

The Crossing

April 2015 – St. John’s will celebrate and mark its 175th year ministering in City Point and Hopewell, Virginia

Many of us have heard these words before,

“At a meeting of the subscribers to the building of a Protestant Episcopal Church at City Point on the 13th day of April Anno Domini 1840, on motion of John E. Meade, Col. John A Peterson was called to the chair and Wm Gilliam appointed Secretary. On motion a committee of seven were appointed; consisting of the following gentlemen, John A. Peterson, Malcolm Macfarland, Wm P. Porter, James Gilliam, John E. Meade, Christopher Proctor + George Curtis, who are fully empowered to do all or any of the duties appertaining to the building of the said Church.”

It is by these words that we hear of the beginning of an organized Episcopal Church soon to be called St. John’s Protestant Episcopal Church in City Point. We want to celebrate the accomplishment of 175 years of ministry beginning in April of 2015 with services, celebrations, and events of that beginning in 1840. To do this, the vestry has authorized that \$175.00 per year be set aside for such a celebration. While this will not be a whole lot of money, it is a start. If you feel that you would like to contribute a one-time or recurring gift to this project, please designate it on your check in the memo space –175 Year Fund. Also, if you would like to serve on an ad hoc committee to plan what the celebration time will look like, please let Father Bill know of your interest.

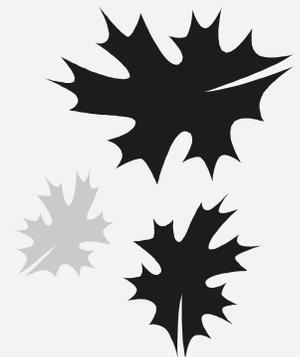
History of St. John’s Church, Ministers, and those Buried in the Churchyard

Father Bill and others are working on a publication of the history of St. John’s Church, along with some of the names, personalities, stories, their relationships, and the families of those who were born here or came to the area particularly during the 19th century. Included in this it is envisioned that some biographies of the ministers and persons buried in the churchyard will be included. If you can help with some of the remembered history passed down through the years or have any old photographs of people, events, etc. focusing on St. John’s that might be used in such a publication please let Father Bill know.

St. John’s Calendar of Events

Upcoming Events Save these Dates!

- **Oct 6**—Blessing of the Animals Service 10am @ Merchants Hope Episcopal Church
- **Oct 11**—St. Martha’s Guild Meeting @ 7pm in Eppes Hall
- **Oct 25**—Vestry Meeting @ 7pm in Eppes Hall
- **Oct 28**—Choir Appreciation Sunday—Lunch after 10:30am service in Ribble Fellowship Hall—BRING A SIDE DISH!
- **Nov 4**—UTO Sunday
- **Nov 8**—St. Martha’s Guild Meeting @ 7pm in Eppes Hall
- **Nov 15**—Vestry Meeting @ 7pm in Eppes Hall
- **Nov 17**—Holiday Bazaar from 9am—1pm
- **Nov 17**—Brunswick Stew sale during Bazaar
- **Dec 6**—St. Martha’s Holiday Dinner @ 6pm in Ribble Hall
- **Dec 16**—Caroling for Cans (tentative date)
- **Dec 20**—Vestry Meeting @ 7pm in Eppes Hall
- **Dec 24**—Christmas Eve Services @ 7pm and 10:30pm



Treasurer's Report by Brian McDonald

As I write this report I was going through my files looking for a previous report that I could make some number changes and create a new report for the Newsletter. Low and behold, I find a letter for the August 2010 Newsletter in which I am looking for someone to fill the Treasurer position. I guess I found one.

I will keep this simple with a minimum of numbers. As of the end of August, our pledge income is 2.5% ahead of the budget plan. This is good. Our expenses are 3.5% lower than the budget plan. This is also good. Please keep up the good work.

Thank You!!!

Beautiful Re-upholstered Parlor Chairs

We are blessed to have received the gift of re-upholstering from Mary Nix of the parlor chairs in Ribble. Thank you Mary! They are beautiful.

Re-upholstered Folding Choir Chairs

Our appreciation goes to Jane Pettler for re-upholstering the folding Choir Chairs that are in Ribble Hall. They look great! The old coverings were very much worn and faded. Thanks goes to Ned Hopkins for helping to get the chairs back together after they were re-upholstered!

