



**The mission of St. John's Episcopal Church
is to be a loving and diverse community
celebrating the Good News of Jesus Christ
by word, example, and service to others**

August 2009

Volume 4, Issue 5

Season after Pentecost

St. John's Episcopal Church

Eagle's Notes

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- August 3
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- September 12
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- September 13
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Sunday School Begins

From the Rector

We all have to deal with a profound and sometimes frightening reality of our lives...our experience of vulnerability, our fragility. Sometimes economic recession brings it to the forefront, or the death of a loved one, or any of a thousand disappointments in life. We all seek to change this condition of our lives, to build strong towers to overcome our sense of vulnerability, to slow down time, to make some lasting mark on the world so that we get remembered. Yet with all the energy that we put into the effort into doing so, we usually end up more exhausted, disillusioned, and frightened.

So what then do we do? How do we find security, stability, a place of rest...a sense that we matter, that what we do matters, that we can make a beneficial contribution to our human family? I wish that I had an easy answer, or a simple program of steps one, two, and three. The secret certainly does not lie in "The Secret", or in any other such simplistic method. But if not there, then where?

Jesus always answered this question with parables and metaphors. How frustrating! The fact of it seems that we simply cannot confront this head-on with just our intellect or with just our actions. If we hope to find joy, hope, stability, love, and all the other experiences that make life worth the living, we have to take on the beguiling and elusive life of faith. I do not mean just a life of religious beliefs and practices, though this does make up part of the life of faith. Rather, it requires something other, not of the same species of just intellectual beliefs or religious practices. Teachers have attempted for millennia to put this otherness into simple words, and always fail to simplify it in the way where all can say, "Aha! I have IT!" and so absolve us from having to struggle with our vulnerability, our frailty, our too short lives.

One of my favorite songs puts it this way:

"The Way of Wisdom starts out with a step of holy fear, and it makes its way along by every good word that you hear. It has to do with passion and it has to do with pain. It has to do with one who has both died and rose again.

(Continued on page 10)

Saturdays, August 1, 8, 22

Sunday School Workdays

Come lend a hand to prepare the classrooms for our Sunday School children! If you can spare an hour or two, please come to the ground floor of the education wing anytime between 9 & noon. Many hands make light work!

Sunday, August 2

Healing Prayers

The first Sunday of every month, we offer prayers for healing and anointing with holy oil at both morning services. Do you need physical, mental, or spiritual healing in your life? Does someone you love need that healing? Do you know of a condition in the world that needs healing? Come pray with us and know the love that surrounds us all.

Monday, August 3

Holy Grounds

At 7 p.m. on the first Monday of every month, Fr. Troy will be at **Jeffrey's Coffee Shop** on Virginia Avenue (by Spondivitz) to chat about anything on your mind.

Sunday, August 9

Blessing of the Backpacks and 2nd Sunday Brunch

You are invited to present yourself - and your backpack, lunchbox, briefcase, tool box, or purse - for a special blessing to have a safe, happy, and successful school year full of wisdom, learning, and fun. In addition, we will be collecting school supplies for Family Life Ministries that day. After the service, join us downstairs for the monthly 2nd Sunday brunch. Bring a dish to share and enjoy food and fellowship together.

Wednesdays

Adult Spiritual Formation

Our current session focuses on the rambunctious and sometimes crazy holy women and men who shaped the early Christian church. These folks knew how to party! Dinner begins at 6 and Bible study at 6:30 p.m. All kids are invited to come and play. As usual, please call in advance if you will be with us. Would you like to help with meal planning? Call **David Houser** (404-873-3184).

August 15-16

Vestry Mini-Retreat

Thursdays, August 13, 20, and 27 +

Sundays, August 16, 23, and 30

Singing Ice Cream Socials

Here's the scoop... the entire parish has been divided into three choirs (lemon, lime, and orange sherbet). Come to one short choir rehearsal and ice cream social on your assigned Thursday evening then sing that next Sunday.....no further commitment is required! See the colored insert to determine which choir you've been assigned. If you can't make your assigned Thursday choir practice and Sunday singing, please come to one of the other ice cream socials. For more info, contact stjohns.atl.musicians@gmail.com.

Update: *Fall Festival & Blessing of the Animals*

**Saturday, October 3rd,
10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

The event corresponds to the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals, and also World Animal Day.

Last year's festival was great, but we would like this year's event to be even bigger and better. That's why we need your help!

