



THE FAITHFUL BELL

St. Francis Episcopal Church

Rector's Ramblings

from the pen of Father James Anderson,

Recently I was asked about my vision for St. Francis...

What has guided me during my seven years at St. Francis, and what remains my hope for this parish, is that we shall always be a place where the color, order and beauty of the Catholic tradition of the Episcopal Church can capture the souls of people. When I was younger my rector used to say that the Anglican Faith is something that is caught and not just taught, meaning, of course, that Anglican Christians should receive their religion through the eyes quite as much as through the ears. Therefore all the senses should be employed in embracing the faith, which is offered each week in this parish. At all liturgies, we strive to offer sermons that are thoughtful and poetic, allowing worshippers to draw independent conclusions and apply the teachings to their own lives, without a dogmatic or authoritarian command to respond in a certain way.

Whether it is Rite I or Rite II, the Book of Common Prayer liturgies are celebrated here at St. Francis drawing upon the richness of the Western Catholic Usages, thus similar patterns and parallel elements are the same for each rite, regardless whether it is Elizabethan or modern language used in worship. The effect we strive for in worship is to bring worshippers into an awe and transcendent experience of the HOLY.

As a parish priest I am rarely biographical, or allow my personal piety to intrude into public worship, or use the pulpit as a soapbox for issues, because for me the liturgy of the Church is not about us, but *is* about God. God and His eternal Word laid out in the richness and beauty of catholic ritual and ceremony is what gives meaning and purpose to our lives. Thus through our encounter with the HOLY, we, the Baptized Community, become that which we are: the Beloved Community.

Yours in Christ,
James Anderson

Holy, holy, holy
is the **Lord God**
Almighty,
and **is,** who was,
and **is** to come.”

Revelation 4:8

Summer Edition June - August 2010

STAFF

The Rev. James R. Anderson,
Rector

Mrs. Nakita Thompson, *Secretary*
Mr. Bennett Card, *Christian Formation*

Mr. Roland Nave, *Accompanist*
Mr. John Ickes, *Music Director*

Ms. Melissa St. John,
Nursery Attendant

VESTRY

Victor Rice, *Senior Warden*

Al Taylor, *Junior Warden*

Sarah Owens, *Registrar*

Roxanne Taylor, *Treasurer*

Susan Clever, *Stewardship/Publicity*

Onaye Farrish, *Evangelism*

Dosh Jackson, *Finance*

Jill Kridler, *Social*

Myrna Simmons, *Outreach*

Clay Wise, *Christian Formation*

PARISH MINISTRY LEADERS

Tsu Fullwood, *Altar Guild*

Jackie Clarke, *Acolytes*

Charlotte Newcome, *ECW*

Erika Grasse, *EYC*

Sarah Owens, *Lay Readers*

Bob Fullwood, *Men's Group*

Ken Clarke, *Ushers*



The Virginia Zoo comes to VBS on Tuesday, July 27th.
A program about African animals will be presented.

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From the Senior Warden



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Once again I am your senior warden, and I am happy to have such a positive vestry. I have been on the vestry with some very negative people. On that kind of vestry you get nothing done. I am sure you know the kind of person that I'm talking about the person who regardless of what the situation may be, is always manufacturing something negative to say. To me, people like this with all that negativity must live with very little joy and peace, meandering through life with a "glass is half empty" attitude. What is the source of such pessimism? Why can't negative people see beyond flaws and imperfection, and instead, focus on the positive aspects of life?

Usually this type of defeatist attitude results from a poor self-image. Overly critical, negative people will sometimes project onto others the same feeling they have about themselves. Sadly, this attitude of inadequacy at times seeps into their spiritual lives, hindering a healthy relationship with God by causing them to hold an erroneous view of Him.

I always think of a person with a positive self-image as a person with a positive view of themselves and who is aware of their strengths and weaknesses. This kind of person is honest and can say "I love you" without hesitation and can voice their opinions without fear of criticism or retaliation. On the other hand, a person with a negative self-image doesn't trust themselves or others for that matter. I don't know about you, but I like to be around that positive image person all the time.

