

Summer 2010

ECHO

Newsletter of the
Washington Church of the New Jerusalem

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## From the Pastor

### The End of an Era

It is with a deep sense of gratitude for his generous and skillful gifts of teaching and preaching the heavenly doctrines that we announce the passing into the spiritual world of our Bishop Emeritus, the Rt. Rev. Louis Blair King, age 84, on Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, in Bryn Athyn. He was Executive Bishop of the GC for 15 years, from 1976 to 1991. A resurrection service was held for him in Bryn Athyn on Thursday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7 pm.

Bishop King was known throughout the church for his deep, resonant, affectionate voice expounding (often from memory) the beautiful teachings especially about the Lord as represented in the stories of the Patriarchs. He will be sadly missed. And speaking of “missed,” if you didn’t catch the service online go to [www.newchurch.org](http://www.newchurch.org) and see if the audio recording is now available.

### **Meanwhile, Here in Mitchellville...**

It’s hard to believe, but Ginny and I still have not been here a full year; this will be our first real summer with you. So far, so good: the air conditioning is working and the fans and hot ceiling lights have all been replaced in the church for an overall huge improvement. We will probably survive.

Seriously, it is a great time to be here in this congregation. Yes, we have our worries and our challenges, but it is hard to imagine a more supportive environment for the healing truths and the 12 different kinds of fruit of the New Jerusalem to thrive. The dedication of the whole staff to the vital work of providing for the precious “remains” that build the foundations of the church in our children is a most vital asset. But the zeal and industry with which the many volunteers in the congregation support and build upon this work is also very inspiring.

Still, difficult issues linger for many.

If I get time this summer one of the projects I would like to work on is a doctrinal study on what for lack of a better word I’ll call **reconciliation**. How do we deal with the errors and offenses that we have committed, or that others have committed against us or against the institutions – like the church – that we love? How do we become reconciled to others in these cases, and how can we or others who have offended be forgiven and reintegrated into the fabric of each others’ lives? Will there always be limitations, scars, fears and barriers in this world, or can the Lord truly, ful heal us? If so, how, and what is our responsibility to make this possible?

If you have thoughts or better yet passages from the doctrine that you would like to contribute to this study please do not hesitate to share them with me. I know the outcome will be greatly improved by a collaborative effort.

***Meanwhile, there are a few things you might like to keep in mind through the summer.***

#### A Local Church Survey

First, sometime in late July or August I will be asking you all to fill out a simple survey about some of the uses of this congregation. Included will be aspects of worship, doctrinal classes, discussion groups, fund raisers, society social life and more. When this comes out it will be available in printed form and in digital form (on the website), so you will be able to fill it out in the way that works best for you. I'd like to ask for your support for this information-gathering tool so that we can discuss the outcomes in pastor's council and do everything possible to meet the real needs of our members and newcomers.

#### Pastor's Council

Speaking of pastor's council, during the summer I will be making the first change in the rotation of members, as promised last year, and so four members will be "retiring" for now and four others joining, to ensure that a variety of members get the chance to be involved in this use. Our first meeting of the new school year will be in September, and so all the names of the 12 council members will appear, along with a proposed agenda, in the September ECHO.

#### Changes for Mr. Ferrell

In addition I would like you all to understand that one of the things we had to do in order to meet our budget obligations for next year was to schedule Mr. Ferrell for more frequent travel responsibilities than in the past – travel that will be paid for by others, reducing our own obligation. Michael has graciously agreed to this new routine, and will therefore be visiting Baltimore twice a month regularly and going to California or other venues as often as once a month, too.

The Baltimore trips are “easy,” and typically involve less than a day for each one, but the California visits will take three days, with the net result that Michael will only really “be here” for about 75% of his working time. The largest percentage of his Washington time is, however, dedicated to the school, and he is expected to be here for all of his regular school duties. He will also continue to preach and teach adult classes regularly, and to be involved in meetings and committees, but perhaps not quite as often or as fully as in the past. This change is regrettable but unavoidable, and so I ask for your patience and support for Michael as he also adjusts.

