



# The Ashlar



January 2016

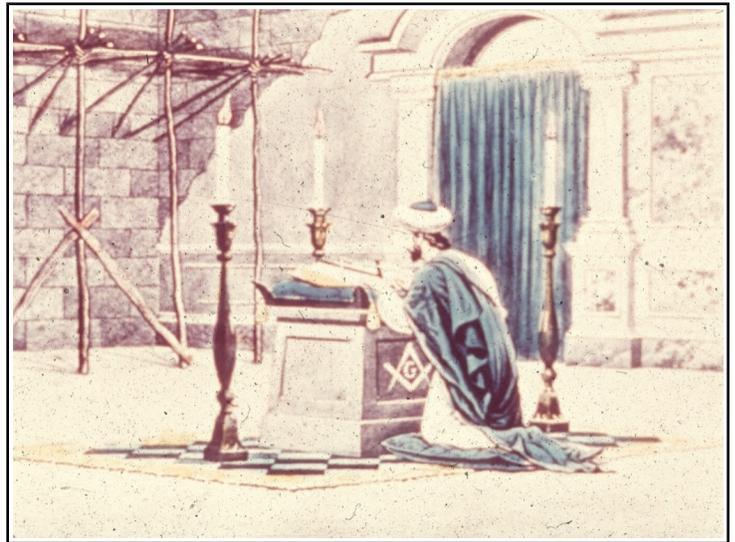
**Kempsville Lodge No. 196, A.F.&A.M.**  
**www.kempsvillelodge.org**

Volume 63-1

## Where to Begin - Prayer

At the beginning and ending of all tiled meetings, as Masons we have a prayer. At the Installation of Officers the statement is made "Masonry teaches us that we should never begin any great and important undertaking without invoking the blessing of Deity." Prayer is important to us not only as Masons, but as creatures of the Great Creator of the Universe.

But what goes into a prayer? How should we pray? In the lodge, our prayers are written down to avoid offense or sectarianism in the Lodge. Following a ritual prayer, Masons respond with "So mote it be" [So May It Ever Be] thus adopting the words of the prayer as our own, followed by an "Amen" from the chaplain. When prayer is offered at other times [non-ritualistic] we respond with simply an "Amen."



We can find no better model for prayer than the model Jesus gave us in Matthew 6:9 - 13. Here we see prayer as intimate conversation with our Father, but also respectful, reverent conversation with the One in heaven. Prayer acknowledges God's holiness, praising Him for it and recognizing the distinction between Him and us. Prayer submits and commits to God's purpose - the establishment of His kingdom and thus the accomplishment of His will on earth. Prayer petitions God for physical needs, expresses personal need for forgiveness, and commits to a life of forgiving. Prayer recognizes the power of temptation and the tempter but confesses faith in and desire for God's power to overcome evil.

There are many books on prayer and books of prayers. Episcopalians have their beloved The Book of Common Prayer. When composing a prayer, the recipe includes Praise; Thanksgiving; Confession; and Petition. Searching the Great Light in Masonry, the Bible, attending lodge and applying the teachings of the lodge will assist your prayer life. James Montgomery [1771 - 1854], one of the great English hymn-writers, gave us this hymn:

Prayer is the soul's sincere desire, Unuttered or expressed;  
The motion of a hidden fire That trembles in the breast.

Prayer is the simplest form of speech That infant lips can try;  
Prayer, the sublimest strains that reach The Majesty on high.

Prayer is the contrite sinner's voice, Returning from his ways;  
While angels in their songs rejoice And cry, "Behold, he prays!"

O Thou, by whom we come to God, The life, the truth, the way,  
The path of prayer Thyself hast trod; Lord, teach us how to pray!

Sometimes you don't have to worry about saying anything to God. The Spirit interprets for us. Pray for me as I will pray for you. Finally, remember the words of the Master's Benediction at Closing: "May the blessing of Heaven rest upon us and all regular Masons; may brotherly love prevail, and every moral and social virtue unite and cement us. So mote it be - Amen!"

## From The East



Happy New Year! It is a new calendar year and a new Masonic year. We look forward to the new and anticipate what it might bring. Some of us may be a bit sad and long for what has past. J. S. Bach wrote an organ chorale entitled "The Old Year Now Has Passed Away" [Das alte Jahr vergangen ist] that is quite contemplative and speaks of looking back with fondness. The piece does end on a major note expressing hopefulness for the days to come.

It is helpful for us to always look back and realize from where we've come, and how we've gotten where we are. We also might reconsider our path and make changes in our direction. None of us has a crystal ball nor can foretell the future. But, we might be able to perceive what lies ahead if we continue in the direction we are going.

