

From Father Nik

The 78th General Convention meeting now in the Diocese of Utah has the duty of electing a new Presiding Bishop. Our current Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev'd Katharine Jefferts Schori, will conclude her 9-year tenure in November. A new Presiding Bishop, who will be elected at this Convention, will take up the office. The office of Presiding Bishop includes presidency over the House of Bishops, administrative oversight of the national church, & representation of The Episcopal Church in the Anglican Communion. So, the Presiding Bishop isn't a pope, a metropolitan, or even an archbishop. The PB has no jurisdictional, pastoral, or administrative authority in the diocese of another bishop, unless she's acting in accordance with & on behalf of General Convention. Even still, the Presiding Bishop today is a more distinct & distinguished office, than it was for the first 130 years of its existence.

Since 1919, the office of PB has been an elected one with a 9-year term, & in the 1940s General Convention determined that the duties of the PB precluded actively serving a diocese as their bishop. So, now when a bishop is elected PB, she relinquishes her office as diocesan bishop. But that's not the way it was when the Rt Rev'd Dr William White, bishop of Pennsylvania, was first Presiding Bishop in the 1780s. From White's days until the first half of the 20th Century, the PB was simply the bishop who presided over General Convention by virtue of being the senior bishop present.

In 1785, before White had become a bishop, before there was the possibility of a House of Bishops, White presided over a Convention of priests and lay people. But White wasn't the first Episcopal bishop in America. Dr White & the Rev'd Samuel Provoost of New York were consecrated bishops in England in 1787, but Samuel Seabury of Connecticut was consecrated 3 years earlier by appealing to the bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church. A High Churchman, Seabury was dismayed by White's attempt at organizing the Episcopal Church prior to having bishops, and he was utterly against the suggestion of White's 1782 pamphlet that a Convention of priests & laypeople could temporarily exercise the powers of bishops. As senior bishop, Seabury should have been the first Presiding Bishop in 1789, but he refused to come at first because there was no House of Bishops. Moreover, Provoost couldn't stand Seabury's sense of self-importance & his unapologetic support of the British during the Revolutionary War. But Provoost wasn't able to attend the 1789 Convention, and White threw himself into the task of compromising with Seabury's demands so as to create a unified Episcopal Church—a task at which he was successful, by the grace of God.

Nik+

Welcome, Father Haywood Spangler!

The Rev'd Dr Haywood Spangler has been a priest in the Diocese of Virginia since 1998. He has been the rector of parishes in Luray, Charlottesville, and Richmond, and has served on the board of Peter-Paul Development Center in Richmond's east end. He also taught at the University of Virginia's McIntyre School of Commerce. He is currently Director of Education at Leadership Metro Richmond. He holds an MDiv from Yale University and a PhD from the University of Virginia.

Fr Nik is Away

from Sunday, June 21 through Monday, July 6.

He's working as the St. George's Camp Chaplain at Shrine Mont.

The Rev. Charles Joy is available for pastoral emergencies, 757-642-5024.

July 4th at Mount Olympus

Everyone is invited to Mt. Olympus Farm for July 4th. Bring a side dish or dessert to share & we'll provide the hamburgers and hot dogs. We will also have water, lemonade, & ice tea. Please NO GLASS CONTAINERS AND NO SMOKING ANYWHERE ON THE FARM. (If you want to drink anything except water, lemonade, or ice tea please bring it but not in glass containers.) Come any time after 3:00 pm and we will eat around 6:00pm. RSVP to Boo and Jim Smythe at boosmythe@gmail or 804-448-3517 or 804-357-3319.

Lemonade on the Lawn

Thanks to Jenny Smith for this morning's refreshments!

The Droppleman family will be hosting next Sunday, July 5

Bishop's Jubilee

July 3-5, 2015 at Shrine Mont

Two Fun Filled Days of Music and Family Activities:

5k Run, Carnival Games, Crafts, Live Bluegrass, and more!

Contact Shrine Mont for more information:

shrine@Shentel.net – 540-856-2141

The Unique Boutique Arts & Crafts Festival

will be held at Fork Church on September 19th, 2015

and is seeking artists & craft persons to participate in the show & sale.

