



Photograph by Rachel Smith

Loaves & Fishes

JULY 2024

A Celebration of New Ministry

...do not forget the trust of those who have chosen you. Care alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. By your words, and in your life, proclaim the gospel. Love and serve God's people.

~ ~ The Letter of Institution

the left-hand column

☦ What a year we have had already. At the halfway point, consider the milestones—we have called our rector, and are well on the way to creating wonderful memories; our adult discussion forum is back in business; Vacation Bible School is back, giving children a learning experience combined with fun; yard sales continue to support St. Andrew's ministries; the Thrift Shop, with \$13,490 in sales seems to be on track to surpass last year's total.

☦ And Steve is about to have another yard sale, probably setting up August 14 and open through the 17th—Can you help?

☦ Our Holy Mowers have been hard at work and the campus looks wonderful, in spite of the intense heat.

☦ Folks, if your email address changes, please let me know. It's really difficult to communicate, when we don't have up-to-date information.

It is hard to imagine the circumstances under which I could forget the trust given to me by the vestry who called Kelly and me to St. Andrew's. Many things go through the mind of people who are celebrating a new ministry together (Where am I going to put all these things people are giving me? Who is going to eat all the food I saw in the kitchen a few minutes ago?), which is presumably why the Letter of Institution is very specific in its instructions to the incoming rector. To care for young and old, rich and poor, strong and weak is not always easy in execution but clear enough in intent. But loving and serving God's people is a singular joy of ministry, especially in this place; you love so deeply and with such abandon that to do anything else would be an affront to the Holy Spirit that brought us together in the first place.

For my part, there is not one detail of the liturgy or the celebration I would have changed. The service, by the usual standard of these things, was direct, reverent and full of joy. It was entirely reflective of the people I have the privilege to serve. The food was spectacular and I could not be more

Photograph by Rachel Smith



grateful to all who had a hand in the preparation. And as Mary Maker (who is infinitely wiser in these things than I am) has said, this parish showed the diocese how serious we were in our work and how joyful we could be in putting it together. I honestly cannot remember the last time I had so much fun!!

As the generous people they are, the vestry gave me a new prayer book/hymnal; apparently the one I had been using for the last twenty-five years deserved a dignified retirement. I also received a crystal ball from two very generous folks as a result of saying that I had missed the day in seminary where they taught pastors how to predict the future; tellingly, this last item had no instructions. Inside the prayer book, however, was a note that I suspect was meant to be private but which I have to share, as it reflects a feeling I share with the vestry about the last several months and my arrival here. It begins, "It is only by God's grace that we came into relationship with you". Your welcome on the day of the celebration and the months preceding it has been one of the singular expressions of grace in my days as a priest. My heart is still full and I will strive to earn the trust you have placed in me as your rector.

Mark+



Small things and the love of God

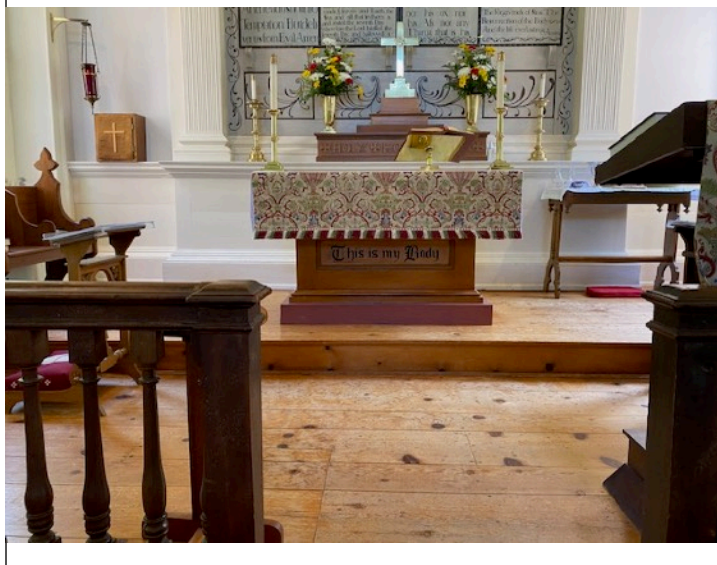
Some time ago, I was reading an article about John Polkinghorne, a British physicist turned Anglican priest who was, in part, responsible for the discovery of the quark, an impossibly small particle integral to theories of microphysics. Polkinghorne received an award several years ago for his contribution to ideas linking science and faith. One of his most interesting ideas was the changing states of matter and the parables they provide for our belief: a boiling kettle of water, he asserted, was the same matter exhibited in a "phase change," as scientists call it, analogous to the death and resurrection of Christ.

