

March 2022

ECHO ECHO

Newsletter of the Washington Church of the New Jerusalem

www.theWNC.org • 301-464-5602

Pastor: Rev. Glenn (Mac) Frazier
11801 Chantilly Lane; Mitchellville, MD 20721
Mac.frazier@gmail.com

~~~~~  
Asst. Pastor, 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. Chuck Quintero

[wnc.deputy\\_treasurer@washnewchurch.org](mailto:wnc.deputy_treasurer@washnewchurch.org)

WCNJ Inc. Investment Treasurer

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

George Cooper

[cooperpatents@verizon.net](mailto:cooperpatents@verizon.net)

**To donate, go to: <http://giving.ncsservices.org/dl/?uid=ncs-2818>**

## From the Pastor

Easter is coming up in a month and a half. Every year, General Church societies typically celebrate the Easter season with worship gatherings on three special days: Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. And every year, I am struck by how much of the story of the life of the Lord happens during that short, eight-day

span of time. Because of how we typically schedule things, it is difficult to do a full sermon series covering all the events of this holy week, because that would require stuffing nearly a year's worth of Sundays in between Palm Sunday and Easter!

*“...if we’re going by how much emphasis the Word itself puts on various events, there’s a strong argument to say that it is **Easter** (and everything surrounding it) that should really get our greatest focus among all the holidays in our year-long calendar.”*

Don’t believe me? Look for yourself. From the triumphal entry of Palm Sunday to the sealing of the Lord’s tomb is covered by six chapters in Matthew, five in Mark, four and a half in Luke, and seven and a half in John. Altogether, that represents around forty(!) distinct events in the Life of the Lord. And that’s not even

including the story of the Resurrection on up to the Lord’s Ascension, which is another dozen stories or so. (And for completeness’ sake, that would extend the series by an additional chapter in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and two more in John.)

In the broad world around us, Christmas certainly looks like the “Big Holiday” of Christianity. For us in the New Church, New Church Day (a.k.a. June 19th) is a uniquely special day. But if we’re going by how much emphasis the Word itself puts on various events, there’s a strong argument to say that it is Easter (and everything surrounding it) that should really get our greatest focus among all the holidays in our year-long calendar.

In traditional Christian churches the emphasis on Easter is not uncommon, but for the most part for them it is a celebration of a substitutionary sacrifice and a vicarious atonement. Traditional Christianity sees Easter as all about the Lord “dying for our sins”. As a New Church pastor, however, I see it as not a memorial of the Lord’s death, but of the culmination and triumph of His life. The message of Easter is not that Jesus died, but that after that He lived!

This month, I encourage you to choose one of the Gospels, and make a daily reading plan to read through the events of Holy Week

and beyond. Start with Mat. 21:1, Mark 11:1, Luke 19:28, or John 12:12, and go forward from there. See all the things that Easter week is about. And above all, don't stop at the cross. The message of Easter is an empty tomb and a risen Lord.

In the internal sense of the Word 'a grave' means life, which is heaven, and in the contrary sense death, which is hell. The reason it means life or heaven is that angels, who possess the internal sense of the Word, have no other concept of a grave, because they have no other concept of death. Consequently, instead of a grave they perceive nothing else than the continuation of life, and so resurrection. For man rises again as to the spirit and is buried as to the body... Now because 'burial' means resurrection, it also means regeneration, since regeneration is the primary resurrection of a person, for when regenerated you die as regards your former self and rise again as regards your new self. It is through regeneration that from being a dead person you become a living one, and it is from this that the meaning of 'a grave' is derived in the internal sense. When the idea of a grave presents itself the idea of regeneration comes to mind with angels... (Secrets of Heaven 2916:1)

Rev. Glenn "Mac" Frazier

### **From the Board of Trustees**

The BoT met for a brief monthly meeting on February 8. Due to several absences, we were not able to fully discuss all usual topics; however, we discussed upcoming Board elections and a nominating committee, heard, and discussed status regarding the school, and other topics of general business. Anyone who is willing to serve on the Board of Trustees, School Board, or on the Nominating Committee is invited to contact the Pastor or any member of the Board. Our next meeting will be held on March 1 – a week early to avoid WNCs Spring Break.

