

Summer 2017

# ECHO ECHO

Newsletter of the  
Washington Church of the New Jerusalem

[www.theWNC.org](http://www.theWNC.org) • 301-464-5602

Pastor: Rev. Michael D. Gladish  
11910 Chantilly Lane; Mitchellville, MD 20721  
mdgladish@gmail.com  
~~~~~

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Michael E. Ferrell  
4210 Canyonview Drive; Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
Michael.ferrell@washnewchurch.org  
~~~~~

Principal: Rev. Brian D. Smith  
11503 Chantilly Lane  
Mitchellville, MD 20721-2126  
Brian.smith@washnewchurch.org

WCNJ Inc. Treasurer

Mr. Brent Hyatt  
[bhhyatt@verizon.net](mailto:bhhyatt@verizon.net)

WCNJ Inc. Co-Treasurer

Mr. Wynne S. Hyatt  
[wynneshyatt@aol.com](mailto:wynneshyatt@aol.com)

WCNJ Inc. Investment Treasurer

Mr. Edward Simons  
[simons@safewareinc.com](mailto:simons@safewareinc.com)

WCNJ Inc. Secretary

Sharon Croft  
[croft.cooper@verizon.net](mailto:croft.cooper@verizon.net)

Echo Editor

Bonnie Cowley  
[Bonnie.cowley@washnewchurch.org](mailto:Bonnie.cowley@washnewchurch.org)

Echo News Notes Editor

Hanna Hyatt  
[hannaihyatt@gmail.com](mailto:hannaihyatt@gmail.com)

**To donate, go to: [www.e-giving.org/washingtonchurch](http://www.e-giving.org/washingtonchurch)**

Dear Friends,

Every now and then I say something pretty stupid. Most of the time it's innocent and just clumsy, but it's still unfortunate. I suspect others have had the same experience, so here's a thought relating this to our lives in the church.

Over the years I have become convinced that one important use of the church is to provide a safe place for people to practice charity – and I mean practice in the sense of *working at it*. When we join the church we do so at least in part because we know we need the support it offers, first from the teachings, of course, but also from our fellow members.

*“... We need to be out rubbing elbows with other people, even people with whom we wouldn't normally associate, so that we can have the experience of putting our faith to work in a sort of laboratory situation.”*

Naturally we're disappointed when we feel our fellow members could do better! But the truth is, we all mess up. So what's the advantage of being in the church? – Well, sharing a commitment to the truths of the Word as we do, and loving the Lord as we all TRY to do, we can *practice* getting it right in an atmosphere of compassion, sympathy and understanding, not to mention friendship based on

shared ideals and principles. In short we can operate in a sphere of trust that allows for forgiveness as well as charitable criticism and encouragement to do better.

This is one reason I'm not a big fan of on-line worship services – unless one is ill, disabled or away from home. I think we need to be out rubbing elbows with other people, even people with whom we wouldn't normally associate, so that we can have the experience of putting our faith to work in a sort of *laboratory situation*, *practicing* for our encounters in the bigger world of daily life outside the church.

### A Women's Participation Task Force

Some of you may be aware that a “task force” on women's participation in the church was commissioned by the General Church Board of Directors, and has been meeting regularly for nearly a year. The 62 page initial report of this committee was presented to the ministers and board members in June and is currently being reviewed and discussed in some depth. What does it mean for YOU? Time will tell, but at least you can know that the topic is

getting the serious attention of male and female church leaders. At some point during the summer you will also have an opportunity to review the report in detail. Stay tuned.

