

Summer 2024



Newsletter of the  
Washington Church of the New Jerusalem

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## Pastor's Annual Report to the Society

### Introduction

It's that time again. Another fiscal year has passed, and it's time to take stock of where we are and look ahead to where we are going. But first, let's quickly review last year's accomplishments.

### Year in Review

Over the past twelve months, here's what we've been up to as a church, broken down across our six core programs.



**Worship** - At the beginning of the now-ending fiscal year we moved forward with plans to expand and develop the music at our worship services. Ariel Martin took on the role of part-time Music Director, in addition to her duties as a homeroom teacher and a teacher of music in our school. Under her leadership, we have brought in more variety in our worship music, added worship bands to our rotation of accompaniment, giving our organists a little more breathing room in the schedule, and had special music as well as school choirs as a regular feature in our worship services.

During the past year we have celebrated the Lord's holy supper four times, and had sermons and sermon series' presenting doctrine related to: reformation, the Lord's presence, the New Church, shunning evils, the purpose of the church, baptism, trust, healing spiritual suffering, educating children, generosity, joy, the Lord's advent, the wise men, starting over, the systematic theology of the New Church, worship, optimism, spiritual seasons, temptation, love of self, falsity, peace, the hero's journey, and the two witnesses of Revelation. And in the remaining weeks of June, we will have sermons on fatherhood, the New Church, and one more topic yet to be revealed.

**Small Groups** - Our two main small groups met throughout the year. Our reading group went through a good deal of the book *True Christian Religion*. Our married couple's group has continued to support marriage in a light and joyful manner, and now has begun rotating its meeting place across various couples' homes. The planned small group to dive deep into the story of the life of David did not go as planned, due to schedule challenges and an overly perfectionist planning approach by yours truly. We did, however, once again have short-term reading groups around Christmas and Easter.

**Service** - I had a goal of getting our useful service program back on track by bringing on a part-time Volunteer Coordinator. Unfortunately, no one was able to step up to fulfill that role for us this year. So, this remains a priority for me going forward.

**Community** - We held several community activities throughout the year, including badminton and volleyball, and numerous potlucks, picnics, and barbecues. The social recreation portion of church life is on a healthy footing after being knocked onto its heels for several years by COVID.

**Communications** - We've had minor updates to our Facebook page and are just about to finally complete a major overhaul of our school website.

Our YouTube page is going strong, and now hosts over 200 videos of live-streamed events, as well as a couple dozen additional videos.

**School** - And finally, this brings us to the school. Our school Principal and Assistant Pastor is giving a separate school report at our annual meeting, so I won't go into detail. At a high level, we had a wonderful year with what has, so far in the handful of years I have been here, been perhaps the nicest group of students I have seen so far, across all grades.

This was also the year I chose to direct the majority of our strategic focus toward the school. In particular, I focused on reaffirming and clarifying our school's mission and philosophy. This was important because we are going through a phase change at our school, with many teachers retiring and new teachers signing on over a roughly seven-year period, which we are now about halfway through. After extensive discussions with faculty, trustees, advisors, parents, and church members, I directed the school to pursue the following mission:

***“To support parents in nurturing the spiritual, moral, and intellectual development of their children, using a New Church curriculum taught by New Church teachers.”***

By instilling in our students the values of love, wisdom, and useful endeavor, supported by an excellent secular education, we are striving to prepare them to become successful adult contributors to a global society in need of meaning, connection and purpose. In so doing, we also strive to serve the Lord God Jesus Christ in His work in the world.

Generally speaking, this mission is what we were already following. But by clarifying and confirming it, we have committed to trying to continue to make it work. What's more, I have committed to the school remaining solidly a form of “New Church Education”, both in its curriculum and in the culture created by its faculty.

With this in mind, we continued to work on our staffing plan, and hired another New Church educator, who officially joined our faculty for the first time at our end-of-year meetings just a handful of days ago. Unfortunately, in addition to one teacher's departure that we were aware of and planning for, we lost a second faculty member, at least temporarily, due to personal health challenges.

Finally, in addition to a staffing plan, our school realignment resulted in a plan to expand on the already successful use of project-based learning. Already at end-of-year faculty meetings plans have begun to be laid out to move our project-learning from the crawl phase solidly into walking.

