

Cross Section

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





Aquia Episcopal Church

2938 Richmond Hwy. Stafford, Va.

Mailing address: 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. Tuesday– Friday

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 Sue Selz

> Bookkeeper Gloria Reyes

Nursery Supervisor Dawna Spaulding

FROM THE RECTOR

Serving with the Vestry

E ach Episcopal church has a vestry as its local governing board, the term deriving from the fact that this group used to meet in the room where the clergy and other leaders would put on their vestments before the start of a worship service. Our historic church building might not have a vesting room, but our parish certainly has a vestry without which we could not function properly. As we anticipate the start of 2023, it is time for us to recruit candidates for election to the vestry.

Please don't misunderstand such talk about elections, candidates, and the like; you won't see advertisements, banners, posters, or bickering campaigns here. Our approach to the vestry is decidedly nonpartisan and not political in the usual sense. Instead, serving with the vestry is truly a matter of ministry—akin to ministry as a Sunday school teacher, a musician, or a volunteer in an outreach group—and the real power of a vestry is chiefly its spiritual concern and practical care for everything about our parish.

Among the responsibilities of the vestry are the temporal affairs or the business aspects of our parish. This includes financial matters like income, expenses, and budgets. This also includes property matters like changing lightbulbs, making repairs around campus, and mowing and trimming the grass. This even includes management matters like contracts, human resources, and communications. The vestry's membership is thus divided into three permanent committees: finance, buildings and grounds, and administration. Each committee has its respective areas of duty, with some matters like bookkeeping, insurance, and security being shared among these committees. In addition, the vestry works with the cemetery committee in order to ensure the smooth operation and successful maintenance of our graveyard.

Currently the vestry meets on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month, sometimes in person (sometimes even with a meal!) and otherwise electronically over Zoom, with most of these meetings lasting



up to two hours. Occasionally an additional meeting must be called, but the need for that is rare. Each vestry committee usually meets once a month as well, with the administration committee meeting on the second Tuesday evening, the buildings and grounds committee meeting on the second Saturday morning (immediately after the men's breakfast), and the finance committee on the Thursday evening prior to the vestry meeting. These committee meetings are the primary opportunities for preliminary work and detailed discussion to sort through our tasks before presenting carefully crafted proposals to the full vestry for further review.

The normal term of an adult vestry member here is three years, with some members occasionally elected to a shorter term as needed and others appointed until the next annual election. I always hope that the selection of new vestry members will bring to the team individuals who regularly and consistently attend worship services, who are already involved in some aspect our parish life, and who are ready to contribute their skills and creativity and energy (alongside their time and treasure) to the health of Aquia Church. Over the years our vestry has achieved a high degree of camaraderie not by always agreeing entirely, but rather by collaborating fruitfully and selflessly to the glory of God. Good friendships among fellow Christians are often forged through ministry together with the vestry, and they are genuine blessings.

Blue self-nomination forms explaining the qualifications and expectations of office are available at the back of the church and in the church office, and they will be due on Dec. 18 (the Sunday before Christmas), with election in early January. Are you able to consider offering to serve with the vestry?

Jay Morris

FROM THE ASSISTANT RECTOR

Stewardship of Time and Talent

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 willingness to support God's mission and ministry at Aquia Church. This is truly a strength of the good people of Aquia. In order to see this strength in action, all you have to do is come on a Wednesday to see the number of volunteers helping with Aquia's Table and Aquia's Pantry and how many folks are helped by them.

October is the month when we begin our stewardship campaign for next year. We pledge financially to God's mission and ministry. When we pledge financially, it is an offering of gratitude to God for what he has done for us in Christ Jesus. The minimum expected percentage conveyed in Scripture is a tenth of what we receive. Yet we also see other examples (like the widow who gave all she had) where the practice of giving far more than ten percent is commended by Jesus. These are important things to hear every year. But there is more to stewardship than just financial giving.