### Other Church News

Meanwhile, the clergy meetings this year were exceptional in that there were prepared responses to just about every presentation, extending and strengthening the value of the studies. For a summary of the topics discussed please see the handout on the table in the church lobby, or ask for a copy by email. I hope to review at least some of the papers for you in the doctrinal class presently scheduled for Friday night, September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

This year we will all be tasked with trying to discover who the Lord will choose to become our next bishop (in July of 2019). I say “who the Lord will choose” not only because the Lord is in charge, but also because our job – really, all of ours – is not just to come up with our own ideas, but to go to the Word and the Heavenly Doctrine to see what qualities *the Lord* prescribes for this work of “managing” the church. What IS the church, anyway, and what does the Lord say about the leadership of it? This year the Board of Directors of the GC has asked for a greater role in the selection of the bishop than they’ve had in the past, so it will be interesting to see how that plays out. Again, stay tuned.

### Summertime Reminders

Well, it’s vacation time, so enjoy your weeks off, and don’t neglect to attend church services *somewhere* while you are away. (This is a great opportunity to see how others like to worship.) It’s also a great opportunity to catch up on some inspirational reading, maybe early in the mornings before you DON’T have to go to work!

Remember, too, (if you can’t get to a church) although we do not (yet) live-stream our services on the Internet, many of our churches, including the Bryn Athyn Cathedral, Boynton Beach, Boulder and others DO. And ours are also posted in text and as MP3’s on our website almost every week.

Finally note that although the deadline for new school enrollments is long past, we are still able to accept new students in some class-

rooms, so keep spreading the word! School will resume at the end of the summer on Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, despite the new ruling for the public schools in MD (which will re-open after Labor Day).



**Sermon Topics for July & August, 2017**

As has become our custom, the sermon topics for the summer months will be chosen from week to week, but will all be focused on a general THEME for those 9 weeks.

The theme for this summer is “**the Life of Religion**” which will be well represented by Rev. Ferrell’s sermon on July 9<sup>th</sup>, taking off from the teaching that when people enter the spiritual world they are *not* asked about their doctrinal beliefs, but about how they had *lived* in the world.

Preaching assignments for this summer are as follows:

- |          |                 |          |                 |
|----------|-----------------|----------|-----------------|
| July 2:  | Mike Gladish    | Aug. 6:  | Mike Gladish    |
| July 9:  | Michael Ferrell | Aug. 13: | Brian Smith     |
| July 16: | Brian Smith     | Aug. 20: | Brian Smith     |
| July 23: | Mike Gladish    | Aug. 27: | Mike Gladish    |
| July 30: | Mike Gladish    | Sept. 3: | Michael Ferrell |

**Parents, please remember that school will resume at WNCS on Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**, despite Governor Hogan’s ruling for the public schools.

**An Interview with TAG President Becca Smith**

Q. How would you describe TAG activities these days?

A. The Theta Alpha Guild (TAG) is a group of experienced, service-minded women volunteers who care for people during major life events, support educational activities, and organize catering and community participation for many of the special occasions at

the Washington New Church and School. This may seem obvious, but some volunteer organizations compensate their members in some way. TAG proudly invests 100% of funds raised back into church and school uses, from purchasing coffee supplies to funding a portion of continuing education expenses for faculty members, to contributing to the Healthy Church Match.

Q. What were some of the highlights this year with TAG?

A. First of all, it is so much fun to work with a fantastic team of officers -- VP Wystan Simons, Treasurer Kathy Johns, and Secretary Mary Cooper! We have a team of loyal volunteers who make things happen, including both TAG regulars and people in the community. For example, Jean Allen and her crew made another fabulous WNCS faculty lunch on Valentine's Day. Then in April, Candy Quintero, Janna Zuber, Wystan, and Mary put on the Theta Alpha Banquet, while several households put up our 17 guests from Kempton -- with room to spare! Bonnie's Souper Sundays continued to be a hit, thanks to our cooks and bakers. We were also blessed this year to have several WNCS moms come to our meetings, and Jazzmone Coby deserves a particular shout out both for helping us reimagine our activities and for running a brand new event herself -- a WNCS bake sale by and for the kids!

