

The Messenger

The Newsletter of
Saint John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
1720 Old Black Horse Pike (at Chews Landing Road)
Chews Landing, NJ 08012-5218

Church Office (856) 227-1051
Church Fax (856) 228-5748
Church E-mail: St.Johns1789@verizon.net
The Reverend Margaret Sterchi, Rector

Volume MMVIII - Issue V September - October 2008 Issue

Octoberfest

Mark your calendars! The First Annual Octoberfest (bratwurst, sauerkraut, apple cakes, and lots of fun for the family) sponsored by the ECW Evening Branch will be held on Saturday, September 28, 2008. The festival will kick off at 4:30 pm. An apple theme is planned for this event. Ticket prices are \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children and \$30.00 for a family. Tickets are available from any ECW members. Contact Mary Wonderlin for more information or if you wish to be a volunteer.

Confirmation Classes

It is time to begin a new confirmation and reception class for those interested in becoming a part of the Episcopal Church. All baptized Christians, 13 and older, are invited to participate. If there is interest, Reverend Margaret will contact Bishop Council to have a Bishop come in the spring of 2009. If you or anyone in your family is interested, please call the office immediately to let Reverend Margaret know, 227-3788. Leave a message if she is not available. Please call any time night or day. Please let her know the name of who is interested, age if not an adult, and phone number as well as the best meeting time for classes (day and time please). We are at the mercy of our Bishops' schedules so we need to start the process now.

Blessing of the Animals

We will have the second annual blessing of the animals on October 4, St. Francis Day, at 3:00 pm in the lower parking lot of the church. All animals are welcome, properly contained with leashes or cages. Last year we had dogs, hamsters, a snake, and photos of cats. It was a fabulous day, so let's see what we will have this year!



Betty Knipe celebrates her milestone birthday with her great-nieces.

Sunday School Resumes

The first day of classes for the 2008-2009 Church School year kicks off on Sunday September 21st followed by the parish picnic immediately after the late service.

Help Wanted

We are very grateful for the work Joe Waller has done for us both as a member of the vestry and as our sexton. Joe has resigned from both positions so we are now in need of a part-time sexton. Being a member of St. John's is not a prerequisite. If you or anyone you now may be interested in some part time work for the church, please contact Lee Jones for further information.

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E-Mail: St.Johns1789@verizon.net
Web Page: [HTTP://www.stjohns1789.org](http://www.stjohns1789.org)

STAFF

Rector

The Reverend Margaret Sterchi
Organist & Music Director

Rodger Maro

Parish Secretary

Shirley Mullen

Sexton

Vacant

Senior Warden

Lee Jones

Junior Warden

Mary Wonderlin

Vestry

Louis DeCecco, Treasurer

Steve Moritz

Karen Zirbser

Stephen DeBaun

Phyllis Dold

Mike Millisky

Frank Silvati

Peggy Cardone

Diane Chando

Lisa Cooper, Clerk of the Vestry

Kate Teasdale

Altar Guild

Dorothy Simpson

Church School

Mary Wonderlin

Churchyard

Ernie Jones

Director of Publicity

Bob Goodman

ECW

Joyce Root

Flowers/Memorials

Phyllis Dold

Acolytes/Readers/Servers

Jude DeBaun

Ushers

Shirley Mullen

Webmaster

Carolyn Bausinger

Sunday Evening Adult Education

Our Sunday Evening Adult Education this fall will be on the book of Revelation. We will begin meeting on September 14 at 6PM with the aim of ending each night by 7:30. If you are interested and have not already let Margaret know, please call her office at 227-3788 so she can order you a book. We will meet on September 14 and 21, and then in October and the first Sunday in November, at which time we should be through with the study.

Our Advent series will be held on November 30, December 7, 14 and ending on December 21. The subject will be announced as we get closer to the season.

Jewelry and Glass Galore!

Carolyn Bausinger will host a three-day home show featuring her handmade jewelry, as well as stained and fused glass pieces by Denise O'Brien. This is not a demonstration, but a holiday shopping bonanza. Come when it is convenient, buy what you like and take it with you. By all means, bring friends! Jewelry will include necklaces, bracelets and earrings; glass includes bowls, plates, serving trays, tree ornaments and more. Most pieces are one-of-a-kind, so whether you are buying for yourself or as a gift, you will have something unique and beautiful. Carolyn is donating part of her profits to St. John's, so your purchases will benefit our parish, too. Check the Sunday bulletins in October for show hours on Friday, Nov. 7 - Sunday, Nov. 9. The show will be held at 172 La Costa Dr., in the Valleybrook section of Gloucester Twp.

