



AQUIA
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Cross Section

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

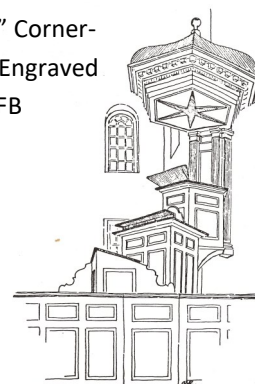


*"The LORD make his
face shine upon you ...
and give you peace."*

Numbers 6:25-26, NIV

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CROSS SECTION

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Assistant Rector

The Rev. James Rickenbaker

Treasurer

Chris Arey

Assistant Treasurer

Charlie Bingay

Music Director

Trystan Bennett

Dir. Christian Education

Kristen Morgan

Parish Administrator

Sue Selz

Bookkeeper

Gloria Reyes

Nursery Supervisor

Dawna Spaulding

FROM THE RECTOR

A Busy July for the Church

Sometimes when summer arrives, activities slow down in churches. Some ministries go on hiatus so that their members can enjoy vacations or a more relaxed pace. At Aquia Church, that is true for some groups like Sunday school, the youth group, and the choir. In other cases, however, the summer brings major occasions in the life of the church, and this July is no exception.

The 80th General Convention of The Episcopal Church will meet in Baltimore during July 8-11, following a one-year delay due to the pandemic. This General Convention was previously planned to last eight days; but its duration was cut in half in order to reduce the chances that COVID would spread among those attending, and many prospective participants have even been urged to stay home as a precaution. General Convention ordinarily meets every three years and always comprises two different groups: the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies. Each diocese elects an equal number of lay deputies and clergy deputies, who attend alongside the bishops of that diocese. The House of Bishops and the House of Deputies must concur for the approval of any legislative or other action by General Convention. This year's convention will discuss only those business matters that are essential for the ministry of The Episcopal Church—such as approving a budget, holding various elections, and addressing a limited number of pressing issues—while deferring consideration of other matters until the next General Convention, which is on track to meet in 2024.

Also beginning in July is the 15th Lambeth Conference of bishops in the worldwide Anglican Communion. The Archbishop of Canterbury (who is the chief primate of the Church of England) invites these bishops to attend this gathering in England roughly once a decade, this time meeting July 26–August 7. This Lambeth Conference was originally scheduled to meet in 2020, but it has been postponed twice due to COVID. The theme for this conference is “God’s Church for

God’s World,” and the bishops will engage in Bible study, prayer, and reflection, using the New Testament book of I Peter as their focus.

Both of these gatherings will be addressed in our summer Morning Call series on “Anglicanism 101,” and we shall consider their work as it develops. This Morning Call series, which is covering some important themes in Anglican history, doctrine, and practice, is another sign about how church life does not always slow down in the summer. Similarly, our Wednesday morning and Wednesday evening Bible studies are going strong now. Certainly the same thing is true for the expanding ministry of Aquia’s Table and Aquia’s Pantry, as both groups continue to serve an increasing number of guests this summer. These days the Pantry is providing groceries to almost 100 households each week, and the Table is serving nearly 400 takeout meals every Wednesday. Like our church staff members, some ministry groups (including the vestry, vestry committees, the flower guild, and the newsletter team) still conduct their responsibilities faithfully even in the heat of summer, while others are making plans and preparations for their next season of ministry.

My family is taking some time to travel on vacation this summer, and I hope that you too will be able to enjoy some refreshing time. A change of scenery and a change of pace can do anyone good on occasion. Yet our opportunities and our need for regular worship remain in place throughout the summer and throughout the year. You really can enjoy time at church alongside time in the garden, in the pool, on vacation, or wherever your summer ventures lead you. I do!

