

# InSpire

## Remembering Dibble Green Memorial Service

Saturday, May 14, 11:00 am Resurrection Church 2800 Hope Way



On Saturday, May 14, we will help celebrate the life of Sylvia Abernathy “Dibble” Green, beloved long-time member and the wife of our first Rector, Jim Green. The service will be officiated by the Rev. H. Vance Johnson, Jr., our friend and Priest Associate during both Jim’s and Anne Ritchie’s tenures as Rector here.

Please contact Carolyn McDonald ([cpmim@yahoo.com](mailto:cpmim@yahoo.com) or 703-909-8454) if you can provide a dessert for the reception. Please contact Betsy Faga ([bfaga10@gmail.com](mailto:bfaga10@gmail.com) or 703-407-8889) if you can help with remote parking (she'll give you the details).

**For planning purposes, we would like to know who is attending. Please [Sign-up Here](#)**

## Resurrection and The Spire on TV News

On April 20, a TV news story aired that included Church of the Resurrection and The Spire. Amber Strong, National Correspondent for TV news network NEWSY, became intrigued with houses of worship using their property for much needed housing while visiting in Atlanta. With offices in Washington,

DC, she wondered if there were churches in her area doing the same thing. A google search led her to Resurrection. She visited the church where she interviewed Betsy Faga and toured The Spire with onsite manager Blanca Gonzalez. The story also features Greater Piney Grove Baptist Church in Atlanta that built affordable housing for

seniors and St. Francis Center in Denver that converted the church building into dormitory style living for unhoused people. Amber hopes the story will give other churches food for thought and be an inspiration to use underutilized property for housing.

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Rev. Susan,  
Sabbatical Priest

## 2022 Vestry

**Senior Warden**  
Linda Goff

**Junior Warden**  
Coral Childs

**Treasurer**  
Ken Gay

**Register (ex officio)**  
Kim Hildred

**Creating Community**  
Betsy Faga

Kim Hildred

Kathy Parnell

Barbara Langford

**Healing Community**  
Coral Childs

Barbara Eversman

Bea Taylor

Peggy Tiedemann

**Learning Community**  
Linda Goff

Cynthia Bullard-Perez

Ken Gay

Dennis Jones

Ken Payne

## The Holy Spirit is Dancing, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Leaving church mid-afternoon Tuesday, as I was adjusting my rear-view mirror in my car, I saw sitting in our memorial garden a woman fixing something to eat from a blue Tupperware holder

May has given way to our garden full of fragrant blooms and inviting wooden benches for respite. A gift we have extended to those we may not know but are invited into our Resurrection community!

- Our Zoom platform allowed those among us recovering from Covid and seasonal allergies to be able to remotely worship with us.
- Samson, Reggie, and Thomas gifted us with soulful psalm reading and Thomas' piano accompaniment mirrored a Carnegie Hall performance!



on her lap, napkin draped over her knee and a thermos resting nearby. Her left hand held an open book. All the while, our sparrow parents continued, undisturbed by the woman, balancing tiny twigs in their beaks headed for their birdhouse nest. I sat in my car and lifted a thanking prayer; the beauty of

- The choir processed in on Sunday, May 1, robed in pressed red linen, for their inaugural anthem in our new sanctuary.
- Announcements heralded another Messy Church Sunday forum hour for Pentecost, June 5.

And so much more awaits us as May arrives and the Holy Spirit is dancing. Can you feel her? It has been a long, long, journey these two years, and sadly the virus is still of great concern- we remain in the red zone.



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## Our Resurrection Community Mosaic

The Acts of the Apostles, the source of our first readings in the month of May, contains exhilarating stories. The most exciting narratives in Acts are those in which we hear about individuals being baptized into the new church community.

Proclaimed in Acts Chapter 2 there are an exceptionally large number of baptisms. *“Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are*

*far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.’ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”*

In Acts 16, we hear of the baptism of Lydia who was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. Surely, her baptism was just as important as the baptism of the three thousand. For each church member is crucial to the worship and mission of the community.

In the book “The

Only Necessary Thing”, Henri J.M. Nouwen writes that his vision of church community is like a large mosaic. The artwork is made up of all colors, sizes, and shapes of gems. They come together in a mosaic to portray the face of Christ. Nouwen notes, “Each gemstone is indispensable and makes a unique contribution to the glory of the Lord.”

Definitely, each member of our community is an essential unique gemstone. When we look closely at the Resurrection Community Mosaic; we see that each hand, voice, and heart is committed to our community and the world.