At home, at play, at work, and most of all at church, these positive people are the kind of people we have on the vestry today. "Thank God!"

Your Senior Warden,
Victor Rice

From the Junior Warden



Al with grandson, Kieon

ST. FRANCIS WELCOMES AL TAYOR, OUR NEWEST VESTRY MEMBER.

Al Taylor was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the Vestry at the May monthly meeting. Immediately after his appointment he was named and agree to take on the position of Jr. Warden at St. Francis. He's still settling into the position and so has nothing to report.

Al and his wife Shirley have been married for 32 years - as of June 24, 2010. They have one daughter, Shalai, and a grandson, Kieon Walker. Al has been worshipping at St. Francis about a year. He has thirty-two years at Aviation Aircraft Tech but says he is experienced in many things.

As a vestry member, Al hopes to accomplish whatever tasks come with the position of Junior Warden.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE FORMING

“All they want is my money!”

“If I were in charge of it, I would...”

“They should do this...”

“Why don’t they...?”

“How many times do we have to hear this stuff?”

Well, friends, it’s not time for the stewardship campaign just yet. But it’s also not too soon to be thinking about it. If you would like to participate in a committee which will form the fall campaign, contact Susan Clever, cleverinc@cox.net, or cell, 724-448-3712.

Step out and make your voice heard. Maybe you have a better way to encourage stewardship in our parish. I’d be interested to hear it!

Love in Christ,
Susan

The Garden Of Daily Living Planting Guide

Three rows of peas

1. PEACE Of Mind
2. PEACE Of Heart
3. PEACE Of Soul

Four rows of squash

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Four rows of lettuce

1. Let us be faithful
2. Let us be kind
3. Let us be patient
4. Let us really love one another

Three rows of turnips

1. Turn up for meetings
2. Turn up for service
3. Turn up to help one another

And finally, four rows of thyme

1. Time for each other
2. Time for family
3. Time for friends
4. Time for prayer

Water your garden freely with Patience
& Cultivate with LOVE.

After all, “We Reap What We Sow.”

FUNDRAISER ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Back to School...

End of Summer...

Haircuts!

OR STYLING by Jill Kridler
**for Men & Women
Teens & Children**

**2 Sundays, August 22nd & 29th
9:00 AM through 1:00 PM**

By Appointment ONLY

- Sign up sheet in the Commons
- **YOU MUST HAVE CLEAN HAIR!**



DONATION:
ADULTS - \$10.00
KIDS 6 AND UNDER
- \$5.00



Grades 4-6 Celebrated Pentecost 2010

Left to right: Jeffery Proctor, Trevor Grasse, Natalie Copeland, Mason Cox, Skylor Redd & Alissa Bourne.
Missing: Wil Stacy and Brianna Doughty.

On the Social Calendar...



St. Francis Book Reading Club Meets Monday, July 12th at 6:00 PM Adult Sunday School Room

The book for July is *The Shack* by William P. Young.

ECW Raffles

And the winners are...

For the last few months the ECW has been selling raffle tickets for two gift baskets. Since all of the items were donated, the profit on both baskets was \$88.00. Proceeds from the raffle will be used for ECW outreach project.

Gabby Lane won the sports basket.
Mary Bilagious bought the winning ticket for the summer basket.

Congratulations, Ladies!!

PUBLICITY...

NEW LOOK FOR THE CHURCH WEBSITE!

Visit our website at <http://www.saintfrancisvb.org>.

Have you visited the church website lately? You will be pleased to know that it has a brand new look. Content on the website may be a little sparse right now but we anticipate that will change in the next few months.

After many years in the position of webmaster, Teri Flippen has handed over the reins to Elisa Allen. Many thanks to Teri for her dedication to maintaining the site.

