

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Newsletter

Vol. 7, Issue 1

The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

July 5, 2020

The Collect

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Prayer for Independence Day

As we prepare to commemorate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence this July 4th, let us take a few moments for silence and appreciation for all we have in our lives, and for those who came before us who fought so that we may live in an independent country.

Lord God Almighty, in whose Name the founders of this country won liberty for themselves and for us, and lit the torch of freedom for nations then unborn; Grant, we beseech thee, that we and all the people of this land may have grace to maintain these liberties in righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



A Bit of History

ON JUNE 4, 1776, THE Declaration of Independence was signed, marking the colonists' independence from Great Britain. But some 75 years later, some black Americans weren't ready to celebrate. Abolitionist movement leader Frederick Douglass gave a scathing speech the day after Independence Day in 1852, saying: "This Fourth of July is yours, not mine. You may rejoice, I must mourn.... Do you mean, citizens, to mock me, by asking me to speak to-day?" Douglass reminded listeners that when the Declaration of Independence was signed, many blacks were still slaves. Even the British were more likely to offer freedom to blacks than the colonists.

More people should know about the holiday Juneteenth, and its significance in American history and, more specifically, Black history. Every June 19, celebrations take place in Black communities around the US. The day marks the official end of slavery in all 50 states (well, the day slaves became privy to this), and celebrates Black freedom and achievement. Sadly, the holiday is not taught in most schools, which is a major problem within our school systems. We celebrate the Fourth of July, which marked American's independence. We should also celebrate Juneteenth, which marked the independence of Black Americans, too.

IT'S ALL ABOUT TELEVISION

By Joyce Ponton

While resting on my new #1 tempur-pedic mattress, I fell asleep. I dreamt that I was a prisoner on court TV live. I was young and restless, and able to explore Hampton roads until judge judy entered the courtroom. She didn't look like a judge, but looked more like a monk. I didn't want to be black-ish, so I asked her kindly what the procedure was to be released. I patiently waited as she was briefing jury members: sanford & son, tamron hall, james carden, mckinley price, stephen colbert, oprah, bobby scott, Jimmy kimmel, people from the neighborhood and jake from state farm on how to get away with murder. She even told them how she helped cops take quantum leaps on the highway to heaven. We were all spellbound.

I finally received my one telephone call from perry mason. He, along with matlock, columbo and madam secretary, was able to get judge mablean to free me. I was extremely happy because there was no law and order here. When I exited the courtroom dr. anthony fauci was outside with mask.

I woke up from my horrible nightmare on elm street and not a moment too soon. I thought I was the last man standing.

Note from Joyce: We've all been behind closed doors with not much to do in recent weeks. I'm sure that even persons who aren't avid television watchers have found it hard not to view now and then. The activity above is just a fun challenge to see how many ads or programs you can spot. All names are on or have appeared on TV since the virus. How many television programs or ads can you name?

Church Service 10:00 a.m.

Please join us each Sunday as we worship via Zoom. Roscoe Redcross will email you a reminder about 15 minutes before the service is to begin. If you are not already on his email list, please contact him at roscoeredcross@gmail.com.

Notes on Re-gathering

Many of you have asked, “When will we be able to safely re-gather in person in our church buildings?” The answer to that question is a rather complex one. Guidelines were developed by The Rt. Rev. Susan Haynes in consultation with medical, mental health, and legal professionals, clergy, musicians, and formation specialists. Each parish is expected to prepare and submit an application to the Diocese, outlining in letter form the manner in which the proposed plan will implement these guidelines. Once the Diocese has approved the plan, the parish may take steps to re-gather for worship. However, no plans will receive approval **until** the number of coronavirus cases statewide has declined for 14 consecutive days.

“When it becomes possible to re-gather for worship, no parish will be expected or required to participate if the leadership of the parish does not deem it to be safe or appropriate.”

The guiding principle given voice by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry bears repeating: “What would love do?” As you weigh the longing for what was, the reality of what is, and the responsibility of planning carefully what may be next, bear in mind that it may be better to move slowly so that present health data and advisories can be taken into account, that it will be important to remain prayerful and attentive to the guidance of the Spirit, and that together we can and will make our way through this, with God’s help.

St. Augustine’s will be submitting its plan in the next few days, following review by the Vestry. We are grateful to Samuel Barnes (Junior Warden), Thaddeus Savage and David Whitley (sextons) for their work in formulating our plan to re-gather.

