



# The Holy Babble

June 18 — July 2, 2008



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

**The Rev. Marti Dalby**  
221-4031/  
[mdalby@stjohnfs.org](mailto:mdalby@stjohnfs.org) or  
[surprisedby  
grace@yahoo.com](mailto:grace@yahoo.com)

**The church office -**  
782-9912  
[stjohnfs@stjohnfs.org](mailto:stjohnfs@stjohnfs.org)

**Louise Watts, Senior  
Warden - 782-9290**  
[lbwatts@cox.net](mailto:lbwatts@cox.net)

**For other needs call/  
email:**  
**Jeannie McCabe**  
221-4032  
[jmccabe@stjohnfs.org](mailto:jmccabe@stjohnfs.org)

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



## From the Curate's Desk

I write to you all from Epworth on Lake Michigan. The weather up here has been a little different from what the residents normally experience. There was a bad storm last week that changed the course of things. You see, the Lincoln River has a channel that flows into Lake Michigan. This quiet, little tributary, which is used for fishing and unloading boats that are headed for the lake, sustained the storm, but the shore line was not the same after the storm. One of the residents, whose home is located on the river, remarked that as the storm came through, she could actually feel the shifting of the river's course. The devastation also destroyed the bridge that led to that part of the lake's shoreline, as well as a walking path, preventing any kind of access. Those who lived at that end of the Epworth Assembly have had to start using an alternate, seldom used route to get to their homes.

At first, it made me sad that the residents had lost their old familiar route to their cottages. It just seemed like a big hassle to have to adjust their normal habits in order to just get home. But then, as I often do, I wondered how God fits into all of this. Everything from God is supposed to be good, so how did this disaster of nature fit into the idea of a loving God who watches over us and protects us? The change in the course of the river wreaked a havoc that was certainly a big inconvenience, but it made me think. When changes occur that are out of our control, perhaps that is the time when we need to let God be in control, instead. Perhaps, that is when we finally let go of old ideas and habits and open our hearts and minds to something new that might occur in our lives. Sometimes it takes a near disaster to realize that there are other routes to take to get home.

Beautiful dunes, lie on the other side of the bridge that was destroyed. We had gone to see them last year, so I started checking into alternate roads to get to them this year. We found the road less traveled and experienced a part of this place that we never would have even seen if it had not been for the storm last week. For that I am very thankful, because it reminds me that the Christian life is often the road less traveled and that in the midst of all our old familiar habits and ruts, a new better course can be forged when we are open to the changes that God provides for us. There is a better way to get home when God is a part of it. God bless you all! See you Sunday!

The Reverend Marti Dalby



**Canoe Trip:** June 27-29 on the Illinois River at

## Upcoming Events



### SAINTS ALIVE

Get ready, get set, dive or jump in! St.'s Alive is having a pool party! Bring your swim suit and towel and join in the fun. John and Candi Hamill will host this party at 8801 Royal Ridge Drive starting at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 21st. Burgers and dessert will be provided. Please bring a salad or vegetable to share and your favorite beverage. Questions--call Candi at 782-4882.



**SAHMs (Stay At Home Moms)**: Working mom's that will be home with the kids for the summer are welcome to join us at the Ruth Skinner building this Tuesday, July 1 at 10:30 am—12:00pm for a mommy playgroup. Children and babies welcome, with a few toys to help entertain them. Bring your favorite healthy snacks to share. No reservation required, just drop in. Questions? Call Margaret @ 452-4424, Lori @783-5331, or Macon @649-0884.

### Upcoming Events

June 19: Dream Group at St. Bart's, 7 pm  
June 21: Saints Alive, 6:30 pm  
June 21: T-Shirt Design meeting, 10 am  
June 22: Canterbury (formerly YAM) 6:00 pm  
June 22-26: Robert R. Brown Camp I  
June 23: Centering Prayer Group, 5:30 pm  
June 25: Summer Reading Program, 9 am  
June 26: Girl's Night Out at Pink Flamingo, 6:30 pm  
June 27: Laymen's League, NOON  
June 29: Graduate Sunday, during 10:30 am service  
June 29-July 3: Robert R. Brown Camp II  
July 01: SAHMs, 10:30 am  
July 04: CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED  
July 06-11: Middler I Camp  
July 11: Yoga classes at Trinity, VB, 7:30 am  
July 12: St. Thomas is hosting Ultreya, 4-6pm  
July 13-18: Jr. High II Camp

### Canterbury (formerly YAM)

We'll meet at 6pm on Sunday, June 22nd in the Skinner parking lot. We'll then go over and make sack lunches.