If you have questions about the website, please contact Elisa Allen by e-mail, elisa_allen19@cox.net.

Yes, you can...



Find us on **Facebook**

St. Francis has joined the facebook crowd. If you can't find info on the website, try our facebook page at "St. Francis Episcopal Church, Virginia Beach." OR... just go to chat.

CREATING THE BAOBAB TREE FOR VBS

Do you have paint rollers, brushes, trays or other painting supplies we could borrow to craft the tree?
Please contact Susan Clever, cleverinc@cox.net or 724-448-3170.



BAOBAB BLAST - Vacation Bible School at St. Francis 2010

- WHO:** Children ages PreK through 6th grade AND an special class for adults.
WHAT: BAOBAB BLAST - VBS at St. Francis Episcopal Church
WHEN: Monday-Friday, July 26th-30th **Time:** 6:00-8:30 PM
WHERE: VBS takes over the church for the whole week!
THEME: The expansive African savannah with the baobab tree as the focal point.
VBS FEE: Includes dinner: \$10.00 per child or \$20.00 max per family

VBS SCHEDULE:

- 6:00 PM Dinner in the Parish Hall.
6:30-7:00 PM Opening celebration and story for the day in the Sanctuary with Bennett Card, VBS director
7:00-8:30 PM Groups rotate through age appropriate activities: Kalahari crafts with Twila Levitt, Madagascar music with Susan Clever and, **NEW** this year, Serengeti science with Susan Golden. Each activity lasts 1/2 hour.
8:30 PM Evening ends child with child pick-up in the Parish Hall.



Don't miss a special visit from the Norfolk ZOO on Tuesday, July 27th.



Volunteer Form • Vacation Bible School

Baobab Blast - Explore the African Savannah!
Monday-Friday • July 26-30 • 6:00-8:30 PM

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

I can help **BEFORE** Baobab Blast:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pray for VBS | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with pre-registration | <input type="checkbox"/> Distribute Publicity/posters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with decorations | <input type="checkbox"/> Provide supplies/materials | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make phone calls | <input type="checkbox"/> Solicit donations | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Another way I can help, specify: _____ | | |

I can help **DURING** Baobab Blast:

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pray for the children and staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Take photographs | <input type="checkbox"/> Take video |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greet participant | <input type="checkbox"/> Assist leaders | <input type="checkbox"/> Set up rooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Be a registrar | <input type="checkbox"/> Help in the kitchen | <input type="checkbox"/> Other? _____ |

I volunteer to help **AFTER** VBS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send thank you cards | <input type="checkbox"/> Take down decorations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send follow up postcards | |



Vacation Bible School • Child Registration Form

Baobab Blast at St. Francis Episcopal Church

Monday-Friday • July 26-30 • 6:00-8:30 PM



Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Child's Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: Male / Female

Last school grade completed: _____ Siblings: _____

Home Parish/Church: _____

Name of person responsible for picking child up at the end of VBS each day: _____

This person's phone numbers: _____

Tell us anything special you'd like us to know about your child: _____

Special need/circumstances: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Emergency Information

Child's Birth date: _____ Weight: _____ Hair Color: _____ Eye Color: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian: _____

Address (if different than child): _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Emergency Contacts: Name: _____ Phone number: _____ Relationship to child: _____

1. _____

2. _____

List allergies: _____ List Medications: _____

Medical Conditions: _____

Physician's Name/Clinic: _____ Phone: _____

Christian Formation



Christian Formation is one of those never ending journeys that begins with our Baptism and continues throughout the rest of our lives. We need this education, spiritual experience and faith-sharing as it helps each of us grow in our relationship with



one another and with our Lord. We are blessed to have opportunities to share this with one another at St. Francis. Our teachers are willing to give of themselves each Sunday and we use an excellent curriculum to foster discussion, teach and nurture.