Q. Does TAG have summer plans?

A. Yes, Mary is putting together a kitchen work party -- contact her to get involved ([301-390-6292](tel:301-390-6292)). We are on the hunt for a replacement for Sharon Croft as Sunday School head, after her MANY years of faithful service. Talk to Sharon or me about it if you are interested (Becca's cell [202-834-0343](tel:202-834-0343)). Having seen Sharon's files, I can attest this is a well-oiled machine that should be easy to pick up! Wystan is starting to plan the next Women's Weekend. Finally, our executive committee, or EXCOM -- like the Cuban Missile Crisis but without a nuclear showdown -- will meet to plan our new year.

Q. When is the next TAG meeting?

A. Join us Wednesday, September 13, 2017 at **8 pm** at Wystan's

house (11910 Progress Lane, 20721). We are looking forward to a great new year at TAG!

## Announcements

*Special Thanks - to Pastor Mike and the Epistles Class for the beautiful roses (given at the end of our study.)*  
*Sincerely, Bernita Babb*

**Help Wanted:** Our hard working Building & Maintenance committee head, Eric Genzlinger has been single handedly chipping away at a long list of repairs at the church and school. He would love some help! If you have anytime this summer to do miscellaneous jobs to keep up our building (and to save the church money), please contact Eric – [eric@genzlinger.net](mailto:eric@genzlinger.net), and see if you can find a mutual time to help him or choose a project to do yourself.

**Kappert Baptism:** Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup> at 11am infant Bennett Kappert will be baptized in a public service. All are welcome to come and see celebrate with the family.

**Boynton Beach Retreat:** Bob Brickman is pleased to announce the speakers for the 2018 Boynton Beach Retreat will be the Rt. Rev. Tom Kline, Chara Daum, and the Rev. Barry Halterman. Watch this space in the coming months for information about the subjects on which this vibrant panel of presenters will speak. In the meantime, mark January 29 through February 1, 2018 on your calendars and plan to join us.

**Summer Showers!** Elizabeth Glenn Lewis is expecting a baby girl! Please come to a baby shower to help celebrate - at Erin Stillman's home: 3208 Lottsford Vista Road Mitchellville MD 20721. **Sunday, July 9th at 2:00pm.**

She is registered at Myregistry.com and BabiesRUs as Elizabeth and Michael Lewis: RSVP to: Erin- Barryanderin @Verizon.net Cell [301.801.3905](tel:301.801.3905).

... Also, please come **Saturday, July 22, 11:00 am** to a shower for bride to be **Kira Zuber** (a "Rustic Brunch") at Erin Stillman's house 3208 Lottsford Vista Road Mitchellville MD.

She is registered at Bed Bath and Beyond and Crate and Barrel

Hosted by Erin & Wytan, RSVP to: Wytan [lovinchick-ens@gmail.com](mailto:lovinchick-ens@gmail.com), (land) [301.464.8653](tel:301.464.8653).

**WNCS Graduation:** On June 7, WNCS held its 46<sup>th</sup> commencement exercises. When possible we like to print some of the speeches for those who could not attend.

***Guest Speaker – David Ferragut (father of grad Jojo Ferragut)***

Thank you, Mr. Smith, for the introduction and for giving me the opportunity to speak tonight. I was honored – and a bit surprised – to be asked to give the eighth-grade parent address. While my distance from the school did not allow me to be as involved in the school community as I would have liked, Jojo certainly was. My family has been a part of the Washington New Church School (WNCS) for six years. In that time, the school has undergone many physical improvements such as the long-planned expansion of the building and the redesign of the landscaping and exterior elements. While these may be the most obvious visual changes, they are not the most significant changes that occurred.

In the past six years, this eighth-grade class has transformed significantly. Several classmates have come and gone as the ebb and flow of their lives intersected the solid foundation and stability provided by WNCS. Six years ago (*addressing the 8<sup>th</sup> grade*), you were starting third grade as eager young students thirsty for knowledge from your teachers. Today you are young ladies and gentlemen asserting yourselves in your ever-expanding world as unique individuals. While these assertions sometimes led to overstepping of established boundaries, each one of these probes into the rules and structure of your environment served as an opportunity to learn.