What I want to express to you is the importance of giving time and talent. We have a number of ministries at Aquia Church. We have fellowship ministries like What Would Jesus Brew? (our young adult/20s-40s ministry). We have women's ministries like the Sts. Mary and Martha guild and the Episcopal Church Women, both of which are for women of all ages. We have Aquia's Table and Aquia's Pantry on Wednesdays where they can always use a helping hand. We also have opportunities (and need!) for youth to serve as acolytes on Sundays. That just scratches the surface of what we have going on at Aquia (not to mention the many Christian education opportunities for all ages). We would love to get you plugged in and engaged in one of these vital areas of ministry and fellowship.

Perhaps now you see why we began the time-and-talent survey in September. We want to know the ways in which you

believe you have been equipped to serve, so that we can encourage your participation in areas of ministry that fit your strengths. We want the church to be able to benefit from your expertise! First and foremost, we want you to be in church and to have your faith deepened and strengthened. After that has become a regular part of your life, we want to encourage you to participate in the ministries that Aquia offers. I ask that in the upcoming days you consider the ways in which you can get involved at Aquia on top of regular worship. Choose one thing and give it a go! If you would like to talk to your clergy about it, we would be happy to have that conversation.

Stewardship is about more than just financial giving. The church benefits from your time and talent, too. We have multiple ministries that can use a helping hand. Or in the case of fellowship ministries, we want you to be involved to meet fellow Christians and enjoy time together in conversation. Ultimately, everything that we are doing at Aquia Church is about sharing the Good News of God in Christ to the world. We want you to join us in that. As people who have been redeemed, we now have the opportunity to serve others and invite them into relationship with Christ as well. 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

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

ith little doubt, our annual Fall Fest remains the official kickoff to all things fall and even for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Our Fall Fest departments-including crafts, food, treasures, and the garden martallow you to shop, decorate, and find new and old treasures and keepsakes for the season and for the upcoming holidays. Those traditions of cleaning out the garage, donating to the flea market, and supporting the live auction are 65 years old this year. The support you continue to provide to Fall Fest is important. With your support, the ECW is able to sustain its good works in local, diocesan, and worldwide mission as a result of funds generated. We are grateful for the many returning workers and for new workers too, alongside the generous support of the community and those surrounding Stafford. At the end of the day on Saturday, Oct. 1, we will close Fall Fest for 2022, with notebooks in hand and with readiness to take on Fall Fest 2023!

Whenever there are two or more women gathered together exchanging greetings, sharing ideas, or engaging in prayer, they continue the mission of the Episcopal Church Women. This is what they do: they share the love of God with each other and with those in our community and world, they make Christ known in small and large deeds, they express their concern for others and their joy-all with the grace of the Holy Spirit. While carrying a bag of food, discussing a new book at Sts. Mary and Martha Guild meeting, or talking with each other at the picnic table before or after worship services, these women give each of us the opportunity to work in our mission.

As fall begins to surround us with color, autumn aromas, and a harvest moon, may we continue to do Christ's ministry, starting with the women of ECW.

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) empower women to do Christ's ministry in the world.



132nd Annual Meeting of the Diocesan ECW and 133rd UTO Ingathering Saturday, Oct. 15 Every ECW Woman in Our Diocese is Invited!

See additional information in bulletin and e-mail announcements

Contact Briget Kane for registration information (<u>bkwings_n_things</u> @yahoo.com).

Briget Kane



CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our annual Trunk-or-Treat event will take place on **Saturday**, **Oct. 29** (rain date Oct. 30) with the handing out of treats beginning at **6 p.m.** All candy must be wrapped. The parking lot will be available at 5 p.m. for decorating vehicles and for enjoying a picnic dinner (if you want to bring one for yourself and your family). Bring folding chairs and/or blan-

kets for an outdoor movie that will follow Trunk-or-Treat. This is a great event for all ages to enjoy, so invite family, friends, and neighbors. Prizes will be awarded for the best decorated vehicles. Have fun and get creative!



Also, save the date for our second annual Advent workshop for children in elementary school. This event will take place on **Sunday**, **Nov. 27**, **from noon to 2 p.m.**, with lunch provided. Registration will be available on the church website soon. Stay tuned for more details.

