ST. HERMAN OF ALASKA ORTHODOX CHURCH

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News and Announcements

With God's Help, WE MADE IT!

Thanks to MANY prayers, donations, labor hours, and Sundays of squishing into the fellowship hall, St. Herman Orthodox Church was finally reunited with its worship space in the newly expanded temple at Clifton Chapel Lane. On Saturday, August 1, approximately 50 people attended a work day in which the temporary worship area was cleared for normal use as a fellowship hall, the altar and its implements were returned to the temple, the pavilion was swept and scrubbed from all the meals that have taken place there (rain or shine), and the grounds were raked and weeded and spruced up. Even after all that work, there are still things that need to be done, so stand by—we will likely have other work days in the upcoming weeks to finish up some of those outstanding tasks.

On Sunday, August 2 Hierodeacon Mark encouraged everyone look around at the faces of the people assembled in the temple and reminded us—**we are the Church**. The building is not the Church, but rather it is the people who make up the body of Christ.

On Sunday, August 9 we had the honor of hosting Metropolitan Nicholas, First Hierarch of the Russian Church Abroad (ROCOR) and the Kursk Root icon. He blessed the church and the new space and gave words of exhortation that **now as we have grown physically, we must grow spiritually even more!** His visit coincided with the Patronal Feast Day of St. Herman of Alaska's glorification, and a wonderful potluck and celebration was enjoyed by all.

These efforts and donations that went into the expansion of our little chapel are expressions of our love for the beauty of the Church. To make it a welcoming, beautiful, and holy space is an expression of our gratitude for the gift of Abundance that Christ has given to us. You might notice that there are still many things that need to happen both inside and outside the temple walls to call the job "completed." There is trim to add, doors to finish, wainscot to replace, exterior painting to be done, a steeple cross to replace, landscaping to finish. All of these finishing touches will require labor and dollars that have not yet been raised. As the estimates are gathered for these tasks, we will be sharing more opportunities to sponsor the beautification of the space.

We could not be more grateful for all that God has seen fit to bestow on us. We pray that these material blessings are simply the home from which our spiritual lives can flourish and grow! +,+,+,

August Services and Events

Every Sunday 930am – Hours and liturgy followed by fellowship meal.
Every Wednesday (unless otherwise announced)
5pm – Confessions
630pm – Vespers and a short talk with Met. Jonah
Every Saturday – 3pm Catechumen class, 530pm Great Vespers
Tuesday 9/18 Vigil for the Trasfiguration
Wednesday 9/19 Liturgy for the Transfiguration
Thursday 9/27 Vigil for Dormition of the Theotokos
Friday 9/28 Liturgy for Dormition of the Theotokos

Sunday confessions are not intended for pastoral counseling. Please consider the line behind you and keep your confessions brief. Please schedule individual time with a priest for counseling or longer confessions as your needs require.

A Note about Donations

Funds are still needed for the completion of the building. This is separate from regular giving. Please write "Building Fund" in the memo line of your check when you donate.

Cleaning Crews Needed

With the return to the new space, Julia Palmire (POC) is leading the organization of post-liturgy cleaning teams. Teens and young adults are encouraged to participate in this effort, but all are welcome. Please consider joining a team one Sunday every month to help clean the temple following liturgy. These teams will be organized similarly to our food teams, with a group of people assigned to one Sunday per month on a regular basis.

Fellowship Hour Food Team Needs

St. Herman's has grown, but our food teams have not! Consider joining one of the 4 food teams that serve to provide the main part of our fellowship meals each Sunday. Each food team member brings a main dish, side dish and desert, and teams supply the cream for coffee. Each food team has a leader who coordinates the meal for that week with their team. **All members and regular attendees are encouraged to bring food to share at fellowship hour whether you are on a team or not.** Bringing an extra dish, desert, a carton of drinks or juice for the kids adds so much to our common meals.

Flower Signups Have Resumed

With the return to the Temple, flower donations are happily accepted for the beautification of the Divine Liturgy. If you would like to offer flowers, please sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4FABAC2BA7F58-61578104-flowers?useFullSite=true#/

A Little Light Housekeeping

A Reminder About our Neighborhood
TLDR: 8 MPH On Clifton Chapel Lane!

The relationship with our neighbors has been rocky over the years, not unlike the condition of our gravel road leading to the church. As our church has grown, we will likely attract more and more visitors and members, and it is vital that we **exercise the simple consideration of SLOWING DOWN** for our neighbors who have children, grandchildren, and pets, not to mention houses very close to the road. Please inform visitors that you invite or newcomers that you meet on Sundays of this ongoing need and encourage them to participate in our smallest act of hospitality. Soon speed bumps will be installed to help in this effort but they should only be a reminder, not an enforcer.

