



# The Crossing

Fall 2010 Edition

August 31, 2010

## Puddles to Clouds

From the Rector

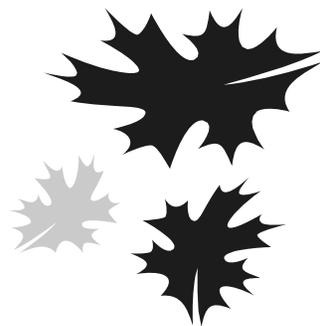


**A**s I write this, I am coming off of a week here at St. John's that has been rather difficult. Last week I was spending time at Johnson-Willis Hospital with Rick Johnson and his family as Rick's life hung in the balance. While there was some hope that the procedures that were done would help his condition, it was a long shot. After a couple of days, Rick's struggle ended as he passed away.

Rick was only fifty five years old. He was only three years older than I am. His death made me rather introspective and pensive as I was confronted with my own mortality. Before Rick went to the hospital, earlier in the day, he was the Lector, sang a patriotic solo for Independence Day, and served with me at the altar being a chalice bearer at our 10:30 AM service. He was so full of life and vitality. All I could come up with was, "I just don't understand." Perhaps we don't have to understand. Perhaps when we don't understand is precisely the time we must lean on our faith. Faith

that life is not ended, only transformed.

One day last week after a heavy shower at home, I noticed a large muddy



puddle of water by the roadside. Some of the children in the neighborhood were wading in it. It was probably the children that made me notice it. Sometime later I went by the spot again. The children were gone, but the water was still there. Much of the silt had sunk to the bottom. The surface of the water had become a mirror reflecting the trees and the sky.

I guess life is a lot like that. All of us are conscious of the silt that muddies our lives. Sometimes we let the world churn it up. But, when we become quiet before God, the silt drops away, and we can reflect something of God's divine nature.

Still later, I went by the same place again. The water was gone. It had evaporated leaving the silt behind to show where the water had been. Then I looked up, and directly over where the puddle had been, there was a beautiful white cloud. The puddle was transformed into something new. It was almost as if the water from that puddle had gone to make that particular cloud.

Someday people will say of us, "They're gone." But that won't be the end of us any more than evaporation brings an end to the water. The water does not cease to be when it vanishes from our sight. It is transformed into another form from which God can make a beautiful cloud.

So, faith leads us to believe, it will be with us at the time of our own death. The silt of the flesh will be left behind. But the soul, the self, will be released to be clothed in what Paul called a spiritual body in which can experience all the freedom and joy of heaven (1 Corinthians 15:44, 49).

*Fr. Bill*

## St. John's Calendar of Events

### Upcoming Events Save these Dates!

- **Sept 11**—Layreader, Chalice Bearer, Lector Breakfast & Meeting @ 8:30 am
- **Sept 12**—Youth Sunday School begins @ 10:30 am in Church
- **Sept 12**—Adult Forum @ 9:15 am - Open Forum Topics & Discussion
- **Sept 12**—"Sundae Sunday" in Genesis Room in Ribble Hall after 10:30 am Service
- **Sept 19**—Choir Family Picnic @ Cobblestone after Church
- **Sept 21**—Men's Dinner @ 6 pm in Ribble Hall
- **Sept 23**—Vestry Meeting @ 7 pm in Eppes Hall
- **Sept 26**—All Worship Services @ 10 am - Confirmation with Bishop Hollerith
- **Oct 2**—Blessing of the Animals @ 10 am - Merchant's Hope Church
- **Oct 17**—Acolyte Training after 10:30 am Service
- **Oct 21**—Vestry Meeting @ 7 pm in Eppes Hall
- **Nov 7**—All Saints' Day Services - United Thank Offering Sunday
- **Nov 7**—Daylight Saving Time Ends - Set Clocks Back 1 Hour
- **Nov 14**—Deadline for articles for the Advent/Christmas Newsletter
- **Nov 20**—Holiday Bazaar
- **Nov 23**—Thanksgiving Service @ 7pm (Tuesday)

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> HALF 2010

The following is an explanation of the status of St. John's Budget as we hit the halfway point in the year. To refresh your memory, we changed accounting systems a couple months ago. What you may not be aware of is that we improved the reporting system by moving some accounts.

This will explain what we moved & how it affected the budget.

Approved 2010 budget:

2010 budget income = \$183,366.

2010 Budget expenses = \$181,434 This showed us with the budget under spent by \$2,932.

When we started the ACS program (See elsewhere in this newsletter: **New Database & Accounting System**) we wanted to create a number of "Limited Restricted" accounts. These accounts are designed to accumulate funds that can roll from year to year whereas our yearly budget ends on December 2010. At that point any excess funds go into the General Fund and we approve a new budget for the following year. Three of these accounts are the Rector's Discretionary Fund, the Ribble Modernization Fund and the Missions Outreach Fund. These accounts are not part of the yearly ongoing budget.

To do this we removed/reallocated funds that were in the original budget. On the Income side we moved the Special Giving (\$8,000) and Rector's Discretionary (\$500) to "Limited Restricted" thus reducing our income by \$8500. As far back as I can remember, the Vestry has had a problem determining what went into Special Giving. We felt that \$2,000 of it funded the Missions (formerly Parish Life & Outreach) in Program Expense so that was a wash. The remainder of Special Giving is Memorials, Church Holidays, Ribble Modernization, Rector's Discretionary, etc.

On the Expense side we removed the \$2,000 Missions (formerly Parish Life & Outreach) line item and funded it

### Memorial Garden Ready to Receive Ashes

The Memorial Garden at St. John's is now a place where the ashes of parishioners and their families, past and present, may be buried or scattered. A brick stand will be constructed and a bronze plaque will be placed on it. The plaque has been ordered and should be delivered within 90 days. It has room for 50 name plates that can be engraved with the person's name, date of birth, and death. The cost for this service is \$500, plus \$200 for the engraving of the name plate. The cost of cremation is not included and should be arranged through a funeral home. Two name plates have already been ordered.

The Memorial Garden Committee consists of Irene Cobb (Chairman), Fr. Bill Taylor, Patty Townes, George Mahaney, & Anne Broyhill. If you have any questions please contact the chairman.

In the future we are investigating the possibility of adding a columbarium in the front part of the church graveyard.

out of the newly formed "Limited Restricted" Missions Outreach Fund. Also on the Expense side the Vestry voted to move \$1,800 from the Money Market Account to the Operating Account to help cover the cost of the ACS program. The Vestry also voted to increase the Budget to cover the additional ACS cost above the \$1,800.

