



Sunday, August 2, 2015

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

A PARISH OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OUTSIDE OF RUSSIA—EASTERN AMERICAN DIOCESE

Great Vespers & Confessions each Saturday at 6 pm – Daily Vespers & Bible Study each Wednesday at 7 pm – Divine Liturgy each Sunday at 10 am
60 Clifton Chapel Lane, Stafford, Virginia 22555 – Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1295, Stafford, VA 22555 – Website: www.sthermanorthodox.org

Divine Services / Activities

This Week:

Sun. August 2/July 20 8th Sunday after Pentecost: Holy Glorious Prophet Elias

- 9:15 a.m. Congregational Singing Practice
- 9:45 a.m. Reading of the Third Hour
- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour
- 12:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting

Sat. August 8/July 26 Synaxis of saints of Smolensk

- 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers followed by Holy Confessions

Sun. August 9/July 27 9th Sunday after Pentecost: Holy Great-martyr and Healer Panteleimon

- 9:15 a.m. Congregational Singing Practice
- 9:45 a.m. Reading of the Third Hour
- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy followed by Fellowship Hour



Holy Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah)

2015 Finances

The Parish needs \$1,555.77/week to meet budget

<u>Week</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Difference from amount needed</u>
Year-to-date	\$ 45,162.83	- \$ 1510.27
July 19	\$ 3339.50	+ \$ 1783.73
July 26	\$ 511.00	- \$ 1044.77

Honor the Lord from your righteous labors and offer Him the first fruits from the fruits of righteousness, that your storehouses may be filled with an abundance of grain and your wine presses may gush with wine. Proverbs 3:9-10

Attendance

Great Vespers, 7/25 – 6

Divine Liturgy, 7/26 – 23

Intercessory Prayer List

Archpriest Alexander requests that you send him to full name and general reason for intercessory prayer (such as health or illness, unemployment, family issues, military deployment to Afghanistan, etc.) for his pastoral care. Only the names of the living (and recently deceased) will be included in the prayer list in the weekly bulletin. He also requests that the faithful who have requested intercessory prayers for various persons let him know when there is no longer a specific need for prayer, so that we may keep the list current.

LIVING: Rebecca Laymon, Judith (Maria) Cook, Ana Rosado-Nazario, Lana Campbell, Maria Connerley, Matushka Kathleen Webster, Emma Nicole Parkinson, Matushka Joanna Laymon, Archpriest Michael Sekela, Tom Zakielarz, Patricia Connerley, Martha Connerley, Kathy Sekela, Mark Laymon, Kristin Blaylock, Janis Sergeant, Millicent Novic, Ray Liddick, Leonidas Stylianopoulos, Sophia Stylianopoulos, Chad Gallagher, Matushka Cindy Mitchell, Presvytera Flora Chioros, Father Stanley Voyiazakis, Presvytera Katherine Baker, Peter Pederson, Monk Anthony (West Virginia), Archpriest George Larin, Matushka Masha Potopav, Matushka Sophia Doubleday, Evdokiya Bykon, Kevin McCarthy, James Dunham, Eleanor Magee, 2LT Benjamin Stracquatano, USA (Korea), James Puckett, Nora Milligan, Schemamonk John (Dezorzi), the captive Orthodox bishops from Aleppo, Syria: His Eminence Archbishop Boulos (Yazigi) and Mar Archbishop Youhanna Ibrahim

MEMORY ETERNAL: Nun Alevtina, Priest Roman Nikayaev, Phyllis Wroblecki, Joan Laymon

Blessing of Homes for Theophany

Archpriest Alexander is still, Godwilling, available (by appointment after Pascha for the annual blessing of homes. Please email him at chaplain.webster@gmail.com or call his cell: 703-297-7744.

Fellowship Hour

Aug. 2 ~ Sponsored Fellowship Meal

Aug. 9 ~ Sponsored Fellowship Meal

If anyone has any questions or is interested in hosting a particular Sunday please contact Maria Connerley.



Reader Schedule

Aug. 2 ~ Reader Jason Connerley

Aug. 9 ~ Adam Heitke

If you are interested in assisting with the reading or becoming a tonsured reader please contact Deacon Alexander.



Prosfora

Nancy St. Clair is currently providing the Prosfora. If you are interested in helping to make Prosfora for the church, please contact Nancy St. Clair.



Please Help Us Meet Our Budget

On the front of the weekly bulletin is a box titled 2015 Finances. Just below the title is the amount needed by the parish to meet our 2015 budget. If you are keeping track, you have noted that we have fallen below our goal for a number of weeks. Although we routinely see more red ink during the summer months, this year we seem to be falling further behind than usual. Pledges, for the most part, are on track, however other projected income sources are falling short; especially unpledged donations, and script. At the current rate, by the end of the year we will have a deficit, which has NEVER happened before.