There will be some changes made in our lodge. Ideas will be floated that have not been tried before. After our sixty years of history, we are in a good place, thanks to those who have gone before. Looking ahead, with the fantastic officers in place, the future looks bright, indeed! Let us embrace the newness and together see what the year will bring.

Brother Scott Foxwell, Worshipful Master

## From The West



Brothers, thank you for your trust and for your vote in placing me in the West for the upcoming Masonic Year. Based on the turnout at the installation 2016 will be very enjoyable for all of us, I for one am looking very forward to it. Also, I hope each of you had a Merry Christmas with your families. We are certainly a family of Masonic Brothers, but our family of Brothers rightfully begins in each of our homes with our loved ones.

My year in the West will be my year of training for the East and I ask each of you to provide me with whatever input you see to be fit and that you feel will be good for our Lodge. I intend to continue my growth this year and that growth can only be improved by your perspectives. I hope to see you in Lodge soon!

Brother Greg Muir, Senior Warden

## From The South



First and foremost, I want to thank "all y'all" for electing me as your Junior Warden. It is my sincere desire to work hard and earn the trust you have placed in me. I am honored to be a part of a great group of officers and wish Worshipful Scott Foxwell a very successful year in the East. I am anticipating another very busy year of degree work and to that end am eager to start filling degree teams with well-prepared, enthusiastic Masons! To keep our tradition of "air tight" ritual alive please come to lodge school on Monday nights and sharpen your skills. They say success is when preparation and hard work meets opportunity and attending school will give you the opportunity to serve your lodge in degree work. I guarantee you will find the experience both meaningful and rewarding. Lastly, I am excited to get 2016 started and it looks like we will not have to wait very long. Our first work night is January 5th where we will be passing Brother Ivan Godinez. Let's have a busy year!

Brother Chris Anders, Junior Warden

## Trestleboard

January 5	.....Fellowcraft Degree, 7PM
January 11	.....Ritual School, 7PM
January 12	.....Stated Communication, 7PM
January 14	.....DDGM Official Visit Lynnhaven Lodge No. 220, 7PM
January 15	.....Division Leadership Conference Granby Street Temple, 7PM
January 18	.....Ritual School, 7PM
January 25	.....Ritual School, 7PM
January 26	.....Entered Apprentice Degree, 7PM
February 2	.....DDGM Official Visit Willis V. Fentress Lodge No. 269, 7PM
February 3	.....DDGM Official Visit Princess Anne Lodge No. 25, 7PM
February 4	.....DDGM Official Visit Bayside Lodge No. 218, 7PM
February 6	.....DeMolay Honest Abe Spaghetti Dinner, 4PM
February 8	.....Ritual School, 7PM
February 9	.....Stated Communication DDGM Official Visit, 7PM
February 10	.....DDGM Official Visit Virginia Beach Lodge No. 274, 7PM

For the latest, up-to-date schedule, check our web site at [www.kempsvillelodge.org](http://www.kempsvillelodge.org).

## To Our Masonic Widows

Happy Birthday to our special ladies in January:

Donna Andrews	January 14 <sup>th</sup>
Ruth Hodges Fraser	January 15 <sup>th</sup>
Barbara Cole	January 16 <sup>th</sup>
Carol Barber	January 20 <sup>th</sup>
Wanda Webb	January 27 <sup>th</sup>
Dorothy Sykes	January 28 <sup>th</sup>
Doris Flannigan	January 28 <sup>th</sup>

If any of our ladies are in need of assistance from the Lodge, please don't hesitate to contact Right Worshipful Bill Knowles or the Secretary.

## Masonic Birthdays for January

Giuseppe Caragiulo '15	Matthew David Pilgrim '11
Onrubio L. Florendo, Jr. '10	John Royal Preddy, III '07
Henry Lee Foiles, Jr. '59	Bill Rensko '96
Luician A. Gunter, III '58	George F. Roberts, III '96
Gerald Thomas Hallal '08	William Bruce Ross '03
Richard Ivan Kimbrell '93	Marvin Leroy Spruill '57
Ronald S. Melton, Jr. '04	Richard B. Temple, Sr. '55
Francis G. Mielkey, II '98	Charles G. Thompson '85
James E. Pearsall, Jr. '79	Scott C. Vaughn '15

The Brethren shown above have a total of 1,121 years in Masonry!

## Blood Program

At the end of last blood drive year, the 56<sup>th</sup> Masonic District restarted the gallon pin recognition awards for individual donations. I am proud to report that 16 brethren in Kempsville earned gallon recognition pins as well as one associated pin earned by Mrs. Halal. Some of the brethren earned their first gallon pin while the largest pin to be awarded in the district goes to Tom McGowan with 44 gallons donated. Tom never fails to show up for a drive to lend support and a cheerful conversation (or just for free soup). Congratulations Tom!

