

# KEYNOTES

September 2017



The Quarterly Newsletter of St. Peter's Church, Lithgow

## Godspeed

### *Cam Hardy's Farewell to St. Peter's*

In my reflection from the summer family newsletter, I make the claim that the spirit and grace of St. Peter's shaped me into the person I am today. This is a pretty sweeping statement, so as a way to bid farewell I'll elaborate. The spirit and grace of the community of St. Peter's, as it evolved over a few decades, filled my heart and soul. The spirit and grace of people here gave me, in specific and significant ways, confidence and fuel for discernment. It is through the spirit and grace of the three vicars of St. Peter's I've had the honor to know, and by whom I've been mentored—Brewster Beach, Ed Johnston, and Albert Ogle—that I am who I am.

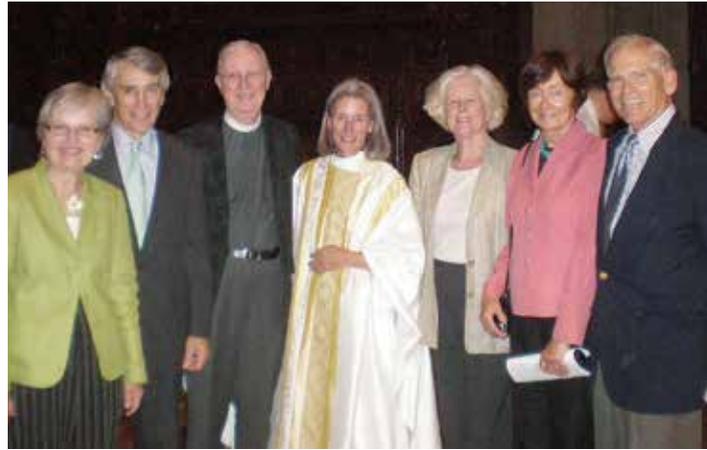
So thank you (and here's the Oscar speech I've always wanted to give): to Brewster for his dynamism and creative approach to teaching; to Ed for his quiet confidence and ability to show me the heart of Scripture and the way of Christ; and to Albert Ogle for his ability to push and guide me as a priest and colleague.

My thanks go also

—to Anne Gillis, Nancy Vanderlee, Marie Scagnelli, and Amy Lang Duncan for their incredible comradery and can-do approach to all that we have done together

—to the vestry and its wardens through the years, particularly Betsy Shequine, John Reid, Chris Mann, Will Morlock, Julie Turino, Torrie Larson, and Andrew Garcia for support and leadership

—to Louise Reinhardt and Mimi Babcock for wonderful leadership and assistance as we reshaped the Sunday School so many years ago



*Sally Johnston, John Reid, Ed Johnston, Joann Schmidt, Claire Reid & Dave Schmidt support Cam at her Ordination September 12, 2009.*

—to my discernment committee: T. Nolan for his thoughtful, unconditionally supportive, and open-minded approach; Mimi Babcock for bold encouragement of my call to school ministry, and John Reid for asking tough, vigorous questions with a kind and genuine touch

—to the choir for making the ministry of music come alive with such fun

—to David and Nan Greenwood for understanding and supporting the interaction of church and school with a creative and enthusiastic attitude

—to the late John Whitworth, Faith Tompkins, Betty Rooney, Katherine Bontecou, Thurston and Marta Greene, Don Blauhut, Eric Shrubsole, Milton Meshel, Judy Mello, Cindy Tripp, and Ann LaFarge for the affection and respect they brought to the community of St. Peter's and to my evolving place in it

—to the stalwart 8 o'clock crowd. In such stillness we know God

—to all of the children I have had such a pleasure and honor serving, teaching, and watching grow, and to their parents for their faith in such a marvelous endeavor as belief.

Lastly, I thank my dear family—Bill, Devin, and Lena—for their unconditional sacrifice, support, and love.

I have every belief that St. Peter's will continue to evolve for decades to come. With all my heart, Godspeed.

