

Saint John's

Inter Change

September 1, 2011, Vol. 51, No. 7

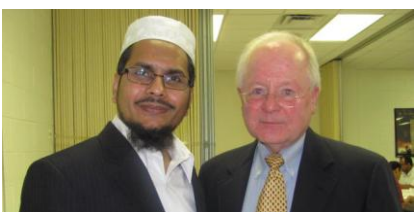
St. John's Learns About Ramadan

By *Dona Hamra*

The Imam from the Islamic Center and Esber Tweel led a discussion Sunday, Aug. 21, after coffee hour about the Islamic season of Ramadan. Ramadan is the month that Muslims fast from dawn to dusk so they can experience and sympathize with those in the world who are hungry. It is intended to teach Muslims about patience, spirituality, humility and submissiveness to God. The Imam also answered some general questions from the group about Islam.

On Saturday, Aug. 27, about 30 of the Saints of John attended prayers at the Islamic Center and joined them in breaking fast. It was an enlightening evening spiritually, and the food was pretty good, too! As children of God, we learned that we have

more in common with our Muslim neighbors than we have differences. We should see our similarities in all peoples of the world.



Imam with Edd McDevitt

We are fortunate to have another opportunity to renew our relationship with the Islamic Center on Sunday, Sept. 11, at 2:30 p.m. at St. John's for a joint prayer of service for peace. This service is open to all, so spread the word around our community.



Photos by Betty Jo Lloyd

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SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP

SUNDAYS SEPTEMBER 4, 11, 18 AND 26, 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
(See page 4 for Youth Classes Schedule for the fall of 2011)
- 9:30 a.m. Sept. 25, Adult Forum resumes, speaker to be Parishioner Evelyn Harris, retired professor with the University of Charleston, topic to be announced, Room 109.
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with choir
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall
- 5:00 p.m. Sept. 11 and 26, "Come As You Are" Services, chapel

Note: Taize services will resume in October.



Join us on Sept. 11 for Salads and Muffins

...and learn about the many opportunities to learn and serve at St. John's. Please bring a favorite salad or muffin to share! See Page 6 for more information, in article entitled, "New Year, New Opportunities."

✠ 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.



September - a time to gather together

By The Rev. Susan J. Latimer

Dear Saints of John,

Another summer is nearly over, the children and youth and teachers back to school, our choir has started Thursday rehearsals again, and it is time to gather together and celebrate the beginning of another program year. Join us Sept. 11 for the first day of Christian Formation classes for children and youth, a salad and muffin lunch, and find out about all our various ministries at our Opportunity Fair. Then at 2:30 p.m. we will have a special interfaith service of Prayers for Peace, a joint effort of St. John's and the Islamic Center.

Sept. 18 at 9:30 a.m. we will have a celebration in honor of Marion Perry who has led the Adult Forum for many years. Join us in 109 for food and fellowship.

Adult programs, too, will commence again (see below in this newsletter for details) including a new spiritual formation group focused on the Benedictine tradition.

The end of the month brings Diocesan Convention and a special treat -- as the clergy are required to gather at convention and there will be Morning Prayer in all parishes on Sunday, Oct. 2, I have requested that the choir lead a sung morning prayer service at 10:30 a.m. that day.

I am sad to report that the Vestry has decided that our budget will not support an Associate Rector for 2012 - (see the article by The Rev. Ann Lovejoy Johnson+). While Ann+ is still with us she is working to set up support structures for all of the wonderful programs for children and youth that she has put in place. I hope and pray that St. John's as a congregation will continue to value these ministries and that we will "do all in our power to support these children and youth in their spiritual lives and growth."

Come join us, gather together this September for worship, fellowship, and education.

In Christ, Susan+

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The Adult Christian Formation committee is excited to present many programs this fall, providing enrichment through knowledge, fellowship and spiritual growth.

❖ Bible Study Sunday mornings with Parker Smith.

❖ Adult Forum Sunday mornings with speakers on topics of current interest. Marion Perry after 16 years of dedication in finding and presenting speakers has decided to retire from the leadership role. There will be a party in her honor on Sunday, Sept. 18 at the usual forum time. We will kick off the new season on Sept. 25 with a speaker from our congregation, Evelyn Harris. More details later.

❖ EFM class with Beth Marquart will resume on Wednesdays at St. John's. Also the South Hills EFM group run by Beth Hamrick (304-345-0634) and Mary Fitzgerald (304-541-8825) are looking for more participants and hope to start shortly after Labor Day.

