



+ Radical Hospitality + Inspiring Worship + Passionate Advocacy +

We are an Episcopal Christian community pursuing lives of faithfulness to Jesus' teaching through liturgical worship, music, education, and mission.

June 2011

Season of Easter and Pentecost

Find us on Facebook and Twitter!

Search: The Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, Diocese of Atlanta

St. John's Episcopal Church

Eagle Notes

Dates to Remember

- June 2** Bookends Book Club
- June 6** Meditation Class
- June 12** Pentecost Parish Potluck Picnic
- June 14** Finance Commission
- June 17** Parish Movie Night
- June 19** Father's Day Liturgy Commission; Gay Men's Fellowship
- June 21** Vestry Meeting
- June 26** 4th Sunday Brunch
- July 4** Independence Day

Ongoing

- **1st Sundays**
Healing prayers at services
- **2nd Sundays**
2nd Sunday Brunch
- **3rd Sundays**
Liturgy Commission Meetings
Gay Men's Fellowship Group
- **4th Sundays**
4th Sunday Celebration Brunch
- **Mondays & Thursdays**
8 p.m., AA
- **1st Mondays**
6:30 p.m. Meditation Class
- **3rd Tuesdays**
6:15 p.m. Vestry Meetings
- **Tuesdays & Thursdays**
9:15 a.m., Morning Prayer
- **Wednesdays**
6 p.m., Bible Study Class;
7:15 p.m., Meditation Group
- **Thursdays**
10:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite I
- **1st Thursdays**
Bookends Book Club Meetings
Finance Committee Meetings
- **3rd Fridays**
6:15 p.m. Parish Movie Nights

From the Rector

This month we enter into our celebration of Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit came upon the faithful disciples of Jesus in a new way. From that day forward, the faithful were given power to reach into every part of their society and bring light to darkness, provision for the poor and hungry, community for the stranger and alien, and hope for a bright future. In their lifetime, they changed the world! Do you hope to have such an impact on our world today?

Our Lord Jesus offers the same capacity to bring transformation into our lives and our community if we faithfully follow where he leads, shaping our lives to follow his pattern of life and ministry which he describes as

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

If we hope to have the Spirit of the Lord upon us, then we must walk where Jesus himself followed the Spirit moving in the world to bring life and hope.

That part of our statement of identity concerning our witness and ministry reads:

“Mission, radical welcome, and advocacy are the means by which we reach out into our parish community of College Park, our neighboring towns, and around the world, to provide hope, stability, and companionship. We do this through feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, and welcoming them into the life of our congregation. To respond to those in need is both our joy and our privilege.”

Following that feeling of hope and sense of vision, of reaching into our community in new ways, with new mission and new ministry, we are beginning a new food pantry ministry that will coordinate with other local food assistance programs and ministries. We will also open up a youth/teen/young adult center this summer. We have begun to plan for a day of service in our community for us all to gather together to visibly do the work of the Lord.

These are just a few of the new ways in which we are beginning to follow the Spirit of the Lord into serving our community.

Do you hope to be part of the repair of the world? Do we hope for lives of meaning and purpose? If we hope to have the Spirit of the

(Continued on page 2)



Looking for our creative/ technology people.....

-From David Houser

We need a little help from our friends.....

First – we do not have a “logo mark” for our church....and it would be great to get input from our congregation. Look at the identifying designs of other churches, and don't be afraid to “borrow shamelessly”. Then send your idea to david_houser@att.net.

Second, we are eager to develop a good looking, tasteful Tee shirt for St. John's volunteers....and you would be starting from ground zero. If we choose your design....we'd remember you forever! Please send your ideas to the e mail address above. As we continue our volunteer efforts in the community.... we want to be visible. Have fun with this....let your imagination soar.....and many thanks for your time.

(From the Rector, continued from page 1)

Lord upon us, then we must walk where the Spirit moves in the world to bring life, restoration of dignity, and hope to our neighbors.

