



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

Volume 23, Issue 9

September 2011

St. John's Episcopal Church

# September Epistle

## Announcements

**Staff News:** Catherine Massey, who has been our incredible Parish Life Director for the last few years, is leaving St. John's for a full time position with the Diocese of North Carolina in the Raleigh office. We will miss Catherine greatly, but this is a wonderful opportunity for her and we wish her well. Arienne Brown, our Financial Manager, will be taking on additional hours to fill the newly created position of Office Manager. She will continue to do the financial work she has done in the past and will also do the tasks that Catherine has been doing. Arienne is a very skilled employee and we are grateful to have her taking on these new responsibilities.

**Mid-Week Services** return to the fall schedule on Wednesday, **September 7**. We will gather each Wednesday at 11:45 am for worship, prayer and communion. This service will be kept short enough to allow pre-school parents to pick up their children at 12:15.

**Join St. John's Crop Walk Team!** Crop Walk will be Sunday, **September 25** from 2:30 to 4:30. We'll join other Wake Forest churches to walk the 3½ mile course and raise money for the hungry all over the world. We want a good-sized team including people of all ages, families, and singles. We'll even have St. John's t-shirts (\$5)! Talk to Vicki if you're interested.

**Children's Communion Class** will be held Saturday, **September 17** at 10 am in the church. This brief class is for 4-8 year

olds to introduce them to the sacrament of Holy Communion, including why we do it, why it matters, and how to receive it. Please call or email the church office to sign your child up. Also, it would be helpful if each child was accompanied by a parent.

**"The Other Holy Land:"** Join Kevin and Vicki Smith in the Parish Hall at 9 am on Sundays, **September 11, 18, and 25** for an opportunity to learn about Turkey and its important role in the ancient world and the early church. We'll even show some pictures (but not too many, we promise).

**Blessing of the Animals** will be held Sunday, **October 2** at 10 am. We'll meet outside near the columbarium for the service, as well as worship, music, and communion. Please bring your animal friends to this special service. For everyone's safety, we ask that animals be appropriately restrained on leashes, in carriers, etc. Also, we will need help setting up chairs that morning at 9. If you can lend a hand, we would appreciate it.

**Special "First Sundays" begin October 2:** Beginning with the first Sunday in October, St. John's will celebrate "First Sundays." Each first Sunday of the month, rather than having Sunday School during our 10 am service, our children will join us for worship. We will all share in a slightly simplified service with a children's homily, family-friendly music and young people helping to lead worship by serving as acolytes, readers, and ushers. Our children's choir will also sing. This service will be designed to be multigenerational, inclusive of children without excluding adults.

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## Sr. Warden's Corner



As I write this, the TV talking heads are still telling us Hurricane Irene may pay a visit to central and eastern North Carolina. Hopefully that did not happen, but if it did, I pray that all are safe. On a lighter note, I hope that our new paint and shed were not damaged by the storm. Hopefully everyone has had a chance to see that our effort to catch up with the needed maintenance of our facility has made some progress.

As the new school year programs have started, I want to take a minute to thank the many of you who have taken on (or continued) roles in teaching or youth work, or any of the many ministries of St. John's. Today I want to talk about a ministry that is not so often mentioned, and that is service on the vestry. In December, we will elect four people to fill positions on the vestry of those whose terms have completed. Shortly a committee comprised of Tom Hunt, Rob Massey, Elizabeth Melvin, and Carolyn Stoklas will begin reaching out to find people to nominate for those positions. Though work on the vestry is largely administrative and does not provide the direct feeling of service as do such ministries as assisting in our worship or

an outreach ministry, it is a necessary part of the life of our parish, and I urge you to prayerfully consider taking that role if asked. If you know someone you would like to suggest be nominated, talk with any of the folks above or with me.

Finally, another "Thank you" to Catherine Massey for the great work she has done here for the last several years. We wish her well as she begins her new job at the diocesan office. She hasn't seen the last of us, though, as we expect all the Masseys to continue in the active member roles they have been taking. Also, we greatly appreciate Arienne Brown's willingness to take on the office duties that Catherine has been doing. Both of them are tremendous assets to St. John's.

*Peace,*  
*Reid Calhoun*

## Stewardship Corner

Sadly, the cartoon above illustrates all too well the unfortunate stereotype that many people hold toward the offertory.

The term *offertory* stems from the verb *offer*, which is defined as "to present as an act of worship or devotion; sacrifice." This component of our church service is intended as an opportunity for parishioners to give back to God in grateful response to His grace, not as an obligatory mandate.

