



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

Volume 22, Issue 3

March 2010

St. John's Episcopal Church

March Epistle

From The Rector

Dear St. Johns' Friends,

Lent has begun. It is still cold. Will spring ever come this year? Lent comes to us from the same root for "lengthen." As the days lengthen, both the natural world around us, as well as our hearts within us, will begin to sprout new growth if we will just allow. We can, only with difficulty, stop the eager growth of plants by leaving them smothered under debris and trash. By the same token, we can, if we must, prevent a rebirth of the Spirit within us by leaving the refuse of our lives clogging our spirits.

Lent calls us to "spring cleaning," to remove those lazy habits and old regrets that hold us captive; leaving us free to let the spirit of God grow freely in our lives. Indeed, St. John's has begun, in so many ways, to sprout new growth. This edition of the Epistle is full of examples of new life in this place. We look forward to seeing new growth, new life, breaking out in newer, wider, and deeper ways within each one who enters this place.

Blessings for a Holy Lent,
Ann+

March Adult Lenten Classes

Adult Lenten Classes will be held on March 7, 14, and 21 at 9:00 a.m in the Parish Hall. Let's prepare ourselves for the major services of Holy Week by looking at them in advance. These services are more complex than our average Sunday worship; let's look at them in detail. See you there!

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First Communion Class

Let your child receive his/her first communion at Easter! On Palm Sunday at 9:00(+/-), I will do an abbreviated instructed Eucharist for children and their parents in the church. While there is no "instruction" that fully explains the mystery that is communion, this may help children to be more comfortable receiving. Questions? Please call the office.

Ann+

Holy Week Services

Palm Sunday, March 28:

Services at 8 & 10

Maundy Thursday, April 1:

Service at 7:00 pm

Good Friday, April 2:

Service at 12 noon

Easter Sunday, April 4:

Services at 8 & 10

New Greeter Ministry

Lynn Bartholomew and a group of existing and new greeters will be making newcomers welcome to St. John's with new materials and procedures. While they will be doing all possible to meet and introduce newcomers to our warm community, they can't do the job alone.

We need YOU to be an active part of the process too! See someone you don't know? Introduce yourself and find out about them. See someone standing alone at coffee hour? Make it a point to include them! And wear your nametags to help all of us get to know each other better! Today's stranger may be tomorrow's new best friend!

Sunday School Sings

The children will be rehearsing at the beginning of Sunday School with Grace Edwards to participate in the Palm Sunday liturgy. Thank you, Grace!

Senior Warden's Corner



In the past 14 months I have written to you describing the wonderful people of St. John's and what they give of time and talent to make this such a place of fellowship. I have written of the spirituality or at least what I see as spiritual occurrences in areas like the Columbarium, the Preschool Christmas Play, and the quiet of the sanctuary on a day when I am alone at the church. I have written about the growth of our church from a rock-filled front yard that grew into a wonderful Preschool from the gifts of the people of St. John's. All through these 14 months as your Sr. Warden I have written and you have told me how much you enjoy reading the Sr. Warden's Corner ... until last month. I really did not expect the piece I wrote to create much feedback and it didn't. The Sr. Warden's Corner last month was about budget and money ... not a very popular topic to start with, and in the end I don't blame you. I really don't enjoy talking about it myself, but it has been on my mind and it seems to me that I've discussed church finances for the 26 months that I've served on the Vestry. It's simply not a very popular topic for most folks.

The Vestry and Finance Committee are in a somewhat uncomfortable position at the moment. We are all having to draw a very firm line between what are "wants" and what are "needs" for the church. We have a line-item budget completed with true figures ... but it's not balanced. The 2010 Budget is currently standing

after many many changes and entries at minus \$38,000 anticipated expenses to pledges and plate giving. We are discussing relief assistance from the Diocese for 2010 with the appropriate Diocesan personnel, and we are eliminating several services such as lawn care that we have historically paid for.

