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# *The Outrider*

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**October 2002**

## *The View on a Rainy Day*

*"Soon it's going to rain, I can feel it.  
Soon it's going to rain, I can tell.  
Soon it's going to rain, what are we going to do?"  
--lyrics from The Fantastics*

I love a rainy day. I like the way rain feels and sounds and smells. Sitting on a porch with a book while it's raining—one of those slow, all day, soaking rains we've had too few of lately—reading and dozing...that's my idea of a great afternoon! I like the surprise of a sudden shower and the majesty of a full-blown thunderstorm. I'm partial to rain most anyway it falls...

Then there's the old saying about "saving for a rainy day." My father was a great one for that view of rain. **You never know**, he would tell me, **when a rainy day will come along**.

Dad was right about that. All the fancy Doppler Radar and other meteorological devices seem to be wrong about as often as they're right. However, sometimes you can tell from the color of the clouds and the taste of dampness in the air and the way the wind blows the trees that rain is coming. Sometimes you can feel it. Sometimes you can tell....

The kind of "rainy day" my father always worried about—a time when things don't go quite right—is on our horizon here at St. John's. You need to know about it now, well ahead of time, so we can—as a community—decide what we're going to do.

Because of several factors, we need to find some \$50,000 in new income or budget cuts for the 2003 budget. (That, it seems to me, qualifies as one of Dad's "rainy days"!)

\*The money available from our endowment for the budget is based on an average of the value of the endowment in September of the previous three years. We are all aware of the long decline of the stock market. Since 2000 was a "flat" year for the market after years of good times and both 2001 and this year have been disasters for investments, there will be less money available from endowment funds for 2003.

\*Because of a change in the way the Diocese views what is "income", the request from St. John's for 2003 from the Diocese is up over \$10,000.

\*Both our property insurance (up 60% next year!) and health insurance plans have risen considerably. The total between them is nearly \$20,000.

There are other details to the budget problem for 2003, but that's enough information to start with. The question is this: "What are we going to do about our "rainy day budget"?"

There is the *simple solution* that occurs to most of us when faced with financial issues—cut spending! But, as H.L. Mencken said: "*for every complex problem, there is a simple solution: it is obvious, easy and **wrong!***"

The Finance Council and Vestry will certainly look at items in the budget that can be reduced. However, there isn't very much discretionary or "luxury" spending going on. Most of St. John's budget involves expenses that are pretty much 'fixed'. Short of cutting staff and closing the building during the week, there aren't many significant cuts to be made. To cut back in either of those areas would be a Menckenesque mistake.

The problem is complex and multifaceted. It requires a solution that will require creative thinking, profound commitment and deep prayer. Nothing less will do.

One place we must begin is in increasing pledged income. You should have already received the first of this year's Stewardship letters. It is time each of us determined how we can more fully support the parish financially. An increase of pledged income of 25% coupled with judicious and wise budgeting could nearly eliminate the expected shortfall. Even that, however, would be only a short-term solution. We are challenged as a parish to create a vision for St. John's future that would deal with finances for the long run.

Toward beginning to wrestle with our rainy day, there will be opportunities to hear more about the budget issues on two Sundays soon. I urge you to plan to be present for one of those presentations and discussions. It is your opportunity to be a part of the solution as we seek ways to deal creatively and faithfully with next year's budget and our financial future. Until then, hold St. John's in your prayers and hearts. It is there—in our relationship with God in prayer—that rainy day answers will emerge.

Shalom,

**Jim**

**DISCERNMENT GROUPS CONTINUE...**

**"What are these discernment groups all about?"**

If you want to know you can ask some of those who were in Groups I and II (list below). The third group is underway and Group IV will begin this month. Discernment IV will meet on Sundays at noon. Given the challenges facing St. John's financially (see Jim's "View"), the role of discerning and creating St. John's future becomes especially vital.

The root word for "discernment" means, literally, "to sift..." Discernment is a process of "sifting" through relationships and building community. It takes time and commitment and is well worth the effort. If you'd like to be a member of Group IV, please let Jim, Malinda or Bill Garretson know.

Discernment Group Graduates: Jay Anthony, Pam Behrman, Kay Bergin, Jeffrey Brown, Diane Caggiano, Michele Carrano, Lorene Castle, Stanley Chesnas, Pinki Chillemi, Harriet Fotter, Bill and Elaine Garretson, Sandra Jellinghaus, Richard Lee, Karen Minkler, Marilyn Mitchell, Tom and Delmar Nelson, Dorothy Raleigh, Ray Rosa, Christine Stolfi, Gail Szantyr, Mary Beth Thompson, Pam Toffey, John Torrance, and Loribeth Young. Also attending some sessions were Evanson Dover, Andrew Skipp and Michelle Webber.



