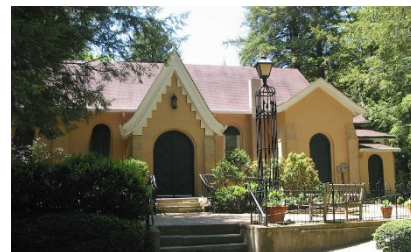


The Voice



Inside this issue:

March 2020

Episcopal Church Women **2**

Bowl for Kids' Sake **2**

What's Happening **3**

The Younger Voice **4**

Easter Flower Memorials **4**

Keep a Holy Lent **5**

Empty Bowls **5**

Bazaar at SJIW **6**

Flower Memorials **7**

Pictorial Directory **7**

Birthdays **7**

Calendar **8**

Baby Shower **9**

No Parish Breakfast in March **9**

From the Rector's Desk

Thankfulness, Lent, and Time Together

Rosanna, Arlo, and I have often heard you say just how excited you are for our arrival, and, indeed, you have demonstrated this joy by sending flowers and notes, pounding our pantry, offering hospitality, making meals for us, and so much more. We thank you with all of our hearts for such a warm welcome. I must admit, though, that every time I hear someone say how thrilled they are that we are coming, I want to respond with, "I think we are even more excited than you are that we get to be at St. John in the Wilderness!" I'm not sure who would win that arm-wrestling match! Again, thank you.

Even with all the transition excitement, the clergy and staff of St. John know -- and perhaps you know as well -- that we are on the eve of a very important annual journey. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 26 with liturgies at 12 noon and 5:30 p.m. It's as if the excitement of transition that has been building these past weeks (at least in me) will be focused by a single line that we all need to hear in spite of our not wanting to hear it: *Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.* I am grateful for some structure to these first months in our common life together. It can be hard to know exactly what to do with the excitement felt by all, but we know how to walk "once more the pilgrim way of Lent" (Hymn number 149). In this season, we simplify our lives, we slow down a bit, we add in prayer and Scripture reading, and we yearn for renewal through repentance and silence.

And yet, unlike Christ, we get to enter the wilderness together. Indeed, besides keeping a holy Lent, my other priority in the months ahead is to get to know you. I would very much like to have coffee or lunch with you. I would like to hear about your ministry at St. John in the Wilderness as I am beginning mine. I would like to know of your family, your faith, and why it is -- like Rosanna and me -- that you felt God was calling you to an English chapel on a hill surrounded by the faithful departed.

We are so very thankful for your warm welcome. I look forward to the Lenten journey that awaits us. And I cannot wait to get to know you better.

In Christ,
Fr. Josh

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Greetings all. By the time you receive this edition of *The Voice*, many things will have happened.

First and most important, we will have welcomed our new rector, Fr. Josh Stephens, his wife, Dr. Rosanna Couture, and their daughter, Arlo. You will also be aware that their family is growing, with a new addition expected in May. It is a very exciting time for St. John in the Wilderness and for them!

Second, the planning meeting for the 2020 Bazaar at SJIW occurred on Saturday, February 8, where Co-Chairs Cindy Shannon and Linda Giltner shared the plans for the Bazaar and greeted many whose efforts and participation will ensure resounding success. A number of area chairpersons have already been identified. There are multiple opportunities to share in this adventure; don't hesitate to contact Cindy or Linda and let them know how you see yourself working in this endeavor!

Donations are now being accepted at the shed behind the Parish House on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon or at other times by special arrangement with the Co-Chairs.

Third, some members of ECW participated in our first outing of the year, visiting The Oriole Mill in Hendersonville. This was just the first of several events planned in pursuit of one of the main missions of ECW to share fellowship activities which strengthen our ties to St. John.

And last but not least, a baby shower for Rosanna will take place on Sunday, March 15, following the second service. Detailed information has been provided, and flyers are posted throughout the church campus. If you have any questions, please call Kathy Newbold, Carol Rector, or Joyce Beschta.

(Cont. on page 6)

Bowl for Kids' Sake

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henderson County announces BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE to be held on Saturday, March 7, at 11 a.m. at Tarheel Lanes in Hendersonville. This is the largest annual special event in support of the Henderson County mentoring program.

