



The Eagle

Spring 2013



Pictured: Top Left: Kay Gunkel Top Right: Barbara Victor & Coren Ross
Bottom: George Fawcett, Joe Sinclair, John Riley, Bob Vineyard, Sally Minis, Ross Haire, & Kay West

Spread the Cheer Volunteer

Contact the editors if you have volunteer opportunities you would like added to the Eagle or volunteers you want recognized.

Fellowship for All

Did you know that there are many members of St. John's Church who, for various reasons, are unable to attend church services? They greatly miss being in our beautiful church, being with fellow parishioners, and participating in parish activities.

Did you know there are members of the church, in addition to the clergy, who greatly enjoy visiting those parishioners who cannot get out but who welcome personal contact from our congregation?

Let's connect the two! Visits can be any length of time and even by phone. Any way fellowship can happen is rewarding for both people. This is a chance to spend time together in the spirit of Christian caring and sharing. If you would like to be visited or become a visitor, please contact Bonney Gilbreath at 352-3012 or call the church office. You will be glad you did!

Coffee, Tea and Tasty Treats

Are you looking for a fun and easy way to get involved with church life? Stacy Jennings asks you to consider hosting coffee hour- Coffee Hour is a special time of fellowship and is a great way to get to know the parish in a low-key way. This ministry is fulfilled by faithful volunteers each Sunday – and it is such a treat to see the happy smiles on parishioner's faces as they chat after church and enjoy the special treats that are presented each week. St. John's is blessed with many good cooks, many of whom are known for a specialty (for example, a certain parishioner's Shrimp Butter... to.die.for.) but you don't have to be a kitchen whiz to hostess! I know my favorite "go-to" item is the TGIFriday's appetizer selection in your grocer's frozen food case...I'm partial to the fried green beans!

Hosting a coffee hour is a breeze. The kitchen staff prepares tomato sandwiches, ham biscuits, and deviled eggs...you fill in the rest with just a few phone calls to your parish family (4 or 5 usually covers it!) asking for a sweet or savory. And that's all there is to it. If you need suggestions on who to call, I have a list of ladies willing to bake or cook...just give me a ring! Your four or five ladies also assist with pouring tea and coffee (and sometimes punch), and with picking up cups and glasses. A beverage station for iced tea and water is set up in the hall, as well. If you have a special Sunday you'd like to reserve or have questions about hosting coffee hour, please call me at (912) 224-1354 or e-mail me at stacy.jennings@savannahnow.com



Pictured Above from the Candlelight Dinner: Jane Pressly as one of the Chefs and Carol Hewson as the head table setter!

Readers Requested

Volunteers are needed at Thunderbolt Elementary to read to children. St John's ECW sponsors the backpack program at the school. There are a lot of children at Thunderbolt who really need our attention. Readers can come read to a whole class, a small group, or individual children. Melissa Proper is the parent facilitator at the school and can be reached at 395-6655. Let's help not only feed these children but also assist in their education!



Written by:

Tracey Inglesby
ECW Club President

Freshcuts@csam.net

From the Episcopal Church Women's Director's Chair



Drum roll please! All eyes were focused on the grand, silver punch bowl as Father Dunbar drew the winning ticket. With much anticipation and excitement, the winner of this year's Candlelight Dinner was Mr. and Mrs. Philip Kirk. Now let the party planning begin! As with any grand party, I realized planning and executing is not a

one man show. My committee held our first planning meeting last October. We rolled up our sleeves and discussed our ultimate vision of hosting the most exquisite dinner with no stone left unturned. Floral designs throughout the Green Meldrim House created a warm and inviting backdrop for the evening. Sylvia Summers, Ann Murray, Wayne Willis, Marti Campbell, and Cathy Belford adorned the home with beautiful arrangements of quince, French tulips, and greenery. To compliment the place settings, the dining room featured arrangements of miniature fruit, brussel sprouts and greenery.

Carol Hewson and Kay Gunkel selected place settings to compliment each dinner course. Many items were chosen from our Green Meldrim House inventory. As Carol and Kay carefully chose each bowl and plate, they reflected upon Phil's dedication of keeping track of our house inventory. Carol Hewson designed beautiful invitations personal to each guest. She finished each place setting with a delightful menu card featuring our chef's selections as well as place cards.

I have to say, Elaine Barrow wore the hat of honor as she was in charge of servers and wine stewards. Elaine trained the servers, carried a heavy stick, and smiled throughout the evening. Eddie Culver was our lead server directing Barry Crawford, Scott Howard, Henry Inglesby, Roland Summers, and Gilbert Wells. Fr. Dunbar, Fr. O'Brien, and Dr. Bergstrom served as our wine stewards. Everything was executed to perfection! Jane and Gilbert Wells provided a lovely meal of salmon and beef for the servers, stewards, and volunteers. A satisfied appetite led to happy volunteers.

Chef hats off to Laura Wimbish, Pam Young, Kay West, and Jane Pressly who planned and prepared an exquisite menu custom to the party. Beginning with Coquille Saint Jacques, each course was precisely plated with attention to detail in color, texture, and presentation. Patti Cooper and Kim Scott followed suit by maintaining a constant supply of clean dishes! John Hewson played an integral role in selecting wines for the evening. John placed much thought and expertise in pairing the most appropriate wines with the menu beginning with



Candlelight Dinner Menu

Coquilles Saint Jacques
Louis Latour Macon Village
Winter Vegetables with
Fruit Maple Bisque
Orange and Pear Salad with
Sweet Sesame Orange Dressing
Lemon Sorbet

Lamb Chops with Salsa Verde
Gingered Carrots
Potatoes Gratin with Mustard
& Gruyere Cheese
Grand Veneur Cotes de Rhone

Pavlova with Lemon Curd
& Berries in Lemon Sauce
De Marie Birbet
Stilton and Walnut Torte
Pan Forte
Warres Warrior Tawny Port

sparkling wine with hors d'oeuvres and ending with port wine and cheese.

