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## CROSS-EXAMINATION

**Hallowed Ground**  
by Diane Hendricks

I had dreaded the day, the funeral, the feeling that I knew would be there following Jack Snyder=s death. To me he was the ultimate church patriarch - humorous, attentive and yet so spiritual. He was one of the first faces I saw when I visited St. John=s for the first time in 1991.

Soon after I met Curt Coburn; together they formed for me a complimentary duo, similar in age and visibility within the church but very different in personality. I am reminded of the appeal of Walter Mattheau and Jack Lemmon in their movies together.

Soon after I started attending St. John=s on a regular basis, I spotted my favorite high school teacher, Martha Cole. What a pleasant surprise it was to me that she was as inspirational here as she had been as a teacher at Charleston High School for many years. She joined my growing list of Achurch parents,@ older adults in the church unrelated to me who serve as mentors and role models.

The day of Jack=s death had coincided with a visit I made to the Marmet Health Care Center. That Sunday Karl had asked that I deliver flowers to Jeanne Skaggs since they had been on the altar in her husband Joe=s honor that morning. I was talking to Bill Cooke at the time and he agreed to go with me. Bill was fast becoming my role model for coping with grief as I witnessed him picking up and going on with life following Ann=s death just after Curt=s. I had lost my uncle to cancer in June and was struggling to help his wife, Aunt Mary, in her own grief. It seemed everyone I knew was in some stage of grief.

As Bill and I entered Jeanne=s room, I was instantly touched by the reminders of St. John=s throughout the room - prayer books, the *Interchange*, a prayer shawl knitted by Wanda Dettinger. It was evident that among the family=s photos and reminders of a life lived well, Jeanne treasured her connection to St. John=s.

Not even a week later I saw Jeanne at Jack=s funeral and spoke to her. She recalled our visit and thanked me for coming. It struck that a Acircle@ of pastoral care had been completed. In our efforts to Acomfort the sick@ we are comforted. It=s one of the unspoken perks of pastoral care.

I am comforted by the faith of my Achurch parents,@ will strive to follow them and am reminded of why I am at St. John=s.

The Rev. Dr. Karl D. Ruttan  
rector  
The Rev. Elizabeth Hoster  
associate rector  
Brenda Vanderford  
director of music  
Brenda Dearien  
parish administrator  
Katherine Gillin  
kitchen coordinator  
Bob Westmoreland  
verger  
James Wilson  
vestry  
Greg Clarke >08  
priest=s warden  
Lila Ramkey >07  
people=s warden  
Bren Pomponio >07  
clerk  
Becky Burns >06  
treasurer  
Ellen Archibald >09  
Joe Bolward >09  
Cheryl Clements >07  
Page Hamrick >09  
Diane Hendricks >08  
Ann Morris >08  
Bob Swartz >07  
Michelle Walker >08  
David Ramkey  
Assistant Treasurer  
David Ramkey/Becky Burns  
manace  
Wanda Dettinger/Rose Smith  
grandparents member  
Mary Fitzgerald  
Marv Barkow/Donna Hamra  
lowell  
Bob Cochran/Dan McDonald  
Steve Dashi  
Bob Swartz  
Nathan Arnett  
children=s christian formation  
Melonie Knorr/Kasey Russell  
youth christian formation  
Diane Hendricks  
Marilyn Perry  
Phyllis Atwood  
pastoral care  
Barbara Wiggs  
Bob Swartz/Rob Miller  
Cedric Blundon  
arranger  
Beth Jo Lovd  
Wanda Cole  
Martha Cole  
registrar  
Ann Swartz  
Thrift Shop  
Intelliance 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.

