

Saint John's

Inter Change

July 28, 2011, Vol. 51, No. 6

Dated Material, Deliver by
Saturday, July 30, 2011

Current Resident or

Nonprofit
Organization
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1163
Charleston, WV

At Last, We Have 'Helen's Kitchen'

After years of struggling to serve two meals daily from a too small, outdated kitchen, followed by many months of no kitchen at all, Manna Meal had reason to celebrate. The brand new facility was officially dedicated at an open house on Monday, July 25, through the generosity of the Henry B. Wehrle Jr. Family.



Once - a too small, outdated kitchen...

The surrounding photos show the contrast between the old and the new, the latter being named "Helen's Kitchen" in memory of Helen Donhowe Wehrle.

Taking part in the dedication service were The Rev. Jim Lewis, who was rector of St. John's in 1978 at the inception of Manna Meal, who gave a prayer of gratitude; Betty Hamilton, the second person served at Manna Meal and a friend of Helen Wehrle; and Robert Rodecker, first and current board president of Manna Meal, Inc., who gave a brief history, introduction and thanks to the benefactors. Steve Wehrle, son of the honoree, represented the Wehrle family, closing remarks were offered by Jean Simpson, executive director of Manna Meal, and the Blessing of Helen's Kitchen was given by The Rev. Susan J. Latimer, rector of St. John's.

It was truly a joyous occasion for all who serve the Manna Meal program and those who benefit from the more than 350 meals served daily.

A Blessing for a New Kitchen Helen's Kitchen – Manna Meal

St. John's Episcopal Church – July 25, 2011
The Rev. Susan J. Latimer, Rector

Gracious and loving God, we ask your blessing upon this new kitchen, given in loving memory of Helen Donhowe Wehrle.
Bless our large walk-in freezer that will hold the bounty of the Manna Meal garden so that it can be enjoyed year-round
Bless the amazing tilt-skillets that blanch and simmer, stew, braise and boil.
They will give the cooks great delight and the clients great food.
Bless the convection ovens that will speed the cooking, and the dishwashers that will speed the cleaning.
Bless Jean's new office and the space she has to finally spread out!
Bless the give-away pantry and the people it will serve.
May Helen's Kitchen always be a place of warmth and yummy smells and cooking sounds ... a place of friendship where meals are made to share and welcome, and volunteers find meaningful service.
May it always be a place of comfort and caring where hunger is lost to the pleasant fullness of a hot meal.
May it ever be such a place for our church and our community ... and may all who visit this place in search of joy and celebration and companionship find all they seek ... and the pleasures of good food.
We ask in the name of the One who created all that is, and calls us all to service. Amen.

✠ St. John's Mission Statement ✠
**We reach out to the world in Christ's name
in the hope that all might find a home in
God's healing love.**



Helen's New Kitchen!



So Many Things to be Thankful For

By The Rev. Susan J. Latimer

Dear Saints of John,

I give thanks, as I return from a wonderful vacation with family, for many things. First of all, I give thanks for the opportunity for time spent in renewal in my hometown and at the ocean, with family and dear friends.

I was able to visit several parishes in the San Diego area for their Sunday worship, which was a treat -- it is good for a priest to sit in the pews from time to time! I came back with a renewed appreciation for the ministry of our choir -- many choirs, as you know, take the entire summer off.

I am grateful for the steadfast work of the Fellowship Relations Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee.

I am grateful for the diligent work of our new Senior Warden, Steve Chionsini, who has taken on the role with gusto. Steve is largely responsible for the recent parish supper, of which I hear good reports, and the recent beautification of the property, including gardening and re-painting the red doors. I am also grateful for a new spirit of cooperation that I sense among us.

There are many things to be excited about as well. I am excited that the new kitchen is done, and the construction chaos is over! I am excited that Dana Kelly has agreed to lead a new New Member Committee which will get to work soon. I look forward to the beginning of a new "program season" at St. John's, as the academic year begins for most of our young people.

I wish all of you the joys of these last few weeks of summer in West Virginia. I hope you will join us for the next parish supper on Aug. 14. Why not try out the Come As You Are service at 5 p.m. before the supper?

I pray that the Holy Spirit will guide us as we work and play and worship together.

In Christ, Susan+



Thanks to Former Officer

A huge "Thank You" goes to our former senior warden, Edd McDevitt, for his faithful work with the clergy and the Vestry during a very difficult time in the life of this parish.



Steve Chionsini Jr.

