



The Eagle

Winter 2014



Pictured above: The 1984 St John's Softball Team starring Matt Solana, a mystery ringer, Spanky Schley, Joe Howard, Sandy Shepherd, George Grady, Father Ralston, Rusty Ross, Chip Compton, Carter Hubbard Jr, Carter Hubbard & George Oelshig. Not Pictured: Bubba Victor, Bob Jarman



Written by:
Erica Jarman
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A note from our two time Holly Days Bazaar Chairman

Savannah temperatures have cooled down and excitement is heating up for the annual tradition at St. John's, the Holly Days Bazaar. Revered as Georgia's Oldest Church Bazaar, this annual event is a perfect way to help the city of Savannah and our parish to welcome the holiday season in southern style and charm. I am honored to be serving again as this year's Chair and honored to work closely with such a fantastic group of people. It takes a parish to make this event happen, and I am grateful for everyone's support and hard work. Thank you!

The **Holly Days Bazaar Luncheon**, prepared by lovely Christian women, is going to once again be delicious! Patrons return year after year for the delectable shrimp salad, homemade chili and decadent desserts. It's a meal not to be missed, so please join us for both days!

If you are unable to enjoy dining in the historic Green Meldrim House, you may place your order at the **Take-Out stand**, or in advance via email at Bazaar-Lunch@Gmail.com. We offer quick and easy pick-ups, located on the east side of the Church property on Bull Street, facing Madison Square. Drive your car right up to the stand for easy loading.

The **White Elephant, Treasure Room and Books** will be accepting drop-off donations the week of the Bazaar starting Sunday the 9th, after Coffee Hour, and the following Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 10 am to 3 pm in front of Cramner Hall. Thank you to those who have donated thus far! We are now on our fourth storage unit!

For the second year in a row, the Holly Days Bazaar will host a **Kids Camp** for Moms with young children who want to volunteer. The children attending will enjoy fun and educational activities, story time, games and play instructed by The St. John's Children School teachers. The Kids Camp will run both days, Wednesday and Thursday, starting at 9:30 am and ending at 2:30 pm and is available for children 6 months and up. Please bring a prepared lunch for your child and sign up with Caroline Hayes at chayas@stJohnssav.org.

The **Silent Auction** will kick-off with a Champagne Toast on Sunday, November 9th, during Coffee Hour. Come sip on some bubbly and bid on all the fabulous auction items!

Jane's Canners have canned a record number this year, over 2,000 jars! There will be a variety of jams, jellies, preserves and chutneys to choose from. Buy one, or a few dozen, as they are delicious stocking stuffers.

The **Candlelight Dinner**, yet another famous St John's tradition, and a prize second only to Heaven itself, is selling raffle tickets! Be sure to purchase your raffle tickets with Pam Young in the courtyard. The courtyard area will also feature Crafts created by our talented parishioners, seasonal Garden Items and items from the Parish Gift Shop.

Check-out will be a centralized function accepting debit, credit and cash! Check-out stands for all areas of the Bazaar will be marked for your shopping convenience.

Join Steven Branyon, St Johns Organ-master, for a wonderful 30 minute **organ recital** on both days starting at noon. **Guided Church tours** will also be given on both days before and after the recitals.

Please **mark your calendar for Sunday November 9th**, after Coffee Hour, when will be rolling up our sleeves and working at Cranmer Hall in preparation for the Bazaar. If you'd like to join the fun, please bring a change of clothes. Lunch will be served for volunteers. We hope to see you there!

Every year, it's important to remind ourselves why the Holly Days Bazaar is such a special event for our beloved Parish. Welcoming visitors with red aprons and smiles, the women of the Church work tirelessly to raise substantial funds that directly support many important charities and missions, both locally and across the globe. We are blessed in so many ways, and we are thankful for this opportunity to serve those in need- Through the glory of God.



Written by:
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ECW President
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From the Episcopal Church Women's Chairman

It would seem from the national advertising campaigns of large-surface chain stores that the Christmas shopping season begins the day after Thanksgiving, on “Black Friday.” (Wish they had at least called it “Red-and-Green Friday,” or something a little more cheerful!) Of course, here in Savannah, for over seventy years now, we have known that the holiday season really begins two weeks before Thanksgiving, at the St John’s Holly Days Bazaar. We also know that instead of long lines, confusion, and grouchy fellow shoppers at the mega-stores, we will find smiles, kind spirits, and a gracious welcome at the bazaar, as we shop for special items that can be purchased nowhere else. The warm camaraderie of our volunteers, the delicious food, and the incredible number of homemade, rare, and treasured items provide the fun shopping and good cheer that one hopes would be part of any Christmas experience.