St. John in the Wilderness has sponsored this event for the last few years. Each bowler raises or donates a minimum of \$50 (\$35 for students) before bowling on March 7 and receives two free games, shoe rental, a commemorative t-shirt, and the chance to be a part of the excitement at the lanes that day.

"Bowlers come out for a day of fun and camaraderie, so join us," says Joey Popp, Advisory Council Chairperson and St. John parishioner. "Your participation helps raise funds to support our unique one-on-one mentoring program for nearly 100 youth in Henderson County."

Registration or donations are available via the website www.bbbswnc.org. Teams consist of four to five members. Friends, family, co-workers, and neighbors can all come together and form a team.

If you have questions, contact Joey Popp at bbbshenderson@gmail.com or (828) 707-3133.



What's Happening at St. John

Readers in the Wilderness meets the first Friday of the month at 10 a.m. in the Library.

March 6 – *Winter of Our Discontent* by John Steinbeck

Steinbeck's last book written in 1961. Story of a character who must decide what morality is and if we abuse it, the consequences. Steinbeck is troubled by the times, and he is called the Woody Guthrie of American literature.

April 3 – *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett

Both mythic and naturalistic, Patchett's story of children expelled from the mansion of their childhood by an evil stepmother showcases her great skill.

Do join us for lively discussions! For questions, contact Judy Petersen at (828) 697-1967 or jpsewnsew@aol.com.

Boxes needed for Bazaar! – Are you or someone you know moving locally? If so, the Bazaar would love to have your medium to large-size empty boxes when you are finished with them so that sale items can be packed up and moved from the shed to the Parish Hall for the big sale day. You can drop them off on the porch of the shed (located to the left and uphill a little from the entrance to the Church Office) on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. For questions call Cindy Shannon at (404) 539-7670.

New PR for St. John! - You can now find the good works of St. John in the Wilderness across social media. Find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and even on our own YouTube channel.

Spreading the word about St. John in the Wilderness is the goal of the Communications and Publicity Committee. We generate news releases and send out and post information to the community and beyond. The communications target print and broadcast media including greater Asheville and Upstate South Carolina along with social media. We hope to reach all audiences to inform and promote growth.

For more information, write to stjohnflatrockinfo@gmail.com

ECW Ranked #10 in BFG Support - Out of more than 100 donor-specified charities that Books for Good (BFG) supports, the Episcopal Church Women of St. John in the Wilderness has the distinction of being ranked #10 in the amount of money received since BFG opened its doors in August 2014.

As of the end of 2019, BFG has raised more than \$134,000 for its charities during this period. Since October 2016, when the BFG book box was placed outside the Parish Library, the ECW has received almost \$4,000 of this amount. Interfaith Assistance Ministries is the top beneficiary, having received more than \$13,100.

Please keep bringing your donations for BFG to the large box located under the coat rack by the Wilderness Room. Not accepted are tapes (VHS or cassette), magazines, *Reader's Digest Condensed*, and/or encyclopedias. Your generous donations benefit the ECW Make A Difference outreach program.

The Younger Voice

- Sunday 3/1 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation today!
- Saturday 3/7 11:00 a.m. Meet at Tarheel Lanes to “Bowl for Kid’s Sake!” to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Henderson County. We’ll finish up about 1:30 p.m.
- Sunday 3/8 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation
- Saturday 3/14 TBD Meet in the Parish Hall to help prepare for The Stephens’ baby shower
- Sunday 3/15 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation
12:30 p.m. All young ladies are invited to join in the baby shower for Rosanna Stephens
- Sunday 3/22 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation
- Sunday 3/29 9:45 a.m. Christian Formation
12:30-7 Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser to benefit SJIW Backpack Program. Shift sign-ups are in the youth room

Many blessings to all with God’s love,
MaryAnne and Diana

Empty Bowls



For the fourth year, local pottery artists are firing their kilns to help hungry children in the greater Flat Rock area. On Sunday, March 29, Empty Bowls, a community meal benefiting the Flat Rock Backpack Program, will take place inside the Parish Hall. There are three seatings at 12:30, 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person; children under 12 years old eat free.