Jay Morris



FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

Summer Reading

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 desire to grow in the Christian faith. One of the ways in which God does this work in us is through reading Scripture and theology. I always encourage people to read Scripture. God's word is so very important to our faith. Reading it (more than when it is read aloud in church) feeds the Christian's soul. On top of reading Scripture, reading theological or devotional books can be a good thing as well. I was recently made aware of the fact that the Sts. Mary and Marth Guild has started reading *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren. I can't recommend that book enough! In that book, she explains how God works through the ordinary in our everyday lives.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you what I'll be reading this summer. This is in part so that you know what I have been focusing on in my own private study. It's also for the purpose of letting you see behind the curtain, as it were, into one of the ways that I find rest.

There are several books that I have started to read or plan to read this summer. The first book that I am reading is the second volume of the Rev. Dr. Katherine Sonderegger's *Systematic Theology*. I'm reading this book for a continuing education class this summer at the Institute of Lutheran Theology on contemporary Anglican theology. Dr. Sonderegger was one of my professors at VTS, so this class has provided an opportunity to reengage with her work. This volume of her systematic theology is on the doctrine of the Holy Trinity. As you might expect, it has been an intense read so far. Reading theological works like this keeps my mind sharp and keeps me up-to-date on trends in theology.

I'm taking a second continuing education course this summer through Nashotah House Theological Seminary on apologetics. The course intends to show the importance of being able to offer a defense of the Christian faith to those who

have never heard the truth claims of Christianity as well as those who have rejected them. The primary text for that class is *The Reason for God* by Timothy Keller. Pastor Keller is a renowned preacher, teacher, pastor, and prolific author. He wrote this book as an accessible defense of the Christian faith. I haven't yet started it, but I look forward to digging in soon. Reading in apologetics is a help as it keeps me thinking about how I can engage with non-Christians about the faith.

The last book that I will mention is a fun one. Douglas Wolk is a writer who typically writes about all things pop culture. He is also a big fan of comic books—so big that he has read over 27,000 issues of Marvel comics. With a few exceptions, that is everything that Marvel published from the 1960s through 2017. The book he wrote about the experience, *All of the Marvels: A Journey to the Ends of the Biggest Story Ever Told*, is part autobiography, part history, and part reader's guide. I like to read something that is not particularly intellectually rigorous during the summer, so that I can relax a bit.

I hope you get the opportunity to read some this summer. If you ever want some recommendations in theology or comics, let me know and I'll be happy to oblige! 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

Charlie Bingay

Senior Warden
Assistant Treasurer

Dickie Boes

Finance Committee Chairperson
Building & Grounds Committee

Chris Bowie

Administration Committee

Bob Brandon

Junior Warden
Building & Grounds Committee
Chairperson

Carrol Frederick

Administration Committee
Chairperson

Michael Golasz

Building & Grounds Committee

Carolyn Hendrickson

Administration Committee

Sarah Kirby

Administration Committee

Anna Rall

Register
Finance Committee

Lisa Schwartz

Administration Committee

Penny Stevens

Building & Grounds Committee



EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Saturday, October 1 is the date for Fall Fest 2022. We may talk about Fall Fest a little throughout the year prior to July, but our tradition is that July is kick-off month! As we close the books each year, we make notes and plans to bring the best to the following year. Our traditional venues will be back, with many department chairs returning. Many of the changes we made in 2021 to comply with COVID protocols will be in effect this year as well, and several venues will return to their pre-COVID format. In order make the 65th annual Fall Fest a success in 2022, the ECW will begin making announcements asking for your donations of treasures, country store items, flea market finds, books, gently used clothing, and man cave items.

Beginning in July, our ministry and the Sts. Mary and Martha guild will meet again via Zoom and in person. We will work to bring our handmade items to Fall Fest with unique and creative gifts in our crafts department and country store. Please contact me if you have any questions, if you want to volunteer in a department, if you have items to be picked up, or if you can lend a hand to set up or break down! Mark your calendar: *October 1st Fall Fest will be 65!* Let's celebrate with Fall Fest!

