



LOGOS

The Newsletter for St. John's Episcopal Church, Arlington

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it." John 1:5

From the Rector: Floating Along with God

The adult education class is working with a book by the Rev. John Westerhoff, who talks about our relationship with God as a cooperative one. We cooperate best with God—and things work out best for us, though we can't always tell right away—if we turn our wills and lives over to God and let God tell us what God's will is for us and help us to accomplish it.

Westerhoff uses the metaphor "floating" for cooperating with God in this way. People who fall out of boats either panic and sink, or they try to swim to shore. Either way, they die! Those who panic don't think they have the ability to help themselves, and the swimmers aren't strong enough to make it on their own. But there is a third way—floating. Floating is cooperating with the water, rather than fighting against it or being paralyzed by hysterical fear.

Clearly, there are limits to this metaphor: we could be floating toward Niagara Falls! But floating is still a good image for cooperating with God if God is the water. Floating along spiritually is not an easy thing to do. It means leaving God to determine what we do and how and when we do it. It means trusting that God will grow us into our best selves.

Someone recently told me that the hardest part of recovery from an illness is not when we are feeling really sick and it is clear we need to rest all the time, nor when we are nearly well and can do almost everything we could do before. It is the middle time, the time when we start to feel well enough to do something, but not well enough to push too hard. Doing something feels so good that we try to do too much. Somehow, resting at this stage can make us feel like weaklings.

I am in the middle stages of healing, and that is certainly true for me. I can do a lot of what I normally do—for a day or so. Then I need to rest, but I don't give in to the need. That's when I crumble into little pieces and have to go to bed. I hurt physically, and I hurt emotionally because I beat myself up for not being stronger. I hurt because I compare myself to other people and the kind of recovery they had. I am upset because I expected to be better than I am at this point along the way. Sometimes I panic and wonder if I am ever going to be all better.

In this middle stage of healing, I can exhibit both of the behaviors named by Westerhoff: panic and trying to swim. These behaviors keep me from listening to my body and my emotions. They also keep me from listening to what God is asking me to do.

Of course, floating along with God applies to much more than healing from an illness. God wants our cooperation all the time so we can be Christ's body on earth. We need to practice humility. Humility is about knowing who we are. Knowing who we are includes accepting that we are God's beloved children and that we are fully dependent on God to meet our needs. We need to practice trust. We need to act in faith that God will be with us—no matter where we find ourselves on our journey—with love and grace and healing power.

Ann†

Blessing of the Animals: October 7

In honor of the Feast of St. Francis, St. John's will hold its annual blessing of the animals on Sunday, October 7, at 5 p.m. in the garden area. Bring your pets; bring your friends and their pets. If your animal companions are shy or have difficulty with other animals around, please feel free to bring a photo and we'll pray for them as well.

In addition, during the Prayers of the People that Sunday, we'll read the names of pets, past and present, that have been special gifts in our lives and we'll also hear from our youth.

Enjoy Tea and Scones on November 3

The Morning Guild's Harvest Tea will be held on Saturday, November 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the undercroft. The tea is a wonderful opportunity to chat with old friends and meet new ones while sampling different teas and eating delicious sweets and sandwiches. Admission remains \$20 per person. Forty percent of the proceeds will go to charity. Come to enjoy the mouth-watering array of treats and to support a worthwhile cause.

The Morning Guild needs volunteers to support this event. The guild appreciates help in setting up, cleaning up, and for donations of finger food. Please look for volunteer sign-up sheets in the narthex and in the undercroft.

Adult Christian Education

Please join us this fall for one or more of the following programs:

In October, we will be discussing ways we can be Anglican Christians in our world—living into our baptismal vows, being a Eucharistic people and acting as a reconciling and reconciled people in the world. On Shrine Mont Sunday, October 14, we will have a Bible study for those who are here.

In November, Lorraine Underwood will teach a course based on the book, *Light in the Dark Ages: The Friendship of Francis and Clare of Assisi*, by Jon M. Sweeney. We'll examine the concept of "spiritual friendship" by looking at the friendship of St. Francis and St. Clare.

Cristo Rey Sponsors Fall Carnival

La Iglesia de Cristo Rey is sponsoring a "Community Fall Harvest Carnival" on Saturday, October 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be great food, fun games, face painting, a raffle, and much more. Proceeds from the carnival will go toward a youth mission trip and Cristo Rey's children's programs. If you aren't at Shrine Mont that weekend, please come and support this event.