As dinner guests entered the front doors, they were greeted with warmth and smiles from volunteers and special guests. They enjoyed sparkling wine, passed hors d'oeuvres, and lovely music provided by Steve Branyon. The reception created a wonderful transition into the beautifully candlelit dining room. The Candlelight Dinner was over the top! We exceeded our expectations by blending many volunteers within our parish. I have no words to describe the magnitude of experience, heart, thought, love, and labor that we serve at St. John's, and this year's Candlelight Dinner was icing on the cake!

Vestry Financial Report

by: Sue Clifford

End of 2012 Church Financial State

The church ended the 2012 calendar year on a strong footing. We spend a fair amount of time creating a budget to guide the church. Working within a conservative projection of revenues, we prepare a balanced budget, allocating our resources in the areas the vestry and the rector believe are the most important: worship and pastoral services, salaries and benefits for our valued clergy and staff, the maintenance of our historic properties, our Diocesan contribution, and the necessary operating expenses. We are pleased to report that we exceeded our \$1,233,000 budget by only \$10,567, a variance of less than one percent.

We operate on a cash basis, which means that we record revenues when they are received. While we certainly plan the budget based on the pledges of the congregation, we must also estimate what we will collect on past pledges that remain unpaid, prepayments on the next year's pledges, and unpledged revenues. We are pleased to report that our congregation appears to be recovering from the economic downturn. In 2012 we exceeded our budgeted revenues as more contributors stayed current on their pledges, more caught up on unpaid prior year pledges, and more prepaid their 2013 pledges than we had been expecting. Additionally, our unpledged revenues, which often lag behind our budgeted amount, exceeded our expectations. Thus, we ended the year with revenues in excess of expenditures. Rather than splurging, the Vestry has decided to set aside this unexpected surplus to meet unexpected expenses or shortfalls in the coming year.

Memories of Miss Binky

"She was such a strong leader in the church. She used to tell us, decades ago, that if we had a child in Sunday School, we needed to teach at least one year. Some of us are still teaching. I think she is the one who made (yes, Binky could MAKE Father Ralston do things!) Father Ralston wear a Santa hat after the Christmas Eve service. Thank heavens for Binky! May she rest in peace."

-Margaret Wylly

"I have known Binky and Charlie Compton since they transferred to St. John's Church. I was with Binky during the formation of the Church School and the beginning of the Christmas Pageants. I know the funny stories, too, but I want to share a trait that made Binky Compton very special. Binky was extremely loyal to those of us who were fortunate to be her close friends. She was always there with her love, support, and friendship whenever my family or I needed her.

Our son, Brian, was in a serious golf cart accident in Cashiers, NC when he was 12 years old. As soon as Binky and Charlie heard of our situation, they made all the plans including flying us to Asheville on Charlie's company plane, renting a car, and having the pilot remaining with us to bring our family home after Brian's surgery. I could go on and on sharing other acts of Binky's kindness, but I will be forever grateful to Binky for her immensely loyal and sincere friendship...underneath that sometimes brash exterior was always a heart of gold." -Eddie Culver

"Binky was an incredibly persuasive Christian Education leader. Her strong leadership got people to come together for the good of the church." -Jane Pressly

"Miss Binky was an ever present part of my church school life. She was the smiling face that greeted me each Sunday in our old red brick Sunday School building filled with colorful chairs sized just for us. She was the brave teacher who invited pairs of kids over to spend the night even after we snuck a giant fake spider under her covers to hear her shriek and laugh at our prank. She was the adult in the church that even as a shy child, I knew I could count on and was comfortable talking to about whatever was on my mind. She will be greatly missed!" -Cathy Baxter

Peanut Butter

The Sunday School will be collecting peanut butter for Second Harvest's Backpack Program. The jars will be given to children in need of food. Will you help by bringing a jar? A collection container will be in the entryway of Cranmer Hall throughout Lent.

6th Annual Sculpture Show

by: Susie Chisolm

Mark your calendars for the 6th Annual Sculpture in Savannah Show on May 20, 2013, from 5-8 PM at the Green-Meldrim House. The show features 12 outstanding, award-winning sculptors from around the country with a variety of styles including figurative, wildlife, fantasy and abstract in bronze, stone, wood and ceramics. There will be wine, hors d'oeuvres, piano music and great sculpture. The show is free to the public.

A portion of the proceeds goes to St. John's Episcopal Church for the restoration of the Green Meldrim House. If you would like to help in the planning or the night of, please contact Susie Chisolm, 441-6261.



Rector's Musings: Keeping the Lenten Fast

by: Father Gavin Dunbar

What to give up for Lent? The ancient ascetics were very austere: no meat, dairy, eggs, fat, or wine. In the west, many centuries ago, the requirement was reduced to abstinence from flesh meat, butter and other rich foods. That is why the day before Lent was "Mardi Gras" – fat Tuesday, because you were using up all the grease. Fish was the mainstay of the Lenten diet, much of it dried or salt cod and herring. Cooks found ways to make the Lenten diet appealing, and there are many fine Lenten recipes, such as the meatless gumbos of Louisiana.