~ Sharon Cooper, WCNJ, Inc. Secretary

## From the School

This past Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades put on a lovely pageant during Friday chapel. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade parents were invited to join for the pageant and several attended.



The students had a large backdrop that they had painted of Mt. Sinai complete with lightning. The entire class stood in front of the mountain in children of Israel costume. They sang several Hebrew hymns, took turns reading the story of the giving of the Ten Commandments and recited them (in brief) in Hebrew.

The students did a wonderful, moving job. Thanks, Mrs. Ball & the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grades. ~ Bonnie

### ACTON PARK CORPORATION MEETING March 2022 ECHO REPORT

As previously announced in the Echo, the Acton Park Corporation meeting was held via Zoom at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. After establishing a quorum, a motion to approve minutes from the 2/22/21 Corporation meeting was made and approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's report: Steve Ball reported a bank balance of \$8116 as of 1/31/22, after taxes paid and noted a \$150 donation from the Reid Temple Cub Scouts as well as a check received from Alder Solar, Inc for \$500 for a 180-day Lease Option extension.

Promissory Notes: Question was asked on the status of paydowns with recent home sales. The Board continues to oversee paydown of homeowner Promissory Notes as homes are sold. Anyone wishing to pay for their note without an imminent home sale, is welcome to do so. Contact any member of the Board.

Sharon Kunkle presented the President's report with updates on Board activity over the past year:

- Alder Solar, Inc. is currently working to get stormwater management/civil design approved. As a result of pandemic-related slowdowns, the AP Board approved their request for a 180-day extension to the Lease Option document, and a check was received for that. The Deed of Trust and document change approval from Alder, discussed at the 2021 meeting have both been approved and filed as needed. Alder continues to provide updates as needed for the Fowler farming operation, regarding expected start dates and planting schedule.
- Field Use proposal: Brian and Janine report they are not currently ready to move forward with further plans on the proposal submitted at the 2021 Corporation meeting.
- Cul-de-sac path: Homeowner concern about use of the path between the Progress Lane cul-de-sac and the field behind the Trimble and Cooper properties, resulted in a deep dive into Acton Park historical documents (**thank you, George, and Phil!**). After hours of live and email discussion and research, a Resolution allowing Forested employees and guests to use the Acton Park-owned path was adopted by the Board at the February 10 meeting. A subcommittee was created to finalize details as needed.
- Forested, Inc: The Board created a new liaison position to streamline communications with Forested for permissions and

questions over the course of the year. Andy Cooper will serve in this position for 2022-23.

- Acton Park property and trails: In July, the Reid Cub Scouts asked to use the soccer field for their family event and followed up with a nice donation. Some school parents are interested in using the soccer field as the weather warms, for a variety of group sizes going forward.



As our most recent Woodlands Use Policy is 28 years old, and with changing demographics in and around our Church society, there is a need to update and clarify our vision and expectations. The Board will be working on this project for the coming year. **Special thanks** to David Radcliffe, for putting in hours of hard work on trail maintenance.

Elections: Steve Ball, Nancy Cole, and Janna Zuber (incumbents) agreed to serve another term. They were elected by voice vote.

THANK YOU to everyone who attended the meeting. Members are welcome to attend Board meetings. We welcome your questions, comments, and support.

~ Sharon Kunkle, President

**Acton Park Board 2022-23: Steve Ball (T), Nancy Cole, Andy Cooper (S), Craig Cooper, Bonnie Cowley,**

**Sharon Kunkle (P), Lisa Martin (VP), Aaron Smith, Janna Zuber.**

### **MYSTERY...Solved?**

#### ***True or False?***

1. Acton Park, Inc. is a non-stock, for profit Corporation.
2. Acton Park is the name of a small housing development on Enterprise Road, in Mitchellville, Maryland.
3. Acton Park, Inc., is the developmental arm of the Washington Church of the New Jerusalem.

Did you ever wonder “Who can be a member of the Acton Park Corporation?”