Our normal dinner and 'Seekers' study will begin at 7:30pm on the 22nd. If you can't be there to make sack lunches, we hope you'll still come for the 2nd half of the evening!

A big THANK YOU to Gae Von Hoover, Kit Hart, & Janee Crofts for feeding us! We appreciate you SO much!

### *My favorite bible verse:*

If one gives answer before hearing, it is folly and shame. Proverbs 18:13

*Karen Rouse*

### MEETING ROOMS IN THE SKINNER BUILDING

Due to an increase in the number of meetings being held at the same time in the Skinner Building, it would be very helpful if the groups meeting could be scheduled with Vickie (782-9912). She will need to know when you are meeting, what time the meeting will be held, and about how many will be attending. Please check in at the volunteer desk to find out where your group will be meeting.

Room Capacities - Main Area & Youth Room - unlimited

St. Matthew - 11 or less

St. Luke - 10 or less

Library - 6 or less

Thank you for your cooperation with these arrangements.

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### THANKS! THANKS! THANKS!



**Many, Many "Thank You's"** go to all of St. John's family who helped to make the Schieffler's reception a wonderful event. The beautiful table decorations were created by Sandra Kilpatrick with Steve being the transport helper. The rest of the committee and helpers were: John & Candi Hamill, Lee Ann Vick, Susan Horton, Kit Hart, Jeannette Falkner, Louise Watts, Sally Vick, Jane Walcott, Dave & Mary Ann Arnold, the Rev. Marti Dalby, David Sims, Linda Gabriel, Bettye Fields, Liz Powers, Vickie Phelan, Muggy Murray, Charlene Brunne-meyer and all of **YOU** who brought food.

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### Time for JOY

Borrowing a term from Marcus Borg, I do not hesitate to say that Camp Mitchell is a "thin" place. Every time I visit, I feel the breadth of God's love for his earth and even for me. This space at Petit Jean is not just beautiful because of nature; it becomes even richer through the people. I met thirty such people at the 2008 Time for JOY.

Time for JOY is a weekend held each April that is sponsored by the ECW of all of the churches of the diocese. It is a designated "female" weekend, when the camp is decked in laughter, pink and other such girly colors, and the warmth of sisterhood. Twenty-four women ages 19 to 40-ish are invited to partake of offerings, which include discussions about time management, spiritual direction, and meditation. The participants are even allowed to sleep all day, if they wish. It is a weekend of pampering and friendship building, of eating and relaxing, of just being.

In our world, we rush from sleep to the car, to work or to school, to homework or children, to pets and spouses, to chores and television and back to bed, collapsing wearily into sleep (unless we spend some extra time worrying about what we failed to accomplish during the day). In fact, we seldom have the foresight to take a moment to recognize and be thankful for God's grace in our lives. We are blessed, and we have such potential for passing on our blessings to others.

These thirty women that I met in April took several days to show each other thankfulness, extreme care, and love. I walked into a room of strangers and left that same room a mere 42 hours later with that number of friends.

Next winter, when spring is coming near, and you hear about the 2009 Time for JOY, take a moment to think if there is anyone you know who really needs to experience that weekend of retreat. Also, think about what you can contribute to the weekend...whether it is a few books, some stationery, a couple of packs of gum, or prayers. I am grateful to St. John's ECW for providing the weekend for me, and I look forward to my involvement with Time for JOY in the years to come. Farrah Fielder

## Church News

### PASTORAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Mary Ann Arnold – Team Leader – 452-1359  
Neighbor to Neighbor Coordinator  
Bereavement Committee Food

Cindy Ashley – Eucharistic Visitors – 646-8673

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

Susan Horton – At Large\* – 484-5883

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 Directory Updates:

Phillip & Amber Brunck  
7613 S. 'Q' St.  
Fort Smith, AR 72903  
Her cell: 414-7480  
His cell: 414-5184

Home: Danny & Judy Schieffler  
1421 N. University Ave., Apt. N 325  
Little Rock, AR 72207  
Cell: 501-766-1498  
Email: [dkschieffler@comcast.net](mailto:dkschieffler@comcast.net)

Work: St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
1000 North Mississippi Ave.  
Little Rock, AR 72207  
Phone: 501-225-423  
[dschieffler @st-marks.com](mailto:dschieffler@st-marks.com)

### From the Senior Warden's Desk:

The vestry met with Dennis Campbell last Tuesday, June 10th. He discussed available options for the search process and the entire vestry has agreed to a shortened version for the search. Because we have the recent surveys from our searches in 1997 and 2004, we gave those results to Dennis along with the most recent vestry goals for the future of St. John's. Bishop Benfield and Dennis Campbell (as head of deployment for the diocese) are going to provide the search committee with names for a "priest in charge" for our parish for the next two years. That individual can be asked to stay on as our priest if, after an appropriate period of time, we agree that it would be a good "fit". This is the direction that many parishes have chosen in order to find a priest without going through a lengthy search. Dennis has assured us that in almost 100% of the cases where they placed someone this way, there has been an excellent outcome.

