

**Dated Material.  
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Charleston, WV

## CROSS-EXAMINATION

## Ringing in the Body of Christ By Carrie Swing

To begin, here's a riddle: Sometimes I am a ding-a-ling; sometimes I'm a ding-dong. What am I?

I am a substitute ringer in the St. John's handbell choir, and to explain the riddle above, I'm a ding-a-ling when I play small bells and a ding-dong when I play large ones. It's all rather a ding-ee@, isn't it?

Before I go too far with bell humor, let me say that some of the most fun I have had since coming to St. John's has been when I've substituted in the handbell choir. What a great group of people! They work really hard at what they do and delight in offering their special brand of music to the congregation.

But a handbell choir is more than just a musical group. A handbell choir is probably the best example I know of the body of Christ in microcosm.

I Corinthians 12 contains the famous passage in which the body of Christ is compared to the human body, each part having a necessary role in the whole and no part more important than any other.

If handbell choirs had existed in Paul's time, he may have written the passage this way:

A For a handbell choir is not one member, but many.

A If the C/D low bell ringer should say, >Because I don't ring high-pitched bells, I am not part of the choir, = it is not so.

A If the ringer of the highest bells should say, >Because I am not one of the middle ringers, I am not part of the choir, = it is not true.

A If the whole choir were a G bell, where would the melody be? If the whole choir played a D, where would the harmony be?

A But now God has placed the ringers, each one of them, in the choir, just as he desired. @

If Paul had continued in the same vein, he probably would have talked about how a handbell choir is incomplete without all its members. If one ringer is missing, there will be gaps in the music.

The next time the bells ring at St. John's, be sure to observe the coordination of their efforts and the beauty of the music that results. Would that the entire body of Christ worked together as well.

The Rev. David R. Hackett  
interim rector  
The Rev. Elizabeth Hoster  
associate rector  
Brenda Maurice Vanderford  
organist/choirmaster  
David Morton  
assistant organist/choirmaster  
Brenda Dearien  
parish administrator  
Katherine Gitting  
Christian Formation  
Bob Westmoreland  
verger  
James Wilson  
custodian  
vestry  
Greg Clarke >08  
priest's warden  
Michelle Walker >08  
people's warden  
Becky Burns >09  
treasurer  
Ellen Archibald >09  
Cynthia Barrett >10  
Joe Edward >09  
Cheryl Clements >10  
Peggy Hamrick >09  
Diane Hendricks >08  
Dan McDonald >10  
David Vick >10  
Ann Morris >08  
David Rankey  
Assistant Treasurer  
David Rankey/Becky Burns  
theologian  
Wanda Dettinger/Rose Smith  
evangelism/new member  
Beth Marghart  
parish life  
Donna Hamra/Mary Fitzgerald  
outreach  
Bob Cochran/Dan McDonald  
stewardship  
Bob Swartz  
Nathan Annet  
children's Christian formation  
Sara Walker  
youth Christian formation  
Diane Hendricks  
adult education  
Marion Perry  
Phyllis Atwood  
pastoral care  
Barbara Weggs  
Bob Swartz/Bob Miller  
priests  
Catherine Dundon  
Beth Jo Lovd  
Martha Cole  
Ann Garwood  
Primit Shop  
intellectuals editor

# Saint John's Interchange

The parish newsletter for the people of God called to form the Christian community of Saint John's Episcopal Church, Quarrier at Leon Sullivan Way, Charleston, West Virginia.

July 26, 2007, Vol. 47, No. 13

**Sundays August 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2007**

**Tenth through Thirteenth Sundays**

**After Pentecost**

**8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist**

**8:45 a.m. Lectionary Study and Group Discussion, library**

**9:30 a.m. Episcopal Church 101, summer informative sessions on**

**the Episcopal Church, offered by the clergy, Room 109.**

**10:30 a.m. Chapel for Older Children, Room 225**

**10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with choir**

**11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall**

(Adult Forum and Sunday School classes  
will resume in September)

**Clergy On Call:** During the week both of your clergy are available to you for pastoral care. Please call the church office to talk to either priest. Both try to take Fridays as their day off. But on weekends, in a true emergency, you may contact as follows: Aug. 3-4 and Aug. 10-11, the Rev. David Hackett, 347-0986; Aug. 17-18, the Rev. Elizabeth Hoster, 925-3675; Aug. 24-25, David Hackett; and Aug. 31-Sept. 1, Elizabeth Hoster.