*Rev. Cam*

*See page 10 for more farewells*

## From the Vicar's Desk



Dear parishioners,

Reverend Norman Barr was my first Rector (boss) in Christchurch, Derriaghy, a very old historic church and cemetery on the outskirts of Belfast. Millbrook would have loved him! He was the quintes-

sential *country parson* with his own vegetable garden and bee hives. He was also a fisherman and from these very “earthy” experiences he would often come up with memorable anecdotes and nuggets of wisdom. He was an important mentor to me as a young priest and two stories come to mind as St. Peter’s goes through yet another clergy transition this fall. With Rev. Cam Hardy leaving us to focus more on religious education for youth (on a scale that even she could not have imagined!) these two stories are helpful to *me* right now.



*The Vicar, with Bishop Arthur Butler and his first rector, Rev. Norman Barr (R).*

The first story drew upon Norman’s years of being a fisherman and he knew why Jesus chose fisherfolk among his first disciples. “Because they knew, more than anyone, there is more than one way to catch a fish!” Fishing for him was a meditative lesson in patience and endurance. Even in the midst of disappointments, if we can simply *keep our eyes on the prize*, wanting to win the hearts and souls of the beloved community, then there will be many ways for us to draw people to the love and service of God as Jesus called the first disciples by the Sea of Galilee.

From the beginning of the discernment process\*, led by T. Nolan, Mimi Babcock and John Reid, Cam Hardy bravely traversed all of the challenges associated with uncovering her destiny. Cam began her journey here with Rev. Brewster Beach and soon found herself as the Director of Religious Education. Under the care of Rev. Ed Johnston. Cam began seminary and was finally ordained to return to St. Peter’s first as a Deacon and then as a Priest. She continued to oversee the work of Marie Scagnelli, Church School Director, and Amy Duncan, Child Care, and watched many of your children come and go. She prepared many children for confirmation and shared in the liturgical round of worship and preaching. She was extremely helpful to the parish during the search process and it has been a joy to get to know her these past three years and to watch her continue to grow in her vocation. During these three years, we have all discerned and affirmed Cam’s primary vocation as chaplain to the Millbrook School and watched her take on more and more responsibilities to grow into a remarkable religious leader. Spawned and encouraged by the good people of St Peter’s, Cam’s ability to win hearts and souls for the mystery we call God, has brought her to a wonderful next chapter in her journey. She is a credit to the quiet, understated work of this parish and the Millbrook School. Supported by all of us and especially by Bill and their family, her challenge for a new generation growing in their moral and ethical development will be to redefine the place of religion in the world. This is one of the most important vocations of anyone who is concerned about the future of the church and persuading the new generations that we have something to contribute in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. So, my first boss’s wisdom applies to Cam. She has found the grace, not only to adapt to the changes here at St. Peter’s spanning three Vicars and multi-generations of families and youth, but to find a way to make religion engaging and vital in the life of a secular school and addressing the issues of concern to teenagers in a multi-cultural and diverse international community. This requires enormous patience and hope that the fruit of her work will be manifested 20-40 years from now in the moral and ethical leadership of her students and mentees who will be in leadership positions all over the world.

The second story I associate with my first boss was about the church graveyard that dominated the 19<sup>th</sup>-century church building. “You know, some of these families have been here for centuries and ev-



*Christchurch, Derriaghly*

ery time I do a funeral, I am reminded it is the C L E R G Y who are passing through!” It is easy for the clergy to want to shape a parish in their own image

but this early wisdom reminded me of the importance of respecting the traditions and culture of a parish and the people who live here. Discerning how the Spirit moves and calls different people in response to a particular era will always be part of our shared work of clergy and people. Our shared love of history and tradition at St. Peter’s has given us a foundation of respect for what has been entrusted to us over the generations. Just take a walk down *Vicars’ Row* in the parish hall and look at the different faces of the clergy who have served this place over the years and you will see what Norman was talking about. It is an honor for the clergy to serve this dynamic congregation and Cam takes all the best of St. Peter’s and, like clergy before her, takes this experience into the world. This is an important moment for her wisdom and experience to shape the national debate on religious education for youth.

So, we will honor Cam and say our official good-byes on her last Sunday as Associate for Christian Education on September 24<sup>th</sup>. We all look forward to seeing her new work take off; she will be back from time to time to preach and celebrate when she can. As Cam has asked herself so many times, so we ask ourselves, how do *we* become fishers of men and women, so the community of Peter can continue to heal and repair God’s world? Just as God has, in the past, called lay and ordained to work together for the common good, I am confident this process will be renewed. Just as Cam begins an exciting new chapter in her ministry, the community that sadly and proudly sends her forth, also begins a new chapter as we discern what God may have in mind for this little church on a dirt road in Dutchess County.

