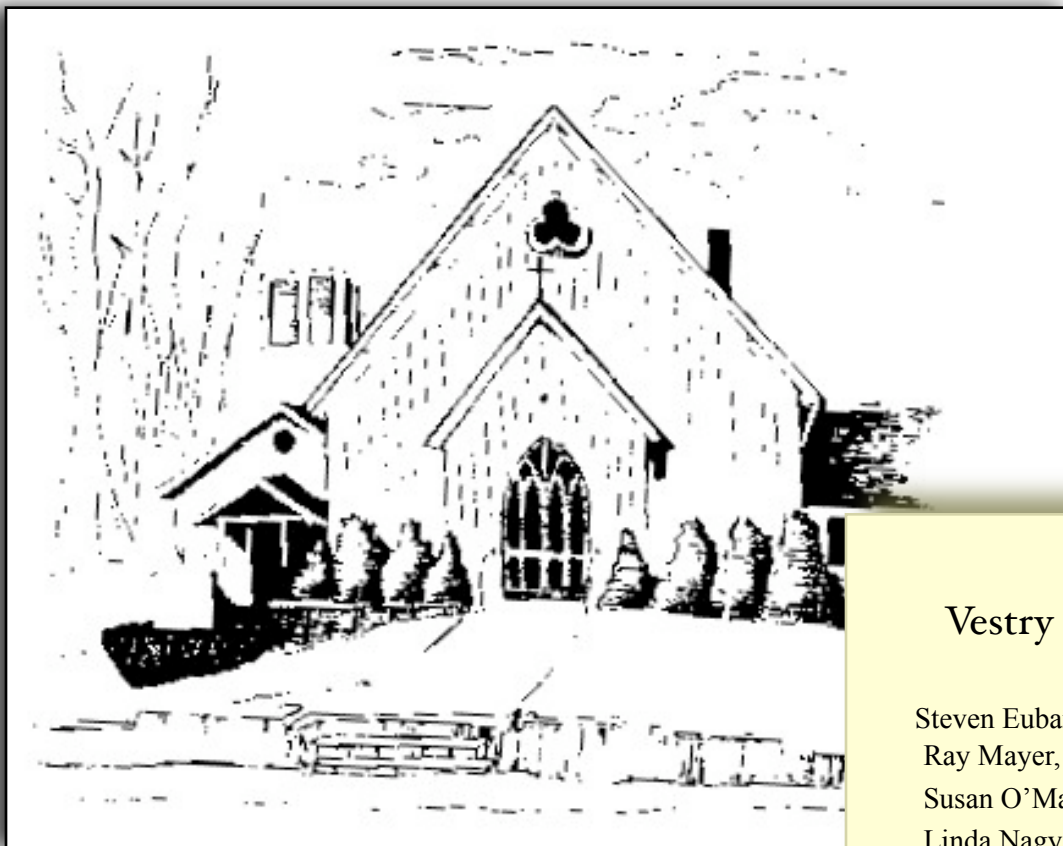




eMESSENGER

St. John's Episcopal Church

Building for the future with thanksgiving and praise.



Vestry of St. John's

Steven Eubanks, Senior Warden
Ray Mayer, Junior Warden
Susan O'Malley
Linda Nagy
Charles Scribner
Nancy Wright
Pat Mayer, Clerk
William Arnold, Treasurer
Jane Eubanks, Receipts Treasurer



Considering Our Stewardship

“Sigmund Freud told the story of a sailor shipwrecked on a south sea island. Natives found him and took him to their village and made him their king. He enjoyed the benefits of his royal position but wondered what happened to the kings before him. He discovered that in that culture, kings reigned for only one year, and then were banished to a nearby desert island and left stranded to die of starvation. Being a smart man, he used his kingly power and wealth to build boats and began to ferry trees and shrubs and plants to the isle of the banished kings. He trained masons and built a beautiful house and dug a well so that when his year of being king was over, he was not banished to a certain death but to a veritable paradise”.

*The Rt. Rev. Bertram N. Herlong
Bishop of Tennessee Retired*

That story is a parable of our lives and how we live them. All of us have received abundant gifts from God, What shall we do with those resources? Shall we use them only for ourselves, “living it up” and spend our time, talent and treasure in self-indulgence? Or shall we use them in our ministry to others and prepare ourselves for heavenly promise of our Lord? Remember the words of Jesus: “If you have done it unto the least of these, you have done it unto me”.

