

## *January Celebrations*

1/1

Donna Tisdale  
Kassie Roberts

1/6

Bill & Debbie Knipe

1/7

Donald Smith

1/9

Toni Traini

1/10

Katelynn Miller  
Frank Willson

1/23

Christina Evans

1/26

Audrey Dixon

Did we miss your birthday  
or anniversary?  
Please call the  
Parish Office.

# *The Mountain Herald*

*January 2018*

## **The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration**

### *From the Rector's Desk*

Dear Friends in Christ,

A series currently popular on the Netflix channel is *The Crown*, which follows the life of Queen Elizabeth II and the royal family from her succession to the throne in 1952 up to the present. The drama is meant to show the principal characters as real flesh-and-blood individuals, with human flaws like the rest of us, despite their aristocratic lineage. Even if the story lines are at times stretched a bit and the characters exaggerated, it all makes for great television, especially for Anglophiles like Kim and me!

One plot feature that is not contrived, however, concerns King Edward VIII -- the monarch forced to abdicate the throne in 1936 in order to marry a divorced American, Wallace Simpson (and who we see in the series trying to insinuate himself back into the palace limelight). In place of the popular and flamboyant Edward, his reluctant, retiring younger brother George had assumed the title. Doubting his abilities, never expecting or wanting to be king, and plagued by an embarrassing stutter from birth, George nonetheless proved himself a humble, able, and devoted leader at a time of great national peril prior to World War II. Instead of the defeatist Edward, with (we learn in the series) his anti-Semitic, pro-Nazi sympathies, the British people soon came to admire the patriotic George who joined with his prime minister Winston Churchill in uniting the country against the threat of Hitler. George, it would appear, also passed some of these same qualities onto the daughter who later succeeded him.

What's always impressed me about this story is the surprising and ever-appropriate quality of God's grace! In that critical moment of history, neither Britain nor the free world needed a defeatist on the English throne, however charismatic. It needed a humble, earnest servant of the people, a man who stuttered but whose dedication spoke loud and strong in the defense of human ideals. It needed, in effect, what God supplied. His arrogant brother thought him a loser, a lightweight, and delighted in mimicking his stammer. Future generations remember George as the indispensable figure that reminds us all (whether king or commoner!) of those qualities that truly matter -- courage, humility, diligence, patience, and quiet, abiding faith.

Such qualities -- which are today so tragically lacking in our national leadership -- are gifts that can and must be nourished and raised up, no less than in these times when our liberties are threatened, our institutions under assault, and our moral integrity gravely damaged. It might be well for us, then, to remember King George VI -- the reluctant monarch who God imbued with powers he didn't think he possessed, who exceeded everyone's expectations except those of the One who created him. In the eyes of God, he was perfectly suited to his calling, for his heart and his hope were strong. In the year and years ahead, let the same be said of you and me.

Many blessings in this New Year!

*Fr. Gordon +*



## 2016 Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday, January 28

One service at 9:00 a.m.

Refreshments and the meeting will immediately follow the service.

### New Information about Memorial Hall Usage in 2018

If any individual or group would like to use Memorial Hall for a party, reception, or meeting in the coming year, it would be helpful to become acquainted with the new Policies and Procedures and Rental Cost documents. A Policies and Procedures Committee has worked diligently for many months to prepare the guidelines and schedules that the Vestry has discussed, voted on, and which will become effective on January 1, 2018.

Bill Hillringhouse will be the first point of contact regarding a request for use of Memorial Hall since he maintains a calendar for use of the Church as well as the Hall. He can provide copies of the Policies and Procedures document and Rental Costs, and direct the request or any specific questions to a Committee that will help to implement the new use procedures.

Copies of the new documents will be posted on a bulletin board in Memorial Hall. These guidelines will be a practical, up-to-date step in our continuing good stewardship in the use of our buildings and in our compliance with Health Department, Fire Marshal, and Insurance Requirements and Regulations.

*Janet Roberts, Senior Warden*

Rachel Williams and Ruthann Barnett helped Sue Wirths decorate the church Christmas tree this year.



### Ladies' Lunch

The COTT Ladies Luncheon met in Memorial Hall on Tuesday, December 19 at noon. Our December meeting included our annual cookie exchange. There were many scrumptious choices! We also enjoyed two delicious soups provided by Debbie Knipe and bread brought by Janet Roberts.



Next month the group will meet on Tuesday, January 16 at noon in Memorial Hall.

Robin Rolph will provide the soup. Linda Galloway will bring the bread. Molly Wilson share a dessert. We welcome all COTT women and guests to join us for fun and fellowship.

If the Frederick County Public Schools are closed all day on January 16 due to bad weather, we will NOT meet. If the schools have only a late opening, then we will meet as usual. Please call Linda Galloway (301-371-6326) or Robin Rolph (301-371-9096) for more information.

