

Saint John's **SENTINEL**

July/August 2006

Episcopal Church Governance

Every three years the Episcopal Church gathers for General Convention. This is the governing body of the Episcopal Church. Its design matches closely that of the US Congress. This is not surprising in that both were created within a few years of each other by some of the very same people.

The General Convention is a bicameral legislature consisting of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies. The House of Bishops allows voice and vote (on almost all issues) to Diocesan, Suffragan, Assisting, and retired Bishops. The House of Deputies consists of Lay and Clerical Deputies. Resolutions passed by one House are submitted to another and will be reviewed and adjusted in Conference Committee. Here is an added piece of trivia – the General Convention has more members in its legislative body than any other in the world save one – the legislature of Iceland!

This year the General Convention met in Columbus, Ohio, from June 11 to 21. Bishop Frank Griswold, the Presiding Bishop, was retiring, having served his full nine-year term of office. The House of Bishops, in a stunning and close election, chose Kathleen Jefferts Schori as our new Presiding Bishop. This election was affirmed in the House of Deputies, where she received an overwhelming majority of the votes (both clerical and lay).

Bishop Jefferts Schori has a PhD in Oceanography and was, at the time of her election, Bishop of Nevada – a small diocese with about 6,000 members. She is a pilot, wife, mother, and has been ordained since 1994. She is widely held to be both compassionate and highly competent in all her undertakings. She was the first woman ever to be nominated for the post of Presiding Bishop. She steps into the office at a time where strains in the Anglican Communion

are acute and apparent. While these strains outwardly concern issues of gender and sexuality, at their core the strains are more foundational and are based on debates over Scriptural interpretation and Episcopal governance and oversight.

The Episcopal Church was asked by a special commission that produced The Windsor Report to apologize for having elected Bishop Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire, to refrain from ordaining anyone else as a bishop who is in a same-sex relationship, and to place a moratorium on the blessing of same-sex unions.

Time was inadequate at General Convention to allow for enough honest debate and discussion on this very important matter. During the last day, a resolution was passed stating “[We] call

(Continued on page 4)

HIGHLIGHTS THIS MONTH

Birthdays – Page 5	Church Mouse Chit Chat – Page	Lay Servers – Page 2
Calendar July & August – Page 9	Endowment Manager, New-Pg6	Parish Picnic Reviewed – Page 4
Centering Prayer – Page 3	Fall Programs – Page 3	Preschool Letter to Parish – Pg 5
Christian Mission – Page 7	July Trip: Ntl. Gallery – Page 8	Up and Comers – Page 5
Church Family Events – Page 2	June Outing: da Vinci Code-Pg8	Worship News – Pgs 2 & 3

Worship and Education I



Lay Servers

Ministers of the Word

Should you need to reschedule, please call **Dustin Cole** at 202-338-2360 to give the name of your replacement.

	<u>9:00</u>	<u>11:00</u>
July 2	Lalage Thornber	Mildred Henninger
July 9	Suzon Cameron	Henry Meyer
July 16	John Duffy	Heather Cole
July 23	Tom Cooke	Carol Cameron
July 30	Charlie Moore	Cheryl Mitchell
Aug 6	Jocelyn Dyer	Mary Meyer
Aug 13	Wilbur Wright	Ron Ivey
Aug 20	Al LaPorta	Sarah Sigmund
Aug 27	Mike Applin	John van Wagoner
Sept 3	Ted Bristol	James Warren

Church Family Events

We rejoice in the birth of:
Alexander Moore Supanc
son of Pat Supanc & Sandra Jerez

We bless the wedding of:
Jackie Bates & Ty Richardson

We rejoice in the baptism of:
Tommy Pryor

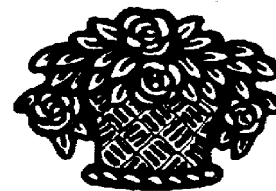
Acolytes/Crucifers

July 2	C. Thornber	C. Deeley-Wood & Georgina Warren
July 9	M. Deeley-Wood	John van Wagoner
July 16	Caroline Duffy	John Dussault
July 23	Antonia Kristinus	John Wise
July 30	Kwan Smith	Georgina Warren
Aug 6	Louisa Weindruch	C. Deeley-Wood
Aug 13	Merle Thorpe	John van Wagoner
Aug 20	Antonia Kristinus	John Dussault
Aug 27	Christian Osborne	John Wise
Sept 3	Louisa Weindruch	Georgina Warren