For good reason, we present our financial gifts at the altar right along with the bread and wine as an essential aspect of Holy Communion. We raise them up together in gratitude for our salvation, praying "We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these *gifts*."



A true gift is not given out of a sense of guilt or requirement, but out of love and appreciation. We devote time and careful consideration to coming up with just the right thing to give a loved one for a special occasion in the hope that it will delight the recipient. What we put in the offertory plate should be no different. Have you ever had someone hand you a present with a grin spread ear to ear because he knows it's the perfect something? That is the same look that appears on the faces of our younger parishioners when they put their quarters and \$1 bills in the offertory plate, and that is exactly the way God wants each of us to look every time we offer a gift to His (and our) church.

*-Abby Presson*

## Preschool News

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Is it really the start of a new school year?! Judging by the hustle and bustle of teachers working feverishly to provide the most stimulating, educational, nurturing and warm environment throughout the preschool, I would say it is! I watch in amazement as teachers try new ideas they have learned from the early childhood experts at Project Enlightenment and from other training opportunities we have taken part in. All 14 teachers returned this year and we are looking forward to welcoming back returning students and getting to know new students—74 in all.

We have beautiful new cubbies in two classrooms thanks to the time and talent of parishioner and preschool dad, Ted Keith. Our visit from the Fire Marshall last year led to a few changes in our space, but as one of our teachers frequently says, “It’s all good!”

Our cookie dough fundraiser will kick off in October so we hope the folks in church will join us with that. The

fundraising money goes into our Emily Noel Hill Fund in hopes of being able to provide scholarships to community children in the near future. Fundraising money also helps with capital improvements to the education building and playgrounds.

The preschool will be collecting for Back-Pack Buddies all year in conjunction with the church, just as we did last year. More children in the community than ever rely on this food program.

If anyone from the parish would like to volunteer to read, volunteer, or share a talent with our little ones, don’t hesitate to let us know. We love visitors and being involved with the church and community.

For more information about St. John’s Preschool, please visit the website at: [www.stjohnswf.net](http://www.stjohnswf.net) or call Kristen Baron at 562-8619.

- Kristen Baron



### *2011-2012 Preschool Staff*

*Front row (l-r): Hannah Sasser, Monique Helwig, Lisa Hargesheimer, Lisa Mitchell, Chrissy Church, Kathy Earley  
Back row (l-r): Kristi Hill, Kristin Baron, Clare Plaxton, Lori Ragsdale, Samantha Scott, Jane Trescott, Linda Davis,  
Tracy Painter, Julie Arthur*

## Women of St. John's

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The women of St. John's will be meeting on Sunday afternoon, **September 18, 2011 at 3 pm** to have tea, fun, and to plan the activities that will help us to celebrate our Christian womanhood, have fellowship, and to raise money for various causes. We hope you can join us.

Besides the tea in September we are looking forward to a Fall Festival where we can sell our chili, combine it with a bake sale, and have pumpkin carving, and decorating activities for the whole family to enjoy. This festival

is scheduled for October 23, so mark your calendars, save the date, and look for more details in the October *Epistle*.

Margaret Poindexter and Christine Knights will be hosting the tea and gladly welcome every woman's input and participation. So, put on your thinking caps (wear them to the tea!) and join us with your suggestions and ideas of how we can revitalize women's activities at St. John's. Please come even if you don't want to wear a hat!



### Come for Tea!

All of the Women of St. John's  
are cordially invited to attend  
An Afternoon Tea  
Sunday, September 18, 2011  
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
St. John's Parish Hall

Come learn how you can help create opportunities for  
Faith, Fellowship, and Fundraising  
With the Women of St. John's  
Tea and Light Refreshments  
Door Prizes  
Wear a Hat!

Questions?

Contact Margaret: [mpoindexter3@nc.rr.com](mailto:mpoindexter3@nc.rr.com) or Christine: [ckteach@nc.rr.com](mailto:ckteach@nc.rr.com)

## Parish Life

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I have a confession to make: I am a rotten typist—I often misspell *church*, *Episcopal*, *parishioner* and many other common “churchly words” words. To those of you who have been a victim of my poor attention during Mr. Howard’s 10<sup>th</sup> grade typing class: please forgive me!

Typing skills thankfully are not why I took the position of Parish Life administrator at my own church. I heard a sermon around that time talking about whether we listened to the answer to the question: “How are you doing?” Like many of you, I attended services, volunteered my time as I saw fit and asked some folks “How are you doing?” each Sunday. Still, I felt like something was missing for me—and perhaps how we interacted with one another here.

