

The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness

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

Email submissions to
officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org
or deliver them to the church office.



THE VOICE

October 2022

From the Rector's Desk

Come Together This Month for Joy

As part of our Stewardship Drive, a longtime parishioner named David Dethero recently shared before Sunday services about how much St. John in the Wilderness has meant to him over the decades. He reminded us that our Stewardship theme is **Together for Joy** and then he said that the key to our theme this year is "joy." David shared that he has found something special in this community that fills him with a deep and resounding joy. I would like to add to his remarks a smart-aleck quip: "It's as if God is involved!"

I would very much like you to know that each Sunday as we worship, I am also overwhelmed by joy and gratitude for getting to share life with you at St. John. It's not that everything is "perfect" all of the time – I know certainly I'm not, and neither is this Church. It's just that being together in song and sacrament, in fellowship and formation, gives me a joy that I cannot produce on my own. It fills me with gratitude no matter what is going on in my life. It's as if God is involved!

Please join us this month as we come **Together for Joy** with all kinds of special gatherings. Our Stewardship Ingathering is Sunday, October 16. We hope you will pledge by that day so we can bless the pledges in worship and finish planning our budget for next year. We will worship outside at 11:00 that morning at Camp Kanuga followed by our Fall Fellowship Festival with hamburgers, hot dogs, a cash bar, canoeing, live music, face-painting, and more. Signing up and paying ahead of time is required (see below). We also hope you'll join us for the Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 2 at 4pm in the back parking lot. The ECW then invites the women of the church for a fall retreat on Friday, October 7 (sign-up ahead of time). We also have a

Holy Hike on Sunday, October 23, in the afternoon which friends and neighbors are invited to attend.

Surely God is involved and has brought us Together for Joy again this month! I am grateful for each of you.

~ Fr. Josh Stephens+

Please turn in your pledge by October 16 by mail or online at stjohnflatrock.org/pledge. Call the office if you need any help. Thank you for your generosity with this Church family!

SAVE THE DATE!
COME TOGETHER FOR JOY AT
ST. JOHN'S



Sunday, October 16, at Kanuga

471 Kanuga Chapel Drive, Hendersonville
Eucharist: 11am | Festival: 12:30–5:00pm

RSVP by Wednesday, Oct. 5, at
www.stjohnflatrock.org/FFF

- HAMBURGERS & HOT DOGS
- DRINKS
- LIVE MUSIC
- CANOEING
- SWIMMING
- FACEPAINT
- YARD GAMES

COST: \$8/PERSON
OR \$20/FAMILY OF
THREE OR MORE.
BRING CASH FOR
THE BAR.

NO COST TO ATTEND
EUCHARIST.

RAIN OR SHINE!

Join Us for a Parish Breakfast

Sunday, October 2, 9:00 to 10:30am in the Parish Hall

Join us for another Parish Breakfast hosted by the Chefs of St. John. They will be serving bacon, sausage, eggs, grits, gravy, fruit salad, potatoes, biscuits, French toast, and juice/coffee/tea. The cost for the breakfast is \$6/person or \$12/family. Please sign up by Wednesday, September 28, to aid in planning. RSVP at bit.ly/BreakfastOct2022. We hope to see you there!

Scenes from the Youth-Led Parish Breakfast on Sunday, September 11, 2022

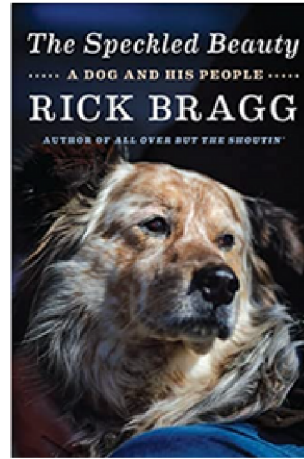


Readers in the Wilderness

First Fridays at 10am in the Library

October 7:

The Speckled Beauty: A Dog and His People
by Rick Bragg

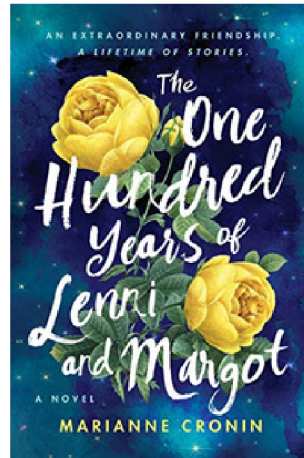


From the best-selling, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *All Over but the Shoutin'*, this is the warm-hearted and hilarious story of how Bragg's life was transformed by his love for a poorly behaved, half-blind stray dog. Written with his inimitable blend of tenderness and sorrow, humor and grit, *The Speckled Beauty* captures the extraordinary and sustaining

devotion between two damaged creatures who need each other to heal.