For more information, go to the website (uniqueboutiquefestival.com)

or email at uniqueboutiquefestival@gmail.com or speak to

Amy Newell, Alice Noland, Linda MacDonald, or Emily Dickson

Christian Education

... is Taking a Break for the Summer.

Godly Play needs volunteers this summer for:

- sorting & cleaning Nursery toys & equipment;
- helping with special summer events during the first part of church on Sundays from June 14 until August 16 (except July 5th);
- reorganizing the Godly Play stories & the supply closet.

Please call Boo Smythe at [804-357-3319](tel:804-357-3319) if you can help.

J2A Youth Group will meet again in September, **but stay tuned for occasional summer events.**

The Adult Forum will meet again in September.

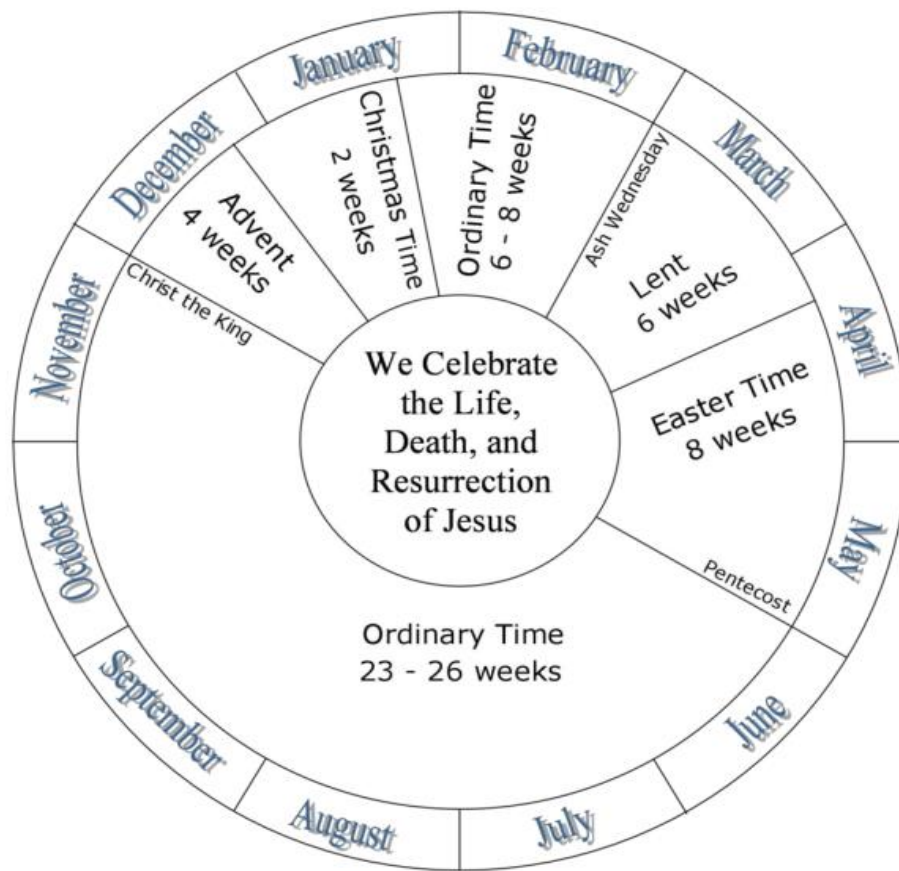
Small Groups

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, July 9 at 7:30am at Ashland Coffee & Tea to discuss chapters 6 thru 8 (pages 95-133) of *Killing Jesus: A History* by Bill O'Reilly & Martin Dugard.

Christian Formation

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



Nik's Calendar

Sun, June 21-Mon, July 6 – Shrine Mont: St George's Camp Chaplain

Looking Ahead

Thursday, July 9 – Men's Book Group, 7:30-8:30am

Tuesday, July 21 – Vestry Meeting, 7-9pm

Thursday, July 23 – Men's Book Group, 7:30-8:30am

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.