**The State of the Church** - So that brings us to today. Overall, I can say that the state of the church is overall solid, but not without some areas of fragility. We are in general on firm footing and ready to move forward to deal with our current challenges as we pursue the Lord's charge to us to provide connection, meaning and purpose to others as a part of His kingdom. But make no mistake: we are facing some challenges.

Here's a breakdown of the good and the bad, both internally and also in the external environment in which we operate.

**Strengths** - We have the Heavenly Doctrines.

If we continue to look to them and to the rest of the Lord's Word for guidance, we will have no end of useful truths to inform our decision



making and our day-to-day behavior as a community and as individuals. We have a dedicated core of members who repeatedly show up, sometimes to participate, sometimes to take the lead. A church cannot function without the Word, and it cannot function without good people dedicated to that Word, and we have both. What's more, the morale among members is mostly good. "We happy few" (to quote Shakespeare's *Henry V*) are blessed to be able to worship and serve together as a healthy church community.

**Weaknesses** - But we are "few", and that can pose problems. Smaller numbers mean fewer people who can take on leadership roles, fewer people who can volunteer, donate, and participate. And it means many of our vital functions depend on the ongoing health and availability of a limited number of volunteers. This makes us somewhat fragile in the face of unexpected events. With low membership numbers, also comes low enrollment of children from church families in our school. Our current vision for the school is of one that serves many more people than just our own specific membership. However, the larger the percentage of our school's student body is from outside the church, the greater our exposure to the potential loss of students year by year. Church families value the school's mission in a way that non-church families are less likely to, and so are less likely to withdraw students for other reasons.

**Threats** - Looking beyond our own organization and to the wider context we are operating under, the biggest threat to what we are doing is the overall ongoing decline of churches in America. This decline is not just in people's propensity to worship on Sundays, but also involves a decline in the respect and acceptance of church as a social institution altogether. Short term, this makes evangelism and church growth difficult. Long term it may open us up to criticism and ill-will, as people generally grow more hostile towards faith-based organizations in general.

In addition, as I have raised before, our church was founded by and is still mostly made up of people of European descent, with some additions. Culturally, our closest neighbors are largely West African and Black African. While our school is now a blend of these three cultures, our church is still largely set apart from its neighbors in terms of culture and to a lesser degree language. This makes evangelism, church growth, and even school recruiting more difficult, as people tend to prefer churches and schools that match the culture in their homes.

**Opportunities** - And, as I have said in the past, the cultural milieu we are surrounded by is a huge potential opportunity. If we can build more cultural bridges with our neighbors, we will be able to join hands with a population that is less suspicious of church and religion than the general American populace. Churchgoing is still the norm with many of our neighbors, despite larger trends. Cross-cultural outreach is more challenging, true, but the Word is for everyone, and I am convinced that if we can find better ways to build new connections with our neighbors, then it will go a long way toward ensuring the long-term stability and future of the church in Mitchellville.

### **Going Forward**

So, given all the above, what will we be doing in the coming twelve months? Below are the plans for our six core programs in the year to come.

**Worship** -For the past year, we've focused on tuning the sound system so that we get the best possible audio experience for people in the room, with audio for the online stream a secondary issue. It's now time to pivot improving the online audio so that the amazing music offerings can be more fully appreciated by people unable to be there in person. We already have all the equipment to make it happen but will probably need dedicated volunteers working on sound balancing in the room and on the stream during services and events. The work shouldn't be very difficult,

but it will need to happen on the fly, on an event-by-event basis. To that end, I am looking for volunteers to learn how to operate our sound system. The work can be doubled up with usher duty or with video duty, or it can be handled by a separate volunteer. All that is needed is training. I am also looking for someone to take on some leadership responsibilities in this area, too. The Sound head will help recruit and schedule volunteers and will also be a part of configuring our technical solution and training people to use it.

**Small Groups** -I will be launching the Life of David small group this summer, shortly after the General Assembly in Bryn Athyn is concluded. Other groups will continue as they have in the past year. If there is demand, I may offer a New Church Day themed reading group as well.

## VOLUNTEER



**Service** - I am still looking for a Volunteer Coordinator. If no one steps up, I may have to shanghai someone in a dark alley. I am also looking for causes and charities that you all find compelling and

worth cooperating with.

**Community** -We are killing it with community meals and sporting events. What I am looking for at this point is to add one additional community activity that is NOT a meal or a sport, and that we can invite our non-New Church neighbors to.

**Communications** -The School website should be launched shortly. After that, we will begin work on the church website. This should take less time given the lessons learned during the school site rebuild.

