



The Herald

St. Raphael the Archangel Episcopal Church

Vol 57 - Issue 5

Back to School 2022

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From Our Rector

Summer is a good time to kick back a bit, visit family and friends, take some time out. I may be attending General Convention in Baltimore and the Lambeth Conference in the UK this summer, but I know I shall be thinking about you all, holding you all in prayer, and thinking about the next church year. Summer is part of our long season of Pentecost (it goes all the way through to Christ the King at the end of November) – the season of learning about, as I said a few weeks ago, the work of following Jesus, being disciples, being church.



Rev. Canon Dr. Helen Van Koevering

Although everyone is tired of talking about the effects of Covid on our work, churches, ministries etc, it will be a theme in the meetings I attend. And that's good, because whether we are honest about it or not, the pandemic years have changed us and our churches. Perhaps the most common comment I heard during Covid is 'I miss my church', but have we given thought to what 'miss' means, and what it means to be church post-Covid pandemic?

In chatting about this with a variety of people, including Christina Embree, our speaker at Dinner Church on August 28, there is some agreement that Covid made apparent that our relationships and gathered community are essential to our spiritual walk and faith formation. Christina shared an article she wrote early in the pandemic: 'Christians were made for living in the community of the church and it is in that gathered community that we flourish and become most fully Christian for Christ is in the midst of those gathered in His name' (Matthew 18:20).

Community-building needs work because barriers to community are swift to arise, and betray developing and maintaining community that sustains us physically and spiritually. The 'generational gap', as they say, is 'the perceived difference of opinions between one generation and another regarding beliefs,

Continued on the next page.

Worship

Sundays

Holy Eucharist Rite I
8:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist Rite II with music
11:00 a.m.

Wednesdays

Eucharist with Healing
Noon

Compline

Sundays, Tuesdays, and Fridays
7:00 p.m.

From Our Rector, continued

politics, or values.' In a rapidly changing world, everything from architecture to technology is marked by age-specific lines, and isolation, loneliness and socialization are affected by those lines. Churches have rooms for specific ages; style of services to appeal to different ages; and age-specific curriculum and Bible studies. Our faith is dependent on generational discipleship, passing the faith from one generation to another. As Psalm 145 says, "One generation commends God's works to another", but all generations are not equally represented within the church. As Christina Embree has shown me, 'intergenerational ministry' is an interesting opportunity to bridge the generational gap and re-establish a more connected faith community.

Intergenerational ministry is not children's ministry or family ministry within the church: it is ministry with the broadness of the whole church, all generations, in a communal and corporate context, for worship, ministry and mission connecting across generational boundaries for discipleship, faith formation, and community building. We've all heard these names: the Silent Generation (born 1924-1942), Baby Boomers (1943-1964), Generation X (1965-1980), Millennials (1981-2000), and Gen Z (2001-

current). For the church, the older generations bring a wealth of faithful testimonies, historical worship practices, and community-sustaining disciplines – they need to be needed and offer legacy-leaving possibilities. The middle generations bridge new experience with their techie and media knowledge – and they seek relationships, mentorship, discipleship. The youngest generation offer current application of spiritual truths in a dynamic cultural environment – and want a role and identity in church, not just a safe place for kids.

Christina has some suggestions for cultivating 'intergenerational ministry', like the Pray For Me Campaign that links each child and youth in the church with prayer companions from older generations in an intercessory relationship. Prayer partners promise to pray for them for an academic year and they, in turn, pray for their prayer partners, leading to closer relationships between the prayer partners and child/youth, across the church, and between families.

What else might we do at St Raphael's that would bring the strengths and needs of each generation together for the good of our congregation and community? Bring your thoughts to Dinner Church on August 28.

— *Rev. Helen*

Dinner Church

**Intergenerational Ministry
with Christina Embree**

**27 | 5:30
AUG | PM**

Two thousand and twenty-two



Join us for Dinner Church!