Kristen Morgan

October 2022

STS. MARY AND MARTHA

he ladies of the Sts. Mary and Mar- and 20. All ladies of the parish are intha guild are looking forward to seeing all our parish family at Fall Fest on Oct. 1. Please be sure to look for the craft and jewelry nook in the parking spaces closest to the top doors of the parish house. We have lots of delightful items to show you. We have a bit of fall décor with cork pumpkins (pictured), soft sculpture fabric pumpkins, and wood block scarecrows, and a quite a bit of Christmas designs with cork reindeer ornaments (also pictured), wood block snowmen, soft fabric Christmas trees, and, of course, angels. Right next to the crafts will be displays of jewelry. So much to see at Fall Fest! Please stop by to say hello to Heidi and the ladies.

After Fall Fest 2022 is over, we shall be returning to our more relaxed schedule of meeting on the first, third, and fifth Thursdays of each month. For this month, these dates fall on Oct. 6

Worship, Service, and Fellowship

vited to join us at any of our meetings. We begin each meeting at 9:30 a.m. with a member of the clergy leading us in Morning Prayer, and we finish by noon. Please come to enjoy a Thursday morning of Christian fellowship with the ladies of the Sts. Mary and Martha guild. We are saving a seat for you!

> Mary Jane Cole (maryjane@cfsw.biz) **Carolyn Hendrickson** (cvhendrickson35@gmail.com)



"Corky" is making his debut at Fall Fest 2022.



Blessing of the Animals



Sunday, Oct. 2, 2022 At 2 p.m.

Near the main entrance of the CFFB. in front of the St. Francis statue

All animals being brought for a blessing must be on a leash or otherwise properly confined in a cage or carrier, for everyone's security.

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FALL FEST 2022 AUCTION

Saturday, October 1 at 11 a.m. under the tents and trees by the upper doors of the parish house

A huge "Thank You" goes to all the parishioners and merchants who have contributed so generously to the auction! Behold the awesome list:

- Mouth-watering Pies: a pie a month for 4 months baked by Pat Moncure
- Vintage Royal Dux Vase: Bohemia floral trumpet porcelain vase, gold and cobalt blue trim, hand-painted in Czech Republic, 5 ½ in. tall.
- **Riverside Center for the Preforming Arts:** 2 gift certificates for any Dinner Theatre or Children's Theatre performance
- Explore Fredericksburg! #FXBGVA

Irish Eyes of VA: certificate to research your Family Name History and Coat of ArmsLady Legacy LLC: \$50 gift certificateCrown Jewelers: \$25 gift certificateJewel Box: \$25 gift certificateJabberwocky Children's Books and Toys: \$15 gift certificatePicker's Supply: \$79.95 gift certificate for a group guitar class

• For the Golfers:

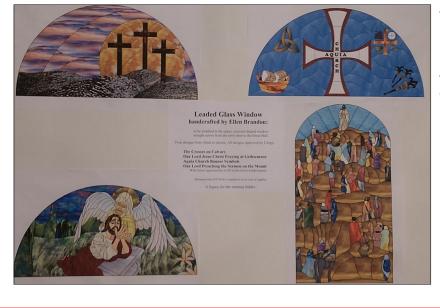
Aquia Harbour Golf Club: Four 18-hole rounds of golf, cart included (weekdays only, no holidays)
Augustine Golf Club: Complimentary greens fees for 4 (valid Monday through Thursday only)
Forest Greens Golf Club: Foursome of complimentary greens fees, valid 7 days a week ANYTIME!
Gauntlet Golf Club: Four VIP passes for greens fees, cart fees not included; valid Monday – Friday or after 1 p.m. weekends and holidays

- Fire Pit Dinner for Four at Potomac Point Vineyard & Winery
- Washington Commanders vs. Giants on Dec. 17/18 TBA 4 tickets
- **Guided Fishing Trip** offered **Bill Hoffman:** Up to 8 hours of fishing on Aquia Creek with an experienced angler on his 21-foot bass boat that can take you to the best spots on Aquia Creek
- Kids' Fishing Trip offered by Bill Hoffman: 4-hour fishing trip on Potomac Creek for 1 child & 2 adults OR 2 children & 1 adult (age 8 and above)
- Leaded Glass Window handcrafted by Ellen Brandon: to be put in the upper, crescent-shaped window straight across from the main entry door to the great hall. Four designs from which to choose (see accompanying photo of samples!). All designs are Christian themes and approved by our clergy. The Sermon on the Mount theme offers future opportunities to fill in lower windowpanes. A legacy for the winning bidder.
- Framed Print of Aquia Church by Capt. Mark Meredith USN (retired) signed and numbered #42/200
- A Scrumptious Dinner Party for 8 Guests: "Say Cheese!" An international array of cheese will be featured throughout this four-course meal, which the Reverend Jay Morris will cook and serve personally in his home—individuals and couples are encouraged to join forces for bidding together
- Timeshare at the Historic Powhatan Resort in Williamsburg Virginia

