

# The Anchor

Volume 2 | Issue 4 | July 2024

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## A Prayer in Celebration of the Centennial Year

*On Sunday, June 2nd, the Rev. Stephen McGehee Offered this Prayer for GHTC.*

Gracious God, we give thanks as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of Grace & Holy Trinity Church. Deepen within each of us a sense of gratitude for the heritage created by the many sacrifices, dreams, and prayers of those who have gone before us. Continue to make this church and its people a blessing to our community and embolden us to move forward with strength toward what lies ahead.

*(Continues on page 9)*

**Grace & Holy Trinity Church**

*an Episcopal parish on Monroe Park*



8 N. Laurel Street • Richmond, Virginia  
(804) 359-5628  
ghtc.org

## Letter from the Associate Rector



Dear Parishioners and Friends,

On the second of June, we celebrated Grace & Holy Trinity's Centennial, honoring the day a hundred years ago when the congregation of Grace Church walked west from their old church building downtown, on through Monroe Park, and into the waiting hearts of the congregation of Holy Trinity Church. From the pulpit on that day I shared my imagination's version of the combination of feelings that those expectant Episcopalians might have experienced, knowing for certain only that things were going to change.

Mark's Gospel for our centennial service describes a Sabbath day when Jesus took on the Pharisees. They scolded his hungry disciples for taking grain from the fields in violation of strict Jewish laws against such activity, and again in the synagogue when he called a man with a disabled hand to come toward him for healing. "Come forward," said Jesus. "Stretch out your hand."

Surely the Grace Church people and the Holy Trinity people embodied that moment of grace by coming forward, and stretching out their hands as they greeted a new relationship. The Gospel teaches us that the law is not about preserving the status quo, but about healing, renewal, and resurrection. The openness and courage of that lesson is surely in the DNA of this parish, planted in us on that day of approach and welcome in 1924.

On that Centennial Sunday as the Reception wound down, my little toddler James got loose and darted down the aisle of the nave toward the altar, where I caught up with him. In the silence of that holy place, as James ran around the altar, I was overcome with a deep, unconditional, abiding love for my own son. It was a vision of the Kingdom of God, in the place where we as the family of Jesus are united by the grace of the sacrament.

I thought about this as I prepared to speak to you on June 16th, when the Gospel lesson was the story of the mustard seed, that tiny kernel with which Jesus corrected the impression that the

new age he promised them would be a powerful kingdom of their own. Not so, he said. “It is like a mustard seed.” The tiny seeds of God’s love in our hearts, our souls, and our lives are where the Kingdom resides.

We embody the Kingdom when we see that image of God in every person we encounter. Seeds of justice, love, liberation and truth that we are called by God to scatter generously out in the world when we leave this place every Sunday; small seeds of surprise and freedom that can and will flourish into the Kingdom of God on earth, as it is in heaven.

In Christ,



Paul Evans

# D-Day Sacrifice: Then & Now

## *A Reflection on the Cost of Freedom*

In May of 1988, I stood on the sandy ground and looked up at the vertical promontory of Pointe du Hoc, Normandy, France. I was a nimble fourteen years old, and it seemed impossible to climb. I soon learned that 225 Army Rangers did so 44 years before while the Germans shot at them. Many of those Americans had been just a few years older than I when they died, right there where I stood.

Sometime later that day, my host family, the Triays, led me to the Normandy American Cemetery at Colleville-sur-Mer, where over 9,000 Americans lay buried, almost all of them killed in the first three days of the invasion. There were too many bodies and not enough time to send them home, and the army was too fast on the move. To my eyes then and in my memory now, thousands of

white crosses and Stars of David, aligned in perfect rows, displayed the awful cost to live in a free world.

One of those soldiers buried there was Joseph Holland, who worshiped at Grace & Holy Trinity Church (GHTC). On Palm Sunday this year, Rev. Paul Evans preached about Joseph and his family, and the self-sacrifice required to fight fascism and also to follow Jesus. He spoke of “giving up our will for the will of Christ, the source of our truest selves as followers of Christ.” He spoke of how, not unlike Jesus entering Jerusalem, Joseph may have seen the faces of the French villagers oppressed by the Nazis as he and his fellow soldiers liberated St. Mere Eglise. He spoke of how Joseph’s niece had recently come to our church to feel again the presence of her uncle who died and her father who survived, both listed on the WWII plaque.