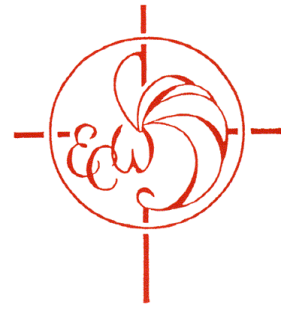
In addition, it is with pleasure that I announce the ECW's selection for 2022 of the Anne E. Moncure Scholarship. Congratulations, Cole Jasso. There is a question we ask each applicant ("How will you carry your faith forward as you graduate from high school?"), and I have included Cole's--answer here:

I've been attending Aquia Church since I was a little kid. I can remember picking up the coloring book at the front to keep me busy during the service and trying to be the first

one out so I could get my plate of food and go to Sunday school. I was raised in Aquia church. I am now a high school graduate, and a couple months away from living on my own for the first time in my life. While I'm certainly excited for my next chapter, there is still a feeling of overwhelming fear for what's to come.

In the summer of 2018, I went with the youth group on a Mission Trip to Erie, Pennsylvania. Even though I was surrounded by friends, and even my sister, I had that same feeling of fear that I have now. That feeling of being all on my own. I had to work with complete strangers and attempt to make new friends. Up until that point in my life, I attended church because my parents told me to, not because I wanted to. That trip taught me one of the most important lessons I could have ever learned. Trust in God. Learning about different people, and how their paths through their church, and with God, brought a new perspective to light for me. I now understood that God brings people together in the best of ways and trusting your faith will lead you down the path of happiness, and success.

I look to carry on my faith as I burst into the adult world. I already have plans to attend St. Andrew's Episcopal Church down in Norfolk while I'm away at school, and I have



also been in contact with other Old Dominion students from around the state of Virginia, about joining a Bible study group that they have on campus. When I come back to visit, I will of course attend services Aquia Church, because it is my home. Aquia Church is where I learned to understand faith, and how to use it to not only inspire me, but others as well. I look forward to beginning my new journey, a journey that I know will be difficult at times, but I will always have God there for me, as well as the Aquia Church community, in which I will do my best to pass on the knowledge of faith that was taught to me at Aquia Church.

We invite you to join the ECW in sharing in the activities and the ministries of our parish, our local community, our diocese, and worldwide needs. Feel free to contact me by e-mail (bkwing_n_things@yahoo.com), or ask the church office for my phone number.

Briget Kane
President



STS. MARY AND MARTHA

Worship, Service, and Fellowship

The Sts. Mary and Martha Guild is incredibly pleased with our new study book, *Liturgy of the Ordinary*, by the Rev. Tish Harrison Warren. The first chapter, entitled “Waking,” instructed us to begin each day by making the sign of the cross as a reminder of our baptism and the promises it holds. This helps us to remember that in baptism we “are sealed by the Holy Spirit [...] and marked as Christ’s own forever” (BCP 308). If you would like to join us as we continue with our new study, please feel free to stop by. We will be meeting in the downstairs parish hall on both July 7 and 21, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Our inventory for the Fall Fest craft corner continues to build. For many years, we have molded our wax angel ornaments, a craft inspired by

Joan Nebel, to sell at Fall Fest. Then we started molding star candles, also from the wax of the church’s altar candle stubs. This month we have a new addition: lovely small glass votive candles wrapped in delicate hand-crocheted cozies. All three candle-wax crafts may be seen below.



Please remember that the Sts. Mary and Martha Guild also operates the jewelry table at Fall Fest. We would appreciate a donation of any costume jewelry with which you are ready to part. If a donation has a high value, we will pass it along to the treasures table where finer items are sold.

All ladies of the parish and their friends are welcome to attend the Sts. Mary and Martha Guild meetings. Our meetings begin at 9:30 with Morning Prayer and end by noon. Come to 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), co-chairs of Sts. Mary and Martha Guild.