Girls Friendly Society

St. John's in the past has been the site of a very active Girls Friendly Society group. It may be time to consider starting this up again. This fall all the girls in the parish are invited to join Dot Simpson and Reverend Margaret to meet at St. Mary's, Clementon when they start up their group this year. This will take place the end of September. As soon as we have the day and time we will make the announcement. And if we can get a large enough group going we will start our own group here at St. John's. If you have questions about this organization, talk to Dot Simpson or Chris Goodman and they can help you.

From the Rector's Desk

As I sit here, thinking about what message might be of interest to you (and to me actually), I am still thinking about our Gospel Lesson from Sunday. I try to put myself in Peter's sandals and imagine what it must have been like. You are in a boat that is being tossed by the wind and waves and suddenly see Our Lord walking towards the boat...in the midst of this tempest and just strolling on top of the water! No wonder those in the boat thought he was a ghost. And yet when Jesus invited Peter to step out of the boat and walk towards him he does just that. No thought for how this is to happen, he just steps out and begins walking towards Jesus. Yes, he loses his focus a bit and begins to sink, but even then Jesus is right there to reach out and lift him up. Trust and love, incredible love, all wrapped up together.

I realize that just as we begin to perceive God's incredible love towards us in our relationship with parents, grandparents, Godparents and the like, so, too, do we learn that we can step out of the boat, trusting in that love. I remember standing in the shallow end of the pool, arms raised as my Godson stood on the edge. I called to him, "Jump! I'll catch you!" He took a flying leap into my arms and we both laughed at the thrill of it. Later it was his younger brother's turn to trust that I would catch him. But this time it was leaping off the top bunk in his bedroom before I realized what he planned to do. He knew I loved him and would somehow catch him, and so I did, heart in my mouth. Stepping out of the boat and walking towards the arms of one who loves us. As we grow we do this all the time.

Eventually we begin to hear God calling to us. "Jump! I'll catch you!" Our first tentative forays out of the boat may be just a step or two and even then we reach back to get back into the boat. It is scary out there. The boat is comfortable, something we know and understand. Stepping out of the boat means getting out of our comfort zone and being prepared to accept whatever is to come. We need always remember we are walking TOWARDS Jesus, the one who loves us unconditionally, the one who will not let us sink into oblivion. Then we can step out...to a new job, to a new relationship, to a new ministry, to a giving even more of our resources, and maybe to a new life in Christ. And then when that newness becomes comfortable, becomes easy, once again Jesus calls us to come, get out of the boat. We grow in our relationship to God and our relationships to each other each time we take the risk and step out of the boat until finally we are called out of the boat one last time, this time to truly join God. And this is what it has been about as we

live our lives out in developing a relationship with God, in repeatedly stepping out of the boat. When we are called out that last time, as it happened to Doris Craig, Anna Gibson, and June Geiger, we have no fear. We can step out of the boat in true peace and reach out to the One who loves us. What a blessing that must be! What a blessing I want when the time comes. So I will keep trusting in Our Lord and continue to step out of the boat when he calls me. How about you?

Reverend Margaret +

Pastoral Care—Teams are still needed!

Our Pastoral Care teams are now forming. Jude and Steve DeBaun are taking the lead in this, having been a part of this ministry for many years. Kate Teasdale and Judy Vaughan-Sterling will be joining them. This will allow for our home bound parishioners to receive Holy Communion more frequently as well as allow them to have other contacts with the parish. These wonderful folk enjoy knowing they continue to be a part of the parish, even though they can no longer be among us as we worship. We could use other teams, so please contact the Rector if you are interested. We will provide any necessary training for you. In addition we will use the same method our Lord did in sending out ministers in pairs. No one will need to go into this ministry by him or herself. This is not a ministry you have to come up with on your own. The liturgy is provided as well as all necessary materials. All you need to provide is time to share with someone who can really appreciate that time.