	<u>9:00</u>	<u>11:00</u>
July 30	Jim & Brenda Moorman	Mildred Henninger & Sara Revis
Aug 6	Tom Morgan & Ken Youngert	Ron & Laura Ivey
Aug 13	Arnita & Landis Jones	James & Stephanie Warren
Aug 20	Joan O'Kane & Jonathan Allen	Sara Revis & John Dussault
Aug 27	Betty Geisler & Wilbur Wright	John Wise & Heather Cole
Sept 3	Dawn Martin & Sam Sussman	Mary Jane & Tim Bennett

Greeters & Ushers

July 2	Joan O'Kane & Jonathan Allen	James & Stephanie Warren
July 9	Mike & Cathy Applin	Mary Jane & Tim Bennett
July 16	Arnita & Landis Jones	John Dussault & Susan Sanders
July 23	Dawn Martin & Sam Sussman	Martha Lewis & Heather Cole



Worship and Education II



9am Format Successful

Changes in the 9am Service over the past two months designed to make it more lively and friendly to families with young children have been well received.

The new music, for example, is generally considered more “singable.” And now there are “Alleluias” before and after the Gospel reading, a welcome opportunity to vocalize.

Further, the shorter Apostles’ Creed replaces the chanted Nicene Creed. To encourage memorization of the Apostles’ creed, **Father Albert** has put together a collection of beautiful plaques from which he will give one as a prize to each person under the age of 17 who can recite it for him from memory.

St. John’s Organist and Choirmaster **Dudley Oakes** has introduced a modern hymn during Communion – “*Here I am Lord.*” This hymn was written by Jesuits in the early 1980s and is based on a verse in Genesis Chapter 46: “*And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.*”

It takes **Ann** and **Al La Porta** back to Mongolia where they sang it often at the Catholic Mission Church in Ulaanbaatar.

Christine Deeley-Wood, who is a “switch hitter” between the 9 and 11 o’clock services, finds the new service “very inclusive.”

Suzon Cameron loves the new service; she calls it “joyous”. She really likes reciting the Apostles’ Creed instead of the sung version.

Thanks to our Priest-in-Charge **Albert Scariato** for redesigning this service to be inclusive and joyous.



Programs Coming This Fall

The Bible Study course this fall will be on **Exodus**, taught by **Priest-in-Charge Albert Scariato** (right). These courses typically last four sessions, meeting on Tuesday evenings in the Chapel of the Carpenter. They begin with a snack and end with the evening service of Compline.



Albert is also proposing to teach a class of **New Testament Greek** every Monday night.

And the Adult Education PAC is looking at establishing small groups for **book clubs**, with the book and discussion to be determined by those attending.

Centering Prayer On Holiday

A Centering Prayer Service and Holy Eucharist has been offered for many years at St. John’s. Centering Prayer is an ancient Christian way of being present to God in silence. First practiced by the desert mothers and fathers in the 4th Century, it is similar to Buddhist meditative practices but based on a Trinitarian God.

At St. John’s, it is an hour-long service held in the Chapel of the Carpenter Wednesday evenings at 5:30. Centering Prayer will resume Wednesday, September 13.

Service Bulletin Change

The Weekly Bulletin at both services is now a 12-page booklet instead of the former tri-fold form. It contains not only the Order of Services but also more information, such as the names of those included in our “Prayers of the People” plus more extensive announcements. The new form is enhanced by beautiful artwork in color.

100 Parishioners Picnic Sur l'Herbe

One of the largest St. John's picnic crowds in memory gathered Sunday, June 4th, for our annual get-together on the front lawn of the church following a combined worship service at 10AM. The large tent on the lawn became a perfect picnic ground for the 100 guests, with parishioners visiting until mid-afternoon in the warm sun and cool breezes.

Jenny Imm and husband Dan Corbin arranged and decorated all the tables under the tent with an early summer theme. Jenny designed and made fans with St. John's bell tower as a backdrop for the motto "Grow with Us". More fans are available at the church for giving and for mitigating the Washington summer heat.

Sgt. Major Brown provided all the side salads and the baked beans to accompany the catered hot dogs and hamburgers and, yes, even veggie burgers. The Good Humor truck distributed sweet treats to all. The Docs of Dixieland made mellow music for listening and for dancing (the children).

