



# The Evangelist

March 2011

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, Clearwater, Florida

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### The Mission of St. John's Episcopal Church

- To LOVE,
- To SERVE,
- To GROW in CHRIST.

## GLAD TIDINGS

### Holy Habits

Please join me this Lenten season in developing some "holy habits." What are holy habits? For me, they are practices that bring me into a closer relationship with God and God's creation. These habits (initiated by a tugging of God's Spirit) situate me in a more receptive attitude for God to bring me into alignment or unity with God's purposes, primarily for healing, reconciliation and restoration.

When I was a child my mother said, "Put your best foot forward, and soon it will become your natural foot." My parents consistently encouraged me to develop habits for physical, emotional and spiritual well-being. We had extended family, neighbors, friends and a church community who supported one another as well as the larger community. One thing I noticed while growing up is that the most supportive people were those who

actively engaged in habits modeling healthy living—spiritually, emotionally and physically. These habits or practices promoted growth within them. For example, every morning my father read the Bible, and every evening he did a few calisthenics. In between the morning and evening hours each day, both my parents served the world around them—whatever the day brought before them. They participated regularly in worship, spiritual growth or discipleship courses, prayer, and they tithed. Their meal blessing always included, "Keep us mindful of the needs of others."

I can now see that followers/disciples of Christ develop holy habits. These habits keep one in tune with God. Individual habits of staying close to God are imperative. These congregational habits of worship, prayer and study are imperative as well. The outcome is that our interactions often demonstrate

"apage" love (selfless love for the benefit of the other, most perfectly modeled by Jesus) to the world around us. Our holy habits shape us and impact the world around us. Our best foot becomes our natural foot. This is the way that God's transforming love works. This Lent may we ask God to empower us to develop at least one holy habit. By Easter perhaps it will "stick" and become more natural. We will be different and have new and renewed life in Christ. With God at work in and through us, the world will be a little different. What an Easter moment!

Jesus said, "Abide in me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches" John 15:4-5a.

God's Peace,

## LENT

### Happy Birthday wishes in March to:

- 1 Ingrid Griffith
- 2 Tyler Rice
- 3 Jack Deutsch
- 5 Mehr Khorzani
- 6 Angie Sayward
- 7 John Wirth, Edmund Pritz
- 8 Sue Wagner, Ed Freije, Betsi Colamarino, Ken Schierer
- 9 Marilyn Jones
- 10 Nan Lanham, Betty Powers
- 11 David Dean
- 12 Danene Rice
- 15 Kristina Otto
- 16 Amanda Shivitsky
- 17 Kevin Barnett
- 19 Logan Weaver
- 20 Bonnie Rosendale
- 22 Margaret Ward
- 24 Spencer Rice, Harry Whitman, Gladys Peacock
- 25 Christopher Every
- 26 Thelma Lipp, Charles VanLandeghem
- 27 Norman Moffitt, Frances Lee
- 28 Helen DellaPenna, Amanda Smith
- 30 Craig Joy, Mary Greenough, Lisa Webb, Murph Brown
- 31 Sharon Coe-Babbitt

### Happy Wedding Anniversary wishes in March to:

- 2 Kevin and Caroline Barnett
- 6 David and Bonnie Lovell
- 17 Dan and Deborah Sykes

*If your birthday or anniversary is this month and it is not listed, please call the Church Office to give us the information.*

Throughout our lives we accumulate all sorts of gods that distract us from the primary relationship in our lives—our relationship with God in whom we are called to put complete trust. Each of us develops habits that are unhealthy for ourselves as well as for others. Lent is a 40-day period in which we engage in spiritual practices of fasting, almsgiving and prayers—practices that reconnect us with the One Who loves us and empowers us to live differently, more fully. “Lent is a spring cleaning for the soul and spirit as well as the body. Lent is spring training, a practice session for the rest of our lives,” writes theology professor Frederick Niedner. Since we are in the midst of major league baseball spring training now, we grasp the significance of Niedner’s analogy. Typically Lent is seen as a season for repentance, which means “turning around” or making a 180° turn. Saying, “I’m sorry,” when I do something hurtful is the first step in turning back toward God—asking for forgiveness from God and those whom I have hurt. Asking forgiveness without changing my self-serving

ways is not repentance. Repentance comes in the next step when I seek God’s direction for my life—for “new and improved” attitudes, decisions and actions.