I believe that the Lord is calling us to move out into our neighborhoods with new vision and renewed hope. I believe that the Lord is already out there and calling us to follow. I trust that as we faithfully follow where Jesus leads us he will also give us the resources, strength, and a deeper aliveness that will sustain us and bring growth, transformation, and new life to us all.

Let us then with full confidence “trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will direct your path!”

Amen! Fr. Troy+

Happenings at St. John's – A cooking Adventure

-From David Houser

On Thursday May 5, 2011 Bishop Whitmore hosted an all day meeting in our Parlor for a number of Bishops who had flown in from out of town. Fr Troy was in Wales, and all we knew was that we were asked to provide lunch for them. We heard nothing about dietary restrictions....or budget....so Daniel Hudson was free to “do his thing”. And did he ever. Here's the Menu:

Garden Gazpacho
Hearts of Romaine
Chicken Florentine
Potatoes Au Gratin
Asparagus and Scallions
Baby Carrots au Confit
Super Lemony Lemon Squares

These were the best carrots I've ever snuck into the kitchen and eaten....“Baby carrots slowly poached in extra-virgin olive oil, tossed in a honey, bourbon, and ginger reduction.” Wow!

In an e mail after the lunch the Bishop commented:

“We were most impressed by the experience of St. John's hospitality. I have to admit, I enjoyed seeing the other bishops a bit green with envy. Please tell Daniel how pleased and blessed we all felt.”

Makes us all proud doesn't it.

Lenten Disciplines

-From Fr. Troy Beecham

At the beginning of Lent, I spoke about the pressing issue of world hunger. The average American has access to and consumes between 2,800–3,200 calories a day. The average person worldwide only has access to about 900 calories a day. I asked folks to consider following me into a discipline of eating 900 calories a day or less and donating the difference in the amount of money that we normally spend on food during a 40-day period. Someone asked me the other day if I had actually followed my Lenten discipline of living on 900 calories per day, and of collecting the difference to donate to a feeding program.

The answer is yes, I did manage to follow that discipline for Lent, and raised \$250. A few others followed modified versions, and have raised another \$50. I have donated that \$300 to the **Episcopal Relief and Development Hunger Fund**. Episcopal Relief & Development is an international relief and development agency and a compassionate response to human suffering on behalf of The Episcopal Church of the United States, whose work is to heal a hurting world is guided by the principles of compassion, dignity and generosity.

If you would like to donate, please go to www.er-d.org.



July Navajoland Mission Trip Update

—From Mike Spring (678-358-2585 / mdspring1@comcast.net).

What do we owe the Navajo?

For the minerals extracted from their reservation? Estimates run from 3 to thirty billion dollars that the tribe has been underpaid for oil, natural gas, coal, and uranium. But that's a legal issue—something for the courts.

Do we owe them for the tens of thousands of sheep, and hundreds of acres of peach and apricot orchards destroyed by the U.S. Army? (An important part of subduing any half-wild population is burning their savage orchards.) For the hundreds of women and children who died from neglect as we pressed them into a concentration camp? That is for history to judge.

What do you and I owe them, as individuals, today? Are we called to involve ourselves?

What do we do with Jesus' words in that famous passage from Mathew, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

(Somehow, modern evangelism stops at "baptizing"; assuming baptism makes "disciples.")

We take this command as meant only for some peculiar specialists who are "called." When we read Mathew 11:28; "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest," we don't wait to see if we are "called" to rest. We rejoice in that rest.

We take Jesus' promise from Acts 1:8 as a promise that some other people are called to the ends of the earth. But we don't assume John 10:10 means some other people will have abundant life. David Platt, author of *Radical*, calls this "assigning the obligations of Christianity to a few while keeping the privileges of Christianity for us all."

Truly, all of us are given different gifts, but God uses each and every gift, when we follow his commands. You can even see people develop new ones.

According to Jesus, what we do owe the Navajo is the same love that He shows to us every day of our lives.

Paul's language in Romans 1:14-15 makes it clear that because we are owned by Christ, saved by him, we owe the debt—the recompense for our salvation, for our discipleship—not to God, but to every person on earth.

