

THE FORERUNNER

June 2019



St. John's Episcopal Church

Be kind to one another, @!#\$%&!!



Did you know that, in the Bible, 'kindness' (often translated as *mercy, compassion, good deeds, favor*) is used over 300 times; while 'grace' is used only 176 times, 'forgive' 112 times and 'hell' only 54 times?

The fact that you are reading these words within a church newsletter tells me that you are acquainted with kindness, what it looks like and how it is practiced. All of us want to be known as kind. Each one of us who call St John's home would be heartbroken if we were somehow known as unkind or behaved (even unknowingly) in a manner that caused a brother or sister to feel unease and even pain. I would. In theory, I would. But I know me, and I know how I can justify my behavior as polite and still call it kindness; being nice or pleasant, as though it's mainly about smiling, getting along, and not ruffling feathers. It seems a rather mundane virtue. But according to the Bible, it is anything but commonplace.

Read the book of Ephesians in the New Testament. Kindness is to be lived out in a Christian's life as they reflect Christ to the world. Be kind to one another," Paul pleads with other well-intentioned disciples of Jesus to be even, "tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you. (Eph 4:32) Kindness is one of the first fruits we are given; proof of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control," Paul says in the next chapter. "Against such things there is no law."

True kindness is Spirit-produced (Galatians 5:22). It's a supernaturally generous orientation of our hearts toward other people, even when they don't deserve it and don't love us in return. God himself is kind in this way. We imitate God's kindness, therefore, by loving our enemies. Jesus said, "Love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil" (Luke 6:35). Our kindness reflects the heart of our Father who is in heaven, who knows the thoughts of our hearts to whom we pray to love with purity of affection and intention. Kindness is the afterglow of being open before God and knowing you are so loved just as you are and are becoming. This is found chiefly in our common worship and fellowship.

How kind are we? Are we generously inclined to our sisters and brothers here at St John's? I know we'd like to think so, but I know that I am in need of God's help to be kind and tenderhearted, especially when it isn't deserved. We are surrounded by images and messages that desensitizes the work of the Holy Spirit. For some of us, watching sports like the

Phillies or the Eagles or screaming at the screen while American Idol is on provides an opportunity for airing harsh opinions on physical appearance, ineptitude, or lack of talent. Our verbal slashes too easily become part of the entertainment itself. For some of us, the daily commute becomes a crucible of kindness. Am I generously inclined toward other drivers, including the guy who just cut me off and the other one who's tailgating me? These daily battles we carry into our fellowship, often unknowingly.

Some of us must admit that we too often twist the verbal knife of cruel sarcasm, saying what we don't mean in order to drive home more deeply what we do. Lord knows I do. Kindness is no small thing. It yields marvelous fruit both in our lives and the lives of those around us. "Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness, and honor" (Proverbs 21:21). We open ourselves to the supernatural work of the Holy Spirit when we ask him to produce in us kind hearts that overflow through kind lips.

Your brother,
Fr. Chuck

St. John's Day



Our annual celebration of St. John's patron saint will be Sunday, June 23, following the 10:30 Eucharist. There are sign up sheets in the Parish Hall and Office. You can email

Eileen, call the office, or sign up in the Parish Hall. We need to know how many people in your family are coming and what side dish or dessert you would like to bring. We are also looking for people to sign up to help with clean up. St. John's is providing the BBQ chicken (from Rode's) and hot dogs. Drinks and paper goods will also be provided. If anyone has yard games (corn hole, ladderball, bocce, etc.) please feel free to bring them. Let's make this a real family day celebration!



United Thank Offering
Sharing Blessings with Thanksgiving and Love

Thank you to everyone who donated to the United Thank Offering. Unfortunately, the annual meeting/gathering has been postponed until sometime in June, but when it occurs, I will be taking a check for over \$200 as St. John's contribution. It is amazing how our spare change can add up!



From the Deacon's Bench

CHANGE - for some of us, we can 'roll with the punches', for others of us, change can be quite hard. Sometimes it depends on what the change is. There may be a welcome change, like a new job that you have been wanting or the birth of a child. Other changes, such as the death of a loved one or the end of a marriage, can be devastating, throwing us into grief. Yet life brings changes all the time.

This year has brought a number of changes for me – Oscar's life-threatening surgery and the resultant disabilities started June 1st last year. Two new babies were added to our fold last year. My godchild will graduate from high school in about two weeks and begin her adventure as a college student in the fall. My youngest son, Robbie, is moving away to pursue his dream. My life has and will continue to change as a result of these major events.