As of this date our Income Budget is \$174,866 and our Expense Budget is \$180,334. This gives us a negative budget of \$5,468. This is a \$8,400 swing from January 2010. This does not include the "Limited Restricted" funds. We have \$1,832 in Church Holiday giving, have received and spent over \$2,220 in Outreach, and \$580 in memorial funds. And the funds are all identifiable.

Thanksgiving Service  
Tuesday, November 23  
7:00 PM

## WANTED: Treasurer

**S**t. John's is currently in need of someone to fill the position of Church Treasurer. Carlton Townes has found it necessary to resign after doing an excellent job of handling the Church finances for over 7 years.

The Treasurer will be responsible for monitoring and supervising the financial information of the Church. The Finance Committee has installed a Church Management computer program to assist in this effort. The program is located on a remote server so it can be operated from home. The program includes several modules: People, Pledge, Bill/Pay, Payroll & General Ledger. The program has been operational since July 1 with January thru June having been installed. The Church Secretary, Mary Parlier, is responsible for the People module. Sue Tinsley is doing the Pledge module with Gail Buyalos in training. Brian McDonald is trying to hold the Bill/Pay, Payroll & General Ledger together. Sue is in training as his backup. Jennifer Parr has provided technical expertise. The new Treasurer will replace Brian McDonald who is holding the position pro tem.

The Treasurer will pay bills, salaries, etc. using the Church Management program and online checking which is currently operating at SunTrust. The Treasurer will also provide a monthly budget report for the Finance Committee to present to the Vestry. A bookkeeping background is helpful. This position will take 3-5 hours per week with the majority of the work being done on a home computer.

If you are interested please contact Rev. Bill or Brian McDonald.

## Usher Recruiting Has Begun!

**W**e are in the process of revamping our procedures for the Ministry of Ushers/Greeters. Our goal is to have a number of joyful individual, couples, families, and young people sign up to be ushers/greeters on Sunday mornings and special occasions. We will schedule ushers just as we schedule lectors and chalice bearers with a list sent out a couple of months in advance. If you are unable to usher on a particular Sunday, there will be a list of folks who you can call to trade, etc. We will have training sessions as needed and a procedure booklet for ushers so you won't be caught off guard in

what you need to do.

There will be a sign up board in the Narthex for your consideration. The more folks who sign up, the less times you will be scheduled in each scheduling period. We will always strive to make sure families are scheduled together.

Please help us out with this most important ministry. You are the first person folks will encounter as they come in to our church.

## Offering DOs and DON'Ts

**T**he Vestry is extremely grateful for the many years of service that Carlton Townes gave as treasurer of St. John's, and wishes all of God's blessings for him as he retires. St. John's has adopted a new accounting routine, and in order to help with this process, parishioners' compliance with a few offering dos and don'ts would be of enormous assistance. Thanks for your cooperation!

**DOs:** Please remember to:

- Use your offering envelope on the date printed at the top
- If using a pew envelope, write your name and/or number on the envelope
- If making multiple contributions, put all contributions in one correctly dated envelope
- Clearly denote non-pledge contributions using the memo line of the check

**DON'Ts:** Please be so kind as to not do the following:

- Submit multiple envelopes with different dates on one Sunday
- Use someone else's envelope for a contribution (you may not get credit for it)

Thanks – hopefully this will minimize confusion and reduce the possibility of errors!

-St. John's Vestry

Please fill out and send in your information sheets! A sheet is included in the center of this newsletter for your convenience.



## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Come join in the fellowship immediately after church in the Bercaw Room in Eppes Hall.

We are planning to continue this gathering into the Fall, but we need folks help to facilitate these gatherings. There is a chart to sign up for Sunday fellowship duty in the Narthex of the Church.

It couldn't be easier. You will need to supply only coffee and some kind of cold beverage, ice, cookies, donut holes or anything simple to snack on. Please no sandwiches or cake.

Arrive at church just a few minutes early to set up, come to church and then leave either right after communion or just before the recessional hymn. Remember—It's all about FELLOWSHIP!!! We need your help! Everyone can pitch-in.

## Sunday School Fall Program 2010

We had a wonderful experience with this summer's Vacation Bible School program, which used a theme of outer space to present modern-day versions of stories about Jesus. A special thanks goes out to those parents who provided some delicious and creative snacks.

We would like to continue studying the life of Jesus this fall, with the emphasis on the parables told by Jesus, especially those that involve morals and ethics. We had spent much of the past on the Old Testament stories and would like to go with the New Testament for a time. A major emphasis this fall is to encourage all of our children to attend Sunday School as often as possible, and to get them to bring their parents to church as well.

Other events related to Sunday School this fall include (1) confirmation of six of our young people who completed their confirmation classes last spring (the Bishop is coming on September 26 to conduct the confirmation) and (2) a possible trip for acolytes to the Washington Cathedral (please let Father Bill know soon if you are interested in this).

Our fall Sunday School program begins September 14. We look forward to seeing all of the children (and their parents) this fall and throughout the year.

*A number of parishioners have asked for a reprint of Fr. Bill's article on cremation. So here it is for a second time.*

## Some Thoughts on Cremation

by Fr. Bill

For many generations, the burial places for human bodies were in and around the church. Then as time passed, customs changed, restrictions were imposed and people in many cases had to be buried elsewhere. Recently, concern in human affairs has brought about much interest in cremation of bodily remains. This has made it possible to once again return to the tradition of making one's final resting place on the grounds of the church. The Memorial Garden at St. John's is a beginning for us. There are plans for a future columbarium to be built in the cemetery area next to the church.

Cremation is an old tradition and has been widely practiced throughout the world from earliest times. As Christians we regard burning as a proper, reverent way of disposing of objects blessed for religious use, such as prayer books, altar linens and palms. By common Christian consent, we agree that this is a reverent way of recycling that which has been set apart and used to the glory of God. Christians who favor cremation have every right or reason to cite this principle. Cremation was accepted by the Church of England and the Episcopal Church many years ago, and the National Church supports cremation as an acceptable, proper and dignified way of treating the human body at the time of death. There is nothing in scripture that forbids cremation. Almost a quarter of all Americans now choose cremation over other means of burial.

In response to this need, churches have established special facilities for the care and safekeeping of cremated remains. This may be either a special garden area, a columbarium, or both. The word columbarium is derived from the Latin for "dovecote," the compartmented housing for doves. Dove is also the symbol of God's Spirit and of peace.

I personally have chosen for my remains to be cremated and buried in a plot at Yeocomico Church Graveyard, Westmoreland County. This is where my brother, Bryce's mother, and my dad are buried.

If you would like to discuss cremation or any other matters concerning end of life issues, please feel free to give me a call. It is never too soon to put into writing what your wishes are for end of life matters.