As we move into a season of the church year filled with travel (finally), I am reminded of the salient quality of the Holy Spirit, which is its unpredictability. As a people living "in-between times," it is helpful to remember that change is the only constant in our lives. As we make our way through one of the richest and most sacred seasons of our church year, I believe it is important to remember that we have the Holy Spirit to guide us. Like Polkinghorne's quarks, we are able to see movement, but the process is under the guidance of the sacred, as much as we would like to control it.

It is easy to see how we can be changed by the large things in our lives, events like confirmations and baptisms, the death of people around us, discoveries that we make about ourselves that forever change the way we think about our lives. As we begin to think about a season of summer vacations and travel, it is my hope that we can be attuned to the Spirit in small things: the look of a child at a monument for the first time, the trips we make to the beach simply treasuring the hours with people we love. God the Spirit is present in these events too, and we do ourselves a disservice if we overlook them.

I think often about the vision of Dame Julian of Norwich, in which she was shown a vision of something small, no bigger than a hazelnut, lying in the palm of her hand. When she asked, "What is it," she was told that "it was everything which is made." There is nothing that is too small for the intimate attention of God, not a hazelnut or a shell plucked from the water by a child, not even a quark. My hope is that we can see the work of God not only in the overturning of all we know about our sacred and secular lives but in the smallest things we encounter; that in holding them, we might begin to see how God holds us.

Mark+



theology

noun

theology—thē-'ä-lə-jē

plural theologies

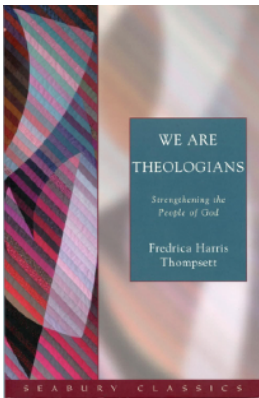
: the study of religious faith, practice, and experience especially : the study of God and of God's relation to the world

theologian

noun

theo·lo·gian ,thē-ə-'lō-jən: a specialist in **theology*****We Are Theologians***

We often think that the work of theology, of talking about God, is best left to the “professionals,” the people who have spent their lives thinking about God and God’s place in our world. Fredrica Harris Thompsett’s *We Are Theologians* begins with the premise that it is all within us (and is our responsibility) to be theologians, to think about how God acts on our lives as individuals and communities.



Exploring the history of this idea, from the insights of the Reformation through the empowerment of women’s voices in the West, to the insights of Liberation Theology in the Global South, Thompsett makes the case that thinking theologically is possible and necessary for all Christians.

Please note: we will begin discussing this book following our exploration of Fae Malania’s, *The Quantity of a Hazelnut*, sometime in mid-July during our discussions at 9:15. You are welcome to be part of either study, so please join us!

We Are Theologians: Strengthening the People of God, Fredrica Harris Thompsett, Seabury Books, 2004. \$15.90 at Amazon, \$21.95 at bookshop.org

The Author

Fredrica Harris Thompsett is Mary Wolf Professor Emerita of Historical Theology at Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

We Are Theologians, originally published in 1989, is considered her most popular work, but she has also written about Verna Dozier and about ministry in small congregations.

Dr. Thompsett is a member of the the Standing Commission on Lifelong Christian Education and Formation.



The Seven Social Sins are: wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, religion without sacrifice, politics without principle.