❖ Book Study welcomes new members and meets Wednesdays from 11a.m. to noon. The current selection is "Evolution of God" by Robert Wright.

❖ A new Spiritual Formation Group led by Susan+ will meet Wednesdays beginning Sept. 14, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. in the Mollie Warwick Room. We will explore the book, "Seeking God: The Way of St. Benedict" by Esther de Waal. Join us for Prayer, Discussion, Lectio Divina and Fellowship.

For more information contact Susan+; let us know your thoughts and interests.

Liz Nix

Vestry liaison for Adult Education

In Memoriam

We are sad to note the passing of parishioner James Lee Keffer on July 26. Graveside services were held July 29 in Montgomery and a memorial service took place Aug. 9 at St. John's.

May light perpetual shine upon him.

New Direction for Fellowship Relations

by Diane Hendricks

Your Fellowship "people" continue to meet this late summer and fall with a tentative plan to meet second and fourth Tuesdays at 7 p.m. The original Fellowship Relations Committee has completed its work by 1) heightening awareness to positive communication while 2) exploring ways to communicate needs of the congregation and get feedback and/or resolution to those requests. You are now invited to be a part of the group that carries out that mission. You may come as often or as little as you like. You may start or stop at any time. The only requirement is to be "open" and genuine. Please join us. Next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 7 p.m.

Don't Miss the Perry Party

A party celebrating Marion Perry's leadership of the Adult Forum will be held Sept. 18 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 109, site of so many memorable forum events. Join us as we celebrate Marion's leadership and ministry of almost two decades! Marion is retiring after a long and illustrious career as the chair of the Adult Forum. Over the years she has introduced, from memory, over 600 speakers to the forum.

WIFFF Meetings Resume

Women In Faith, Fun and Fellowship (WIFFF) of St. John's Episcopal Church will gather in the Molly Warwick Room and Room 209 for their monthly meeting on Sept. 8 at 11:30 a.m. The Rev. Susan Latimer will talk on spirituality and her love for horses and how the two are connected. Georgia Hamra will prepare a special meal for all preceding the program.

A donation of \$6 will be appreciated and reservations may be made with Brenda Dearien in the church office at 304 346-0359. The Prayer Shawl ministry will convene immediately afterwards.

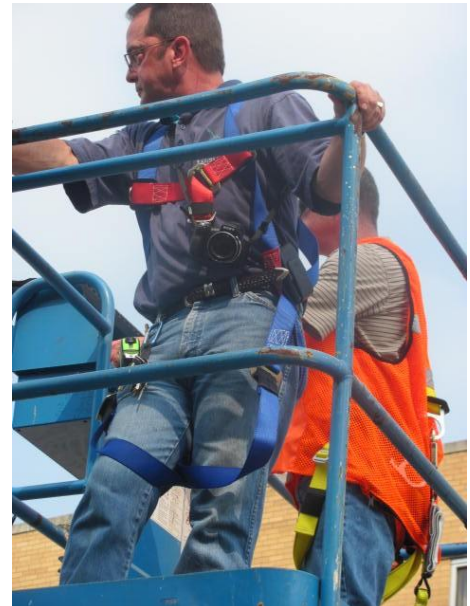
Send Birthday Wishes

Pray for the lives and ministries of those celebrating September birthdays: Sept. 2 - Anna Barrett & Dan Taylor; Sept. 3 - Vanda Butcher; Sept. 5 - Kent Higgins; Sept. 7 - David Cooper; Sept. 8 - Mary Knighton; Sept. 10 - Roy Pfeiffer & Alisa Vear; Sept. 11 - Greg Clarke; Sept. 12 - Emily Clifford; Sept. 13 - Trenton Campbell; Sept. 15 - Millicent Keeshan; Sept. 16 - Beverly Steenstra; Sept. 18 - Natalie Freeman & Karen Glazier; Sept. 20 - Janet Morris; Sept. 21 - Lindsey Gardner; Sept. 23 - Ashley Kidd; Sept. 25 - Kuruvilla John; Sept. 26 - Julia Beury; Sept. 27 - Holly Blackwood, Sandy Morris, Warren Upton & Mika Vickers; Sept. 29 - Diane Clements, Suzanne Nelson & Jeff Swing; and Sept. 30 - Julie Blackwood.