Providing an atmosphere that keeps the spirit of Christian fellowship in our holiday shopping would be reason enough to hold our beloved bazaar all these years. But the spirit of charity is present in another, often unseen, way as well. All the sewing, cooking, canning, and collecting that goes into making our bazaar such a happy event is really done for a totally different reason; it is done that we might give the proceeds away to help others. Of course, some of the money will stay close to home, helping our neighbors at the Bethesda Home for Boys, the Fresh Air Home, the Center for the Blind, Greenbriar’s Children’s Center, SAFE Shelter, The Living Vine, and Memorial Hospital Jennifer Ross Respite Care, to name just a few groups we support. Some money will go to scholarships, and some will go out into the world to help orphaned and abused girls in Central America, farmers in Africa, and Native Americans in Canada. So please remember that every dollar spent at our bazaar not only brings joy to those we know—ourselves included! --but brings comfort to other children of God, in places we have never been.

Now, for those of you who simply can’t get away to make your holidays merrier attending our bazaar, you can still share in the joy of giving at St John’s in another way. The Women of St John’s have formed a new committee called “Hands-On Giving.” Of course, hands-on giving is what our women have been doing for years, whether through our Pantry Aids by taking homemade meals to parishioners, our Second Harvest Backpack program, or any one of so many activities of our women. What this new committee will be doing is offering more opportunities for our entire congregation to share the cheerful spirit of giving in a personal way, on a regular basis, all year long. Hopefully, you have already heard of our October and November food drive. (If not, please see Caroline Hayes’ article on Church School activities.) Our next drive will be to collect toys for children ages 5-17, to be distributed by the Salvation Army for Christmas. A box for your new, unwrapped toy donations will be in Cranmer Hall from Nov. 16- Dec. 14. We would like the recipients to know that someone other than Santa is thinking about them and sending some love for Christmas.

Finally, it may not be snowing in Savannah for the holidays, but you can make it a white Christmas! Beginning on Christmas Eve and continuing to our Epiphany Sunday on January 11, we will be collecting white bed and bath linens for the Old Savannah City Mission’s Homeless Shelter. White towels, white single sheets and pillowcases, as well as pillows and blankets will be collected in Cranmer Hall and by the church doors. To keep the linens white all year, the shelter would appreciate donations of bottles of bleach as well. So whenever and wherever you do a little shopping over the holidays, please add something to your cart for our larger family this Christmas. May God bless you all and give you joy in this season of giving.

Pictured: Father O'Brien helping pack bags as part of Second Harvest's backpack program to provide food for needy school children.





Rector's Musings:

by: Father Gavin Dunbar

I was baptized in my first year at Trinity College, Toronto, and became a mediocre Christian; yet for all the mediocrity of my spiritual life, there was something about the Church that drew me very strongly. Like any undergraduate, I burnt the candle at both ends; yet from my room in the “Angels Roost”, a fifth floor eyrie next to the organ gallery of the college chapel, I could and did roll out of bed at the last minute and still be on time for the 9:30 morning service in the chapel. However mediocre my spiritual life, I missed very few Sundays. Then I went to Dalhousie University in Halifax, and became a don at King’s College, where I met clergy who deeply impressed me, and before long I was secretly discerning a vocation to the priesthood. One of those priestly mentors impressed deeply upon me and others discerning a vocation the huge importance of what is sometimes called “the daily office” (because it is the officium, or duty, of those in holy orders, to read morning and evening prayer daily throughout the year). Living at King’s College or nearby, it was easy for us to gather twice daily to take part in those services. In the summers when I stayed with my parents in Mississauga and worked in Toronto, I read the office on the commuter train.

Languages are learned best by immersion, and the daily office is an immersion in the language of the Word of God, precisely so that God’s Word to us may become our Word to him and to each other, a shared and common language that unites Christians as one Body in Christ. The result of reading the daily office over the course of the years is that I have a basic familiarity with almost the entire Scripture, and in that familiarity a foundation for deeper understanding and practice of its teaching. It has been of huge benefit to me personally and to my ministry.

