



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

Volume 24, Issue 1

January 2012

St. John's Episcopal Church

# January Epistle

## From the Rector

Dear Friends,

A new year begins, and with it come new opportunities and new challenges.

If you attended our annual meeting December 11 or have been reading the Epistle and bulletins, you will already know that St. John's is facing some serious financial challenges in 2012. Our stewardship campaign in the fall raised only about the same amount as last year, which with rising costs means that we are unable to do some of the things we wanted to do in 2012.

While our financial situation is frustrating, it need not be paralyzing for us. As a church, we have so many gifts, talents and abilities that we can use to glorify God and grow our parish. Specifically, I am thinking about our desire to grow our programs for children and youth. We may indeed not have the money to hire someone for those programs, but we certainly have the wherewithal to build those programs anyway.

As we begin this new year, I ask that we all commit together to pray for, vision for, and work for the youth and children's programs we so want and need. God has given us so many gifts; let's pray together and find ways to use those gifts for the benefit of our young members.

When you have suggestions, ideas and offers to help with this, please talk with me. Let's make 2012 the year we really make this happen.

Yours in Christ,  
*Vicki +*

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## Announcements

**Prayer List Reminder:** The opportunity to pray corporately for our loved ones and friends who are ill or in the military is very important to us at St. John's. In an effort to help keep our prayer lists current, we will begin the lists anew on the first Sunday in February. If you have someone you would like included on the new lists, please let the office know—we will be more than happy to include them. It would also be helpful if those who put loved ones on the lists would remove those names when the need no longer exists.

### Visitor and New Member Shepherds:

In our effort to welcome and include visitors and new members, we are seeking volunteers willing to serve as Shepherds for those who are new to our parish. If this is a ministry you feel called to and would like to take part in, please let Vicki know.

**Book Group:** The inaugural meeting of St. John's Book Group will be Monday, January 9 at 7 pm in the parish hall.

We'll be discussing My Jesus Year by Benjamin Cohen. We will also make some plans for future reading and meetings. Come join us!

**New Vestry Members:** Welcome to our new vestry members: Paul Farrell, Dave Roberts, Tom Hunt and Carol Smith. Thank you for taking on this important ministry in our parish.

## Sr. Warden's Corner

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Greetings, and best wishes for a good new year to all. As many of you heard at the annual meeting, 2011 was a good year in many ways for St John's. We welcomed Mother Vicki and Kevin to our congregation, and she has made a strong beginning to her ministry among us. We have new leadership in several ministries, including our Sunday school. Helen Houdek came on board as organist, and the choir is growing. A good group of volunteers is helping in the office. ECW has new leaders. We made good progress on needed maintenance of our buildings.

Though we were a little short on our income, we managed to reduce expenses to stay close to a balanced budget (I'm writing this in December, so we don't yet know the final numbers).

Of course, we also left some challenges for 2012. We have a proposed budget which does not cover everything we want to do this year. We are talking with the diocesan administration about the fact that we may not be able to pay our full Fair Share this year. We want to strengthen or start a number of ministries—including EYC, ECW, Christian education, Bible and book study groups, and our ministries to the sick, shut-ins, and newcomers. We will have to find resources for some of these, but as we all pitch in to make these happen, we will find the rewards are greater than we expect. I am looking forward to a great 2012, and hope you are as well.

*Peace,  
Reid Calhoun*

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# CHOIR RETREAT

***ALL who like to praise God in song are welcome!***

## **Schedule:**

**Singing, prayer, devotions, fun and fellowship**

8:30am: Light breakfast and fellowship

Noon: Bring your own bag lunch and enjoy fellowship

3:00pm: Communion service with Mother Vicki

**With MORE MEN we can greatly expand our repertoire!**



**Saturday, January 28, 2012  
8:30am-3:30pm**

## Preschool News

Registration for the 2012-2013 preschool year is upon us. An **Open House** for prospective families will be held on Friday, **January 20th at 10:00am**. At that time parents can take a tour, receive detailed information, and pick up the application. Please call the preschool to sign up for the Open House at: 562-8619.

