



THE HOLY BABBLE

February 4—February 24



**In Need of a Priest
Call/ email:**

The Rev. Marti Dalby
221-4031/
mdalby@stjohnfs.org or
surprisedby
grace@yahoo.com

The church office -
782-9912
stjohnfs@stjohnfs.org

**Louise Watts, Senior
Warden - 782-9290**
lbwatts@cox.net

**For other needs call/
email:**
Jeannie McCabe
221-4032
jmccabe@stjohnfs.org

Mary Ann Arnold
452-1359
[maarnoldgfwc@
sbcglobal.net](mailto:maarnoldgfwc@sbcglobal.net)



With the recent budget revisions for 2009, it should be no surprise to you all that the Diocese and I are exploring opportunities concerning my future ministry. During that process, there will be times, such as this next Sunday, when I will be required to be away from St. John's. There is no answer to how long the process will take, just as we are uncertain as to a time frame for a new rector. I want everyone to know that first and foremost, as long as I am at St. John's, I am your priest. I am here for whatever spiritual and pastoral needs that you might encounter. It has been a real blessing to me to have the honor of serving you as the sole priest at St. John's these past eight months. As long as I am in that position, my commitment to you will not change.

Going through this process has strengthened my own faith tremendously in that I have left the decisions that will be made in the future to God. What matters to me now is the present and how I can be here for you in times that are not only uncertain in the Church, but also in the world that surrounds us daily.

With that in mind, I encourage you all to enjoy the moment and live out your faith journeys for today. I am very happy to be part of that. God has always been here for us and will always be here in the future. I'd like to share with you a prayer from our own Book of Common Prayer. It is entitled *For Quiet Confidence*:

O God of peace, who has taught us in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. (BCP 832)

There is great peace in taking time to be still and listen to God. We have been afforded that time now. I love you all and pray for you daily.

The Reverend Marti Dalby +



Welcome Celebrant & Priest: The Rev. Judith Lund from Bentonville, will be preaching this Sunday at St. John's.



Our condolences to: Cathy Bain, on the loss of her father, William Hoebel.

Mary Jane Mustard, on the loss of her mother, Jane Cole.

Upcoming Events



Saints Alive: the Feb. Saints Alive will be at Harold McDowell's on Sat., Feb. 28th, at 6:30 p.m.. Bring your favorite dish to share and drinks. Also, we need hosts for the months of March, July, August, and November. Please contact Janee Crofts 479-9978964, or email davidandjane@gmail.com if you can host. You do not have to provide an entree unless you want to; everyone can just bring potluck. The March Saints Alive will need to be on a Sunday, as it is during Lent. David and Janee are hosting in September, but if that month will work for someone else, we will be happy to take another month.

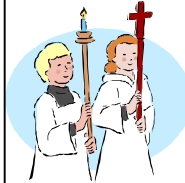


Diocesan Convention, February 20-21, Trinity Cathedral, Little Rock, AR

SAHMs (Stay At Home Moms):



We will meet on Monday, Feb. 2 and again on Tuesday, Feb. 17 from 10:30 a.m. — noon, at the Skinner Building in the Youth Room.



“SECOND SUNDAY” 5:00 pm - February 8th

We encourage everyone who wants to discover the traditional liturgy in a more casual setting to join us for our “Second Sunday” service. Tell your friends, bring your neighbors and open your eyes and ears and heart to a brand new experience.

The altar will be a table at the chancel steps; the music will feature guitars and keyboard; the service will be user friendly. Our hope is to offer a new worship experience in a casual, yet traditional, service.

So make plans to join us on this new worship journey (in addition to your customary worship times).

Upcoming Events

- Feb. 05: Episcopal Café, 7pm
- Feb. 07: Episcopal Café, “Get Saucy,” 6pm
- Feb. 08: Second Sunday Service, 5pm
- Feb. 10: Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm
- Feb. 11: Episcopal Café, “Movin’ Out,” 7:30pm
- Feb. 14: HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!
- Feb. 15: Episcopal Café, River Valley Com. Band, meet at St. Bart’s at 2:30pm
- Feb. 17: SAHMs, 10:30 am
- Feb. 20: Episcopal Café, FSLittleTheater, 8pm
- Feb. 20-21: Diocesan Convention, Trinity Cathedral, LR
- Feb. 22: Burning of the Palms
- Feb. 24: Girl’s Night Out, 6:30pm
- Feb. 25: ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES, noon & 6pm
- Feb. 26: Women of Vision, Christ Church, LR
- Feb. 27: Laymen’s League, noon
- Feb. 27-Mar. 1: Sr. High Winterstar
- Feb. 27: Deadline for Newsletter articles
- Feb. 28: Saints Alive at the home of Harold MacDowell, 6:30pm

Meditation Workshop at Arkansas House of Prayer, Saturday, April 4

Practicing the Presence of Christ: Meditation & Mindfulness is the latest workshop to be offered by the Arkansas House of Prayer. The workshop will focus on specific prayer/meditation practices that will enable participants to quiet the mind and await Christ’s presence.

