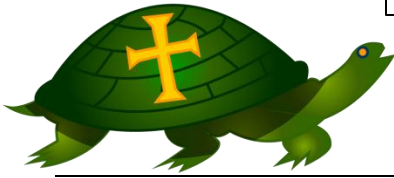

THE VOICE



Bethesda Episcopal Church: Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2016

Capital Campaign Under Way

*Gordon Boyd, Chair
Building Committee/Capital Campaign*

Bethesda's Capital Campaign, "Centered in Service," is underway! The goal of \$330,000 in congregational pledges has been set. Gift workers (members of the Vestry, Building Committee and others) have been given an orientation led by the Episcopal Church Foundation, campaign materials are in hand, and they will be calling on parishioners between now and April.

There is much excitement and optimism that this campaign will help launch Bethesda into a future of ministry and mission in the Saratoga community that will endure for generations.

The theme, "Centered in Service" reflects in a few words the many facets of Bethesda's rebirth that will be made possible with a restored worship space and the new parish house and community center.

It is hoped that members of the parish will give prayerful consideration to making a pledge in addition to their annual giving. The capital pledge can be spread over three years. When you are called by one of our "gift workers," please open your schedule, your home and your heart.

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Landon Moore: Seminary-Bound!

The Very Reverend Marshall J. Vang: Interim Rector

The Right Reverend William H. Love, Bishop of Albany, has given his blessing to Landon Moore to prepare to enter seminary in the autumn of this year. Many parishioners are aware of his desire to respond to God's call to be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood, a vocation which actually has evolved over a course of more than four years. This is *gospel* news not only for Landon but also for Bethesda and the diocese. Offering oneself at a youthful age to become an *alter-Christus* [another Christ] in the Episcopal Church has become rarer and rarer.

Landon completed the required Application for Ordination only days ago. He now awaits a response from the Commission on Ministry, an appointed diocesan body of clergy and laity that will guide him through a canonical process, leading him to his actual Ordering, first as Deacon, and then as a Priest. This will be a busy time: aptitude, medical, and psychiatric testing, background checks, interviews, financial planning, and, most importantly, continued prayerful discernment.

Landon will graduate from Marist College, Poughkeepsie, in early June. Hold him and his family in your daily intercessions. His Cross-bearing now assumes a particular orientation and a worthy and blessed destination. May the High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus, be Landon's Morning Star, a star which knows no setting. ❖

**The deadline for the next edition
of The Voice is Wednesday,
March 16th! Please contribute!**

Email articles to geneva.k.hinkle@gmail.com

Looking for information? A web site has been established that is dedicated solely to the Capital Campaign. Go to www.givingsites.com/centered. Other sources are members of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee, Mary Withington and Gordon Boyd, co-chairs, the Vestry, Wardens and Building Committee, and the parish's own website, www.bethesdachurch.org/new-facilities/.

Please mark your calendar for a festive kick-off reception to initiate the Capital Campaign's public phase. All are invited at 3 p.m. Sunday February 28 to the Holiday Inn. This is about the Capital Campaign, but is not a fund raiser. It is for both Celebration and Information, and is sponsored by Bethesda. All members of the parish are invited and welcome. Organizers: Deb Harper, Pam Houde, Sharon Boyd.

Members of the Building Committee and Capital Campaign will be available throughout the reception to convey information about the projects, the New Parish House and Community Center, and the church restoration.

Come and bring a friend!❖

A Bethesda Forum for the Community, Saturday March 12

Bethesda will host a public forum on "Criminal Justice Reform and Re-entry: Motivating and Mobilizing the Faith Community" from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday March 12 in the church. The forum is being organized by In Our Name (ION) Restorative Justice Initiative, affiliated with the Skidmore College Restorative Justice Project.

Speaking will be:

- Sheila Rule, author, advocate and former New York Times journalist, now head of Think Outside the Cell Foundation at Riverside Church, New York City.
- David Karp, Skidmore Professor and head of the Skidmore Restorative Justice Project.
- Jonathan Gradess, executive director, New York State Defenders Association, the statewide group representing county public defenders in Albany.

Jesus directs us to take care of prisoners and captives: "I was in prison and you visited me." Matthew 25:36. Today, our justice system incarcerates many, but more than 95% of all inmates eventually are released. What happens when they are on parole, job hunting, finding a place to live? What is our responsibility for a justice and security system that operates "in our name?"