St. John's has a healthy line of credit that the Vestry will approve using only in an absolute maintenance emergency within the Facility. That line of credit is not going to be used to pay normal operating expenses ever! The Vestry and Finance Committee are passionate about balancing the budget, paying the mortgage down, and eliminating the debt that has been over St. John's for far too long. Imagine what we could do with those funds freed up.

With all of this said, it really boils down to one thing: We all have to do more to support the Church financially. Some give much ... some give enough ... and some give little. If you look into your hearts and budgets and feel comfortable that you are doing as much as you can, then I say thank you. If you can do more, then please do. The Vestry cannot be the ones that stamp that, it comes from you. In closing let me offer apologies to anyone I may offend as that's never my intent. This place has always been here for you when you needed it and always will be. However, I did feel what better time to discuss such a personal, thought-provoking item than Lent.

I wish you peace during this Lenten Season.

- Tom

Miscellaneous



How are you and your children doing with the Heifer Project banks? Bring them back on Easter full! We want to send a whole herd of goats to Haiti.

Thanks to the kindness of a local realtor, two weather-proof boxes have taken residence in the yard. The first is along the driveway and contains copies of the Epistle and cards with St. John's contact information for newcomers.

The second box is at the entrance to the Lenten Labyrinth and contains materials for use while walking.



Christian Education

During this season of Lent we are encouraging the children to participate in the Heifer Program by saving coins that will be used to purchase livestock for Haitians. We have distributed banks and family activity calendars to support the program and are using some of the calendar suggestions for discussion in church school. We hope your family enjoys the program and is able to use some of the ideas to begin good discussions at home.

The church school children plan to bring some extra music to you during the 10 o'clock service on Palm Sun-

day. A few short practices will take place during our education hour, and we're sure you'll be delighted with the result!

On Easter Sunday the children will worship with their families instead of attending their regular church school classes. Baskets are in the parish hall to collect eggs and small individually wrapped candies for our annual egg hunt which follows the service. Thank you in advance for checking the labels and not sending in candies that contain peanuts or tree nuts.

- Ann Holmes

Church Net Foundation

St John's has joined Church Net along with 14 other area churches, and they are looking to the churches for more help at this time. The ECW has contributed to Church Net, but we would like the congregation to get involved. There will be a "Church Net" box set up in the Narthex. If you could drop a dollar or some change in the box before you come into church, that would be a big help. When we get \$50 together, we will take it to the Church Net office. We are all doing God's work, and I know that He is pleased with the Church Net Foundation!

The Church Net Foundation is a coalition of 15 area churches (from Rolesville, Youngsville, and Wake Forest) who pool financial resources and volunteers to help people in these communities who need help with utility bills, sometimes rent, and occasionally prescription medications. Clients come to our office on Tuesday

mornings or Thursday afternoons, interview with the volunteers, fill out an information form, and bring copies of bills or notices. We have a system of making pledges for the amounts we feel we can pay to the agency, never to the client, and make phone calls and fax information to the agencies and to the Church Net financial secretary, who makes out the checks. During 2008, Church Net helped 270 clients with payments, for a total of about \$47,000.

Church Net is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization and is incorporated. People can make tax-deductible donations directly to Church Net by mailing checks made out to Church Net to 905 S. Main St., Wake Forest, NC 27587. (That is the Methodist Church where Church Net's secretary is a member, and we have a secure mailbox inside the church office.)

- Carolyn Stoklas

Care Group



Thanks to everyone who lends time and resources to helping The Care Group support our Church Family. Thank you also for answering the "Freezer Meal" request. Your help is truly appreciated. Please continue to help us by letting us know of needs within our Church.

We are currently looking for someone to lead the Care Group in 2011. Please let me or Catherine Massey know if you are interested.

- Sloan Walkup

St. John's Preschool

St. John's Preschool is ready for spring! Teachers are happy to exchange winter learning materials for spring activities that span the curriculum and revolve around growing and changing.

March is Literacy Month. The preschool participates in a national literacy program called "Book It Beginners" that encourages families to read, read read! Below are photos of some of our students, teachers, and parents sharing their love of reading.

