



A Message from Deacon Gary

Dear Holy Apostles' Family,

I am writing this in mid-August as the coronavirus pandemic rages on. Estimates have been made by competent authority that by Labor Day, the death toll from the COVID-19 virus could top 200,000! More and more stories are reporting that even those who have not died from the virus are now in rehabilitation centers, and many will remain in those centers for some time, as they make slow progress with their recovery.

There are any number of big controversies with this pandemic, but the one I want to focus on is the stubborn resistance to wearing a mask where indicated.

The first section of the newspaper I turn to in the morning is the comics. A comic strip can give perspective in drawn pictures and words, better than by only words themselves. I want to share with you the comic strip called Candorville, written by Darrin Bell that appeared in the Sunday, *Virginian Pilot* on August 16, 2020. Because of copyright restrictions, I can't share the actual panels, but with your imagination, I think you will get the point. In **panel 1** – [there is a door to a room, with a sign on the door that says "Dr. Noodle"] There are two voices coming from the other side of the door (persons unseen), one says to the other, "Please, put your mask back on." To which the other voice responds, "No, and you can't make me! I have my rights!" In **panel 2** – [we are now inside the room] The doctor (with a mask on) is a male psychiatrist sitting in a chair with a male patient half-way sitting/half-way lying on a couch across the room, and the patient says, "I'm told I have a God-given respiratory system, and it's got a built-in filtration mechanism otherwise known as 'nose hairs.'" In **panel 3** – the psychiatrist responds by saying, "You can't stay here if you won't wear a mask." To which the patient says, "Why? Is there a law? I spoke with my attorney before I came here!" **Panel 4** – The patient continues, "This is America, where I have the right to do what I want! Liberty! Freedom! I called a lawyer before I came here, and he said I have rights!" **Panel 5** – The psychiatrist responds, "I require patients to either wear a mask or leave, because this is my business..." **Panel 6** – The psychiatrist continues, "And I have rights too." The patient responds, "Nonsense. My lawyer said nothing about YOU having rights." {I'm not a psychiatrist, but perhaps the reason the patient is being seen is because of his narcissistic tendencies – it's all about him.} And yet that is the battle being waged in our country. Despite empirical evidence that masks help to reduce the spread of the coronavirus and warnings from the vast majority of the medical establishment that the number of deaths and disease could be reduced AND we could get our businesses and schools open sooner if we just followed this proven practice, and yet many don't.

Why won't people wear masks? For that answer I refer you to an article in the August issue of *St. Anthony Messenger*, entitled "It's a Wild World," by Kyle Kramer. "Neither God nor our world is tame; there is wildness and unpredictability woven into the very fabric of reality itself. Facing this truth, the only appropriate response is humility..." The article goes on to say "... humility leads to prudence and self-restraint." The article continues, "since it is impossible to

(continues on page 2)

**We choose love
over division, unity
over separation and
Christ above all
things.**

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Important Websites

www.holyapostlesvb.org

Catholic Diocese of
Richmond

www.richmonddiocese.org

Episcopal Diocese of
Southern Virginia

www.diosova.org



Email Address

admin@holyapostlesvb.org

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Contact Us: admin@holyapostlesvb.org Phone: 757-427-0963
Deadline for submission is the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Liturgy Volunteers

September

6

13

20

27

**LECTOR FOR
LIVESTREAM**

D Dickerson

M Meehan

J Tucker

L Carpenter

**READERS FOR
PODCAST**

A Whyte

A Cherwa

B Kimpan

C Melendez

J Arnold

B Carpenter

C Mills

G Little

G Leighton

J Flower

J Blessing

E Dickerson

J Delaney

N Nichter

L Startt

P Russo

WORSHIP AND PRAY

WORSHIP BY LIVESTREAM

Mass or Holy Eucharist; Sundays; 10 am

on our Facebook page

Go to Facebook and search Church of the Holy Apostles

PRAY

Sunday Evening Prayer Podcast

Listen each Sunday at 5 pm or later

Listen or Download

anchor.fm/holyapostles

<https://podcasts.apple.com/.../church-of-the-ho.../id1505354042...>

A Message from Deacon Gary CONT.....

know everything about anything, then...as individuals and as a society, erring on the side of caution rather than fooling ourselves into thinking we have more control than we do.” But instead of proceeding with caution, we have people in positions of power and influence, which includes some well-meaning pastors, that continue to promote the faulty logic given in the comic strip – that only my rights are important – and sadly there are people who follow them blindly.

