



Welcome to Ware!

Worship Times

Sunday 8:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

9:30 a.m. Adult Forum

(September-May)

10:10 a.m. Children's Chapel

(September—May)

10:25 a.m. Sunday School

(September—May)

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Get in Touch with Ware

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Staff

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“What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe as the Lord assigned to each. I planted; Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither the one or plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. For we are God’s servants, working together; you are God’s field, God’s building. (1 Corinthians 3:5-9)

Though we are still in the depths of winter (though the weather may have something to say about that), we cannot escape the daily reminders that spring is just around the corner. As the hours of daylight lengthen, we are called, once again, out of our dark slumbers and into the season of renewal. As the weather becomes more and more inviting to working outside, we stretch our winter muscles and “get back at it”. Behold, God is once again making all things new, and we want to do our part.

It is the same within the Church as well. Since the very beginning of Christian assemblies, folks have thought about what it means to be servants of God – to do our part. Paul was one of the earliest leaders to think about this and wrestle with what it means to be the church and to promote church growth. Paul, in the above passage from 1 Corinthians, highlights a key aspect of being servants of God: working together. What is so significant about Christianity is the focus on the community, the assembly, the idea of being together. Paul notes that we are who we are, we are at our best, when we work together. Certainly, we each have our own unique gifts and talents, but we are to apply them together, in harmony with those of others, to accomplish God’s desires, and God’s wishes. As we are together, one with another, we are also together with God. The first question that we ask is “What does God want us to be or to do for The Kingdom of God?” And once we begin to understand what God desires, then we are able to gather our gifts and talents and together work for the Kingdom of God.

When we meet together each week, we are able to strengthen others and to be strengthened; to be fed by Christ at the altar so that we are prepared to meet the week ahead. At then, after a long and challenging week, we meet together again, to be loved, to love, and to be strengthened.

Let us redouble our efforts of being together: of working together for the Kingdom of God and meeting together as the body of Christ. Only in so doing do we truly live into being servants and followers of Christ. I hope to see you gathering at some of the many offerings we have in the coming month. Here are just a few: “Share with Ware”, Sunday, March 3, at Heron Cove; the weekly Wednesday Holy Eucharist at 10 a.m.; Thursday evening Lenten Program; Spring Clean Up Day March 10; join one of our choirs; Monday Morning Bible Study at 8:30 a.m.

Faithfully,

T. Grant Ambrose

MUSIC NOTES -

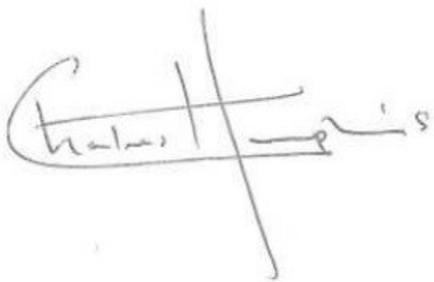
"As we are focusing on Holy week and Easter the choir is, and has been working hard getting everything prepared to offer wonderful music at the liturgy and carrying you along with them in liturgical worship. Some of the music that has been programmed and planned has been challenging but at the same time rewarding. We have fun in our rehearsals and work hard aiming towards a goal that is comfortable, rewarding and satisfying but with a touch of terror! I would like to congratulate the Sanctuary choir on their continued efforts and joyful work that they all put in and look forward to the next few weeks with unbounded excitement. As an incentive and also by way of a sign that I care a great deal about my choir folk, I offered them all the opportunity to have a one on one voice lesson as part of their growing education in music and singing. This gives people an opportunity to work on an aspect that might be bothering them at their own pace and in the privacy of a room allowing confidence to continue to grow. Over 80% of the choir have taken up this offer and I am grateful that they all have taken the opportunity to see what they can achieve.

Choir needs to expand. In the last few months we have added two or three new singers and for the new season in September I hope that we may have many more. There seems to be a belief that a standard of music knowledge is already required. The only things required is a positive attitude, an open mind and some self-discipline. The sanctuary choir have improved immeasurably and many of them in September were a little unsure but with perseverance we have got to where we are today. COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF. WE NEED YOU. ALL VOICE TYPES!