Yet God is constant. His love for us never changes. The fact that Jesus died on the cross and rose again to provide eternal life for us never changes. His holy and life-giving Spirit is ever present in our lives and never changes. We experience this daily in our lives when we yield to God's will for us and spend that 'quiet time' listening for His direction.

We are made in the image of Christ. We are reborn through the water of Baptism. We are sealed and marked as Christ's own forever. It is our duty to radiate that love to others. It is we who change, not God. It is we who must walk a path that is fraught with distractions and perils. Yet Jesus walks with us.

I'm not sure why, but I didn't always like that 'Footprints' theme. It took me a long time to come to the reality that there were times in my life that Jesus 'carried' me through events in my life that I could not walk on my own. It seemed trite to me, maybe because I did not look back and reflect on some of those devastating changes in my life.

Yet now I see some of those life altering changes differently – the divorce from my first husband, my mother's death, my own health scare in 2014, Oscar's near death last year – and I know that I was incapable of functioning for a time, yet I did. These were events that at least on the short term brought me to a very low point, yet the lower I sank, the closer to Jesus I became.

How can I not worship a mighty God and wonderful Savior who can hold me as tenderly as a mother holds her newborn at my moment in need? God will never forsake you, you hear me? No matter what stormy seas life tosses you about in, **GOD WILL NEVER FORSAKE YOU!**

Faithfully
Deacon Sally



- In May, we had 4 inmates from the Salem County Correctional Facility. The men worked for 3 days, 6 hours a day for a total of 54 manhours. The men picked up sticks, raked flower beds, trimmed bushes, and pulled ivy

from the trees and buildings. 3,000 pounds of vines, branches, and leaves were sent to the county landfill.

- 5 trees were cut down. One tree was pushing the large Rumsey stone to a tilt. That was unsafe. The stone has now been straightened and fixed.
- Some of the chain link fence had to be replaced after a car hit the fence in February. Other parts of the fence had trees growing through the chain link fence. Once the branches are cut and the fence replaced in sections, bushes will be planted in front of the fence and will hide the fence over time.
- The small driveway at the chapel will be redone with cement replacing the asphalt. This will match the Presbyterian Manse next door. We will have proper drainage, new cement walkway and new apron (ramp going to driveway).
- Finally, we have to wish a fond farewell to the gas stove/oven in the kitchen. It was found that all the gaskets needed to be replaced and there are no parts available for that stove, which is 20+ years old. By the next issue of the Forerunner, a new stove should be in place, ready for use for VBS and beyond. Thanks to Bill Pankonian and Doug VanSant for doing the leg work, finding the best one.

*David Miller
Jr. Warden*



May was a special month in the life of our church and for several families in our congregation. We welcome the newly baptized, confirmed and received!



On Saturday, May 11, at Trinity Cathedral, four members of St. John's were officially received and/or confirmed in the Episcopal Church by Bishop Chip Stokes. Congratulations to Judy Almond, Ronald Ewen, Annemarie Lawless and Stephanie Shaw!



On May 19, we welcomed to the family of God and St. John's these babies:

- Santino Thomas Chandler, son of Zachary Thomas Chandler & Chloe Christina Fowler
- Lancelot Geoffrey Hern, Jr., son of Kayla DeMaris & Lance Hern
- Kennedy Emerick Maurer, son of Kathleen Kahny & Chris Maurer
- Roman Nicholas Sassi, son of Kaitlyn Roszkowiak & Antonio Sassi.



Kelly Freno
Westminster Choir College
Master of Music in Voice Pedagogy & Performance.

James Andrew Irvine
Salem High School
Attending Rocky Mountain College

Kayla Ann Peterson
Cumberland Regional High School
Attending Cumberland County College

Emma Bailey Tatiana Trinidad
8th Grade Salem Middle School



ST. JOHN'S CHOIR: will continue to lead the Choral Eucharist at 10:30 AM each Sunday through June 23, 2018. Our final liturgy of the season will be a festive celebration of The Birth of St.

John the Baptist on the Sunday closest to the actual Feast date (June 24). This date is the 297th anniversary of the founding of St. John's parish! Our musical offerings on that day will focus on the nativity and ministry of St. John the Baptist and, therefore, may have a decided "Advent" flavor.

ST, JOHN'S CHOIR "END OF SEASON" PARTY: is scheduled for Sunday, June 30, beginning at 1:00 PM at the home of Bill & Mary Anne Clisham. All regular and irregular choir singers, friends and spouses (or significant others) are cordially invited to attend. The entrée will be provided by the management; all attendees are invited to bring a side dish, dessert or beverage to share.