**Interchange Deadlines:** The next issue of Interchange will be for the weeks of Sept. 2 and 9. Items may be submitted to [julkemp@verizon.net](mailto:julkemp@verizon.net) (note new address) or [bdearien@stjohnswv.org](mailto:bdearien@stjohnswv.org) by **Monday**, Aug. 20, at 4 p.m. (changed to Monday for this issue only).

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.

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](http://www.stjohnswv.org)

**Introducing the 2008 Stewardship Campaign: Strength to Share**  
**By Ellen Archibald**

“Strength to Share” says it all: we’re strong, and we’re committed to sharing St. John’s! Each Sunday we say the Collect for Transition, asking “Almighty God, giver of every good gift,” to guide us in “growing in Christ and sharing our faith” as we look for a new rector. Sharing our faith includes in-reach, that is, support for our church services and parish activities, and outreach to our community and the world.

Both in-reach and outreach require funding. Will you commit to continuing to support St. John’s? Our financial strength and fiscal responsibility are key parts of our parish profile, and the 2008 Stewardship Campaign will run from mid-October, 2007, to early November, 2007, when we’ll celebrate our plans for 2008. As you begin to think about your pledge for 2008, I invite you to ask members of the Stewardship Committee (Bob Cochran, Dan McDonald, Lynn Clarke, Danny Cline, and me), the Vestry, and our clergy about St. John’s short- and longer-term financial needs. The bottom line is the rhyme I learned at age 3: here is the church, here is the steeple; open the doors, see all the people. We are St. John’s. Only we can make sure we continue to have strength to share.

**Honoring Judy:** Please make plans to attend the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, Aug. 5, when we will celebrate the outstanding service of Judy Teel, outgoing director of Manna Meal. During the past 29 years, Judy has helped provide more than two million meals. Come and help us extend our warmest congratulations to Judy for her contributions to this much-needed community service.

**WIFFF Luncheons Resume:** The Sept. 13 meeting of the Women in Fun, Faith and Fellowship will be held in Room 209 at 11:30 a.m. Our interim priest, David Hackett, will give an informative talk concerning his role in the interim ministry and how it works in finding and calling a new priest. Suggested donation for lunch is \$5. Please make reservations with the church office, 346-0359, by Sept. 11. The Shawl Ministry will meet directly after the luncheon in Room 208. All people who work on knitting, crochet, crewel embroidery or other needlework are welcome.

**Help Wanted:** Brenda Dearien will be taking vacation Aug. 23 through Aug. 31. There will be seven days that volunteers are needed for the office to answer telephones from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. If you can volunteer in the office, please call Brenda and let her know. Thanks!

**Thanks and More Thanks To:** Sandy and Archie Morris for donating a desk to the Archives Office; Mary Knighton who for 20 years-plus has covered juice cans for the Altar Guild to use to deliver altar flowers to the sick and shut-ins; Pat Stevens who since 1997 continues to make our communion bread for every service; Dwight Foley for donation of a silver tea and coffee service to St. John’s; all the garden volunteers for watering and planting; all the Op Shop volunteers; and Janet Morris for helping with the *Interchange* mailings and for her endless hours in the Archives room.

**Thanks:** To everyone who participated in Vacation Bible School. Watch for a story in the next issue.

**Undie Sunday:** On Aug. 19 the Outreach Committee will be accepting packages of new underwear to donate to the local clothing pantry. While other churches may have called this campaign “Drop Your Drawers” (or something similar), we’ve decided that because Sundae Sunday is so popular we’re calling it “Undie Sunday.” Watch for more information to follow soon.

