

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
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The Reverend Margaret Sterchi, Rector

VOLUME MMXIII—ISSUE IV

JULY/AUGUST 2013 ISSUE

RIP - Rodger W. Maro

(May 3, 1940 - June 23, 2013)

Our long time organist passed on June 23, 2013 at the age 73 in Cherry Hill, NJ. Formerly of Lindenwold, NJ

Roger is survived by children Corinne M. Maro and Carlo (Tami) Maro. He was the cherished grandfather of Dominique Specca, Jonah P. Maro, and Dante S. Specca.

Rodger was born in Camden City and raised at 4th & Chestnut Streets in Camden. He was a former parishioner of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish in South Camden. He was a graduate of Camden Catholic High School in Camden City. He was a longtime resident of Cherry Hill and Lindenwold.

Rodger had a lifetime passion for music and enjoyed teaching music. Rodger was the music director for over 15 years at the Episcopal Church of Saint John The Evangelist in Chews Landing (Gloucester Township). He was loved by the members and even had "Team Rodger" who cared for him and helped him through his illness. Rodger started playing the organ at Saint Mary's R.C. Church in Gloucester City in the mid 1980's and played each Sunday Mass at 7:30 am, Weddings and Funerals for the Church until 4 months ago. He was the former organist at Assumption R.C. Church, Atco (Christ The Redeemer Parish) for over 20 years. His love of music especially the piano and organ was evident in his life and will be remembered by many who learned from him.

Relatives, friends and his peers in music are kindly invited to attend a reception in his memory on Sunday, July 21 from 12 Noon to 1:30 pm at The Episcopal Church of Saint John The Evangelist: 1720 Old Black Horse Pike Chews Landing (Gloucester Township). Funeral Service 1:30 pm in the church. Cremation and Inurnment are private at the request of his children.

The Family prefers in lieu of flowers that memorial donations in Rodger's memory be made to Episcopal Church of Saint John the Evangelist, 1720 Old Black Horse Pike, Chews Landing, NJ 08012. (Please write in the memo: Rodger Maro). Condolences and Memories may be shared at www.mccannhealey.com under the obituary of Rodger W. Maro. Funeral Arrangements and Inquiries through McCann-Healey Funeral Home: 851 Monmouth Street, Gloucester City. Ph: 856-456-1142.



Family Matters - End of Life issues

Our final Family Matters for this year will take place on July 27th. This presentation will be on End of Life issues. We have talked about this before, but it has been a while. A representative from Earle's Funeral Home will be with us to tell us about how we can make a final gift to our loved ones. This gift will be more important than any other gift we can possibly give, the gift of having made many of the decisions that must be made at the time of our death. In addition, Reverend Margaret will walk us through the decisions that need to be made regarding services at the time of our death. Anyone who has gone through this at the death of a loved one will tell you that many decisions have to be made at a time when it is most difficult to even put one foot in front of the other. And yet these decisions cannot be put off. If we make them while we are still alive, then our loved ones will have less to worry about. The fact is no one gets out of this world alive. So please come and find out how to make this difficult time much, much easier. The presentation will begin at 6:30 and end at 8:00, so the sun will still be up.

SCUCS

Periodically Joyce Root stops in the church and parish hall and gathers up all the donated food to take to SCUCS, a Camden County Senior Citizen organization that provides food for the seniors in our community who are hungry and unable to purchase basic groceries. Hunger is with us no matter what time of year it may be. We often forget this when the weather warms up. Lately there has not been much for Joyce to take in. I encourage all of us to remember SCUCS when we stop in the grocery store. You will find bags available in the parish hall with suggested items listed on an attached card. Take a bag, pick up as much or as little as fits your budget and return the bag to the church. There are many folks who will appreciate your generosity when they sit down to a meal.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

The Wednesday 10:00 am mass is suspended until September.

Beginning July 7 the early Sunday service will begin at 8:00 am; this is a permanent change.

