

# Antrim: St. John's Episcopal Church, January 2010

*197 Mountain Road    Halifax, Virginia 24558    (434) 476-6696    [www.gcronline.com/stjohn](http://www.gcronline.com/stjohn)*

**Rector**—The Reverend Gary W. Butterworth

**Cell Phone Number**—(434) 471-1962

**Email**—[gary.butterworth@gmail.com](mailto:gary.butterworth@gmail.com)

**Parish Administrator**—Joani Layman

**Email**—[stjohn@gcronline.com](mailto:stjohn@gcronline.com)

## Church Office Hours

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday    8 AM-3 PM

Thursday    9 AM-Noon

Friday    Closed

---

## Rector's Message

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

Joyous Christmastide and Epiphany! We have anticipated and waited for the Christ Child, we have experienced God's wonderful gift of the Incarnation of His Son, Jesus Christ on Christmas, and we will soon celebrate the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles on Epiphany, the last day of the Twelve Days of Christmas. This is also the day we celebrate the visit of the Magi at Bethlehem. So now that we have experienced this waiting and anticipation and the Christ Child has been sent to live among us, how do we live this out in our lives. Let me offer the following perspective:

Years ago, it was not uncommon to have your milk delivered to your home. Doctors made house calls. And when you made a call to a company to discuss a problem, you actually spoke to a human being. Those days of personal service are gone, and if we are not careful, we will follow the same trend in how we share the gospel.

So often we are encouraged to bring people to church. Yet, we see no examples of where Jesus brought people into the synagogue to get them saved or healed. The miracles happened more often in the workplace because that was where Jesus could be found. Jesus had less response and found more resistance in the synagogue than in the workplace. He took the gospel to and modeled the gospel in the workplace. That is where the power of God was manifested. This is not to say we should not bring people to church, only that our priority should be to bring the Church into the workplace, not bring the workplace into the church.

Paul understood this when he said, "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power" (1 Corinthians 2:4). Paul understood that it wasn't words that impacted people; it was the power of God manifested through him.

When is the last time someone saw something happen through your life that could not be explained other than God working in your life? When you begin to see this happen, you will be modeling ministry as Jesus modeled it. You will be bringing the Church to the people, not the people to the church. Pray that God makes you a vessel of His power, not simply a vessel of words.

So now let us enter into relationship with all those around us; those we may not get along with, those we don't know, those in our parish family, and those we meet on the street. Let us make little incarnations in all our lives and in those we meet.

Peace & Blessings,  
Gary+

---

## **“Journey to Adulthood” Begins January 10th**

We will have a special liturgy during the January 10th service as our young people begin a new journey to adulthood (*J2A*). A brief ceremony during the service will recognize the congregation's older youth—and their parents—as the young people embark on a new course of spiritual formation. *Journey to Adulthood* uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries, and both serious and playful activities to underscore its two guiding principles: that manhood and womanhood are gifts from God and that adulthood must be earned. *Journey to Adulthood* is a Christian Formation program for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders that focuses on their journey to adulthood through the lens of the Christian Faith. Numerous topics, field trips, mission trips, meditations, meals, and outings encompass this curriculum.

We are excited about this offering and have many adult members who have volunteered to serve as mentors/teachers including Darnell Abbott, Chris Butterworth, Justin Butterworth, Eva Cassada, David Martin, Tracy Martin, and Dean Pryor as mentors/teachers. Their rich and diverse experiences will bring wonderful perspectives to these life lessons. Please come and join us.

---

## **Wednesday Night Study Group Meets Again**

Beginning January 6th we will begin a study of The Gospel of Mark. Mark is recognized as the first Gospel written so studying it first gives a very good foundation for an understanding of the others. Fr. Gary has suggested that everyone participating set aside a two hour block of time, enter a quiet space and read the entire Gospel of Mark out loud to yourself. This should take no longer than one hour and 45 minutes. He believes you will find it a very revealing and extremely beneficial experience. Remember also, that most of the books of the Bible, if not all, were originally spoken or performed. Please join us for this exciting journey through the Gospel of Mark.

---

## **Thank You From The Butterworth Family**

Because of the overwhelming amount of love and gifts we have recently experienced from the family of St. John's, we would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for your gifts of food, kindnesses and love during this Christmas season.