Your donations helped to defray the cost of the good times. The kids played; the grown-ups talked; everyone got to know each other a bit better.

Prior to the festivities, the combined 10AM service had filled St. John's, creating a wonderful "traffic jam" around the communion table when Albert invited the children to come forward during the Holy Eucharist. (See picture above.)

Earlier in the service, all members of the Vestry came forward at Albert's invitation. He led the congregation in prayer as he commissioned the new vestry for 2006-07.

Following the service and prior to the picnic, about 40 parishioners accepted the invitation of Marley Joyce, head of St. John's Preschool, to come upstairs to take a look at the space used by our successful preschool. (Note: Marley's letter of thanks to the parish can be found on page 5.)

It was a full and successful day, thanks to the work of many and the love of one for all.



Waiting in line for food in church playground

Episcopal Church Governance

(continued from front page)
upon Standing Committees and bishops with jurisdiction to exercise restraint by not consenting to the consecration of any candidate to the episcopate whose manner of life presents a challenge to the wider church and will lead to further strains on communion."

Our own Bishop, John Chane, opposed the resolution and failed in his attempt to remove the "manner of life" provision from the resolution. Our new Presiding Bishop, who supported the election of Bishop Gene Robinson, voted for the measure saying, "It was the best we are going to manage at this convention."

In all, General Convention 2006 was an historic occasion in that it elected our first female Presiding Bishop. It is also a milestone in that, for the foreseeable future, concerns of the Anglican Communion as a whole will occupy a prominent position in our deliberations.

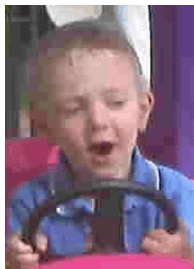
This year's General Convention also highlighted something of great importance—the need to reform a legislative body that has become so unwieldy that matters of supreme importance were not given ample time for serious deliberation. Hopefully 2009 will see some needed adjustments.

ST. JOHN'S UP-AND-COMERS

NEWS BY AND FOR PARISHIONERS AGES 1 DAY TO 16 YEARS.

! HAPPY BIRTHDAYS !

“Our son, Alexander Moore Supanc, was born Monday, May 29th at 12:24 am! He weighed 6 lbs 12 oz. and measured 20½ inches. We are all doing well and trying to catch up on sleep!” – Sandra Jerez, Patrick Supanc, and Eva Sofia Supanc.....



Clark Mocek

“First, you and Ann are so wonderful to put the Sentinel together. Thank you. Second, our son, Clark



“Aves” Mocek

Mocek, turns 2 on July 11th And our daughter, Avery "Aves" Mocek, turns 5 on July 14th.”
– Avery Miller & Gregory Mocek.....



Tim Allen

Parents Jon Allen and Joan O’Kane write: “Our son, Timothy James Allen, will be 1 on July 24th. Picture attached. Thanks!”

“Leopold's 4th birthday is coming up on July 31st. I'll attach some pictures for you to choose from. Thanks, Kirstin Kristinus”



Leopold Kristinus (in front) with his mother, Kirsten and sister Antonia, who is six.

PARISHIONERS VISIT PRESCHOOL

Dear Members of St. John's Parish:

It was a pleasure to welcome almost 40 of you to St. John's Preschool on Sunday, June 4th after church services. We are so delighted so many came.

You, as a parish, are responsible for the vision that built this wonderful school for young children almost ten years ago. It has become an extraordinary preschool, one that can best be appreciated by walking through the classrooms.

By observing the work of the children and by reading the documentation panels, one begins to understand what we do and to learn why it is important to the overall well-being of the young children that attend St. John's Episcopal Preschool.

I can promise that we, as a faculty and staff, are committed to making St. John's the finest school and to nurture the relationship between our school and the parish. We are striving for excellence, and it shows when one visits the classrooms.

We are determined to foster the relationship between the Parish and Preschool. Together, we form a powerful community. Please visit again. I am always available and happy to talk to you about the Preschool. With best wishes,

Marley Joyce, Head of School

!! ADULT BIRTHDAYS !!

Julie Bru writes: “No picture, but my birthday is August 2. I hesitate to say that but do because I am a big supporter of wishing others a happy birthday....so I guess I can't skip out on my own!”

“My mother's birthday, Joan Bristol, is August 24th.” – Ted.....

