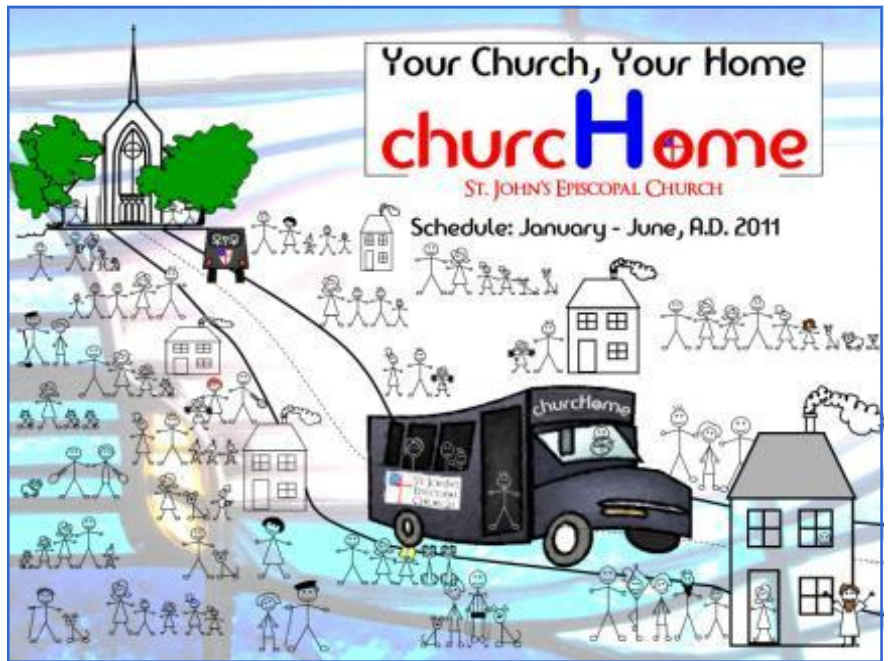


THE VOICE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MARCH 1, 2011



CHURCHOME - WHERE ARE WE?

If your life in the parish has not brought you within reach of our churcHome effort, what I can tell you is that it is an exciting new approach to the practice of our faith that has been in serious discussion with much of the parish for several months. If you would like to understand the basic premise of churcHome I refer you to the website www.saintjohns-charlotte.org and click on the reproduction of the Monograph on the right hand side of the home page.

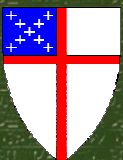
For those of you who know about our churcHome effort let me bring you up to speed.

1. I have continued to read and study myself and see how best to begin this transition. The base Monograph is written and I will be doing some more writing and sharing.

2. I have met with a group of folks I call the *Design Team* to critique the implementation and I continue to pray and contemplate about those recommendations. This has been most helpful; particularly in managing the scope and duration of this effort.

3. Over the next two (2) weeks I will be interviewing clerics to join the staff and take the lead in this effort for the long term. Budget permitting; this cleric will begin in the late spring/early summer.

Continued overleaf



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

1623 Carmel Road, Charlotte, NC 28226
704-366-3034



THIS MONTH

- The Start of Lent
- New choirs for young singers
- Kanuga Parish Family Weekend
- Habitat for Humanity dates
- Debt Reduction Campaign

churcHome continued from cover

4. I am currently recruiting 2 people to serve as *Resource Librarians* for this effort. These are critical roles as a significant portion of this ministry will be to collect, compile and make available a vast expanse of materials on the practice of the Christian Faith in the home and beyond. These individuals will need to be able to locate resources, help us acquire resources, get the resources to the web, create a hands on resource lab here and help in the design of whatever instrument will best make these resources available to people embracing this effort.

5. We are working on creating a simple brochure that explains churcHome for those folks who do not have time to read a lengthy Monograph and have not been part of the conversation from the beginning or for some other reason experience their life in the parish without contact with the new effort.

6. We have several homes who have signed up to be churcHome pilot sites. We will be inviting them to a meeting soon to discuss and tweak the pilot effort.

7. We are currently recruiting *Prayer Teams* to pray for the pilot homes starting in April.

8. Finally, we are adding a churcHome page to the website to keep you posted on all things churcHome.

I ask your prayers as we continue down this new road.