Blessings

Rev. Canon Albert Joy Ogle  
Vicar of Lithgow

\*A Discernment Committee is appointed by the Vicar and spends time with the candidate, discerning their call to the ordained ministry, usually a year or more. The Committee makes a recommendation to the priest and Vestry and upon their discernment, the candidate is presented to the Diocese for further discussion before being sent to seminary.

## Save the Date

The Episcopal Charities’ Annual Tribute Dinner will take place on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> in the Cathedral of Saint John the Divine.

This significant fundraising event for Diocese Outreach programming will honor Martin J. Sullivan, Operating Partner, Lightyear Capital and Owen D. Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, Boston Properties.

For information, see Episcopal Charities’ Board of Directors member Jim Florack.

St. Peter's  
Harvest Hope  
"I'm hungry"

Project Harvest Hope raises donations of money and food to provide Thanksgiving Meals to neighbors in need. The proceeds will go to Dover Food Pantry, who will distribute the holiday meals.

On Sunday, November 12, all Harvest Hope donations will be blessed at 8:00 and 9:30 services. Parish children and young people are invited to form a procession to present the 9:30 church service food offerings to the altar.

Offerings will be collected from now through November 12. Parishioners and others are invited to place donations of cash and checks into collection plates during regular Offerings (write "Harvest Hope" on the memo line) and to bring Thanksgiving foods and place them in a hamper in the church entry or in Harvest Hope bins in the parish hall.

Dover Food Pantry is a program of Community Action Partnership (CAP) for Dutchess County.

St. Peter's  
HARVEST HOPE

It fills more than the soul....



Whether it's from your purse or your pantry, donations of funds and food from now through the November 12<sup>th</sup> 9:30 service will help St. Peter's provide a Thanksgiving meal for neighbors in need at the Dover Plains Food Pantry.

Make checks payable to: St. Peter's Church and include "Harvest Hope" on the memo line.

or

Fill a Food Bag with any of the foods listed on the accompanying grocery list.

Harvest Hope Committee:

Cynthia Larsen

*l.cynthia.m.l@gmail.com*

Phil Balshi

Eleanore Pitcher, liason to CAP

Patricia Stensrud

Harvest Hope  
Thanksgiving  
Grocery List

Cans of cream of mushroom soup

Stuffing mix

Mashed potato mix

Jars or packets of gravy mix

Cans of cranberry sauce

Cans of green beans

Juices or sparkling water

Container of fried onions

## ***Responding to our Baptismal Vows***

### ***In search of adults to assist Marie and Amy***

There is a lovely moment in the baptism ceremony (following the vows taken by the godparents and parents) where the priest asks the congregation: “Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support this child in his life in christ?” “*We will,*” the congregation replies.

We take this vow very seriously at St. Peter’s and so I would like to invite parents and non-parents to think about volunteering in our pre-school and Sunday School to give support and encouragement to our children, under the able guidance of Marie and Amy. How about giving one Sunday a month? You won’t miss the sermon because it is always recorded and you can shout expletives at my homily on the website and in the comfort of your own home and no one will mind.

It is so important to see our kids grow in their faith and build a community here that they will value for the rest of their lives. We follow the lectionary and there is a wonderful curriculum that Marie will gladly share with you. Sometimes she just needs another pair of hands and a welcoming face, so you don’t need to know a lot about the Bible or Theology. Just let one of us know.

So we are imagining three teams that could be of great help – the little ones with Amy, the pre-school through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade with Marie, and the older kids who will begin confirmation class with me in February until the end of June. We would love to see who might want to explore this exciting ministry and to see ways in which our congregation is saying “We will.” Classes begin in September/October and the Christmas Pageant rehearsals take up the rest of the year, so try it out for a few months and see how you fare.

#### *Vicar’s wish list:*

- A wide-screen TV for the conference area in the basement
- A chest of drawers for clergy stoles in the new vesting room in the old parish hall
- A computer for the office

Many thanks to Anne Hill who is donating a beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> century lectern in memory of her husband Dick. Additional thanks to Pat and Rocky Stendstrud who donated a wonderful couch for the vesting room. Come visit!