Ministry Duty Assignments July 5 – July 31, 2020

Date	Acolytes	Usher/Greeters	Lay Readers	Altar Guild
July 5 th	R. Swann Z. Neal F. Moore D. Morgan	T. Savage M. Stewart N. Whitted D. Whitley	R. Ashby (C) M. Incorminias	July 1-17 J. Moore and helper
July 12	S. Moore F. Moore R. Swann D. Morgan	R. Parker D. Whitley N. Whitted E. Tucker	R. Swann (C) G. Whitted	
July 19 th	R. Swann D. Morgan S. Moore F. Moore	T. Savage M. Stewart N. Whitted G. Whitted	H. Monroe (C) R. Watson	July 18-31 B. Owens J. Sydnor
July 26 th	S. Moore F. Moore R. Swann D. Morgan	T. Savage M. Stewart N. Whitted D. Whitley	M. Black (C) M. Travis	

July Birthdays

1 – Dakota Leigh Haines

2 – Candace A. Coles

3 – Shelia Atkins

Zeniah Maldonado

5 - Jaden Kylon Travis

6 – Ronald E. Ransom

7 – Judith W. Neal

Julie Fox

9 – Dorothy Tynes

11 – Ronald C. Ashby

12 – Esau M. Scott

13 – Joshua Howe

Zachary Howe

16 – Dr. Jon L. Scott

18 – Tanner Mason Haines

20 – Marcia S. Price

21 – James W. Geer

25 – Derek L. Savage

26 – Rachel J. Morgan

27 – Shawn R. Black-Moore

30 – Alberta C. Boyd

July Wedding Anniversaries:

6 – Miguel and Lisa Incorminias

12 – James and Glenda Geer

20 – Courtney and Angela Nunnally

21 – Forrest and Renae Black

23 – Forrest and Marcia Black

Kenneth and Elena Ottey

Remember Our Sick and Shut In

If you know someone who is unable to get to church, for any reason, please let us know. We'd love to be able to visit with them and take them communion. If you know of someone who is sick, please do not assume we know. A quick phone call or email to the church secretary would be greatly appreciated. Judith Neal: thanxb2god@verizon.net

Currently on our **Sick and Shut In** list are DeVera Cooke (NN Nursing and Rehab. Ctr.), Harold Dabney, Demetrice Harrell (daughter of Bettye Collins), Shelly Hayes (home), Carolyn Hobson (home), Sandra Johnson (sister of Joan Moore), William and Vermon Miller (home), Don Smith (home), Aurelia Overton (home), Beverly Pryor-Dunomes, Doris Watson (home), David Whitley (home) and Charles Wilkins.

God speaking

The man whispered, “God, speak to me.” And a Meadowlark sang, but the man did not hear. So the man yelled, “God, speak to me.” And thunder and lightening rolled across the sky, but the man did not listen. The man looked around and said, “God, let me see you.” A star shined brightly, but the man did not see. And the man shouted, “God, show me a miracle.” And a life was born, but the man did not notice. So, the man cried out in despair, “Touch me, God, and let me know you are here.” Whereupon, God reached down and touched the man, but the man brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

A Moment to Pray, to Pause, Reflect, Ask and Yield

In the beautiful setting of our sanctuary, we can **Pause** from the worries of the past week and the pressures we may face in the coming weeks. While using this time to **Reflect** on God’s grace and mercy, we can recall God’s promises to “never fail nor forsake” us. Remember, Jesus encourages us to **Pray** by saying, “If in my name you **Ask** me for anything, I will do it.” Also, this dedicated time will give us courage to Yield to the will of God.

Online Giving

1. Go to our site: <http://www.staugustinesmn.org/>
2. Click on “Click here for ONLINE GIVING.”
3. Click on “Go to link.”
4. See “Create Your Own Profile”, bottom right
5. Click “Add Transaction”
6. Enter the desired amount.
7. Decide how you are going to give: checking account, debit card or credit card.
8. Then “process” and you will be taken to the receipt page. Print your receipt.

For those who do not wish to set up an account, but desire to donate:

- a. See “DONATION” on the left side of the page.
- b. You will have to enter your information each time you donate, if you do not establish an account.

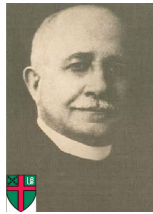
Please direct questions to Roscoe Redcross at roscoeredcross@gmail.com

Union of Black Episcopalians

The UBE invites all Episcopalians, regardless of race, to join them in their mission of fighting racism and encouraging the involvement of African Americans in the total life of the church.

The James Solomon Russell Diocese of Southern Virginia Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians meets on the second Thursday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at Grace, Norfolk (1400 E. Brambleton Ave., Norfolk). All Episcopalians in the Diocese of Southern Virginia are invited and encouraged to join the UBE and become members of this diverse and concerned group. Currently, the national dues is \$50 (\$40.00 retired) and \$20.00 for local membership. You may email Rose Parker at rozebud48@gmail.co for an application.