Ash Wednesday: February 10, 7:00 PM

(Allegri's Misereri: Liz Sterling repeatedly sings a high C. Seriously. We can't express how awesome that is.)

Bethesda's Budget: Why "Pledge & Plate" is So Important

Anne Van Acker

In preparing the annual budget for Bethesda, the first line item on the Income side of our budget is a category labeled "Pledge & Plate." Simply put, this is the money we receive each week from our parishioners and visitors in the weekly plate collections at each service. This budget category is the single largest source of Bethesda's income; it typically represents close to 70% of our annual income. When one considers the many expenses involved in running our parish, the importance of our giving comes sharply into focus. Weekly giving has to support our rector and staff, insurance costs, utilities, the diocesan assessment, our CPA and bookkeeper, printing costs, computer and office supplies...the list goes on. We do receive a modest amount of money from a trust that is restricted for Choir expenses, and we also receive some money from weddings, funerals, and baptisms. The Building Fund fundraiser contributes about 15% of our annual income, but that money is restricted as well. So, it is clear that the day-to-day running of Bethesda is critically dependent upon our giving.

Your pledging is extremely important for us to create a realistic annual budget. While we appreciate any donations that make it into the plate, a reliable pledge allows us to anticipate our income for the following year and so we can plan accordingly. That's why it's so important to pledge and to fulfill your pledges. One of our recent improvements to Bethesda's finances has been to purchase software which allows us to track pledges/contributions so that we can generate accurate giving statements and send out friendly reminders if one's giving falls behind. Your consistency and prayerful generosity in giving is the key to enabling Bethesda to continue to grow and meet the needs of the parish and community. Another small, but important request, for helping our income: if you haven't picked up your giving envelopes in the Narthex, please do so as soon as possible; this will save us money on postage!

On behalf of all of us involved in the music program of Bethesda, please accept our heartfelt gratitude for all who so generously contributed to the Thomas T. Parke Music Fund in 2015. Donations totaled \$1978.00.

John Arango, Tom & Donna Armer, Audrey Ball, Catherine Berheide, Gordon & Sharon Boyd, Lewis Bruce & Helen Sciertelli, Sean Byrnes, Mark Claverie & Diane Robinson, John & Nancy Gilliland, David & Tracy Hawthorne, Elbert Hinkson, Elizabeth Hood, Pamela Houde, Douglas Houston, Mildred Meeker, Richard & Kathryn Meron, Darren & Christine Miller, Thomas & Beth Moeller, Sherryl Moore, Robert Moore, George & Martha Parker, Paul & Audrey Parobeck, Lynne Priestley, Thomas & Gail Remington, Carol Simek, Robert & Holly Sofarelli, Anne Solenski, Bruce Solenski, Eid & Joyce Sweis, Barbara Tasso, Michael & Jerilyn Towner, Craig & Karen Walton, Richard Wissler, Mary Withington

Lenten Hymn

Tune: Heinlein, Lyrics: Henderson

Forty days and forty nights
we will sing lugubrious hymns.
Forty days and forty nights
musically repent our sins.

Giving up beloved vice:
chocolate, cursing, booze or cheese
and one final sacrifice:
anthems sung in major keys

Gone the fading Christmas wreath
but the solemn Lent-tide grants
incense forbade so we can breathe
enough to get through dirgeful chants.

Hallelujahs have been banned.
All the church a dreary sight.
Altar-top no flowers stand
to bring small joys to endless night

Though you'd think we might agree
that Easter lightens Lenten doom.
Choristers will say that we
secretly prefer the gloom.

Query: Why are we doing Anglican Chant at 10 o'clock Liturgy?

The Gradual offering after The First Lesson is most often from the Psalms, as appointed for the particular day in the Prayer Book (p. 888 ff.). It is sung in many places (read in others).

There are different ways of chanting the Gradual; the two most often used are Plainsong (unaccompanied, monophonic with inflections at end of line), predating the tenth century and adapted from Latin to English in 1550. The sung Collect at Bethesda is an example of Plainsong. Plainsong Tones (melodies) are the source of over three-dozen hymns (see Hymnal, p. 813).

