



Saint John's

Inter **C**hange

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Schedule for Worship

Sundays September 21 and 28, 2008

Nineteenth and Twentieth Sundays After Pentecost

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| 8:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist |
| 8:45 a.m. | Lectionary Study and Group Discussion, library |
| 9:30 a.m. | September 21 st , Kick-off Sunday Open House, second floor
Sunday School classrooms, coffee and registration in
Room 208 |
| 10:10 a.m. | Chapel and Nursery Open |
| 10:30 a.m. | September 21 st , Holy Eucharist with Choir, commissioning
service for Christian Formation classes
September 28 th , no 10:30 a.m. service |
| 11:30 a.m. | Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall |
| 6:00 p.m. | September 28 th , Institution service for our new rector,
The Rev. Susan J. Latimer, and Holy Eucharist with
choir, followed by reception in Hunter Hall |

(Adult Forum and Sunday School classes will resume on Sunday, October 5th)



Fall Festival's Looking for Your Unwanted Treasures

MannaFest, a fall festival and treasures sale, will be held Saturday, October 18th, in the church parking lot to benefit the Manna Meal soup kitchen. We need your donations, those unused, long-forgotten treasures in your attic, jewelry box, basement, closet, china cabinet or garage, which will be sold and turned into a means of feeding Charleston's low income and homeless citizens.

Items may be dropped off now through October 11th, seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please call 345-7121 to arrange for donations of large or heavy items. Due to space limitations, large donations can be accepted only on the morning of the sale. All donations are tax deductible. Watch *Interchange* for more information on food and entertainment at the festival.



*A Message from
The Reverend Susan J. Latimer*

Dear Saints of John,

As I begin my second month with you, I do so with a grateful heart. Our welcome here has been truly wonderful. Thank you to all who have made the moving process easier and more fun. The “pounding,” which was really more of a house-warming, was delightful – we have a stocked larder and our dogs have more biscuits than they have ever seen at one time!

I have spent this first month beginning to get to know you by meeting one-on-one and in small groups with the folks in leadership in the parish – Vestry, lay leaders, committee chairs, and also families with children. Thank you to the Clements, the Canfields and the Fergusons for hosting the first round of family get-togethers with my family. As I meet with various ministry groups, I continue to be delighted by how many active, lay-led ministries there are at St. John’s.

Also this first month I have put much energy and attention into getting the youth program up and running again. We are about to start the Journey to Adulthood program at St. John’s (*see accompanying article on Page 6*) and we have been evaluating our entire Christian Formation program for children and youth. As a follow-up to the parents’ meeting on September 3rd, a task force made up of parents and Vestry members is in place to come back to me with recommendations for going forward in these most important spiritual formation ministries.

The Celebration of our New Ministry together will be Sunday, September 28th, at 6 p.m. It will be a grand ceremony and I hope that most of you can attend. There will be childcare/nursery available but the children are most welcome to be in the service. As a part of the service, there will be presentations of many symbols of ministry. Representatives of our children and youth will make presentations, along with adults.

God has richly blessed this community with many vibrant ministries. I look forward to the coming months and years of our ministry together in this place.

*In Christ,
Susan+*



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

Our Mission: 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 Next *Interchange* Deadline

The next issue of *Interchange* will be for the weeks of October 5th and October 12th. Please submit items and photographs (either digital or print) to bdearien@stjohnswv.org no later than Monday, September 22nd, at 2 p.m.

Institution of Our New Rector

By Becky Burns, Senior Warden

As previously announced, we will celebrate The Rev. Susan Latimer's new ministry at St. John's with a special service of institution on the feast day of Saint Michael and All Angels, Sunday, September 28th, at 6 p.m. Bishop Michie Klusmeyer will be the chief minister and celebrant, and other clergy in our diocese will participate with the Saints of John. It will be a wonderfully festive service with a reception to follow in Hunter Hall.

There will be an 8 a.m. service on September 28th, but no 10:30 a.m. service. The institution service at 6 p.m. will be a Holy Eucharist with choir. Please come for the official celebration of Susan's new ministry among us. It will be a joyous occasion.

Harrison McLeod Accepts Call

The Rev. Harrison McLeod, son of former St. John's rectors Mac and Mary Adelia McLeod, has accepted a call as the 23rd rector of Christ Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

Mac commented, "He will have his hands full. This is one of the largest Episcopal churches in the United States." Harrison began his new assignment in mid-August.

Make Dinner a Family Thing

Whether you're cooking a gourmet meal or ordering food from your favorite take-out place, rest assured that what your kids really want at the dinner table is YOU! Family meals are the perfect time to talk to your kids and to listen to what's on their minds.