Our season will end on Sunday May 20th. I therefore propose that anyone who has the slightest urge to sing in choir comes and joins us from the beginning of May and May 2nd being a Wednesday, join us and on Sunday mornings to try out. Come and sense the warmth and support of each member and give yourself an opportunity to contribute in yet another way to the liturgy. LET'S DO THIS PEOPLE. COME AND SING IN CHOIR."

"Fa la la"

Charles

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charles". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long horizontal stroke.

ST. TABITHA'S GUILD- This guild is for people seeking to grow in faith as we crochet and knit prayer shawls and other items for people in need of comfort and a reminder of God's love for them. We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 7:00PM – 8:00PM. All are welcome to join us!

**Next Monthly Meeting Time:
Tuesday, March 20, 2018; 7:00-8:00pm**

Make sure to attend the monthly meeting for helpful tips and to visit with your St. Tabitha's family. It's always the third Tuesday of the month!

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New Year, New Projects!

Group members cleaned the St. Tabitha's room so it a more inviting space and to give all of us room for the new projects we want to work on and share with the community.

All skill levels are welcomed to join in the fun! New and recurring members are encouraged to share outreach project ideas as we decide our focus for the new year.

YARN DONATIONS:

If you are interested in supporting the St. Tabitha's Guild ministry, but do not want to knit or crochet, consider donating yarn for our projects. All yarn donations should be new yarn and can be dropped off in the St. Tabitha's Guild donation box, located in the St. Tabitha's room.

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**Sign up for the "St. Tabby's Yarns" email!
Email Martha at marthaarose@gmail.com to receive this monthly email.**



VESTRY NOTES

There will be an Installation ceremony for newly elected Vestry members George Bains, Lee Brown, Ginny Roane, and Kirby Smith during the 10:30 service on Sunday, March 11.

For the past two years, the Vestry has assigned specific members to align with the various ministries and areas of interest within Ware Church. For 2018, the assignments are as follows;

Outreach & Mission – Carole White, Woody James

Growth & Development – Diana Joyce, Kirby Smith, John Galloway

Buildings, Cemetery & Grounds – Rick Zima; Lee Brown

Budget & Finance – John Galloway, George Bains

Stewardship – George Bains, Ginny Roane

If you have any questions or ideas regarding these mission areas, please contact the assigned members, or simply talk to them during Coffee Hour.

Treasurer George Bains reports that Ware Church had a positive cash flow for the 2017 fiscal year.

George Bains is reviewing options for digitizing the “**World of Ware Parish in Gloucester Country**” history book written by Spotswood Hunnicutt Jones, originally published in 1991 but currently out of print. Parishioner Maynard Nichols suggested that with the approach of the 300th anniversary of our Church building, a reissue of this book would be an appropriate way to help commemorate the occasion. While the costs to conduct a second printing of this book would be fairly steep, it appears we can use current technologies to scan and digitize it at a very economical price, in order to reissue it as an eBook. We will provide updates on this exciting initiative as it unfolds.

In 2017, we formed a committee to gather input from the congregation to help us discover God’s calling for our Church. This effort was called “**The Gathering at the Well**,” and a report on the discoveries was provided at our Annual Meeting in November. A copy of this report is reprinted in this issue of the Grapevine. We are now preparing to move into the next phase of this process, to take what we heard and craft solutions to enable God’s plan for us and our community. We are calling this phase “**Heading to Galilee**.” Please see the separate article, **Heading to Galilee: Acting on God’s Call to Ware Church** for more details.

The next Vestry Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 20th at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall – the Spring Equinox!