Navajo Mission is not the moral equivalent of running a bread kitchen in North Korea, or running a home for abandoned female babies in China. Running what could be reduced to a simple daycare center, feeding seventy at-risk children is not death defying. It does not require the moral lion-hood of a Mother Teresa.

It does require abandoning creature comforts, taking minor risks—and willingness. It requires living in communion with a half-dozen plus near strangers, in barracks rooms (8 to a room, in bunkbeds), rising at 5 a.m. for daily mass at 6, preparing food for bunches of people (and eating what is prepared for one) and then simply dealing with life 40 miles from the nearest Wal-Mart (which sounds like nothing until you try it). It does require a servant's heart, which includes serving others, regardless of how you feel, not martyring your life, but certainly martyring a world of petty annoyances that may fill your life, and being present to the possibilities in every life.

Please consider supporting this mission with the time and treasure entrusted to you—even to the point of traveling to Navajoland with us **July 9-16**.

Navajoland is not the ends of the earth—but I'm almost certain you can see those ends from there.

Donations can be made payable to St. John's, marked clearly in the memo field "Navajoland Mission." Thank you.

Bethlehem Ministry

Together, we can give new life to the poorest among us.

Current Needs List:

The School

Elementary School scholarship: \$200/year
Middle School scholarship: \$250/year
Vo-tech student scholarship: \$350/year
Health insurance for student: \$25/year
School desk: \$100
Laptop computer: \$800

The Clinic

Glaucoma scholarship: \$200/year
Diabetic supplies: \$50
Lancets and capillary tubes: \$400/month
Glucometer strips: \$200/month
Salary for healthcare professionals: \$1,000/month
Continuing Education for lab technician: \$200

The Jatropha Project "Biodiesel Trees":

1 hectare grove \$1,250
Farmer sponsorship: \$200
Healthcare for Jatropha farmer and family: \$200/year

You can make a secure and tax-deductible donation online at www.bethlehemministry.org/donationpage.htm, or send checks payable to Bethlehem Ministry to 105 Rocky Road, Morganton, GA 30560.

Have Questions? Contact **Gwen Fields** (laughers@bellsouth.org) or 706-353-2083/ info@BethlehemMinistry.org.

June Commission Meetings

All commission meetings are open for interested parish members to attend.

- Tuesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m.,
Finance Committee
- Sunday, June 19, at 12 p.m.,
Liturgy Commission
- Tuesday, June 21, at 6:15 p.m.,
Vestry Meeting

Programs on Summer Break:

- Taizé Services
- Children's Christian Formation
- Speeders Luncheons

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Adult Spiritual Formation: Bible Study Class

Join us each Wednesday for this topical discussion class. It is always an enjoyable evening spent with friends! **Meditation Group** meets afterwards at 7:15 p.m.



Thursday, June 2 6:30 p.m.

Bookends

Calling all bibliophiles!

Bookends, our fun and lively book club, meets on first Thursdays. June's book is **The Red Tent, by Anita Diamant.**

A Bit about the Book: *The Red Tent* retells the story of Dinah, found in Genesis. Her story, usually known as the "Rape of Dinah" has been a difficult passage for Bible readers because of the murderous behavior of Jacob's sons. In Genesis, Dinah does not say a single word; what happens is recounted by her brothers. In *The Red Tent*, Dinah finds her voice. The story is told from her perspective and the women around her. It is historical fiction, but because it is based on the Bible, many readers feel a deep connection to its cast of characters, whose names and tales are part of our culture. After all, who doesn't know a Jacob, a Rachel, a Joseph, or a Leah?

Join in to discuss the book further!

Saturday, June 11 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Mission Opportunity!

Please join us as we gather to create emergency food and supplies kits as part of our ministry to the homeless, poor, and needy of our community.

This is a great opportunity especially for our kids to get involved in mission and outreach! We will gather in Bott Hall for coffee, juice, and donuts!

If you have any questions, please contact **David Houser.**

Sunday, June 12 12 p.m.