## Parishioner Profiles by Pat Doherty

Meet Brian (Mac) and Faye McDonald.

I asked Faye how they met since Brian is originally from Massachusetts and Faye from North Carolina. They met on a blind date while both were working in DC. Faye worked for the FBI and Brian was in the Navy, working at the Pentagon. That was 51 years ago! Brian served 26 years in the Navy during this time, moving to such locations as Hawaii, Washington State, Alexandria, and Winchester, VA. During this period their three children Jeff, Chris, and Holly were born.

In 1972 Brian and his family moved to the Hopewell area and Brian went to work for Reynolds Aluminum. The family joined St. John's Church. As members of St. John's, Brian and Faye have served the church in many capacities. Both have been members of the choir, where Brian still sings. Brian has been on the vestry many times and has been responsible for much of the recent renovation in the church. Faye has also been church secretary, chairman of the Altar Guild, and treasurer of St. Martha's Guild. Brian is once again serving as senior warden, while Faye still serves on the Altar Guild.



## Men's Dinner Planned

A Men's Group Dinner is planned for Tuesday, September 21, 2010. Mark your calendars now. This is a great opportunity for fathers and sons and friends to share some time together in fellowship as well as a great meal. A free-will offering is taken. It is always a great time enjoyed by all who attend. Our agenda is to make plans for a fund raising event in the near future. We look forward to seeing you there.



## NEW DATABASE & ACCOUNTING SYSTEM

The Vestry has voted to install a Church Management computer program called ACS. This program will help us manage our information, resources, and money better and once set up will help Mary, Rev. Bill and the Treasurer work more efficiently. The program is located on a remote server in South Carolina. This will allow the people that need access to the system to do so from their homes.

The program includes several modules. The People module contains all our members and information about them. From People we are able to print labels to send mail to just the members of the Choir, Altar Guild or Vestry all from the same list. We will no longer need to maintain many separate lists. With this system when you change your phone number we only have to change it in one place.

The Pledge module contains the giving of our members and records contributions in our budget and our accounting program. It also produces our quarterly and year end giving reports.

The Bill Pay module assists us in paying our bills. Most of this is done with on-line or electronic banking. It records the payments in the budget and the accounting program.

The Payroll module pays our employees, withholds their deductions, calculates and pays their taxes, and creates the reports required by the government.

And last but not least, the program includes the Parochial Report. This yearly report is required by the Diocese the first quarter of each year and has to be filled out by Rev. Bill and Mary. They were both pretty happy about the Parochial Report until they found out that they need to put the information in the program. Bummer!!!

The program has been operational since July 1 and the next quarterly Giving Report will come from the new system. The Church Secretary, Mary Parlier, is responsible for the People module. Sue Tinsley is doing the Pledge module with Gail Buyalos. Brian McDonald is doing the Bill Pay, Payroll & General Ledger until a permanent Treasurer can be identified and brought up to date. Sue is in training as his backup.

We are just scratching the surface of this program but it looks very promising.

## RIBBLE HALL UPGRADE

To date we have received 28 completed Survey Forms on the Ribble Hall Upgrade project. It has become obvious that we need to explain the project better. This is in response to the questions and comments we received on some of the surveys.

Most houses today have a 200 amp electrical service. St. John's has a 200 amp service that provides all the electrical needs for the Church and Ribble Hall. This includes six heat/air conditioning units each one being larger than we have in our homes. The kitchen in Ribble Hall has 6 functioning outlets. The Genesis Room has 4 outlets and 3 of them are by the kitchen door.

Many of our older members don't come to our functions in the Genesis Room because of the stairs. Our closest handicap bathroom is in Eppes Hall. We need a handicap ramp and bathroom.

The great majority of the windows have rotted away, leaving only storm windows to maintain heat and air conditioning. The windows need to be replaced.

The lighting in the kitchen and Genesis Room is inadequate and needs to be replaced.

The walls are peeling from years of poor exterior drainage control. The drainage problem has been corrected and the humidity in the basement is under control. We propose to install frame walls with moisture resistant sheet rock and a ventilation system to circulate air behind the frame walls. We also propose to put in drop ceilings in all the rooms downstairs with adequate lighting.

We propose to convert the abandoned boiler room into a pantry. The existing exterior door into the boiler room will be sealed and a new door installed from the kitchen. The pantry will have adjustable chrome shelving for storage. For ease of cleaning we want to install epoxy coating to the kitchen, pantry & bathroom floors. We want to tile the floor in the Genesis Room.

And last but not least, the kitchen. We have been as-

sured that if there is a decent kitchen it will be used. The cabinets have outlived their usefulness. In places the cabinet bases are rotted from repeated flooding. The flooding problem has been eliminated. We want to install a stainless steel kitchen. It will include a triple sink with garbage disposal, dishwasher that washes a load in 85 seconds, an ice-maker, a double door refrigerator, a new gas stove with a fire suppression system, stainless steel tables and a minimum of 16 double outlets.

### Response to questions/comments:

1. **Timing is terrible.** Current construction unemployment is 27%. Contractors have dropped their prices to keep their help working. Restaurants have closed down so used kitchen equipment is readily available at a good price. This is a good time to do the upgrade.

2. **Can we do it on a smaller scale?** The only work we could not do is the pantry. The cost of the Pantry is \$7,000. Then we would need to find a storage area.

3. **Will the kitchen be used enough?** The only room we have for meeting that has kitchen access is in Eppes and it is not large enough for the congregation. Rev Bill meets there with his classes. The Genesis Room will have the ability to have meetings that include video projection capability. The men of St. John's currently have 3-4 dinners a year. They also have the pancake supper. The Hopewell Garden Club meets here monthly. St Martha's Guild has numerous functions during the year. I have been assured that if the kitchen is completed it will be used and we will be using the dishes that are in the cabinets.

4. **Is the investment worth it?** Yes. The project dollars and sweat equity make the return on investment workable. What we can't measure is the investment in the future of St. John's. This renovation will give us a pleasant, modern place for the entire congregation to meet whether it be for a meal, Adult Sunday School or just Coffee Hour. That is an investment you just can't put a dollar figure on. It is an investment in the Church's future.

## HELP, HELP, HELP!!

By Mary Parlier, Choir Director

We really, really need your help... body and voice! We have been devastated by the loss of two of our valuable members of the choir during the past months and we are in search of some new singers to help rebuild our ranks.

We especially need male voices, as is evidenced by the few number of men in the choir on Sunday mornings. We are very grateful for Red, Brian and Laurel, who are faithful and talented, but they need some support, especially if one or more of



them needs to be absent.

