



The Forerunner

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church

May 2012

Website: www.stjohnssalemnj.org



The Pastor's Ponderings

We are in the midst of the Great Fifty Days of Easter. It is a time of Celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus, the retelling of his encounters with his disciples and the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The disciples emerge from seclusion to become bold proclaimers of the Gospel.

In the Eastern Orthodox tradition, during Eastertide the Confession and Absolution are omitted. I have followed that tradition in the congregations that I have served. It is a way of recognizing both the truth of our redemption and the unique character of the Easter Season.

The other event of this Easter Season was the recognition of our "First Communion" participants. We welcome Laurel Elizabeth Norton, Christopher John Willis, Nathan James Willis, Emma Marie Bailey Avery Rian Elizabeth Dunfee and Aden Reece William Dunfee to the company of those who share in the sacrament of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus.

My thanks to all of those who contributed their time and talents to make the Celebration of Holy Week and Easter such a meaningful experience. The musicians, choir, readers, altar guild members, and acolytes contributed mightily to the liturgies of the season – the busiest time of the church year.

This month we bid farewell to Donna and Bob Donohue. Donna will continue her seminary studies at General Theological Seminary in New York. The Donohues have been a wonderful addition to St. John's over the past two years and we wish them both God's Blessings as Donna enters the next stage on the journey toward Ordination to the Priesthood. We will welcome the soon-to-be Rev'd Deacon Sally Maurer to St. John's on June 3rd. Sally is well-known in Salem and Gloucester counties due to her work as a nurse practitioner. She is to be ordained as Deacon on May 5th, at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton.

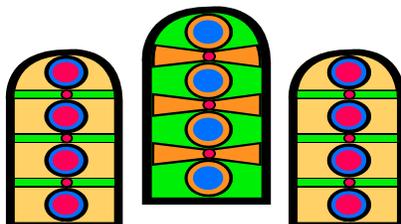
Fr. Steve

Fr. Steve



Tongues of Fire

Reminiscent of the Pentecost account in Acts 2 when “tongues of fire” rested on the disciples’ heads as the Holy Spirit birthed the church, images of flame symbolize the Spirit. Sometimes a tongue of fire is paired with a dove and set on a red background — other symbols of the Holy Spirit. Fire may also indicate spiritual fervor and zeal in a Christian’s life.



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THE DEADLINE for the June issue of the Forerunner is May 23rd



From the Senior Warden

I grew up in that generation that casually said “different strokes for different folks.” This saying truly came to light recently when I was visiting my niece in Savannah, Georgia. While on other occasions I have attended St. John’s Episcopal Church in Savannah, on Madison Square, this visit I attended church with my hosts.

For me this was my first visit to what is termed a mega-church; it was HUGE! and attendance was 850 people. The congregants were welcoming and their worship sincere but for me it lacked the reverence of our more formal worship service. They read the hymns from projected screens in front of the church and music was played on an electric organ that lacked the beauty and depth of our historic pipe organ.

I am pleased that my niece has found a church where she feels comfortable. Everyone should attend where they feel their needs are being met and where they can worship. That is what I found when I joined St. John’s in Salem a number of years ago. The depth of our worship service combined with the music at the 10:30 service provides me with an environment of reverence where I am comfortable and can worship.

VESTRY UPDATE: At the April Vestry meeting, the various committees of the parish provided their reports. The Liturgy Committee has been quite active both in planning for the recent Easter season but also looking ahead at ways to enhance our services of worship. The Outreach Committee has yet to meet to design their internal budget for 2012 but fully acknowledge the importance to reaching out within our community to help so many that are in need. The Vestry reviewed actual spent-to-date vs. approved budget to ensure that we are wise stewards of church funds. The vestry discussed needed repairs and projects on the church and chapel. Buildings and Grounds have been given the go ahead to complete needed repairs on the church bell tower roof and other areas of water infiltration.

If you haven’t attended a worship service lately... know that you are missed! We are a small congregation and we DO value your attendance. Whether you come every Sunday, occasionally or at holidays, your presence is noticed and valued. Like anything else, church attendance becomes a habit and once you get out of that habit, it becomes a bit more of an effort to initiate it again. Set that alarm on Sunday, have your cup of coffee a half hour earlier and S-L-I-D-E into a pew. You won’t be sorry!!!