*Albert Ogle*



### **Commissioning of the Vestry**

April 23, 2017

#### *New Vestry members:*

Alexander Saint-Amand & Virginia Sermier

#### *Returning members:*

Will Morlock & Julie Turino (Wardens)

Matt Borsch, Jim Florack, Andrew Garcia,

Torrie Larson, Lois Mander,

T. Nolan, Sarah Stack

## The Venerable Order of St. Peter's Keys to the Kingdom



Lillian Corbin

The St. Peter's Keys to the Kingdom were awarded to three parishioners—the first since 2009. The Keys are awarded to those who have generously given of their time and talents in service to St. Peter's Church, Lithgow.

On May 7 Eleanore Pitcher received her "Key," an engraved crystal bowl. On July 9 Juliet Heyer and Chris Mann were given their awards.



Sarah Saint-Amand was Confirmed at Grace Church on June 11— with support from Cam Hardy and Albert Ogle.



Mile Petrov and Albert Ogle hosted Coffee Hour on August 6, serving delicious chocolate-dipped shortbread cookies made by Albert.



Alicia Adams

The Children's Coffee Hour

# St. Peter's



*Eleanor Pitcher*



*Will Morlock*

**Nancy Vanderlee recently retired from the Hyde Park School District after 31 years of teaching. She will continue to teach music and to be the Music Director at St. Peter's. On June 18, Betsey Battistoni, Albert Ogle, and Bindy Kaye presented Nancy with a floral tribute to mark her retirement.**



**On July 2 Henrietta Morlock got a shot of Acolytes Clemmie Morlock & Henry Gundlach and Crucifer Max Gundlach.**



**Ruby Grace Friedrich was Baptized at St. Peter's during the 9:30 service on July 16. She is pictured here with her Godparents Jimmy and Alicia Crisp and Albert Ogle.**

## ***Millbrook at Home***

### **A New Model for Aging**

If you are 50+ or are concerned about caring for an aging parent or other family member, this may respond to a felt or anticipated need. Some of you may have seen PBS's "Frontline" report on renowned *New Yorker* writer and Boston surgeon Atul Gawande as he explored the relationships doctors have with patients who are nearing the end of life. In conjunction with Gawande's new book, *Being Mortal*, the report considers how the medical profession can better help people navigate the final chapters of their lives with confidence, direction, and purpose.

This radically different approach to aging and caring for seniors has spawned a movement growing from its Boston roots. On May I hosted a meeting of Millbrook-area clergy, at which we heard from one of these organizations, Rhinebeck at Home, an all-volunteer group of 110 (paying \$120 a year) committed to helping neighbors stay at home as they age. Our local clergy want to work to understand how this model might help the Millbrook community plan ahead and how our four congregations could learn something from our friends in Rhinebeck.

We plan to have a panel meeting on Thursday, September 7, at Grace Church in Millbrook. Preceded by wine and cheese at 6:00 p.m., the panel presentation will last from 6.30 to 8:00 p.m. On the panel will be local leaders involved in senior care, among them Nina Lynch and Anne Brueckner, president and vice president respectively of the Rhinebeck at Home program. They have also invited our community, on September 25, to watch the national annual meeting of this movement via teleconferencing, with Atul Gawande as keynote speaker.

### **The Aging-in-Place Concept**

Rhinebeck at Home joins over 200 existing aging-in-place "villages," defined as "hyper-local neighborhood groups," and another 100+ that are forming. We are a part of the national Village to Village Network (VtV) intended to establish and continually improve internal management, whether the groups are in large metropolitan areas, rural towns,

or suburban settings. The mission of VtV is to enable membership-driven, grass-roots community organizations, typically run by relatively few staff and many volunteers. To learn more about Village to Village, visit its website at [www.vtvnetwork.org](http://www.vtvnetwork.org).

### **Neighbors Helping Neighbors Stay Independent at Home**

- Rhinebeck at Home is dedicated to helping members remain in their homes and stay connected within their community as they grow older.
- Members share a concern that, now or in the future, people will likely need assistance maintaining fulfilling lives.
- Rhinebeck at Home encourages and coordinates the efforts of our members to give and receive support.