One thing that could help to compensate for this diminishment of Michael’s time would be that a few of you with special interests or talents take on some routine new duties for the church, like preparing simple church news announcements for the local papers, managing the signage for school and church events, giving us some extra time (esp. men) to chaperone school trips, and so on. Don’t be too surprised if you feel a little tap on your shoulder as the school year approaches.

### Sunday School

Late this May Michael and I determined, with the support of our Sunday school head teacher, that it would simplify things for all of us if we could have our Sunday school lessons relate to our sermon topics, rather than following a separate curriculum.

The curriculum we have been following works through the Dole Bible Study Notes for the most part, and have been used to ensure that the children who do not attend school here get a serial study of all the books of the Word over time. But the truth is that these students do not attend every week, anyway, and we feel that we can cover representative stories quite adequately for them by tying in to the sermon topics – which we try to select for a similar representative purpose for the adults.

To be sure the teachers know what to prepare for these new Sunday school lessons we will continue to announce the topics in the ECHO each month, including the first Sundays of the following month so nobody has to scramble at the last minute.

Pastors’ Holiday Times

Finally, so you know, Michael's plan is to take his main holiday time from around July 12<sup>th</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup>. Ginny and I plan to take our time from about July 28<sup>th</sup> until August 11<sup>th</sup>, with, as well, a weekend away for our anniversary around August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

This is not to say we will all be gone all of those times, but to let you know that during each of our vacation times the other will be on duty and will take primary responsibility for any pastoral needs that come up. In any event, I will always be available on my cell phone at 301-461-3521.

Have a glorious summer, everyone!



### Sermon Topics for July & August

For the summer, rather than listing each Sunday's proposed topic, we invite you to a sort of "pot-luck" sermon series based on a couple of general themes. Sunday school lessons will continue as previously scheduled through August. Then, in September, we will begin the new routine as outlined in the pastor's article in this ECHO.

So for July, think in terms of a series of four sermons on **PREPARING FOR HEAVEN**. These will include various aspects of the process of regeneration, goal setting, and cultivating the sort of personal habits that make for a heavenly life. Mike will have three of these sermons, and Michael one.

And for August think in terms of a series of five on **HEAVENLY AFFECTIONS or ATTITUDES**. These sermons will include inspirational messages about how we can have the sort of hope, optimism, patience and affirmativeness that characterize life in heaven, so that we begin to experience those blessings right now, in the church and in the world. Michael will have three of these sermons, and Mike two.

## Notes from the June 1, 2010 Trustees meeting

1. In attendance were Trustees Steve Ball, Andy Cooper, Sharon Cooper, Keith Hyatt, Wynne Hyatt, Bill Kunkle, David Radcliffe, and Stewart Smith. Also in attendance were Rev. Mike Gladish, Rev. Michael Ferrell, and Principal Kathy Johns.
2. Rev. Gladish gave a Pastor's report, noting that he has been tracking how much time he, Rev. Ferrell, and Bonnie Cowley spend on school and church activities (percentage of time). He also discussed some proposed improvements to the manse.
3. Keith Hyatt gave the Treasurer's report, noting that he is still expecting a large deficit for the current year, and the final numbers should be available by mid July. The General Church is changing its health care provider, so that is likely to save our Society some expenses in the coming year.
4. Kathy Johns updated the Board on projected classroom loading for next year. She discussed the upcoming Education Council meetings in Bryn Athyn, which most staff would like to attend. The Board voted 4-3 (1 absent, 1 abstained) to pay the registration expenses, if the teachers request it. Aftercare will be offered 5 days/week for next year.
5. Stewart Smith discussed facilities, noting that he has updated proposals for roof and gutter repair. After much discussion, the Board voted 6-1 (1 absent, 1 abstained) to proceed with roof repairs, paid from the Building Fund. The Facilities Committee is ready to proceed with architectural concepts on the next phase of nave renovation and construction.
6. Rev. Ferrell reported briefly on Outreach, noting that we will have a booth at the upcoming Bowie Fest at Allen Pond.

