



The Eagle

Summer2014



Pictured Top: Standing Mary Burnett, Bonney Gilbreath, Sue Lewis, Anne Santa-Rita
Seated Barbara Nutting, Susan Arden-Joly, Susie Arden
Pictured Bottom: Kyle Hoge, Debbie Carson, Jane Pressly, Dexter, Layton, Anna Giles & Joni Truax

ECW Picnic hosted by Martha & George Fawcett



Pictured Above: Father O'Brien, Carolyn Cooper, Cissy Simpson, Gay Inglesby, George Fawcett, & Anna Smith
Below: Kippy Adams, Bonnie Carter & Nita Ann Klein



A Blind Donation

Written by: Cameron Spencer

While everyone at St. John's is well aware of our annual Holly Days Bazaar, not everyone knows the identity of the groups and organizations that we are able to help with the funds that we raise. This will be the first in a series of articles providing information about one or more of the groups that benefit from our bazaar.

The most recent addition to our list is the Savannah Center for Blind and Low Vision (CBLV), located at 214 Drayton Street in Savannah. The 2011 National Health Interview Survey (NHIS) Preliminary Report found that an estimated 21.2 million adult Americans (or more than 10%) experienced some form of significant vision loss. And Eyecare America reports that by age 65, one in three Americans has some form of vision-impairing eye disease.

Serving 29 counties in Southeast Georgia, the CBLV provides customized rehabilitation services for individuals of all ages who are blind or visually impaired. In addition to counseling and training on activities of daily living with vision loss, the CBLV offers instruction in Braille and other techniques for audio and written communication. Vision-impaired preschoolers and their families find help at the Center so that the little ones can gain independence and enter school with confidence.

The Peer Support program supports camaraderie among those who share the same experiences in living with vision loss and encourages them to become involved in their communities and outside activities so that they can better enjoy life.

These are just a few of the services provided by the CBLV. Unfortunately, state and city funding cuts over the last six years have increased the financial strain of supporting these services. This year The Women of St. John's Church were able to provide some aid to this most valuable group in our community.

Please start collecting books and white elephant goods for the Bazaar.



Written by:
Susan-Arden Joly
ECW President
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From the Episcopal Church Women's Chairman

I am often asked about the Women of St. John's by parishioners who are a little confused concerning the nature of the organization. Well, we are exactly what our name says: the Women of St. John's happily claims all the female members of the church. If you are a woman and a member of the church, you are automatically enrolled in the Women of St. John's. However, we don't keep a roll book or attendance. Every woman in the parish is part of this great sisterhood in Christ. No forms to fill out; no rituals or invitations needed.

The Women of St. John's do have by-laws, officers, and chairmen of committees; these individuals make up "the Board" and do much of the planning in their working meetings for the larger body of women. There are about 25 committees represented, and they provide for many, many events and services within the parish. In addition, the Women of St. John's also holds monthly General Meetings, open to the entire membership, September through April, on the first Wednesday. There is a very brief business

meeting, followed by a special speaker. In May, there is a picnic at the home of one of our ladies. The meetings in the Green Meldrim House begin after the Wednesday service in the church, which is usually around 10:45. Not only are all women invited, but our gentlemen are welcome as well, should the monthly program be of interest to them, which it frequently is. Look for announcements of dates and programs in the Parish Paper and just show up. A light lunch is always served. It is really that simple.

The Women of St. John's is an organization that is now 133 years old. First called the Women's Auxiliary at the time of its founding in 1881, St. John's Women was the first formal branch of a Woman's Auxiliary in the diocese. One of its early objectives continues to the present day: to aid those in need both locally and abroad. Interestingly, in 1890, the Women's Auxiliary of St. John's was dispatching "missionary boxes" to American Indians. Today, we still send aid to Native Americans through a Diocese in Saskatchewan, Canada.

Yet the history of the women at St. John's serving their local community goes back even further in history than the establishment of a formal organization. In 1853 the men and women of St. John's and Christ Church, working together, established The Orphan's Home under the direction of Mrs. Francis Bartow. (In 1929 this became the Diocesan Home and, in 1968, the seed for today's EYCS.) In 1857 The Savannah River Mission opened with the same church backing "to meet the needs of slave families of the river plantations and Savannah." One year later there were 125 slave children enrolled in Sunday school.