But it is not just for the clergy; it is a basic spiritual discipline for all Christians: and that is why the Prayer Book services of morning and evening are designed for the whole Church. That is why also St. John’s observes the daily office Monday to Friday each week, and why I have enlisted the assistance of the men of Saint John’s as regular readers of the lessons during the week. And though I would be glad to hear from other men who would like to be reading lessons, I would be even more glad to see parishioners turning up on a regular basis – once a week perhaps – to join in this basic spiritual discipline.

*Gavin, Craig and Jeremy-
Tell something new and exciting you did this year outside of church activities?*

I was stalked by a homeless man!

I went on a zip line and went repelling

I ate tripe for the first time.

Last Issue: What is your favorite psalm?

Jeremy - Psalm 73 / Craig - Psalm 139 / Gavin - Psalm 146



We are so very thankful to have Shylah Cushman (pictured left) as our infant nursery teacher since 2003. She has made sure that all the sweet babies at St. John's Church are cared for with love and attentiveness. Thank you Shylah for all you do for our precious babies!

Perfect Attendance

September

Emiline Baxter
Nathanael Bergstrom
Annie Burdell
Thomas Burdell
Helen Culver
Jackson Ezelle
Katherine Ezelle
Holden Hayes
Olin Anne Hayes
Elizabeth Kulp
Heath Kulp
Ellie Northup
Jacob Perkins
Graham Schubert
Sarah Jane Schulze
Charlton Strong

October

Emiline Baxter
Nathanael Bergstrom
Holden Hayes
William Taylor



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Childhood Education

We have had a wonderful start to the church school year. Our first Special Event was for Michaelmas. The children processed with their swords and shields in honor of Michael and All Angels. The children learned that angels are indeed real and not feathered white people that sit on clouds. They are actual warriors for God. The next Special Event will be for All Saints' on November 2nd.

During the months of September, October, and November our way of showing our Christian love is by helping the Backpack program at Thunderbolt Elementary led by Martha Sullivan. There are three ways to help:

- Bring in small jars of peanut butter, fruit cups, breakfast bars, etc.
- Sunday Morning Offerings - all monies during these three months will be donated to the program
- Help Martha and her team fill backpacks:
 Wednesdays at 3:30 pm - Second Harvest located on President Street Extension

Save the Dates!

November 23rd: The Psalm Psingers (the 10:30 singing program for children in 2nd – 5th Grades) are making such good progress under the direction of Mrs. Diane Stallings that they will be joining the Parish Choir on Sunday, November 23rd, for the first part of the 10:30 service. Please make every effort to have the children at church each Sunday. They already sound amazing, but the more practice the better.

Family Low Country Boil & Cookout

Saturday, November 29th
 Villa Marie Center – Isle of Hope
 11:00 - 2:00

Who isn't tired of turkey and cooking the Saturday after Thanksgiving? Worry no more! Bring your family, and join your fellow parishioners for a fun family day of fellowship and good food. There will be games for the young and the young at heart, live music and maybe even a football game or two. College students eat for free! Out of town guests welcome.

Tickets will be sold Sundays beginning November 2nd
 Adults \$15 per ticket.
 Children under 12 \$5 and Children under 5 eat for Free.
 Wristbands will be sold for \$5 to include beer and wine.

November 30th: Advent I - Family Art Day - Join us on the 1st floor of Cranmer Hall at 9:30 to make advent wreaths for your family to use during the Advent season. If you have advent rings from last year, please bring them with you. All other supplies will be provided.

December 20th: Mandatory Pageant Practice You will be notified if your child has been chosen to participate. Participation is based on Sunday School attendance. The times will be from 11am until 2pm. There will be a dress rehearsal, lunch, and service activities- making Christmas treats for St. John's shut-ins.

If you have not already, please join the St. John's Church Facebook page. This is where you can see up to date information and pictures from events. Also, all calendars, parent information, updates, etc will be on the website:
www.stjohnssav.org.

If you look under Christian Education click the tab that says Sunday School Info.

As always, we can use all the help we can get. If you can volunteer in anyway, big or small, we would love the help. Please contact me (info above).



Silent Auction Preview

by: Holly Montford

BIDDING ALERT FOR SILENT AUCTION !!!!!!!

Get your check books ready...we have some fabulous items in the silent auction this year. A great chance to do some Christmas shopping and also to purchase an event or party for fun and fellowship with St. John's parishioners. Remember to come and sip some champagne at Preview Sunday and start the bidding on these fabulous items!!! Please remember to patronize all of our generous merchants who have contributed to our auction.