Summer Camp registration for rising 3- and 4-year-olds is in progress and will end March 26th. Priority is given to current preschool students, and remaining spots are open to the community on a first-come, first-served basis. Applications and information are available in the parish hall and on the website: www.stjohnswf.com under 'Preschool.' It's nice to be thinking ahead to summer fun!

We have several spots open in our Mon/Wed/Thurs 2-year-old class for 2010-2011. We are accepting children on to our waiting list for all other classes for next year.

Something New For St. John's Preschool! We will be offering a **Parent/Tot Playgroup** for children 12 months old to 24 months old. Toddlers learn best through their interdependent explorations and interactions with their caregivers. With this in mind, our playgroup teacher will set up play activities that emphasize the senses (since toddlers are in the 'sensory -motor' stage of development) for parents or other caregivers to engage in with their tots. Music time or story time is

most enjoyable while sitting in the comfort of a loved ones lap when you are just one year old. Parents and caregivers can provide support and learn a lot from each other in a playgroup setting. Many lasting friendships are formed when parents of young children get together on an ongoing basis. Our experienced toddler teacher will also be happy to share information on any topics parents are interested in. The playgroup will meet once a week at the preschool on Fridays from 9:30 am to 11:00 am, September through May (playgroup will follow the preschool calendar).

Playgroup activities will include:

- Free Play
- Chapel
- Sensory Play
- Music
- Outdoor Play or Gross Motor Indoor Play
- Snack
- Dabbling With Art
- Storytime
- Social Time

There will be a \$35 supply/registration fee and the playgroup will be \$35/month. Playgroup participants will be included in priority registration for the following school year. Call Kristen Baron at 562-8619 or email: kbaron@stjohnswf.com for more information.

- Kristen Baron



Relay for Life



This year, I've renewed my commitment to help save lives from cancer by taking part in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life. This year, the **Relay For Life of North Raleigh/Wake Forest will take place May 15-16 at Richland Creek Community Church.** I know that you care about finding an end to cancer, and I would love for you and your family to join our team at the Relay—please visit our team (**St. John's Joyful Soles**) page at www.wakeforestrelay.com. If you are not able to attend, you can still help by making an online donation to one of our team's registered members.

By taking part in Relay For Life, we have a chance to join 3.5 million people from across the country to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against a disease that takes too much. At the same time, we'll help raise much needed funds and awareness to support the American Cancer Society's efforts to save more lives.

At the event, we'll camp out overnight (not required!) and take turns walking around the track. There

is an incredibly moving ceremony to celebrate cancer survivors and caregivers that starts off the night, followed by a moving ceremony to honor and remember those who have fought the disease. *I can truly say that the Relay is a life-changing experience.* It's a night full of fun, hope, and remembrance.

Whether it is through a friend, family member, the neighbor down the street, or our own personal experience, we have all been touched by cancer in some way. **Please join our team!** Together, we have the power to help create a world where cancer can no longer claim another year of anyone's life. Please feel free to forward this to anyone who may be interested. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email or call me!

- Mary Ellen Archer

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

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

On February 16th, a wonderful Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper was served to around 120 people from ages 4 months to 90 years young! The tables were full all evening with everyone enjoying a great supper and warm fellowship with one another. Your generous donations netted approximately \$600 to benefit St. John's EYC.

Mother Ann and the children started the festivities by holding the "Alleluia Banner" high and leading us in a chorus of 10 "Alleluias." Mother Ann explained that we will put our "Alleluias" away for Lent and had the children help her hide the banner. Look for the banner again on Easter Sunday!

Our energetic EYC served as our wait and bus staff for the evening. Along with their equally energetic leaders, Jane and Daniel Cheek and EYC parent Abby Presson, they kept the plates of pancakes moving and our drinks filled. They all worked tirelessly at the end of the evening helping to put away tables and chairs and getting trash bags out to the large cans in the driveway. Many thanks to these EYC members and their families: Sean

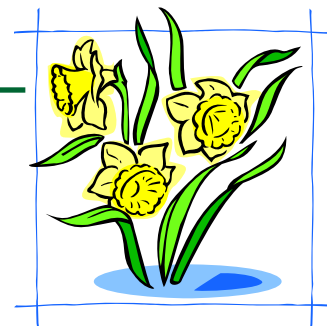


Leech; Jane Bennett; Jase Brown; Emma, Simon and Trevor Daw; Caitlin Lewis; Meredith Massey; Michelle McIlwain; Chandler and Jack Presson; Trevor Telenko.