GROUNDS NEWS

New Task Group: Project to Landscape Aquia Church Environment (PLACE)

Aquia Church lacks a comprehensive landscaping plan that complements and unifies the historic church and other buildings on the campus. The PLACE task group has been formed to develop and implement an affordable landscaping plan to beautify the grounds and contribute to the stewardship of the church property. This plan will address the buildings and grounds on our main campus apart from the his-

toric church and cemetery. The task group includes Penny Stevens, Chris Arey, Carol Korth, and Sheryl Collier. We intend to contact professional landscaping companies and invite them to provide designs and estimates. We want to focus on native plants that will require less maintenance and that can attract bluebirds, other songbirds, pollinators, and other beneficial insects. We are in the early stages of this effort and



invite your interest, so please contact any of the task group members. We will keep you informed as the plans progress.

Penny Stevens

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

While Sunday school is currently on summer break, our classes will resume on Aug. 14, the Sunday after Stafford County returns to school. We will be off the Sunday of Labor Day weekend (Sept. 4). Registration for students in preschool through twelfth

grades is already available on the church website: www.AquiaChurch.org. Look for the Sunday school logo toward the bottom of the page, and click on the link.

Kristen Morgan



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

May 23, 2022, via Zoom

In attendance: Fr. Jay Morris, Rector;
Fr. James Rickenbaker, Assistant Rec-
tor; Treasurer, Chris Arey; Senior War-
den, Charlie Bingay; Junior Warden,
Bob Brandon; Sarah Kirby, Carrol
Frederick, Dickie Boes, Carolyn Hen-
drickson, Penny Stevens, Bob, Michael
Golasz, Anna Rall

Business Session

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Treasurer's Report

- \$21,890 has been contributed to the matching fund campaign
- Golf Tournament contributed \$8,210 to Aquia's Table fund

Minutes from Previous Meeting

- **R-2022-05s: Replace 1960 Parish House Roof** (approved by electronic vote 4/29)
- Parish Picnic
- **R-2022-06: Alternates to Diocesan Special Convention** (approved by electronic vote 5/22)

New Business

- **R-2022-07: Inscription of CFFB Cornerstone** (Junior Warden and Rector)
 - ◇ Will be on long side facing the church and cemetery
 - ◇ Font will be compatible with fonts used in the inscriptions on the historic church
 - ◇ Selected to use year construction was started (2014) as the year to be inscribed
 - ◇ Assignment to the budget will be at Treasurer's discretion
- **R-2022-08: Appointment of Audit Committee to Review 2021 Financials** (Finance Committee)
 - ◇ Kim Bamber, Curt Bradford, and Annette Evans (chairperson) have agreed to serve on the audit committee

Reports from Committees

- Administration committee
- Finance committee
 - ◇ Reviewed the need for the audit committee
- Buildings and grounds committee
 - ◇ New roof on the 1960 parish house has been completed
 - ◆ Next step is to review for gutter replacement and window replacement
 - ◇ Controller wires on inside condenser were frayed but have been repaired for historic church's air conditioning unit
 - ◇ Summer mowing has begun for the grounds

Reports from Wardens

- Commend ECW for Heritage Sunday festivities on May 22 and the clergy for the worship services using the 1662 Book of Common Prayer on that day

Report from Rector

- Written report will be sent out week of May 23
- Parish picnic update
 - ◇ Considering Aug. 21 or Aug. 28
 - ◇ Could be held inside the CFFB if rainy or unbearably hot weather requires
- Diocese has asked for reports on how parishes have fared during the pandemic
 - ◇ Will provide feedback on use of online worship and outdoor services, desire for increased flexibility/decision making on indoor worshiping throughout the pandemic, worship attendance has not returned to pre-pandemic levels
 - ◇ Vestry comments on providing feedback to how well Aquia's



Vestry Highlights

Pantry and Table have done in the community throughout the pandemic.