FUTURE SINGERS & RINGERS: If you have not sung in the St. John's Choir in recent years, or played hand-bells in the St John's Ringers, but are interested in the challenges and satisfactions of participating in one or both of these ensembles, please contact Minister of Music, Bill Clisham to discuss details about next season (September 8, 2019 – June 23, 2020): voice placement, bell positions, music folders, vestment, etc. **Bill Clisham** can be contacted in person following the Postlude for the 10:30 Holy Eucharist any Sunday, on his cell phone (908-472-7597), or by e-mail: wfclish@aol.com



6/11 Deacon Sally and Oscar Maurer
6/18 George and Ann Neff
6/20 Chuck and Diane Messer

6/22 Lauren and Nicholas Bowen
6/26 Irv and Pasha Chard
6/30 John III and Jen Laning



6/2 Nina Rodriquez
6/4 Francine Peterson
6/6 Tiana Trinidad
6/10 Christopher Willis

6/10 Nathan Willis
6/11 David Miller
6/11 Erin Gralley
6/13 Pasha Chard
6/17 Virginia Sisco
6/25 Sue Harker
6/27 Jimmy Trinidad (son)
6/28 Austin Schwarz
6/29 Hollis Irvine III
6/29 Peggy Fittabile
6/30 DeeAnn Harris



We pray for those who serve in our military, especially:

Major Ryan Bailey, US Army
PFC Justin Francisco, US Army
Lt. Col. Peter Larrabee, USAF
Senior Master Sgt. David John Milne, USAF

Captain Tyler Patrick VanSant, USAF
Captain Joseph Flescher III, USAF
1st Lt. Marlene (Fletcher) Myers, USAF Academy
2nd Lt. Michael McCormick, US Army



Hard to believe, but it is time to start planning Vacation Bible School for this summer. A planning meeting will be held on Sunday, June 2, following the ECW Meeting. If you are interested in helping in any way

(volunteering, providing supplies, set up, clean up, kitchen, etc.) please attend. If you cannot attend, please let Father Chuck or Laurie Bailey know of your interest.

SAVE THE DATE: VBS will be held Monday, August 12-Friday, August 16. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm with activities beginning at 6:00 pm.





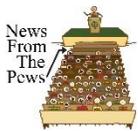
Pentecost
By Emma Bailey

The sky is blue and the wind is warm, as we walk the green covered hills of Mt. Olivet.

Everything is right, just as it should be, for Jesus is truly the Christ. He was crucified and died selflessly for us and in three days rose again. His power and His love for His creation is clearly seen, and I am content to worship Him as my Lord and Savior forever.

He takes us to the level top of the flourishing mountain. I wonder what He has in store to teach us here today, for every word He speaks is true, precious, pure, and lovely. When He begins to speak, I don't fully understand. He tells us not to leave Jerusalem but wait for the Promise of the Father. How will we be able to baptize with the Holy Spirit, as John the Baptist did with water? My vision is so vague and my knowledge so limited. I know I cannot comprehend what is about to happen. Could He be restoring the kingdom to Israel? Jesus answers us kindly. With patience He tells us that it isn't for us to know the times that the Father has decided. But when the Holy Spirit has come upon us, we will witness for Christ to the end of the earth! Such a great mission has never been accomplished before. I am overwhelmed but excited to have the opportunity to share Jesus' salvation with every nation.

I expected Him to instruct us further but after He said these things, while we, the disciples, were watching, He was taken up into the clouds as effortlessly as if He were being pulled into heaven by the sunbeams that shone upon Him and illuminated His perfect face. I gasped in amazement and my mouth fell open as I beheld this miraculous ascension. I didn't know what to think as my Lord and Savior disappeared into the clouds. As we all stood there, frozen and with awe, we suddenly became aware of two men dressed in white standing with us. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." We believed them and did as Jesus told us. (Act 1:4-11 NKJV)



James Andrew Irvine, son of Elizabeth Acton Irvine & Andrew J. Irvine, and grandson of Helen and Jim Acton, will be attending Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Montana. He and his parents will fly to Billings in August, where he will begin his freshman year as an Environmental Sciences major.

Kayla Peterson will be graduating with honors from Cumberland Regional High School. She plans to attend Cumberland County College and major in Education.

Officer Robert Runkle, Millville PD, will be promoted on June 5 to Sergeant. Congratulations!

