



BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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St. John's Episcopal Church

April Epistle

From The Rector

Dear Friends at St. John's,

One of the best scriptural analogies for an interim is the Exodus. We are now approaching the half-way mark in our journey. We have been out here in the wilderness together for a while and have come to appreciate and trust each other. We have learned some lessons and developed some new muscles, but there is a lot of work still to be done. Let's see what we've done...

We have updated the By-Laws, elected a strong new Vestry and revitalized the Finance and Newcomers Committees. New initiatives have begun in support for caregivers and volunteer assistance in the office. New leadership has come forth in Senior EYC (thank you Dan and Jane Cheek), acolytes (thank you Elizabeth McDuffie and Ken Christie) and soon new chalicists and readers will begin serving in worship.

We are updating our insurance coverage, registers and parish record-keeping and making every effort, with the help of the diocese, to balance a budget burdened by a large mortgage.

Just in the last month we have built a labyrinth, patted baby goats (and filled banks for the Heifer Project), enjoyed "Soup and *Chocolat*" and enjoyed Bishop Curry's visit when he confirmed, received or reaffirmed eight adults. And above all, week after week, we have met together to hear the word of God and share the Eucharist together.

There's still much to do, and lots of room to journey with us. The Search Committee will soon "go live" with the search for the new rector. There will be many exceptional priests who want to be a part of this exciting place; let's all step up the pace of our journey to prepare St. John's for that new chapter just months away.

Blessings in Christ,

Ann+

Holy Week at St. John's

Maundy Thursday – 7:00 pm

Holy Eucharist and stripping of the altar

Good Friday – 12 noon

Liturgy for Good Friday (no Eucharist) Stations of the Cross available for private meditation at the labyrinth (weather permitting) as well as inside the church.

Easter Day – 8:00 and 10:00 am

Holy Eucharist; Easter Egg Hunt after 10:00 am service

Easter is Not a Day!

It is a whole season. We will carry the festivities of Easter Day until Pentecost (that is, the 50th day after Easter!).

Wednesday Eucharist

Please consider joining us for Holy Eucharist, which is held on Wednesdays at 11:45. Please note that this is our new permanent time.

Have You Walked the Labyrinth Yet?

We are so delighted to see people using and enjoying the labyrinth at the columbarium. Come walk it before the grass grows!

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From The Junior Warden



Did you take the time during Lent to enjoy some contemplative time in the labyrinth in our columbarium lawn? Just seeing some of our younger kids walking/running in the labyrinth reminded me what a nice facility we have at St. John's to appreciate the spirit of God. Since Gail and I came here a little over a year ago, we have seen much to like in the facilities provided by those who have come before us. The worship space is attractive and peaceful. We have good space for social, working, and educational gatherings in the parish hall, and the education building provides for an excellent preschool. The EYC, with guidance from Dan and Jane Cheek, are turning the youth room into a good gathering place. We have nice playgrounds that serve our preschool and Sunday school well. The yard is attractive, and the columbarium is a highlight. Our buildings provide room for us to do more than we are doing today, and I hope we can expand our offerings to fill the space.

Since taking over from Rob Reichmeider as junior warden in January, I have begun to learn there is much to do to keep our facility running properly and safely and to keep it looking good. In a spirit of good stewardship we are doing those things we can ourselves. Thanks to Lowell LaFreniere and Dave Roberts and Grace Edwards for recent examples of taking down a dead tree in the yard, designing and making the labyrinth, and planting new flowers in our beds, as well as to many of us who did the Spring cleaning in the yard March 27 (a little faith here, as I'm writing this before that Saturday). There is a list on the table near the parish hall door of items that need to be done. Anyone who can do something on the list is invited to sign up for it.

If you see something that needs work, please let me know. We are looking for more areas we can save the parish money by using "sweat equity." One we are undertaking this year is lawn care. We are asking volunteers to sign up to cut and trim the grass. We will be doing more of these as we identify them.

- Reid Calhoun

Miscellaneous



Heifer Project Banks are Due Back!

Please return your Heifer Project banks on Easter or soon thereafter. Funds will be sent to the Heifer Project with the request that it be used to buy goats (and chickens) for Haiti.

Thanks to the Office Volunteers!

Several days a week, the phone at St. John's may be answered by a different voice – that of one of our office volunteers. While some days these folks may have plenty of time to read a book, there are times that we keep them pretty busy. Lots of little projects that were waiting for that "round 'tuit" are now getting done! Want to come help for a morning? Give Catherine a call.



