



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

Let Your Child Out

One of the things that draws me instantly back to my childhood is the blinking abdomen of a lightning bug. I note with joy the first lightning bug of the summer. It takes me back to muggy nights when my siblings and I would gently cup the insects in our hands and put them in the mayonnaise jar mom had given us. She had poked holes in the top so the creatures could breathe and we put grass in the jar for them to eat. We had a strict catch and release policy, because no one wanted to kill them.

Childhood summers can be wonderful things. The extra space that they afford us, when we're not so heavily scheduled, gives us time to do a lot of things we could not do otherwise. We can take a trip to the moon, like Red and Rover do in the comics. We can play on the playground, read a good book, watch nature do its summertime thing.

This summer I invite you to let your child out and enjoy yourself. Be curious. Children are curious about all sorts of things because they are seeing many things for the first time. We already know about many things they are seeing for the first time, but we can be curious too. If you go to the beach, you can take a wonder about the creature that left the shell behind you just picked up. What did its inhabitant look like? Where is it now? We can ask grown up questions. Is it endangered? Why? You may want to check into this and contribute to an organization to help them. Read a book or a magazine article about a person you admire. Maybe you want to add some of his or her qualities to your personality. Work on doing that this summer.

Be spontaneous. Children do things on the spur of the moment, following whatever catches their attention. See if you can be spontaneous. Have unstructured time. Move from idea to idea, action to action. Paint a room in your house. Bake brownies and invite some friends over to share. Take a bike ride or a jog in the woods on a lovely Sunday afternoon after church. Swing on the swings. It's not necessary to be doing big long projects or have every moment programmed.

Ask questions. Children are always asking questions about things. It goes along with being curious. So put yourself in new environments where you need to learn. Take a class. There are all kinds offered in the area from crafts to yoga to software programs. We learn by asking questions. I am thinking about taking a knitting class. I know a little something about it. My sister thinks I am pretty hopeless, but I do want to get better so I can do something besides knit three, purl three. I will have to ask a lot of questions to improve. You might put yourself in a new geographic environment for

a vacation. Explore the location on Google or ask people who have been there about it—look up the best restaurants, the best shopping, the best music.

See if you can make a friend. Children meet people on the playground or at the pool they don't know from school. Might someone in the class you're taking have friend potential? How about someone at that new vacation spot? Look for ways to connect.

Live in the moment. Children are not hung up on the past, nor are they overly concerned about the future. Time is different for them than it is for us. Evan's dividing line used to be, "Is it before or after my birthday (or Christmas)? The moment we live in is all we have and we can ruin it by ruminating about the past or worrying about the future.

Jesus said, "I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:3) Jesus was talking about the most important thing we can do to be like children. We can be dependent. Children are dependent on their caregivers for everything. That's what gives them the freedom to be curious and spontaneous, to ask questions and live in the moment. Unless something has gone drastically wrong in their house, they know they can depend on their parents to hold them in safety, so they can be kids. Parents allow them freedom and wipe their tears when they fall, making everything all better.

We cannot be children like that again. Many of us have lost our parents, and many are caring for aging parents. But we can become like little children by depending on God for everything. If we let God into our lives God will help us with a work/relaxation balance, will show us what to do to be God's child and how to do it. In the June 20 meditation in *Forward Day by Day*, edited by Forward Movement, the author says, "because children bring their helplessness to Jesus, they are free to play in the midst of chaos and that is what being a child is all about. We would not play often at all if we could not play when our world is in trouble, personally or corporately."

This summer, be curious and spontaneous. Ask

questions and live in the moment. Make a new friend. Let go of some of life's serious business—often we can't do anything but worry about it anyway—and play. When we accept our dependence on God we can count on God to take care of us, rain or shine, happy or sad, busy or relaxed. Become as a child and enter the kingdom of heaven.

Ann†

Grant Challenges St. John's to Increase Pledges

At the annual meeting in January, it was announced that a parishioner has committed to funding a challenge grant that could raise us a significant amount of money.

The terms of the grant require that by the end of the year St. John's raise five additional contributions above and beyond pledges for 2012. Our challenger would then match the lowest contribution, up to \$5,000.

That means if the smallest contribution were for \$50, our challenger would contribute just \$50. If the smallest contribution were for \$1,000, our challenger would match with another \$1,000. If the smallest contribution were for \$6,000, the match would be the maximum \$5,000.