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E-Mail: St.Johns1789@verizon.net

Web Page: <http://www.stjohns1789.org>

The Realm (Parish Directory): <https://onrealm.org>

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Rector

The Reverend Margaret Sterchi

Parish Secretary

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Sexton

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Senior Warden

Trish Lilley

Junior Warden

Michael Lutz

Treasurer

Lisa Schwinge

Vestry

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Michael Millisky

Peggy Wynne

Lee Jones

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Pat Bosch

Jason Komanchek

Craig Keisling

Sharon Sweeten

Cynthia Rolle

Louis Gross

Matt Torpey

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Church School

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ECW

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Editor

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Flowers/Memorials

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Carolyn Bausinger

GoodSearch

You Search or Shop...
We Give!

Many of you will be using the internet when ordering gifts for Christmas for your loved ones. This is a reminder to go to **GOODSHOP.COM** when ordering and **GOODSEARCH.COM** when looking for a particular site. At the box where they ask who are you shopping for or who are you searching for just type in "St. John's Chews Landing" and hit the verify button. Our official name will come up. Then continue using the site and any purchases you make using the link to the many shopping sites will give us a percentage of your purchase at no cost to you. Every time you search for something we will get a penny. That may not seem like much, but it adds up. If everyone in the parish would use these sites and share them with their friends and family just imagine how much we could make...at no cost to anyone! If you are not sure how to use these sites please call Reverend Margaret. She will be delighted to walk you through the process.

GIFT CARDS

Gift cards are a way to support the church in a very painless way. You order the cards you would like to have either as a gift or for your own use. Then write a check to St. John's for the total order. We will submit the order and you receive the gift cards for the full face value. We, however, receive a percentage of your purchase. So whether you need something for yourself (I usually purchase my groceries with the gift cards as well as go to the Cinemark theater with my gift card) or need a gift for the immediate future or maybe as something to keep on hand, this is a painless and easy way to support the church. Just let us know when you order if it is needed immediately or if we can hold off a little and do a bulk order (we have to pay shipping no matter how many cards we order, so the more the better). Contact Sharon Sweeten or Margaret Sterchi if you have any questions.

Weekly Schedule

Saturdays

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

Sundays

8:00 a.m. Rite I Eucharist with Sermon

9:30 a.m. Church School (Sept.–June)

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

Wednesdays

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Sept.–June)

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

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FROM THE RECTOR'S

DESK

I sit at my computer on a stormy Thursday. My three dogs all respond differently. Isla is totally unconcerned, busy playing with one of her many, many toys. Rags prefers to engage the thunder by barking frantically at the window each time there is a thunderclap. Meanwhile, poor Andy just remains plastered at my side, totally terrified. He has his Thundershirt on, which envelops him in a snug cocoon. This helps, but he still hates the thunder.

I think of these responses to the unknown as I read through a facebook post by one of our parishioners. He is one of the very faithful folks who is doing the Bible Challenge. He and a few others are doing a MUCH better job of this than me. Not only does he consistently read the chapters of all the readings but he takes the time to reflect on them as well. Today he commented on the reading from Galatians 3:5-6. The Peterson translation is "Answer this question: Does the God who lavishly provides you with his own presence, his Holy Spirit, working things in your lives you could never do for yourselves, does he do these things because of your strenuous moral striving or because you trust in him to do them in you?"

Wow. Imagine trusting in God in all we do; trusting that God indeed provides lavishly for each one of us simply because He loves us...unconditionally; and then trusting in God to do those things in us that we could never do for ourselves. Trust in God. Now I am not saying that Isla has this kind of trust in God and Andy doesn't. Actually it may be more that Isla has her trust in me and Andy doesn't trust ANYONE with all that noise! But I do hope that I, who knows how much Jesus loves me and cares for me and is doing in me that which I cannot do for myself, or really even dreamed I could do it, that I can indeed trust in God to always be there. Even when I think I am "failing" or that I cannot go another step and just want to crawl back into the womb, I can trust that Jesus will not let me down. Each one of you can also have that trust and faith in our God. Each one of you is indeed loved unconditionally and God is working things in your lives you could never do for yourselves. I know that. I see that every day when I see all that you are doing. So relax this summer. Enjoy your time away if you get a vacation. Enjoy your time at home if you do not. God has your back. It is not about your striving. It is totally about God being there for you in the midst of the unknown.