Although many Protestants chafed at the Lenten fast, the Church of England in the Prayer Book continued to require it (as the 1928 Prayer Book does to this day), and the fast was backed up by royal injunction; although two meals of fish a day were permitted. Marriages were solemnized very modestly; theatres and (later) opera houses were closed for the season. (The Messiah, an oratorio, was the creative adaptation to this restriction.)

So how to practice fasting and abstinence in the present day? The old rule of abstaining from flesh meat still makes sense: it is not so hard that you fail at it, but not so easy that it becomes trivial. Others, rather sensibly, cut back on alcohol, caffeine, candy, or indulgences of other kinds. In my own version of this discipline, I eat a lot of lentils: a simple food, easy to cook, high in fibre and protein, and delicious when flavoured with diced tomatoes, celery, mushrooms, herbs and spices (such as garlic, basil, oregano), and a little shredded parmesan, salt, and freshly-ground pepper. A big pot of that can be made once a week and topped up with vegetables such as broccoli as needed. That's the food – and I would turn off the television and the computer some also. Put your Bible and Prayer Book to daily use, take part in public worship, and give your mind to feed on the Word of God.



Calling all Ladies Who Love St. John's

Show your parish pride by stepping-up and getting involved in a bigger way for the 2013 Holly Days Bazaar! If you are interested in learning more, please contact Erica Jarman at 912-398-0138 and EricaCJarman@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 10th -

5:30 Choral Evensong

Saturday, March 16th -

9:30 St. Patrick's Day Family Service & Special Event

Men's Hot Dog Sale 10-2

Contact: Rick Wright - rick@wrightadvisorygroup.com

Family Festivities to follow service

Contact: Caroline Hayes - cqhayes@gmail.com

Saturday, March 23rd -

9:30-11:30 Making Palm Crosses in Cranmer Hall

Contact: Maryan Harrell- mharrell@stjohnssav.org

Sunday, March 24th -

9:30 Special Event for Palm Sunday in Cranmer Hall

Contact: Caroline Hayes - cqhayes@gmail.com

Thursday, March 28th -

5:30 Maundy Thursday Service - Sitter Provided

Friday, March 29th -

Noon Good Friday Service - Sitter Provided

5:30 Stations of the Cross Service (Family Friendly)

Begins Outside and processes into church

Sunday March 31st - Easter

8:00 Holy Communion

9:00 Flowering of the Cross in Green-Meldrim Mall Area

9:30 Holy Communion

Children's Celebration in Cranmer Hall

Contact: Caroline Hayes - cqhayes@gmail.com

11:30 Holy Communion

Friday, April 5th -

6:30 Wine and Wisdom (More Information to Come)

Sunday, April 21st - Confirmation

10:30 Confirmation during Church Service

Newcomers Social at Rectory

Contact: Christiana Turner- turner00@bellsouth.net

Green Legacy at the Green-Meldrim House

Attention, Green-Meldrim docents, parishioners, and guests! The "Green Legacy" will be presented by Susan Arden-Joly at 10:30 Wednesday, March 20th in the Green-Meldrim House. Slides will be shown of some of the original furniture from the time when Mr. Charles Green lived in the house. RSVP to Martie Campbell, 598-4299 or Martie.Campbell@bellsouth.net.



St. John's Items For Sale

Oversized sectional leather sofa

Oversized stuffed chair

Ping-pong Table

If interested contact Caroline Hayes

cqhayes@gmail.com or 232-1251

Gearing up for Spring Cleaning?

We are already preparing for the Holy Days Bazaar 2013! When you are spring cleaning, please keep the White Elephant & Treasure Room in mind! We provide a year around storage unit available for donations. Free pick-ups for small items is offered. Please contact Erica Jarman at 912-398-0138 or EricaCJarman@gmail.com for details.



Above: St. John's neighbor Gigi Haile enjoying the Bazaar

Childhood Education



Written by:
Caroline Hayes
Sunday School
Superintendent
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912-897-0343

After a busy and bustling start to the church school year, things just got busier. For children in Preschool - 5th Grades, we had a special lesson and procession for All Saints', a family art day to make advent wreaths, not to forget learning the Benefits and Promises of Baptism, the Apostles' Creed, and the meaning of the Hymn "O Come, O Come Emmanuel". It was also the most beautiful Christmas Pageant and Christmas Choral Evensong. This was followed by a moving lesson and activity for Epiphany. The children personalized wooden hearts to be presented as a part of the kings procession with their offerings collected during advent. They are currently learning the 10 commandments.

The youth (6th - 12th grades) had a pleasurable day at the Forsyth Farmers' Market with Ben Baxter. The students not only enjoyed walking around and tasting the bounty, but spent time talking with the farmers and helping them back up their booths. We have another day set for March 2nd. Shortly after, they enjoyed an afternoon of ice skating and an evening of pizza, tree trimming, and carols in the Green-Meldrim House.

As a parish we enjoyed an advent cookie swap with activities and fun for all ages. During Christmastide, we packed 3 trolleys full and set out to see the lights and sing some carols after fun fellowship in Cranmer Hall. If you would like to see photos from all of these events, please join our St. John's Church facebook page. The facebook page not only has photographs from all our events, but also the lessons for lower school and middle school each week, and any news of upcoming events. Take a moment to review the Upcoming Events and you will see we have a full spring coming up! We are blessed indeed!