Ginger Ingalls writes: “My birthday is June 30th. I don't know if this is of interest, but in June I was trained in Reiki, so I can add this into my three-fold practice of craniosacral therapy.”

Happy Summer Birthdays to all!

Saint John's Notes & Reports



Vestry Meeting Minutes

Following are excerpts from the *Vestry Minutes of May 22nd*. Complete minutes can be found in the Vestry binder in the Conference Room next to the Chapel.

The bulk of the meeting May 22nd was devoted to Parish Action Committee (PAC) reports following the highly successful May 17th PAC night five days earlier, at which 67 people participated in PAC meetings.

Parish Life, headed by vestry member **Jamie Cartwright**, outlined a number of possible activities and gatherings for the coming year, to include a ministries fair on **Renewal Sunday September 10th**, and the formation of a **Young Adult's group**.

Adult Christian Formation, led by vestry member **Tierney Viteri**, highlighted activities that will begin in September, in particular an Adult Forum on Sundays at 10AM that will have a theme of "**The Ministry of the Baptized**," where speakers will be invited to talk about their lives and work in devotion to Christ.

Youth Group Program, headed by vestry member **Elizabeth Powell**, focused on the training program that will take place in August for those who will be instructors in the **Sunday School program**. The committee highlighted one issue of great concern: the acute need of assistance and added financial support for **Laura Bachmann**, head of Youth Christian Formation.

Building and Grounds, headed by vestry member **Jean Smith**, noted items in need of attention, in particular repair of the **roof**. It will put together a plan of action, to include priorities and costs.

Stewardship/Planned Giving Committee, led by vestry members **James Warren** and **Joan Bristol**. This committee expects to make financial fund raising a year-round activity for the
6 – *The Sentinel* July/August 2006

parish, and to encourage **planned giving**. It also plans to oversee management of endowment assets on a regular basis.

(Separately, the **Endowment Committee** announced in mid-June that, after a review of proposals from six firms, it had chosen **UBS Financial Services** as the new manager of St. John's endowment fund, replacing **A.G. Edwards**.

The change was made in the hope that the new manager would produce greater returns. Members of the committee are: **Joan Bristol**, chair, **Jean Smith**, **Trish Parson**, **James Warren**, **Charlie Moore**, **Sam Sussman**, and **Al La Porta**.)

Outreach Committee, chaired by **Mike Applin** with vestry liaison member **Ron Ivey**, discussed dispersal of its \$35,000 budget allocation for 2006. Proposed recipients include:

- Georgetown Ministry Shelter
- Bright Beginnings
- Columbia Road Health Services
- Community Harvest
- Episcopal Senior Ministries
- Georgetown Senior Center
- Good Shepherd Ministries
- Honduras
- Iona Senior Services
- Jelleff Boys & Girls Club
- Jubilee Jobs
- Manna Inc.
- Martha's Table
- Grate Patrol



Separately, the **Outreach**

Committee announced that **Jocelyn Dyer** has been appointed to the Georgetown Ministry Center's Board of Directors, taking the place of **Jill Thorpe**, who has served with great distinction for several years.

Fuller reports from these committees, plus information about other vestry activities currently under way, such as an expanded **Coffee Hour** and consideration of **appropriate charges for Blake Hall**, are available in the Vestry binder in the Conference Room at St. John's.

Christian ————— Missions

Sharing Jerusalem Campaign

The Churches for Middle East Peace, an alliance of mainline Protestant and Orthodox churches, believes that “Jerusalem is at the center of the conflict between the Palestinians and the Israelis and will be at the center of its solution.”

The Sharing Jerusalem Campaign envisions a Jerusalem, sacred to all the children of Abraham, Jews, Muslims and Christians, where Palestinians and Israelis can live as neighbors and, along with visitors and tourists, have access to holy sites and exercise freedom of religious expression.

A coalition of Middle East peace groups has decided to launch a new Sharing Jerusalem Campaign in the Washington Metro area that will hopefully serve as a pilot for other regions across the country.

The coalition plans a series of three workshops from 9:30am to 12:30pm on Saturdays during July. It is inviting interested churches to send a representative to one of these workshops to learn about this issue and how to get your church involved in the Middle East Peace issue.

Pre-registration is necessary. Contact **Jim Vitarello** at jim.vitarello@verizon.net, or call him at 202-234-5817 to sign up for any of the following three workshops.