We would also be grateful for more women's voices to add to our group. If you can be available on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. for rehearsals and can "carry a tune", please consider joining us. Don't use the excuse that you can't read music...we'll help you with that.

This choir is a fun-loving bunch and would welcome you with "open arms". Do consider helping us with the music for St. John's.

## Rectory Sale

As many of you are aware, the Vestry has decided to sell the Rectory. This has not been a quick decision on the Vestry's part. It has been discussed many times over the last few years. It became decision time when the current renter informed us that he wanted to stop renting and buy a house.

The days of the Priest being provided a house next to the Church have long past. Most priests today want to buy a house to build equity like we do. And to be honest, we don't make good landlords. The responsibility rolls from reluctant vestry member to reluctant vestry member. It is just not our ministry. If we were to turn the Rectory over to an agency to manage we would have no control over who rented the property. And the agency charges 10% of the rent to manage the property. The rent is not all profit. We have to pay taxes and maintain the property. The Vestry feels more profit can be made by investing the proceeds of the sale than we are currently making by renting, and that money would be tax exempt.

So, where are we in the process? The Vestry has approved to proceed with the sale process. The Church Trustees have agreed on the sale. We are having an appraisal done to give us a realistic value of the property and we have a prospective buyer. The Church property is in two sections. One section includes Ribble Hall, the Church, Cemetery and Eppes Hall. The second section covers the Rectory. The Rectory section was made up of five lots. The edge of the Rectory section was on the edge of Ribble Hall so we have gone through the process of moving one 30 foot wide lot from the Rectory Section to the Church section. Next in the process is to agree on a price, write a contract and complete the sale paperwork.



**Acolyte Training**

**October 17**

# Acolytes

There will be a training session for acolytes and crucifers on Sunday, October 17 after the 10:30 AM Service. This session is geared to focus on the procedures we have introduced into the worship services, to refresh and to learn some new procedures put in place by Fr. Bill.

Any young people interested in serving the church in this capacity are encouraged to attend. If you can carry a torch (candle) we want YOU!

## ACOLYTE FESTIVAL

**Saturday, October 9, 2010**

at

**Washington National Cathedral**

Join us for an exciting day of worship, celebration, and enrichment at the Washington National Cathedral.

We would have to stay the night in the Washington metro area to be there for check-in and registration at 8:30 am. The cost of the trip will be \$25.00 each. This will include travel to and from D.C., dinner along the way, breakfast, worship at the Cathedral, lunch on the Cathedral grounds, workshops in the afternoon and a snack stop on the way back home Saturday.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful opportunity to go to the Cathedral for a day to celebrate with Acolytes from around the country, please let Fr. Bill know before September 12th. We need to be pre-registered by September 24th to participate.

## Holiday Bazaar News by Carol Hayes

Saturday, November 20, 2010 is the date set for the annual Holiday Bazaar.

Although St. Martha's Guild organizes the bazaar, all parishioners are encouraged to be involved sharing their time and talents. We know that there are a lot of creative people here at St. John's. There is definitely a place for everyone. We especially need someone to help with publicity. If you feel that this is something you would be interested in, please contact me. I can be reached at 458-6539 or at my email carosel230@aol.com.

It is certainly not too early to think about contributions to the bake table, craft and gift sections or the Christmas area. One of our new focuses this year will be a "green" area featuring items that are reusable or recycled. We hope to get lots of suggestions for this. Think GREEN!

Some of us are already hard at work making things. We will be having workshops starting in September. Watch the weekly bulletins for dates and times. We will try to accommodate schedules by doing some Saturday and/or evenings and weekday mornings. If you are interested, please let me know so that we can use our time to the fullest. There will be things to do at all levels of expertise.

Again this year we will have vendor tables available for rent for \$25.00. If you or anyone you know is interested, please let me know.

The proceeds from the bazaar are divided between things needed (or wanted) at St. John's and outreach in the community and beyond.

We hope to make this our biggest and best Holiday Bazaar yet.

## Many Thanks to Carlton Townes!

For more than seven years, Mr. H. Carlton Townes has served St. John's as Treasurer. Carlton's knowledge, perseverance, and insight have led the parish to a sound financial position. His leadership has helped create an atmosphere of transparency and trust among not only the vestry but all parishioners.

In order for us to continue to do the job Carlton was doing, we were forced to look into a new computer program to set up our finances. While computers are helpful, real live interactive treasurers are better. Thank you Carlton for a job well done! We miss you and wish you many blessings for a speedy recovery from your illness.

## Bishop Hollerith's Visitation to St. John's set for September 26<sup>th</sup>



The Rt. Rev. Herman "Holly" Hollerith will be with us on September 26<sup>th</sup> for Baptism, Confirmation, and an informal time of reception in his honor after the service. We will combine our 8:00 AM service and our 10:30 AM service and change our time to 10:00 AM. All persons who would like to be Confirmed or Received as a member of the Episcopal Church and St. John's Parish in particular are asked to let the office know before September 12<sup>th</sup> so that we can prepare the appropriate forms needed for our Service. If you would like to be Confirmed or Received and have not been to any of the classes, please let Fr. Bill know ASAP so we can set up a crash course on the Episcopal Church.

**So what is the difference in being Confirmed and being Received?** The difference is that if you were Confirmed in either the Roman Catholic Church or the Evangelical Lutheran Church with the laying on of hands by a bishop in the Apostolic tradition you would be Received into the Episcopal Church as a member. If you come from another denomination or no denomination at all or grew up in the Episcopal Church, yet baptized in any tradition, you will be Confirmed as a member of the Episcopal Church. If you have already been Confirmed in the Episcopal Church you can also come before the Bishop and be blessed in the Reaffirmation of Faith.

## The Blessing of the Animals at Merchant's Hope Church Saturday, October 2, 2010 - 10:00 AM



St. Francis is credited with saying, "Creatures minister to our needs every day. Without them, we could not live, and, through them the human race greatly offends the Creator every time we fail to appreciate so great a blessing." Legends have been passed down extolling his rapport with animals and extending so widely that he preached to birds and tamed a wolf with only his words. Even so, there is evidence that the tradition of blessing animals cropped up even before his time.

Diana L. Guerrero, who wrote, "Blessing of the Animals: A Guide to Prayers & Ceremonies Celebrating Pets & Other Creatures," found that the tradition of blessing pets can be traced back via anecdotal evidence to the fourth century and, specifically, to St. Anthony Abbot (also known as St. Anthony of the Desert). "Tales indicate the current Western animal-blessing traditions originated in Italy. Associated with St. Anthony, the patron saint of the animal kingdom, these were probably the historical antecedents of blessing ceremonies performed in England,

Switzerland, Austria, Spain and Mexico," she writes.