A Word of Thanks

By Lawton Posey

Mike Klausung has done St John's a real service adjusting the sound reinforcement speakers so that even someone as deaf as I am can hear so much better. In the past, I was a constant grouser about the sound system, but after I lost all my natural hearing, and became dependent on a cochlear implant, I thought I was hearing about as much as was possible. But on a recent Sunday, the lectors sounded so crisp and precise. The Rector's sermon required no guessing. Just a few alterations of some knob positions yielded great results. So thanks, Mike. Jesus said to the deaf person, "ephphatha" which means "be opened." And, we were.



Senior Warden Steve Chionsini takes to the skies in a cherry picker (above and top) to inspect one of St. John's cement pinnacle crosses for a family that is donating a replacement cross in bronze. Hold on tight, Steve!
Photos by Betty Jo Lloyd

October Deadline

The next issue of *Interchange* will cover the month of October. Have something you'd like to see in our church publication?

Just send articles and photos to julkemp@yahoo.com or bdearien@stjohnswv.org before Monday, Sept. 25, at 2 p.m. Early submission is always helpful and appreciated.

Christian Formation for Children and Youth

The Young Saints of John

Our Sunday Schedule

Nursery

(Infants – age 5) Room 297
Each Sunday
from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Godly Play

(Grades PK- 6) Room 298
Starting Sept. 11
Each Sunday
at 9:15 a.m.

Journey to Adulthood Program

Starting Sept. 11
meets twice monthly,
as scheduled:

At 9:00 a.m.

~ note new time this year ~

Rite 13 (Grades 7 & 8)

Room 224

J2A (Grades 9 & 10)

Third Floor

Youth Schedule for

Rite 13 & J2A:

September 11 & 25

October 9 & 23

*There are NO Sunday classes
on Labor Day Weekend.
The Nursery is open.*

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

J2A Event

Sunday, Sept 11 at 2:30 p.m.
Prayer Service at St. John's
followed by pizza-making and movie!



Ann Lovejoy Johnson+

Dear Saints of John,

Soon it will be time for us to say good-bye. It's hard to believe, really. Last month the vestry determined that St. John's will not fund an assistant rector position next year due to financial constraints. I fully appreciate this reality. The vestry has confirmed that my Letter of Agreement will conclude on Jan. 19, 2012. This completes three years of service with you and your rector, The Rev. Susan Latimer.

As of yet, I do not know where God is calling me to serve next although I have my sights on returning to the northeast. The process for clergy transitions in the Episcopal Church is slow, lengthy and intentional, much like job searches in other professional fields. Recently I listed my East End home to sell, a literal sign of changes on the horizon! When I know the particulars of my plans I will share the news with you.

While I am here I am focusing on the children's and youth ministries and the start-up of the new program year. Godly Play, Rite 13 and J2A offer rich opportunities for our young saints! Supporting the adult teachers and mentors and strengthening the curriculum preparations is my top priority in the weeks ahead. Thank you for the opportunity to be part of these growing ministries.

As always, I pray for the community of St. John's to embrace the joy and gifts of our children and youth. Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Ann Lovejoy Johnson+



This past summer with the Young Saints of John:

A Rite 13 Event to kick-off the new year was held on Sunday, Aug. 28 at Kanawha State Forest

The Annual Blessing of the Backpacks was held on Sunday, Aug. 21.

The children in Godly Play completed their materials for the story of The Great Family (Abraham & Sarah) and brought their "desert boxes" forward for a blessing on Sunday, Aug. 28.



Scouts, organized by the Canfield family, bring a huge crew of volunteers to help out today!

Harvest Record Broken Today!

The Manna Meal garden has now produced in excess of 2,100 pounds of produce—A RECORD! Thirty volunteers came out to give service this morning, Saturday, August 27, 2011. *The Scouts* were mustered by John Canfield and family and came out in force to accomplish a near record amount of work. 124 lbs of tomatoes and 20 lbs of peppers

were harvested.



Scouts at work!

Flowers were harvested as part of ongoing fundraising. Radish, lettuce, spinach, and peas were planted. Veggies and flowers were weeded, tied up, sprayed with Neem oil, and deadheaded. Newly emerging bush beans were mulched with rich ground leaf mulch. Another layer was added to the lasagna garden project. Also at work were countless honeybees and other pollinators. The crew: Karen & Adam Jordan, Bob Lockhart, Lois Kuhl, John & Dianna & Ben & Alex Canfield, Tom & Dan & Kate McLaughlin, Matt & Kyle & Katie Hayes, Liz Hereford, Dick Hanlon, Tari Crouse, David & Nate Lambert, Joan Steven, Leila Martin, Gary Brown, Ann Garcelon, Helen & Vishal & Kiran & Maya Kesari, Nancy Broyles and Myra.