Last year, I dedicated a significant portion of my time as pastor to New Church Education on a doctrinal, organizational, philosophical and strategic level. This year, my primary focus will be on marketing, advertising, publicity and promotions for our school. To begin with, given our efforts to have a balanced budget, my efforts will focus on guerilla marketing tactics, supplemented with some very low cost online advertising.

Along with this, I will also begin developing a marketing and outreach approach for the church as well, looking to take advantage of a program being set up by the General Church Office of Outreach that seeks to match advertising funding for church outreach efforts, as well as to provide technical consulting on such advertising.

As things develop, I may end up seeking special funding to support additional marketing efforts. If so, the plan will be to try to tap sources of funding outside of where we normally raise donations, so as to not undermine our efforts in increasing local support.

And speaking of which, we now have a Contributions Head, again. Bill Kunkle has kindly and courageously stepped up into that role and will be providing regular communication with the congregation on this topic going forward, starting with a presentation at the annual meeting.

**School** - In addition to a hard recruiting push led by me as pastor, our school will be moving into the next phase of developing its plans for *project-based learning*. We are moving out of crawl mode and into walk mode with some innovative ideas to make learning projects systematized and repeatable, and also not just confined to a cordoned off “project week”.



Given challenges we are facing in staffing, we will have to maintain a nimble approach to how classes are taught and managed. We have a plan in place, but because there are some serious unknowns in the coming several months, it may involve a dramatic shift or two as the year plays out. Happily, the existing faculty are skilled, intelligent, and ready to do what it takes to make things work, and more: to make things work very well.

**Final Thoughts** - As always, I want to finish by saying how much I appreciate the opportunity to serve you, and the opportunity to serve the Lord and His church alongside all of you. My family feels loved and valued by this community and I am delighted with the work that I get to do with you, even when it is challenging. My job is not without sources of stress, but they are mitigated by the way you all show up over and over again to make this church work. Clearly, the Lord is making you, the church, into a blessing for the world. And I am grateful to be a part of it. Keep up the good work.

Rev. Glenn “Mac” Frazier,  
Washington New Church, 2024-06-14

*From the Board of Trustees:*

The Board of Trustees met for their regular monthly meeting on June 11, 2024. Normal business was discussed, including Pastor's and School report, planning for the upcoming annual Society meeting, financial reports including approval of the draft budget for Fiscal Year 2025, and discussion of building maintenance and improvements, including funding and progress for the bathroom renovation and playground project. The monthly Board meetings will be paused over the summer, to resume on September 10, 2024.

The Annual Meeting of the Washington Society was held on June 14, 2024. A quorum was declared with 32 members present (21 required). Rev. Brian Smith announced that the Long-Term Service Award was presented at the WNCSS Graduation ceremony to Carole Waelchli, honoring her more than 50 years of service to the school, with congratulations and thanks to Carole.

Elections were held for the Board of Trustees and School Board. For the School Board, Amanda Hyatt is stepping down, and Rev. Michael Ferrell has agreed to continue to serve for another 3-year term. In addition to Michael, the nominating committee presented Brenna Sweeney to serve for a 3-year term. For the Board of Trustees, Derek Hyatt and Kathy Johns are stepping down, and Steve Ball has agreed to continue for another 3-year term. In addition to Steve, the nominating committee presented Kim Maxwell and Jonathan Sprinkle to serve 3-year terms. As the nominations were uncontested, a motion was made and seconded to approve the full slate as presented. For both Boards, the motion passed unanimously, with thanks to those who are stepping down for their past service, and to those who are willing to serve in their new roles.

Treasurer Brent Hyatt presented a proposed balance budget to the Society for discussion, noting that this is an aggressive budget that is based on stable enrollment in the school, and relies on increasing contributions by 6%. A motion to approve was made and seconded, and the budget was approved unanimously. Reports from the Investment Committee and Contributions Committee were presented, and Phil Zuber provided an overview of the proposed Statement of Relationship document, defining the relationship between the Washington Society and the General Church. The Board will be hosting several meetings over the summer for interested members to learn about and discuss the document, with the goal of a future Society decision on whether or not to sign this document.



Rev. Brian Smith gave an overview of the school, including a summary of the past year and plans for the next, and Rev. Mac Frazier closed the meeting with his annual report, summarizing his six main areas of focus for the Washington Church, and concluding that it has been an overall very successful year, with much to be thankful and hopeful for in the coming year.