It is not the soldier, only, who goes to war. The entire family does. I always think of the mothers, what immense pain lurks throughout their lives, what nightmares each Gold Star represents. I also contemplate the people who strive to comfort the mother or the father or the wife or the husband or the children. I do not know the particular circumstances of the life of Joseph Holland’s mother, but I imagine the terror she must have felt, knowing that two of her sons were fighting in a war an ocean away. I wonder also what must have happened when, on September 3rd, 1944, the parish of Grace & Holy Trinity gathered and held a memorial service with no casket, because Joseph lay forever under French soil. What was said to the family? What was said of Joseph?

I served six years in the Marine Corps, mostly in the reserves, and never in combat. Whenever I see a veteran, usually wearing a cap indicating which war, WWII or Korea or Vietnam, I always speak and thank him or her, not only for serving our country and helping preserve our freedom, but also for setting the standard which I attempted to uphold and emulate as a young Marine. Standards found in a craggy, steep climb on a beach in France. Standards found in the care for the grieving and hurt inside and beyond our red doors. Standards found in the life of Christ.

– *Mason New*



GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST,  
AND ON EARTH PEACE,  
GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN.

HONOR ROLL-WORLD WAR II  
GRACE AND HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

WADDY MICHAUX ALLNUTT	WILLIAM MOSCOE HUNTLEY
FRANCIS PRICE BAILEY JR.	ALEXANDER HARDIE JEFFRIES
HENRY COLEMAN BASKERVILLE	GEORGE BOOKER JENNINGS JR.
FRANCIS STUART BEAL	MORRIS HARRISON JONES
EDMUND LAFAYETTE BENSON JR.	RALPH MARLBOROUGH JONES
JAMES BAYLOR BLACKFORD	ROBERT BRINKLEY JONES JR.
JAMES DULANY BLACKWELL	WILLIAM ASHBY JONES III
BEVERLEY MUNFORD BOYD JR.	ALBERT GENET KIRTLAND JR.
BASKERVILLE BRIDGFORTH JR.	CHARLES CONWAY KIRTLAND
BENJAMIN BROCKENBROUGH JR.	GRAYSON MONROE KIRTLAND
HENRY WATKINS BROCKENBROUGH	WILLIAM ALBERT KRAUS
RAYMOND EDWIN BROTHERS	EDWARD EMERSON LANE
GEORGE HEATH BRUMBLE JR.	RICHARD EBORN LANE
WILLIAM DAVID BRUMBLE	WILLIAM WAVERLEY LAPRADE
NATHANIEL COLEMAN BRYDON	BERNARD WATTERS LIPSCOMB JR.
HARRY BURN JR.	SANFORD MERTON LONG JR.
MARY CARY	ALFRED HENDERSON McDOWELL JR.
HAYDEN CROXTON CLEMENT	WILLIAM BERNARD MCINTIRE
JAMES EDWIN COFFMAN	JOHNSON McREE JR.
NICHOLAS TROUT COOKE JR.	CROSBY PARK MILLER
WILLIAM TATUM COSBY	CARLTON PAGE MOFFATT JR.
★ CHARLES EDWARD CRAWFORD JR.	BEVERLEY BLAND MUNFORD III
★ FRANK WILLIAMS DANNER III	ELBEN THOMAS MYERS
BRADFUTE WARWICK DAVENPORT	EDMUND CHRISTIAN NUCKOLS
BYRD WARWICK DAVENPORT	RAYMOND OTT
ROSSELL BURROWS DAVENPORT	JAMES DODDRIDGE PATTON III
CLOPTON EDWARD DILLARD	BEVERLEY HETH RANDOLPH JR.
JOHN TURMAN DILLARD	CONWAY EDMONSTONE REGISTER
CLARENCE WOODVILLE DRAKE JR.	KATHRYN NAIRNE SANDERS
FRANK BECKER EPPS	OLIVER JACKSON SANDS JR.
MALCOLM GLENMORE EVANS	WILLIAM DARRELL SCRUGGS
MARTHA LOKIMER FAUNTLEROY	JOHN BAIRD SHINBERGER
★ CARL FLEMING JR.	ARTHUR WILMER SPILMAN
EDMUND WALTER FORCKE JR.	WORTHAM ANDERSON SPILMAN JR.
EMMETTE TRIBLE GATEWOOD JR.	ROBERT BARTOW STALLWORTH JR.
WILLIAM GATEWOOD	HUGO OSTERHAUS STEVENS
JOSEPH YOUNG GAYLE	THOMAS BRANDER TALIAFERRO
CHARLES LOUIS GILBERT	DANIEL DOAK TALLEY III
AYLETT BRIGHT GILMAN	LILBURN TRIGG TALLEY
WALTER MARENUS GLADDING JR.	RICHARD WORTHAM TALLEY
JOHN WALTER PHILIP GRAHAM	ROBERT GRAY URBACH
DANIEL GRINNAN IV	EDWARD BARNWELL WALKER JR.
St. GEORGE TUCKER GRINNAN JR.	MORGAN MONTROSE WALLACE
WILLIAM CECIL GRINNAN	JOHN WARING WARMAN
RICHARD POOLE HANKINS	PHILIP CREVELING WARMAN
EARL HEWITT HANN	WILLIAM RYMOND WARMAN
GEORGE DARRELL HANN JR.	JOHN LYTTON WHITEHEAD
JAMES BEVERLY HARVIE JR.	KENNETH THORNLOW WHITTINGTON
GEORGE EDWIN HAW JR.	EDWARD CUNNINGHAM WIGHT JR.
HOWARD HIRAM HOLLAND JR.	FREDERIC PONSONBY WILMER
★ JOSEPH MONTGOMERY HOLLAND	FREDERICK AUGUSTA WOODSON JR.
JAMES JOSEPH HOLZAPFEL	RAYMOND PEYTON WOODSON
PAUL WILLIAMSON HOWLE JR.	

