

200th Anniversary - History Highlights

Construction as Courthouse

The history of St. Paul's Episcopal Church begins with the history of Haymarket which was named after a celebrated London racecourse. A racecourse and hay market once bordered the Courthouse buildings on St. Paul's property.

In 1798, William Skinker petitioned the General Assembly in Richmond requesting that a town (to be named Skinkerville) be established at "The Crossroads" on his land known as Green Hill.

In 1799, the General Assembly enacted:

"That the land of William Skinker, lying at the place known as Red Tavern, in the North of Prince William...shall be established a town, by the name of Haymarket..." (Thank goodness!)

On September 4, 1801, a deed was obtained from William Skinker for the 2 ½ acre site along Fayette Street for the District Courthouse, which is currently St. Paul's. The Courthouse was on the highest part of the lot, the clerk's office was to the southwest of the Courthouse, the jail was to the south, brick paths connected the buildings. This 2 ½ acre site is now part of St. Paul's 6 ½ acre property.

The building was designed for the sum of \$6,950.00 (about \$192,000.00 today) by James Wren, an area resident and distant relative of Sir Christopher Wren. James Wren is also credited with the design of Christ Episcopal Church, Alexandria, and the Fairfax County Courthouse with its front porch colonnade mimicking the original appearance of St. Paul's front porch colonnade.

After construction was completed in 1802, the District Courthouse was used by the legislators of four counties – Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William. In 1807, the General Assembly created the Circuit Courts for each county. As a result, the last District Court was held in Haymarket in November 1808, and the first Circuit Court in Dumfries was held May 1809.

The change from a District Court system to a Circuit Court system slowed the development of the Town, and the General Assembly ordered the Courthouse in Haymarket sold in January 1812.

It was bought by the Hygeia Academy which closed its doors four years later due to lack of funds.

The Courthouse then served as a community center and a school, with the front lawn used for social gatherings and as a playground for children.

The Marquis de Lafayette stopped to visit at the Courthouse on his way to Oakhill, President Monroe's home on the Old Carolina Road in Aldie.

A little more information about William Skinker...

William Skinker was born in 1738 in King George County on the family property, Millbank, on the Rappahannock River. After growing up in Virginia, he went to England to study for the Ministry which he did not pursue, but instead returned home to Virginia.

He married a young widow named Mary Snells, and they had their first child together while living in Norfolk. In 1752, William Skinker inherited the Green Hill property where St. Paul's property is located.

The Green Hill property covered a large portion of northern Prince William County and included many roads such as Old Carolina Road and Gap Road. In 1776 when the British attacked Norfolk, the Skinker family fled to their Green Hill property and had four more children. In 1789, Mrs. Mary Skinker died. Soon after Mr. Skinker retired and appointed his nephew and namesake William Skinker, Jr. administrator of all his properties which now included land in Fauquier County.

George Washington (1732) and James Monroe (1758) were born in Westmoreland County, not far from Millbank. Both were baptized at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Oak Grove, Westmoreland County. The history of St. Peter's Episcopal Church is the history of Washington Parish and several generations of the Washington and Monroe families. George Washington frequently traveled through and stayed at the Red Tavern in Haymarket.

On a side note, St. Peter's is the church at which Sean served at for one year before being sent to St. Paul's.

In 1822, the Haymarket Courthouse property was purchased by William Skinker, Jr., and Episcopal services began to be held regularly. Finally, the property was deeded to The Episcopal Church in 1830.

Consecration as Church

St. Paul's, Haymarket is the oldest church in Prince William County, and has a remarkable history. In 1822, the Haymarket Courthouse property was purchased by William Skinker, Jr. Episcopal services began to be held regularly by the Reverend "Parson Steele," a Methodist minister who became an Episcopal priest.

The building continued to be used as a school, for various public meetings, and for occasional church services by other denominations. However, only the Presbyterians were recorded as users.

The property was deeded by William Skinker, Jr. to The Episcopal Church in 1830, "In memory of my wife, Harriet Keith Skinker." According to local lore, the deed included a clause stating the property should be returned to the Skinker family should it ever cease to be used for religious purposes. (The deed no longer exists since it was destroyed in a fire.)

Bishop William Meade made his first visit to the fledging congregation in October 1833. He returned to consecrate the Old Courthouse as St. Paul's Episcopal Church in July 1834.