Hot Dog Sundays We're having a great time with Hot Dog Sundays, but will take a break for the 1st Sunday in April since it's Easter.



Chef Chris Schoden will be back in the kitchen come May 2nd. Please join us after the service on most 1st Sundays of the month for a hot dog lunch. St. John's will provide the dogs, chips condiments and drinks. If you would like to bring a side dish or dessert, that would be appreciated.

The suggested donation is \$1.00 a dog. The fellowship? Priceless.

See you there!

Stewardship Corner



One of my favorite things about St. John's is the willingness of our parishioners to step up in times of need. In that spirit, I have agreed to serve as Stewardship Chair despite my aversion to asking folks for money—even for a cause as worthy as our church.

We have something special at St. John's, and we need to uphold it. From our Care Group to funeral receptions to subbing in as worship volunteers, our church family looks after each other and shines in times of crisis. Now we need to apply that strength and respond as good stewards to the financial crisis of our parish.

As most of you are aware, St. John's currently is facing a 2010 budget shortfall of approximately \$38,000. While this is an intimidating amount, I know that we can overcome this deficit if we take on this potential burden as an opportunity to act as a united congregation. The arithmetic is straightforward—an average of an extra \$15 per week from each contributing household would erase this shortage and protect our staff and programs.

At our recent town hall meeting, there was an overwhelming consensus that achieving financial stability is imperative. Failure to do so hinders our search for a new rector and threatens the parish itself. It was less clear how to achieve our goal, but if we search our hearts and prayerfully consider our resources, most of us can increase our weekly support for St. John's. Every penny given to our church speaks to our commitment toward following the example set forth by Jesus Christ and strengthens our community of faith.

If you are able to commend an additional weekly amount or a one-time gift toward balancing the budget at St. John's, please call me at 554-1817 or send an e-mail to presson@nc.rr.com. All communications will remain strictly confidential; only aggregate information will be forwarded to the vestry and the Finance Committee for planning purposes.

Thank you for your consideration and support of St. John's. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

- Abby Presson

Christian Formation

Our warmest thanks to Grace Edwards, Millie Nelligar, and Rachel Pottern for working with the Church School children so they could present the processional hymn and march on Palm Sunday; a lovely experience!

Please continue to help us by bringing plastic eggs and individually wrapped candies for our Easter egg hunt. Thank you for only sending in nut-free candy.

On **Easter Sunday, April 4**, there are no church school classes so the children can worship with their family and experience the celebration of our risen Christ in full community. Please remember to bring your Heifer Program Banks! We look forward to reporting how much livestock our families are providing to the people of Haiti. Also, please select a single flower from the yard or garden for your child to bring to church on Easter morning so they can add to a special creation. Following the service, the children are invited to hunt for the Easter eggs you all have kindly provided. Once all are gathered

in the parish hall, the hunting areas for younger and older children will be explained and a signal will be given to begin. We will distribute bags for collecting or your child may bring his or her own special basket. To provide a happy experience for all, we generally suggest each child be encouraged to find five eggs before checking in with the others, and offering their help, to make sure *all* have found five eggs. After this, if more eggs remain, they may collect as many additional eggs as they can find!

It is time to begin planning for Summer Sundays. I welcome your feedback on the age-integrated program we have used in the past as well as any ideas you have for either simplifying or enriching this program to better meet our needs.

My term as your Christian Education coordinator soon comes to a close so if you feel called to this ministry, and would like more information; please contact Ann Burts or me.

-Ann Holmes

St. John's Preschool

It's been a very busy month for the preschool! The whole school participated in the national literacy 'Book It' program. This year's theme was based on the Corduroy Bear (who lost his button) series of books. Children and parents read 360 books, wrote the titles on button



cut-outs and hung them down our halls. We celebrated by reading a Corduroy book together, eating button cookies and making bookmarks. For a spring fundraiser, we had Portrait Makers take pictures of the children, which are going to be adorable for sure!

Some of the preschool classes explored the labyrinth in the columbarium

the last few weeks; it truly is a wonderful work of art!

When we return from our spring break, we will collect the change boxes for Haiti; families enjoyed working together to follow the calendar.

In the next few weeks you may see a new sunshade being installed on the toddler playground that is shared by the church and the preschool. It has become a priority since the preschool now offers summer camp in June and July. The fabric blocks 93% of UV rays as recommended by the American Academy of Dermatology, and the shade's breathable fabric allows for air flow that drops the temperature up to 20 degrees. The cost of the shade is

fully covered by fundraisers held by the preschool this school year, namely the Holiday Harvest and cookie dough sale. It is the long hard hours donated by many volunteers, as well as the support of families during our fundraisers, that will now make a difference for St. John's children for years to come!

