

RECTORS REPORT

June 1, 2007

Dear Friends,

The Season after Pentecost is known in some Christian traditions as “ordinary time.” Webster’s defines the adjective “ordinary” as “usual, normal, familiar, unexceptional, common.” (As opposed to “unusual, abnormal, unfamiliar, exceptional, uncommon.) What a pleasure to be moving into “ordinary time” as we head into Summer here at St. John’s. I trust that it will be a time of rest and reflection and a respite from our busyness.

We all know the stories of those around the world whose lives are filled with nothing but the unusual and unfamiliar; those whose lives are torn by war, pestilence, plague. A young man from the Sudan, who had been ripped from his family as a 8-yr.-old and conscripted into the “army” there during the 25-year civil war, after being given refuge here in the US as a teenager, spoke to me about his adjustment to “normal, civil” life. His life here was surreal for a long time. He was always expecting a bomb to go off, or another round of losses. It took a lot to get used to ordinary daily living, day-in-and-day-out, in a stable home. There is a lot to be said for a rhythm that is “normal and familiar.” May we not forget in our prayers, those who have no respite in their lives and give thanks for our lives where summer can become some time-off for refreshment and rest.

We at St. John’s, while without some of the challenges in other parts of the world, have had some challenges of our own in these last nine months of extraordinary and exceptional time. Change, whether “good” or “bad”, always pushes us beyond the “ordinary.” I have loved every minute of our “new start” together. But, I also look forward to pausing and reflecting. The Vestry will be doing that with me at a **Vestry Retreat on June 8th and 9th**. Keep us in your prayers as we pause and reflect on our leadership in this place for the upcoming year.

Also, let’s remember two more Sunday events in June: **June 3 - Strawberry Festival/Parish Picnic** after the 10 o’clock Youth Sunday service, and **June 10 – Bishop John Rabb’s parish visit to our**

parish and an discussion with him at the Adult Education hour at 9 o’clock, complete with a “petite dejeuner.”

ST. JOHNSEPISCOPACHURCH

THE REVEREND TRACY BRUCE, RECTOR

Vestry Officers & Members
Senior Warden, Townie Hoen
Junior Warden, Rick Jiranek
Treasurer, Don Heacock
Chancellor, Jim Winn
Registrar, Dee Huddles
John Colston (‘10)
Frank Martien (‘10)
Nancy Roberts (‘10)
Evy Anderson (‘09)
Maxie Hoen (‘09)
Jennifer Small (‘09)
Rick Jiranek (‘08)
Pedie Killebrew (‘08)
Steve Smith (‘08)

Staff

Laura Finney, Parish Administrator
Dr. James Anthony, Choirmaster-Organist
Office Phone: 410-833-5300
Fax: 410-526-0784
Email: tracy.bruce@stjohnsglyndon.org
laura@stjohnsglyndon.org

Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9am-12pm
Sunday Services
8am – Rite I & 10am – Rite II

As of June 24th, there will be only one service, and it will be 9am. Summer Sunday School will be available June & August!

The Office at St. John's Church will be open from 9 – 12, Mon.-Fri. Laura Finney will be on vacation the first three weeks of July and therefore we are looking for volunteer to answer phones and do some general filing and administrative work during that time. If you're going to be in town and could offer a morning, please call Laura.

The St. John's Summer Camp traditionally serves hamburgers and hot dogs on the grille to campers on Friday at noon. Want to help? Call the church office, 410-833-5300. Fridays at the end of each camping session are 6/29, 7/13, 20, 27. Summer Camp volunteers of all sorts are always welcome. Email Stephanie Badalucco if your are interested: sbadaluc@uvm.edu.

We need a copywriter/editor for each of two brochures we want to publish on: Weddings at St. John's and Guidelines for Funerals. Want to try your pen? Call Laura Finney.

We'll be updating the website over the summer. Many churches have great websites. We need someone to help with researching good church websites and helping us determine what information to get on ours. Could be lots of fun! Call Laura.

For our Newcomers Program we need some materials produced so that we can give/send to new folks in our midst some information about us and the ministries we have out into the world. Cards in the pews would help. Even our nametag system needs an update. We need a leader to help organize this and follow through as we get up and running in the Fall. Call Laura.

The Horse Show Committee needs all sorts of help with sponsors, patrons and advertisers as well as gifts for the auctions. On your own and among your friends, family and acquaintances, you could help a lot. Call Patti Fenwick.

Altar Guild needs help this summer, especially with June and August. Please call Chris Shriver 410 429-4921.