New Folding Tables for Ribble

Our thanks go to the members of St. Martha's Guild for the purchase of new eight foot LIGHTWEIGHT folding tables for the fellowship room in Ribble. Moving tables now will not be as much of a chore. Thank you ladies!

New Altar Linen made by Gloria Lee

Gloria Lee has made and given to St. John's a beautiful linen cloth for the baptismery altar. It is made with lace that was her grandmother's and is thought to be over a hundred to a hundred twenty five years old. We will dedicate this beautiful gift at the 8 AM service soon. Thanks Gloria for such a beautiful and meaningful gift!

Coffee Hour

We have had a great summer with our coffee hour after the 10:30 service. Hopefully we will continue with it. It is a good time for fellowship. If you have any questions about what to provide or how to set up, call Carol Hayes. It is very simple.

St. Martha's Guild by Carol Hayes

The **Holiday Bazaar** will be **Saturday November 17th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Once again, Lisa Sansone has made a beautiful Swedish woven afghan for us to raffle. Tickets will be available in the next couple of weeks. As always, there will be a wonderful bake table. It is not too early to think about what you might contribute for it.

In the upcoming weeks we will have some workshops for making things for the bazaar. Watch the bulletins for times and dates. We always have a lot of fun.

This is one of St. Martha's most important fund raisers. Please come out and support us.

The Mens' group will also be having a **Brunswick stew sale the day of the bazaar.**

All women of St. John's are invited to join us and see what we are about. If anyone needs a ride or has any questions, please call Carol Hayes at 458-6539.

Choir Appreciation Sunday October 28

Please join with us on Sunday, October 28, 2012 to celebrate and give thanks for the wonderful work of our choir and the musicians who enhance our worship Sunday after Sunday at St. John's. Their dedication and service does not go unnoticed and so we have set this time for us to give them thanks and to give thanks to God for their dedication and talent.

After the 10:30 service we'll have lunch in our new fellowship hall downstairs in Ribble Hall. Fried chicken will be provided. **Please bring a side dish to share!**

Fall Camp 2012 at Shrinemont

Fall Camp 2012 at Shrine Mont in Orkney Springs, Virginia, will be October 22-25 (Monday–Thursday). Keynote speaker will be Philip Gulley, the author of the Harmony series of novels. Chaplain for the camp will be our own Bishop Hollerith. Musician is Ed Kilbourne, singer, story teller, and folk theologian. Fall Camp means interesting and fun workshops and activities, thought-provoking presentations from the keynote speaker, inspiring worship services, great music, delicious food, lots of wonderful new friends, and spending time in the mountains of Shenandoah. This "mountain-top experience" is sponsored by the Tri-Diocesan Council on Aging. (We're ALL aging! All ages are welcome.)

More information is available online. Registration forms are posted in the narthex.

New Sound System! By Red Redling

St. John's purchased equipment for a sound system upgrade over the summer. The system will provide improved sound quality for the church, as well as enabling church services to be heard in Ribble Hall, both upstairs and downstairs.

New microphones have been installed at the lectern and pulpit sites. Microphones have been installed on both sides of the altar which focus on the choir, and a microphone has been installed at the top of the arch to pick up the altar table position. Monitors have been provided at the piano and organ position to enable our pianist and organist to better hear the choir, priest, and layreader. A full range speaker cabinet has been flown over the center aisle and first row of pews for the congregation to hear. There is also a movable mic which can be positioned anywhere in the church.

The new mixer and power amp are located in the left transept near the organ pipes. All cables (except those run to the altar arch) have been run under the church, including two signal cables that run underground to Ribble. Two discreet PA systems will be installed in Ribble (one upstairs and one downstairs) which will power the signal coming from the church, as well as accommodate any audio needs in each room.

The new sound system should be fully operational within a few weeks. We hope you enjoy St. John's new audio!

“We Care For Kasey”

Kasey Crute has attained another milestone: She is once again a UVA college student!

It has been 1 ½ years since her diving accident in Panama; and, though she is paralyzed from the chest down, Kasey has worked and willed her way back to Charlottesville. She returned to campus on June 9 for Summer Session and took two classes: Spanish and Philosophy (the Ethics of War, “just as exciting as it sounds,” she says). Summer session went well in spite of the heat, and Kasey had a chance to adjust to dorm life. She was thankful to have her grandmother with her to help.