So, what does your future hold? Only time will tell but the next step clearly involves the excitement and adventure of high school. As someone who has been there before, this is my opportunity to share advice as I look back to what I wish I knew at your age.

You are already off to a great start with the strong ethical and moral foundation that WNCS provided. Going through life you will often understand what is right and what is wrong. You will be repeatedly

challenged, however, to choose right over wrong. The world is troubled and at times seems like it has veered off course. It is up to each one of us to do our part to help heal the world around us. Luckily, this is actually very simple to do. Every act of kindness – no matter how small – achieves this goal. From the few people I have gotten to know here, it is clear that you are all well exposed to this concept of kindness. That is one of the school’s strengths, which larger schools struggle to emulate.

I would be remiss to give a whole speech at a graduation ceremony for a Christian school – standing in a sanctuary no less – without including at least one quote from the Bible. From First Peter, Chapter four, Verses eight and nine of the New Testament:

*Above all, keep loving one another earnestly,  
since love covers a multitude of sins.  
Show hospitality to one another without grumbling.*

Through love, we heal. By healing, we do our part to make the world a better place.

As you get ready to begin your high school career, I have a few suggestions. Maybe I should call it the High School Challenge, which if I understand today’s culture properly will leave you no choice but to try. I am not going to tell you to do your homework. I am not going to tell you to listen to your parents. These are both good ideas but will not help to define your life as well as the High School Challenge.

My challenge to you is to find your passion. You all have an amazing opportunity in the next four years. From within the safety of a loving and supportive home, you are free to discover who you are. You are free to try new things. Your high school years are like an incubator. All of your days leading to today have given you the building blocks to construct an extraordinary life for yourself. During the next four years you can explore yourself, your environment, and your world. When you come out on the other side, you will be a young adult. You will still have much growing to do after high school. You will continue to make mistakes throughout your life – just ask any adult. However, never again will you be able to spread your wings in pursuit of your passion under the safety and protection of a loving home.

I may not be the wisest parent in the room tonight but my advice to you comes from a place where I do have my share of wisdom and ex-

perience. Do not be afraid to make mistakes. I've made plenty of them and now here I am talking to you as part of a graduation ceremony. I have found that mistakes are often the best way to truly learn. Some of life's best lessons are a result of a mistake.

While you are in the midst of all these mistakes, it may be tempting to regret them. Some decisions will seem like good decisions. Some decisions will seem like poor decisions. Remember that whatever the decisions you have made in the past, they have all combined to make you the special unique individual sitting in this sanctuary celebrating your success today. Besides, it is rare to have enough perspective on a situation to know for certain if your decisions were good or bad. Don't waste your energy judging but focus on learning and growing as a person.

Let me just summarize some key points I would like you to take away from this speech:

- **Make the world a better place** – share the love, kindness, patience, and compassion that is within you to help to heal the ills and pains of the world.
- **Search for your passion** – you can be a success following your talents but you will never be fully alive without exploring your passions.
- **Do not be afraid of making mistakes** – they are excellent learning opportunities and demonstrate that you are exploring the boundaries of what is possible for you.
- **Avoid regret** – too much time looking backward and asking what if, risks distracting your attention from the beauty of today and the promise of tomorrow.

A couple of final quotes. The first is from Howard Thurman who was an author, philosopher, and civil rights activist born in 1899. He was a key mentor to leaders in the civil rights movement including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

*Ask not what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive... then go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.*

And my final quote is from a movie released 28 years ago but timeless and still relevant today – Dead Poets Society.

*Now, we all have a great need for acceptance. But you must trust that your beliefs are unique, your own, even though others may think them odd or unpopular, even though the herd may go, “That’s baaaaad.” Robert Frost said, “Two roads diverged in a wood and I, I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.”*

It is time to start seeking your road. Dare to be extraordinary!