Daedalus Gallery
John B. Rourke
Number 411
Eggsn'tricities, Bluffton
The Store Bluffton
Livvy's Boutique
Satchel
The Cottage Shop
Backyard Baby
Glow Medical Spa
E Shaver Books
The Christmas Shop
River's and Glen Trading Co.
Twisted Warrior Yoga
Savannah Power Yoga
Mollie Cakes
Christine Hall Photography
Curry Cleaners
Cutter's Point Coffee
Mosquito Authority of Sav.
Monkey Joe's
Sandfly Bar b que
Brighter Day

Herb River Landscape
Hester and Zipperer
Gaucho Too
La Paperie
Ele and The Chef restaurants
Cason Photography
Madame Chrysanthemum
John Davis Florist
Sav. Wine Cellar
Red Clover
GiGi's Cupcakes
Sandfly Liquor
Saints and Shamrocks
Petite Feet
Merry Times
Charles Rudd Salon
Culver Rug Co.
Coastal Bath and Kitchen
Millie Lewis Modeling
Clutter Inc.
Atwell's Framing
Zia
The Hang Up

Tonight at bed time you may start dreaming about one of our listings for cocktail parties, skeet shoots, romantic B & B getaways, bass fishing trip, or Cashiers, Buckhead, or Hilton Head vacations! If you don't feel like travelling, you may purchase unique and fabulous artwork from an array of many talented artists who are represented. Ladies, you may prefer to indulge yourself in the Drop and Shop Babysitting Service or the Shop Til You Drop Weekend. Keep a special place in your heart for the Fawcetts' hand made items Hers: a beautiful quilt and His: a lovely coffee table made from St. John's reclaimed steeple wood! There's more to come, so remember to stop by our Champagne KICK OFF at coffee hour November 9th. Laura and I thank you for your continued support!! For more info contact Holly Montford 897-6202 / hollymontford@aol.com or Laura Sparks at laurasparks123@gmail.com



Pictured: Mary Duval Sumner & Eliza Strong ready for Michelmas

Musical Melodies

by: Steven Branyon

As a child, I never understood it when my elders exclaimed, “how times flies when you get older.” I wondered how did my grandparents and their peers ever come up with such a silly notion while I waited on such things as being old enough to get a driving permit, or, not so patiently, waited to graduate school in order to live on my own, though I was keenly aware of how fast a week’s vacation could pass as our family would go to Myrtle Beach every year around the July 4th holiday. Swimming in the ocean for many hours each day, going to a different amusement park every night of the week, or taking in an occasional game of miniature golf, the time really seemed to vanish and the week was up and we had to return to what I thought at the time was a dull and boring life. I can say of my first three months of being with you at St. John’s that time seems to move very quickly, and it is because I am having such a great experience interacting with our clergy, staff, members of the parish, and especially with the members of our choir. This newsletter does not have adequate space to share so many positive experiences, so I will only share a few highlights with you at this time.

My great enthusiasm has been observing a slow but steady growth in the adult choir and the excitement that each member seems to bring with them as they return each week to prepare for the next worship service or an Evensong offering. Their enthusiasm is just contagious! We have added extra rehearsals to accommodate singers from other churches who wish to join us for Evensongs. Diane Stallings has been working faithfully with the newly formed children’s ensemble, the Psalm Psingers, and we will hear them in the context of worship very soon. I cannot wait to see what God has in store for St. John’s in the near future.

Behind the scenes a transition committee has met at least four times since my arrival to ensure the continued support for the ministry of music. We have spent many hours designing a new choir brochure, and we have in detail discussed other important concerns: the framing of future budgets and endowment considerations; starting a choir alumni association; the re-evaluation of the physical choir room space; publicity; and continuing issues about the pipe organ. I myself have tried to build relationships in our community by visiting and re-introducing myself to many of the music professors at our local institutions of higher learning. I have made over 35 calls and home visits to individuals, inviting them to become an active part of our music program and church family. I recently participated in a Halloween organ presentation sponsored by the local AGO (the American Guild of Organists) at Wesley Monumental Church, designed to turn children onto the organ and its many wonderful sounds. There were probably over 150 children at this event. Down the road, with more planning yet to be done, we are in hopes of starting both a men and boys choir and a girls choir.