A Senior Moment

By Steve Chionsini Jr. Senior Warden

Having stepped up to this plate little more than a month ago, I think we have accomplished much together, but we still have a long way to go.

At our upcoming parish meeting and dinner in August, we will be talking about parish by-laws and why we need them. Each family will be sent a copy of the draft by-laws (and I do mean draft) to review so, that as a family, we can talk about your concerns and/ or suggestions at the meeting. These by-laws will be voted on at the same time new Vestry members are elected at our annual parish meeting. By-laws must be voted on by the parish. So please, stay involved. This is your parish and we need everyone's input. The most important thing I want you to remember is, this is our parish, our family and we will find a solution together, because it is in our hands.

It has only been a short while, but many things are happening. We have adopted a new travel and expense form, and the sound system has been adjusted by Mike Klausing to make it easier to hear from all microphones. I rode in a cherry picker Friday to measure the west pinnacle of the Leon Sullivan Way cross so we could get dimensions for a donor who would like to replace the cross of the east pinnacle. Susan and I have agreed to look at other health care options to reduce parish expenses and a finance committee has been called. Also, several parishioners were dropped from the rolls in 2008 so we will be going back to the 2007 rolls to ensure no one was taken off inadvertently. These are just a very few of the ongoing things here at St. John's.

And lastly, I would like to leave you with a thought. Family! We nurture our children to grow, we fix their food, teach them right from wrong and pray for them daily. People often ask me why I live in West Virginia when all my family is in Texas. My response: my biological family lives in Texas but my Christian family and friends live here. Last week I decided to do something for my family here. I cut the shrubs, painted the doors and edged and mulched our lovely grounds. This was my labor of love to you, what will your labor of love be to our family? Take on one thing a day, most especially, pray for a family member (and yourself) that your understanding of each other will grow as our family love grows.

In Christ's Service, Steve

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

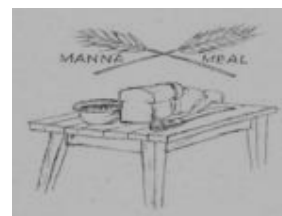
**SUNDAYS AUGUST 7, 14, 21 AND
28, 2011**

**Eighth through Eleventh Sundays
after Pentecost**

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 8:45 a.m. Lectionary Study and Group
Discussion, library
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery open for infants to age 5, Room
297
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with choir
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall
- 5:00 p.m. August 14 and 28, "Come As You Are"
Services, chapel

Please note:

The Adult Forum and Sunday School classes for youth will resume in September.



MANNA MEAL

See more at their website:
<http://www.mannameal.com/>

Happiness Is a Birthday

Pray for the lives and ministries of those celebrating August birthdays: Aug. 1 - Donna Hamra; Aug. 3 - Harold Howie; Aug. 6 - Andy Blackwood; Aug. 7 - Judy Lewis; Aug. 9 - Juanita Reed; Aug. 10 - Dana Kelly & Mark Owen; Aug. 11 - Christa Hamra; Aug. 12 - Evelyn Harris; Aug. 14 - Elizabeth Clarke; Aug. 15 - Sheila Farris; Aug. 16 - Christy Morris & Karen Simon; Aug. 20 - Bob Miller, Danielle Simon & Christine Teague; Aug. 21 - Frank Latimer & Jocelyn Taylor; Aug. 22 - Joe Bolyard & Hannah Mullins; Aug. 25 - Roger Wolfe; Aug. 26 - Elliott Blackwood, Doug Price & Frederick Walker; Aug. 27 - Kim Ramsey; Aug. 29 - Cameron Edwards; and Aug. 31 - Katherine Giltinan & Thomas Morris.

Bean Stringin' - *from MannaMeal Website*

After the four-hour bean stringin' event at Capitol Market, 521 pounds of beans were carried back to the Manna Meal Soup Kitchen for blanching and bagging for the freezer. The beans will be used in the cold winter months ahead. There was an energetic crew waiting in the kitchen plus some of the 'stringers' came over to help out even more. The entire process of prepping beans for the freezer took about 3 hours. Hurrah for all the volunteers who made it a spectacular day of volunteerism and service.



Jean Simpson,
Manna Meal Director





Christian Formation for Children and Youth

The Young Saints of John

“Summer Stories” with Godly Play (for children ages 3 through 6th grade) is meeting every Sunday this summer at 10:30 a.m. in the Godly Play Room on the second floor. The children are learning Bible stories of our faithful forebearers, ones that took place in the desert -- the Great Family (Abraham and Sarah), The Exodus, and The Exile and Return. Each child is also making their own “desert box” and ‘the people of God’ along with the other materials for each story. This hands-on experience has been great fun. Older kids are helping younger ones,

11th grader Ben Canfield has been assisting, and each of the Godly Play teachers is participating in this summer curriculum. This abbreviated and adapted Godly Play has been a big success.