WARE INFORMED-

Heading to Galilee: Acting on God's Call to Ware Church

Last Fall, our parish participated in the "Gathering at the Well" listening sessions, which we hoped would enable us to better determine God's call to Ware Church. As we prepare for Holy Week and celebration of the resurrection, it is time for us to "go to Galilee" and continue to build on our progress. "Heading to Galilee" is our mission, that we may be guided by our risen Lord in finding ways to fulfill the opportunities and overcome the challenges identified as we gathered at the well. This next phase will differ from Gathering at the Well in two ways. First, it will take longer... potential solutions will be crafted for the vestry and the parish to consider. Second, the "Heading to Galilee" process won't rely on "open forum" meetings, but rather a core team that relies on resources inside and outside of our congregation. On the one hand, near-term, easily implemented solutions may be readily apparent for some of the opportunities. However, other challenges may require more careful study, with several options possible. As a result, they may require more detailed assessment to determine the best solution for Ware Church. We expect to begin this journey after Holy Week. Stay tuned for updates.

Gathering at the Well: Discovering God's Call to Ware Church Steering Committee Report – November 2017

In May 2017, a committee was formed to gather input, from our congregation, that would help us discover God's path for our church. The work of the committee has been a dynamic adventure, filled with inspiration, commitment, discussion and most importantly, listening. The steering committee members, including Mary Helen Birdsall, Mary Galloway, Scott Kalbrener, Molly Hoffman, Elizabeth Roane, Pat Roane, and Diana Joyce, would like to express our collective gratitude to our parish family. Your patience and willingness to share hopes, frustrations, and dreams kept the light shining on our path, leading us, and our church, forward.

To focus our work, we formed subcommittees with additional support from the congregation, each led by a member of the steering committee: Worship (Elizabeth Roane), Education (Molly Hoffman), Fellowship (Mary Helen Birdsall), Outreach (Scott Kalbrener), Resources (Mary Galloway), with Diana Joyce as chairperson. We determined our task as listening to and encouraging discussion among parishioners, sharing what made them grateful for Ware's impact on their lives, and where they felt God was leading Ware Church for the next five years.

Each subcommittee meeting focused on a specific aspect of parish life; the gatherings were held on Sundays at 9:30 am and 11:30 am, beginning in September and continuing through October. Cards were available each Sunday for those who were unable to participate in a listening session or who wished to comment in writing.



A scribe recorded unedited discussion of each meeting; attendance varied from six to twenty people. These discussions, combined with written comments, were the source of the following understandings and are recorded below. The format is straightforward; each area begins with “blessings” followed by hope for the future.

Blessings

Our parish family is warm, welcoming, and gives of their time, talent, and treasure to support community and parish life. They are our greatest asset and our greatest blessing. Our rector, Grant Ambrose, is a blessing. He offers many opportunities for worship and growth in the parish and the greater community. Our liturgical service, our history of worship and serving in the community, and our beautiful grounds with our historic church building are a unique resource in our community. Parishioners are pleased with our outreach programs such as GUEST, Share with Ware Sundays, our support for families at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and our support for prisoners’ families. Parishioners enjoy and want to continue the “Wabingston” activities coordinated with Kingston and Abingdon parishes.

Hopes

A church family that spans several generations and includes all ages. We want to have programs and activities that attract and retain young families with children, while continuing to support our older parishioners. We heard program suggestions ranging from inter-generational conversations with recorded histories to Ware T-shirts worn in community sponsored activities. Sunday School to be interesting and Bible-centered; we hope to increase the participation in our classes, and dream of re-establishing a robust youth program. Children to participate in the Eucharist with their parents on a regular basis. To be, and be known in the community, as God-centered, supporting our parish family as well as our neighbors. Many suggestions were given on how to make our church and our congregation known to the larger community. Maintain music as a significant part of the parish’s life and worship. We are starting a new chapter with optimism as Charles Humphries begins his leadership of the choir; the return of a hand bell choir was welcomed by many. Make the church facilities accessible to everyone. We need to do something about bathrooms in both the parish hall and the sanctuary, as well as providing wheelchair access so that all can worship in dignity and peace. Parishioners want more opportunities to break bread together.

The Path Ahead - We hope that we were able to listen carefully enough to discover, through prayer and wisdom, God’s call to Ware Church. This interim report is but a summary of what we heard; all comments have been retained and will form the basis for the next phase of the process. *We will take what we heard and craft solutions to enable God’s plan for us and our community.* It is with this hope that we submit our report.

