



Saint John's

Inter Change

April 3, 2008, Vol. 48, No. 7

Dated Material, Deliver by
Saturday, April 12

Nonprofit
Organization
Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1163
Charleston, WV

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.

SUNDAYS APRIL 13 AND 20, 2008 FOURTH AND FIFTH SUNDAYS OF EASTER

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 8:45 a.m. Lectionary Study and Group Discussion, library
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Formation
Adult Forum, April 13, Ted Boettner, executive director of the WV Center on Budget Policy, will address the question, "Are West Virginia Taxes Fair?"; **April 20**, The Rev. Denise Giardina will show a brief film, "Mountain Mourning" and address the tragedy of mountaintop removal in West Virginia, Room 109.
Baptism Past and Present, 4-week class continuing April 13, 20 and 27, Room 209.
Adult Confirmation Preparation, Room 104
- 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 through Grade 5:** Toddlers, Room 298; Godly Play, 4 to 8 years old, Room 299; St. John's Eagles, 3rd to 5th Grades, Room 221.
- 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, with choir
- 11:30 a.m. Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall
- 5:00 p.m. April 13, Taize Service

Spiritual Reading Group Especially for Women

A six-week women's spiritual reading group is forming and will meet Sundays April 20, 27, May 4, 11, 18 & 25 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. *The Cup of Our Life: a Guide for Spiritual Growth* by Joyce Rupp is the book we'll study. The cost for this course is \$15, which includes the book. Please register with Beth Marquart, 382-3109, by April 10 so books may be ordered.

Children Baptized

Three baptisms were celebrated March 30 at St. John's.

Children baptized were Ansley Rhae Bird, daughter of Chuck and Kate Bird; Avery Brook Orr, daughter of Lee and Asley Orr; and Nolan August Rockwell, son of Patrick and Kelly Rockwell.

Women's Luncheon

Women in Faith, Fun and Fellowship will hold their monthly luncheon at 11:30 a.m. April 10 in the Mollie Warwick Room and Room 209.

Speaker will be Barbara Bays of the Good News Mountaineer Garage. Reservations may be made with the church office, 346-0359, and donations will help cover cost of the lunch.

A short business meeting will be followed by the Shawl Ministry.

In Memoriam

We regret to note the deaths of parishioner Gerald Harper on March 23, and of John Eads, father of parishioner Penny Kehde.

May light perpetual shine upon them.

Major Actions of the Vestry at March Meeting

I. Treasurer's Report. The treasurer reviewed the financial report for the two months ending February 2008. Overall, revenues and expenses are on budget, with revenues exceeding expenses by \$14,876, but pledge income for the two months was under budget.

II. Reports. There were reports from the Interim Rector; from the Property Committee on our consultant's work prioritizing various projects (the sewer problem is high on the list); from the Evangelism Committee on upcoming meetings; and from the Senior Warden on response to the recent joint letter to the parish from the wardens, the Interim Rector and the Bishop.

III. Other. The vestry decided not to publish a letter from the senior warden of Trinity Church Toledo, commenting on our search process, because it was from outside the parish. A letter from a parishioner dissatisfied with the Bishop's position on our search process was read. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Search Committee is continuing to seek the best candidate amid a feeling that St. John's has not compromised its position. The dialog with the Bishop will continue and the dialog should continue within the parish, including making plans for potential action at the upcoming diocesan convention this fall.

IV. The Search Committee. A number of candidates are scheduled to visit St. John's to meet with the vestry and search committee and to become familiar with Charleston.

V. Resolution. A resolution honoring Margaret Lindsay's term as president of SAGA was adopted. It will be presented to Margaret on April 13.

(Editor's Note: For the latest update on the Search Committee's progress in calling a new rector to lead St. John's parish, turn to page 4 for a report from Phyllis Atwood, committee chair.)

A Note from the Senior Warden

Several parishioners have indicated concern about the dirt that has been placed on the lot adjacent to St. Elizabeth House on Quarrier Street. Because the dirt raises the level of that lot one to two feet above St. John's property, there is potential for water damage to our property. Your wardens and property committee are taking actions to insure the safety of our property. At this point, no damage has done.

Because St. John's is facing a number of property improvement needs, we have hired N-Visions to conduct a study of our property and supply us with a prioritized list of needs and recommended actions. N-Visions has worked with St. John's before, in particular on the redesign of Room 109, the hallway, and elevator installation.

Manna Meal and St. John's have already allocated funds to pay for a sewer upgrade as a necessary first step in dealing with our property needs. Many of you are aware of ongoing problems with the sewer system that have caused a financial drain and damage to our property over the past several years. We await a recommendation from N-Visions on what specific work is needed to insure that our sewer system is functioning properly.

U2charist to meet on Marshall University Campus

U2charist Service will be held Sunday, April 27, at 5 p.m. at Marshall University Student Center, followed by a light supper. A St. John's Outreach delegation and ETS delegation will travel to Huntington for this first service in West Virginia. The music of U2 led by Bono is used in lieu of traditional hymns. If you would like a ride, contact James Thibeault at 389-3846.

Please Check Out St. John's Web Site

Our web address is www.stjohnswv.org. We've come through some rocky weeks when we've been unable to update it, but we're back and need your help as you use the site. If you find information that needs to be updated or added or spot an awkward sentence, please email Beth Marquart, bethm1217@aol.com, including the link to the page you are referring to.

We Have Deadlines

Do you have a news item, a commentary, or even a photo you would like to have published in Interchange?

We welcome your contributions and remind you about our deadlines. The next issue will be for the weeks of April 27 and May 4. Send items to

julkemp@verizon.net or
bdearien@stjohnswv.org

by Tuesday, April 15, to be received by 4 p.m.

Workshop on Wellness

The Diocesan Health Ministries Commission is sponsoring a Health Ministries Workshop on Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be held at Church of the Good Shepherd, 903 Charles St., Parkersburg, to promote wellness of mind, body and spirit. There is no charge to attend, and those driving long distances will be paid mileage. For more information, call 256-263.

Searching for Peace?

Try the Taize experience. This meditative service is an oasis to soothe busy lives. It is held the second Sunday of the month and continues on Sunday, April 13, at 5 p.m.

Search Committee Is Nearing Its Goal
By Phyllis Atwood

The Search Committee met this week to finalize plans for our first candidate's visit to Charleston and the final interview with the committee. This candidate is one of the final four who will meet with the entire committee and have an opportunity to see and tour St. John's beautiful facilities and learn a little more about our community. While here the candidates will be introduced to our staff and vestry, and observe our most visible form of outreach -- Manna Meal.

We have much to be proud of in our church as well as our involvement in the life of our city and are anxious to present St. John's and Charleston to these persons who seek to become the next spiritual leader of the family of St. John's.

The Search Committee is acutely aware of the perception of fleeting time as we work through the process of finding the best person to be our new Rector. We rejoice, along with all of you, that this arduous task is at last coming to fruition. We also rejoice in our most fortunate situation of having David Hackett as our Interim to guide us, as a parish, on this journey of uncertainty to our successful conclusion.