

THE FORERUNNER

October 2019

St. John's Episcopal Church



From the
Rector

There is a preacher story I heard once.

Once upon a time there was a church with a parking problem. It was right next door to a store that was closed on Sunday. The leaders of the church asked the owner if they could use his parking lot. He said that they could use it for 51 Sundays out of the year but that it would be chained off one week. They were happy with the deal, but curious why it would be chained off that one Sunday. He explained that he just wanted them to remember that it wasn't their parking lot!

Did you catch that? If you use something long enough, you tend to assume that it's yours. Think about it. Is it harder to give up something of your own or give something back what is already God's? If I need to haul some stuff around, I might need to borrow a friend's pickup truck for a while. Suppose I kept it for a day. Then I start to give it back to him. Is that hard to do? Here's a car that's worth thousands of dollars and I'm just giving it to him? Sure, it's easy to give it to him because it's not mine; it belongs to my friend.

What we have belongs to God; it's God's stuff to begin with! God blesses us by letting us use it, but it's still his. We are stewards of grace; gifts from God we have not earned. Throughout scripture, we are reminded over and over that all things come from God and forgetting this truth is to our detriment.

Do not say to yourself, "My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth." But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today. Deuteronomy 8:7-8

Understanding God is the source of all things, we in turn reflect God's generosity in giving to others. If we hold onto the idea that we own what we have, then what is our attitude towards giving to your church home? When it is all about us and our stuff, the church will always appear to beg for money. When it is all about us, we become resentful to part with what we have in order to meet the needs of our church home. However, once we realize we own nothing, but owe everything to God's grace, then the proper portion of our blessings will be reflected in our giving back to God.

We gift God by loving God through loving our neighbor. We reflect God's grace by offering to God our gifts and talents in thanksgiving in making the world a better place. "Thanks" and "giving" go together. When we give back to God, we express our appreciation for all the ways God has blessed us. We give out of gratitude, not duty. The attitude we give is just as important as what we give, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (II Cor. 9:7)

St John's has been blessed in mighty ways throughout nearly 300 years. God has cared for this congregation during times of war, economic crisis and division. We have been provided for and our needs met through grace. God provides for us through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit in others. Our congregation has been blessed through acts of generosity of its members in their response to God's grace in their own lives. What we now enjoy at St John's is made possible through the sacrifice of thanksgiving of those who have gone before us. Members of St John's gave of their resources because they have been given from God.

Giving our tithes and offerings reflects a grateful heart that wants to give back to God a portion of what God has given us; in reality, what is already God's. This is our opportunity to show God that we love God with all our whole self. The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives. "You must be sure to set aside a tenth of all, so that you may learn to revere the LORD your God always" (Deuteronomy 14:23 TLB). Tithing is a reminder that God is the supplier of everything we have. It is also God's personal invitation to an outpouring of his blessing in your life.

Jesus calls us to store up treasures in heaven, for where our treasure is our hearts will be there too. Our giving reflects what we consider to be important. What is it we consider treasure at St John's? Does our giving match our desire to store up treasure in heaven?

Throughout October and November our focus will be on stewardship and the many ways we are called to this ministry. Not only are we to care for and support our church home, we are also called to oversee the well-being of our earthly home and our treatment of God's creation. You will be challenged to discern how God wants you involved in supporting God's work at St John's. You will be asked to give more, be involved more and love more because you have been so lavishly gifted and loved.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Father Chuck



On Sunday, October 6, we will celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi by inviting all our animal friends to come and be blessed. Father Chuck will be blessing our animal friends outside the Parish Hall after each service.

Bring your animals, a picture, or even a stuffed animal to be blessed. If you have any questions, please contact Father Chuck or the Church Office.



The Deacon's Bench

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ –

Fall is our busiest time of year for outreach projects – we do so many good things and there are so many opportunities to help those less fortunate than we are.