With that in mind, five people have agreed to be on the search committee to work with Dennis and the Bishop, namely Farrah Fielder, Al Snider, Harold MacDowell, Sandra Kilpatrick, and Roney Rouse. Typically, the search committee will not be visiting other priests and parishes; rather they will visit us.

Marti has agreed to continue as Curate and will be performing all of her usual duties at St. John's as well as working with the staff and I am grateful for her support.

My plan is to keep everyone updated as new developments arise. Thank you for your patience and support.

Louise Watts,  
Senior Warden

## Upcoming Events



**Graduate Sunday:** Sunday, June 29 during 10:30 service (was rescheduled). We'll be honoring our graduates from High School whose families are members of St. John's: William Hoover, Quinton Parham and Taylor Noel.

### The 2008 Camp Mitchell Summer Camp Schedule

June 15-20	Primary Camp	July 6-11	Middler I
June 22-26	Robert R Brown Camp I	July 13-18	Jr. High II
June 29-July 3	Robert R. Brown Camp II	July 20-25	Dick Johnston Camp
		July 27-Aug 1	Middler II
		Aug 3-8	Jr. High II

The cost for a week at youth camp has increased to \$295.00/camper. For more information, please contact Jeannie McCabe at 782-9912. Scholarships are available. Registration forms will be on the website at [Arkansas.anglican.org](http://Arkansas.anglican.org), then click on Youth, and it's on the bulletin board.



### Dream Group

Dream Group, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, June 19, at 7:00 pm at St. Bart's. For more information contact Suzy Smith 782-3300 or 414-9850.

### CENTERING PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP



A Centering Prayer Support Group will begin meeting on Mondays at 5:30 p.m. The first meeting will be held on June 23rd in the Skinner Building Chapel. The group will begin with 10 minutes of study time followed by 20-25 minutes of centering. Anyone is welcome to join. Questions--call David Sims 474-4215

### Girl's Night Out

Pink Flamingo—May Branch



Girl's Night Out will be on Thursday, June 26. They are NOT open on Tuesday. They will reserve a space for us & we must be there on time, 6:30 pm. I have to give them a count on Monday, June 25th & know for sure if you are going. Please call me at 452-2637. Thanks, Bettye Fields.



### Laymen's League:

Regular meeting, Friday, June 27 at 12:00 o'clock NOON. Come and join us for food and fellowship.



**Remember:** to pick up your dishes from the Schieffler reception. They will be in the kitchen.



### **EMAILS/NEWSLETTERS**

We have had a computer crash this last week and we are trying to recover. Please bear with us as we work through this. Things do not work or look as they did before. We hope to have this all corrected and running smooth soon. Thank you for your patience.

### St. John's Vestry Goals for 2008

1. Continue to address the needs of our children, youth, and families.
2. Explore and implement marketing techniques.
3. Continue to promote e-communication and website, and educate the parish.
4. Continue to set growth as a primary goal.
5. Continue to investigate establishing a fitness program/sports/wellness program.
6. Maintain the Neighbor to Neighbor program.
7. Find a good stewardship chairperson.
8. Follow up on staffing key positions: Altar Guild co-chair, new usher coordinators, nursery staffing.
9. Develop college ministry at UAFA; determine parish supervision and vestry liaison.
10. Upgrade playground and develop outdoor youth space.
11. Funding for male and female youth leaders.
12. Conduct effective search for next rector.
13. Determine time line and responsible person for each of these goals.

St. Thomas in Springdale is hosting an Ultreya in the St. Thomas Parish Hall from 4:00-6:00 p.m on Saturday, July 12, 2008. All Cursillistas and anyone interested in Cursillo is welcome. They will provide non-alcoholic beverages, plates, cups, etc., but ask that you bring along a light snack or hors d'oeuvre to share.