~ Linda Goff



Linda Goff



### About InSpire

*InSpire* is the monthly newsletter of the Church of the Resurrection, describing the people of our congregation and our faith journey together. The following individuals contributed to this issue of *InSpire*:

- Jimena Amurio, Design
- The Rev. Jo Belser
- Cynthia Bullard-Perez, Acquisitions
- Tom Conroy
- Betsy Faga
- Lea Fowlie, editing
- Lenore Funkhouser, photos
- Linda Goff
- Susie Jones
- Kat Turner



## Why I am Passionate about Racial and Social Justice

As I quietly began to think about my life's journey through racial and social justice issues, I decided to go

back to my childhood and I remembered what I saw, heard, and felt as a child that remains emotionally connected to what I do today.

These old events that make me sad and make me question the silence and complicity of the adults at that time only strengthen my resolve.

As I grew, I began to connect the dots that revealed the truths of what swirled around me as a child who enjoyed the company of adults and listened carefully to their conversations and to the words they chose to utter. My age and my geographical

circumstances brought me personally into painful realizations about my family, friends, and community and how the racial and social injustices done around me could separate me physically

and emotionally from those I admired and loved.

At this point I offer two of many early painful vignettes:

Being definitely unafraid to roam as a child (and being observant on the school bus) I resolved one afternoon at age six or seven to walk out of my neighborhood, cross a busy street, and show up at the home of my black friend to play.

The surprise visit and the concern I caused Lizzie and her family was confusing to me and the chill that subsequently ended our fun on the playground hurts to this day. The hurt comes from a child's lack of understanding of what I did "wrong", my reticence to talk to my parents, and my lack of bravery to change the situation later in my school years.

Another sad surprise involved my dear friend, Diane, and her sweet family. A dance

was given at the local Womens' Club when I was in the fifth grade. My family went out of town that weekend and I was allowed to stay with Diane to go to the dance. As I happily dressed that evening (and Diane did not) I was gently informed that all my friends, but Diane were invited to the dance. Jews could not go to the Womens' Club.

I was able to remain friends with Diane when social pressure in the 50's and 60's would not allow the same with Lizzie. At seventeen, as I naively left the north to attend a southern university to study religion and become a missionary, I vowed to do better. Fortunately, I have experienced many more sorrowful and enlightening events that continue to drive me to find ways to "do better."

~ Amanda Vann





Kat Turner

## Search for 14<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Virginia

In March the Search Committee for the 14<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Virginia finished its work and forwarded its recommendations to the Standing Committee, which has announced the following slate of [nominees](#):

- ◇ The Rev. Joseph H. Henley, Jr., Rector, St. George's, Fredericksburg, VA
- ◇ The Rev. Canon Alan C. James, Interim Canon Missioner, Diocese of Western Michigan
- ◇ The Very Rev. Gideon L.K. Pollach, Rector, St. John's Church, Cold Spring Harbor NY
- ◇ The Rev. Canon E. Mark Stevenson, Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Ministry within the Episcopal Church.

After the announcement of a slate, church canons provide for a period during which other

candidates can submit petitions for the Standing Committee to expand the slate of nominees. As of this writing (April 25) the petition period is closed and vetting of petition candidates is underway.

Episcopalians throughout the diocese will have an opportunity to meet all of the nominees at a series



of Meet and Greets that will be held May 20 - 24 in various locales. Advanced registration is not required and most of these events will be livestreamed. The Meet and Greet nearest Resurrection will be held Saturday, May 21 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm at St. John's Church, 6715 Georgetown Pike, McLean. Since this coincides with Resurrection's Shrine Mont weekend, many of you may wish to tune into one of the livestreams. The list of these events can be found [here](#); livestream links

will be posted as they are announced. Even if you cannot attend one of these events, the diocesan search website (<https://www.virginiabishopsearch.org/meet-the-nominees/>) has quite a bit of information available on each nominee, including biographical statements and the answers they gave to the Search Committee's essay

questions. It is planned that nominees' full C.V. and brief videos will be added to the site prior to the Meet and Greets.

A special Electing Convention is scheduled for Saturday, June 4 at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School in Alexandria. Attendance is limited to voting delegates in two orders: clergy who are canonically resident in the diocese and lay delegates. However, the Electing Convention will be available to all via livestream on the Diocese's You Tube channel.

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### Upcoming at Shrine Mont

- **June 3-5 A Feather on the Breath of God Women's Retreat** The Rev. Sam Faeth will lead the weekend Encountering the Divine with Hildegard of Bingen.
- **June 3-5 Arranging for the Joy of It: A flower arranging event** Attendees will participate in activities that take the angst out of flower arranging.
- **June 10-12 Painting Creation** Come explore the natural world through painting with award-winning artist and teacher, Theodora Tilton.
- **June 10-12 Wisdom in the Woods Men's Retreat** Look into the rich trove of Wendell Berry's stories about men in the woods while remembering stories of your own.
- **June 24-26 Summer Yoga in the Mountains** Take a break from your busy life with a weekend yoga retreat in the cool beauty of the Shenandoah Valley.

