



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

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March 2011

St. John's Episcopal Church

March Epistle

From The Rector

Dear Friends,

I think that we are having our own version of March Madness at St. John's! There's so much going on this month that we're all going to have pay close attention to keep track of it all.

We begin with the Celebration of New Ministry on Tuesday, March 1st at 7 pm. Bishop Curry will be our celebrant and preacher as I am installed as your new rector.

On Sunday, March 6th at 10 am we will baptize five new saints in the kingdom of God.

On Tuesday, March 8th we will gather for our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper from 5-7 pm in the fellowship hall. Donations received will go to our youth program.

Wednesday, March 9th is Ash Wednesday. We will have services at noon and 7 pm, both including communion and the imposition of ashes. There will also be music at the 7 pm service.

On Sunday, March 13th, Kevin Smith will begin his adult education program on

Church and State. This class will meet at 9 am in the fellowship hall on March 13th and 27th and April 3rd and 10th.

On Wednesdays in Lent, we will gather at 11:45 am in the church for Holy Eucharist.

On Wednesday, March 16th we will begin our Lenten suppers and programs. We need soup making volunteers to provide our meals (March 16th, 23rd, 30th and April 6th and 13th) and our program will be based on *Were You There? Finding Ourselves at the Foot of the Cross*.

Dinner will take place from 5:30 to 6:30 pm and the program will end by 7:15 pm.

Sunday, March 20th we will welcome Bishop Marble for confirmation and his annual visitation. **There will be one service at 10 am**, and the bishop will meet with the vestry after church.

Finally, March 25-27, the vestry will be on its annual retreat at Trinity Center. The Reverends Mid and Joanne Wooten will be leading our worship on the 27th.

St. John's is always a busy place but especially so this March. Please take advantage of as many of these opportunities as possible for worship, fellowship, prayer and study. They offer a great chance to grow in faith and community.

Yours in Christ,
Vicki +

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Senior Warden's Corner



I want to say a few words about one of the most important areas of ministry at St. John's – the ministry of our young people. We are blessed with many children, and their role is increasing. We currently have about 30 youth participating as acolytes and more in Church School. Some of these are also participating in our Youth Group, and many will soon be old enough to do so. Kids are also serving in areas that are not youth-specific. Two are in the choir. Four participated at the Columbarium work day last month – and a special shout-out here to Jack Kessler, who loaded mulch into wheelbarrows until I thought he would drop!

Two items in the diocesan newsletter that caught my eye were that mid-March is the cutoff for applications to *Happening* and *EYE*. Our sons participated in both these events as teenagers when we were at St. John's in Charlotte and found them very rewarding occasions. I can recommend both to any high-school age kids willing to go.

Happening is a diocesan-wide, youth-led renewal weekend (the next one is at the end of March, the 56th for Diocese of North Carolina). *EYE* (Episcopal Youth Event) is a national youth event for high school age Episcopalians held every 3 years and will be in Minnesota this Summer. I'm not aware of any of our members going to either of these, but I certainly hope we can change that in time for the next *EYE*, and for *Happening* next year. It would be great if we had some sign up for this year's gatherings too!

We have been blessed to have Dan and Jane Cheek leading the EYC for several years. They have concentrated on the Jr. High youth and included Sr. High on some activities. We need to provide an opportunity for these kids as they age up to continue with youth work at St. John's. If working with a group of great kids is a gift of yours or even an area of some interest, please talk with Vicki or myself.

Peace,
Reid Calhoun

Green Committee—It's Wonderful Being Green!

As we all know, being good stewards of all God's creation includes stewardship of our environment. There are so many ways to be green that one may not be sure just where to start. In the words of Saint Francis of Assisi, "Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

This year, Earth Day falls on Good Friday, April 22nd. As part of our personal reflection during the Lenten season,



some of us practice the custom of giving something up and others take on something new.