September 8, 2006, Vol. 46, No. 15

## Sundays September 17 and 24, 2006 Fifteenth and Sixteenth Sundays after Pentecost

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist**
- 8:45 a.m. Lectionary Study and Group Discussion, library**
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Forum: Sept. 17,** Parishioner Joan McDonald, who has served as Manna Meal president for 16 years, will discuss AManna Meal and the Invisible;@ **Sept. 27,** Jim Haight, editor of the Charleston Gazette, will reprieve his segment of last year=s National Public Radio series, AWith Grace and Dignity.@ It concerns past Gazette crusades under former editors Ned Chilton, Don Marsh and others, Room 109.
- 9:30 a.m. Nursery Open - Babies - 2 years old, Room 297**
- 10:10 a.m. Parent=s Fellowship, Room 208**
- 10:10 a.m. Chapel for Older Children, Room 225**
- 10:30 a.m. Classes for Toddlers - Grade 5**

- \* Toddlers , Room 298
- \* Godly Play, 4 - 8 years old , Room 299
- \* St. John=s Eagles, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Room 221

- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with choir**
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall**
- 11:45 a.m. Rite 13/Journey to Adulthood, Room 208.**

**Interchange Deadlines:** The next issue of Interchange will be for the weeks of Oct. 1 and 15. Items may be submitted to [julkemp@charter.net](mailto:julkemp@charter.net) or [bdearien@stjohnswv.org](mailto:bdearien@stjohnswv.org) by Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 4 p.m.

**History Comes Alive:** The Kanawha Valley Historical & Preservation Society invites member of St. John=s and their guests to its meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 27, in Hunter Hall. The gathering will begin at 5:30 p.m. with tours of the church and parish hall, followed by an appearance and history-live recitation at 6:15 p.m. by the Rev. James Craik, St. John=s rector from 1839 B1844 (portrayed by the Rev. Dr. Karl Ruttan). Dinner, catered by Joe Zando, will be served at 6:45 p.m. Reservations are required by Friday, Sept. 22. Send check for \$20, payable to KVHPS, to John Blair, P.O. Box 1991, Charleston, WV 25327. For more information, contact Ann Garcelon at 346-3772 or [agarcelon@charter.net](mailto:agarcelon@charter.net)

**Back to Belize:** St. John's is returning to St. Paul's School in Belize this winter. Mark your calendars now for a week in Belize doing some good work and having a lot of good times. We are departing Feb. 24 and returning March 4. During this mission trip we will construct a bathroom at St. Paul's Anglican School in Corozal, Belize. Last summer St. John's sent a team to construct the foundation for the school's new computer room. This made a big difference for the children at the school. In December the Prime Minister of Belize visited St. Paul's and presented a computer to the school. In Corozal we will be staying at the very comfortable Hok'ol K'in Guesthouse overlooking Corozal Bay. (See photos of this guesthouse at [www.corozal.net](http://www.corozal.net)) After finishing up at St. Paul=s, we will travel to Caye Caulker. There you may wish to go fishing, snorkeling, or just relax by the water. (See [www.GoCayeCaulker.com](http://www.GoCayeCaulker.com)) Belize is a former British colony in Central America. The communities we are traveling to are safe and friendly. English is the language spoken in Belize which makes it possible to get to know local people without a language barrier. Belize is fairly inexpensive once you get there. Parishioners on this mission trip will pay St. John's \$460. This will cover eight nights hotel/guest house lodging, in-country ground and air transportation, and some meals. You should budget additional money for meals and sightseeing. Airfare is not included. This allows participants to use frequent flyer miles for travel. Those who are interested should contact Tim Bradford at 541-0450 as soon as possible.

**Taize Services to Resume:** A new season of Taize services will begin Sunday, Sept. 17, at 5 p.m. in the main church. Taize is a combination of song, meditation and prayers lasting about 40 minutes and has become a popular and meaningful offering at St. John=s. This service is held once a month.

**Dinner Parties:** Dinners for Eight is an opportunity to meet other St. John's parishioners over dinner. We are getting a new list of dinner opportunities together this fall. If you would like to attend a dinner, please contact Rose Smith at [rlsmith1@charter.net](mailto:rlsmith1@charter.net) or Wanda Dettinger at [WDettinger@aol.com](mailto:WDettinger@aol.com)

**In Memoriam:** We are sad to report that parishioner Jack Snyder died on Aug. 27. His memorial service was held at St. John=s on Sept. 1, followed by a reception in Hunter Hall. Also, parishioner Julianne Kemp=s sister, Lesley Slaughter, died Aug. 27 in Dallas, TX. *May light perpetual shine upon them.*

**Altar Flowers:** There is an open date for the flower calendar, Sept. 17. If you would like to place flowers in memory or in thanksgiving of someone, please call Annette Doumany, 343-2192, or Carter Blundon, 342-5878.

