

Saint John's

Inter Change

May 15 – June 30, 2011, Vol. 51, No. 4

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A Senior Moment *by Edd McDevitt, Senior Warden*



As I rewrite this issue's pontification, I note that I am just short of four months in the position as Senior Warden. Truthfully, it seems a lot longer. It has, like most things in life, had its share of good and not-so-good moments. The good is the number of long conversations that I have had with good and caring parishioners -- some of whom I agree with and some of whom I do not agree with, all of

whom care about St. John's, its past, present and future. The not-so-good has to do with those who are seemingly on a different page and have lost sight of what is important to and for St. John's.

St. John's has a reputation of being essentially "one big family." Like any family, we are going to have our spats and disagreements. At times our family is going to be downright "dysfunctional." That is, to my way of thinking, okay, provided we get over it and back on mission. That is not what is happening at St. John's.

It is no secret that as a parish times are troubling and difficult for us. However, it is unfair and just outright wrong to blame it all on the Rector -- a sport that seems to occupy the time of a number of individuals. Let me be clear, I am not writing this to defend or criticize the Rector. Rather, I am directing this article to the "silent majority" of our family. I urge you to take a reasoned and heart-felt position on the issues facing St. John's. This is your parish. The committees created following the consultant's report are there to receive input from all our parishioners. If you support the Rector, say so. If you do not support the Rector, say so. But, whatever position you take, do it on the basis of facts, not rumors, and recognize that the Rector, the Senior Warden, the Vestry and other members of the St. John's family are going to, from time to time, say and do things that you may disagree with. Step up. Be heard. Be civil. Be responsible. Show you care.

(continues on page 3)

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

**SUNDAYS MAY 15, 22 AND 29
AND JUNE 5, 12, 19 AND 26, 2011**

4TH THROUGH 7TH SUNDAYS OF EASTER
AND PENTECOST (JUNE 12) AND 1ST AND 2ND
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
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School classes for youth (see page 4)
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Forum, (please see program listings below), Room 109
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with choir
- 5:00 p.m. May 15, Taize service, final one for the season

May 27, June 10 and 24, "Come As You Are" Services

April Adult Forum Speakers:

May 15 - "God Speaks the King's English." The Rev. Lawton Posey will speak on the most famous English translation of the Bible, the original King James version. (For complete story, see Page 6)

May 22 - Charleston native David Pushkin, artist, musician, former art professor at Hofstra University, and filmmaker, will discuss his documentary film on the Hawks Nest Tunnel Disaster for which the Rev. Jim Lewis served as advisor. (For complete story see Page 6)

May 29 - No forum, Memorial Day Weekend

June 5 - The "Earl of Elkview" (a.k.a. George Daugherty) versatile musician, raconteur, and all-around showman will entertain you. Yes, he will bring his fabled saw.

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

☞ *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.



There Is New Life In Our Midst

By The Rev. Susan J. Latimer

Dear Saints of John,

As we continue our celebration of Easter, I give thanks for the signs of new life in our midst. We welcomed four people into the Body of Christ through the sacrament of baptism in the past three weeks - one adult and three children. Three of these folks are brand new to St. John's in 2011. The J2A youth group and their leaders are making their presence known in the parish and community through their presentation of the Passion Gospel on Palm Sunday, their flamingo flockings, and their latest, the hot dog sale at the East End Yard Sale. Their energy and enthusiasm is wonderful! The funds that they raise will go towards their pilgrimage next summer, the culmination of a four-year journey together in spiritual formation.

A good number of us journeyed together in Lent through a course in Anglican Spiritual Practices and a Lenten Retreat led by Bob Gallagher and Michelle Heyne. Some parishioners made a Rule of Life for the first time - others modified a rule that was no longer working well for them. We "tried on" many spiritual practices that are suggested, but not required, for Episcopalians. As a result of this, we are keeping the baptismal font open and filled with Holy Water so that those who wish may stop by the font on their way in or out of church, as a reminder of their baptism.

