

JULY 2020

NEXT SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JULY 21ST

## Taking Down the Jim Crow Monument

*Rappin' with the Rev by Pastor Dave Milam*



I was having some laughs with Suzanne Wade today about her memories of one of her previous pastors, Jim Atwood. Rev. Atwood was the topic of our conversation because he passed away recently. After talking with Suzanne, I've seen several fond remembrances posted about him on Presbytery friends' Facebook pages. But I enjoyed Suzanne's remembrance the most. She said that Rev. Atwood was a bit of a firebrand as pastor at her church. Forty years ago, he strongly favored gun control and spoke out about it, often getting pushback for "getting involved in politics" when he was supposed to stick to religion and the like. We laughed because in some ways, the more things change, the more they stay the same.

So, two weeks ago – after sharing my convictions in a conversation with the Session – I signed on to a Letter to the Editor advocating the removal of the statue in front of our Loudoun County Courthouse of a confederate soldier that has been there since 1908. The letter came from the Interfaith Clergy and Faith Leaders group that I have been a part of and led over the last few years. In case you missed it, I'm putting a copy of it on page 4 in our *Loaves and Fishes* newsletter. Primarily written by a colleague, nevertheless, I was, in fact, the one who

initiated the idea of sending a letter to the *Loudoun Times-Mirror* and *Loudoun Now*, and succeeding in getting the group to do so. But things didn't turn out like I thought. Because of our times, what I thought would be a letter hidden well inside the paper that only a few would see, the *Loudoun Times Mirror* published it on the front page (at least in the online version)! My first thought was oops – here I am making a big statement in public, but I haven't even told our congregation about doing this (so that there could also be that retort: "Preacher, stay out of politics and stick to religion!"). So, here's my own explanation.

As of late, I have been especially intentional about being one who is trying to counter racism as a personal commitment, I've learned that to do so requires certain things of me. First, it has led me to make new and deepening friendships, supporting these same friends as they take the lead in dismantling racism. Second, I have also found myself often taking stock of how I benefit from the way society tilts in favor of those who are white like me, while putting roadblocks in front of those who don't as readily get such free passes and opportunities because of racialized standards and practices. Finally, I found myself growing in conviction (with many in our congregation)

that it was time for a change in our county – and that the removal of the statue was a public way to express this. Coming to this also involved some learning. For instance, I learned that the statue is not something that was put up immediately after the Civil War, in the immediate post-war grief after the union was restored. In fact, the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was a time when Jim Crow laws were put on books that segregated blacks from whites, when voting rights were taken away from African Americans, when sharecropping almost all but reconstituted slavery, when the most hateful violence could be visited on people of color for simple, innocent, perceived infractions against white superiority. President Woodrow Wilson showed a movie called *Birth of a Nation* in the White House, promoting its outward support for reconstituting the KKK, who would soon after march triumphantly down Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. The Leesburg statue, placed at the front doors of our county's chief courthouse may have celebrated a soldier from fifty years earlier, but with the purpose of stating who would get

justice in that courthouse and who would not.

In fact, as step two of the action of writing a letter to the editor together, the Loudoun Interfaith Clergy and Faith Leaders group agreed to make a silent march on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:30. We are going from the statue to a site that remembers Orion Anderson. Fourteen years old, a young man from Hamilton, he had put a bag over his head and jumped out of a bush scaring a friend of his, a white girl of his same age. For this crime, he was hung from a tree where the site now stands, on the W&OD Trail next to Harrison Street in Leesburg. Our point is to say that the statue has served as a symbol of the institutionalization of racism in our community. We believe that it should be taken down as a way of affirming to our African American neighbors that their lives are as beloved by God and to be valued by all of us, as any other.

Of course there are objections about the value of history and the nobility of those who would die for their state, for their cause. My sense is that sometimes noble symbols become useful for ignoble ends,

*"Rappin' with the Rev"*  
Continued on page 2



Join us Sundays on  
**FACEBOOK LIVE**

As we stream Service live at 10:00AM

**Not on Facebook?**

You can watch live by going to our website  
[standrew-pres.org](http://standrew-pres.org)

**RAPPIN' WITH THE REV (CONT)**

*"Taking Down the Jim Crow Monument"  
Continued from page 1*

just as the Bible is sometimes used as a cudgel to hurt and control people, despite Jesus' welcome especially of those who lived on the margins of his community. He seemed to like his dinners at the homes of sinners a whole lot more than of those who puffed themselves up as saints. In short, I'm glad to talk further with anyone about these and other issues – not so much to argue but to explore the Lost Cause context that was impetus for

placing this statue in the first place – and is now the reason to replace its message with one of the promise our country has of liberty and justice for all. Suzanne, I hope Jim Atwood might send me a wink from heaven for getting into trouble akin to what he found so pastorally compelling!