Ron Magill

MUSIC MINISTRY NOTES



JUNIOR CHORISTERS: Our Junior Choristers complete their season of rehearsals and liturgical leadership on Sunday April 29, singing Natalie Sleeth’s popular anthem, “Feed My Lambs”, especially appropriate on “Good Shepherd Sunday”. This group will resume rehearsals in September, so keep an eye out for start-up dates later in the Summer. I have received information from the Diocese about a 4-day Youth Choir Camp in Cape May during the Summer. I will pass this information on to those young people who have participated in Junior choristers this season. It is for students grades 5 – 12. If you are interested, but did not participate in our Junior choristers program this year, please contact Bill Clisham for additional information.

FUTURE SPECIAL MUSIC LITURGY: On Sunday, June 17, the St. John’s Choir will sing the *Missa Brevis in D*, (K.194) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart within the framework of the 10:30 AM Holy Eucharist. Mozart composed this “short Mass” for choir, four soloists, 2 violins, cello and organ. As at Easter for brass players, we are in need of patronage to hire three string players for this event at \$200 per player. If you are able to assist us in this special liturgical/musical venture, please see Minister of Music, Bill Clisham, for details.

ADDITIONAL SINGERS & RINGERS: If you have not sung in the St. John’s Choir in recent years, or played handbells in the Salem Ringers, but are interested in the challenges and satisfactions of participating, please contact Minister of Music, Bill Clisham to discuss details, voice placement, bell position assignments, music folders, vestment, etc.

Bill Clisham can be contacted in person following the Postlude for the 10:30 Holy Eucharist any Sunday, on his cell phone (908-472-7597), or by e-mail wfclish@aol.com

In service to Christ and His church,

Bill Clisham
Minister of Music
(cell) 908-472-7597
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Our prayers are with the family of
Eunice Miller
who entered eternal life on Sunday, April 15th

and
with the family of
Mary Anne Mecum
who entered eternal life on Thursday, April 19th

*May their souls and the souls of all the
departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.*

OOPS!

Apologies to Avery and Aden **Dunfee** for printing their last name incorrectly in April's Forerunner. This editor would like to blame Joel Churchmouse for the typo, but alas, he was no where around at the time. My sincere apology to the Dunfee and Frieze families.

YOGA RETURNS



Starting April 24th, and on Tuesdays thereafter, St. John's will be hosting a yoga class led by Gwen Norton. It will be held in the parish hall from 5 pm to approximately 6 pm. There is no charge for the class, so, bring your mat and join the fun!

OUR SEMINARIAN

Donna Donohue (the seminarian who has been with us at St. John's for some time now) and her husband, Bob, and family will be moving to New York soon, where Donna will be attending General Theological Seminary this fall. Her last Sunday with us will be May 6th, although she does

plan to return as music coordinator for our Vacation Bible School this summer. In the meantime, Donna is involved in a 10-12 week Clinical Pastoral Educational Program at a New York Hospital. The Donohue family has been a wonderful addition o our St. John's family, and will greatly missed.

DEACON TO JOIN STAFF



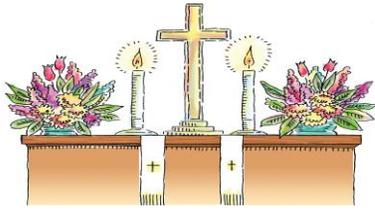
St. John's will welcome the soon-to-be-Rev'd Deacon Sally B. Maurer to St. John's on June 3rd. Ms Maurer is familiar to many in Salem and Gloucester Counties as she has worked as a Nurse Practitioner at Visiting Physicians Associates of South Jersey. She is completing her training with the Diocese of South Jersey and will be ordained to the Vocational Diaconate on May 5th, 10 am, at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton. She and her husband, Oscar, reside in Woodstown.

NEWS FROM ST. GEORGE'S

The Congregation of St. George's Episcopal Church in Pennsville is currently accepting names for the position of Part-time Priest-in-Charge. As you may know, their priest, Fr. Rick Cromwell, has had several health problems recently and has now been granted a medical retirement. He and his family will be relocating to Honolulu, Hawaii, where his wife, Peg, has accepted a position at Queen's Hospital. Their son, Rick, hopes to return to University to pursue a degree in oceanography. The Cromwells had lived in Hawaii in the past and are looking forward to returning. We wish them all the very best as they begin their new adventure!

"Courage does not always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying, 'I will try again tomorrow.'"

—Mary Anne Radmacher
(from "The Newsletter Newsletter")



2012 Altar Flowers

Thank you to everyone who is currently participating in St. John's tradition of requesting flowers "in memory of loved ones" or "in thanksgiving for a special occasion."