A special thank you to all who answered the call and volunteered to make this annual parish event happen; for the donation of pancake mix from Al and Dot Hinton; our kitchen crew: Mike Allen, Harold Davis, Bill LaBarbera, Bob Nelligar, Joe Paulonis, and Bob Stoklas (the pancakes, sausage, and bacon were delicious and flowed non-stop until the end!); tables and chairs set up by our Sexton, Al; festive Mardi Gras table decorations by Durward and Shirley Matheny; welcome table greeters: Edna Toney, Mary Margaret Godier and Joy Shillingsburg; the clean-up crew: Roger and Elizabeth Melvin, Joe and Carol Paulonis, Melanie Murphy, and the many others that jumped in to help get the fellowship hall and kitchen clean and back in order.

- Darden Baker

In Our Prayers



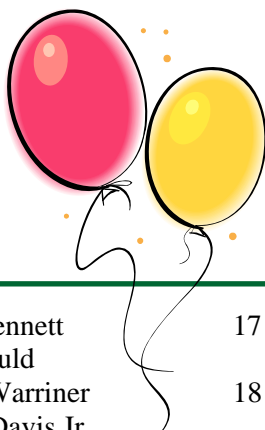
Tom Baker, Sr., Tom Baker's father
Kristen McPherson Bierline
Patrick Cancro
Carl Caudill, Jane Cheek's brother
Ginny Christie
Dawn and Heather Christie
Ruth Dancy, Mollie River's daughter
Maren Friedman
Anna Gorniak
Dot Hinton
Helen Kovacs
Barbara Kjelberg
Jennifer Mara
Shirley McHose

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

Our Men and Women in the Armed Services:

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

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



March Birthdays

02 Janet Rose	09 Jayne Bennett	17 Caroline Jones	25 Lauren Smith
03 Cady Bailey	Judy Gould	James Schaeffer	26 Nick Matchunis
Erin Harp	Daniel Warriner	18 Kate McDavitt	27 Ben Munz
Matthew Presson	10 Harold Davis Jr.	Vann McDuffie	Thomas Shirland Jr.
04 Michael McDuffie	Sharon Davenport	20 Bill Houtz Mr.	28 Tim Matchunis
Abigail Telenko	Charles Hale	21 Sharon Spangler	Chris Mertz
05 Connor Bell	Patrick Ingram	Kelly Weinel	29 Roger Melvin
06 Randall Ray	David Vohwinkel	22 Cameron Hicks	30 Amy Bailey
Brady Wilson	David Williams Jr.	John Melvin	Virginia Currie
07 Ken Christie	12 Dagmar Derrick	Will Williams III	Steve Gould
Catherine Long	13 Henry Roberts	24 Sarah Knight	Krystal Kramer
08 Meredith Massey	14 Jan Raper	25 Suzanna Neeley-	
Michael Morse	16 Eleanor Earley	Bridges	
Alexandra Husinko			

Getting to Know You



Getting to know you will hopefully be a monthly feature in the Epistle. This month, we are featuring **Arienne Brown, St. John's Financial Administrator**. You will find her in the church offices Monday–Thursday. Arienne joined St. John's office in October of last

year. She lives in Wake Forest with her husband Tony and their three children: Maddie, Connor and Jackson.

Name: Arienne Brown

Place of birth: Marion, Indiana

Occupation/place of work: St John's

Most meaningful church service you ever attended: The night of 9/11

Book you are reading now or would recommend: Sarah's Key

Most enjoyable TV show/movie: The Notebook

Favorite potluck dish: Sheppard's Pie

Activities, hobbies, or interests: Photography, Travel, Running My 3 Children Around, Collecting Seashells...