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Saturday, April 27th -

1:00-4:00 Ice Cream Tasting Festival (More Info to come)

Sunday, April 28th -

9:30 Confirmation Breakfast at the Desoto Hilton

5:30 Evensong for Eastertide: Men, Boys & Girls Choir

Wednesday, May 1st -

11:00 ECW Picnic

Contact: Tracey Inglesby - freshcuts@csam.net

Sunday, May 5th -

10:30 Church School Awards during Church Service

After Church: Parish Picnic at Green Meldrim House

Contact: Maryan Harrell- mharrell@stjohnssav.org

Sunday, May 12th -

9:30 Ascension Special Event in Cranmer Hall

Contact: Caroline Hayes - cqhayes@gmail.com

Friday, May 17th- Men's Club Golf Tournament

Contact Jules Victor- victor.jules@gmail.com

Monday, May 20th - Sculpture Show at Green-Meldrim House

Contact: Susie Chisholm - 897-3337

Wednesday, May 22nd - Men's Club Tennis Tournament

Contact: Bob Vinyard - 598-5226

Sunday, May 19th -

9:30 Whitsunday Special Event and Procession

Contact: Caroline Hayes - cqhayes@gmail.com

Sunday, May 26th - Last Day of Church School

Trinity Special Event

Sunday, June 2nd -

12:00 End of the Year Pool Party at Long Point Pool

Contact: Caroline Hayes - cqhayes@gmail.com

July 15th-19th : On Eagles' Wings Vacation Bible School

9:00-12:00 Monday-Friday in Cranmer Hall

Contact Maryan Harrell- mharrell@stjohnssav.org

July 22nd - 26th : Choir Camp

9:00-5:00 Monday - Friday

Rising 3rd - 6th Grades

Contact Dr. Brian Taylor- btaylor@stjohnssav.org

July 28th- August 3rd: St. Michael's Conference

West Hartford, CT

Ages: 14 - 21

www.saintmichaelsconference.com

Contact Fr. Craig O'Brien- fatherobrien24@gmail.com



The Men's Club Reports

Written by:

Rick Wright
Men's Club President
rick@wrightadvisory
group.com

On the last Saturday in January, over 200 parishioners and friends of St. John's Church gathered at Derst's Sunbeam Park for the Men's Annual Oyster Roast & BBQ. With beautiful weather, fabulous May River Oysters and sumptuous Barbecue, everyone from the youngest and to the oldest left with a smile.

There are many people to thank this year. First of all to our host for providing such a nice location at Derst Sunbeam Park. Our brand new Oyster Tables were made possible by the generosity of Steve Chick of Guerry Lumber, Edward Derst and the Men's Club.

A team led by Justin Watson, and included AJ Roberts, Alex Jarman & Drew Wright spent several hours building these new table to handle a record number of Oyster Roast attendees.

Justin Watson once again orchestrated a wonderful team of Men that pulled this event together. Chip Compton led the Oyster Roasting effort, while Alex Jarman served as quartermaster for the entire affair as well as serving as chief logistics coordinator. Neil Victor once again maintained control of the kitchen with another virtuoso performance. And Harvey Gilbert led a team of bartenders, John Forbes, Drew Wright and Jack Wray. The Unsung Hero's awards this year go to AJ Roberts for spending 4 hours with pressure washer in hand, cleaning the bivalves to perfection. And Lance Hearn for showing up every year with no assigned task but working steady throughout the day as needed.



ANNOUNCING THE SAINT PATRICKS DAY PARKING PROCEDURE FOR 2013:

BACKGROUND: Over the years the Men of the Church have monitored the parking lot on St Patrick's Day to make sure these spots were available to parishioners. These spots have been provided on a first-come first-served basis to the 'early bird'. This has been a source of frustration to both the "late birds," as well as for the Men who had to deliver the bad news.

NEW PROCEDURE: This year the parking lot spaces will be available for advance reservation. By making a \$20 donation to the Men's Club, parishioners will know in advance they have a spot waiting, and the spot will be held for them until 11 AM.

NOTE:

1. A small number of spots will also be reserved for those working one of the shifts at the Men's Club Annual Hot Dog sale to be distributed at no charge.
2. If we do not "sell out" the unreserved spaces will be available on a first-come first-serve basis.
3. If the spaces are over-subscribed a lottery will be conducted to determine to whom each spot will be assigned. Those not selected in the lottery will have their \$20 donation returned. We believe this will promote fairness by providing an equal access signup period and than a lottery to resolve an oversubscription.
4. The Men will promote this effort from the date of the Oyster Roast until Shrove Tuesday, February 12. Additional sign-up may be made quietly during Lent with a final drawing on March 1st so every one can be notified and plan according.
5. To reserve a spot (no money needed until March 1st) please email your name and phone number to mensclub@stjohnssav.org or call Rick Wright at 598-2073.

Green-Meldrim House Restoration

by: Fred Ecker President and CEO of Tidewater Preservation, Inc.

Tidewater Preservation, Inc. (TPI) was engaged by St. John's Church to prepare a condition analysis, as well as provide a means and methods recommendation, for the restoration of the cast iron, entrance portico of the Green-Meldrim House. TPI performed a thorough investigation to identify the complete scope of the project.

TPI's investigation revealed that the cast iron portico consists of individual elements fastened with unique bolts. The upper tracery section is actually composed of two pieces bolted together which form individual panels. The decorative pendants were also formed separately and attached with hidden fasteners. The large columns are comprised of two separate pieces, one on top of the other, secured by mortise and tenon joinery. The roof over the portico is made of copper and is above a bead board ceiling.