Blessings,



Pastor Dave Milam

**ADULT MINISTRIES**



**The St. Andrew Book Club**

The next meeting is scheduled for July 27th at 7:30 pm. The book under discussion will be The Hamilton Affair by Elizabeth Cobbs. Please call or text Zoe Sowers at 703 629-4964 for more information and the location.

**Lovettsville Group**

Not currently meeting due to novel coronavirus.

**Brunch Bunch**

Is off for the summer.

**Men's Group**

Not currently meeting due to novel coronavirus.

**Virtual Gatherings**

Small groups are encouraged to meet via Zoom or Facebook Live.

Please contact the church office (secretary@standrew-pres.org) to schedule your meeting or if you have any questions.

**MISSION COMMITTEE**



**Items of the Month Suggestion**

**July**

Giving what you can at this time would be most generous. The Mission Committee would like to suggest looking around the grocery store to see what is available.

The Monthly suggestion is: **Cooking Oils**



Items can be dropped off at Church and members of the Mission Committee will get food items to LHR.

Not sure what to donate? Each month the Mission Committee will have a suggestion.

Thank you for your continued support with this important Mission!



**LOUDOUN HUNGER RELIEF FOOD DISTRIBUTION NOW THROUGH JULY**

We will continue our partnership with Loudoun Hunger Relief to help them serve our community through July. Due to entering a new phase of reopening, food will be distributed twice a month in July on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday/Wednesday.

Please sign-up to volunteer via Signup Genius or email church office (secretary@standrew-pres.org)

**TRUSTEE WORK DAY**



# 2020 GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL



*Julian Bellows*

**College**

Northern Virginia Community College

# 2020 GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL



*Constantine Blake*

**College Fall 2020**  
Monroe Community College

Constantine enjoys writing, is artistic, creative and smart. Over the years Constantine has been the proud recipient of awards for drawings and writing locally, Odyssey of the Mind team competition, as well as a Scholastic Writing Award, and Continental Math League award.

She enjoyed chorus at Blue Ridge and Loudoun Valley, but as a Junior made the brave decision to join band as a beginner and play clarinet with best friend younger sister, Kristen.

A highlight of high School was a year in Civil Air Patrol during which interest in service of others was awakened, in particular emergency services.

Constantine is happy to be finishing high school and hopes to attend Monroe Community College, where she has been accepted into an Engineering Tech program feeding into RIT's BS program. A gap year due to the health challenges of POTS is likely as Constantine continues the recent year's slower resting and healing pace tackling one day at a time.

# 2020 GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL



*Jenna Henderson*

I am Jenna Henderson and will be attending Virginia Tech for Criminology this fall. I am very excited to attend and can't wait to see what the future has in store for me. I have attended the church since I was 6 years old. I was baptized and confirmed in this church. I also attended Wednesday After school Café (WAC) and went to the NLC. I am so grateful to have grown up at St. Andrews.

**College Fall 2020**  
Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA

# 2020 GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL



*Alex Newton*

Alex Newton is graduating from Woodgrove High School. He will attend Virginia Tech as a student in the College of Natural Resources and Environment. While at Woodgrove, he was elected to National Honor Society, captain of the Policy Debate Team, Vice President of Battle of the Books, founder of the Magic Gathering Club and was in the senior play of Little shop of Horror's. He hopes to help craft environmental policy in the future and has a passion for nature and our environment.