As a retired operating room nurse, we always wore masks when we entered an operating room. We did not wear the masks because they were comfortable or stylish, we wore them to promote the safety and well-being of the patient, whose lives were entrusted to us. We did not want to be responsible for giving our patients an infection that might jeopardize their recovery or their life – yet many Americans are dangerously and indiscriminately making that decision for others by not wearing masks (because many cases are asymptomatic). They are consumed by their own selfishness and self-centeredness, while totally lacking humility – doing what they want to do and ignoring the common good. To me, that just doesn't seem like what Christ would do in our situation.

Deacon Gary

Vestry Council Highlights July 28, 2020 by Zoom

Finance Council Report: Treasurer - Mike Meehan

Financial Update: July 28, 2020

YTD Expenses: \$ 107,274

YTD Income: \$ 101,668

YTD Excess/(Deficit): (\$ 5,606)

June Income \$ 12,562

May Expenses \$ 10,908

Income \$ 1,654

- Financially, Holy Apostles is relatively close between its income and expenses. Pledges are coming in, but slightly lower than normal and mostly online. Although our income has been lower, because we have reduced expenses, we are in pretty good shape.
- The Annual Meeting is planned to be held virtually this year via Zoom and packages will be mailed in advance. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 13th at 11:30 am. More details to follow.
- The Constitution change proposal to reduce members of Vestry Council by 2 (one less Episcopal member and one less Catholic member) is being prepared and is expected to be mailed out within the next week. Members will be asked to approve the change during the Annual Meeting.
- The topic of whether or not to have a Fall Fling was discussed. If it is held, it will be different from previous years because of the pandemic. Likely it would be held outside, with music and fellowship being the central focus (not on fundraising). People would be asked to bring their own food, drinks and chairs. At present the suggested date is Saturday, Sep 26th with Sunday, September 27th as a rain date. The fundraising portion will be a quilt raffle with a drawing around November 1st to coincide with our 43rd anniversary.
- The Samaritan House project (which is building a residential building to house underage female trafficking victims on a portion of Holy Apostles' land) is progressing. However, instead of the Samaritan House leasing the property from the two dioceses, the dioceses will sell them the track of land. Holy Apostles will not see any money from the transaction, the land is owned jointly by the Catholic and Episcopal dioceses.
- Father Boat is no longer assigned as the Priest-Chaplain at ODU. He continues to serve as the Chaplain for Holy Apostles and Holy Apostles has agreed to pick up some of his expenses.
- Holy Apostles continues to work on its site plan for re-gathering (having liturgies open to the public). The plan will be submitted to the two dioceses in August. Even though the plan is expected to be approved, the Holy Apostles' Executive Committee is not anticipating a re-gathering until there is a sustained (perhaps 14 day) decline in the number of Covid-19 cases for the area.

Vestry Council

Mike Cherwa (RC) - President [2019-2022]

Jackie Lucas (RC) [2019-2022]

Jim Byrd (RC) [2020]

Gail Orland (RC) [2017-2020]

Kay Ashby (RC) [2018-2021]

Jane Tucker (E) - Warden [2017-2020]

Andrea Whyte (E) [2019-2022]

Bonnie Startt (E) [2017-2020]

Carolyn Ferguson (E) [2018-2021]

Secretary - Julia Hatcher

Our Vision

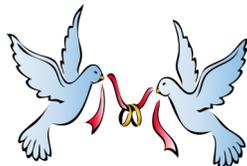
We share a vision to be a visible sign of Christian Unity. We are:

