



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

Volume 21, Issue 10

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St. John's Episcopal Church

November Epistle

From The Rector

Dear New Friends at St. John's,

Here I am at my desk in Annapolis, Maryland, planning eagerly to pile the last of my clothes and my dog Barney into my little white Subaru for the trip to NC next week. While among you I will have the best of many strands of my life: my children and grandchildren in Raleigh, my husband flying in on weekends, and a wonderful church community to serve, back home in NC, as they say, in "God's country."

How appropriate that I must journey to join you. We are each on a journey called life. Each step along the way offers opportunities, challenges, and joys. We are continually leaving the past, and moving toward the future; but we feel it most viscerally at times such as this.

Interim—the time between. You are not where you were only a few weeks ago, with the priest you long knew and loved, yet you are not yet in the future with your next rector. You, and I, are in an interim time, together.

Interim time is valuable time; time to reflect and prepare to move ahead. When we were preparing for marriage, we were in an interim called *engagement*. Our Lord had his interim time... the 40 days in the wilderness; the people of Israel had theirs... the Exodus. And so for St. John's, my first task among you will be simply to join—to worship with you, visit with you, to attend meetings with you, and to begin to serve among you as your priest. Then, together with your talented leadership and staff, we will walk confidently through the process which will result in the calling of your next rector. I thank God for the gift of this time to be a part of your lives.

Blessings in Christ,
Ann +

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Senior Warden's Corner



Greetings St. John's:

I am frequently asked the question: "Where are we with the search for our new Rector?" Well, after a very hectic September, we finally have our Interim, Ann Burts starting November 2. We are slowing things down for October and November as suggested by the Bishop and Canon. We will allow Ann to meet, greet, and otherwise get acclimated to St. John's. The Search Committee will be formed in December, and we will move forward.

I believe that part of my job as Senior Warden is to keep you informed on our facilities and grounds, as well as their suitability for our spiritual growth. I'd like to tell you about October 11th at around 4:30 pm in our beautiful Columbarium. Since our in-ground sprinkler system cracked a pipe back in August, the Columbarium Committee of Frank Sullivan, Peggy Scott, Don Meyers, Julie Arthur, Darden Baker, and I have rotated watering our flowers, shrubs, and trees, while the Vestry looks into ways and funds to repair the crack. Luckily this happened at the end of the hot months so it's really not been too bad on the plants or us. I actually find the quiet very soothing, and it seems others do as well.

Two weeks ago when Darden and I pulled up to water, there was another car parked just under the pines by our walkway with one lady sitting inside. We went about watering and pulling a few weeds for about 20 minutes and as I was walking to my car she stepped out to speak to me. We introduced ourselves (her name was Katherine) and she proceeded to tell us how she loves to come up to St. John's in the afternoons to walk around and pray in our peaceful Columbarium. She also said how she was a gardener and just loved our beautiful flowers and especially the Cross. She then became teary eyed and confided in Darden and I that her marriage of 39 years had been going through a difficult time and her husband suggested she visit "her" Columbarium. While she was there praying and meditating her husband called and apologized for whatever had transpired earlier that sent her to the Columbarium. Finally she reached into her purse and handed Darden \$5.00 and asked that it be used for flowers. Darden wrote a note explaining this wonderful story and dropped it and the money by the

Financial Office in an envelope addressed to the Columbarium Fund. I saw Katherine again this past Sunday as well, and left her to her quiet time.

I'm not sure what to say next except that this is the third such interaction we have experienced at the Columbarium in the last 40 days. One other time an elderly lady walked across Hwy 98 from her husband's doctor's appointment to walk in our Columbarium. She said that she had heard about it from a friend. Why were we there watering at specifically these times? I'm very glad we were, as it supports all of the efforts of everyone who devotes time, talent, and energy to the many different ministries that St. John's offers to our community. What I am sure of is that if I were as I have unfortunately been in the past and simply came into the church at 10:00 am and out the door at 11:00 each Sunday I would have never experienced this type of human interaction.