The early church did its catechesis (faith education) during Lent. In the really early church, instruction might have lasted several years. It was good way to weed out Roman spies among the catechumens. Upon completion of instruction, the neophytes were baptized at the Easter Vigil, the first service of Easter Day. Dressed in white garments, the newcomers witnessed to their faith in the Risen Lord on Easter morning. Only then did they receive instruction in the deeper mysteries of the faith—like the Lord’s Prayer.

Turning our lives over to God is a slow process. Often the term, “wilderness journey experience,” is associated with the 40-day Lent season in which we become intentional in finding our way back to God. We shed the old ways becoming open to God’s transforming love. Spiritual

spring cleaning makes room for the new—experienced at Easter as renewal (resurrection) of our souls.

“In our Old (Hebrew) Testament readings this Lent we trace the story of a people of God. We meet some of our oldest ancestors in faith as we journey with Abram and Sarai to an unknown future, yet resting in God’s promise and blessing. We follow Moses as he leads the people of Israel through the wilderness. With David, God’s anointed king, we rejoice in the care of God the Shepherd. With Ezekiel, we trust that God will bring us home from exile. Throughout this journey we affirm, with our faith ancestors, that the God with whom we are in relationship is a God of steadfast love. God is with us on the journey. God’s love restores and heals.”  
*Seasons of the Spirit, 2011*

We encourage you to affirm your relationship with God during Lent by taking part in one or more of the Christian Formation programs offered at St. John’s. A summary is below with more in-depth information following.

## Lenten Offerings

### Sundays

9 a.m. Breakfast with Jesus—explore the Lenten Gospels  
11:30–12:30 Habitat for Christianity—March 13-27, April 3 (article on page 3, 4)

### Wednesdays

9:45 Bible Study  
12 noon Holy Eucharist and Healing service  
Evening *Jesus’ Resurrection, Then and Now*, March 15–April 13, + April 20 (see article on page 3)

## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS IN LENT

### *Jesus' Resurrection Then and Now*

DVD and small group discussion  
Featuring renowned Religious Scholar NT Wright

#### Evening schedule

5:45 Prayer and Meditation in the Church  
6:15 Soup and Salad (soup makers needed)  
6:45 DVD Presentation  
7:10 Small group discussion

**March 16: The Historical Jesus.** The study of Jesus has produced many Jesus figures, most of whom have been found wanting before the bar of history. Who was Jesus? Why was he killed? What are scholars today saying about Jesus?

**March 23: Jesus: The Resurrected Messiah.** Most messianic movements ended with the death of their founder. Why did the Jesus movement *survive* - not only survive, but flourish? Because Jesus' followers believed that he was raised from the dead.

**March 30: The Jewish Understanding of Resurrection.** What did first-century Jews believe about resurrection? One thing most believed was that the righteous would be raised at the *end* of history, not, as Jesus was, in the *middle* of history.

**April 6: Paul's Understanding of Jesus' Resurrection.** For Paul Jesus' resurrection was the *first fruits* of the new creation, and all who are "in Christ" will be raised like *him*, though their resurrection bodies will be different from their earthly bodies.

**April 13: The Gospel Writers' Understanding of Jesus' Resurrection.** The Gospels have different details regarding Jesus' post-resurrection physicality and appearances. Are the Gospels' witness to Jesus' resurrection *credible*?

**April 20: Jesus' Resurrection Today** It is hard to account for the rise in Christianity if Jesus was not raised from the dead. And it is hard to account for the written testimonies if the writers were not struggling to come to terms with something that actually happened. What about us today? How are we to understand Jesus' resurrection?

