

# The Spire

Newsletter of the Church of the Resurrection  
A Welcoming and Inclusive Faith Community  
of The Episcopal Church

## July 2011

2280 North Beauregard Street, Alexandria, VA 22311



### MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

*Farewell*

#### **Interim Rector:**

The Reverend Carol Spigner

#### **Parish Administrator:**

Jane McCabe

#### **Church School**

#### **Coordinator:**

Margie Bayrer

#### **Director of Music:**

Deena Jaworski

#### **Organist & Assistant Choir**

**Director:** Sanelma Sutton

**Sexton:** Melba Moran

**Telephone:** 703-998-0888

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#### **Online:**

[www.welcometoresurrection.org](http://www.welcometoresurrection.org)

#### **Office Hours:**

M-F: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm

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As I write this I am still trying to take in all that happened yesterday, my last Sunday at Resurrection. There were wonderful things I knew would happen, and amazing things I had no idea would take place.

During the 10 am service, we heard some superb music. The choir, led by the seemingly inexhaustible Deena Jaworski, sang my absolutely favorite anthem, "Eternal Love," accompanied by cello. This gorgeous piece speaks of God's perfect love, which sustains us in this life and leads us to the next. My dear housemate, Gail Collins, sang once again the deeply moving spiritual "Give me Jesus."

We dedicated my departing gift to the parish, the aumbry/tabernacle that now sits upon the chapel altar. It is a brushed brass and oak box, marked with a *chi rho* (the first two letters of *cristos*, the Greek word for Christ, with one letter superimposed on the other.) This will provide the church with a dignified way to hold consecrated bread and wine in reserve for future use.

BUT... when the time came for my planned "Leave-taking of the Rector," our Senior Warden Ken Gay had a surprise. He announced that the chapel was being named for *me* – something I never could have imagined. I was asked to join Vance Johnson in the chapel; Vance had returned one last time to be Co-Celebrant, joined by his lovely wife Mary to grace the proceedings. Vance rededicated the chapel as "The Reverend Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie Chapel." Even in my disbelief I welled up with profound gratitude and love.

And THEN... I was led into the Parish Hall which... how shall I describe it?... had been transformed into a kind of Arabian tent, with powder blue gauze suspended from the ceiling. And not only that... they wanted me to sit in an elaborate "throne" bedecked by flowers and more powder blue gauze. **Really, people, that's over the top!!**

The Spire Singers had some lovely songs including one anticipating my retirement, mentioning time for me to garden, learn kayaking, read books, write, play piano and... learn to cook? (The only problem with my learning to cook is that the local take-out/delivery food industry would be devastated!)

I'm sure you can understand why I'm still trying to take this all in. Besides the enormity of leaving a congregation I've grown to love so much for so long.

But, as our prayers suggest, as all of you and I stay connected to God in Jesus Christ, we'll always be close. We'll always share the same purpose of bringing God's love into the world. And we will await with joy the time when all of us are reunited with God and one another "face to face."

God bless you all. I will carry your love with me always. Please carry mine with you.

Love, Anne+



*Please keep in your prayers:*

Barbara Bartis  
Ryan & Veronica Byrnes  
Irene Cole  
Lea Fowlie  
Carlin Gray  
Kevin Kohler  
Angela Samela  
Will Williams  
Nancy & Joe Willis  
Warrick Wolf

*Names on the Prayer List are shown for one month, unless you let us know they should be retained for longer.*

*Pray for those currently serving in the armed services around the world:*

Cody Bergen  
Marcia Bossardt  
Stephanie Butler  
Mark Cullinane  
John Ellerbe  
Juanita Gibbons  
Amanda Graham  
Jason Hull  
Mark Latham  
Matt Lussenhop  
Dan Luster  
Darius Malveaux  
Thomas Moore  
Meera & Michael Noe  
Eric Wiese

*We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of those who have died:*

Aaron Ryan  
Barbara Dean  
Harriett deButts  
Ralph Malcolm, Sr.  
Maurine Bracewell

Dear Resurrection family,

It has been a great honor and privilege to serve among you for the past two years. I was officially ordained as a transitional deacon this past Saturday, but I feel like I already became a priest in my time at Resurrection. You all are a wonderful congregation for a seminarian to learn in as part of the field education program, and I hope you continue to mentor future clergy for many years to come.