The preschool has openings in the Parent/Tot Playgroup for parents & their one-year-olds for the next school year. All other classes are full for next year but parents can call the preschool so children can be put on our waiting lists. Please contact me at 919/562-8619.

We are still enrolling rising 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds in our Summer Camp sessions. Applications can be printed from the website: www.stjohnswf.com—click on 'Preschool' & then 'Summer Camp'.

- Kristen Baron



Search Committee

Thank you all for your participation in our online/paper survey and town hall meetings. As of this writing, over 80 people have participated in the survey, and over 27 in the town hall meetings. Jane Cheek will be compiling the data, and our first draft of the parish profile should be ready for review by the search committee by the first week of April.

The parish profile will then be placed on our website

for all to see. The direct results from the survey and town hall meetings will be part of that report. Once the parish profile is complete, the position will be formally announced and promoted by the Diocese.

Thank you again for all the willing inputs. Please feel free to contact me at rob.reichmeider@ni.com with any questions.

- Rob Reichmeider

Relay for Life—May 15-16



The **Relay For Life of North Raleigh / Wake Forest** will take place **Saturday, May 15th through Sunday, May 16th at Richland Creek Community Church** (located off Burlington Mill Road, near the Ligon Mill / Burlington Mill intersection). Please consider joining our team at the Relay. It is both a fun family time, as well as an incredibly moving event honoring all those touched by cancer.

Please visit our team (**St. John's Joyful Soles**) page at www.wakeforestrely.com. If you are not able to attend, you can still help by making an online donation to one of our team's registered members. If you are a cancer survivor and would like to attend the special Survivor Dinner and ceremony on Saturday night, please let me know.

- Mary Ellen Archer

mearcher@nc.rr.com or 919-862-0471

Episcopal Youth Community—We Need You!

There are some exciting changes happening to the EYC program right now. We are in the process of furnishing the EYC room and painting a mural. We are very close to having a very comfortable and cool EYC lounge! Also, we're having a lot of fun with EYC and thought, "What could make EYC even better?" The solution is more EYC and more EYCers! So from now

on, EYC will meet every Sunday from 4 to 6 in the EYC lounge. In addition to our lovely group of 5-8 graders that are currently attending, we would like to extend an invitation to all those high schoolers out there! We look forward to seeing you all on Sunday.

*With hope, faith and love,
Jane and Daniel Cheek*

The Bishop's Visit

Thanks to everyone who helped provide a warm welcome Bishop Curry on February 28. Those who were confirmed, received or renewed their baptisms are pictured below.



Left to right: Bill & Bonnie LaBarbera, Matt Kessler, Joy Shillingsburg, Mary Ellen Archer, Holly and Tom Hunt, and Dick Monteith.



In Our Prayers



Tom Baker, Sr., Tom Baker's father
Kristen McPherson Bierline
Patrick Cancro
Carl Caudill, Jane Cheek's brother
Ginny Christie
Dawn and Heather Christie
Ruth Dancy, Mollie River's daughter
Maren Friedman
Anna Gorniak
Dot Hinton
Helen Kovacs
Barbara Kjelberg
Shirley McHose

Maria Milam
Mimi, Tori Bennett's mother
Gene Montague
Dick Monteith
Tim Mozingo
David Newkirk
Virginia Olsen
Lisa Montague Robertson, Gene Montague's daughter
Otti Pruitt, Linda Hayes' sister-in-law
George Shiflett
Joe Virant, Perri Holt's brother-in-law
Linda Wolfgang, Dave McPherson's cousin

Our Men and Women in the Armed Services:

Thomas, son of Tom & Darden Baker
John, son of Pinky & David Cooke
Derek Dinkins, Daniel Cheek's cousin
Drew Holt, Ben Miller, nephews of Lee & Perri Holt
Frank Kelly, grandson of Carol Smith

Michael Klump, brother of Kathy Binns
Michael, son of Bill & Bonnie LaBarbera
Sean Lynch, friend of Pinky & David Cooke
Ryan McDavitt