- Will you volunteer to help at the festival? Please contact Carl Cheely at ccheely@comcast.net or 770-739-7851.
- There will be an announcement soon of "department" teams for the various festival activities, such as: BBQ/Food, Bake Sale, Flea Market, Silent Auction/Raffle, and Children's Activities. On which team will you be?
- If you know of any businesses that would like to sponsor a booth at our festival, or any speakers, musicians or other acts that might like to participate, please contact Carl as soon as possible. We are in particular need of kids' attractions (storytellers, magicians, rides, etc.)
- A flyer for the event is now available on the St. John's website. Please print and distribute to your local vet, pet supply store, friends, businesses, etc. Let's get the word out!

A brief recap of last year's festival:

- We raised well over \$4,000 from the BBQ, Flea Market, baked goods, auction, and raffle.
- Father Troy blessed more than 100 pets (whew!).
- We had great participation and prizes from PetSmart, the Cathedral Book Store, Zoo Atlanta, the High Museum, the Center for Puppetry Arts, Dandie Scottie Kennel, Fina Bistro, & many others.
- A whole bunch of volunteers were really tired afterward--you might even say we were "dog tired"--get it? We were tired, but it was a good, doing-God's-work-and-loving-on-the-animals kind of tired.
- Finally, to whet your appetite for the sheer awesomeness that this year's festival is sure to become, make sure to visit the St. John's website/Fall Festival page: there is a brief video clip from Channel 46's report on last year's event. Enjoy!

Blessing of the Backpacks

August 9 at the 10:30 a.m. service

We love and support our parish children & teachers, and want to make sure they begin this next school year with as many blessings as possible.



All parishioners - students, teachers, parents and others – are invited to present themselves-- and their backpacks, lunchboxes, tote bags, fanny packs, brief cases, tool boxes, and purses -- for a special blessing to have a safe, happy, and successful school year full of wisdom, learning, and fun. We will head into the school year with the assurance that God is with us, that our studies and work matter, and that our parish family supports us!

After all, the first day of school (or a new job) can be a scary experience for students of all ages. Leaving home, going to a new school, changing grade levels, meeting new classmates, facing new challenges, and generally heading into the unknown are all significant stressors. But there's no better time for us to acknowledge and support each other! The annual Blessing of the Backpacks is our way of reminding people that our parish family shares in what each of us are doing, and that God is with us in our daily lives.



God is with us

always...even in our backpacks!



In addition, we will be praying for all the local children heading back to school and will be collecting school supplies for Family Life Ministries that day.

They will be delivered to the children who are not able to get necessary items from home. We would like to bless a big pile of supplies that day, so don't forget your gift! Purchase what you can or send in money specially marked for "Blessing of the Backpacks."

What do the kids need?

**Paper
Book bags**

**Notebooks
Pencil boxes**

**Lunch boxes
Pens & pencils**

**Glue & erasers
Folders & binders**

Swim/Cookout

Calling all youth, parents, & acolytes:

The date, time, and place are still being defined but will be communicated soon. The purpose of this fun and special meeting is twofold. One is to get together for fellowship and to have fun, and two is to discuss and plan the youth acolyte program for St. John's. Anyone that would like to become an adult acolyte, please see **Robbin Iddins** or **Denise McLeod**, directors of the Acolyte Guild. More information to come, so watch the bulletin!

T-Shirt Design Competition

Have you submitted your T-shirt design yet for the 1st annual

**End Hunger ...one step at a time
5K/10K Run/Walk?**



All proceeds from this event will help alleviate hunger both in our city and beyond. Design deadline is September 20, 2009. Submitted designs will be voted upon and the lucky winner will be announced in September. All designs must include the words: "End Hunger...one step at a time," "St. John's Episcopal Church, College Park, GA" and "Run/Walk." Send submissions to parishadmin@stjohnscollegepark.com. Please contact **David Houser** (404-873-3184 or david_houser@att.net) for more information or to volunteer on one of the race planning committees. We're finalizing the date and activities for this event now, so watch for further announcements!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

August 2009

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat



August Birthdays:

- 2 Becky Rivas
- 4 Jason Terrell
- 5 Jane Graham
- 7 Charles Ukegbu
- 8 Theresa Morah
- 10 Larry Sanchez
- 11 Joan Hair
- 12 Debbie Reeves
- 13 Rick Phillips
- 15 Bill Hill
Tommy Duffie
- 16 Chichi Ukegbu
Meg & John
Councilman
- 17 Jason Brown
Ann Alston
Neva Frese
- 18 Martha Cheely
- 19 Jane Foster
- 25 Harold Bott
Loretta Buchanan
- 26 Emma Thompson
- 27 Nathan Spring
- 30 Martha McLeod

Please call the church office to add a birthday!