A parishioner's general one-time contribution to St. John's, an increase in a parishioner's 2012 pledge, or funding for a designated purpose, such as the family program, all qualify for a match. (Contributions to regular fundraisers such as UTO do not count.)

To date, we have only one contribution of \$500 committed to the challenge. We need four more to activate the grant. Please give prayerful consideration to answering this challenge. If you would like more information, please contact our rector, Ann Barker.

Tips for Reading the LOGOS

Tips for reading the pdf version of the LOGOS are available at the website:

<http://stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net/newsletter.html>

Needed: Representative for Arlington Interfaith Council

We are looking for a new representative for the Arlington Interfaith Council. Betty Vertiz has ably represented St. John's for several years and she is now stepping down. We need someone to be our voice at the meetings, which are held the third Monday of each month, September through June. At the meetings, members learn about community issues, share strategies, get to know one another and recruit volunteers. Meetings are open to interested visitors.

The Arlington Interfaith Council (AIC) consists of representatives from forty-eight Arlington faith communities and eighteen Helping Hands Agencies that provide direct services to people in need. Contributions from member congregations provide grants so that agencies can help the homeless, feed the hungry, assist ex-offenders and victims of domestic violence, and put supplies in the backpacks of homeless children. AFAC and A-SPAN, which we have helped before, are both Helping Hands agencies.

The group's mission statement is: To provide tangible religious witness in the community through promotion of understanding and cooperation among member congregations and to develop and support programs to alleviate suffering and promote justice for residents of Arlington County.

St. John's membership in the Interfaith Council is part of our outreach efforts to help the Arlington community. Please consider this ministry prayerfully. We really need someone to represent us as a faith community interested in providing for our community's needs.

Have You Considered Education for Ministry?

Education for Ministry (EFM) is a program of The University of the South (Sewanee) created to teach the core curriculum of the seminary to laypersons. For adults who are seeking study at a deep level, EFM offers four academic years of text—Hebrew Scriptures (OT), Christian Scriptures (NT), Early Church History, and Modern Philosophers and Theologians—along with four years of Theological Reflection, Worship and Christian Community fellowship. There are no exams to take, no papers to write and no summer classes, all of which make it

easier for busy adults whose study we support.

Since its creation 38 years ago, more than 100,000 people worldwide have participated in EFM. The program was introduced at St. John's for 1998, and dozens of students have attended the 15 classes since that time. Our Sunday evening group is now enrolling for the 2012-13 academic year.

Because we are a small congregation, the key to our long-term success has been in drawing students to St. John's EFM from all surrounding areas. Our parish program is perfectly described in listings as "multi-parish, multi-denominational, and multi-cultural," welcoming students of every age, race, ethnic group, sexual orientation, education or economic level, religious background (or none at all). In St. John's EFM, people feel free to ask their hard questions and seek answers true for them.

At St. John's we have graduated more than 25 individuals who have completed all four years of study, received a diploma, and are now engaged in a variety of lay ministries in our congregation and in the wider world. Add these to the extraordinary ongoing ministries of current and former St. John's students, and it is clear that our parish support of this important program is very good for the Kingdom of Heaven.

Moreover, St. John's parish support continues to make significant contributions to the EFM program itself, as we have raised up new mentors here, who are now carrying our parish values of welcoming, Christian community, deep commitment and inclusiveness to other Episcopal parishes and other denominations in the Virginia / Maryland / D.C. region and beyond (even a couple of folks in foreign countries). Our support for EFM in this place matters, both here and elsewhere.

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.

Dave Dunlap, LOGOS Editor

Jane Edwards, LOGOS Editor and Page Layout

Email Dave at dave_dunlap@yahoo.com (preferred) or leave info in newsletter box in the office.

The next deadline is Thursday, August 16 at 10:00 am.

Opportunities to Serve at Worship

St. John's offers many opportunities to serve—and there can never be too many volunteers. This month we highlight a set of service opportunities that support our Sunday worship. We invite you to consider these opportunities and if you are interested, or even just would like more information, talk to the contact person.

Altar Guild

The altar guild prepares the church for worship services on Sundays and for special services during the week. Duties include buying and arranging flowers, polishing brass, laundering altar linen, setting up the altar for Communion, and cleaning up after Communion.