Our new "Come as You Are" Sunday evening service (begun in February) is a spirit-filled, informal worship experience that has brought one new family to our church already, and provides nourishment and a more intimate worship experience to those who attend. Ray Shackelford and Mark Owen give their wonderful gifts of leadership in music for this service. This is a great opportunity to invite folks to St. John's who are looking for an inclusive community but may not be as comfortable with the formality of our Sunday morning service. Come try it out and bring a friend who is looking for a supportive community.

We are looking forward to the completion of the new Manna Meal kitchen in June, and are excited about the expanded opportunities for service that this kitchen represents.

As we head towards Pentecost and into summer and a different rhythm of parish life, I invite you all to have eyes to see how God is working in our midst - in the parish and in the community around us. Find those places where God is at work - where the Spirit is inspiring us to ministry - and join in!

In Christ, Susan+



May and June Birthday Celebrants

Pray for the lives and ministries of those celebrating birthdays for the remainder of May:

May 17, Bob Westmoreland; May 22, Joe Farris III, Bill Holmes and Erin Holmes; May 23, Ann Morris; May 24, Andrew Hendricks and Barbie McCabe; May 25, Nelle Chilton; and May 30, Ted Johnson, Laura Kimble and Kelly McDonald.

Those having June birthdays are:

June 1, Carolyn Dienst; June 2, William Maxwell; June 3, Leah Macia and Collin Morris; June 5, Dee Morris; June 6, Mary Boyd and Andrew Swing; June 8, Joyce Rockwell; June 11, Sandra Barkey and MaKayla Jones; June 12, John Canfield, Janet Robertson and Paul Wilson; June 14, Ray Shackelford; June 16, Franklin Roberts; June 17, June Halloran; June 18, Rosemary Smith; June 19, Martha Cole, Mary Fitzgerald, Maggie McCabe and Ben Snyder; June 20, Wayne Gorrell; June 21, Susannah Vitaglione; June 22, Kate Alie, Ansley Bird and Steve Chionsini, Jr.; June 24, Page Hamrick; June 25, Alex Canfield; June 26, Brian Hamra and Shonda Toler; June 28, Lila Ramkey and Walt Ramsey; June 29, Tammi Blundon; and June 30, Lillian Kelly and Corey Morris.

In Memoriam

We regret to note the passing of both a St. John's parishioner and a former associate rector.

Parishioner Jessica McCreedy Cann died April 10 and her memorial service was held April 16 at this church.

The Rev. Dr. William Kirkland, who served as associate rector from 1963 to 1973, died April 19. His funeral also was held at St. John's on May 2 with Bishop Michie Klusmeyer officiating.

May light perpetual shine upon them.

(Continued from A Senior Moment on page 1)

We, as a parish, are not communicating well with each other. This is a systemic issue and only we acting forcefully and honestly can eliminate this.

There is nothing wrong with disagreement or dissent. Done right, it can be very healthy. However, at St. John's there is no room for and we will not tolerate personal attacks and half-truths. It is up to all of us to make it clear that such conduct is not acceptable. We are above that.

Your parish leadership needs your input. Your parish needs you to step up and responsibly let your position be known. I've said it before and I will say it again, I know we can count on your love of St. John's.

Your participation is needed now, maybe more than ever in the 200-year history of St. John's.

~ Edd McDevitt

Vestry Notes – April 11 Meeting

By Michelle Walker, clerk

* Motion by McDevitt that recordings of Vestry meetings should be used by the clerk only and then destroyed after 60 days. Miller seconded. Motion carried.

* Macia volunteered to present a proposed Behavioral Covenant from information gleaned from discussion and bring it back to the May Vestry meeting.

* Motion by Walker that the amended resolution presented by Hamrick be adopted by the Vestry and included in a letter to be signed by all Vestry as are able and sent to the Bishop urging him to create a task force in accordance with the resolution passed at the 133rd Annual Convention regarding same gender blessings. McDevitt seconded. Motion carried. The letter will be sent by April 18 to the Bishop.

