pre-recorded service.
- Use of the communion rail during the Eucharist will be discouraged due to the difficulty of disinfecting the wood of the rail, but also to provide a safety guideline against the growing COVID-19 variants.
- Morning Call will likely resume from 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.
- 4 p.m. will remain the time for the Sunday afternoon service.
- Different possible scenarios were discussed for the parish's annual meeting: Aug. 22 was set as the date for the 2021 annual meeting.

Upcoming Dates:

6/21 – 6/25: Vacation Bible School

7/20: Vestry Meeting via Zoom

8/17: Vestry Meeting via Zoom

9/21: Vestry Meeting

9/26: Bishop's visit for confirmation, reception in The Episcopal Church, and reaffirmation of baptismal vows

Good of the Order, Closing Prayer, and Adjournment: the Rev. James Rickenbaker

*Respectfully submitted,
Carol F. Korth
Register, Aquia Episcopal Church*



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

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 in the service of our country who are deployed in military or other government service.

FUTURE BAPTISMS

The next scheduled date for a baptism is Nov. 7, 2021. 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.



UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have made any changes in the last year to your address, phone number(s) or an email address, or to the people of your household, please notify Sue Selz in the church office so that she can keep our records up to date.

Email distribution list: If you want to be added to our email distribution list for announcements and updates, simply notify Sue Selz in the church office (sue.selz@aquiachurch.org).

How to Reach Us ...



www.aquiachurch.org

office@aquiachurch.org

(540) 659-4007

<https://www.facebook.com/AquiaEpiscopalChurch>

Aquia Church Prayer List – August 2021



Kevin Beezhold, Rhett Blythe and family, Debbie Byers, Donny Davis, Robert & JoAnn Feldman, Lori, Ken Luehrs, Pat Moncure, Rebecca Poole, Arnie Schwartz, Scott Smith, O.D. Taylor, the Rev. David & Lois Thabet, John & Pam Tompkins, Gayle Tompkins, Kenneth Tompkins, Tom Tremper, Patrick Weber, Jaxson Wiser, Walt & Elizabeth Yager.



Flower Guild Is Ready to Grow!



Our most notable moments are celebrated through flowers: birthdays, graduation, marriage, retirement, and even death. Seasons are portrayed through flowers particular to spring, summer, fall, and even winter, with Christmas poinsettias. Flowers represent rebirth, resurrection, new beginnings, and promise for the future as a small seed evolves into stalks of colorful petals. Here at Aquia, we have a small ministry making a powerful impact through the art of flowers: the Flower Guild! Their creations grace our altar every Sunday, with additional floral adornment during special times of the liturgical calendar, such as Easter and Christmas. Aquia Church celebrates the Flower Guild ministry!

If you've ever wondered how to create beautiful arrangements while being a part of a meaningful ministry, the Flower Guild is welcoming new members. Previous experience is not required, as Betsy Husser explains: "Yes, yes, yes, we offer instructions! We are not professionals by any stretch of the imagination, but we love flowers, and love Aquia Church and the opportunity to be part of it!" Betsy and

longtime member Sheryl Colliver form the backbone of the group. Additional members include Jean Bittner, Margaret Hedger, Patricia Springer, and Penny Stevens, with Chris Bowie recently expressing an interest to join, too. Professional florist Faye Andrews offers expertise, as well. Church member Michael Golasz, who has been photographing the Sunday flower arrangements since July 2017, created an album on Facebook portraying a beautiful array of their creations, as you can see in some of his photos presented here.

Though never having arranged flowers before, Margaret Hedger joined the group during a ministry fair some years ago, inspired by Linda Hemming. Paired with experienced arrangers Ellen McLain,



MARGARET HEDGER

Judy Basinger and Jan Van Metre, she honed her skills. The tradition of the Lenten flower cross began in

2001 with our new rector Father Cuthbert Mandell, and Margaret was tasked with the job, which she has fulfilled every year since.



Church members can sponsor floral arrangements in thanksgiving, celebration, or memory of a loved one by signing the Flower List in the back of the church and submitting a check to Sue Selz at the church office. Flower donations are listed in the Sunday bulletin, along with the donor's personal request. Once the services are over, the flowers are portioned into smaller bouquets and delivered to church members who are unable to attend church, or to church members recognized for their service at Aquia Church, or even placed on graves in our cemetery. All of this is possible because of the devotion of the Flower Guild, reflected in the words of Patricia Springer: "It is an honor to arrange, even as an amateur, to glorify God's presence at our worship services." Aquia Church members are thankful for the Flower Guild's longstanding dedication!

Mary Karcher





AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Aquia Episcopal Church
Post Office Box 275
Stafford, VA
22555

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