Pentecost Parish Potluck Picnic



Come celebrate the Church's birthday and the coming of the Holy Spirit! Be fed—both spiritually AND physically—at the annual parish Pentecost picnic immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Meat will be provided, but please bring your favorite side dishes like potato salad, cole slaw, or desserts. Don't forget about **red foods**, like red jello, watermelon, or strawberries! **It's Pentecost, so remember to wear red, too.**

Sunday, June 19 Father's Day

We are thankful for fathers and all men who are guardians, role models, and providers of God's children. Help end world poverty for Father's Day: make a donation to **Episcopal Relief and Development** in honor of a fantastic father! www.er-d.org.

Monday, June 6 & 6:30 p.m. Each Wednesday & 7:15 p.m.

Adult Spiritual Formation: Meditation Class

The group meets in the church on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., and each Wednesday night at 7:15 p.m. We work on a variety of techniques to naturally reduce stress. When stress is reduced, benefits like better sleep, clearer thinking, and deeper creativity also naturally develop, which can then develop into a life of deeper compassion and clearer self-expression. Dress with comfortable clothes, and join us for an hour of calm, beauty, and peace!



Friday, June 17, at 7 p.m.

Cinema Café: Parish Movie Night

Movie Club now meets on the third Friday of each month in the

Fabulous Bott Theatre. The movie is free; light refreshments will be for sale. Similar to a book club, we explore films with various Christian themes. Movie suggestions are welcome! **Leah Ruth**, GSU film major, will host a pre- and post-discussion of the movie. Contact **Daniel Hudson** (770-595-5624) with questions, and make plans to join us!

June's Movie: John Q. This 2002 film asks, "How far would you go?" A father, whose insurance won't cover his son's heart transplant, takes the hospital's emergency room hostage until the doctors agree to perform the operation. It was directed by Nick Cassavetes, written by James Kearns, and stars Denzel Washington, Robert Duvall, & Gabriela Oltean.

**Sunday, June 19, at 6 p.m.,
Gay Men's Fellowship Group**
meets in the Parlor. Join us!

**Sunday, June 26
4th Sunday Celebration Brunch**
Join us after the 10:30 a.m. service; light

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



June Birthdays:

- 2 **Jacqueline Thomas**
- 3 **Howard Wise**
- 4 **Verlyn Thomas**
- 12 **Creston Portis**



- 14 **Joy Lopez**
- 17 **Louise Cassell**
- 18 **Parker Allen**
- 25 **Sean Cheely**
- 28 **Brett Lee**
- 29 **Myrtle Sapp**

Please call the church office to add a birthday!

June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Don't forget to bring your non-perishable groceries, household goods, and other donations for Family Life Ministries!</p>			<p>1 6 p.m.— Bible Study 7:15 p.m.— Meditation Group</p>	<p>2 9:15 a.m.— Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.— HE Rite I 6:30 p.m.— Bookends 7:30 p.m.—Choir 8 pm— AA</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 Parlor/Bott Hall— Private rentals</p>
<p>5 8 am— Holy Eucharist (HE) Rite I 10:30—HE Rite II Healing Prayers</p>	<p>6 6:30 p.m.— Meditation Class 8 p.m. AA (Bott Hall)</p>	<p>7 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 10 a.m.— College Park Stitching Group</p>	<p>8 6 p.m.— Bible Study 7:15 p.m.— Meditation Group</p>	<p>9 9:15 a.m.— Morn Prayer 10:30 a.m.— HE Rite I 7:30 p.m.—Choir 8 pm— AA</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 9:30 a.m.— Mission Workday/ Breakfast</p>
<p>12 Pentecost 8 am— HE Rite I 10:30—HE Rite II Parish Picnic</p>	<p>13 8 p.m. AA (Bott Hall)</p>	<p>14 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6:30 p.m.— Finance Commission</p>	<p>15 6 p.m.— Bible Study 7:15 p.m.— Meditation Group</p>	<p>16 9:15 a.m.— Morn Prayer 10:30 a.m.— HE Rite I 8 pm— AA</p>	<p>17 7 p.m.— Parish Movie Night</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Father's Day 8 am— HE Rite I 10:30—HE Rite II Liturgy Comm 6 p.m.— Gay Men's Fellowship Group</p>	<p>20 8 p.m. AA (Bott Hall)</p>	<p>21 9:15 am— Morning Prayer 6:15 p.m.— Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>22 <i>Eagle Notes</i> articles due 6 p.m.— Bible Study 7:15 p.m.— Meditation Group</p>	<p>23 9:15 a.m.— Morn Prayer 10:30 a.m.— HE Rite I 8 pm— AA</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 8 am— HE Rite I 10:30—HE Rite II 4th Sunday Celebration Brunch</p>	<p>27 8 p.m. AA (Bott Hall)</p>	<p>28 9:15 am— Morning Prayer</p>	<p>29 6 p.m.— Bible Study 7:15 p.m.— Meditation Group</p>	<p>30 9:15 a.m.— Morn Prayer 10:30 a.m.— HE Rite I 8 pm— AA</p>		