Mark Your Calendar

Sept. 2 - Evening ECW 7:00 pm
Sept. 8 - Morning ECW 10:00 am
Sept. 14 - Revelations Book Study resumes
Sept. 21 - Sunday School begins & parish picnic
Sept. 28 - Octoberfest
Oct. 4 - Blessing of the Animals 3:00 pm
Oct. 7 - Evening ECW 7:00 pm
Oct. 12 - Morning ECW 10:00 am

Prayer Group

My hope is that everyone uses our weekly prayer list in your personal prayer life, praying for those of our community who have asked for them. If you are interested in becoming a part of an intercessory prayer group in which folks are assigned specific people and situations to pray for, please let the rector know (227-3788). Leave a message if she is not there. One of our own has expressed interest in forming such a group and it would be a gift to St. John's parish. We would meet every couple of months but most of the time you would just need to dedicate a small part of your day to praying for yourself and others. Please consider this vital ministry.

Julian Gatherings

When I first began taking classes with the idea of exploring my call to ordained ministry, I took a class on women mystics. Dame Julian of Norwich was one of the folks we read and I just became quite enamored of her. She was a spiritual giant in the 14th Century, being a mystic and an anchorite. After receiving visions from God, she lived out her life in a small room attached to a church in Norwich, England where she could see the altar and using a window in the outer wall provide counsel for those who came to her. I even made a special pilgrimage to her church while visiting England one year. Through her writings she has much to teach us about God's incredible love. And so a suggestion has been made of a monthly group that would gather to study her teachings, pray, and enjoy some light repast. If you think you might be interested, call the rector (227-3788) or let Judy Vaughan-Sterling (she is a choir member) know. Watch the bulletin for suggested meeting days and times.

Financial Snapshot As of 7/31/08

Year to Date Income	\$63,741
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$73,645</u>
Deficit	\$ -9,904

Vestry meetings are held in the Parish Hall on the 2nd Tuesday evening of each month 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.



Goodsearch and Goodshop

How would you like to donate to St. John's every time you searched the internet or every time you purchased something online from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Lands End, or one of several other sites, and none of the donation come out of your pocket? You and your family and friends can do that if you will use Goodsearch.com for your searches and Goodshop.com for your purchases. The search engine is from Yahoo so once you indicate St. Johns Episcopal Church, Chews Landing for the organization you are searching for you can type in your search and the page that comes up will be the very familiar Yahoo. Go to the site and you can see how much we have raised so far. If everyone will use this for searching and online purchases we will have a significant check donated to us come this fall. Let your family and friends know about this and encourage them to use it particularly as we head toward the holiday purchasing time.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour is the perfect venue welcoming our visitors and newcomers as well as getting to know each other better. Coffee Hour follows the late service and it is an important opportunity to meet and greet people. Keep this a success and join us for some refreshments and good fellowship. Also please consider finding a buddy and hosting a Coffee Hour. A signup sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.

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People are funny; they want the front of the bus, middle of the road, and back of the church.

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Peace starts with a smile.

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**Visit our Web Site:
www.stjohns1789.org**

Spotlight on our Youth:



Question of the day, is the above the before or after picture? (See below picture).



Sammi has now graduated Basic Cadet Training and is officially a Cadet Fourth Class. Academic Classes started August 7.

Sammi's address is:
 C4C Samantha Jones
 PO Box 4083
 USAF Academy, CO 80841
 E-Mail: C12Samantha.Jones@USAF.edu
 Alternate e-mail: sammi_christine@yahoo.com

Sammi has received cards from many of her church family and is greatly appreciative. They helped sustain her through the rigors of basic training and will do so for this tough plebe year at the academy. Samantha has joined the Association of Christian Officers and the Academy and has the opportunity to worship in a most beautiful chapel, but Saint Johns is still home.

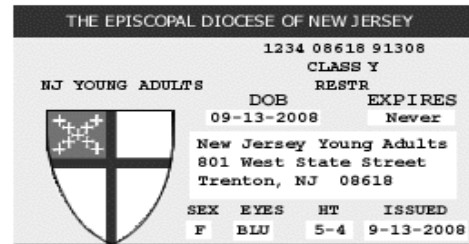
Samantha Caruso is off to Disney World for the next 5 months on an internship.

Todd Wonderlin Todd was named to the Ursinus Dean's list this past spring and has been on Dean's list every semester. He substitute taught in Gloucester Twp. schools after he finished the semester at college and lifeguarded at the township pool which he has done every year for the past 5.

Courtney Caruso will begin teaching in outside of Newark in September.