A wise person offered me this analogy—that we go to the dentist once a year, and then we brush and floss twice per day every day until our next visit to maintain and improve that beautiful smile. The same thought is applicable in our spiritual growth as it takes more than one hour each Sunday to grow in Christ. Pick a ministry that interests you and immerse yourself into it. You'll see that you feel better when you help others in some way. Katherine and others like her are helped simply by the beauty of the flowers in the Columbarium and the quiet solitude it offers—it's really that simple.

Heythe Vestry will have four open slots in December :-)interested???

Peace and Patience,
Tom Baker

A note to a friend: I will miss you at 4th of July parades and your social afterwards. I will miss looking over my shoulder in church and seeing you grin while you point at the ceiling because we both are in the sanctuary at the same time. I will miss our sometimes philosophical and always funny talks. I will remember your help at my daughter's wedding. You were one of the first to welcome my family to St. John's 22 years ago, and we have felt very welcomed every day since. Goodbye and thank you, Frank.

Third Quarter Financials

3Q Financial Score Card		
As of September 30, 2009		
Income		Expenses
Current Month		Current Month
Income	\$33,755.44	Expenses: \$37,384.43
Budget	\$38,068.08	Budget: \$43,144.95
YTD - 2009		YTD - 2009
Income	\$344,670.41	Expenses YTD \$366,502.88
Budget	\$358,612.72	Expenses Budgeted \$366,683.55
		Difference
		(\$3,628.99)
		(\$5,076.87)
		(\$21,832.47)
		(\$8,070.83)

This allows you to see that the Church is operating at a loss. You will also notice that operating revenues (contributions) are below last year and well below budget. Much of this is in the pledge category as recurring contributions are ahead of budget. While it is not unusual to have pledges behind after the summer months, \$20,000 (this is the amount that pledges is behind alone) is a lot to make up. Non-operating revenues are ahead of last year and budget. Capital campaign revenues are up over last year but less than budgeted. Columbarium revenues have been more than expected. We have historically not budgeted either the revenues or expenses for parish groups as their income should equal their expenses.

With the changes underway at St. John's, I wanted to bring to everyone up-to-date regarding the financial health of the church. Recently the Vestry, on the advice of the Finance Committee, agreed to refinance the mortgage on the property and take advantage of the lower interest-rate environment. After competitive bids from numerous area banks we changed our banking relationship to First Citizen's Bank.

The business banking package that they provide us has a number of services to save us time, money, and trouble. Some services offered that were desirable were:

- ACH services to make the recording of payments to staff at both the church and the St. John's Preschool more efficient, convenient, and accountable.
- Remote Image Deposit—the ability to scan checks to be deposited using a scanner to transit the image to the bank via the Internet. This will reduce the time and burden of the Financial Secretary to process and credit checks each week.
- Online Banking services will help us record and review account history and provide us with a CD-ROM with a record of the transactions, assisting us to remain in compliance with our fiduciary responsibilities to the congregation and the Episcopal Church, USA.

With the retirement of John Rich as our longstanding treasurer, we are actively soliciting a replacement. If you are interested, please contact one of your Vestry Members.

*Respectfully submitted,
Rob Massey, Vestry Member*

Preschool News

From the delicious smell of homemade chili to the sights and sounds of children in costumes laughing and parading around the grounds, the Holiday Harvest was a huge success! The preschool community would like to extend a special thank you to the core Holiday Harvest committee for their amazing commitment to this event: **Stacey Moritz, Tara Henderson, Mary Ellen Archer and Brooke Dickhart**. Countless other volunteers and community members contributed their time and talents to make this a memorable event and we thank them from the bottom of our hearts!!!!

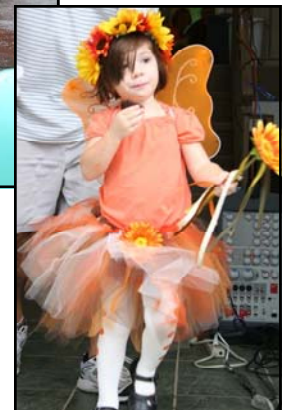
The preschool has open spots in our Monday/Wednesday one-year-old class. Call Kristen Baron at 562-8619 for more information.