After a brief break back home in August, Kasey went back to UVA on August 25 to start the Fall session. She is happy seeing her friends again and meeting new ones. Maneuvering her chair through the crowds of students is a challenge, but we know that Kasey does not back down from challenges! Kasey had her mom with her to start out the semester, but when all is settled her mom plans to come home so Kasey can have more independence. (She will have aides in the mornings and evenings.)

Keep Kasey and her family in your prayers as they all adjust to the challenges of this new season in her life.

Afghan Raffle in May benefitted the Kasey Crute Assistance Fund

The Afghan Raffle in May was a wonderful success, thanks to the help of a lot of people who sold and who bought tickets. A special Thanks goes to Lisa Sansone for making and donating the lovely Swedish Huck-Weaving Afghan. The raffle tickets brought in \$870 for Kasey's Assistance Fund. Kasey was amazed and very much touched that so many people bought tickets.



Kasey played a key part in the raffle because she and her mom came to St. John's on the day of the raffle and yard sale, and Kasey did the actual drawing of the winning ticket. And boy, did she ham it up! She stirred and stirred and STIRRED those tickets—and then stirred some more! Then she blessed us all with her gracious smile.

Kasey says “Hi!”

“How are things at church? Thanks for everything you have done for me. You have kept my story alive like no one else. Thank you so much for that.

Sincerely, Kasey”

Sunday School News by Lisa Sansone

St. John's Sunday School had a fun-filled summer. To kick off the season we planted flowers in front of Epps Hall. Then we enjoyed the Sky VBS program with planes, propellers and wings. We learned anything is possible when we believe in God. We are starting the fall with a Veggie tales Pirate program.

On September 22nd the Sunday School children and families sold cookies at Hooray for Hopewell. We raised \$530! Our booth was called Cookies for Cancer and all proceeds went toward supporting research into children's cancers. Leftover cookies were offered by the children after church on the following Sunday when the coffee was hosted by the Sunday School. This was a huge success and we thank Becky Redling for chairing our outreach program.

Coming up this fall we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, participating in the Hopewell Christmas parade and preparing for our annual Christmas pageant. Come visit us in Epps Hall and join the fun.



FLOWERS & FLYING



Outreach & Mission at St. John's by Carol Hopkins

"...as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." (Matt. 25:40) (RSV)

Updates on Spring and Summer Outreach efforts:

The **afghan raffle** on May 19 raised \$870. Combined with earlier donations for Kasey, we were able to send \$950 to the Kasey Crute Assistance Fund. (See separate article about the afghan and Kasey.)

The **United Thank Offering** (Spring Ingathering) brought in \$266 for UTO's many diverse ministries.

In **July** you helped us send two large boxes of "**Baby Shower**" items to a friend of a parishioner for her anticipated baby boy.

Partner's in Christ was the beneficiary of \$282 from the "Change for Change" in August. This is a local minis-

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try of “churches showing God’s love through housing repair”.

Thank you to all who participated in and helped with these ministries and who gave so generously.

Letters of appreciation have been received from The James House, Saint Paul’s College, UTO, Camp Wakonda, and Kasey Crute.

Current projects and Plans for Autumn:

September 2012—Our emphasis will be split between two well-known non-profit organizations that nurture young people: Jackson-Feild Homes in Jarrett and Boys’ Home Inc. in Covington. We are collecting “Wish List” items for both groups. (See more information in separate articles.)

November 4 is UTO Sunday. 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. The Fall Ingathering gives our church family the opportunity to give thanks for our blessings by using the blue UTO envelopes.

November 4-18—We will collect canned and dry foods for **Thanksgiving Food Boxes** for six families through the **Salvation Army**. A detailed list of needed items will be in the Sunday bulletin on November 4 and also posted on the baskets (in Narthex, Ribble & Eppes Hall). Deadline for this collection will be Sunday, Nov. 18.

December—**ERD Gifts for Life catalogs** for 2013 will be distributed.

December 16 is the tentative date for **Caroling for Cans**—a Sunday afternoon family activity that benefits the Hopewell Food Pantry. Fun for all ages!

Ongoing Outreach:

Food Pantries of Hopewell and Prince George—There is always a basket in the Narthex for collecting canned and dried foods for our local food pantries.

The Shepherd’s Place—Donate your used-but-useful clothing or household items to this non-profit thrift store on 201 E. Broadway. (Items must be clean and mended.) The store is sponsored by the Hopewell Ministerial Association and staffed by volunteers from local churches. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The James House Intervention & Prevention Services in Hopewell always needs used cell phones and travel size toiletries.