During their conditions assessment, TPI discovered that the portico exhibited extreme corrosion, warped and unsecured panels, a rotten ceiling, and loose or totally missing decorative pendants. The copper roof was not initially installed correctly and as a result, has allowed water to collect in between the upper tracery panels. Since the copper was also installed adjacent to iron elements, the reaction between these two unsympathetic metals has created a chemical reaction called electrolysis, which had caused accelerated corrosion. In addition, the water intrusion from the roof has rotted the underlying bead board ceiling.

Based on TPI's report, a restoration plan was designed and implemented. The portico was disassembled, the copper roof and bead board ceiling were removed, and all iron elements were carefully examined. The deteriorated paint coatings were then removed, the corroded iron elements were bead-blasted, and all attachment flanges were repaired or replaced.

Molds were made and new pendants were fabricated to match the original, missing ones. All of the iron was primed with a two-coat, epoxy coating on both the interior and exterior faces. The iron portico was then reassembled with new fasteners to match the unique original ones.

TPI's analysis revealed evidence that the original ceiling was plaster, not bead board, so a new, plaster ceiling was then installed. Evidence of the original roof also revealed that it had initially been composed of terne-coated tin, identical to samples found previously when the upper roof was restored. This was a common material in the 19th century. A new roof was fabricated from terne-coated stainless steel, a system that not only replicates the original in appearance, but will last for generations.

The iron elements were finished with two coats of polyurethane paint. This coating is of industrial strength and is a superior coating. The finish exhibits a high gloss when freshly applied, but the glossy appearance will soften with time. Historically, the original paint finishes would have contained a high linseed oil content which would have likewise given it a high gloss appearance initially.

TPI has also just completed a conditions assessment of the oriel window directly above the finished portico. This assessment will set the standard for the restoration of the remaining iron oriel windows.

To make a tax deductible donation to the Green-Meldrim House Restoration Fund, please send a check to the church:

Checks need to be mailed to the St. Johns Church and most importantly with the Green Meldrim House Restoration in the memo line.

Delicious Coffee Hour Recipe

from the kitchen of Martha Sullivan

Blueberry Mandarin Cheese Loaf

16 oz cream cheese, room temperature

1 can(11oz) of mandarin oranges, drained

Blueberry chutney or preserves

Place cream cheese and oranges in food processor and process until smooth. Place mixture in loaf mold and let set for a few hours in the refrigerator. Unmold on serving plate and top with blueberry chutney or preserves. Serve with ginger snaps.

The Doctor's Dissertations

by: Dr. Jeremy Bergstrom

In seeking an answer to how the Episcopal Church managed to get to its current state, I have found that much of the answer is found in understanding developments over the last 150 years in Anglican life.

In the mid-1800s, the Episcopal Church, like the rest of the Anglican churches, was preoccupied with debates between its two dominant cultures: catholic vs evangelical, or 'high' vs 'low' churchmanship. These two groups had become bitterly divided in their opinions on ritual, church government, the nature of the sacraments, and other issues. In an effort to make peace between the High and Low church parties, a third group, which called itself 'Broad church', sought to bring peace and civility to the discussion. The Broad churchmen tended towards universalism, which allowed for a relative apathy towards doctrine and the life to come, and an emphasis instead on our earthly well-being. Thus they tried to broker a peace between the High and Low Churchmen by seeking to persuade the church to move forward in the practical goods of social work and politics, even in the midst of divided opinion.

The Broad Churchmen saw themselves as more than peacemakers, however; they saw their vision as the future of the church. The strife between the Highs and the Lows was an opening for influence, and maybe even taking the reins of the institution. While the Broad Churchmen achieved their goal of encouraging greater civility and calmness in the passions of the High and Low Churchmen, they did so at the expense of the particulars of doctrine and practice. Many adopted their way of thinking, and gave up the dream of true uniformity in faith and life for a false peace. The word 'catholic' no longer referred to the one true faith, but now referred to the collection of diverse and various opinions which happened to be believed by all those who called themselves Episcopalians. Now, coming to 'agreement' no longer meant achieving one mind on a matter, but rather being willing to be polite to people of a different mind. Full inclusivity was becoming a reality, without much regard for what these diverse individuals happened to believe.

This is the Episcopal Church in which we find ourselves today. Maintaining the traditional Christian religion isn't always popular, but Christ has not called us to popularity. He's called us to submit our hearts and minds to his very particular version of the truth, and to lay down our lives for those he is calling to himself. Christ has promised he will sort out the rest.



The Children's School at St. John's Church

Churches and schools are natural partners, and in today's secularized world, so often ignorant of the Christian religion, all the more important. This past fall the Pre-School that had grown up at Christ Church over the last sixteen years was looking for a new home. After long careful discussions with us it has entered into a partnership in ministry with St. John's Church. "The Children's School at St. John's Church" will be opening its doors in Cranmer Hall next fall. With a fully qualified staff under the very capable direction of Cathy King, the Children's School at St. John's should be a vital outreach to the Savannah community and a valuable amenity for St. John's congregation. Moreover, in the long term, we can expect that it will draw young families to St. John's. For this to be fruitful for both organizations, this will have to be a close and friendly partnership in ministry, not only a sharing of space but a sharing of hearts and minds in mutual support and welcome.

In addition to the Rector and Christian Education Coordinator, the St. John's members on the Children's School Board are: Betsy Howard, Brian Culver (Vestry liaison), and Patti Victor. For more information, email Caroline Hayes cqhayes@gmail.com.