Patrick Blankenship, Blood Coordinator

## From the Secretary

Brethren, to be reminded: Lodge dues are payable by January of each year, to be current for that same year. Thanks to all who have remitted their 2016 dues. If your dues card does not indicate a December 31, 2016 expiration date, your dues are now due. Please contact the Secretary if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Worshipful Bob Stanek, Secretary

## Worshipful Robert Worthington Installed at Olive Branch Lodge No. 114

Congratulations to our Brother Robert James Worthington who was installed as Worshipful Master of Olive Branch Lodge No. 114 in Leesburg, Virginia. Rob was at our installation on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> and pictured here are the brethren of Kempsville Lodge that were able to be at his installation on Saturday, December 19.



From left to right: Cristian Rodriguez, Worshipful Joe Thornton, Worshipful Scott Foxwell, Worshipful Rob Worthington, Worshipful Michael Johnstone, Brother Ray Baez, Sr. and Brother Ray Baez, Jr.

## Youth Corner

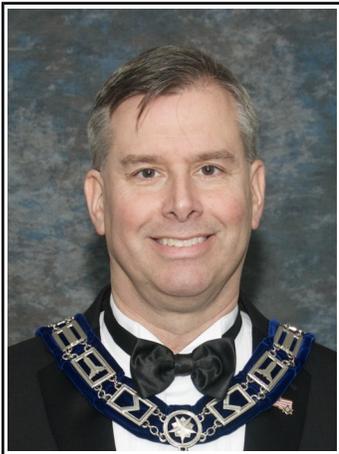
Kempsville DeMolay showed off its ritual prowess during the most recent regional competition, excelling in many categories and bringing home several victories. Kempsville's "Nine O'Clock Interpolation" team will go on to defend its state championship at the statewide Brotherhood Weekend in Richmond this February. Jared Jackson, the Chapter's Senior Councilor, won the regional Ceremony of Light competition and also advances to the state level in the spring. Congratulations to all of Kempsville's young men for their collective success.

Bethel 42 was pleased to once again support the Shrine at the 66th Annual Oyster Bowl on Thanksgiving weekend. Members turned out to sell programs and enjoyed interacting with the fans, including the many Kempsville Lodge brethren who were in attendance. The Bethel returned to MAHOVA just prior to Christmas to spread some cheer to the residents and to visit

with their adopted Masonic grandparents. The young ladies cordially invite you to enjoy a delicious dinner of MW Wayne Flora's world famous BBQ and Brunswick stew Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4-7PM at the lodge. In addition, bulk barbeque and stew is also available for pre-order to be picked up the day of the dinner. Please call 757-427-1822 prior to January 10<sup>th</sup> to place your order.

Brother Cliff Williams, Youth Advisor

## Meet Your New Junior Deacon



Congratulations to Brother Dave Trzeciakiewicz, elected to serve as Kempsville Lodge's Junior Deacon in 2016.

Brother Dave was raised a Master Mason in April and has taken the lodge by storm ever since, so much so that he was named Mason of the Year! He has filled in as Chaplain, as Junior

Deacon and assisted greatly in the kitchen. The lodge is very fortunate to have such a worker whose enthusiasm rubs off on others and we look forward to his journey to the East.

## 2016 Installation of Officers



Congratulation to all the officers installed at the December 12<sup>th</sup> Installation.

### Lodge Officers

Worshipful Master	R. Scott Foxwell	536-1659
Senior Warden	Gregory C. Muir	676-3761
Junior Warden	Chris Anders	635-7617
Treasurer	Bill Nelligar	536-4100
Secretary	Bob Stanek	619-7646
Senior Deacon	Roger Taylor	478-5498
Junior Deacon	Dave Trzeciakiewicz	620-8311
Senior Steward	Dennis Eaton	499-6720
Junior Steward	Todd Moissett	604-3085
Chaplain	Mike Denning	651-0712
Musician	John Settle, III	478-7149
Marshal	John Settle, IV	478-7149
Tiler	Ray Baez, Jr.	285-2611
Instructor of Work	Tom McGowan	497-3881
Education Officer	Steve Ridgeway	270-7338
MAHOVA Ambassador	Ray Connard	630-5797
Blood Coordinator	Patrick Blankenship	406-6166
Youth Advisor	Cliff Williams	870-2539

Articles for the next Ashlar should be submitted by the 18<sup>th</sup> of each month to Right Worshipful Buddy Pate (emmett@epate.com) or Worshipful Bob Stanek (bob.stanek@gmail.com)

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