Congratulations also go to 2nd Lieutenant Marlene (Fletcher) Myers who has recently been promoted to 1st Lieutenant. She has been on the prayer list for our military and is a cousin to Wendy Laning.

We have been praying for Tyler VanSant and his family as he has been deployed in the United Arab Emirates. Tyler returned home to Texas on May 10 and after a short time off, returned to his job at Lockheed Martin on May 28. Welcome back Tyler!

Our thoughts and prayers go with Major Ryan Bailey as he is deployed to the Balkans region for the next 9-10 months.

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our prayers and support are also with Laurie, Emma, Ryan Jr, Eleanor and Evangelina as they go through these months without Ryan.



GIVE A HELPING HAND



Make this craft to show appreciation for your dad or another special man.

What you need:

- Acrylic paint
- Paintbrush
- Adult garden gloves
- Garden gloves that fit you
- Permanent marker

What you do:

1. Paint your right palm and press it on the back of the right adult glove. Lift to reveal your handprint. Repeat with your left hand and the left glove.
2. If you have younger siblings, layer their handprint(s) on top with a different color.
3. Write your name(s) and the date.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 on your gloves.
5. Present the gift. Offer to use your gloves to give a helping hand with chores!

June 2019

						1
2 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Rite II Birthday Sunday ECW Meeting	3 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	4 9:00 am-Noon IAC 9 am Quilters-Last Day 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	5 10:30 am-3 pm CIACC/YSC/IAC 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	6 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Book Study- <u>Mere Christianity</u>	7 7 pm Salem Block Party- Ministerium distributing VBS information	8
9 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Rite II Church Sandwich Sunday Pentecost	10 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	11 12-2 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting 8 pm NA	12 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	13 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Book Study	14  FLAG DAY	15
16 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Rite II Church Fellowship Hour Fathers' Day <i>Honoring our Graduates</i>	17 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	18 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	19 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	20 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Book Study	21 Did you remember to sign up for the picnic? Call the office today!	22
23 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal- Last Sunday for Choir 10:30 Rite II Church St. John's Day Picnic	24 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	25 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	26 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	27 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Book Study	28	29
30 8 am Rite I Chapel 10:30 Rite II Church Pie Sunday				CIACC-Children's Inter-Agency Council YSC-Youth Services Council IAC-Inter-Agency Council NA-Narcotics Anonymous AA-Alcoholics Anonymous MAC-Music Around the County SCC-Salem Community College	<u>Office Hours</u> Monday: Closed Tuesday-Friday: 9 am-4 pm (Fr Chuck) 12 pm-3 pm (Office)	





Looking for something fun to do with the kids (or alone) this summer? Here are some day trip ideas.

Fort Delaware/Pea Patch Island/Fort Mott: Access to the Fort is by ferry only. You can get the Forts Ferry either at Fort Mott, on the New Jersey side or Delaware City, on the Delaware side of the river. The ferry takes you to Pea Patch Island, where you will find the Civil War era Fort Delaware. A Learn from the residents what life was like during the summer of 1864. There are also hiking trails on Pea Patch Island-see one of the largest wading bird nesting areas on the East Coast as you enjoy the beauty of the area. You can take a picnic to enjoy while you are there.

For more information:

<http://decitysalemferry.com/Home.aspx>

PSEG Alloway Creek Watershed Wetland Restoration Site: On Money Island Road in Elsinboro Township, this nature preserve is part of the PSEG Estuary Enhancement site. 2 nature trails take you to viewing platforms where you can observe many different types of birds and possibly other wildlife.

For more information:

<http://www.njwildlifetrails.org/SkylandsTrails/Sites/tabid/445/Scope/site/Guide/DELBAYSH/Site/80/Default.aspx>

Diggerland: The only construction themed amusement park is in West Berlin, NJ. Located adjacent to **Saraha Sam's Oasis, Indoor/Outdoor Water Park**, Diggerland gives kids of all ages the chance to operate real construction equipment. And Sahara Sam's provides a place to cool off.

For more information:

<https://www.diggerlandusa.com/>
<https://www.sahasams.com/>

Delaware Children's Museum: If you are in Delaware, this is the place to go for hands-on fun. Located along the Wilmington Riverfront, DCM encourages playful learning for children. A unique feature of DCM is the Stratosphere, where kids can climb high!

For more information:

<http://www.delawarechildrensmuseum.org/>

Riverwalk Mini Golf: On the river side of the DCM is Riverwalk Mini Golf. This is an 18 hole mini golf course overlooking the Christiana River.