- Eucharist
- Pot-luck dinner with a Tex-Mex theme. Please bring a dish to share. Sign up at <https://signup.com/go/gqNmosh>
- Message from Christina Embree
- Discussion and Conversation
- Closing prayer

Senior Warden's Corner

Isn't it wonderful to have Rev. Helen back? If you have been on Facebook, you may have read her updates and seen photos from the Lambeth Conference. [Read about



Lambeth on the next page.] Though the traveling is over, I am sure that reflection and inspiration from the conference will enrich her ministry with us for a long time to come.

We have been in good hands during her absence. Canon Amy, Canon George, and Rev. Bruce filled in on Sundays, Diane Whorley led Morning Prayer on Wednesdays, and office volunteers Janis Rosebrook, Sister Becky Collins, and Diane helped everything run smoothly. Thanks to all our volunteers who give their time and talents to St. Raphael's.

Christian formation for children and choir took a break for the summer, and both our teachers, students, and singers are rested and ready for action. Read more about plans for these ministries and how to get involved on the following pages of this newsletter.

If you haven't been part of the Walk in Love book study yet, it's not too late to catch up. You still

have almost two months to read the book and join in with the group in preparation for confirmation, reaffirmation, or reception when Bishop Mark visits October 23. If you are considering one of these steps of faith or want to learn more, please contact Rev. Helen.

Sages and the Men's Group have continued to meet over the summer and are always welcoming to those who are new and those returning. ECW (Episcopal Church Women) will begin meeting soon. Take advantage of these and other fellowship opportunities. It is in community that our faith grows and our love and care for one another can show the most clearly. If you don't feel like attending for yourself, you might make the effort so you can be there for someone else who needs your listening ear or even just your silent presence.

During September our worship will focus on our call to be stewards of this beautiful Earth that God has entrusted to us. The Episcopal Church's Covenant for the Care of Creation is "a commitment to practice loving formation, liberating advocacy and life-giving conversation as individuals, congregations, ministries and dioceses." Please watch for opportunities to be the Body of Christ in caring for our planet.

Don't forget our own Tobit's Trace natural area behind our parking lot. It doesn't take long to complete the short trail, and you may find that spending even a few minutes in this wooded area refreshes you.

Hope to see you in church!

— Amy Smereck

EPISCOPAL COVENANT CARE OF CREATION

In Jesus, God so loved the whole world. We follow Jesus, so we love the world God loves. Concerned about the global climate emergency, drawing from a range of approaches for our diverse contexts, we commit to form and restore loving, liberating, life-giving relationships with all of Creation.

HAVE NEWS FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE?

Send articles and information for the Fall Issue to Amy Smereck at amy.smereck@gmail.com. The submission deadline is October 12.

The Lambeth Conference

Convened by The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, in 2022, the Lambeth Conference is a gathering of bishops and spouses from across the Anglican Communion for prayer and reflection, fellowship and dialogue on church and world affairs. With the theme of 'God's Church for God's World - walking, listening and witnessing together,' the conference explored what it means for the Anglican Communion to be responsive to the needs of a 21st Century world.

The journey to the conference started in 2021, meeting in groups across the Communion to get to know one another and our shared concerns. Before the Conference, there was a week (July 20-26) of the so-called 'Big Hello' where we met face to face with those we have been regularly meeting online - for that, we travelled to Durham in the north of England. We will had a day at Durham Cathedral, learning about all their diocesan programs and especially to do with Care for Creation. I studied for my undergraduate degree at Durham University, and haven't visited for about 30 years, so this was a fun trip down memory lane for me!

Though I kept in touch with photos and news on FB, I have lots more to share. Programme themes at Lambeth included Mission and Evangelism, Safe Church, Communion, Reconciliation, Environment and Sustainable Development, Christian Unity, Interfaith Relations and Discipleship. Other wider themes were also considered, including our ongoing response to a world changed by COVID-19 and the relationship of the Church with the increasing role of science and technology in our lives. The spouses' programme mirrored much of the bishops' programme, apart from during the Bishops' retreat and discussion sessions for Lambeth Calls. Of course, another excitement for Lambeth this year was the chance to catch up with bishops and spouses from southern

Africa, particularly the new ones that now make up the new Portuguese-speaking province of Mozambique and Angola, which was three dioceses in 2008, and now is 12.