Don't forget to bring nonperishables and donations for Family Life Ministries on the first Sunday of every month!

						1 Sun. School Work-day	
2 Healing Prayers 8 am- Rite I 9:15- Choir Rehearsal 10:30- Rite II Taizé cancelled	3 8 pm- AA (BH) 7 p.m. Holy Grounds	4 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 10 am—CP Stitch-In 6 pm— Begin Again	5 6 pm— Wednesday dinner & class	6 9:15 a.m.- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Rite I 7 p.m.—Choir Practice 8 pm- AA	7	8 Sunday School Work-day 9:30 am— Begin Again	
9 8 am- Rite I 9:15- Choir 10:30- Rite II, Blessing of Backpacks , FLM school supply collection 2nd Sunday Brunch	10 8 pm- AA (BH)	11 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6 pm— Begin Again	12 6 pm— Wednesday dinner & class	13 9:15 a.m.- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Rite I 7 p.m.— LEMON Sherbet Choir Practice 8 p.m.- AA	14 9 am— Woodward Moms Bible Study Group	15 Vestry Mini Retreat 9:30 am— Begin Again	
16 Vestry Mini Retreat 8 am- Rite I 9:15- Choir Rehearsal 10:30- Rite II LEMON Sherbet Parish Choir	17 8 pm- AA (BH)	18 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6 pm— Begin Again	19 6 pm— Wednesday dinner & class <i>EN Articles Due</i>	20 9:15 a.m.- Morning Prayer 10:30 - Rite I 7 pm.—LIME Sherbet Choir Practice 8 p.m.- AA	21 9 am—WA Moms Bible Study	22 Sunday School Work-day 9:30 am— Begin Again	
23 8 am- Rite I 9:15- Choir Rehearsal 10:30- Rite II LIME Sherbet Parish Choir Liturgy Commission Meeting	24 8 pm- AA (BH)	25 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6 pm— Begin Again	26	27 Pilgrimage begins 9:15 a.m.— M.P. 7 pm ORANGE Sherbet Choir Practice 8 p.m.- AA	28 9 am—WA Moms Bible Study	29 9:30 am— Begin Again TBD-Swim/ Cookout Date	
30 8 am- Rite I 9:15- Choir Rehearsal 10:30- Rite II ORANGE Sherbet Parish Choir	31 8 pm- AA (BH)					Calendar Key: Ch—Chapel P—Parlor BH- Bott Hall HPL- Horseshoe Parking Lot	

Lay Ministries Schedule

August 2	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	9th Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	B. Braxton	John Brady	<i>Proper 13: Genesis 32:22-31</i>
Eucharistic Minister	B. Braxton	M. Robertson/P. Manscalco	<i>Romans 9:1-5</i>
Altar Guild Team #3	Jackie Berlin, Sarah Clark, Beth Ehrensperger	Euch. Visitor: Linda Vinal	
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Linda Vinal/Georgie White	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Kei Breedlove/Creston Portis
August 9	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10th Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	Jane Graham	Kei Breedlove	<i>2 Samuel 11:26, 12-13</i>
Eucharistic Minister	Jane Graham	Kei Breedlove/E. Radaker	<i>Ephesians 4:10-16</i>
Altar Guild Team #4	Linda Vinal, Kei Breedlove, Joy Lopez	Eucharistic Visitor: Donn Blosser	
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Gwen & Calvin Fields	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Carl & Martha Cheely
August 16	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	11th Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	Carl Cheely	D. McLeod	<i>2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33</i>
Eucharistic Minister	Carl Cheely	D. McLeod	<i>Ephesians 4:25, 5:2</i>
Altar Guild Team #1	M. McLeod, Ruth Crook, Will Manders	Eucharistic Visitor: Jason Brown	
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	S. Housel/Linda Vinal	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Carolyn & Ed Pierce (Retreat)
August 23	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	12th Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	M. Robertson	Gwen Fields	<i>1 Kings 2:10-13, 3:3-14</i>
Eucharistic Minister	M. Robertson	Gwen Fields/Carl Cheely	<i>Ephesians:15-20</i>
Altar Guild Team #2	Denise McLeod, Gwen Fields, Marian Tillman	Euch. Visitor: Jane Holloman/Ray Townsend	
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Tommy & Beth Ehrensperger	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Sue Johnson/Heidi Chandonia
August 30	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	13th Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	D. McLeod	R. Hopkins	<i>1 Kings 8:(1,6,10-11) 22-30,41-43</i>
Eucharistic Minister	D. McLeod	M. Robertson/D. McLeod	<i>Ephesians 6:10-20</i>
Altar Guild Team #3	Jackie Berlin, Sarah Clark, Beth Ehrensperger	Euch. Visitor: Mark Robertson	
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Glen & Vanessa Rada	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Andy & Shannon Korta
September 6	8 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	14th Sunday after Pentecost
Reader	J. Randolph	Shannon Housel	<i>Song of Solomon 2:8-13</i>
Eucharistic Minister	J. Randolph	Kei Breedlove/Robbin Iddins	<i>James 1:17-27</i>
Altar Guild Team #3	Jackie Berlin, Sarah Clark, Beth Ehrensperger	Euch. Visitor: Linda Vinal	
Greeters (10:30 a.m.)	Bill Hill/Creston Portis	Usher-In-Charge/Usher (10:30)	Debbie Reeves/Ernie Radaker