There are still several Sundays open in 2012. If any of the dates listed below have a special significance for you, please call DeeAnn Harris (935-3214) or the Parish Office (935-1798) to sign-up with your dedication.

Open Dates:

May 6
July 1 & 15
August 12
September 30
October 7 & 14

THE DEMISE OF DONUT SUNDAY!

As of May 20th, the third Sunday of each month will now bring with it a healthier fare at the Fellowship Hour. Gone are the Donuts and in are Fruits and Vegetables! Never fear, however, it is rumored that the Donuts will reappear on the 5th Sundays, so at least once per quarter the sweet treats will preside.

NEW ECW OFFICERS

With the recent passing of Mary Anne Mecum, the office of President has been filled by Diane Wohlrab, who had been Vice-President. Laurie Bailey has accepted the office of Vice President. Sue Harker continues as Treasurer and Marcie Frame as Secretary.

The ECW meets on the 4th Sunday of each month in the parish hall, and all women of the congregation are invited to attend.



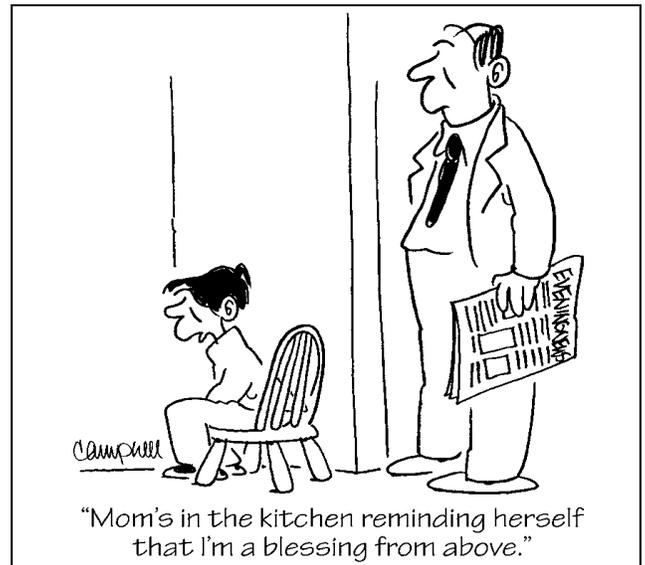
BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY

Happy Birthday

- 05/01 Barbara Sweeney
- 05/02 Christopher Gray
- 05/04 Bill Pankonien
- 05/08 Carla Buck
- 05/10 Caitlin Murphy
- 05/11 Andrew Wang
- 05/13 Debra Ann Gralley
- 05/16 Jan Peterson
- 05/17 Kristin Stites
- 05/19 Chris Sorenson
- 05/21 Rachael Cagle
- 05/26 Phyllis Little
- 05/29 Jeffrey Buck
- 05/29 Robert (Lars) Runkle, Jr.
- 05/30 Helen Acton
- 05/30 Jennifer Buck
- 05/31 James A. Irvine

Happy Anniversary

- 05/17 Curt and Sue Harker
- 05/18 Joe III and Jan Peterson
- 05/26 Fr. Steve and Rosie Carroll



Dear Friends at St. John's and Beyond:



I had a marvelous time on my Spring Break last month and today is a gorgeous day outside too! Don't you just love Spring!?! Everything is starting over fresh and new and even the stone garden has a burst of color with all the flowers scattered about. Your good Fr. Steve has had more time to chat with me now that Holy Week and Easter are over. He seems to be less stressed too, and did not even swat at me when I crossed his desk the other day, even though he seemed to be working on something rather intently and I must have been somewhat of a distraction. Anyway, I am all energized now and ready for anything! ...but what?

I asked Fr. Steve if he ever wondered what will happen to him in the future. I wonder all the time about what my future might hold. Will Ruth still like me? Will I become famous? Will I do something really terrific with my life? Will I live a long time? I am ready to get started on my future! Fr. Steve tried to calm me down. He said that there is no way to know for sure what the future has in store for any of us and that as long as we go there with God the future will be just fine and we will be able to deal with whatever will come our way, good or bad. Whoa! I had not thought of bad things happening to me! I've been good, why would bad things happen to me – or to those I care about? Fr. Steve said you humans have wondered about that since the beginning of recorded history and that there is no easy answer. Before he could try to put one together, I told him I thought that if I became rich and famous I could avoid any bad things happening to me. I could have bodyguards and cupboards packed with food, and my family and friends would be safe in my gigantic house! I just have to start getting rich. Fr. Steve chuckled and told me to go to my room and read Luke 12:22-32. In case your Bible is not handy, I will copy it here. It does seem to contain a reassuring point!