Please accept this as our heartfelt thanks, and we send you our blessings for a peaceful and joyful New Year,

Chris, Gary, Justin & Emma Butterworth

## **Thank You! and Congratulations!**

- Thank you to ALL of our many volunteers who give tirelessly of their time to the church and the community!
- Thank you to Hilda Hankins and Anne Caldwell for being the leaders of the Altar Guild for many years! You always made things run smoothly at St. John's, and the sanctuary and altar always looked lovely.
- Thank you to Joe and Susan Simonson for setting up before and cleaning up after the Annual Meeting!
- Thank you to Marcia Mosby, Sarah Glen Epps, and all the children/youth who participated in our annual Christmas pageant!
- Thank you to our former Senior Warden, Brandon Hudson, and to our former Junior Wardens, Jim Davis and Sandy Mosby, for all their hard work throughout 2009!
- Thank you to Dean Pryor, Monty Epps, and the Altar Guild for making the church so beautiful and festive for Advent and Christmas!
- Thank you to all the adults, children, and youth who went Christmas caroling!
- Thank you to Ned Strange, Fred Blackburn, Don Bagwell, and Joe Simonson for all the wonderful handmade Godly Play materials!
- Thank you to the choir for filling the church with beautiful songs during every service at St. John's!
- Thank you to Kim Conner for always taking wonderful care of the children every Sunday in the nursery!
- Thank you to Joani Layman for keeping things running smoothly in the church office!
- Thank you to Furness Jackson for making sure every part of the church and the Parish House is exceptionally clean each week!
- Congratulations to Peg Anderson, our Senior Warden for 2010!
- Congratulations to Debbie Lowe, David Martin, and Beth Robertson on being elected to the Vestry during the Annual Meeting!
- Congratulations to Edna Guthrie for being chosen as the new chairperson of the Altar Guild!
- Thank you to Father Gary, Chris, Justin, and Emma for their devotion to St. John's and for the love they show to the members of our church community.

## Parish Cycle of Prayer

Each Sunday we pray for individual members of our parish family.

January 3rd

Mary Sherwood, missionary  
Grown children & extended church family  
Christ, Emmanuel, and Trinity Churches

January 10th

Bill & Darnell Abbott; Joni, Walker  
Cathryn Aldworth  
Dan & Nancy Thompson; Willie, Nick  
Peg Anderson; Breese  
Don & Benita Bagwell

January 17th

Jean Bainbridge  
Betty Bane  
Woody & Kathy Bane; Kent, Kate, Meg  
Johnson & Betty Willis  
Moselle Beatty  
Sherryl & Bobby Jones

January 24th

Fred & Beth Blackburn  
Frank Booker III  
Kathy Booker  
Mary Archer & Dennis Osborne; Cabell  
Isabel Bradley  
Richard & Karen Bradley; Andrew

January 31st

The Reverend Gary & Chris Butterworth; Justin, Emma  
Bill & Anne Caldwell  
Hollis Cannon; Reagan  
Jane Edmunds

---

---

## January Birthdays

Ray Boyd—January 4th

Bob Greene—January 7th

Barry Powell—January 17th

Joani Layman—January 25th

Hannah Saunders—January 4th

John Farrington—January 10th

Father Gary Butterworth—January 18th

Julia Devine—January 31st

Betty Willis—January 4th

Richard Dunavant—January 16th

Chris Mosby—January 21st

Bill Abbott—January 6th

Susan Granger—January 16th

Geraldine Coates—January 22nd

# January 2010

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

3 Holy Eucharist service 9 AM Christian Formation 10:15 AM	4 Morning Prayer service @ 9:00 AM in the Chapel	5	6 Epiphany Healing Service 10 AM Choir Practice 5:30-6:30 PM Adult Sack Supper and Discussion 6:30-8:00 PM	7 Brotherhood of St. Andrew Meeting at Christ Church 7:15 PM	8	9
10 Holy Eucharist service 9 AM Christian Formation 10:15 AM	11 Morning Prayer service @ 9:00 AM in the Chapel Vestry Meeting 7:15 PM	12	13 Healing Service 10 AM Choir Practice 5:30-6:30 PM Adult Sack Supper and Discussion 6:30-8:00 PM	14 Prison Ministry 9:45 AM	15	16
17 Holy Eucharist service 9 AM Christian Formation 10:15 AM	18 Morning Prayer service @ 9:00 AM in the Chapel	19	20 Healing Service 10 AM Choir Practice 5:30-6:30 PM Adult Sack Supper and Discussion 6:30-8:00 PM	21	22	23
24 Holy Eucharist service 9 AM Christian Formation 10:15 AM	25 Morning Prayer service @ 9:00 AM in the Chapel	26	27 Healing Service 10 AM Choir Practice 5:30-6:30 PM Adult Sack Supper and Discussion 6:30-8:00 PM	28 Prison Ministry 9:45 AM Transition Ministry at Christ Church 7:15 PM	29	30
31 Holy Eucharist service 9 AM Christian Formation 10:15 AM						

Youth Recognition Ceremony, Vestry Installation, and a Baptism during the 9:00 A.M. service →



St. John's Episcopal Church

Halifax, Virginia

Father Gary is in his office at St. John's on Mondays and Wednesdays

**Church Office Hours**  
 Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday 8 AM-3 PM  
 Thursday 9 AM-Noon  
 Friday Closed