IN MEMORY OF  
CHARLES EDWARD CRAWFORD, JUNIOR  
BORN JANUARY 20 1920 - DIED NOVEMBER 24 1944

GHTC World War II Memorial Plaque (Found in the rear of the church)

# The Four Pillars

## *The Parish Greeted the Centennial Year with Strength & Grace*

In August 2022, the Vestry and Rector conducted a Mutual Ministry Review and agreed to describe GHTC's work within "**The Four Pillars**," four fundamental categories of the life of the church. They are *Worship, Education, Missions, and Parish Life*, and parish communications are organized under these topics. Then the Discernment Committee used these priorities in a thorough evaluation of all the candidates. The result of their thoughtful, prayerful process was a particular appreciation for the Rev. Brent Melton's strengths in all these areas, and their recommendation that the Rev. Melton become our priest-in-charge.

Large, complex organizations almost always experience communication and coordination challenges. Grace & Holy Trinity is no exception. Realizing GHTC's challenges in these areas, the Vestry has used the Four Pillars to create systems to share information and create transparency across the parish.

First, GHTC convened two meetings of the leadership of the parish to introduce everyone and to create the calendar of activities during the year. More than forty lay and staff leaders attended each meeting. The Vestry intends to continue these meetings two or three times every year.

Next, the Vestry distinguished between committees (groups appointed by the Vestry to act for GHTC in specified areas) and ministries (groups of members who volunteer to do GHTC's work). They placed those committees and ministries into an organizational chart (*page 8 and 9*) so everyone could see the structure of our work

together at a glance. Like all organizations, GHTC is constantly evolving, so the organizational chart should be considered a work-in-progress to aid understanding, and not to put our efforts in boxes or inhibit creativity.

Then the Vestry organized four coordinating committees to encourage similar ministries to communicate and coordinate with each other. Each of the committees took on responsibilities for one of the Four Pillars. These committees are helping assure that parishioners' voices are heard, and that we don't always focus only within our own groups at GHTC.

