



The Forerunner

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church

June 2012

Website: www.stjohnssalemnj.org

The Pastor's Ponderings



In a few weeks St. John's, Salem, will celebrate 290 years of existence. I suppose that in comparison with Westminster Abbey, Canterbury Cathedral, and Notre Dame, we are adolescents. But, in the United States, 290 years is a real milestone.

St. John's and Salem have experienced a tremendous amount of change in almost three centuries. There is comfort in the past, and we share with longing the stories of people and events; times when the pews were full, the Sunday School rooms were filled with activity, and the church was the center of the universe. It was expected that families would pretty much stay in the area they grew up in and attend the church of their parents, and continue in the occupations of their fathers. But even in the idyllic picture of the past seeds were already planted for a different future. We have always been a nation of wanderers and technological advances have changed how we live, travel and work. As a result, our present is nothing like our past, and our future seems all the more challenging.

In the past few months we have bid farewell to certain individuals who have been pillars of the church in their generations. Some belong to families who can trace their connection to St. John's in centuries, and others trace their connection in decades. They will be sorely missed. I suspect that over 290 years St. John's has experienced times of concern as well as times of success, and that throughout its history there have been pillars of the church who have departed this life and the congregation wondered what would happen next. What will the future hold? In that way, we are no different than those who have gone before. The amazing thing is that people new to our community stepped into the place left by the faithful departed, and they became the new "pillars of the church."

The promise we are given is that our Lord will be with the church "...to the end of the age...". The celebration of Pentecost serves as a reminder of the power of the Holy Spirit to empower the church and its ministries in every age. There is no promise of a comfortable present, or a predictable future. In 2012 we are faced with the same kinds of questions that challenged St. John's in decades past. How do we attract new members? What is the mission of the church in Salem, or in the Diocese of New Jersey? How are we called to be the church in the times in which we live?

Over the next few months we will explore what that might mean as we enter our third century of faithful witness and service. We give thanks for those who have gone before but we must have the courage and vision to continue their work in the present.

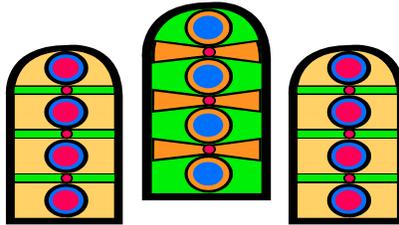
Fr. Steve



A day in June

And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days;
Then Heaven tries earth if it be in tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays;
Whether we look, or whether we listen,
We hear life murmur, or see it glisten;
...Now the heart is so full that a drop overfills it,
We are happy now because God wills it;
No matter how barren the past may have been,
'Tis enough for us now that the leaves are green;
We sit in the warm shade and feel right well
How the sap creeps up and the blossoms swell;
We may shut our eyes but we cannot help knowing
That skies are clear and grass is growing

—James Russell Lowell, from *The Vision of Sir Launfal*



St. John's Episcopal Church – Salem, NJ – Established 1722
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Deacon:	The Rev'd Sally Maurer	856-769-1409 (h) cell: 856-297-2385	slarrqbee@comcast.net
Senior Warden:	Ron Magill	856-935-5398	
Junior Warden:	Virginia Sisco	856-358-0307	
Treasurer:	Joe Kimber	856-935-2288	
Secretary	Marjorie Warren	856-935-1798	stjohnssalemnj@comcast.net
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THE DEADLINE for the July issue of the Forerunner is June 22nd

From the Senior Warden

Music, whether you know it or not, plays a role in almost everyone's life. It fills the void, adds noise to a silent house, sets a mood, or enhances an experience. Music within the context of worship is to me spiritually lifting. The phrase "Sing to the Lord a new song" is repeated in Isaiah and in Psalm 96, and speaks to the joy of song in worship.

There are few people who wouldn't have the name of a song at the ready if you asked "do you have a favorite song or piece of music?" One of my favorite classical pieces is Samuel Barber's 'Adagio for Strings,' op 11. It brings back memories of both peaceful and somber experiences. Or, what about 'Afternoon of a Faun' by Claude Debussy; a truly tranquil piece of music. And at Christmas, I'll bet you have a favorite that you wait all year to hear! It is 'Angles from the Realms of Glory' for me!

St. John's is fortunate to have a very good music program. Our minister of music, William Clisham does an outstanding job with a wide range of music. Take note that each Sunday, Bill has information in the church bulletin that gives background on pieces that will be played or sung during the 10:30 service. Many times the music is selected based on the morning's scripture or with significance to an event or time in the church calendar. The vocal accompaniment, for me, takes the 10:30 service to another level.