~~The Rev. Frederick Lewis Donaldson,
Canon of Westminster Abbey, 1925

Photograph by Clara Stark



Photograph by Mary Larson



Photograph by Clara Stark



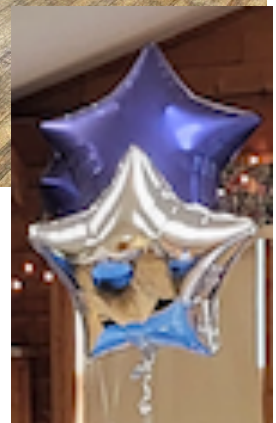
Photographs by Clara Stark



Loaves & Fishes

July 2024

Photograph by Clara Stark



Words From Our Treasurer

Financially, things are going pretty much as we expected through May. You may remember that I have been concerned that our pledge and plate receipts were lagging last year, and below what we budgeted them to be. That seems to be improving and through May 31, our income from parishioner giving is up 15% over last year, and 7% higher than we had budgeted.

One month does not a year make, so we still need to keep our eyes on those figures, but it looks positive at this point. Our rental income from community groups is below plan so we should look into why these groups are not using the parish hall as much as before. Nevertheless, our total income was almost 30% higher than last year at this time, and about where we expected it to be.

Our operating expenses (buildings and grounds, administration, personnel, and ministries) were very close to the plan, and we continue to operate the church through this period with a surplus (more income than expenses). As we grow, our need for parishioner support grows as well, so we are grateful for all of the time, talent, and finances you contribute to our church. If you have any financial questions feel free to ask me, either when you see me at the coffee hour or via email at cwstein1@verizon.net.

What Does the Fourth Of July Mean?

In 1838, Frederick Douglass, with the help of the free back woman who became his wife, boarded a train in Baltimore. Within twenty-four hours he was in New York, a free man.

He later wrote of how the knowledge of freedom felt. "There is scarcely anything in my experience about which I could not give a more satisfactory answer. A new world had opened upon me. If life is more than breath, and the 'quick round of blood,' I lived more in one day than in a year of my slave life. It was a time of joyous excitement which words can but tamely describe." In a letter to a friend, he wrote, "I felt as one might feel upon escape from a den of hungry lions. Anguish and grief, like darkness and rain, may be depicted; but gladness and joy, like the rainbow, defy the skill of pen or pencil."

When he was twelve, Douglass had been taught the alphabet by the wife of a man to whom his owner had sent him. But her husband disapproved, believing that literacy would encourage the desire for freedom. "Very well, thought

I, 'Knowledge unfits a child to be a slave.' I instinctively assented to the proposition, and from that moment I understood the direct pathway from slavery to freedom."

Soon after his arrival in New York, Douglass, who had, beginning with those lessons of the alphabet and the understanding that learning was essential to freedom, was speaking and writing about the necessity of abolishing slavery.



On July 5, 1852, at the Corinthian Hall in Rochester, New York, speaking to the Rochester Ladies' Anti-Slavery Society, he delivered the speech remembered for the question, "What, to the American slave, is your fourth of July?" This was no short talk; it probably went on for at least two hours; it included harrowing descriptions of the horrors of slavery.

But that was not all Douglass had to say. He ended with words of hope. . . .

"Allow me to say, in conclusion, notwithstanding the dark picture I have this day presented, of the state of the nation, I do not despair of this country. There are forces in operation, which must inevitably, work the downfall of slavery. 'The arm of the Lord is not shortened,' and the doom of slavery is certain.

"I, therefore, leave off where I began, with hope. While drawing encouragement from 'the Declaration of Independence,' the great principles it contains, and the genius of American Institutions, my spirit is also cheered by the obvious tendencies of the age.