St. John's will be among many other places of worship around the world to hold its Blessing of the Animals' Service on the lawn at Merchant's Hope Church on October 2nd, 2010 at 10:00 AM.

Feel free to bring your pets and other creatures for this special service honoring our pets and service animals: the love we give them and the love they give us in return. Bring a lawn chair and join the voices of those who bark, meow, tweet, hiss, neigh, quack, cluck, honk, moo, or any others praising God for his gift of all creatures.

## Parishioner Tidbits and News by Fr. Bill

A funny thing happened in Alaska this summer. The Sansone Family booked a cruise in Alaska for vacation. Keith and Carol Hayes also had booked an Alaskan cruise on a totally different ship. Neither family knew that the other was going to Alaska at the same time. Well low and behold, guess who just happened to run into each other at Mendenhall Glacier in Juneau on June 20th. Go figure. It sure is a small world.



The Hayes' must really get around. As they headed up to a reunion in upstate New York, they stopped at a rest stop in Pennsylvania. Well, who should be resting at the same time, at the same rest stop, but Conrad and Irene Cobb who were going to upstate New York for a school reunion themselves. The reunions were at different schools.

Alaska must have been the destination of the summer for St. John's parishioners. Faye and Brian McDonald flew to Alaska for a two week adventure over land. I hear Brian brought back some great Halibut from a fishing trip he took. I am glad he remembered to bring Faye back as well!

Early in the summer we had a visitor to St. John's. He was black and about 7 feet long. He must have enjoyed several meals nearby as he was pretty thick through the mid section as well. He was last seen sunning himself along the church's brick wall near the sidewalk. I am sorry to say that he was unable to fill out a visitor card. I guess that was because he didn't have any arms or legs. I am guessing his name was Mat. We are not sure where he went. I have been looking under my desk in my office and under the altar in the church. But I don't think anyone has to worry because he looked very full. You know, I haven't seen any church mice lately either.

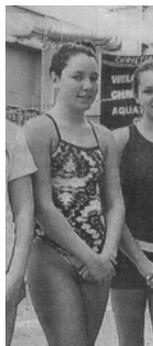


Congratulations go to Christina Bailey for being elected Mayor of Hopewell succeeding Brenda S. Pellam! It is always good to know that we at St. John's have an in at City Hall. I have advised Christina not to kiss too many babies. There are still some strains of the H1N1 virus out there. I am not sure if we have to bow to Her Honor when we are in her presence, but I will look the protocol up on the Internet and let you know. Mayor Luman-Bailey will serve through June 30, 2012.



On the anniversary of Jim and Jean Micklem's wedding at St. John's, on June 12th at 10:30 AM, their granddaughter, Suzanne Shepherd was married to Mr. Blair Kenyon at the same altar where the Micklem's marriage took place some 52 or 53 years ago. It was a joyous ceremony for all in attendance.

July 31st was the day of the Celebration and Blessing of the Marriage of Allyson G. Hunter and Hunter R. Wells. The ceremony started at 4:30 PM with a packed church of well wishers. Allyson is the daughter of Charles and Wendy Hunter, and the Granddaughter of Kathryn Hunter and the late Roy Hunter. Hunter is the son of Leigh and Elizabeth (Betsy) Wells.



I couldn't help but see our own Chandler Shirer in the August 11th edition of The Progress-Index. Chandler, one of about 11 swimmers in the Virginia Association of Competitive Swimming (VACS) went to the Virginia State Swimming Championships at Virginia Tech. Chandler also represented VACS and Virginia August 11-14th in Rockville, Maryland at the Eastern Zone meet. Chandler is an acolyte here at St. John's and the daughter of parishioners Scotty and Kim Shirer.

Congratulations again to our High School grads entering college this Fall: Mary Sansone to Longwood University, Nikki Parish to Virginia Tech, Joseph Bailey to Richard Bland, and Bryce Taylor to Thomas Nelson Community College. We know they will all do well and we wish them our prayers and good wishes in their new endeavors.

If there are others of you here at St. John's who have had an interesting experience or encounter or travel story or event and you would like to share it, please let me know at [chanco1@aol.com](mailto:chanco1@aol.com) or leave me a note in my office. We as church folk just love some good gossip!

## Outreach & Mission at St. John's

*"...Every one to whom much is given, of him will much be required..." (Luke 12:48) (RSV)*

**S**t. John's Mission & Outreach Committee coordinates the many ministries and projects that involve reaching out to people in need who are outside our parish. The needs are on many levels: local, diocesan, state, national, and global. The committee is chaired by Carol Hopkins, with Margaret Strouth and Barbara Bean assisting in planning. The entire parish shares in the mission/outreach ministry by your donations of food, other items, and money; by your hands on participation with the individual projects and organizations; and by your PRAYERS.

### What are the opportunities for reaching out this Fall?

SEPTEMBER—It's "Back to School" for everyone and a good time to help the residents of **Jackson-Feild Homes for Girls** in Jarratt and the **Boys' Home, Inc.** in Covington with much needed supplies. More information about both Homes and their Wish Lists are printed on pages 13 and 14. Boxes for each organization will be in the Narthex the whole month, and we will deliver the collections after the last Sunday in September (to Jackson-Feild possibly on October 9).

OCTOBER—We will collect needed items for the **James House** in Hopewell. Please read more information on the James House and see their list of needed items on page 14.

NOVEMBER 7—The **Fall Ingathering of the United Thank Offering (UTO)** gives our church family the opportunity to give thanks for their blessings by using the blue UTO envelopes (over and above the regular pledges). In September we will supply the Sunday School children with the little blue UTO boxes so they can be giving thanks for their blessings every day, and on November 7 they can bring these boxes to church and add them to the offering. There will also be a special **UTO Coffee** (sponsored by St. Martha's Guild) immediately following the service on November 7. Perhaps this would be a good day for everyone to **wear blue!** The United Thank Offering is a mission ministry of the Episcopal Church USA that grants between \$2.5 and \$3 billion every year for both domestic and global needs.

NOVEMBER—We will collect canned and dry goods for **Thanksgiving Food Boxes** for six families

through the **Salvation Army**. Monetary donations will help pay for a turkey and other perishables for each food box. A detailed list of items will be in the Sunday bulletin in November. The deadline for this collection will be Sunday, November 21.

ONGOING—There is always a basket in the Narthex for collecting canned and dried foods for the **Hopewell and Prince George Food Pantries**. Items needed each month are listed in the Sunday bulletins. Now the Hopewell Food Pantry is beginning a new program to provide ongoing assistance to the elderly poor and permanently disabled. This means our regular contributions are more needed than ever before! See separate article on page 15 for details on the new program and qualifications.