St. Paul's Church was a strong influence in preserving the Town of Haymarket's history. From 1882 until 1990, the Mayors of Haymarket were typically church members. One Rector, The Rev. William Frank Carpenter, was also Mayor.

Today, in The Old Rectory, we have a fire-proof safe that is filled with volumes of handwritten church records dating back to our early days. It includes: names of church members, births, baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and deaths.

In early records, baptisms and weddings were often celebrated in the home. Burials were sometimes in family cemeteries, but most often were in the churchyard cemetery. Currently, there are 475 people including 34 veterans buried in our cemetery. (There are plenty of cemetery plots and columbarium niches still available.)

A book, published by the Prince William County Genealogical Society, contains all the church records from 1837 – 1995. A second book contains the records from 1995 - 2012. Since St. Paul's was replanted in September 2012, a third holds records from 2012 until today. (These are resources and much easier to use than the handwritten records.)

Beginning in 1822, the old Courthouse was converted into a church with the following changes. In the west end (current area with choir pews, piano, organ), there was a square chancel with a simple wooden rail. The recessed chancel area (current area with altar) was a later addition. The chancel area held a wooden pulpit toward the back wall; in front of the pulpit a small table with marble top served for Holy Communion. In the east end (current balcony), the former jury room became the sacristy and rector's study. The church continued to use the small wooden folding chairs from its Courthouse days. In 2012, one chair, found in the church attic, was loaned to the Haymarket Museum.

In the 1880's, the Old Courthouse front porch colonnade with a flagstone floor and brick pillars connected by arches was enclosed into the current narthex with a brick floor and wooden doors, the old balcony was torn down and rebuilt. A Vestry meeting room was added near the sanctuary (current Sacristy).

In the 1890s, a pressed tin ceiling replaced the falling down plaster ceiling; a bell tower and a recessed chancel (current area with altar) were added. A new floor, pews, and windows were installed, and the brass eagle lectern was donated.

In Bishop Meade's Old Churches and Families of Virginia, published in 1831, he writes:

“The old court house at Haymarket has been purchased and converted into a handsome and convenient temple of religion. A race course once adjoined the building, and in preaching there in former days, I have on a Sabbath seen from the court house bench on which I stood the horses in training for the sport which was at hand. Those times have, I trust, passed away forever.”

Church as Civil War Hospital

St. Paul's was used as a haven for refugees from all over Northern Virginia fleeing the battles, and as a hospital for the sick and wounded by both the Confederate and Union troops. To make room for the casualties, the pews and furniture were removed and used as firewood. After the Civil War, a claim for damages was paid by the Federal Government.

On either side of the church front doors, there are headstones in commemoration of the troops that died at St. Paul's. To the southern side of the front doors, the inscription is:

“In this area are buried eighty unknown Confederate soldiers who died of wounds after the Battle of Manassas July 21, 1861”

To the northern side of the front doors, the inscription is:

“In memory of the Union soldiers who died in St. Paul's Church while it was a hospital during the Civil War 1862 – 1865”

In 1861, the church was used as a hospital after the First Battle of Manassas or Bull Run. Eighty Confederate soldiers were buried in a trench along the south side of the churchyard. Most of these soldiers remain buried in our cemetery.

"As the Confederates camped around Fairfax Court House and Centreville waited for the war to erupt into battle again, which it did not do during these long weeks in the early autumn of 1861, separate hospitals for each regiment's roster of sick men were finally established. The 15th Alabama's was set up at Haymarket, a little village of a handful of houses and shops 10 miles west of Manassas Junction. Ill and dying soldiers from the 15th Alabama, including the ones who had been left behind at Pageland and those who had more recently succumbed to disease in Camp Toombs, were transported in uncomfortable springless wagons to the field hospital in Haymarket.

The village, located about six miles southwest of the Manassas battlefield, was not a perfect place to set up a hospital. South and west of the town a marshy stretch of woods produced more than a sufficient quantity of “bad air” and “bad water” that Civil War doctors incorrectly believed were the causes of contagious diseases. The men of the 15th Alabama were brought to St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and as many of them as would fit were laid out on the pews in this house of God. For some, those who held to their faith, knowing they were

housed in a church gave them succor and hope. For others, they must have been pleased, at the very least, to have a sturdy and dry roof over their heads. Many of the sick, however, were quartered in tents raised in the fields around the church, the fields that already held those soldiers who had not recovered from their wounds after the Battle of Manassas. Others were given beds of straw and hay under the only protection available—the tall trees that shaded the yard around the church.