* Motion by Walker that the Vestry expands the finance committee to include five voting members with the addition of Page Hamrick and Brian Kastic. Pomponio seconded. Motion carried.

* Motion by Hendricks that Vestry members who are willing to call parishioners do so and those who are not willing do not have to participate. Pomponio seconded. Motion carried.

* McDevitt said the Vestry would address accepting the amended March minutes at the May meeting.

* Motion by McDevitt to accept the Treasurers Report. Hendricks seconded. Motion carried.

* Hendricks asked that the Pastoral Care topic be added to the agenda for May. Latimer agreed.

* Motion by McDevitt moved that St. John's young adult group have Vestry support for their project to give a baby shower for Covenant House on Mother's Day. Shackelford seconded. Motion carried.

* Hendricks reported that she and Larry Rowe will address the Adult Forum on May 1. On June 4 the

Fellowship Relations Committee will hold a workshop from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. including lunch.

* McDevitt spoke an evening prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The next Vestry meeting will be held May 9 at 5:30 p.m.

St. John's Needs Your Talents

The following is an item from the Vestry's March meeting notes:

"Inventory of talents and skills in the parish. Chionsini brought up the topic of soliciting donated labor by parishioners when appropriate or available as a cost-cutting measure. Garcelon suggested an inventory of parishioners to discern their skills and talents and willingness to donate same. Latimer asked Chionsini if he would head up this project. He agreed to do so."

If you read the snippet above from the last Vestry meeting, you can see I accepted this task.

God invites all to give of their time and talent. Many people write a check each month, but it is hard to find people to use their talent at church. We need people who are willing to put in a few hours here and there working on:

1) Plumbing, 2) Gardening, 3) Electrical, 4) Cleaning or Organization, and, 5) General work.

People have many gifts to share; just a few are listed. If you are willing to help us get the building in shape, reorganize something or whatever your gift may be, please reply to: schionsini@gmail.com with your first and last name, best phone number for contact, and your gift interested in sharing.

God's Peace, Steve Chionsini, Jr.

Fellowship Committee Needs You!

Are you available for the remaining Tuesdays in May from 7 to 8:30 p.m.?

Hope so because the Fellowship Committee needs you to help live up to their mission statement: "to provide opportunities to build upon our talents, learn new skills, and develop processes that contribute to the health and well-being of the St. John's community" (so that we can "create effective means for individuals to express concerns and have them meaningfully addressed." Please join us in the Molly Warwick room on the second floor beginning on Tuesdays, May 17, 24 and 31 at 7 p.m. This is an open-ended group - you can jump in any time. For more information contact Diane Hendricks at 304 344-9916 or Una Karner at 304 346-7143.

Save the Date

The Fellowship Committee will sponsor a Fellowship Workshop on Saturday, June 4, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Christian Formation for Children and Youth

The Young Saints of John

Our Sunday Schedule

Nursery - (Infants - age 5) Room

297

Each Sunday at 9 a.m. to noon

Sundays 9:15 a.m.

as scheduled:

Godly Play (Grades PK- 5) Room

298

Team of Godly Play - Teachers & Assistants:

Ann Lovejoy Johnson, Juanita Cook,
Wanda Dettinger, Doris Redfield, Edd
McDevitt, Karen Glazier

Godly Play Schedule

The children in Godly Play, in grades Pre-K through 5th grade, will be meeting EVERY Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

Sunday, May 15, concludes the program year which we will celebrate with our family picnic on May 22.