Note to readers: use Revised Common Lectionary texts, year B. Please arrive early and allow time to check the bulletin against lectern. If you are unable to serve as scheduled, it is your responsibility to obtain a substitute and notify Denise McLeod, the church office and/or a verger ASAP. Thank you!

I Sing, You Sing, We All Sing for Ice Cream!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH AT 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH AT 9:15 A.M.

YOU ARE INVITED TO AN ICE CREAM SINGING SOCIAL
AT THE ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH CHOIR ROOM
(UPSTAIRS AT THE END OF THE EDUCATION WING HALLWAY)

Come one, come all! You and your household are cordially invited to a fun-time choir rehearsal and ice cream social this month!

Here's the scoop...

We've divided the entire parish into three choirs (lemon sherbet, lime sherbet, and orange sherbet). Each choir will sing hymns and an offertory anthem in church one Sunday in August.

What's involved?

1. Come to one short choir rehearsal on a Thursday evening;
2. Eat ice cream (or nondairy alternative) and have fun socializing after rehearsal is over;
3. Sing that next Sunday.....no further commitment is required!

Here's the schedule:

Choir:	Thursday Rehearsal:	Sunday Service:
Lemon Sherbet	8/13	8/16
Lime Sherbet	8/20	8/23
Orange Sherbet	8/27	8/30

How are the choirs divided?

You can tell the choir you're in by the color of paper this announcement is printed on:

Yellow paper indicates that you're in the Lemon Sherbet Choir.

Lime Green paper indicates that you're in the Lime Sherbet Choir.

Orange paper indicates that you're in the Orange Sherbet Choir.

If you receive the Eagle Notes via e-mail only, please consider yourself part of the **Lemon Sherbet** choir.

If you can't come to the rehearsal and service for your assigned choir, you are welcome to come another week. You can also bring friends, relatives, neighbors, or anyone else you would like to invite.

How large is each choir?

We've made sure that each choir is large...so large, in fact, that you'll be surprised (and feel safe) at how many people you'll be singing with. **All ages are welcome!**

See you then...I look forward to meeting you! -Tom Elston, Organist/Choirmaster



Who You Gonna Call?

New Parish Directory—your copy of the updated parish directory is now available for pick up in the narthex. It will be available Sundays beginning on the 2nd Sunday Brunch, August 12, through the month of September. Call the church office for other arrangements.

Begin Again—Please contact Kei Breedlove to sign up or learn about this foster care/birth family supervised visitation program (404-374-7468 / kei@bellsouth.net).

St. John's Choir - If you are a member (or would like to be!) of the St. John's musical community, and would like to stay "in the loop" with regard to musical activity at St John's, please e-mail Tom Elston (stjohns.atl.musicians@gmail.com).

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and Daughters of the King (DoK)—Are you curious about these women's groups or are you interested in participating? Please contact Sue Johnson(678-364-8874/ john177@bellsouth.net)

Altar Guild—if you are interested in joining Altar Guild, please call Gwen Fields (770-944-9709/ laughers@bellsouth.net) or Denise McLeod(404-761-2370/ (dolphin143@comcast.net/)) All are welcome!

The Bargain Shop needs volunteers to work 3-hour shifts Monday-Saturday. Call M.E. King (770-461-7343).

The Pastoral Care Committee—if you are interested in becoming a Lay Eucharist Visitor or if you would like to request a visit, please don't hesitate to call Gwen Fields (laughers@bellsouth.net/770-944-9709), Will Manders (404-768-5519) or Robbin Iddins (riddins@hotmail.com).