**College**  
Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA

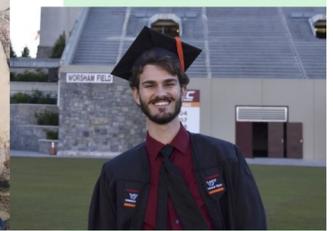
# 2020 GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL



*AJ Ntantang*

**College**  
Lafayette College  
Easton, Pennsylvania

# 2020 GRADUATE COLLEGE



*Michael Dragon*

**Virginia Tech Blacksburg, VA**  
Bachelor's Degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering  
Minor in Computer Science

**TRUSTEE WORK DAY**



## Loudoun Times-Mirror Article

The Loudoun Clergy and Faith Leaders Group is calling for the removal of the Confederate monument in downtown Leesburg. In a letter (reproduced in its entirety below) to the Times-Mirror, the coalition of 26 faith leaders say the statue has given "public honor to the systemic racism of its era in its most terroristic and overt form."

The monument of the Confederate soldier was erected in front of the Loudoun County Courthouse in downtown Leesburg in 1908. "We affirm and applaud Gov. [Ralph] Northam signing new laws addressing the shameful legacy of racism here in the Commonwealth of Virginia, especially the removal of Confederate war memorials," the group said in its letter. "This is an important moment in the larger need for healing the racial divides and wounds imbedded in the Virginia landscape. Hatred and racism are concerns that are not exclusive to us here in Virginia. Even so, we know that our obligation to be part of a national solution begins in our own backyard."

The letter continues, "We further express our support for the removal and recontextualization of the Daughters of the Confederacy monument from the Loudoun Courthouse. This monument is not representative of our community and our values. It was designed to remind whites to venerate the 'Lost Cause' and to reinforce Jim Crow era strictures against blacks. It gave public honor to the systemic racism of its era in its most terroristic and overt form."

The clergy group's call comes amid nationwide awareness and pushback against Confederate statues and symbols. Confederate monuments and flags are viewed as racially insensitive and offensive by opponents, while supporters say they are honoring heritage.

Chairwoman Phyllis Randall (D-At Large) has said she will seek to initiate the process of removing the statue next month, when a new law goes into effect allowing localities to remove or alter war monuments.

## Loudoun Clergy and Faith Leaders Group Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

The Loudoun Clergy and Faith Leaders Group understands that all of our faiths insist on the primacy of human dignity, and teach the Golden Rule to love our neighbors as ourselves. This letter is based on the common commitment we share to our human family. We are each motivated and inspired by our individual understanding of God and Truth; we speak together in common concern and commitment beyond any one tradition we reflect.

We affirm and applaud Governor Northam signing new laws addressing the shameful legacy of racism here in the Commonwealth of Virginia, especially the removal of Confederate war memorials. This is an important moment in the larger need for healing the racial divides and wounds imbedded in the Virginia landscape. Hatred and racism are concerns that are not exclusive to us here in Virginia. Even so, we know that our obligation to be part of a national solution begins in our own backyard.

We further express our support for the removal and recontextualization of the Daughters of the Confederacy monument from the Loudoun Courthouse. This monument is not representative of our community and our values. It was designed to remind whites to venerate the "Lost Cause" and to reinforce Jim Crow era strictures against blacks. It gave public honor to the systemic racism of its era in its most terroristic and overt form.

In recent months neighboring counties and towns have renamed streets and schools connected to the history of slavery and racism in Virginia. In recent days we have seen them remove similar statues. Nationally, we note the United States Marine Corps and the United States Navy have now completely banned Confederate symbols from all spaces. Similarly, the United States Army stands ready to rename installations memorializing soldiers who served in the Confederate forces.

All of our faith traditions know that only by facing our history can we own it and transcend the failures it records. Foundational issues of equity, concerns about systemic racism, and the hope for repair beyond simple reconciliation demands we do so. Recontextualizing the monument helps future generations better understand and wrestle with the complex legacy of slavery and systemic racism in Virginia and America. We feel it is part of the pathway toward redemption. This is the time to help the arc of history find its way to justice so that all of our neighbors can know their human dignity is affirmed.

We invite all Loudouners who share our values and concerns to email the Board of Supervisors at [bos@loudoun.gov](mailto:bos@loudoun.gov). That way all our names can be seen and voices heard by our Board of Supervisors. We pray that those in power affirm with meaningful actions that in our Loudoun, we model the best of America because we truly do love our neighbors as ourselves.

