

May 2023

ECHO

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Newsletter of the Washington Church of the New Jerusalem

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## From the Pastor

I believe that community is essential for spiritual growth and personal development. That's why the Washington New Church offers a variety of groups for you to get involved in and connect with others who share similar interests and beliefs. Whether you're looking to deepen your understanding of the Word, build stronger

relationships with others, or simply have fun and make new friends, we have a group for you!

### **Monday Night Reading Group**

If you're interested in reading and discussing the Heavenly Doctrines, our Monday Night Reading Group is the perfect place for you. This group meets every two weeks online and is currently reading *True Christian Religion*. Join us for lively discussions and thought-provoking insights into New Church doctrine.

### **Married Couples Group**

Marriage can be challenging, but it doesn't have to be. Our Married Couples Group meets once a month in person to positively support one another in marriages, discuss doctrines related to marriage, and occasionally share a meal together. Join us for a fun and supportive community of couples who are committed to building healthy, lasting marriages.

### **Music Team**



Do you love music? Our Music Team meets every Wednesday night to play instruments and sing together, preparing music for Sunday worship and special events. Join us to develop your musical skills, express your creativity, and be part of a vibrant and talented group of musicians.

### **Volleyball**

If you're looking for a fun and active way to connect with others, our volleyball group is the perfect choice. They meet mostly on Wednesdays to play volleyball and enjoy the great outdoors. Join us for some friendly competition and lots of laughs.

### **Fire Circle**

Our Fire Circle group is a casual gathering outdoors at church every Wednesday night. Join us to share stories, enjoy the warmth of the fire, and connect with others in a relaxed and informal setting.

## Morning Bible Study

I'm excited to announce the formation of our new Morning Bible Study group! This group will meet weekly or bi-weekly, depending on interest and availability, and will begin by studying the life of David in the books of Samuel through to the beginning of the 1st Book of Kings. Join us to deepen your understanding of the Bible and connect with others who share your interest and better understanding the Lord's Word.

All our groups are free to join, and we welcome anyone who wants to participate. So why not get involved in church life and join a group today? Whether you're new to the church or a long-time member, there's a place for you in our vibrant and welcoming community.

If you're interested in joining the Morning Bible Study group or have questions about any of our other groups, please contact us today. See the calendar in *The Echo* for exact dates and times. We look forward to hearing from you!

Rev. Glenn "Mac" Frazier, Pastor  
Washington New Church, 2023-04-26

## Acton Park News



The Acton Park board has officially entered into a lease with Enterprise Road Solar, LLC to put a solar farm on the property next to the D&S General Store. They expect construction to begin later this summer. This

has been a lengthy process in which the entire board has participated. We need to thank outgoing president Sharon Kunkle for all her work as well as our supreme volunteer,

George Cooper. Stay tuned for more updates as this project proceeds.

~ James Roscoe – AP Board President

## The White Horse Academy Ventures North

Because Mrs. Sprinkle (myself) believes that driving north for nine hours deserves more than two days, she (I) decided to extend the trip for the New Church Youth Weekend in Canada, to an additional two days of educational experience in conjunction with the Environmental Science class her (my) students are taking. As we are focusing a lot on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, we took samples of water at Havre de Grace, where the Susquehanna River



meets the Chesapeake Bay, about midway up the Susquehanna River in Hallstead, and then at the source of the Susquehanna River, Otsega Lake. After collecting the samples, we tested them...but have not yet had a chance to analyze the results. Look for the official reports in the hallway next to our classroom.

Thanks to Principal Brian Smith's network of connections, we had the best accommodation we could ask for. Edmund Brown and his wife Normandy let us stay in their home in Cooperstown, a sweet little town on Otsega Lake that is also home to the Baseball Hall of Fame. We were invited to tour Cairnwood Farm, which is a wonderful example of ecologically sound farming practices and is owned by brothers Garth and Edmund. After the tour, which included a beautiful respite at a waterfall, the students mulched half of the farm's pecan trees, staving off the weeds that could choke and prevent growth of these tender saplings.

The afternoon was spent walking through the Farm Museum where we had the opportunity to interact with a broom maker, a master weaver and a blacksmith. All were dressed in 1850's period costumes and knew their trades backwards and forwards as demonstrated by the thorough answers given to a multitude of good questions from our students. We also studied and rode on a carousel, the brainchild of a couple of New York teachers who wanted a fun way to share the history of the state of New York with children. Each animal was either a state animal or represented something important to the state of New York. The panels on the center column showed important industries from the different counties of

New York and the inside canopy showed different historical events. There were so many details, it would take hours to notice everything. Each piece of the carousel (apart from the machinery) was carved from wood. It was spectacular to behold. Thanks to the curiosity of one of our students, we even got to see the gear works. I don't know about the students, but I certainly enjoyed the ride which brought back many happy memories.