Based on the recent Pew Research project on religious membership and financial contributions as of 2014: "Orthodox Christians have the most wealth, on a per capita basis, compared to other Christians. 29% of Orthodox Christians have a household income of more than \$100,000 per year, as compared to 19% of Catholic households and 14% of Evangelicals."

We ask those who have pledged to ensure that your pledges are up to date. (In the near future you will receive a statement indicating where you are). We also ask all parishioners, that, if possible, to consider increasing your contribution.

*** Iconography Workshop Deadline Extended to August 10th! ***

Our parish's iconography guild will be hosting our 5th annual 6-day iconography workshop September 7 – 12, led by Fr. Ighumen Mefodii, master iconographer of the Prosopon School of Iconology.

No previous artistic experience is needed for beginners to do Archangel Michael and those who have previously done icons will be assigned one based on their experience. Throughout the week we will study the symbolism of the elements in our icons and of each step in the process. We will follow the ancient traditional Russian-Byzantine techniques of painting icons including applying gold leaf, the "floating" egg tempera with natural pigments, and the final application of oil. The workshop atmosphere will be that of a spiritual retreat as we work quietly and prayerfully each day, breaking for a potluck lunch.

I am now accepting registrations and more information can be found on our bulletin board in the hall, our parish website, or by contacting me. To help make this a success I am asking you to "spread the word" by inviting friends and family. Extra copies of the fliers are available in the hall so on your travels this year, and as you visit other churches, please share it with them.

Mat. Joanna Laymon

CONFESSION IS GOOD (EVEN VITAL) FOR THE BODY AND THE SOUL!

The renowned Swiss psychiatrist Paul Tournier once wrote: "I could give very many examples, especially of patients who have come to visit me only once, . . . with the sole purpose of finding someone to whom they could confess a sin that has been weighing upon them for years. . . . The tremendous joy brought by forgiveness plays an important part in causing the medical effects [of healing]. . . In many cases I have seen a physical illness disappear overnight after the confession of a lie or an illicit love-affair." Thus even a Reformed Protestant like Tournier recognized that confession is good for the body, as well as the soul.

And we Orthodox have a special opportunity, rare in the modern world, to avail ourselves of the healing Mystery of Holy Confession at regular intervals in our own churches. A good spiritual rhythm would allow for each of us to come to Holy Confession each month, especially if one hopes to receive the Body and Blood of Our Lord at each Sunday Divine Liturgy. The timing may be extended through the practice of oikonomia (exception for the greater good of both the person and the community) to once every two months, but not a day longer, as our former hierarch Metropolitan Jonah permitted. It has been disappointing to me that Holy Confession is rather (shall we say?) "under-utilized"; here at St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church.

Regular opportunities for Holy Confession here in Stafford include the following: each Saturday after Great Vespers, each Wednesday evening (or other evenings when scheduled) before Daily Vespers (that is, from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.), Sundays during the fellowship hour after Divine Liturgy upon request, and by appointment with me at other times. Of course, a parishioner may have established a previous relation with another Orthodox priest-confessor that you wish to continue. If that is your situation, I ask only that you let me know the name of your priest-confessor, so that I can be confident that the spiritual relation is authentic and strong.

~ Archpriest Alexander

Search for Head of Building Fund Committee

The Parish Council is looking for a parishioner to take over as head of the Building Fund committee. This person would be coordinating and guiding the efforts of the current members. The purpose of this committee is to research available options for investing the money in the fund. If you are interested please contact Reader Jason.



Volunteers Needed August 4th for National Night Out

This is a one night event on Tuesday, August 4th located at Stafford Market Place, just off Interstate 95 exit 143. We need a set up crew (4 pm to 5 pm) and three shifts to staff the booth and hand out pamphlets: 6 pm to 7 pm, 7 pm to 8 pm, and 8 pm to 9 pm. The last shift also assists with tear down.



Happy and dedicated volunteers of St. Herman's hosting at Aquia's Table on July 29th.

*"The best inheritance you can leave your sons, the richest dowries you can prepare for your daughters, is a truly Christian upbringing."
- Bishop Irenaeus*

We are registered with two broadcast media weather alert systems: (1) television: WJLA-TV (channel 7) and News Channel 8, and (2) radio: WTOP radio (103.5, 103.9, 107.7 -- all FM) and WTOP.com Any closings will also be posted on the home page of our website and via email to those who have asked to be on our electronic mailing list.