Each ticket includes one hand-crafted bowl (all donated by area potters) and a soup-based meal (a variety of soups, breads and desserts donated by local businesses

and organizations). Tickets will be available beginning Monday, March 2, at the Church Office, from Backpack team members, or at the door on the day of the event. For more information, call the Church Office at (828) 693-9783. Credit cards are accepted; checks should be made payable to SJIW, noting Empty Bowls.

Empty Bowls was started over 25 years ago in Michigan as a high school service project. The goal is to address hunger needs in local communities. The bowl serves as a reminder that as long as children in our community go hungry, we **will** help.

Please join us for this fun community event. Donations are gratefully accepted throughout the year.

Keep a Holy Lent



Ash Wednesday: Our observance of Lent begins on February 26 with Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting and repentance, with liturgies in the church at 12:00 noon and 5:30 p.m.

Lenten Lecture on Tuesdays: Our Lenten Lecture Series takes place each Tuesday in March, beginning on Tuesday, March 3, at 5:30 p.m. in the Wilderness Room. A simple catered dinner is served first as a time to share a meal and enjoy fellowship with one another. E.R. Haire, Jr., PhD. will offer the first of four brief lectures on the topic, "Portraits of Jesus: Four Gospels, One Christ." On March 31, our new Rector, Father Josh, will conclude the series.

Daily Morning Prayer: Take on daily prayer as a Lenten discipline! Join Fr. Josh for Morning Prayer Monday to Thursday from 9:00-9:30 a.m. in the glass Atrium of the Parish Hall beginning on Thursday, February 27. Come gather to pray the morning liturgy in the Anglican tradition as found in the Book of Common Prayer.

Friday Stations of the Cross: Fridays, March 6 through April 3 from 12:00 noon to 12:30 p.m., participate in the tradition of observing the Stations of the Cross which depict the final hours (the Passion) of Jesus. This service of prayer and meditation serves to connect us as we follow Jesus through his suffering and death and show solidarity with him, as does Jesus for us in our suffering.

Other offerings include the Wednesday Eucharist and Healing service held in the Wilderness Room beginning at 10:30 a.m. (We will not have a Wednesday Healing Eucharist on Ash Wednesday, February 26.) This brief service is meaningful as we celebrate the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection and pray for those in need and for one another. Lent is a wonderful time to reflect on our need for God's healing grace in our lives.

Come and be a part of the observance of Holy Lent here at St John in the Wilderness.

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 in church bulletins, at the church entrances, and at the church office. Please fill out the information on the front of the envelope, enclose your donation, and drop it in the collection plate, deliver it to the Church Office, or mail to P.O. Box 185, Flat Rock, NC 28731 by Tuesday, March 31.

Episcopal Church Women (ECW) *(Cont. from page 2)*

As you may remember, the proceeds from the May Bazaar benefit organizations which serve the Hendersonville community, specifically women, children, and families. As I have often done, let me share the thank you expressions from one of the 2019 recipients, St. Gerard House:

“On behalf of the clients we serve, I would like to joyfully acknowledge your generous gift. Thank you for your continuing support of vulnerable women and children. Every week we receive calls from parents who are desperately seeking treatment options for their child. It is sometimes difficult to hear their stories of challenges in the education, behavior, social interactions and even speaking. Our science-based therapeutic programs are customized for each child’s unique needs and the “miracle science” really does change the lives of children diagnosed with autism, and their families. Through your support, you are leaving a lasting legacy that impacts the joy these children are experiencing and the milestones they are reaching. We cannot thank you enough for investing in these special children and in our community. Bless you, Caroline C. Long, Executive Director.”

Remember one of our service efforts, the collection of manufacturers’ coupons for distribution to service personnel and their families stationed abroad. A collection box has been placed on the table in the church carriage entrance. Thank you for your support!

Blessings and peace!

Kathy Newbold, ECW Coordinator

Bazaar at St. John in the Wilderness



The Bazaar at St. John in the Wilderness will be held Saturday, May 2, 2020, inside the Parish Hall located at 1905 Greenville Highway, Flat Rock. Fine items of all kinds will be available for sale, including artwork, jewelry, furniture, linens, and silver. Baked goods, live native plants, and garden decor will also be available. Proceeds will benefit local charities that assist women, children, and families.