I thank you for my time with you, and I thank you also for the beautiful communion set you and Anne gave me. One of the most important ministries to me before I went to seminary was serving as a Eucharistic visitor to those in hospitals, nursing facilities, and homes who were unable to attend church. This lovely gift brings me full circle, and I will cherish it as I take communion to my home-bound and hospitalized parishioners at St. John's Church.

I also thank you for all the support you have given Anne that has allowed her to serve so faithfully as a mentor to me and many other seminarians. Blessings to her on her journey, and blessings to you all in your transition.

Again, thank you so much for all you have given me. I will hold you in my heart always.

Peace be with you,  
Chase



## Warden's Message

Dear Parish Family,

During the Vestry conversation at yesterday's Forum, the Senior Warden announced the Vestry's selection for the Profile and Search Committees and the selection for our Interim Rector. If you weren't able to attend the Forum, we want to be sure you have that information as well.

### Profile/Search Committees:

After a deliberate and thoughtful process, the Vestry selected the following parishioners to serve on the Profile Committee, Search Committee, or both. Those in bold are serving on both committees and will provide continuity to the process. Even before their work begins, we want to thank them for their willingness to share their talents and time for this very special ministry.

#### Profile Committee

Tim Bamett  
Kate Donnell  
David Ewing  
Viranga Panangala  
Eureka Vaughn  
Ray Warren  
Susan Weber  
Beth Wiggers

#### Search Committee

Jacki Bracewell  
Kate Donnell  
Larry Dye  
David Ewing  
Susie Jones  
Jay Madden  
Betsy Raymond  
Eureka Vaughn  
Ray Warren  
Stephen White  
Beth Wiggers

The Vestry has appointed Beth Wiggers and Ray Warren Co-Chairs of both committees. Beth is a long-time member of the Resurrection family. She has experience in the search process since she served on the committee when Anne was called 16 years ago. Ray will bring the perspective of a newer member of our church family.

As a first step, committee members will be meeting with Lindsay Ryland, the Diocesan Transition Ministry Officer. More details about next steps in the transition process and a timeline will be shared after that meeting. The process of developing a parish profile will provide a variety of opportunities for all parishioners to be involved in the future direction of the parish.

### Interim Rector:

Through prayerful deliberation, the Vestry has called the Rev. Carol Spigner to be our Interim Rector. Carol was ordained to the priesthood in 1986. She spent the first ten years of her ministry in South Carolina as Director of Cathedral College for the Diocese of Upper South Carolina. Over the same period she was a part-time assistant in several different churches and was an Education for Ministry mentor. She moved to the Northern Virginia area in 1997 when she began her Interim Rector ministry. She has served six churches in Maryland and Virginia as Interim Rector, most recently at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Springfield, VA from December 2009-April 2011. We will welcome Carol as she celebrates her first service with us on July 3 and will have an opportunity to get to know her better at the Forum following the service.

There is a warmth, respect and honesty that has informed our Vestry meetings as we plan for our future, and we have felt the presence of God in all our meetings, thoughts, and decisions. For that we are indeed thankful.