ONGOING—St. John's sponsors two children through Compassion International: one in Ethiopia sponsored by Outreach (more on page 11); and one in Haiti, sponsored by Sunday School (more later).

OTHER—Our **Sunday School** is collecting "**Pennies for Pigs**" to donate a pig (pigs) from the *Gifts for Life* catalog from Episcopal Relief & Development.

### What were the results of our previous outreach efforts this year?

ST. PAUL'S COLLEGE in Lawrenceville--\$150.00 collected and sent to their Academic Scholarship Fund

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT (ERD) for HAITI DISASTER RELIEF--\$150.00 collected and sent

ERD SUNDAY (March 14)--\$1215 raised for nine (9) flocks of chickens from the *Gifts For Life* catalog

CAMP WAKONDA in Norfolk--\$40.00 collected and sent to help sponsor a camper to this one-week summer day camp (sponsored by our Diocese) for children with HIV/AIDS

UTO SPRING INGATHERING (May 16)—\$260.00 collected and sent

BEAR MOUNTAIN MISSION CAMP (Monacan Indian Nation, Amherst County)—Cancelled this year

AUGUST SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE—Thank you to everyone who contributed.

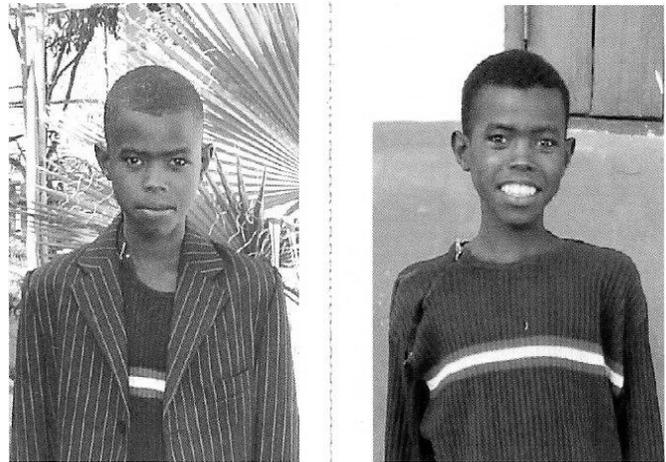
## News from our Sponsored Child in Ethiopia

Through COMPASSION International, St. John's Church has sponsored a child in Ethiopia since 2007. Tariku Asele is now almost 15 years old. (His birthday is Nov. 14) You can see in the photographs how he is growing and blossoming! This is because of the many benefits he receives from our sponsorship: the opportunity to receive an education, to be healthy, to develop self-confidence and social skills, and to hear the gospel and learn about Jesus.

COMPASSION is a holistic child development ministry that focuses on the full development of the child; it is also a Christian ministry that works solely through local churches and therefore does not accept government funds. Through COMPASSION'S partnership with a local church in the city of Awassa, Ethiopia, that church is able to minister to Tariku through their child development center where Christian adults offer him love, guidance, personal attention, guided recreation, and safety.

Tariku writes letters to us. In a recent letter (June 2), Tariku wrote, **"How are you my dear sponsors? What about your family? My family and I are fine. My brother, the youngest, had headache, but he feels fine now. How is your family? Our area is very nice. We are cleaning our area. My education is going on well. I was promoted from first semester. I am studying now for I take examinations of second semester in the near future. I am studying to be clever in my education. Good support has been given for me by this project. Cooking oil,... hair oil, soaps, clothes, shoes, pens, pencils, and other things have been given for me. I received your gift...Trousers was bought for me...Who do you think to win World Football [Soccer] Cup held in South Africa? Please pray for our country and for my family. I pray for you, too. I love you very much. Good-bye till we join in another letter."**

In an earlier letter (Feb. 6), Tariku asked, **"Is your country good in football (soccer)? Is there famous football (soccer) player in your country? Are carts driven by donkey and 3 wheel motor found in your country?"**



**Tariku Asele in 2008 (left) and 2010 (right)**

This year Barbara Bean will be answering Tariku's letters. We will post future letters from Tariku on the bulletin board.

A critical link between us and Tariku is PRAYER. As you can see from his letter, he is praying for us and he asks for our prayers. We can ALL pray for his health, safety, education, spiritual development and for his family and country.

The cost of sponsorship is \$38 per month, or \$456 a year (per child). In addition to that, we send an extra \$15 for Tariku's birthday in November and a Christmas gift of \$20. (One hundred percent of all individual child gift amounts go to that child. Local project workers purchase gifts on our behalf and make certain that these funds are used appropriately.) If you would like to make a special contribution to help pay for this outreach ministry, please make your check payable to St. John's Church and designate it for Child Sponsorship, Tariku Asele.

Learn more about Compassion International at [www.compassion.com](http://www.compassion.com).

## Report on “Flock Sunday”

Our first annual Episcopal Relief & Development Sunday, March 14, was a **huge** success thanks to **everyone’s** support, participation, contributions, enthusiasm, and willingness to enter into the “spirit” of the occasion. The goals were to raise money for flocks of chickens from the ERD *Gifts for Life* catalog for a third world country, to get as many people involved as possible in all age groups, and to have FUN—all on a budget of practically \$0.00! And we did it! When all the chicken feathers settled and the final donations were in the basket, we had made \$1215—enough for nine (9) flocks of chickens. The event was held in the Genesis Room of Ribble Hall and was very well attended—standing room only! Both our oldest member and our youngest member were present and participating, as well as all ages in between. All food, decorations, table centerpieces, and prizes were donated or loaned by different members, Sunday School children, and St. Martha’s Guild. The only cost to the church was utilities and paper goods. Oh, and we all had a cackling good time!

Father Bill Taylor, adorned with white feathers and rooster headdress, was Master of Ceremonies. He also entertained us with chicken jokes, the Rooster Song, and the Irish Chicken Dance. Surprises included the presence of “ERDie Berdie”, a fat yellow hen (our Outreach Chairman), wearing a sign on her back saying, “Who will help me raise a flock of chickens?”, and also the special appearance of “Chicken Licken”, a LARGE yellow rooster (our

Senior Warden). Other features included a demonstration of the “Chicken Dance” by children and adults (led by Barbara Bean, Debbie Thompson, and Suzie Gilley) as well as a Silent Auction of chicken & rooster decorative items.