Acolyte Guild—This is a place where people are encouraged to serve the Lord! Worship at St. John's offers lay participation for a variety of talents. Would you like to become an acolytes or reader? Acolytes are baptized persons aged 9—adults who help enhance our worship by leading processions, carrying banners, and serving at the altar. Call Robbin Iddins (404-401-8058/ riddins@hotmail.com) or Denise McLeod (404-761-2370/ (dolphin143@comcast.net/)) to sign up for training,

Episcopal Charities Foundation (ECF) and Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) For more information about these organizations or to donate, contact our parish representative, Robbin Iddins (404-401-8058/riddins@hotmail.com).

Winter, Spring, Summer, or Fall — All You Have To Do Is Call!

Would you like the rector, a vestry member, or the Pastoral Care Commission to give you a call or come by for a visit? Please feel free to contact the church anytime you want to schedule an Eucharistic visit, to pray, or to discuss a personal issue. Fr. Troy and the rest of the parish teams would be happy to visit and talk with you! Please remember, Fr. Troy has many gifts, but clairvoyance is not one of them. If you don't get in touch with him, though he would like to help, he won't be able to.

- The church phone number is 404-761-8402. If the office is closed when you call, you can leave a private message for Fr. Troy by pressing #1 during the recording, or leave a message for Lee, the parish administrator, in the general inbox.
- You can e-mail Fr. Troy directly at rector@stjohnscollegepark.com, or Lee at parishadmin@stjohnscollegepark.com.
- You can also fill out this form and leave it in the offering plate, the parish administrator's door on the administrative hallway downstairs, or mail it to St. John's Episcopal Church, 3480 E. Main Street, College Park, GA 30337.
- In general, main office hours are Monday—Thursday until 4 p.m. When possible, please call in advance to schedule an appointment with Fr. Troy. Also, adult discussion forums are held between services during the school year. Wednesday evening discussion classes are held throughout the year, and the first Sunday of each month at 7 p.m. is *Holy Grounds*, held at Jeoffery's Coffee on Virginia Avenue, a casual setting to sit and talk with Fr. Troy about anything that's on your mind.
- *In case of emergency only* during non-office hours call Fr. Troy on his cell phone: 770-595-5384.

Name: _____ (date) _____

Phone: _____ (home) _____ (cell) _____ (work/other)

E-mail: _____

Notes:

Address: _____

God is the beginning and the end
 every road we take.
 confidence we call upon him, praying:
 Lord, watch over our every step.

of
 In

El Camino de Santiago



Fr. Troy will be on a pilgrimage on *El Camino de Santiago* from August 27 through September 11. The Way of St. James, or El Camino de Santiago, are ancient Christian pilgrimage routes in Northern Spain, leading to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Northwestern Spain, where legend has it that the remains of the apostle and brother of our Lord Jesus, Saint James the Great, were brought from Jerusalem.



RideShare

-from Bruce Braxton



If I win the MegaMillions, the first thing I would buy would be a St. John's bus. Since I haven't won YET, I had to come up with an interim plan... During the Pastoral Care meeting, I presented an idea for a new ministry, one that almost everybody can participate in. A **RideShare** ministry would allow older parishioners and those who don't own a car or have easy access to MARTA to attend church more frequently. Persons who want to offer rides would be matched with those in need, with consideration given to geographical location and which services they attend. Persons who would like to participate in any capacity should contact Bruce Braxton (678-571-8833/braxton1@aol.com) or Lee Barthelette in the church office. Meanwhile, keep praying for my chances in the Lottery!

On the Verge

Getting Old

by Martha V. McLeod, Verger



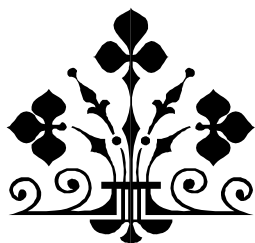
Someone recently commented on a spate of falls, thrown-out backs, worsening eyesight and hearing, traffic accidents, strokes, and other physical injuries afflicting church members and their families, and friends. The commenter wondered why this was happening and why it suddenly seemed to be concentrated in our congregation.

There are at least two reasons: we have a smaller congregation these days, with fewer members to be impacted, and we're all getting older at the same rate. In a congregation of 600 members (highest in the history of St. John's), 10 deaths and 50 illnesses or injuries to members and another 75 to families and friends is not as devastating

as it would be in a parish of 100. We've had at least five funerals already in 2009 and many of our parishioners are experiencing age-related illness which limit our congregation and the ministries in which we participate and share our Lord Jesus with others.