## HABITAT FOR CHRISTIANITY—SUNDAYS

When I was growing up in the Episcopal Church, we always "gave something up" for Lent. My "give" was almost always chocolate and I couldn't wait for Lent to be over so I could go right back to indulging! However, some of us were also taught that we could relax the rule a bit on Sundays, and that our Lenten covenants really only required adherence on the other six days of the week.

Well, Lent is Lent for 40 days. It is not so much a

time of giving something up as it is a time of clearing away the old negatives and preparing to build a new tomorrow. This might manifest itself in a multitude of ways. As I got older (not necessarily "grew up") I realized that Lent is a good time to focus on things like learning to break a bad habit and/or preparing to repair a broken relationship, often my relationship with God. Of course, the idea behind this is to actually "make new" and not return to eat-

ing all the chocolate I want.

When Jesus was crucified, he was "nailed" to two crossed pieces of wood. He died. He was removed from the Cross and buried. It could have ended right there. It didn't. Jesus was resurrected and made new. Upon his death *and* resurrection a whole new way of relating to God was built and our Christian Church was built.

(Continued on page 4)

# Lenten Programs

## HABITAT FOR CHRISTIANITY

(CONT'D FROM P. 3)

Many of us at one time or another have participated in Habitat for Humanity where building a home is more than just a house for someone to live in. For the recipient this house is a new life, a new beginning.

You are invited to join me to take a look at what you might want to clear away and prepare to build in your life. We will meet on four Sundays during Lent and ask ourselves these questions: After Easter,

what would we like to "build"? What will be our "foundation"? What "tools" do we need? and "What will our final "project" look like?

There will be scripture and other readings, discussion, a prepared worksheet, and some "thinking", but no outside reading or homework. Together we'll create a "blueprint" and "building plans" for our project.

Join us on March 13, 20,

27, and April 3 (Sundays), 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. If you have concerns about being out at night or conflicts with being able to attend the Wednesday evening program, then Habitat for "Christianity" might be just for you!

What would you like to "build" and make new after Lent?

Peace and blessings,  
Bonnie Rosendale

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## UPDATE ON OUR BUILDINGS

### Parish Hall Repair

Want to be (literally) part of the repairs to the Parish Hall ???

This fall we discovered that termites had been feasting on the wall on the south-east end of St. John's Parish Hall. The building was treated and now the damage to the wall will be repaired. The people of St. John's have an opportunity to become literally part of the repair job.

Boards will soon be available for signing at Church. For \$20 you can put a prayer and/or well wish or just write your name on a 2 X 4 and sign it. These 2 X 4's will be part of the reconstruction and become a permanent part of the Parish Hall! What a great way to participate and help

defray the costs at the same time. Parish Hall repair work will begin once Thelma's Place is finished. Checks can be written to St. John's with "parish hall repair" in the memo line.

### Thelma's Place

Almost seven months ago. Thelma's Place experienced several floods, caused by a broken sprinkler pie behind the building. The result was excessive mold damage. The building was gutted and completely rehabbed on the inside, including new air conditioning ductwork.

Almost all of the cost was covered through Episcopal Church Insurance. St. John's cost to refurbish was approximately \$4500. We received an anonymous gift for that amount.

Thelma's Place is used for community organization meetings, particularly Narcotics Anonymous and Cub Scouts. People are invited to take the sidewalk across the lawn from the church to look at the "new look" of the building. Thank God for this project.

A rededication of Thelma's Place will occur at Mass on the Grass service, Sunday, April 10.

*Lenten Meditation  
booklets from Episcopal  
Relief & Development  
are available at Church.*

## WHAT DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT LOOK LIKE TO YOU?

The Jr. Youth in Action (YIA) took photos of the Holy Spirit and have posted them on the wall in our room. Come up to see what the Holy Spirit looks like to us!

We talked about butterflies and what they symbolize for us. Christ rose from the dead out of a sealed tomb, a new creation. We are also a new creation in Christ with the help of the Holy Spirit molding and shaping us into the image of God. Much like the caterpillar in a cocoon is formed in a safe warm home to reborn again as a beautiful creation through one of God's many miracles.

