



The Gleanings *of St. John's*



August 2011

*Dear friends in
Christ,*

I get a real kick out of the little quips and bits of wisdom that are so frequently available on T-shirts and plaques. They range from silly to profound and often say more than they seem to:

*The Right Shoes Can Change Your Life.
~ Cinderella*

*DAD, Incorporated:
A wholly owned subsidiary of Mom, Inc.*

If You Stumble Make It Part of the Dance

*Life isn't about how To Survive the Storm
But How To DANCE IN THE RAIN*

*When life becomes more than you can
stand, kneel.*

As we traveled this summer I noticed a trend in some of the signs we saw. A great little burger stand in Ouray, Colorado had a sign prominently displayed that read:

There will be a \$5 charge for whining.

When I asked were they had gotten it, they sent me down the street to a shop that had another sign which read:

*If You Are Grouchy, Irritable,
Or Just Plain Mean
There Will Be A \$10 Charge
For Putting Up With You*

(I bought them both.)

Later in a trendy little coffee shop in Hendersonville, NC we came across a little sign at the counter which said simply:

*Be Nice
Or Leave
Thank You*

I have seen more and more of this type of signs cropping up and I think, in a humorous way, retailers are saying that they expect to be able to conduct business in friendly and civilized manner. This may well be more than sensitivity on the part of the shop keepers. These establishments are trying to create a pleasant atmosphere where people enjoy coming again and again. Rude, mean, unpleasant behavior sours the experience for everyone and is, frankly, not very effective in getting the desired results.

The reason all of that comes to mind is that I have also been talking to some friends who have left a church or who don't like the idea of church. Most of them have

some story about rude, mean, unpleasant behavior they have experienced—a terrible pastor, a vicious church battle, aloof, cutting, and manipulative behavior by members of the church. The closing line of the story is almost always, “Those church people don’t practice what they preach.”

It is a good reminder to the man in the mirror and I share it with you. People are watching us to see if we are acting as the people of God. They expect to see us treat each other with caring, warmth, and dignity. We are not expected to always agree or

to be artificially sweet. We are expected to be genuine, respectful, and concerned with one another's welfare. Here are some additional favorite "one liners" from a different source to guide our "conduct of business":

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.
(John 13:35)

Be angry but do not sin. (Ephesians 4:26)

Encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.
(1 Thessalonians 5:11)

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:30 am Sunday School/Choir Practice
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
 (1st Sunday, Rite I)
11:30 am Morning Social Hour

12:15 pm Holy Eucharist Rite II
(Healing Services 1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

314 North Bridge Street
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email: jshuttstjohns@verizon.net
wbrownstjohns@verizon.net

The Staff

The Rev. F. Wilson Brown, Jr. Rector
The Rev. Kay Waff Deacon
The Rev. Carol Cross Deacon
Mary Anne Eubank Organist/Choir
Jenny Shutt Administrative Assistant
Tom Sendall Sexton

Address Changes: Please help us to keep our postage costs down by notifying the church office if you have a change-of-address. The Post Office charges us for any returned mail. Also, notify the office if you have a young person in your family away in school, we will be happy to send them a copy of the newsletter.

Submit Newsletter articles
to Chandra Schmehl by email at
stjohnsnewsletter@verizon.net
or call 587-9093 with questions, suggestions,
or complaints.
September Deadline: Wed, August 17

Message from the Rector (cont.)

God is love, and those who abide in love
abide in God, and God abides in them.
(I John 4:16)

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love
of God, and the communion of the Holy
Spirit be with all of you.
(2 Corinthians 13:13)

Your brother in Christ,
—Wilson +

Upcoming Events & Parish News

Enquirer's Class: "Christian Basics" *Sundays at 9:30, August 7–September 4*

As we reach out to the world we need to be able to articulate what we believe, what we do, and what we are as the Church of God and as Anglicans. The rector has developed this course in five sessions as a foundation for instructing those enquiring about the Church and those who are wishing to go deeper in the faith. These are the basics for every Anglican Christian.

Adults attending this class will be eligible to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church when the Bishop visits St. John's on September 11th.

August 7: *The Bible, Origins & Basic Story*

August 14: *The Early Church & Her Basic Doctrines*

August 21: *Christian Worship & Sacraments*

August 28: *The Anglican Church & The Episcopal Church USA*

September 4: *Christian Living: Prayer, Ethics, & Stewardship*

Sessions are tentatively scheduled to meet in the Rector's office. Please contact Wilson to sign up.

