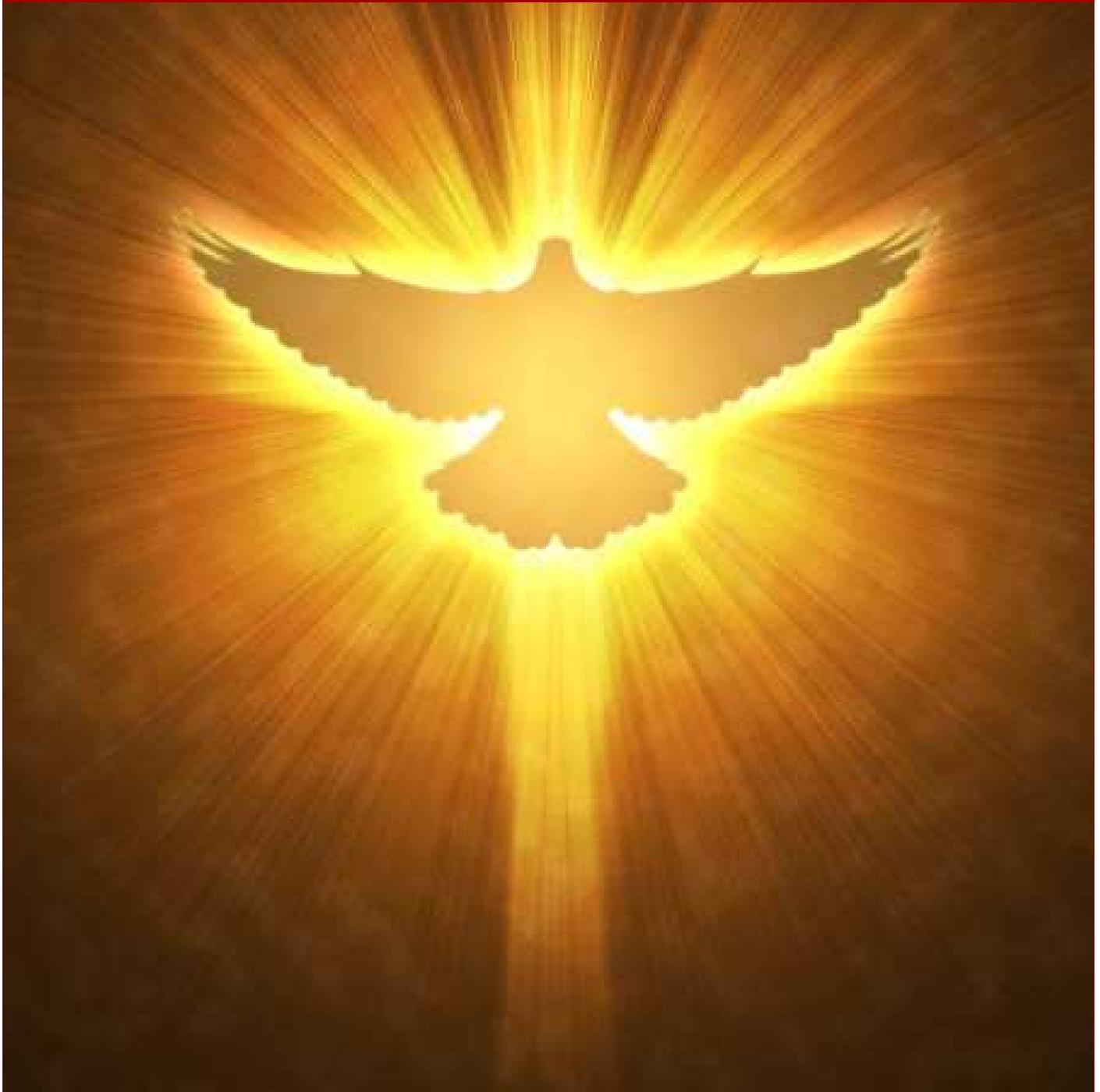


The E-pistle

The eNewsletter for Eastern Shore Chapel

May 15 - 24, 2018



1. Dear Friends,

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Collect for Pentecost Sunday, May 20th

PREACHING SCHEDULE:

8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

Sunday, May 20, Pentecost Sunday & Baptism Sunday - The Reverend Julia Messer
Sunday, May 27 - The Reverend Cameron Randle

MID-WEEK SCHEDULE:

5:00 p.m. & 7:15 p.m. Chorister & Adult Choir Practice, Choir Room

5:45 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Chapel

6:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Parish Hall

May 23rd Menu: Sloppy Joes, Cajun Oven Fries, Black Bean Soup, Salad, Fruit, Bread

May 30th Menu: Cook's Choice - Last Dinner until September



A NOTE FROM THE VESTRY:

Why do we worship at Eastern Shore Chapel? Why have we chosen this parish as our spiritual home? What is God calling our congregation to do?