A Big "Thank You" to AA

The Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting that convenes in St. John's vestry room on Tuesday nights from 7–8 p.m. has used some of their funds to purchase a new air conditioner for the vestry room. It is much quieter than the one we had before. We are very grateful for their thoughtfulness and send them a big "Thank You" for purchasing and installing the equipment.

Keep Your Ears Open for Music Changes

There have been some changes in the music for the 10 a.m. worship service. In September and October, we will not have a Communion Hymn. It was difficult to sing the hymn when many people were either in line or at the altar rail. This change will also add time for quiet reflection. In September and October we will also have one "Hymn Learn," in which we will take a relatively unfamiliar hymn and spend 10 minutes learning it before the service with Lynn's help. Most of us like singing old favorites, and this is good, but remember they were all new to everyone once, just as some of today's hymns are. Please let Lynn or Carol or Ann know how you feel about the changes.

Parish News

Welcome to

Anna Minor, our new seminarian from Virginia Seminary (see "Meet the Seminarian" on page 5)

Congratulations to

Chris and Laura Van Wyk on the birth of Simon Alexander on August 22

John Hart and Angie Rollet on the birth of Alexis Laverne on July 26

Erin Tallent and Gerard Baynham, married on September 8

Thank you to

The altar guild, acolytes, choir, table movers, and everyone else who has helped the Sunday services run smoothly as Ann has been healing

Jack Turner, for cutting back the tree branches obscuring the sign at Carlin Springs Road and Fifth Street

Kay Wells, for getting out the September issue of LOGOS while Ann and Virginia were out of the office

Caitlin O'Connor, for preparing the bulletin board featuring artwork from this year's Vacation Bible School

Del Hunt, for his continued work with the sprinkler system

Bill Thomson, for making sure that buildings and grounds issues are handled in a timely fashion

Eileen Tallent, who has agreed to be the head "Garden Angel"

Bill Schenck, Bill Pritchard, and Faye Pritchard for their excellent work on our fall speaker series

Faye and Bill Pritchard, for their early promotion and organization of the parish weekend at Shrine Mont

Bill Schenck for contacting the VTS librarian to come and talk with the adult class about trends in religious publishing

The Rev. Jane Barr, for leading worship on September 30 while Ann was attending a continuing education conference

Brian Harbin and our Sunday school class for the

beautiful work they did on our new aumbry, where we keep consecrated bread and wine

Sheryl Pardo, who is faithfully publicizing our upcoming events and our church in monthly issues of local newsletters

Bill Pritchard, who is working on taking pictures of our new members and new pictures of current members (see announcement on page 7 for dates)

Rest in Peace

Herbert Lannon, grandfather of Heather Kollath, who entered the Life of the Resurrection in early September

Birthdays in October

Ericka Cullen, October 2

The Rev. Peter Swarr, October 3

Jessica Lemmer (daughter of Charles & Cheryl), October 14

Liz White, October 5

Jacob Beavin (son of Michael & Stephanie), October 8, 2004

Carrie Harbin, October 18

Erin Tallent, October 18

Elizabeth Ann "Betsy" Cullen, October 21

John Hart, October 24

Taylor Robinson (son of Dave & Lynn), October 24

Bryan Harbin, October 25

William Thomson, October 31

Anniversaries in October

Andy & Cathi Del Gallo, October 7

John Hart & Angela Rollet, October 10

Dave & Lynn Robinson, October 11

Paul Harless & Eileen Flynn, October 13

Tony & Heather Kollath, October 13

Michael & Stephanie Beavin, October 18

Marshall and Ginger Adair, October 24

Website

The website for St. John's, Arlington is:
<http://stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net>

Misplaced your LOGOS? Can't remember the time an event begins? Visit the website for the latest copy of the newsletter, times and places of events and activities.

Children at St. John's: Sunday School, Children's Chapel, and Worship Services

Sunday School

In September, St. John's Sunday School students began sponsoring one hospitality time each month. The children plan the menus and prepare the food and coffee. By sponsoring the coffee hour, they are learning how important it is to serve one another in community. The children will also be learning more about the components of our worship service and working on some musical presentations for the congregation. And they will continue their monthly sales of fair trade coffee, tea, and chocolate, which raise money for charity.

Children's Chapel

On Sunday, September 9, Children's Chapel began with a strong start. Attendance is increasing. Norka and Valeria Antelo from Cristo Rey continue to be our leaders. During the 10 a.m. service, the children participate in a Liturgy of the Word just as we do in the sanctuary and hear and respond to the same Bible story we do. Then they join their parents for communion.

Worship Services

Most of our children attend the 10 a.m. service. But four children under two attend the 8 a.m. service (or will attend when they are older). And 16 children—from infants to 10-year-olds—attend the 10 a.m. service. We are so grateful for their presence and the energy they bring us!

