

THE FORERUNNER

September 2019

St. John's Episcopal Church



Before binge watching through digital streaming, the month of September brought us "Must See TV." It was used by all of the major networks that meant you had to stay home and tune in at a time they told you. I remember to this day where I was and what I was doing the first time I saw a commercial for the coming CBS show, "Dukes of Hazzard." From that

preview, I couldn't wait for Friday nights at 8. Dinners cut short, bedtimes were pushed back, and friends spending the night became the new normal from then on.

"Must See TV" was a close relative of "New Fall Season", where networks rolled out most of their new shows for the year. I wouldn't have known about, "Dukes of Hazzard," if I wasn't already a watcher of copious amounts of television daily. "New Fall Season" was preceded by weeks of previews that were designed to get you excited about the upcoming programming. Some New Fall Season shows were winners, like "Dallas," and some...not so much. Remember "Cop Rock"? But as sure as the clock and the calendar, you could count on a new batch of TV shows popping up about three weeks after school started each year.

Here at St John's we slow down in the summer and roll out the program year in September and begin the cycle of our lives together again. We are rolling out a "New Fall Season" of sorts. For those of you interested in adventure, intrigue, and human debauchery a new season of Bible Study begins Wednesday, September 25th at 10:30 AM in the library. The same rough and tumble world is repeated on Thursdays with covered dish dinner at 6:30 starting on September 26th.

A sleeper hit that has critics raving is the Adult Forum on Sundays starting at 9:15 AM. The riveting and often controversial curriculum is matched by the lively discussion that follows. Celebrity chef, Eileen Miller, fresh off the brand new oven in the parish hall, provides wonderful morning treats and great coffee. A great way for the entire congregation to meet between services and make lasting relationships.

On "Must Attend Sundays" we are rolling out Youth Sunday each 5th Sunday of the Month. From music to liturgical dance to lectors to prayers and even sermons will be youth led and inspired. Throughout our program year children and youth will be a ministry priority. A formation of a youth group with planned activities is on the docket this fall. Opportunities for

youth and children to serve in worship as acolytes, lectors, preachers, altar servers, ushers are wide open.

Returning September 8th for its 297th season is the dynamic St John's Choir. This is a year of transition for the choir with the retirement of longtime Minister of Music, Bill Clisham. With changes brings us new opportunities for our music ministry. We are happy to announce that Joanne Owen, Organist and Minister of Music Emerita of our own congregation will serve as interim through December 31st. A search committee has been formed to find a permanent Minister of Music. Please keep this search in your prayers as we discern God's new minister at St John's.

Running a television network takes a lot of people to pull off. A church is no different. We need all kinds of directors and camera operators, associate producers and lots of stand-ins. Jesus Christ is all the star-power we need and crosses over all demographics. It is the people behind the scenes that allow our Lord to do only what our Lord can: save, forgive, and heal.

When "Dukes of Hazzard" was on, it was "Must See TV." I didn't want to miss an episode so you could count on me in front of a television at 8 PM on Friday nights. When Sunday morning rolls around, I don't want you to miss the life and community that is yours each time we gather. "Must Attend Sunday" is every Sunday and the programming is to encourage, uplifting and change the world. I look forward to seeing you this Fall at St John's.

And now... back to our sponsor, Christ Jesus our Lord

In peace,
Fr. Chuck



On Sunday, August 11, we welcomed Father Todd Foster, from St. Thomas EC in Glassboro to our pulpit, while Father Chuck was officiating at St. Thomas.

On Sunday, September 15, we will welcome Father Bob Fitzpatrick from St. Peter's EC, Clarksboro while Father Chuck preaches at St. Peter's.

NOTE: The Parish Hall will be CLOSED on Monday, September 9. The floor cleaners will be working in there.