Lay Ministries Schedule

June Coffee Hour: *Lisa Henderson*

July Coffee Hour: *Ed Pierce*

June Altar Bread: *Nancy Eddins*

July Altar Bread: *Carolyn Pierce*

Date	June 5	June 12	June 19	June 26	July 3
RCL Year A	<i>7th Sunday of Easter</i>	Pentecost	<i>1st Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sun</i>	<i>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</i>
The Lessons Appointed for use	Acts 1:6-14 I Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 John 17:1-11	Acts 2:1-21 or Numbers 11:24-30 I Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23 or 7:37-39	Genesis 1:1-2:4a 2 Corinthians 13:11-13 Matthew 28:16-20	Genesis 22:1-14 or Jeremiah 28:5-9 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13 or Zechariah 9:9-12 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Altar Guild	Team 1 Will Manders, Phillip Maniscalco, Ruth Crook	Team 2 Jane Foster	Team 3 Jackie Berlin, Sarah Clark	Team 4 Linda Vinal, Kei Breedlove, Joy Lopez	Team 1 Will Manders, Phillip Maniscalco, Ruth Crook
8:00 a.m. Rite I Service					
Verger		Bruce Braxton		Bruce Braxton	
Acolyte	David Wagner	Nee Odoi	David Wagner	Nee Odoi	David Wagner
Chalice	Nee Odoi	Bruce Braxton	Rosey Dunn	Bruce Braxton	Rosey Dunn
Reader	Jane Walters	Jane Randolph	Donna Dunn	Jill Bowman	Jane Walters
10:30 a.m. Rite II Service					
Verger	Bruce Braxton		Bruce Braxton		Bruce Braxton
Cross	John Brady	John Brady	John Brady	John Brady	John Brady
Acolyte I	Daniel Dice	Gwen Fields	Daniel Dice	Gwen Fields	Daniel Dice
Acolyte II		Peyton Hopkins & Grayson Korta	Kei Breedlove	Sean & Julia Cheely	Jane Graham
Chalice I	Bruce Braxton	Carl Cheely	Bruce Braxton	Carl Cheely	Bruce Braxton
Chalice 2 (if necessary)	Gwen Fields	Gwen Fields	Daniel Dice	Gwen Fields	Daniel Dice
Gospel Book	Gwen Fields	Robert Hopkins	Michael Proscia	Jane Graham	Michael Proscia
Reader	Lisa Henderson	Robert Hopkins	Lisa Henderson	Jane Graham	Michael Proscia
Usher/Greeters	Donna Dunn, Linda Vinal, Pat Hyman	Lisa Franzman, Reuben Bostic, Georgie White	Michael Henderson, Pat Hyman, Marie Knight	Carolyn Pierce, Tisha & Cierra Abbott	Reuben Bostic, Georgie White, Marie Knight
Vestry-in-Charge	Rosey Dunn	Carl Franzman	Lisa Henderson	Ed Pierce	Frank Harrell

If you can not serve on the day scheduled or find a replacement, please call Verger **Bruce Braxton** (678-571-8833); or that day's Vestry-in-Charge. When serving, please arrive in the vesting room **15 minutes prior** to the beginning of the service. **Thank you!**