At The Peace the kids join their families in church for The Holy Eucharist. On Sunday, Sept. 4, we there will be no class for the Labor Day Weekend. On Sunday, Sept. 11, we will resume our fall schedule of classes at 9:15 a.m. for all ages. In the next issue will be more details on each of the three St. John’s youth ministry groups and their exciting plans for the coming year.

Newest Eagle Scout



Parishioner Ben Canfield received the rank of Eagle Scout during a ceremony held at St. John's on June 12. Eagle Scout is the highest rank that can be earned in the Boy Scouts. Ben is a member of Troop 31 where he serves as a Junior Assistant Scoutmaster. For his Eagle Scout project, Ben organized a work group that installed new deer fencing at the Manna Meal Community Garden earlier this year. Ben attends Charleston Catholic High School, where he is also a member of the school's tennis and quiz bowl teams.

Meet Our Grads

Honored in an early June service were veteran acolytes Andrew Swing

and Jonathan McQuerrey, both graduates of South Charleston High School who will attend Marshall University. Andrew, son of Carrie and Jeff Swing, received many awards at SCHS including the National School Orchestra Award and is an International Baccalaureate Certificate candidate in English, history and physics. He will be a computer science major and music minor at MU, having studied organ with Brenda Vanderford and will continue at MU with Al Zabel. Jonathan, son of Joe and Julie McQuerrey, is an outstanding athlete and musician and graduated high school with high honors. He performed in many musicals with the SC Chorale, was a member of the school’s marching band and will march in the fall with MU’s Thundering Herd.



Andrew Swing and Jonathan McQuerrey

At King's Island



Mentors Kate Alie, Randy Cain and Stephen Blake are pictured with three St. John's young people at their favorite ride, The Diamond Back!



St. John's J2A Youth Group members Emily Clifford, Sarah Clifford and Dominique Tyson have fun at King's Island on July 18.

St. John's Youth Attend St. Paul Event

The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church preached at the opening Eucharist at the triennial Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) in St. Paul, Minnesota, June 23 where 3400 youth gathered, including two St. John's parishioners, Collin Morris and Franklin Roberts, and a busload of youth from the Diocese of West Virginia. Jefferts Schori led the call to mission "get connected and heal the world."

New Godly Play Teacher

Congratulations to parishioner Karen Glazier who completed the Godly Play Foundation's Godly Play Core Training. Karen attended this accredited teacher training in June in Bowling Green, KY. She joins parishioners Juanita Cook, Wanda Dettinger, Doris Redfield and Associate Rector Ann Lovejoy Johnson, all of whom have completed training with the Godly Play Foundation, and are actively involved in the Godly Play ministry with our young Saints of John.

Seeking New Acolytes

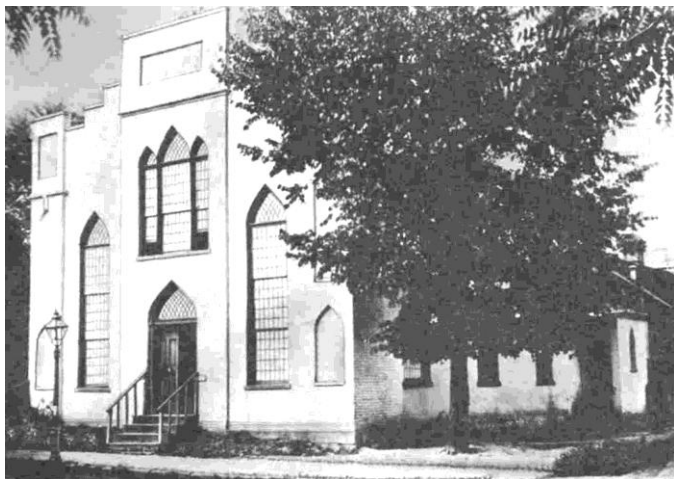
St. John's young people in the fourth grade or above are eligible to serve as acolytes. Serving as an acolyte really helps a young person to learn about our liturgy as well as develop teamwork and leadership skills. Interested?

Contact Carrie Swing at (304) 744-9008 or cpswing@aol.com.