"Nations do not now stand in the same relation to each other that they did ages ago. No nation can now shut itself up, from the surrounding world, and trot round in the same old path of its fathers without interference. The time was when such could be done. Long established customs of hurtful character could formerly fence themselves in, and do their evil work with social impunity. Knowledge was then confined and enjoyed by the privileged few, and the multitude walked on in mental darkness. But a change has now come over the affairs of mankind. Walled cities and empires have become unfashionable. The arm of commerce has borne away the gates of the strong city. Intelligence is penetrating the darkest corners of the globe. It makes its pathway over and under the sea, as well as on the earth. Wind, steam, and lightning are its chartered agents. Oceans no longer divide, but link nations together. From Boston to London is now a holiday excursion. Space is comparatively annihilated.—Thoughts expressed on one side of the

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
~~Matthew 5:3

July 7

2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 Psalm 48
or Ezekiel 2:1-5 Psalm 123
2 Corinthians 12:2-10 Mark 6:1-13

8:00 a.m.
Lector: Jerry Gehrig
Altar duty: Lynn Duff and Margaret Hallau
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Nancy Edwards
Lector: Joyce Austin

July 14

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Psalm 24
or Amos 7:7-15 Psalm 85:8-13
Ephesians 1:3-14 Mark 6:14-29

8:00 a.m.
Lector: Mary Larson
Altar duty: Susan Bennett and Svenna Gonzalez
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Mary Maker
Lector: Margaret Hallau

July 21

2 Samuel 7:1-14a Psalm 89:20-37
or Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22 Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

8:00 a.m.
Lector: Ron Leonard
Altar duty: Helen Rotzinger
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Susan Bennett
Lector: Svenna Gonzalez

July 28

2 Samuel 11:1-15 Psalm 14
or 2 Kings 4:42-44 Psalm 145:10-19
Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21

8:00 a.m.
Lector: Iris Hall-Willey
Altar duty: Mary Maker and Michael Dyson
10:30 a.m.
Verger: Dee McRae
Lector: Joie Samuelson
Coffee Hour:

Please Hold in Your Prayers

Dianne Anderson, Pam Baake, Jan Barnes, Melanie Baisley, Robert Bennett, Eunice Benson, Grace Billingsley, Michael Birch, the Blackwell family, Caroline Bradford, Carol Brimm, Donna Carter, Donnie Carter, Judy Cavin, Jennifer Ceriale, Ash Chandler, Judy Consoli, Lanette Cowles, McKenna Cox, Marilyn Crosby, Noel D. and family, Judi Donnelly, Billy Doughty, Phyllis Doughty, Ruby Dyson, Becky Frazer, Gretchen Frazer, Brian Gardner, Susan Geary, Gloria Gehrig, the Girard family, Mary Norris-Goddard, Paul Goddard, Ronnie Guy, Willy Hansen, Susan Hogan, Ryker Hurst, Greta, Keith Johnston, Salty Joyner, Liam Kuhns, Terrie Leonard, Barbara Lorton, Elinor Mattingly, the Mattingly family, Dee McRae, Artie Miller, Bernice Nunes, Annamaria Pache, Kenda Parker, Kyle Patrick, Chase Phifer, Lisa Powell, Ellie Preta. the Rev. Michael Pumphrey, Jane Roderick, Helen Rotzinger, Diane Rudish, Bob Sisson, Alice Snyder, Jonathan Tanner, Tegan, Isabella Tenczar, Angelica Wilkinson, the Willett family, Marcus Windsor, Stuart A. Wood, first responders, and all who serve in the military and their families.



Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the Earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail: all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

July

- 1 Monday
- 2 Tuesday
- 3 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
- 4 Thursday
Fourth of July
6:00 p.m.—AA
6:30 p.m.—AlAnon
- 5 Friday
6:00 p.m. AA
- 6 Saturday
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Thrift Shop
- 7 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 Adult Forum
10:30 a.m.— H.E. II
- 8 Monday
- 9 Tuesday
- 10 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
- 11 Thursday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
6:00 p.m.—AA
6:30 p.m.—AlAnon
- 12 Friday
6:00 p.m. AA
- 13 Saturday
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Thrift Shop
- 14 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 Adult Forum
10:30 a.m.— H.E. II
- 15 Monday
Noon—Garden Club Luncheon
- 16 Tuesday
- 17 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
- 18 Thursday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
6:00 p.m.—AA
6:30 p.m.—AlAnon
- 19 Friday
6:00 p.m. AA
- 20 Saturday
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Thrift Shop
- 21 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 Adult Forum
10:30 a.m.— H.E. II