The flowers on the altar
last month were given to
the glory of God and



in honor of Carol Livsey, my beloved
daughter-in-law, from Bena Sue Livsey;
and in memory of Ethel Quimby, with love
from Pat & Mike Armer.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT ALWAYS PICK
UP THE CHECK ON FATHER'S DAY

Prayer List

Please remember the names on this list for use in your daily prayers

Members

Louisita Patrick
Joy Lopez
Ray Townsend
Hank & Neva Frese
Julia Paris
Creston Portis
Howard Wise
Bob Holloman
Barbarine Thorpe
Martha McLeod
Helen Scarbrough
Dorothy Houston
Bena Sue Livsey
Dorothy Nash
Pat Baker
Philip Maniscalco
Frank Harrell
Jackie Berlin
Lucille Alston
Charles Cunningham

Family & Friends

Joy Lopez' sister, Marcia
Polly Hopkins' mother, Nancy,
Daniel Alston's grandmother, Genevieve
Heidi Chandonia's father, Jeff
Georgie White's family, Ethel, & Sheffrie
Gerry O'Connor's brother, Clive, and friends,
Shirley, Marina & Marjorie
Michael Henderson's brother, Jeffrey
Martha Spring's friends, Katie and Lynn
The McLeod's sister, Virginia
Nee Odoi's cousin, Frank
Pat Armer's sister, Leslie
Luann Blasingame's father, William Golden
Cheryl Williams' friends, Rose, Ken, and Sherry
Josh Fattal and Shane Bauer, imprisoned in Iran
nearly two years
Jay Neely

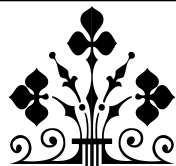
Those who have died

Those who died in the tornado in Joplin, MO;
Those who died in war; from preventable dis-
eases; or from malnutrition last month

A Prayer

-from Gerry O'Connor

"Give me the faith that asks not 'why?'
I shall know God's plan by and by.
Give me the faith that looks at pain,
And says - T'll all be right again.
Give me the faith that clasps God's hand,
When things are hard to understand.
Give me the faith to bow my head
Trustfully waiting to be led.
Give me the faith to face my life,
With all its pain and wrong and strife.
And then with day's setting sun
I'll close my eyes when life is done,
My soul will go without a care,
Knowing that God is waiting there. "



The Flowers on the Altar

We have flowers on the altar each week—dedicating flowers is a good way to commemorate birth-
days, anniversaries, & other special days for loved ones. 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 a \$40 check attached to the church office or mail to 3480 Main Street, College Park, GA 30337.



Pentecost

Happy Birthday to the Church!

Pentecost (Ancient Greek: "the fiftieth day") is one of the prominent feasts in the Christian liturgical year, celebrated the fiftieth day after Easter Sunday. It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and other followers of Jesus. Christians place the birth of the Church on the day of Pentecost.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (Acts 2:1-4)

The experience was noticed by a large crowd, causing confusion & awe. *When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language.... Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? ...Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Acts 2:6-12*

Peter spoke to the crowd and explained that these strange events had been prophesied. He exhorted his listeners to turn to Christ: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." About three thousand responded to Peter's sermon and were baptized into the new Holy Spirit-formed church—hence, the Church's birthday.

All of this took place when the disciples were gathered together after the crucifixion, during the feast of *Shavuot*. On *Shavuot*, Rabbinic Judaism commemorates the giving of the Mosaic Law on Mount Sinai, on the *fiftieth* day after the departure from Egypt (Exodus 19:1). Pentecost can be seen as historically and symbolically parallel to *Shavout*: on *Shavout* the Children of Israel received the Law; on Pentecost, the Church received the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Pentecost is also known as "Whitsunday." The term comes from Old English, in reference to the white ceremonial robes formally worn on this day. An alternative derivation is from "Wit" or "Wisdom" Sunday, the day when the Apostles were filled with wisdom by the Holy Spirit.



Pentecost is the next church baptism date. If you would like to be baptized or have a child baptized, we welcome you! Please contact the office or clergy to make arrangements.