*Dr. Steven Archer, Purcellville*

*Lay Pastoral Leader Kurt Ascherman, Lucketts*

*Rev. Dr. Larry Buxton, Ashburn*

*Rev. Deborah Carlton, Leesburg*

*Rev. David A. Douthett, Waterford*

*Rev. Molly Douthett, Lucketts*

*Hurunnessa Fariad, Loudoun*

*Rev. Aileen Fitzke, Sterling*

*Rabbi David Greenspoon, Leesburg*

*Rev. Jacquelyn Hollingsworth, Loudoun*

*Rizwan Jaka, Loudoun*

*Pastor Gerry Johnson, Leesburg*

*Rev. Alice King, Leesburg*

*Rev. Joshua King, Purcellville*

*Rev. Tracey B. Lyons, Loudoun*

*Imam Mohamed Magid, Loudoun*

*Robert Marro, Loudoun*

*Rev. Jake McGlothlin, Loudoun*

*Rev. Dr. David Milam, Purcellville*

*Rev. Deborah Dodson Parsons, Leesburg*

*Rev. Daniel Vélez-Rivera, Leesburg*

*Rabbi Amy Sapowith, Ashburn*

*Pastor Michelle Thomas, Leesburg*

*Pastor Garrett Wolf, Dulles*

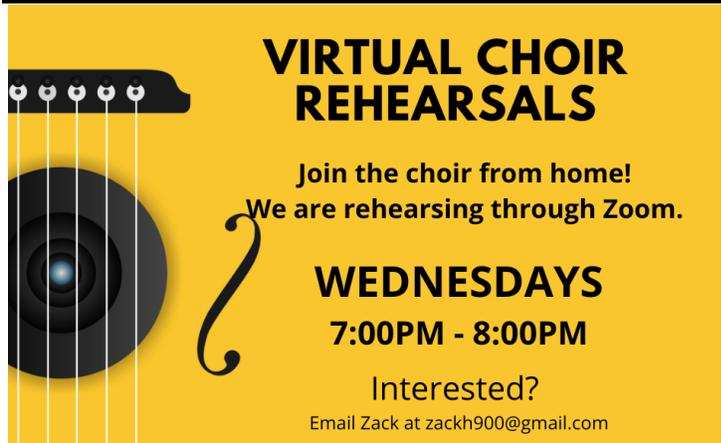
*Daniel Wray, Round Hill*

*Rev. Heather Wray, Leesburg*

## JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- Happy Anniversary this month to:*
- |    |                            |    |                   |
|----|----------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 5  | Chris and Cara Bayer       | 7  | Adam Broshkevitch |
| 6  | Erik and Sarah Sassak      |    | Gabe Cassutto     |
| 8  | Manny and Susane Njomo     | 11 | Hannah Gehl       |
| 9  | Kevin and Maria Burel      | 11 | Olivia Butkus     |
| 11 | Ron and Angela Brown       | 13 | Madison Lutz      |
| 19 | Dave and Sandy Roberts     |    | Katie Schwieger   |
| 20 | Bob and Mary Anderson      | 15 | Kerry Blake       |
| 22 | Karl and Pat Quinn         |    | Lillian Brewer    |
| 30 | Mike and Laurie Barbagallo | 17 | Kyle Hottinger    |
|    | Mitch and Clark Seipt      | 18 | Katherine Curtis  |
|    |                            | 19 | Sam Seipt         |
|    |                            | 21 | Ray Anderson      |
|    |                            | 22 | Bernice Pull      |
|    |                            | 23 | Bonnie Milam      |
|    |                            | 26 | Pete Parker       |
|    |                            | 30 | Lizzy Hill        |
|    |                            |    | Michael Treptow   |
|    |                            | 31 | Anna Carneal      |
|    |                            |    | Marion Carneal    |
- Happy Birthday this month to:*
- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Mitch Seipt       |
| 2 | James Laybourne   |
| 4 | Keturah Johnson   |
| 5 | Ryan Moler        |
| 6 | Mark Broshkevitch |

## JULY MUSIC REHEARSALS



**VIRTUAL CHOIR REHEARSALS**

Join the choir from home!  
We are rehearsing through Zoom.

**WEDNESDAYS**  
**7:00PM - 8:00PM**

Interested?  
Email Zack at [zackh900@gmail.com](mailto:zackh900@gmail.com)

The **St. Andrew Ringers** and the **Children's Choir** are not currently meeting due to restrictions imposed by the coronavirus pandemic.

## LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS

### We lift up our concerns

#### Congregation

June H. home from the hospital after suffering a heart attack and fall. Roger H. is now living at Poet's Walk, a memory care facility in Leesburg.

### We continue to pray for

#### Friends and Family

Josh S. asks for prayers for four co-workers who have been permanently laid off. Kathie H. asks for prayers for her friend, Rory L. who had surgery for parathyroidism. Bonnie M. sends love and comfort to Pastor Michelle, Delroy, Adrian, and Anna on the drowning death of Fitz. Diane E. asks for prayers for Sarah, a friend of the Lee family, who is quite ill with COVID-19 and is struggling to recover. Prayers of thanksgiving from Clark S. for the St. Andrew tech team, without whom we would not be able to gather virtually for church.

### Joys

Chris H is now in Vermont on the Appalachian Trail. Haley S. is thankful that her friend's mother tested negative for the coronavirus. John B. has accepted a middle school history teaching position in Petersburg, VA starting in the fall. Carlinda, Nick, and Cullen on the arrival of twin girls, Ada and Alex-



andria on June 4th.

#### Community/World

Tom H asks for prayers for our local, regional, and national leaders for wisdom during this crisis. JoAnna R. asks for guidance for the Loudoun County Public School system as they decide how to handle the new school year.

## Flower Calendar

If you would like to provide flowers to decorate the sanctuary, please sign up on the Flower Calendar in the entryway or call Nancy Gilmore. Purcellville Florist will deliver the flowers to the church in time for the Sunday service if you order from them. Of course, you are free to bring in your own arrangements or get them elsewhere. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Gilmore at 540-454-3219 or [ngilmore5@verizon.net](mailto:ngilmore5@verizon.net).



### July Flower Calendar

5th	Open	12th	Open
19th	Open	26th	Barbagallo

### August Flower Calendar

2nd	Open	9th	Open
16th	Semiao	23rd	Open
30th	Open		

The deadline for each issue of *Loaves & Fishes* is the **21st of each month**. The next deadline is **JULY 21st**. Please send your submissions to Sally Brenton at [sbrenton@rstarmail.com](mailto:sbrenton@rstarmail.com).



## SCRIPTURES AND SERMONS FOR JULY

July Sermon Theme: "The Good News about Sin:  
It Has a Better End than You Might Have Imagined"

### July 5<sup>th</sup> (Independence Day Weekend; The Lord's Supper)

Theme: The Unfulfilled Promise of America's Declaration of Independence

Scripture: Numbers 20:1-13; Psalm 95

Sermon: *"Finding New Purpose after Following a Lost Cause"*

Worship Leader: Katie Cahoon

### July 12<sup>th</sup>

Theme: Good News: Sin Is neither a Crime nor a Disease

Scripture: Hosea 2:14-23

Sermon: *"Sin Is Our Only Hope"*

Worship Leader: Lisa Massey

### July 19<sup>th</sup> (Confirmation and Reception of New Members)

Theme: Confession, Repentance and Restoration

Scripture: Mark 10:32-45

Sermon: *"Are You Able?"*

Worship Leader: Kim Peele

### July 26<sup>th</sup> (Worshippers are Welcome to Return to the Sanctuary – RSVP)



711 W. Main Street  
Purcellville, Virginia 20132  
540-338-4332,  
fax 540-338-4333  
secretary@standrew-pres.org  
www.standrew-pres.org

The Rev. Dr. David Milam, Pastor

The Rev. JoAnna Rich, Children and Family Ministries Director

Marcia Owens, Clerk of Session

Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of each month

---

Theme: Sin Is Inescapable, So Why Not Act with Grace?

Scripture: 1 John 1:5-9

Sermon: *"Sin Boldly"*

Worship Leader: Lottie Kohl

(Note: Our July Sunday services can be watched at our St. Andrew Presbyterian Church webpage at <https://www.standrew-pres.org/> or at our St. Andrew Presbyterian Church Facebook page. We invite you to let your friends join you in watching the service by sharing it. We invite your "Amens," "likes" and comments. Prayer concerns can be emailed to [pastor@standrew-pres.org](mailto:pastor@standrew-pres.org). We ask you to give generously. Electronic gifts can be made electronically through the "Give Now" button at our St. Andrew Presbyterian Church webpage.)