### **Members help members in some of the following ways:**

- Organizing transportation
- Providing referrals to other community-service organizations
- Planning social activities
- Helping each other do things, often routine tasks, like shopping, securing appointments, etc.

You can read more about Rhinebeck at Home on the website [rhinebeckathome.org](http://rhinebeckathome.org). If you are interested in being part of the St Peter's contingent, please sign up in the parish hall.

*The Vicar*

## Albert Ogle Celebrates 40 Years as a Priest



At the 9:30 service on July 2 the congregation helped Albert Ogle celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Ordination. The Vestry and Parishioners of St. Peter's presented him with a Jerusalem Cross (pictured here) to mark the occasion.

No less importantly, we also presented him with a cake at Coffee Hour.



### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

As you may know, the church has an automated heart defibrillator "AED" unit mounted on the wall in the old rectory office, just inside the French doors, and there are simple instructions for its use in the AED cabinet. Please take a minute to become familiar with its location.

*Dave Schmidt*

In an emergency, it is important to:

1. Call 911 – give the location of the church (696 Deep Hollow Road)
2. Get the AED (defibrillator)
3. Give CPR – rescue breaths and chest compressions
4. Use the AED – follow directions in the kit
5. As soon as they arrive, let the EMS rescuers take over



*Members of the St. Peter's Church family are saying a sad goodbye to Cam Hardy, who has been among us for many years as Director of Religious Education, Assistant Minister and, more recently, Associate for Christian Education. For a full explanation of what Cam will be doing, see the July 13 churchwide email and/or From the Vicar's Desk, page 2 of this issue.*

## **A Tribute to Cam Hardy**

Cam and I have been colleagues in ministry at St. Peter's since the time of Brewster Beach. Our daughters were church school classmates and playmates. I have always valued her as a friend and guiding force in my own ministry at the church.

I was very honored to be asked to play a flute/cello duet with my daughter in the organ loft of the Cathedral of St. John the Divine at Cam's ordination service.

St. Peter's was very lucky to have Cam as a guiding force during the transitional period before Albert's appointment. She kept Anne and me on track by being our liturgical guide from week to week in our recurring task of assembling the Sunday bulletin.

She also served as the liaison to the long line of guest preachers who filled the pulpit each Sunday. Of course, she stepped in to preach many times, as well.

Our choir has also very much appreciated Cam's role in our music ministry.

Her influence has been far-reaching in many facets of this congregation's life. We will miss her greatly, but take comfort in knowing that many children will benefit from her expertise in her new position.

*Nancy Vanderlee  
Organist and Director of Music*

## **Cam's Journey**

In 2006, the Discernment Committee, composed of Mimi Babcock, John Reid and T. Nolan, interviewed and recommended Cam Hardy as a candidate for priesthood in the Episcopal Church. Our task was to review her candidacy to determine her sincerity, dedication and devotion to the priesthood and her calling to fulfill the priestly obligations to serve Christ in others. I knew then that she was headed for wonderful things, and she has confirmed my every expectation.

In our letter of recommendation to Rev. Ed Johnston, we found "her calling to the priesthood ... genuine and compelling." We said:

Cam's compassion and dedication to her calling are reflected in the love she shows in her contacts with others. This is seen not only in her concern for and leadership of the young, but also in her ability to work with other leaders in temporal activities where, always with Christ's presence in her mind, her actions and her example show witness in her life of what could be possible in the lives of others. This strong commitment reflects strength of character, strength grounded in faith rather than hubris. The Church will be well blessed to have her as a fully ordained minister.