The Deacon's Bench

Like you, I have watched with disgust and anger the separation of families and horrible conditions at our border entry points. I disagree with the policy to 'criminalize' all people who attempt to come to the United States. To me there is a big difference between legal immigration and illegal immigration. Now everyone is treated the same. I cannot stomach children being torn from their parents, some of them lost in the system and traumatized forever. I cannot fathom the subhuman conditions in which they are detained; conditions that they feel are dangerous and traveling thousands of miles to get to us only to be treated like criminals. I'm aware that we must have a system for people to legally and correctly enter our country and that our current system is overwhelmed. I'm also completely aware that there is no easy answer and that our government is quite divided over solutions.

I also am tired of the bland rhetoric of 'they are in our thoughts and prayers'. While I absolutely agree prayer is necessary and God works miracles, I am more a woman of action than that. I wanted to 'do' something about the problem. Our Bishop recently wrote about the necessity of action, which so nicely dovetailed with a project that was launched this past Friday, sponsored by yours truly.

A fellow deacon who I became acquainted who lives in Waco, Texas posted photos of a group of deacons who served along the border, first at shelters run by Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley. I was inspired by their story – several of them volunteered at the humanitarian respite centers that receive up to 300 immigrants a day – whole families who have been vetted and admitted to the US, dropped off at a bus station in McAllen, Texas with very limited resources.

At the center, the immigrants are given a place to rest, hot showers and toiletries, a new set of clothes, personal items and medical care. They are helped to make the adjustment to the US as they prepare to travel to their destinations. Many of them arrive with medical needs from their travels and from their detentions – men, women and children of all ages. Once they have been examined and their medical needs addressed, many of them need medications – the Center uses gift cards in the denominations of \$20 and \$50 to pay for these medications.

Although it is impractical for the Diocese of NJ to send a 'team' as my friend did, I felt that the least I could do was ask the deacons of the diocese to send me gift cards that I could send on to the Center. I called Catholic Charities in Tx and corresponded by email with Michelle Nunez who confirmed the details. I crafted a letter and sent it along with explanation to Archdeacon Denise Cavaliere who worked it through the approval process, including the Bishop, and the letter was distributed to Diocese of NJ deacons on Friday.

My appeal to them is to consider sending me a Visa gift card for \$20 or \$50 and I will send collected gift cards on to the Humanitarian Respite Center. In my letter, I asked them to consider asking 10 more people to donate a gift card, increasing our donation exponentially.

So, my brothers and sisters in Christ – I appeal to you. Help me help those families who have been legally vetted by Immigration and are now here in the US – help me reach out

to those families in a real and tangible way. Please consider purchasing a \$20 or even \$50 Visa Gift Card – I'm planning on sending my first mailing on September 9th.

Yours faithfully,
Deacon Sally



Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley

To find out more about the humanitarian respite efforts please visit the website

<https://www.catholiccharitiesrgv.org>

To find out more about how to donate (including their Amazon Wish List) visit this website

<https://www.catholiccharitiesrgv.org/Donations.aspx>

To read about Sister Norma Pimentel, Executive Director of CCRGV go to this link

<https://www.catholiccharitiesrgv.org/SisterNormaPimentel.shtml>

I think you will be very impressed by the work she has done and her leadership

In addition to this program, Episcopal Relief and Development have been assisting on the other side of the border in Mexico, which I will report more on next month and Episcopal Migration Ministries distributes donations to Episcopal Dioceses in border areas to assist with their efforts. Many of the Texas Dioceses support Catholic Charities because they are already 'boots on the ground'.



After church on Sunday, September 1, we will be packing and blessing the backpacks that will be donated to Salem Middle School for students that need them. Please join us in this outreach opportunity!



Notes from the Interim Minister of Music

September 8, 2019 marks the beginning of a new choir season for St. John's Parish Choir. All present, past, and future choir members are invited to a "Preview" on Saturday, September 7, from 10 am until noon. We will meet in the chancel.

As Interim Minister of Music (MOM), I look forward to making music in joyful praise to our God. If you are interested in adding your voice, please contact me by phone or email.