April Birthdays

01 Dot Hinton Jordan Yackira	06 Justin Bethea	13 Matthew Long	21 Lisa Hunt Morgan Nanni
02 Nathan Barham Darrel Collins	08 Will Barham Helen Borden Madeleine King	14 Jacob Holt David Paff Melanie Paff Patty Reichmeider	23 Patti Davis Vivian Jones
03 Ashley Reynolds	09 Ben Bowman John McDuffie Alice Pahl	16 Tony Graber	25 Conner Williams
04 Kevin James Ellie Champion	10 Matthew Fisher	17 Mike Allen	27 Tom Raper
05 Emily Kirkland Hannah Kirkland Jack Kirkland Jack Manley	11 Savannah Haugh Durward Mathen Denise Munz	19 John Barham	28 Sue Blake Trey Brame III Jean Root
		20 Lee Bowman Reid Calhoun Perri Holt David Wilkerson	30 Bill Goldston Emma Renfrow

Young Families Dinner—Sunday, April 11

Join our families with young children here are St. John's for a pot luck dinner **Sunday, April 11th** from 4-6 pm in the Parish Hall. This is great way to meet some new folks and have your children burn off some energy on the

playground before dinner! Please contact Brooke Dickhart for more details: brookedickhart@yahoo.com or 562-3853.

St. John's Fundraiser—Easy and Clean!

Spring is Here. Can the Pollen be Far Behind? We are offering a great opportunity to keep our cars clean and help narrow St. John's budget gap, while you take a tax deduction of \$6.97 for each wash!

St. John's is partnering with Auto Bell Car Wash to provide this service. Auto Bell has 51 locations in the Raleigh area, the nearest is on Capital Blvd. just north of Durant Road, conveniently placed for your trip home from the mall! A full



service car wash is \$13.95 and for each one that we sell, St. John's keeps \$6.97! If each family sells 10 coupons we could make up to \$4,000! The coupons have no expiration date.

Coupons will be available April 10th, so please be on the lookout for them or place your order now with Jeannette or Alan Kettle.



Ministry Assignments

Calendar	Acolytes	Readers	Chalicians	Greeters	Ushers	Altar Guild	Lessons	Sermon
4-Apr Easter	8:00 Conner Williams 10:00 John McDuffie Sidney Osborne Jack Osborne and Jayne Bennett	Jan Williams Lisa Hunt Vivian Jones	Bob Bidwell James Davenport	John Rich and Melanie Murphy	Greg Williams Harold Davis Louis Mullinger	Sharon Davenport and Kenille Baumgardner	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 1 Corinthians 15:19-26 John 20:1-18	Ann Burts
11-Apr	8:00 Bob Bidwell 10:00 Trevor Telenko Philip Paige Emma Daw	Bob Bidwell Donna King Rob Massey	Bob Bidwell Harold Davis	Alfie Adams Jenny Brewer	Larry Demanovich Jim Davenport Al Hinton	Elizabeth McDuffie and Patti Reichmeider	Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 150 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31	Ann Burts
18-Apr	8:00 Bob Bidwell 10:00 TBA TBA TBA	Elwood Munz Louis Mullinger Al Reynolds	Bob Bidwell TBA	Jim and Sharon Davenport	Al Reynolds Tim Matchunis Durward Matheny	Arline McCullough and Denise Munz	Acts 9:1-6 Psalm 30 Revelation 5:11-14 John 21:1-19	Ann Burts
25-Apr	8:00 Conner Williams 10:00 TBA TBA TBA	Jan Williams John Rich Laura Santos	Bob Bidwell TBA	Harold Davis Vivian Jones	Greg Williams Michael McDuffie Dave McPherson	Vivian Jones and Melanie Murphy	Acts 9:36-43 Psalm 23 Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30	Gene Montague



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Communications Team:
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Tara and Brian Henderson
Perri Holt
Laura Santos
Chris Walkup

Building the Body of Christ

From the Parish Register



Transfers - *Give them courage, patience, vision and strength in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others.*

Gregory and Christina Kastendike, sons **Samuel** and **Charles**; **Carol Clise** from Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Newton, NC

Adam Cohen and **Selena Derouet Cohen**, sons **Evan, Ryan** and **Aidan**; **Ken** and **Gail Marsh** from Holy Innocents, Henderson, NC

Scot and **Toni Clement**, daughter **Lisa** to First United Methodist Church, Wilson, NC

Died - *That they may go from strength to strength*

Cameron Waddell Lee Sr., Eddie Lee's father, on March 17.

Newcomers: Are you a newcomer? Do you feel like a newcomer to St. John's? Save the date: **Sunday May 16th** between the services for a "Welcome to St John's" breakfast!

Receive the Newsletter by Email! Please help us defray our postage costs by requesting to receive The Epistle electronically. Call the church office or email Catherine at cmassey@stjohnswf.com.