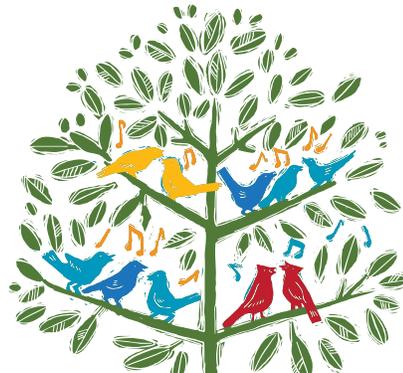
Recently, Gwen Norton, one of our regular choristers, who received her graduate

degree from the Curtis Institute of Music and a doctorate from the Seton Hall Un., did a varied program of music for the entire family. Gwen very generously instituted this program with Nate Gable, who took ill, and Anne Neff. The goodwill offering from this event will be added to the Music Fund at St. John's to support special musical accompaniment throughout the year. And speaking of special music...

Mark your calendar for a special music liturgy on Sunday, June 17th. The choir will sing Mozart's "Missa Brevis in D. This piece was composed as a "short Mass" for choir, four soloists, 2 violins, cello and organ. It should be quite the worship service!

Music and in fact all the arts affect each of us every day in so many ways. No one can truly say they are not artistic because we all have gifts. Robert Folkstone Williams wrote in 1835: "The savage who tattoos his flesh, is a painter –the barbarian who ornaments his club with carvings, is a sculptor –the Indian who constructs his wigwam in the forest, is an architect –the cannibal who sings in triumph while his enemy is burning at the stake is a musician – and all are artists."

Ron Magill



MUSIC MINISTRY NOTES

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.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Gwen Norton for presenting a wonderful recital of vocal music on Saturday, May 12 to a very appreciative audience. This recital had been planned with Nate Gable and Ann Neff. Unfortunately both Nate and Ann succumbed to severe illnesses and were unable to participate. Gwen carried it off beautifully with assistance from accompanists, Joe Krupa (piano) and John Warnega (banjo, mailing tubes, and pasta—I'm not making this up!). This recital benefitted the St. John's Special Music Fund, which makes possible the guest instrumentalists for Easter Sunday, Christmas Eve, and other special music events like the Mozart *Missa Brevis* (see above). This Special Music Fund and the Organ Enhancement Fund are NOT funded by the regular annual budget; and designated contributions are always needed and welcome. If you are able to assist us in these special liturgical/musical ventures, please see Minister of Music, Bill Clisham, for details.

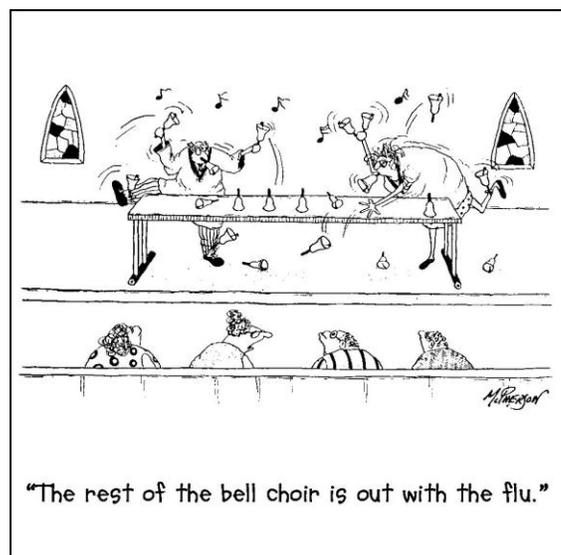
JR. CHORISTERS: Thank you! ... and congratulations to those of you who participated in Jr. Choristers this past Christmas and in the spring. You guys are great! If you didn't get the information I sent about the Diocesan Choir Camp this summer in Cape May, please let me know. If you are interested, also please let me know. And look for notes about starting up again in September. Have a great summer.

THANK YOU: to six of our choir members who awoke before dawn to participate in the Diocesan Choir for the Deacons Ordination Service on Saturday, May 5, at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton. We will welcome one of those ordained, Sally Maurer, who will begin her service as our Deacon at St. John's on Trinity Sunday, June 3.

HANDBELL RINGERS: St. John's small but mighty handbell ensemble, the Salem Ringers, present their final musical offering of the season on Trinity Sunday, June 3, playing Preludes for the 10:30 Eucharist. They will play *The Heavens Declare the Glory of God* by Benedetto Marcello, a musical interpretation of the Psalm for the day, and an arrangement of *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee* by Bill Clisham.

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR: will continue to lead the Choral Eucharist at 10:30 AM each Sunday through the month of June. Our final liturgy of the season will be a festive celebration of The Birth of St. John the Baptist on June 24, 2012. This date is the 290th anniversary of the founding of St. John's Church! Our musical offering on that day will be Orlando Gibbon's masterful Verse Anthem, "*This Is the Record of John*".