**PASTORAL CARE – MONTHLY SUPPORT & TRAINING**

Beginning this fall, all those involved in the various ministries of pastoral care to homebound members of St. John’s are invited to gather monthly for ongoing training, support, and an opportunity to share. If you are currently involved as a Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM) or providing any other sort of pastoral care, you are especially encouraged to attend. Newcomers or those who simply want to know more about these important ministries are always welcome. Meeting time/date: Sundays October 13, November 10, and December 8, 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the Library. Any questions, please call Marilyn Mitchell (860-868-2368) or Malinda Johnson (203-558-2557).



**BUDGET PLANNING**

**BUDGET PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION**

On both Sunday, October 27th and Sunday, November 10th, there will be a presentation of the budget issues for 2003. Folks from the 8 a.m. congregation will be invited to listen, learn and discuss immediately following the Eucharist. There will also be a session after the 10:15 Eucharist. All meetings will be held in the Library.

Please plan to be present at one of these four opportunities. The first step toward finding “possibility” in the midst of this unsettling time is having everyone in the parish fully informed. We need your ideas and commitment.



**CHILDREN’S SABBATH**

St. John’s annual celebration of the Children’s Sabbath will be Sunday, October 20. Each year we highlight some aspect of the needs of children in our society and the world. Diane Platt and our Church School children will be involved in the celebration. Many thanks to Marcia Holroyd who keeps St. John’s focused on the Children’s Sabbath and the needs of our children.



**Informal Worship**

**DAILY WORSHIP AT ST. JOHN’S**

At noon each week day (Monday-Friday) there is worship in the Chapel of St. James. Wednesday is always Holy Eucharist and Healing. Other days will be either Noon Prayers or the Eucharist. It is a time of quiet and prayer. Join us whenever you can—and if you can’t, pause for a moment at noon to pray for St. John’s staff and members.



**THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT FIRST LUTHERAN**

As part of the new relationship between the Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. John’s and First Lutheran began a tradition last year of joining together for a Thanksgiving Eve service at St. John’s. This year First Lutheran Church on the corner of Cooke and Grove Streets will host the service. The choirs of the two churches will join together to provide music. Pastor Louis will celebrate communion from the Lutheran Book of Worship and Jim Bradley will preach. Save the date now —**Wednesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>**.



**BAPTISMS**

Three dates for Baptisms are set for the rest of 2002: Sunday, November 3 at 8 a.m., and Sundays November 24 and December 29 at 10:15 a.m.

If you or your child desires baptism, please contact one of the clergy. There will be a class for parents and godparents and older candidates at 10 a.m. the Saturday before each date.

**THE AUTHORIZED LITURGY**



Work on the liturgical worship of the Episcopal Church didn't end with the 1979 Book of Common Prayer. The Standing Liturgical Commission of the national Church has continued to design and refine our rituals. During October and November St. John's will use "The Authorized Liturgy" for our Eucharistic Worship. The wording of the Authorized texts is more inclusive in terms of gender and images than the Prayer Book. We have used these texts several times in the past—but always during the summer. Beginning October 13<sup>th</sup>, we will use these liturgies at all three Sunday services and other celebrations of the Eucharist. Let members of the Liturgical Council know your reactions to the Authorized texts. St. John's Liturgical Council Members: Stephen Arbogast, Jim Bradley, Diane Caggiano, Barbara Curry, Hollis Hart, Robert Havery, Doris Hollenstein, Malinda Johnson, Sonja Osborn, Bill & Gert Payne, Helen Pritchard, and Michael Spencer.

**SUNDAY ADULT FORUM**

**"What Steve Did On His Summer Vacation..."**



Sundays November 17 & 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m., Seminarian Stephen Arbogast will lead two sessions on his summer's journey to visit the Anglican Church in Nigeria. There are 21 million Anglicans in Nigeria! The church in Africa is exploding in growth. Come share in Steve's journey.

November 17<sup>th</sup> – Overview of West African Culture  
 November 24<sup>th</sup> – Global Anglicanism

**ADULT QUIET DAY**



Save Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup> in your calendar now! Stephen Arbogast will be leading a morning of quiet reflection to begin the journey of Advent. Details to come.

**FROM THE TREASURER**

The following are financial statements through the end of August 2002... eight months into our budget year that began on January 1.