**August Birthdays:** Pray for the lives and ministries of those celebrating birthdays during the next month: Aug. 1, Donna Hamra, Sam Kitching and Ben Warren; Aug. 3, Harold Howie, Brenda Loving and Nikki Price; Aug. 4, Ben Owens and Kellen Paybins; Aug. 5, Matthew Feinberg; Aug. 6, Andy Blackwood and Zach Warren; Aug. 7, Judy Lewis; Aug. 8, Randy Hampton and Karl Ruttan; Aug. 9, Juanita Reed; Aug. 10, Rick Hunter and Jane Leasor; Aug. 11, Christa Hamra; Aug. 12, Evelyn Harris; Aug. 13, Kay Hackett; Aug. 14, Elizabeth Clarke and Eric Wilson; Aug. 15, Sheila Farris; Aug. 16, Christy Morris and Karen Simon; Aug. 17, Eunice Ohlinger and Sam Revercomb; Aug. 18, Sally Love; Aug. 20, Bob Miller and Danielle Simon; Aug. 21, Frank Latimer; Aug. 22, Joe Bolyard, Hannah Mullins and Gwyneth Owen; Aug. 25, Carolyn Thaw and Roger Wolfe; Aug. 26, Elliott Blackwood, David Price, Doug Price and Frederick Walker; Aug. 27, Kim Ramsey; Aug. 28, Daniel Coffield, John Revercomb and Rebecca Revercomb; Aug. 29, John Johnson and Aaron Wood; Aug. 30, Anne Marie Snyder and Lydia Wright; and Aug. 31, Barbara Clarke, Katherine Giltinan, Henry Leef and Thomas Morris.

**Stylish Benefit:** Fashion Show with a Twist, benefiting Covenant House Clothing Closet and sponsored by Charleston Interdenominational Council for Social Concerns, will be presented Sunday, Aug. 12, at 3 p.m. at Columbia Gas Auditorium, 1700 MacCorkle Ave. SE. Based on a reality TV show, the cast of models “made up of Charleston clergy, faith and lay leaders” will select their fashions from Clothing Closet stock. (Jim and Judy Lewis will represent St. John’s). Tickets are \$10 per person plus a package of socks or underwear for men, women or children. For ticket information, contact Diana Masso at 206-7572.

**Parlez-vous Francais?** Do you want to learn or perfect your French? Parishioner Frank Martin will hold classes this fall for beginners as well as for more advanced students. There will be an informational and organizational meeting in the Molly Warwick Room on Aug. 30 at 6 p.m. Classes will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays (beginners) and Thursdays (more advanced) at St. John’s. For more information, call Frank at 767-0736

**United Thank Offering:** Our church asks that we use our UTO boxes throughout the year to support grants within the Episcopal church in the USA. The idea is to put some change in the box whenever we feel thankful, along with a prayer. The amount, even though small, adds up to a large amount when everyone is contributing.

**St. John’s Stories:** The Outreach Committee has created CD copies of “St. John’s Stories” a Collection of Oral History Remembrances which will be available the first of August. Proceeds go to benefit the Bishop’s Slide Fund which is dedicated to eradicating illiteracy in

our diocese. The cost is only \$10. See Michelle Walker during coffee hour or email her at [walker@wvhumanities.org](mailto:walker@wvhumanities.org).

**New Members= Luncheon:** A light lunch will be served for prospective members of St. John=s on Sept. 23 after the 10:30 a.m. service in Room 209. Our priests will be in attendance to tell about our church and membership. Please let Brenda Dearien know if you plan to attend by calling the church office, 346-0359, by Sept. 21.

SAGA Note of Thanks: Our thanks go out to every friend of Straight And Gay Alliance for whatever way you may have supported the Rainbow Pride Week activities -- especially at the 5K Rainbow Run, the Asbury Pride Interfaith Service, and the Pride Parade. It pleases us to announce that SAGA won the top parade award given to any organization marching in the Pride Parade on Sunday, June 10. We were awarded a plaque in a public ceremony at the Davis Park Shelter. The parade judges found us simply irresistible. The credit for this award surely rests upon SAGA=s drummer, our attractive T-shirts, red shoes, three wise-looking canine marchers, baton twirler, flaming Pentecost banner, bubble machine, and the significant turnout in marchers (23 two-legged and 3 four-legged). Gracias to the people of St. John=s for faithful support of SAGA and its mission.

Shall We Dance? Maggie Johnson of St. Matthews Episcopal Church on Norwood Road has agreed to offer dance lessons in preparation for the Bishop=s Ball and for those who just like to dance. The ball will be sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia at Stonewall Resort on Oct. 12. The ballroom lessons will be held on Sundays from 5 to 6 p.m. in the gym of Mathes Hall at St. Matthews from Sept. 9 to Oct. 7. Cost is \$30 per person. For more information, call Maggie at 342-1694 or Gale Lea Rubrecht, 343-9394.