

**Dated Material.  
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December 23**

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## CROSS-EXAMINATION

*A Sometime in your life, hope that you might see one starved man, the look on his face when the bread finally arrives. Hope that you might have bought it or baked it or even kneaded it yourself. For that look on his face, for your meeting his eyes across a piece of bread, you might be willing to lose a lot, or suffer a lot, or die a little, even. @*

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Dear Friends of Manna Meal,

Today is a wet, cold, windy day and I sit in a warm, dry spot writing to you while thinking of how lucky plus undeserving I am to be in such a place. Especially when I know that men, women and children of all ages, religions and races do not have food and shelter and do not have the resources to obtain them, for many complex reasons. However, we at Manna Meal do provide two good meals every day of the year to anyone who needs to eat, no questions asked and no requirements imposed.

Our numbers have continued to increase and we still need your money to support our efforts, even though other areas of our country have been affected by disaster. It is not unusual for us to feed 200 at breakfast and oftentimes more during lunch. We have extended both meals by 30 minutes to allow for folks to eat and socialize at leisure and then make space for others. The purpose of Manna Meal is to provide healthy, delicious food in a comfortable, relaxed environment. Despite our growing numbers, we continue to fulfill that goal, thanks to the support of a caring staff, committed volunteers and dedicated folks like you who provide financial support.

Please send your year-end donation to Manna Meal, knowing that it will be used only to implement our purpose of feeding the hungry. Our program relies solely on your tax-deductible gift, and we thank you for your support. Do feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. And know that you are very welcome to join us anytime for a meal, no questions asked.

Warmest regards,

Joan Paul McDonald  
President, Board of Directors

The Rev. Dr. Karl D. Ruttan  
rector  
The Rev. Elizabeth Hoster  
associate rector  
Brenda Vanderford  
director of music  
Brenda Dearien  
parish administrator  
Katherine Giltinan  
Christian formation  
Bob Westmoreland  
verger  
James Wilson  
custodian  
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  
finance  
Wanda Dellinger/Rose Smith  
evangelists/new member  
Mary Fitzgerald  
parish life  
Marv Barkalow/Donna Hamra  
outreach  
Bob Cochran/Dan McDonald  
stewardship  
Bob Swartz  
children= s Christian formation  
Melonie Knorr/Kasey Russell  
youth Christian formation  
Daphne Haddock  
parish life  
Marion Perry  
adult forum  
Phyllis Atwood  
pastoral care  
Barb Wiggs  
Bible study  
Bob Swartz/ Bob Miller  
ushers  
Catter Blundon  
after school  
Betty Jo Lovd  
worship team  
Martha Cole  
pastoral care  
Ann Garcelon  
Primit Shop  
intelligence center

# 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.

December 15, 2006, Vol. 46, No. 22

## Sundays December 24 and 31, 2006

### Fourth Sunday of Advent and First Sunday After Christmas

Sundays January 7 and 14, 2007  
First and Second Sundays after the Epiphany

**8:00 a.m.** Dec. 24) **Holy Eucharist** (service moved to 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 24)  
**8:45 a.m.** **Lectionary Study and Group Discussion,** library  
**9:30 a.m.** **Adult Forum: Dec. 24 and 31,** no forum; **Jan. 7,** Reflections with Karl Ruttan on his 12 years with us;

**Jan. 14,** Parishioner Evelyn Harris, longtime professor of history and political science at Morris Harvey College and the University of Charleston, will discuss **How Politics Works,** @ Room 109

**9:30 a.m. Nursery Open** B Babies to 2 years old, Room 297  
**10:10 a.m. Parents= Fellowship,** Room 208  
**10:10 a.m. Chapel for Older Children,** Room 225  
**10:30 a.m. Classes for Toddlers to Grade 5;** Toddlers, Room 298; Godly Play, 4 to 8 years old, Room 299; St. John=s Eagles, 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grades, Room 221

**10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist,** with choir (service moved to 9:30 a.m. on Dec. 24)

**11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour,** Hunter Hall  
**11:45 a.m. Rite 13/Journey to Adulthood,** Room 208  
**5:00 p.m. Jan. 14: TAIZE service,** Chapel  
**10:30 p.m. Dec. 31: Special TAIZE service,** Chapel

**Interchange Deadlines:** The next issue of Interchange will be for the weeks of Jan. 21 and 28. Items may be submitted to [julkemp@charter.net](mailto:julkemp@charter.net) or [bdearien@stjohnswv.org](mailto:bdearien@stjohnswv.org) by Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 4 p.m.

*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.