*There will be no regular Board meetings over the summer. Next meeting will be in September. Please contact Board Chair Andy Cooper if you have items to include on the agenda.*

## **Washington New Church School Commencement 2010**

With all of the usual pomp and circumstance the 40<sup>th</sup> year of the Washington New Church School came to a close June 5, 2010. This year the school graduated 5 students from 8<sup>th</sup> grade and a single graduate from the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Since its inception in 1970 approximately 220 students have spent some or all of their elementary schooling at WNCS with 75 of them earning a 10<sup>th</sup> grade diploma. With an enrollment of 46 students and a

projected enrollment next year of 52 the future holds the promise of many more graduates and a continuation of this most important use of the Washington Society. The following are 3 speeches given at this year's commencement. The first speech was given by a parent of one of this year's eighth graduates, followed by our tenth grade graduates speech and ending with the Pastor's response to those speeches.

### **Life is a Journey**

*By Brent Hyatt*

Dear friends, I love this school and it is a privilege to be up here standing before all these wonderful young faces. I do have a bit of history here. I was a member of the first kindergarten class. I graduated from WNCS in 1981 (and from 8<sup>th</sup> grade in 1979). I have three children who have completed (almost) their first 11 years of school here [Jared, you have two more years to go, and it BETTER only take you two years]. And if you had asked me a few years ago about when Jared graduates from 8<sup>th</sup> grade, I would have talked about how we were almost be done and what we might be doing next. But God had a different plan for Amanda and me, and we were blessed with Sophie. So our involvement in the school will certainly continue for the foreseeable future.

I do say blessed, because while Sophie may be the most dramatic and willful of our four children [by an order of magnitude], she has brought an amazing amount of joy, wonder and learning. It is a joy to see our teenage children interact with her and take responsibility for caring for her. But is also a wonder to see the teenagers from the school, and the many other school children, joyfully play and talk with Sophie. And the learning is endless; my wife will tell you that one of my pet peeves is someone who talks and acts like they know it all. Well, I can't tell you how many times my four-year-old has emphatically told me I am wrong and this is how it is. Don't tell me God doesn't have a sense of humor.

But today is not about Sophie, today we are celebrating a milestone for the members of the eighth grade (Freya, Brenna, Savanna, Miranda, Matthew, & Jared). They are all graduating

from 8<sup>th</sup> grade and entering into High School. This milestone represents the transition from learning facts to developing rational thought, from what & when, to how & why, and exploring the different perspectives and sides of human events, as well as scientific exploration.

This is the exciting part of learning, where you explore the how and why of science; where you move from the view of world events and more specifically human events as black and white, and realize they are shades of gray. You might explore things like why does Mars have so little atmosphere? Or how can we explore whether there are planets like ours in outer space without actually visiting them? And as you learn more and develop your own theories, always remember, that the things that you do know, are scarcely anything compared with what you do not. Always approach your learning with an open and inquiring mind.

You will learn to view events and circumstances from different perspectives, exploring the different ways of looking at any one problem and the different information available to each participant. Not only is this type of learning interesting and exciting, it is a life lesson for us all. This approach is not something you use just to examine history or science, but it is something to apply to everyday life. Whether you are dealing with an individual or an organization, which is made up of individuals, you need to consider their perspective, what is important to them, what information do they have, and how are they approaching the same event. In this way you will be much more effective in life in working with and supporting the people you touch.

This is important because life is about the people you touch. We read in True Christian Religion 406, “We are not born for the sake of ourselves, but for the sake of others.” So we should strive to understand and practice charity to all we meet in life. We should also be thankful for the people in our lives. They play an important role in making you who you are today, and who you will become in the future. Again as we read in Arcana Coelestia 6494, “The Divine Providence is in the least details of

all things, according to the Lord's words, that not even a hair falls from the head without the will of God." Can we doubt that each and every person we meet is through the Lord's Providence?

Your life journey is just beginning; enjoy your journey. Your graduation from 8<sup>th</sup> grade is an important milestone, but it is one of many to come. And as you reach each milestone, take time to reflect on the people you have touched and who have touched you.

I will close by offering you a challenge. This church and school is here because of the foresight and dedication of so many people around you today, and many who have moved on into the spiritual world. It has performed great uses, and its greatest days are ahead of it, but not without the continued support of all those who have been touched by it. I challenge you as you progress down your journey, to give back to this church and school that has touched your life. To borrow a few words from one of our presidents, ask not what your church can do for you, but what you can do for your church and God. Thank you.