If you're thinking about taking on something new as part of your Lenten reflection, perhaps you may want to consider doing something towards good stewardship of God's creation. You can start at church as the Green Team is working to provide recycling bins, starting with a bin for used batteries. Are you receiving the newsletter in the mail? How about receiving it via email, or viewing it online? At home, consider using filtered water versus bottled water or carrying reusable bags to the grocery store.

More ideas are coming from the Green Team, so please keep an eye on the newsletter and a new bulletin board coming soon!

- Gail Marsh

Miscellaneous News



Green and Clean For Spring: The Green Committee is offering a great opportunity to keep your cars clean and raise money for St. John's, while enabling you to take a tax deduction of \$7.47 for each wash. By using Autobell Car Wash you protect the environment from harmful waste water, and you will be saving water, which is crucial—especially during the summer months.

Auto Bell has 51 locations, the nearest is on Capital Blvd. just north of Durant Road. A full service car wash costs \$14.95 and for each one that we sell, St. John's keeps \$7.47! The coupons have no expiration date.

Coupons will be available March 13th, so please look out for them or place your order now with a member of the Green Committee: Kenille Baumgardner, Daniel Cheek, Jane Cheek, Jeannette Kettle, Gail Marsh, Julia Mielish, Joe Paulonis, Laura Santos, and Russell Smith.

Lenten Soup Suppers: Come join us for dinner and conversation on **Wednesday evenings in Lent**. We'll gather for a light meal at 5:30 (volunteer soup makers needed) followed by conversations based on the book *Were You There? Finding Ourselves at the Foot of the Cross*. We'll close the evening with Compline and end by 7:15 pm. Join us on March 16th, 23rd, 30th, and April 6th and 13th.



Celebration of New Ministry will take place on Tuesday, **March 1st at 7 pm**. Y'all Come!

Ash Wednesday: Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, **March 9th**. We will have services of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at noon (spoken service) and 7 pm (with hymns). This is an important opportunity to begin this important season.



Special Adult Education Program during Lent: Please join Kevin Smith at **9 am on Sundays during Lent** (March 13th and 27th, April 3rd and 10th; there will not be a class on March 20th due to Bishop Marble's visit) for a series of discussions about Church and State in America. Kevin is an attorney with a special interest in these issues and is looking

forward to discussing them with you. Please call or email the church office to sign up so that we can select an appropriate room for the size of the group.



Bishop's Visit: Bishop Marble will be with us for confirmation and his annual visitation on Sunday, **March 20th**. We will only have one service that Sunday at 10 am so we can participate together in this great event.

There will be a special reception after the service, and then the bishop will meet with the vestry.

Vestry Retreat: The Vestry Retreat will be **March 25th-27th**. Thanks to Mid and Joanne Wooten for leading our Sunday worship that weekend!

Young Families Dinner: The next Young Families Dinner will be on Sunday afternoon, **March 20th**, from 4 to 6 pm. Please join us for a potluck dinner and some wonderful fellowship! Contact Mary Ellen Archer at mearcher@nc.rr.com for more information.



Grounds Committee: If you cannot read the sign on the handsome orange tractor, it reads: "FREE TRACTOR RIDES EVERY SATURDAY APR-OCT!" Be on the lookout for more information and a sign-up sheet circulating from the Grounds Committee. Thanks to all who helped make our grounds look great last year and we hope to see more of you in the upcoming season. Contact Matt Kessler with questions at jmk43677@gmail.com.



Stewardship Corner

Sometimes things happen in our lives which call into question, “What in life is really important?” My wife and I have started off the new year with more challenges than usual. In January, we experienced the loss of a close friend who died from leukemia, an older brother being diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig’s disease), and my wife being empowered to start a new job search – also known as being laid off. And all of this has caused us to ask a lot of questions about our life, our finances, what is important, and how best to stay grounded during this unsettling time. But at this point you might be asking yourself, “What does this have to do with Stewardship?”