**Priority and Open Registration** will take place the **week of January 23**. Applications and registration fees can be brought to the preschool between 9:30 am - 12:00 pm; Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> through Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>. Priority is given to current students, church members, and then siblings of current students. A lottery is conducted for community members for remaining spots. Registered members of St. John's in good standing for the previous year can apply for reduced registration fees.



The preschool is offering: a One Year Old Parent /Tot Playgroup (current group pictured above), 3 Two Year Old classes, 2 Three Year Old classes, and 2 Four Year Old classes next year. Days and tuition rates can be found in the preschool brochure and on the church website at [www.stjohnswf.net](http://www.stjohnswf.net). We are pleased to announce that we will be extending the school year by four weeks next year so preschool will begin the last week of August and will end the second week of June.

The preschool is always open to church members; if anyone from the parish would like a tour prior to the 20th or has questions, feel free to stop by anytime between 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. If you have little ones who will be between the ages of 1 to 4 before August of 2012, we encourage you to check out the preschool. St. John's Preschool is well regarded in the early education community for its developmentally appropriate academic curriculum. Christian values and character building form the core of our program, and an emphasis is placed on teaching children to be good stewards of all God has given us.

A 1950's Daddy/Daughter Dance for girls up to age six and their special guy will be held on February 4<sup>th</sup> in the parish hall. Tickets and corsages can be purchased at the preschool. Church members Amy McDavitt, Mary Ellen Archer and Becky Houston can tell you how much fun their daughters and their dads had last year! Call us at 562-8619 for more information or send us an email at [kbaron@stjohnswf.com](mailto:kbaron@stjohnswf.com).

*Happy New Year everyone!*  
*Kristen Baron, Director*



# A Philosophy of Church Music

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A question the Music Search Committee did not ask me that I'd like to answer at this time is: What is my philosophy of church music? My answer is three-fold.

1. Church music should honor our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It should glorify Him and Him alone. It should be the highest quality possible under whatever circumstances exist in any particular church. There is a great deal more to say here. However, the next two parts are what I feel led to share with you at this time.

2. Church music should undergird the vision and desire of the pastor, minister or priest, in this case, Vicki Smith. God has placed her in the position of spiritual leader. It is what she wants to take place in the service that counts and I vow to support her in any way possible.

Church music should also edify the congregation. To this end I have always elicited from the congregation what they would like to hear or sing: a favorite hymn, anthem or piece of music that holds special meaning. These were always incorporated into the service as soon as possible. At St. John's I had a whole bulletin board full of suggestions. I've also had a number of complaints about the hymns—too slow, too fast, too loud, too soft and as of last week, too unknown.

I left the Episcopal church when I was 18 years old. I am unfamiliar with the 1982 Hymnal so I use the Musician's handbook to aid my selections. Apparently, St. John's congregation is as unfamiliar with the 1982 Hymnal as I am. For every problem, there is at least a compromise if not a solution. I look for solutions. I have asked certain choir members who have been at St. John's for a long time to review with me my selections to determine whether the choir and the congregation would be able to sing them. Of course, every once in a while a new hymn is good for the soul.

Another part of the problem is an acoustical issue. The two large speakers in the sanctuary are out of balance. Facing the choir loft, the speaker on the left houses the stops called "principals" and it is set too loud. The speaker on the right houses the stops called "flutes" and is set too soft. The solution would cost between \$300 and \$500, but it would be very messy. The screws holding the screens have been puttied and painted shut. It would also require repainting. So for now, please excuse the too loud/too soft organ.