We have many more butterflies in our midst. Seven of our senior high youth, Shannon Caste, Audrey Foster, Aaron Liscinski, AJ Liscinski, Greg Lomas, Tyson Rice and Spencer Rice, went to Hapening and four of our Jr.

YIA, Trey Richcreek, Jensen Rice, Amy Barnett, Savannah Howard went to New Beginnings. We are very proud of John Stima's leadership as Junior. Weekend Advisor. During these powerful weekends, the Holy Spirit is at work transforming us into new creations for Christ.

The Junior and Senior YIA are embarking on a Memorial Butterfly Garden project in memory of Brenda Stima. The garden will go in a barren spot just south of the church along the sidewalk. Richard Devine has researched the type of plants and care needed. Do you have a contact at a nursery that could help the youth out in getting the plants needed for this campus beautification memorial project?

The Sr. YIA has been discussing the Gospel readings and how they are meaningful in our day to day living. For instance,

the importance of a name when Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter and how important it is to protect our name and reputation in the fast moving internet and social networking. They have also been planning and making preparation for their March 4 - 6 camping trip!

Blessings and Peace  
Margaret & Danene

### For your calendar

March 4-6  
Sr. YIA Camping Trip  
March 6  
Jr. YIA to accompany Miss Mary's class to Largo Central Park  
March 13  
Both groups, 5:30 p.m. Teaser Concert at Unity  
March 20  
Sr. YIA meeting; No Jr. YIA; Margaret at a conference  
March 27-Apr. 3  
Spring Break; No YIA meetings

*Children's Ministry  
On Sunday, March 6  
following the 10 a.m.  
service, children and  
their families will go to  
Largo Central Park to  
ride the trains, fly kites  
and picnic.. They will be  
accompanied by the Jr.  
YIA.*

## HELPFUL HINTS

### Cake mixes and toxins:

Check the expiration dates on packages like pancakes and cake mixes that have yeast which over time develop spores. Apparently, the mold that forms in old mixes can be toxic! Throw away ALL OUTDATED pancake mix, brownie mixes, Bisquick, cake and cookie mixes, etc., as they can be deadly.

**Arthritis pain:** We have been told that this mixture greatly helps with arthritis pain:

2 tbs. honey  
3 tsp. cinnamon  
16 ounces of herbal tea  
Ice cubes

Combine honey and cinnamon together in 32 ounce glass measuring cup (4 c.). Once stirred, it will become

paste-like. Begin pouring very small amounts of the tea into the cup, stirring constantly to combine the 3 ingredients. Continue pouring tea and stirring until it reaches the 16 oz. mark. Fill a glass with ice, and pour mixture over the ice. Drink. Refill glass until the 16 oz. are gone. Discard the cinnamon that remains at bottom of measuring cup. If you try this, let us know if it works for you.

## F.A.S.T.

*What does the Lord require? Do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8)*

For this reason, St. John's participates in FAST (Faith and Action for Strength Together), a county-wide inter-faith justice network. In the fall each year at the General Assembly, the FAST congregations decide which justice issues they will address with local officials. Research groups, made up of representatives from member congregations, spend hundreds of hours studying the problems in order to determine the specific aspects of an issue to address. In the spring FAST asks commitments from local officials to resolve or begin to resolve a problem. In October 2010 FAST members decided upon three issues to address to bring about change - to bring about greater justice for all the people of Pinellas County.

### Education

Literacy is a major issue. By the time our students get to the 5th grade, 2/3 of them read below grade level. There is a direct correlation between reading scores and graduation rates. There are alternative high schools for struggling students; however, most of these students have behavioral issues and drop out.

### Jobs

The city of St. Petersburg gave out 180 million dollars in contracts last year. Many of the companies who were given these contracts were from out of town and brought in their own workers. These are jobs that could have put unemployed St. Petersburg residents back to work. The jobs committee is working to get the city of St. Petersburg to adopt a priority hiring ordinance. This ordinance would give incentives to con-

tractors to hire local people and even incentives to hire ex-offenders and others who have the most trouble finding work.