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### The 416 Children of San Angelo From Pat Wright

**Women from the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church and Christ Lutheran Church united for a quilting bee to benefit the children being held at Fort Concho. The quilting will continue until there is one comforter for each of the 416 children taken from the YFZ Ranch in Eldorado in a massive child-abuse investigation that began April 3.**

Hello! It is 103\* this afternoon. HELP!!! I went to quilt this morning, the number is up to 442--only 8 to go to make the 450 I think was the final total of children. All of the children are probably home by now but we had set the goal of 1 quilt per child. The CPS continues to deliver the quilts as they go to check on these children. Thanks for keeping up with our project. Hope all is going great with everyone there at St. John's. I know you all miss Danny and Judy. Moving is hard on everyone and I continue to keep all of you in my prayers. Lots of love to everyone. Pat

We still have need of money to buy items that we need, including batting, and fabric. To contribute to this project — send your checks to St. John's (att. quilt project) and it will be forwarded to San Angelo.



### Summer Reading Program

Do you have a child or grandchild going into first grade next year? Would you be interested in having your child learn the three brain skills used in successful reading? An eight week program, "Early Readers," is being offered free of charge at Trinity Episcopal Church on Wednesday mornings (9:00 - 10:00 a.m.) from June 25th to August 13th. One parent, grandparent, or interested adult must accompany the child and learn the brain skills along with the student. Because of this simple training, the skills will become a valuable resource to the child when school starts. Spaces are limited, so contact now. Please call Rosie Holland at 719-5671 with questions and for registration forms.



**Yoga classes:** will be offered 7:30 am Friday mornings, beginning July 11 at Trinity Episcopal in Van Buren. For more information call Suzy Smith at 782-3300.

## Church News

St. John's Vestry Meeting  
June 10, 2008

Meeting opened with prayer.

Vestry met with the Rev. Dennis Campbell, Canon to the Ordinary. Motion passed to allow Bishop and Canon to choose approximately 3-4 candidates for consideration for priest in charge, Motion passed to have a search committee for interviewing and traveling.

Motion to extend Marti's curacy through 2009.

Minutes approved.

Treasurer's/Financial Report: Running about 2.5% above budget—revenues also ahead. Repairs and maintenance doing well. Utilities running over plan. Motion to combine rector's discretionary account into a parish discretionary account.

Senior Warden's Report: Birnie Harper agreed to be webmaster for our website.

Parish Report: Average May Sunday attendance was 178. The Heart of Christianity continues through June 29. Choir has added choral benediction after the post-communion prayer and before sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors. Birnie Harper leading the Wednesday Bible Study at Secret Building. Second Sunday service holding at thirty people. Nine women from St. John's attended Women's Institute.

Curate's Report: Marti continues to provide pastoral care to parish.

Youth Ministries Coor. Report: Vacation Bible School will be at St. John's on July 7-11.

Junior Warden's Report: Organ problem has been fixed, as has broken freezer.

Liaison/Committee Reports: Motion passed that extra toilets, except for one, are donated to Habitat for Humanity.

Old Business: School of theology commitment will be fulfilled.

New Business: Several members helping with Kneelers.

Grace Lodge at Camp Mitchell needs donations from individuals or congregations to refurbish the lodge.

St. John's offering to host a local convocation meeting with the Bishop after Lambeth.

Meeting adjourned.



### CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

Will be held on Sundays during the 10:30 service. Children's Sermon will occur immediately after the opening hymn with children exiting THROUGH THE CHAPEL for Children's Chapel. Children will return at the offertory from the rear of the church at the main entrance. There will be NO Sunday School during the summer.

**EVS Eucharistic Visitors Needed:** St John's is in need of additional Eucharistic Visitors. Please consider being a part of this rewarding ministry. Training will be provided. The visits are very much appreciated. For additional information, contact Marti at the church office 782-9912, or call Cindy Ashley at 646-6873.

## ATTENTION EV (EUCHARIST VISITORS)

Looking for a missing communion kit! Please check to see if you happen to have one in your possession and return it to the church. It would also be very helpful if the kit you are taking out on Sunday could be returned to the church before Friday when they are cleaned. Thank you for your dedicated time to this valuable ministry.



## Cards for Others

If you are doing early spring cleaning and find any assorted or Christmas cards, please donate them to CARDS for OTHERS. We accept new and unused cards in either the Skinner Building or Parish Hall reception areas.

## THE HOLY ALPHABET

Although things are not perfect  
Because of trial or pain  
Continue in thanksgiving  
Do not begin to blame  
Even when the times are hard  
Fierce winds are bound to blow  
God is forever able  
Hold on to what you know  
Imagine life without His love

Joy would cease to be  
Keep thanking Him for all things  
Love imparts to thee  
Move out of "Camp Complaining"  
No weapon that is known  
On earth can yield the power  
Praise can do alone  
Quit looking at the future  
Redeem the time at hand

Start every day with worship  
To "thank" is a command  
Until we see Him coming  
Victorious in the sky  
We'll run the race with gratitude  
Xalting God most high  
Yes, there'll be good times and some  
will be bad, but...  
Zion waits in glory...where none are  
ever sad!