Recently I read that *Stewardship* was defined as “What we do, with all that we have, after we say ‘I believe’.” When we go through a tough time, that “I believe” may be tested, but regardless of how the year has started, Gail and I know we are truly blessed. We are blessed by the people we know and have known, by family, by belonging to St. John’s, and by our jobs of past, present, and future. We believe all that we have received is testament to God’s generous grace and love. We ease our current suffering with the promise of hope to come through faith and remembrance of the Prayer of St. Francis: “For it is in giving that we receive.” We are focusing not on what we have lost but on what we have and how best to use our blessings to see us through our difficulties.

St. John’s is one of those blessings and we are grateful that, as a church family, we enjoy a circle of giving and receiving. Collectively, we give in many ways: preparing for and serving during worship services, contributing to the offertory, TAM, ChurchNet and other worthy causes, helping out with Sunday school and the nursery, hosting coffee

hour, working with our young people, volunteering in the office and around the grounds, providing for those in need both within our parish and throughout our community – the list goes on and on. At the same time, we receive in many ways: renewal during worship services from inspirational, thought-provoking sermons, affirming our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed, praying for our own needs and those of others, fellowship during coffee hour and other parish activities, comfort and support from friends and clergy, and fulfillment from the opportunities we create to make a difference in people’s lives. Again, the list goes on and on, but our ultimate gift is that God has “graciously accepted us as living members of His Son our Savior Jesus Christ” and the best way we can show our appreciation is to “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord” (BCP).

Practicing faithful stewardship allows us to recognize God’s abundant love for us and, in doing so, focus on what we have instead of what we lose. While there are times we are challenged, we are also blessed in God’s abundant life. As Gail and I reconcile the ways of old and new, adjusting to the losses of friends and family, as well as the anxiety of uncertainty, we also embrace the possibilities ahead of us. It is in our faith, in the breaking of bread with our family and friends, that we find new life. And in that new life we give thanks.

As we prepare for Lent, most of us will either give up or take on something to enrich our walk in Christ. This Lent, what will you give up or take on in the midst of your challenges to enrich your walk with Christ in preparation for the Resurrection of new life? Stewardship, as well as Lent, is a tool that we can use to enrich our Christian Formation journey. Each is a way to offer thanks through the giving of our time, talents, and treasure. But let us remember this – Lent is a season of the Christian calendar, while Stewardship is “What I do, with all that I have, after I say ‘I believe’” every day of the year.

- Ken Marsh,
Stewardship Committee Member

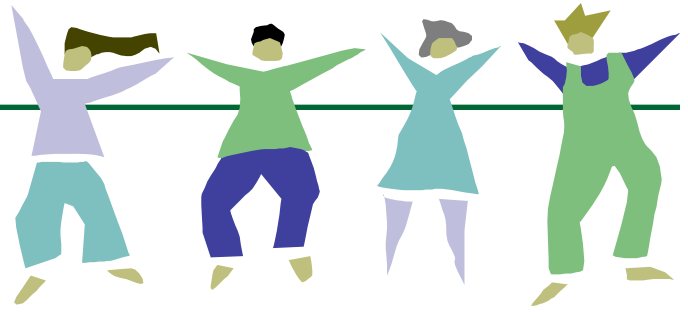


Episcopal Youth Community

A few years ago, Daniel and I took on the mission of creating a youth group for our middle school-aged parishioners. Since that time, we have had the pleasure of working with the EYC through many changes.

Jr. EYC has grown substantially from the one member present at our first meeting (thank you Trevor Telenko!) to a group of over a dozen youth. We have recently dropped the “Jr.” as our oldest member began high school this year, so are now just St. John’s EYC. We have our very own room in the education building, furnished completely by donations from our congregation. We have a budget for the first time this year and are no longer reliant solely on creative fundraising, and our merry band of friends has truly become a community of its own. I get the “warm fuzzies” when our EYCsers, who didn’t know each other well at all during those first few meetings, text one another about Sunday meetings, share secrets, and support and help one another.