Joanne Owen
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"And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another. And many false prophets shall rise and shall deceive many. And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved. And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." -The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to St. Matthew, XXIV: X-XIV, The Holy Bible, Authorized or King James Version of A.D. 1611

This month let us wind our holy land pilgrimage Northwardly again to the Balkan Peninsula. It is there that we will be continuing our discussion of the Illyrians, to whom St. Paul carried the Gospel in the First Century A.D. The name Illyria continued through history, becoming less prominent from the time of the Ottoman invasion of the Balkans and re-emerging by the eighteenth century, with a new significance in the Ottoman-Habsburg Wars. Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I had called the South Slavs in Hungarian territory "The Illyrian Nation".

The name Illyria was favored by Napoleon for the Balkan conquered provinces that were incorporated into his French Empire from 1809 to 1813, and the Kingdom of Illyria (1816-1849) was later part of Austria.

William Shakespeare used Illyria as the setting for *The Twelfth Night*, (it's included in the film adaptation *She's The Man* as "Illyria High School" in California). Illyria was also featured in Part II of Shakespeare's *Henry VI*.

The Illyrian movement remains a key pan-South Slavist cultural and political campaign & was begun in coordination with Pan-Slavism by a group of Croatian and Serbian intellectuals during the first half of the 19th century. This was a world cultural movement solidifying around the culture of the Russian Empire. At the time Russia pursued independent self-sovereignty and viewed herself as a natural geostrategic balance to the western European powers. In this way the Pan-Slavist ideal is very much a part of the politics of Central and Eastern Europe today.

The land of Illyria today is home to one of the newest named Saints of The Vatican: St. Theresa of Calcutta, whom we still mostly know here in The States as Mother Theresa. In Letnica, Kosovo, near the border with North Macedonia, there is The Church of The Black Madonna, where Mother Theresa, or Nene Tereza as she is known among the Albanians, received her calling & The Cathedral Church of St. Mother Theresa in the capitol city of Pristina.

Particularly beloved here as a patron of the poor, love for Mother Theresa was ingrained in me by my Grandmother who helped raise me & who remains very devoted to her. Two of my favorites from among The Saint's many quotes, which have become increasingly meaningful to my life are; "How can you say there are too many children? That is like saying there are too many flowers." & "If you would have peace in the world then go home & love your family".

The above Gospel, quoted from Our Lord as recorded by St. Matthew, encourages us to spread the Gospel. Geographically the Balkans were among the first place that this commission was carried out. St. Paul was actively fulfilling the goal of world evangelism. We are closer in Salem, to the end of the earth, sometimes literally, it feels. So let us ever begin anew in bearing our own small portion of this mission and carry the gospel forward with us as we march together shoulder to shoulder, day by day, Amen.

All my best for your Labor Day weekend, and a blessed beginning of what I feel is one of the most pleasant times of the year, the transition from summer into fall with its lovely display of colors, cooler weather, and particularly the harvest that we witness here in the agricultural heart of South Jersey.

"Non nobis, Domine, non nobis; sed nomine tuo da gloriam",

"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us; but to thy name be the glory." PS 115:1

Ryan Bailey



1 8 am Rite I Chapel 10:30 am Rite II Birthday Sunday Packing the Backpacks ECW Meeting	2 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	3 9:00 am-Noon IAC 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	4 9 am-2 pm CIACC/YSC 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	5 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	6	7 9:00 am- Noon Choir Preview Chancel
8 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Rite II Welcome Back Choir! Sandwich Sunday	9 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	10 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting 8 pm NA	11 Day of Remembrance 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 5:30 ECW Ingathering and Evensong-Trenton 8 pm AA	12 10 am Music & Arts Subcommittee 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	13	14
15 Pulpit Swap 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Rite II Church Fellowship Hour	16 Parish Hall CLOSED for Floor Cleaning	17 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	18 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist	19 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	20	21
22 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 10:30 am Rite II Church Pie Sunday 12:30 300 th Anniv. Committee	23 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	24 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	25 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA Deadline for October Forerunner	26 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	27	28
29 8 am Rite I Chapel 10:30 am Rite II Church Fellowship Hour	30 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time		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			Office Hours Monday: Closed Tuesday- Friday: 9 am-4 pm (Fr Chuck) 12 pm-3 pm (Office)



Activity Page



GROWING generations

Honor your grandparents with a gift that all generations can enjoy.