# Saint

Established 1837

Present building consecrated 1901

A Jubilee Center since 1985

**Christmas Services:** We are combining Sunday morning services on Dec. 24 to one service at 9:30 a.m. The family service called Christingle will include Holy Eucharist at 4:30 p.m. and the Festive Holy Eucharist for the Feast of the Incarnation will be at 11 p.m. with a musical prelude at 10:30 p.m. On Dec. 25 we will have a 10:30 a.m. service.

**Special Dinner to Honor Karl Ruttan and Mary Barkalow:** Please plan to attend this special evening of food, fun and fellowship on Friday, Dec. 29, at 6:30 p.m. at Edgewood Country Club. Please return your RSVP cards by Friday, Dec. 22, to the church office. RSVP cards are available in the church office. If you will be unable to attend Karl's Retirement Dinner, don't fret, there will be a pot luck luncheon Sunday, Jan. 7 following church.

**Epiphany Party:** You're invited to the Christian Formation Team's Epiphany party on Saturday, Jan. 6, at Katherine and Gary Paybins house in the Elkview area. We'll meet there about noon, have a big bonfire and toss our Christmas trees and other greenery into it. Then the children can roast hot dogs (and tofu pups) on the fire. Lunch will be followed with the cake, gold coins and -- finally -- the re-enactment of the kings bringing gifts to the manger. Please let Kathie know if you need driving directions.

**The Ladies Who Lunch:** The WIFFF lunch and program will be held Thursday, Jan. 11, at 11:30 a.m. Judy Diennett, R.N., (a.k.a the super bug) will discuss germs, viruses, and other scary things, creepy crawlers that enter our bodies. Please make reservations for lunch by calling the church office, 346-0359. Knitters will meet after the program.

**Say Happy Birthday:** Pray for the lives and ministries of those celebrating birthdays during the next four weeks: Dec. 19, Jo Blackwood, Jackie Hunt and Sadie McDonald; Dec. 21, Gloria Jones; Dec. 27, Ainsley Blundon; Dec. 28, Kaitlin Vogelaar; Dec. 29, Whitney Hendricks; Dec. 30, David Ramkey; Dec. 31, Anna Klusmeyer; Jan. 2, Staff Warren; Jan. 5, Wyatt Palmer, Liz Roderick, George Rosengarten and Tom Vanderford; Jan. 6, Marjorie Revercomb; Jan. 7, Susan Ferguson, Ryan Johnson and Mac McLeod; Jan. 8, Beckey Cochran and Jacob Miller; Jan. 10, Lisa Cline; Jan. 11, Molly Blackwood, Grace Mullins and Eleanor Paybins; Jan. 13, Joseph Taylor; and Jan. 14, June Butterfield.

**Farewell Celebration:** All community members are invited to an Appreciation and Farewell Celebration in honor of Barbara Ferraro and Pat Hussey for their 25 years of service to Covenant House and the Kanawha Valley. The event will be held Wednesday, Dec. 27, at 4 p.m. at Covenant House, 600 Shrewsbury St.

**In Memoriam:** We are sad to note the passing of parishioner Andrew Roderick on Dec. 2. His memorial service was held Dec. 7 at St. John=s. May light perpetual shine upon him.

**Interim Rector:** We are pleased to announce that the Rev. David Hackett has agreed in principle to join us in early March. David currently serves as Interim Rector at Christ and St. Luke=s Church, Norfolk, VA, and has also served as Interim Rector in Louisiana, Florida, and Ohio.

**Special TAIZE Service:** St. John=s will hold a special TAIZE service in the chapel at 10:00 p.m. on New Year=s Eve.

**First Watch:** St. John=s will participate again this year in the city-wide New Year=s Eve performances, beginning at 6 p.m. For a full schedule of participants and venues, please check the local newspapers.

**Peterkin Program:** The January meeting of our POINTs (Parents of Infants and Teens) group will be on Monday, Jan. 22. Just when you're planning for summer camps and family vacations B come hear about Peterkin. There are new camps and fresh ideas. For more information about POINTs, or to make a reservation, contact Sarah Korwan.

**Don=t Pass By the Alms Box:** All of us know that myriad charities have their hands out, especially at this time of the year. Our alms box is an exception. It remains quietly at the back of the church, between the main church and the chapel, waiting for those who pass by to drop in their donations. All money received from this box is divided evenly between two vital programs B Manna Meal and Covenant House. Please seek out the alms box and help stuff it for the holiday season.

**Year-End Finances:** The financial books will be closed at 2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 29. If you are planning to transfer any stock, please do so before that date and please let the office know. Anything transferred or received after that date will be credited to 2007. The office will be closed that week, however mail will be checked

**Serving Breakfast:** The St John=s Men=s Breakfast Group will meet at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, at First Watch on Summers Street. All men of the parish are invited to come and enjoy this time of fellowship.