**Marybeth Bond's – Tenth Grade Speech** (*edited to fit this space*)



Good morning students, faculty, parents, siblings, families, and relatives.

So this is it, then? Eleven years at the school you grew up in and then you leave? We've all seen it happen. And I could ask you to imagine what it would be like for you to be me, standing up here on the chancel today, but I won't—because I've been thinking about this day for years, and it's nothing like I'd imagined.... It hasn't appeared difficult to anyone else—they've compared their time here to beach volleyball, and golf, and grocery shopping. But as soon as I wrote that, I realized that I wanted to be another one of those whose speech is remembered years from now. So be prepared to test your memories—any bets on who will remember comparing WNCS to the Grammys?

Since I started school here in Kindergarten, it thus seems appropriate that I should begin my speech in Kindergarten, too. Kindergarten...five years old, big brown eyes, bangs straight across your forehead, and those wonderful pink jelly shoes we all had...Kindergarten.

What, then, is equivalent to this in relation to the Grammys? Well, what are you required to do before you can even visualize yourself receiving this prestigious award? Write a song, of course.

You have to come up with the melody, the chorus, the words...and it is in this way that I will relate the Grammys back to my Kindergarten experience. You are just starting to form the person inside of yourself that will define you and your fundamental actions for the rest of your worldly life, and though this, like writing a song, is a continual process, it starts here. What of it do you remember?

I remember quite a few things; let's touch on just a couple. My classmates, first and foremost; after all, these were my co-writers. Jody Chapin, Richard Glenn, and Joe Sprinkle were the three people that sat with me every morning at the blue table in the Kindergarten classroom. (*Looks around at empty stage and sees none of these classmates graduating with her*)...Thanks for hanging in there, guys.

I remember one day in particular when I was sitting in one of those teeny tiny chairs they had, next to Mrs. Hyatt's desk. She asked me to give her directions from the school to my house, and as my memory will confess, I gave her immaculate instructions. What happened to those days, really? Doing the five senses in the sandbox? Having a sandbox to do the five senses in? Tasting green eggs (but not ham—no matter how persistent little five-year-old vegetarian Marybeth was)? Bringing in our siblings for show-and-tell? Making quilts on Q week? The Jungle Room?

Oh, the Jungle Room. The Jungle Room was a room that withheld nothing; all of our dreams, fantasies, realizations, and greatest Kindergarten memories took place in the Jungle Room. It was disappointing to see it go, as it was such an unforgettable

place. I hope all of you can share the experience of your own Jungle Room—a room full of pure imagination.

On this, I'll let Willy Wonka sum up this stage of life in his special song:

There is no life I know  
To compare with pure imagination.  
Living there, you'll be free if you truly wish to be.

That's something you'll keep with you forever; pure imagination.

But things happened a little differently in Mrs. Maxwell's classroom. For one, you have to stay the whole entire day. Do you realize how LONG that is?! But you get over it—because this is the year you start creative writing. Hold on to that while you can, because all too soon it will be taken out of your curriculum and you'll end up writing reports on other people's fiction instead of writing your own. It was in this class that I found my love for writing, starting with my breakout book *The Bloppity Blop Tree*—a classic story that will live on in this school for years to come.

So, like writing for me, you start to pick and choose the things that speak to you as a person, and things that will be able to express to others who you're going to become. And what better way to convey your personality than thru your clothes? First and second grade was similar to picking my dress for the ceremony.

...Picture this: you step out of a long, pink, sparkly limo. The second your stiletto heels hit the red carpet, millions of eyes are watching your every movement; the classic hand-wave, the way you adjust your designer jewelry so it sits "just so" next to your fashionable-to-the-minute dress, the sweeping glance that takes in all of the fans. Bright lights blind your eyes as the paparazzi snap picture after picture of your face, your dress, your shoes. With a confident smile, and a good pose or two along the way, you walk right into... fifth grade.

