

The Voice



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From the Rector's Desk

St. John in the Wilderness Summer Scholar Program Begins in July in Welcoming The Rev. Dr. William F. Brosend II, PhD



At the heart of what it means to be a follower of Jesus is the constant process of seeking out Christ in the world. We are shaped most especially by our Christian community so that our imaginations might be formed to see the world how God sees it and to love as Christ loves all people. To this end, we engage in worship, study, fellowship, and service as a parish community because salvation is shared through the Church and our formation is best realized in relationship with one another.

With this in mind, the Vestry, Christian Formation Committee, and I are thrilled to announce that we are beginning an exciting new program for this July: the St. John in the Wilderness Summer Scholar Program. The Program was the result of our Vestry Retreat on Zoom earlier this year when we were thinking about the need for quality formation offerings. The idea was intriguing because it also seems to come to us from our past. For nearly 150 years, St. John was a summer parish that welcomed a priest in the warmer months to share the sacraments and proclaim the Gospel. Each summer, we hope to welcome a priest-scholar among us to teach and preach for a time so that we might be shaped more fully into the Body of Christ as we learn and pray with one another.

Our inaugural Summer Scholar will be The Rev. Dr. William "Bill" Brosend, PhD, who will be preaching each Sunday from July 4 to August 1. Dr. Brosend is the current Professor of New Testament at the School of Theology at Sewanee: The University of the South, in Tennessee, where he has been serving in various capacities since 2006. He has especially enjoyed equipping Episcopal seminarians to become better readers of Scripture and more engaging preachers.

(Cont. on page 8)

The Feast of St. John: Celebrating Flat Rock

Join us for the party we have been hoping to have for over a year! We are celebrating the Feast of St. John with live grassroots music on Sunday, June 27, from 5 to 8 p.m. at Hubba Hubba Smokehouse in Flat Rock. See page 7 for more information. Invite your friends and neighbors!

What's Happening at St. John

“Super Shed Sale” coming up - A “Super Shed Sale” sponsored by the ECW will be held on Saturday, June 12, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the shed behind the church office and Parish Hall. The sale will feature home and garden décor, kitchenware, sets of china, office supplies, sports items, jewelry, and artwork.

Due to COVID-19, The Bazaar of 2020 was an online, multi-week event with great success; however, not all items were sold. The “Super Shed Sale” prices are set to clear the shed for spring cleaning. All proceeds will support local charities.

COVID-19 restrictions will be in place, so social distancing and mask wearing will be required inside the building. Plenty of parking is available below the shed. The building is not ADA accessible. For more information, contact Linda Giltner at mynanna7@gmail.com.

Tuesday Summer Enrichment Gathering – The Summer Gathering has returned on Tuesdays in the Wilderness Room. This summer, because of the changes in routine we encountered in 2020, we will be exploring the “Years that Changed History: 1215” led by Dr. Dorsey Armstrong of Purdue University. It gives a brief history of the world a little more than 800 years ago, a world we wouldn't recognize today.

Each session will begin at 5:30 p.m. with light refreshments brought by those attending. At about 6 p.m. we will view a short video followed by a discussion of what we had seen. The gathering will conclude at about 7 p.m. For more information about this program, contact Mike Covell at (828) 242-6816 or mjcovello409@gmail.com.

Gatekeepers really needed! – We are still looking for Sunday Morning gatekeepers. The current three gatekeepers are 80 and older, and time marches on. This is a simple but important way to serve your church one Sunday a month. Instructions are included. Please contact Dick Zecher at rtzech@gmail.com, (828) 808-0169 or (828) 693-8058.

During the past two quarters, the Episcopal Church Women earned more than any other local charity from sales of books, CDs, and DVDs at Books for Good (BFG) in Fletcher. A special Thank You to Susan MacDonald and Jerry and Jan Tanner for all their donations due to recent moves to smaller homes. As there have been so many donations to the BFG box at church recently, please contact Bettie Orr before dropping off any more items so she can tell you what is being accepted right now at BFG. Contact her at (828) 808-9820 or bettieworr@gmail.com.

Every quarter, Amazon sends a donation to Books for Good based on the number of Amazon Smile purchases that designate BFG as the recipient. Each quarter, money earned from Amazon Smile and non-designated donations to BFG is divided between all affiliated charities, including the ECW. Please consider selecting BFG as your charity for Amazon Smile purchases. BFG's website, www.booksforgood.net, has a convenient link.

Welcome to St. John!



