

From Father Nik

At the beginning of the nineteenth century, William White was not only the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church but the only one of the four founding bishops who was actively leading the church on a national level into the new century. As a young clergyman, White had helped organize the Episcopal Church into a new denomination after the Revolutionary War severed the American Anglicans from the Church of England. He'd also helped produce and publish a Book of Common Prayer for the newly formed Episcopal Church. Now an experienced bishop and head of the denomination, White turned his attention to the training of new clergy, placing his hopes on the next generation of leaders to ignite a revival within the much embattled church.

Samuel Provoost, the bishop of New York who'd been consecrated with White in England in 1787, attempted to resign from his Episcopal office in 1800. General Convention refused his letter of resignation; however, they raised up Provoost's assistant at Trinity Church, Benjamin Moore, as a bishop coadjutor to exercise oversight and leadership on Provoost's behalf. Bishop Moore is, of course, best remembered for having reluctantly communed a dying Alexander Hamilton after his duel with Aaron Burr, but he also helped prepare the way for Episcopal revival in New York by hiring a young priest named John Henry Hobart as one of his assistants at Trinity Church. Hobart was a friend of Bishop White's, having studied under him and been ordained by him. And within eight years of becoming an assistant rector of Trinity Church, NY, Hobart was consecrated bishop coadjutor for Bishop Moore, becoming the diocesan bishop when Moore passed away in 1816. Hobart was a High Churchman, stressing the importance of bishops and sacraments as the qualities that made the Episcopal Church distinctive from other forms of Protestantism. But he was also a powerful advocate for the spreading of the gospel and the revitalization of the church. By the end of his life, he'd made New York the largest diocese in the Episcopal Church.

Virginia also saw the rise of a new generation of leadership shaped by White's guidance, who would lead a revival of the Episcopal Church in their diocese. First among these revivalists in Virginia was William H. Wilmer, originally from Maryland, and William Meade, the last clergyman to have been ordained by Bishop Madison before his death. These two young clergymen shared Hobart's missionary zeal but not his High Church theological emphases. Instead, they considered themselves to be evangelicals, in unity with other Protestant denominations on an emphasis on conversion and preaching as the proclamation of the Word. Wilmer and Meade campaigned for fellow evangelical, Richard Channing Moore to be elected the second bishop of VA. Eventually, Meade would become the third bishop of VA, but first it would be the combined evangelical energy of Wilmer, Moore, and Meade that would bring the Episcopal Church in Virginia back from the brink of desolation and despair.

CARITAS is Coming

CARITAS is a shared ministry that helps break the cycle of homelessness by providing shelter and stability our neighbors who have lost both.

The CARITAS guests will be staying at St. James the Less, Ashland from September 5 to 12.

Fork Church is responsible for the evening of Sept. 8, the morning of Sept 9, and bag lunches for Sept 9.

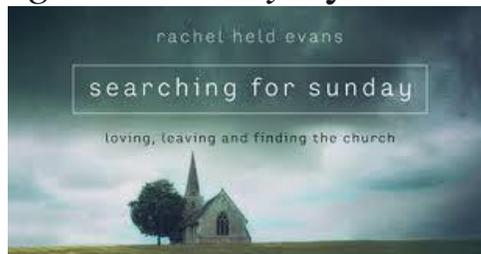
Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex of the church.

Lemonade on the Lawn

Thanks to the Miles family for this morning's refreshments!
The Droppleman family will host next Sunday.

Fall Small Groups

This Fall, the Thursday morning Men's Group & Women's Group Will both read *Searching For Sunday* by Rachel Held Evans.



The book's chapters are organized according to the Seven Sacraments, so the Adult Sunday School will explore those sacraments in depth.

We'd like to organize another (co-ed?) small group to meet on a weeknight to discuss the book.

If you're interested, please let Fr Nik know.

Bishop Spong Discussion Group

The group meets at 10:00 on Thursday mornings at St. James the Less.

Christian Education

... is on break for the Summer.

Godly Play, our Sunday School for children, will resume in September.