Among our members, there are at least 12 diabetics that I know of (including myself). Considering how often we eat (2nd Sunday brunch, coffee hour, Wednesday night dinners, etc.) we're having to learn to be more careful and sensitive to what our parish family and friends can't or shouldn't eat. Arthritis and osteo-related conditions make it difficult to get around, though we're glad for the privilege of taking Communion to

(Continued on page 9)



The Flowers on the Altar

Dedicating flowers is a good way to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries, and other special days for loved ones. We have flowers on the altar each week to remind us of the beauty and wonder of God's creation; later they go to those who are sick or homebound. If you would like to donate altar flowers, please sign up by sending a check and a notation as to whom you want to honor.

Name: _____ I would like to dedicate flowers for Sunday, (date) _____

The notation in the bulletin should read: *The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in*

Please return this form with \$40 check attached to the church office or mail to 3480 Main Street, College Park, GA 30337.

(On the Verge, Continued from page 8)

those who can't come to church or to the altar. A number of parishioners have hearing or visual challenges. And, unfortunately, it's no longer such a surprise to hear that someone has fallen, needs surgery, or has suffered an accident.

OK, enough brooding on everybody growing older; let's look at this another way. If you had a 50-year-old automobile still functioning on at least some of its original parts, it would be a real treasure, right? My mother's house has very few of the original appliances that were built into it. I don't have any replacement parts in my standing and walking portable earthly home, but some of the original parts broke down years ago and had to be removed. There are times when it doesn't work right, like when I recently collapsed in my doctor's office and woke up in the hospital after he thought I was having a heart attack.

So what can we do about these breakdowns? On the first Sunday each month, Fr. Troy offers sacramental healing at the at both services. He (and Fr. Julio or another priest if present) will anoint us with holy oil and offer specific prayers for healing for anyone who comes and asks for prayer. Others are available to continue prayers in privacy in the chapel if we need more time. He will even go into the congregation to anoint and pray for those who can't come to the altar. We don't have to tell everybody everything about what's wrong or even ask for ourselves; we can ask for prayers for those families, friends and neighbors and even for specific world issues like terrorism, famine and war. We've seen healing, and healing miracles, and even the final healing that comes to us all sooner or later.

So if you're getting older as fast as I am, and those factory-installed parts are acting up, bring your needs to the altar and ask for healing. Put your heart and soul into the nail-scarred hands of Jesus and let him heal what's hurting.

PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS

Caroline Patrick Joy Lopez Laura Vance
Bena Sue Livsey Martha Mercure Jonathan Reed
Helen Scarbrough Hank & Neva Frese

FRIENDS & RELATIVES

Journalists Laura Ling & Euna Lee, jailed in N. Korea
Pfc. Bowe R. Bergdahl, held captive in Afghanistan
Drew Allen, and Frank Ayala, serving us in Iraq
Debbie Reeves' sister, Kelly
The Springs' family, Renetta & Chip Lynch
Becky Rivas' father, Norman
Tom Elston's father, Walter
Georgie White's family, Veronica, Ruth, and John
Linda Vinal's friends, Linda and Kaitlynn
Joan Hair's friends, Cindy B. & Scott M.

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Daphne Mair
Melissa Brady & Fred Daniell's brother,
The Rev. Hal Daniell, ordained at St. John's
Jean Gibson
Margaret Ann's niece, Daphne

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR were given to the glory of God and

In celebration of the 50th birthday of Janet Standen
with love from Dorothy Nash, her family, & friends;
in thanksgiving for my oldest sons, Jim & David,
with love from Bena Sue Livsey;
And in honor of Bill Johnson's and Ernie Radaker's
birthdays, with love from Sue Johnson.

Millennium Development Goal # 4: Reduce Child Mortality

"Thus says the Lord: A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping. Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more." -Jeremiah 31:15

The Goal: Reduce by two thirds, between 1990 and 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

Let us pray for the health of women, children and families around the world, especially for an end to the deadly conditions which fuel maternal and child mortality, that in building healthy families, all God's people may be empowered to strengthen their communities and repair the breaches which divide nations and peoples, that all may be strengthened to do your will on earth until the day when you gather us into one heavenly family.

Did you know? Close to 11 million children die every year before reaching the age of five, or over 20 per minute, 1,200 every hour, 30,000 per day. Nearly 4 million of these children die in the first 28 days of life. Most of the deaths are due to a handful of preventable causes (pneumonia, diarrhea, measles, malaria, and neonatal causes). Malnutrition is associated with 54% of the deaths.