In the choir music library, we have provided a tangible way to permanently honor persons or to remember loved ones through the donation of individual anthems or collections. The choir has started its own treasury, and from that treasury the choir was able to purchase an anthem in memory of Rich Mays. This anthem, *Souls of the Righteous*, by Geraint Lewis, will be premiered at our All Saints Evensong. Every time we sing, either in rehearsal or in service, an anthem that has been purchased in memory or honor of someone, the choir will be able to see the inscription and those persons will always be remembered. If you are interested in purchasing an anthem or a collection, a perfect tribute can be arranged even on the smallest budget. We have also been able to reach out to choir members and alumni with flowers, cards, and chocolates, as needs arise.

During Advent, a variety of appropriate instrumental and vocal music will be offered every Friday at a service in the chapel. In January, we will be hosting both the Low Country Piano Teachers Association with the Savannah Piano Teachers Association and their students in a program of piano music provided by Benjamin Warsaw, newly appointed Professor of Piano at Armstrong Atlantic University in the Green Meldrim House followed by a lunch. We wished to reach out to these organizations as they faithfully instruct students who will be the ones to carry out the musical traditions in not only our church, but in all churches in the future.

In Lent, we will be hosting the CATAWBA RIVER BAROQUE, a group of period instruments in concert, led by one of my professors, Dr. Murray Sommerville, a native of England who was for many years the Cathedral Musician in Orlando, FL and a conductor at Harvard University.

If you are wondering how one may support the music program in this church at the present time, some opportunities have been mentioned above, but I can think of no better way than to attend our beautiful Evensong services,

and by inviting every friend and neighbor to do the same. It is entirely possible that Choral Evensong may be viewed by an un-churched person as a neutral musical experience, but we all know that it is one of the most treasured Liturgies of our tradition, making it a great tool for evangelism. The prelude will always begin at 5:05 p.m. and will include several thoughtful voluntaries for reflection and meditation, and the service will always be well-prepared by our clergy and choir. Your adult choir has been a constant and faithful ensemble through the years and they deserve your loyal support. They will in just a short time earn the respect of our greater Savannah community. I can make that promise with the utmost confidence.

Received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Ben Burke Wall III
infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Burke Wall, Jr.
Saturday, October 25, 2014

United in Holy Matrimony

Annika Kohler to Dieter Christian Gunkel
Saturday, August 2, 2014

Katherine Aline Solana to Craig Thomas Beese
Saturday, August 30, 2014

Frances Carolyn Cooper to Kenneth Ray Oxenrider
Saturday, September 20, 2014

Margaret Mallette Gunkel to Thomas Harold Scott, Jr
Saturday, October 11, 2014

Martha Elwell Campbell to H. Emerson Thomas, Jr
Saturday, October 18, 2014

Coffee Hour Recipe:
Perfect Pimento Cheese

1 1/2 cups mayonnaise
1 (4-oz.) jar diced pimiento, drained
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1 tsp. finely grated onion
1/4 tsp. ground red pepper
1 (8-oz.) block extra-sharp Cheddar
cheese, finely shredded
1 (8-oz.) block sharp Cheddar cheese,
shredded

Stir together first 5 ingredients in a large bowl; stir in cheese. Store in refrigerator up to 1 week.

Pimento cheese is delicious on wheat or white bread. You can also put it on small biscuits with a slice of ham.

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*

John Ely Simpson, Jr

Richard Warren Mays

Frankie Cross Swain

Bruce Pringle Ford

On Sunday, November 23rd St John's Church will have its EYCS Ingathering offering.

The EYCS is an organization within the Diocese that offers needs-based college and camp scholarships. Funds to provide these scholarships are raised each year through the annual Thanksgiving Appeal- the "gold envelopes". Parishioners may also make a safe and secure online donation at eyes.org

Two Events Observing the 150th Anniversary of Sherman's Visit

Houses of Civil War America

On Friday, November 21, 2014, from 4:30-6:30, there will be a book signing of Houses of Civil War America, by Hugh Howard, with original photography by Roger Straus III. The book features the white columned mansion that served as the seat of the Confederate government, the simple farmhouse given to Underground Railroad conductor Harriet Tubman, the parlor where Robert E. Lee surrendered to Ulysses S. Grant, and dozens of other houses where the drama of the Civil War unfolded. The historian and the photographer give us a window into the day-to-day lives of influential Americans who shaped the course of a divided nation: the papers on their desks, the pictures on their walls, the slave quarters, and the grand parlors. The Green-Meldrim House is featured with ten pages of beautiful photos and a narrative of General Sherman's occupation of the house. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Hugh Howard, enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres, and purchase a copy of this beautiful book for a Christmas present. All are welcome.