## Worship Committee

(Chaired by the Clergy)



Centennial Celebration Worship Procession  
Sunday, June 2, 2024

This group is made up of all the ministries who contribute to Grace & Holy Trinity's beautiful and inspirational worship services, from the greeters to the acolytes, and from the lectors to the music. In addition to providing advice to the clergy about Holy Week services, it has taken on two important issues:

### Summer Worship

The clergy asked the committee's advice about the timing and number of Sunday services during the summer. Based on parishioner feedback, the committee suggested, and the clergy agreed, to keep the Sunday worship schedule the same during the summer.

## Intinction

The committee helped plan GHTC's implementation of the Bishop's guidelines on intinction during communion, which is dipping the wafer in the wine so that communicants can take in both elements at once, rather than drinking from the common cup after receiving the wafer separately. The result of those discussions was the current procedure, in which the clergy performs the intinction in the chapel for those who want to do it that way. Anyone wanting to drink from the cup does that at the altar rail. At a later meeting, committee members reported that parishioners continued to express concerns, and asked the Vestry to communicate those concerns with the Bishop. In response to the Vestry, the Bishop made an additional suggestion, which the Worship Committee and the Rev. Melton will consider.

## Education Committee

(Chaired by the Clergy & Vestry)

This committee comprises children and youth formation ministries and service projects, and also includes the people leading adult formation groups (Lectio Divina, Lectionary Group, Sunday forums). Because both Director of Formation Kate Given and the Rev. Paul Evans are moving on to new endeavors, this group's leadership will also change. For the summer of 2024, Terry Hathaway is coordinating Children's Chapel and nursery volunteers. With guidance from the Rev. Brent A. Melton, *Priest-in-Charge*, and other staff, the group expects to plan the activities for the 2024-2025 program year.



Children Learning about GHTC History at the Centennial Celebration



Centennial Celebration Parish Photo

## Parish Life Committee

(Chaired by Vestry Members Maurice Cole & Lisa Dawson)

This group has dubbed itself “the fun group.” These cheerful, experienced, hard-working parishioners plan and coordinate the many activities at GHTC that help bring our community together. This committee includes the leaders of a variety of specific activity groups, from the youth Sunday Fundays, Parents’ Nights Out, and adult groups that get together regularly to eat and drink, to read, to take long walks, to knit, or to listen to good music. At the first meeting, the committee discussed how best to invite new participants, to incorporate spirituality into their gatherings, and to keep their conversations positive.

## Mission Committee

(Chaired by Junior Warden Chuck Bleick)

This committee helps to coordinate the activities through which this parish shares God’s love with the broader society. Their outreach includes everything from the Pace Center for student ministry to our welcome and support for other neighbors, both near (Circles RVA, Red

Door Ministry, St. Andrews School) and far (the Belize Mission Team). Their support also extends to events like Music for a Cause and Caroling in Monroe Park & Holiday Market, to which we invite the community.



St. Andrew’s School Recently Presenting a Volunteer Appreciation Certificate to GHTC

This committee has gotten off to a fast start, and decided to meet monthly. At one meeting, Circles RVA leaders and the contingent from St. Andrews realized their common calling to serve families with economic challenges, and agreed to help publicize each other's services. After that discussion, the committee talked about the process through which GHTC provides funding for outside organizations and recommended to the Vestry the creation of a new Outreach Grants Committee to set criteria for grants, and to recommend recipients to the Vestry.

## Joining In

If you are interested in learning more about these many worthy activities, and finding out how you can get involved in any of them, the members of the Vestry or one of the church staff can either answer your questions or direct you to someone who can.