The sick were attended by Dr. Francis A. Stanford, a native of Georgia who had enlisted in the 15th Alabama at Fort Mitchell on the Chattahoochee, and by a Dr. Shepherd of Eufaula, Alabama, who was nearly 75 years old. Stanford had carefully selected Haymarket as the site of the regimental hospital. One soldier said of Stanford that he missed “no opportunity to provide for the well-being of the invalids.” This Alabamian had nothing but praise for the good doctor: “All of his time and talent is devoted to his profession and the amelioration of the suffering. Day by day we see him on his rounds of mercy from the rising of the sun until ‘the going down thereof,’ and from dark until midnight, in fair weather and foul, and oh! ungrateful humanity; we hear him abused the remaining six [hours of the day].” Convalescents provided the nursing care to their comrades at the hospital. Oates visited St. Paul’s and described with a critical eye what he saw there: “At this improvised hospital there was neither accommodations nor comfort; no bedding but the soldier’s blanket, with his knapsack for a pillow, and no nourishment but army rations; a scant supply of medicine and no medical attention worth having, except such as old Dr. Shepherd...could give....The nights in October were cold, and early in the month there was frost, and the suffering of the sick men was intolerable....It was no uncommon sight at that hospital to see six or seven corpses of 15th Alabama men laid out at once.” There were probably worse places to die than under those high trees (heavenly trees, the locals call them) or in the peaceful fields”
(Found by Sally Peterson in Prince William County Historical Society records.)

In 1862, the church was used as a hospital after the Second Battle of Manassas or Bull Run. Union soldiers were buried in a trench along the northwest corner of the churchyard. After the war, all of these soldiers were removed from the cemetery and taken to their respective Union cemeteries in the Northern states.

Later that year, the 11th Alabama Infantry used the church as a hospital. They camped in the churchyard while suffering from an epidemic. Fifty soldiers who died from their illness were buried in a trench on the south side of the churchyard.

When the Union troops burned Haymarket in November 1862, almost all the original homes and businesses were destroyed. Only St. Paul's Church and three small houses nearby remained. One of these houses still stands across the street from the Rectory and the Meade House – the log cabin, built in 1800, now known as the McCormick-Cobb House.

The story is that William Skinker jumped on his horse, rode to meet the troops, stopped them at the corner of Fayette and Washington Streets, saving the homes and St. Paul's Church.

Construction of Rectory, Meade House, Parish Hall and the Chapels of St. Paul's

On a side note... After the Civil War, St. Paul's Church was heated by an enormous stove. The Vestry members (back then only men) took turns making the fire for Sunday services. (It was said that the better fires were made by the Vestry member who lived farthest away.)

The Parish Hall is now St. Michael's Academy, Haymarket Campus, a Preschool. (St. Paul's has use of this building and the parking lot on Sunday mornings.) St. Michael's Academy also has an Elementary School on a campus at Vint Hill.

Between 1910 - 1912, the lot was donated to St. Paul's by the will of Sarah & Ellen Gray. Their house was torn down, and the larger portion of the building with the metal roof was built. Many church functions and Haymarket community events were held here. In 1920, the building was wired for electricity and movies were held for the community. (The Rector determined which films were appropriate.)

In 1962, an addition was made to the building. The Gainesville Presbyterian Church used the Hall for Sunday services while their building was being constructed. In 1980, a stained-glass window was installed at the far end of the Hall.

The Meade House, now a maternity home called: Carried To Full Term, is on a lot purchased between 1900 and 1905. It was originally the Assistant Rector's family home; the front parlor was used for meetings.

The Rectory is now the Church Office. Between 1900 – 1905, the lot was purchased for \$525, and the building built for \$1,850. The Rector's family lived in the home, and the front parlor was used for meetings. In 1906, the building was enlarged by extending the two second floor rooms over the porch.