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 about next season (September 2012 – June 2013): 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





Our prayers are with the family of
Marjorie (Marcie) Frame
who entered eternal life on May 22nd

And also with the family of
Armando George Fittabile
who entered eternal life on May 17th

And also with the family of
William N. Brown
who entered eternal life on May 8th

And also with the family of
Joan Elizabeth Kurz-Miller
who entered eternal life on April 19th

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

YOGA CLASS



A yoga class, led by Gwen Norton, is held in the parish hall from 5 pm to approximately 6 pm every Tuesday. There is no charge for the class, so, bring your mat and join the fun!

DEACON TO JOIN STAFF

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

VBS IS COMING!

The 2012 Vacation Bible School is in the planning stage! The program is from a company called Group and



we will be using the SKY program. You can read more about it at their web site:

<http://group.com/childrens-ministry/vbs>

It looks like it will be a lot of fun and provide some real learning for the children. Dates, time, and further details will be available soon, so watch your Sunday Bulletin and this newsletter for information and check out the above web site too!

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

There are no "dues". There is no "sign-up sheet". You do not have to be of a particular age to be a member. Every adult female who attends St. John's is automatically considered part of our ECW.

So, now that you know that, ladies, mark your calendars for a **June 3rd** brainstorming, re-organizing, re-energizing, re-newing, let's-get-busy-meeting following the fellowship hour in the parish hall.

The day and time of future ECW meetings is only one of the items on the agenda, as well as fund raisers and fund spenders,



fellowship hour snacks and much more! Where do St. John's women need to be and what do they need to be doing? Bring your ideas and share in the discussion. If we keep doing what we've always done we will have what we've always had and NOW is the time for change. **JUNE 3rd**, Parish Hall after fellowship hour....Put on a smile and bring your energy!



- A special thanks to those who volunteered for the open house tour on May 5th. We had a good turn out and many wonderful comments on our beautiful church.
- Jean Miller has been busy with the Woodstown Middle School Select Choir, Women's Ensemble and 7/8 Chorus. On May 5, the choirs traveled to Allentown, PA to compete in Music In The Parks. After the competition, they spent the day at Dorney Park. At the awards ceremony, all WMS Choirs received first place trophies. The Women's and Men's Ensembles and 7/8 Chorus received Excellent Ratings and the Select Choir received a Superior rating. On May 8, the Select Choir sang the National Anthem before the Wilmington Blue Rocks game. And on May 9, the Women's Ensemble performed for the Quad District Dinner at WHS.
- On June 12, Jean will participate in the Eighth Grade Promotion Ceremony at the WMS Gym. She and her class will officially be welcomed to WHS as the Class of 2016!
- Jim Paras has a BLOG!!!! Here is the address: WWW.USCGWWII.com/blog You can read all about his exploits in WWII. Great site Jim!
- An e-mail with several photos was received from Fr. Rick and Mrs. Cromwell who are now in their new home in Honolulu, Hawaii. Mrs. Cromwell begins her new job this month and Fr. Rick is retired. Aloha! Oh, and St. George's Church in Pennsville is now accepting names of candidates for part-time priest-in-charge.
- Women's Ministries Breakfast/Program will be held June 2nd, 9 to 11 am, in the parish hall of First Presbyterian Church. This is an ecumenical gathering of ladies for a free and yummy breakfast and an opportunity for some excellent learning.



ACOLYTE GUILD



The Acolyte Guild is looking for a few good men, women, boys and girls. We need acolytes to serve at the 10:30 am service each Sunday. If you are interested in serving in the church in this way, please contact David Miller (609-202-7197 or rdmiller@yahoo.com) or the church office.

Training is provided. After training, you will be assigned to the altar crew with a more experienced acolyte to guide you through your first few services. Please consider volunteering for this important ministry

ST. JOHN'S DAY – JUNE 24th

At this writing, plans are not yet complete for our St. John's Day Celebration. It is planned that by that date our Christus Rex will be rehung on the exterior of the Parish House, after having undergone extensive repairs and repainting, thanks to the work of Dave Willis, Jean and Dave Miller. Church services will be held in the church that day (air conditioning!) but further than that plans have not been finalized. Watch your Sunday Bulletin for more information as the day approaches.

"All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen."
—Ralph Waldo Emerson



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

2nd Lt. Tyler Patrick VanSant, USAF
 PFC Cassaundra Carroll, US Marines
 Captain Ryan Bailey, US Army
 PFC Gage Mason, 82nd Airborne, US Army
 Senior Master Sergeant USAF David John Milne.