What you need:

- Cups (various sizes)
- Pencil
- Family photos
- Scissors
- Colored paper
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Clothespins
- A small potted tree or bush

What you do:

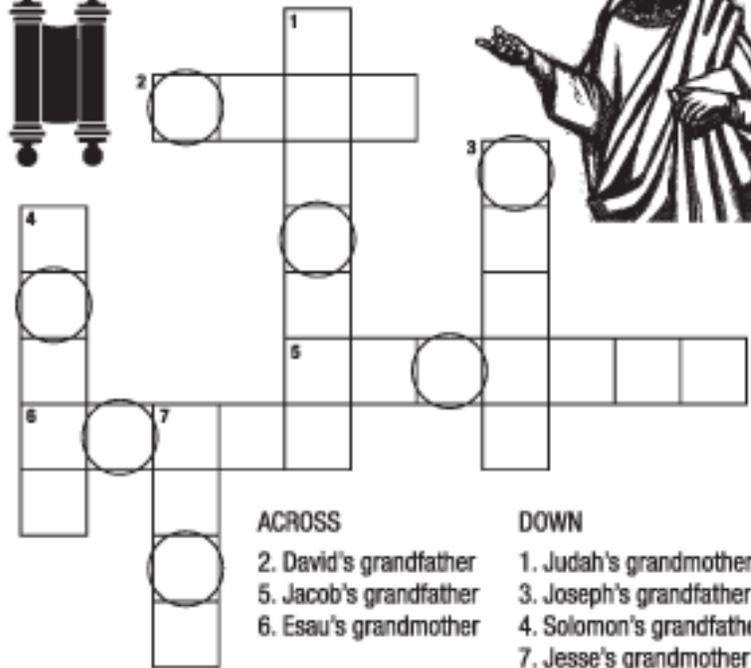
1. Use a cup to trace a circle around faces in the photos. Cut out the circles.
2. Cut larger circles out of paper. Glue each photo onto a paper circle.
3. Glue a clothespin to the back of each photo. Clip photos to the branches.
4. Present the gift to your grandparents, and tell them you're glad to be in their family tree.



Grandparents of the Old Testament

Can you name these biblical grandparents? If you get stuck, find an Old Testament family tree in your Bible or online.

Directions: After filling in the crossword, unscramble the circled letters to complete Psalm 145:4, NIV.



ACROSS

2. David's grandfather
5. Jacob's grandfather
6. Esau's grandmother

DOWN

1. Judah's grandmother
3. Joseph's grandfather
4. Solomon's grandfather
7. Jesse's grandmother

One G _ N _ _ _ _ _ N commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4, NIV

Answers: ACROSS 2. Obed, 5. Abraham, 6. Sarah; DOWN: 1. Rebekah, 3. Isaac, 4. Jesse, 7. Ruth. Generation

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)

Deadline for articles for the September Forerunner is **September 25**. This is your publication-what do you want to see included? 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

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Established 1722

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



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

WELCOMES YOU

Schedule of Services

Every Sunday

8 AM—Holy Eucharist Rite 1 in the Chapel
9 AM—Choir Rehearsal
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 (beginning
9/25/19)
Noon---Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Every Thursday

6:30 PM Bible Study in the Parish Hall with Potluck
Dinner (beginning 9/26/19)



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Salem, NJ 08079

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