Mark and I went to the Lambeth Conference in 2008 from Mozambique. We thoroughly enjoyed being amongst the incredible diversity of people from around the globe, listening to issues that we hadn't even known were common to so many of us as well as those unique to unknown places, and feeling so much part of something bigger than we had imagined. That year, we had a tea party on the lawns of Buckingham Palace, marched through Parliament Square to Lambeth Palace on the Thames to a delightful garden party with the 600 or so bishops and spouses (I think there are about 700 bishops invited this time), heard some amazing teaching and sermons, shared Bible studies, worshipped at Canterbury Cathedral, and made some new friends. It was at Lambeth 2008 that we met the Bishop of WV - the rest is history! I have memories from Lambeth 2008 that I still ponder, stories I still use in sermons, and I consider it such a privilege to be able to be able to do so again!

— *Rev. Helen*



Money Talk

As St. Raphael moves toward Fall, our finances continue to be on track. Pledge income is down slightly but plate revenue is strong, and by keeping expenses in check the net result is that we are slightly ahead of budget. Our total revenue through July 31 was \$131,466, total expenses were \$121,254, with net income of \$10,212. This is a blessing because we will need to repair a boiler before winter sets in. That cost is estimated to be around \$3,000.00. Also in the near future is an upgrade to our door lock and security system. Our current system is outdated and with more outside groups using our building, we need better

control over access. The Property Committee, Finance Committee, and Vestry are busy gathering quotes and identifying grant opportunities to help cover this cost. Also on the horizon is the replacement of several ancient air-conditioning units. There will be more information about these capital expenditures in the coming months. Thank you for your continued support of St. Raphael. As always, if you have questions about the church's finances, contact Dave Sevigny.

—Laurie Daugherty

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God.

Ephesians 5:2

Please continue to support St. Raphael's.

We use Engage for online giving. To access Engage and set up your user account, please click [here](#). You can also access the page via the menu on our website at sreclex.org.

Music, Live and Alive at St. Raphael's

Remember when you sat down on your first day of school and wrote a paper on what you did during the summer? That's probably not what they do these days but who knows. In any event, let me share with you what I did this summer during the slow times while the choir was down.

Some of you may know I have a master's degree in Library Science, so I love to catalog. Earlier this year I set up a project to catalog the choral works in the music library at St. Raphael's. Doesn't that sound exciting? For me, it is, honestly.

There are over 300 anthems in our music library. On an Excel file I have inputs for titles, composers, arrangers, hymn tunes (if any are used), genre, voicings (unison, two-part, three-part, four-part and more), seasonal themes (Advent, Christmastide, and so on), and any special notes about the anthem, e.g., the use of instruments. The library system is now fully organized. I can

find a copy of any anthem through the Excel file or peruse several folders which have a single copy of each anthem.

Of course, the music selection for each service continues through the summer and plans are being made for the Fall. So I am not sure summer is a "down time" for many church musicians. But it does give us time to tackle projects which are not as reasonable to do during the school year.

Finally, **the choir's first rehearsal is Sept. 1** which will be preceded by a meal. There is enough room in the choir area of the sanctuary for sixteen singers. That means we still have room if you are interested in joining. And if there is a need for room to seat more than sixteen singers, I'll make it happen.

Come join us on Sept. 1 as we begin the Fall season. Dinner will be at 6:30pm.

—Clif Cason

From our Ministry Committee

CREATING WONDER AS A SPIRITUAL LEARNING TOOL

Our chapel team is so EXCITED about our new GODLY PLAY curriculum. Our first meeting will be on September 11, and we will have a small party to celebrate the start of Chapel again.

When possible, we've linked our modules each week to what is happening upstairs in church. Children of ALL AGES are most welcome to hear about Sacred Stories, Liturgical Action, and the Parables.

This fall, we will look at Creation, the Books of the Bible, Parables of the Mustard Seed, Jesus is King and so much more.