*A recipe from November Ladies' Lunch*

#### Baked Potato Soup

Recipe Courtesy of Patricia Yearwood

##### Ingredients:

4 large baking potatoes  
6 bacon slices, plus crumbled bacon for serving  
2/3 cup (11 tablespoons) butter  
2/3 cup all-purpose flour  
8 cups milk  
5 ounces Cheddar, shredded, plus more for serving  
2 teaspoons salt  
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper  
2 green onions (scallions), finely chopped, plus more for serving  
8 ounces sour cream, plus more for serving

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F.

Wash potatoes and prick them several times with a fork. Wrap them individually in foil and bake until they are soft when squeezed, about one hour.

Let potatoes cool slightly.

While the potatoes bake, cool the bacon in a small skillet, in a microwave or on an indoor grill until crisp. Drain the bacon on paper towels and when cool enough to handle, crumble into small pieces, set aside.

In a large heavy saucepan, melt the butter over low heat. Add the flour, stirring constantly for 1 minute until smooth. Gradually whisk in the milk and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture is thick and bubbling, 5 to 10 minutes. Cut the potatoes in half lengthwise and scoop the flesh into the thickened milk mixture. Add the Cheddar, salt, pepper, green onions and reserved bacon. Cook over low heat just until heated through, then stir in the sour cream. Garnish with shredded Cheddar, crumbled bacon and chopped green onions and serve with more sour cream on the side.

#### Editor Note:

This will be my last edition of the church newsletter. After almost 10 years, I've decided the time has come to hang up this hat. It is my sincere hope that someone will step forward to continue this ministry.

*Marusia Zearfoss*

# January 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA		12:00p AA	12:00p AA  7:30p Choir	12:00p AA  8:30p AA	
Rector Vacation						
<b>7 Epiphany</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
Healing - both services 8:00a H.E. II 9:00a Christian Ed 10:15a H.E. II/hymns Signed for the Deaf 11:15a Hospitality 6:00p Chorale	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA	9:00a Morning Prayer  7:00p B & F	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:00p Vespers/ Rite of Healing	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:30p Choir	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  8:30p AA	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
8:00a H.E. II 9:00a Christian Ed 10:15a H.E. II/hymns 11:15a Hospitality  6:00p Chorale	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p Ladies' Lunch	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:00p Vespers/ Rite of Healing	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:30p Choir	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  8:30p AA	
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
8:00a H.E. II 9:00a Christian Ed 10:15a H.E. II/hymns 11:15a Hospitality 11:30a Vestry  6:00p Chorale	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  6:30p Men's Dinner	9:00a Morning Prayer	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:00p Vespers/ Rite of Healing	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:30p Choir	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  8:30p AA	
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
<b>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</b> <i>Single Service</i> <b>9:00 A.M.</b> <b>Meeting follows</b>	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA	9:00a Morning Prayer	9:00a Morning Prayer  12:00p AA  7:00p Vespers/ Rite of Healing			
6:00p Chorale						

Do you have a question about anything regarding C.O.T.T?

Our Vestry members are here to help

-  
talk to one of them or Fr. Gordon any time.

## VESTRY

<u>Class of 2016</u>	<u>Class of 2017</u>	<u>Class of 2018</u>
Dorothy Beaird	Barbara Collins	Mel Galloway
Bill Spare	Richard Galliher	Jim Hubbard
Marusia Zearfoss	Debbie Knipe	Tony Traini

Janet Roberts – Sr. Warden  
Brad Staup – Jr. Warden  
Craig Zearfoss – Treasurer  
Marsha Burrell - Clerk

## SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:00 a.m. Christian Education for All

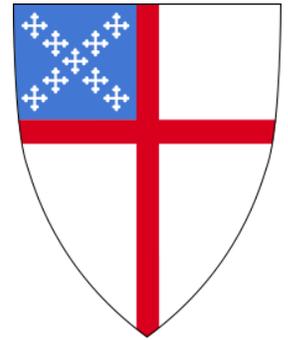
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

11:30 a.m. Hospitality

1st Sunday of each month Anointing and Prayers for Healing  
follow each service

Morning Prayer - Mon through Friday - 9:00 a.m.

Vespers with Rite of Healing - Wednesday - 7:00 p.m.



## CONTACT US

Church Office Phone Number: 301-371-7505

Rectory Phone Number: 301-371-6227

Church E-mail Address: [transfiguration1@verizon.net](mailto:transfiguration1@verizon.net)

For Pastoral Emergencies, Church Members should contact the office at 301-371-7505 or via e-mail at [transfiguration1@verizon.net](mailto:transfiguration1@verizon.net)

Email Rev. Gordon De La Vars at [fr.gordoncott@gmail.com](mailto:fr.gordoncott@gmail.com)

Contact Associate Pastor Rev. Ellen Hurwitz at (301) 293-1514

**[www.thechurchofthetransfiguration.com](http://www.thechurchofthetransfiguration.com)**

## The Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration

*PO Box 87*

*6909 Maryland Avenue*

*Braddock Heights, MD 21714*