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University launched *Family Day - A Day to Eat Dinner with your Children* in 2001 after more than a decade's research consistently found that the more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs. *Family Day* will be celebrated nationwide on September 22nd.

Kick-Off Sunday September 21st

Kick-Off Sunday will be observed on September 21st, beginning at 9:30 a.m. with an open house in the second floor classrooms. Coffee and registration will take place in the Mollie Warwick Room, 208.

Then all Sunday school teachers, youth mentors and students will attend church to participate in a unique commissioning service at 10:30 a.m. The children will be the leaders for this

part of the service. Afterwards, "Lemonade on the Lawn" will be served in the church garden by the Evangelism and Member Incorporation Ministry Team. Come and learn about St. John's programs for the coming year and let individual ministry teams know if you would like to help them.

A Blessed Day For All

You and your favorite furry and feathered friends are invited to join the community event "A St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals" on Saturday, October 4th at 1 p.m. in St. John's garden. The entire community is invited to participate as the Rev. Susan Latimer officiates. Literature will be on hand and people are encouraged to bring a donation of pet food, kitty litter, treats and other items to be sent to the Kanawha-Charleston Humane Association Animal Shelter.

If you are concerned about how your animal friend may react to so many other animals nearby, consider bringing instead their favorite toy or food dish to be blessed at the ceremony. For more information contact Michelle Walker, 550-2680.

It Was A Pounding!

A generous shower of gifts from the Saints of John welcomed Susan, John and their two sons Sunday, August 24th. The variety of packages ranged from garden-grown herbs and gourmet seasonings, to pastas and pantry items, to green cleaning supplies and food for their pets. The outpouring was gratefully received. Thank you very much for your gifts of "a pound of this and a dash of that" to welcome Susan, John and their sons.

Attention all 8th, 9th, and 10th graders!

You are invited to a J2A kickoff party/luncheon for you and any interested friends. Come to the Hendricks house, 508 Linden Road, on September 14th at noon or after church and bring your bathing suit. Food will be provided. Directions from South Side Bridge, go right on Bridge Road, first right onto Myrtle Road, at the end of Myrtle, take a right on Linden, at the top of the hill on the right. Call Diane Hendricks at 3

Charleston AIDS Network's Work Comes to End

By Bob Rosier

Charleston AIDS Network, which began at St. John's in 1986, is in the process of closing its doors, as services long provided by CAN are now available elsewhere.

When CAN was first organized, the AIDS pandemic had just begun to affect West Virginia, and resources for HIV-infected people were not widely available.

A few years prior to the formation of CAN, then St. John's rectors Mac and Mary Adelia McLeod had joined with the parish's Integrity chapter to expand our parish ministry to include an AIDS Hope and Help Center, located in the small office at the end of the hall next to Children's Chapel. The center had a toll-free help line and provided literature about HIV/AIDS as well as a referral service offering HIV testing. Presence of the center, along with Manna Meal and Covenant House, on parish property helped us to be certified by The Episcopal Church as a Jubilee Center.

With increased need for even more services and an unwieldy demand for additional volunteers, the group welcomed the opportunity to help form Charleston AIDS Network. I attended the first official meeting of CAN, and among other of our parishioners whom I recall as taking active leadership roles were the late Frances Hunter, a long-time social activist, and the Rev. Tom Dobbs, a gay Episcopal priest and son of devout parishioners Fred and Polly Dobbs. Tom eventually died of complications from AIDS, and his cremains are next to those of his loving parents in our columbarium.

CAN took over the office in our parish house and continued to operate an AIDS help line, staffed by volunteers who included many Saints of John. When our property at 1109 Quarrier St. was vacated by Covenant House, CAN moved into space in that building and has continually remained the major tenant of St. Elizabeth Life House. Volunteer leaders from throughout the community have helped CAN provide more and more services as well as collaborate with a range of other service providers.

A speakers' bureau was formed to provide AIDS education to middle and high schools, college nursing programs, drug treatment programs, and anyone else who asked. More than 250 groups were provided with speakers at no charge.

Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center, another of St. John's offspring, partnered with CAN

in forming a discussion and self-help group to provide ongoing professional counseling to persons infected or directly affected by HIV/AIDS.

The West Virginia State AIDS Program, an arm of state government's Department of Health and Human Resources, joined CAN in co-sponsoring a monthly after-hours testing clinic, using a state-of-the-art procedure that requires only a swab of saliva, rather than the more invasive and costly blood tests, to determine a person's HIV status. This service has been provided at "1109" as well as off-site for groups requesting it.