Despite my gregarious nature, I am somewhat reserved in my personal life—really. I decided to really step outside of my comfort zone and offer up my services during our time of transition. I received a set of keys and about 5 hours of training—then St. John’s truly came alive for me. I began to know you as more than just Sunday faces—you became people with hobbies, pets, and passions for what life at St. John’s means to you. You have shared with me your stories, your joy, your wisdom and sometimes your grief. All of you have shown me what love means. I have worked harder, cared more and received no greater pleasure than serving this parish.

Several older and wiser people who have gone before me have reminded all of us to find a ministry here and volunteer. You will receive more than you can ever give. Truer words have not been spoken. I encourage you to step out of your comfort zone and stretch yourself. St.

John’s is an open, loving community, and you have gifts that would benefit us all—from manning the phones for a few hours on a weekday to making coffee on a Sunday morning to helping with our youngest members in the Nursery. What is needed is YOU. I have often thought that I would like to use the tagline, “Great things are happening here” when talking about St. John’s. Never have I been so encouraged about our future. Please consider how you can be a part of this fantastic community.

I leave the church office (and my keys!) behind to return to being “just” a parishioner—yes, the Massey clan will continue to plague you all from the pews. I will still ask you, “How are you doing?” when our paths cross—know that I have learned to listen and love you all. I thank you all for allowing me the privilege of serving. It has truly been an honor.

- Catherine Massey



## Flower Guild Workshop

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A Flower Guild Workshop will be held on Sunday, **October 16**, 11:30-12:30, in the youth group room on the lower level of the Education Bldg. Linda Buckner, a professional florist, will give a demonstration of various ways to arrange flowers followed by a hands-on practice session for all participants. The Flower Guild will supply flowers and oasis (the green foam you put in the vase). Participants should bring their own small vase or flower container and clippers.

Everyone is welcome—you do not have to be a current member of the Flower Guild to attend. Please contact Melanie Murphy (556-2100) to RSVP so we will know how many flowers to bring.

This is a fun way to learn flower arranging. You don’t have to be an expert to participate in the Flower Guild, just have a love of flowers and a desire to give something of yourself to our worship services. Hope to see you there!

# In Our Prayers



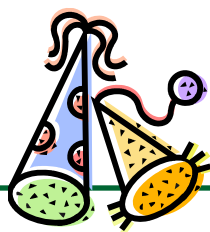
Kevin Bell  
Jeff Bierline  
Kathy and Joe Binns  
Michelle Brame  
Sam Brown  
Patrick Cancro  
Ann Copley  
Virginia Currie  
Jimmy Cushing  
Mark Dunn  
Murray Dunn  
Frankie Epps  
Stephen Feligno  
Betty Fuller  
Marie & Hudson Hamilton  
Linda Hartnett  
Sandra Hayes  
Stella Howe  
Nelda Huffstetler  
Jack Hunt  
Alice Jordan  
Christina Kaye  
Kenneth and Samantha  
Susan Lee  
Pat Maiocco

Joe Marsh  
Shane McKewen  
Mestas family  
Bill Miller  
Abigayle Claire Monteith  
Dick Monteith  
Tim Mozingo  
Elwood Munz  
Catherine Newton  
Virginia Olsen  
Anthony Ottley  
Nora Ottley  
Mark Paige  
John Paulonis  
Brendan Pearce  
William Presson  
Marisa Rosa  
George Shiflett  
George and Dana Telenko  
Gail Thompson  
Karen Tinker  
Ken Wayne  
Linda Wolfgang  
Rochelle Zaino

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

**Those who have died:**  
Doreen Brown Champion,  
Paige Champion's mother-in-law  
Steve Morse,  
Mike Morse's father

## September Birthdays



02	Mikayla Howard								
04	Emily Baran Jason Bethea	15	Edna Toney	20	Stephanie Thomas	25	Rachel Pottern		
06	Lillian Christie Samuel Kastendike Brian Northrup	16	Julie Arthur Kristen Bierline	21	Ryan Joyner Deborah Lauria Madison Turner Audrey Wilkinson	26	Elizabeth Melvin	27	Loren Delahunty Mary Margaret Godier Christina Kastendike
08	Sydney Cooke	17	Karen Bell Deseretta Harper	22	John Cooke	28	Cati Barham		
09	Roger Scott	18	Kathryn Jones	23	Christine Rocco	29	Matthew Powell		
12	Al Reynolds	19	Paul Holmes Dewey Jordan Lauren Keith						
14	Michelle Busse London Hellier								