VBS Potluck Picnic & Bluegrass Band

On Sunday, August 7th at 6:00 pm, plan to join us on the front lawn to help us kick off Vacation Bible School. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and a side dish (potato salad, slaw, etc) to share. We look forward to welcoming the Christian Bluegrass band, "The Psalmist" led by Rev. Stewart Mitchell from In His Hands Ministry, Lynchburg. It should be a wonderful evening of fellowship and we encourage the entire congregation to attend.

Christian Formation Classes begin Sunday, August 28th

Sunday School classes resume at 9:30 am on Sunday, August 28th. Adult Forum will begin on Sunday, September 11th with the Bishop's visit.

Bishop Powell Visiting in September

Bishop Neff Powell and his wife, Dorothy visit St. John's about once every 15 months. We look forward to welcoming them on Sunday, September 11th.

Greeter's Ministry

The Church Growth Committee met for supper and snacks Wednesday, July 20th and discussed various agenda items. One item the committee has been discussing the possibility of adding "greeters" to our lay ministries. The greeter would be available to welcome visitors and newcomers before the 10:30 service and assist them, if they desire. After the service, the greeter would offer to accompany newcomers to Coffee Hour and introduce them to others in our church family. An initial training session would be encouraged. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry, please contact Wilson Brown or Philip Baker, committee chair.

St. John's Is Having A Yard Sale!

When: Saturday, September 17th from 7:00 a.m. til noon.

Where: In our Parish Hall

What: Collectibles, linens, furniture, household items, baked goods, fashion accessories, sporting goods, books, VHS tapes, DVDs, CDs, tools, garden items, plants, and children's toys and games – no home canned goods and no clothes.

How: We ask that items brought early are boxed and stored in the storage area for

tables and chairs, in the furnace room, or the room behind that.

- Thursday, September 15th, 9:00 til 2:00, we will put up tables and begin pulling things from storage. If possible, wait to bring your items on that day.
- Friday, September 16th, 9:00 til noon, we will continue to sort, arrange and price.
- Saturday, September 17th, workers arrive at 6:45, doors open at 7:00 and close at noon.

Who: Needed ... (and you may sign up for more than one shift ...)

- 6-8 volunteers for Thursday morning from 11:00 til 2:00ish to receive and sort
- 4-6 volunteers for Friday morning from 9:00 til 12:00ish to receive, arrange, and price items
- 4 volunteers on Saturday morning from 6:45 to 9:30 to begin sale
- 4 volunteers from 9:30 to noon
- 8 volunteers as noon cleanup crew to pack and haul away unsold items, take down tables, and sweep Parish Hall
- Strong backs and trucks also needed for cleanup

How to Volunteer: A sign-up sheet will be available on the bulletin board at the church, and you can call Blu Ayers or Jenny Green .

~~Time for Fall Cleaning—Your Junk is Someone Else's Treasure ~~

Visitors from Our Link Parish

The Reverend and Mrs. Peter Mayo-Smith from Haworth in Yorkshire, England (Diocese of Bradford) pleased St. John's – Bedford with a visit July 1 to July 6. At home Peter serves a cluster of churches, one of which is our link parish—St. James, Crossroads.



Following a visit with his father in Bloomfield, CT Peter and Eileen traveled by Amtrak to Washington, DC where they spent three days touring our Capitol before coming south to Bedford. Mike and Pat Rieley were delighted to host their stay, and with the help of lots of good folks from St. John's planned a full itinerary for their time here: Peaks of Otter bus ride/hike up Sharp Top with Wilson Brown and Mike Rieley, National D-Day Memorial VIP tour by Bill Jackson, dinner and boat cruise on Smith Mountain Lake hosted by Frank and Kaky West, lunch at the 309 Winery with Don and Marilyn Rowe and John and Kay Waff, a Pimm's party at the Rieley's, Poplar Forest tour led by Meg Baltad, 4th of July BBQ at Wilson and Kara Brown's, and watching the fireworks from Ethan and

Randi Cooper's front yard. While in Roanoke to visit Evans House and lunch with Bishop and Dorothy Powell, Wilson took the Mayo-Smiths to the Transportation Museum. Nancy and Danny Johnson hosted a tour of Peaks of Otter Winery on the way home. Jim and Mary Harvey hosted a dinner party. Rebecca and Bill Mays, Randy Patterson, and Larry and Chandra Schmehl also contributed greatly to the visit. The Mayo-Smiths said they had heard of Southern Hospitality but were absolutely overwhelmed by their reception in Bedford. Peter and Eileen described their food experiences as "lovely" and "beautiful" and took a lot of recipes home with them.

Those who heard Peter preach at St. John's Sunday, July 3 learned what an engaging, outgoing committed Christian he is. A few Bedfordites made the mistake of mentioning sports to this English sports nut and learned more than they ever wanted about Cricket, Rugby and Football (soccer). Blu Ayers' team hosted a lovely social after church that day.