Vendors galore!



Mr. Drew Bridges from the Storyteller's Book Store in Wake Forest keeps children of all ages entertained at the Holiday Harvest with his special story time.



Costume Parade!



Getting to Know You



The Rev. Ann Burts was educated and ordained in North Carolina. She has been serving churches in the Diocese of Maryland since being ordained in 1994. She served as an Associate at St. Anne's, Annapolis, for 12 years and then was the Interim Rector at All Hallow's, Davidsonville. Upon the completion of that interim, she did long-term supply for both St. David's, Roland Park, and St. John's, Mt. Washington as they completed interim periods. Ann and her husband live in Annapolis and are active in the Annapolis Chorale and Chamber Chorus.

Ann and Barney, the dog, will be living off Falls of the Neuse Road just north of 540 as she serves St. John's for their interim period. Her husband, Rick, is a networking consultant at the U.S. Capital but will be down frequently for long weekends. Ann and Rick look forward to having time with their two children and four grandchildren in Raleigh and to becoming a part of the people of God at St. John's, Wake Forest.

Name: Ann Horton Burts

Place of birth: Army hospital in Chicago, Ill toward the end of WWII

When did you become an Episcopalian? My husband-to-be Rick and I found ourselves in the choir at St. Philip's, Durham, in our last years at Duke. When we moved to Rockingham County, we were confirmed at Epiphany, Eden. After that we were active at St. Thomas' Reidsville, Christ Church, Charlotte, and Church of the Nativity, Raleigh.

Occupational history: I have been a secretary, teacher, stay-at-home mom, worked in human resources, and, since 1995, an Episcopal priest.

Favorite hymn: Oh my, there are so many—I love all but a few!

Favorite Biblical character: While I never tire of the life and parables of Jesus, I most identify with Peter—gifted with insight, passion and foot-in-mouth disease!

Favorite season of the church year: I most love the preparatory seasons of Advent and Lent, pensive and thoughtful seasons—they are the intentional times to get ready, and sadly, they tend to be overlooked as we rush headlong through them to the holidays ahead.

Most meaningful church

service: I was part of the planning team for the consecration of Eugene Sutton, Bishop of Maryland, and all the hard work of hundreds of people was gloriously rewarded in the palpable presence of the Spirit at that service in June 2008 at the National Cathedral.

Most recent book: Recently, I picked up a book in a waiting room and got hooked: *The Taking* by Dean Koontz. It is science fiction, a bit too icky for me in places, but it is an engaging retelling of a well-known Bible story.

Favorite potluck dish: Anything you brought! I'm not much of a cook, but my husband makes fantastic sourdough bread.

Guests at fantasy dinner party: I would love to sit George Washington down with others of the time and overhear how he came to the remarkable decision to resign his commission and set our nation on the path to elected leadership. I'm not sure I'd want to join them for the meal since they tended to eat a very rich, heavy diet, but the conversation would be worth it.

Other members of your family around St. John's:

My husband Rick will be flying down from BWI for as many long weekends as he can manage. Our children and their families are in Raleigh, so there will be a lot of grandparent-time ahead for us both! Our daughter Kathy and her husband Jonathan may be around St. John's some with their children, Lucas (age 5 3/4,) Ben (age 2), and Caroline (seven months), as may our son James, his wife Mitake, and their son Colin (almost 4). Oh yes, and then there is Barney, the "Carolina dog," who is coming with me.

Activities: Rick and I have been very involved in the Annapolis Chorale and Chamber Chorus for many years. I have recently been conducting historic tours of Annapolis, in 18th century costume.

What do you wish to be doing: I love what I am doing and hope for many years of continued health to continue serving the people of God as a priest.