On October 23, the children will meet with the Bishop to ask him questions, and to find out what it is that he does with that shepherd's hook and pointy hat. Our chapel will meet that day at 10:15 AM so that we have time to ask lots of questions!

As always, Diane will have a fun craft for the children to reinforce what they learned in Godly Play.

Prayer for Children and Families

God, send your Holy Spirit to open our eyes and minds to be the church that nurtures children, young people and families to belong and fully participate in God's Mission. Amen.

"Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me."

Matthew 18:3-5

We continue giving stars for attendance, birthdays, and bringing a friend to church. Ten Stars equal ice cream at Crank and Boom.

Please plan for your child, grandchild, nieces, nephews, neighbors, and friends to join us in Chapel on a regular basis.

—Janis Rosebrook

Vacation Bible School was great!

Vacation Bible School was a very successful, faith-filled, and fun-filled week for eight energetic and enthusiastic children. We had a perfect week of warm, sunny weather for picnic lunches, outdoor games, and activities.

For our theme, "Try Praying," we used a prayer guide for young children with stories about prayer in times of need. Each morning Rev. Helen gathered the children in the sanctuary for a lesson focusing on the "why, how, when and where" of praying. Each lesson's objective was to help children develop a life of trusting God.

During the week we also introduced Godly Play, a creative way of sharing bible stories using the Montessori method. There were crafts, musical chairs, puppet shows, playground time and more. Thanks to all our wonderful volunteers who helped make VBS possible.

—Diane Whorley



From our Mission Committee

BUILD - Building a United Lexington through Direct Action

Our mission is to "Do Justice" as God requires. This year BUILD focused on three important issues: affordable housing, identifying resources for adults with mental health problems, and solutions for reducing violence in our city. Through dedication and research, BUILD has engaged the support of local officials to help solve the city's most pressing problems. We are called by faith to love and care for one another.

One of BUILD'S most successful campaigns has been affordable housing. Because of the work of BUILD, \$13 million was allocated to the affordable housing which now has nearly 3,000 affordable units since 2014. The \$13 million won last year has leveraged \$290 million for upcoming affordable housing projects.

Another successful campaign has been implementing Restorative Practices in 16 of our Fayette County schools. This involves equipping

educators and school personnel with the tools to decrease the truancy, expulsion, or chronic absenteeism of at-risk students.

In July, Tim Allen attended the annual conference with BUILD members across the US. He will share with us ways our congregation can grow stronger in our commitment to this ministry.

Justice is hard work, but with 26 faith communities working together, we can make a difference in the lives of all our citizens. Thanks to all who have supported us by attending meetings and investing in this organization. Join us on Wednesday, September 21st, at 6:30 pm, in the parish hall, for our first House Meeting.

— BUILD Team Leaders - Rev. Helen, Sister Becky, Tim Allen, Diane Whorley



FORAYS FOR FOUR
String quartet concert

26 | **7:30**
AUG | **PM**

Two thousand and twenty-one

 sreclex.org

You're invited to join us Friday, August 26 at 7:30 pm for a concert presented by Amadeus Lex. After the concert there will be a reception with wine, cheese, and other refreshments. Please invite friends and neighbors!

Blessing of the Animals

**Sunday, October 4 at 4 pm
in the Columbarium**



**Pets of all kinds are
welcome!**

Please keep pets controlled, especially those which may interact negatively with other pets. If there is light rain we will continue as planned, but in case of heavy rain or storms, we will cancel.

A View from the Low

Camping at Cathedral Domain

I love the Cathedral Domain! This was my second summer attending Girls' Camp 2. So much fun! After check-in I was excited that my friend, Isabella, & I were in Trinity Cabin together. We unpacked, chose top bunks, put on our bathing suits, and headed down to the pool for our swim test. We both passed with flying colors. The rest of the afternoon we spent settling in, getting reacquainted with old friends, and meeting new ones.

At the domain, there are always the most amazing people: Cindy and Andy, deans, cabin counselors, summer staff, the camp nurse, and spiritual leader. This year Canon George Kavoov was our leader. He was awesome, the best! Of course, we say that about everyone there. Canon George shared messages of God's love, led prayers, and taught us new songs.