These are the defining questions that our Vestry, in small groups and as a whole, has been contemplating in order to discern our current Mission Statement. We have prayed over this process and reached into the Word for guidance. We have had conversations with parishioners new and old. Not wanting to begin blindly, we have reviewed and discerned from some of the previously used Mission Statements of this parish.

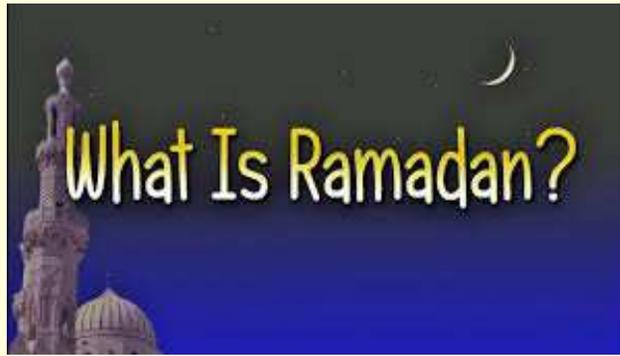
We have been mindful that a Mission Statement is not a static thing, but will evolve and change over time as the needs and desires of our parish change.

With an eye toward packing the most meaning into a statement that is also memorable and relatable, our vestry has agreed upon a working Mission Statement. One that we now present to the entire parish for contemplation and use:

**The Mission of Eastern Shore Chapel Episcopal Church is
TO LOVE ALL AS CHRIST LOVES US, AND TO SHARE THE LIGHT OF GOD THROUGH WORSHIP, SERVICE AND
MINISTRY.**

From this starting point, the vestry is seeking the prayers, discernment and input of the congregation as we move forward with establishing our core values and creating a vision statement for Eastern Shore Chapel. Look for details to come in the next few weeks about opportunities for discussion and input on this extremely important next step!

ALI AKGUNER and DR. ISLAM BEDIR to speak at Adult Forum and Women of Eastern Shore Chapel lunch meeting on Sunday, May 20th



We welcome **Ali Akguner** as our guest speaker at Sunday's 9:00 a.m. Adult Forum in the Parish Hall. Ali is a member of Rumi Friendship Association in Norfolk and will give an overview of the Islamic month of Ramadan.

At Sunday's WESC luncheon, **Dr. Islam Bedir** will address the role of Muslim women in today's world. All women are invited to attend in the Parish Hall following the 10:15 a.m. service. If you have questions about the lunch, please contact Susan Buchanan at msbuchanan@verizon.

***UPCOMING EVENTS:**

U.S. Flags Honoring those Fallen in Afghanistan and Iraq and Somalia



**~ May 27th ~
Front Lawn of ESC**

Our flags will once again be placed on our front lawn at Eastern Shore Chapel. They will be available for placing before the beginning of the 8:00 a.m. service, after the 10:15 a.m. service, and in-between services on May 27th.

The Book of Names of those fallen in service will be blessed by Father Cameron after the 10:15 a.m. service. The book lists the date, name, age, rank and unit of those who have given their ultimate sacrifice.

Sadly, we will be adding another 36 flags this year. The total number of flags is 6,952. The Flag Brigade

thanks all of you for your support.

Summer Breakfast is almost here!

Please signup as a ministry or as a family or a group of friends!
www.SignUpGenius.com/go/4090E4DAFA629AAF58-breakfast
If you sign up as a ministry then you can advertise your ministry the Monday before you serve via the church bulletin and Facebook. Any questions, please email The Rev. Julia at jmesser@easternshorechapel.org



Our Bell Choir, the newest ministry at Eastern Shore Chapel, has been practicing for six weeks on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 pm. This ensemble will play for the first time on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, at the 10:15 a.m. service.