## **10<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduate Jordan Kinsey’s Speech**



We all have fears. That’s a given, it’s a natural human characteristic. It seems like fears are always put in the bad category though, like alongside drugs and clowns, but I think some fears can be good. I mean being afraid of pain: that’s a good thing; it means that you probably won’t go around purposefully jumping out of trees in hopes to get hurt. But really, some fears can be good. I think that the fear of failure is a good thing because it helps you to work harder and find motivation.

In fact, my biggest fear in life, aside from spiders of course, is failing accomplishing anything whether that’s due to illness, having my life cut short, the world exploding into a million pieces. Whatever the cause, I am scared of not achieving anything and I feel like my life here at WNCs has really supported that fear, whether that’s a good thing or a bad thing, I don’t know.

Being here at WNCs has prompted me to ‘overachieve’ in a sense. To me there always seemed to be some sort of competition. Especially with all of my siblings going to the same school as me there was definitely competition. From 3rd and 4th grades when my brother always got better grades than me on spelling tests even up into 7th grade when we had to perform on stage together, I always had this urge to beat him at something. Then he left along with 3/5ths of my class. All these years I had spent competing with them were over and I would finally be able to relax.....or so I thought. High school was a totally different story.

I remember the summer before my Freshman year I was so scared of entering high school. I felt pressured because all the little kids would

be looking up to me and I just assumed I would have no free time whatsoever, even though I ended up being the cause of that, and that basically my life would end. I figured that one day I would die due to stress overload and that my body would be found hunched over a science textbook. Aside from that though, I assumed that without as much competition my few years left would be more enjoyable. That, my friends, is where I was extremelyyyyyy wrong.

High school was not as hard as I thought it was going to be, considering my outrageously high standards, but these were the years when I started doing things for myself. I went from my only motivation being to beat my brother to – woah! I really want to succeed for myself. I'm not quite sure what prompted this change, it could have been due to losing my classmates or the new material, I don't know. All I know is that I developed this fear of not being able to accomplish anything. I mean, most of us don't want to be slumped over a couch in our mother's basement at the age of 50 right? I mean I hope so anyway.

As this fear developed, however, I started doing more work than I was assigned. I thought that maybe that would compensate for doing to the bare minimum before I started high school. I also started finding new things that motivated me, a great example being language. When I started learning French this year I realized that languages were something that meant a lot to me and something that I got immense joy from. I would spend more time on my French projects and homework than on any of my other courses. Sorry to all my other teachers. This year actually, for my final French Project we had to create a short story and I remember spending almost all of my free time in and out of school making sure everything was perfect and exactly the way I wanted it. I actually redid a few of the pages just because of a small mistake, but my hard work on that paid off. Another thing I realized from learning French this year was that becoming fluent in a language would be a big accomplishment for me and would maybe help me to get over this fear of mine.

In this past year especially I became really afraid of what I was going to do after leaving WNCS and wondering if I would accomplish anything with my life factored into that. Being at WNCS has really helped me on my path of discovering what I want to do with my life and has also reassured me in many ways, teaching me about Providence being one of them. I've been taught that at the end of the day

having that trust in God is what reassures a lot of people that they'll be okay. So even if the world does end up exploding and we all die, God will pull through for us if we let him. It's not like believing this has cured my problems but it has made me significantly less stressed about my life to come.

So finally I would like to say thank you to WNCS for putting up with me and this fear of mine. With all my mood swings and bad days, all the hours spent after school helping me finish projects, all my tears shed over flash card, and all the times that I tried to figure out my life goals with Mrs. Sprinkle and having them constantly change. Thank you WNCS for being there as I grew up and helping me not only to discover this fear of mine but to help me get started on overcoming it.

## COMMUNITY NEWS!

Hi everyone! Hanna is here once again to report on your community news. I've loved getting to talk to everyone when they send in their news. I'm glad to be around so many interesting people.