Peace and Blessings,

Ken Gay            Betsy Faga  
Senior Warden    Junior Warden

# July

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
3 3 Pentecost 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	4 <b>Fourth of July</b> Office Closed  7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	5 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall)  7:30 pm - Bible Discussion (Library)	6 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist (Library)  7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	7   7:30 pm - Healing Ministers (Library)	8   7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	9
10 – 4 Pentecost 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	11  7:30pm - Circle of Prayer (Library) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	12 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall)  7:30 pm - Bible Discussion (Library)	13 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist (Library)  7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	14	15  7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida Youth Service (Nave)  <b>Spire articles due</b>	16
17 5 Pentecost 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	18  7:30pm - Vestry Meeting(Library) 7:30pm - Circle of Prayer (Rector's Office) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	19 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall)  7:30 pm - Bible Discussion (Library)	20 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist (Library)  7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	21	22  7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	23
24 6 Pentecost 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	25  7:30pm - Circle of Prayer (Library) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	26 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall)  7:30 pm - Bible Discussion (Library)	27 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist (Library)  7:30 pm – Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	28  7:30 pm - Healing Ministers (Library)	29  7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	30 8:00 am - ALIVE! Food Distribution
31 7 Pentecost 8:00 am – Holy Eucharist 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist, with healing 11:20 am – Coffee and Forum 2:00 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	1  7:30pm - Circle of Prayer (Library ) 7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	2 8:00 am – Bible Study (Parish Hall)  7:30 pm - Bible Discussion (Library)	3 10:00 am - Holy Eucharist ( Library)  7:30 pm - Choir Rehearsal (Nave) 8:30 pm – AA (Parish Hall)	4	5  7:30 pm – Iglesia Nueva Vida (Nave)	6

## THE SPIRE SOCIETY

*The Spire Society* members include Kate Donnell, Betsy Faga, Ken Gay, Anne Ritchie, and Bob Stufflebeam. Who else will join us?

Please let us know if you have remembered Church of the Resurrection in your will. If you haven't, please consider this lasting way to support our ministry and mission.

## BIRTHDAYS

If we have not listed your birthday, please contact the parish office, and we will add it to our records.

7/01 Nichole McBride  
 7/02 Elizabeth Jones  
 7/03 Norman Taylor  
 7/04 Deena Jaworski  
 7/04 Kathy Parnell  
 7/05 Holly Stevens  
 7/06 Edmund Merife  
 7/09 Gladys Moniba  
 7/12 Sanelma Sutton  
 7/14 Lou Zarfaz  
 7/14 Anne Ritchie  
 7/14 Nora Grafton  
 7/19 Viranga Panangala  
 7/20 Larry Dye  
 7/20 Jane McCabe  
 7/20 Milford John-Williams, Jr.  
 7/21 Stephen Cook  
 7/23 Lynette Miserez  
 7/24 Betty Beale  
 7/24 David Paulk  
 7/26 Billie Boyden  
 7/27 Reilly Bellow-Vicks  
 7/31 Priscilla Tennent  
 7/31 Michael Noe  
 7/31 Shanti Chang

## 2011 Vital Statistics

2011 Budget \$277,463

### Income

Budget: (Jan.-May) \$115,610

Actual: (Jan.-May) 99,734

Over/UNDER Budget: (15,876)

### Expenses

Expenses: (Jan.-May) \$108,396

Collections (Jan.-May) 99,734

Difference (expenditures

OVER collections): 8,662

*“Thank you” to each of you for your generosity and continual support in helping to meet our budget for 2011.*

### Attendance

May 15	100
May 22	104
May 29	94
June 5	93
June 12	138
June 19	81
June 26	174

## Church of the Resurrection

### Vestry 2011

Kenneth Gay, *Senior Warden*

Betsy Faga, *Junior Warden*

Linda Goff

Kathy Graham

Milford John-Williams, Jr.

Terry Kester

Michelle McBride

Gladys Payne

Robert Reeves

Marian Stevens

Martha Swearin gen

Bea Taylor

Kat Turner, *Register*

Frances Williamson, *Treasurer*

## Youth Discernment Group for ages 12 to 15

Starting Sunday, July 3, I would like to offer a summer session option for young people ages 12 to 15. In these drop in sessions, we will look briefly at the lives of some bible characters not necessarily featured in the gospel lessons. Additionally, I'd like to have some members of the congregation join us sometime during the summer to tell their stories. We'll do a little reading, but spend most of our time talking about our responses to the stories, or about issues that concern us, and include some artwork and games. We will meet from 10 AM until church is over in the classroom off of the Parish Hall. Please join us. For questions, call Gay Colyer at 703-683-7437, or email