- ◇ Disappointment in not being able to have in person VBS summer of 2021
- ◇ A positive was online services brought in new members that wouldn't have necessarily joined otherwise

Upcoming Dates

- 5/24 Diocesan Meet-and-Greet Event for introducing candidates for election as bishop diocesan (Trinity Church, Fredericksburg, 7–9 p.m.)
- 6/28 Vestry meeting (7 p.m. via Zoom)

Good of the Order, Closing Prayer, and Adjournment

- Penny Stevens introduced interest in creating a comprehensive landscape plan for the grounds for cohesiveness in landscaping around the buildings/grounds, with goals and directions for the next 3-5 years to be set

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Rall
Register



FALL FEST AUCTION ACTION

The date has been set: **Fall Fest 2022** will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 1!** Thanks to members of our parish family, the list of items that we will be offering at the auction has started to grow, and we are indeed grateful.



To date we have from our fellow parishioners:

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

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**

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

Best of Britain Basket, given by **Jean and Don Bittner**

Washington Commanders vs. New York Giants on Dec. 17, 4 tickets given by **Marion Wall**

Virginia Cavaliers vs. Pitt Panthers on Nov. 12, 4 tickets given by **Marion Wall**

Vintage Lionel Electric Train Set, given by **Jean and Don Bittner**

Our soliciting team has also received its first gift from its efforts:

The Essex Inn at Tappahannock: One night stay and breakfast at this historic B&B country inn (www.essexinnva.com)

What a fabulous start on our 2022 Auction! A huge thank-you to all these folks who have already stepped forward with their gifts of time and treasures and talents.

Our work, however, has just begun as we seek to build the auction to forty-plus items or groupings that will appeal to the broad interests of our bidders. Do you have an item you could give or a talent to teach or a service to offer? We rely 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 (remember the drum set and those electric guitars?), sporting event tickets, childcare hours, or theme baskets that you put together with your friends or ministry. We are ready for your suggestions!

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!

Any leads, offers of help or creative ideas will be gratefully received.



Mary Jane Cole
maryjane@cfsw.biz



FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

FROM THE PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms: *“sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ’s own for ever”*

(BCP 308):

Abigail Ruth Rickenbaker, Cassidy Avery Bosch, and Layla Rosita Bourne

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AT AQUIA CHURCH

New Babies: Thanksgiving for the birth of a child will be offered as part of a worship service and 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 Nov. 6, 2022. 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.

Aquia Church Prayer List

July 2022

Kevin Beezhold, Nicole Bingay, Jean Bittner, Rhett Blythe and Family, Debbie Byers, Robert & JoAnn Feldman, David Hebert, Lori Hendon, Rachel Hofford, Ken Luehrs, Lori, Pat Moncure, Rebecca Poole, Arnie Schwartz, Scott Smith, Carolyn Stringer, O.D. Taylor, John & Pam Tompkins, Gayle Tompkins, Kenneth Tompkins, Tom Tremper, Jen Wassmer, Arlene Weagraff, Patrick Weber, Walt & Elizabeth Yager, Marion Yantsios

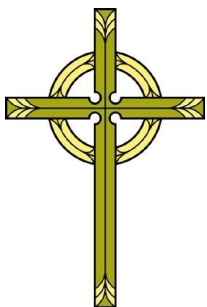


How to reach us:



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



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.



Celebrating the Feast Day for Mary Magdalene: July 22

Mary Magdalene. Perhaps you've dined at a French restaurant and were treated to a dessert featuring the confection known as the Madeleine. 'Madeleine' is the Gallic translation of Magdalene, which is a direct reference to Mary Magdalene, a significant person in the New Testament and, indeed, the first person to encounter the risen Jesus. Though there is no direct connection between the French sponge cake and the important woman from the Gospel, the story of Mary touches many parts of our church and our culture.

Magdalene is a toponym, a reference to Magdala, an ancient Jewish city on the bank of the Sea of Galilee. Though it is not known if Mary was born in Magdala or only lived there, archeologists have discovered the remains of Jewish synagogue in Magdala dating from the Second Temple period (from 516 BC to AD 70). The reference to Magdala helps distinguish Mary from other women named Mary in the New Testament. Mary was a very common name among the Jews, and it can be found in the Old Testament in the form of Miriam, the name of Moses' sister. We are familiar with Mary the mother of Jesus, Mary of Bethany (sister to Martha and Lazarus), and Mary Magdalene. Indeed, the evangelists Matthew, Mark, and John vary in reporting that there were three separate women named Mary present at the crucifixion of Jesus.