The Mayo-Smiths invited all St. John's people (!) to visit them anytime they find themselves in Yorkshire. They left brochures and information about the Yorkshire area and churches, and we will share them at coffee hour sometime soon.

The Rev. Peter & Eileen Mayo-Smith
78 Prince Street
Haworth, Keighley BD 228 JD

—submitted by Pat & Mike Rieley

The June Vestry Report *Jenny Shutt, recording secretary*

The June meeting of the Vestry was held on Thursday, June 16, 2011. Senior Warden Pat Rieley called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Mary Page Gwaltney presented the financial reports and reported that the pledge income looked good and is on schedule. The audit proposal from Brenda Johnson was reviewed and presented. The vestry voted to approve the audit proposal.

Senior Warden's Report: Pat Rieley reported that she met with Jim Vest from the Diocesan Executive Committee. Among the items they discussed were the financial condition of the Diocese and the initial results of the Sustainability Committee report. She also reported that the Church Growth Committees and Liturgy Committees are working hard and making great progress. The Bedford Hospice House project is coming along nicely and vestry participation is encouraged. Plans for the visit from the Rev. Mayo-Smith and his wife Eileen are all set, and everyone is looking forward to their visit. Pat also reported that Tom Sendall, the sexton is retiring and read his resignation letter. The personnel committee will be meeting to discuss finding a replacement.

Junior Warden's Report: John Waff reported that he has spoken with several members of the congregation about having various roofers come and look at the roof over the nursery and give estimates for repairing it. He will have a proposal by the

September meeting. There are also some minor repairs that need to be done to the shed roof.

Possible new signage for St. John's was also discussed. This project is still in the research phase.

John further reported that one of the air conditioning units had gone bad, and the compressor was replaced. Most of the cost was covered by insurance.

Following a discussion on Vestry attendance and committee reports, the meeting closed with prayer at 7:45 pm. (No meeting in July.)

Respectfully Submitted,
—Jenny Shutt, Recording Secretary

Next meeting:
Wednesday, August 17, 6:00 pm

The Vestry

Pat Rieley Senior Warden
John Waff Junior Warden
Chandra Schmehl Clerk of the Vestry
Mary Page Gwaltney Treasurer
Pete Thomas Assistant Treasurer

Members:

Ethan Cooper	Heather Garrett
Tom Montgomery	Joyce Moorman
Martha Nowlin	Alan Pipkin
Don Rowe	
Kate Brown,	<i>Youth Representative</i>

Vestry Person of the Month for August:
Pat Rieley

Youth Group

Summers are always so busy! Between family vacations, Scout Camps, 4-H Camps and other summer activities it is hard to come up with a date for youth to go on a camping trip. We will announce the date in the bulletin soon.

Grace House Mission Trip

There is much excitement in the air as four from St. John's are packing up for the mission trip to Grace House from July 24th – 27th. Keith Ayers, Katrina Ayers, Brenda Church and Jim Church will represent St. John's on this trip. The mission theme is "If I Had a Hammer." Please remember our group as they travel and work at Grace House.

Adult Leaders Day Retreat

The diocese is sponsoring an Adult Leader Day Retreat at Evans House on Saturday, August 27th from 10:00–5:00. Guest speaker will be Elisabeth (Lisa) Kimball. Lisa Kimball joined the VTS faculty in 2009 as Director of the Center for Ministry of Teaching, and Professor of Christian Formation and Congregational Leadership.

National Episcopal Youth Event

"The Harvest is plenty but the workers are few." This was not the case at EYE—Minnesota as over a thousand youth and adults gathered as workers, exploring ways we can do mission work. Within our three days together we heard how to build, share and be fulfilled in mission work. We heard from some remarkable people, words of

Jim & Brenda Church, Leaders

great encouragement. I would like to share the thoughts of one whose words spiritually touched me, Dr. Rodger Y. Nishioka, Professor at Columbia Theological Seminary. He told youth they were prophets and visionaries. With this gift they have the power to do many things. They just need to have courage to stand up for what they believe in. This can be advice for all of us. Another speaker was Cameron Graham Vivanco. She and her husband are missionaries in Ecuador. She said "Sometimes it's better to just send money. The cost for a mission trip is expensive; your heart has to be in the right place." Our big mission for the week was building a zero-energy home and we did! The mission community was beautiful. On the roof stood the Bishop in mitre and full vestments blessing the newly built home, accompanied by a bagpiper in full regalia including tartan and kilt. Thus started the procession for our final worship. This included members of our diocese, playing handmade instruments. The music for the week was awesome! Our very own Sam Hensley and his group led the music for the week. They played all of our favorite songs, including "Lord of the Dance." From the workshops to the worship, to mission work, we were in community. I am so honored and blessed to have been a part of this journey. Thank you for this opportunity.