Not what you expected? You mean YOUR mom didn't drive you to school every morning in a custom-made limo? There was

no paparazzi guiding you up the step to the school? Perhaps THIS is more similar to what you're familiar with: nervously excited for your first day back to school, your mom parks the car. Your new everyday shoes hit the pavement, but no one witnesses it.

There is picture taking, of course; the shot your mom gets in front of the school every year of you decked out in your uniform and all of your school supplies. A peck on the cheek, a, "Love you!" "Love you, too! Have a good day at school!" and...there you go, your first day of fifth grade. And, symbolically, your first step on the red carpet.

My teacher during these red carpet years was Mr. Roscoe, and I'm sad to see him go. I learned so many things from him that I sincerely hope he can continue to instruct others in subjects he's passionate about in years to come, whatever his job may be.

"And now the eight grade graduates..." \*Polite clatter.\*

The names are read off, one by one. Maybe, if you're lucky, they'll even announce your middle name right. A few long minutes later, you hear them call out the tenth graders. More polite applause. As you watch these teenagers get their diplomas, and the sophomores say their speeches, it is with anticipation that you await the day that YOU will be up on the chancel. I remember those days; some of those ceremonies were really long. But I was prepared for them, thanks to Mrs. Johns, my 7/8 teacher. There are many good things I could say about Mrs. Johns, but to keep this speech short, I'll cut it just to this: **Mrs. Johns is a fantastic teacher, and I loved being in her class.**

Alright, so during high school, how did you grown-ups procrastinate? Claim you needed to go home and help your mom churn the butter? Or make sure your horse was still tied up out front? Or perhaps you needed to get more ink for your quill pen? Well, these days, we're a little more high-tech, in my opinion. For instance, the day I wrote this, my classmates and I took great pleasure in playing Google. Yes, the search engine. Did you know that on Friday, May 21, 2010 PAC-MAN had its 30th anniversary? Well, to honor this momentous day, Google

decided to spell its name out in a PAC-MAN game screen...that you could play.

But despite the time our teachers allowed us to waste, we made it through. I stand here today a proud tenth grade graduate. And I wouldn't be here if it weren't for them. So I would like to thank them, for everything they have taught me; may it be academics, or life lessons. I would also like to apologize, because let's face it: sometimes we forget to carry our best behavior, best attitude, and best ability from the red carpet to the classroom. But you take us under your wise old wings and mold us into the wonderful human beings you knew we would become.

So here I am the end of my tenth grade experience and, just the beginning of pretty much everything else. For instance, tenth grade graduation at WNCS is like receiving a Grammy. So this is just the beginning of more photo shoots, more interviews, but in the more present time period, the beginning of my thank yous.

I'd like to thank my family, for always being there for me no matter what. You are my world. **Dad**, you influenced me in so many ways. My acting? My writing? That comes from you. Thank you so much. **Mom**, I finally made it. Thanks to you more than anyone else. You always believed in me and helped me achieve my goals. Thank you, thank you.

**My sisters, Lisa and Michelle** - I wish you could be here today, Lis, to see how much you and Michelle have helped your little sister grow. Make sure you're not in England for my high school graduation, because I'm sure the two of you will have made me an even better person by then. **Charlie, Mike** - I love you guys. And even though it's hard to believe, I will miss you next year. I love you all an indescribable amount.

So, as you can see, many people have helped me these past sixteen years, and I'm sure many of them will continue to. And as sad as it is to leave, I know they have prepared me for whatever comes next. For example, they have taught me that age is only a number, and "old" and "young" are just words. At WNCS, we don't confine ourselves just to our classmates, or

just to our age group; there is integration between kids of all ages. And by doing this, we don't allow age to limit our imagination.

It has also taught me that it's okay to make mistakes, because not only will you learn from them, but it will show you how much everyone cares for you. Like, that time in 7/8 when I ripped the shed door off. If you were to walk outside today, that shed is not door-less, because someone cared, and fixed my mistake. Or this year, when I broke my locker and the door of that had to be removed, too. I was cared for then, as well; I was very kindly given a new one when the first was un-repairable.