For the past few years, EYC has grown and changed, and now they are getting to see the Cheek family grow and change (and my belly!). Daniel and I are expecting our first child, a boy, around May 10th. We are very excited about the addition to our family and have worked hard around the house to prepare.



We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the changes that this addition will bring to our lives both away from and at church. We will soon have to plan date nights in advance, and I’m sure they will become much more precious! We will be putting a child seat behind one of our bikes for our trips to the Farmer’s Market, and we will have to get to church even earlier to make time to drop the little one off at the nursery.

With all of these fun changes, comes a bittersweet one. Daniel and I will soon be stepping back our duties with EYC in order to have more family (and nap!) time. As a result, we are asking for help from St. John’s. We would like to continue working with EYC one to two Sundays a month and are looking for volunteers to lead EYC the remaining Sundays.

We realize that while we feel that our work with EYC is fun, easy, and rewarding, it could be intimidating to anyone who hasn’t worked with youth frequently before. To help convince you of how wonderful EYC is, we are inviting all interested volunteers to come to some meetings. You can just pop in and observe a few times and see if you think EYC is the right ministry for you. Over the summer, we will gather all interested volunteers for a dinner and “training” night to get everyone ready and on the same foot before EYC starts up again in the fall.

To check our meeting schedule, go to the EYC blog at www.StJohnsjrEYC.blogspot.com. You can contact Daniel or me at StJohnsjrEYC@gmail.com if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing some new grown up faces at EYC and are excited about introducing our “merry band of friends” to more of the congregation!

Thank you and God Bless,
Jane Cheek

In Our Prayers

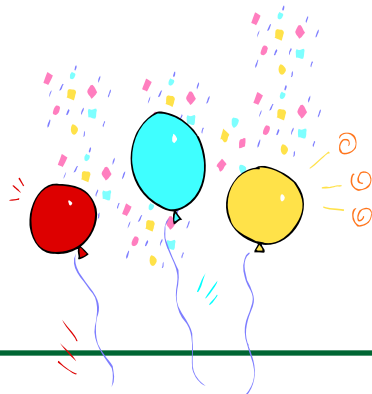


Kathy and Joe Binns
Brenda Brown
Sam Brown
Patrick Cancro
Gene Chalk
Virginia Currie
Jimmy Cushing
Jeff Dickhart
Murray Dunn
Frankie Epps
Stephen Felligno
Berry Fuller
Marie & Hudson Hamilton
Jack Hunt
Christina Kaye
Helen Kovacs
Pat Maiocco
Gail and Ken Marsh
Joe Marsh
Shane McKewen
Mestas family
Maria Milam

Abigayle Claire Monteith
Dick Monteith
Tim Mozingo
Elwood Munz
Catherine Newton
Virginia Olsen
Anthony Ottley
Nora Ottley
Mark Paige
Maria Rosa
George Shiflett
Harriet Stuckey,
 Perri Holt's sister
George and Dana Telenko
Karen Tiner
Linda Wolfgang,
 Dave McPherson's cousin
Rochelle Zaino

Our Men / Women in Armed Services:

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



March Birthdays

03 Matthew Presson	09 Jayne Bennett	16 Eleanor Earley	24 Sarah Ludlow
04 Michael McDuffie	Bill Leppek	17 Patrick Busse	25 Suzanna Neeley-Bridges
Steve Price	Daniel Warriner	Daniel Cheek	Lauren Smith
Abigail Telenko	10 Harold Davis Jr.	Caroline Jones	JoAnn Wootten
05 Connor Bell	Sharon Davenport	Russell Knights	26 Nick Matchunis
Al Pasocello	Charles Hale	James Schaeffer	27 Ben Munz
Mary Rodrigues	Patrick Ingram	18 Kate McDavitt	Thomas Shirland Jr.
06 Randall Ray	Mark Reed	Vann McDuffie	28 Tim Matchunis
Dan McCullough	David Vohwinkel	20 Bill Houtz	Chris Mertz
Brady Wilson	David Williams Jr.	Scott Northrup	29 Jonathon Farrell
07 Ken Christie	11 Jill Ferris	21 Sharon Spangler	Roger Melvin
08 Meredith Massey	12 Dagmar Derrick	Kelly Weinel	30 Virginia Currie
Michael Morse	13 Dylan Reedman	22 Cameron Hicks	Krystal Kramer
Alexandra Husinko	Henry Roberts	John Melvin	
	14 Jan Raper	Will Williams III	