*God's Peace,
—Brenda Church*

Christian Formation

Kara Brown & Heather Garrett

Godly Play Training

Godly Play Training was a great experience. St. John's hosted a very successful Godly Play training weekend in June. Eight of our own St. Johnites joined with a half dozen others from within and beyond the Diocese to immerse ourselves in the theory and practice of Godly Play Christian Education. Our trainer, from Philadelphia, led us in a series of activities and practice sessions. *I wonder* how we'll do?... (inside joke) Our Education Committee and Godly Play teachers have met since then, to plan our new revised Godly Play class which begins this Fall. We have several new teachers, a more structured plan, changes to the classroom and lots of enthusiasm to start off our next season of Godly Play. It really is a wonderful program!

VBS "Growing in God"—August 7–10

Don't miss our Vacation Bible School Program, entitled "Growing In God." It runs evenings Sunday, August 7th through Wednesday the 10th from 6:00–8:30 pm. We're trying something a little different this year. Sunday evening we will be having a potluck picnic (hot dogs provided) on the front lawn. We will be hosting a Christian Bluegrass Band. Even if you can't join us for the rest of VBS, try to attend this first event for the whole parish, which promises to be lots of fun! Please bring a dish to share and a lawn chair. Other

evenings will include dinner and programs for children and adults. We plan to have music, drama, games (who can forget 'Jump the Jordan'), crafts and outreach activities. Remember to invite your friends and neighbors!

Please sign up in the Parish Hall if you are planning to attend. It will really help us with our planning and shopping! If you would like childcare for this event, please let the office know, and we will be happy to arrange it!

Looking Ahead...

Christian Education Classes Resume!!

We are in the midst of the hazy lazy days of summer, but it's not too soon to mark your calendar for the return of regular Sunday morning Christian Education Classes!

We will resume 9:30 classes on August 28th with a Fall kickoff celebration.

Following church, everyone is invited to the Brown's for a pool party and potluck! (Please bring a dish to share.) It should be a great day! Regular classes, including Adult Forum, resume on September 11th. Please consider joining us for Christian Education classes this year, even if you can't come every week!

Enjoy the rest of your summer! See you soon!

—submitted by Kara Wagner Brown

Christian Formation (cont.)

Fall Classes

Important Notice: There are changes in the ages and locations of our classes:

Nursery Class: Story and Playtime for our youngest children;
Meets upstairs in the Nursery

Godly Play: A worshipful hands-on class for our children age 4 through 3rd grade;
Meets upstairs in the Atrium (end of hall on the right)

Intermediate Class: Bible study class for our 4th through 6th Grades;
Meets in classroom upstairs directly at the end of the hall

Journey to Adulthood: A questioning class for our teens 7th – 12th grades;
Meets downstairs behind the kitchen to the left

Adult Forum: A discussion group on a variety of topics;
Meets in the Parish Hall

Church Nursery: Available during the
10:30 Worship Service for children under 5

CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

Sunday, August 7

9:30 Enquirer's Class
10:30 Worship Service/Children's Chapel
leaders: Wendy Witt & Kate Brown
6:00 VBS Kick-off Picnic

Monday, August 8

6:00 VBS "Growing In God"

Tuesday, August 9

6:00 VBS "Growing In God"

Wednesday, August 10

6:00 VBS "Growing In God"

Sunday, August 14

9:30 Enquirer's Class
10:30 Worship Service/Children's Chapel
leaders: Kara Brown & TBD

Sunday, August 21

9:30 Enquirer's Class
10:30 Worship Service w/Children's Sermon
(No Children's Chapel)

Sunday, August 28

First Day of Fall Classes

9:30 Sunday School Classes, Adult Forum
Enquirer's Class
10:30 Worship Service/Children's Chapel
leaders: Chandra Schmehl & Katrina Ayers
12:30 Potluck & Pool Party at the Brown's
(congregation is invited)