The highlight of the day was the Clucking & Crowing Contest with seven child contestants (David Walker, Addy Price, Mason Price, Kassidy Thompson, Kourtney Thompson, Paul “Rambo Chicken” Redling, Susie Redling) and three adult contestants (Brian “Chicken Licken” McDonald, Red “Rooster” Redling, and Carol “ERDie Berdie” Hopkins. The audience “voted” for their favorite cluckers/crowers by stuffing money in the contestants’ ERD boxes. The top 5 children cluckers received little felt bags decorated with chicks, and the top two adult cluckers/crowers each received a white walking/singing/squawking rooster. “ERDie Berdie” presented each child present with a little yellow Wind-up Peeping Chick, and “Chicken Licken” gave out candy to the children. Parts of the event were recorded digitally, thanks to Adam Walker and Joe Concodora, resulting in a 35-minute video of “Joyous and Serendipitous Pandemonium in the St. John’s Chicken Coop.”

Many photos were taken of all the fun and some are posted on the bulletin board in Ribble entryway. If you were not able to attend that day and would like to see the video, call Carol Hopkins (458-0405). And remember, you won’t want to miss the Second Annual ERD Sunday, March 2011.

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## Tracking the “Shoes for Uganda”

Do you remember donating shoes last November? We collected 174 pairs of used shoes to help Juma Semakula send a container of shoes to rural Uganda, where many people go shoeless. The project, “Juma’s Shoes”, was detailed in a Richmond *Times-Dispatch* column by Bill Lohmann on October 14. Semakula is a Uganda native who runs a lawn-care service in Richmond. An update was in Lohmann’s newspaper column of May 26. The whole process had hit a few snags, “in part because Semakula was visiting family in Uganda over winter. But it’s back on track now.” The container, filled with an estimated 30,000+ pairs of shoes, “was hauled to Norfolk and put on a cargo ship that sailed May 14...It was due to arrive June 30 in Mombasa, a port city in neighboring Kenya. At that point, Semakula plans to return to Uganda and oversee the distribution of the shoes to churches in the countryside.”

Bill Lohmann of the *Times-Dispatch* plans another follow-up when the shoes have made it to Uganda. See the photo of Juma Semakula and the shoes on the bulletin board in the Ribble entryway.

## Jackson-Feild is Celebrating 155th Anniversary

The 155<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for Jackson-Feild Homes will be on Saturday, **October 9**, at Walnut Grove in Jarratt, Virginia. Lunch is at noon; Program, at 1:00 p.m.; Campus Tours to follow program. Anyone interested in attending, please let Carol Hopkins know (458-0405). We can carpool down and deliver our “Wish List” items to them the same day, but we need to give them a “head count” the week before. (See the article on Jackson-Feild’s history on the bulletin board in the Narthex.)

### Jackson-Feild Wish List

Jackson-Feild Homes is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to providing gender specific programs and services for adolescent females ages 13 up to 21 who are “at risk” for mental health problems, delinquent behaviors, and/or failure to complete their basic education. They operate residential programs for girls at the main campus in Jarratt, Virginia, and in Richmond, Virginia. The mission of Jackson-Feild Homes is to provide at-risk adolescent females with basic human services, counseling, and education in a caring residential environment; to encourage behavior that is respectful of the freedom and dignity of each individual and for the betterment of society; to minister to the families of the girls in order to restore the family unit. You can learn more about Jackson-Feild Homes from their web site: [www.jacksonfeild.org](http://www.jacksonfeild.org).

Each young lady at Jackson-Field has many unmet personal needs. If you would like to help, please bring any of the **following items** to the Narthex during September and place them in the specially marked box. You may also make a monetary donation to Jackson-Feild by writing a check to St. John’s Church, designated for Jackson-Feild Homes.

Book bags/Back packs	Decorative Blankets/Throws	Jeans (all sizes)
Colored Pencils & Markers	Stuffed Animals	Night Shirts (all sizes)
Sketch Pads	Bathroom Accessories (mats, shower curtains)	Pajamas (all sizes)
Clock Radios/Alarm Clocks	Shower Caps	Black Sweat Pants (all sizes)
Journals	Hair Dryers	Sweaters/Sweatshirts (all)
Small Photo Albums (for 4x6)	Hair Gel	Tennis Shoes (all sizes)
Stationery & Greeting Cards	Hair brushes without mirrors	Flip flops (S, M, L)
Christmas Cards	Hair Accessories	Ankle Socks
Stamps	Makeup without mirrors (lipstick, foundation, blush, eye shadow)	Rain Ponchos
Phone Cards	Clear Lip Gloss & Chap Stick	Winter Coats, Hats, Gloves (new or gently used)
Crossword puzzles	Watches	Handbags & Small Wallets
Word search puzzles		Crochet Yarn (no wool)
Jigsaw Puzzles		Crochet Hooks (size H only)
Board Games		

### Another Way To Benefit Jackson-Feild

If you are a Food Lion shopper, you can link your MVP Customer Card to benefit Jackson-Feild Homes.

Go to [www.FoodLion.com](http://www.FoodLion.com), click on the Community Outreach menu item, then MVP Rewards.

Enter your complete 12-digit Food Lion MVP card number.

Enter Jackson-Feild’s code number (252196) as the organization you choose to support.

After this, every time you shop at Food Lion and present your MVP Card, the amount you spend on qualified items is automatically credited to Jackson Feild. (All Food Lion brand products are considered qualifying items. Food Lion will credit a percentage of all of the dollars spent back to the participating schools & charities.)

## Boys' Home Wish List

**B**oys' Home, Inc. in Covington, Virginia, provides care for young men who currently need a change in environment. Boy's Home is responsible for the basic necessities of food, clothing, and shelter for these young men as well as the responsibility of molding the character of each of the residents. No boy is ever denied because of his family's financial circumstance. They offer recreational facilities, a chapel, and an on-campus school that allows boys to catch up academically before entering the public school system. Vocational-technical opportunities are also offered. The 70-acre campus and surrounding Alleghany Highlands give boys a chance to explore—not just the hills, swimming holes, and trees—but themselves. The mission of Boys' Home is to help each resident strive toward becoming a productive member of society by developing his potential—spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially. You can learn more about Boys' Home from their web site:

**www.boyshomeinc.com.**

To donate any of the items below, please bring them to the Narthex during September and place in the specially marked box. You may also make a monetary donation to Boys' Home by writing a check to St. John's Church, designated for Boys' Home, Inc.

School Supplies Sticky Note Pads Art Supplies Stamps Envelopes	Alarm Clocks Batteries—All Sizes Disposable Cameras Small Photo Albums (for 4x6) Sports/Hiking Equipment	Personal Care Items Towels/Washcloths Warm Gloves & Work Gloves Socks & T-Shirts Sweatshirts (All Sizes)
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## The James House—Mission, Services, and Wish List

**T**he James House Intervention/Prevention Services in Hopewell was founded in 1989 on the belief that all people deserve a life free from interpersonal violence. They provide cost-free, confidential support, advocacy, and education for people in the Tri-Cities area who are affected by domestic violence, sexual violence, and stalking, to empower them to become healthy, safe, and self-sufficient. The James House was the proud winner of The Cameron Foundation's 2008 Cleveland A. Wright Award for Outstanding Community Service. Learn more about the James House from [www.thejameshouse.org](http://www.thejameshouse.org).

