



Liaison Links February 2023

Volume 9, Issue 2

Boys Home Featured at Southwestern Virginia Diocese Convention

A Note from Pastor Anne:

Four students displayed courage and maturity as they spoke to several hundred participants at the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia's annual convention held in Roanoke, Virginia (January 27-29). Executive Director Chris Doyle kicked off the program by explaining the mission, vision and activities of Boys Home. Then students Chris Silvas, Sage Custalow, Rylee Callis and Mulu Slawta spoke about their life experiences and shared stories from their time at Boys Home. All four students spoke about their dislike of waking up early each morning, but many remarked about enjoying small class sizes, basketball teams and outdoor activities like fishing and hiking. Senior student Rylee spoke of his goal to become a welder in the shipyard, while Mulu said he hopes to attend college at Radford University.

Baptism and personally proclaiming Jesus were central themes at this year's convention. Boys Home students Amir Elliott, Nazayah Harmond, Brian Blankson-Mills, David Blankson-Mills and Kelvin Blankson-Mills were baptized in the celebratory Sunday service by Bishop Mark Bourlakas. Student Chris Silvas was confirmed into the Episcopal church by the bishop. These important steps in faith will be nurtured by continued chapel and discipleship opportunities on campus, allowing the students to grow in their faith in God.

While adults at the convention participated in the business of the church, over fifty teen attendees from all over the diocese had a youth retreat at St. John's Church. Five of the Boys Home young men joined in this program, along with Houseparent Thomas Dixon. Current students look forward to joining future events with youth in the diocese and hosting them at Boys Home.

Perhaps the biggest takeaway from the conference was the overwhelming power of God's presence at Boys Home. Young lives are being transformed and students are being called to grow closer to Christ. The conference was a wonderful platform to showcase the power of the Lord and the work He is completing in the students at Boys Home.



Kelvin being baptized by Bishop
Mark Bourlakas



Chris being confirmed by Bishop
Mark Bourlakas

GET INVOLVED

DONATE

- * Become a member of the crew that supports Boys Home on a monthly basis, *Carpenter's Crew*. More information online.
- * Make an individual donation at www.givetoboyshome.org.
- * Make an in-kind donation to our Wish List. Find the list at www.boyshomeofva.org located at the bottom of the home page.

SPREAD THE WORD

- * Sign up for the Boys Home newsletter at www.boyshomeofva.org under "Mailing List."
- * Forward *Liaison Links* to other members of your church, friends and family.
- * Like us on Facebook & Instagram or follow us on Twitter.

STAY UP TO DATE

- April 14 | Former Trustee Lunch/Program
- April 27 | Spring Open House
- May 5 | Planned Gifts Appreciation Dinner
- May 12 | Quilt Raffle
- May 20 | Graduation and Awards Ceremony

STUDENT PRAYER CORNER



Cody's Prayer:

"I am currently praying for more peace in the world."

Your continued support of Boys Home is touching lives and changing futures for the better.

Thank you for all the ways you support these young men.

Upcoming Events

**POSTPONED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**



Clergy Day at Boys Home March 2, 2023 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Join us for clergy day at Boys Home! You're invited to learn more about the mission and programs offered to young men who need a second chance at success. Meet the staff, explore the campus, and spend an awesome day with fellow clergy!

Please RSVP to Melinda at 540-965-7707 or email mnichols@boyshomeofva.org by February 24.

11:00 a.m. - Campus tour

12:00 p.m. - Complimentary lunch with staff and students

1:00 p.m. - Staff and student panel discussions

2:00 p.m. - Questions/Information/Networking



Boys Home
of Virginia

Welcome home!



Former Trustee Luncheon

April 14, 2023

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

All former members of the Boys Home Board of Trustees are invited to attend this new and exciting event. Tour the campus, meet the staff, enjoy lunch with the students, and get caught up on what's happening at Boys Home. We can't wait to see you again!

11 a.m. - Tour of the campus and facilities
12 p.m. - Lunch in the dining hall with students and staff
1 p.m. - Boys Home update and meet & greet

Please RSVP to Melinda at 540-965-7707 or email mnichols@boyshomeofva.org by April 7.



Save the date - April 27, 2023



Boys Home
of Virginia

SPRING OPEN HOUSE



Make plans to visit Boys Home on
Thursday, April 27 - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
It will be a fun filled day complete with a
campus tour, staff and student presentations,
as well as a complimentary lunch!

Please RSVP to Melinda at 540-965-7707 or mnichols@boyshomeofva.org by April 21!

BOYS HOME QUILT RAFFLE 2023



Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
I enclose \$_____ for _____ tickets. Cash _____ Check _____
Credit Card #: _____
Exp: ____ / ____ CSV# _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ Discover _____

WIN THIS QUILT!

\$5 per ticket or \$45 for 10 tickets

Drawing will be held on

Friday, May 12, 2023

This beautiful Trip Around the World quilt pattern was made and donated by Phyllis Gibson, sister of former Executive Director Donnie E. Wheatley. Done in neutral beige, brown and black colorways, this queen-size quilt measuring 102" x 125" will look great in your home!

Mail this coupon with donation or credit card information to:

Boys Home of Virginia
Attn: Melinda Nichols
414 Boys Home Rd.
Covington, VA 24426

For more information, contact the Development Office at (540) 965-7707 or email Melinda at mnichols@boyshomeofva.org.

You can also visit us online at
www.boyshomeofva.org.