Pictured Above: Clayton Kennedy



O'Brien's Orations: *Mock Tudor*

by: Father Craig O'Brien

I know. Haven't we heard enough already about King Henry VIII and all that? Evidently not. Even after the rather salacious and risible Showtime series, *The Tudors*, has long wound up, there still seems to be a voracious imaginative, literary and historical appetite for this period.

Hilary Mantel, *Bring up the Bodies*. In 2009, British novelist Hilary Mantel won the coveted Man Booker prize for *Wolf Hall*, her historical novel of the humble beginnings, mysterious flashbacked younger years, and middle aged meteoric rise of Thomas Cromwell in the Tudor court of King Henry VIII. While writing it, Mantel began to envisage not one novel but a trilogy of the King's Secretary and lay Vicar General's crescendo and fall. In 2012 Mantel took the Booker again for *Bring up the Bodies*, the projected middle book of the trilogy. This, again told through the eyes of Cromwell, recounts among other things, the death of Queen Katherine, and Henry's bloody and relentless purge of those surrounding his mistress then second wife, Anne Boelyn. There are few black and whites in Mantel's historically based accounts, but in keeping with other strands of the Brit print invasion, only shades of grey. Yet having said that, Mantel, a self-described lapsed Roman Catholic agnostic, paints, perhaps unsurprisingly, a sympathetic portrait of Cromwell (the fictional character) as a pragmatic humanist sceptic with respect to the reform, and Cranmer, rather condescendingly but favourably, as a naive yet sincere evangelical reformer. Remember, this is historical fiction!

Eamon Duffy, *Sacrilege & Sedition: Religion and Conflict in the Tudor Reformations*. Duffy, Professor of the History of Christianity at the University of Cambridge, UK, in his previous books, among others, *The Stripping of the Altars* and the fascinatingly researched, *The Voices of Morebath*, has made a name for himself as the enfant terrible of Tudor studies. I once heard him lecture to a small audience at Blackfriars on the Irish poet Seamus Heaney. He is witty, pugnacious and impish. However, in these beautifully limpid scholarly essays, he is also often fair. Duffy adjudicates between what he calls 'the noble affirmations' of the Reform of the church, 'the sovereignty of the grace of God in salvation, the free availability of that grace to all who seek it, the self-revelation of God in his holy Word', and what was responsive, elastic and continuous with these affirmations from the treasuries of that tradition which was prior to the reform. Does he have an axe to grind? Yes. But one of the other virtues of this collection as seen in the introduction and first section, is how Duffy frankly identifies, considers and names the confessional biases that underlie the writing of Tudor history, on both sides. Fr. Ralston was fond of quoting Aristotle that poetry is more philosophical than history. True, but Aristotle would have agreed that philosophy is more philosophical than both! It is to Duffy's credit as a historian and keen appreciator of poetry and fiction, that he recognizes that it is the theological and philosophical presuppositions that lie beneath the judgements of historians, novelists, poets and others, that condition our knowledge of the truth, rather than those disciplines and modes of expression themselves.

Ford Madox Ford, *Parade's End*. Though this novel is neither Tudor nor Mock Tudor, and I've written about it in this space before, I draw it to your attention as its protagonist, Christopher Tietjens, is, as Andrew Lytle pointed out

years ago, a kind of Anglican saint. English particularity and its porousness and contribution to wider European thought and culture, are at the heart of the debates surrounding Tudor history. Ford, in his modernist masterpiece, navigates this problem through the tropes of personal tragedy and the First World War. I also bring it up again as the BBC, in collaboration with HBO, are about to air a lavish mini-series adaptation beginning February 26 written by the great British playwright, Tom Stoppard. If you haven't read the novel, be on your mark...you still have a couple of weeks to make it through its 800+ pages!

Fr. O'B

Gavin, Craig or Jeremy? Who's favorite hymn is...

"Christians to the Paschal Victim" #97

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home" # 585

"Oh What Their Joy and Their Glory Must Be" #589

Last Issue: What is your favorite service?

Jeremy - Holy Communion on Wednesday & Solemn Eucharist

Craig - Solemn Eucharist

Gavin - The Litany



2012 Bazaar

A big thank you to all the folks who made the 2012 Holly Days Bazaar a success. Chairman Betsy Howard and Co-chairman Erica Jarman (pictured left) led a wonderful group of volunteers in another fun-filled Bazaar. This is the primary fundraiser of the Episcopal Church Women who donates both to the community and to the church. Sincere appreciation to all who participated.

Daughters of the King

by: Mary Dawson

Does the cross that accompanies this article look familiar to you? You may have seen me wearing it to church and coffee on Sundays, or if you have been a member of St. John's since before 1966, you may remember seeing other women of St. John's wearing one just like it. This cross is the symbol of the Order of the Daughters of the King®, a lay order of women founded within the Episcopal Church in 1885.

At one time, St. John's was home to one of the oldest chapters in the Order. According to the Order's national archives, our local chapter was founded in the mid-1890s and flourished until the early 1960s when membership began to decline, partly because of changes in society as a whole and partly because older members weren't able to recruit as many younger members. This was true of almost every faith-based organization at the time.

Fortunately, that trend began to reverse itself in the mid-1990s and once again, the Order began to thrive, not just in the United States, but all over the world. In the past 20 years, chapters that once existed in Canada and Western Europe have been revived, as has the founding Alpha Chapter at Resurrection Church in New York and other "original" chapters all along the Eastern Seaboard. And new chapters have sprung up throughout the world.