About the author: Hugh Howard is the author of more than a dozen books on architecture, including Houses of the Founding Fathers (with Roger Straus III), and Mr. and Mrs. Madison's War. His writings have also appeared in the Smithsonian, the New York Times, the Washington Post, and many other publications. He lectures widely on architecture, art, and American history.

Christmas 1864 at the Green House

The Women of St John's are hosting a special event, "Christmas 1864," on the evening of December 3, in place of their usual morning meeting. As this December marks the 150th anniversary of Sherman's arrival in Savannah, we will give thanks at the 5:30 service that our church, our parish house, and our city were spared from destruction. Following the service, at 6:00 we will have a special program and reception at the Green-Meldrim House. A young descendant of the Green family, who is a professional pianist, will play music from the Civil War period and from the Green family songbook. In addition, some of the pieces played will be by the noted composer and Savannah music-store owner Hermann Schreiner, a German immigrant to our city. Food and beverages from the Civil War period will be served. We have collected authentic recipes, including favorite dishes of General Sherman, Robert E. Lee, and Abraham Lincoln, among others. The house will be decorated with natural Christmas greenery, as it might have been in 1864. Men and women of St. John's and their guests are welcome.

There is nothing sweeter than seeing grandmothers at church with their grandbabies! Below: Walter, Langley, Patch, & Beverly Carson smile after a fun Coffee Hour. Patti Victor, Colt Zipperer, Clara Hubbard, Barbara Hubbard, Josh White, Star Weed enjoy breakfast at Cranmer Hall.



The Men's Club Reports



Written by:

Randy Kulp

Men's Club President

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The Men of St. John's held their **annual meeting** this past September 18th in Cranmer Hall with over forty in attendance. Outgoing President John Helmken provided a report reviewing the results of the past year, the highlight being our donation of \$4000.00 to Bethesda Academy following this year's Oyster Roast. A new slate of officers for 2014/15 were elected by those in attendance with Scott Howard elected Vice President; Alex Jarman, Secretary; Holden Hayes, Treasurer and myself as President. We are honored and pleased to serve this great organization. An evening of delicious food and fellowship was capped by a thought-provoking address by the Rector reminding the group of the great responsibility that we have in our role as the spiritual head of our homes. More on that later.

One thought offered by Mark Stevens was that we seek out opportunities to assist those parishioners who are unable to drive or otherwise have difficulty getting to and from Sunday services. There is a high likelihood that many of us are driving right by the home of someone who could use a hand getting to Church. If you could benefit from this, please call the Church office (232-1251) and leave word for us, we'll do our best to match you with a fellow parishioner. For parishioners who wish to give **rides to church**, please call the Church office as well.

As the weather cools, we have resumed our Thursday **Men's Forum** luncheons in Cranmer Hall. Lunch is served at 11:50a.m., a presentation from the Clergy follows at 12:10 with conclusion at 12:50p.m. We are extremely grateful to Rick Wright and the women of the congregation that volunteer to produce the lunch and allow us to meet for this mid-week lesson and fellowship. I strongly encourage all men to make an attempt to attend – in and out in one hour – you can't beat it!

If your schedule doesn't accommodate a noon-hour event, please consider the two morning **Bible study** groups offered. Fr. O'Brien leads a group on Tuesday mornings at 6:45am in the Green-Meldrim house; we are currently wrapping up a lengthy discussion on the Holy Spirit. A great breakfast is cooked and shared by the men and is not to be missed! A word of thanks to Bob Merritt who leads the charge (and makes the best grits I've had in a long while)! On Thursday mornings at 7:00a.m., Fr. Dunbar is leading a group through the Old Testament; we are currently reading 2 Samuel and studying the life of David. Both study groups end promptly at 8:00am allowing one adequate time to get to the office at a reasonable time. Preston Russell recently proclaimed "I feel so spoiled!" - indeed we are spoiled by the quality of the educational opportunities afforded us by our talented Clergy.

On a few occasions over the past year, I have brought my 6-year old twin children with me as I've served as **Lay Reader** for Evening Prayer. In the beginning I was a nervous wreck! Would they sit still for 25-minutes? Could they bear to not slouch or fidget? What would they do when they were out of my grasp as I left the pew to take my place at the lectern? My worst fear was ALL OUT MUTINY! Well, I'm happy to report that we made it through unscathed (just a little fidgeting) and I've not been relieved of my services as Lay Reader!