But sentimental things like these are not all that I've taken from the Washington New Church School; over the years, I've been shown how important religion is in our everyday lives, and this concept is integrated into each and every class. Not to mention the morning worships we have most days in the chapel. There are also the whole school activities scattered throughout the year based on our theme from the Word; this year it was the fullness of creation and the providence of the Lord in caring for all of us. So I would like to read you a sentence from Divine Providence 323: "Every person is created to live forever in a state of happiness."

The people I have mentioned have helped me get just a little closer to this eternal happiness, by encouraging good behavior, and acts of kindness. Like, this year, I got an amazing opportunity to watch the third and fourth graders for Mrs. Ball while she shook hands in the mornings. What a wonderful experience with a great group of kids. Hi Kyle, Rachel, Dillon, Micah, Jordan, Timmy, Teddy, Ivan, and Emily.

We are taught that by doing good deeds and charitable actions before we die, we put ourselves closer to Heaven. So, thank you Washington New Church School for placing me one step closer to Heaven.



## ***Response to the Graduates***

*By Mike Gladish*

Thank you, Marybeth. And thank you, Mr. Hyatt, for most interesting perspectives on what we do here at WNCS.

As this is my first school year end here I am learning a LOT every day, and enjoying every minute of it. So before I go any further let me say how impressed I was with the school play the other night. In my opinion the whole thing was quite wonderful, from the set designs and construction to the incredible acting and the direction by all the teachers and volunteers. Talking about unforgettable performances, Marybeth, you were amazing!

Now you will have noticed perhaps that all the 10 grade graduates' speeches had a common theme.... For me it was imagination – the thoughtful application of knowledge and experience in creative ways to express one's interest and affection.

Okay... I just made that up. But it sounds pretty good, don't you think?

Seriously, the heavenly doctrines refer to the imaginative faculty as a most important element in the development of the human mind and the establishment of a unique and individual personality. It is the next level above the plane of thought from sensory knowledge – the stuff you learn by means of the 5 natural senses: sight, hearing, touch, taste and smell.

It is awakened by our loves and concerns, our feelings and attitudes – all of which come to us directly from the spiritual world. It sometimes comes out in ridiculous ways that we can laugh at and enjoy, even in spite of ourselves, while at other times it can result in creative and wonderful ideas that actually save lives and make the whole world a better place.

So, Marybeth, I salute YOUR creative imagination, and I thank you for your generous spirit, your thoughtful presence in the school, and your refreshing sense of humor. I feel sure that you will be successful at whatever you believe you can do, and I

applaud you and your wonderful parents for the contribution you have already made to this institution.

May the Lord be with you and with all the graduates as you enjoy your summer and look forward to another year of adventure in this marvelous production we call real life, spiritual life, the life of love and wisdom and uses provided by the Lord.

## News Notes!!

Welcome one and all to the summer edition of News Notes! I'm not sure who Janna thought was taking over News Notes when she mentioned that the new editor was "full of vision, vim and vigor" but as it turns out it is just me: Diana Hyatt. With that being said, let's get down to it! The kids are finally out of school, and that is a sure indication of all the GRADUATIONS we had this year!! We had quite a few, so here we go!

Graduations: **Marybeth Bond** graduated from 10<sup>th</sup> grade here at WNCs. She may be the only person in her class, but luckily she had several 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates to keep her company! The WNCs 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates this year were: **Jared Hyatt, Miranda Hyatt, Matthew Kinsey, Freya Simons, Savanna Smith, and Brenna Sweeney**. We also had some WNCs Alumni graduating in Bryn Athyn at ANC this year. **John Kunkle** and **Nora Roscoe** both graduated.

**Jessica Hyatt** graduated with her AA from Bryn Athyn College with distinction! She has been accepted to Arcadia University in Glenside, PA for Health Administration and a minor in Physical Therapy. She will also be an RA at Glenn Hall.

Along with graduations we also saw a good deal of awards given out at the end of the year. And since we have such a stellar group of students, we usually get a lot! Here are some of the awards given out:

WNCs Awards include: Presidential Physical Fitness given to: **Kyle Smith, Astri & Cindy Hernandez, Jared Hyatt and Brenna Sweeney**.