3. As a choir director I endeavor to instruct, encourage and build up individual choir members. Our choir is very dedicated and hard working. Many of them come in for extra help apart from our regular rehearsal, because they want to offer their best to God. They deserve to be heard. They are supposed to be heard. The Music Search Committee warned me that the acoustics in our sanctuary are less than adequate. I have found that to be grossly understated. The huge wall which forms a cave-like area called the choir loft prevents much of the sound of the singing from making its way to the congregation. The other night we did a little experiment with Milly Nelligar. She stood in the sanctuary to listen for balance and then came up to the choir loft. She was very surprised at how much louder the singing was when she came upstairs. Problem! The solution I have come up with is to have the choir sing downstairs. The objection has been that the congregation claps! I have no objection to clapping WHEN it is an emotional response to the music, if the music speaks to you or was meaningful in some way. You then become part of the music. However, I have been assured that the clapping comes from a sense of obligation and embarrassment. This is NOT acceptable. The solution? Let's agree not to clap. Let's say that St. John's Episcopal Church in Wake Forest, NC does not clap! An acceptable response and one that I use myself is an audible "amen" if one feels the urge to respond.

St. John's is a remarkable Church. So many members are so passionate and so involved in so many ministries. There is "Joy of Christmas," TAM, dinner for shut-ins after Thanksgiving, and beautiful flower arrangements for shut-ins. Many people faithfully and cheerfully man the front office during the week. Others maintain the grounds. Grace Edwards with her own time and expense planted the lovely winter garden we pass by as we enter for worship every week. Patti Davis takes the time to write you those birthday remembrance cards each week. What about all those people who prepare the altar and decorate the altar with beautiful flowers, or those who provide

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January ushers in a new year and a new season of hope for Christian women everywhere. With the colder months sometimes come dreary days and evenings, so my goal is to liven up some of those times with monthly activities for the women of St. John's.

Beginning with the end of this month, I'd like to find out who may be interested in going to dinner and/or a movie as a group. Are we interested in doing this monthly? I would also like to host a Valentine's get together at my home on Sunday afternoon, February 12<sup>th</sup>. After I speak with Vicki to be sure there are no conflicts on the calendar, I will be sending out emails to confirm and provide the details. I thought we could enjoy some warm beverages, and get to know each other better. View your weekly announcements and the February Epistle for further information.

Then I'd like to see us have a "Parade of Tables" event for the early Spring, possibly in the third week of March. We would sponsor a table of 6-8 women, many of whom we would invite from our neighbors and friends, to sit at a theme inspired table that we have decorated to

have coffee, tea, and light fare as well as some form of entertainment. I'd like to invite a guest author/speaker. We could have prizes, raffles or a silent auction too. The money raised could go to Nets for Life and/or help the parish to contribute to the diocesan giving.

I would also like to schedule a trip to see some botanical gardens before the end of April or early May. How about a Mother's Day event where we invite our mothers or some mother who does not have a daughter around to share in some fellowship, to participate in a luncheon and fashion show? These and other ideas are culled from the many responses we received at the ECW tea last September. Thank you to everyone for your previous and future input.

My contact information to give me your insight and suggestions on what I have mentioned here is: 919-435-7021 (telephone) or [ckteach@nc.rr.com](mailto:ckteach@nc.rr.com) (email).

*Have a wonderful, healthy, prosperous and loving 2012!  
Christine Knights*

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## A Philosophy of Church Music— continued from page 4

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fantastic coffee and refreshments after service? There are those who serve as readers, on the vestry, on the various committees, volunteers for the Christmas pageant and VBS. This place couldn't run without them. (Please forgive me if I've missed your ministry.)



The choir is also a ministry of St. John's. We are not a clique, exclusive and separate from the rest of the congregation. It is not a case of the choir against the congregation and the congregation against the choir. We are all the body of Christ (Romans 12: 3-8). Jesus prayed that we would be one as He and His Father are one (John 17: 20-23). Let's look for solutions, not focus on problems, so that we can be one with each other and one with Jesus Christ as we claim to be when we call ourselves "Christian."

Paul, in Galatians 5, calls enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, and envy works of the flesh and warns us against competing with one another. He contrasts those things with the fruit of the Spirit which is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Which will you choose?