The four Chapels of St. Paul's

Beginning in 1875, St. Paul's was the mother church or home church for these missions. The Rectors of St. Paul's traveled on horseback or horse and buggy to hold services including Evening Prayer once a month and quarterly Holy Communion. Sunday School was held by a dedicated group of lay people who maintained the buildings. For various reasons, the chapel services were gradually discontinued.

Church of Our Saviour Chapel, Little Georgetown

This chapel is in Fauquier County on Rt. 628 in Little Georgetown. It was part of Whittle Parish, whose Vestry paid part of St. Paul's rector's salary in return for services at their church.

Holy Trinity Chapel, Thoroughfare

This chapel, a wooden structure in a grove of oak trees on the north side of Rt. 55 near Thoroughfare Road, was built in 1906. In 1922, the chapel was sold, moved to the other side of the road, and used as a Lodge Hall. When Rt. 66 was built, the state demolished the building as it was too close to the new road.

St. Luke's Chapel, Buckland

This chapel is located on a hill on the south side of Route 29 past Buckland Mill Road. The original building was constructed in 1775, and services were held by the African Methodist Episcopal Church. The present building, known as St. Mark's Methodist Church, was built in 1856; it included the stipulation that it be available for other denominations. By 1905, it was no longer used by the AME Church. In 1906, St. Paul's purchased it, began holding services, and named it St. Luke's Chapel. In 1931, the building was sold for \$250 to the Assemblies of God. In 1962, Gainesville Methodist Church bought the building, and used it as a thrift shop.

Grace Chapel, Hickory Grove

Grace Chapel, also called Rescol Chapel, was also known as Ewell's Chapel. The building is a small frame structure set back from Rt. 15 north of Haymarket. In 1847, Grace/Rescol Chapel was built for the AME Church. In 1861, when St. Paul's Church was used as a hospital, Episcopal services were held here. The Ewell family worshipped here and taught Sunday School to the neighboring mountain folk. Many members of the Ewell family are buried in St. Paul's Cemetery.

In 1863, the property was the scene of a battle when two companies of the Union Army ambushed John Mosby and 25 of his troops. Mosby and his men escaped to Bull Run Mountain. Following the Civil War, the chapel was a semi-ruin with a poor family living in it. From 1875 - 1881, the Chapel was rebuilt, and Episcopal services were held again. In 1884, The Episcopal Church purchased the building from the AME Church for \$50. The last service was held in 1963, and it was sold in 1981.

St. Paul's as Historic Place & the Rector's of St. Paul's

In 1976, St. Paul's Church was placed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places, and named a Historic Landmark by both the Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission and the Prince William County Historical Commission. (Plaques are located near the front door.)

The building speaks for itself.

The Rector's

There have been thirty Rectors of St. Paul's. Three were Mayors of Haymarket:

- Arthur Gray in 1883
- Cary Gamble from 1908 to 1911
- William Carpenter from 1935 to 1946

One Rector and his wife are buried together in St. Paul's Cemetery. Joseph Manly Cobb was Rector from 1959 to 1967. He died in 1975; his wife, Maria Davidson Cobb, died in 1976. Their graves are located behind the church near the main parking lot.

One other wife of a Rector is buried in St. Paul's Cemetery. William Alrich was Rector from 1867 to 1869. After St. Paul's, Alrich went to a parish in Hanover County where his first wife died. Then he married Mary L. Berkeley Alrich who died in 1920. Her grave can be found in front of the church halfway up the sidewalk on the right side.

Four Rectors have had longer tenures than our current Rector.

- John Towles (1839 to 1867) served 27 years as Rector. He was from Towles Point in Lancaster County on the Northern Neck and attended Virginia Theological Seminary. He had three sons and one daughter. All his sons died in the Civil War.
- William Carpenter (1928 to 1950) served 21 years. Carpenter arrived at St. Paul's a bachelor; in 1950 he married and retired. He announced his engagement to Olive Smith, a lady from Fauquier County stating: "When I met her, I knew why I had come to Haymarket."
- Robert Crewdson (1970 to 1985) served 15 years as Rector. He and his wife, Lois, had two sons. Lois served three terms on the Town Council. During this time, thirty-five people was considered a great Sunday attendance.
- David Jones (1995 to 2012) served 17 years. Jones led the unsuccessful effort to take St. Paul's from The Episcopal Church.