Today the Women of St. John's contributes funds to about 40 groups, within the parish, our local diocese and Savannah community, our nation and communities abroad. Almost all of these monies are raised by the Holly Days Bazaar volunteers and the volunteer tour guides. I encourage every woman and man of the church to be part of the tradition of service at St. John's. Please support these two very important groups and the very great causes they serve. Volunteer to give one tour a month at our beautiful Green-Meldrim House, or to collect money at the door. Bring all the friends you can to the bazaar for lunch and shopping, or donate something from your closet. There are many ways to help us help others. What you will find is what I have found: great fun, friendships, and the awfully good feeling that comes from participating in something larger than ourselves. It is a St. John's tradition.



The Candlelight Dinner Chefs: Elizabeth Schubert, Chambliss Stevens, Robbie Culver, Jane Wells, Jane Pressly, & Holly Montford



O'Brien's Orations: De Profundis

by: Father Craig O'Brien

The Grand Budapest Hotel. A film by Wes Anderson (2014) Many of us wait with bated breath for a new film from Wes Anderson, perhaps one of those few directors with something approaching popular name recognition. His latest confection-pun intended *got* by those who see it- bears the familiar marks of an Anderson picture- intricate, miniature set design, his usual stable of players including Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum and Bill Murray, and much whimsy. Fans might cavil that there is a little *too* much inconsequential silliness and not enough of Anderson's balancing trademark empathy for human sadness as in his last, *Moonrise Kingdom*. However, set as it is in a fictionalized *mitteleuropa* of the waning 1930's, and claimed in the closing credits to be inspired by the fiction of the doomed Viennese Jew, Stefen Zweig, for the historical minded, all the whimsy of M. Gustave H.'s world is thrown in to stark relief by the jack booted regimes of fancy and history, that would sweep it all away. For a more serious take on the wane of Hapsburg culture, see GBH's lead, Ralph Fiennes, in the Czech film, ***Sunshine***.

Sophie's Choice (1979). This refers to William Styron's novel, not Alan Pakula's celebrated film adaptation with Meryl Streep which evidently everyone has seen but I! Styron is the self-conscious heir of Thomas Wolfe rather than say, Faulkner, in the stylistic genealogy of southern letters. Like Wolfe's (not to be confused with contemporary journalistic novelist *Tom*), his prose is big, blousy, romantic and pedantic, but lush and evocative at its best. *Sophie's Choice* falls in line with aspirants to the *Great American Novel*, part post-war Brooklyn pastoral, part South-meets-North coming-of-age tale, it's distinguished also by taking a swipe at being a European novel of ideas-ideas brought to earth and ash and existential import in the crucible of the *Shoah*. The theological question of evil and the flimsiness of the conventional cultural restraints that would prevent its flourishing are here unforgettably and unsettlingly explored in powerful narrative form.

Doctor Faustus (1947). Thomas Mann's last novel is a parable (in the form of the fictional biography of composer, Adrian Leverkuhn) of the descent of European culture into nihilistic destruction. Like all great literature read in self-awareness, it is a spiritual exercise in questioning the mettle of our moral and religious foundations, individually and culturally.

Not the conventional beach reads but something to keep the spirit alert as the body languishes beneath the umbrella!

Gavin, Craig and Jeremy- What is the most important teaching or question that a Christian should be thinking about as he prepares for Confirmation?:

That they are being given the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit and will be receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in their first communion.

Self-examination

Confirmation arms and strengthens us with the gifts of the Spirit for the spiritual battles of mature Christian faith against sin, the world, the flesh, and the devil. If I am so strengthened and armed, will I fight?

Last Issue: What super hero would you like to be and why?