Contact: Eileen Tallent, 703-241-5938,
eileen.talent@gmail.com

Choir

The choir sings for the 10:00 service. The choir leads the congregation in singing hymns and sings an anthem during the offertory. A musical background is helpful, but interest and a willingness to learn are important, too. The choir rehearses on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m., with a hiatus in its rehearsals for the summer.

Contact: Lynn Robinson, Minister of Music,
703-998-6481, mezzsop22204@yahoo.com

Lay Readers

Our lay readers read the lessons, the psalm and the prayers of the people at both our 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. Lay readers need a strong, clear voice to read the scriptures so that the congregation can hear and understand. Lay readers receive their readings several days in advance of the Sunday they are to read, so they have time to practice their readings.

Contact: The Rev. Ann Barker, 703-671-6834,
stjohnsrector@verizon.net

Ushers

Ushers are the first point of contact with people coming to worship. Ushers greet congregants and

visitors at the door, greeting all and distributing bulletins and service booklets. Ushers also collect the offering and provide a count to the priest of the number of people in the service. During Communion they guide people to the rail and assist those in need of help. After the service, ushers collect used bulletins for recycling and see that the church is in order.

Contacts: Del Hunt, 703-931-3256, hunt@washsq.com
Bryan Harbin, 301-651-4128, cdharbin@hotmail.net

Acolytes

Acolytes assist at the altar at both our 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. At 8:00 a.m., they light and extinguish candles, help the priest set up for Communion and serve as chalice bearer. Our 10:00 a.m. acolytes carry the cross in procession, light and extinguish candles and carry the gospel book to the center of the aisle and hold it for the priest. During the offertory they accept the bread and wine from the oblation bearers and help the priest set up for Communion. They also give the ushers the offering plates and receive them when the ushers are finished. Youth and adults may serve in this capacity.

Contact: The Rev. Ann Barker, 703-671-6834,
stjohnsrector@verizon.net

Tellers

After the service ends, the tellers count the collection and prepare the deposit for the bank. Tellers are responsible for assigning money to appropriate church accounts, as well as copying deposit slips for the treasurer and the pledge clerk.

Contact: Bill Schenck, wzschenck@aol.com

Vestry Notes

The June vestry meeting was held on June 12, 2012.

At that meeting the vestry gave approval for Bill Pritchard to hold First Aid classes for parishioners at St. John's starting in the fall, set July 23 as the date for a meeting on developing ideas and materials for the fall Annual Giving Campaign, and agreed on publicizing the Challenge Grant in LOGOS and at church services.

Faye Pritchard, the Senior Warden, distributed a draft St. John's Ministries Survey that vestry members will test run in June. Lenore Schmidt, the Junior Warden, presented plans for conducting a photographic church inventory for insurance purposes and a proposal for upgrading the church's fluorescent lighting.

Parishioner Bill Pritchard had first proposed that he offer First Aid courses for St. John's parishioners during the May Vestry Meeting. At this June meeting, the Vestry gave its approval for Bill to purchase course materials from the Emergency Care and Safety Learning Institute (ECSI) and offer First Aid training at cost for our members. ECSI offers courses that are comparable to those of the Red Cross but at much lower cost. Vestry members suggested that Bill offer the first course in late September, followed by a second in October, and that he consider opening up the training to Glencarlyn residents.

Debbie Carter and Diane Henderson reported on the Diocese's Annual Giving Workshop, which they had attended the day before. They presented a proposed layout of a fundraising pamphlet modeled on the successful approaches used by non-profits. The Vestry decided to meet on Monday July 23 to further explore how to approach this fall's campaign.

Bill Thomson, the Treasurer, noted that so far there has been only one response to a Challenge Grant first presented at the Annual Meeting in January. At that time it had been announced that an anonymous donor had committed to matching the smallest of five new contributions, up to \$5,000, if the parish can find the five new contributions by the end of the year. The Vestry recognized the need to move on publicizing this Challenge Grant and decided to begin promoting it regularly in LOGOS and at church services.

Faye distributed the draft Ministries Survey for members to test run by the end of June. The survey is being designed to help the Vestry better understand where parishioners are directing their time and talent within the parish, how much time these efforts require, and which activities and ministries they consider priority. It will help the Vestry in making decisions on how to allocate our resources.