Journey to Adulthood Program

Rite 13 (Grades 6-7) Room 224

Rite 13 Mentors: Julie McQuerrey, Bren Pomponio, Maggie McCabe

J2A (Grades 8-9) Third floor

J2A Mentors: Randy Cain, Kate Alie, Stephen Blake

YAC: Young Adults in the Church

(Grades 10-12) Children's Chapel,
Room 225

YAC Advisors: Tim Bradford, Tricia Poe,
Lia Palmer

Youth Schedule

The upcoming youth classes
Sunday at 9:15 am on May 15

*For more information
contact the church office at
(304) 346-0359.*

Senior High Acolytes Give Strong Leadership to Program *By Carrie Swing*



Of all the photos taken on Acolyte Sunday this year, I am happiest to have this one. Pictured are our six senior high acolytes: Catherine Blackwood, Jonathan and Shauna McQuerrey, Collin Morris, Andrew Swing and Jocelyn Taylor.

You see these young people carrying our first cross in the processions or serving at the altar during Eucharist. However, behind the scenes they do much more for the acolyte program. They are the team leaders, a designation reserved to senior highs but not automatic. When they serve in this role, they are in charge once a service begins. They are responsible for making sure that their fellow team members do what they are supposed to do. This is not always easy, particularly when a younger sibling or cousin is on the same team. They also help train and mentor younger acolytes. Designation as a team leader is recognition that a particular acolyte has demonstrated a high degree of competence, faithfulness, and servant leadership.

I said at the beginning that I'm very happy to have this photo. That is because of what these six young people mean to me personally. Everyone who has ever worked with young people has had the experience of encountering a particular group who finds a special place in the heart. That is what has happened with me and this particular group. They have a special place in my heart, which I needed to share now, because two of them -- Jonathan McQuerrey and Andrew Swing -- graduate from high school this month and will leave the program at the end of the summer. It's a privilege for me to be associated with this fine group of young people.



HOT DOGS!

The J2A Youth Group participated in our first hot dog sale during an auto cross event at Riverside High School on April 17. We all had a great time and worked together to sell over 120 hot dogs in the three hours we were there.

The youth group also held a hot dog fundraiser on Saturday, May 7, in conjunction with the annual East End Yard Sale. They were located in a vacant lot at 1580 Washington St. E. Thank you to all who attended and came to support St. John's youth! They raised over \$370.

Youth pictured include: Evan Blackwood, Molly Blackwood, Emily Clifford, Sarah Clifford, Christian Rowe, Hattie Rowe and Dominique Tyson.

J2A Mentors assisting: Kate Alie, Stephen Blake and Randy Cain.

Meet Our New Nursery Staffer

By The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson

I am delighted to announce that on Sunday, May 8, we welcomed Rachel Scarpelli, new nursery staff person. Rachel and her husband are originally from Charleston and recently moved back to be closer to family after their son was born last year.

Prior to coming home Rachel worked for four years as a nanny and personal assistant for a professional golfer's family where her work included providing child care while traveling with them. Rachel has a bachelor's degree in communications from Middle Tennessee State University and is a graduate of Capital High School. She was an entertainment performer at Walt Disney World, and has over 10 years of babysitting experience. Please join me in welcoming Rachel to St. John's!



St. John's Youth Competes in National Tournament

Parishioner Ben Canfield represented Charleston Catholic High School last month in the National History Quiz Bowl in Washington, D.C. He participated in both the National History Bowl team competition and also as an individual competitor in the National History Bee. Ben is a member of the Charleston Catholic team that won the Class AA-A West Virginia Quiz Bowl Championship in April.



400th Anniversary of the King James Version of The Bible

By *The Rev. Lawton Posey*

Sometimes called the authorized version and first published in 1611, that book of Scripture many of us oldsters grew up with was The Bible. When I was in the fourth grade, my mother and father presented me with such a Bible, published by Nelson, which served me until I went to college where the Revised Standard Version of the King James became The Bible. God no longer spoke in ancient words, and some congregational members were suspicious of a version which may have diminished the doctrine of the virginal conception of Jesus. (Compare Isaiah 7:14 in the KJV and RSV.)

King James I (of Scotland VI) was canny, and knew that a common Bible would benefit a nation which might fall apart at any instant. There were political concerns looming in his head. To him, a Bible might sit on every lectern and inspire persons to follow his own divinely sanctioned leadership more closely.