The time of summer sun and vacation is upon us! Cheers to time away from work and time with family and friends. Don't forget to wear sunscreen. ☺

Last month, I missed out on a few tidbits of information, so I'll include that here.

Happy 80<sup>th</sup> birthday news! **Quentin Hyatt's** two daughters, Natascha Hyatt Pointer and Cara Hyatt Nelson together with Lois and George McCurdy gave him a party for his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of May in Bryn Athyn. Wynne Hyatt wrote in to tell me that the party was held "at the Bryn Ellis House (what was the old van Zyverden house on South Avenue, now owned by Shannon Good. This is a wonderful venue for such an event). I, of course, attended as did Wynne, Brent & Amanda along with Sophie, Jana and her kids. Quentin's grandkids were there as well as many others from the Bryn Athyn area."

I heard through the grapevine that **Brenna Sweeney** was celebrated for achievements at Bryn Athyn College. Paige's email excite-

ment was contagious! Brenna received the Coach's Award for women's lacrosse and Scholar Athlete of the Year. So awesome. ☺

Janna Zuber wrote in to share some athletic achievements too—  
“**Phil, Kira and Joseph** successfully hiked the Grand Canyon - 17 miles in one day with some family and friends at the end of April, either the 5th or sixth year running for Phil.” **Janna** also just returned from a 5 day art retreat with 9 other painters “nestled” in the mountains of Orkney Springs, Va - Shrine Mont. She said, “It was very successful and energizing, and I highly recommend Shrine Mont - an Episcopal run retreat center to others looking for a place to, well, retreat to!”

This month, we've been looking at many graduations from past WNCs folks, some baby news, some exciting achievements and thankful wishes.

**Austin Cole** graduated on June 5<sup>th</sup>, ending a year being captain of the football and wrestling teams. In wrestling, Nancy said, “He got first in the county, second in the region and 6<sup>th</sup> in the state. And his football team went to playoffs!”

**Anders Croft** graduated from the Eleanor Roosevelt High School Science & Tech program on June 5. Sharon says, “He celebrated with his classmates at an all-night lock-in, and then spent a week in Ocean City MD. Anders is working this summer for ‘the Bee Guy,’ Sam Droege, at the USGS Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab in Beltsville, MD- <https://www.flickr.com/photos/usgsbim/>.”

**Marcus Moore** had some exciting news—Wanda wrote to share that he “received a summer internship at Redemption Christian Academy (RCA) in Northfield, MA. Marcus will be working with the Athletic Director and basketball team at RCA for the next three weeks. He will once again be a resident assistant (RA) in the dorm at Virginia State University and moves in on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.”

BABY NEWS! Rev. Michael shared some very exciting news about his daughter: “Arree and Regis are the proud parents of a little baby boy, Hezekiah (6 lbs, 18 inches) born at 3:51 pm on Saturday, June 17 at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring. The

mother and baby are doing fine...and dad too.” Mr. Ferrell, you’re going to be one amazing Grandpa!

I got some news from the Adventuring Johns family-- **Brad, Jr. and Kathy** went to Antiques Roadshow for the Harrisburg episode taping on June 4th. Kathy says, “We took jewelry and other treasures. Brad's Norse Pottery bowl purchased at auction for \$10 was appraised at \$750! My F.J. Cooper heirloom jewelry was looked at by an appraiser who worked at the store in Philadelphia early in his jewelry career and knew Elaine, Doug and Ted Cooper. It's a small world. Maybe we'll be in the feedback booth when the show airs in December.”

**Kathy** also graduated from the Maryland Safe Hunter course and she can now help Brad control the whitetail population. She says, “If you want to be on the venison list, let us know.”