Please help us welcome these new members at St. John in the Wilderness.

George Grzenda and BJ McKee are from New Jersey and Virginia via Seattle. They moved here in November.

June Flower Memorials

June 6

In loving memory of Margarita Fitzsimons, Mather Fitzsimons, Frank and Millie Fitzsimons, and Candy Priest
By Hank, Dunk, Pam, and Mindy

June 13

Open

June 20

In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dethero and Carter Dethero
By David L. Dethero

June 27

In loving memory of Joan Kingsley
By Lisa Kingsley and Gaston and Nelson Motes



Coffee Hour Restarting June 13

And we need people to host them.



With the easing of Covid restrictions, the much-enjoyed coffee hour after Sunday services is returning! From June 13 until the end of September, we can enjoy a beverage and snack after worship outside the Carriage Entrance. We welcome the return of this informal opportunity for the fellowship we all enjoy – *and* it is also an important way we as a church and as individuals connect with visitors, new members, and our parish family.

The Welcome Ministry at St. John needs people in our parish family who will help continue this important tradition, and hosting coffee time is easy. Almost all the items needed for the Coffee Hour are stored in cabinets at the church. Detailed instructions are provided. Please volunteer for just one Sunday this year – your help is needed and valued.

Contact Judy Petersen at (828) 697-1967 or jpsewnsew@aol.com for more information or to sign up.

June Birthdays

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Bess Lee | 11 Bridget Swing | |
| 2 Becky Goodman | 12 Stephen Franks | |
| 3 Hal Reid | 12 Faith Lee | |
| 5 David Christenbury | 13 Joe Kovaz | 22 Marlin Sanders |
| 5 Jackie Hornsby | 17 Tom Green | 24 Mary Edwards |
| 5 Tommy Vellanti | 17 Janet Smith | 24 Susan Dobson |
| 6 Ginny MacNeil | 18 Tom Bullard | 25 Alan Ward |
| 6 Ian Macpherson | 19 Cathryn Harrell | 25 Peter Fricke |
| 6 Skip Phillips | 20 Newell Doty | 25 Sandra Jeffery |
| 7 Dale Llewelyn | 20 Bettie Orr | 26 Katherine Gee |
| 7 Gibson Sims | 21 John Ball | 28 Robin Howe |
| 8 Nelson Motes | 21 Lucy Pharr | 29 Rosanna Couture |
| | | 29 Matthew Bullard |



The Younger Voice

Happy Summer to everyone! Although the official start of summer isn't until June 21, the ending of school and the hot days are inviting us to celebrate a new season of life. We had a wonderful May with the confirmation of nine of our youth. We also enjoyed joining in on the May Holy Hike at Green River Preserve. Thank you, Sandy and Missy, for welcoming us all so warmly and for the wonderful, guided walk where we learned so much about this beautiful part of God's creation that we live in.

Speaking of celebrating God's creation, we are looking forward to hosting Wild Wonder Creation Care Camp this year at church from Monday, June 14, to Friday, June 18. We invite all children and grandchildren ages 4 to 10 to come for a week of learning and worship between 9 a.m. and 12 noon as we talk about all of God's creation, including us!

I will leave you with our verse for Wild Wonder as you all get out and enjoy these summer days.

"What a wildly wonderful world, God! You made it all, with wisdom at your side, you made earth overflow with your wonderful creations." Psalm 104:25

Mary Anne



Wild Wonder Camp for Kids and Grandkids Coming in June



Please join us for a time of exploring God's love expressed to us in His wonderful Creation. We will be blending faith, science, and curiosity all together as we learn about our place in caring for this amazing world we live in. Covid -19 guidelines will be followed. We will be mostly outside, but for the few times we're inside, we will wear face masks.

June 14-18 2021

9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Ages 4-10

at St. John in the Wilderness

Flat Rock, North Carolina

To register, visit bit.ly/creationcare2021.

Friends of Music Present Accent on Youth II Virtual Concert



Three student musicians from Furman University with Dewitt Tipton, Organist and Music Director at St. John, offer to the congregation and community the next Friends of Music virtual concert, "Accent on Youth II." The 50-minute production will premiere on YouTube on Sunday, June 6, at 7 p.m. The free showing will remain available afterwards indefinitely. You may view it at bit.ly/FOMYouth2.

The student performers include tenors Micah Arms and Matthew Gavilanez and baritone John Potvin accompanied by Tipton on the piano. They sing solo selections from composers George Butterworth, Ralph Vaughn Williams and Roger Quilter. The finale features all three singers together performing a Cole Porter favorite from "Kiss Me, Kate."

Tipton directed the production with video photography by Eduard Wiescholek and Joey Popp as producer and editor. The concert was filmed on location at St. John in the Wilderness.

This production follows the initial virtual concert recorded in February by other Furman musicians featuring chamber music. The concert is still available for viewing by visiting the church's YouTube channel. In November 2019, the first "Accent on Youth" concert featured tenor Alexander Harrelson from Davidson College with a live performance inside the Parish Hall.

Contributions are being accepted to the "Friends of Music Fund" by donating online at stjohnflatrock.org/donate-now. Checks can be sent to St. John in the Wilderness, PO Box 185, Flat Rock, NC 28731. Please include FOM in the memo line.

Studies in Stewardship

Baring Society Update

The Baring Society is the name of the legacy society for St. John in the Wilderness. Started in 2019, members of the Baring Society are those who have named St. John in the Wilderness in their will or other estate documents and have notified the rector thereof. Baring Society members will convene for a special celebration on Friday, August 20. If you are a member and do not receive an email to save the date, please reach out to Leslie Stott in our office.

The idea of sharing one's estate with the church is tied deeply to our understanding of Stewardship. All the good things that we have are gifts from God. Our money and other possessions are not meant simply to fill our needs or comforts, but to be tools through which we glorify God and share in the work of proclaiming Christ to the world. In life, we give away at least 10 percent of our income to God's glory, but also we hope to continue to testify to God's goodness and generosity in death. By taking the time to make arrangements prayerfully and legally for our loved ones and our church after we die, we are able to continue this work even once we have departed this earthly life. Please consider updating your will to include St. John in the Wilderness.

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June Hike



Join Catherine and Joey Popp on Tuesday, June 15, for a Holy Hike at Pink Beds in the Pisgah National Forest. The five-mile loop hike is ideal for beginner and moderate hikers as there is little elevation change. As we start, a short distance away are wooden walkways across swampy ponds, with a resemblance to the low country rather than the higher mountains. The sights are wonderful, and there is plenty of shade in the forest that could be ideal on a warm day. Pink Beds is named for the

twisting rhododendron and mountain laurel. Hopefully, we will visit during the time when the beautiful blooms are at their peak. Nearby is the Cradle of Forestry Discovery Center in case you want to take in a visit afterwards.

The hike will begin at 10 a.m. Along the way, we will stop for Fr. Josh to lead us in Morning Prayer. Please pack a snack. Parking is free and available just beyond the Cradle of Forestry on US 276. Turn right into the Pink Beds parking lot and we'll gather there.

For directions from St. John (47 minutes away - 31 miles) go to bit.ly/pinkbedsnc. The destination is the Cradle of Forestry; the Pink Beds parking lot is just north.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

The ECW is emerging from this long winter of discontent with energy and anticipation. We look forward to reuniting with everyone at church, and through social and service activities.

The first **Chef's Breakfast** since February 2020 occurred on Sunday, May 2. The Chefs outshone themselves, providing many culinary treats. Several women of ECW provided the finishing touches, decorating the tables with vases of fresh flowers. Thanks to Elaine Harris, Elizabeth Christenbury, and Vickie Taylor for their lovely additions to the day. The Chefs also floated the idea of a collaborative breakfast combining the talents of the Chefs and ECW. Look for more details to follow!

Next, you should be aware of a novel event set to take place on June 12. A "**Super Shed Sale**" will be held Saturday, June 12, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the shed behind the church office and Parish Hall. The fundraiser features home and garden décor, kitchenware, sets of china, office supplies, sports items, jewelry, and artwork. As you may remember, because of COVID-19, the Bazaar of 2020 was an online, multi-week effort. It met with great success; however, not all items were sold. Now, in the words of local car dealers, "Everything Must Go!" The "Super Shed Sale" prices are set to clear the shed for spring cleaning.

For any of you who have ever visited or worked in the shed, you will understand what a monumental task it will be to empty the shed prior to doing necessary repairs. Your help in reducing the inventory is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I'd like to ask you all to reflect upon your past ECW experience to identify any service or fellowship efforts that were particularly meaningful and enjoyable. We have a new year before us, at least six more months, and I would hope we could enjoy some activities as the world opens! Please let me know your thoughts.

Blessings, peace, and good health!
Kathy Newbold, Coordinator

The Feast of St. John: Celebrating Flat Rock on June 27, 5:00-8:30 p.m.



St. John in the Wilderness and Flat Rock have stories that are intertwined from their earliest days. The founders of the Village and the first members of the parish were often one and the same. Over the decades, both parish and village have grown up and changed, but the connection between St. John and Flat Rock is undeniable. As a parish community, we are overwhelmed with gratitude at the beauty and wonder of this place when we look at Flat Rock and the people who call it home.

To express our gratitude, St. John would like to offer a gift to Flat Rock and the larger Henderson County community this year. The feast day of our patron saint, St. John the Baptist, is in the last week of June each year. This year, we are inviting you -- our friends and neighbors -- in Flat Rock and beyond to celebrate with us on **Sunday, June 27, from 5 to 8 p.m. Join us for live music, food, and a good time at Hubba Hubba Smokehouse. Local grassroots band,**

Pretty Little Goat, will be setting the mood. Entry is free. BBQ and drinks will be available for purchase at Hubba Hubba. Bring your own chairs and invite friends and neighbors. Especially after the year we have all had, please join us to celebrate this incredible place we call home and to reconnect with one another.

The Feast of St. John: Celebrating Flat Rock with Live Music and Good Times!

When: Sunday, June 27, 5 to 8 p.m. (music starts at 6 p.m.)

Where: Hubba Hubba Smokehouse located on Little Rainbow Row in Flat Rock

Who: Everyone is invited! Yard games for kids!

Featuring: Live Music from Pretty Little Goat

Cost: Free entry. Purchase food and drink at Hubba Hubba

Seating: Limited seating available at Hubba Hubba so bring your own chairs.

Guest Preacher on June 13: The Rev. Becky McDaniel



I am pleased to announce that Rev. Becky McDaniel will be preaching at both services on June 13. Mother Becky is currently the Chaplain to St. Catherine's School, an Episcopal boarding and day school for girls in Richmond, VA, and the Priest Associate at St. James the Less in Ashland, VA. Originally from Blacksburg, VA, Becky has degrees from the University of Virginia, Virginia Tech, and The School of Theology at The University of the South (Sewanee, TN). She feels particularly called to the ministry of healing through contemplative practices, having taught yoga and meditation since 2003, including owning and operating a yoga studio in Blacksburg. Becky is married to Matt and their family includes Aiden (15), Laura (14), Ivy (12) and Lilly (11). She is a good friend of mine and she is looking forward to being at St. John in the Wilderness on June 13. Please welcome her warmly.

-- Fr. Josh Stephens, Rector

From the Rector's Desk *(Cont. from page 1)*

He has also served as the Executive Director of the Episcopal Preaching Foundation. I came to know Dr. Brosend as his student at Sewanee while in seminary. His sermons have inspired me, and his classes have informed my ministry in many ways. We also had the privilege of traveling to Cuba together in 2015 where Dr. Brosend taught sessions at the ecumenical seminary in Matanzas that included Episcopal students headed towards ordained ministry on the island or elsewhere in the Caribbean.

Dr. Brosend is excited to get to know St. John in the Wilderness and our lovely village as well as the surrounding area during his time here. He will be staying at one of Flat Rock's original homes, the Rutledge Cottage, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, Missy and Sandy Schenck. Of his upcoming time at St. John, Dr. Brosend has said:

I am delighted by the invitation to spend the month of July with the parish and the community! While the sermons are only beginning to percolate in the back of my mind, the lectionary for this summer invites us to focus on David, from shepherd boy to conquering hero and king, to the philandering, unindicted co-conspirator in the death of Uriah and progenitor of the most dysfunctional biblical family since Jacob. Should be fun! While I am in Flat Rock I will be working on a book, *Parable: a Commentary on the Stories of Jesus*, to be published by Baker Academic Press in 2022. I hope we will have a couple of opportunities each week to talk about the parables, and also to talk about parish life, ministry, and the future of the church -- both yours and in The Episcopal Church more broadly. Those conversations will enrich my writing, and inform my teaching when I get back to the School of Theology in Sewanee.

In addition to preaching at both services on Sunday, Dr. Brosend will be offering formation classes open to all ages on the Parables of Jesus. He will offer a session between services (10:05-10:45) each Sunday in the Wilderness Room and on Thursday evenings with dinner at 5:30pm and class from 6:00-7:00pm. Jesus offers us many parables, so each class will be unique. Join me in welcoming Dr. Brosend this July!