Visit the website at www.cmep.org and click on Shared Jerusalem Resource Center for more information.

Saturday, July 8

St. Albans Episcopal Church, Saterlee Hall,
on the grounds of the National Cathedral,
Wisconsin Ave., Washington, DC

Saturday, July 15

Woodside United Methodist Church
8900 Georgia Ave (corner of Ballard St.)
Silver Spring, MD

Saturday, July 22

St. Albans Episcopal Church
6800 Columbia Rd.
Annandale, VA

Mission to Liberia

St. John's parishioner **Jim Keyser** is formulating a proposal to submit to the Washington Diocese to fund a mission to Liberia.

Jim states that the traditional ties between the Episcopal Church in the United States and the Diocese of Liberia – the only Episcopalian as opposed to Anglican diocese in Africa – have suffered during the civil wars that have ravaged Liberia.

- Many of the clergy have been in exile.
- The Episcopalian Cuttington University, one of the rare private universities in Africa, has been repeatedly looted and is now in a state of almost total disrepair.
- Cuttington has no long term endowment income, no funds for rebuilding, is unable to pay faculty but still is carrying out a much needed if modest educational mission.

Now, the civil wars seem to have been brought to a halt. With the election of Ellen John-Sirleaf as Prime Minister, the United Nations and the World Bank are making substantial investments.

“Liberia seems to be on a good recovery path,” notes Keyser. “The timing is right for reestablishing the traditional, long-standing relations with the Diocese of Liberia and Cuttington University.”

His proposal would be to fund an assessment of the needs of Cuttington. Hopefully, this assessment mission would be followed by a permanent committee of the Diocese of Washington in charge of liaison with Cuttington University and the Diocese of Liberia.

The thrust would be in establishing personal, professional and spiritual relations with staff and clergy that will lead to long-term permanent relationships.

Jim writes: “If any members of St. John's would like to assist in discussion, meetings, and/or proposal writing, please contact me at jmbkeyser@aol.com or 202-270-2398.”



Church Mouse Chit Chat....

(This is a regular feature in The Sentinel, highlighting happenings we shared the previous month and noting ones yet to come.)

July Field Trip

There will be a July Field Trip to **The National Gallery of Art on Saturday, July 22nd** to see the exhibit of Venetian paintings. We will meet in the Rotunda at 10am, just after the museum opens for the day.

After some time exploring the Venetian art and other exhibits, we will adjourn to the cafeteria which has a special Venetian menu during the exhibit.

If you would like to come, please call Albert at either 202-338-3294 or **fatheralbert@hotmail.com**.

June Trip a Success

About 20 parishioners and friends of Saint John's participated in the June 17th Parish Outing, a noon showing of the Ron Howard film "The Da Vinci Code," based on the controversial novel by Dan Brown.

The group reconvened at Albert and Stephen's house for lunch and discussion. It was another of those occasions where people had the chance to meet and converse with others whom they might not necessarily see at Saint John's.

We discussed "The Da Vinci Code" – the book and the film – while replicas of a cryptex and the safe deposit key from the

film were being passed around. The following questions (and more) were posed:

- Did Jesus have a child?
- Was Mary Magdalene Jesus' wife?
- Are there really other Gospels than the four found in the New Testament?
- How come these Gospels are not in the Bible?
- Is it true that Emperor Constantine was a pagan?
- When was the Papacy established?
- When did the eastern and western churches part ways and why?
- Would it make a difference to the divinity of Jesus had he married and fathered a child?

All in all, it was a fun and fact-filled afternoon among friends.

Trip To Holy Land

Long-time parishioner **John Van Wagoner** will spend two weeks in the Holy Land during July.

He is traveling with the Interfaith Peace Builders, a branch of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. John and 20 others interested in Middle East peace issues will visit Palestinian families and delegations, and then spend an equal amount of time in Israel. We will keep him in our prayers.

Frida Seeks Leaders

Frida Burling, honorary chair of the Georgetown House Tour, is looking for volunteers to fill the big leadership jobs for the 2007 House Tour.

She writes that the work has grown more intensive as we develop corporate sponsorship, produce handsome brochures filled with ads, obtain and staff a minimum of eight houses, arrange publicity and entertain so many at tea.

Frida already has some houses promised for the 2007 Tour. **Denise Cunningham**, this year's Chair, is writing directions to aid next year's volunteers.