We will begin receiving items for the Bazaar at the Shed (behind the Parish House parking lot) starting Friday, March 6 from 10 a.m.-12 noon and continuing each Friday thereafter until the last week in April. We want gently used items in the areas of artwork, jewelry, housewares, linens, silver, furniture, toys, garden, and holiday items. Electrical items are accepted if in working order but no computers, cribs, or car-seats. If you need help getting items to the church, please contact Linda or Cindy. What doesn't serve you anymore might serve others. Also, we need help sorting, pricing, and boxing on Fridays from 10 a.m.-12 noon and sometimes Saturdays 10 a.m.-12 noon through April. We will have signup lists at the April parish breakfast, and then we will place the sign-up list in the Wilderness Room lobby or thereabouts. We will need men to sign up for the last week in April to help move boxes into the Parish Hall the last week of April. **There will be heat in the shed this year.**

Thank you sincerely,
Cynthia Shannon and Linda Giltner, stjohnbazaar2020@gmail.com

March Flower Memorials

Only greenery during Lent. The exception is Refreshment or Rose Sunday, which falls on March 22 this year

March 1:

In loving memory of Gerald (Jerry) Nelson, USMC, Ret.
By: Victoria Nelson

February 22 (Refreshment Sunday):

In loving memory of George Carr, Walter Chamberlain, and Joe Carr
By: Baynard Chamberlain

Pictorial Directory



We will once again offer a printed copy of the parish directory. For anyone who would like a printed, bound copy, please send a check for \$16 per copy to St. John in the Wilderness, P.O. Box 185, Flat Rock NC 28731. **Make your check payable to St. John in the Wilderness, and be sure to put "Church Directory" in the memo line.** You will be notified once the directories are ready to be picked up in the office. Please note the deadline for ordering is March 16, 2020.

Remember the directory is also available on your computer and as an app on your mobile devices. Contact Leslie Stott in the church office if you need assistance in accessing the directory online. Thank you to all who helped update the directory.

Remember the **deadline for ordering is MARCH 16, 2020.**

March Birthdays

2 Yates Pharr
3 Liz Ball
3 Tom Deyerle
3 Sophie Guth
4 Jim Vint
4 Steven Byrd
8 Caitlyn Iosue
9 Annie Teel
10 Phyllis Smith
11 Marion Mitchell
11 Nicole Iosue
12 Young Perry
13 E. R. Haire, Jr.
14 Mark Delk

16 Harold Hodgkins
16 Catherine Mills
16 Laura Hanff
16 Ellis Pace
17 Candace Lewis
17 Kathy Newbold
17 Harper Swing
18 Ginger Quarles
18 Barbara Hodgkins
18 Bob Staton
19 Marge Smith
19 Missy Schenck
20 Steve Sullivan
20 John Pace



24 Bryant Ward
25 Jinny Bell
25 Patricia Petillo
25 Janet Johnson
27 Nancy King
27 Elaine Howe
28 Jerry Theron
28 Tom Robertson
28 Scott Dillin
30 Grayson Garber

