

## From Father Nik

What a great witness to the work of the Holy Spirit at Fork Church last Sunday was! Thank you to everyone who came for our celebration of the Eucharist with Bishop Goff and to support our Confirmands. And, of course, a special debt of gratitude is due to Mac and Vicky Chenault for organizing and preparing the Parish Hall for the Reception after the Eucharist; to Jim and Boo Smythe for all of their tireless work to raise the youth of our parish in the teachings and traditions of the Church; to Jeff and Phil McKinney and Tom Pemberton for all that they have done to get our Kitchen and Parish Hall ready for the Reception; and to all who came out Saturday for the Parish Work Day. Every tree is recognized by its fruit (Matt 7:20), and the Holy Spirit is known by the work of her children (Luke 7:35, Matt 11:19).

The good work in which we, as a church, have been walking is a testimony to the sanctifying grace bestowed on us by the presence of the Holy Spirit. When we gathered this past Sunday evening to support and uphold our youth being confirmed by the Bishop, we were not simply acknowledging the sanctifying work of the Spirit in the lives of each of the Confirmands. We were also acknowledging the presence and work of the Spirit here in our midst as a parish community—as Fork Church. And the Bishop was not only bearing witness to and confirming the Holy Spirit in the lives of the individual Confirmands, but also in the community that has cared for, supported, and formed these young people into the Christians they are today. By equipping these young “saints” with the teachings and traditions of the Church, we are giving them the gifts that were once given to us, and that we still receive and hold in trust even as we pass them on.

In fact, we receive these gifts anew each time we pass them on. As we give to each new generation of Christians the words of life, we are enlivened. As we give each new generation the words of the Commandments, we bind ourselves, once again to that gracious Covenant that is cause and fulfillment of our relationship with God. As we give each new generation the words that the Word taught us to pray, the Lord’s Prayer, we join them in that prayer. As we give each new generation the words of our Faith in the form of the Baptismal Vows and Creed, we are renewed in our own faith and reminded of our true identity in Christ. When we encourage one another with these words (1 Thes 4:18), we are encouraged. This is the mysterious nature of Grace, that when we give it, we receive it. And we know that the Holy Spirit is here among us in the giving and the receiving.

## **The Vestry Needs You**

If you are a confirmed Episcopalian, a member of Fork Church,  
and feel called to serve on the Vestry,  
please be in contact with Paul Newell or Fr Nik.

### ***Look What's Cookin'***

The 2015 Stewardship Letter & Pledge Card have been mailed.  
If you have any questions or need a Pledge Card, please contact Scott  
Smythe ([scott@virginiaberryfarm.com](mailto:scott@virginiaberryfarm.com)).

## **Attention Women of Fork Church**

Melissa Hawks, our talented organist, is having a baby. Let's welcome this event with a baby shower for her & her family. Bring a treat to share, what you want to drink, & join in the fun.

Place: 15407 Woodman Hall Rd. Montpelier, VA

Date: Sunday, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> – 2:00-4:00 p.m.

RSVP: Anne – 883-6547; [annerickman@embarqmail.com](mailto:annerickman@embarqmail.com)

Kathy – 883-5513; [boysthree@embarqmail.com](mailto:boysthree@embarqmail.com)

## **Fork Cookbook**

The cookbook has been selling briskly. They will make wonderful Christmas gifts. Buy yours today from any cookbook committee member. The committee will be selling cookbooks at the upcoming Heavenly Creations show in Ashland at St. James the Less.

## **Heavenly Creations Arts & Crafts Show**

At St James the Less on Friday, Nov 21 (6-8:30pm) & Sat, Nov 22 (9am-4pm).

# **BLOOD DRIVE**

“Giving Thanks is giving Life & Giving Life is Giving Thanks”

Sponsored by the Hanover Episcopal Churches

**Saturday November 22, 2014 - 9:00am-1:00pm**

Calvary Episcopal Church

13312 Courthouse Road

*Sign- up sheet on bulletin board in back of Church.*

## **Advent Event!**

After church on Sunday, Nov 30, you're invited to come to the Parish Hall for Hot Chocolate, Coffee, Cookies, & Advent Wreath Making. Please let Boo Smythe ([boosmythe@gmail.com](mailto:boosmythe@gmail.com)) know if you plan to make a wreath

So she'll have the right quantity of supplies.

*Suggested Donation – \$10 per Advent Wreath*

## **Christian Education**

**Godly Play** is currently in session. Children are invited to hear the Word in a fun, learning environment in the Parish House during the first half of our Sunday morning worship; after which, they join their parents in church for Communion.

**J2A Youth Group** meets twice a month for fun, fellowship, food, & formation. **Our next meeting is this Sunday, November 16th at 5:00 pm at the Parish House.** In December, we'll meet at 5pm on the 7<sup>th</sup>. We'll also make cookies in our new kitchen on the 20<sup>th</sup> & deliver them after church on the 21st.

**Adult Forum** meets Sunday mornings at 9am. Through Nov 23, Don Schubert and Fr Nik are co-leading a study exploring the question: “What is Church?” Come join us for coffee and good conversation.