Gathering at the Well steering committee:

**Elizabeth Roane Mary Helen Birdsall Molly Hoffman Mary Galloway
Diana Joyce Scott Kahlbrener Pat Roane**





PrimeTimers— The next gathering will be held on Wednesday, March 14th. We are looking forward to treating you to a special lunch.

WOW Book Club—Join WOW for a bag lunch meeting to review *The Storied Life of AJ Firky* on March 12th at 10:30am. We hope to see you there!

Hammer & Nail Guild/Clean Gloucester Day- This month we will join efforts with Clean Gloucester in honor of Blair Farinholt. Breakfast will begin at 8:00 am in the Parish Hall, followed by some projects on Route 14, the Church grounds and Parish Hall. All are welcome to join in...bring an appetite and a smile.

Summer Retreat— Join Wabingston for their summer retreat to Shrine Mont, July 27-29th for a weekend getaway. ... Our Theme this year is based on Ephesians 3:17-....and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being **rooted and grounded in love**.

Comfort Ware— Please consider joining our new ministry, Comfort Ware, dedicated for the women undergoing radiation treatments at Walter Reed Cancer Center, Gloucester. Women with breast or lung cancer will be given a simple handmade robe for their multiple visits for curative radiation. Contact Mary Galloway at galloway.marym@gmail.com if you would like to help with sewing a basic pattern (all straight seams).

Share With Ware- Our next outing will take place on Sunday, March 4th to visit the residents of Heron Cove 1. Also, mark your calendar for our April gathering at Saunders Assisted Living on April 15th at 1:30 p.m. Please come with us!

Prayer Group- Are you interested in being more involved at Ware? Do you want to spend more time devoted to prayer? Please join us at 10 for Chapel service and/or at 10:45am for Prayer Group on the second Wednesday of each month. We hope to see you on Wednesday, March 14th!

Chancel Guild— We are always looking for new members to help prepare the altar and flowers for services. As always, we will need extra hands to prepare for our Easter service, on Saturday March 31st at 9am. If you would like to help or need more information call the Church Office.

Eastman Scholarship— The Eastman Scholarship Committee is preparing to launch the 2018 Eastman Scholarship. More information to come.

Easter Sunday Events— Join us between the 8:30 and 10:30 services on Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. for the Bishop's Reception. Also, remember to stay after the 10:30 service for Ware's Easter Egg Hunt on the Church Grounds at 11:30 a.m.

College Bound— All high school Juniors and Seniors, consider joining us on April 15th as we discuss everything college. Whether it be choosing majors, leaving home for the first time, time management tips, etc. We are here to help and ponder over those difficult questions with you. More details to come!



March 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Share With Ware visits Heron Cove1	5 STARTING WITH THE WORD 8:30	6	7 Midweek Service & Holy Communion 10 am in Chapel	8	9	10 Clean Gloucester/ Hammer & Nails Guild Breakfast & Meet @ 8 am
11 Farm to Table 11:30 am	12 STARTING WITH THE WORD 8:30	13	14 Ash Wednesday 10 am in Chapel <u>7pm in Church</u> Prime Timers Gathering @ noon	15	16	17
18	19 STARTING WITH THE WORD 8:30	20 Vestry Meeting <u>6:00 pm</u> St. Tabitha's Guild 7pm	21 Midweek Service & Holy Communion 10 am in Chapel	22	23	24
25 PALM SUNDAY 8:30 and 10:30 Services	26 STARTING WITH <u>THE WORD 8:30</u> The Holy Eucharist 6:30 p.m. (Chapel)	27 The Holy Eucharist <u>10 a.m. (Chapel)</u> Tenebrae 7 p.m. (Church)	28 The Holy Eucharist <u>10 a.m. (Chapel)</u> Compline 9 p.m. (Church)	29 The Holy Eucharist Footwashing, Stripping of Altar 7p.m. (Church)	30: Thee Holy Hours <u>12-3 p.m. (Church)</u> Proper Liturgy 7 p.m.	31 Prayer Service 10 a.m. (Chapel)