# September Ministry Assignments

Calendar		Acolytes	Readers	Chalicists	Greeters	Ushers	Flower Guild	Altar Guild	Lessons	Sermon
<b>Sept 4</b>	8:00	Shane Morse	Cathy Plaut	Zack Ross		Larry Demanovich	Pinky Cooke	Eliz McDuffie Eliz Melvin Kristen Bierline	Exodus 12:1-4 Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Vicki Smith
	10:00	Meredith Massey Anna Armstrong Henry Allen	John Rich Christine Knights Jane Cheek	Harold Davis Kenille Baumgardner	Gail Calhoun John Rich	Dave McPherson Roger Melvin				
<b>Sept 11</b>	8:00	John McDuffie	Bob Bidwell	Bob Bidwell		Louis Mullinger	Louise Howard	Arline McCullough, Denise Munz, Carol Paulonis	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35	Vicki Smith
	10:00	Sophie Holmes Julia McCormick Stephanie Thomas	Carole Friedman Anna Armstrong Carol Smith	Carole Friedman Jim Davenport	Dorie Allen Laura Santos	Bill Batton John Rich				
<b>Sept 18</b>	8:00	Trevor Telenko	Tom Baker	Tom Baker		Mike Morse	Patty Ray	Linda Hayes, Kelly Osborne	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Phillippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-6	Vicki Smith
	10:00	Jayne Bennett Connor Hicks Kody Hicks	Christina Kastendike Chris Walkup Daniel Cheek	Catherine Massey Elizabeth McDuffie	Bill & Miriam Houtz	Bob Nelligar Frank Toney				
<b>Sept 25</b>	8:00	Jonathan Farrell	Katherine Ferguson	Bob Bidwell		Jean Leppek	Julie Arthur	Carole Friedman, Bonnie LaBarbera	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 Phillippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32	Gene Montague
	10:00	Phillip Page Jack Osborne Henry Allen	Dave Roberts David Bennett Donna King	Christine Knights Carol Paulonis	Dewey Jordan Laura Santos	Jim & Sharon Davenport				

## Announcements—continued from page 1

**Children's Choir** will begin on the last Sunday in September under the wonderful leadership of Julie Arthur and Gena Renfrow. On the last Sunday of each month, Miss Julie and Miss Gena will gather the children during the first 15 minutes of Sunday School time to learn their songs, and then they will sing during the 10 am service on the first Sunday of each month. We're excited about this new opportunity for children's music— the kids are sure to have a great time, and we'll begin nurturing the seeds of a children's choir again.

**Episcopal Diocese Convention Delegates:** The Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina meets in convention each year to elect various officials and committee members, set the canons (rules) we work under, and pass the diocesan budget. St. John's is entitled to four delegates (in addition to Vicki who is required to attend). Currently, we have three delegates: Carol Paulonis, Bill LaBarbera, and Ken Marsh. Delegates serve a 3-year term. Because of our recent financial difficulties, delegates are asked to pay for their hotel room (one night) and meals during convention. As our financial

position improves, we hope to budget for that expense, but that change may be a few years away yet. If you are interested in serving in this important ministry, please talk to Vicki. We would like to be fully represented at this year's convention to be held January 20-21, 2012 in Winston-Salem.

**Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on Sunday, **December 11**. We will elect four new members to serve 3-year terms on our vestry. If you want to suggest someone to be considered for nomination to the vestry, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee (Rob Massey, Carolyn Stoklas, Tom Hunt, and Elizabeth Melvin). Serving on the vestry is an important ministry in our life together. Please give this careful and prayerful consideration.

**Help Wanted: Kitchen Manager:** Are you a good organizer? Would you like to help St. John's keep its kitchen full of supplies and volunteers? We could use your skills! We'll pay for supplies, but need help keeping our busy Parish Kitchen in order. Please contact Vicki if you are interested in devoting a few hours a month.



St. John's Episcopal Church

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**Communications Team:**  
Mary Ellen Archer  
Tara and Brian Henderson  
Perri Holt  
Laura Santos  
Chris Walkup

**Building the Body of Christ**

*Please consider helping us conserve our resources.  
Contact the church office to receive the Epistle electronically.*

## 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.*

**Luke Benjamin Rippel**, son of Janet and Daniel and little brother of Noah on August 1



## Young Families Dinner



Our first **Young Families Dinner** of the year will kick off on Sunday, **September 11** from 5-7 pm. Please contact Claudia Curran for more information or to sign up to bring a dish. She can be reached at 676-2216 or [curranclaudia@hotmail.com](mailto:curranclaudia@hotmail.com).