**Brad** had some stories to share, too—he says that he’s been staying busy and working from home. It sounds like he’s having so much fun. He says, “Doing what I love is a true blessing. I have new adventures in learning every day, and have been getting some fun work too. My last few jobs included:

- Two 30 second TV ads for a public library,
- One 30 sec ad/ TV spot for Prestone Coolant/Antifreeze. Hoping this one will be on regional TV here locally later this summer.
- I’ve done 2 video game voices, really fun. One is the voice of HEX the war chief, for the game, Heroes of New Earth!
- Something to audition for every day!”

**Sharon Croft** sent me a note about their family camping trip to Assateague State Park in June. She said that they had a little rain, a little wind, and “a whole lotta sun!”

**Phil and Janna Zuber** wrote in to share that they “were thrilled to get to see a bit of their oldest Devin when he came east to be a part of the Swedenborg and The Arts Conference at the college in Bryn Athyn earlier in June. And he was happy to be a part of a good old-fashioned Maryland crab feast with almost all of the family before he flew back to his home in Berkeley. "Yes we love it when

we get the gang together and look forward to the whole gang for Kira and Joseph's wedding in October."

Janna also has another solo show of recent works hanging in Woods Memorial Church in Pasadena MD from the end of July through Labor Day weekend!



**Becca Smith** told me a story about some horse-y summer fun—"Back around Christmas, Lincoln promised **Sohaila** that if she learned to master three songs on the fife, she would go to horse camp. After practicing 5 minutes a day for about six months, she did it! Here she is with her

favorite horse, Maverick at Merkel Equestrian Center."

Also, **Charlotte Radcliffe** worked at Merkel as a camp counselor to help Sohaila and other campers that week!

**Lisa Martin** wrote in to share news about both of her children.

"The first week of June, **Carl's** U15 Bowie Select soccer team won first place in the 2017 Sand Duals Soccer tournament in OC, MD. The games are played on the beach so it is a great workout. His team played and won 4 games in one day. Carl scored at least 1 goal in every game, including 2 shootout goals for the win."

"**Emily** recently developed a coloring/activity book for a clinical trial for children with Short Bowel Disease as an "intern" type project with my company- FCB Health. The client was very impressed with it and selected it for production. Starting this summer, her book will be given out to all kids enrolling in the trial through their doctor's office." !!! Amazing.

**Deena and Jerry Odhner** finally concluded the house buying they've been working on for ages! Deena shared this whole story with me, and all of her friends in our community.

"After months of difficult buying problems, the settlement went quickly and we now have our house on the little lake, near Eva and

Joe in Wilmington, North Carolina. Our great realtor smacked us into shape and gave us tasks and set our date to put our house on the market for July 10. What! The house will be empty by Friday the 7th. OK, I admit I was lolly-gagging - cleaning here then packing a box there. Now everything has got to go. I did not want to leave the Washington Society - it's my Home church. Having been here from the beginning of not just the church here in Mitchellville, MD, but the church on Douglas St in DC, and back to the Freedom House and back to church in Arbutus, MD. So, you all will have a big place in my heart. I hate to leave all my dear friends, but we feel that we can make a difference in our grandchildren's lives. Who doesn't love to play with grandkids? So good-bye; I am as near as your phone." Best wishes to you and your grandchildren!

**Marie Kazeem** wrote in to share some unfortunate news: "**Paul** had his knee surgery on the 15th. It's a slow recovery with lots of ice and pain medicine. He will start physical therapy soon. Hopefully he will be back on both feet by August. We are taking advantage of the situation by keep him busy with Summer SAT Prep and Reading classes."

**Curt and Wanda Moore** wrote in to send many thanks to our whole community. They said, "We would like to thank Washington New Church Society and family for all of their cards, calls, thoughts and prayers during the loss of Curt's Mom and cousin. We know that both are in a better place and no longer suffering. Continue to keep our family in your prayers."

Many good wishes and thoughts go out to all of you and all of our wider community! Keep sharing your news. I love reading about everyone. But Hugo is a little bit jealous that I'm getting out my computer more and not letting him help me type. ;)