Lenore reported that she, along with volunteers, would be taking a photographic inventory of church property and possessions for insurance purposes; that she would be using budgeted money to replace the ballasts that channel electricity to our fluorescent lights, beginning with the offices. Lenore also announced that the outside painting day was set for July 14. No date has been set yet for repair of the fire escape pickets.

Other items:

- Pete Olivere will be assessing the church phone system in June. Lenore had cleaned up the church's computer and added more memory in early June.
- Diane Henderson will be recruiting volunteers to run Movie Night and the Bagged Lunch Program in August.
- Rector Ann Barker reported that although St. John's is not losing membership, the number of members attending services is declining. There were a few brief comments on how to reach out to old members as well as new and prospective members.

St. John's Mission Statement

We welcome everyone including believers, seekers and doubters to share God's love and acceptance in a community of worship and service.

St. John's Vision Statement

St. John's is dedicated to nurturing disciples for Jesus by:

- Offering faith-deepening worship, education, outreach and pastoral care;
- Attracting and welcoming newcomers; and
- Sharing God's love with our community and the world around us.

Parish News

Our Thanks to

Everyone who helped make this year's Spring Tea so special, especially to coordinator Beth Cavey. We made about \$1,500.

Jean Harrison for coordinating our United Thank Offering campaign

The proprietors of St. John's hot dog stand on Glencarlyn Day: Bill Thomson, Henry and Debbie Carter, Lenore Schmidt, Bill Schenck, Dave Dunlap, Brian Cavey and Chris Bohannon (a neighbor of the Caveys). We made close to \$150 after expenses.

The people who helped make the choir book sale a success: Lynn Robinson, Debbie Carter, Lynn Christopher and Carolyn Corlett. The group made more than \$75 to purchase new music for the choir.

Carrie and Bryan Harbin for running our Movie Night Under the Stars on June 16.

Bryan Harbin for coordinating the signs for various events (the signs look great!)

Carolyn Corlett and Barbara Hill for coordinating the Ice Cream Social and Pete Olivere for helping with the signs

Diane Henderson and Debbie Carter for their attendance at a diocesan stewardship workshop, where we got some new ideas about an annual giving campaign

Del Hunt for filling in as treasurer while Bill Thomson had his surgery.

Rest in Peace

Floyd Wallace, father of Jeff Wallace, who entered the Life of the Resurrection on May 26, 2012.

Tony Del Gallo, brother of Andy Del Gallo, who entered the life of the Resurrection on June 11, 2012.

July and August Birthdays

Marshall Adair, Nolan Baynham, Michael Beavin, Carol Bogart, Henry Carter, Brian Cavey, Carolyn Corlett, Josh Cullen, Dennis Eckhout, Justiniano Garay, Nancy Gibb, Lexie Hart, McKenzie Hart, Thomas Held, Klaus Held, Janice Hull, Anne Kaylor, Billie Jean Keith, Matt Lodsun, Kenji McCartney, Helen Naw Mumu, Ray O'Connor, Virginia Pearson, Paul Petrich, Bill Pritchard, Patrick Rawls, Marion Reed, Lynn Robinson, Lenore Schmidt, Harriet Sheehan, Jones Tallent, Angie Turner, Bill Turner, Lorraine Underwood, Simon Van Wyk, Sarah Vistica, John Wilson

July and August Anniversaries

The Rev. Sue & Rob Hardman, Jones & Sharon Tallent

Join St. John's Intercessory Prayer Group

Did you know St. John's has an on-line intercessory prayer group? We pray for parishioners, friends, issues of world concern and the church. Our list is updated as prayer requests come in and we update the list every few months. If you have a desire to practice intercessory prayer, please let Ann know and she will put you in the group. It is a good way to stay connected to our parishioners and others we are praying for. You might pray for a section of the list each day or you may of course pray for the entire list. This is a vital pastoral care ministry of St. John's that uplifts those that are ill and works toward healing in the world.

Vacation Bible School Coming in July

St. John's will again offer Vacation Bible School this summer July 16-20 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. The cost is \$20 for the week (additional siblings may attend for \$5). Our theme this year is "Christianity Around the World". Each day we will explore how different cultures celebrate the different seasons of the year. In addition to an interesting Bible lesson, each day we will have a craft, a fun activity, songs, and dinner will be provided. So come celebrate Christmas in Africa, eat pancakes for Shrove Tuesday, make pretzels to symbolize Lent, play with water balloons to celebrate Easter, and learn about how art around the world helps us during ordinary time.