Answer: “The members...shall consist of...**any member** of the Washington Church of the New Jerusalem...”

What does this mean for YOU? You do not have to be a homeowner in the small development along Chantilly and Progress Lanes, to join the Corporation. Contact AP Secretary, Andy Cooper - [acooper@wrallp.com](mailto:acooper@wrallp.com) for more information.



### TAG Corner

Thank-you all for turning out to supply the care packages! They were full of fun treats for our far-from-home students!

We will also be having a TAG banquet on March 19th with Angela Radcliffe as the speaker! (*see p.9*) We are still looking for cooks and a banquet head if anyone is interested.

We're looking forward to planning more in-person events as Covid begins to lighten so keep an eye out! ~ Carina Heinrichs – TAG president.

## Announcements

Coming this May – (*Date to be determined*) Annual Church Yard Sale

- Start saving your good stuff for donation - spring cleaning? seedlings to sell? Save things for the SALE.
- Please consider helping with the sale - sorting in the days beforehand or helping with the sale and CLEAN UP. It's easy, fun to work together, and you get lunch and a yard sale free pick!
- More info to come as we get closer.

Please email Kathy Johns with your input. Thanks - come on Spring!

## THETA ALPHA INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

**Scholarships for young women enrolling at Bryn Athyn College** are available. Applications are due April 1, 2022. For more info, visit [brynathyn.edu/costs-and-financial-aid/scholarships.html](http://brynathyn.edu/costs-and-financial-aid/scholarships.html). To apply, email [ancdaughters@gmail.com](mailto:ancdaughters@gmail.com).

**Two annual scholarships are available for high school girls** entering ANC for the 2022-2023 school year who exemplify the teachings of the New Church. Applications are due April 1, 2021. For applications or any questions, email [ancdaughters@gmail.com](mailto:ancdaughters@gmail.com).

*More information on the lobby bulletin boards*

**Templeton Laws of Life Essay Contest:** All High School Sophomore (or 15–16-year-old) girls world-wide are eligible to enter this contest. This essay is about your personal laws of life. Winners receive a certificate and a check: 1st Place: \$100 USD, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place \$75 USD, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place \$50 USD. For contest **guide-lines**, email [ANCdaughters@gmail.com](mailto:ANCdaughters@gmail.com). Submissions must be received by April 1, 2022.

**Group Volunteer Opportunity:** There is a volunteer opportunity to help set up group homes for refugees from Afghanistan, and I thought it would be fun to get a group from the church and school to volunteer their time together. It looks like the housing is in the Landover area, and involvement could be as simple as spending a couple hours cleaning or transporting furniture, painting.... If you are interested in joining a group let me know. Gillian 512-694-4403. For more information check out the link below. There is a link to volunteer at the top of that webpage if you love the idea and want to volunteer regardless of whether other people are interested.

<https://www.volunteermatch.org/search/opp3413785.jsp>

## News Notes

*Notes on Only the Very Best News, usually:*

**Good News:** Your mind is designed to receive truth. (Read all about it in AE 243.) So...



**Truth In Reporting:** Short months like February don't give us much time to have any news happen, so here goes nothin'.

February got off the ground with, of course, a groundhog, but fortunately it happened in Pennsylvania so little damage was done here - yet. Punxsutawney Phil, along with his shadow, arrived on February 2<sup>nd</sup> to solemnly advise us that winter would last 6 more weeks, which will take us to March 16<sup>th</sup>. Since astronomers tell us that spring doesn't arrive until March 20<sup>th</sup> it seems we will have a few days that aren't anything - neither hot nor cold. That is rather ominous (see AR 202).