**Spring Events for Young People:** Jason Beschinski, Diocesan Youth Ministries Coordinator, has announced more events for middle and high school aged youth to be held next year. Dates include: March 2-4, Sr. High Retreat; April 20-22, Jr. High Retreat; May 25-27, Peterkin work session to help get ready for camp; July 8-14, McDowell County Work Project. Complete plans will be announced at a later date. Also, a Theme Park Trip will be scheduled around Aug. 10, to allow camp staff a bit of a break, but also allowing for students leaving for college to attend. Cedar Point is the first choice, if overnight accommodations can be found.

## **Manna Meal Covenant**

In its December meeting, St. John's Vestry re-affirmed its strong commitment to Manna Meal. The Vestry adopted the following covenant in order to endorse and put in writing the practices and norms that have developed in our 25-year common ministry. Additionally it was proposed that St. John's Vestry be represented on the Manna Meal Board and that a Manna Meal representative attend the quarterly Parish Council.

### **A Covenant of Common Ministry Between Manna Meal and St. John=s Episcopal Church**

Jesus teaches us that when we feed the hungry we serve him. "Truly I tell you just as you did it to the least of these you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40) St. John=s parish has a history of community involvement and advocacy for those in greatest need. We are an open, caring, inclusive community as we attempt to live out our 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." Our ministry to the hungry in partnership with Manna Meal is a central aspect of how we fulfill our Gospel mission.

St. John=s Church, as represented by the Vestry on December 11, 2006, affirms and celebrates our shared commitment to Manna Meal in its ministry of feeding the hungry. We pledge our continuing support to work together to make this a successful partnership.

Manna Meal was begun as a ministry of St. John=s to provide meals for the hungry. Manna Meal was later established as an independent 501(3)(c) organization with separate finances and Board of Directors. The purpose of Manna Meal is to provide two meals every day of the year to the hungry of Charleston with no questions asked. Manna Meal seeks to provide a safe haven for all its guests. St. John=s is privileged to share in this ministry.

Manna Meal and St. John=s share facilities and co-operate in many ways to fulfill their common and separate ministries. Manna Meal leases the kitchen, with adjacent passage areas, basement, and storage area off of 109. All areas are shared by both agencies. Manna Meal has the use of the kitchen and Hunter Hall for preparing and serving meals from 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. with the exception of Sundays when the lunch meal is postponed so St. John=s can use Hunter Hall for coffee hour from 11:15 to 12:30. Manna Meal=s Sunday lunch follows from 12:30 to 2:00. Manna Meal has

the first prerogative to the use of this space for the designated meals. Upon joint agreement between Manna Meal and St. John=s, parish events may be held in Hunter Hall during meal times at which time Manna Meal would serve meals in room 109. Manna Meal guests are welcome to use St. John=s facilities during designated meal times. Loitering on church properties is to be discouraged at all times.

Manna Meal and St. John=s work together to maintain a safe, clean, and friendly environment. Manna Meal and St. John=s share the custodial responsibilities for Hunter Hall and the elevator. Manna Meal cleans the kitchen, Hunter Hall (or 109 when used), hallways and downstairs bathrooms daily. Manna Meal maintains and regularly cleans the basement. St. John=s is responsible for cleaning other parts of the parish house and church and for the maintenance and upkeep of the buildings. Manna Meal removes trash from the church grounds on a daily basis after the lunch meal

Manna Meal installs and maintains all kitchen equipment, kitchen air conditioning unit, coolers and freezers. The furnishings are shared. An inventory of the ownership of property is attached.

Manna Meal leases the space for \$750 per month. Additionally, Manna Meal pays for 2 of the cost of garbage removal, floor cleaning supplies and hallway rug cleaning service. Manna Meal maintains the external plumbing costs for the kitchen and main downstairs bathrooms off the hallway. Manna Meal and St. John=s jointly share responsibility for other shared usage. St. John=s maintains the heating system.

Manna Meal staff is accountable to its Director and Board. Manna Meal may contract and pay for clerical services from the Parish Administrator. This is negotiated separately and done on the Administrator=s own time. Manna Meal employees may participate in the Episcopal Medical Trust and Church Pension Fund under the auspices of St. John=s and at the expense of Manna Meal.

St. John=s Clergy and the Director of Manna Meal will work to maintain this cooperative arrangement. All grievances or concerns from members of either organization should be brought to the respective authorities of the member=s organization for discussion and resolution between the two bodies.

We pray that this cooperative ministry will continue into the future as St. John=s and Manna Meal share in feeding the hungry.