Our parish family is encouraged and invited to join us on Sunday mornings this September when Sunday School begins again. Our parish family is invited to join in our annual Vacation Bible School, **Baobab Blast**, and sample what Christian Formation offers to children, ages 3-13, and adults.

Vacation Bible School is the last week of July and all of the information and registration forms regarding this year's program can be found in the Sunday Bulletin,



on the Christian Formation bulletin board in the commons or in the Narthex of the church. Volunteer forms are also available. Your help with VBS will be most appreciated. All forms can be found within the pages of this newsletter.

So...come out in July and see for yourself what a wonderful jewel we have here at St. Francis in Christian Formation.

Faithfully yours:

Bennett Card,
Director of Christian Formation

EVANGELISM...

When you elected me to be part of the Vestry of St. Francis, I was truly honored. When the Vestry asked me to chair Evangelism, I was mortified. I have been on the receiving end of what some denominations call evangelism and quite frankly I wanted no part of that. Having learned to take the advice of those more mature in their spiritual journeys, I accepted. I went home and read my handy, dandy Handbook for Vestry Members and thought "I may not be any good at this, but I think I can do it".

Today on my way home from South Carolina I was reminded of a book that I read about 2 years ago, Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved*. I assumed that he was talking about Jesus when he spoke of the Beloved, but he was not. Nouwen describes the Holy Communion in vivid detail and then... equates our lives with Holy Communion. If you think back about the preparation of the sacrament, Fr. Jim takes the wafer; he chooses it much like God chooses us. He breaks it. I believe that God allows us to be broken, not in the sense of breaking our spirit, but in the sense that as we mature in our spiritual lives, we begin to think less about what we want or think we need and more about what God wants. Then Fr. Jim gives the bread to each of us much as God gives us to the world. We are the Beloved and whatever gifts He has given us, we are to give to the world. Mine seem to be more of what some would call "Random Gifts of Kindness"; I call them the Holy Spirit moving through me for the Kingdom of God.

My question to you today is, "How will you let the Spirit move through you today to lead someone else to Christ?" And equally important, "How will you allow someone else to be Christ for you?" Who do you know that needs to see, through you, the greatness of God in our little corner of the world? Invite them to come and share the love of Christ with us at St. Francis.

We are working on a welcome bag of goodies for our visitors and would love your input. If you would like to be a part of a Newcomers committee, please let me know, we need your help.

Blessings,
Onaye Farrish



The Chancel Choir gathers members of the Saint Francis parish family who have adopted the mission of worship through the Anglican tradition of song. Formal training or experience is **NOT** required – only a genuine interest in supporting the mission of the Church. The words “I can’t sing!” are not an option!

Choir rehearsals are on Sunday at 10:00 AM before the 10:30 worship service and again at 12:00 NOON.

Coming in August...

The Midsummer Magnificat!

**Saturday, August 14th
Christ & St. Luke’s Church
Norfolk**

Rapidly becoming an annual tradition, the Chancel Choir of St. Francis and guest musicians will present the service of song and the spoken word in honor of the Feast of the Virgin Mary, Saturday, August 14th at Christ and Saint Luke’s Church in Norfolk. *Watch for time in your Sunday bulletin insert.*

generosity-

- the habit of giving freely without coercion
- an essential aspect of the life of St. Francis

Day to day, week to week, St. Francis Episcopal Church depends on the work of parishioner who contribute to the smooth running of church services, gatherings and action initiatives.

The Vestry Buildings and Grounds Committee frequently sponsors a Saturday of cleaning and repairing the property, inside and out, making the buildings sparkle and shine. Whether your level of expertise is “professional” or simply a “ladder-holder,” all parishioners are encouraged to participate. Next clean-up day TBD.

FYI: The property committee needs your help. Keep an ear out or let the committee know you’re open to a call as needed. Children, youth and adults are welcome. Volunteer to help!