When not studying, Vanessa Goodman is a Marketer for Red Bull. You can also catch her in action on Sundays working at the Adventure Aquarium in Camden.

CAN I SEE YOUR ID?



Young Adult Fall Gathering, to be held on Saturday, September 13th, 2008, at Trinity Cathedral. Join the Facebook group "New Jersey Young Adults"!!!

2008-2009 Diocesan Youth Events

registration opens in August

TLC Day
 6-12 grade
 October 18, 2008
 Moorestown, NJ

50th Bishops' Ball
 All Ages
 8pm to midnight
 January 23, 2009
 Trenton, NJ

Fall Youth Event
 6-12 grade
 November 21-23, 2008
 Lebanon, NJ

Fall Youth Event
 6-12 grade
 February 27-28, 2009
 Wildwood, NJ

Generation
 All Ages
 11am - 2pm
 December 6, 2008
 Elizabeth, NJ

The Senior Retreat
 12 grade
 April 17-19, 2009
 Mendham, NJ

Winterlight 33
 9-12 grade
 Dec. 27 - Jan. 1, 2009
 Hendersonville, NC

Spring Youth Event
 6-12 grade
 May 15-17, 2009
 Lebanon, NJ

The ECW Page

On June 9th the ECW picnic was held in the Parish Hall, due to heat conditions. In spite of the high temperatures of the day, a great time was had by all.

Fall is around the corner with big events in the offing.

Mark your Calendar

September 28 – October Fest – Beef & Root Beer with an apple theme. Sponsored by the Evening ECW.

A fall Bazaar will take place on November 1, 2008. Watch the bulletin for details.

The ladies of the ECW are busy crafting items every Monday at "Threads of Love". The meetings take place at 10:00 am in the Parish Hall.

If you would like to make something or have a great suggest for the Bazaar please contact Kate Teasdale or let Reverend Margaret know. Also if you would like to make an item at home call Kate at (856)627-5931.

The women of the ECW would like to send a special note of thanks to Lee Jones for helping with the luncheon for June Geiger's funeral on Tuesday August 5th. Thank you Lee, we appreciate your support and dedication. Also thanks to Steve DeBaun for giving time and support. The ladies of the ECW applaud you both. Without your support we would not be able to host such wonderful events.

Further, many thanks to all the ECW ladies and to the alter guild for your hard work all year.

Finally, these people named and all those who help out on a regular basis; who are too numerous to name individually, we express our deepest gratitude.

Kate Teasdale

Special Arrival

Congratulations to Kate & Bob Teasdale on the birth of their first grandchild, Brianna Teasdale, born July 23rd, 7 pounds, 19 inches long.

United Thank Offering

There is the UTO ingathering in October. People can get boxes in the back of the church to put money into so they can begin collecting. Then they bring in the boxes in October.

Diocese ECW Seeking Nominations

The diocesan chapter of Episcopal Church Women (ECW) is seeking nominations for their "Women of Honor" Luncheon. Nominees should have demonstrated exceptional dedication to the ECW ministry in the Diocese of New Jersey. The luncheon will be held on Saturday, 18 October 2008 at 11:30 am at the Grand Versailles Banquet and Conference Center in Maple Shade, NJ. The keynote speaker is the National President of ECW, Kay Meyer. To nominate someone or reserve a space at the luncheon, contact Suzette Whiting at 609-492-2483 or suzknee@aol.com.

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Don't wait for 6 strong men to take you to church.

Wawa Shorti Coupons

Coupons for Wawa Shorti hoagies are available from Mary Wonderlin 783-6805 and Shirley Mullen 227-1051. Coupons are \$3.50 each and can be used to purchase any Wawa Shorti sandwich or be used towards the purchase of any larger sandwich. Proceeds benefit St. John's.

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Some people are kind, polite, and Sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.

Please contact the offices with any changes in address, phone number, or E-mail address.

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Don't let your worries get the Best of you; remember, Moses started out as a basket case.

Book study on Opening the Bible continues each Sunday. We will meet at 6:00PM.

From the Diocese of New Jersey

Save the Dates for Fall 2008!

The Fall 2008 catalogue of the Ministry Institute offerings will be available in July 2008. Here's some advance notice of events: mark your calendar with the ones that interest you.