REMINDER: St. Herman's does not have trash service. Please take a bag with you to dispose of at home.

Kids' Corner! Please remember that the playground is off limits until the post-liturgy prayers have been completed.

Regular Adult Catechism, Youth Catechism

Saturdays at 3pm in the fellowship hall and on zoom for legitimate absences. See John Atkins or Vladyka to be added to the list or connect via zoom. It is preferred that catechumens attend in person unless absolutely necessary. **Sundays after liturgy** students ages 16 through young adult are invited to attend a catechism class geared for the needs of young people.

Tuesday Night Zoom Bible Study

Join us on Tuesday evenings at 730pm via zoom. Please email Peter at dr.cloud@gmail.com to receive the link and pw and to be added to the list of participants. Our current discussion is a close examination of the Divine Liturgy, its text and context, meaning and importance. Recommended reading: *For the Life of the World* by Fr. Alexander Schmemann.

Orthodox Coffee Signal Group

Looking for a place to field questions with our clergy and established members? For Orthodox Christians, catechumens, and inquirers ages 16 and up, and anyone else who wishes to join the discussion, contact John Atkins or send him an email to learn how to get involved. john.atkins@john3v16.net

Read the Scriptures with Us

Our Orthodox Study Bible reading group covers the entire Old Testament in 92 days, and the New Testament in 46 days! Currently 14 are striving together to read the Scriptures but would love for you to join! To join the Signal group, email John at john.atkins@john3v16.net

St. Herman's Prayer Corner

Please send Met. Jonah the full name and general reason for intercessory prayer (such as health or illness, unemployment, family issues, military deployments, 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.

Grant O Lord, Health and all things needful for the salvation of thy servants:

Metropolitan Paul and the brothers of the Kyiv Caves Lavra and the suffering, persecuted church in Ukraine. The persecuted Church and those suffering in the Holy Land, Archpriest Alexander, Abbot Tryphon, Hieroschemamonk Mefodii, Hieromonk Phillip, Priest Andrew, Priest Mark, Priest Alexander, Hieromonk Silouan, Reader Moses, Monk Alexei, Servants of God Benedict, Samuel, George, Brian, Anthony, Adam, Samuel, Nicholas, Handmaids of God Isadora, Sarah, Zacharoula, Photini, Maria, Maria, Stavroula, Svetlana, Koula, Joanna, Helen, Rebecca, Esther, Anna, Mary, Sophia, Macarius, Gabrielle

O Lord our God who dwellest in the heavens, and lookest down upon all thy works, look down upon thy servants, the catechumens, who have bowed their necks before thee and grant them a light yoke. Make them honorable members of thy Holy Church, and vouchsafe unto them the laver of regeneration, the forgiveness of sins, and the robe of incorruption, unto the knowledge of thee our True God.

Luke, Krista, Allison, Riley, Rebecca, Logan, Tiffany, Jonathan, Michael, Manuel, Sivili, Ian, Jack, Tasha, Jackson, Corey, Landon, Ken, Zhaleh, Brendan, Ryan, Samuil, Wayne, Hayden, Danielle, Arya, Lauren, Theodore, Tristan, Austin, Austyn, Cole, Shiloh, William, Jackson, Caleb, Mackenzie, Nora

Grant, O Lord, forgiveness and eternal joy to thy servants who have fallen asleep, for whom we cry to thee in supplication: Jesus, all-merciful judge, vouchsafe thy servants the sweetness of paradise.

Contact Information

Website: www.sthermanorthodox.org
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1295 Stafford, VA 22555 Location: 60 Clifton Chapel Lane, Stafford, VA 22555
Rector Metropolitan Jonah (Paffhausen)
email: metjonah@gmail.com phone: (214) 991.0867
Priest Alexander Laymon: anevsky54@gmail.com
Priest Mark Grant: frmarkgrant@gmail.com
Archpriest Alexander Webster (retired): chaplain.webster@gmail.com,
Hierodeacon Mark Sanford: hdn.mark@icloud.com
Treasurer Sue Diaz:treasurer@sthermanorthodox.org
Bulletin Announcements: Mary (Kelly) Mine ckmine1969@gmail.com

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Aug. 14 Start of Dormition Lent

August 19 Transfiguration

August 28 Dormition

August 29 Brisben Center Meal