St. John's Episcopal Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
 <p><i>Pack-A-Bag for School! Remember to bring your donations & supplies by August 7th</i></p>	1	2
<p>Pentecost Eight 7</p> <p>8:00 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite I</i> 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>, Children's Chapel 11:30 am Lemonade on the Lawn 6:00 pm VBS Potluck and Bluegrass Band</p>	8	9
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 6:00-8:30 "GROW"		
	BD: Marsh Baker	
<p>Pentecost Nine 14</p> <p>8:00 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite I</i> 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>, Children's Chapel 11:30 am Lemonade on the Lawn</p>	15	16
		7:00 pm Cub Scouts
		BD: Shannon McGuirk Anv: Clay & Valerie Chastain
<p>Pentecost Ten 21</p> <p>8:00 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite I</i> 9:30 am Choir Practice 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite II</i> 11:30 am Lemonade on the Lawn 1:00 pm Godly Play training</p> <p>BD: Jim Vest</p>	22	23
	First Day of School	
	BD: Abbey Walker Anv: Charles & Janet Hardison Anv: Jim & Mary Harvey	
<p>Pentecost Eleven 28</p> <p>8:00 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite I</i> 9:30 am Choir Practice, Christian Formation Classes 10:30 am <i>Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>, Children's Chapel 11:30 am Lemonade on the Lawn 12:30 pm Sunday School Pool Party & Potluck</p> <p>BD: Kathie Childers, BD: Debbie Weber</p>	29	30
	Prepare Lunch at the Shepherd's Table	
	Anv: C. Boyd & Gloria Carr	BD: Kristy Waff BD: Emmy Weber

August 2011

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>12:15 pm HE/Healing Service</div> <div>1:00 pm DOK</div> <div>BD: David Rowe</div> <div>3</div>	<div></div> <div>BD: Nancy Henry Anv: Joe & Mary Page Gwaltney</div> <div>4</div>	<div>7:00 pm N.A. Mtg</div> <div>BD: Carol Cross BD: Langley Weber Jr.</div> <div>5</div>	<div></div> <div></div> <div>6</div>
<div>12:15 pm Holy Eucharist</div> <div>IVING IN GOD”</div> <div>BD: Gavin Weber</div> <div>10</div>	<div></div> <div>11</div>	<div>7:00 pm N.A. Mtg</div> <div>Anv: Robbie & Meredith Dooley</div> <div>12</div>	<div></div> <div>BD: Beth Bagley BD: Heather Garrett</div> <div>13</div>
<div>12:15 pm HE/Healing Service</div> <div>6:00 pm Vestry Meeting</div> <div></div> <div>17</div>	<div></div> <div>18</div>	<div>9:00 am-5:00 pm AARP Driver Safety Program</div> <div>7:00 pm N.A. Mtg</div> <div>BD: Ricky Guerin</div> <div>19</div>	<div></div> <div>BD: Meredith Dooley BD: Clarence Watkins</div> <div>20</div>
<div>12:15 pm Holy Eucharist</div> <div>BD: Shannon Johnson</div> <div>24</div>	<div></div> <div>BD: Lizbeth Laurell</div> <div>25</div>	<div>9:00 am-5:00 pm AARP Driver Safety Program</div> <div>7:00 pm N.A. Mtg</div> <div>BD: Marge Rucker</div> <div>26</div>	<div></div> <div>27</div>
<div>12:15 pm Holy Eucharist</div> <div>31</div>	<div>JULY 2011</div> <div>SMTWTFS</div> <div>12345678910111213141516171819202122232425262728293031</div>	<div>AUGUST 2011</div> <div>SMTWTFS</div> <div>12345678910111213141516171819202122232425262728293031</div>	<div>SEPTEMBER 2011</div> <div>SMTWTFS</div> <div>123456789101112131415161718192021222324252627282930</div>

Community Outreach

Marilyn Rowe

St. John's is assisting with the Pack-A-Bag program sponsored by the Department of Social Services. Your help is needed to gather school supplies for children in need in our community. We have helped with this project in past years. Let's all be generous and help again this year. Items that are most needed are: Kleenex, hand sanitizer, liquid hand soap, marble (black and white) composition books, binders and binder dividers. Your donations are needed at St. John's by Sunday, August 7, 2011.

Monetary donations are also greatly encouraged and appreciated so we can fill in those last minute gaps. Nancy Strachan will shop for those last minute items. Please make your check payable to St. John's and put "Pack-A-Bag" in the memo.

The Committee will once again sponsor an Organ Recital in the fall. The date has been set for October 16th at 2:00 pm. An offering will be taken for Bedford Christian Ministries.

Volunteers are needed for St. John's turn making and serving lunch at the Shepherd's Table on the following dates:

- Monday, August 29, 2011
- Friday, September 30, 2011
- Monday, October 31 (Halloween)
- Friday, December 30, 2011

Please contact Judy Whitehead at 297-5480 if you are able to help.

The Outreach Committee met on July 13th. Marilyn Rowe was elected as the new chairman of the committee, and Kathie Childers will serve as secretary.