Thursday, October 23 - Saturday, October 25, 2008

Event Analyzing and Understanding Systemic Racism: Introductory Training

For Everyone

Where Grove Hall Retreat and Conference Center, Ocean Grove, New Jersey

The Anti-Racism Commission of the Diocese of New Jersey will offer this introductory training event to diocesan lay persons and clergy interested in learning about racism and potentially joining the Team to fight racism in our diocese. Teens and adults from all parishes, diocesan committees and commissions, seminary students and diaconate students are welcome.

Tuesday, December 2, 2008

Event Advent Clergy Day

For Clergy

Where Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, New Jersey

Advent Clergy Day has traditionally focused on clergy preparation, either through academic presentations or with spiritual exercises, to lead their parishes and institutions in the quietly expectant season of Advent.

MINISTRY INSTITUTE: FALL '08

FALL 2008 COURSES and EVENTS by DATE

September 2008

- 11 Clergy Homecoming Day with Bishop Council
- 13 (8 weeks) Theological Ethics
- 13 Bi-Annual Hispanic Festival
- 13 Sexual Misconduct Awareness
- 18 Calling Clergy: A Spiritual & Practical Guide through the Search Process (for Vestry, Self-Study and Discernment Committees)
- 20 Urban Ministry Workshop
- 20 Discerning A Call to the Diaconate
- 20 Sexual Misconduct Awareness
- 27 Deacons Day with Bishop Council
- 27 Sexual Misconduct Awareness

October 2008

- 4 Lambeth Reflections Day (Province II event)
- 5-7 Annual Clergy Conference
- 11 Sexual Misconduct Awareness
- 13 4th Annual Trinity Cathedral Community Day
- 15 Sexual Misconduct Awareness
- 18 TLC (Together, Learning, Caring)
- 23-25 Analyzing & Understanding Systemic Racism-Introductory Training
- 25 Radical Welcome: Practical New Tools and Ideas
- 29 Youth Ministry Adult Workshop: Talking to Teenagers About Sex

November 2008

- 2 Invite A Friend Sunday
- 8 Sexual Misconduct Awareness
- 21-23 Fall Youth Event: AIDS - Crisis and Compassion Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about The Episcopal Church But Were Afraid to Ask
- 22

December 2008

- 2 Advent Clergy Day
- 6 Generation: A Musical Celebration
- 10 Youth Ministry Adult Workshop: Youth and Gangs
- 12-13 Vicars Retreat
- 27-1/1 Winterlight 33: To You All Hearts Are Open

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The good Lord didn't create any thing without purpose, but mosquitoes come close.



Invite a Friend Sunday is about inviting people to participate in a particular Christian community: yours! The Diocese of New Jersey has set aside a Sunday — 2 November 2008 — across the diocese for this endeavor. The vision of this program is to be responsive to friends and families who are not Christian or involved in a church. This is an intentional day of welcome.

On 2 November 2008, we look forward to living up to the motto of our church: "The Episcopal Church Welcomes You!"

Parish Prayers for Joys and Concerns

Pray for those in Special Need

Bp. George Cuncell, Daniel Jones (no relation to Lee Jones), Gary Campanell, Pete Rodriguez, David Lester, Libby Ryan, Margaret Bell, Larry Sassa, Mildred Ball, Michael Hughes, Cameron Lyons, Sara Reid, Anna Glenz, Esther Chando, Joe Chando, Bob Hamilton, Brenda O'Neil, Catherine Potter, Cyndi Phillips, Paul Caruso Sr., Mamie Jones, Louise Aimes, Linda Gurner, Darlene Hamilton, Dayonna Pritchett, Fred Heller, Matthew Sterling, Grace Sterling, Delores Osborne, and Linda Virgilio.

Pray for our Shut-In and Home-Bound

Bob Keiser, Warren Blackburne, Marie News, Bill Knipe, Miriam Mason, Margaret Walker and Mary Molineaux.

Pray for those who have died

Diane Ivins, August 16, 2008
Julia Turner, August 17, 2008

Pray for those entering the military

Sammi Jones

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The Will of God never takes you to where the Grace of God will not protect you.

5th Grade Assignment

A fifth grade teacher in a Christian school asked her class to look at TV commercials and see if they could use them in some way to communicate ideas about God. Here is a sampling of results:

God is like BAYER ASPRIN. He works miracles.

God is like FORD. He's got a better idea.

God is like HALLMARK CARDS. He cares enough to send His very best.

God is like COKE. He's the real thing.