— Mary Ann Blankenship



## A Prayer in Celebration of the Centennial Year

*(Continued from page 1)*

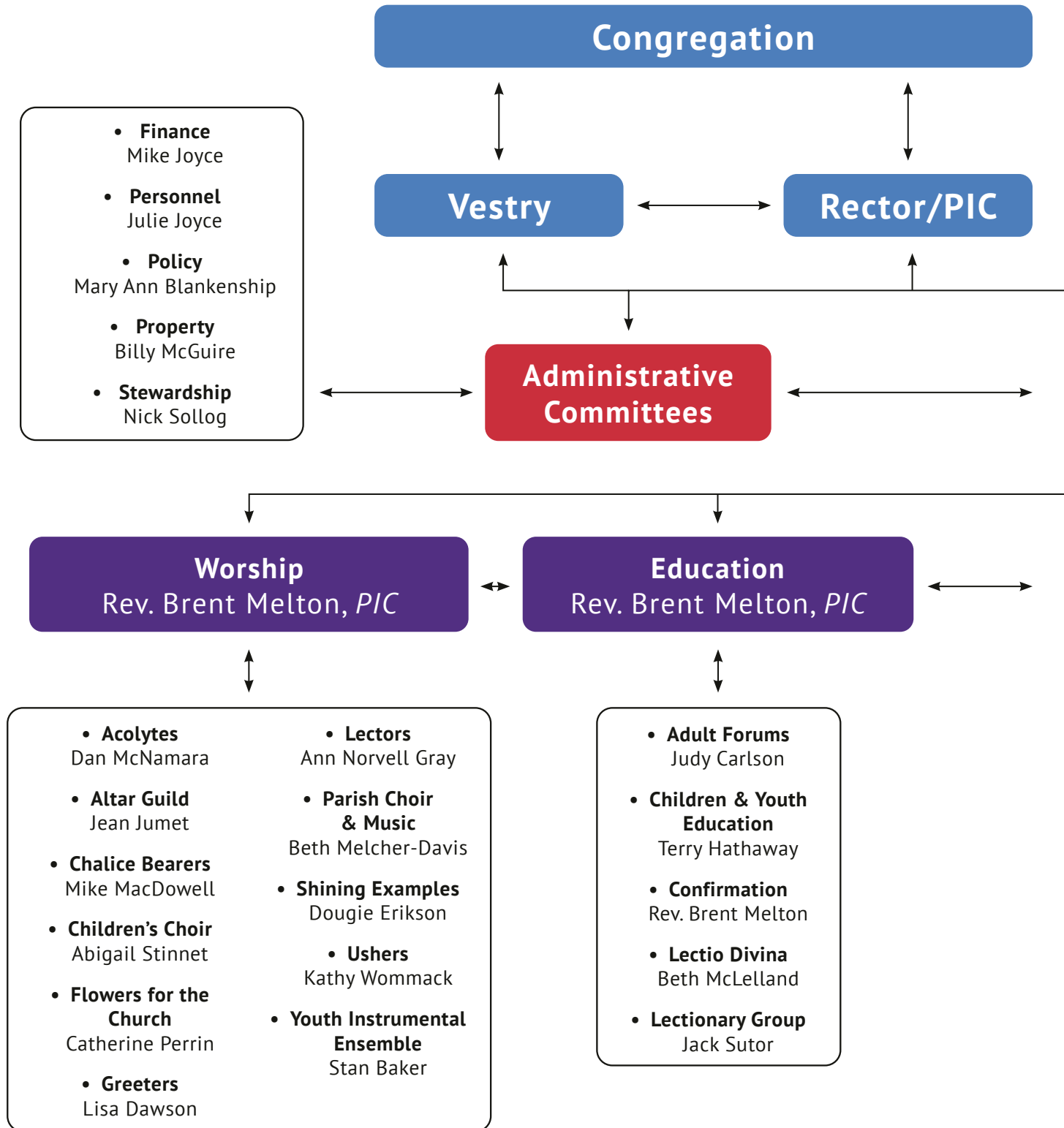
Through our faithfulness and prayers, continue to bless the work of Your Church, making this parish truly a shining light in our city for many years to come. Make our sacred space a place of refreshment and strength for those who seek solace and comfort in a fractious and difficult world.

Create in us renewed hearts, that we may dream of a future as bright and generous as our past. We ask all this through your generous, timeless grace, Great Lover of Souls.