Good news! Measles deaths dropped by nearly 40% between 1999 and 2003, with the largest reduction in Africa. Our efforts are working!

Episcopal Relief & Development is taking action now to reduce child mortality. There's a great deal you can do to help create awareness of and support for ERD's work to combat the curable conditions that fuel child mortality. For example, you can donate today to the *MDG Inspiration Fund Campaign* or get creative with the *ERD Gifts for Life catalogue*, where you can purchase one insecticide-treated mosquito net for \$12, or ask a group of friends to contribute towards a bulk netting gift for an entire community. **Visit www.er-d.org today to help.**

(From The Rector, Continued from page 1)

The Way of Wisdom beckons us to find the end of fear; that perfect loves pursues. For Wisdom did not come to simply speak the words of truth; He's the Word that makes us true.

The Way of Wisdom starts out with a step of holy fear. That's only the beginning, and there's much more that is clear. The path leads on to love, and love is fearless in its ways, for Love Himself was not afraid to die that we'd be saved."

The mystery of faith revolves around our willingness and capacity to trust someone, someone whom we have not met in person, trusting that when we give ourselves in trust to love and serve others, enduring past our fears, confusion, and anxiety, we will arrive in a life of meaning, hope, and joy...in other words, the kingdom of God.

That we will all faithfully endure and establish lives of meaning and joy, let us always pray and help each other on the way!

-Fr. Troy+

St. John's 'Night of Talent'

-by David McLeod

What can I do to help?

This is a question that should be on the minds of most of the parishioners of St. John's. We are in the midst of a global economic crisis, and it hits closest in our own homes. But it also affects everyone around us—those we're close to, and those to whom we're not. Many in our parish give well beyond the pledge they honor; they serve on ministries, or on the vestry, or they simply help out wherever and whenever they can. This parish, as do so many others, operates due to a combination of faith, energy and money.

What can I do to help?

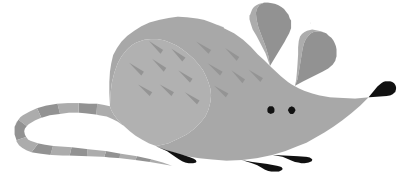
I have been approached by several people within the church, wondering how we might raise some extra money for our ministries. I came up with the idea of having a benefit variety show. So, in cooperation with the rector and the vestry, I will be coordinating and performing in "A Night of Talent" a showcase of performers and performances from within our parish family, to be held in Bott Hall on the evening of Saturday, October 24.

The show will actually consist of three parts, beginning with a simple but plentiful meal; part two will be "We've Got Talent" with various acts from various performers, and finally, "David at 50" my final concert appearance. All proceeds from ticket sales for the show will benefit St. John's. Open auditions will be held for "We've Got Talent" on a future date to be announced.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 24, and plan to be at St. John's for the event of the year!



Observations from a Church Mouse



Well I feel we have a new church organist! The rafters were shaking on Sunday. What a joyous sound. It made me want to dance.

I've noticed some people gathered at the front door on Sunday. By keeping my ear to the wall, I learned they were ushers and greeters, and I observed that they welcomed people, handed them a piece of paper and encouraged them to find a seat. Later in the service, they became an escort service for people who bring things to the front of the church and serve as traffic directors during what you call communion. Many ushers and greeters clean up the pews after church. I think our ushers and greeters are doing a great job.

When I first came here, I asked myself what is the purpose of these people at the door? My cousin, Clarence, asked me if these people at the door make a person feel welcome, or is that feeling due to a general atmosphere of welcome? He wondered if the Christian Community relieves itself of responsibility by appointing people to be at the door? What roles do the people in the pews play?

Each person has an obligation to smile at whoever comes into our pew or at least acknowledge their presence with a smile and the nod of the head. We also show welcome by moving over and letting them share our pew. How many times have you walked down an aisle of a church to find an empty pew with a "guard" sitting at the entrance?

(Continued on page 11)

From *It's A Girl Thing*:

You don't have to do all the nice things you do, but you do...and we are so grateful! Thank you all so much for opening up your doors to our camp this summer; we really appreciate your kindness. We look forward to next year. You will be blessed for giving us girls a safe place to enjoy the summer. God bless you!