The workshop will be led by the Rev. Susan Sims Smith, board chair of the Arkansas House of Prayer and Priest-Associate at St. Margaret’s, Little Rock.

The workshop will be held on Saturday, April 4, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Fee for the workshop, which includes lunch and childcare, is \$40. Registration deadline is Friday, March 27. The registration form is available on the website, www.episcopalarkansas.org. For more information, contact the Rev. Joyce Hardy, (501) 821-7773 or (501) 351-7216. Arkansas House of Prayer is located in Little Rock on the campus of St. Margaret’s, 20900 Chenal Parkway.

Church News

Pledge Payment via Bank Draft

Reminder: you may enter this plan at any time, simply by completing an authorization form. Enroll now for a 2009 draft on the 15th, and/or last business day of each month.

Give me a call (479-782-9912), or e-mail, hbraswell@stjohnfs.org for an enrollment form.

Harold Braswell



Annual Parish Meeting 2009

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on January 25, 2009. Vestry members will continue in their terms until a new Rector is chosen. Dave Arnold was elected treasurer by the vestry.

Episcopal Church Women

Dear Carol and Mary,

On behalf of the Episcopal Church Women in Arkansas, I want to thank you for your generous contribution. It is with kindness such as yours, we are able to fulfill our mission of strengthening spiritual lives, providing learning opportunities and supporting Christ-centered service and ministry.

May God continue to bless us all and bring us peace in the new year.

Sylvia Ross
ECW in Arkansas
President

ALS Support Group

(Lou Gehrig's Disease)

We will meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Edwards hospital, in the Ford room from 6:00—8:00 p.m. For support or more information contact Candi Hamill at 782-4882.



**Holy Eucharist
And Imposition of Ashes
Wednesday, February 25, 2009
12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m.**



Bookstore News:

Book Sale - 75% off regular price of books. (BCP, Hymnals, Combos, Blessing cup, Rosary books **not** included in sale.)

Valentine Cards are in stock!

Bookstore Ministry: If you are interested in this ministry, please call Cindy Cole at 648-3043 or call the church and leave a message.



FOOD FIESTA:

If you would be interested in chairing the next Food Fiesta fund raiser, please contact Mary Ann Arnold at 452-1359 for more details.



Food for the Builders

Habitat for Humanity is soon doing its Spring Break Build with college students. St. John's will be housing three different groups from March 1st to March 20th. St John's will be housing students from Northeastern Univ., Boston College, and Macalester College at the Skinner Building. Last year, volunteers brought in breakfast foods and snacks for the groups staying with us. We also helped to feed the whole groups, which this year will number up to 36, for lunch and supper. One Christ Care group fed and got to know the multitudes in the Skinner building - fun. Please, join together and let me know if you can help in any way this year. Our Episcopal Cafe group has already stepped forward. Thank you!!
Cathy Bain
453-6758 or 739-0413

Search Committee: If you have a name you would like to submit for nomination as our priest-in-charge position, please contact one of the committee members; Harold MacDowell, Farrah Fielder, Sandra Kilpatrick, Al Snider, Roney Rouse or one of the following:

Bishop Benfield bishopbenfield@mac.com
Dan McKee dmckee@arkansas.anglican.org

Or their toll free number is 1-866-887-1114

Upcoming Events



Episcopal Café: We meet Thursdays from 7:00—11:00 pm every week at St. John's in the Skinner Building. Young Adults ages 18-30 are welcome, (adults without children).

Feb. 7– Get Saucy at St. John's with a pasta sauce cook-off! Bring in your best sauce; we'll provide the pasta! We'll all participate in the tasting & will vote in a winner, who will receive a nice prize! We'll meet at 6pm to get started!

Feb. 11- 'Movin' Out' is going to be at UA Fort Smith. It starts at 7:30pm and will be at the Fort Smith Convention Center. Tickets range from \$37-\$45. Let Molly know by Jan. 28 if you want to go so we can all get our seats together.

Feb. 15– The River Valley Community Band will be performing, and our own Ginny Hudson will be premiering a concerto for flute and wind ensemble! It will be held at the Van Buren High School auditorium at 3pm. We will meet at St. Bart's at 2:30 to carpool.

