

Little Fork Episcopal Church

November 2019 Newsletter

“Using Our Gifts to Spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ”

Dear Little Fork Family,

Yesterday during our All Saints celebration, we remembered those who have died who were important to us individually and those who left a legacy here at Little Fork Church. It is a time when we are reminded that we are surrounded by the communion of saints, which includes all people who live faithfully whether known to thousands or only a few. Hopefully, reminding ourselves of their stories will help encourage us to act faithfully in our daily lives.

This year at Little Fork we choose All Saints' Sunday as the beginning of our stewardship time, which is when we as a community make our commitments to our church community for the coming year. In the letter from your treasurers that was mailed last week, you heard about how by pledging you allow your vestry leadership to responsibly plan for the upcoming year. I thought it would also be helpful, as you are deciding about your commitment to Little Fork Church, for you to hear about my perspective as your new rector.

On Sunday, November 10th, after church, there will be a forum during which I will present specific budget initiatives for 2020. In anticipation of those details, I wanted to share with you two overarching aspects of the vision we are developing for the future of Little Fork Church.

Gathering as a community for prayer and worship fuels our individual and communal lives. Investing time and resources to deepen and enliven our times of prayer and worship is one place where I believe God is calling us to act in the next year.

We are a destination church and should encourage church or community events that bring people to our beautiful location. Our rural setting, just off the beaten path, means that people will not learn about us by accidently driving or dropping by. Instead we need to embrace opportunities to get people here.

I hope you will join us this coming Sunday to talk specifically about how these two pieces of vision translate into the 2020 budget. Even more so, I hope that you are as excited as I am about the good work that God is doing in this place and will generously commit to support it by committing your resources, both personal and financial.

Peace,



The Power of Prayer

A missionary on furlough told this true story while visiting his home church in Michigan.....'While serving at a small field hospital in Africa, every two weeks I traveled by bicycle through the jungle to a nearby city for supplies. This was a journey of two days and required camping overnight at the halfway point.

On one of these journeys, I arrived in the city where I planned to collect money from a bank, purchase medicine and supplies, and then begin my two-day journey back to the field hospital.

Upon arrival in the city, I observed two men fighting, one of whom had been seriously injured. I treated him for his injuries and at the same time talked to him about the Lord. I then traveled two days, camping overnight, and arrived home without incident.

Two weeks later I repeated my journey. Upon arriving in the city, I was approached by the young man I had treated. He told me that he had known I carried money and medicines. He said, 'Some friends and I followed you into the jungle, knowing you would camp overnight.

We planned to kill you and take your money and drugs. But just as we were about to move into your camp, we saw that you were surrounded by 26 armed guards.

At this I laughed and said that I was certainly all alone in that jungle campsite. The young man pressed the point, however, and said, 'No sir, I was not the only person to see the guards. My five friends also saw them, and we all counted them. It was because of those guards that we were afraid and left you alone.'

At this point in his story, one of the men in the congregation jumped to his feet and interrupted the missionary and asked if he could tell him the exact day, and time, this happened. The missionary told the congregation the date, and the man who interrupted told him this story:

'On the night of your incident in Africa, it was morning here and I was preparing to go play golf. I was about to putt when I felt the urge to pray for you. In fact, the urging of the Lord was so strong, I called men in this church to meet with me here in the sanctuary to pray for you.'

“Would all of those men who met with me on that day stand up?’

The men who had met together to pray that day stood up. The missionary wasn't concerned with who they were, he was too busy counting how many men he saw.

There were 26.

Upcoming Events

A Service of Thanksgiving Blessings

Sunday November 24th 10:00 AM

Please join us as we celebrate our blessings: past, present and future. We have much to be thankful for this year. The Rev. Stacy Williams-Duncan will bless the pledges from our parishioners and the United Thank Offering.



Annual Giving Pledge Cards

The annual giving pledge cards have been mailed. Please complete and return these cards by either placing them in the offertory at church or by mail. Please address all returns to:

Little Fork Church
16461 Oak Shade Road
P.O. Box 367
Rixeyville, Va. 22737

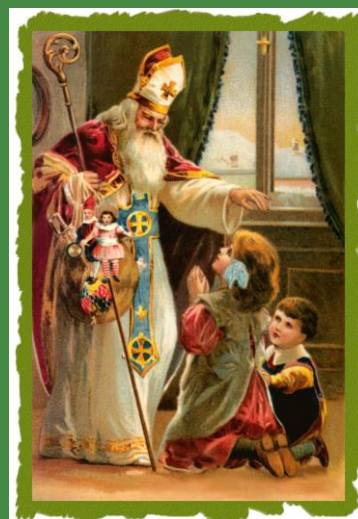
For questions, please contact Renae at administrator@littleforkchurch.org

Thank you in advance for the generosity of your pledges and time.

St. Nicholas Celebration

Friday December 6th 6:30-8:30 PM
Little Fork Church Parish Hall

Hear the story of St. Nicholas, participate in a service project to help those in need and enjoy fun and fellowship. All ages are welcome!



Please join us for
morning services!

Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 AM

Fellowship Hour Immediately
Following Morning Service.

Little Fork Church Ministries

Women's Ministry



The Little Fork Ladies' Ministry meets at 9 AM. on the Second and Fourth Saturday of each month in the Parish Hall. We are currently studying the Book of Ruth from the Old Testament. In our group we study the Scriptures and pray for one another as we grow in our faith together. Through our discussions we learn how we can apply Scripture to our daily lives. All women are warmly welcome to join us!