The Discernment Committee asked Cam to prepare a spiritual autobiography, which she did in a most compelling document. She entitled it, "The Experience of Israel Revisited: A Spiritual Autobiography," and compared her life and development to the journey of the Israelites from slavery (i.e. dependence as a child) to Exodus (leaving home-board-

*cont'd on following page*

### **Deadlines for Keynotes**

*November 20*

*February 20*

*May 20*

*August 20*

*Please send submissions to: [acgillis@optonline.net](mailto:acgillis@optonline.net)*

ing school, college), Conquest (first employment), to Monarchy (maturing professional and family life), and to Monarchy-Exile (discernment). Her own words say it best:

I am left with a deeper commitment to do this work, to proclaim my faith in my actions, to continue in my training to be able to better respond, to preach and teach, to be present for and to minister to my friends in Christ and my friends of other beliefs. Though I stumble and second-guess my abilities at many turns, though I feel at times that in the confusion of leading a double or triple life as mother, wife, counselor, and student that I simply must go on. I have work to do; I have a commitment to fulfill. I

have no question in my mind that I am following the path to which I am called. .... In peace I offer these words as witness to my experience and as a seal upon my heart that I continue to love and serve God.

What a journey, but a new journey had just begun, on the road to priesthood and to her work at St. Peter's. Her service to St. Peter's Church and our community has been a blessing to us all, from the youngest to the oldest. She has risen to every call for help and has been an inspiration to us all. Her service at St. Peter's speaks for itself, just as the journey of the Israelites was fulfilled in the mission of Jesus Christ and those who follow on this same journey. May God continue to bless Cam as she has blessed us.

*T. Nolan*

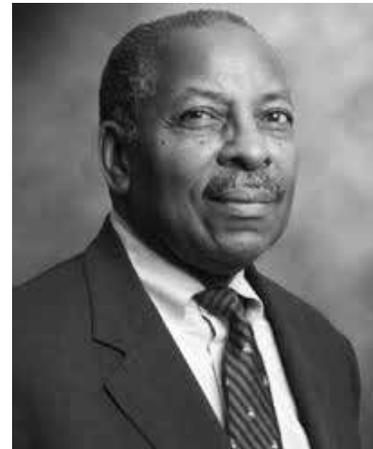
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## ***Remembering George Bundy Smith***

It was in the early days of the second year Latin class. For homework, Dr. Gillingham had assigned a passage of Caesar to be translated, a paragraph. Dr. Allan Gillingham, educated at McGill, Oxford and Harvard, spoke with a stern English-Canadian accent. He was a revered member of the faculty, if somewhat austere. He called on members of the class, high school sophomores and juniors, to first recite from memory the passage in Latin and then give an oral translation of what was recited. We stumbled through the first sentence and maybe the second and then he called on volunteers. There being none, he called on George Bundy Smith, who had sat silent throughout. "George, can you help us out?" George proceeded to recite much of the balance of the paragraph in slow but accurate Latin and then the translation. We were stunned, humbled and impressed that one of us could be so proficient. Dr. Gillingham finished the passage, fluently and with inflection.

This was one of my first encounters with George Bundy Smith who died last week at the age of 80. The New York Times gave him a long obituary. He was the lone black member of our high school class where he inevitably ranked near the top. He was the first black judge to be appointed to the Court of

Appeals, the highest court in New York State. Fresh out of Yale, he was one of the marchers in Selma, a leading figure in the civil rights movement of the 1960's, and then a distinguished lower court judge.



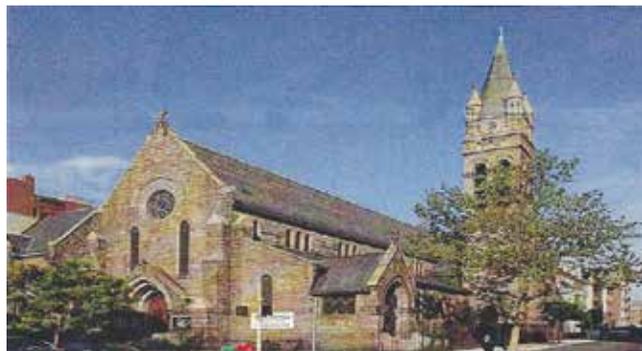
He was someone I admired from a distance, someone endowed with a degree of integrity that set him apart from all others. He had overcome. I remember him with awe. I feel we need him today, more than ever. We need his wisdom, gentleness and patience. And his sense of grace.

*Stephen Kaye*



St. Peter's Church, Lithgow  
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## **Ed Johnston Honored**



On June 18, 2017, retired Vicar of St. Peter's  
Ed Johnston was appointed  
Honorary Associate of  
St. Andrew's Church, Harlem (photo above).  
June 18 was also the 53<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of  
Ed's ordination to the priesthood.