**Parish Weekend:** Our Parish Weekend will take place Oct. 6-7 at Camp Virgil Tate. This is a great opportunity for people of all ages to experience together. Different offerings will be available for adults and children, as well as intergenerational events for all. Motel-like rooms are available for people, families, or individuals to share. Single rooms are also available. Registration details will be published soon.

**Centering Prayer:** Two Centering Prayer groups have begun at St. John's. Centering prayer is the ancient Christian practice of sitting in stillness before God. Each session will have some time of sitting as well as a video presentation by Thomas Keating. Six sessions will be offered as a follow-up to our conference on Aug. 28. All are welcome, even if you were unable to be at the conference. One group meets on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. and another group meets on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. in the Molly Warwick Room.

**Happy Birthday:** Pray for the lives and ministries of those celebrating birthdays during the next two weeks: Sept. 11, Greg Clarke; Sept. 12, Tim Barkey and Glen Wilson; Sept. 13, Trenton Campbell; Sept. 15, Millicent Keeshan; Sept. 17, Ethan Leef and Vandy Vanderford; Sept. 18, Karen Glazier; Sept. 19, Leonard Allen; Sept. 20, Janet Morris; Sept. 21, Lindsey Gardner, and Sept. 23, Ashley Kidd.

**Parking Assistance:** The Vestry has been looking for ways to allow the elderly and handicapped to have parking closer to the church. You may have noticed that on Sunday mornings we put out a sign to reserve an additional handicapped space. As of September we are offering two additional spaces normally used by the clergy for the handicapped or elderly on Sunday mornings. A sign will designate these places.

**WIFFF Luncheon:** One of the most decorated women in American military history will pay a visit to St. John=s Church in a Chautauqua performance Thursday, Sept. 14, at 11:30 a.m. when Women In Faith, Fun and Fellowship resume their monthly luncheon meetings. In a West Virginia Humanities History Alive! presentation, Ruby Bolte will portray Col. Ruby L. Bradley, a native of Spencer, WV, who served in World War II. Denise Giardina will pay tribute to her late mother, Leona Giardina, who served as a WWII nurse. Please make reservations for the luncheon by calling the church office, 346-0359.

**Knitters Welcome:** All who knit --beginner or advanced -- will meet after the WIFFF luncheons on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month beginning Sept. 14. All knitting projects for any cause are welcome. If you have any questions call Barb Knight at 346-3610.

**Thanks to CFT Volunteers:** Without volunteers, St. John=s Christian Formation Team could not offer the many programs and services we do for families with children. We are pleased to welcome our first-time volunteers, Dee and Tammi Blundon and Tricia Poe. We welcome back our returning volunteers, Angie and Joe Mullins, Lia Palmer, Susanne Coffield, Susannah Vitaglione, Matt and Julie Blackwood, Margaret Leef and Sarah Jarvis. Sarah Korwan will be leading our POINTs (Parents of Infants and Teens) group this year and she has some interesting speakers in the wings. Please phone her, 342-2115, to learn more. On the third Sunday of each month the Christian Formation Team (CFT) has a potluck lunch after church and then meets for about an hour to plan upcoming events and discuss programming issues.

**Renovare:** A Conference on Spiritual Renewal is being offered Oct. 6-7 at Christ Church United Methodist. Renovare means to "renew. " The conference will feature the well-known spiritual writer, Richard Foster, who wrote A Celebration of Discipline. The focusing will be on deepening your faith walk through spiritual disciplines. Cost of the conference is \$70 and it is co-sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia. Contact Lee Williams at 583-6066 or [leewilliams@ntelos.net](mailto:leewilliams@ntelos.net). Brochures are available in St. John's office.

**Gospel Concert:** Ethel Caffie-Austin, an outstanding gospel singer, will present a concert at St. John=s on Sunday, Nov. 19, at 4 p.m. A reception will follow in Hunter Hall. WIFFF and the New Member/Evangelism Committee are sponsoring the event to which all parishioners and their friends are invited.