*Thank you and God bless,  
Helen Houdek*

## In Our Prayers



Tad Berube  
Kathy and Joe Binns  
Michelle Brame  
Sam Brown  
Patrick Cancro  
Angel and Wes Caudill  
Doris Chapman  
Jay Chapman  
Ann Copley  
Virginia Currie  
Jimmy Cushing  
Mark Dunn  
Murray Dunn  
Frankie Epps  
Betty Fuller  
Marie and Hudson Hamilton  
Linda Hartnett  
Alice Hill  
Bobby Hill  
Kathleen Howard  
Nelda Huffstetler  
Jack Hunt  
Alice Jordan  
Christina Kaye  
Kenneth and Samantha

Susan Lee  
Robert Lownes  
Pat Maiocco  
Joe Marsh  
Shane McKewen  
Mestas family  
Bill Miller  
Lidia Miller  
Dick Monteith  
Tim Mozingo  
Elwood Munz  
Virginia Olsen  
Anthony Ottley  
Nora Ottley  
Mark Paige  
John Paulonis  
Theresa Pergerson  
Gary Pike  
William Presson  
Jim Rainero  
Marisa Rosa  
George Shiflett  
George and Dana Telenko  
Gail Thompson

Karen Tinker  
Betty Kadison Warren  
Linda Wolfgang  
Rochelle Zaino

### Our Men / Women in Armed Services:

Amanda Altman, Vicki Smith's cousin  
Thomas, Tom and Darden Baker's son  
Brian Clark  
John, Pinky and David Cooke's son  
Michele Cooke  
S. Bryan Cooke  
Derek Dinkins, Daniel Cheek's cousin  
Guy Jordan  
Drew Holt, Ben Miller, Daniel Virant,  
Lee and Perri Holt's nephews  
Chris Jones  
Charles Kelley  
Frank Kelly, Carol Smith's grandson  
Michael, Bill and Bonnie LaBarbera's son  
Michael Klump, Kathy Binns' brother  
Sean Lynch, Pinky and David Cooke's friend  
Ryan McDavitt  
Steven  
Phillip Tinker  
Kyle Weinell

## January Birthdays



2 Michael Santos	12 Kacey Hall	21 Reese Clark	27 Mayla Gilliam
3 Mary Privette	Nicolas Roberts	Jamie Harris	Todd Hall
4 Jack Davis	13 Dave Roberts	Tim Mozingo	28 Susan Gilliam
Emma Daw	14 Mollie Apollony	Anthony Ketring	Ann Puszczynski
Thomas Hunt	Kristen Hellier	22 Gail Calhoun	29 Carter Harris
Margaret Lynne Weaver	15 Logan Wilder	Bonnie LaBarbera	30 Judy Baran
5 Jean Leppek	Pheiffer Wilder	Michelle Johnson	Lori Barrows
7 Trevor Kovacks	16 Shawn Long	23 Tom Manley	Jake McDavitt
Vivian Shillingsburg	Holly Lownes	Bob McCamy	31 Samantha Barham
8 William Turner	17 Jack Derrick	24 Chris Duke	Ryan Dickhart
9 Carleigh Bethea	Donna King	James Morrison	Catherine Stelzenmuller
10 Jay Seeman	18 Helen Bowen	Tylden Turner	
11 Jennifer Clark	20 Drew Bridges	26 Kelly Collins	
Jennifer Lauria	Ellen Christie	Mercer Godier	
		Debra Husinko	