Wishing all a safe and happy summer,

~ Sharon Cooper, Secretary, WCNJ, Inc.

***Graduation** – This year WNCs graduated three 8<sup>th</sup> graders on to high school. A list of those graduates, and the student honors and awards are in the News Notes. The following is a speech given to the graduates by Aubrey Hernandez – WNCs Alum and the parent of eighth grade grad Elisa Hernandez.*

**Good morning students, parents, families, faculty and staff and of course graduates!**

Congratulations on making it this far! Your journey in education is well under way, you've made it to the first big milestone in one piece. The next leg of your adventure will be a step into high school, which, compared to what you have experienced so far, may seem completely foreign and frightening, and will include a lot more freedom and choice than elementary and middle school.

Here at WNCs you've likely formed somewhat of a family. A close-knit group of friends that you can rely on many levels—I say this because I went through this school, from K-10, and vividly remember the bonds and memories I made here and how special they continue to be for me.

WNCs has armed you with knowledge—a strong academic basis to work from, a spiritual lens to view the world and its challenges through and fall back on when things get rough, and a family—people you will remember, some you will stay friends with for life and may be important supports for you later, some you may grow apart from.

Each one of you will adopt and discard ideas, habits, interests, hobbies, appearances...it is how you will become you. During this process you will begin to know yourself more and more and to learn what things you really care about. You may have some interests now that you feel are somewhat important, but have you stopped to think about what really motivates those interests, and what you are really passionate about?

The answer to that question for me is people. I'm passionate about people - I used to think about this narrowly but have come to realize that all of the things I love are about people: how and where we relate and connect to one another and to our own bodies. I've discovered over the years that there are so many ways that our overarching loves can intersect and provide opportunities to serve important uses.

All of the things that I truly care about are connected to my main passions of people and nature. My hobbies and interests like playing soccer, singing around a campfire, and learning foreign languages involve people coming together and communicating with one another. My work of cleaning and landscaping involves creating spaces for people to come together, and my dreams of becoming a doctor one day or opening an outdoor breakfast spot involve helping people and creating community.

But why am I saying this? What does it mean for you? Well, I'd like you to consider Your interests, how you find them and what they mean for your future. There are two main points that I want to leave you with today: one, that the choices you make will help you to discover and establish your passions, and two, that the people you surround yourself with will have a huge impact on both your choices and your interests.

We all must make a myriad of choices throughout our lives. Some are easy, some are hard, some may have huge implications for your future while others may have little impact. However, all the choices we make are cumulative in forming our future, no matter how small.

This is something that we in the church might say is what constitutes one's proprium. We are all left in freedom by the Lord to make our own choices and this is what gives us our sense of self. Each choice you make will be yours. This will include successes and failures, but the takeaway here isn't that you should fear choices and decisions, but rather that you should fearlessly embrace the freedom that those choices give you. Own your decisions, learn from your mistakes, and move on.

Among the choices that you will be presented with will be what academic courses you want to take and what career path to follow. Right now, you have the incredible opportunity to design your future. Now is the time to experiment with new interests and see where it leads you to figure out what really gets you excited about the future.

Education is a lifelong process and I encourage you to think about school going forward as your chance to truly examine what's out there. School

shouldn't be just a chore, sure it is sometimes, but it is also an opportunity to expose yourself to new and exciting things.

Going back to what I said before about your true passions, often it takes an accidental discovery through life experience or even through an academic course you've taken to realize an interest you have. That's why I encourage you to reach outside of your comfort zone when given the opportunity.

One of the most beautiful teachings we have in our church in my opinion is the idea of the grand man of heaven and how it is arranged according to uses which are guided by our ruling loves.

Those loves are formed and nourished here on earth. This is what I am referring to here.

Now is your time to begin to find and establish what you really care about and how that love will manifest in your life here on earth through your career or the uses you serve and even after into the next life.

One of the biggest factors that influence the choices you make and the interests you have is the people in your life. The friends you make, the connections and communities you build, will shape your perspective and experiences and will help to form your worldview.

If you choose a diverse friend group, it will give you so much more insight and perspective into the true human experience. You can choose to live in an echo chamber where everyone is like you, thinks like you, speaks like you...or you can choose to expand your horizons by adding new voices and new perspectives to your own. So, I encourage you to make friends of many different races, backgrounds, and cultures.