“He said to his disciples, ‘Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.’”

Until next month Vaya Con Dios my friends! Joel Churchmouse



Words of appreciation

Show your love for your mother, grandmother or aunt this Mother's Day by placing words of appreciation throughout the house for her to find.

What you need:

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Colored pencils
- Crayons
- Tape

THANKS!

What you do:

1. Fold construction paper into fourths.
2. Cut paper along the folds to get four pieces.
3. On each rectangle, write words of appreciation, drawings and so on.
4. Tape the papers throughout the house. For example, a note on the refrigerator or pantry might say, "Thank you for making yummy meals for me." A note on a mirror might say, "You are beautiful inside and out!"



Our mother's instructions

God gives us parents to help us learn about following his ways. Cherishing our mothers means valuing their guidance.

Use the boxed word codes below to complete Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV.

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 walk speak fathers sleep keep always
 guide awake son forsake teaching
 around heart neck mothers fasten watch

 ○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○○

"My _____ your _____'s command
 and do not _____ your _____'s _____.
 Bind them _____ on your _____;
 _____ them _____ your _____.
 When you _____, they will _____ you;
 when you _____, they will _____ over you;
 when you _____, they will _____ to you."

Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV

Answers: "My son, keep your father's command and do not forsake your mother's teaching. Bind them always on your heart; fasten them around your neck. When you walk, they will guide you; when you sleep, they will watch over you; when you awake, they will speak to you."
 Proverbs 6:20-22, NIV



May 2012

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 11 am to 3 pm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 9 – noon Quilters 9 am- 3 pm IAC 5-6 pm Yoga class 6:45-8 pm Ringers 8 pm NA	2 10-12 am CIACC 12:30-2 pm YSC Noon HE & Healing 5-7 pm FSG 8 pm AA	3 National Day of Prayer	4 12 noon Churchwomen United - Broadway UMC	5 10 am Deacon Ordination – Cathedral 10 am-4pm Salem Open House Tour
6 8 a.m. H.E. Rite I 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Adult Forum 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 a.m. H.E. Rite II Fellowship Hour Birthday/Anniv Cake	7	8 9 – noon Quilters 5-6 pm Yoga class 6:45-8 pm Salem Ringers 8 pm NA	9 Noon HE & Healing 4 pm Music Around the County Mtg 5-7 pm FSG 8 pm AA	10	11	12
13 Mother's Day 8 a.m. H.E. Rite I 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Adult Forum 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 a.m. H.E. Rite II Fellowship Hour ECW Sandwich Sun.	14	15 (No quilters) 5-6 pm Yoga class 6:45-8 pm Salem Ringers 8 pm NA	16 Noon HE & Healing 5-7 pm FSG 8 pm AA	17 Ascension Day Noon- HE in Chapel	18	19 Armed Forces Day
20 8 a.m. H.E. Rite I 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:45 am Adult Forum 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 a.m. H.E. Rite II 12:30 VESTRY MTG. Fellowship Hour Healthy Food Sunday	21	22 9 – noon Quilters 5-6 pm Yoga class 6:45-8 pm Salem Ringers 8 pm NA (Fr. Steve in Trenton for Dean's Mtg.)	23 Noon HE & Healing 5-7 pm FSG 8 pm AA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE (Fr. Steve in Trenton for Clericus Mtg)	24	25	26
27 Pentecost 8 a.m. H.E. Rite I 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. H.E. Rite II Fellowship Hour Pie Sunday 12:30 ECW Monthly Mtg	28 Memorial Day OFFICE CLOSED	29 9 – noon Quilters 5-6 pm Yoga class 8 pm NA	30 Noon HE & Healing 5-7 pm FSG 8 pm AA	31		

Notes:

Sunday Services: 8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Chapel and
10:30 am Choral Holy Eucharis, Rite II, in Church
Wednesday Service: Noon Eucharist and Healing Service in Chapel

CIACC: Children's Inter-Agency Council
YAC: Youth Services Commission
FSG: Family Support Group
AA: Alcoholics Anonymous
NA: Narcotics Anonvmous



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOMES YOU

St. John's Episcopal Church Schedule

Sunday:

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I, in the Chapel
- 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Forum in Parish House
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, in the Church

Wednesday:

- Noon Holy Eucharist, Rite II, in the Chapel



St. John's Episcopal Church
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Salem, NJ 08079

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Please Deliver Promptly