In Our Prayers



Our Parishioners and Their Families:

Mimi, Tori Bennett's mother
Kristen McPherson Bierline
Gail Calhoun
Ruth Dancy, Mollie River's daughter
Maren Friedman
Brenda Gainey, Millie Nelligar's sister
Denys Hare
Dot Hinton
Burton Linscott, John's father
Shirley McHose
Barbara & Gene Montague
Dick Monteith
Tim Monzingo
Robert Hart Raynor, Millie Nelligar's cousin
Lisa M. Robertson, Gene & Barbara's daughter
Joe Virant, Perri Holt's brother-in-law
Linda Wolfgang, Dave McPherson's cousin

Those Who Have Died:

Susan Gayle Neeley
Frank Watson Smith
Walter McAllister, father of Desetta M. Harper

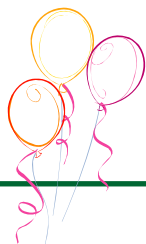
Our Friends:

Patrick Canero
Anna Gorniak
Betty Hardaway
Don Jones
Pat Maiocco
Maria Milam
McDonald family
Laura McMillian
Marisa Rosa
Lois Shirley
Suri

Our Men and Women in the Armed Services:

Thomas, son of Tom & Darden Baker
John, son of Pinky & David Cooke
Drew Holt and Ben Miller, nephews of Lee & Perri Holt
Frank Kelly, grandson of Carol Smith
Michael Klump, brother of Kathy Binns
Michael, son of Bill and Bonnie LaBarbera
Megan Leone
Sean Lynch, friend of Pinky & David Cooke
Chad Marshall, friend of Virginia Olsen
Ryan McDavitt

November Birthdays



02 Cathy Brittingham Jennifer Bell Jay Hinton	09 Simon Daw Jr. 10 Patrick Barham Anthony Graber	16 Emily Baker 19 Betty Echols Eleas Ottley Cooper Todriguew	26 Nate Haught Megan Leone Hayley Walkup
03 Tina Hayes Lauren Walkup	11 John Rich Sonia Ingram	20 Caroline Ward Matthew Griesedieck	27 Kelly Hylton Sherry Schubert
04 Austin Mozingo Spencer Renfrow Julie Telenko	12 Katie Griesedieck David Hare Philip Paige	21 Kirstin Moore 22 Cathy Plaut	28 Matt Munz 29 Bill LaBarbera Liza Perry
05 Bill Kovacs	13 Amanda Fisher Kelli Hicks	23 Jessica Graber Alan Kettle	30 Bill Osborne
06 Ann Rice Frank Toney Jr.	14 Mollie Rivers Kenille Baumgardner Alison Kovacs	24 Linda Hayes Brett Leone 25 Dan Houston Jr.	
07 Emily Hill Mildred Wilkinson			

Episcopal Church Women

The ECW would like to thank everyone that helped us make the bake sale, chili sale and luncheon a success! I personally would like to thank two gentlemen, Joe Paulonis and Bob Bartholomew, for all of their help with the chili luncheon and bake sale. Joe cooked the chili and served it and Bob cleaned up all day.

Christmas is right around the corner and so is the Joy of Christmas. I will be having a meeting for anyone that is interested in being a team leader this year. The meeting will be on **Sunday, November 15** after the 10:00 service. A description of team leader is below:

JOC Team Leader Responsibilities: A Team Leader is responsible for coordinating and delivering the gifts and food for one Joy of Christmas (JOC) family. These responsibilities include the following:

1. Obtaining from the JOC Coordinator a sheet indicating the family #, names, ages, needs/gift ideas, and the contact person of the Angels' family.
2. Contacting the Angels' family for verification of clothing needs, sizes, and toy and gift ideas, arranging with the family contact a date and time for delivery of food and gifts (these do not have to be delivered at the same time).
3. Verifying for families with multiple children that there is even distribution of gifts returned by Shoppers/Donors; contacting the JOC Coordinator if any adjustments are needed so that all the children receive approximately the same number and quality of gifts.