Levi Cowley Sportsmanship Award was awarded to **Carl Levi Martin** and **Spencer David Fields**. It looks like we kept it in

the family this year by awarding Levi's nephews! He would be proud!! This award is presented to students who willingly include all others, encourage teamwork, participate with full ability, and win or lose graciously.

And though Justin doesn't have any nephews in the school to receive his award, I know that he would be proud to know that **Joseph Sprinkle** and **Kristin Kinsey** received the Justin Zuber Academic Award. This award is presented "in recognition of a thirst for knowledge acquired with diligence and integrity, culminating in the highest level of academic achievement." (A cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher)

The school's highest award is given "in appreciation of an affirmative attitude, cheerful cooperation and goodwill to fellow students". This year the WNCS Appreciation Award was presented to **Marybeth Bond** and **Freya Simons**.

It wasn't just the students getting awards this year! **Bill and Dorothy Radcliffe** were presented with a special award "In recognition of generous volunteer service to the Washington New Church School done sincerely, justly and faithfully over many years."

At the Academy of the New Church our Alumnus were presented many awards as well. The ANC Department awards are as follows:

**Fine Arts-** Erika Hyatt, Kathleen Smith, and Bronwyn Simons

**P.E. -** John Kunkle and Bronwyn Simons

**English-** Derek Hyatt, Erika Hyatt, Bronwyn Simons, Kathleen Smith

**French-** Bronwyn Simons

**Pre Cal-** Derek Hyatt and John Kunkle

**Chemistry-** Erika Hyatt and Kathleen Smith

**History-** Erika Hyatt, Bronwyn Simons and Kathleen Smith

**Religion:** Derek Hyatt and Bronwyn Simons

Also inducted into the White Horse Chapter of the National Honor Society were **Derek Hyatt, Erika Hyatt, Bronwyn Simons and Kathleen Smith**.

Not to be out done, **Emily Quintero** was put on the Dean's list at the College of Art & Design in Savannah, GA.

Finally last, but certainly not least, **Greg Smith** (son of Nat and Val Smith) received the President's Award for Academic Achievement.

I think all of our graduates and awardees deserve a huge congratulations and a round of applause! And while you're at it, parents give yourself a pat on the back, because you are doing a great job too!

And since we are offering congratulations how about one for the cast and crew of "A Play About a Dragon"! This play was excellently performed and incredibly humorous! The 7-10 grade students did a great job and really pulled off a wonderful play! Thanks also to all the people behind the scenes who helped make this a success.

"I Just Felt Like Running" is what **Lyle Kingdon** thought early one May morning when she ran the Maryland ½ Marathon. She finished in 2:41-33. Great Job Lyle!! Soon to try to follow in her shoes is **Diana Hyatt** who will be running a ½ marathon in Boston for the Crohn's Foundation.

Healing and Happy Thoughts are sent to **Mary Ellen Kern** who recently underwent carpal tunnel surgery. We hope she is recovering quickly!

We also need to send some happy healing thoughts to Bryn Athyn for **Mike Gladish's mom**. She has been ill and **Ginny** has just recently returned to Maryland after staying with Mike's mom for about three weeks. We hope all is well with her and Mike and Ginny!

Travelers: **Lincoln and Becca** have headed across the pond to France for most of June. I hope they are having an excellent time, and can't wait to hear all about it when they return!

Visitors: I know there are way more visitors than I can list as many families came to visit for graduations and the school play. The few I can remember are **Bisty Johns** home for Memorial Day weekend. He heard his Dad was making ribs and just couldn't miss it! Mmmm.... **Jennifer Stebbing** and her son **Julian** were also in town visiting Tante Vera. **Bob and Karen**

**Heinrichs, Richard and Katie Goerwitz and Jerome and Bussy Sellner** were all in town to witness their graduating grandchildren.

**July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebrations**  
**Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**2:30pm** – Gather at Progress Lane Cul-de-sac

**2:45pm** – Parade from Cul-de-sac down Progress, up Chantilly to the church and school flagpole

**3:00pm** – Flagpole ceremony: raising of the stars and stripes, Pledge of Allegiance, singing of our national anthem and guest speaker. *Following the flagpole ceremony* – games and races for all ages at the soccer field and family picnic.