It is common for most of us to minimize our gifts. There is always someone we can point to who seems so much more gifted and talented. But, we must never underestimate our own ability to share our talents. What we learn is that in using our gifts, they deepen and grow. It is through practice that the athlete develops her/his ability: so it is with us. Using our gifts opens us to a better understanding of the needs of others and our ability to make a difference.

A simple smile and greeting to a stranger in church or community can brighten their day and ours. Reaching out to the elderly, the sick and lonely, the bereaved and hurting, can help lead them in their need. Every act that provides care for a child or frees a parent to work, knowing that their children are safe, or feeds the hungry or houses the homeless, brings happiness that would not otherwise be possible. Every time our gifts feed the hungry, cloth the naked, or comfort the lonely and forgotten, we have not only brought happiness for someone else but also discovered happiness for ourselves.

The proper use of our God given gifts and talents in stewardship is enhanced through prayer. A favorite of mine is this simple prayer of Saint Francis. I hope you will use it often in your devotions.



Lord, make me the instrument of your peace

Where there is hatred...let me so love
Where there is injury...pardon
Where there is doubt...faith
Where there is despair...hope
Where there is darkness...light
Where there is sadness...joy

O divine master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled...as to console
To be understood...as to understand
To be loved...as to love

For

It is in giving...that we receive
It is in pardoning...that we are pardoned
It is in dying...that we are born to eternal life.

Amen

Burt Ulrich

REECH Pie Sale at Shaw's - October 11 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Please bake a pie for REECH and drop it off that morning. The Randolph Ecumenical Emergency Committee on Housing is busier than it has ever been giving loans to those trying to stay in or opt into homes and apartments and to keep up with their bills. We need your help.

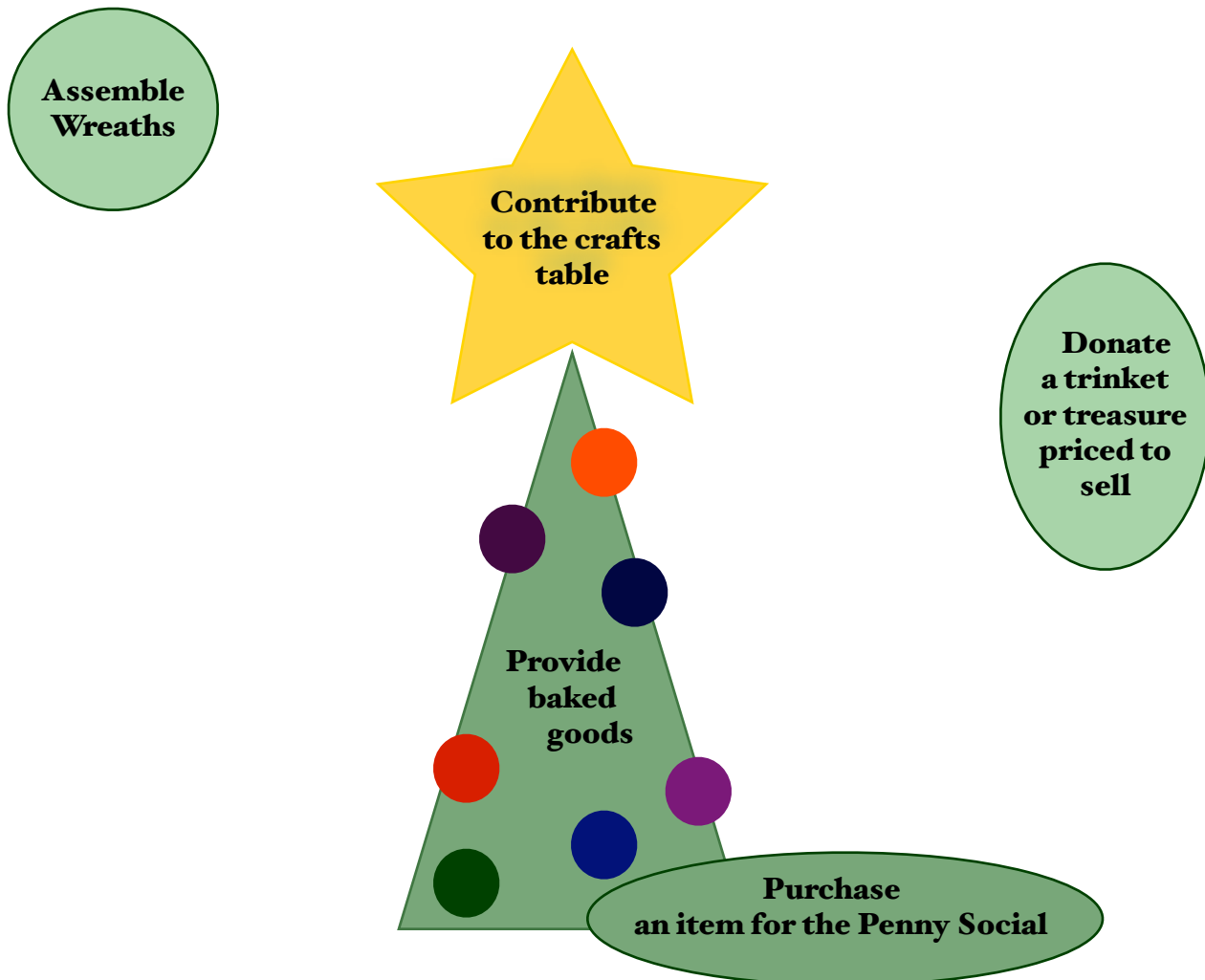
The Rector and Ellen Baker are on the Board and loan committee.