Jeremy - Spiderman: he is quick, witty, and doesn't take himself seriously

Craig - Batman: he wears black, is the beater of other's burdens, is of few words, and lives in a cool cave

Gavin - Spiderman: Great power comes with great responsibility



2014 Confirmands: Rev. Gavin Dunbar, Brianna Scott, Mariah Duncan, Jackson McClellan, Pace Hargrove, Sam Forkner, Carole Wilson, Grace Repella, Richie Reid, Tiffany Taylor, Jack Wilson, Martin Sullivan, Jr., The Rt. Rev'd Dorsey Henderson, Robert Ross, Jr., Rick Wright, and Annette Bader

St John's Ice Cream Social

Congratulations to the Winners of the Ice Cream Making Contest:

Editor's Choice- The Bergstrom Family- Grandpa Gustafson's Swedish Honey Vanilla Bean Ice Cream

Best Overall- Carter and Barbara Hubbard- Peanut Butter Ice Cream Sandwiches

Most Creative- Gilbert and Jane Wells- Blueberry Buckle

Best Recreation of an Old Favorite- Rence Schmidt



Dr Bergstrom's Dissertations

by: Dr. Jeremy Bergstrom



Recently, I've gotten a number of questions on how it is, exactly, one becomes a priest. How did you decide to become a priest? What sort of education is required? What is the bishop's role in it all? And so on.

Typically, the process starts in the soul of the future priest, with an inner prompting from the Lord: "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you" (Jn 15.16). This can be either dramatic or quiet—different men have different experiences. But either way a sense of calling emerges, and the would-be ordinand's first step is to have a conversation with his priest. After an initial, informal discernment process the potential ordinand and his rector approach the bishop, and a parish discernment committee is gathered together once the bishop agrees a genuine vocation might very well be present.

While meeting with the parish committee in more formal discernment, the would-be ordinand also undergoes medical and psychological testing. As my bishop told me, "All I need to know is: is he nuts, or not nuts?" Once the would-be ordinand ('aspirant') is declared to be mentally and medically sound, and that he has the requisite education needed to attend seminary (a minimum of a Bachelor's degree, in virtually any discipline), it is time to meet with the Diocesan Commission on Ministry, if after several meetings and discussions the parish committee decides officially to recommend the aspirant for ordination.

If the Diocesan Commission agrees to proceed with the aspirant, he is admitted to a period of formal exploration and discernment with them for a minimum of six months, and is now called a 'Postulant.' If after several meetings the Diocesan Commission agrees that a genuine vocation is present, after the requisite time period the Postulant is made a Candidate, and enters into a period of formation and preparation for the priesthood, which again is to take no less than six months.

When the aspirant's postulancy begins, or not long before, he attends seminary, his 'choice' of seminary usually being decided by his bishop. So, in most cases, diocesan discernment and formation are conducted in parallel with the seminarian's formal academic studies. Seminary itself is a three year professional degree, not unlike law school, and combines academic study of the Bible, liturgy, church history, theology (historical and systematic), pastoral methods, etc. Usually, most seminarians are ordained deacon while in their final year of seminary, and are ordained priest a little before or shortly after graduation. But they are only ordained, of course, after passing the dreaded GOEs, or "General Ordination Exams", administered by the National Church.

My own path to ordination to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church, however, bears very little resemblance to the typical process described above. I had completed almost all the seminary training I needed long before I approached the bishop in 2009, and wasn't able to begin my discernment until we returned to the US from England in 2011. After spending a year as both teacher and student at Nashotah House Theological Seminary, meeting with a parish discernment committee all the while, I was finally admitted as a Postulant in May of 2012, the same month I accepted the call to come to St John's as a Licensed Lay Minister.

We arrived at St John's in July 2012 (if you can believe it!), and while ministering among all of you I was simultaneously undergoing further discernment and then preparation with the Diocese of Northern Indiana. I was made a Candidate in February 2013, ordained to the Diaconate in August 2013, and the priesthood this past March. Perhaps the biggest blessing of the whole process was that I was able to avoid taking the national General Ordination Exams, and instead was examined through a series of research essays by the Examining Chaplains of the Diocese of Northern Indiana, several of whom were theology professors at Notre Dame! This enabled me not only to avoid having to travel back to Indiana for an extended period of time, but they also managed to ask me much more difficult and nuanced questions than most ordinands receive. Thankfully, I had the time and resources to craft well-thought out and articulate responses, which were very well received. The rest of the story, you saw for yourself on the evening of March 18, a night for which I'll be forever grateful.