### Crime and Drugs

The Drugs and Crime Committee has been advocating to reinstate Smart Choices in the jail, a proven effective drug rehabilitation program. Enrollment in Smart Choices had saved lives and had reduced the recidivism rate in the jail from 70% to 40%. Recently we had two members of different FAST congregations whose kids were in jail. They both asked for help battling addiction, but couldn't get it because the Smart Choices program was no longer in place. We are committed to ensuring that those in jail who want to turn around their lives are given the help they need. This program provides accountability and support.

Currently the state has 19 million dollars which could be used to divert people from prison to drug treatment. However, this money is not getting spent because the rules determining who can participate in the program are too restrictive. The result is that people are losing the battle against drug addiction. We will lose this designated money if we don't spend it by the end of this year. FAST, along with our sister organizations throughout Florida, is advocating for a Drug Court. They are seeking to persuade the state legislature to change the program so that this money can be used to help more people with addictions.

### Upcoming FAST dates:

**Rally, Monday, March 14.** Holy Family Roman Catholic Church, 200 78th Ave, NE, St. Petersburg. Leave from St. John's at 6:20; Network members will be updated on all the research and prepare for the upcoming Nehemiah Action.

**Nehemiah Action, Monday, April 11,** 7 pm, Indian Rocks Baptist Church. Carpool from St. John's at 6:15. Our elected officials will attend this meeting to address the issues they have been working on with our FAST committees throughout the year. All the Network Members come and bring three others. Our goal for this meeting is 4100 people. Everybody counts!

If you are interested in attending these functions, we will be carpooling from the church. Please, mark your calendars! These are momentous times we live in and this is an opportunity to live out God's call to do justice. These meetings are peaceful, but powerful. In light of current history, they are an example of what God's people, standing arm-in-arm in dignity and grace, can do with those who are not able to stand and speak for themselves. We but obey, God gives the increase.

### SAVE THE DATES

**March 14 Rally**  
**April 11 Nehemiah Action**

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***Silence is God's first language; everything else is just a poor translation.***

Thomas Keating.

Source: *Invitation to Love*

## FROM YOUR GREEN TEAM

Pinellas County Utilities provides Mobile Collection Events for the collection of old household electronics and chemicals free of charge. Businesses should arrange separately for drop-off and collection. Detailed information regarding the household collection events can be found on their website [www.pinellascounty.org/utilities](http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities). Businesses should go to [www.pinellascounty.org/bizwaste](http://www.pinellascounty.org/bizwaste) for information. Events are held on Saturdays from 9:00am to 2:00pm and scheduled for the following locations:

Saturday, March 5

St. Petersburg Home Depot  
2300 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave N

Saturday March 12

Clearwater Home Depot  
2495 Gulf to Bay Blvd

Saturday, March 19

Largo Home Depot  
10689 Ulmerton Rd

Saturday, April 9

Palm Harbor Univ. High School  
1900 Omaha St.

Pinellas County Utilities also has a permanent facility located at 2855 109<sup>th</sup> Avenue, St. Petersburg, 33716 (off 28<sup>th</sup> St N) for drop off at other times (closed Sunday and County Holidays).

This is a great way to dispose of chemicals (paints, cleaning fluids cooking oil, etc) and unused/broken electronics (TVs, computers, rechargeable batteries, cell phones. etc). All fluorescent light bulbs,



including the long tubes and the new swirly compact fluorescent bulbs, must not be put in your household trash. It is a great way to clean out your garage and do the right thing for the environment. If you have any questions about what to bring and how to transport it, either visit the above website or call 464-7500 during normal business hours. They will be happy to help you.

**Disposal of medicine** has long been a problem. You should never flush meds as they may eventually show up in the water system. The Pinellas County Sheriff's office accepts old and unused meds from 7 a.m. - 11 p.m., seven days a week at both their Ulmerton Rd. office and their Dunedin office at 737 Loudon Ave. No questions asked.

Remember to **recycle your aluminum cans**. Put them in receptacle outside kitchen of parish hall. St. John's Eager Beavers recycle them and use the proceeds for tools, plants and other small items to maintain buildings and grounds.