It is also the day of St. John's annual Pentecost Parish Potluck Picnic! We will celebrate the Church's birthday and the coming of the Holy Spirit together. Please bring your favorite picnic side dishes like potato salad, cole slaw, etc. **Don't forget to wear red!**



The Amazing Bargain Shop

Many, many thanks to the Bargain Shop Officers, Jane Holloman, Will Manders, Honey Harris, and M.E. King, as well as to the 40+ shop volunteers! So far this year, the St. John's Bargain Shop has raised approximately \$20,000!

Much of that earned money has gone to support St. John's, and so far this year, they have also donated over \$5,500 to worthy organizations such as: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Interfaith Airport Chaplaincy, Atlanta Union Mission, SW Christian Hospice, Bethlehem Ministry, Savannah St. House, and Camp Mikell. In addition, they have given away clothing to hundreds of individuals and families most in need.

So please keep those donated gently used clothing items, shoes, books, electronic equipment, bedding, cookware, and other household items coming! You may deliver items to the Bargain Shop (2823 Main Street, East Point, GA 30344) or leave them in the Bargain Shop collection bin in the downstairs foyer.

If you would like to volunteer to staff a shift at the Bargain Shop, they are in need of more great helpers! Please call **M.E. King** at 770-461-7343 to find out more.

The Bargain Shop is truly fulfilling Jesus' commission to us, to feed the hungry and clothe the poor. *"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'"*

-Matthew 25:35-40.

Total Bargain Shop sales since November, 1952: \$1,580,014.⁵⁰. Wow!

Emmaus House Needs Summer Camp Volunteers, Donors June 6- July 22

A letter from Emmaus House Associate
Director Elizabeth Roles:

From June 6- July 22, **Emmaus House**, the Diocese of Atlanta's ministry in the inner-city community of Peoplestown, will offer day camp for needy children in kindergarten through 3rd grade. We need your help to make this a great summer for these great kids. Here are ways to help:

1. **Teach a class.** Whether once or twice a week or just one morning, you can offer your skills in arts and crafts, dance, music, drama, storytelling, exercise, yoga, martial arts, gardening, sports, or leading recreation and games.
2. **Be a chaperone.** Come along with us to the zoo, the park, or the museum. Commit to one day a week, or choose one date. This is a great service opportunity for youth groups.
3. **Sponsor a field trip!** Your purchase of tickets to venues such as the Atlanta Aquarium, Stone Mountain Park or the Center for Puppetry Arts will provide a special outing for our kids.
4. **Have a pool?** Host a pool party for our kids! You provide the pool and we will hire a life guard!
5. **Donate healthy snacks.** Fresh fruit is hard to come by in this neighborhood. Give our kids the treat of a banana, apple slices, or grapes for their morning snack.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact camp director, **Courtney Bowen**, at 404-525-5948 x12.

Dancing on his grave

-By Dan Webster, May 03, 2011, *Episcopal News Service*

I was caught off guard. I did not expect to see spontaneous displays of glee at the death of Osama bin Laden. But then I've never understood the celebration of the death of any human being. Somehow our God-given humanity is diminished when someone celebrates the violent death of another child of God.

The chanting of "USA" over and over, the singing of the national anthem all had a surreal feeling to me. My first reaction to a Facebook post that called those actions patriotic was quick and direct. That was nationalism, not patriotism.

But it was the singing of "God Bless America" that cut to my heart. I have wrestled with my Christianity and war since 1965 when my Catholic high school organized a march to the federal building in support of the Vietnam War. I had to make a decision that day. I chose to sit in the library. There was too much evidence in the scripture I had read even by then that supported a peaceful, non-violent response from those who would try to follow Jesus.

So fast forward to Sunday night, May 1, 2011. As I watched the president tell us of the military action that ended a 10-year manhunt, I reflected on my sermon that morning -- are we admirers of Jesus or are we followers. It was a question that theologian Soren Kierkegaard puts forward. Do we just like the idea of Jesus and what he did or do we really try to follow in his footsteps? Do we really find ourselves telling people to "put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword" (Matthew 26:52) or, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:43-45a)?