- ◆ Eucharist centered
- ◆ Intent on mission
- ◆ Involved in shared ministry
 - ◆ Creative in liturgy
- ◆ Expressive to Christian education and formation
 - ◆ Ecumenically optimistic



September Birthdays

| | | | |
|------------------|----|---------------|----|
| James Drews | 2 | Lucas Wood | 20 |
| Charles Pefley | 4 | John McDonald | 21 |
| Nicholas Kimpan | 7 | Dianne Marzec | 24 |
| Jo-Anne Blessing | 9 | Megan Wood | 29 |
| Kay Robbins | 18 | | |



September Anniversaries

Mr. and Mrs. Ernesto Perez
September 1, 2008

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Hale
September 23, 2006

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mills
September 19, 1987

Prayer for a Birthday: O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Prayer for a Wedding Anniversary: We join these couples in their joy and gratitude for the blessings they are to each other. God set them among us as a sign of his love and perseverance; they have endured life's ups and downs yet remain committed. We give thanks for the favors you have bestowed upon them. May God keep them ever in love with each other. *Amen.*



Thank you Bob Martin

Bob Martin, our Bookkeeper since June 2014 has retired and will be truly missed. We are grateful to Bob's dedication and hard work over the years. Bob stepped in as bookkeeper at the request of Fr. Mike Ferguson when our previous bookkeeper left. Bob helped implement a new payroll and HR systems and always paid the bills on time. We miss Bob's dedication, his jokes, and his many tales of life serving our country all over the world. God bless you Bob! Get well soon!

Follow us on Social Media



We are using our website and social media to stay connected during the COVID-19 pandemic and closure. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

- Facebook.com/church of the holy apostles
- Instagram.com/church of the holy apostles
- Twitter.com/theholypostles

Supporting our Ministries and our Mission

Thank you for continuing to support our ministries and our mission. At this unprecedented time, we are doing our best to find new ways to stay connected with one another. Our goal is to continue to meet the spiritual, financial, and fellowship needs of our community.

We continue to be good stewards of your money and have implemented numerous cost cutting measures. The Finance Council and Executive Committee have put on hold all discretionary spending and projects. All expenses and purchases must be pre-approved by Fr. Mario or Deacon Gary until further notice.

If you normally give with an **offering envelope** in the Sunday collection, please consider continuing to give each week. **You may drop off your check or mail your checks to: Church of the Holy Apostles, 1593 Lynnhaven Pkwy, VB , VA 23453.**

This may be a good time to consider **Online Giving**. It is a safe, secure method to give and even earn credit card points. It is quick and easy to set up for a one time donation or regular offerings. The steps are:

1. Go to the Holy Apostles' website: www.holyapostlesvb.org
2. Click on "Our Community"
3. Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the **Online Giving** logo.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Deacon Gary (757) 735-2227 and he will help you.

Please let us know if you have any comments, suggestions or concerns. We are always available to help.

Qualified Charitable Deductions over age 72

If you are 72 and have to take a Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your IRA, you can give directly to a church or charity, and it will not be counted as income, in effect, an income tax deduction. Speak to your tax advisor about this Qualified Charitable Deduction that may be available for you, and have some of your Holy Apostles pledged giving still deliver some income tax relief! Contact Mike Meehan at mikemnr@cox.net for more information.

OUR CHURCH HOME

Men's Saturday Morning Group

For many years, Saturday mornings have been a gathering time for Holy Apostles women - a time for fellowship, prayer, and discussion. It has been proposed that the men of Holy Apostles gather at church on Saturday mornings. It will be an opportunity for fellowship and to help with church projects around the building and grounds.

If you are interested in , please contact either Brent or Jim.