Through **Compassion International**, we continue to sponsor Tariku Asele in Ethiopia. We are sending \$20 for his 17th birthday on Nov. 14 and another \$24 for Christmas. We exchange letters and pictures throughout the year.

Jackson-Feild Homes—An Overview

Jackson-Feild Homes is dedicated to providing programs and services for adolescent females ages 12 through 21 who are experiencing mental health issues or behavioral issues and who may be behind or have failed to complete their basic education.

Typically, the girls at Jackson-Feild have exhausted in-home and community-based services. They have experienced severe trauma and suffer one or more mental health disorders. They most often have been in multiple prior placements. They demonstrate harmful or destructive behaviors that negatively impact themselves or those around them, which prevents them from being able to function in the community. They exhibit low self esteem, anger management problems, self-destructive tendencies, aggression, running away, anxiety, and depression. The majority of the girls are placed at Jackson-Feild by a Dept. of Social Services.



The care of such high-risk children requires a trauma-focused approach and treatment services. Jackson-Feild develops an individualized service plan specifically designed to meet the unique needs of each resident and family served. Gwaltney School provides regular and special education for grades 6 through 12 by certified teachers. GED coursework and testing, computer-assisted training, vocational training and certification are all available. On June 8, 2012, Gwaltney School graduated nine very proud seniors. Three graduates received high school di-

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plomas, and six were awarded GED's. Two of the nine also earned their Certified Nurse's Aide certification.

Jackson-Feild Homes' roots and grounding are in the Episcopal Church. Their full-time chaplain provides a non-denominational spiritual program with many activities in which moral, spiritual, and ethical values are taught and upheld.

The main campus at Walnut Grove in Jarratt, Virginia, consists of 132 acres and includes the historic Walnut Grove home, residential cottages, dining hall, recreation center, All Saints Chapel, and Gwaltney School. Originating in 1855 as an orphan asylum, Jackson-Feild Homes has evolved into the largest private facility in Virginia to specialize in serving female adolescents. You can learn more about Jackson-Feild homes from their web site: www.jacksonfeild.org

Jackson-Feild Homes--Wish List Fall 2012

Each young lady who lives at Jackson-Feild has many unmet personal needs. If you would like to help, please bring any of the following items to the specially marked box in the narthex during September. Items should be **new** or "like new". Contributions by check should be made payable to St. John's, designated for Jackson-Feild.

Personal Care: Makeup without mirrors (lipstick, blush, eye shadow, etc.), Hair gel/ Hair spray, Brushes, Combs, Hair accessories, Hair dryers, Flat Iron, Curling Iron, Nail Polish, Lip gloss, Shampoo, Conditioner, Shower caps, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste

Clothing (all sizes) + Accessories: Ponchos, Sports bras, T-shirts, Pajamas, Jeans, Black sweatpants, Nightgowns, Sweaters, Sweatshirts, Ankle socks, Night slippers, Tennis shoes (sz. 6-12), Flip Flops, Watches, Jewelry, Silver pendants with initials (ex: "J"), Hand bags, Purses, Overnight bags, Book bags, Umbrellas

Creative Supplies: Stamps, Stationery, Colored pencils, Fine tip markers, Arts & Crafts paint, Crochet yarn (no wool), Crochet hooks (large sizes), Journals, Stickers, Sketch Pads, Fuse beads, Pony beads, Gift bags, Magic markers, Crayons, Coloring books, Wrapping paper, Ribbon, Bows, Gift tags

Cottage Items: Decorative pillows, Blankets, Comforters, Bathroom mats, Shower curtains, Washable plastic cups, Stereo player, No-glass picture frames, Photo albums, Alarm/Radio clocks, CD players, Karaoke CDs, DVD player, Water Bottles, Exercise videos, Yoga mats

Games/ Toys: Decks of cards, Board games, Puzzles (crossword, word search, Sudoku, Jig-saw)

Maternity + Infants: Stuffed animals, Infant items (bibs, bowls, spoons, bottles), Bottle warmers, Cartoon character pillows, Diapers, High chairs, Car seats, Strollers, Children's books, Children's DVDs, Baby toys (Little Tykes, educational, etc.)