- Fill potholes with crushed stones and asphalt filler (from Lowe’s or Home Depot)
- Clean rest rooms
- Take down cobwebs inside church
- Buff floors (Commons area and Parish Hall)
- Re-paint parking lot spaces
- Clean windows
- Dust and vacuum - pick a space
- Take out trash
- Pick up trash
- Cut grass & trim
- Clean the pews
- This is the short list, folks.

What can you do? _____

~ Jackie Clarke

**PRAYER
MINISTRY**
forming at
St. Francis



A prayer ministry is forming at St. Francis. You are invited to meet together on Sunday mornings to pray for those on our prayer list, to lift up any other concerns or thanksgivings for this parish, our families and friends or to request prayer for yourself.

The prayer group will meet in the Sanctuary at 9:00 AM until all prayers have been heard.

All you need do to participate is show up ready to pray. Please speak to Onaye Farrish for more information.

**CAP AND GOWN DAY AT ST. FRANCIS
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADS!**



Jackie Elkins
2010 Graduate of First Colonial High School - Headed to Norfolk State College, Nursing
Crigger Scholarship Recipient



Melissa St. John
2010 Graduate of First Colonial High School - Headed to VCU, Education
Crigger Scholarship Recipient



Jonathan Bourne
2010 Graduate of Churchland High School- Headed to ODU, Political Science
Crigger Scholarship Recipient



Bethany Allen
2010 Graduate of Ocean Lakes High School



Colleen Kennedy
2010 Graduate of William & Mary BA with majors in Government & Psychology. She will teach elementary school in Philadelphia with Teach for America.



Gabby Lane
graduated from Preschool

VESTRY LOCK-UP SCHEDULE
through December 2010



- July 4SUSAN CLEVER
- July 11VICTOR RICE
- July 18DOSH JACKSON
- July 25ONAYE FARRISH
- August 1.....CLAY WISE
- August 8.....MYRNA SIMMONS
- August 15.....SUSAN CLEVER
- August 22VICTOR RICE
- August 29DOSH JACKSON
- September 5.....ONAYE FARRISH
- September 12CLAY WISE
- September 19MYRNA SIMMONS
- September 26SUSAN CLEVER
- October 3VICTOR RICE
- October 10.....DOSH JACKSON
- October 17.....ONAYE FARRISH
- October 24.....CLAY WISE
- October 31MYRNA SIMMONS
- November 7SUSAN CLEVER
- November 14VICTOR RICE
- November 21DOSH JACKSON
- November 28ONAYE FARRISH
- December 5CLAY WISE
- December 12.....SUSAN CLEVER
- December 19.....VICTOR RICE
- December 26.....DOSH JACKSON



THE FAITHFUL BELL

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LEM SCHEDULE 3RD QUARTER

JULY 4TH

8:00 – BENNETT CARD
10:30 – JOHN ICKES

JULY 11TH

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 – SARAH OWENS

JULY 18TH

8:00 – BENNETT CARD
10:30 – JOHN ICKES

JULY 25TH

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 – TWILA LEAVITT

AUGUST 1ST

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 – TWILA LEAVITT

AUGUST 8TH

8:00 – BENNETT CARD
10:30 – TC CUMBERLAND

AUGUST 15TH

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 – ONAYE FARRISH

AUGUST 22ND

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 – TC CUMBERLAND

AUGUST 29TH

8:00 – BENNETT CARD
10:30 – ONAYE FARRISH

SEPTEMBER 5TH

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 PRAYERS – BARBARA TAYLOR
10:30 READINGS – SARAH OWENS

SEPTEMBER 12TH

8:00 – BENNETT CARD
10:30 PRAYERS – DAVID WHITTED
10:30 READINGS – LYNN KENNEDY

SEPTEMBER 19TH

8:00 – BENNETT CARD
10:30 PRAYERS – LYNN KENNEDY
10:30 READINGS – BARBARA TAYLOR

SEPTEMBER 26TH

8:00 – SUSAN GOLDEN
10:30 PRAYERS – BARBERA RADFORD
10:30 – CAROL MCCARTHY