More recently, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and America's Second Harvest, along with area food banks and retailers, have cooperated with CAN in collecting and supplying nonperishable food items to an average of 15 area households of people living with HIV/AIDS. Many St. John's parishioners who contributed to a recent food drive for that ministry can rest assured that the food they donated has been distributed to those in need.

All of these services will continue to be available. KPCC will, of course, still offer counseling to anyone in need. The state's testing program will not be abandoned. Remaining items in the food pantry will be transferred to the East End Family Resource Center in the former Roosevelt Junior High building, convenient to those who previously came to 1109 for grocery supplies. And Charleston Area Medical Center will use funding from the federal Ryan White Care Act to provide comprehensive medical, dental and psycho-social services to HIV/AIDS-infected people throughout central and southern West Virginia.

In a letter of appreciation sent to our rector, Susan Latimer, the CAN board of directors concluded by saying, "From our inception, St. John's has been there for us and for the many individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS we have served. We truly could not have done our work without your support. Thanks for everything!"



Along with our beloved 1927 E.M. Skinner pipe organ, we now have two additional organs to grace various services in the church and chapel as well as in the Children's Chapel. The small two-rank, one manual pipe organ now residing in the chapel is on loan to St. John's. It was built by our organ curator Chris Nagorka, owner of Kanawha Organ Works. Chris had no room to store it in his workshop, and he needed to find a good place to house it until it is sold. He felt that placing it in the chapel at St. John's would offer the best location due to our rich acoustical environment and the fact that it will be used and treated with respect while it is in our midst.

This organ loan offers us a number of musical opportunities, such as providing accompaniment for our monthly Taize services, accompaniment for the choir should the choir ever sing from that location, as well as solo organ voluntaries away from the Skinner and antiphonal organ works between the Skinner and Chris's "chamber" organ.

Yes, it is for sale, and we have "first nibs" should one or a number of people wish to make donations so we can purchase it as a permanent addition to our church and to our music program. In the meanwhile, while we have it on loan, we intend to put the little organ gem to good use! It is a charming and intimate instrument which the music staff believes everyone will enjoy thoroughly. We are exceedingly grateful to Chris Nagorka for thinking of us with this very generous loan.

The other organ is a restored pump organ donated by Bruce Wilson which came from the estate of Dick Young. After considering the best place to house this beautiful pump organ, it was decided that the Children's Chapel would be excellent. The children and teachers will be able to play it and make good use of it in their worship space during church school. Bruce had the pump organ restored throughout. We appreciate Bruce's

gift tremendously, and we believe Dick Young would have been thrilled to have known that his pump organ now has a good home within the church he loved so much.

Building Gone But Not Forgotten

Remember the small building that used to be at the back of St. John's parking lot?

Archivist Janet Morris notes that it was once a five-car garage belonging to the McFadden Ignition Co. that was situated facing Broad Street (now Leon Sullivan Way), now the site of the Sacred Heart parking lot. It has been said that in later years it became a lawn mower repair shop before it was acquired by St. John's Church. Longtime parishioners remember it as the former location of the Opportunity Shop. Anyone passing through the alley could see the five arches later sealed up with bricks, reflecting where the cars once passed.

The building was recently demolished, but its colorful past lingers on.

Photo Display a Tribute to Three Generations

Several of the walls at St. John's, especially Room 109 and the office, are sporting a new look lately. This would be from the camera of our photographer-in-residence Betty Jo Lloyd.

Betty Jo's parents, Bill and Peg Bolden, were lifelong members of St. John's. The Lloyd children, Bradley Bolden, Tom Jr. and Ellen Kemery, attended Sunday School and were baptized and confirmed here. So Betty Jo and her husband, Tom, have framed and given these photographs to St. John's in thanksgiving for three generations of a church home to their family.

Many of the flower photographs are of flowers taken from the altar on Sunday morning. And other pictures reflect the glory of God's universe that surrounds us.

Can you help?

Later this fall, St. John's will be conducting training for acolytes. We anticipate several new acolytes and may need to purchase new robes. If you are able and willing to purchase a robe if needed (cost per robe is \$69), please contact Carrie Swing at 744-9008 or cpswing@aol.com.

The Journey to Adulthood Program

Memories from a Companion
on the Journey
(The Reverend Susan J. Latimer)

-Candlelight compline on the deck of a cabin, 10 teenagers and four adults sharing with each other where we found God that day. For me, it was the hand of the young person who grabbed out for me when I fell out of the raft in rapids on the Chatooga River.