4. Contacting each shopper and sharing information about the child they are buying for, sharing gift requirements for gift drop-off, maintaining contact with the Shopper on progress and reminder of gift collection date, and calling a week prior to gift collection date as a reminder.
5. Notifying the JOC Coordinator of any problems or concerns that may arise.
6. Picking up the food box and gifts from the Parish Hall for the Angels' family and checking the family's name off on the list located in the Parish Hall.
7. Delivering food and gifts to the Angels' family.
8. Notifying the JOC Coordinator that your family has been taken care of.
9. After making initial contact with your family, contact your JOC Coordinator, Carolyn Stoklas at 554-1673 or cstoklas1@nc.rr.com.

Miscellaneous News

“**Social Spirits**” meet every Wednesday at the Wake Forest Ale House from 7-10 pm. All who enjoy good friends, good beer, and fellowship are invited to join.

An **Adult Advent Class** will be starting **November 29th**, the first Sunday in Advent for four weeks. Are you prepared as a Christian for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ? Our discussions will be exciting and open to all questions! Please come and join us in the Parish Hall between the 8 am and 10 am services. How does our Lord influence our lives and make us a living example of our faith? **HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!** *Deacon John*

Ministry Assignments

Calendar		Acolytes	Readers	Chalice	Greeters	Ushers	Flower Guild	Altar Guild	Lessons	Sermon
08-Nov	23 Pentecost	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Jan Williams	Bob Bidwell	Greg Williams	Patty Ray	Elizabeth McDuffie and Patti Reichmelder	1 Kings 17:8-16	Ann Burts
		10:00	Sean Leach Jack Presson Jack Kessler	Ellen Holst Megan Holst	James Davenport	Laura Santos Alfie Adams John Rich			Ps 146 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44	
15-Nov	24 Pentecost	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Larry Demanovich	Louise Howard	Arline McCullough and Denise Munz	Daniel 12:1-3	Ann Burts
		10:00	John McDuffie Hunter Kramer Abby Telenko	Craig Johnson Vivian Jones	Harold Davis	Jim and Sharon Davenport David Williams, Jr.			Ps 16 Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25 Mark 13:1-8	
22-Nov	Last Sunday of Pentecost	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Elwood Munz	Bob Bidwell	Tom Baker	Melanie Murphy	Alfie Adams, Jenny Brewer and Carole Friedman	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14	Ann Burts
		10:00	Trevor Telenko Sidney Osborne Jack Osborne	Donna King Rob Massey	Carole Friedman	Jenny Brewer Harold Davis Jack Derrick			Ps 93 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37	
29-Nov	1 Advent	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Jan Williams	Bob Bidwell	Al Reynolds	Dagmar Derrick Lenten Greens	Karen Demanovich and Sid Reynolds	Jeremiah 33: 14-16	Ann Burts
		10:00	Hayley Walkup Trevor Daw Emma Daw	Louis Mullinger Rachel Pottner	Lisa Hunt	The Holst Family Jon Bell Karen Bell			Ps 25: 1-9 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21: 25-36	
06-Dec	2 Advent	8:00	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell	Greg Williams	Flower Guild	Sharon Davenport and Kenlie Baumgardner	Baruch	Ann Burts
		10:00	Sean Leach Philip Paige Jayne Bennett	Al Reynolds John Rich	Durward Matheny	Vivian Jones Louis Mullinger Tim Matchunis			Cantic 4 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	



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Tara and Brian Henderson
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Building the Body of Christ

From the Parish Register

Born—*Bring this child to love all that is true and noble, just and pure, lovable and gracious, excellent and admirable*

Shane Patrick Houston, October 7th, to Dan and Becky Houston

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

Susan Gayle Neeley
Frank Watson Smith

Letter of Transfer—*Give them courage, patience, vision and strength in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others.*

Charles Clausen to St. James' Episcopal Church, Black Mountain, NC



Advent is Coming!



Mark your calendars for **November 29th**. After the service, please join us in creating your own Advent wreath in the Parish Hall. There will be cider, cookies, fellowship and music for everyone to enjoy. After constructing our wreaths, we will light the first candle, say the first prayer and sing a verse of O Come, O Come Emmanuel. Need to do some pruning at home? We need your greenery for the wreaths. Please bring your contributions with you Sunday morning.