Feb. 20– 'Who's In Bed With The Butler' will be at Fort Smith Little Theater. The show starts at 8pm, and tickets are \$10. Please let Molly know by Feb. 12 if you want to attend so we can get our seats together.

HELP ---Calling all cooks! Episcopal Café, a ministry for those ages 18-30, will be hosted here at St. John's this semester. Food is a major part of our ministry, and we're looking for some help! You, or your group, can sign up for a specific Thursday below to provide a meal for 10-12 people.

No time to cook, but still want to help? No problem! WalMart gift cards are a GREAT substitute! Contact Molly Stitsworth after signing up to talk food transportation.

Molly.stitsworth@gmail.com (479) 462-6155 Any and all donations can be dropped off to Jeannie McCabe's office in Skinner Building

Thursdays: Feb. 5, 12, 29, 26 Mar. 5, 12, 19 Apr. 2, 9

Laymen's League



Laymen will meet again on Friday, February 27th. The meal will be prepared by Master Chef Bill Chandler, so come hungry and bring a friend.

Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper



All parishioners are invited to attend the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 24, at 5 p.m., sponsored and prepared by the Laymen. This is also known as "Fat Tuesday", so come and fill up before you start that Lenten discipline of diets, disciplines, and Wednesday Lenten services.

All of the proceeds will go toward Faith Chests for the newly baptized, special needs for the YMAT committee, and maybe something for the Episcopal Cafe group.

Adults: \$4.00 Children: \$2.00



Girl's Night Out : will be on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:30 pm at Cheddars. Take a night off and join us!! The restaurant doesn't take reservations, so we'll need to know if you're coming. The first one there will turn in the number of attendees. So please let Bettye know so that you'll have a seat.

Please **call Bettye Fields**
at **(452-2637)**



Outreach



Backpack Program: Don't forget to pick up something for the backpack program. Donations are always welcome. Suggestions are any individually wrapped, non-perishable items such as fruit cups, Jell-O cups, Vienna sausages, beanie weenies, granola bars, juice boxes, snack cakes, etc. Thanks to those who have contributed.

Community Services Clearinghouse Volunteers Needed

Do you have 3 hours a week to help low income families, the disabled, and children? Can you answer the phone or pack a box?

The Community Services Clearinghouse in Fort Smith needs front desk volunteers and help in our Emergency Food Pantry. Our volunteers work only three hours per week, selecting morning or evening shifts on the day of their choice.

Volunteer reception duties include answering the phone and helping clients register for assistance when they visit our agency. Pantry workers help repackage donated food, stock the pantry and prepare food boxes for clients approved for assistance.

If you are interested, please call Sue Robinson at 782-5074. We will schedule an interview and tour of Community Services Clearinghouse.

Community Services Clearinghouse seeking donations for April 18th Parking Lot Sale

Community Services Clearinghouse, 4420 Wheeler in Fort Smith, will hold its annual Parking Lot Sale on Saturday, April 18th, to raise funds for the "Meals For Kids/Backpack Program."

We are currently accepting donations for the sale, and will welcome household goods, appliances, toys, clothes and collectables for the sale. We will gladly supply receipts for tax use for anyone donating to our sale. Donations may be dropped off at 4420 Wheeler Ave. in Ft. Smith, 8am—4pm, Monday thru Friday. No donation is too small. Please call Sue at 782-5074 for more information.

The Meals for Kids Program at the Clearinghouse currently serves more than 2,300 children each Friday. We supply weekend food each Friday to public schools in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma. We estimate the cost of the program to be \$4 per child, per week. The expense continues to grow as the economy sours and more children are added to the program. We hope you can help us make our annual Parking Lot Sale a great success for the children on the Meals For Kids program.



St. Edwards Mercy Foundation presents **Night to Remember:**
Columbus Acres Hall, 7:00 pm — 11:00 pm

Benefiting Mercy Hospice In-Patient Unit
St. Edward Mercy Medical Center

Prepare for an exciting evening of ballroom dancing to the music
of the Don Bailey Jazz Combo!

February 14, 2009



If you would be interested in providing breakfast finger food or snacks for the 8:00 and/or 10:30 services, please call the church office 782-9912 for details.