The KJV furnished the communion readings in the 1928 Prayer Book. The psalter was Coverdale's. The stately and even then, dated, language promoted dignity. In the KJV God speaks in a formal way, complete with verb endings falling out of use in the early 17th century. It is in the King's Speech.

The version I received from my parents was the common mid-18th century revision, which sought to keep the antique language alive while correcting some interesting spellings. It still was the Bible of King James' day. Few readers knew that they were reading a corrected version.

I have my father's King James at my elbow. Sometimes I open it and note where he marked certain passages with his pen. When I read it, I become my Dad for a time, working my way through the intricate grammar of one of Paul's epistles.

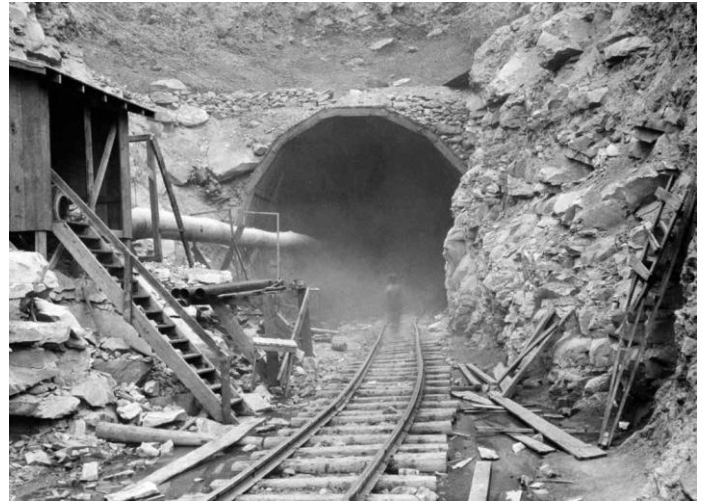
Perhaps, using that ancient language, "my cup runneth over." Some people seem to like this old version at funerals and weddings.

Surely in the 400-year-old version God speaks in the language of monarchs. The "still, small voice" (I Kings 19:12) sounds old, like words being heard over an ancient gramophone. The truth shines through that stately language. The question remains: Does God need to speak to us in an ancient way?

Only the reader can determine the answer.

Intermission for *Interchange*

There will be no publication for the month of July, but *Interchange* will resume with the August Issue. Deadline for this will be Monday, July 25, at 2 p.m. for which we will welcome your submission of articles and photos. Please send your materials and pictures to julkemp@yahoo.com or bdearien@stjohnswv.org



Photos from West Virginia State Archives and film website.

The Hawks Nest Tunnel Tragedy



By
The Rev. Jim Lewis

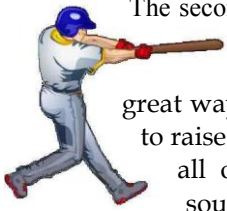
In 1930, seeking work and money to send home to their families, fathers, sons and brothers from all across West Virginia and neighboring states rushed to Union Carbide for employment. Two-thirds of these workers were African Americans, young and old, all poor. Unbeknownst to the workers, the mountain was full of silica, a mineral that the company needed to make strong steel alloy. What started as a drilling project to divert water to a hydro- power plant soon became a secret silica mine. Within weeks the illness was consuming the men who were all doomed to die. Union Carbide then buried the laborers in mass unmarked graves near a cornfield, rarely notifying their families.

The digging of the Hawks Nest Tunnel is a story that changed the nation. During and after its construction from 1927-1932, several hundred men died after slowly choking to death on the tunnel's poisonous silica dust. The disaster drew national attention and led to the passage of the first federal legislation regarding workplace safety, the Workman's Compensation Act, in 1936.

After this triumph, however, the history of this disaster disappeared underground for decades. The workers' stories, like many of their unmarked graves, were lost with the passage of time.