**Services include:**

- 24-Hour Hotline
- Emergency Shelter Placement
- Individual Peer Counseling
- Counseling for non-offending partners and family members
- Safety Planning
- Information and Referrals
- Case Management and Support Services
- Support Groups and Community Education

**James House clients have varied needs**, some of which are listed below:

Gift Cards in any denomination from Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target, etc. (Gift cards allow James House to meet each client's unique need)

Gift Cards to Gas Stations (James House often has clients who can be safe if they can get to family in a different location. Gas cards can be used to fill their tank before they get on the road and they are given enough cards to get to their final destination.)

Used Cell Phones in any condition (can be programmed to call 911)

Canned and Dry Food for James House's food pantry

Small Travel-Sized Games (to give each child something to do if they must be put on a bus or train to a new location)

Trash Bags (large kitchen size)

Paper Products: Tissues, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Plates, Napkins, Drink Cups (cold & hot)

Plastic Knives, Forks, Spoons

In addition to the above, the James House can use the following items "in house" or for fundraising:

Empty Ink Cartridges (the small printer kind, can be recycled as fundraiser)

Gold Jewelry (odds & ends and/or broken pieces for Hearts of Gold fundraising campaign)

Snack Foods for Support Groups

Coffee & Coffee Creamer

Cat Food for the James House Therapy Cat, Jackson

The James House relies heavily on **volunteers**. If you would like to contribute your unique talents, skills, and knowledge to assist the James House in achieving their mission, they offer a variety of opportunities to meet your availability whether long term or short term. All training sessions are held at their office in Hopewell at 1016 Maplewood Avenue. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Lori Kalish, at 458-2704 or [lori@thejameshouse.org](mailto:lori@thejameshouse.org) for more details.

## Hopewell Food Pantry Beginning New Program

The Hopewell food Pantry's new program will expand their mission to include a monthly distribution to eligible individuals who are either permanently disabled or elderly (over 65 years of age) and poor.

### Eligibility Criteria for ongoing monthly food distribution at the Hopewell Food Pantry:

1. The person must be either over 65 years old or be permanently disabled.
2. The person must have financial or other reason(s) why they will need food distributions on an ongoing basis.
3. The person--or, in some cases, couple--must live on their own and not be a part of or supported by a larger family unit.
4. The person must provide a picture ID to verify their identity the day they come to the HFP.

If you qualify or if you know of another Hopewell resident who qualifies, contact Father Bill Taylor so he can send a referral letter on church letterhead to the HFP.

## 2010 Fall Adult Camp - "Discovering Ourselves Anew" October 25-28 at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs, VA

The Tri-Diocesan Council on aging is working to offer another fun filled educational opportunity. In addition to keynote addresses by Bishop Carol Gallagher, Bible Stories from Bishop Powell, music and stories from Ed Kilbourne, the following workshops are offered. Sign up for them when you check in.

- Time with the Keynoter - Bishop Carol Gallagher - Wed am
- Rocking with the Bishop - Bishop Neff Powell - Tues am
- Decorating with Food and Conversation - Brooks Harris - Tues am & Wed am
- Native American Crafts - pottery, feather pictures, basket weaving - Tues am & Wed am & Wed pm
- Marbleizing Paper - Ginna and John Cullen - Tues pm
- Book Making - Ginna and John Cullen - Wed pm
- Down Memory Lane with Mary Lee - Mary Lee Webb - Wed pm
- Exploring Music Through Instruments - Samantha Embrey - Tues pm
- Exploring Music Through the Voice - Samantha Embrey - Wed am
- Exercise - Marian New - Tues am
- In the Spirit of the Circle - Sharon Bryant - Tues pm  
All of life is a circle and all of life is related in the circle.
- Wine Tasting Trip - Bill Seeley & Tom Summerlin - Wed pm
- Orchid Trip - Marian & Bob New - Tues pm
- Shrine Mont Tour - Wed pm

If you would like to go, you can download a registration form from <http://shrinemont.com> or ask Fr. Bill or Carol Hopkins for a form. Cost is \$245/person single room or \$215/person double room. Fr. Bill has some limited funds available if you need financial help in attending.

### STOP HUNGER NOW

#### Outreach Project for the Conference

During free time on Tuesday and Wednesday we will be participating for the third year in an outreach project packaging 20,000 meals to be sent to where they are needed most in the world. Stop Hunger Now will bring all the supplies, and we will set up work areas in the dining room for packaging meals, weighing, sealing and boxing them. Each meal costs 25 cents. We need to raise \$5,000 to pay for the 20,000 meals we are packaging. If each camper would make a donation of \$50 for this project, we can easily raise that amount and probably more. Ask your family and friends as well as the folks from your church to contribute to this most worthy project.

There are more than 1 billion people in the world living at the margin of survival on less than \$1 a day. 2.6 billion people live on less than \$2 per day - which is 40% of the world's population. Over 800 million of these poor suffer from chronic hunger, which means that their daily intake of calories is insufficient for them to lead active and healthy lives. 25,000 people die every day from hunger and hunger related causes. A child dies every six seconds because he or she is hungry. We can do something about this.

The Millennium Development Goals are a priority of the Episcopal Church. One of the goals is to cut extreme poverty in half by 2015. Packaging food to feed some of the worlds poorest is a hands on way to contribute to meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

We have the means to help eliminate hunger as we work with Stop Hunger Now. Do we have the will?

505 Cedar Lane  
Hopewell, Virginia 23860  
Phone—804-458-8142  
E-mail—stjohnshopewell@verizon.net

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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## *Schedule of Services, Meetings, & Events*

The following list gives the times for regularly scheduled monthly events.

Check Calendar on Page 1 for Special Events.

**Holy Eucharist Rite I—8:00 a.m. every Sunday**

**Holy Eucharist - 10:30 a.m. every 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays**

**Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m. every 5th Sunday**

**Children & Youth Sunday School 10:30 a.m. most Sundays**

**Adult Sunday Forum 9:15 a.m. most Sundays**

**Nursery 10:30 a.m. every Sunday**

**Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays, Eppes Hall**

**Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m. Thursday after the 3rd Sunday, Eppes**

**St. Martha's Guild 7:00 p.m. 2nd Thursday, Eppes Hall**