Mary Magdalene first appears in Luke's Gospel, where she is identified as one of the women who supported Jesus "out of her resources" and was healed by Jesus, who drove out seven demons from her. She was one of several women who travelled with Jesus and supported his ministry. She was present with other women at his crucifixion. Although the Gospels differ on which women went to the tomb, John 20:1-10 reports that Mary Magdalene alone meets the risen Jesus, mistaking him for the gardener, and after meeting him

rushes to tell the disciples of her encounter. This accounts for her being called by some commentators "the apostle to the apostles."

Mary Magdalene is also described in other ancient texts, the Gnostic Gospels, which were likely written in the early-to-mid-second century and are not canonically approved. In modern culture, Mary Magdalene has often been portrayed as a loose or fallen woman. The origin of this inaccuracy dates to the year 591. In an Easter sermon that year, Pope Gregory I conflated Mary Magdalene, Mary of Bethany (sister of Lazarus), and the anonymous sinful woman who anointed Jesus' feet in Luke 7:36-50. This papal proclamation had the effect of tarring Mary Magdalene as a prostitute. This mischaracterization persisted until the Reformation, and it was not until 1969 that Pope Paul VI eliminated the identification of Mary Magdalene with Mary of Bethany and the 'sinful woman' from the calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. Nonetheless, Mary Magdalene was honored and is now recognized across Christianity as an important person in the ministry of Jesus.

In England, both Oxford and Cambridge Universities have a 'Magdalene College' named in her honor. At Oxford, it is actually spelled Magdalen, without an 'e' at the end. At Cambridge the final 'e' was added in the 19th century by the General Post Office in order to distinguish it from the Oxford college. These colleges, founded in the 15th and 16th centuries respectively, have an interesting pronunciation; both colleges retain the medieval French pronunciation, which sounds like "maudlyn."

The feast day of St. Mary Magdalene is July 22. The collect for that day states: "Almighty God, whose blessed Son restored Mary Magdalene to health of body and of mind, and called her to be a witness of his resurrection: Mercifully grant that by your grace we may



be healed from all our infirmities and know you in the power of his unending life; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen."

Chris Arey





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Christian Formation and Fellowship Building Cornerstone Engraved: "2014"



Recently the cornerstone of our Christian Formation and Fellowship Building was engraved with the numeral "2014," representing the year in which construction of the building was begun. This cornerstone (also called a quoin), formed of locally quarried Aquia sandstone and obviously distinct in texture and appearance from the other quoins on the building, was graciously donated by Rick and Jerri-lynn Eby MacGregor. This cornerstone thus provides a remarkable material and historical link with the Aquia sandstone used around our church building, which was begun over 260 years before. The engraving was arranged and donated by Gary Perkins, chairperson of the new building committee, as a way of completing a final detail for this monumental project. You can see this cornerstone on your left as you approach the CFFB's main entrance. How blessed Aquia Church has been by having this Christian Formation and Fellowship Building!