[zarfc@comcast.net](mailto:zarfc@comcast.net)

## Upcoming Sunday Services

<b>July 3, 2011 3 Pentecost</b>	<b>July 10, 2011 4 Pentecost</b>	<b>July 17, 2011 5 Pentecost</b>	<b>July 24, 2011 6 Pentecost</b>	<b>July 31, 2011 7 Pentecost</b>
<p><b>Readings:</b> Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-15 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 <i>Carol Spigner preaching</i></p> <p><b>Readers</b> Beth Wiggers (8) Susan Weber Kate Donnell Betsy Faga</p> <p><b>Chalice Bearers</b> Larry Dye Betsy Faga</p> <p><b>Ushers</b> Karl Hull Judy Schramm</p> <p><b>Altar Guild</b> Lori Thurgood Orlan Falkenborg Marian Stevens</p> <p><b>Building Supervisor</b> Bob Barnett</p> <p><b>Tellers</b> Bob Noe Jan Kester Nora Gafton</p> <p><b>Greeter</b> Betsy Faga</p>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:1-14 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 <i>Carol Spigner preaching</i></p> <p><b>Readers</b> Beth Wiggers (8) Terry Kester Gladys Payne Bea Taylor</p> <p><b>Chalice Bearers</b> Terry Kester Bea Taylor</p> <p><b>Ushers</b> Bob Noe Edna Noe</p> <p><b>Altar Guild</b> Judy Isaacs Lissa Reeves</p> <p><b>Building Supervisor</b> David Ewing</p> <p><b>Tellers</b> Dennis Jones Susie Jones Sandra Jackson</p> <p><b>Greeter</b> Beth Wiggers</p>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 <i>Carol Spigner preaching</i></p> <p><b>Readers</b> Jacki Bracewell (8) Lea Fowlie Lou Zarfaz Letitia John-Williams</p> <p><b>Chalice Bearers</b> Karl Boughan Larry Dye</p> <p><b>Ushers</b> Kat Turner Bob Naismith</p> <p><b>Altar Guild</b> Lori Thurgood Betsy Faga Marian Stevens Bea Taylor</p> <p><b>Building Supervisor</b> Jay Madden</p> <p><b>Tellers</b> Elizabeth White Kat Turner Gay Colyer</p> <p><b>Greeter</b> Kate Donnell</p>	<p><b>Readings:</b> 1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 <i>Carol Spigner preaching</i></p> <p><b>Readers</b> Beth Wiggers (8) Kathleen O'Malley Kat Turner Karl Boughan</p> <p><b>Chalice Bearers</b> Kat Turner Larry Dye</p> <p><b>Ushers</b> Tom Etter Lissa Reeves</p> <p><b>Altar Guild</b> Peggy Green</p> <p><b>Building Supervisor</b> Will McBeth Cheryl McBeth</p> <p><b>Tellers</b> Barbara Langford Bob Barnett Ruthmarie Finley</p> <p><b>Greeter</b> Betsy Faga</p>	<p><b>Readings:</b> Isaiah 55:1-5 Psalm 145:8-9, 15-22 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21 <i>Carol Spigner preaching</i></p> <p><b>Readers</b> Beth Wiggers (8) Karl Boughan Barbara Eversman Nora Gafton</p> <p><b>Chalice Bearers</b> Barbara Eversman Karl Boughan</p> <p><b>Healing Ministers</b> Marian Stevens Martha Swearingen Larry Dye</p> <p><b>Ushers</b> Jan Kester Terry Kester</p> <p><b>Altar Guild</b> Jacki Bracewell Bea Taylor</p> <p><b>Building Supervisor</b> Bob Barnett</p> <p><b>Tellers</b> Richard Green Carl Hull</p> <p><b>Greeter</b> Beth Wiggers</p>

# SERMONS

## AN ASCENSION DAY HOMILY

June 2, 2011, by the Reverend Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie based on Acts 1:1-11 and Luke 24:44-53

Did you know that Luke is the *only* Evangelist to describe the Ascension of Jesus? Mark and John say nothing at all about it. Matthew has Jesus giving the Great Commission on an unidentified mountain in Galilee, but says nothing about Jesus ascending into heaven. But Matthew does end his Gospel with the beautiful words, “And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

So it’s only Luke who tells this story, first in his Gospel and more completely at the beginning of his second volume, the Acts of the Apostles. Luke must have some reason to have included the Ascension; he must have seen this event as promoting his particular theological agenda.