Other: Wal-Mart gift card, Southpark Mall gift card, Phone card

Boys' Home—An Environment for Success Since 1906

Boys' Home, Inc. in Covington, Virginia, cares for and educates boys ages 6-18 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. The 1400-acre campus of Boys' Home includes residential cottages, a dining hall, 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 child care program is divided into three major units: Intake & Evaluation, Independent Living Skills (usually referred to as "Regular Program"), and Experiential Living. After successful completion of the Intake & Evaluation Program, the child is placed in a family-style cottage in the Independent Living Skills Program. Here the emphasis is on developing self-sufficiency as the young man is guided through the life skills needed for independent living. Life in the Experiential Living Program is the final step residents take toward independence and focuses on preparing young men to transition into adulthood.

Daily activities are scheduled for each cottage. All residents participate in a campus Work Program. Supervised nightly study hall is required. Chapel is held on campus weekly. Residents attend church each Sunday. Daily recreational activities available include swimming, basketball, hiking, flag football, weight-lifting, ice skating, sledding, fishing, camping, baseball, softball, volleyball, and racquetball. Boys' Home

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has a scout program, hunter safety program, chess club, and a singing group (Boys' home Singers), and also owns and operates a Christmas Tree Farm in Augusta County. (Keep that in mind for your tree this Christmas!)

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 and see a short video on their web site: www.boyshomeinc.com.

Boys' Home Wish List Fall 2012

We can help the young men who live and learn at Boys' Home with their list of needed supplies. To donate any of the items below, please bring them to the specially marked box in the narthex during September. Items should be **new** or "like new". Contributions by check should be made payable to St. John's, designated for Boys' Home, Inc.

Back to School Items:

(Needed throughout the year)

Notebook paper
Spiral notebooks
Three-ring binders
Markers (permanent & washable)
Highlighters, Ink Pens
Art supplies, Glue Sticks
Index cards, Sticky notes
Thumb drives (USB memory sticks)

Personal care items
Bath towels
Washcloths
Dress socks
Small flashlights
Battery-powered lanterns
Batteries, all sizes
Phone cards
Gift cards (Wal-Mart, K-Mart, Target)
SPECIAL REQUEST: French Horn



Saint Paul's College in Lawrenceville—an Update

Saint Paul's College has been in the news frequently this year. The College's journey to maintain its accreditation has been like a roller coaster ride.

Summer of 2010—The College was placed on probation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

November 2011—Dr. Eddie N. Moore, Jr. (former Virginia State University President) was appointed CEO & Interim President after Dr. Robert Satcher announced his pending retirement. Dr. Moore restructured, slashed spending, and launched the "Now & Forever" Campaign to raise \$5 million of unrestricted annual funds by mid June.

June 21, 2012—In spite of coming within \$300,000 of raising the required \$5 million in only 6 months and also effecting a managerial and strategic turnaround, the College was denied full accreditation by the SACS. Dr. Moore vowed to appeal.

June 30—The board of trustees named Dr. Claud Flythe as interim president to succeed Dr. Eddie Moore, who had left the position to return to his home in Texas for a medical procedure.

July 21—The College filed an appeal with the SACS to be heard in August. While the appeal was under consideration, the College would remain accredited. Saint Paul's also held a college fair for its students to meet with representatives from other schools in case they opted to transfer.

August 20—In Atlanta, an appeals committee affirmed the decision by the SACS (withdrawing Saint Paul's accreditation).

August 22—Saint Paul's officials said the College had suspended most operations as it appealed the loss of accreditation. They would house no students and would not hold regular Fall classes. They planned to offer evening classes in an accelerated degree program for working adults and to keep open the community child-care center, but the Single Parent Support System would not be offered. News reports stated that Saint Paul's College and Virginia State University were exploring the possibility of a future partnership.

August 27—Saint Paul's College announced it would appeal in federal court the SACS decision to deny reconsideration of its earlier denial of accreditation. Saint Paul's called the action by the SACS "arbitrary" and said it ignored the progress the College had made in just a short time.

August 29—A U.S. District Judge issued a preliminary injunction, reinstating Saint Paul's probationary accreditation to protect it during further legal proceedings. The College's board of trustees then authorized the school to go ahead and hold classes this fall. Interim President Dr. Flythe said, "This is not the end of it," but classes are expected to begin in October with approximately 200 students. The college anticipates doubling that number by the new school year in 2013.

Saint Paul's College still needs our prayerful support. As the saying goes, "Hope springs eternal!"

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ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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 Choir Rehearsal—9:00 a.m. every Sunday, Ribble

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