Thank you all for your continued support, and thank you in advance for your patience as I grow into this new ministry.

John 3:16
Bili Brinkworth



Words to	the	only	in	have
Find:	world	begotten	him	everlasting
For	that	Son	should	life.
God	he	that	not	
so	gave	whosoever	perish	
loved	his	believeth	but	



Above: Drew Troxler captivates the children of St. John's with his stories.

Below: Cece Hargrove and Ashlynn Forkner enjoy the Low Sunday Art Day painting birds for the collaborative art piece the children presented to the church in May.



Childhood Education

Written by:
Maryan Harrell
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The St. John's Church School Awards for 2014 were given out on May 18. Two students received Awards for Excellent Attendance, Jackson McClellan and Emiline Baxter. Many children received Memory Achievement Awards, and their names appeared in the Parish Paper. Sixth Grader and newly confirmed Jackson McClellan (pictured) stood out above all others, and was awarded a Special Award for Extraordinary Memory Achievement. Jackson not only memorized all of the required memory work for Confirmation, but also memorized all of the extraordinary memory work. He is the first of our students to achieve this goal. We are very proud of all of our St. John's Church School Students and we encourage their parents to help them achieve their goals since their children's attendance and achievement depends on the faithful support of their parents.



Father Jeremy Bergstrom's Ordination



Pictured: Father Bergstrom, The Rt. Reverend Edward Stuart Little II, George Fawcett, JW Arnsdrorff, Bobbi & Walter Strong, Gay & Sam Inglesby, Steve Branyon & Vonte Abrams

Received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Isabella Elizabeth Gregory
infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Alton Gregory
Saturday, February 1, 2014

Stanley Pierce Pollak
infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Pollak, Jr.
Sunday, February 23, 2014

Asher Button DeLoach
infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Adam Wayne DeLoach
Sunday, April 6, 2014

Mariah Kay Duncan
daughter of John Duncan and Rosanna Sheffield
Saturday, April 26, 2014

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*

Nancy Johnson Pearson
Arthur Herbert Buxton
Harriet Parker Page
Lorton Stoy Livingston
Emily Claire Mello
Col. Harry Raymond Tear, Jr
Robert Emory Hadaway
Mary Oppen Harris

St. Johns VBS

Looking Ahead to Warmer days:

St. John's VBS, "On Eagles' Wings", will be held this July 14-18. Please mark your calendars, and plan to enroll your child, 3 years old (potty trained) to rising Third graders. Older children who have completed the 4 year program may apply to be Junior Helpers. Please contact Maryan Harrell for details. We need lots of volunteer help, beginning during Lent to prepare crafts, and before, during, and after VBS! All are welcome to help.

Coffee Hour Recipe:
Curry Dip for Veggies

from the kitchen of Holly Montford

1 cup of mayonnaise
1 tsp lemon juice
1 tsp curry powder
½ tsp finely chopped onions
1 tsp Worcestershire sauce
½ tsp hot sauce
¼ cup chili sauce
Salt and pepper

Mix well and chill. Serve with fresh vegetables.

United in Holy Matrimony

Casey Durden Branch to Daniel Joseph Moriarty
Saturday, February 15, 2014

Elizabeth Ruth Brodsky to
Morgan Wimbish Murray, Jr.
Saturday, March 1, 2014,

Caitlin Johnson to David Boston Derst
Saturday, April 26, 2014

Emily Caroline Connell to Leslie Alexander French
Saturday, May 3, 2014

Volunteer in the VBS Kitchen!!!