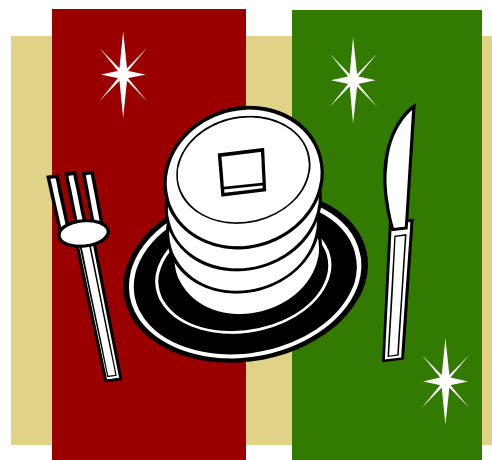
# January Ministry Assignments

Date		Acolytes	Readers	Chalicians	Greeters	Ushers	Flower Guild	Altar Guild	Lessons	Sermon
Jan 8	8:00	Shane Morse	Cathy Plaut	Tom Baker	A. Armstrong A. McCullough	Alton Hare			Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29	Vicki Smith
	10:00	Trevor Daw Anna Armstrong Daniel Brittingham	Al Hinton Carol Smith	K. Baumgardner Dewey Jordan		Harold Davis Al Hinton	Shirley McHose	Carole Friedman Bonnie LaBarbera	Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11	
Jan 15	8:00	John McDuffie	Bob Bidwell	Katherine Ferguson		L. Demonovich	Pinky Cooke	K. Demonovich K. Baumgardner	1 Samuel 3:1-10 Psalm 139:1-5	Vicki Smith
	10:00	Stephanie Thomas Jack Presson Chandler Presson	Maggie Shalar Chris Walkup Christina Kastendike	Jim Davenport Carole Friedman	Don Champion Gail Champion	M. McDuffie Bill LaBarbera			1 Cor. 6:12-20 John 1:43-51	
Jan 22	8:00	Shane Morse	Eleas Ottley	Bob Bidwell		Louis Mullinger	Sharon Davenport	Miriam Hourz Melanie Murphy	Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:6-14	Gene Montague
	10:00	Jayne Bennett Tyler Bennett Simon Daw	Christine Knights Daniel Cheek David Bennett	Carol Paulonis E. McDuffie	Dorie Allen Gail Calhoun	John Rich Carol Friedman			1 Cor. 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20	
Jan 29	8:00	Jack Kessler	Zach Ross	Catherine Massey	Jean Lepek	Mike Morse	Christine Knights	Jenny Brewer S. Davenport	Deut. 18:15-20 Psalm 111	Vicki Smith
	10:00	Sophie Holmes Henry Allen Mary Thibodeau	Dave Roberts Delany Thibodeau Donna King	Kevin Smith Christine Knights	Harold Davis Patti Davis	Bill Batton Frank Toney			1 Cor. 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28	

## A Delicious Way to Help Church Net

We are selling tickets for a scrumptious pancake breakfast at Applebee's to be served on **Saturday, January 14, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am**. Tickets are only \$7 and Church Net gets \$5 from each ticket sold.

See Carolyn Stoklas or Monica Brewbaker after the 8:00 am service or Joe Paulonis after the 10:00 am service to purchase a ticket. Help Church Net and enjoy a great breakfast!





St. John's Episcopal Church

P.O. Box 608  
Wake Forest, NC 27588

**Phone:** 919-556-3656  
**Fax:** 919-554-9581

**Website:** [www.stjohnswf.net](http://www.stjohnswf.net)

**Communications Team:**

Christine Knights  
Tara and Brian Henderson  
Perri Holt  
Laura Santos  
Chris Walkup

**Building the Body of Christ**

*Please consider helping us conserve our resources.  
Contact the church office to receive the Epistle electronically.*



## Joy of Christmas Recap

**Joy of Christmas** had another success this year. The St. John's family made it possible to help twelve families and six seniors. The ECW would like to thank everyone who purchased a gift for a child. We would especially like to thank the team leaders: **Abby Presson, Sharon Davenport, Becky Dunn, Lynn Bartholomew, Kenille Baumgardner, Monica Brewbaker, Jean Leppek, Jo Ann Wootten, Carole Friedman, Edna Toney, and Joyce McPherson.** A special thanks to **Julie Arthur** who organized the six seniors that we helped.

This was the first year the **EYC** helped with the Joy of Christmas and without their help we could never have organized the food so fast; you kids are great!