God Bless you,
Fr. Paul+

CLERGY AND PARISH STAFF

Rector

The Rev'd Fr. P.S. Winton

Senior Asst. to the Rector

The Rev'd Amy J. Huacani

Executive Assistant to the Rector

Ms. Kerry Johnson

Assistants to the Rector

The Rev'd Terry Harris

Senior Care

The Rev'd Deacon Russ Settles

Pastoral Care

Mr. Matt Williams

Youth Ministries

Canon Cindy Winslow

Children's Ministries

Ms. Jenny Taylor

Preschool Ministries

Ms. Cathy Harrison

Special Projects

Ms. Kathy Arthur

Parish Life

Theologian in Residence

The Rev'd Dr. Robert Cooley

Affiliated Cleric

& Psychotherapist

The Rev'd Dr. Ralph Milligan

Pastoral Assistants to the Rector

Ms. Jo Brock

Hospitality

Ms. Mary Catherine Coon

Cancer Care

Parish Steward

Ms. Susan Mason

Property Steward

Ms. Leslie Davis

Organist and Master of Choirs

Mr. Alan Reed

Master of Choirs of Bell and Chime

Mr. Chip Carter

Assistant for Music Ministries

Ms. Jane Orrell

Music Scholar in Residence

Mr. Justin Rhymer

Sextons

Mr. Vernon Young

~~~~~  
St. John's Episcopal Church

1623 Carmel Road

704-366-3034

For a pastoral emergency after hours call

704-604-2674

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### **Sunday:**

7:30am Holy Eucharist (Nave)

8:45am Holy Eucharist (Nave)

11:15am Holy Eucharist Contemporary

11:15am Holy Eucharist (Nave)

*(Nursery & Childcare provided*

*Sundays, 8:30am-12:30pm)*

### **Monday:**

7am Morning Prayer (Chapel)

### **Tuesday:**

Noon Holy Eucharist with Anointing (Chapel)

### **Wednesday:**

6pm Evening Prayer (Chapel)

### **Friday:**

7am Morning Prayer (Children's Chapel)

### **Saturday:**

8:10am Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

# WORSHIP

## EVENSONG OFFERED AT ST. MARTIN'S,

Sunday, March 13

The combined choirs of St. John's, St. Martin's and the Church of the Good Shepherd will join forces to offer Evensong at St. Martin's on the First Sunday in Lent, March 13, at 5:00 p.m. Evensong is the traditional service of musical prayer and praise offered daily in the English cathedral. The evening canticles will be offered in a setting by T. Tertius Noble, founder of the St. Thomas Choir School in Manhattan. The anthem will be Mendelssohn's "Hear My Prayer," a musical favorite for many. Everyone is invited to Evensong. Please come and bring a friend.

## EVENSONG OFFERED AT ST. JOHN'S,

Sunday, March 27; High Tea follows

The Treble Youth Choir of St. John's will offer Evensong on Sunday, March 27, at 4:00 p.m. Evensong is the traditional service of musical prayer and praise offered daily in the English cathedral. The Trebles will offer the Responses of Malcolm Archer, a contemporary setting of the 1662 texts. The evening canticles will be offered in a setting by Robert J. Powell, recently retired organist of Christ Church in Greenville, S.C. The anthem will be Bach's familiar "Bist du bei mir." Everyone is invited to bring a friend to Evensong and to stay for "High Tea" offered by Jo Brock at the end of the service.

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Remember to set your clocks forward on Saturday night, March 12, or you'll be an hour late to church on Sunday. Spring forward!

## SHROVE TUESDAY, MARCH 8

The tradition Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be offered in the parish hall from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. by the youth of St. John's. Come enjoy the last day before Lent—Happy Mardis Gras!

## THE FIRST DAY OF LENT

Ash Wednesday, March 9

On Ash Wednesday the Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes will be offered at 7:00 a.m., noon, and 6:00 p.m. at St. John's. The 7:00 a.m. service will not have music. The noon service will include hymns, and the 6:00 p.m. service will offer hymns and choir.

The usual Wednesday supper will not be served, but a light supper will be offered after the 6:00 p.m. service to break the day's fast.

## WATCH THE 8:45 SERVICE ONLINE

If you are not able to get to church but don't want to miss the service, you can log onto the following website <http://www.livestream.com/sjecharlotteservices> and watch the 8:45 traditional service live! This is a free site we're using which means that there are 'commercials' every 15 minutes or so. To watch the service without interruption, log on a few minutes before the service starts and follow the instructions at the top of the viewing screen to watch the commercial 'now'. Do this 4 or 5 times and you will find you've 'beat the system' and will have commercial free viewing for about 1 hour. If you don't do this, don't worry. The service will pick up where it left off when the commercial is finished – just like TV!

We're hoping this will be helpful to our members who are home-bound, recuperating from illness or for those who are out of town and don't want to miss church. The site stores the last couple of services so if you can't 'tune in' at 8:45am, you can catch it at a later time.