**Trash Tour:** Join us for a tour of Pinellas County Solid Waste Operations (3095 114<sup>th</sup> Ave., N., St. Petersburg), Thursday, March 31. We will leave St. John's at 1 p.m. for the 1:30-3 p.m. tour. Since this is during Spring Break, children 5 years and older are encouraged to come with their parents.

### *To our Winter Parishioners:*

*We love it when you are here and miss you when you leave. Please give us the opportunity to say "thank you" for your presence among us. Join us March 20 at 11:15 a.m. in the Parish Hall for a reception in your honor.*

## NEXT CURSILLO WEEKEND: JUNE 2-5

Cursillo is:

- \* an opportunity to grow in faith and in spirituality.
- \* an opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the teachings of Jesus and how we can serve him.
- \* an experience of living in a loving and caring Christian community.
- \* a continuing community that gives support and encouragement empowering the renewed Christians to persevere in carrying out their Baptismal vows.

The next Cursillo weekends are June 2-5 and Sept. 29-Oct. 2. Contact Rev. Glad McCurtain, the church office or Joanna Eastman- Gaudreau and Charles Gaudreau.

## “IN THE BEGINNING, GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH”

This simple statement from Genesis (1:1) establishes once and for all the undeniable relationship between ourselves and the world around us. All that we are, all that we have, comes from God and will one day return to God. This is a direct quote from a brochure on the ministry of planned giving from the Episcopal Church Foundation.

It goes on to say that we are steward of God's

bounty, Caretakers. For a brief period we are given time, energy, and resources. What we do with these gifts ultimately defines the character of our life and the depth of our spiritual understanding. Gift planning is one expression of the wise use of the personal resources God has entrusted to us. Planned giving can take the form of a Bequest in a Will or Codicil, be a gift of special assets (such as real estate, closely held

stock, life insurance), and/or a Life Income Gift such as a pooled income fund, a charitable gift, annuity, or a charitable remainder trust. Planned giving is a ministry to the both the donor and the church.

Have you remembered our church in your planning? More to come next month.

Mary Anders

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## UPDATE ON CONSECRATION WEEKEND.

Thanks to everyone for your prayerful consideration and participation during our Consecration Weekend. As a result, we have for 2011, 147 com-

mitments for a total of \$231,352 to-date. Thanks be to God.

As a step in our efforts to be faithful stewards of our

resources, you will not be receiving individual thank you letters as you have in the past.

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## RETIREEES WELCOME SHAMELESS

Shameless, an 11-month old Siberian tiger, visited the Retirees in February. He was accompanied by Vernon Yates, director of Wildlife Rescue and Reha-



bilitation. The organization shelters over 300 animals from turtles to bears, which includes 29 large cats. Most of the animals arrived at the shelter due to court or police action of some sort. Mr. Yates told entertaining and educational stories about how he came to rescue many of the animals. He told the group that his wish is the people respect every

creature made by God.

The next Retirees' meeting will be Monday, March 14. The program will be presented by a representative from the American Red Cross. The topic will be Disaster Preparedness. Join us and be sure to be ready for Florida's active summer season.

Meeting time: 10 a.m. in the Parish Hall; refreshments and fellowship begin at 9:30.

*Ecumenical Quiet  
Morning at Calvary,  
Indian Rocks Beach,  
Sat., March 26,  
9 a.m.—noon  
For information, call  
Marilyn at 517-4071,*

## ST. JOHN'S—A CRAFTY PLACE

St. John's is fast becoming a center for crafters. There is something being offered here for everyone. Some of the groups are run by our own people, and some of them are conducted by people outside the parish who welcome the participation of parishioners. Here are some of the activities in which you can participate.

**Sit and Say Knit and Crochet Group** meets at 6:30 the first and third Mondays of the month upstairs in Ministry building. This group works on many things including items to be donated to

children and animals in need. Contact MaryAnn Crowder Stefanchik.

**The St. Anne's Quilters** will meet on the second and fourth Mondays of the month upstairs in Ministry building. They welcome beginners through advanced quilters. They will teach you! (both hand and machine quilting) They have basic supplies. Their motto is: "Only God is perfect, so we don't have to be." Contact MaryAnn C. Stefanchik.