The Ascension story was, of course, never meant to be taken literally. We know that because the discrepancies between his two accounts didn’t trouble Luke at all. Luke’s Gospel version has Jesus “carried up” on Easter evening. In Acts, Jesus isn’t “lifted up” until forty days later. Acts also features two angels who have some pointed words for the disciples: “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven?” In other words, “Don’t just *stand* there — get to work! Launch your mission!”

Why is it that Luke sees the Ascension so important that he describes it twice? Luke’s great theme is the universal scope of the gospel. Luke’s Jesus is always reaching out in unlikely ways: to the lost, to women, to sinners. Luke, *himself* a Gentile, describes in Acts how both Peter and Paul eventually expand their missionary scope to include the Gentiles. In other words, the saving actions of Christ are intended for everyone, for the whole world. The Gospel isn’t confined to any one place or any one culture. The risen and ascended Jesus reaches out to all people. His presence can be experienced wherever and whenever anyone calls his name.

Ascension Day, which used to be regarded as a “holy day of obligation” is less emphasized by the Church these days. But is still has meaning. If we are ever tempted look down at someone else; if we are ever inclined to demean or dismiss other

people because they think or look or sound different than we do...we need to remember that Jesus’ love is for *everyone*.

This applies even to those we might think of as our enemies. However annoyingly, God’s love does not follow our prejudices. As Archbishop Desmond Tutu observes, “My enemy is not God’s enemy. My enemy is God’s *child*.”

So, fellow children of God, why *are* we “standing up looking toward heaven?” We need to get busy and make heaven here on earth. The risen and ascended Jesus Christ is among us still, holding us *all* in his loving embrace. It’s time for us to do the same.

## WELCOMING

*A sermon preached by the Reverend Dr. Anne Gavin Ritchie on June 26, 2011, the Second Sunday after Pentecost, based on St. Matthew 10:40-42.*

As I begin this, my last sermon as your Rector, I quote the great theologian George Burns, who once remarked, “The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending, then having the two as close together as possible.” Well, that’s my good beginning... we’ll see about the rest!

I want to focus on today’s Gospel, but expand it beyond the little snippet we just heard. Hearing only this brief word of encouragement is misleading; the rest of chapter 10 is chock full of hard, challenging teaching about discipleship. This last is meant to be the carrot after all those sticks. Here Jesus promises a spiritual reward to those who welcome anyone coming in his name. That’s encouraging. But the rest of chapter 10 takes a harsher tone. Here’s a brief review: Jesus said,

“If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that home or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.”

“I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace on the earth: I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against

his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's foes will be members of one's own household."

"Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me."

Tough teaching! Jesus warns those following him that they are not in for an easy time. And by the time this Gospel was written, Matthew's community knew exactly what Jesus was talking about. As Christians who had not renounced their Jewish heritage, they had been forced out of the synagogues. They had been rejected, even denounced, by family and friends. Matthew's community had already taken up their cross just by praying in the name of Jesus. I'm sure it was difficult to simply "shake the dust off their feet" when rejected by people they cared about.

Today Christians in this country face a different kind of hardship: our *irrelevance*. The *non-affiliated* with any church or synagogue is the fastest growing segment of the population. The Episcopal Church as a whole has suffered a 20% decrease in membership in the last forty years.

The people we look to as our future, people in their twenties – the so-called "millennials" – are not joiners of organizations. They don't join churches and they don't join country clubs. This group prefers to contribute on an *ad hoc* basis. They love outreach opportunities and sign up for them on a case-by-case basis, without joining parent organizations.