St. John's Episcopal Church Kid's Korner

February 4, 2009 ♦ Volume 6, Issue 2

Youth Web site: <http://www.stjohnfs.org/youth/index.html>

Time APART
is critical to Connecting
to GOD

YOUTH DO SO
FISH/Sr. High— Retreat
Jr. High Winter Star





W-orship

Feb	8	15	22
<i>Server</i>	Drake Gilbreath	Karen Kincannon	Katie Kilpatrick
<i>Asst</i>	Dylan Gilbreath	Sara Kincannon	Stephanie Duty
<i>Crucifer</i>	Will Klek	William Kolljeski	Storm Basinger
<i>Clergy</i>	Kaersti McLellan	Jessica Kolljeski	Catherine Ward
<i>Torch</i>	Andy McLellan	Grace Lowe	KC Ward
<i>Torch</i>	Chance Hevner	Amara Lowe	Ryan Davis

PLEASE CALL!!!
 if you are NOT
 able to serve
 when scheduled!!!
 Please call
 Robin Flippin 484-7269,
 Jeannie McCabe 221-4032, \

Y-outh Groups

Winterstar Weekends

At CAMP MITCHELL

Sr. High — Feb. 27-Mar. 2

Regis. Deadlines/ forms TO JEANNIE:

Sr. High —Feb. 18

Cost: \$90—Scholarships Available



STARS (S-piritual T-eens A-re R-adical) -
 6th-8th gr Meets weekly: Sundays, 3:30-5:30

NEXT MEETING:

Feb. 7 3:30—5:00 Skinner Bldg.

5:00—2nd Sunday Service



FISH (F-aith I-nspires S-piritual H-ealth)

9th-12th grades—Weekly: Sundays 5:00-7:00

JAN. 11— 5:00-7:00

2nd Sunday Service & Dinner

LOGOS - K - 6th Grade—

COME JOIN US

Wednesdays 4:00-6:45 pm at First Presbyterian

- Registration Form on St. John's Website/Youth Page

This is a partnership ministry with First Presbyterian.

THEMES: Mar 4—Pajama/Movie Night

Feb. 11 Valentine's Day Mar 11 Crazy Tie Night

Feb. 18 Mardi Gras Mar 18 St. Pat's-Wear Green

Feb. 25 Movie Night Mar 25 NO LOGOS-Spring Break

NW Convocation TENT EVENT

Lock-in in Fayetteville

MARCH 6-7 (5:00 Fri. –3:00 Sat)

6th-9th Grades

\$5.00 each & Can good for Food Banks

Mount Kessler House

Tents on property

Hiking, Movie, Games,

Fun & Fellowship



Note: Sr. High can attend as assistants and/or group leaders

COME & BRING FRIENDS



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

COME—BRING IDEAS for SPRING!!

2000 x



=



(4 Filled Peace Pipes)

500 Heifer

2 Already FILLED!!!

**Helping one family have a better quality of life
 Through Heifer Project International**

Holy Babble Newsletter Schedule Change

The newsletter is being sent out today, Wednesday, February 4. Then we will change to sending it out On the last Wednesday of the month.

Schedule will be as follows:

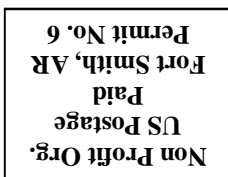
<u>Article Deadline</u>	<u>Mailing</u>
Feb. 20	Feb. 25
Mar. 20	Mar. 25
Apr. 24	Apr. 29
May 22	May 27
Jun. 19	Jun. 24
Jul. 24	Jul. 29

Vestry Members

Louise Watts, Sr. Warden	782-9290
David Arnold	452-1359
Christine Davis, Treasurer	648-2817
Julia Dobbins	452-5388
Richard Falkner, Jr. Warden	452-5396
Farrah Fielder, Clerk	478-9779
Harry Foltz	452-2698
John Hamill	782-4882
Jim Horton	484-5883
Steve Kilpatrick	452-9931
Chad Lowe	478-6242
Al Snider	452-4027
Nancy Sparks	918-775-2898
Sally Vick	478-6477
Norman Ward	474-1053

PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Mary Ann Arnold – Team Leader – 452-1359
Neighbor to Neighbor Coordinator
Bereavement Committee Food
Susan Horton– Eucharistic Visitors – 484-5883
Bettye Fields – Cards and Historian – 452-2637
Barbara Hanna – At Large* - 646-0477
Birnie Harper – At Large*– 452-0301
Kit Hart – At Large* – 629-1505
Molly Schardt – Bread to newcomers – 709-9497
Judy Trowbridge – Comfort Food – 785-5550
Clergy – The Rev. Marti Dalby – 782-9912/cell 221-4031
*At Large = Willing to help when needed.



St. John's Episcopal Church
214 N. 6th
Fort Smith, AR 72901