Fellowship Dinner Group



The Fellowship Dinner Group meets once a month for a potluck supper and the study of a book or video. This provides a wonderful opportunity for sharing, fellowship, praying and learning together. The group meets at various parishioner's homes. November's dinner will be held on Friday the 15th. Molly Lewis (tallmol44@yahoo.com) coordinates the group and newcomers are welcome. Please contact Molly for more information.

Men's Ministry



Little Fork Men's Ministry aka "St. Brigid's Brigade" meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month in the Parish Hall, from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM. Our topics include Bible studies, biblical character studies, men's issues, and more. Currently we are beginning a study on the life, ministry and teachings of St. Paul. Come enjoy a hearty breakfast followed by discussion and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!

Outreach

Our November Outreach Offering goes to



The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box.

Pastoral Care



We would like to ensure visitation for our homebound, hospitalized, or families in need. We will be only too pleased to coordinate activities required for people in need. Please call or email the church office with your requests for pastoral care, 540-937-4306 / administrator@littleforkchurch.org.

In addition to pastoral visits from the The Rev. Stacy Williams-Duncan, lay Eucharistic ministers are available to take communion to shut ins. Please let the church administrator know if you would like to have communion brought to your home.

Stories of Faith

Beginning this fall, we would like to focus on Little Fork Church's parishioners and share their stories. How did you come to Little Fork? Why did you stay? What is your story of faith? What experiences do you have that you would be willing to share with everyone? If you would be willing to share your story in future newsletters, please contact Renae at administrator@littleforkchurch.org.



Happy November Birthdays!



November 10 Sara Hogan
November 20 Chantal Racheau-Bryant
November 21 Carl Crist
November 26 Eric Brown
November 27 James Jennings

Over
10 Trillion
Served.



Opportunities Available in Altar Guild!

Contact Gaylene Laimbeer
gms000@hughes.net
(540) 229-1920



BUY A BIRD

Buy-A-Bird Campaign Thanksgiving is fast approaching and the Annual Food Closet Thanksgiving "Buy-a-Bird" campaign has begun! The Food Closet is running a "Buy-a-Bird" campaign to raise funds to help us purchase the turkeys we give to local families at Thanksgiving. SWIFT, Inc. provides the side dishes for the traditional meal. Last year, 650 turkeys were given to families, as well as meals for 90 elderly and shut-ins, totaling 1,778 Thanksgiving meals. A slightly higher need is anticipated this year. A donation of \$15 will buy a turkey, but any amount will be greatly appreciated. Donations collected will go towards buying the turkeys and other support items. **PLEASE DO NOT DONATE A TURKEY. WE DO NOT HAVE STORAGE SPACE.** If you care to donate to this program, please make checks payable to: The Culpeper Food Closet P.O. Box 343 | Culpeper, VA 22701 Be sure to write "Thanksgiving" on the memo line.

In addition, at the end of each year, the Culpeper Food Closet experiences a substantial deficit. Generous donations from the community, especially during the Thanksgiving and Christmas season, are of great help.

Do you have a unique Christmas cookie recipe that probably no one else has made? If so send it to me and I will print it in the December newsletter. Family recipes from different areas of the country and even the world can be very fun and interesting and we all love to try new things! Especially cookies!

Renaë at administrator@littleforkchurch.org



SCHEDULES

Thank you for serving at Little Fork Church

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist or Morning Prayer
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Time

Friday

6:30 p.m. Parish Supper Group
(3rd Friday)

Saturday

7:30 a.m. Men's Group
(1st and 3rd Sat.)
9:00 a.m. Women's Group
(2nd and 4th Sat.)
10:00 a.m. Vestry Meeting (2nd Sat.)
9:00 a.m. 1776 Preservation Foundation
Meeting (3rd Sat.)

Altar

November 3 Gaylene Laimbeer
November 10 Beth Turner
November 17 Beth Turner
November 24

Lector

November 3 Bob Lee
November 10 Chris Stockton
November 17 Jim Rutledge
November 24 Ed Dodd

Musician

November 3 Mike Vinson
November 10 Mike Vinson
November 17 Jon Perry
November 24 Mike Vinson

Usher

1st Sunday each month Rollin Rosser & Eric Brown
2nd Sunday each month Roy Cabibbo & Brian Beres
3rd Sunday each month Bob Lee & John Turner
4th Sunday each month Mike McCarthy
& Jim Rutledge
5th Sunday Don Stockton & Bill Laimbeer

Sunday School

November 3 Daphrie van der Woude
November 10 Gaylene Laimbeer
November 17 Sherrie Beres
November 24 Sara Hogan

Refreshments

November 3 Dodd
November 10 Hankins
November 17 Isaac/Smith
November 24 Hogan

Acolyte

November 3 Lexi van der Woude
November 10
November 17 Dayna Dillon
November 24 Riley Hogan

*Please continue to pray for:

Avery Anderson and her family, The Beane family, Richard Brown, Roy Cabibbo, Bill Chadduck and his family, Miki Chilton, Scott Chilton, Nancy Clark, Charlene Cook, Carl Crist, Harry Crusenberry, Kirtlin Doyle, Jo Ann Emerson, Harvey & Carol Fox, Shirley Gaston and her family, Ben Graybill, Sandy Hurst, Stephen Kipp, Mary C. Matthews, Steven & Karen McCauley, John Navin, Tolu O'Brian and his family, Mary Perry, Ricky Rosser, The Rosser family, Hubert and Virginia Schilb, Joe Wysocki and family