The Civil War and St. John's, Forever Entwined

By Julianne Kemp

From material researched by Janet Morris, archivist



St. John's circa 1875

The church was a hotbed of controversy that drew widespread attention -- far beyond its borders.

Just part of our church's heritage. For exactly 150 years ago, there was a war on -- the Civil War to be exact -- and St. John's Episcopal Church of Charleston in western Virginia, was smack in the middle.

At that time it was in Union territory, but soon was referred to as "that rebel church" as the rector and many members were serving in the Confederate Army. The Rev. Thompson L. Smith, rector, came to Charleston from Alabama so his sympathies were naturally with the South. With his congregation in Charleston and public sentiment in the community divided, Rev. Smith resigned and went to Virginia where he was named a chaplain by Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States.

Smith served under George S. Patton, a longtime St. John's vestry member (grandfather of Gen. George S. Patton of World War II fame) who organized and was captain of the Kanawha Riflemen, a Charleston elite company that entered the Confederate service as Company H of the 22nd Virginia Infantry and remained under Patton's command after he was promoted to colonel.

West Virginia did not become a state separate from Virginia until 1863, half of the four-year conflict, which did not end until 1865.

Our church's first home was built in 1834 on a lot owned by Elizabeth and Daniel Ruffner on the northwest corner of Virginia and McFarland Streets. And when the war broke out it was commandeered by the Union Army as a quartermaster depot where

military supplies were stored. A.T. Laidley was superintendent of old St. John's Sunday School and records show that Federal officers threatened destruction by fire and imprisonment of Mr. Laidley unless the Prayer for the President of the United States was offered in the Sunday School. He escaped imprisonment by explaining that the prayer was not a part of the authorized Sunday School service and reopened the school on May 14, 1862.

Laidley later resigned because of continued threats that the church would be burned, left Charleston and did not return until the end of the war, by which time the church was safe. Safe -- if you can call it that -- because at war's end, the walls of the building survived but the interior was almost entirely destroyed.

In 1915, 50 years after the war was over, the U.S. Treasury issued a check for \$1,480 to St. John's as reimbursement for damage done by the Federal troops. The original letter, still in the church archives, indicates that lawyers Crosthwaite and Colladay received \$370 for their services.

In the meantime, the old church had been replaced in 1884 by the beautiful stone building at the corner of Leon Sullivan Way and Quarrier Street where we worship today. The original church was sold on June 8, 1887, to a Mr. Simpson, proprietor of the oldest livery stable in the city.

There remains in the present church one actual remnant of the old church. It is the Lord's Table that Bishop Meade blessed in 1837 when he consecrated the church. The table was made about 1830 by John Trudgian, a member of the Church of England, whose family was connected with St. John's from its earliest days. For 27 years it served as the altar until Federal troops took over the church. Davis H. Estill, then a warden, took the table to his home for safekeeping where it remained in the care of the Estill family until 1928 when it was restored to the new edifice.

You've seen this table many times. Although today it is too small for a communion table, just look to the right of the present altar and see it as our credence table where the sacraments are placed for the Eucharist. Other vestiges of that bygone era remain as reminders of those Civil War figures who have gone before us. There is a monument to the Kanawha Riflemen that stands in Ruffner Park in the 1500 block of Kanawha Boulevard East. It is within a few feet of the grave of Elizabeth Ruffner, co-owner with her husband Daniel of the lot that became the site of the first St. John's Church. *Continued on page 7.*

(The Civil War and St. John's – continued from page 6)

And then there is Craik-Patton House. Col. George S. Patton, the Civil War hero who was killed in battle in 1864, had bought a house named "Elm Grove" in 1858. It had been built by the Rev. Dr. James Craik, hence the name Craik-Patton House. Rev. Craik was a rector of St. John's. It was at one time situated on Lee Street East, was later restored as a museum house, and is open to the public at Daniel Boone Roadside Park on Kanawha Boulevard



Nelle Ratrie Chilton

That's The Spirit!

East.

Once again a St. John's parishioner is being honored with the Spirit of the Valley Award. Nelle Ratrie Chilton, president of the Dickinson Fuel Co., will receive the award on Aug. 10 at a noon luncheon at the Charleston Civic Center, presented by the YMCA of the Kanawha Valley.

This is the 27th year for the event with previous recipients including Sen. Brooks McCabe and the late Joe Jefferds Jr., both members of St. John's.

Chilton has served in various roles for TerraCo. Inc., TerraCare Inc., TerraSalis Inc. and TerraSod Inc., and is a member of the BB&T board of directors and the CAMC board of trustees. She was instrumental in funding the Mary Price Ratrie Greenspace opposite Clay Center, named after her late mother who was a longtime member of St. John's. She is also a descendant of the Dickinson family which operated many of the salt wells around Malden.