<u>Williamsburg, Virginia | Historic Powhatan Resort</u> week of May 26—June 2, 2023 (the start of SCPS summer vacation) Two-bedroom, two-bath, ground floor unit that sleeps up to six people, kitchen, patio. Children's activities, miniature golf, tennis courts, swimming pools on the property.

• Vintage Electric Train Set: 1973 Lionel Blue Streak Freight Train set, 027 gauge, with lots of track and cars. Runs great!

 Hiker's Hideaway Romantic Cabin: a two-night stay in Airbnb near the Shenandoah National Park (<u>https://abnb.me/TVcWzjfOEgb</u>) 			
• Virginia Cavaliers vs. Pittsburgh Panthers on Nov. 12 4 tickets great seats!			
Beautiful Food & Wine Basket from Potomac Point Vineyard & Winery			
• Let's Eat Out:	El Gran Charro: \$40 gift card Zibibbo 73 Trattoria: \$25 gift card		
Robiolin	na: \$50 gift card Outback Steakhouse: \$100 gift card Chick-fil-A: 12 gift cards for a milkshakes		
• Sight & Sound Theatres: 2 adult complimentary tickets for <i>Moses</i> March 10—Oct. 7, 2023, in Lancaster, PA			
"Made in Virginia" Basket: foods and beverages from across the commonwealth			
• plus from Olde Virginia Gourmet & Gifts, Inc.: \$25 gift certificate			
• "Best of Britain" Basket: Silver Victorian soft-boiled egg breakfast set with spoons, tea cozy, books, prints, teas, treats, four tea towels, wool scarf, and much, much more			
Saturday Morning Chores:			
	vash: 5 deluxe Wash TicketsPets Plus: \$50 gift cardPublix: \$100 gift cardA: 13 milkshakes gift cardsMeadows Farms: \$50 gift cardCostco: \$50 gift card		
A Feast! Slow Roasted Pork Butt from the Fall Fest kitchen			
Wegman	s: \$100 gift card Wawa on U.S. 17: Gift Basket Chick-fil-A: 12 milkshake gift cards		
A Christmas Lap Quilt handcrafted by Patricia Springer			
Baby Gift Basket for Christians:			
Beatrice	Beatrice Butterfly, a Jellycat soft plush stuffed animal Baby Blanket crocheted by Joy		
	Little Peoples/Fisher Price Christmas Story 5 Baby Books		
Recliner: a gift from Sofa Outlet			
 The Essex Inn at Tappahannock: One night stay and breakfast at this historic B&B country inn (www.essexinnva.com) 			
Sponsors:	Sponsors: Custom Design Heating & Air Conditioning Inc.		
I	Bishop, Farmer & Co., LLP		



This auction item offers a lasting legacy for the winning bidder: a leaded glass window for the great hall (semi-circular top of the tallest window on the long wall in the great hall), handcrafted by Ellen Brandon.



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VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

August 23, 2022, in person

Dinner and Fellowship available in great hall starting at 6:15 p.m.

Attendance: Fr. Jay Morris, Rector; Fr. James Rickenbaker, Assistant Rector; Stephen Pecot, Seminarian; Chris Arey, Treasurer; Charlie Bingay, Senior Warden; Bob Brandon, Junior Warden; Dickie Boes, Christine Bowie, Michael Golasz, Carolyn Hendrickson, Sarah Kirby, Anna Rall, Lisa Schwartz, Penny Stevens

Business Session (starting at 7 p.m.)