-Midnight Eucharist in the church during an overnight lock-in, the youth in PJ's and bare feet, one of them reading prayers of the people that they had written.

-Walking the labyrinth with the J2A group as a preparation for our pilgrimage.

-Laying hands on the youth in the Rite 13 service, praying for them and their parents.

-Hearing, a year and a half later, stories from the J2A group about the time we got lost while on pilgrimage and what they learned about God from that experience.

-Standing in a Russian orthodox chapel in Nova Scotia, six teenagers and three adults awed by the beauty of the icons that surrounded us.

-Celebrating the Eucharist, watching with joy as the entire J2A group sat together in church.

These are just a few of the many memories that I have from being a priest with

youth in the Journey to Adulthood Program. This lay-led, spiritual formation program for youth is designed to help our young people navigate adolescence with the help and support of peers, adult mentors and the entire church community. It includes rites of passage, liturgies that occur throughout the program - some on Sunday morning, including the Rite 13 ceremony, and some at other times, including the J2A youth and parents' dinner and liturgy.

The program begins with **Rite 13** for youth in **grades 6 and 7** this year. This group will stay together with its leaders for two years. In Rite 13 the youth have fun, become a cohesive, supportive community, and learn about themselves and God. After two years, they will become the new J2A group. This year's **J2A group** will include all youth in **grades 8, 9, and 10**. In these two years, the task is to learn the skills required to be an adult. At the end of these two years the group goes on pilgrimage - a trip that is an adventure and a search for God. I have accompanied two J2A groups on pilgrimages, and those experiences remain among the highlights of my priesthood to date.

I am excited to begin this journey with two new groups of youth at St. John's. We have wonderful leaders ready to mentor these youth. Dianna Canfield and Mike Walker will be the Rite 13 leaders (and one more to be determined). Diane Hendricks and Brian Hamra will be the J2A leaders. I encourage all youth in these age groups to come and try it out for several months. I encourage parents to support their youth by getting them to the meetings as often as possible. And I encourage the entire congregation to support these young people in their Journey to Adulthood. The memories are waiting to be made.

*In Christ,
Susan+*

The Reverend Susan J. Latimer, Rector

St. John's Episcopal Church, Charleston, WV

Established 1837 ~ Present Building consecrated 1901 ~ A Jubilee Center since 1985

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The Rev. Susan J. Latimer
Rector

The Rev. Denise Giardina
Deacon

Brenda Maurice Vanderford
Organist / Choirmaster

David Morton
Assisting Organist /
Choirmaster

Brenda Dearien
Parish Administrator

Katherine Giltinan
Christian Formation

Bob Westmoreland
Verger

Dan Williams
Custodian

Vestry

Becky Burns '09
Senior Warden

David Vick '10
Junior Warden

Ellen Archibald '09
Treasurer

Dan McDonald '10
Clerk

Joe Bolyard '09
John Canfield, '11
Cheryl Clements '10
Page Hamrick '09
Brian Hamra '11
Beth Marquart '11
Bob Miller '10
Parker Smith '11

David Ramkey
Assistant treasurer

David Ramkey /
Becky Burns
Finance

Maggie McCabe
Evangelism / new member

Michelle Walker
Parish life

Donna Hamra

/
Mary Fitzgerald
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Bob Cochran
Stewardship

Joe Mullins/Ann Morris
Property

Parker Smith
Children's Christian
Formation

Diane Hendricks
Confirmation

Marion Perry
Adult Forum

Phyllis Atwood
Pastoral Care

Dianna Canfield /
Carrie Swing
Acolytes

Bob Swartz / Bob Miller
Ushers

Warren Upton
Chancellor

Carter Blundon
Altar Guild

Betty Jo Lloyd
Worship Rota

Janet Morris
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Robin Lester
SAGA

Martha Cole
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Ann Garcelon
The Back Door
Thrift Shop

Julianne Kemp
& Melora Cann
Interchange co- editors

Ordinary Giving

By Ellen Archibald, Treasurer

We at St. John's have kept the church running pretty smoothly during our interim period. Now Susan Latimer, our new rector, has joined us in time to plan for 2009. Of course, planning includes our annual stewardship campaign.

In our first meeting, Susan referred to annual pledges as "ordinary giving." I love her phrase: I contribute to St. John's regularly because St. John's and its work, inside and outside our parish, are regular, ordinary and integral parts of my life. I hope you feel the same way.

So that we can move forward with new and continuing projects, please consider whether you can move toward our parish goal of the tithe. When you receive the stewardship letter, please consider how St. John's fits into your regular, ordinary way of life.