Anglican Chant developed out of the plainchant psalm-tones about the end of the 17th century. It consists of a harmonized tune in which the first part of each half-verse is sung on a fixed reciting note, and the concluding words fitted to a metrical ending. Along with the revival of Plainsong, Anglican Chant became very popular about the middle of the 19th century. Bethesda's service leaflet regularly records at the end of the Gradual the Psalm source, as well as the composer of the music.

Is there something you've been wondering? Send questions to geneva.k.hinkle@gmail.com and we'll find your answer! (Probably by asking Rev'd Paul Evans, like we did this time)

Bethesda's Treasures

Mary Sanders Shartle

One of the loveliest objects involved in Sunday worship is the gold plate communion chalice with amethysts inset on the pommel. Along with the paten and ciborium, the communion set was given by Helen A. Linthicum (1868-1944) in memory of her father, Dr. John Leland Perry, Jr., (1840-1915). Dr. Perry was the proprietor of the United States Hotel, one of the most elegant hotels in the world at that time, located on Broadway and Division Street. Helen was sponsored for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) by Mrs. Ellen Hardin Walworth, legendary in our town and donor of our stained glass window depicting St. John baptizing Christ.

Mrs. Linthicum, was married to Maryland Representative of Congress, John Charles Linthicum, (1867-1932) a democrat who served from 1911 until his death. He was best known as a leader of the "wets" for his co-authored amendment (Beck-Linthicum) to repeal Prohibition. Although the amendment failed, it required all members of Congress to identify as either "wet" or "dry," which ultimately cost the "dry" members the next election and brought an end to Prohibition.

Mrs. Linthicum encouraged her husband to make "The Star-Spangled Banner" the official U. S. National Anthem. The Linthicum home "Twin Oaks" in Linthicum Heights, Maryland, is listed on the National Historic Register. The couple is buried in Druid Ridge Cemetery in Maryland.



*The Vestry, Clergy, Choir,
Congregation and Newsletter Archon
would like to wish Grace Hawthorne a
very happy birthday!
Many happy returns!*



PARISHIONER SPOTLIGHT



FARRELL GOEHRING became the Organist/ Director of Music at Bethesda in 1993. He spent his early childhood in Aberdeen, South Dakota, and taught himself to play on a neighbor's piano at age five. "Nobody in my family of farmers and truck drivers was musical, so my interest in music was totally foreign to them," according to Farrell. At age eight, he and his best friend, who played organ, toured the state performing pop music for local beauty pageants. Farrell said his friend "always got more attention on the organ than I did on the piano, so I switched to organ."

When he turned twelve his family moved to Minneapolis, and he started taking lessons and selling organs for the Lowery Organ Company. After playing boogie woogie and the call to charge for the Minnesota Twins Stadium, he changed course to classical organ.

Farrell attended Bethel College, a Baptist liberal arts college in Minnesota and shortly after began his first professional position as organist at First Methodist Church. He studied organ under Jean Christian at Bethel and then under Joan Lippincott, at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, NJ.

Before coming to Bethesda, Farrell spent twelve years as Organist/Director of Music at St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church, in New York City. During that period, his concert schedule included performances at Alice Tully Hall at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. He also performed concerts at St. Patrick's Cathedral and other notable churches in NYC and Washington DC.

Summer recital tours have taken him around the world. Farrell recalled some of joys and trials of these recitals:

The church that I worked for at that time, St. Marks in Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn, sent me to Florence to perform at the Basilica of San Lorenzo, the Church of the Medici. I then traveled to Milan where I performed on two famous organs built by Tamborini: one at the Cathedral, Duomo di Milano, and the other at

Sante Maria della Grazie where the fresco of Da Vinci's Last Supper is.

At the Vanha Kirkko, Old Church, in Helsinki, Finland in February, it took a long time to thaw out before playing. In Singapore, I found that Victoria Concert Hall was not air conditioned when I was practicing. Thankfully cool air escaped through the pipes.

Farrell started the Concert Music Series at Bethesda in 1996, and it drew large crowds until 2012. It became difficult to continue in an area that has so many other venues with large concert budgets. He said he continues to collaborate with the Saratoga Springs High School Choraliers each spring.

Farrell had a large role in initiating and supervising the installation of the Pierce gallery organ. Shortly after he came to Bethesda, he noticed the gallery organ ductwork was still intact, and he found much of the pipework and the organ chest from the 1920 gallery organ in the church basement; "it became my goal to restore that lost treasure." After realizing that the components in the basement weren't viable, the Pierce family was contacted, and they stepped in to fund the project of reconstructing that instrument.