Opening Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Treasurer's Report

- Paid bill and fees for copy machine
- Water and power at rectory are now under the name of the church (expense line item #4605)
- Money available for CFFB mortgage payments remains stable
- Operating expenses were down in July compared to average

Minutes from Previous Meeting

- R-2022-11: Gutter Replacement Project for 1960 Parish House (approved 7/26 with amended fiscal note)
- R-2022-12: Adjustment in Bookkeeper's Compensation (approved 7/26 with amendments)
- R-2022-13: Appointment of Mark Osborn to Audit Committee to Review 2021 Financials (approved 7/26)
- R-2022-14: Delegates and Alternate to Diocesan Annual Convention (postponed)
- Appointment of Vestry Co-Chair of Fall Fest 2022 (Anna Rall)
- Date and Plans for Parish Picnic (to be held 8/28)
- [R-2022-15: Election of Trustees of Clifton Chapel (approved by electronic vote 8/6)]

Ongoing Business

- Plans for Parish Picnic
 Outlined responsible parties for
 - hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, beverages, and accompaniments
 - Outdoor and indoor seating will be available
 - Silled to fellowship expenses
 - Leadership for Administration Committee
 - ◊ Father Jay will lead through the end of the year and will have a new committee chair in 2023

Most Recently Proposed Revision of Bylaws

- Follow-up to appointment of delegates to attend the diocesan Annual Convention in November
 - Discussed option of updating the bylaws to remove term limits for convention delegates
 - Father Jay will send out all bylaws to be reviewed by Vestry
 - Discussion of pros and cons of having term limits for convention delegates and whether there was a reason in the past to require term limits

New Business

- **R-2022-16:** Adjustments to the **2022 Budget** (finance committee), (approved 8/23, with amendments)
 - New goals set based on current goals being met already or close to being met
 - Expenses—Displays the authorized amount that the group owning the expense is allowed to spend
 - Does not mean they have to spend that amount or that they will do so
 - ◊ Line #6080 will cover the expenses of the parish picnic



R-2022-17: Policy for Aquia Church Heritage Endowment Fund (finance committee) (approved 8/23)

- Funds various needs and special projects of Aquia Church and serves as a memorial fund
- Funds would sit for a minimum period to build income and principal
- Will be included as part of the pledge campaign for 2023
 - Parishioners should be able to pledge a portion to the general fund and/or the Heritage Endowment Fund

Reports from Committees

- Administration Committee
- No major news to report
- Finance Committee
- No other news than the two resolutions above

Building and Grounds Committee

- A thank-you to Ron Korth for repairing CFFB air conditioning
- Finalizing date of parish hall gutter replacement
- Repairs to rectory bathroom will begin Sept. 12
- Tristan Stolz approached the B&G committee to set up an Eagle Scout project to create a gaga ball area
 - Could be placed by the existing playground

Reports from Wardens

• *Junior Warden*—Wildlife has been seen around the back of the cemetery (perhaps coyotes)

Continued on next page ...

Announcing a New Option: The Aquia Church Heritage Endowment Fund

Preserving the Past, Preparing for the Future

The Vestry has recently established the Aquia Church Heritage Endowment Fund in order to build capital and generate income to supplement funding required for the mission and ministry of Aquia Church. Endowments are a means to accumulate funds that provide for future needs for which we may not otherwise have dedicated funding.

Like many other churches, Aquia Church already has some endowment funds that have been created over time for specific purposes. As you may know, the Moncure Robinson Trust Fund, established by a bequest of Moncure Robinson—a great-grandson of the first Rev. John Moncure, who was our rector when our historic Georgian church was built is designated for the maintenance and upkeep of the church building. We have a sizeable endowment for the cemetery, plus a small endowment for major capital improvements for our buildings other than the historic church.

Unlike many churches, however, Aquia Church does not have a real fund for memorial gifts or a general-purpose endowment. This new fund is intended to be the primary depository for plannedgiving contributions and for memorial gifts—in other words: donations given in memory of a deceased person or an individual buried at Aquia Church for which no specific use is stated. This new Heritage Endowment Fund will enable Aquia Church to accumulate and invest money for various needs and special projects in the parish. For those parishioners who may wish to refrain from making a pledge to our church's general fund for everyday operations, the Heritage Endowment Fund may be a suitable option for contributions.