Don't be afraid to be different and be fully yourself. Voice your opinions, with respect, because like those people that are giving you new ideas or points of view, you too can give others a new and unique perspective. Just as in heaven and the grand man where each unique part of the body - each individual angel- serves an important and distinct use, diversity here on earth is beautiful and essential.

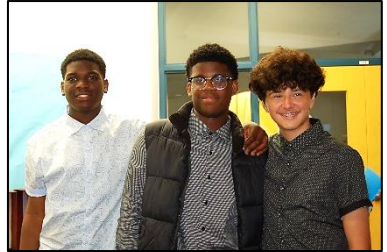
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the body - each individual angel- serves an important and distinct use, diversity here on earth is beautiful and essential.

So, in closing I want to ask you each to look around at the friends surrounding you. Think about what each one has contributed to your life and how they have shaped or changed your perspective, your choices and perhaps your interests. Maybe later, after graduation, go up to your friends and your teachers and express gratitude for their presence in your life. Remember these friendships, choose wisely but don't avoid hard choices, keep an open mind, and get excited about the future you will create! *Thank you and happy graduation!*

### Principal's Closing Remarks

I'm going to close by offering some gratitude.



- Thank you to those 7<sup>th</sup> girls and Mrs. Cowley for making that lovely yearbook.
- Thank you to the 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade (and Mrs. Cowley and Mrs. Ariel for building us benches.
- Thank you to Mrs. Stillman and all the supporting volunteers who offered a great plant sale in the rain and continued to raise money for a renewed playground.
- Thank you to the volunteers who came in weekly to read with our students.
- Those are just a few highlights.

I'm grateful to all the teachers each year for working through, I did notice how many of the teachers put "patience" as one of the most important qualities for teaching.

- On the teacher front, I will mention that we are thinking fondly of Miss Carina, who can't be with us at this moment, but *may* be watching the live stream.
- I'd also like to give a special thanks to Miss Jordan Kinsey who has been an all-rounder teacher this year. The only group she wasn't assigned to teach was the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, but in the last weeks she has been helping in their classroom too.

- Teaching takes a lot of guts and a lot of heart, so thank you to the staff.

It is also important to me to recognize the work of the parents. Parents don't get a summer break from their work of parenting. Parenting is plenty hard, and many parents regularly wonder if they are doing a good enough job. I can't take away that question from parents, but I can tell you that the job you signed up to do of raising the next generation is a very good job. Even if you don't do it perfectly, we are all grateful for the care, patience and sacrifice you put in.

- It wasn't so long ago that I was in this school with Mrs. Hernandez, and now her youngest child is graduating.
- She spoke about trying things and paying attention as you go, so that you can discover your passions. She gave examples of things she loves – landscaping, soccer, and how she saw that each of these centers around a deeper love of helping people create community.

This year's graduates include Elias Hernandez, who has been at this school as long as I have. That is a lot of years to watch someone grow. Bryce Assan joined a few years later – and we have seen them turn from little kids into the oldest kids in the school, who do a great job of setting a good example and watching out for the younger kids in the school. Even though Elijah Mbella has only been with us one year, he is the perfect addition to the group – because he also has these great qualities of kind, friendly leadership for the younger kids in the school. This graduating class will leave a big hole.

- But we are excited for them to go on with their lives and continue to grow and develop.

This brings me to my last thank you. To the students.

- I don't always thank the students. But the students do a lot of work here too. They face challenges – with their schoolwork, with their peers and with themselves. These challenges help them grow.
- So, thank you students, for working hard through the year. And thank you especially to the graduates for being such a big part of the school community! Please come back regularly to the school BBQ, to the play, to community volleyball, to graduations.
- And I also expect to see you back in a few years, as the parent speaker, when your son or daughter graduates!

## NEWS OF NOTE:

### **Thought for the Day:**

Sometimes with secret pride I sigh  
To think how tolerant am I;  
Then wonder which is really mine;  
Tolerance or a rubber spine?  
Ogden Nash

Summer officially arrived on June 21<sup>st</sup> – the earliest in 200+ years by the way – and brought with it the first official heat wave of the summer (officially 3 or more days in a row of 90° weather). It looks as though sun-screen and air conditioners are going to be all the rage this year. So, stay safely cool and enjoy!

### **Travel & Vacation Season:**

The General Church Assembly took place in Bryn Athyn the last weekend in June with a predicted 950 attendees enjoying a series of meetings and workshops as well as reunions with old friends and meetings with new ones.