St. John's Preschool

The preschool had a busy February. The highlight of the month was definitely the first-ever Daddy/Daughter Dance! Daughters under age 7 wore their very best dresses and corsages and were accompanied by their handsome fathers. The parish hall was transformed into a valentine paradise by hard-working volunteers. Dads and daughters



enjoyed homemade desserts, danced into the night and had formal photos taken by preschool mom and photographer Lauren Manfreda.

Special thanks to Mary Ellen Archer, Mary Margaret Godier, Amy McDavitt, Kirsten Moore, Christina Kastendike, and many other preschool moms for raising funds for the preschool and for making special memories for dads and their princesses!

The preschool currently has an opening in the Monday/Wednesday/Thursday 3-year-old class. There is one opening in the Tuesday/Thursday 2-year-old class for the 2011-2012 school year. There are also spots open in the 1-year-old Parent/Tot Playgroup for next year.

Summer camp registration for rising 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds has begun. More information and the application can be found on the website: www.stjohnswf.net.

For information about preschool or summer camp enrollment, please call or email Kristen Baron at 562-8619 and kbaron@stjohnswf.com. - Kristen



March Ministry Assignments

Calendar	Acolytes	Readers	Chalice	Greeters	Ushers	Flower Guild	Altar Guild	Lessons	Sermon	
06-Mar	Baptism	8:00 Jack Kessler	Cathy Plaut	Katherine Ferguson				Exodus 24:12-18	Vikki Smith	
		Shane Morse				Shirley Matheny	Murphy and Houtz	2 Peter 1:16-21		
		10:00 John McDuffie	Al Hinton	Harold Davis		Joe Paulonis		Matthew 17:1-9		
		Daniel Brittinghar	David Bennett	Carole Friedman		Bill Labarbera		Psalm 2 or		
13-Mar		8:00 Jack Presson	Jan Williams	Bob Bidwell				Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	Vikki Smith	
		Connor Hicks					Arline McCullough and Denise Munz	Romans 5:12-19		
		10:00 Sydney Osborne	Carol Smith	Carol Paulonis		Bill Batton		Matthew 4:1-11		
		Sydney Wright	Dave Roberts	Elizabeth McDuffie		Dave McPherson		Psalm 32		
20-Mar	Confirmation	8:00 John McDuffie	Bob Bidwell	Tom Baker				Genesis 12:1-4a	Vikki Smith	
		Sophie Holmes					Carole Friedman and Jenny Brewer	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17		
		10:00 Trevor Daw	John Rich	Carole Friedman		Bob Nelligar		John 3:1-17		
		Emma Daw	Lisa Hunt	Jim Davenport		Tim Matchunis		Psalm 121		
27-Mar		8:00 Trevor Telenko	Katherine Ferguson	Catherine Massey				Exodus 17:1-7	Vikki Smith	
		Abby Telenko					Flower Guild	Linda Hayes and Kelly Osborne		Romans 5:1-11
		10:00 Phillip Paige	Donna King	Kevin Smith		Roger Melvin		John 4:5-42		
		Hayley Walkup	Laura Santos	Kenille Baumgardner		Frank Toney		Psalm 95		
		Anna Armstrong	Chris Walkup							



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Building the Body of Christ