George Pierce was instrumental in the acquiring of the Casavant organ, and his son David was assistant organist under Benjamin Van Wye. Thus the legacy of the Pierce family at Bethesda continues. Farrell assisted builder Daniel Lemieux during the entire project.

We are very fortunate to have Farrell Goehring with his broad range of knowledge of music and organ but most especially with his superb abilities as an organist and music director.

Jane Agee ❖

A SONG MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME

A sunbeam, a sunbeam,
Jesus wants me for a sunbeam.
A sunbeam, a sunbeam,
I'll be a sunbeam for him.

-Guess Who?

October's Guess Who author was...

Bill Read!

*Can you guess who it is this time?
(If you'd like to submit a Guess Who poem, talk
to Carolyn Hatch.)*

Transforming Spaghetti into Gifts

Deacon Peter Sweeney

We are all pretty familiar with the first miracle that Jesus performed; how He changed the contents of six large jugs of water into fine wine at a wedding feast in Cana. We recently read that account on the Second Sunday after the Epiphany (John 2:1-11). But are you familiar with the story of how God changed spaghetti into Christmas gifts? It's not in the Bible, but it is of God and it occurred recently at Bethesda!

In early December of last year, the youth group held their annual spaghetti dinner on the evening of Saratoga's Victorian Stroll. Through the generous donations of our dinner guests and strong sales of leftover sauce, we were able to net approximately \$900. The proceeds from the dinner are typically used for outreach, but we weren't sure who should be helped. Earlier last year, Bethesda forged a relationship with the New York division of the Race Track Chaplaincy of America (RTCA). They are a Christian group that ministers to track workers and their families at the three purebred horse racing venues in New York State. In mid-December, we determined that the RTCA runs a sponsor-a-family program at Christmas to provide gifts of clothing, toys, and meals for families in need.

There were several Saratoga Race Track worker families that had already been sponsored, but there were two families in mid-December that had not yet been taken care of. And this is where God comes in. He connected us to them, and when we asked how much money was typically spent on each family, the response was about 400 to 500 dollars. That's exactly what we had, and were able to support the two remaining families! They had been praying for new partners to come along this year, and God put the right pieces together to make it all happen, as He often does when we are alert to the needs of others.

Youth group members and their families helped purchase and wrap gifts of clothing, toys, and sizable gift cards for food or essentials, and I had the pleasure of meeting one of the coordinators in our parking lot to turn over two large bags of the wrapped gifts for the families we supported. This service project tied directly into what we had studied in Confirmation class; how we are to put our faith into action by sharing God's love for others and making His presence known to those whom we meet.

So if anyone ever makes fun of your Christian beliefs and asks you to explain how Jesus turned water into wine, just tell them this: I don't know how Jesus made the water turn into wine; it's a miracle and a mystery. But at *my* church, God turned spaghetti into Christmas gifts, and that's satisfying enough for me. ❖

Are you on our mailing list? Please call the church office at (518) 584-5980 or email Barbara@bethesdachurch.org to make sure we have your email, address and phone number.

Very small spaces like this one drive our Editor crazy! Do you have the sort of announcement that would fit in a very small space that's left over when articles aren't *quite* long enough? Announcements like: "HEY, EVA GOODWIN, WHEN ARE YOU COMING HOME TO VISIT YOUR MOTHER?" Yeah, we could find a space for those.

Vestry Minutes (abridged)

"The Vestry of an Episcopal Church has three primary responsibilities... to take care of the parish finances and parish buildings [and] to choose individuals to fill various positions of parish leadership"

-Christopher L. Webber

The Vestry Handbook: Revised Edition

DECEMBER

7:00 PM on December 16. Mary Withington began the meeting with devotions.

Ms. Van Acker presented the proposed budget for 2016, which highlights a serious income problem, largely stemming from reduced pledge and plate. We've had some lucky breaks, allowing us to balance the budget, but can't count on them to continue beyond 2016.

After a presentation by Ann Bullock, the Vestry adopted a negotiation policy for the sale of the Ensley property (already under contract).

Deacon Sweeney reported the success of the spaghetti supper and formally presented Ms. Henderson with a penitential chocolate bar.