The awards luncheon is part of the annual fundraising campaign of the YMCA with proceeds benefiting the organization's Community Assistance Fund which provides children and families with life-enriching activities and programs that they may not have the chance to experience otherwise. Chilton has designated the Kanawha County Public Library, for which she is a member of the board of directors, to receive part of the money raised.

Upcoming September Issue

Be a part of *Interchange*. Deadline to submit material for the September issue is Monday, Aug. 29, at 2 p.m. Earlier submissions are always appreciated and often necessary and may be sent to julkemp@yahoo.com or bdearien@stjohnswv.org.

WIFFF's August Luncheon

The Women In Faith, Fun and Fellowship (WIFFF) will be gathering at Grumpy's Restaurant in Jefferson (now South Charleston) for luncheon Aug. 11 at noon. The group will meet at the restaurant and dress is casual. All are invited. The group's regular meeting and program on the second Thursday of each month will resume on Sept. 8 at the church.

Salads and Muffins: Back by Popular Demand!

By Becky Burns

The farmers' markets around the valley are brimming with fruits, vegetables and flowers. Last year the Parish Life Committee celebrated the fruits of the earth with a salad and muffin buffet, and we plan to hold that event again this year.

On Sunday Sept. 11, we begin a new Christian Formation year with a celebration. We invite everyone to bring a favorite fruit or vegetable salad, muffins, or bread to share after the 10:30 a.m. service. Flowers to decorate our tables are also welcome. We will enjoy the fruits of the earth in Hunter Hall and, if weather permits, in the garden.

Let's make this a reunion day and a wonderful celebration of our life together as a parish. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring a friend along as well.

Use Your Kroger Card to Help Hospice House

By Donna Hamra

Outreach is collecting individually-wrapped snacks for the Hubbard Hospice House to be available for folks who are visiting their loved ones. Candy bars, chips, crackers, power bars or any other wrapped snack would be great. These snacks will be put out in the common area so visitors can have access to them 24 hours a day.

Hospice volunteers cook a hot meal *every day* for visitors, but they are asking us for light snacks for families and friends to munch on. Anyone who has ever visited a loved one at Hospice House knows how much a simple gesture like providing snacks is appreciated.

A blue bin marked "Hospice Individually-wrapped Snacks" will be in Brenda's office to collect these items. This will be an ongoing collection, so please remember Hospice anytime you are shopping - and what a great way to use your Kroger card! By the way, thanks to all of you, we have collected over \$6,000 from Kroger since we started using the card! If you still need a card, you can pick one up from Manna Meal daily between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, CHARLESTON, WV

Established 1837 ~ Present Building consecrated 1901 ~ A Jubilee Center since 1985
 Please address correspondence to: 1105 Quarrier Street, Charleston, WV 25301-2493
 Telephone 304/346-0359 / Facsimile 304/342-2810 Website: www.stjohnswv.org

The Rev. Susan J. Latimer
Rector

Bob Miller '13
Junior Warden

Becky Burns
Parish life

Warren Upton
Chancellor

The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson
Associate Rector

Ray Shackelford '12
Treasurer

Donna Hamra
Outreach

Carter Blundon
Altar Guild

Brenda Maurice Vanderford
Organist / Choirmaster

Michelle Walker '13
Clerk

Evangelism/New Member
Vestry Liaison
Diane Hendricks / Dana Kelly

Betty Jo Lloyd
Worship Rota

Janet Morris
Archives

David Morton
Assisting Organist / Choirmaster

Leah Macia '12
Sallie Milam '12
Diane Hendricks '13

Mike Klausung
Property

SAGA

Brenda Dearien
Parish Administrator

Bren Pomponio '13
Ann Garcelon '14
Page Hamrick '14

Marion Perry
Adult Forum

Martha Cole
Registrar

Bob Westmoreland
Verger

Liz Nix '14
Una Karner '14

Carrie Swing
Acolytes

Ann Garcelon
The Back Door
Thrift Shop

Dan Williams
Custodian

David Ramkey
Assistant Treasurer

Bob Miller
Ushers

Julianne Kemp
& **Melora Cann**
Interchange
Co-Editors

Vestry

Steve Chionsini Jr. '12
Senior Warden

Steve Chionsini Jr.
& **David Ramkey**
Finance

Saints of John photo retrospective by Betty Jo Lloyd