**Andy Cooper** spent a week in sunny California in early June attending the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Water Works Association.

**Steve and Anne Ball** spent a sweet weekend amongst the candy bars with their family in Hershey. It was actually the PA resort, not the bar, and all 11 of them had a grand family reunion.

**John and Sharon Croft** and weekend visitors **Anders and Ivan** spent a



couple of weeks camping at the Assateague National Seashore – just south of Ocean City, MD – and had a grand time eating sand and other

beach delicacies. **James and Missy Cooper**, with **Meghan and Ryan**, and **Dave and Christine Cooper**, with **Zia and Anji**, joined them in adjacent campsites to provide a united front against marauding ponies.

Welcome to **Darren and Renée Brunne**, and three of their children, **Elijah**, **Melody**, and **Xavier**, here from their home in Brisbane, Australia, to visit daughter **Jordan** and then to attend the Assembly.

## **Congratulations:**

To the Washington New Church School graduates from 8th Grade: **Bryce Assan**, **Elias Hernandez** [w/honors], and **Elijah Mbella**.

### *The award-winners at the WNCS graduation:*

Teacher Appreciation Award: **Adelaide Smith** and **Bryce Assan**

Levi Cowley Sportsmanship Award: **Daniel Monroe**

Justin Zuber Award: **Adelaide Smith** - Silver award and **Elias Hernandez** - Gold Award.

Service Award: **Marcellus Smith** - for playing the piano for chapel all year.

Also, to **Adelaide Smith** and **Alana Rhone** for their production of the WNCS Yearbook. This was a yearlong project for them, with **Bonnie Cowley** as yearbook advisor. The yearbook was dedicated to **Carina Heinrichs**. (*Still on sale \$10/ea.- half the \$\$ go to Carina support fund*)

To **Carole Waelchli**, who received the WNCS Long Time Service Award in recognition of - and appreciation for - her long (and outstanding!) service to the school. Her untold hours spent in curriculum development, tutoring, providing music for chapel and for musical performances of all kinds and her willingness to help wherever needed, in addition to her classroom work, has been an inspiration.

And we can't forget the Academy of the New Church high school graduates, **Ariela Hernandez & Sophie Hyatt** (w/honors). Good work!

### **How to Beat the Heat:**

Have a picnic, of course. The occasion was a celebration of New Church Day on June 19th, which happened to be on a Wednesday, but that didn't slow us down. The 90-degree weather tried to squelch the proceedings, but there was enough shade on the East side of the church building to protect the few early arrivals and the beginnings of a feast. As more people brought more chairs and food the shade expanded to accommodate everyone, as planned, and soon there was a full-blown picnic under way, with kids running around, adults enjoying (and shooting) the breeze, and two bunches of the young at heart engaging in vigorous exercise of the volleying kind. It was a great time. Thanks to the BBQers, to the organizers, and to everyone who came to enjoy an afternoon with warm friends.

Pastor **Mac Frazier** spent a couple of days (or at least parts thereof) preparing large amounts of BBQ - both Brisket and Ribs - for the picnic

while avoiding his home kitchen which was in the midst of renovation. We hope the kitchen turns out as well as the BBQ! Thanks, Mac.

### More School News:

The 5th - 8th graders of the WNCS performed "Arsenic & Old Lace" for an enthusiastic crowd on the evening of June 5th. It is a terribly funny comedy about two elderly sisters (played by **Alana Rhone** and **Adelaide Smith**) who assist their elderly acquaintances (who are ill, lonely and have no family) die a quick and painless death. They use a concoction of elderberry wine spiked with chemicals like arsenic and strychnine. Though they are very well meaning, their nephew Mortimer (played by **Elias Hernandez**) is alarmed with his aunties when he finds a dead body in the window box.



All this is quite intertwined with the crazy behavior of Teddy (played by **Elijah Mbella**) who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt and helps his aunties bury the bodies in the Panama Canal (their basements), eleven bodies to date...or is it twelve? All this is complicated by Mortimer's long lost (crazy criminal brother - Jonathan, played by **Bryce Assan**) who shows up with his sidekick Dr. Einstein (played by **Marcelus Smith**). All the while Officer Brophy (played by **Donovan Amin**) fumbled around with who he should actually arrest or take to an asylum. The students really took on their characters and played them superbly along with the supporting cast of the rest of the actors from the 5th & 6th grades. Great Job, WNCS!