Mr. Claverie reported that the parish hall landlords have need of the kitchen, but are offering generous compensation, including an alternate space for coffee hour once the Hall ceases to be accessible.

Mr. Boyd announced that there will be space for a choir room in the new parish hall after all and discussed plans for beginning the Capital Campaign.

Catherine Berheide was nominated to replace Darren Miller as Junior Warden.

Ms. Agee reported that the Parish History is nearly complete and will be sent to a professional editor soon.

JANUARY

7:00 PM on January 20, Catherine Berheide began the meeting with devotions.

Anne VanAcker presented the revised 2016 budget, which was discussed. The diocesan assessment is very high (because its calculation included a large one-time donation in 2014) and we're going to try to get it reduced.

Dean Vang reported that he's been receiving compliments from clergy around the country regarding the newsletter, which, he said, shows that we have a vibrant parish. Mary Withington suggested that everyone probably likes the turtle.

Mark Claverie will pursue discussions with the landlords regarding their plans for the parish house and when we'll need to be out.

Gordon Boyd reported that the building committee has interviewed 4 contractors who all seem reasonable, but that we can't pursue hiring a contractor until financing is in place. The Capital Campaign has begun.

The Vestry reviewed the proposed agenda for the annual meeting.

Pages from a Chorister's Notebook: Time For Evensong!

Vexilla Regis

Many Schola Cantorum fans have inquired just how much preparation and rehearsal (read: blood, sweat, and tears) goes into a typical choral service and Evensong. So, *Vexilla Regis* is going to reveal all and tell you exactly what happens on a day when we are pulling double duty. Here is our schedule:

8:15ish-8:45ish: A non-obligatory rehearsal, held strictly through the generosity and dedication of our choral director, Kathleen Slezak. A few hardy souls show up regularly, when they need help on a particularly vexing anthem, or need tips on vocal production.

8:45-9:00: Choristers arrive at the end of the 8 o'clock service, and bustle their way to the basement choir room to vest. Chatter ensues, covering many topics. Most popular is discussing the previous night's episode of 'Saturday Night Live,' and whether a Schola alumnus (who appears regularly as an extra) got any screen time or not.

9:00-10:00: Rehearsal begins promptly as the church bell sounds. Latecomers are shamed and shunned. (Just kidding.) Kathleen begins with a warm-up, to rid us of our vocal frogs and cerebral cobwebs. The psalm chant of the day helps everyone settle into their parts. From there, Kathleen takes us through our offertory anthem, communion motet, and any other music for the service. At about 9:30 we return to the basement to put the final touches on the day's music. Then, a few minutes to relax before heading up the stairs for the opening prayer and first hymn. Show Time!

10:00-11:20: No explanation necessary, as many of you are here for this portion.

11:20-11:45: Short break, which is when we repair to the Parish House choir room, retrieve and organize newly handed out music for rehearsal, and socialize at the coffee hour.

11:45-12:45: We rehearse the music for upcoming weeks. Mercifully, Kathleen keeps rehearsal short, so we won't overtax our voices before Evensong.

12:45-1:45: Lunch break. Schola disperses to find food. Some adjourn to Hattie's (Route 50 version) for a leisurely repast of fried chicken and collard greens.

1:45-3:00: Back to Bethesda for pre-Evensong rehearsal. Everyone sings lightly, to save our voices.

3:00-4:00: Evensong begins. This is the most intense part of the day, as the opening hymn (and/or introit), Preces, psalms, and Magnificat fall in such rapid succession that there is no time to regroup in between. When the sermon comes, we finally have a chance to reflect on the beauty and ambiance of the building and the music, and to ruminate upon Dean Vang's words.

4:00-4:30: Whew! Finally, we get to greet friends and fans, and enjoy the lovely sherry, tea, and sandwiches (for which, we are very grateful), beautifully made and presented by Bruce Solenski and Deborah Harper.

4:30-?: The Schola retires to a favorite watering hole (usually Druthers, or Circus Cafe) to enjoy Sazeracs, Martinis, Manhattans, and other delights. A perfect treat for a day well spent. ❖

From the Editor

Genna Henderson

So it's Thursday morning and I'm in bed in my pajamas working on the newsletter for February (Hint: If you want me to help out with something, the best way to get me to say yes is to point out that 1) I don't have to call people and 2) I can do it at home in my pajamas). It's a relatively new thing and, having absolutely NO prior news experience (besides writing satirical articles in school), I'm learning as we go.