- 22 Monday
- 23 Tuesday
- 24 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
- 25 Thursday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop
6:00 p.m.—AA
6:30 p.m.—AlAnon
- 26 Friday
6:00 p.m. AA
- 27 Saturday
10:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Thrift Shop
- 28 Sunday
8:00 a.m. H.E. I
9:15 Adult Forum
10:30 a.m.— H.E. II
- 29 Monday
- 30 Tuesday
- 31 Wednesday
9:00 a.m.—noon Thrift Shop

Celebrating in Midsummer

- 18 Joe and Lisa Saunders
- 2 David and Natalie Reed
- 3 Bob and Linda Sisson,
- 5 Scott and Alice Drayton
- 9 Hal Pease and Margaret Hallau
- 15 Tom and Jill Garrett
- 16 Samuel and Brenda Frazier, Willy and Mary Hansen
- 17 Bob and Kimbra Benson
- 26 Robert & Iris Hall-Willey

Birthdays Galore

- 2 Annalee Johnson, Emma Wagner
- 3 Lynn Duff, Margaret Hallau
- 5 Helen Rotzinger
- 7 Robert Willey
- 9 Mary Maker, Olivia Labows
- 10 Robert Frick, Mark Mallory
- 14 Katie Johnson
- 16 Sydney Vieten
- 17 Sara Frank, Walt Johnson
- 18 Taylor Benson, Charlotte Caudle, Kerri Frank
- 21 Fred Bergen
- 22 Hannah Vallandingham
- 23 Samuel Frazier 29 Brenda Weisman
- 27 Pamela Carroll 30 Ginni Stein
- 28 Rese Bergen 31 Olivia Johnson

Looking for Someone?

Rector: The Rev. Mark Smith 301 862-2247

Parish Administrator: 301 862-2247 parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org

Senior Warden: Mary Maker

Junior Warden: John McKendrew

Secretary, Beth Wagner

Cindy Kilcoyne

Fundraising Steve Carroll

Robert Abell

Jessie Kilcoyne-Beaver

Bobbi Brown

Michael Dyson

Linda Himmelheber

Treasurer: Chuck Stein

Andy Walls

Minister of Music, Amy Foster

Newsletter, Dee McRae

To give flowers for the altar 301 862-2247 parishadmin@standrewsleonardtown.org

The Right Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde 202 537-6550

The Diocese of Washington 202 537-6555 <http://www.edow.org/>



Food for Thought

Sometimes a profound truth comes in a humorous package. Rabbi David Wolpe's weekly meditation, "Off the Pulpit," is always thoughtful, always enlightening, and sometimes funny. This piece, posted several months ago seems appropriate as many of us prepare for summer travel.

In my house growing up we only used used Crest toothpaste. That may seem a negligible datum, but in fact it shaped my childhood. I learned that no other toothpaste was used by smart, responsible people. When I visited another child's house and saw Colgate, or one of the unserious toothpastes like Ultrabright (the very name suggests frivolity) I knew those parents were not as wise as my own.

The day I realized that one could be as kind and as smart as my mother and use Pepsodent, my world changed. And that, my friends, is the point of travel. It is not only to see magnificent sites, although that is glorious. It is to recognize the variety of legitimate and even wonderful ways in which human beings arrange their lives, so different from one's own.

To travel well is to be humbled: To recognize how little one knows of the vast world, and how many assumptions about life one has not thought through until experiencing another way of doing things. We still love and value home, but in a wider frame and with deeper understanding. You cannot properly treasure your own country if you never see it from afar. I still use Crest although now and again I grab a brand from another country, where apparently, they too have teeth.