Brent McDaniel: brent@beachautooutfitters.com; 757-375-2170

Jim Byrd: bjbyrd1@verizon.net; 757-467-5150

Outdoor Fall Fling Saturday, September 26

We are excited to announce our first outdoor Fall Fling on Saturday, September 26. We will gather outside on the lawn for music and fellowship - socially distanced and wearing masks. Please bring your lawn chair, your picnic food and drink. Come relax and enjoy the fresh air and wonderful music. Quilt raffle tickets and Holy Apostles ball caps will be on sale. More details will be coming soon! (Rain date: September 27)

OUR CHURCH HOME

In our Prayers

Pray for the sick especially Msgr. Ray Barton, Justin DeGroot, Harry Felton, Carolyn Ferguson, Colin & Bonnie Hamilton, Karen Harmeyer, Bob Martin, Ray Mireles, Mary Noyes, the Stanley family, Linda Wells, for inpatient children at CHKD, and all infected or in quarantine because of Covid-19.

Pray for those suffering job losses, those feeling isolated and frightened.

Pray for health care workers, especially Catherine Meléndez, Andrea Whyte, Kelly Hormuth.

If you want to place someone on the prayer list, please notify the office.

Blessing for the new school year

Eternal God, as we begin a new school year during the COVID-19 pandemic, bless our homes and our school buildings that they may be safe and lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom. Grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of patience, guidance, and truth; We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Teachers and Staff: Beth Gillis, Bonnie Startt, Nick Nichter, Barbara and Nicholas Kimpan, and Grace Leighton.

College Students: Kayla Whyte, Brittney Hormuth, & Maggie McDonald

High Schoolers: Connor Stanley & Noah Kimpan

Middle Schoolers: Madison Stanley, Justine Campbell, Mary Hatcher, & Matthew Kimpan

Elementary Schoolers: Sam Wood, Lucas Wood, Jillian Wood, Carter Dao, Gavin Giscombe, & Elizabeth Vandenhoff

Pre-Schoolers: Emma and Dillon Perez, and Paul OGrady

Interchurch Families

“The important thing in a child's upbringing ... is the harmony and integrity of the parents however they decide on the details of his religious education; whether they jointly decide to bring him up in one church rather than the other, or whether they decide to bring him up within both church-communities. Their harmony and integrity is what matters most to the child.” - - from "What About the Children of Interchurch Families" by Ruth and Martin Reardon in Interchurch Families, #14, Winter 1985/6. Provided by Jean Koch interchurchfamilies.org

Virtual Annual Meeting September 13 @ 11:30 am

This year, due to COVID-19, our Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Sunday, September 13 at 11:30 am.

We will send packets to parishioners in advance which will include:

- ◆ The Annual Report
- ◆ The proposed 2021 Budget
- ◆ The proposed amendment to the Holy Apostles constitution
- ◆ The Vestry Council election ballot

Ballots must be returns no later than Wednesday, September 9th.

Information on how to join the meeting on Zoom will be sent soon.

OUR CHURCH HOME CONTINUED

Quilt Raffle Coming Soon

As part of our fundraising efforts this year, we will have a quilt raffle this fall, to include several quilts, table runners and other quilted items. Dona Mitchell and Anna Crosby are donating their time, talent and material to make the items to be raffled. Donations are requested to help defray the cost of quilting the quilts. You can make online donations or send checks directly to the church, to be placed in the quilt raffle fund. Any questions, please call Anna at 434-8044. Quilt raffle tickets will be sold at our Fall Fling on September 26.

SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

Helping our Neighborhood Students

We are collecting money to purchase earbuds with microphones for students who are attending school virtually. We have 500 neighborhood children under age 18 who live at Twin Canals. Earbuds with microphones will enable these school children to participate in their online virtual classes - listening and talking without interruption by or disrupting others in the same small apartment. We can purchase 4 sets of earbuds with microphones for only \$10. Your \$10 donation will be invaluable to these students as they attend school from home. **Please donate \$10 to Holy Apostles' Social Ministry (memo line: "earbuds") by September 6. Thank you for your support!**