Borrowed from Christ Episcopal Church in Mena.



## ChristCare Groups Forming

### ◆ Living With The Bible

We were given the Bible not only to read but to use in our everyday lives. Please contact Ann Ward if interested, at 629-4511 or [nannalann@cox.net](mailto:nannalann@cox.net)

### ◆ Volunteers for Christ

Is a new ChristCare group for young adults that will focus upon providing services to various organizations in our community and building relationships with the church and each other. We If you are interested, please contact Stephanie Randall: 452-2200 days, and 478-6775 evenings.

### ◆ Christ Cares about People

Want to make a day trip, but not by yourself? We've made our first trip to Queen Wilhelmina Park and had a wonderful time. If you are interested or have an idea for a fun trip call Cecil at 1-800-500-6759 or email [cdengles@aol.com](mailto:cdengles@aol.com).

### ◆ The Young at Heart: Our ChristCare group will be for men and women 50-100 who are looking for fellowship and a good time. Our outreach will be for our service men and women within our church family and outside the church, too. We will meet once a month. Contact Mary L. Wise at 709-9555 or [debbie5c@cox.net](mailto:debbie5c@cox.net).

# Church News

## Bookstore News



### SUMMER CLEARANCE SALE

50% OFF RETAIL PRICE

COME AND SHOP WHILE THE SHOPPING IS GOOD!

Items on the left wall are not included in this summer sale - a list of these items is in the Bookstore.

Remember, the Bookstore @ St. John's is a ministry of St. John's and gives back to this community in many ways through outreach.

So give twice! A double thanks to all of you that shop at the Bookstore!

### VBS NEWS & UPDATES:

T-Shirt Design meeting...any who can make it: SATURDAY, JUNE 21 – 10:00 am / and environment design team.

Call for assistance: Need a potter's wheel that can be used AT THE CHURCH. Two different potters (friends of Jeff Champlin and myself, and perhaps the owner of the wheel) are available to offer demonstration for Jeremiah Day (at the potter's house). WE NEED A WHEEL. Please email or call if you know of anyone.

Get those volunteer forms and youth registration forms to your church contacts/offices!!! THANKS.

**VBS is right around the corner and we need food (or cash) donations.**

**Please call Macon Hossley 649-0884 or Margaret McLellan at 452-4424 if you can help.**

**Monday (St. John's)**

#### **Tortilla wraps**

100 flour tortillas

Sam's Club packages of cream cheese

SLICED Cheeses

50 cheddar cheese slices

50 swiss cheese,

100 american cheese

Mustard, Mayo

2 bags baby carrots

2 bags broccoli

2 x 52 oz. squeeze bottles Ranch dip

8 boxes of Kraft mac n cheese with butter & milk

4 chocolate giant cans of pudding

3 vanilla giant cans of pudding

#### **TRAIL MIX**

100 ziploc bags,

2 x 56 oz. of M & Ms,

1 package of white raisins,

one Sam's club size Walnuts, pecans, almonds,

1 box Cheerios,

a few packages of dates or apricots

Friday's celebration is a potluck dinner and everyone is invited. The meat will be provided and the rest is potluck. Please help us out by bringing a family serving of 12.

Last names A-F please bring baked beans, G-L please bring slaw, M-R please bring potato salad, S-Z please bring rolls or cornbread.

# Schieffler Reception



**LOTS OF FOOD.....**



June 1, 2008



**& FUN!!**



**VISION STATEMENT FOR ST. JOHN'S**  
**Our Mission is, "Sharing God's Love**  
**Through Church and Community"**

**A Welcoming Church** that is inclusive and accepts people wherever they are on their spiritual journey.

**A Compassionate Church** that provides pastoral care for all and respects the dignity of every person.

**An Outreach Church** that shares God's love through outreach programs and seeks to know God's purpose for the Church and takes decisive actions to carry out His will.

**A Traditional Church** that celebrates God's goodness and love through worship in the Episcopal tradition.

**An Empowering Church** that helps people discover their individual gifts for ministry and then utilize those gifts to follow God's will in their every day lives.

**A Teaching Church** that instructs by word and deed, to follow Jesus Christ as a way of life.

**A Giving Church** that is passionate about stewardship; committed to the tithe as the minimum biblical standard of giving and encourages its members to give a generous portion of their time, talents and financial resources back to God.

**A Church With a Variety of Programs** for all ages, emphasizing a strong youth program, which helps deepen our relationship with Christ, each other and our community.

**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



There's an "Angel" in EvANGELism  
If you know of someone who doesn't have  
a church home, invite them to St. John's.

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