Reverent Margaret +

Sabbatical, part 2

This is from a book by Anne Morrow Lindbergh, entitled *Gift from the Sea*. It will help to explain why Sabbaticals are important as a time of refreshment and re-engagement.

"It is not the desert island, nor the stony wilderness, that cuts you off from the people you love; it is the wilderness I the mind, the desert wastes in the heart through which one wanders lost—a stranger to oneself and estranged from others too. If one is out of touch with oneself, then one cannot touch others. How often in a large city, shaking hands with my friends, I have felt the wilderness stretching between us. Both of us were wandering in arid wastes, having lost the springs that nourished us, or having found them dry. Only when one is connected to one's own core is one connected to others, I am beginning to discover. And for me the core, the inner spring, can best be refound through solitude. We are all, in the last analysis, alone. How one hates to think of oneself as alone. How one avoids it—it seems to imply rejection or unpopularity.

We seem so frightened today of being alone that we never let it happen. Even if family, friends and movies should fail, there is still the radio or television to fill up the void.

Women, who used to complain of loneliness, need never be alone any more. We can do our housework with soap-opera heroes at our side. Even day-dreaming was more creative than this: it demanded something of oneself and it fed the inner life. Now, instead of planting our own dream blossoms, we choke the space with continuous music, chatter and companionship to which we do not even listen. It is simply there to fill the vacuum. When the noise stops there is no inner music to take its place.

We must re-learn to be alone."

Sabbatical will be a time for me to be alone, a time for me to once again touch base with my inner core. As Anne Morrow Lindbergh so eloquently puts it, this will be a time for me to re-learn to be alone, driving across the country with only the dogs for company much of the time. I will have no TV and I can choose to not turn on the radio. I will periodically touch base with friends across the country to hear their stories of how they do ministry in the world, but there will be vast stretches of time when I can re-engage my inner self, find the stranger who lives within me. I can become once again in touch with myself and then return to you, able to better touch you. I have found in the past few weeks times in which this passage from *Gift from the Sea* helps me to understand why and how I am not connecting well with people I love, people I care about, and yet seemingly I appear not to care. I do care. This time away will give me the opportunity to more clearly find my role as priest, as rector, as pastor, as friend, and as companion. It is a bit scary and will require some work and discipline on my part. But I truly believe I will come out the other side better able to serve the good people of St. John the Evangelist in Chews Landing. That will make it all worthwhile.

Visit our Web Site:
www.stjohns1789.org

New Committee Explores Ministry Older Adults

More than one in three Episcopalians is over the age of 65, and another 41% of Episcopalians are between the ages of 45 to 64. That means three of every four members of the Episcopal Church are age 45 or older. In terms of economic stressors alone (retirement age, technology gaps, social services, Social Security, and Medicare), the impact of this demographic group on local congregations is profound."

The Committee on Ministry to Older Adults has set out to answer these questions:

- How do we recognize, honor, and utilize the experience, wisdom, and gifts of "older" adults?
- How do we develop ministries that integrate and weave multiple generations together spiritually?
- How do we cultivate Christ's message of hope and service for older adults, families, and their caregivers?
- How do we examine, explore, and create innovative and contemporary liturgical, spiritual, and service ministries by, with, and for all generations in the Body of Christ?"

Join us on for an Evensong on September 28, 2013 at 3:00 pm in Trinity Cathedral to honor nominees submitted by congregations for exemplary work done during their years of service.

For more information about the committee and the work they are doing; contact either of the co-chairs, The Rev. Jane Brady or The Rev. Jayne Oasin.