ESC Bell Choir Participants

Row 1, left to right: Cliff Bateman, Worth Remick, Heidi Davis, Joni Bateman, Susan Fly

Row 2, left to right: Anne Bibeau, Megan Schloss, Victoria Winans, William Bibeau, Beth Miller, Elizabeth Taylor, Audra Byrn

Not present in picture: Larry Smith, Mary Thrush, Jeanette Howard, John Sidlovsky



Summer Music Camp

FREE SUMMER MUSIC CAMP FOR KIDS IN GRADES 2-8, August 6-10 & 12

Eastern Shore Chapel is once again offering Summer Music Camp for rising 2nd through 8th graders. The camp features the Royal School of Church Music Voice for Life training program and will be held Monday, August 6, through Friday, August 10, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Sunday, August 12, 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. In addition to the Voice for Life training program, the camp includes choral singing, games, handbell training, and presentations by guest musicians. Camp brochures are located in the parish office. For more information, contact Dr. Martin Sunderland, 757-428-6763 or msunderland@easternshorechapel.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE, COMMUNITY, AND THE WORLD



A Prayer for the Military

Lord, we thank You for the men and women that protect this nation.

As they protect us, we pray that You will protect them. You know where they will be today and we pray that You will be there with them to guide them through whatever challenges and trials they face.

Amen

A Prayer for Government Leaders

God of power and might, wisdom and justice, through you authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment is decreed. Assist with your spirit of counsel and fortitude the President and other government leaders of these United States. May they always seek the ways of righteousness, justice and mercy. Grant that they may be enabled by your powerful protection to lead our country with honesty and integrity.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Pray for Military Ministry of Cru near-term growth and expansion opportunities to U.S. bases to include Military Academy-West Point, New York; Fort Sill, Oklahoma; and Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. We ask the Lord for favor with Chaplains and new staff volunteers that will be recruited to lead these new ministries to the local military community. Praise God that He has opened doors for the Military Ministry of Cru to be invited to minister to the military in 30 nations around the world! Ask the Lord for continued opportunities to reach the militaries of the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ through many means including our Leader Impact initiative! Pray for favor as we look for further collaborative ways to work with other ministries and increase the number of volunteers to expand ministry to military members in Uganda, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Pacific Islands, Poland, Ukraine, Croatia, Mexico, Ecuador, and Honduras. Pray for us as we seek the Lord for clear direction on building multiplying disciples throughout the entire global military community.

Ask me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. Psalm 2:8 (NIV)



The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
Virginia Beach Police Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)
Interfaith Alliance at the Beach
are pleased to present

Working Together to Help the Mental Health Community

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 from 10 a.m. - Noon

Virginia Beach EMS Headquarters and Training Building
4160 Virginia Beach Blvd, Va. Beach

What is NAMI?

Support groups and educational programs for adults and youth
Eliminating mental health stigma
NAMI Faith Net program for religious leaders

What is a CIT officer and how do they help people experiencing a mental health emergency?

What happens when the police are called
CIT resources and assistance for the person in crisis and their families

What is the Interfaith Alliance at the Beach?

How the faith community can become more involved
Spreading the word
Partnering with NAMI and CIT

The event is free and open to the public

Registration can be made on the Eventbrite.com website:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/working-together-to-help-the-mental-health-community-tickets-45385268560?aff=ehomecard>

You can also register by calling NAMI Virginia Beach at 757-499-2041

Kairos Prison Ministry



Prior to every KAIROS weekend inside, each team member is assigned a resident or two whom they will "sponsor" for the weekends. The team member handwrites a simple letter to their "sponsee" introducing themselves and welcoming them to the weekend. It is, by design, brief and non-sectarian. After our weekend was cancelled we each sent a follow-up letter to our sponsees and tried to offer an explanation. Following is a letter I received two weeks after our most recent weekend was cancelled.

Dear Lee,

I hope this finds you well and in good spirits.

I'm writing to say thank you for the letter and all. I was disappointed when they cancelled KAIROS on us.

I have never participated and was so looking forward to doing so. I see where you mentioned that y'all will reschedule - in the chance that it does get rescheduled will I have to submit another application or will the list stay the same?

Thank you very much though for thinking enough of me to send a letter - it means a lot.

I've put in 19 years straight now and most everyone I know has either died, gotten locked up themselves or just faded out. So, it's pretty nice to get a letter.

Well, before I start to ramble I'm going to close so I can get this letter out.