July 2022 **READING ROOM** by Jay Morris

Our summer series for Morning Call, “Anglicanism 101,” is tracing several important aspects in the history of Anglican doctrine and practice, from the start of the Reformation in England to the rise of The Episcopal Church in the United States and beyond. A difficulty in exploring this topic is the utter complexity of the material. Any one of the elements—how the Church of England broke away from the Roman Catholic Church, how The Episcopal Church broke away from the Church of England, what is essentially and distinctively Anglican, the extent to which the Anglican tradition is Catholic or Protestant, and so forth—comes with a significant timespan, its own history, a variety of theological and political considerations, and nuances. Wrapping one’s head around the complexity of each case can be challenging enough; but putting all the elements and cases together provides only further complication. Perhaps unsurprisingly, I have yet to find a single book—not even one of massive length—that provides sufficient coverage for the breadth of these matters. Historical books about the English Reformation do not address the Church of England’s loss of its churches in the American colonies-turned-states, for example, and historical books about The Episcopal Church tend not to deal enough with the development of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Even among books about Anglican history and heritage, volumes dealing with the structure, governance, and polity of Anglican churches are not always attuned sufficiently to the distinct but sometimes related changes in doctrine or worship. Most books surveying these topics comprehensively barely give a glimpse of the forest and cannot offer insight about the trees involved. Interested readers therefore generally must select a few works with which to acquaint themselves and hope that these provide enough combination of overview and detail to be helpful but not superficial. Father Rickenbaker and I must take such an approach in our studies about these matters in general and in our preparations for this Morning Call series in particular. What I want to present here is a brief sampling of some resources I have found helpful in my continued learning.

In January earlier this year, when Father Rickenbaker and I audited a seminary course on Scripture and the Sacraments in sixteenth-century England—a course covering so much of the turbulence and turmoil in early Anglicanism—the primary textbook was *Heretics and Believers: A History of the English Reformation* (Yale University Press, 2017) by Peter Marshall, a Scottish academic who specializes in English religious history and belief in and around the 1500s. As this volume approaches 700 pages in length, it might provide all too much information about its subject; but I must acknowledge that it is perhaps the most detailed, most comprehensive, most balanced, and most helpful book about the early history of the Church of England that I have ever read. Marshall has a masterful command of the material and a judicious eye for what to include and what to omit. I have learned a great deal of facts and perspective from this book, and it succeeds perhaps especially in trying to cover the Reformation from a variety of angles, including the royal intrigue, the political and theological situation between England and the European continent, concerns of clergy and popular belief among the laity, and the church as a changing institution within a changing society. But if that book is too long for you (as it almost was for me!), then let me suggest two briefer yet engaging books from this same talented professor: *The Oxford Illustrated History of the Reformation* (Oxford University Press, 2017), with Marshall serving as both the editor of the book and the author of the 40-page chapter on “Britain’s Reformations,” and *Reformation England 1480—1642*, 3d ed. (Bloomsbury, 2022). Both books are just over 300 pages in length and follow natural divisions: the former anthology covers such matters as late medieval Christianity, Luther and Lutheranism, Calvin and the Reformed tradition, and developments among the Radical Reformers and the Roman Catholics alongside those in Great Britain, while the latter textbook could be described as a remarkable distillation of *Heretics and Believers*.

Two other works that have been helpful for me are *The Oxford History of Anglicanism, vol. I: Reformation and Identity, c. 1520—1662*, ed. Anthony Milton (Oxford University Press, 2019), and *The Oxford History of Anglicanism, vol. II: Establishment and Empire, 1662—1829*, ed. Jeremy Gregory (Oxford University Press, 2019). These two books are part of a five-volume series that takes readers up to the twenty-first century as Anglicanism spreads globally from the national Church of England to the sometimes multi-national and usually multi-cultural churches that together constitute the Anglican Communion. The authors of articles in these volumes succeed at explaining the ways in which the Reformation gradually but surely took root in England, survived changes between monarchs from the formational days of Henry VIII, Edward VI, and Elizabeth I (even the reign of “bloody” Mary the Catholic and the time of Oliver Cromwell’s Puritan *interregnum*) to the expansion of the British empire around the globe—even to places like Stafford, Virginia! Together these articles pay attention to the relationship between church and state, questions about royal power and theological challenges alongside contemporary issues, changes in doctrine and liturgy (including various Books of Common Prayer and other Anglican formularies), the devotional life of ordinary parishioners at worship in their local congregations, and connections with other Christians, especially Roman Catholics and various Protestants. These two books present a rather insightful overview of how Anglicanism as we know it today developed in its first three centuries.