Sadly, we arrived at the Fenimore Museum too late to enter but walked around the grounds. We saw an example of a bark home such as were used by the Mohawk Nation on their fishing expeditions and a log cabin. There was also a tall totem made by Reg Davidson, a member of the Haida. It was a beautiful day to be outside, but I must say our feet were tired and happy for a rest.

In Cooperstown, we also experienced the local cuisine for dinners and especially for morning coffee. If you visit, there is a wonderful little bakery - Schneider's Bakery - on Main Street, which I highly recommend for its lattes and delicious baked goods.

The WHA owes thanks to our Cooperstown hosts, Normandy, and Edmund. We had a wonderful time while we were there.



Because seeing Niagara from one side is not enough, on Friday, we went to Niagara Falls State Park and spent about an hour admiring the beauty of God's nature. Then we uneventfully crossed into Canada and spent about 20 minutes, again admiring the beauty of God's nature, be-

fore students from Kempton and Kitchener coalesced with WHA students into vans to complete the journey to the Carmel New Church and experience a larger community.

Community provides support and comfort in times of need. It is where we can relax and come together with people of similar values and culture. As the General Church of the New Jerusalem works to survive in today's climate of moral ignorance and misguided social norms, it is more important than ever to foster

community among our young people no matter where they call home. The White Horse Academy students had the opportunity to join with students from Glenview, Bryn Athyn, Pittsburgh, Kempton, Rochester, Toronto, and Kitchener. A group of about 58 students in grades 7-12 played social games, sports, and music together. They helped plant native trees for Earth Day. They learned about the affirmative principle. They worshiped together and helped put on a society breakfast. There was much laughter, a few tears, and a lot of communication and sharing of culture happening. Hopefully, these events will become more frequent in nature and a real sense of community will be fostered among our young people everywhere. A huge thanks goes out to the Carmel New Church for hosting, and specifically to Justin and Denali Schorran, Naomi Reid, Brett Buick and Calvin Heinrichs for their planning and execution of this fantastic event. Thank you!

Jana Sprinkle – Education Coach

## Announcements

**Guitar to Borrow?** My son, Jonathan Sprinkle, is looking for an acoustic guitar he could borrow or rent for a month or two. If you have one available, please contact me at [janasprinkle@gmail.com](mailto:janasprinkle@gmail.com) or 410-220-9003.

Thank you! ~ Jana Sprinkle

## TAG Corner



Hello friends! This Month, the Theta Alpha Guild will hold a meeting **Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>**. The Meeting will begin at 7pm with Bingo followed by the business meeting at 8pm. Come early, at 7pm, to play! Prizes!

Also featured: Tea, coffee, and light snacks. All women are welcome to attend!

This month we'll be talking about graduation, End-of-the-year support for the school, June 19<sup>th</sup> gifts for the kids and any summer help needed for the church or the school.

See you there! ~ Carina Heinrichs – TAG President

## WNCS May-June Calendar

**Community BBQ** (5/6 – 4pm). Connect with old friends and new!

**Talent Night** (5/12. 7pm) singing? Juggling? Painting? Story telling? showcase your talents! (But sign up ahead of time)

**Coffee & Doughnuts and Work Party** (May 13, 8am - 1pm) Build community, beautify the campus, and earn PSP credit.

**Memorial Day Holiday** (5/29) School closed.

**Field Trip Day** (5/30) More information to follow.

**Field Day.** (6/1) Noon close.

**School play Performance** (6/1) 7pm

**School closing service** (6/2, 11am) Noon pick up.

## YOU ARE INVITED!



**Come one, Come all!** to the **WHA-Sponsored Talent Night** on **Friday, May 12th at 7:00 p.m.** in the **multi-purpose room at the church.**

Bring your talent! We would love for you to **participate** and show us the amazing talent you have, be it instrumental, vocal,

original, or mechanical.

Fill out a **submission form** (the blue papers in the lobby) or **email** Mrs. Sprinkle at [jana.sprinkle@washnewchurch.org](mailto:jana.sprinkle@washnewchurch.org) as soon as possible, if you have a talent you are willing to share.

The cut-off for talent submissions is Tuesday, May 9th. If you believe you have no talent, first, I doubt that is true, but second, please **come and applaud**. **Delicious desserts** will also be available for purchase. **All funds and donations will go toward the new playground.** ~ *Jana Sprinkle - Education Coach*

**JUST IN!** from TAG: 2022-2023 “Souper” Sunday took in a whopping \$1,270. TAG then contributed half [\$335] to the church operating fund. A huge thanks to all the makers and bakers and thanks also to those who purchased the soup and bread.