Our ability to do this is through the outstanding volunteer efforts of several of our members who researched the process, ran cable on site and made the magic happen. Please send any comments or suggestions you have for improvement to Cathy Harrison at [charrison@saintjohns-charlotte.org](mailto:charrison@saintjohns-charlotte.org).

# MUSIC

## CHOIRS FOR YOUNG SINGERS

St. John's is beginning a new choir for young singers who will present their offerings at the contemporary service. Sarah Morgan will be leading The Joyful Noise for singers age four through fifth grade. They will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the parish hall on the third and fourth Sundays of each month, and they will sing for the contemporary service (11:15 a.m.) on fourth Sundays. All interested parents may contact Sarah at [sarahfmorgan@yahoo.com](mailto:sarahfmorgan@yahoo.com) or 704-553-0102.

The Cherub Choir for young singers, kindergarten through second grade, meets each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. in the children's chapel. Jane Orrell leads this group, who usually sing near the beginning of the 8:45 a.m. service and both 11:15 a.m. services on the second Sunday of each month. Contact Jane at [jorrell@saintjohns-charlotte.org](mailto:jorrell@saintjohns-charlotte.org) or 704-779-5678. Second graders stay for extra rehearsal to help them prepare for the Treble Youth Choir.

The Treble Youth Choir for unchanged voices, third through twelfth grades, meets each Wednesday from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. in the choir room. Alan Reed leads this group, who provide musical leadership at the 8:45 a.m. service each Sunday. Young men with changed voices may sing with the Shepherd Choir of teens and adults, providing alto, tenor, and bass support for the Treble Youth Choir. Contact Alan at [alan@saintjohns-charlotte.org](mailto:alan@saintjohns-charlotte.org) or 704-366-3034.

All of our choirs are always recruiting and welcoming new members. Please call Alan Reed in the church office today (704-366-3034) to find out more about a choir for you or your child.

# PARISH LIFE

## SIGN UP FOR CHURCH SUPPER ONLINE

If you would like to sign up for church supper online, you may now do so, on a week by week basis by logging on to [www.saintjohns-charlotte.org](http://www.saintjohns-charlotte.org). Click on the Parish Life heading the top of the home page, click on Parish Dinner and Breakfast Menu and you'll see the sign up link there along with the menus for the month. There is no need to sign up for Sunday morning breakfasts. You may also sign up in person either at the front desk or on Wednesday night in the hallway outside the parish hall.

## MENUS

|              |                          |                                                                |
|--------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday AM    | March 6                  | Omelets                                                        |
|              | March 13                 | Oatmeal Bar                                                    |
|              | March 20                 | Biscuits to Go                                                 |
|              | March 27                 | Eggs to Order                                                  |
| Wednesday PM | March 2                  | Mardi Gras/Jambalaya                                           |
|              | March 8                  | Pancake supper hosted by the Youth of St. John's               |
|              | March 9<br>Ash Wednesday | Simple Meal: Soup, bread, figs, cheese, apples and wine.       |
|              | March 16                 | St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage                      |
|              | March 23                 | Feast of the Annunciation<br>Chicken Wings and Angel Food Cake |
|              | March 30                 | Fish Fry                                                       |

## GIRL SCOUT PROGRAM

On Sunday February 13th more than 50 area Girl Scouts attended a program written and presented by four Cadette Girl Scouts from St. John's. Emma Burri, Katie Sands, Madeline Smith, and Rebecca Thwaites have been working since last summer on their Silver Award Project, which promotes leadership training. Their program, called "Positive Path: Girls Guide to Middle School," included topics rising 6th graders will likely face in middle school: Bullying, Gossip, Cliques and Friendships, and Self-Image.



Each of the program leaders became an expert on one of the four topics and led the attendees on an educational afternoon with workbooks, skits, and small group discussions. To provide a comfortable setting for open discussion, the attendees were broken into smaller groups and gathered comfortably on pillows and sleeping bags scattered around the Parish Hall.