We had a successful backpack campaign – we packed 35 backpacks with paper, composition books, folders, dividers, binders, a pencil pouch full to overflowing with pencils, pens, highlighters, colored pencils, erasers and more. Our packing party on September 1st went quickly and efficiently and on Tuesday, Sept 3rd, Father Chuck delivered all the backpacks to Salem Middle School. My niece Becky told me that they are very grateful for these backpacks, which they store in a closet and hand out gradually over the school year when students' original backpacks rip or are missing. She said the kids love getting a new backpack, filled with necessary items for school. On the first Sunday of October, Laurie Bailey will put out the plastic containers for Operation Christmas Child. I look forward to this project every fall as I take grandchildren, nieces and even some of their friends to the local Dollar General and let each one of them pick an age group and fill the box as they see fit. It is a valuable lesson to these young people as they imagine a child on the other end and what they might need.

They are so excited to think about the child's face as they discover what they so lovingly packed for them. And then at our ingathering, we will pack several other boxes with items we've collected over the year – all in all approximately 35 shoe boxes are dropped off. ECW pays for the boxes and for the shipping.

On Halloween we are planning on setting up our annual Trunk or Treat in the parking lot – we'd love to see more cars, we have a good time and we get to see lots of little children come through for candy and treats – last year nearly 200 children came through our semicircle of decorated car trunks and hatches. You can help us by bringing in large bags of Halloween candy – they are now selling them everywhere! After Trunk or Treat we will again hold our All Hallow's Eve Service in the graveyard – if you've never been to such a service – please consider joining us at about 7:15.

We are gearing up for our Secret Santa Shop on Saturday, December 14th. We need your new or nearly new 'stuff' – clean out your closets and cupboards and bring us items that the children can choose from. We also always need more 'mens' stuff than we get so if you're going to Home Depot or Lowes or a hardware store, pick up small tools or car items for \$5 and under for that table. We need YOU – last year we served 75 kids – we need help! It's a madhouse that lasts about 4 hours. We need help with set up Friday night, we need help the day of the event – people to register, elves, wrappers, kitchen help – all of the above. This is a tremendous outreach project and many hands make light work.

While you are cleaning out your closets – don't forget to bring me your hats, gloves, scarves for our annual 'hangout' in late January. Believe me when I tell you, people are 'picking them off the line' before we can even get them all out.

I am still collecting Visa Gift Cards for the Relief Center in Texas – I have received a few from you and by the end of September will be sending off more than \$2,000 worth of gift cards from all over the diocese to the Humanitarian Respite

Center in San Juan, Texas. I plan to continue to send gift cards in groups throughout the fall. The need does not go away

Lastly – please do not forget our Food Pantry. Our numbers have increased exponentially in recent months. Our budget is pretty well wiped out at this point. Your donations are very much appreciated. Please see Peg or Bill for specific needs besides monetary donations. We also need VOLUNTEERS on Tuesdays – there is a sign-up sheet on the Office Door in the Parish Hall.

Yours in Christ
Deacon Sally

Upcoming Outreach Activities

Every Tuesday 12-2 pm **Food Pantry**
Volunteers Needed

Ongoing **Visa Gift Cards for the Relief**
Center in Texas

Sunday, Oct. 6 **OCC Shoeboxes distributed**

Thursday, October 31 **Trunk or Treat**
Bags of Candy Needed

Sunday, December 14 **Secret Santa Shop**
New or gently used items needed
Volunteers needed for the shop



Think the holidays are a long way off? NOPE! It is time to start thinking about it NOW... At St. John's we often enjoy special music at the holidays, Strings at

Christmas, Brass at Easter, etc. But did you know that these special musical additions are not in the budget? They are not!

For us to enjoy this music that makes High Holy Days special, we have to cough up additional cash. And... it needs to be far enough in advance so that the Treasurer and Minister-of-Music know they can afford to pay the musicians.

PLEASE, consider making additional contributions to "Special Music" this fall. It is a pass-through item and monies specifically designated as such will be used only for the music that makes our holidays special. Put a note on your check or write "Special Music" on your envelope. You can put offering and special music in the same envelope and within the same check so long as you designate how you wish your donation used.

