

Saint John's

Inter **C**hange

April 29, 2008, Vol. 48, No. 9

Dated Material, Deliver by
Saturday, May 10

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

Sunday May 11, 2008, Day of Pentecost **Confirmation at 10:30 a.m., only one service to** **enable everyone to be with our** **Bishop and celebrate with our confirmands**

Sunday, May 18, First Sunday after Pentecost

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. | Holy Eucharist |
| 8:45 a.m. | Lectionary Study and Group Discussion, library |
| 9:30 a.m. | Adult Formation
Adult Forum, May 11, No forum due to Mother's Day; May 18,
Barbara Bayes, executive director of Good News Mountaineer
Garage, which provides reliable used vehicles for those who
otherwise could not provide them, will discuss the organization
and its goals, Room 109. |
| 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, 3 rd to
5 th Grades, Room 221. |
| 10:30 a.m. | Holy Eucharist, with choir |
| 11:30 a.m. | Coffee Hour, Hunter Hall |
| 5:00 p.m. | May 11. Taize Service |

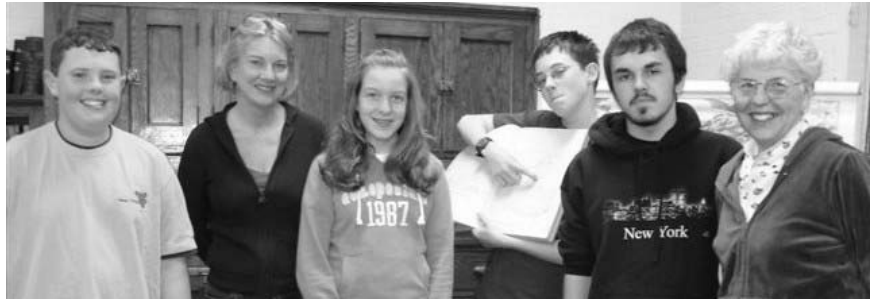
WIFFF to Take Garden Tour on May 15

There will be a new date, new time and new location for the next luncheon meeting of Women In Faith, Fun and Fellowship. The group has been invited to the home of Zeb and Sara Sue Wright, 1525 Clark Road, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 15, to visit their beautiful garden. Dessert and beverages will be provided and guests are asked to bring salads to share. There also will be a discussion of fall and winter programs. Please make reservations with the church office, 346-0359.

Memorial Day Picnic

Come to the Gorman Shelter at Coonskin Park on Monday, May 26, for St. John's annual picnic. The entire parish is invited to come and bring covered dishes. Hot dogs, hamburgers, etc. will be provided with grilling from 4 to 6 p.m.

There also will be an intergenerational activity. Suggestions are welcome as are volunteers to help set up and clean up. Call Kathie Giltinan at 346-0359, ext. 12, if you can help.



Confirmation Class

From left are Ben Canfield, Diane Hendricks (mentor), Catherine Blackwood, Andrew Swing, Jackson Newsome and Jo Blackwood (mentor). In this particular class the topic was the Nicene Creed. Andrew points in an atlas to the town of Nicea, Turkey, from which the creed takes its name. Others to be confirmed on May 11 will be Caitlin Cline, Collin Morris, Randy Hampton, Shonda Newsome and Quentin Nix.

Writing Workshop

Telling Your Story, a writing workshop, is being offered Saturdays May 10 & 17 from 9 a.m. to noon at the West Virginia Institute for Spirituality, 1601 Virginia St. E. Rosie Uhrig, a professional editor and writer, will lead the group to consider ways to move thoughts and feelings onto paper. No experience is necessary! Bring paper, pencils (black or colored), pens or markers, materials that inspire you. The cost is \$35. Register with Rosie at wvisrosie@aol.com or by calling WVIS, 345-0926.

Gala Celebration!

The Vestry and Parish Life committee are planning a gala celebration for David and Kay Hackett on Sunday, May 25, after church.

This will be a potluck lunch in the typical St. John's style. Please mark your calendars and think about what delicious dish you might bring.

David and Kay have given us so much during the interim period, and we want to give them a royal St. John's send-off as they continue on their journey. More details will appear in the next issue of the Interchange.