Fellowship

Blu Ayers & Julia Baker

The reception on July 3rd for the The Reverend and Mrs. Peter Mayo-Smith from Bradford and a tribute to Tom Sendall on July 17th have rounded out our summer calendar. We continue to serve the church in the hot weather with "Lemonade on the Lawn or Linoleum."

Vacation Bible School is ahead and if you would like to help out with the Sunday cookout on August 7th or the meals on August 8-10, please call Blu Ayers.

Thanks to the Nancy and Danny Johnson for hosting the annual parish picnic on July 31st at their farm and orchard.

Looking ahead to September, the Bishop's visit will coincide with our annual "Back to School Potluck" on September 11th. The potluck is always a lot of fun and a nice way to get back into the Fall routine. This year we look forward to including Neff and Dorothy in the festivities.

Vestry Person of the Month

Alan Pipkin



VPOM August—

Pat Rieley

The Vestry Person for August is Pat Rieley, our Senior Warden. A native of Southwest Virginia, Pat has been an active member of St. John's for 16 years. She serves on the vestry, altar guild, personnel committee, transition committee among many other areas in the Church. As Senior Warden, Pat works tirelessly behind the scenes to assure that the business of the Church functions smoothly. Recently, she spearheaded the fundraising campaign for the Hospice House project here at St. John's, and organized the schedule of

activities for The Rev. Mayo-Smith's visit. She is a member of the P.E.O., Friday Book Club, Avenel Plantation Board and formerly served on the boards of the Bower Center, Longwood Industries, and worked as an election official for the City of Bedford. Pat and her husband Mike retired from Verizon a number of years ago where Pat was a very successful Customer Service manager. They like to travel, play with Coco Chanel their dog, and visit their grandchildren. They have three children: Laura in Alexandria; Alison in Forest; and Ben in Rustburg.

Daughters of the King

Blu Ayers, President

The Wednesday, August 3rd meeting of the Mary & Martha chapter of DOK begins with Holy Communion at 12:15 pm with the business meeting following the service.

Looking ahead to the Fall, our chapter will be participating in the DOK Fall Assembly on Saturday, October 29, 2011, at St. Peter, Altavista. The program will feature "Frannie's House" a safe house for women in Altavista which has been active for two years.

We will be meeting with all the DOK chapters in the Diocese including Christiansburg, Amherst, Blacksburg, Roanoke, Forest, Lynchburg and Altavista.

Our chapter is eager to begin a DOK study group of women wanting to know more about what it means to be a Daughter of King. Please ask any member: Blu Ayers, Betty Hueber, Louise Pipkin, Helen Ann Spessard, Joyce Moorman, Rebecca Mays or Pat Nelson for reading materials and more information.

Church Growth

Philip Baker

The Church Growth Committee held a newcomers picnic on Friday, June 10th. The Committee wishes to thank Joyce and Mike for the opportunity to enjoy their beautiful Thaxton home for the gathering. It was fun for all, and very well organized. Joyce and Mike even navigated weather and other hurdles without missing a beat. Among the newcomers in attendance were:

Steven & Marta Wandrei

“My wife Marta and I enjoyed attending the newcomers gathering at Mike and Joyce Mormon’s home. Since I usually attend the 8:00 service with my parents Bob and Ellen it was a great opportunity to meet new people and see others who I do not see as often. Marta and I would like to especially thank Mike and Joyce for their hospitality.”

Technically Steven is not a newcomer—he’s been a member of St. John’s all his life, but most members don’t “rise & shine” early enough to make it to the 8:00 service. Steve was recently elected by the Vestry to serve as an alternate to Diocesan Council.

Stan & Michelle Krycinski

Stan and Michelle also moved from Woodbridge, VA earlier this year, where they attended All Saints’ Church in Dale City. One of their two sons, his wife, and their children live here in Bedford. Stan is retired from the Department of the Navy, and Michelle is a semi-retired legal secretary and she has already begun serving on the

Altar Guild. They have recently started hiking, and are enjoying exploring the area.

John & Johanna Rowland

The Rowlands and their children (9-year old Mackenzie and 2-year old twins Reagan and J.T.) moved here from Brunswick, GA in March. Johanna’s mother, Lynn Taylor, who was visiting at the time, also attended the gathering. John is a linesman with Comcast, and works in Salem. Prior to being busy with the twins, Johanna worked as an Environmental Specialist with the Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources. She loves gardening at their home in Thaxton and cooking, while John enjoys golfing when he can find the time.