For example, did you ever think about how a newsletter has to have an even number of pages? Otherwise you get a whole blank sheet on the back of something. Just now I've been staring balefully at this one final thing that I HAVE to put in because it's important and which will take up half a column, which will bump this edition onto the seventh page, which means I have another page and a half, at least, to fill. You'll know if I ever get REALLY desperate because I'll label it "Coloring Page" and just leave it blank. Actually, that's not a terrible idea. Actually I'm going to do that, or something like that.

Guess what! We're having a special bonus I-Have-to-Fill-One-More-Page Name the Turtle Contest!

The last page of this newsletter is an enlarged and un-colored in picture of The Voice's mascot. Print out as many as you'd like, color them in (grown-ups can do this too) and write in the name(s) you think we should give the turtle. I'll put a box in the back of the church for submissions (I went out and bought shoes specifically so I'd have a shoebox to use; it's cool, they were on sale for \$11). Put your colored-in turtle and/or turtle name in the box (or scan and email to me). Anonymous submissions are fine but you forfeit your bragging rights if you win. Turtle name submissions on scraps of paper without coloring in the turtle are also fine (but I'll try to find a way to display the colored turtles). The name selection process is still to be determined, but it'll probably involve some sort of committee picking the top few and then allowing everybody to vote for their favorite.

Choral Evensong
February 7, 2016 at 3:00 PM
Reception to follow in the Narthex



(We're singing Zadok the Priest. Have you heard Zadok the priest? It's ridiculous and hard and hilarious and we're pretty good at it. You should come!)

THE FIRST DAY OF LENT: ASH WEDNESDAY

February 10

6:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
12:10 P.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
7:00 P.M. SOLEMN EUCHARIST

SUNDAYS IN LENT

February 14-21-28, March 6-13

8:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
10:00 A.M. SUNG EUCHARIST
11:30 A.M. ADULT FORUM

Lenten Sermon Series – *The Stations of the Cross*

TUESDAYS IN LENT

February 16-23, March 1-8-15

6:30 P.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
*A Bible Study on Saint Paul's Letter to the
Colossians immediately follows the liturgy.*

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

February 17-24, March 2-9-16

9:15 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST
Home of the Good Shepherd, Wilton
12:10 P.M. HOLY EUCHARIST with Healing

started picking up again after All Saint's Day. Regarding recent decisions that affect the Diocese of Albany, the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, Dean Vang reminded attendees of Bethesda's reputation as an open-door parish. "This is not a new invention; it has been an attribute since the Civil War. We must and will continue to be a family of Christ which welcomes all to its worship, ministry and mission. There are no first, second or third call citizens constituting the Dominion of God. We are all one in the Lord."

Anne Van Acker gave a summary of the financials from 2015 as well as a look at the budget for 2016 and said she'd be willing to provide copies of the 2016 budget for anyone who wanted it. She went over many of the things discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, but also mentioned that she's been asked when we will be able to hire a full-time rector. This would require additional income of approximately \$50,000-\$60,000. She pointed out that, if we have 200 families pledging, each family would only have to give about \$5 more each week in order to make that goal a reality. The big news right now is that, over the past 4 years we've gone from an \$80,000 deficit to a balanced budget.

Many of the other portions of the meeting (building committee report, and Deacon's report, for example) are fairly well covered in other articles in this newsletter, but most of the church commissions gave some sort of report on their status or progress

The annual meeting is an excellent time to find out what's going on and ask the questions that have been bugging you but, if you couldn't make it, ask a vestry-member! ❖

Annual Meeting at Bethesda

Genna Henderson

On January 26th, 2016, some stalwart folks came out to the Last Ever Annual Meeting in Our Parish Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:13 PM and the candidates nominated for Vestry were presented: Catherine Berheide to replace Darren Miller as Junior Warden (Darren will be ascending to the position of Senior Warden, formerly held by Mark Claverie), Geneva Henderson, Mark Claverie and Jeff Delbridge as regular vestry members (all three are currently serving but all are eligible for another term). Those in attendance were asked to provide in writing any other nominations and the polls were declared open. After an hour had elapsed, when no further nominations were received, those present at the meeting unanimously voted the nominees into office.