Blessing of the Backpacks for the New School Year August 2011!



Become a St. John's Acolyte.



Check out the display AND the brand-new acolyte t-shirt at the Opportunity Fair following the 10:30 service on Sept. 11.

- Carrie Swing

New Year, New Opportunities

On Sunday, Sept. 11, St. John's will be celebrating the start of the new program year with a salad and muffin luncheon and Opportunity Fair after the 10:30 a.m. service. Learn about the various educational programs, spiritual enrichment offerings, and opportunities for ministry available at St. John's. Sign up to be on a committee, teach a class, be an Op Shop volunteer, serve on the Altar Guild or as an Acolyte, participate in Education for Ministry classes, visit shut-ins, help with parish receptions, dinners, and other special events, or get involved in community outreach efforts. The opportunities are boundless and the needs are great. Explore where your greatest joy meets the greatest need of the parish and community we serve and participate in your own unique way. Don't miss out on any of the myriad opportunities for ministry, fun, and fellowship available to you here at St. John's. The church, our parish family, and the community we reach out to in Christ's name needs you as we need one another! Please bring a favorite salad or muffin to share!

Harvest volunteers work in the new Manna Meal kitchen

On the other side of all the garden harvesting comes an entirely different volunteer crew to prepare it for freezing! Beth McClintock, Mary Booker, Linda Harrah, Joan Burns and Joanne Dawson gave 13.5 womanhours of labor in order to prep, bag and freeze 24 gallons of tomatoes, many pounds of green bell peppers, and also bag dried dill and basil for winter. These many hours of labor and service are very much appreciated!



Harvest volunteers work in the new kitchen - Beth McClintock, Joan Burns and JoAnne Dawson are cornered by the camera

Hospice + Manna Meal + Outreach

We have been donating individually-wrapped snacks to Hubbard Hospice House for visitors to enjoy while they spend time with their loved ones. Manna Meal is also requesting cereal to serve their guests at breakfast. How can you support these deserving organizations while also raising money for Outreach? By using your Kroger card, of course! If you need a Kroger card or if you lost yours and need a replacement, just stop by the Manna Meal office any day between 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. And remember - these Kroger cards can be used at any Kroger in the country! So you can send Kroger cards to your friends and relatives and let them know that each time they use it, they will be supporting the Outreach projects of St. John's and the community.

Donate to Manna Meal

It is only through the contributions of concerned people like yourself, that Manna Meal is able to provide service to those in need. Please help us by contributing your financial donations here:

Manna Meal, Inc. is a non-profit corporation. All donations are tax deductible. Presently we are preparing 300 to 350 meals per day seven days a week.

_____ \$ 30.00 will feed 10 people, one meal

_____ \$ 75.00 provides milk & juice for one day, two meals.

_____ \$ 100.00 supplies fresh fruit for breakfast for 5 days.

_____ \$ 250.00 supplies breakfast meat for a week.

_____ \$ 2,250.00 supplies milk & juice for one month.

Or send your check to: Manna Meal, Inc. 1105 Quarrier St. Charleston, WV 25301

Food donations and other supplies can be brought to the above address seven days a week between 7 am to 2 pm.

If questions contact us 304-345-7121 or email us at jsmannameal@wirefire.com





More from the New Kitchen Manna Meal Dedication this summer. Photos by Betty Jo Lloyd

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

Steve Chionsini Jr. '12
Senior Warden

Bob Miller '13
Junior Warden

Ray Shackelford '12
Treasurer

Michelle Walker '13
Clerk

Leah Macia '12

Sallie Milam '12

Diane Hendricks '13

Bren Pomponio '13

Ann Garcelon '14

Page Hamrick '14

Liz Nix '14

Una Karner '14

David Ramkey
Assistant Treasurer

Steve Chionsini Jr.
& David Ramkey
Finance

Becky Burns
Parish life

Donna Hamra
Outreach

Evangelism/New Member
Vestry Liaison
Diane Hendricks / Dana Kelly

Mike Klausing
Property

Marion Perry
Adult Forum

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



*Summer time at
St. John's with
guest speakers.*