Summer schedule will begin on Sunday, June 24th when we will switch to just one service at 9 a.m. That will give our 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock congregations a chance once again to worship together. The 9 o'clock service will continue through Labor Day.

Throughout the summer there will be others doing great ministry here at St. John's. Keep them in your prayers. Liza Murphy (Louise & Humpy Stump's granddaughter) and her friend Stephanie Badalucco, under great guidance from Carrie Montague, will be leading youth counselors and volunteers as we once again host youth from the inner city of Baltimore for a camp in the country. **St. John's Summer Camp dates are: June 25-29, July 9-13, 16-20, 23-27.** The Shafer Center will be off during that time, reopening in August.

Rumor has it that, with the help of a few friends, our website may get up and running again over the summer. Watch for our improvements at www.stjohnsglyndon.org.

And, of course, the **Horse Show Committee** will be hard at work all summer needing your help as they plan for the great **Homecoming Weekend, September 7, 8 and 9 - A Party and Auction on Friday evening, the Horse Show on Saturday, followed by a Sunday of Celebration.** As in years past, your support in seeking patrons and sponsors and other support through program ads and "in kind" donations is what makes this eventful weekend successful. So, while resting this summer, don't forget about the Horse Show.

My prayer for each of us this summer comes from page 832 in the Book of Common Prayer, "For Quiet Confidence"

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest, we shall be saved,

in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength; By the might of your Spirit

lift us, we pray you, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you

are God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Have a blessed "ordinary time" this summer. We're around - hopefully, just not as busy! And again, my heartfelt thanks for the privilege of ministering with you and among you.

Faithfully,

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT-

TOWNIE HOEN

At a brief meeting of the Vestry directly following the Annual Meeting of St. John's on May 6th Townie Hoen was elected to follow Humpy Stump as Senior Warden. Rick Jiranek was asked to continue his excellent service as Junior Warden. Upon the news Mr. Hoen said "no one could hope to succeed Humpy Stump, but I am privileged to follow his compassionate example."

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT-

RICK JIRANEK

Thanks to all those that helped during our spring clean-up day. While the cold rain prevented us from tackling any projects on May 15th, we had a great turnout on Tracy's birthday the following Sunday. I am pleased to report the following accomplishments:

- (1) Temporary fence on driveway next to Parish House replaced with stones from rubble pile next to garage
- (2) Remaining rubble pile removed
- (3) Playground mulched
- (4) Posts in playground removed
- (5) Sticks and leaves removed: 4 pick-up truck loads
- (6) Rector's garden weeded and mulched
- (7) Meditation garden weeded and mulched
- (8) A willow tree given to Tracy and planted in the driveway circle next to the Rectory.

Lunch was served and there were lots of fellowship moments - so the couple hours after the service wasn't just work! I might add that we had lots of volunteers from our Sunday School and Confirmation Class. Thanks again and I look forward to another productive day in the Fall.

(Though Rick is continuing in his job as Junior Warden, I still want to take this opportunity to thank him for his 6,000 sweat (and I do mean sweat) hours that he's put in this year. Wow, we've come a long way!)

END OF YEAR THANKS!!!!

Many thanks to the wonderful Sunday School Teachers & Assistants!

George Shriver
Virginia Raleigh
Ann Dyson Carroll
George Shriver III
Pat Pineau
Ann Boyce
Patti Fenwick
Lynn Colston
Emily Baratta
Laura Finney



Undying Gratitude Heaped to the Heavens for Humpy Stump, Senior Warden Extraordinaire!!! At any given turn, Humpy was here answering the phones, writing letters, cleaning closets, hounding folks for pledges and generally being God's gift to the Church Office! Thank you very much Humpy, this doesn't mean you're off the hook.

Special thanks to Bill "Lurch" McMillan for taking such excellent care of our cemetery. Like the mailman (without the attitude), Bill is out there, rain or shine, measuring, charting, sometimes digging, and generally caring for our beautiful graveyard. AND in his free time, hehe, He runs the music in the Children's Chapel. Thanks also to his wonderful wife Betty, who keeps the library in tip top shape!!!

Thank you to my wonderful weekly volunteers...Barbara Plasse, Linda Merrick, Humpy Stump, Maxie Hoen & Russ Summers! Wow, do we have fun! Also thanks to Townie Hoen for taking over the Epistle and doing such a bang up job!! And to my Epistlers who come in once a month to put it all together, thank you! Thank you to Don Heacock

who moved in here for the last few months and found all of the needles
in the bookkeeping haystack!!

Finally to Tracy, who breezed in and lightened my load and made
everything more fun. THANK YOU!!!!!!