The Union of Black Episcopalians stands in the continuing tradition of more than 200 years of Black leadership in the Episcopal Church. Beginning with the Rev. Absalom Jones, the first priest of African descent and the establishment of St. Thomas African Episcopal Church in Philadelphia in 1794, leadership of Blacks in the Episcopal Church has continued through UBE chapters across the United States. Organized in 1968 as the Union of Black Clergy and Laity, the Union is the proud inheritor of the work of many people like Quintin Primo, Johnny Walker, Tollie Caution and Debra Harmon Hines. UBE also grew out of the work and spirit of earlier organizations. The Convocation of Colored Clergy and the Conference of Church Workers Among Colored People was dedicated to justice and the ministry of Blacks in the Episcopal Church. The JSR DIOSOVA Chapter was established in 1968 with the first UBE National President, Father Joseph N. Green of Grace Episcopal Church, Norfolk. The chapter continues to be dedicated to serve as an instrument to eradicate racism and social injustice and to help the Episcopal Church become one body for all.



James Solomon Russell

Heads of Parish Organizations

Altar Guild – Valeria Hundley

Daughters of the King – Marcia Black

ECW – Rose Parker

Men's Club – George Whitted

Progressive Women's Club – Alberta Boyd

Outreach– Pam Hall

Senior Choir – Joyce Ponton

Samaritans – Roscoe Redcross

Outreach Commission - *Hunger Knows no Season.*

Support the Saturday Feeding Program with your time and/or your monetary donations. The **third Sunday** of each month is designated Outreach Commission Sunday. Donations are tax deductible.

Do not Pray for Easy Lives

“Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men (and women).

Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you shall be the miracle.”

–Philip Brooks (1835 – 1893)

“Prayer may not change things for you, but it for sure changes you for things.”

- Sam Shoemaker (1893 – 1963)

“If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you.” John 15:7

“We constantly pray for you, that our God may count you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may fulfill every good purpose of yours and every act prompted by your faith. 2 Thessalonians 1:11

“This, then, is how you should pray: ‘Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.’ “

Matthew 6:9

Our Trustees



George Whitted, Valerie Price and Roscoe Redcross

Vestry terms end in January of the year listed by each name.

Senior Warden: Rose Parker
Register: Annette Monroe-Martin

Junior Warden: Sam Barnes
Treasurer: Roscoe Redcross

Ronald Ashby – ‘23

Sam Barnes – ‘21

Glenda Geer – ‘22

Pat Jackson – ‘22

Shawn Moore – ‘21

David Morgan Sr. – ‘21

Rose Parker – ‘21

Thaddeus Savage – ‘22

Ricky Watson – ‘22

George Whitted – ‘23

The Vestry

Requirements for vestry membership are spelled out in the Church bylaws. Judith Neal will provide you with a hard copy upon request.

The Vestry of St. Augustine's consists of nine church members elected by the congregation to serve in a leadership capacity in conjunction with the Rector. Each year, two to three members are elected for 3-year terms so that the Vestry has a factor of continuity. The group meets monthly, typically on the second Sunday of each month, to conduct the business of the church.

The Vestry has a Secretary/Register who is elected by the Vestry. This officer takes and publishes the minutes and fulfills other roles as needed. The Vestry also has a Treasurer who is elected by the Vestry. This officer is responsible for oversight of all financial matters of the parish and is supported by a Finance Committee.



*Not shown –David Morgan



Current Vestry Members and Members of Lunch Program Celebration Committee

News and Events in the Diocese of Southern Virginia

*Receive *Parish News and Events* from the Diocese of Southern Virginia by visiting www.diosova.org

*Check us out on **FaceBook**. Look for our website profile picture as there is another St. Augustine's with a Face Book presence.

Lay Readers

Lay readers are invited to consult www.netministries.org/Bbasics for correct biblical pronunciations.

St. Augustine's Web Site

<http://www.staugustinesnn.org/>

Our Daily Bread

Sign up to receive *Our Daily Bread* at <http://odb.org/email-sign-up/>

To read *Our Daily Bread* online visit www.odb.org

Did you know that the three most difficult things to say are: I love you, I'm sorry, and help me? The people who say these are actually in need of them or really feel them, and are the ones you really need to treasure, because they have said them.

Service Time

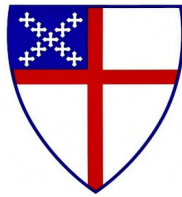
10:00 a.m.

Newsletter Entries

To have your organization's news and events included in our church newsletter, please send information to Rose Parker at rozebud48@gmail.com. Deadline is Tuesday of each week.

St. Augustine's Inclement Weather Policy

If Newport News City Schools and Hampton City Schools are closed, the church office will be closed and any programs scheduled will be cancelled. If it is a Sunday and we have to cancel services, the information will be disseminated by mass e-mail. If you do not have internet access, please call a church member that can access the internet; members that have email are asked to **please call your fellow members** that do not. Let's look out for one another. Rev. Terry+



THE
Episcopal
CHURCH



welcomes you