Keep making our holidays bright at St. John's!
Ron Magill



"For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia." –St. Paul's Second Epistle to Timothy IV: X, The Holy Bible, Authorised or King James Version of A.D. 1611

In our ongoing Balkan travels we behold the distinction between the Eastern and Western Worlds of European Christianity. Here at St. John's Salem, our particular dispensation of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, that of the Anglican Communion is a Western or Latin Rite Church, meaning that it derives from the Western World of which Latin is a universal language of scholarship, a language of letters, if you will. As important background; King Henry VIII's dissolution of the monasteries began a religious civil war in the British Isles, an extension of which is still ongoing in Northern Ireland. England later legalized Romanism & returned under The Pope up to the last Jacobite Uprisings, circa 18th Century, when the British-Catholic Stuart Family was finally replaced in several wars and revolutions that included many large battles, landing of a foreign army & eventually seating the Germanic Hanoverian family, a descendant of which reigns now although the present royal family dates only to 1901 and is also entirely Germanic & of a largely derivative provenance.

I point these things out to demonstrate that we, in the Anglican Communion, are much more influenced by the Western or Catholic mindset than by the Eastern or Orthodox. In visiting the lands of the Balkans one gains an appreciation for the distinctions in worship styles and philosophies. The two have entirely differing views on the Trinity and the presence of God The Father in the created universe, study of which divergences, I find very enriching. Sometimes we have to agree to disagree & good leaders should try very hard to avoid war for any reason let alone religious grounds. The fact that Orthodoxy is so foreign to us makes it all the more interesting to study. In all these things, we come to see the beauty of the ancient Christianity practiced here from the 1st Century, through the Byzantine times, even until now.

Last week we visited a Roman ruins called Ulpiana. Here work is being conducted by the Institutu Arkeolojik I Kosoves, The Archaeological Institute of Kosovo, who presently believe the site to be a 4th Century Settlement atop a 1st Century Settlement, atop a pre-historic site, so very much like a "Tel" in the Middle East, or even like Mexico's own Tlachihualtepetl. Ulpiana, also known as Jvstiniana Secvnda, is complete with a Basilica, roads, water system, city sewerage and a large octagonal Baptismal Font. The active archaeological site, constructed for the Roman province of Dardania, is still being researched but clearly was the site of early Christianity & has been the source of several early coins and artifacts. Its existence is a disproof to the newly popular Roman Syncretic theory of Christian origins.

In II Timothy 4: 10 St. Paul mentions the locations of several of his former disciples; "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia" Dalmatia is a name for the western coastal region of the Balkan Peninsula, presently occupied by Croatia and Montenegro, Former

Yugoslav Republics. In studying the Church's early history, we contemplate what was taught as the universal faith within all of Europe, then called Christendom, until about the French Revolution. Only in this context can we understand the concept of orthodoxy, in a historical continuity, and extend our frame of reference beyond just the present moment. So may we continue to focus more on things eternal, not as Demas, St. Paul's Disciple, who became distracted with the things of this world. "Day by Day, Dear Lord of Thee three things I pray. To see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly, follow Thee more nearly, Day by Day," Amen.

Next Month: Travel together with us to Cappadocia on an Archaeological Expedition. Enjoy your Columbus Day, Leif Erickson Day, Native American Day, Anniversary of the Battle of Mogadishu, & other upcoming observances; All my best for your Fall Travels and autumnal experience. May your season be filled with fun & family time, beautiful cooler weather, pumpkin treats and the overall spirit of Thankfulness for the bountiful blessings of this good land.

"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." Psalm 115:1

Ryan Bailey

Music Around the County Presents

Tunes From the Crypt

Spooky Music With organist
Joanne K. Owen

And Master of Ceremonies
Dr. James F. Turk

St. John's Episcopal Church
76 Market Street Salem, NJ

Friday, October 25, 2019
6:00 p.m.
FREE ADMISSION

After the concert please enjoy the Salem Walking Ghost Tour,
Leaving from the Royal Port Antique Shop ...Just across the street
If you dare!

Building & Grounds



Fall is here and the leaves are falling. Be careful when walking on wet leaves.