If anything were possible, what would you like to be doing now or in the future? I would love to travel more with my family.

Young Families Dinner

After a bit of a break, we're having another Young Families Dinner on Sunday, April 11th from 4 to 6 pm. All are welcome to attend, and we especially encourage all families with young children to come! More information

will follow in the weekly bulletin. Please let Brooke Dickhart know if you can make it. You can email her at brookedickhart@yahoo.com.

Ministry Assignments

Calendar	Acolytes	Readers	Chalice	Greeters	Ushers	Flower Guild	Altar Guild	Lessons	Sermon	
07-Mar	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Larry Demanovich	Lent	Vivian Jones and Melanie Murphy	Isalah 55:1-9	Ann Burts	
	10:00	John McDuffie	Carol Smith	Carole Friedman	Jenny Brewer			Bob Nelligar		Psalom 63 1-8
		Philip Paige	Kenille Baumgardner		Jim and Sharon Davenport			Al Reynolds		1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9
14-Mar	8:00	Conner Williams	Jan Williams	Bob Bidwell	Greg Williams	Lent	Arjine McCullough and Denise Munz	Joshua 5:9-12	Ann Burts	
	10:00	Trevor Telenko	James Davenport	Durward Matheny	Vivian Jones			John Rich		Psalom 32
		Jack Presson	Harold Davis		Louis Mullinger			Frank Toney, Jr.		2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32
21-Mar	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Larry Demanovich	Lent	Kelly Osborne and Linda Hayes	Isalah 43:16-21	Ann Burts	
	10:00	Hayley Walkup	Carole Friedman	Carol Paulonis	Elwood and			David Williams, Jr.		Psalom 126
		Trevor Daw	Mayla Gilliam		Helen Munz			Bill Batton		Phillippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8
03/28/2010 Palm	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Elwood Munz	Bob Bidwell	Al Reynolds	Lent	Alfie Adams, Jenny Brewer and Carole Friedman	Isalah 50:4-9a	Gene Montague	
	10:00	Sean Leech	Al Hinton	Kenille Baumgardner	Ed and Sid			Jon Bell		Psalom 31:9-16
		Hunter Kramer	Al Reynolds		Reynolds			Karen Bell		Phillippians 2:5-11 Luke 19:28-40, Luke 22:14-23:56
04/04/2010 Easter	8:00	Conner Williams	Jan Williams	Bob Bidwell	Greg Williams		Sharon Davenport and Kenille Baumgardner	Acts 10:34-43	Ann Burts	
	10:00	John McDuffie	Lisa Hunt	James Davenport	John Rich and			Harold Davis		Psalom 118:1-2, 14-24
		Sidney Osborne and Jayne Bennett	Vivian Jones		Melanie Murphy			Jack Derrick		1 Corinthians 15:19-26 John 20:1-18



St. John's Episcopal Church

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Tara and Brian Henderson
Perri Holt
Laura Santos
Chris Walkup

Building the Body of Christ

From the Parish Register



Baptized - *Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.*

Emma Darden Briley, daughter of John and Sarah Briley and granddaughter of Tom and Darden Baker on February 7.

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

Emily Bales Wootten on February 6.

Many Hands are Making for Lighter Work!

The list of people who offer their skills and wisdom to St. John's is practically endless. Here are just a few from the last month: Bob Stoklas trimmed, Ed Reynolds refinished and Bill LaBarbera hung our new/old tabernacle, a gift of Christ Church, Albemarle. Gail Calhoun, Betsy Kessler and Darden Baker have become office angels—with wide-ranging and most needed duties. Dave Roberts designed and painted our Lenten Labyrinth in the columbarium. Elizabeth McDuffie and Ken Christie had their first meeting with the existing acolytes and will begin training new ones in March. Lee Jay Copperfield found us "Piglet" the goat for the Heifer Project kickoff! Darden Baker and her cast of kitchen minions made a great Pancake Supper happen while Daniel and Jane Cheek and the eager wait staff of EYCers served well over 100 well-fed folks.