Abuse and Neglect During COVID

With the COVID-19 crisis, we all must take an active role in monitoring child safety in their families, neighborhoods and their communities. Inevitably, there will be children and young people, in the months to come, making disclosures of abuse, to trusted adults, once they feel safe, and when schools are back in session and churches are open. It's possible that the child may make the disclosure to you over your online communication, or that you may pick up on disturbing behavior or warning signs through that online communication. What you see, hear or observe may cause you to suspect one of the types of child abuse—physical abuse, neglect, emotional/psychological abuse or sexual abuse. If you need help or support:

Call the National Parent Helpline at 1-855-427-2736

- Call the National Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-4-A-CHILD or 800-422-4453
- Call Child Protective Service at 1-800-552-7096
- For suspicion, fear or concern of immediate abuse, please call 911
- To report suspected online sexual exploitation, contact the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) at 1-800-843-5678 or online at www.cybertipline.org

Adults and the Elderly may also be at increased risk for abuse and neglect.

- To report suspected elder abuse call 1-888-832-3858

Manna Pantry needs paper bags and financial donations

Thank you to our volunteer shoppers **and** food distributors. (Nicki Felton, Sue Delaney, Ann Delaney, Mary Ward, Tess Meadows, Kathy Lowe, Pete Van Heest, Kelly Hormuth, Fran Dixon, Lynne Graham, Elizabeth Dickerson, Lee Startt, Harry Felton, Kim and Nick Nichter, Helen and Tony Asalone.) Your ministry is truly appreciated! **Our freezer stopped working so we are in need of monetary donations to buy meat. It is now fixed thanks to Nicki Felton. We also need paper bags.** Donations to the Manna Pantry can be made through online giving, by check, drop off grocery store gift cards or food donations during office hours. Our next week for distribution is **September 14-18**.

Virtual Coffee Hour Resumes September 19

We miss you
and cant' wait to share a cup of coffee with you.
Let's get together!

Zoom Coffee Hour: Saturday, 9/19
2-3 pm

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/571695320>
Meeting ID: 571 695 320
or
Join by phone: (929) 205- 6099



Resumes Saturday
September 19

Important dates

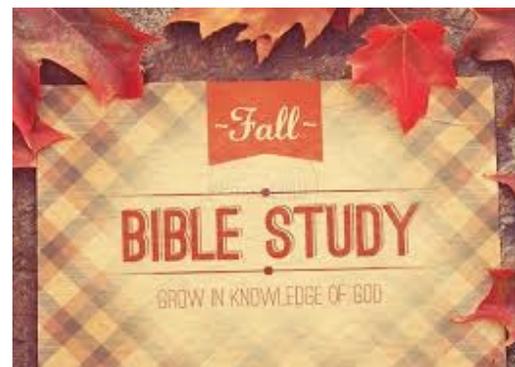
- | | | |
|----------------|----------|---|
| • September 2 | 7 pm | Zoom Bible Study (Proverbs) |
| • September 6 | | Donations to Social Ministry for Earbuds due |
| • September 7 | | Labor Day - office closed |
| • September 9 | 1-3 pm | Utility Assistance Vestry Council/Annual Meeting Ballots due |
| • September 13 | 11:30 am | Annual Meeting and Vestry Council Elections (Virtual) |
| • Sept. 14-18 | 1 pm | Manna on Call |
| • September 15 | | ARChive Deadline |
| • September 16 | 7 pm | Zoom Bible Study |
| • September 19 | 2 pm | Virtual Coffee Hour |
| • September 22 | 6 pm | Vestry Council meeting |
| • September 23 | 1-3 pm | Utility Assistance |
| • September 26 | | Outdoor Fall Fling (rain date 9/27) |
| • September 30 | 7 pm | Zoom Bible Study |

Fall Zoom Bible Study begins September 2 @ 7 pm

September 2: Proverbs
with Fr. Mario and Rabbi Zoberman

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89147233853>
Meeting ID: 891 4723 3853
or Call
1-929-205-6099

Wednesday @ 7 pm
September 2, 16, 30



**Whoever you are and wherever you are in your spiritual and personal life,
we welcome you to the Ecumenical Community of Holy Apostles.**