David Pushkin, a native of Charleston now living in New York, will discuss his upcoming film documentary on the Hawks Nest Tunnel Tragedy at the Adult Forum on May 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Hit Hunger Out of the Park



The second annual "Hit Hunger Out of the Park" will be held June 7 at Appalachian Power Park.

This popular fundraiser is a great way to contribute to the work of Manna Meal, to raise the awareness of hunger and pay tribute to all of the great people who volunteer at the soup kitchen. In order for Manna Meal to raise funds during this event, tickets for the game must be purchased at Manna Meal any day between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets are \$7 for reserved seats, with 50% going directly to Manna Meal. Contact Rhondell Miller at 304 345-7121 for more information or email mannamealrm@wirefire.com

More Manna Meal News

Manna Meal is welcoming spring and looking forward to summer as our newly renovated kitchen is set to be complete by mid June. On April 1, we welcomed our new lead cook, Melissa Borst, to the crew. Melissa is full of energy and brings over 25 years of cooking experience with her. Melissa is replacing Raj who left April 27 to pursue other opportunities. We thank Raj for the past four years she has served as the lead cook and wish her well as she continues her education.

Renovation Update

The kitchen renovations are moving right along. The new hoods are in, the walls are up, new electrical and plumbing has been run and the concrete has been poured! We at Manna Meal are very thankful to the H. B. Werhle Family for their generous donations. Stay tuned for our open house date.

Kroger Ca\$h We have received \$5,572 so far, thanks to all of you for using your Kroger card! *Still* don't have a Kroger card?! You can pick one up at the Manna Meal office daily between 7a.m. and 2 p.m. It sure will come in handy when you are making those yummy desserts for our Bike & Build friends! Call Donna Hamra at 304 343-4709 if you have any questions.



And the Garden Grows ~ Manna Meal is adding a third garden space this season with an additional 800 sq. feet. If you have gardening experience and would like to volunteer, please contact Neva Lusk at nlusk@spilmanlaw.com



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

The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson
Associate Rector

Brenda Maurice Vanderford
Organist / Choirmaster

David Morton
Assisting Organist / Choirmaster

Brenda Dearien
Parish Administrator

Bob Westmoreland
Verger

Dan Williams
Custodian

Vestry

Edd McDevitt '14
Senior Warden

Bob Miller '13
Junior Warden

Ray Shackelford '12
Treasurer

Michelle Walker '13
Clerk

Steve Chionsini Jr. '12
Leah Macia '12

Sallie Milam '12
Diane Hendricks '13

Bren Pomponio '13
Ann Garcelon '14

Page Hamrick '14
Liz Nix '14

David Ramkey
Assistant Treasurer

David Ramkey / Edd McDevitt
Finance

Becky Burns
Parish life

Donna Hamra
Outreach

Evangelism/New Member
Vestry Liaison Diane Hendricks

Stewardship

Mike Klausing
Property

Marion Perry
Adult Forum

Pastoral Care

Carrie Swing
Acolytes

Bob Miller
Ushers

Warren Upton
Chancellor

Carter Blundon
Altar Guild

Betty Jo Lloyd
Worship Rota

Janet Morris
Archives

SAGA

Martha Cole
Registrar

Ann Garcelon
The Back Door
Thrift Shop

Julianne Kemp
& Melora Cann
Interchange
Co-Editors

Are You Ready for a Picnic?



We're ready for you at the annual Parish Family Picnic. The date is Sunday, May 22, from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Gorman Shelter of Coonskin Park.

There is a playground on site, restrooms nearby and this year for the first time we'll play an intergenerational game of volleyball.

We plan to eat around 5 p.m. and invite each family to bring a family-sized dish to

share. We'll supply the grill fixings - hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, buns and condiments - as well as paper goods and beverages.

Lawn chairs and sunscreen are suggested, as are favorite board games in case it rains (the shelter seats 80). But the picnic will go on, rain or shine. Don't miss it.