J2A Youth Group will meet on Sunday, September 13 with the Youth Group of Church of Our Savior, Montpelier.

The Adult Forum will meet again on Sunday, September 13. During this Fall, we will be exploring the Sacraments.

Small Groups

The Women's Book Group will meet again in September. They are reading *A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle over the summer. Please contact Kathy for directions or more info: boysthree@embarqmail.com

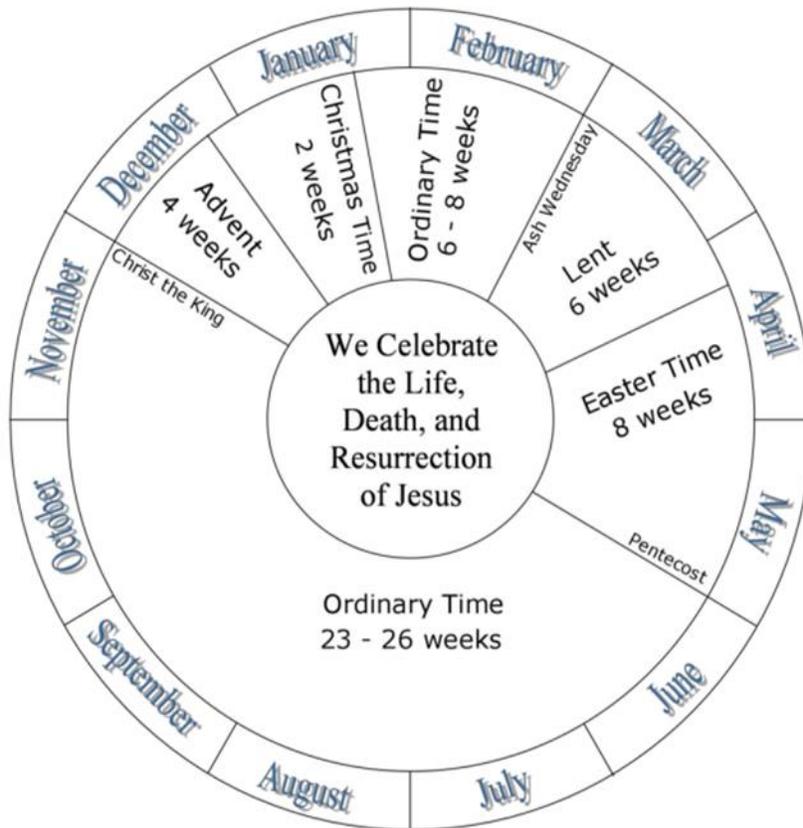
The Men's Book Group will meet Thursday, Thursday Sept 3 at 7:30am at **The Ashland Coffee & Tea** to discuss the first two chapters (pp 1-58) of *The Wisdom of Stability* by Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove.

Christian Formation

The *Way of Discipleship* classes for Confirmation & Reception will resume on Wednesday, October 7 at 6:30pm.

If you're interested in being Baptized or would like to become a member of this Church, please contact Fr Nik – KNicholasForti@gmail.com

The Liturgical Year



Nik's Calendar

Saturday, Aug 29 – Parson's Cause, 10:30am
Sunday, Aug 30 – RMC Campus Ministry Promo Luncheon, 11:45am
Thursday, Sept 3 – RMC Campus Ministries Council 1-2pm
Sat/Sun, Sept 5/6 – Fr. Nik away to officiate at a wedding

Looking Ahead

Thursday, Sept 3 – Men's Book Group, 7:30-8:30am
Tuesday, Sept 8 – **CARITAS** – St. James the Less, Ashland
Wednesday, Sept 9 – **CARITAS** – St. James the Less, Ashland
Thursday, Sept 10 – Men's Book Group, 7:30-8:30am
Tuesday, Sept 15 – Vestry Meeting, 7-9pm

Office hours: Jacquie Alleva, our parish secretary, works Tuesday & Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. If you would like to submit an announcement, please do so by noon on Thursday.