So what do Daughters of the King do, you may ask? Primarily, the women of the Order pray. We pray daily for our clergy, our congregations, our Sisters and anyone who has asked us for prayer. Most of us do that anyway as good, conscientious Christian women, so the vow of daily prayer is easy for us.

Traditionally, women serve their congregations as individuals, whether it is by singing in the choir, serving in the Chancel Society, teaching Sunday School or simply being members of the ECW. The women of the Order also serve their churches as a group at the discretion and direction of their Rector or Vicar. In some churches that may be taking on some small office task to free up the members of the clergy for more urgent parochial duties. In other churches Daughters may be asked to take on a formal role in the day-to-day activities within the church. But whatever service Daughters take on, it is always at the direction and discretion of their clergy.

Daughters also evangelize, a hard task for most Episcopalians. That is why part of the Service of Admission into the Order admonishes us to wear our crosses daily as a symbol of our vows. That tiny symbol is also one of the most powerful evangelism tools a woman can have. To some it is an attractive piece of jewelry, often opening a conversation that leads to opportunities to share God's message or invite the inquirer to join you on Sunday. To some, it is a sign that you can be approached by someone with a spiritual need. And to others who recognize the symbol for what it is, it is an invitation to "come home" in a strange city or after a long estrangement from God's word.

Most Daughters will tell you that becoming a member of the Order has not added another obligation to what she already does. Instead, it puts a framework around those very things that keep her involved in the life of the church in the first place. So if you would like to know more about the Order of the Daughters of the King® and the possibility of reviving St. John's chapter of the Order, please contact me. If there is enough interest, we can schedule an informational meeting, with Fr. Dunbar's blessing. Mrs. R. Brooks Dawson, Jr. (Mary)

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Written by:
 Brian J. Taylor
 Organist/ Choirmaster
 btaylor@stjohnssav.org

Choir Cantations: Pedals, Pipes & Pizza

On Saturday morning, March 10th, piano students ages 10-18 from greater Savannah will be gathering at St. John's Church for an introduction to the pipe organ. Sponsored by the Savannah Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, this event will be led by several organists in Savannah including yours truly. The morning will begin with an introduction to the organ, an organ "crawl" in which students will actually go inside the case of the organ to see its inner workings, and a short time of group lessons on the three organs here at St. John's Church with every student having some time on our large organ in the church. At the end of the day each student will play one short piece on the church organ and then retire to the choir room for a pizza lunch.

This event is part of a concerted effort on the part of the American Guild of Organists to spark interest in young people studying the organ. The number of qualified organists for churches is dwindling in North America. Smaller churches have a particularly difficult time securing a person to play the organ for Sunday services. The guild's hope is to sponsor a number of different kinds of attractive events that will spark interest in young people to take up organ lessons. Not everyone will become a full time church organist, but many may find it an enjoyable avocation and a way to supplement a primary income. Most churches are looking for someone part time with sufficient competence to play hymns, service music and anthem accompaniments for services of worship. Any students here at St. John's Church who might be interested in this event are invited to contact me at the church.



Excerpt from the Guides Newsletter

The Co-Chairman of the Green-Meldrim guides, Martie Campbell, announces a special meeting of the guides on March 20 after the Communion service. Susan Arden-Joly will be giving a presentation on the "Green Legacy." We all know how fascinating and personable Susan is. Please save this date!

I thought Martie could not have stated our need for more docents more poetically than with her comment, "There seems to be a small hole in the fabric." In essence, we need more resources! Let's all get in touch with our friends and recruit. Let's face it; most people feel a bit frightened about new experiences. New helpers need to know that with their service of only one day a month for three hours, they can make a marvelous contribution to our community. If you detect that a possible new docent might feel intimidated about serving, please suggest that we can pair them with a veteran. Also, please remind them that they do not need to be a member of St. John's Church. A three-hour stint once a month with a cheerful spirit and willing heart gives them the best of credentials. Assure them that they will have a blast!

Thanks to Susan Donahue: Editor of the Green-Meldrim Newsletter

Pictured: Susan Wylly, Donna Schulze, Tracey Inglesby, Laura Wimbish, Sinisa Domazet & Jessie Fawcett

A Spanish Pilgrimage

by: Kay Gunkel

On January 9th Kay Gunkel talked with the ECW about the pilgrimage she took through northern Spain on a path called The Camino de Santiago. She started in France, walked over the Pyrenees, and continued for about 550 miles until she came to the cathedral of St. James. Below, she has summarized her experiences.

For three weeks in September I traversed the Camino de Santiago, a more than 500-mile path (a road, a way) zigzagging through northern Spain, passing through five provinces (Navarre, Rioja, Aragon, Castile und Leon, and finally Galicia), always heading west, always toward Santiago de Compostela. It is a path that has been trod by Christian pilgrims since 900. Their destination, Santiago de Compostela, is home to the cathedral which honors St. James, whose name is “Santiago” in Spanish. James, also known as James the Greater, was one of the 12 apostles and brother of our own beloved John. He was a “son of thunder,” so called because of his impetuous nature, a fisherman, a son of Zebedee. St. James is mentioned several times in the Bible. He was present at Christ’s transfiguration and during his agony in the garden of Gethsemane. Also, it was James who requested that he and his brother be seated next to the Master in the Kingdom.