November 5:

The One Hundred Years of Lenni and Margo
by Marianne Cronin



"A beautiful debut, funny, tender, and animated by a willingness to confront life's obstacles and find a way to survive... It celebrates friendship, finds meaning in difficulty and lets the reader explore dark places while always allowing for the possibility of light. Lenni and Margot are fine companions for all our springtime journeys."

(*Harper's Bazaar*, UK)

A brave testament to the power of living each day to the fullest, a tribute to the stories that we live, and a reminder of our unlimited capacity for friendship and love.

1. Jim Vint addresses the young chefs while Fr. Ian gets his first behind-the-scenes look at what makes a Parish Breakfast happen.
2. Even the littlest hands help out!
3. Big smiles from Mary Anne Inglis and Danielle Pharr.
4. Jade Ogletree scoops the hash browns while Mary Anne Inglis and Yates Pharr look on.
5. Laura Stephens hard at work to feed flapjacks to the masses.
6. Jasmine Pharr and Peter Fricke work together to pile up the bacon.
7. Serving line time!

A Message from the Flower Guild

Bay Chamberlain, Flower Guild Chair

The Flower Guild wants to thank all of you who give memorials to support this beautiful mission. As a reminder, the Flower Guild is wholly funded by the generosity of those who give. We are not part of the Church Budget. Like most everything else, the cost of flowers has increased. So, if any of you would like to increase your gifts for the future, we would be grateful indeed.

When giving, contact Gaston Motes at 828-243-9091 or gtmotes01@gmail.com, and give her the memorial information. This will take care of getting it into the bulletins properly. Then mail or deliver your check to the Church Office, with "Flower Guild" in the memo line of your check. Thank you!

Do You Have What It Takes to Be a Greeter?

Betsy Tibbs, Coordinator of Greeter Ministry



We are in urgent need of more greeters for both services. The responsibilities include: 1.) arriving at least 30 minutes prior to the appointed service; 2) smiling and saying "good morning;" and 3) handing out the Bulletin for the service. The ushers do the "hard" work of seating people. Plus, you get a special name tag with your name and "Greeter" under your name! What could be better? If you think you have what it takes to be a greeter,

please contact Betsy Tibbs by phone or text at 828-329-6952 or by email at crhert1066@morrisbb.net.

Mission House Fall Thrift Sale - September 24, 2022



Fundraising results will be announced soon!

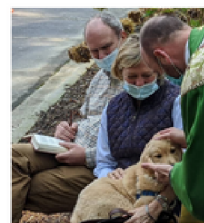
Blessing of the Animals

"All things of creation are
children of the Father and
thus brothers of man."

~ St. Francis of Assisi
(Feast Day: October 4)



You and your
furry, scaly, or feathery
friends are welcome to
come and receive a
blessing at 4pm on
**Sunday, October 2 in the
back parking lot of St. John
in the Wilderness.** Please
bring your own chairs!



Dr. Henry & Catherine Mills Donate To Remodel Wilderness Room Kitchen Honoring Mike Covell

Fr. Josh Stephens

On behalf of the Vestry, staff, and the entire congregation, I would like to say a big thank you to Dr. Henry and Catherine Mills for donating \$25,000 to St. John in the Wilderness to remodel the Wilderness Room kitchen. The Mills especially wanted to do something meaningful to honor Mike Covell who passed away this summer after serving this parish faithfully for 20 years after retiring from the US Navy. Mike brought people together for fellowship and learning in the Wilderness Room over those years, and he spent a lot of time in the kitchen cooking breakfast, washing dishes, and cleaning up. No job was too big or too small!

In working closely with our Junior Warden, Gibson Sims, and frequent users of the space, we have come up with a plan that is now in motion for updating our old kitchen into something new, well-lit, and very practical. We look forward to sharing pictures and more details with you in *The Voice* once the kitchen is completed. Please thank Henry and Catherine Mills when you see them, and thank God for great friends in Christ like Mike Covell!

October BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Scott Shelton
- 2 David Hull
- 3 Julianna Savage
- 3 John Hopper
- 5 Dennis Flanagan
- 5 Susan Stone
- 5 Geoff Hanff
- 6 Martha Andrews
- 8 Brenda Hillyer
- 8 Harry Van Bergen
- 8 Nicholas Iosue
- 9 Judy Oldenburg
- 9 George Grzenda
- 9 Meagan Caldwell
- 10 La Verne Hiatt
- 10 Marisa Pharr
- 11 Hunter Ogletree
- 11 Emma-Jo Staton
- 11 Shelley Schiro
- 11 Elizabeth Christenbury
- 11 Bob Inglis
- 13 Herb Quarles
- 13 Jasmine Pharr
- 13 Dave Brown
- 14 Dale Kern
- 15 Linda Klopman
- 15 Janelle Walker
- 16 Barbara Kovaz
- 17 Britton Swing
- 18 Carolyn Day
- 18 Polly Morrice
- 20 Lynne Miller
- 26 Jon Fitzpatrick
- 30 Barbara Smith
- 31 Linda Hill

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

Please email Sarah at officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org to update your information.

Holy Hike in Pisgah National Forest - September 13, 2022



Join Us on Our Next Hike!

*A Forest-Bathing Experience with Dr. Mattie Decker of Transfiguration Preserve
Sunday, October 23, at 2pm*

This hike is limited to 10 people, so sign up quickly! More info coming soon at www.stjohnflatrock.org/upcoming-hike.

Use Your Gift to the Glory of God

Mark Delk, Coordinator of Lay Readers

Did you know that you have received a gift?

You may have heard that message in an email or on a voice message, but in this case the notice is from a dependable source: the scripture itself.

1 Peter 4:10 tell us, "As each of you has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied Grace."

Our gifts from God enable us to serve each other with love. Service in love provides great joy and meaning to our lives.

We have an opportunity to expand our service in love by the reading and proclamation of God's word. In our worship lay members are given the opportunity to read and proclaim the scripture and to help the clergy administer the Eucharist.

If your gift is the ability to read publicly, I and our clergy would love to speak with you about sharing your gift. Our clergy will see to it that you receive training and instruction.

It is a rewarding ministry, and I would love for you to share with us in it. Contact Mark Delk at markdelk@aol.com or 828-778-6809 to get involved.



Friends of Music Presents: The Liturgical Year in Hymns, Anthems, & Organ Music

Sunday, October 9, at 4pm in the Church

You are invited to attend a very special Friends of Music presentation, "The Liturgical Year in Hymns, Anthems, and Organ Music," which will feature music from the Christian calendar year including Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and All Saints' Day.

"For liturgical Christians, the seasons of the church year are nothing less than the story of God's redemption of the world in Jesus Christ being remembered, shared, and celebrated with music

doing much of the heavy lifting," said Fr. Josh Stephens. "But rarely do we get a chance to glimpse the entirety of that story in one sitting like we will with this musical program. You can expect to be inspired and transformed."

"This Parish offering highlights the richness of Anglican musical tradition," said Dewitt Tipton, Organist, Director of Music and creator of Friends of Music.

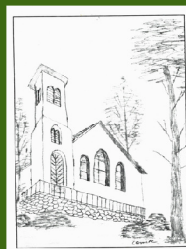
Reservations are not required for this event. Contributions will be gratefully accepted to benefit future Friends of Music concerts.

Newcomers' Social - September 16, 2022

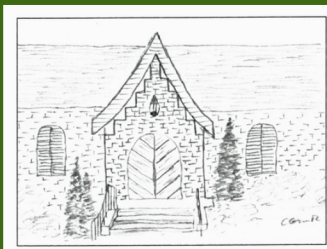


Greetings from St. John!

The note cards to the right are a donation from The Rt. Rev. Charles von Rosenberg and Annie von Rosenberg. Charles was bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee from 1999 to 2011, and then served as Bishop Provisional in the Diocese of South Carolina from 2013-2016 during a time of rearrangement for Low-Country Episcopalians. They now live locally. They are longtime friends with the Revs. Stephen and Patricia Askew who are working with our Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEVs) to develop a more up-to-date roster of home-bound parishioners and LEVs to visit them regularly. These cards will be given to the folks who receive Eucharistic visits, food from the Meal Ministry, and other forms of congregational care.



Charles drew the sketches and Annie painted with watercolors.