Still, several co-chairs are needed to assume the responsibilities of running the event the last Saturday in April. Anyone with an interest in this successful and highly regarded St. John's fund raiser, please get in touch with Frida by email at fridafro@aol.com.

Senior Lunches Redux

Mary Meyer writes that the Georgetown Senior Center is now in its 24th year. **Virginia Allen** remains its founder and director. Virginia is very grateful to St. John's for housing and helping the Center. Mary, the St. John's liaison, and her volunteers cook and serve most of the lunches – rumored to be the "best senior lunches in the city."

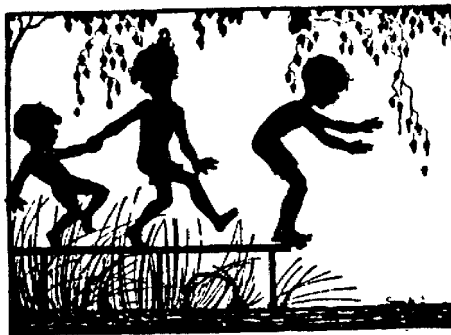


JULY 2006 CALENDAR

- 2 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
(Albert begins well earned two-week vacation)
- 4 Tuesday Office Closed – Fourth of July
- 9 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
10 Monday 6:00PM – Grate Patrol (Distribution of food to homeless by parishioners.)
- 16 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
22 Saturday 10:00AM – July Field Outing: The National Gallery of Art, Venetian Paintings
6:00PM – Grate Patrol (Distribution of food to homeless by parishioners.)
- 23 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
24 Monday 6:30PM – Vestry Meets
- 30 Sunday 9:00AM – Holy Eucharist
11:00AM – Morning Prayer

AUGUST 2006 CALENDAR

- 6 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
- 13 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
14 Monday 6:30PM – Grate Patrol (Distribution of food to homeless by parishioners.)
- 20 Sunday 9:00AM and 11:00AM – Holy Eucharist
21 Monday 6:30PM – Vestry Meets
26 Saturday 6:30PM – Grate Patrol (Distribution of food to homeless by parishioners.)
- 27 Sunday 9:00AM – Holy Eucharist
11:00AM – Morning Prayer



SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GEORGETOWN PARISH

3240 O Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007 ❖ Fax: 202-338-3921

www.stjohnsgeorgetown.org Tel: 202- 338-1796 Email: office@stjohnsgeorgetown.org

CLERGY AND STAFF

❖ ❖ The Rev. Dr. Albert Scariato – Priest-in-Charge (202-338-3294; fatheralbert@hotmail.com) ❖ ❖

Dr. Dudley Oakes – Organist/Choirmaster (202-338-3939; stjohnmusic@aol.com)

Dustin Cole – Parish Administrator (202-338-2360; dustincole.stjohns@verizon.net)

Laura Bachmann – Youth Christian Formation (703-877-4025)

Jason Cox and Amanda Eiman – Seminarians ❖ Sgt/Major Ludwell Brown – Facilities Mgr (202-338-3296)

Marley Joyce – Preschool Director (202-338-2574) ❖ Wanda Saenz – Bookkeeper (202-338-0713)

VESTRY AND OFFICERS

Margaret Huckaby – Senior Warden Michael Flanagan – Junior Warden Sandra Sussman – Treasurer

Allen Cameron Ron Ivey Al La Porta Jean Smith Joan Bristol Tierney Viteri

James Warren Elizabeth Powell Jamie Cartwright Jane Volkema – Secretary

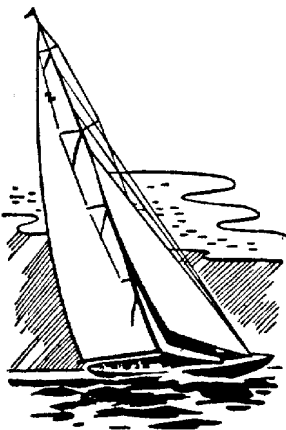
The Sentinel is published 10 times a year by St. John's for its members and friends.

Carol M. Cameron – Editor Tel: 202-244-1181 Email: carolmath@verizon.net

Ann LaPorta – Associate Editor Tel: 202-248-4246 Email: a_laporta@yahoo.com



Saint John's Episcopal Church, Georgetown
3240 O St. NW
Washington, DC 20007



NEXT ISSUE – September 2006

DEADLINE – Wednesday, August 16th