For more information:

<https://riverfrontwilm.com/directory/riverwalk-mini-golf/>

Garden State Discovery Museum: On the other side of South Jersey is this children's museum. Located in Cherry Hill, they also have a variety of hands-on exhibits for children to age 10. GSDM also has many special events happening.

For more information:

<http://www.discoverymuseum.com/>

Wilmington & Western Railroad: If you have always wanted to ride on a train pulled by a steam engine, this is your opportunity to have that experience close to home. WWRR is on Route 41 near Prices Corner in Wilmington, Delaware, about a 20-minute drive from St John's. They also hold various themed events throughout the summer, including as Civil War Skirmish, the Great Train Robbery, a Princess Express, a Super Hero Express, and more.

For more information: www.wwrr.com

Kalmar Nyckel Tall Ship: Located on the river in Wilmington, near Fort Christina, the Kalmar Nyckel is a replica of the tall ship that brought the first Swedes to the Wilmington area. There is an Education Center on site and tours of the ship are available. They hold various events there, including a Pirate Festival at the end of June.

For more information: <http://www.kalmarnyckel.org/>

Coombs' Barnyard: This local farm has events for kids to help them learn about agriculture and where our food comes from. They also offer weeklong farm camps in the summer. Camp is held from 9 am-noon.

For more information:

<http://www.coombsbarnyard.com/>

Pick-Your-Own Farms: New Jersey is the Garden State, and we have a lot of farmers' markets and pick-your-own farms. One of the nearest PYO is Mood's Farm Market on Route 45 in Mullica Hill. Throughout the summer, they will have various fruits, from raspberries in June to apples in the fall.

For more information on pick-your-own locations:

<http://pickyourown.org/NJsw.htm>

Ed note: This is a reprint from a few years ago, with some updates and additional places.

From the Editor: Do you want to change how you receive the Forerunner? Simply leave a message with the church office and it will be rerouted with the next issue

You can also check out St. John's website: www.stjohnssalemnj.org. The most recent Sunday Bulletin is on the website, as well as current and past issues of the Forerunner and special announcements. St. John's is also on Facebook (St. John's Salem)

Please have any information you would like printed in the next Forerunner to me by **JUNE 25**. Family news, articles, information, articles, recipes, book or movie reviews, or anything you think would be of interest to our church family. Items can be emailed to ecmiller114@gmail.com.

Special request: We are always looking for family news, articles, stories, poems, recipes, and other items of interest. Email them to me or leave them in the office.



St. John's Episcopal Church

76 Market Street, Salem, NJ 08079

Established 1722

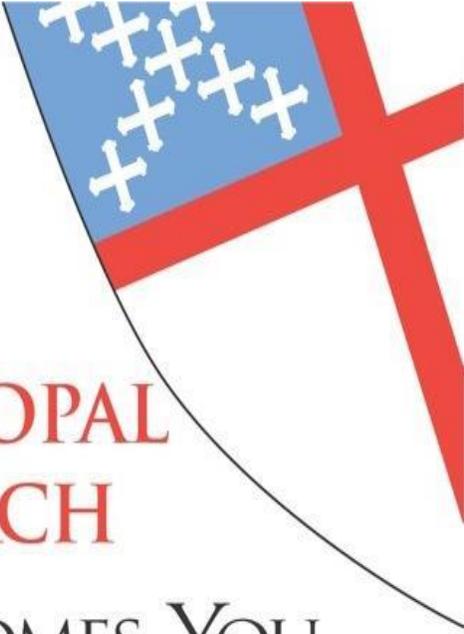
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Vestry Class of 2022 David Miller Ron Wohrab
Class of 2021 Ryan Bailey Ron Magill Bill Mecum
Class of 2020 Sue Harker Gwen Norton Ann Neff (Clerk)
Recording Secretary: MaryAnne Clisham



**THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**
WELCOMES YOU

Schedule of Services

Every Sunday

8 AM—Holy Eucharist Rite 1 in the Chapel
9:15 AM-Christian Formation
10:30 AM---Holy Eucharist Rite II in the Church
followed by Fellowship Hour

Every Wednesday

10:30 AM Bible Study in the Parish Hall
Noon---Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Every Thursday

6:30 PM Book Study in the Parish Hall with Potluck
Dinner
Current Topic: Mere Christianity by C. S. Lewis

Special Services

Sunday June 23, 2019
St. John's Day Celebration followed by our annual picnic



St. John's Episcopal Church

76 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