Take care and God Bless. I look forward to hearing back. Thank you again

Sincerely

WI

To find out more about Kairos Prison Ministry volunteer opportunities, contact Lee Davis at cleedavis3@gmail.com



Newcomers Picnic on Sunday, April 29th



Our **First Friday Men's Breakfast** is a vibrant group and a great way to get to know folks at ESC. If you are interested in joining our e-mail list please e-mail Lee Davis at cleedavis3@gmail.com. You will receive meeting reminders and occasional updates on goings on of the group. Join us won't you? We will all be made richer by your presence!

ATTENTION EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS

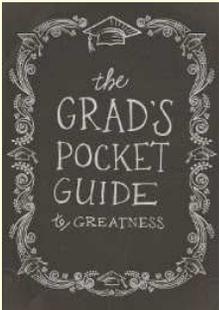
The EM and Lector schedules for the next quarter will be drafted soon. The schedules will begin on Sunday, June 10, and go through September 30. **If you know of any conflicts you may have during this period, please notify Rita Waldeck in the Parish Office, 757-428-6763, or Laura Frank Sale at 757-839-4995 by Sunday May 27.** You may also email Laura Frank at laurafrank@cox.net. If you would like to be a part of one or both of these two rewarding ministries, advise the office or Laura Frank and you will be contacted shortly.

PARISH DAY SCHOOL

Parish Day School hosted the CHKD Trike-A-Thon earlier this month. This event is held every year to raise funds for CHKD. Students are sponsored by family and friends to ride their bikes around a designated course for a designated amount of time. With the help of volunteers from Virginia Beach Police Department, PDS parents and grandparents, and all of the PDS staff the Trike-A-Thon is always a huge success! Last year PDS was able to raise over \$2000.00 for CHKD and we are hoping to surpass that amount this year.



THE PARISH BOOK STORE



Celebrate your graduate or a teacher with a gift from the Parish Book Store. We have cards, wall plaques, key chains and books. Among our titles for students are *How to Become a Straight-A Student*, *Do Your Laundry or You'll Die Alone*, *The Grad's Guide Pocket Guide to Greatness*, and for parents *Letting Go: A Parents' Guide to Understanding the College Years* and *The Naked Roommate: For Parents Only*. While you are here, check out the beginning reader books, perfect for those leaving pre-school to attend kindergarten, and our chapter books for older readers, perfect for summer vacation.



AFTER CENTURIES of handling and mishandling, most religious words have become so shopworn nobody's much interested anymore. Not so with *grace*, for some reason. Mysteriously, even derivatives like *gracious* and *graceful* still have some of the bloom left.

Grace is something you can never get but can only be given. There's no way to earn it or deserve it or bring it about any more than you can deserve the taste of raspberries and cream or earn good looks or bring about your own birth. A good sleep is grace and so are good dreams. Most tears are grace. The smell of rain is grace. Somebody loving you is grace. Loving somebody is grace. Have you ever *tried* to love somebody?

A crucial eccentricity of the Christian faith is the assertion that people are saved by grace. There's nothing *you* have to do. There's nothing you *have* to do. There's nothing you have to *do*.

The grace of God means something like: "Here is your life. You might never have been, but you *are*, because the party wouldn't have been complete without you. Here is the world. Beautiful and terrible things will happen. Don't be afraid. I am with you. Nothing can ever separate us. It's for you I created the universe. I love you."

There's only one catch. Like any other gift, the gift of grace can be yours only if you'll reach out and take it.

Maybe being able to reach out and take it is a gift too.

Frederick Buechner

-Originally published in *Wishful Thinking* and later in *Beyond Words*

The next edition of the E-pistle newsletter will be published on May 30th. Articles and photos should be submitted to the office by 5:00 p.m. on May 25th to be included in the May 30th E-pistle. Thank you!



Parish Book Store



Support the Parish Book Store. All profit made by the book store is used to support seminarians and deacons in our diocese.

Hours:

M - F - 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Saturdays - 9:00 A.M. - Noon

Sundays between worship services

Eastern Shore Chapel
2020 Laskin Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
ph. 428-6763

Sunday, May 20th

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About the E-pistle

Welcome to the weekly e-mail newsletter for Eastern Shore Chapel. It is published every Friday. We hope this publication provides you with helpful information about upcoming events and topics of concern to our parish. If you would like to contribute information, please contact Rita Waldeck, rwaldeck@easternshorechapel.org . The deadline is noon on Wednesday.