### Clergy & Staff

- Rector**  
[The Rev. Jo J. Belser](#)
- Priest Associates**  
[The Rev. Dr. Susan Ackley Lukens](#)
- Seminarian Intern**  
[Reggie Hayes](#)
- Seminarian**  
[Samson Mamour](#)
- Director of Music**  
Deena Jaworski
- Organist**  
Dr. Thomas Conroy
- Bookkeeper**  
MaryEllen Tibbs
- Parish Communicator**  
[Jimena Amurio](#)
- Sexton**  
Zewdi Taddese

#### TV Cont. from page 1

Here is some of the feedback we got on the story.....

- ◆ Just saw a news item on Newsy News (TV) about the wonderful ministry you have developed in providing reasonable housing. You truly are a great congregation!!! I wish you the best as you



continue on....God's peace!

- ◆ The article about your church's housing development came up on my NewsBreak

email newsletter. I so admire your church's tenacity of seeing the conception and building through to its opening! What an incredible accomplishment when affordable housing is so dear in Alexandria!

- ◆ I continue to be amazed of what your church has done. I well remember when this was your dream. How you overcame all the many hurdles, over all those years, and never lost your focus or dedication is a real lesson in commitment.

NEWSY is the only free, over the air live 24/7 news network. Their mission is to deliver context-driven, fact-based reporting at a time when America needs it most. You may learn more about [NEWSY here](#).

Here's a [link](#) to the story.

~Betsy Faga

**Dancing Cont. from pg. 2**

But God's creation bursts forth with fresh green foliage despite Covid; I am convinced this is a sign that together with medical breakthroughs, vigilant mask wearing, community care and prayer, Spring has arrived at the Church of the Resurrection and our doors are open.

As I said in my sermon, Eastertide is the season of Resurrection stories and the joy that must have filled the hearts of Mary, Thomas and the disciples on the beach in Galilee when they heard the voice and were fed by the Risen Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia, Christ is risen indeed. Our doors are open for the gathering of we, the disciples, both virtually and in person to be fed by the Risen Christ. May you find a May morning, the shade of a tree, or a welcoming bench in our Memorial Garden to lift thankful prayers.



I think that I shall never see  
A poem as lovely as a tree.  
A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed  
Against the earth's sweet flowing breast.  
A tree that looks at God all day,  
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;  
A tree that may in Summer wear  
A nest of robins in her hair;  
Upon whose bosom snow has lain;  
Who intimately lives with rain.  
Poems are made by fools like me,  
But only God can make a tree.

Joyce Kilmer

~ Rev. Susan

**Bishop Cont. from page 5**

Betsy Faga is the lay delegate from Resurrection and Rev. Susan is a clergy delegate as well as Rev. Jo. Betsy and Rev. Susan would welcome your sharing your thoughts on the nominees with them.

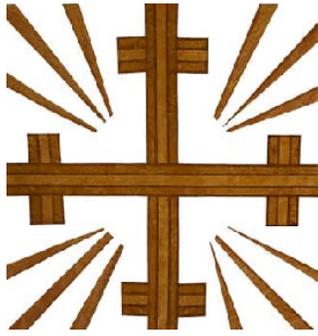
Election of a Bishop requires a majority of votes from each of the two orders on a concurrent ballot, so more than one balloting may need to occur. Once there is a Bishop-Designate, consent to the ordination and consecration of the new Bishop must be received from a majority of the House of Bishops and the Diocesan Standing Committees. God willing and consents received, the 14th Bishop will be ordained and consecrated on Saturday, December 3 at 11:00 at St. Paul's Baptist Church in Henrico. The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop, will be the chief consecrator. At this time there is

no firm decision about whether attendance will be open as the possibility remains that COVID restrictions may be required.

A list of Frequently Asked Questions about the Meet and Greets, the Electing Convention, and the Ordination and Consecration service can be found [here](https://www.virginiabishopsearch.org/Customer-Content/www/CMS/files/faqs_2_.pdf). (https://www.virginiabishopsearch.org/Customer-Content/www/CMS/files/faqs\_2\_.pdf)

~Kat Turner





### Church of the Resurrection

2800 Hope Way  
Alexandria 22311-2220

Church of the Resurrection serves the people in the Beauregard Corridor of the City of Alexandria, home to many recent immigrants. In April 2021, Resurrection completed an eight-year mission to provide 113 units of affordable housing to its community.

### Holy Week 2022



### A picture's worth a thousand words!