Also in attendance were **Kevin & Heather Binger** and their infant son **Jack**; **Lee Walker & Glen Weber** from Moneta; and **Evelyn Johnson** of Bedford. **Beth and Carolyn Bagley** had planned to attend, however Carolyn suffered a fall and they were unable to attend. Also **Ann Spradlin** of Bedford was not able to attend.

We heartily welcome these folks to St. John’s and look forward to getting to know them better.

—submitted by *Chandra Schmehl*

Foyer Dinner Groups

Ann Linkous & Kara Brown

Welcome to Foyers

Foyers are back this year and the sign-up sheet will be available in the Parish Hall during Coffee Hour on August 28th, and September 4th and 11th. We are hoping for four groups this year. After everyone signs up, the groups will be assigned and information will be sent out by September 25th.

Foyers are small, informal groups which share a meal together once a month. Each member (or couple) in the group takes a turn planning/hosting a covered-dish meal until the cycle is completed. This can be at the member's home, Dutch treat at a restaurant, informal buffet, picnic, brunch or even putt putt golf!

Some groups may want to make a firm repeating date, i.e. every 3rd Saturday, etc. Foyer groups can include singles as well as couples.

We're looking forward to an exciting time this year getting to know each other better. It is suggested that the first person listed in each group act as host/hostess for the October Foyers. This person should call each person in the group to finalize plans for the first "get together." The Foyer group from last year has suggested that we extend the year from October to May this way the groups will have more dates to consider and not worry about the holidays interfering.

We strive to have 7–10 people per group. If an individual is unable to attend a Foyers

meal, due to illness, family emergency, or some conflict, the host/hostess can invite someone who did not sign up to be included in Foyers. This is a great way to introduce the concept and to extend it within the St. Johns' family.

—submitted by Ann Linkous



End-of-Year Foyer Group picnic at the Peaks of Otter in June.

Rwandan HUGS

Nancy Strachan

Summer Yard Sale

A BIG HUG of appreciation to everyone from Rwandan HUGS and Nancy Strachan. Heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed time, talent, and treasure to our 3rd Annual Yard and Bake Sale. We met our goal and have \$2,008 in hand and proceeds from clothing and other items still to come will add to that amount. This is a collaborative labor of love and your donations and purchases assist us in serving our partners in Christ in Rwanda.

Prison Fellowship International

Nancy Strachan attended the Prison Fellowship International (PFI) Convocation in Toronto, Canada June 28-July 2. She was there at the invitation of Pastor Deo Gashagaza to manage the Prison Fellowship Rwanda booth. In addition to Pastor Deo she visited with Bishop John Rucyahana, retired Bishop of Shyira Diocese and founder of Sonrise School and many other PFI directors from 125+ countries where the Lord works miracles in thousands of prisons through PFI.



Goats!

We will have a visit from Susan Massie and one of her goats at our Vacation Bible School on Tuesday, August 9th. Please remember to save your spare change for goats. Our next goat distribution will go to another of Prison Fellowship Rwanda's inspiring reconciliation villages. Your donations help the poorest of the poor in Rwanda. Some of the families who come to goat distributions are too poor to afford a rope to take the goat home with them so we are now providing ropes to further assist them.

*With love and gratitude,
in Christ for Rwanda,
HUGS, —Nancy Strachan*

Prayers

Our Clergy and their Families: Pray for our Bishops, Katharine and Neff, and for Richard and Dorothy; for Wilson, our Rector, and Kara; Carol and Kay, our Deacons, and Michael and John; for the Parish Nurse Ministry; and for the Mother Teresa Orphanage and the Mustard Seed Project in Rwanda.

Diocese of Southwestern Virginia: Pray for the people and mission of R. E. Lee Memorial, Lexington. We also give thanks for the ministries carried out at the Phoebe Needles Center.

Diocese of Bradford: Pray for the members of the Dioceses Commission as they give further consideration to the possibilities for reorganization of the Yorkshire Dioceses following initial responses from parishes and dioceses and for all involved at diocesan level both here in Bradford Diocese .

Episcopal Church of Sudan: Pray for the diocese of Yambio and for the Rt. Rev. Peter Munde Yacoub; for all Sudanese people without shelter; and who are thirsty and hungry.

Daughters of the King: Pray for all those on their prayer list.

Pray for all those who are sick, especially Beverly, Ted, Shannon, Diane, Cornelia, Fern, Charlotte, Michael, Pat, Wesley, Dennis, Anna, Nancy, Chuck, Sandy, Sonny, Ann, Fred, Jane, Deborah, Steve, Margaret, Dee, Teresa, Peggy, Jim, Carolyn, Hal, Linda, Joseph, Sandra, Karen, Annis, Ed, Barbara, Winston, Mildred, and Jaquelyn that they may have improved health.

