

Celebration of Rite 13

RITE 13 is a special ceremony that is a part of the curriculum Journey to Adulthood, that Fork Church is using for its youth program. Next Sunday during the 10 AM service we will all have the opportunity to be a part of this service.

The idea for Rite 13 grew out of the understanding that other cultures and religions have some type of a ceremony of passage when their children move from childhood to young adulthood – usually around the age of 13 – about the time they are completing Middle School. We find Bat/Bar Mitzvahs at this age in Judaism. Preparation for Rite 13 is similarly designed with study, discussion and expectations. It is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate each child as he or she is moving from childhood to young adulthood – to recognize the gift of womanhood or manhood bestowed by God on each one.

Here at Fork Church we celebrate Rite 13 as a recognition that the young people are on their way to becoming adults. Adulthood is something to be earned – not something that simply happens. This is the thrust of the content of the J2A curriculum, the next segment of Journey to Adulthood.

What is womanhood or manhood? Each of us can only answer this question from our own experience. To become a woman or a man is a gift of God. It is to grow into the person that God has created each of us to be. From the very beginning our parents had hopes and dreams for us and our future. But most importantly God has created each of us to be a unique person with wonderful inborn talents and abilities that make us children of God. This is what we celebrate in the Rite 13 ceremony, that each young person is God's Beloved.

Thank You for being here today. Your presence gives encouragement and support to our young people as they navigate this challenging and complicated world we live in today.

Boo and Jim Smythe

Brenda Cox

Hello, My name is Brendan Cox the youngest son of Sarah and Joe Cox. I am 14 years old and in the 8th grade at Liberty Middle School. I am an older brother of sisters Caroline and Samantha and the younger brother of Jacob.

I enjoy playing sports like football and basketball. I plan on going to high school next year, instead of skipping school and heading straight to college, because quite frankly, I'm not brilliant like the people who do that. I always get off topic and forget what I am supposed to be doing. Sheldon Cooper, a character from "The Big Bang Theory" says in an episode that he left for college when he was 12.

I named one of my fish Sheldon. I also got a new fish last weekend and I can see into him. I named him CthroughPO. I think he is shy because he doesn't interact well with the other fish. My other fish came from Fin and Feather in Ashland. CthroughPO was purchased at Petsmart. Also, we got our dog Lucy a new harness there because the other one was kind of small, but the one we got was too big. She's kind of in that "4th grade phase" where you're in between sizes. Ya know what I mean? We tried getting a haress from Fin and Feather, but they just were'nt reliable. We ordered the harness because they didn't have one her size in stock...and then never called us.

Oh LOOK! CthroughPO is swimming with the other fish! Good for him!
Thank you for your time, goodbye.

Edi Turner

I live in Doswell with my family; Ric and Linda Turner and my sister ,Sally , when she is not in college. I have two pets: a wonderful dog Ace(black Lab) and our cat Polly. We also have a horse, Tristan. I 'm 14 years old and I attend Liberty middle school 8th grade.

I enjoy the sport of Baton competition and participating in parades. I also enjoy singing. I do well in art, writing and photography. I have received the good citizenship awards, arts and science award for a painting, and I'm in the French and beta clubs at school. My favorite school subject is science and my favorite book is catching fire by Suzanne Collins. I like to cook and my favorite type of food is Chinese. The TV shows I watch most is Dr. Who and NCIS.

I love the beach and can't wait for summer to start. One of our best family vacations was when we went to the wizarding world of Harry Potter at universal studio and of course Disney world. I hope one day to travel and see London England. I plan to attend college and I interested in becoming either a writer or a paleontologist. I'm very grateful for my family and having good friends.

From the Parlows

Most Episcopal congregations cannot afford a parish staff the size they once did. This is good news! It means that the laity, “the people of God” (*laos*) can and must do more.

Have you ever considered being trained as a preacher or one who teaches youth and adults the basics of the Christian faith?

Examples – Godly Play, Rite 13, become a catechist – one who prepares people for Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation of Faith. How about visiting nursing homes? Assisting in worship? There are many, many wonderful essential forms of call to ministry that do not require ordination. If you have a passion for a ministry, let us know. *Ruth and Bob*

Announcements

The Easter Season is the most joyous and celebratory season of the church year. As we rejoice in the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ these next few weeks, we will, as a part of the celebration, omit the confession. It will return as we enter the season “After Pentecost.

BBQ Chicken Dinner at Rouzie’s Chapel UMC -Saturday
May 17th from 4-6PM..

To help with the Western Hanover Wood Ministry.

You will get ½ chicken, beans, slaw, roll, dessert and a drink. All this for \$7.00 For more information please call 804-449-6794