The Vestry recently approved an initial investment of \$10,000.00 in the Balanced Fund offered through the Trustees of the Funds, the diocese-sponsored organization for managing church investments. If you have questions about opportunities to contribute to the Heritage Endowment Fund or seek additional information about it, please contact Chris Arey, treasurer of Aquia Church (treasurer@aquiachurch.org).

Chris Arey



Fund

... continued from previous page

- ♦ Are not approaching people
- Alert Bob Brandon if parishioners continue to see them
- Senior Warden—Happy to see Aquia's Table and Aquia's Pantry continuing to flourish and support the community

Report from Rector

No additional commentary outside of written clergy report

Upcoming Dates

- 8/28 Parish Picnic (following 10:30 a.m. worship service, on our campus)
- 9/11 Homecoming Luncheon (following 10:30 a.m. service)
- 9/27 Vestry meeting (7 p.m.)
- 10/1 Fall Fest (8 a.m. 2 p.m.)
- 10/25 Vestry meeting (7 p.m.)

Good of the Order, Closing Prayer, and Adjournment

Respectfully submitted, Anna Rall Register



CROSS SECTION

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FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

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 the birth of a child, 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 October 2022

Nicole Bingay, Rhett Blythe and family, Debbie Byers, Robert & JoAnn Feldman, Lori Hendon, Rachael Hofford, Annette LaBarre, 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:



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

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.

The Bible—sacred, ubiquitous, accessible—now even housed in its own unique museum in Washington, D.C., God's Word—available to all, the most frequently published book in civilization. On the website <u>biblegateway</u> .com alone, there are 61 English translations available for use or study, surely a subset of those in publication. Many of us have several copies in our homes some legacies from prior generations that have preserved records of births, baptisms, and deaths. Yet the abundance of Holy Scripture that we take for granted has a long and tortuous history.

In the first 1,500 years after Christ, the Bible was not available in the vernacular and was largely inaccessibleindeed illegal to possess-for much of the laity. Granted, literacy was also limited; but importantly, Holy Scripture was controlled through the church hierarchy. Though incipient efforts appeared, the wall of inaccessibility crumbled rapidly with the invention of the printing press and the advent of the Protestant Reformation. Luther's Bible in German was published in 1522. In England, the foremost author of bringing the Bible into the common tongue was William Tyndale (1494-1536), who was strangled and burnt at the stake at the behest of Henry VIII. The traditional date of his execution is Oct. 6. which is marked as a day of remembrance in the Anglican Communion.

Though Tyndale was a priest, he was foremost an exceptional linguist and biblical scholar. When studying at Oxford, after obtaining his B.A. in 1506, he pursued his M.A. and was concerned that though he studied theology, there was no systematic study of Holy Scripture. Tyndale was fluent in Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Spanish, French, Italian, German, and his native English. After Oxford, he studied at Cambridge from 1517 to 1521 and then served as chaplain and tutor to a household in Gloucestershire. Finally, in 1523 he moved to London to seek permission begin his translation of the Bible into English.

William Tyndale

Failing to obtain sponsorship for the project, he left for the European continent the next year. In 1526 his full edition of the New Testament was published in Germany and later printed in Antwerp. Soon afterward this work was smuggled into England and was condemned, and he was declared a heretic. Unable to return to England, Tyndale remained in Germany and began translation of the Old Testament and other biblical treatises. Eventually, Tyndale was seized by the Holy Roman Emperor in response to a request from Henry VIII, and was tried and executed in 1536. The irony is that, only a year after Tyndale's execution, Thomas Cromwell obtained a royal order for every parish in England to purchase a complete Bible, most of whose text was Tyndale's translation! It is the progenitor of all Bibles in the English language, especially the 1611 King James Version.

An analysis done in 1998 suggests that Tyndale's words account for 84% of the New Testament and over 75% of the Old Testament books that Tyndale translated. He gave us phrases and idioms now counted as popular and widespread, such as "salt of the earth," "let there be light," "the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak," "my brother's keeper," "knock and it shall be opened unto you," and many others.