(Church Mouse, Continued from page 10)

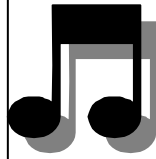
A person often by their body language alone lets you know to move on. Being friendly is to help visitors worship with us. Ushers who recognize a visitor might want to actually seat them next to a member so that they can be helped during the service with the standing, sitting, and kneeling process; give them a visible guide, so to speak. At the end of worship, introduce yourself and thank them for worshiping with you, offer an invitation to join you for coffee and treats downstairs, introduce them to some of your friends and the rector. Don't forget to invite them back!

Clarence heard someone at a church say, "people come to church to talk to God, not their neighbor." To me, the church mouse, this attitude speaks of a theology of individualism, a "me and God only" approach to worship. As Rector Troy says, our church is a community of believers and the celebration of the Eucharist is our own time to worship as a community. We are not strangers, rather, we are a community that seeks to know and love one another.

Thank you, ushers and greeters. See you Sunday, people!

PS. Those preparing snacks after church.... make more cheese balls!

-The Church Mouse



Notable Notes:

Praise my soul, the King of heaven
by Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

-Hymn of the Month submitted by Organist/Choirmaster Tom Elston, excerpted from *Praise, My Soul: Meditating on Hymns*, by Nancy Roth, Church Publishing, New York, ©

This hymn begins and ends with the picture of God as a king to whom we bring the tribute of our praises, singing—along with the sun, moon, and the angels—eternal "alleluias."

However, in the very center of this text, the image shifts. Instead of a glorious king, Lyte describes God as our infinitely understanding father who knows our "feeble frame": a father who tends, spares, and rescues us, gently bearing us in his hand.

One of my earliest memories is a visit to my grandparents' home in Minnesota. Beside their house was a cornfield, which seemed to me like a thousand-acre farm, but may have been only the neighbor's garden. One day, drawn by curiosity about what was in there, I wandered away from the safety of the backyard. I found out all too soon what was in there: corn, as far as I could see. Disoriented, because I could see only a patch of blue sky through the green stalks and golden tassels, I did the only thing I could do: I cried at the top of my lungs. Before long—although it seemed like an eternity—my father came, swept me up in his arms, and carried me to safety.

I have other memories of my father's carrying me. When we went to the beach in the summer, he would hoist me onto his shoulders and take me further and further into the crashing breakers. Exhilarated by

the juxtaposition of the danger and absolute security, I would splash and play.

I do not remember much about the football games my parents took me to when they could not get a babysitter, but I do remember the crowds when the game was over. Sometimes I dared to walk down the stadium aisle myself in the dark shadows of all the tall people, tightly clasping an adult hand. But to be sure of making a safe exit, I much preferred being swung up onto my father's shoulders.

There has been much discussion in recent years about the exclusive use of male language in speaking of God. It is obvious that, since neither male nor female, we have, over the years, gotten things out of balance. My heart sings when I hear some of the maternal imagery in trial liturgies and new hymns.

I knew the love of a mother who cared passionately about her children, and I also have been in that role. I Even so, I am sure our love did not begin to match God's maternal love. I would agree with the fourteenth-century Julian of Norwich, that "God rejoices that he is our mother."

Because I was once a little girl who often had to be carried in the arms of her strong and protecting father, I'd hate to see us discard the notion that God can be like him, too.

Have something to share?

Send in good news or needs, thoughts, thanks, & prayers!
Submissions for the next *Eagle Notes* are due by **Wednesday, August 19.**

We want to hear from you!

St. John's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Troy C. Beecham, *Rector*
Lee Barthelette, *Parish Administrator*
Tom Elston, *Organist/Choirmaster*
Keith Huffstetter, *Rite I Organist*

Dennis & Verlyn Luck, Yamily Gilbert, *Nursery*
Martha V. McLeod & Mark Robertson, *Vergers*
David McLeod & Bruce Braxton, *Vergers-in-Training*
John Brady & Dennis Luck, *Sextons*

Schedule of Services

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I**
Sunday 8:00 a.m. & Thursday 10:30 a.m.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II**
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
- **Morning Prayer (Parlor)**
Tuesday & Thursday 9:15 a.m.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs**
6 –8 p.m.—Bible Study (childcare available)
- **Taizé Service**
1st Sundays of the month at 7 p.m.

St. John's Vestry

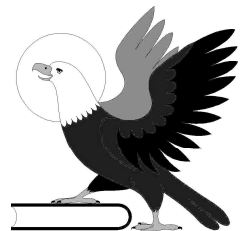
Debbie Reeves	<i>Senior Warden</i>
Sue Johnson	<i>Junior Warden</i>
Donn Blosser	Paul Brady
Kei Breedlove	Carl Cheely
David Houser	Robbin Iddins
Andy Korta	Janet Standen



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