I'll be writing up official minutes of the meeting sometime in the next few weeks and will provide them to anyone who wishes a copy. This article does not represent the official minutes, but I did want members of the congregation to have a sense of what was shared at the annual meeting.

Dean Vang reported on attendance through 2015. Due to the harsh winter of 2014-2015, attendance was down, but it

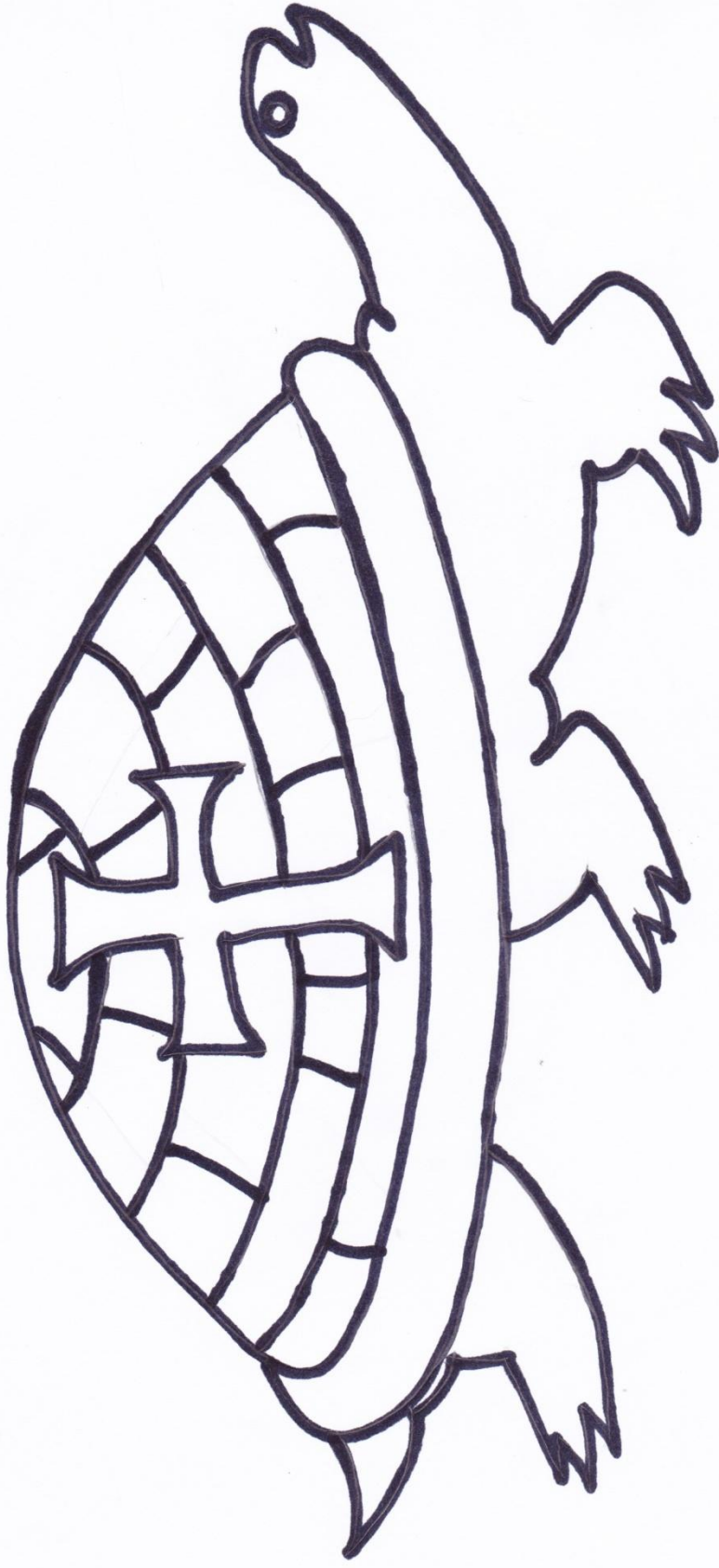
Miles Uptown

A new jazz vocal and piano trio from the Capital Region. Featuring Peter Darling, Shannon Pie (our own Schola Cantorum soprano), and Marc Christopher.

Performing songs of yesterday and today with a jazzy twist. Come out and see them perform Friday, February 19th from 7-10 at the Crown Grille at Circus Café!



They're good: I've seen them –Ed.



Name This Turtle:

Your Name: