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**The deadline for The  
Voice is the 15th of  
each month.**

Email submissions to  
[officeadmin@  
stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org)  
or deliver them to the  
church office.

# The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness



# THE VOICE

April 2022

## Our Lenten Journey So Far

1. Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM teaching us about the Rule of St. Benedict.
2. Sr. Hannah, CSM giving a talk on Benedictine hospitality.
3. Stephen and Patricia Askew teaching on pilgrimage and El Camino de Santiago.
4. Sr. Elizabeth, CSM discussing Benedictine humility.



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## BENEDICTINE HOSPITALITY

Sr. Hannah Winkler, CSM



Sister Hannah, CSM

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## From the Rector's Desk

### *The Past Becomes Present in Holy Week, and We Are Saved*

Holy Week begins outdoors. We gather at the Carriage Entrance with palms in our hands as shouts of jubilation spring forth from our lips: "Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!" It is there, on those steps, that this prayer is said to begin our journey:

*Assist us mercifully with your help, O Lord God of our salvation, that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts, whereby you have given us life and immortality; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP, pg 271)*

Through the powerful liturgies of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, we are able to contemplate deeply upon God's intervention in our world and in our lives. Here the *Book of Common Prayer* doesn't speak of contemplation as simply thinking about something. We believe these liturgies somehow make Christ's saving acts present to us again. Like Jews who gather for the Seder and eat that Passover meal while standing up just as their ancestors did before the Exodus, so we believe that Christ's last meal, his crucifixion, burial, and resurrection are present to us when we tell his story, eat his food, stand at the foot of his cross, and discover the one whom the tomb could not hold.

The journey nears for us this month. Indeed, God is very close. Let us enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby we have been given life and immortality.

In Christ,  
**Fr. Josh+**

## Parish Breakfast

**Sunday, April 3, from 9 to 10:30am**

Join us for a Parish Breakfast hosted by the Chefs of St. John, who will serve bacon, sausage, eggs, grits, gravy, fruit salad, potatoes, biscuits, waffles, and juice/coffee/tea. The cost for the breakfast is \$6/person or \$12/family. Please sign up at [www.bit.ly/BreakfastApril2022](http://www.bit.ly/BreakfastApril2022) by Wednesday, March 30, to aid in planning. We hope to see you there!



## Readers in the Wilderness

**First Fridays at 10am in the Library**

### April 1: *Hamnet*

by Maggie O'Farrell

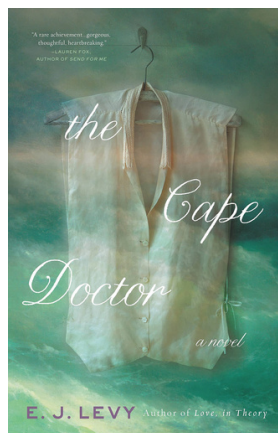
In 1580s England, during the Black Plague, a young Latin tutor (Wm. Shakespeare) falls in love with an extraordinary, eccentric young woman in this "exceptional historical novel." This book is a luminous portrait of a marriage, a shattering evocation of a family ravaged by grief and loss, and a tender and unforgettable re-imagining of a boy whose life has been all but forgotten, and whose name was given to one of the most celebrated plays of all time.



### May 6: *The Cape Doctor*

by E.J. Levy

Beginning in Cork, Ireland, the novel recounts Jonathan Mirandus Perry's journey from daughter to son in order to enter medical school and provide for family, but Perry soon embraced the new-found freedom of living life as a man. From brilliant medical student in Edinburgh and London to eligible bachelor and quick-tempered physician in Cape Town, Dr. Perry thrived. When he befriended the aristocratic Cape Governor, the doctor rose to the pinnacle of society, before the two were publicly accused of a homosexual affair that scandalized the colonies and nearly cost them their lives. E. J. Levy's enthralling novel, inspired by the life of Dr. James Miranda Barry, brings this captivating character vividly alive.



## An Update from the Outreach Committee

2022 is off to a great start for outreach at St. John in the Wilderness! One of the goals of the Outreach is to share our time, talent, and treasure with our community and beyond. St. John has always been very generous with our treasure, which continues to be a blessing, and we are excited to share that one goal for this year is to expand on the Outreach Committee's previous work by including more opportunities for the parish to share their time and talent.

At the last Outreach Committee meeting, we allocated funds to the following agencies:

- **Camplify:** \$500
- **Children and Family Resource Center:** \$1,000
- **Edneyville Community Food Pantry:** \$2,000
- **Free Clinics:** \$500
- **Hendersonville Rescue Mission:** \$2,000
- **Interfaith Assistance Ministry:** \$2,000
- **Pisgah Legal Services (housing assistance for a family):** \$1,100
- **Safelight:** \$2,000
- **St. Gerard House:** \$500
- **Thrive:** \$500
- **Moldova World Children's Fund:** \$1,700

We also want to thank everyone who contributed items to the "Souper" Bowl collection for Interfaith Assistance Ministries and to everyone who donated school supplies for homeless students in Henderson County Public Schools. We collected over 800 pounds of food and 27 backpacks full of school supplies, which is astounding. Thank you all for your generosity.

If you are interested in joining the Outreach Committee or leading a project, please do not hesitate to contact Jennifer Shelton or the Parish Office. The Outreach Committee meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 4pm.

## Easter Flower Memorials

If there is a special person in your life you want to honor on Easter or to remember in a memorial tribute, please consider a flower offering. Envelopes are available at the church and in the office. Please fill out the information on the front of the envelope, enclose your donation, and drop it in the collection plate, bring it to the office, or mail it to PO Box 185, Flat Rock, NC 28731, by Monday, April 11.





From left: Lynn Wiescholek, Arlo Stephens, Cora Fitzpatrick, Wilder Stephens, Joey Saltz, and Hugh Fitzpatrick.

## Children's Sunday School is Back!

Children ages four through ten are invited to join a new Sunday School class led by Lynn Wiescholek. The class meets on Sundays in the Education Wing of the Parish House during formation hour.

Our curriculum is The Kids' Compass, which emphasizes wellness for ourselves, our home, and our great community. The four areas of study are:

- Health - handling relationships and emotions
- Strength - stress resilience; caring for the body
- Mind - school; organization
- Soul - spirituality and play

In the future, a Children's Choir may be developed out of this exciting venture to include the children in the rich music at our church services. Additionally, this new class will be studying and working with the older youth group under the direction of Mary Anne Inglis.

The children, families, and Lynn are thrilled to engage with each other and God through devotions, prayer, Bible study, offertory opportunities, hands-on activities, reading, music, creative play, discussion, sharing, and the celebration of special events (e.g., birthdays, exciting family news, etc.). Healthy snacks and drinks are offered, and each class ends with a closing prayer and clean-up time. Join in the fun as we experience God's love in new ways each week!

## A Note of Gratitude from Voices for Youth Carol Rector

On behalf of Voices for Youth (a community-based committee working to help children and families who are in need), I would like to thank all parishioners who so generously helped with a number of fundraisers, from diapers for the Adolescent Parenting Program at the Children and Family Resource Center, to a toy drive for Big Brothers Big Sisters, to school supplies and backpacks for homeless kids. Without your support and that of Fr. Josh and the Outreach Committee, none of this would have been possible. You are making a difference in the lives of children and families. Blessings.



HENDERSON COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## Volunteers Needed for Wild Wonder: Creation Care Camp for Kids

**Monday, June 20 through Friday, June 24**  
**9am to 12pm daily**

We are looking forward to having Wild Wonder: Creation Care Camp for Kids at St. John in the Wilderness again this summer! We are in need of a few adult volunteers to help with our "Daily Feast" and other daily activities. If you are interested and available, please contact Mary Anne Inglis (maryanne.inglis@gmail.com).



Information about signing up as a participant coming soon!

## The April Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of:

### April 10 (Palm Sunday)

Alice and Wick Andrews,  
Lawrence and Betty Lee,  
and Larry Lee  
*by their family*

### April 17 (Easter Sunday)

Wick Andrews  
*by his wife, Martha,  
and family*

### April 24

Vickey Livingston Shaw  
*by Francis and Cal McKeekin*  
  
Doris, Earl, Mark, and Pat  
*by Candace Lewis*







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### Mardi Gras in the Wilderness

1. Traditional King Cake prepared by Karen Conley.
2. ER Haire and Will Rodriguez serving as our barkeeps for the evening.
3. The Fitzpatrick family embracing the Mardi Gras spirit at the photo booth. Abby Stephens and Eduard Wiescholek took pictures.

4. Good food and even better fellowship!
5. Lynn Wiescholek and Gibson Sims sporting beads.
6. Jerry and Jan Tanner all decked out for the photo booth. Jerry will tell you that Mardi Gras truly began in Mobile, Alabama.

### Backpack Program Presents Empty Bowls

**Sunday, April 24, at 12:30, 5:00, & 6:00pm  
in the Parish Hall**

For the fifth year, local pottery artists are firing their kilns to help hungry children in the greater Flat Rock area. On Sunday, April 24, Empty Bowls, a community meal benefiting the Flat Rock Backpack Program, will take place inside the Parish Hall at SJW. There are three seatings with suggested reservations at 12:30pm, 5pm, and 6pm.

Tickets are \$25 per person or \$50 for a family of two adults and children under 12 years old. Each ticket includes one hand-crafted bowl (all donated by area potters) and a soup-based meal (a variety of soups, breads, and desserts).

Tickets are now available for purchase at the Parish House Office or from Backpack team members. They can also be purchased at the door on the day of the event. For more information, call 828-693-9783. Credit cards are accepted; checks should be made out to St. John in the Wilderness noting Empty Bowls. Updated COVID-19 restrictions will be in place, and carry-out will be available for those who wish to dine elsewhere.

### About the Backpack Program

The Flat Rock Backpack Program began in 2008 when parishioner Debby Staton learned that some Henderson County students were deemed "nutritionally deprived" at their homes on the weekend. Debby pulled together a team, and together they partnered with MANNA Packs for Kids to provide food to students in our area who need it. The Backpackers are a totally volunteer group, and their funding comes from grants, private donations, and fundraisers like Empty Bowls, which provides the majority of their financial support.



*All ticketholders are able to pick out one bowl to keep from a wide array of pottery created by local artists.*



## Holy Week and Easter at St. John in the Wilderness

### *Palm Sunday - April 10 at 8:45 and 11am*

#### *From shouts of "Hosanna" to "Crucify Him"*

Rite II Eucharists with the Passion Narrative according to St. Luke will begin outside with the Blessing of Palms, after which we will process into the church.

### *Maundy Thursday - April 14 at 7pm*

#### *"Lord, are you going to wash my feet?"*

We will begin the service with the celebration of the Eucharist. Following the gospel and the homily, the service continues with the ceremony of foot washing. At the end of the service, the altar is stripped and all decorative furnishings are removed from the church in preparation for the bare altar on Good Friday.

### *Gethsemane Watch - April 14 and 15*

#### *"Can you stay awake for just one hour?"*

After the Maundy Thursday service ends, you are invited to stay in the church to pray. On this night, we try to do what the disciples could not on the night before Jesus was crucified: stay awake for one hour and pray. The goal is to have at least one person keeping vigil the entire night, starting at the end of the Maundy Thursday service. Sign up for a shift at [www.bit.ly/GethsemaneWatch](http://www.bit.ly/GethsemaneWatch).

### *Good Friday - April 15 - "Were you there?"*

**11am:** We commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus beginning with the Stations of the Cross. Meet in the Parish Hall parking lot.

**12 and 5:30pm:** Good Friday services will be held in the church. There is no Eucharist on Good Friday.

**1 until 4pm:** The Veneration of the Cross will take place in the church. A large wooden cross will be brought forth and placed in the sight of the people, who are invited to spend time with the cross in devotion.

### *Easter Sunday - April 17 - "He is Risen!"*

**8:45 and 11am:** Rite II Eucharists will take place in the church as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

**10 until 11am:** Please join us in the Rector's Garden for our annual Easter Egg Hunt!



## The New Church Truck Has Arrived!

After many months of waiting due to supply chain issues, St. John in the Wilderness has purchased a 2022 Nissan Frontier to assist Kevin in his sexton duties. Thank you to all who assisted: Jim Gibbs, Tom Griswold, Gibson Sims, Jerry Tanner, and those who made special donations towards the purchase of the truck. Huge thanks, also, goes to Debby Staton, who allowed Kevin to use her truck as needed while the church did not have one. Finally, thank you to each of you who donate to St. John. This would not have been possible without you.





# St. John Bowls for Kids' Sake

*Joey Popp, Parishioner and  
BBBS of WNC Board Member*

Once again, our church stepped to the plate to raise funds for Big Brothers Big Sisters of WNC during the annual "Bowl for Kids' Sake" held at Tarheel Lanes in Hendersonville on Saturday, March 5. St. John in the Wilderness was also one of the event's 12 sponsors this year.

Bigs, Littles, and supporters united with this year's theme to "Bowl for the Future," with many participants showing up in costume. At least 20 parishioners either bowled or donated to raise almost \$1,500 from St. John in the Wilderness. The church fielded three teams, and was acknowledged for the "most money raised" by a team.

The overall goal among the 18 counties serving Western North Carolina was \$100,000, and BBBS expected to exceed that amount. The campaign continued through March, and as of March 28 had raised over \$129,000.

Every dollar raised supports BBBS of WNC's mission to create and support one-to-one mentoring relationships that ignite the power and promise of youth. BBBS selects and matches mentors with children facing adversity and provides ongoing activities, training, and support services for both families and volunteers to foster a lasting and beneficial connection. This support facilitates academic improvement, personal growth, development of life skills, and improved self-confidence for Littles as well as enriching the lives of Bigs. As this year's event theme suggests, the Big-Little relationship provides the Little with the support necessary to have a bright, successful future.

If you would like more information about becoming a Big, please reach out to Erin Erickson (erine@bbbswnc.org) or visit [www.bbbswnc.org](http://www.bbbswnc.org).



*From left: Candace Lewis, Suess Gunter, Julianna Savage (kneeling) Laura Shelton, Jeff Gunter, Gary German, Mary Shelton, Morgan Harris (BBBS Grants & Events Manager), and Joey Popp*



*From left: Jeff and Suess Gunter, Candace Lewis, Julianna Savage, Laura and Mary Shelton, Gary German, Elizabeth Christenbury, Dn. Joyce Beschta, and Kathy Newbold*

# APRIL BIRTHDAYS



2 Kim Sanders	10 Mary Boys	16 Charlie Liberto	25 Sandy MacNeil
2 Arlo Stephens	11 Paul Robinson	17 Sara Kester	25 Jennifer Shelton
3 Jeff Adams	11 Jim Gibbs	17 Mary Anne Inglis	26 John Castline
4 Jeff Gunter	12 Danny White	19 Martha Moreno	26 Caroline Ericksen
4 Mark Owen	12 Jill Owen	19 Jim Wagner	26 Alexandra Bochynek
4 Vicky Bochynek	13 David Dethero	21 Tommy Newell	27 Halina Bochynek
6 Lynn Wiescholek	13 Mia Schiro	21 Anne Hobbs	27 Katja Edgar
6 Margaret Barker	15 Jan Knapp	21 Chad Melton	28 Marcelene Plati
8 Alex King	16 Galen Reuther	23 Charlotte Lockhart	29 Hollis Green
			30 Arnold Smith
			30 Bill Gordon

*Don't see your birthday here? That means we don't have a record of it!*

*Please email Sarah at [officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org) to update your information.*



## ECW Mission House Resale Shop Asks for Volunteers

**Lynn Wiescholek**

You may recall that the ECW Bazaar is taking on a different form in 2022 by becoming a resale shop. If you are interested in exploring this new venture, please email Lynn Wiescholek (edlynn344@gmail.com). This is possibly the new direction God has chosen for an interesting challenge.

Men, women, and children, you are welcome to submit your name to be considered for a team bound to fulfill God's work in our greater community. Lynn is thrilled to receive your request.



**Join Us On Our  
Next Hike on  
Tuesday, April 12!**

*More information coming soon at  
[www.stjohnflatrock.org/upcoming-hike](http://www.stjohnflatrock.org/upcoming-hike)*

## Scenes from Our Last Holy Hike at Falling Creek Camp - March 27



*The topic for this season's Tuesday Night Gathering is  
"A History of Eastern Europe"*

## Tuesday Night Gathering to Return This Spring

**Tuesday, May 17, at 5:30pm in the Wilderness Room**

Tuesday Night Gatherers: now that you've sprung forward, mark your calendars for another seasonal highlight! Our first session of 2022 will be on May 17 at 5:30pm in the Wilderness Room. (Given how late Easter Sunday falls in 2022, we're starting before Pentecost this year.) This season, our very timely subject is "A History of Eastern Europe."

For those not familiar with our format: we share a potluck dinner prior to watching a Great Courses video from our chosen course. We then discuss what we've learned. Great Courses lecturers have been chosen not just for their knowledge, but for their excellent presentation style. It's informative, it's fun, and the food is always terrific. If you've not been before, do give us a try.

Questions? Call or email Polly Morrice (713-206-1036; [pamorrice@att.net](mailto:pamorrice@att.net)).

## Calling All Communicators!

The Communications and Publicity Committee of St. John in the Wilderness exists to spread the word about events happening in the parish to the wider community. We generate news releases and target communications for area print and broadcast media, and assist in managing the church's social media pages.

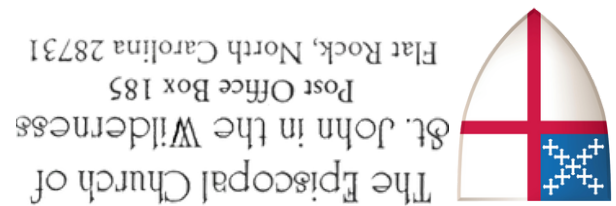


If you have any gifts in this arena (writers, copyeditors, photographers, those passionate about hanging flyers, etc.) and are interested in joining our team, please email Joey Popp ([media@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:media@stjohnflatrock.org)), committee chair.

## Help Us Share the Story

If you take a photo at any St. John in the Wilderness event, please send it to [officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org) to help us share all the good things happening in our parish.





## The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness

The Rev. Josh Stephens  
*Rector*

The Rev. Dn. Charles Rex  
*Deacon*

Sarah Yeargin  
*Director of Parish Communication  
& Administration*

Stacy Knapp  
*Parish Financial Assistant*

Dewitt Tipton  
*Organist and Director of Music*

Kevin Hunt  
*Sexton*

### **Vestry**

Jennifer Shelton  
*Senior Warden*

Gibson Sims  
*Junior Warden*

Tom Griswold  
*Treasurer*

Margaret Barker  
*Clerk*

Dick Zecher, John Barker, Elizabeth  
Christenbury, Lynn Wiescholak, E.R.  
Haire, Jr., Clint Adams, Will Rodriguez,  
Marisa Pharr, Kim Sanders



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### **Sunday**

8:45am - Rite I Eucharist (in person & live-streamed)

11:00am - Rite I Eucharist (in person)

*We use Rite I liturgy during Lent and Advent and  
Rite II during the rest of the year.*

### **Monday through Thursday**

9:00am - Morning Prayer (live-streamed on Facebook)

### **Wednesday**

10:30am - Healing Service in the Wilderness Room

4:30pm - Evening Prayer in the Wilderness Room

## 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.

828-693-9783

[www.stjohnflatrock.org](http://www.stjohnflatrock.org)  
[officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org](mailto:officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org)