To help these head chefs in the kitchen or
volunteer to bring food please call or email Cathy:
CathyBaxter@Gmail.com 912-704-5111

Monday, July 14: Martha Sullivan

Tuesday, July 15: Star Weed

Wednesday, July 16: Kerri Culver

Thursday, July 17: Ragnild Ezelle & Robbie Culver

Friday, July 18: Barry Crawford

The Men's Club Reports



Written by:
Scott Howard
Men's Club Secretary

The Men of St. John's have continued with our fun and fellowship after a very successful beginning of the year. Following the oyster roast, the Men focused on a revised offering for the annual St. Patrick's Day festivities. We once again raised a generous sum from our parking lot proceeds, coordinated by Rick Wright and his team. Rick originated this idea several years ago and it has proven to be a winner. It remains to be seen whether or not the Men will bring back the annual hot dog sale, after postponing this year. The Men played a significant role in the ordination of Father Bergstrom, as servers and bartenders, and we made sure everyone's "cup runneth over" to celebrate this momentous occasion at St. John's. We also were honored to serve the annual choir breakfast on Easter morning for those who help us make a joyful noise unto the Lord on Easter and throughout the year.

On Mother's Day, to give the ladies a much deserved rest on their special day, the Men hosted Coffee Hour. The annual Golf Tournament at Savannah Harbor took place on Friday, May 16th and was a wonderful afternoon of golf and fellowship. Our final two Men's forum events were held on May 1st and May 8th as we prepared for summer break. But, lest you are still longing for spiritual nourishment, all are invited to join in the weekday Bible study groups on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

As we look forward to summer and next school year, we encourage all fathers, grandfathers, and godfathers to please volunteer for the Dad Squad. This distinguished group of men plays an important role in the lives of our children by leading the Morning Assembly at 9:30am before Church School. If interested in joining the Dad Squad, please reach out to Scott Howard at robert_s_howard@ml.com or 912.598.3811. For other interests or activities, please do not hesitate to contact any of the officers of the Men's Club to get more involved: John Helmken, President, Randy Kulp, Vice President, Holden Hayes, Treasurer, or Scott Howard, Secretary. After all, if you are a man, and you are a member of St. Johns, then you are a member of The Men's Club.



The Parish Picnic was held in Cranmer Hall this year and as always the delicious food and fellowship did not disappoint as shown by the smiles of Emiline Baxter, Brooklynn & Marley Crabb, Robert Howard, and Holden Hayes





*"My Momma Told Me"
her mother told her and her mother told her*

Victorian Church Rules

For Children

No pointing and or staring, and no looking around behind.
No kicking the pew in front of you.
No blowing your nose.
No whispering or talking.
No fidgeting.
No gum or candy.

For Young Women and Women

No bare shoulders
No bare knees
No cleavage
No hand shaking... a polite greetings and a head nod suffice

For Men and Young Men

stand up and exit the pew for ladies to enter
walk behind a lady going up the stairs and in front when descending

At Holy Communion

The 1st communicant kneels directly in front of where the priest with the hosts is standing.
The host is received in the flat palm of the right hand resting on the left hand.
The host is raised to the tongue while remaining on the palm (the fingers NEVER touch the host as it is consecrated).
The host rest gently between the tongue and the roof of the mouth until the wine is offered.
There will be NO chewing of the tiny host.
It will dissolve quickly.
Wait until the person to your left has received before you rise.

Hats and Gloves

I was never taught the rule on hat wearing.
I know both of my grandmothers always wore a hat to church.
Easter may have been the only hat day my mother observed. My mother never wore them regularly to church until late in life.
I would like to invite anyone to share their church traditions and perhaps add what I have left out. God bless to all!

Thanks to Anne Mingledorf for finding and sharing this article!

Don't forget acolytes are still needed over the summer.
Pictured top left: Chris Dixon Bottom left: Jack Wray ensures everyone's glasses are full to toast Jeremy at his ordination.

Next Deadline:
August 22, 2014

The Eagle Editors

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Organization
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Teachers Holly McEllen and Barbara Hubbard smile proudly with this years confirmands.

Pictured Right: A hanging garden flower arrangement. The church flowers were truly magnificent this Easter.

On Eagles' Wings, 2014

St. John's own Vacation Bible School will be held this year beginning July 14 through July 19. Please enroll your child early to reserve a place. The school is open to children three years old (potty training a must) through rising third grade.

Please join the fun as a volunteer. For more information, call Maryan Harrell at the church office, 232-1251. Don't miss out on this St. John's tradition!