The collect for the commemoration of Tyndale is this:

Reveal to us your saving word, O God, that like your servant William Tyndale we might hear its call to repentance and new life. Plant in our hearts that same consuming passion to bring the scriptures to all people in their native tongue, and the strength to endure amidst all obstacles; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. [source: *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* as accessed through www.lectionarypage.net]

Chris Arey





Aquia Episcopal Church Post Office Box 275 Stafford, VA 22555

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Giving from Gratitude: Our Annual Pledge Campaign

N ow is the time when we begin to invite parishioners to make a financial commitment to God's mission and ministry at Aquia Church for 2023. Reading just that will inevitably prompt some folks in their thoughtlessness to tune out whatever comes next, but I trust that as a thoughtful Christian you will graciously consider what is shared here.

We at Aquia Church have so much for which to be thankful, even during the ongoing pandemic. Unlike some churches, we have not had to lay off staff or eliminate ministries. Because of generosity from so many donors and volunteers, we have actually increased what we provide for the benefit of others-not only with Aquia's Table and Aquia's Pantry, but also with the electronic broadcasts of worship services, musical performances, Bible studies, and book discussions. During the pandemic, we have witnessed an outpouring of love through exponentially enhanced giving of time, talent, and treasure to our several outreach ministries and through sustained contributions to our general fund and to our matching challenge opportunities for reducing the CFFB construction debt.

Other blessings are worth noting as well. To my knowledge, no parishioner here has died directly from COVID, and no member or guest here has contracted COVID while on our campus for worship, meetings, or activities. While a number of us have caught COVID and while some folks here have been hospitalized for that condition, this parish has been spared most of the worst from this public health crisis. Certainly we all have been affected, but we have also been resilient, adapting our ministries and operations as needed for everyone's safety and well-being. The Lord has given us the strength and courage to be steadfast in our labors for him.

Despite economic uncertainties throughout this time and despite inflation making costs for everything go up for everyone, we here have remained relatively secure. Most of us who want to work still have our jobs, most of us in

retirement still have enough for our needs, and most of us who regularly attend here still find this church a source of joy and a beacon of hope. God's many blessings for us are still a bedrock foundation amidst the chaos of life, and this Aquia Church community is still where we find our faith increased, our hope inspired, and our love incarnated.

What should be our response to all these blessings, if not gratitude to the God who made them all possible? The older I get, the more I realize that thankfulness is the best motivation for doing gladly what is right and good. As you prepare to make a financial pledge for 2023, I simply suggest that you identify those things for which you are grateful to God, and then respond to him accordingly.

Jay Morris

AQUIA CHURCH TIME & TALENT SURVEY 2022

Please take a moment to indicate some information about the professional skills, personal talents, and hobbies you already have that could make a good difference for our mission and ministry.

You may complete this form while you are at church, or you may print it out and return it to the church office.

Name			
E-Mail Address	_		
Phone Number			
Current Occupation			
Previous Occupation(s)			
<u>Maintenance</u>	Information Technology/Data Processing		
Carpentry/Construction	Information Management/Technology		
Electrical	Activity Modeling and Refinement		
Gardening	Entity Relationships and Data Modeling		
Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning (HVAC)	Computer Networks		
Lawn Care/Mowing	Microsoft Excel		
Lifting/Moving Heavy Objects	Microsoft Power Point		
Mechanic	Website Design and Maintenance		
Operate Large/Heavy Equipment	Other Computer Expertise (specify)		
Painting and/or Drywall			
Plumbing	<u>Professional</u>		
Woodworking	Child Care		
	Education		
Business and Finance	Law (specify area)		
Accounting/Bookkeeping/Auditing	Physician/Medical Practitioner		
Advertising/Publicity/Marketing	Nursing		
Business Development	Paralegal		
Communications			
Fundraising	Other Abilities and Interests		
Human Resource Management (HR)	Artist/Painting		
Investments	Musical Ability (specify)		
Resource Management (RM)	Drive Parishioners to Appointments		
	Flower Arranging		
Hospitality	History/Historical Research		
Baking	Knitting/Crocheting/Needlework		
Cooking	Language Other than English (specify)		
Event Planning			

Please describe other abilities you have that are not listed above but that might support our mission and ministry.