March 2020



Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 8:45 Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Eucharist	2 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 9:00 AA/Sober Sisters 6:30 pm AA/Newcomers	3 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:00 Voices for Youth 3:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:00 Lenten Series 6:45 AA Men's Group	4 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Healing Service 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	5 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:00 Safety & Security Committee 7:00 AA/Spiritual Awakening	6 7:30 AA/EB 8:45 Backpack 10:00 Readers in the Wilderness 11:00 Eucharist at Lake Pointe Landing 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross	7 7:30 AA/Early Birds 11:00 Bowl for Kids' Sake!
8 8:45 Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Eucharist	9 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 9:00 AA/Sober Sisters 6:30 pm AA/Newcomers	10 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 3:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:00 Lenten Series 6:45 AA Men's Group	11 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Healing Service 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	12 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 4:00 pm Finance Committee 5:00 Vestry 7:00 AA/Spiritual Awakening	13 7:30 AA/EB 8:45 Backpack 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross	14 7:30 AA/Early Birds
15 8:45 Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Eucharist 12:30 pm Baby Shower	16 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 9:00 AA/Sober Sisters 6:30 pm AA/Newcomers	17 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 3:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:00 Lent Series 6:45 AA Men's Group	18 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Healing Service 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 Choir	19 7:30 AA/Early Birds 8:45 Backpack 9:00 Morning Prayer 7:00 AA/Spiritual Awakening	20 7:30 AA/Early Birds 10:00 Caregivers 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross	21 7:30 AA/Early Birds
22 8:45 Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Eucharist	23 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 9:00 AA/Sober Sisters 6:30 pm AA/Newcomers	24 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 3:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:00 Lenten Series 6:45 AA Men's Group	25 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Healing Service 12:00 pm Men's Bible Study 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	26 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 10:00 Needle Work 7:00 pm AA/Spiritual Awakening	27 7:30 AA/Early Birds 8:45 Backpack 12:00 pm Stations of the Cross	28 7:30 AA/Early Birds 2:00 pm Empty Bowls setup
29 8:45 Eucharist 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Eucharist 12:30, 5:00 & 6:00 pm Empty Bowls	30 7:30 AA/Early Birds 9:00 Morning Prayer 9:00 AA/Sober Sisters 6:30 pm AA/Newcomers	31 7:30 AA/EB 9:00 Morning Prayer 3:30 pm Women's Bible Study 5:00 Lenten Series 6:45 AA Men's Group				

The Rev. Josh Stephens
Rector

The Rev. Dn. Charles Rex
Deacon

Leslie Stott, *Parish Office
Administrator*

Tracie Lutz, *Administrative
Assistant for Finance*

Dewitt Tipton, *Organist
and Director of Music*

Kevin Hunt, *Sexton*

Diana Byrd, *Youth and
Families Coordinator*

1905 Greenville Highway
P.O. Box 185

Flat Rock, NC 28731

Phone: 828-693-9783

officeadmin@stjohnflatrock.org

Visit us on the Web at
www.stjohnflatrock.org

Vestry

Carol Rector
Senior Warden

Jerry Tanner
Junior Warden

Jodi Sundeen
Treasurer

Kathryn Deyerle
Clerk

Elizabeth Christenbury,
Greg Newbold, Michael
Shannon, Janet Johnson,
Shelley Schiro, Cindi
Easterling, Terry Enslen,
Marie Hyder, Dick Zecher,
Gibson Sims

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.org
or deliver them to the
church office.

Women of St. John,

Please join us for a

*Baby
Shower*

IN HONOR OF

ROSANNA COUTURE

All women of the church are invited to a baby shower for Rosanna Couture on Sunday, March 15, at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

At this point in Father Josh and Rosanna's parenting journey, they need items other than typical baby shower gifts. Our hope is to purchase a couple of "big-ticket" baby items she has mentioned. We are, therefore, requesting donations rather than wrapped gifts. Please RSVP by Friday, March 6, and if you choose to contribute, make checks payable to Kathy Newbold with "baby shower" in the memo line by that date, as well. Turn cash or checks in to the Church Office, and if you choose to donate cash, please put it in an envelope with your name and "baby shower" printed on it.

The shower will include a potluck lunch. If the first letter of your last name is A-L, please bring a soup. If the first letter of your last name begins with M-Z, please bring a salad.

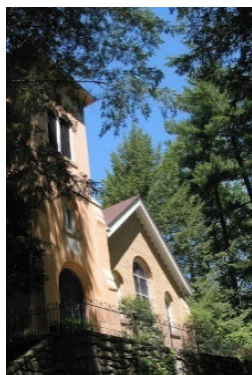
We especially want to welcome Rosanna to our wonderful group of St. John women, so please come and get to know her and Arlo.



No Parish Breakfast in March

The March Parish Breakfast was moved to February 23 to celebrate Father Josh's first Sunday at St. John.

Welcome, Father Josh, Rosanna, and Arlo!



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sundays

8:45 am	Holy Eucharist
10:00 am	Adult Forum
	Sunday School for Children & Youth (during the school year)
11:00 am	Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays

10:30 am	Healing Service with Holy Eucharist 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.