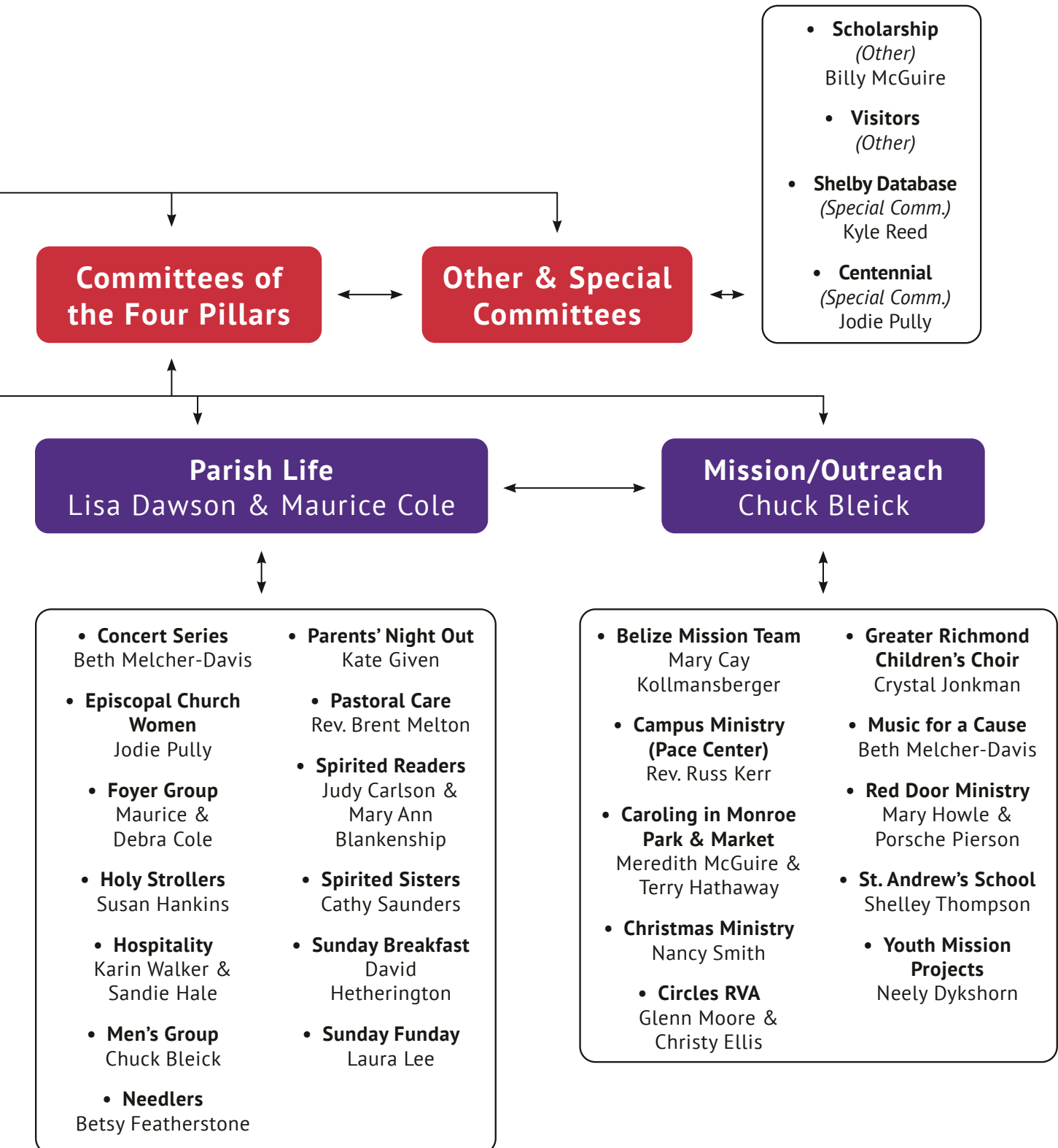
*Amen.*



# Ministry Organization









# Upcoming Events

## Westminster Canterbury Happy Hour with The Rev. Brent A. Melton

**Monday, July 22 | 4:00 PM**

*(Westminster Canterbury Richmond)*

## Parents' Night Out

**Friday, August 2 | 5:00 PM**

*(Parents' Location TBD)*

## Worship with Blessing of the Backpacks & Picnic

**Sunday, August 18 | 4:00 PM**

*(McGuire Family Home)*

## Parish Ministry Fair\*

**Sunday, September 15 | 12:00 PM**

*(Following Worship | Parish Hall)*

\*One Service Only at **10:30 a.m.**

## Parish Breakfast Returns

**September 2024**

*(Pictured clockwise from top right on page 10)*

Order of St. John Evensong,  
Reception to Celebrate the Ministries of the  
Rev. Paul Evans & the Rev. Steve McGehee,  
Westminster Canterbury Worship & Luncheon,  
Parents' Night Out

Correction: In the June 2024 issue of *The Anchor*, there was an error on page 7 under Parish Life in the form of the new Priest-in-Charge's title: it should have read "the Reverend Doctor Brent Alan Melton" or "the Rev. Dr. Brent Alan Melton." The editors regret the error.



# Grace & Holy Trinity Church

## Church Staff

The Rev. Brent A. Melton  
*Priest-in-Charge*  
(Available at [bmelton@ghtc.org](mailto:bmelton@ghtc.org))

The Rev. Russ Kerr  
*Campus Minister &*  
*Pace Center Student Engagement Coordinator*

Stanley M. Baker  
*Assistant Choirmaster & Organist*

Roland Boone  
*Sexton*

Judy F. Bowman  
*Financial Secretary & Administrative Assistant*

Tyler Brady  
*Communications Associate*

Dr. Elizabeth Melcher Davis  
*Choirmaster & Organist*

Lauren Frazier  
*Parish Administrator*

Barbara Hobson-Simpson  
*Receptionist*