**Society Annual Meeting:** The Society annual meeting will take place on Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm and will be preceded at 7:00pm by a Potluck supper: [bring the dish corresponding to the first letter of your last name.] **A -F: Entrée, G – R: Salad, S – Z: Dessert.**

**WNCS Annual  
Community BBQ**

**Sat., May 6<sup>th</sup>  
4:00pm**

**All invited - Church & School Community!**  
*Please invite extended family.  
All children must be accompanied  
by an adult*

**Go to:**  
<https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/LSSW3527>

Sign up to bring something so we will have enough food for all

*[easier to read potluck link:]*  
**<https://www.PerfectPotluck.com/LSSW3527>**



## *News Notes*

### **So, What's New?**

So how can it be news if in fact it is old? We really should call this high-quality effort "Olds."

So, what's old with you? Well, you paid your taxes (didn't you?) and that certainly gets old in a hurry. But actually, it should have made you feel good, if not exactly happy, because as you know, spiritual people pay taxes "from good will" and "willingly and cheerfully" (TCR 430). And that's why we are glad when May arrives.

### **Happenings (Happened?):**

Congratulations to **Lincoln and Valery (nee Vache) Smith** on their wedding in the Forest on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Although their weather prediction skills need some honing, their marriage ceremony skills are unparalleled: a beautiful ceremony in the deep woods with tall trees providing a glorious backdrop to the proceedings and protecting everyone (almost) from the rainfall which exactly coincided with the service. The bride and the groom were the stars, with both their families serving as the supporting musical cast and the skies providing thunderous approval. The bride wore raindrop white, and the groom wore rainy black-ish. Others wore other colors that were soddenly dampish. And everyone looked joyful as well as joyous while singing in the rain. It was a memorable occasion.

After the rain stopped, everyone walked through the Forest Garden to a huge tent which shielded them from the sun while they sat at tables and stood in lines for conversations and congratulations and speeches and food while the young at heart played games. Thanks, Lincoln, and Valery for sharing your special day with us.

The next day at the church service we enjoyed An Historic Moment with the gathering of not one or two, but **five** current and former WNC Pastors. Can you name them?

### **And In Other Happenings:**

**Candy and Chuck Quintero** are happy to announce that daughter **Stefanie** is officially engaged to **Anthony Marro!**

A baby BOY joins older sisters **Evelyn & Marianne Johns** in a family of FIVE for **Brad & Christine Johns**, now in Dayton, MD. **Beckett Hyland Johns** arrived on April 5, 2023, at 8 lbs. 4 oz. Grandparents, **Brad & Kathy** are thrilled with the new grandson and are happy to be nearby in Highland, MD to help with three children 3 and under!

We hope you didn't miss the beautiful Easter service – full of flowers and sunshine, a great sermon and great music. If you missed it, look for it online. Adding to the joy were the many visitors.

We were also happy to see the many visitors who graced our town for the wedding.

### **Bad/sad News:**

We were saddened to see that the Academy Secondary Schools have decided to close their dormitories because of financial issues. Dorm students were a vital part of the ANC high school experience for untold numbers of students, seemingly forever.

And Covid still stalks the land; the unwary and the unlucky remain at risk, so be careful.

### **Good News:**

All paperwork has been signed and given to the local attorneys for Alder Energy, the contractor for construction of a solar farm on Acton Park (covering 6 acres of the field south of the D&S Store). They plan to start construction later this summer. Thanks to **Sharon Kunkle** who carried this project through most of the preliminary work, to **James Roscoe**, who assumed the Acton Park Presidency just in time to be surprised by a last-minute tsunami of contract revisions, and to many others who worked behind the scenes to bring this preliminary phase to fruition. Now comes the construction phase, which of course will be free of all problems.



**APRIL MADNESS:** You might be interested to know that (WNCS Junior) James Frazier (with some help from his dad) has started a ping pong tournament at the school. Most of the students participated along with most of the teachers. They are now into the 4th round; it is likely that two more rounds will be

needed to determine the champion. This has been a lot of fun for the school, and with all the practicing, some of the players have really improved. They will try to pick a day where the whole school (and maybe some community) can watch the last round, so watch for notices at the school.

**Spring Work Party**  
**Sat., May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 8:00am**  
**At the church & school**  
**Coffee, Juice and Doughnuts!**

**Bring your family**  
*(all children must be accompanied by a parent)*  
**School parents can earn their much needed PSP!**



## *May Anniversaries*

*“When married partners love each other tenderly, they think of eternity in regard to the marriage covenant, and not at all of its being terminated by death.”*

*~ Emanuel Swedenborg, CL 216 ~*

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*May 9<sup>th</sup> ~ James & Missy Cooper ~ 25 yrs.*

*May 20<sup>th</sup> ~ Craig & Laura Cooper ~ 17 yrs.*

*May 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Alan & Renata Trimble ~ 19 yrs.*

*May 22<sup>nd</sup> ~ Stewart & Patti Smith ~ 47 yrs.*

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