The Silver Award is the highest award a Cadette Girl Scout can receive. This spring, all four scouts will advance to the next level of scouting, Senior Girl Scout, where they will begin work on their Gold Award Project. Mandy Burri, one of troop leaders, estimates the girls logged more than 75 hours preparing for the program, not including the perquisites that girls had to earn before they were eligible to begin the project.



## ARTISTS IN THE BREEZEWAY

The purpose of the breezeway display of artists is to share our talents with the parishioners of our church. When pieces are sold, a portion goes to St John's outreach, but the purpose is not so much marketing as decoration of these empty walls, prompting conversation among parishioners, and therefore friendships.

We are blessed with many talented people. Perhaps some of you will volunteer to present your talents for a month or two. All sorts of work is welcomed, as long as it can be hung on a wall: paintings, drawings, photographs, origami, textiles (quilts, banners, needlework, christening gowns, weavings, etc) Whatever your talent! If you are interested in more information, please contact Terry Henriksen at 704-264-0620.

## NEWCOMERS

Newcomers, we're very glad you're here! Please make yourselves known to us by filling out a yellow visitor card. They are at greeter stations around the church entrances, and in the parish hall on the back table. If you have questions, are interested in membership, or would just like to find out more about St. John's, please call Kathy Arthur, Assistant to the Rector, Parish Life: 704-366-3034. My email address is [karthur@saintjohns-charlotte.org](mailto:karthur@saintjohns-charlotte.org).

Name Tags! If you've asked for a name tag, please pick yours up on the name tag table with the yellow sign in Tilson Hall. If it's been awhile since you requested one, look for it in the file box on the same table.

Newcomer event: Our next newcomer coffee is scheduled for April 3rd during Sunday School hour. This is your chance to meet some clergy, staff, vestry and other newcomers!

New Member event: If you've become a member since October of 2010, there will be a New Member reception on April 17th at Fr. Paul's home. Look forward! If you want to transfer to St. John's from your former parish, get on board soon! This is an event you won't want to miss.

## SIGMA

Please note the changes to the Sigma schedule.

March 12, 2011 @ 6:30 pm @ the home of David & Rudene Marlow; 1306 Redcoat Dr.; 704-364-4468;  
[rudenemarlowe@hotmail.com](mailto:rudenemarlowe@hotmail.com)

April 16, 2011 @ 6:30 pm @ the home of Phil & Jane Rowland; 4804 Crooked Oak Drive; 704-366-8703;  
[jrowlan2@bellsouth.net](mailto:jrowlan2@bellsouth.net) \*\*\*

\*\*\* Please note change of date also.

## A BIG THANK YOU FROM BARBARA HODGE

Barbara Hodge would like to extend a huge thank you to her church family for the honor she was given at the Annual Parish Meeting, celebrating her 30 year devotion to the Gift and Book Store Ministry. Barbara says she is so excited to see the bookstore moving into Jeanne Tappe's capable hands as they partner together to have the store go on strong for another 30 years and beyond! Barbara just loves Jeanne's youthful approach, ideas and talents, and thinks she is just precious! The bookstore has been Barbara's baby all these years and she is so thankful to everyone.

# PARISH LIFE

## SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY CHILI COOK-OFF WINNING RECIPE

Creamy Chicken Risotto Soup by Michael Ragon,

2 tablespoons olive oil  
1 large onion, peeled and diced  
2 cups diced celery  
2 cups chopped carrots  
1/2 gallon chicken stock  
2 cloves chopped garlic  
2 tablespoons tarragon  
2 tablespoons dill weed  
1/2 cup soy sauce  
10 black peppercorns  
1 large bay leaf  
1 quart cream  
1 quart sour cream  
1/2 stick butter  
1 roasted chicken, skin and bones discarded, meat diced  
2 cups cooked Arborio rice  
Fresh dill weed to garnish

HEAT olive oil in a large soup pot and sauté onions, carrots and celery until onions are translucent, then add a generous pinch of kosher salt.

ADD chicken stock, soy sauce and garlic. Tie bay leaf, tarragon, dill weed and peppercorns in a square of cheesecloth and add to the soup. Bring to a boil, reduce heat and simmer about 20 minutes. Remove cheesecloth bundle.

ADD cream, sour cream, butter, chicken and cooked rice and heat through. (Don't bring back to a boil so the sour cream doesn't curdle.) Serve sprinkled with chopped dill weed.

## PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

A new pictorial directory will be available by summer. We are asking all parishioners to have their picture taken by the professional photographer at the church. Appointments can be made several ways:

1. A sign up table is in the reception area on most weekdays and Sunday mornings-on Wednesday nights it will be outside the parish hall
2. You can schedule your appointment online at <http://signup.olanmills.com>
3. There is a link on our website ([www.saintjohns-charlotte.org](http://www.saintjohns-charlotte.org)) to the Olan Mills sign up site.

The scheduled dates for photography and portrait viewing at St. John's are:

March 31-April 2, April 5 & 6, April 13-16 and April 23.  
The photographer will be at Plantation Estates on April 4.  
Weekday appointment times are 2:00-9:30 pm and Saturday appointments are 9:30 am-5:30 pm. Please sign up as soon as possible to get an appointment that best fits your schedule.

## ADULT INQUIRER'S CLASS

Confirmation and Reception into the Episcopal Church will take place at St. John's on Sunday, May 22, 2011. Classes to prepare adults for Confirmation will begin this Sunday, February 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. While this class will take the place of the Rector's Forum for the next 10 weeks, all are welcome to attend and will find it of interest even if you

are already confirmed. Information forms will be available during class to fill out and should be returned to Kerry Johnson in the church office as soon as possible.



## KANUGA: A PARISH FAMILY WEEKEND

April 8-10, 2011  
Kanuga Conference Center  
Hendersonville, NC

We are looking forward to a wonderful weekend of renewal, connection, fun, games, entertainment, all in the gorgeous mountains of North Carolina at Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, NC

To sign up for the annual parish family retreat either visit the website and click on the link on the home page for the registration form, print it off and return to Kerry Johnson or pick up a form at the front desk at the church. There is a limited number of spaces available so get your form in ASAP.

**Non-refundable Registration Fee:** \$20 per family through March 15; \$30 per family after March 15

### Lodging Rates per person:

Adult (19 & up) \$172.50  
Youth (10-18) \$93.50  
Children (5-9) \$55.00  
Babies (4 and under) No Charge - Cribs with linen available for \$7 per weekend.

**Single occupancy** is an additional \$64.50 per weekend.

Rates include overnight lodging, six full meals, coffee at the dining room foyer, use of meeting room and recreational facilities.

Kanuga will charge a **\$15 per day per person "No Show" fee** for anyone who fails to give Kanuga 24 hour notice of cancellation.

More information will be made available around the church in the next couple of weeks.

We look forward to seeing you there!

# EDUCATION

## CONFIRMATION CLASS MEETING

The Rector would like to meet with anyone in the parish who would like to join in a discussion regarding Confirmation preparation for our young people. The objective is not only to design the very finest Confirmation program possible but to design our ministry in such a way that maximizes the young person's future engagement in the life of the parish.

There are two meetings scheduled: the first will be Sunday, March 6 at 10:00 AM in room 125 and the second will take place on Thursday, March 10 at 6:30 PM in room 204/205 .

## CANCER CARE MINISTRY

How can I help my parents? They live six hours away. Mother can't take care of my dad now. Amanda Simpson is an Eldercare Advisor with a place for Mom. Her goal is to help families navigate through the maze of information available concerning eldercare services and communities. Please join the Cancer Care Ministry, March 16, room 201 at 6:30PM to listen to Amanda's information for adult children who need services for an older love one.

## OUTREACH

### THE GUILD OF ST. MARGARET

The Guild of St. Margaret's would like to thank you for your very generous donations of Valentines and alarm clocks for the homeless children of Billingsville Elementary. The children were thrilled! It's amazing how something so small can really make a difference!

The Guild of St. Margaret's would like to welcome you and your family to join us for a family Lenten project. We will meet on Saturday morning, March 19th at 10:00am to make gifts for some of our homebound parishioners. There will be card making stations, planter decorating stations, planting stations, and muffin baking in the kitchen. Rev. Amy will bless the gifts and each family will take a name and deliver a card, plant, and muffins to spread God's love! This will be a wonderful opportunity to show our children the importance of being kind to others. All ages are welcome to attend!

*Submitted by Stephanie Green, Guild of St. Margaret Chair*

### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Our next work day for Habitat for Humanity is listed below. Please contact Christ Koconis [ckoconis@bellsouth.net](mailto:ckoconis@bellsouth.net) or 704 366-7600 (home phone); 704 502-8614 if you are available to work on our next scheduled day.

*Submitted by Christ Koconis, St. John's Habitat coordinator*

Crew: St. John's Trim Construction Volunteer Team

Task: Interior Trim

Location: New Home - 2518 Pitts Drive

Volunteers Needed: 12

Work Date: 3/26/2011

Work Hours: 8:00AM - 1:00PM

### ROOM IN THE INN

Room in the Inn has a handful of needs still to be met as we close in on the end of another successful season helping Charlotte's homeless. On the following dates, we have specific needs.

3/24 Prepare supper for 12 guests, 2 hosts and the family fixing the meal

3/24 and 3/31 Meat and Cheese sandwiches for 24, P, B & J for 24 each date.

3/10, 3/17, 3/24 and 3/31 24 pieces of fruit each date.

We are also in need of socks, deodorant, toothpaste and toothbrushes. If you can help with any of these needs please contact Judy Russo at 704-752-3537 [judyrusso@hotmail.com](mailto:judyrusso@hotmail.com)

### SUPPORT OUR TROOPS OUTREACH

St. John's "Support Our Troops Outreach" group recently met to discuss projects you will want to become familiar with and get involved in.

The Holiday Hero Wreath effort was such a success that we will again have it in Tilson Hall –early November. Add this to your calendar and remind yourself of the need to remember our St. John's Troops by sending cards, letters, and packages. Don't wait until a holiday – remember our Troops now. It takes just one (1) first-class U.S. Stamp to let our servicemen know we support them and continue to cover them in Prayer.

To the twenty (20) bakers of St. John's who signed up to bake homemade goods to be delivered on a quarterly basis to our local Military Training sites and the USO/Charlotte Douglas Airport – this effort will move forward. David Hodges and Nancy Joyner will coordinate this effort. Contact will be made in order to confirm scheduling dates for our bakers and the delivery of the goods. Each delivery will be accompanied by a St. John's Episcopal Church note.

**NEW PROJECT!** Soon you will see collection containers inside the two doors from the parking lot. "SOTO" signage will be placed on top of the containers along with a list of suggested items to drop in the containers. These items will be available to St. John's groups such as Prime Timers, EYC, Youth Groups, and others who want to send a package using these collected items. As always you are encouraged to include hand written notes – and always note the box is from St. John's Episcopal Church, Charlotte, N.C. No "food" items are to be put in the collection containers, however, if you want to add food items, mints/gum, beef jerky, etc. to your package – please do so.

**NEW PROJECT!** "SOTO" is currently obtaining "birth dates" of our servicemen. We will coordinate with Jane Golz and the Sunshine Card group in the making of birthday cards. Look for the birth dates to appear along with each serviceman's photo on the bulletin boards in Tilson Hall. You are all encouraged to send birthday greetings.

The new "SOTO" brochure is in final stages of completion. This will be a wonderful tool to keep you informed. Thanks to Cathy Harrison!

Please know we are always happy to receive new names of military personnel to add to the bulletin boards in Tilson Hall. If you have a family member, a friend, or know of a serviceman or woman needing our support, please fill out one of the "SOTO" forms in the red folder in the reception area.

If you have questions or would like to join this Outreach – please talk with one of our "SOTO" members or call 704/759-8818.

## EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

### NetsforLife

In last month's article we touched on the scope of what ERD had tackled in 2010. From Haiti's earthquake relief, to the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, to the flooding in Pakistan, ERD was our 'arms and legs' in helping those who so badly needed our assistance. What a year it was and what a fine job ERD did.

As tragic as those major events were there is an equally tragic story that plays itself out on a minute-by-minute basis: *every single minute in sub-Saharan Africa a child dies from malaria*, a deadly infectious disease transmitted by a mosquito bite. And that is where NetsforLife comes in. Just one life-saving, long-lasting, insecticide-treated net can save three lives from suffering and death.