Every day was filled with great activities. There were crafts and games, archery, hiking on the mountain, dances, bonfires, and my favorites,

exploring the bat cave and nighttime swims. There were church services, St. George Cathedral, small group discussions about our faith, and time just to relax. Did I mention the fabulous food?

My brother, Mason, attended Senior Conference this year. Like me, he loves the camp, the great friendships he's made, and the counselors and leaders he's met, especially Andy and Fr. Jim Trimble. This year the campers decided to do a "Second Seating" of Bishop Mark when he visited. Unfortunately, it happened to be the hottest week of the summer for all those vestments!

Mason would probably live at the domain if he could. He told us it gets harder to leave at the end of the week. He said it's the most accepting place on earth. He also said that if he could choose any camp to attend, it would always be the domain because it's all about relationships. I think he's right.

—Alaina Whorley



To find out about upcoming camps at Cathedral Domain, please visit cathedraldomain.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

August 25 **Leslee R**
August 27 **Steve G**
August 29 **Ginger G**
September 6 **Mark V K**
September 7 **Mike G**
September 12 **Kevin D**
September 14 **Chris B**
September 15 **Steve K**

September 16 **Beth B**
September 20 **Michael B**
September 22 **Stephanie F**
October 7 **Xavier F**
October 11 **Franklin M**
October 13 **Ellie Matics**
October 19 **Don C**

Anniversaries

August 24 **Ray & Diane D**
August 24 **Diane & Larry W**
August 26 **Rose & Brad C**
September 6 **Kevin & Afsi D**
September 12 **Bill & Debbie E**
September 28 **JeanEllen & Jonathon M**
October 9 **Bob & Janet M**
October 16 **Carole & John M**

Prayers Requested

Long term prayer list: Art, Hilda, Mary Jane, Roy, Joan, Martha Helen, Pat Dinsmore, Steve & Ginger, Rose, Sonya, Sarah, Annette, Mary, Kenneth & Seth, Anisa, Mickie, Jim C, and Andree.

Currently in need of prayer: Hannah & Volodymyr, Alex, Madhu, James W, James G, Brooke, Trudy, Jerry, John.

Pray for those who have died from Covid-19, and those who mourn.

Pray for the people of Ukraine, Afghanistan, the military, and all who are in harm's way.

Please contact Rev. Helen for prayer list changes.

News from our Diocese

The 126th Diocesan Convention will be held October 21 – 22, 2022 at Berea College. St. Raphael deputies to the convention are John Daugherty, Amy Smereck, Janis Rosebrook, and Hunter Mathews.

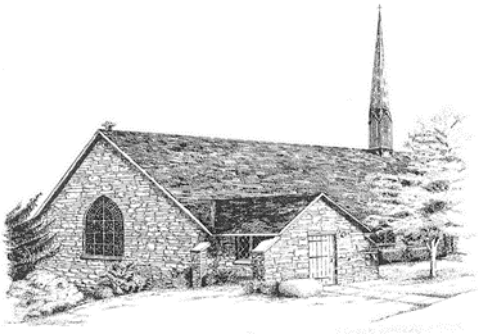
Nominations are now being received for Diocesan Leadership positions such as Sewanee Trustee, Standing Committee, and Executive Council. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, find out more at <https://www.flipsnack.com/755A5DAA9F7/diolex-nominations.html>

Keep up with news from around our Diocese!

Subscribe to the Diocesan email newsletter using the form found at <http://diolink.org/diolex/index.php/newsandevents/>.

Diocesan Vision Prayer

Gracious Father, your Spirit connects and restores all life to unity with You and each other in Christ Jesus. *Energize* our faith so that we may courageously live into our calling to *be the Church* by praising your Holy Name, making disciples, and discovering your presence at work in our neighborhoods. Shape us to *be the change* that brings hope and joy to an aching world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever *Amen*.



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The Herald is a monthly
publication of St. Raphael the
Archangel Episcopal Church.