**Budget Report: January 1 – August 31, 2002**

	2002 Budget	8/12 of 2002 Budget	thru Aug 31 2002 Actual
Pledges & Offerings	\$ 157,500	\$ 104,856	\$ 109,056
Parking Lot/Room Fees	\$ 17,750	\$ 11,817	\$ 9,882
<b>Investments</b>	<b>\$ 291,650</b>	<b>\$ 194,167</b>	<b>\$ 202,835</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 466,900</b>	<b>\$ 310,840</b>	<b>\$ 321,773</b>
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 280,119	\$ 186,490	\$ 187,974
Utilities & Maintenance	\$ 97,400	\$ 64,844	\$ 68,170
Office Administration	\$ 21,950	\$ 14,613	\$ 12,377
Parish Programs	\$ 22,200	\$ 14,780	\$ 12,110
Diocesan Pledge	\$ 36,000	\$ 23,967	\$ 24,000
GWIM	\$ 7,500	\$ 4,993	\$ 5,625
<b>Audits &amp; Legal</b>	<b>\$ 1,350</b>	<b>\$ 899</b>	<b>\$ 1,233</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$ -0-</b>	<b>\$ -0-</b>	<b>\$ 857</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 466,519</b>	<b>\$ 310,586</b>	<b>\$ 312,346</b>
<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>\$ 381</b>	<b>\$ 254</b>	<b>\$ 9,427</b>

## October Parish Prayer Cycle

**October 6:** The Loomis Family, Wayne Lowry, Melita & Michael Lucas, Jeanne Luedke, George MacDonald, and Michael & Debra MacDonald.

**October 13:** Melissa Mancini, Alan & Justin Mancinone, Alice Mancinone, Lisa Mancinone & Family, The Mantzaris Family, Alexandria Markowich, and Mary Marlak.

**October 20:** Tony & Jennifer Marques and Family, Galo Marriott, The Mastropietro Family, Jill & Vincent Matteis, Susan V. Matthew, and The Mattson Family.

**October 29:** The May Family, The McDonald Family, Gerard McDonald & Janet Mitchell, Elaine McDonnell, Robert McHugh, Robert & Diana McIntosh and Family, and The McNair Family.

10/17 Bailey Matos  
 10/18 Laura Breslin  
 10/18 Elizabeth Santoro  
 10/21 Rae Abell  
 10/21 Robert McHugh  
 10/22 David Gurniak  
 10/23 George Coulson  
 10/23 Sarah Gould  
 10/23 Joshua Gould  
 10/25 Holly Kosky  
 10/25 Samantha Padilla  
 10/26 Dorothea Crane  
 10/27 Nicholas DiZinno  
 10/27 Richard Lee  
 10/28 Elizabeth Vermette  
 10/29 Joseph Adomavicia  
 10/29 Matthew Kosky  
 10/29 Larry Tapley, Sr.



### OCTOBER

10/2 William Munson  
 10/4 Dorothy Cole  
 10/4 Sean Russo  
 10/5 Ruth Truelove  
 10/6 Carrie Misurelli  
 10/6 Meagan Perreault  
 10/7 John Sabol, Jr.  
 10/7 Darren Santa Maria  
 10/7 Jordan Webber  
 10/8 Patrick Forrester  
 10/9 George Bequary  
 10/9 Michael Gordon  
 10/9 Peter Hartley  
 10/9 Roger Wheeler  
 10/11 Eleanor Crean  
 10/11 Kit DiTomaso  
 10/11 Trinity Livingston  
 10/12 Bonni Hartley  
 10/13 Christopher Spinella  
 10/13 Helen Green  
 10/13 Esmail Banisaied  
 10/14 Evelyn Bodor  
 10/14 Nevya Vermette  
 10/16 Tiana Wineglass  
 10/16 Warren Skipp  
 10/16 Lisa Collins



### OCTOBER

10/5 William and Norma Cambigue  
 10/8 Paul and Jan Figlia  
 10/10 Wayne Levandoski and Roseanne Shea  
 10/12 Anthony and Sheila Basile  
 10/12 Paul and Mitzi Foti  
 10/15 Donald and Sandra Regan  
 10/16 Gil and Thecla Kirby  
 10/17 Gus and Joyce Noonan  
 10/19 Henry and Mary Friez  
 10/19 Michael and Cindy Saindon  
 10/20 John and Michelle Mastropietro  
 10/21 Richard and Lisa Blaszczyk  
 10/23 Robert and Sarah Haines  
 10/23 Peter and Donna Gervickas  
 10/25 Daniel and Michelle Gilbert  
 10/26 Marcel and Alison Jeannin, II  
 10/28 Patrick and Phyllis Catuccio  
 10/29 Ryan and Angela White





### In Memory Of...

**October 6:** Albert Lange.

**October 13:** Rev. Samuel & Dorothy Budde, and Walter & Daphne Matthews.

**October 20:** Isaac Parsons, Sarah Munson Kellogg, Stoddard Munson Kellogg, Thomas Parsons Kellogg, Frederic Rice Kellogg, and Lucy Kellogg.