On a recent Friday my son Heath, upon learning that soccer practice was cancelled due to rain, surprised me by asking if he could accompany me to Evening Prayer; given his young age I was pleased that he had an interest and would chose to do this with his free time. I was unprepared for how I would feel when, during this quiet service in the refurbished Chapel with only a handful present, I observed my son following along as best as he could, and heard him recite the prayers and responses that he had memorized. I can tell you that I was both extremely touched and overtly aware of how much my actions (both good and bad) are reflected in my children. I was reminded of the challenge from Fr. Dunbar at the annual meeting to ensure that we are adequately addressing the terrific responsibility that we, the men of the Church, owe to their families. At that moment I was rewarded with the sense that I was doing something right. My life has been greatly enriched by the small ways in which I'm able to serve, and am served, by St. John's and I want the same for you. Please see the Rector or any of the officers of the Men's Club to see how you can become more involved – you'll be glad you did!

*Why does St. John's kitchen look so empty?
Because it needs your soup and chili!!!*

Calling ALL ladies and gentlemen, break out your largest pots and start cooking.
We won't have enough for the Bazaar without your help!!!

Holly Days Bazaar CHILI

(2014 revision)

2 pounds of Ground Beef	2 teaspoons Salt
1 medium Onion, minced	2 teaspoons Black Pepper
2 Green Peppers, minced	32 ounces of Whole Tomatoes, with juice
4 tablespoons Chili Powder	16 ounces Tomato Sauce
2 teaspoons Ground Cumin	32 ounces Red Kidney Beans OR Black Beans, with juice

Brown ground beef in large pot, drain off fat. Add remaining ingredients to beef and cook over low heat for an hour...or more. STIR OFTEN to prevent scalding at bottom of the pot.

Place pot of Chili in sink, surround with ice, stirring occasional until Chili is room temperature. Can be double-bagged in regular ziplocks for your freezer. If freezing on a rack, be sure to place a piece of cardboard or folded newspaper between rack and Chili bags to prevent chili freezing into freezer rack.

Holly Days Bazaar VEGETABLE SOUP

(2014 revision)

2 pounds of Ground Beef	2 teaspoons Salt
1 medium Onion, minced	2 teaspoons Black Pepper
2 Green Peppers, minced	32 ounces of Diced Tomatoes
1 Zucchini, diced	3 stalks celery, diced
2 Bay Leaves	6 cups water
3 cups beef broth	Frozen vegetables such as: mixed veggies, green beans, lima beans, corn (pick 3)

Brown ground beef in large pot; drain off fat. Add peppers, onions zucchini and celery and cook 5-10 minutes. Add remaining ingredients and cook over low heat for an hour...or more. STIR OFTEN to prevent scalding at bottom of the pot. REMOVE bay leaves.

Place pot of soup in sink, surround with ice, stirring occasionally until soup is room temperature. Can be double-bagged in regular ziplocks for your freezer. If freezing on a rack, be sure to place a piece of cardboard or folded newspaper between rack and Chili bags to prevent chili freezing into freezer rack.

The Cranmer Hall kitchen has plenty of freezer space. Drop off at your convenience.

If you have any questions feel free to contact the knowledgeable soup chefs-

Christiana Turner 912-308-0102 or

Sherry Holtzclaw dukehclaw@gmail.com

Thanks in advance for your contributions!

**Next Deadline:
February 6, 2014**

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Join the St John's Fun!!!

November 9th following 10:30 Church
Silent Auction Kick-off - Champagne Preview
(See Page 6)

Wednesday, November 12th and
Thursday, November 13th
Holly Days Bazaar
(See Page 2)

Friday, November 21st 4:30-6:30
Green-Meldrim House Houses of the Civil War book
signing & wine reception
(See Page 9)

Saturday, November 29th 11:00-2:00
Post-Thanksgiving Low Country Boil at Villa Marie
(See Page 5)

Wednesday, December 3rd 5:30-8:00
Christmas 1864 at the Green Meldrim House
(See Page 9)

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Welcome Nursery & Toddler Teachers



Please give a warm, hearty welcome when you encounter our new Nursery and Toddler Teachers! They come to us from the Children's School at St. John's and are full of smiles and laughs every Sunday Morning. What a blessing they will be to our youngest children. Left to Right are: Josely Gonzales, Lisa Green, and Tammy Hankinson