The "millennials," who grew up with the Internet and access to information whenever and however they want it, don't understand quaint traditions about dressing up (i.e., getting out of pj's) to go to a specified place at a specified time. Why bother, when I've got my computer or smartphone?

What many young people don't realize is that *without* those parent organizations – like the Church of the Resurrection – opportunities to give *cannot exist*. Young volunteers may *want* to distribute food, but they need a place to do it – as we offer here, every last Saturday of the month.

At this church we gather every week to receive the bread and wine at the altar. I know how much that means to you, because I see your faces as

you receive the sacrament. I feel the spiritual energy just emanating from you.

Just as important is what happens *after* the service, in the hallway, in the parish hall. Here we have a chance to connect with other people on the spiritual path. Here we guide and support one another. This kind of spiritual support that just doesn't happen automatically. We have to seek out a place where we can get the support we need. Resurrection is that kind of place.

But it won't be enough to keep doing what we're doing. Not for us and not for *any* faithful Christian congregation. We have to find new ways of reaching out, ways to listen to what is really needed in the world.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer has this to say about our need to listen: "Many people are looking for an ear to listen. They do not find it among Christians, because these Christians are talking where they should be listening. But he (or she!) who can no longer listen to his brother will soon be no longer listening to God, either; he will be doing nothing but prattle in the presence of God, too... One who cannot listen long and patiently will presently be talking beside the point and be never really speaking to others, although not conscious of it..."

We have a missionary opportunity staring us in the face: those millennials and others who have absolutely no idea what being in a flesh-and-blood community really means. We have much more to offer than clutching an electronic device, hoping for some meaningful contact. But first we will have to listen, really listen, to what they tell us they need most.

As we listen we can truly welcome people into our community, whoever they are. Archbishop Desmond Tutu reminds us of the tradition that an angel walks in front of every person; whether man or woman, young or old, straight or gay, black, white or brown... an angel walks in front of us and announces, "make way for the image of God, make way for the image of God!"

This community has so much to offer. You have the joy of singing voices and the warmth of holding hands. You offer looks – and actions – of caring. You speak the truth in love. You are willing to teach and to learn. You care about making God real for one another.

Continue to do what you do best, which is to love. Meet the future with boldness and imagina-

tion. *This is the time to look ahead*, to identify and seize new missionary opportunities. This is the time to imagine new ways of being church, creative and *flexible* ways of being church. Being church so that you and The Episcopal Church as a whole will not be irrelevant, but become a gateway to abundant life.

I am so grateful for these sixteen years at Resurrection. I have served congregations that were larger and one perhaps more socially prominent. But social prominence has nothing to do with the Gospel. *You* demonstrate the Gospel every day by your acts of caring for one another. You've certainly loved and cared for me; I hope I've loved and cared for you.

Please welcome and care for Carol, who comes to you next week to serve as your Interim Rector. She will be a wonderful pastor and friend.

And now, remembering George Burns, here's what I hope is my good ending:

Never forget what you do best. You have much to give to people hungry for food; hungry for community; hungry for love. Welcome the stranger who bears the image of God. Keep preaching the Gospel of love in all that you say and in all that you do.

And know that *I* love you, now and *always*.

Amen.



## PENTECOST AT RESURRECTION

## RECOGNITION OF CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHERS



# Anne's Final Sunday at Resurrection Celebration





**Church of the Resurrection**  
2280 North Beauregard Street  
Alexandria, VA 22311-2299

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

### ART SEEN AT RESURRECTION

The artist this month is Jacki Bracewell. Come view her display of beautiful nature photographs on the back wall in the Parish Hall. Next month our featured artist will be Orian Falkenborg with her sketches of people and animals.

If you are interested in showing you work, contact Judy Isaacs (703-578-3678) or Jane at the church office (703-998-0888) and get your name on the calendar. It can be oil or acrylic painting, water-colors or photography. We would all love to view your talent!