Learn More About Our Summer Scholar

B.A., DENISON UNIVERSITY; M.DIV., VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL; PH.D., UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO DIVINITY SCHOOL

The Rev. Dr. William Brosend is Professor of New Testament at the School of Theology. A priest of the Diocese of Kentucky, he came to The Episcopal Church after more than 20 years of parish ministry and seminary teaching in the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A. Prior to his appointment at the School of Theology, he served as Associate Director of the Louisville Institute, a program of the Religion Division of the Lilly Endowment, Inc. While at Sewanee, he has served as Director of the seminary's Advanced Degrees Program, launching the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching track, and as Executive Director of the Episcopal Preaching Foundation.

In addition to many articles, reviews, and book chapters, Dr. Brosend is the author and co-author of five books, including *James and Jude* (Cambridge University Press) and *The Preaching of Jesus* (Westminster John Knox Press). Recent publications include *The Homiletical Question: an introduction to liturgical preaching* (Cascade Books) and *Preaching Truth in the Age of Alternative Facts* (Abingdon Press). Brosend's current project is *Parable: a commentary on the stories of Jesus*, Baker Academic Press, 2021.

Parish Register

Deaths: Tom Books, Tom Head

The Rev. Josh Stephens
Rector

The Rev. Dn. Charles Rex
Deacon

Leslie Stott, *Parish Office
Administrator*

Stacy Knapp, *Parish
Financial Assistant*

Dewitt Tipton, *Organist
and Director of Music*

Kevin Hunt, *Sexton*

Mary Anne Inglis, *Youth
and Families Coordinator*

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Visit us on the Web at
www.stjohnflatrock.org

Vestry

Jennifer Shelton
Senior Warden

Jerry Tanner
Junior Warden

Tom Griswold
Treasurer

Margaret Barker
Clerk

Janet Johnson, Shelley
Schiro, Cynthia Easterling,
Terry Enslin, Marie
Hyder, Dick Zecher,
Gibson Sims, John Barker,
Elizabeth Christenbury,
Lynn Wiescholek

Vestry minutes are posted
on our website at
www.stjohnflatrock.org

Deadline for *The Voice* is the
15th of each month. Email items
to your editor, Leslie Stott, at
officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.or
g or deliver them to the
Church Office.

Parish Breakfast



June 6, 2021 | 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Parish Hall between the services

**Bacon, sausage, eggs, grits, gravy, fruit salad,
potatoes, biscuits, and juice/coffee/tea**

Plus waffles

All this for \$6/person or \$12/family!

**For planning purposes, please sign up at
bit.ly/june21breakfast.**

Studies in Stewardship *(Cont. from page 5)*

Kevin and His Pick-Up Truck



No, this title is not the beginning
of a country song!

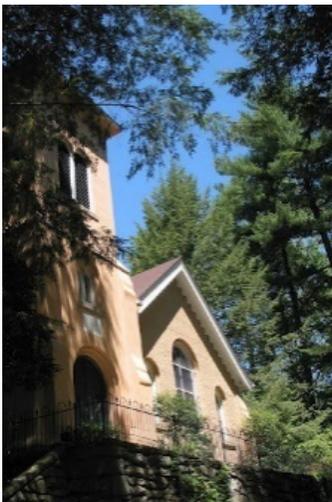
The Vestry would like to let you
know that Kevin's little white
pick-up truck is on its last leg
and needs to be replaced this
year. If you have a work truck
that you would like to donate,

please contact Jerry Tanner to see if your truck might fit what we are
looking for. Or, if you would like to make an extra gift to help us
purchase one, then please get in touch with Fr. Josh. We are grateful
for Kevin's ministry and for your generosity so we can support him
in his work. Thank you!

Stewardship Committee Working on 2022

In June, our Stewardship Committee is meeting to begin planning
our 2022 theme for Stewardship. We hope to share it with you in
September and to have a celebration as we gather in our pledges and
prayers this fall. Our *Preparing the Way* campaign for 2021 was
successful thanks to you. We are thankful for all the gifts you share
with this parish church.

Bishop's Visitation May 16, 2021



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday (Registration required for in-person worship)

8:45 a.m. Rite Two Eucharist (In-person and live streamed)
11:00 a.m. Rite Two Eucharist (In-person)

Monday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. Online Morning Prayer (Live streamed)

Wednesday

4:30 p.m. Evening Prayer (In the Wilderness Room. Bring your mask and *Book of Common Prayer*.)

Our Mission Statement

To know and love God as He is revealed to us in Jesus Christ, to bring others to His saving love, and to serve the world in His name.