Mother of the Year

Longtime parishioner Jo Blackwood has been chosen as National Mother of the Year. Jo is associate professor of education at the University of Charleston and a tireless worker in the life of St. John's.

Her accomplishments that earned this award will be spotlighted in a future Interchange as well as the Charleston newspapers.

In the meantime, congratulations Jo for this outstanding honor.

In Memoriam

Longtime parishioner Randolph Mills Valz Jr. died April 24 after a long illness. His memorial service was held April 30 at St. John's. *May light perpetual shine upon him.*



Vestry Honors Margaret Lindsey

Margaret Lindsey, left, founder of the Straight and Gay Alliance, was presented with resolution April 20 for her outstanding work by Becky Burns, senior warden, and Dan McDonald, clerk.

Acolytes Honored

Service ribbons were awarded to St. John's acolytes on April 20 for their years of service. Anna Clarke, seven years service, and Gabby Lewis, six years, will be entering college in the fall.

Also honored: Andrew Swing, three years; Catherine Blackwood, Ben Canfield, Caitlin Cline and Collin Morris, two years; and Evan Blackwood, Alex Canfield, Landon Palmer, Christian Rowe and Dominique Tyson, one year.

Interchange deadline

The next Interchange will be for the weeks of May 25 and June 1. Please submit items to:

julkemp@verizon.net
or bdearien@stjohnswv.org

by Tuesday, May 13, at 4 p.m.

Vestry Notes

Following are highlights of the April 14 meeting of St. John's Vestry:

The Vestry ratified the Executive Committee's earlier decision to ask architectural firm N-

Visions to proceed with a study of how to solve our sewer problem, and to oversee the selection of a contractor and of the construction project. The study and construction are expected to cost approximately \$80,000. There are sufficient funds on hand for this project.

The Vestry received reports on actions taken to address the potential problems associated with the dirt pile next to St. Elizabeth house; from the treasurer on our current financial situation (first quarter revenues exceed first quarter expenses); from Vestry Liaisons on the activities of the various ministry groups; from our liaison with Manna Meal; and the Search Committee.

The Vestry expressed confidence in the Search Committee and its on-going process, and requested limited biographical information on the final candidates to meet them when they visit Charleston.

The Vestry approved the formation of a task force to address issues of sexual orientation and deployment. It will be comprised of two Vestry members, Beth Marquart (who will serve as Chair) and Joe Bolyard, one Search Committee member (Sue Harpold) and one Diocesan Convention Delegate (Brooks McCabe). The task force is asked to recommend to the Vestry what the church might do to address issues of sexual orientation and deployment, including potential activity at the upcoming diocesan convention.

You-to-ker-what?

Beth Marquart, Vestry Member

That would be U2-*charist*, as in the Holy Eucharist using music by the rock group U2 in place of hymns. The lead singer of U2 is Bono, a social activist who co-founded the ONE Campaign, dedicated to making poverty history (<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/ONE/>).

The first U2charist took place in Baltimore, MD, in 2004, instigated (her words, not mine) by Sarah Dylan Breuer, an Episcopal theologian who found deep and profound meaning in the lyrics of U2's music. Since then this service has been celebrated around the world, always with three common elements: the music is always U2 (and no royalties are accepted as long as the context is worship), all monies gathered go directly to non-profit agencies which directly support poverty relief through the Millennium Development Goals and the service is as holy an occasion as any Eucharistic liturgy.

On Sunday evening, April 27, the first U2charist in our diocese was held at the Christian Center of Marshall University. A group of us, representing Outreach, Education for Ministry and our Confirmation class, attended. Personally, I was relieved to recognize a couple of the U2 songs played as the prelude. Bishop Klusmeyer presided and preached and there was a little bit of swinging and swaying to the beat of the music, not too much, after all we are Episcopalian. But here is my point:

I am grateful that my heart was open enough for me to appreciate this form of liturgy. I hope St. John's will sponsor a U2charist in a year or so. I hope we'll fill the pews and experience something completely different than anything that has come through our doors before.

And Sarah Dylan Breuer, who started this phenomenon, has a list of "rejected alternative worship themes" on her blog site, the kazoocharist and the Chattanooga Choo-choo-charist among them, at

http://www.sarahlaughed.net/gracenotes/2007/05/top_10_rejected.html. Check it out!