Thoughts from the Curate's Desk

Fr. Ian Williams

About two weeks ago, I dropped off our children on their first day of class since we moved back to Western North Carolina. It went as well or better than I could have expected, and our children seem to be happy and adjusting well to this new school. In the weeks leading up to the first day of school and in the weeks since then, I have been hearing on the local and national news that our local communities, and the country at large, is in significant need of more teachers and staff. More teachers and staff in general, and specifically more properly trained and certified teachers, bus drivers, staff, etc. I know that this is true in our local communities, and I pray that a lasting and meaningful solution to this issue comes soon.

This need also puts more pressure on the wonderful folks who are teaching, feeding, and keeping our children safe, and I believe it is important to keep these people in prayer. You may be aware that our prayer book has a wonderful section starting on page 809 called "Prayers and Thanksgivings." There are prayers for many different people or situations, and I encourage you to avail yourself to this beautifully crafted section of our prayer book. There are two prayers that are particularly appropriate for the incredible people whose vocation it is to teach and nurture our children. I have copied them below, and I hope that you will join me throughout the school year as we pray for the parents, teachers, staff, administration, and volunteers involved with schools in our community as well as throughout the country and the world. May God bless and sustain them.

31. For Schools and Colleges

O Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

46. For the Care of Children

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.



Tubing with the J-Walkers (Youth Group from Holy Cross, Tryon) - September 18, 2022



Don't Forget the Episcopal Church Women Fall Retreat

Friday, October 7, 9am to 3pm in the Parish Hall

Women of the church, make sure to register for the ECW Retreat by Monday, October 3 by reaching out to Kathy Newbold (703-626-9706) or Joyce Beschta (828-388-1188). Come with a sense of humor and desire to learn about the intersection between laughter and spirituality as Pastor Linea Warmke presents her program, "Laugh Your Way to Grace." Cost to attend is \$25 and covers all materials and a lunch catered by Cuisine Team. Bring or send your check to the Church Office with "ECW Retreat" in the memo.

The October Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of:

October 2

**Alice & Gilbert Doan
and William H. Cox**

by Judy Cox

October 9

**Dolores Boykin
Gunter and Jeffrey
Hare Gunter, Jr.**

*by the Jeffrey Hare
Gunter, Sr. Family*

Mike Covell

by his wife, Joanie

October 16

**Isabella & Kenneth A.
LaTourette, Ann Hopkins,
and John R. Potter**

*by Marianne LaTourette and
Martin H. "Hop" Potter*

Sarah & Russ Gordon

by Bill & Worth Gordon

Charles S. Harrell

*by his wife, Cathryn, and
children*

October 23

Celeste E. Giblin

*by daughters Mary and
Sara Fiquet*

Wick Andrews

*by Martha Andrews
and family*

Rise Against Hunger: A Meal-Packing Experience - September 25, 2022



Parishioners and clergy packed over 10,000 meals for individuals across the globe who are facing starvation.



For every 1,000 meals packed, someone got to ring the gong.



Reminder: United Thank Offering

Expressing gratitude on a regular basis is an amazing practice! It can be done by everyone regardless of your age or circumstances. Even very small children can be taught to stop and take a moment to express thanks for their blessings.

This practice is at the heart of the United Thank Offering (UTO) program whose purpose is twofold: First, it is meant to foster a personal spiritual discipline of thankfulness through individual intentional prayer and gratitude for all that God has done and continues to do by placing coins in the UTO Blue Box. Then, through the combined collection of Blue Box coins, bills, and checks, 100 percent of the money is awarded through grants to young adults, seminarians, parishes, and dioceses. The grants are for one-year projects designed to support transforming and innovative ministries. Since 1983, 5,300 grants have been awarded totaling \$140 million. A complete list of grants can be viewed at www.UnitedThankOffering.com.

UTO Blue Boxes are now available in the Parish Office. We will continue collecting until the in-gathering at both services on Sunday, October 16.

The Episcopal Church of
St. John in the Wilderness
Post Office Box 185
Flat Rock, North Carolina 28731



The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness

The Rev. Josh Stephens
Rector

The Rev. Ian Williams
Curate

The Rev. Dea. 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 Wiescholek, E.R.
Haire, Jr., Clint Adams, Will Rodriguez,
Marisa Pharr, Kim Sanders



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

8:45am - Rite II Eucharist (in person)

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

**Services are live-streamed to Facebook on a rotating schedule*

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 Atrium Chapel

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
officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org