Or maybe it will be a good thing: 4 days that don't exist – just like snow days without the snow.

### **New AP residents**

Welcome to our newest Acton Park neighbors, Hermon, Heather and their 10-month-old baby girl – Issa – who moved into the former home of Matt & Sara Smith on Progress Lane the week of February 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Got well:**

Happily, the **Fraziers** have recovered from an attack of the quarantines and are back amongst the rest of us. Among others, Assistant Pastor **Brian Smith** welcomed them back!

### **Questionables:**

Did you know that if you live in Prince George's County, you have been rezoned? It happened in November, although some of us have been in another zone for a lot longer than that. It didn't hurt us or Acton Park, but we noticed that a lot of trees fell on the other side of Enterprise Road.

Did you notice that **Bonnie Cowley** changed the date of the Super Bowl to match the time of the Church's "Souper Sunday"? Good work Bonnie. Made lots of money selling chili and corn bread. Next month we will try selling Peru.

Did you watch the Olympics? Never saw so many athletes crying. And flying.

### **Sad News:**

We are sorry to hear that **Hanna Hyatt's** extended family has had many losses recently - both of her grandparents and an aunt in a year's time. She sends her thanks to all for the good thoughts sent to her and her family.

### **More News:**

Virtual Talent Night occurred on Saturday, February 26th at 6:45pm. We can't report on it first-hand because it happened too late for our Echo deadline. But wait until next month when we can tell you all about the kindergarten kids performing the Mexican Hat Dance and other such delights.

Thanks, Theta Alpha. Your cards and letters were (and are) much appreciated.

Theta Alpha was also busy working wonders for the school faculty, preparing a sumptuous lunch on Valentine's Day lunch. Fifteen teachers and others enjoyed a grand banquet at the school (while the kids behaved themselves, of course).

### **Slow News Day:**

The editor is pleased to announce that he got a new pair of warm, insulated boots. Two days later it was sunny and 70° outside. The plan worked.

An invite from Principal **Smith**: Have you been missing face-to-face community? Every Wednesday night at 8pm we have a community fire circle for adults. BYOB (that's "bananas") and snacks; bring a friend or make some new friends.

Do you have a chainsaw and gloves? There are still fallen branches around the school campus that could use tidying up. Contact Brian Smith if this project interests you.

Here's a task for each one of you: take a stack of WNCS promotional postcards and distribute them to friends, neighbors, soccer moms, community bulletin boards, doctors' offices etc.

Your News is a valuable commodity for struggling publications like this one. So please share. Besides – we like to hear from you! We are just a keyboard away.

## **Theta Alpha Guild Banquet Saturday, March 19, 2022**



Guest Speaker: Angela Radcliffe  
– Enterprise Digital Innovation Lead  
for Bristol Meyers Squibb

**TOPIC: “Thy Will be Done”, The unexpected upsides of surrendering control in an upside-down world.**

Angela Radcliffe is a clinical research expert and data ethics evangelist with over two decades of experience driving transformation and organizational agility at the intersection of health, tech, and data.

~ ~ ~

7:00pm Banquet

The banquet will be held at the church, carefully prepared, and served in a COVID safe manner. Masks will be worn except when seated and eating.

Speech will begin at 8:00pm

*Please reserve your banquet seat by contacting:*

[bonnie.cowley@washnewchurch.org](mailto:bonnie.cowley@washnewchurch.org)

Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$6 for students



*March Anniversaries*

*“Love combined with friendship continues on after the wedding and is strengthened - a friendship which differs greatly from that of any other love, because it is a full one.”*

*~ Emanuel Swedenborg CL 214 ~*



*Mar. 12<sup>th</sup> ~ Bill & Dorothy Radcliffe ~ 62 yrs.*

*Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> ~ John & Jean Allen ~ 53 yrs.*

*Mar. 30<sup>th</sup> ~ Aaron & Eva Smith ~ 26 yrs.*