St. Paul's as Dayspring Congregation

Dayspring was an effort by the Diocese of Virginia started in 2012 by Bishop Shannon Johnston and overseen by Bishop Susan Goff to help six churches re-start their congregations due to the unsuccessful effort to take them from the Diocese. The Dayspring churches included: Epiphany, Herndon; Falls Church, Falls Church; St. Margaret's, Woodbridge, St. Paul's, Haymarket; St. Stephen's, Heathsville; and Truro, Fairfax.

This is a little background information. In 2003, a group of former Episcopalians sought to form a new, conservative province of the Anglican Communion after leaving The Episcopal Church over theological disagreements, particularly their objections to women's ordination and inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons in the church. By 2008, this group formed: ACNA or The Anglican Church of North America. The ACNA has not succeeded in its goal of being recognized as a province of the worldwide Anglican Communion due to its ongoing efforts to take churches from The Episcopal Church and establish missions in the provinces of other Anglican Churches. Let's move on from that sad historical note.

By January 2012, the groups attempting to take these six churches from The Episcopal Church exhausted their last appeal to the Virginia State Supreme Court. The final decision was that the six churches were to be returned to the Diocese of Virginia in May 2012. The five churches with continuing congregations simply moved back to their properties.

St. Paul's did not have a continuing congregation. The Diocese held Sunday services at St. Paul's with the help of supply clergy in May and June: Rev. Jim Hammond, Rev. Bill Myers, Rev. Stephen Becker, and in July and August: Rev. Stuart Smith. Ultimately, Rev. Sean Rousseau was appointed to St. Paul's by Bishop Shannon Johnston in September 2012. The work of replanting St. Paul's was underway.

Soon, St. Paul's was formally welcomed back as a congregation of Diocese of Virginia by Bishop Shannon Johnston through a letter that gave us certain tasks to accomplish, including: 1. celebrate this recognition, 2. elect a Vestry and delegates to the Annual Convention and the Region, 3. set up bank accounts and begin to take over day to day financial responsibilities while working toward being financially self-sustaining, 4. call on the Diocesan Staff and Dayspring Team and Bishop Susan Goff for help in accomplishing these goals.

Our first Vestry, in January 2013, included: Jackie Clattenburg, Senior Warden; Gerald Thacker, Junior Warden; Glennie Forbes, Register; and Hunter Herron, Treasurer.

The celebration of St. Paul's recognition as a congregation was held September 28, 2013 with Bishop Susan Goff presiding. Rev. Ed Miller gave the sermon. During the service, items representing the many aspects of our common life together at St. Paul's were given to Sean who received them on behalf of the congregation. Jerry Thacker gave keys; Bishop Susan gave Water in Baptism Pitcher; Constitutions & Canons came from Rev. Robert Banse (Region Dean); Oil was presented by Sean's Family, Kerry, L.J., Aislinn, Summer Grace, and Eowyn; Stole by Jackie Clattenburg; BCP by Hunter Herron; Bible by Glennie Forbes; and Bread & Wine by Diane & Peter Demaree.

From 2013 to 2015, we undertook a major renovation of the church interior which included: restoration of the pressed tin ceiling, walls, pews, and floors, a lengthy process due to asbestos, and replacing the HVAC systems, front steps and front handrails. The parking lots were also renovated. During the restoration work, we normally only had access to one side of the church with half of the pews available for our use. For Christmas, the contractor put the other half of the pews in place, we decorated the scaffolding with wreaths, and we hoped that we would never - ever, ever - need to undertake such an effort again.

During this time the Wishing Well was instituted. Through the generosity of our church members, a long list of needed items were purchased and a long list of projects completed. The Wishing Well list contains current items that are needed as well as all the items that have been donated over the years. The list can be found in the Weekly Email.

During the Dayspring years from 2013 to 2015, the list of first-time accomplishments was very long – too long to list here today. Ultimately, by December 2015, St. Paul's had become a self-sustaining congregation.

St. Paul's as Today's Congregation

By the beginning of 2016, St. Paul's had become a financially self-sustaining and growing congregation. On an annual basis, we send to the Diocese of Virginia and The Episcopal Church a variety of statistics.