Youth Summer Mission Trip

Saturday, August 25th-August 30th

For: Youth (grades 9-12)

Cost: \$300 (includes housing)

The youth of our diocese will join those of Long Island to learn about the challenges facing local residents and community agencies by working to help home owners, pack food, or support general cleanup efforts. The application deadline to register is Aug 19. Please contact The Rev. Canon Debi Clarke (877-394-5281 x36).

Remembering R.S. Thomas

R. S. Thomas was a Welsh priest/poet whose poetry won him national and international acclaim. This event, which will be at All Saints', Princeton on Sat Sept 21 from 12pm-5:30pm, celebrates the centenary of his birth and places him in his wider literary and spiritual context. The cost of \$15 includes lunch and reception. Students are free, as is the Evensong. Visit for more information. Register here.



SUNDAY SUNDAES

Don't forget that during the summer months we have Sunday Sundaes at coffee hour each week. Ice Cream and toppings will be available for everyone to make their own sundae, along with cookies, and the usual coffee and tea. Come join us for a refreshing treat.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

July 7: Early service on Sunday to begin at 8:00 am
July 23: Vestry Meeting at 7:00 pm in the parish hall
July 25: "The BBC", 7:00 pm Panera Bread, White Horse Rd
July 27: Family Matters 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall "End of Life Issues"
Aug 15: "The BBC", 7:00 pm Panera Bread, White Horse Rd
Aug 27: Vestry Meeting at 7:00 pm in the parish hall

Remember to mark your calendars

Parish Prayers for Joys and Concerns

Pray for those in Special Need

Bp. George Cuncell, John Worsham, Dallam E. Blandy, Eric Quintavalle, Stan Wojciechowski, Robert Hamilton, Jon Howard, Pamela Davis, Harry Collins, Matthew Sterling, June Goodman, Helen Buss, Bill Cox, Bob Brown, Anna Collazo, Bill Peters, Kathy Barbagallo, Claire Koreck, Patrick & Sheila Koreck, Margaret Gross, Bill DeBaun, Anthony Mattola, Ann Black, Diane Siracuse, Billy Patient, Mrs. John D. Shockley, Sr., Rodney Borden, and Christina Baccelliere.

Pray for our Shut-In and Home-Bound

Arline and Alex Potts, Kay Taylor, Betty Knipe, Dorothy Sabot, Anna Scalise, Doris McLoughlin, Karen Street, Gwen Welker, Barbara Houghton, and Mary Molineaux.

Pray for those serving or entering the military

Sammi Jones, Mark Jones, Ed Orr, Stacey Droll, Adam Miller, Hillary Getz, Henry Yang, Amanda Collazzo, Michael Helfrich, Frank Vanore, Jr., Steven Barhmaier, Anthony Moss, and Michael Truskowski.

Church Finances

Operating Fund:

Income Received Year to Date	\$67,459.00
Income Required Year to Date	\$73,600.00

HVAC Upgrade Capital Campaign Aug 2011/Aug 2014

Project Cost	\$43,000.00
Income Received to Date	\$35,613.00

Deadline for the September/October Messenger Sunday, August 11, 2013.

Items may be e-mailed to robert.goodman@comcast.net or they may be left in the Parish Office.

**Vestry meetings are held in the Parish Hall on the 4th
Tuesday evening of each month 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**

THE ECW PAGE

The ladies of the ECW held their last meeting for the year at Betty Mantzell's house. Thank you Betty for a wonderful day filled with fun and fellowship, good food and desserts.

The new officers for the coming year are as follows:

President Kate Teasdale
Vice President Bernie Brown
Treasurer Mary Wonderlin
Secretary Sallie Jones

The ECW was pleased to give the Vestry \$4,500.00 this year.

Kathleen Martel is collecting used artificial Christmas trees and also needs shear flowers and picks, all waterproof and shear gold wire edge ribbons. If anyone has trees, flowers, or ribbon, please let Kathleen know or bring your donations to the Parish Hall

The next general meeting of the ECW is scheduled for Monday, September 9th 2013 in the Parish Hall at 10 am. We plan to have cake and coffee available to celebrate the September Birthday's.

As always, the ladies of the ECW thank you for your support of our events during the year. We hope to see you at one of our meetings.

Respectfully,

Sister Kate Maura

ECW President

Coach Bingo

Mary Wonderlin advises that the Evening ECW will stage Coach Bingo to be held on November 1st in the Parish Hall. Advance ticket sales only. Tickets will go on sale in October. Photos of the Coach prizes will be posted on the church website soon.

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour Hosts are needed for the fall and winter. A sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall. 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 sign up sheet is posted in the Parish Hall.

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.

Scenes from the ECW Picnic

On May 20th, the ladies of the ECW held their annual picnic. The ladies met at Red Bank Battlefield and enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch. A birthday cake celebrating Rev. Margaret and Kathy Horne's birthday was dessert. Afterward we had fun playing bingo. The weather was iffy but after we got to the park the sun came out and it became a nice day to have a picnic.



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)

Gloucester Township Day

St. John's hosted a booth at Gloucester Township Day on June 1st. The booth provided information and free water was handed out.



(Photo courtesy Jason Love)



Photo courtesy Jason Love)

THE BIBLE CHALLENGE

Bishop Cancell has issued a challenge to the Diocese of New Jersey — to read the Bible over the course of the next year. Our parish started at the beginning of Advent, but it is never too late to join us. You are asked to participate by following the reading schedule in The Bible Challenge by Marek Zabriskie, or by downloading the schedule from The Center for Biblical Studies. Follow the outline as provided in the book or online, and by next Advent you will have read the entire Bible. Readings are from Monday - Saturday. This is a way to deepen your faith in a way you would never expect. On Sunday mornings, during coffee hour, we can share what surprised us, what moved us, and what comforted us.

“Chair Yoga”
Sunday, Evenings
7:00 pm in the Parish Hall

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR YOUTH:



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)

IHOC Backpacks

Once again the summer we are collecting items for the backpacks for IHOC. We plan on stuffing backpacks in August.

Celebrations

Scenes from the St. John's Luau held on June 15, 2013.



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)

Food

Fun

Fellowship



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)



(Photo courtesy Sallie Jones)

And A Good Time



(Photo courtesy Stephanie Torpey)

Was Had By All



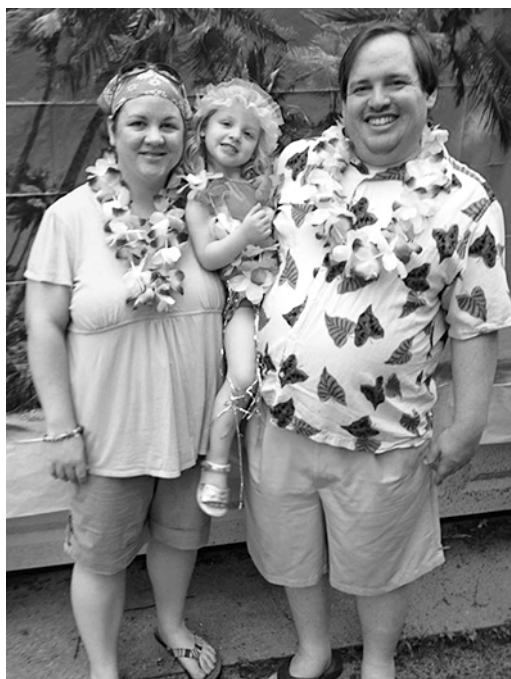
(Photo courtesy Stephanie Torpey)



(Photo courtesy Stephanie Torpey)



(Photo courtesy Stephanie Torpey)



(Photo courtesy Stephanie Torpey)



(Photo courtesy Stephanie Torpey)

Circle Your Calendar – September 15

You don't want to miss the Annual Parish Picnic. Join us as St. John's celebrates the beginning of fall & our Sunday School year with hot dogs, hamburgers and plenty of fun for everyone!

Happy 90th Birthday



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)

Dot Lutz June 23rd



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)



(Photos courtesy the Lutz Family)