Hearing the plea of Louise Clark for the lavabo towels - the priest's linens - to be returned to the storage drawer, the St. Margaret's Guild moved to provide \$200.00 towards the purchase of linens for the church.

Randolph's Habitat for Humanity group, the day of the Randolph Street Fair, is sponsoring a bake sale, in front of Cover to Cover, on October 11. Donations of baked goods can be brought to Jill Montgomery at The Herald on Friday, the 10th or to Cover to Cover before 10 am on Saturday.

Mark your calendars for the St. John's Christmas Bazaar on the first Saturday in December! Preparations are underway.....everyone can help!





Rector's Message

Dear People of St. John's,

After they had just poured the last yards of cement for our new walkways and it was still wet. I couldn't resist the urge to scratch into one edge "AD 2008". (See if you can find it.) If my etching skills had been sharper, I would have gone on to write the name " Henry Egerton" because Margaret gave us the funds to make this all possible in his name. (A proper plaque and listing in our memorial book will follow.) As I mentioned last month, the same memorial support applies with out new landscaping and our repainting projects. The Nadia Delaney Funds are helping with the gardening and the Will Parker Memorial allows us to buy all the paint and equipment we need for the Church.

Thus, we are truly "building on the lives of the saints", a theme which will sound forth through all our attention to stewardship this fall as the revitalization of our time, our talent and our treasure gains solid footing in All Saints and Thanksgiving.

"AD 2008". As I scratched in this inscription and thought about the name of Henry whom I didn't get to know and then Nadia and Will who I did, I found myself singing that All Saints hymn; "they were all of them saints of God - and I mean, god helping, to be one too. " - with the realization that something good may come of us we cannot know at this time. And yet each of us, like them, has a story of past, present and future. What has it been? Where are we now? What will we leave? As stewardship chair Burt Ulrich put it, it's all about "the stewardship of our lives." What a wonderful way to think about it all.

Rejoicing in Christ,

Timothy Eberhardt



OCTOBER 2008

Dear rock point,

thank you so much for letting me go to
Rock point with you ~~and~~ and I was so happy that I was
to Rock point it was fun and good to be there and I hope
you give have a good weekend with me.

Thank you
From alicia



Sunday ministries

October 5, Pentecost 21: 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

Ushers: Susan O'Malley

Intercessions:

Readers: Gay Gaston

Eucharistic Minister: Pat Mayer

Altar flowers:

Coffee Hour: Ellen Baker

October 12, Pentecost 22: 10 a.m.

Ushers: Phil Plumb

Intercessions:

Reader: Steve and Jane Eubanks

Eucharistic Minister: Gay Gaston

Altar flowers:

Coffee Hour: Pat Mayer

October 19, Pentecost 23: 8 & 10 a.m.

Ushers: Nancy Wright

Intercessions:

Reader: Linda Runnion

Eucharistic Minister: Bob Sparadeo

Altar flowers:

Coffee Hour: Ellen Baker

October 26, Pentecost 24: 10 a.m.

Ushers: Louise Clark

Intercessions:

Reader: Joan Sax

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Runnion

Altar flowers:

Coffe Hour: Mary Ellen & Ginny Cantlin