God is like TIDE. He gets the stains out that others leave behind.

God is like GENERAL ELECTRIC. He brings good things to life.

God is like Sears. He has everything.

God is like ALKA-SELTZER. Try him, you'll like him.

God is like Scotch Tape. You can't see Him, but you know He's there.

God is like DELTA. He's ready when you are.

God is like ALLSTATE. You're in good hands with Him.

God is like VO-5 Hair Spray. He holds you through all kinds of weather.

God is like DIAL SOAP. Aren't you glad you have Him? Don't you wish everybody did?

God is like CHEVROLET....the heart beat of America.

God is like the U.S. POST OFFICE. Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet nor ice will keep Him from his appointed destination.

God is like MAXWELL HOUSE....Good to the very last drop.

God is like BOUNTY. He is the quicker picker upper...can handle tough jobs...and He won't fall apart on you.

10:00 a.m. Sunday Service Ministries

September 7th 2008

Acolyte: Michael Dold
Readers: Mary Wonderlin
Lee Jones
Server: Steve DeBaun
Ushers: The Teasdale's

September 14th 2008

Acolyte: David Martinez
Readers: Carolyn Bausinger
Margaret Frasier
Server: Larry Lutz
Ushers: The Martinez's

September 21st 2008

Acolyte: Julie Millisky
Readers: Judy Vaughan-Sterling
Skip Zirbser
Server: Skip Zirbser
Ushers: The Stahl's

September 28th 2008

Acolyte: Matthew Dold
Readers: Jude DeBaun
Phyllis Dold
Server: Steve DeBaun
Ushers: Wonderlin & Cooper

October 5th 2008

Acolyte: Danny Martinez
Readers: Larry Lutz
Mary Wonderlin
Server: Larry Lutz
Ushers: The E. Jones's

October 12th 2008

Acolyte: Michael Dold
Readers: Lee Jones
Carolyn Bausinger
Server: Skip Zirbser
Ushers: L. Jones & DeCecco

October 19th 2008

Acolyte: David Martinez
Readers: Margaret Frasier
Judy Vaughan Sterling
Server: Steve DeBaun
Ushers: Mullen

October 26th 2008

Acolyte: Julie Millisky
Readers: Skip Zirbser
Jude DeBaun
Server: Larry Lutz
Ushers: Zirbser & Simpson

The Choir Thanks you.

The choir would like to thank everyone who came out to support us on Sunday, August 17th when we sang the National Anthem at the Rivershark's game at Campbell Field in Camden. It was a beautiful evening and a good game too!

Also thank you who have purchased the tee shirts. We really appreciate the new choir robes. Thank you.

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Return Service Requested

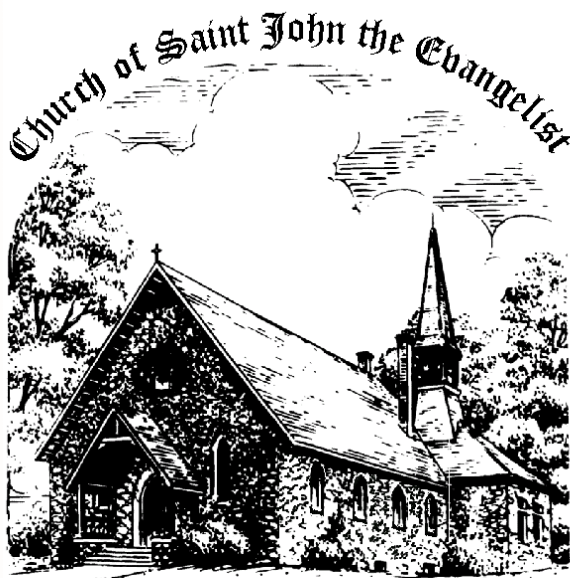
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Glendora, NJ
08029 Permit No. 6

The Messenger

September/October 2008

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL



Chews Landing, New Jersey

Weekly Schedule

Saturdays

5:00 p.m. Rite II Eucharist with Sermon

Sundays

7:45 a.m. Rite I Eucharist with Sermon

9:30 a.m. Church School

10:00 a.m. Rite II Family Eucharist with Sermon

Wednesdays

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

**Deadline for the Nov/Dec Messenger Sunday,
October 19, 2008.**

Items can be left in the Parish Office or e-mailed to St.Johns1789@verizon.net (Please show Messenger in the subject line)