The Living Church, an Episcopal magazine, published a series of articles in March 2020 called: "Fastest Growing Episcopal Churches." The article focused on a key statistic between 2013 to 2018 called: ASA or Average Sunday Attendance. In 2013, St. Paul's ASA was 50; by 2018, our ASA was 100. With a 100% increase, this placed St. Paul's as the 6th fastest growing congregation in The Episcopal Church. Only two other churches from the Diocese of Virginia were on the list; these churches were Dayspring churches like us: Epiphany, Herndon at 89%, and Falls Church, Falls Church at 84%. Not that it's a competition, but still, it's fun - good job St. Paul's!

Let us continue with that statistic regarding Average Sunday Attendance. In 2019 our ASA was 110; in 2020, our ASA was 107. In 2020, The Episcopal Church based ASA on the first ten weeks when services were still being held inside the church. After the first ten weeks, we held services online from the Rousseau family dining room table; once we had permission, we held services outside in the parking lot as well as online.

While 2020 moved us into a virtual and socially distanced world, in 2021 we saw a gradual return to our more normal activities. The Diocese of Virginia developed a "Phased Approach To Regathering As Church." In 2021, our (ASA was 108 which included 67 people in-person and 41 online views. Remember, an online view can include 1 to 4 people, although we only counted each view as 1 person.) The ways we keep statistics will never be the same.

Another statistic we keep is for registered church members. In September 2012, we started to replant the congregation of St. Paul's from scratch with 0 registered members. By the end of 2021, St. Paul's had 190 registered members, and 162 unregistered persons who call St. Paul's their spiritual home.

Carried To Full Term has been on St. Paul's property since May 2016. CTFT is a non-profit which ministers to moms and their babies. Residents live in the Meade House (a.k.a. the Yellow House); the Staff Office is in the Church Office. In July 2016, the "Haymarket Lifestyle Magazine" cover featured a

photo of the moment when Sean handed the house keys to Francis Robin, Executive Director of CTFT. In 2022, CTFT celebrated their sixth year of ministry to moms and their babies during their Annual Gala.

Haymarket Food Pantry (HFP) began in 2005 on St. Paul's property. It has moved several times and is now located at: 7669 Limestone Drive. The Board of Directors includes two members of St. Paul's: Bob Bowman and Sean.

St. Michael's Academy (SMA) began as a preschool in 2007 on St. Paul's property. It now has two campuses: Haymarket Campus for Preschool & Kindergarten students on St. Paul's property, and the Vint Hill Campus for Preschool through Fifth Grade students at 6848 Johnson Drive, Warrenton. In August 2021, SMA and St. Paul's formalized our relationship by a Memorandum of Understanding through which we now sponsor the school, hold chapel services for the students, and hold two seats on the SMA Board of Directors: Samantha Fulda and Sean.

Just a brief "note" about our Music Program. Pat Avery led our music program for many years before moving away from Virginia earlier this year. Pat shared her musical skills, and as an extroverted musician with a likeable personality, she encouraged church members to use their musical talents. Her efforts have grown our music program and our ability to pray through song. The excellent legacy of our music program has continued with George Fulda who took over in May 2022.

Just a "footnote" about our Wishing Well Program. Since 2014, we have upgraded and improved our buildings and property through your generosity. The list of items donated and projects completed is quite lengthy: the storage shed built for CTFT as an Eagle Scout Project, gardens, parking lot improvements and exterior lights, just about every item used during the Liturgy, church livestream and sound systems, wrought-iron doors, and the sacristy and side entrance. As each project is completed, there is much joy about its accomplishment.

Just an "endnote" about our Time, Talent, Treasure Program. Our members give generously to their church community and other charitable endeavors. From Altar Guild to Office Angels, our stewardship is rooted in a gospel spirituality of discipleship as a generous way of life through a proportionate, practical, and planned expression of gratitude. Thank you for the many ways you serve through prayer and presence.

There are so many experiences to share, and 2022 includes plenty of good examples.

- On May 8 - Mother's Day, we held our first Bishop Visitation since 2018, with our largest group ever celebrating Confirmation and Reception.
- In the bulletin on page 3, there is a photo of everyone who went to Shrine Mont in 2022. Our next Shrine Mont Weekend will be held May 26 - 28, 2023, Memorial Day Weekend.

As we move through 2022 and into 2023, we continue to Livestream services and welcome new members. We have a bright future to look forward to together. Thank you for joining us!