There are plenty of opportunities for St. John's parishioners to participate, whether you have availability the entire week, an evening, or even part of an evening, or providing a meal. We can use all sorts of help. Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. You may be tired after helping out, but you will also be rewarded and inspired by the enthusiasm and spirit of our young participants, and it is a ton of fun!

We will limit participation to 20, so interested parties should reserve a spot early by emailing stjohnsfamilyprograms@gmail.com or calling Rev. Ann Barker at St. John's at 703-671-6834. We look forward to seeing the world with you this summer.

Also, look for an overview of our new fall education programs in September. Again, if you have an interest in these programs, contact Beth Cavey and she will put your talents to good use. And she does believe that everyone has talents that can be shared with our youth.



Upcoming Events—July and August

July 7 (Saturday)	Outdoor Paint Prep Day (Lenore)
July 8 (Sunday)	Bagged Lunch Program (Coffee Hour) (Beth C.)
July 14 (Saturday)	Outdoor Paint Day (Lenore)
July 16-20 (M-F)	Vacation Bible School (Beth C.) 4:30–7:30 p.m.
July 21 Saturday)	Movie Under the Stars (Debbie Carter) 8:30 p.m.
July 28 (Saturday)	Outdoor Paint Day (Rain Date) (Lenore)
August 12 (Sunday)	Bagged Lunch Program (Coffee Hour) (?Host/Hostess?)*
August 18 (Saturday)	Movie Under the Stars (?Host/Hostess?) 8:30 p.m.**
September 4 (Tuesday)	Book Club (Lynn Robinson) 7:30 p.m.

Budget

The revenue and expenses for May 2012 and the first five months then ended appear below. The receipts for the month exceeded the disbursements to create an income of \$3,283 for the month. However, there is a deficit of \$8,919 for the year to date (a deficit anticipated due to decreased pledges compared to previous years).

Summertime is here and promises vacations and relaxation, but it can be a difficult time for cash flow at St. John's. Please try to keep your pledges current while you enjoy the season. Thank you.

OPERATING BUDGET	May 2012	Year to Date	Budget
OPERATING INCOME	\$15,051.00	\$59,300.00	\$142,985
EXPENDITURES			
Worship: Rector	\$6,381.00	\$38,359.00	\$90,156
Worship: Music	\$837.00	\$4,186.00	\$10,346
Worship: Other	\$656.00	\$2,396.00	\$3,550
Christian Education	\$175.00	\$1,355.00	\$2,883
Outreach	\$512.00	\$2,487.00	\$6,875
Hospitality	\$0.00	\$195.00	\$500
Office Expenses	\$966.00	\$5,182.00	\$13,802
General Expenses	\$0.00	\$741.00	\$3,799
Building	\$2,241.00	\$13,141.00	\$33,814
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$11,768.00	\$68,042.00	\$165,725
INCOME LESS EXPENDITURES	\$3,283.00	-\$8,742.00	-\$22,740
FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR SPECIFIC USES			
Designated Funds In	\$598.00	\$2,953.00	
Designated Funds Out	\$1,188.00	\$5,272.00	
Designated Funds Net Change	-\$590.00	-\$2,319.00	
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS	\$221,778.00		

For details, see posting on the bulletin board outside the nursery or contact Bill Thomson.

St. John's Episcopal Church
415 South Lexington Street
Arlington VA 22204
703-671-6834
<http://stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net>

Next deadline is Thursday, August 16 at 10:00 a.m.

Time Sensitive Material—Please Deliver Promptly

Staff

Rector: The Rev. Ann B. Barker
Seminarian: Mary Mackin
Minister of Music: Lynn Robinson
Organist: Carol Dunlap
Parish Administrator: Virginia Pearson
Sexton: Justiniano Garay

Parish Leaders

Bill Thomson, Treasurer
John Restall, Assistant Treasurer
John Wilson, Chair Finance Committee
Eileen Tallent, Chair Altar Guild

Vestry

Patricia Broida
Debbie Carter
Carrie Harbin
Diane Henderson
Pete Olivere
Faye Pritchard, Senior Warden
Lenore Schmidt, Junior Warden

LOGOS Volunteers

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Page Layout and Webmaster:
Jane Edwards (Monarch Training)