For all those who are shut-in or who have suffered a loss, especially Jane, Polly, Delphine, Marion, Gladys, Bill, Virginia, Louise, Vera and Arline, that they may know God's comforting spirit.

Pray for all members of the Armed Forces, especially those deployed from Company "A" and "C," and Rob, Joe, Chris, Shawn, Keeley, Ben, Jamie, John, Chuck, Mark and Preston.



Around St. John's

The Browns enjoyed a fabulous Colorado vacation in June. Highlights included jeeping in the San Juan Mountains, diesel and steam train rides, exploring ancient native American cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde, rolling down sand dunes at the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, seeing dinosaur tracks and fossilized trees, horseback riding, hiking, picnicking and playing games together. ✚

Update on The Bedford House

Hospice House Suite #2—St. John's project

"When days are few, life should flourish."

Those words are the motto of The Bedford House for the terminally ill which will be opening its doors soon after years of dreaming and hard work.

"St. John's Episcopal Church strives to teach God's word and do God's work to improve the spiritual and physical well-being of its congregation and the surrounding community."

Those words are the Mission Statement of St. John's Episcopal Church in Bedford.

Less than two months ago, The Bedford House approached St. John's and asked for help in decorating a patient's suite. With Wilson's blessing I turned to the good people of St. John's for physical and monetary help. The response was tremendous! You may have contributed monetarily; bought a raffle ticket; participated in the silent auction; shopped; sewed; consulted; or all of the above. However you helped . . . we thank you.

The anticipated opening date for The Bedford House is August 1st. We will keep you apprised so that you can visit and take pride in the work of your parish and our outreach.

Committee: Nancy Johnson, Louise Pipkin, Brenda Arbogast, Ann Linkous, Kathie Childers, Jo Bell, Nancy Strachan, Mike Rieley, Pat Rieley

—*Blessings, Pat Rieley.* ✚

While **Bob Copenhaver** served as our visiting priest on July 10, he mentioned that he and Mimi will be relocating by mid-August to The Glebe in Daleville, VA. Good wishes for a safe move & happiness in the new surroundings. ✚

Thanks to our other supply priests this summer: **Doug Wigner**, and **Bob Morrison.** ✚

Barbara Murphy is loving her new location where she moved following her recent surgery. We know she'd love to get messages from St. John's. ✚

We bid a fond farewell to **Tom Sendall**, who served as our Sexton for the past several years. **Wilson Brown** thanked Tom for his service and presented him with a silver music box during the 10:30 service on July 17th. Tom is looking forward to retirement and spending more time with his family. Best Wishes Tom—we will miss you! ✚

Around St. John's (cont.)

St. John's extends our best wishes to our Deacon **Kay Waff** and to **Peggy Jeffreys** (daughter of Margaret Noell) on their accidents resulting in Kay's left wrist and Peggy's right wrist being broken. ✝

We loved having **Carolyn Bagley** back in church on July 24th after a hospital stay at U. of Virginia and at Oakwood Manor in Bedford. **Beth** is also pleased to have the family all together at their new home (103 Mockingbird Circle). ✝

We're glad to know that **Winston Kendrick** is feeling stronger after a recent hospital stay. Hope to see you soon, Winston. ✝

Our sympathy to **Cathey Burks** on the loss of her grandmother, Marie, in Arkansas, and to **Anna, Kate & Watts** on the loss of their great-grandmother. ✝

Soon we'll be saying goodbye to **Kate Burks** as she leaves for her teaching position in the Chugach school district of Alaska. Enjoy this new experience and drop us a postcard ! ✝

Mahindran Yadava, who was the houseboy and office boy during **Michael & Carol Cross'** time in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, visited them in July. Mahindran and his wife Kokila, and their two children are from Madras, India. As a teenager, Michael & Carol encouraged Mahindran to learn English and continue his education. Their encouragement appears to have paid off—

Mahindran did complete his education, became a successful businessman, and has traveled around the world. ✝

We're sending good wishes for health and recovery to **Betty Hueber** who is being treated for her back and her knee. ✝

Darren Craig's mother, Dee, has been released from a rehabilitation facility in Vinton following treatment for cancer. We extend our thoughts and prayers to **Darren & Katy Craig** for her comfort. ✝

We welcome back **Judy Whitehead** who returned from helping her son and daughter-in-law move to larger quarters at West Point. She arrived home in time to coordinate Shepherd's Table on July 29th. ✝

Please give your contributions to "Around St. John's" to Rebecca Mays or email them to Chandra at stjohnsnewsletter@verizon.net.

The deadline for the September newsletter is Wednesday, August 17th.