**Scrapbooking** meets in Parish Hall one Friday night per month at 6 p.m.

The next meeting is March 25. Contact Caroline Barnett.

**A Rug Makers group** (primarily hooking rugs) meets every Thursday morning in the Parish Hall.

**The Basket Guild** meets one Saturday per month in the Parish Hall. During the reconstruction of Thelma's Place, they have not been able to meet here the past few months as they use the entire hall. They will be returning. Contact Betty Kemink for more information



## PENNIES FOR THE RCS FOOD BANK

We continue to collect money through our RCS Food Bank containers. So far, we have turned over a total of \$399.03 to the Food Bank. Congratulations, St. John's. Remember to fill the bottles at home until there are no families in need of the Food Bank services.

When I took our February contribution to the Food Bank, Anita, one of the ladies in charge, gave me a tour of the facility. She told me that they rely mostly upon the kind of contributions St. John's is making in order to continue their work.

Last month, we collected a

total of \$72.88 which included a donation of \$5 and a donation of \$20 from a friend of mine. Please continue to remember to bring in the contents of those containers and deposit into the larger bottle at the church entrance. These pennies that mess up your pockets, when combined with others, help keep children from being hungry.

We still require another two people to help with our collection process. It is not much work, but we must see that this collection continues throughout the year. Wendy Wooden will continue this process when I leave in may but

she would like to have some help since she is now working.

This is one of the most enjoyable things I have ever done, and I thank the good people at St. John's for your kindness.

God bless,  
Kenzie Jones

*Daylight Savings Time*

*returns at 2 a.m. on  
March 13.*

*The Saturday service  
will start at 5 p.m.  
beginning March 19.*

# FINANCIAL UPDATE

## St. John's Episcopal Church Analysis of Revenues & Expenses - Summary January 2011

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administrative Expenses	\$1,722.70	\$1,450.00
Buildings and Grounds Expenses	\$4,548.23	\$2,526.49
Christian Formation		
Adult Ministry	\$0.00	\$0.00
Youth Ministry	\$111.85	\$0.00
Total Christian Formation	<u>\$111.85</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Finance	\$0.00	\$215.00
Membership Incorporation	\$450.97	\$0.00
Pastoral Care	\$0.00	\$0.00
Reach Out	\$2,802.00	\$3,139.19
Rector's and Vestry Expenses	\$325.75	\$50.34
Salaries and Benefits		
Clergy Salaries and Benefits	\$6,180.38	\$5,988.17
Lay Salaries and Benefits	\$7,438.00	\$7,736.22
Total Salaries and Benefits	<u>\$13,618.38</u>	<u>\$13,724.39</u>
Worship - General	\$179.50	\$56.00
Worship - Music	\$0.00	\$626.70
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<u><u>\$23,759.38</u></u>	<u><u>\$21,788.11</u></u>

**Net Total**      \$16,052.51      \$21,273.10

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)
<b>Revenues</b>		
Contributions	\$28,826.19	\$30,322.25
Other Income *	\$10,985.70	\$12,738.96
Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<u><u>\$39,811.89</u></u>	<u><u>\$43,061.21</u></u>

\*Includes one-time \$10,000 gift from Thrift Shop revenues

*Please bring in plastic  
Easter eggs and small  
toys and candies to fill  
them for our Easter Egg  
Hunt.*

## LOOKING FORWARD TO APRIL

- 10 Mass on the Grass, 10 a.m.; our semi-annual outdoor worship service followed by parish picnic
- 11 FAST Nehemiah Action meeting, 7 p.m., Indian Rocks Baptist
- 17 Palm Sunday, regular service times
- 21 Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m. service
- 22 Good Friday, services 12 noon, 7 p.m.
- 23 Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil 5 p.m.
- 24 Easter, Services 8 and 10 a.m.; Egg hunt to follow 10 a.m. service

## IMPORTANT INFO FOR EVERYONE WHO USES E-MAIL

**If you ever forward email, please read this important information about email trackers.**

By now, I suspect everyone is familiar with [snopes.com](http://snopes.com) and/or [truthorfiction.com](http://truthorfiction.com) for determining whether information received via email is just that: true/false or fact/fiction. Both are excellent sites.