New "Chief Angel" for Garden Ministry

Eileen Tallent has agreed to be the new "Chief Angel" for St. John's gardens. She'll begin this month (after she recovers from Erin's wedding). If you would like to help Eileen, please let her know. Her phone and e-mail are in the directory. Thank you so much, Eileen!

A Special Word of Thanks to the Altar Guild

I want to say thank you so much to all the members of the altar guild who have made and continue to make adjustments in the way they prepare for worship services so that I can be with you to preach and celebrate. They have done absolute wonders with a card table and chair and have been glad to help when I have asked for something different. Now we are on to a stool and a music stand and hopefully soon we will be completely back to normal. I always appreciate the hard work of the altar guild, but I am especially grateful during this time in my recovery. Thank you all for your gifts and your willingness to be flexible.

Ann†

Parish Retreat at Shrine Mont

by Bill and Faye Pritchard

Shrine Mont offers us the opportunity to "be still" and come closer to God, surrounded by the beauty of Virginia's mountains. St. John's retreat at Shrine Mont takes place the weekend of October 12 through 14 with the Rev. Ann Stribling, St. John's former rector, as the spiritual director. If you have not signed up yet, there may still be space available. If you're interested, please get in touch with either of us at 703-931-2168, or pritchardh20@aol.com, and let us know that you want to join in this weekend of friendship, relaxation, peace, and spiritual development.

St. John's Mission Statement

To discover and share the transforming love of Christ

St. John's Vision Statement

St. John's is dedicated to making disciples for Jesus through

- attracting and welcoming newcomers;
- sharing faith-deepening worship, education, outreach, and pastoral care; and
- together carrying God's vision of the kingdom into the world around us.

St. John's Speaker Series

In October: Socially Responsible Investing

by Bill Schenck

The Rev. Ed Miller will discuss "Socially Responsible Investing" on Monday, Oct. 22, at 7:30 in the church undercroft. What is "Socially Responsible Investing"? It isn't the form used to write a thank you note to your broker. It's a broad term to cover issues relating to how you invest your money. Should you own stocks in companies that pollute, for example. What about the stocks in a mutual fund?

St. John's members have a special interest in the Sudan because of David Bako—the Sudanese priest who spent time with us. Does it help or hurt David's life if we invest in companies doing business in the Sudan?

The Rev. Miller serves on a national Episcopal committee on this topic. He will not give you advice on investing in specific stocks or mutual funds, but he will address issues related to socially responsible investing. And you don't have to own stocks or bonds to find this issue of interest.

Last Month: Immigration

Our Speaker Series got off to a great start this fall with a presentation by Francisco Concepcion, an attorney who specializes in immigration law. He talked with a very interested crowd about how immigration laws work and what we can do as Christians to help people who are working through these difficult issues.

LOGOS

The LOGOS is published nine times a year in February, March, April, May, July, September, October, November, and December near the beginning of the month.

Lorraine Underwood, LOGOS Editor

Ms. Jane Edwards, LOGOS Editor and Page Layout

Email Lorraine at logos2stj@aol.com (preferred) or leave disk in Newsletter box in the office.

The next deadline is Friday, October 19 at 10:00 am.

Book Club

St. John's Book Club meets on the first Tuesday of the month, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. We welcome anyone who is interested. Please join us! Here is our schedule through April 2008:

October: *Cold Sassy Tree*, by Olive Ann Burns

November: *God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible*, by Adam Nicolson

December: *The Alchemist*, by Paul Coelho

January: *A Wrinkle in Time*, by Madeline L'Engle

February: *The Jesus Family Tomb: The Discovery, the Investigation, and the Evidence That Could Change History*, by Simcha Jacobovici & Charles Pellegrino

March: *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*, by John Barendt

April: *Walden*, by Henry David Thoreau

Meet the Seminarian

My name is Anna Minor, and I'm a middler at Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS). That means I'm in my second year of a three-year Master in Divinity program (M.Div.). I'm from Hopewell, south of Richmond in the Diocese of Southern Virginia. I went to college at Roanoke College.

I will be assisting in various ways on Sunday mornings, including doing some preaching. I also want to learn about Christian education. It is my hope that the time I spend here with you at St. John's will help form me into the pastor that God has called me to be. I'm excited to be able to worship and grow with you.

For the past three summers, I have served as the Assistant Chaplain at Colonial Downs, the horse racetrack here in Virginia. I provided pastoral care to the men and women who dedicate their lives to horse racing, including jockeys, stable workers, trainers, and owners. I prayed with the jockeys and gate crew before races, planned and led weekly bible studies, and co-led a worship service.