**October 27:** H. Wesley Leavenworth.

### CALLING ALL INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS IN BROADWAY ON THE GREEN 2003



Plans are being made for the next Broadway Show which will be held in the spring of 2003. If you are interested in participating, we would love to have you join us. You do not have to be experienced or read music. Please call Jeanne Luedke at 754-8445 for further information as soon as possible so we can include you in our plans. Thanks. Jeanne Luedke



**The GWIM 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Hunger Walk is Saturday, October 5, 2002.** The Hunger Walk begins at 11:00 a.m. on The Green (where it also ends at 2:00 p.m.) Apples and water will be provided for the walk. Lunch will be served after the walk.

Come one, come all – especially youth! Please no bikes, skateboards or roller blades. Joggers are welcome. Sarah Haines

### AUGMENTED CHOIR



The Augmented Choir invites all singers to sing with the choir on October 13<sup>th</sup>. We will sing "Soon, and Very Soon" a rousing Gospel song from **LEVAS**. If you would like to sing, just come to the choir room at 9:15 a.m. to learn the music. It will be easy enough for you to learn in that one rehearsal and we will sing it at the Offertory that morning. We're hoping for a large turn out and a joyful noise!



### ORGAN RECITAL BY BOB HAVERY

**All Saints Sunday  
November 3, 2002 at 3:00 p.m.**

Organ music by Bach, Brahms, DuMAGE, Durufle and Messiaen.

Come hear our Minister of Music play great music on the beautiful McManis organ at St. John's Church.

### Uncertain Journey

Beautiful, dainty  
delicate  
Dragon fly,  
where have you come from  
where are bound  
As you pause  
cling  
to our evergreen.  
Wings clear  
Shades pink and blue  
catching a breath or two  
where is God sending you  
Didn't linger long  
Hello, goodbye, gone  
Sarah Haines

**OUTREACH – TEAM 2000  
SAFE HAVEN NEWS**

*Serving*



**OTHERS**

and oranges.

A new season has begun with the changing leaves as trees display their fall colors. We are so lucky to live in New England where we can be surrounded by the hillsides of beauty. It's as if God took a giant paintbrush and painted the tree in red, gold

Last March, during a chilly season, the focus for the Safe Haven families was on needed baby supplies. We return to that theme this month and request donations of:

- 1 bottle baby bath lotion **or**
- 1 bottle baby lotion **or**
- 1 bottle baby powder **or**
- 1 package baby wipes

Obviously, any baby product contribution will be gratefully received. (Please, no diapers 0-3mos. Size).

Thank each of you for supporting the women, sometimes with families, who find they needing the services of Safe Haven. It is a vital ministry to the Waterbury community, and we are humbled by the support St. John's parish is able to contribute.

If you are unable to place your donation in the basket at the altar table, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month, you may leave it in the Church Office during the week. Anyone interested in joining this dedicated core of parishioners can speak with Diane Caggiano on Sundays or inquire at the Office.

Enjoy the beauty of the season! Take a walk and feel the rustle of leaves at your feet...

October is Domestic Violence  
Awareness Month.

There will be a candlelight vigil  
at St. John's on  
Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. –  
Please join us!



One of the Outreach Projects that St. John's supports is a Covenant to Care. This project involves working with a Social Worker in the Department of Children and Family. Patty Daniels has requested your help with the project many times. We have contributed school supplies in the past and gifts for children at Christmas.

St. John's was recently asked to help a family of seven children who had only the clothes they were wearing. Six of the children needed shoes and school uniforms. We learned of this request on the Friday before Labor Day. Members of St. John's and their friends have responded with love, money, and clothing. We were able to provide 2 uniforms for each child, shoes, book bags, school supplies & 2 outfits for the 2 year old toddler. Many persons who donated found it was not easy to find the items that were needed after school had already started.

We were also asked to help a 15 year old girl who recently had a baby. The baby died and the grandmother threw her out of the house. This young woman wants to go to school and move on with her life. We did not know her size so your contributions went toward a \$100 gift certificate from K-Mart so she can purchase school clothes. It is so nice to be part of a church that is willing to help people in their community. Please let me know if I forget to include your donation. Lorene Castle

Together the following persons gave over \$500 in cash and clothing: Jay Anthony, Jim and Bern Bradley, Diane Caggiano, Lorene Castle, Barbara Curry, Patty Daniels, Donna Deitch, Harriet Fotter, Sue Jefferson, Brian & Lucille Ladden, Richard Lee, Alice Mancinone, Michelle Mastropietro, Karen and Steve Minkler, Marilyn Mitchell, Jen Moniello, Linda and Don Pomeroy, Dot & Louise Raleigh, John and Roseanne Sabol, Fred Savoy, Carmella Schiappa, Molly Sherman, Cynthia Skipp, Gail Szantyr, Pam & Bob Toffey, Mary Terrell, and Dorie Walsh.

As a note, Michelle Mastropietro wanted to do something positive on September 11 this year. She chose to buy jeans and some additional clothing for all of the seven children that we helped with school uniforms.