Happy Birthday

06/04	Francine Peterson
06/08	Ida Brennan
06/10	Christopher Willis
06/10	Nathan Willis
06/11	David Miller
06/11	Erin Gralley
06/13	Pasha Chard
06/14	Elva Paras
06/17	Virginia Sisco
06/25	Sue Harker
06/28	Irene Bradway
06/28	Austin Schwarz
06/29	Hollis Irvine III
06/29	Peggy Fittabile
06/30	DeeAnn Harris

Happy Anniversary

06/26/2010	Irv and Pasha Chard
06/18/1993	George and Ann Neff



**BLESSINGS
 ON YOUR
 BIRTHDAY
 AND ANNIVERSARY**

COMING IN JULY

A **Stampin' Up** gathering may be coming to St. John's in July. For over 20 years they've been building relationships through sharing the joy of creativity. Look for details in July's Forerunner!



The Diocese of New Jersey is undertaking a *Nets For Life Campaign* to purchase 10,000 nets at \$12 each — a goal of \$120,000. The sum includes nets and education for their successful use. Launched at Convention on March 2, the campaign continues through Convention 2013.

St. John's Sunday School has placed a jar on the counter outside the church office for collection of your loose change (or even larger donations). This jar will be available only on Sunday mornings. Laurie Bailey has also volunteered 30% of her profits from her sale of Tastefully Simple products for this purpose. (She can be reached at 856-213-3661.)

Across NetsforLife® program areas, malaria-related deaths have been reduced, on average, by 45%. Won't you help our Sunday School save even more lives?

BONE MARROW REGISTRY DRIVE

An e-mail from The Rev'd Idalia Craig at St. Thomas Episcopal Church (212 North Main Street, Glassboro, New Jersey) informs us of a parishioner in need of a bone marrow transplant match. In response they are sponsoring a **Bone Marrow Donor Registry drive on Saturday, June 16, from 10 am until 2 pm** in their parish hall. You must be between 18 and 60 to be eligible to donate.

There is a packet of information on the counter outside our church office which further details other health requirements and explains the process of donating bone marrow, and the possible side-effects of the procedure. A bone marrow transplant can mean life itself to a patient with leukemia.

Please review the informational packet and learn the about the myths and facts of donating. You are invited to call (877) 601-1926 Ext. 7722 with any questions you may have.

Dear Friends at St. John's and Beyond:



Don't I look just grand in my new Choir Robe!!! I love it! I was about to help Aunt Rosie with the June Forerunner, when I saw Mr. Magill's column laying on her desk, so of course I read it. It got me to thinking that my many talents have been under-utilized - mostly due to my humility and desire not to call attention to my presence here amongst the humans, and partly due to my desire to not outshine the other choristers.

As some of you may remember, I did try to join the choir during Evensong last year but was spotted when I took my place on Mr. Donohue's shoe and was forced out into the stone garden. Fr. Steve pointed out to me that I should have spoken to Mr. Clisham beforehand and not surprised everyone by just showing up. So, I thought your good Mr. C would notice how committed I am if he saw me in my new robe when I met with him to discuss the sharing of my gifts with the music department of St. John's.

As we spoke, Mr. Clisham pointed out the various opportunities St. John's offered for service both within the congregation and in the community, and of course in the music program. As I felt I was well qualified for all of the positions he mentioned, he suggested I take some time to narrow my dream to one or two areas where I could really shine. For some reason which I cannot understand, he did not think I could sing both soprano and baritone, as well as play the handbells, and help Fr. Steve with the chanting. Perhaps the man's vision is not as vast as my own - maybe that is a human condition. He was, however, quite impressed with my new robe and commented that I would certainly draw attention to my talent while wearing it. Exactly what I thought!

So, I will take some time to think over his suggestions and maybe see what Ms Marge has to say as to where I should focus my many gifts. I know that she appreciates the help I give her when she needs the copier to print faster or the computer screen to go to blue, and will tell me truthfully where I should go with my skills. There is a song I learned in Sunday School about using your talents to the glory of God and the chorus has stayed with me. It goes like this:

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

Brilliantly and brightly shining, I remain,
Joel Churchmouse



June 2012

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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<p>3 TRINITY SUNDAY 8 a.m. H.E. Rite I 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 a.m. H.E. Rite II Fellowship Hour ECW MEETING</p>	4	5 5a.m. -8 p.m. Primary Election in parish hall. 9-noon Quilters 5p.m.-6p.m. Yoga (upstairs)	6 12:30-2 pm YSC Noon HE & Healing 8 pm AA	7	8	9 - Women's Ministries Breakfast - 9-11 am at 1st Presbyterian Church's parish hall. - 11 am Funeral of Joan E. Kurz-Miller - 10 am-1 pm Parish Hall reserved																																																																																																	
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Notes:

Sunday Services: 8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I in the Chapel and
10:30 am Choral Holy Eucharist, 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 Anonymous





**THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

WELCOMES YOU

**St. John's Episcopal Church
Summer Schedule**

Sunday:

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I,
in the Chapel
- 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
76 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Dated Material –
Please Deliver Promptly