Legend tells us more about St. James. According to legend, after Christ’s crucifixion, James traveled to Spain, to the Iberian Peninsula, to spread Christianity. He is said to have spent two years there. When he returned to Jerusalem in 44 AD, he was beheaded, becoming the first apostle to be martyred. Legend has it that James’ body was put aboard an unmanned bark. The boat made its way by sea to the western shore of Spain. There the bones of St. James came to rest. Nearly 800 years later a hermit is said to have seen a large bright star surrounded by a circle of smaller stars pointing to St. James’ remains. The bishop of the area declared the remains to be those of St. James, and King Alfonso II declared St. James patron saint of Spain and built a church and monastery over his tomb. The place was named “Campus Stellae,” or “Field of Stars,” and so the name Santiago (St. James) de (of) Compostela (the Field of Stars.)

I began my pilgrimage in St. Jean Pied de Port, a small French village at the foot of the Pyrenees, a village destroyed by Richard the Lionheart in 1177 and later rebuilt. It is the traditional starting point for pilgrims who want to pass from France into Spain. The walk over the Pyrenees was quite lovely. It was a climb of 1,200 meters over a distance of 28 km. I saw cows, horses, sheep, mountains, forest, and wild crocus. I descended into Spain and into Roncesvalles, the place where Roland, of the heroic French poem Song of Roland, died in 778 when Charlemagne’s rear guard was destroyed by Basque tribes. From there I walked on the next day to Pamplona, the city made famous by Hemingway and the running of the bulls, a city founded by Romans around 74 B.C. Larger towns that followed were Burgos, Leon, and finally Santiago, but in-between were the jewels of the walk, about 350 medieval villages, most with Romanesque or Gothic churches. And the real treasure of the way was the rugged and varied landscape which included hot treeless plains, gorgeous rolling hills planted in grapevines, high mountain passes, short stretches of pine and oak forest, and sweeping vistas.

All along the path I met kind and selfless people from all over the world: Spain, France, England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, Austria, New Zealand, Australia, most every Asian country, Estonia, and Canada. My regard for humanity in general grew by leaps and bounds along the Camino. I would call some of these



pilgrims and some of the local people “flesh-and-blood angels.” As for unseen angels, I am sure they were present, too. There was a spirituality in the air. It was something that can’t be explained. A presence or feeling of well-being was nearly tangible. I felt it most often when I was alone in the landscape on devastatingly hot afternoons or on icy-cold mornings under the stars.

Sounds I enjoyed along the way were rooster crows, church bells, cowbells, and wind in my ears.

Smells were few. The air was often so hot or so very, very arid, that I detected few fragrances. But two I remember are hot bread in an early-morning bakery, and eucalyptus trees.

Sights were the steeples of small village churches, the tracery of vaulted ceilings, crucifixes along the road, ancient wooden doors and stone portals of churches, Roman bridges, palomino-colored fields, rolling stretches of grapevines, the sighting of a distant village from a little wooded area, the huge sky above the Spanish plains filled with black rain clouds or with stars in the pre-dawn mornings.

A few people I met who are particularly memorable are a German student and marathon runner who walked with me over one of the highest passes; a Spanish woman who showed me her favorite cathedral (in Burgos); a priest from Germany; and two young girls from New Zealand whose exuberance and sheer love of life sparkled.

Walking into Santiago de Compostela on an early morning in late September was not as thrilling as I had imagined it would be. The cathedral square is handsome and the noon mass for pilgrims was a majestic event, but I learned, as I think so many before me have, that in this life the going is more memorable than the getting there.

Back home at our beautiful St. John’s the first Sunday of October, I was delighted when Morning Prayer included Psalm 121, a psalm I memorized and repeated to myself all along the Camino. Our service also included a hymn about pilgrims.

Deaths of our Loved Ones

*Rest Eternal grant unto them, O Lord,
and let light perpetual shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

Harry Hays Lattimore
George Henry Oelschig
Margaret Register Gosling
Joanne Smith Merritt
Anne Williams Hohnstein
James Glover Atkinson
Kathryn Aldridge
Mary Holton Kelly (Mimi)
Barbara Kelley Compton (Miss Binky)

Received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Maddox Riley Sinclair
infant son of Zachary Sinclair and Laura Clifton
November 24, 2012

United in Holy Matrimony

Friday, October 12, 2012
Allison Camille Breaux to
Walter Kay Hagan III
in the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin

Saturday, October 20, 2012
Louise Nunnally Hooff to
John Clarkson

Saturday, January, 19, 2013
Alexandra Helen Yeager to
Paul Andrew Clarkson

Next Deadline:
May 10, 2013

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Little Girls Grow Up - Guess Who These Are?

Long, long ago, oh, about 50 years or so ago there lived two little girls, in separate parts of this beautiful corner of God's green earth. Life in the south is balmy and back then it was also very, very quiet. There were no tv's or computers. All children's activities were directed towards the awesome "outside". So when the chance for snow was predicted one January night, the two girls were very excited. Neither had seen snow!!! Upon hearing there was a chance for snow, the little girl who lived on the east coast hurried out onto the back stoop of her family's home and looking up at the strange gray sky prayed, "Dear God, if you are really there please let it snow." Immediately small soft cool flakes began descending and rested on her face! More than two-hundred and sixty miles away in a remote corner of the state the second girl crawled into bed and prayed. "Dear God, please let the snow stick, so I may play with it tomorrow." In the morning snow blanketed southern Georgia from the farthest S.W. corner to the coast. Almost 50 years later the two girls came together in work and prayer at St. John's Church! Who are we???