St. John's Calendar for October

- Sun 7 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:00 a.m.
Blessing of the Animals, 5:00 p.m.
Education for Ministry, 6:00–10:00 p.m.
- Mon 8 Columbus Day Observed, Office Closed
- Tue 9 St. John's Book Club, 7:30–9:00 p.m., will discuss *Cold Sassy Tree*, by Olive Ann Burns
- Wed 10 Candlelight Prayer Service, 7:30 p.m.
- Thu 11 Morning Guild, 10:00 a.m.
Choir Practice, 7:30–9:00 p.m.
- Sun 14 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8:00 a.m.
Christian Formation for all ages, 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:00 a.m.
Education for Ministry, 6:00–10:00 p.m.
- Wed 17 Candlelight Prayer Service, 7:30 p.m.
- Thu 18 Choir Practice, 7:30–9:00 p.m.
- Sat 20 Men's fellowship, 9:00 a.m., in the undercroft
- Sun 21 Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8:00 a.m.
Christian Formation for all ages, 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:00 a.m.
Education for Ministry, 6:00–10:00 p.m.
- Wed 24 Candlelight Prayer Service, 7:30 p.m.
- Thu 25 Choir Practice, 7:30–9:00 p.m.
- Sun 28 Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8:00 a.m.
Christian Formation for all ages, 9:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:00 a.m.
Education for Ministry, 6:00–10:00 p.m.
- Wed 31 Candlelight Prayer Service, 7:30 p.m.

Gospel Lessons for October—Year C

October 7, Luke 17:5–10, Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Jesus tells his disciples of faith's great power and reminds them that servants must not expect special privileges or thanks merely for doing their duty. The

first saying forcefully stresses the realization that faith's strength—even the power of a little faith—should never be underestimated. The story about the hardworking servant and the master makes the point that humans can never hold any claim over God and put God in their debt. For Jesus' followers there is no room for boasting or self-righteousness because of their faith and service.

October 14, Luke 17:11–19, Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

Jesus' command brings about the cleansing of ten lepers, but only one, a Samaritan, returns to give thanks. Jesus is on the way to his destiny in Jerusalem. The narrative illustrates the power of the reign of God to give a new lease on life. The lepers, who were formerly outcasts, would now be allowed to return home. But only a despised Samaritan recognizes that a life of gratitude and faith is now possible. Physical healing is but a first step; the Samaritan also becomes whole and finds salvation.

October 21, Luke 18:1–8a, Twenty First Sunday After Pentecost

Jesus tells a comic parable about a judge who is so pestered by a woman that he finally gives in to her pleas. The evangelist tells the story in order to commend persistent prayer. It would be particularly appropriate at a time when people were losing heart. Another focus of the parable is on the corrupt and impious judge. If even a man such as this will finally render justice, how much more will God hear those who call on God.

October 28, Luke 18:9–14, Twenty Second Sunday After Pentecost

This is the story of the sinful tax collector and the Pharisee who trusts in his own righteousness. The parable illustrates repeated themes of the Gospels: God's ways frequently reverse human expectations. It is God's acceptance—and not human merit—that opens the gift.

Lesson introductions are used by permission and adapted from *Introducing the Lessons of the Church Year* by the Rt. Rev. Frederick H. Borsch, retired bishop of the Diocese of Los Angeles. The guide was published by Trinity Press International, Philadelphia.

St. John's Family Portraits

Whether you're new to the St. John's family and you'd like your picture among the friendly faces on our photo display in the undercroft—or you've been in the family awhile and want your portrait freshened up...

It's Photo Time 2007!

Pick a date and time below for a fast and free photo session.

Oct. 7 & 21 • Nov. 11 & 18

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Questions? Ask Bill Pritchard at the 10:00 a.m. service or call 703-931-2168

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Next deadline is Friday, October 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Time Sensitive Material—Please Deliver Promptly

Staff

Rector: The Rev. Ann B. Barker
Seminararian: Amanda Eiman
Minister of Music: Lynn Robinson
Organist: Carol Dunlap
Secretary: Virginia Pearson
Sexton: Justiniano Garay

Parish Leaders

Jean Harrison, Treasurer
John Restall, Assistant Treasurer
Don Hess, Co-chair, Building and Grounds Committee
John Wilson, Co-chair, Building and Grounds Committee

Vestry

Linda Trochim, Senior Warden
Bill Thomson, Junior Warden
Dave Dunlap, Register
Marshall Adair
Pamela Corey-Archer
Jan Hull
Bill Pritchard
Jack Turner

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