Kyle Reed  
*Communications Associate*

Abigail Stinnett  
*Children's Choir Director*

## Vestry

Meredith McGuire, *Senior Warden*

Chuck Bleick, *Junior Warden*

Mike Joyce, *Treasurer*

Mary Ann Blankenship, *Register*

Jane Carlson, Judy Carlson, Maurice Cole, Lisa  
Dawson, Dan McNamara,  
Marshall Morton, Mason New, Nick Sollog,  
Fielding Williams, & Kathy Wommack

## Lay Ministry Leaders

Dan McNamara, *Acolytes*

Jean Jumet, *Altar Guild*

Mary Cay Kollmansperger, *Belize Mission Team*

Meredith McGuire & Terry Hathaway

*Caroling in Monroe Park*

Mike MacDowell, *Chalice Bearers*

Nancy Smith, *Christmas Ministry*

Glenn Moore & Christy Ellis, *Circles RVA*

Jodie Pully, *Episcopal Church Women*

Catherine Perrin, *Flowers for the Church*

Maurice Cole & Deborah Cole, *Foyer Groups*

Crystal Jonkman, *Greater Richmond Children's Choir*

Lisa Dawson, *Greeters*

Susan Hankins, *Holy Strollers*

Sandie Hale & Karin Walker, *Hospitality Committee*

Beth McClelland & Mary Ann Blankenship

*Lectio Divina*

The Rev. Jack Sutor, *Lectionary Group*

Ann Norvell Gray, *Lectors & The Anchor Editor*

Chuck Bleick, *Men's Group*

Nick Sollog, *Parents' Night Out*

Judy Carlson, *Parish Forums*

Betsy Featherstone, *Prayer Shawls & Needlers*

Billy McGuire, *Property Committee*

Mary Douglas Erikson, *Shining Examples*

Molly Howle & Porsche Pierson, *Red Door Ministry*

Shelley Thompson, *St. Andrew's School*

Judy Carlson & Mary Ann Blankenship

*Spirited Readers Book Club*

Cathy Saunders, *Spirited Sisters*

David Hetherington, *Sunday Breakfast*

Laura Lee, *Sunday Fundays*

Terry Hathaway, *Youth Formation*

Neely Dykshorn, *Youth Mission Project*

Kathy Wommack, *Ushers*