I know such quotes from scripture invite proof-texting. I know you can find many verses, especially in the Hebrew Scriptures, that can justify violence. I find nothing in the life of Jesus that does. If we think overturning some tables in the Temple to protest an unjust system that oppressed the poor can justify war, murder and torture, then we are missing the point of the message of Jesus' life.

Violence has become our country's predominant spirituality. Our nation's soul is in peril. We have bought into the myth that if we eliminate the murderer we will eventually eliminate murder. The death penalty has not deterred murder in this country. Suicide bombers are an international epidemic. We have to find another way to defeat evil. We have been given a template. It is in the life and actions of Jesus. It involves repentance, redemption, reconciliation and living in right relationship with one another.

Less than 40 hours after the news and the reaction had occurred, I found myself at a midweek Eucharist saying the Lord's Prayer. I heard myself say out loud to God, "...forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us...." I did not mindlessly repeat this prayer. I really thought about what I was asking God to do.

In every human being resides the image of God. When we allow ourselves to begin putting a higher value on some human lives and not others, we are diminishing or ignoring the image of God in our midst. That is why, after seeing the "dancing on his grave" crowds, I posted on my Facebook page the prayer for our enemies from the Book of Common Prayer: "O God, the Father of all, whose Son commanded us to love our enemies: Lead them and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

-- Dan Webster is an Episcopal priest in Baltimore, MD. He is a former elected member of the National Executive Council of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship.

St. John's Episcopal Church

The Rev. Troy C. Beecham, Rector
Lee Barthelette, Parish Administrator
Thomas Elston, Director of Music
Cecelia Michaels, Chief Accounting Officer

John Brady & Dennis Luck, Sextons
Dennis & Verlyn Luck, Yamiley Gilbert, Nursery
Bruce Braxton, Verger; Phillip Maniscalco, Sacristan
Keith Huffstetter, Rite I Organist

Schedule of Services & Classes

- **Holy Eucharist Rite I**
Sundays, 8 a.m.; Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.
- **Holy Eucharist Rite II**
Sundays, 10:30 a.m.
- **Morning Prayer** (Parlor)
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:15 a.m.
- **2nd & 4th Sundays**
Parish Brunches
- **First Mondays**
Meditation Class, 6:30 p.m.
- **Wednesday Evening Classes**
Bible Study Class, 6 p.m.;
Meditation Group, 7:15 p.m.,
- **First Thursdays**
Bookends Book Club, 6:30 p.m.
- **Third Fridays**
Movie Night, 7 p.m.

2011 Vestry

David Houser, Sr. Warden
Kei Breedlove, Jr. Warden
Roosevelt Dunn
Carl Franzman
Frank Harrell
Lisa Henderson
Jane Holloman
Will Manders
Ed Pierce

Father's Day

O Lord our God,
creator of heaven and
earth, through your Son
Jesus Christ you have
revealed yourself as a
heavenly Father to all of
your children.
Bless, we pray, all earthly
fathers.

Strengthen them to
nurture, protect, and
guide the children
entrusted to their care.
Instill within them the
virtues of love and
patience.

May they be slow to
anger and quick to
forgive.

And through the
ministrations of your Holy
Spirit, may all fathers be
strong and steadfast
examples of faithfulness,
responsibility, and loving-
kindness;

through Jesus Christ our
Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God, for
ever and ever.

Amen.



3480 Main Street
College Park, GA 30337
Phone: 404-761-8402
Fax: 404-761-8403
www.stjohnscollegepark.com
parishadmin@stjohnscollegepark.com

Nonprofit Organization

U.S. Postage—Paid
ATLANTA, GA 30304

Permit #3619

Find us on Facebook!

Search: The Episcopal Church of
St. John, Diocese of Atlanta

Address Service Requested

Would you like to receive the monthly St. John's
Eagle Notes newsletter electronically?

Send your e-mail address to
parishadmin@stjohnscollegepark.com
today!



This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.