Many worthwhile causes are calling including the 30-hour famine and the St. John's debt reduction campaign to name but two. That said, however, please remember that for the cost of a pizza, your \$12 contribution to NetsforLife for the purchase of one net can save three lives; you will truly have touched "the least of these." To date the St. John's family has purchased a total of 775 nets potentially saving 2325 lives. Checks may be made payable to St. John's with 'ERD' in the comment section.

## CARTER LOFTON MEMORIAL BISHOP'S CHAIR

To honor and remember our former parishioner and long-time friend, the late Carter Lofton, members of the Penick Village Board of Directors hope to raise \$5000 to endow a Bishop's Chair in the new Penick Village chapel. Carter and his family were part of St. John's for many years. After he became a Deacon, he served this parish as well as Holy Comforter, and the entire diocese, until his death last year. Anyone who would like to honor Carter by making a donation to the Bishop's Chair fund should send a check to St. John's, or to the Penick Village Foundation, P.O. Box 2001, Southern Pines, NC 28388, marked with Carter's name.

## STEWARDSHIP

### GUARDIANS OF EDEN

Genesis 1:24 And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind.

Earth is a gift from God, not only the planet, but also the soil. As we enter spring, be mindful of how you are treating the earth.

- Take actions that hazardous compounds do not wind up in the landfill or down the drain.
- Read labels on containers before dumping contents.
- Learn to use organic gardening methods.
- Fertilizers run off our soil into our waterways and disturb the natural balance that God created. (Pesticides kill more than just pests; they kill ladybugs and bees, essential to our food chain.)
- Learn about alternative products. (Vinegar instead of bleach, marigolds instead of pesticides, elbow grease instead of toxic cleaners)

Learn more on these useful websites:

- [http://eartheasy.com/live\\_nontoxic\\_solutions.htm#substitutions](http://eartheasy.com/live_nontoxic_solutions.htm#substitutions)
- [www.bhg.com/gardening/yard/tools/garden-tool-alternatives](http://www.bhg.com/gardening/yard/tools/garden-tool-alternatives)
- <http://charmbeck.org/mecklenburg/county/SolidWaste/HouseholdHazardousWaste>

## DEBT REDUCTION CAMPAIGN

Our debt reduction campaign, as announced at the Annual Meeting in January, is officially underway...and is off to a very good start! Training sessions for this effort are currently being conducted, with a goal of involving enough of us to make sure that all of our fellow church members are personally contacted in this process. Scheduled to conclude on Pentecost Sunday, this campaign effort will provide opportunities to share in a positive discussion of the reasons for and impact of the campaign. By the time this effort concludes, all parishioners will be invited to prayerfully consider giving to the campaign. With a goal of \$310,000 our success in this campaign will do much to solve some of St. John's pressing financial concerns. Perhaps more importantly, it will serve as an opportunity to grow in stewardship together.

Background information on the cash flow problem is available on the church website, [www.saintjohns-charlotte.org](http://www.saintjohns-charlotte.org) click on the link to the Annual Meeting on the right hand side. Please also contact Jim Fussell 704-367-1319 Tim Rogers 704-366-6236 or Reid Joyner 704-554-6359 if you have any questions.

## JANUARY 2011 TREASURER'S REPORT

*Submitted by Janet Brown, Treasurer*  
General Comment

Total income exceeded expenses by \$15,626 for the month of January. Please remember to keep your pledges current so that the church can continue carrying on its important work.

### Income:

January pledge income was \$35,304 below budget while non-pledge income was \$3,471 better than budget.

### Expenses:

For the month of January, compensation, staff expense, and activities were under budget; building and grounds, office support, parish support, worship, and education were over budget.

## ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH OPERATING FUND

|                  | January 2011  |                  |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|
|                  | CURRENT       |                  |
|                  | MONTH         | ANNUAL           |
|                  | ACTUAL        | BUDGET           |
| TOTAL INCOME     | 132,889       | 1,282,396        |
| TOTAL EXPENSES   | 117,263       | 1,394,268        |
| EXCESS/(DEFICIT) | <u>15,626</u> | <u>(111,872)</u> |



1623 Carmel Road  
Charlotte, NC 28226

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Nonprofit Organization**  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Charlotte, NC  
Permit #975

**Deadline for next *Voice***  
**Tuesday, March 22, 2011**  
If you have questions, articles  
or comments about the newsletter,  
please contact Kate Hindin  
[katehindin@gmail.com](mailto:katehindin@gmail.com)