VERY IMPORTANT advice from [snopes.com](http://snopes.com)

1) Any time you see an email that says "forward this on to '10' (or however many) of your friends", "sign this petition", or "you'll get bad luck" or "you'll get good luck" or "you'll see something funny on your screen after you send it" or "say a prayer and send this on, whatever — it almost always has an email tracker program attached that tracks the cookies and emails of those folks to whom you forward. The host sender is getting a copy each time it gets forwarded and then is able to get lists of 'active' email addresses to use in SPAM emails or sell to other spammers. Even when you get emails that demand you send the email on if you're not ashamed of God/Jesus —

that is email tracking, and they are playing on our conscience. These people don't care how they get your email addresses - just as long as they get them. Also, emails that talk about a missing child or a child with an incurable disease "how would you feel if that was your child" — email tracking. Ignore them and don't participate!

2) Almost all emails that ask you to add your name and forward on to others are similar to that mass letter years ago that asked people to send business cards to the little kid in Florida who wanted to break the Guinness Book of Records for the most cards. All it was, and all any of this type of email is, is a way to get names and 'cookie' tracking information for telemarketers and spammers — to validate active email accounts for their own profitable purposes.

You can do your Friends and Family members a GREAT favor by sending this information to them. You will be providing a service to your friends. And you will be rewarded by not getting thousands of spam emails in the future!

Do yourself a favor and STOP adding your name(s) to those types of listing regardless how inviting they might sound! Or make you feel guilty if you don't! It's all about getting email addresses and nothing more.

You may think you are supporting a GREAT cause, but you are NOT!

Instead, you will be getting tons of junk mail later and very possibly a virus attached! Plus, we are helping the spammers get rich. Let's not make it easy for them.

**ALSO:** Email petitions are NOT acceptable to the American Congress or any other organization - i.e. social security, etc. To be acceptable, petitions must have a signed signature and full address of the person signing the petition, so this is a waste of time and you are just helping the email trackers.

So before you hit "forward", think about how many spammers will be collecting information from you, your friends and family.

### The Staff of St. John's Episcopal Church

The Rev Glad R. McCurtain,  
Rector  
The Rev. Hugh Bell,  
Assisting Priest  
The Rev. Lorraine Runza, Deacon  
John Wirth, Music Director  
Marlene Eichelberger,  
Parish Administrator  
Thelma Lipp, Sexton  
Danene Rice, Youth Leader  
Margaret Richcreek,  
Youth Leader  
Mary Anders, Children's Ministry

### The Vestry\*

Jan Davis, Senior Warden  
Glenn Smith, Junior Warden  
Mary Anders, Finance  
Cliff Armbruster, Pastoral Care  
Mary Ellen Britts,  
Christian Formation  
Sallie Devine, Membership  
Charles Gaudreau, Worship  
Mary Greenough, Reach Out  
Amanda Smith, Treasurer

### Service Schedule

#### Sunday

8 and 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9 a.m. Christian Formation  
Children and adult  
11:15 a.m. Teen Spirituality  
and Youth Group

#### Wednesday

12 p.m. Holy Eucharist and  
Healing

#### Saturday

4:45 p.m. Holy Eucharist

### Church Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.—5 p.m.  
Friday 8:30 a.m.—2 p.m.

### The Evangelist of

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month—whichever comes

**We reserve the right to edit  
articles submitted for content  
and length.**

Marlene Eichelberger, Editor

### Persistence

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Human progress never rolls in on wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of those willing to be co-workers with God, and without this hard work, time itself becomes an ally of the forces of social stagnation. We must use time creatively and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right.



**St. John's Episcopal Church**

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**SAVE THE DATE!!**

**MAY 7, 2011  
12 NOON - 4 PM  
ST. JOHN'S CAMPUS**

**Family Fun, Food, Fellowship!!!**



**Games**

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION!!!!**