The fence that was damaged this summer has been repaired by Scott Love Welding in Elsinboro. Did you know that molten lead was used to hold the fence in place? Lead was poured into holes in the granite to secure the fence.

The stove in the Parish Hall is currently waiting for repair. It cannot be used until repaired and inspected.



Fall

By Ryan Bailey Jr

Fall is here and so is . . .
Pumpkin spice, being nice,
Farm living, and Thanksgiving
Crisp leaves under your feet,
And best of all no more heat!

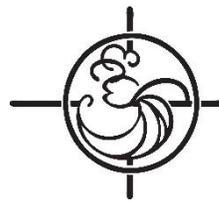


10/16 Richard and Juliana Frieze



10/1 Gayle Irvine
10/5 Aden Dunfee
10/8 Wyatt Richard Frieze
10/8 John Vanderveer
10/10 Trudy Glaspey Koston

10/14 Gwen Hasheian Norton
10/14 Wendy Laning
10/15 Doug VanSant, Sr..
10/18 Nate Gable
10/21 Susan Ewen
10/24 Gail Boyd
10/25 John Ensslen
10/26 Elizabeth Acton Irvine
10/26 Ann Neff
10/28 Jim Acton
10/28 Theresa VanSant
10/29 Lauren Marie Frieze
10/31 Christiana Sparks Battiato



ECW CORNER

by Eileen Miller

St. John's ECW held s dinner meeting on Monday, September 23 in our Parish Hall. Dinner was prepared by Doug VanSant. Helping him in the Kitchen were Ron Magill and David Miller. We appreciate the delicious dinner! Following dinner, our September Meeting was held. Besides routine business like minutes and the treasurer's report, we discussed the mission and outreach of the ECW. We assist in many of the outreach programs of the church, such as the backpack program, OCC shoeboxes and VBS. Each week, members of the ECW prepare, serve and clean up for Fellowship hour. We also provide cakes for special occasions, beverages and desserts for funerals, and gifts for baptisms and graduations. Meetings are typically held the first Sunday of each month following Fellowship Hour. Join us and hear how you can help us support our church activities and outreach. Contact Eileen Miller for more information.

Thank you to everyone who came out to this meeting!

The annual Diocesan meeting and UTO Ingathering was held on September 11 at Trinity Cathedral in Trenton. I attended and was able to present our offering, which totaled about \$286. Thanks to all who gave to this effort.



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

Lance Corporal Jessica Armstrong, USMC
 Major Ryan Bailey, 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
 2nd Lt. Michael McCormick, US Army

Soldiers and Families of New Jersey's Own 44th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, presently on mission in the Middle East, Europe and Africa



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		1 9:00 am-Noon IAC 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	2 9 am-12 pm CIACC/YSC 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	3 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	4	5
6 Blessing of The Animals 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Birthday Sunday ECW Meeting Shoebbox Distribution	7 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	8 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting 8 pm NA	9 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	10 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	11	12
13 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Sandwich Sunday	14 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	15 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Vestry Mtg 8 pm NA	16 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist	17 8:30-Noon Salem County School District Homeless Seminar 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	18	19
20 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Church Fellowship Hour	21 9 am-3 pm NGA Ingathering 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	22 9 am Quilters 9 am-3 pm NGA Meeting 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA	23 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA	24 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study	25 Tunes From The Crypt Organ Concert 6 PM Salem Ghost Tour 6:30 PM	26 Deadline for November Forerunner
27 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Church Pie Sunday	28 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time	29	30	31  Trunk or Treat 5-7 PM Followed by All Hallow's Eve Service in Graveyard	Office Hours Monday: Closed Tuesday-Friday: 9 am-4 pm (Fr Chuck) 12 pm-3 pm (Office)	

Activity Page

PUZZLE

Harvest hunt

Directions: After unscrambling each leaf's word, follow the vine to complete the Bible verse.

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Galatians 6:9 James 3:18 John 4:35

Peacemakers who sow in _____ reap a harvest of righteousness. James 3:18, NIV

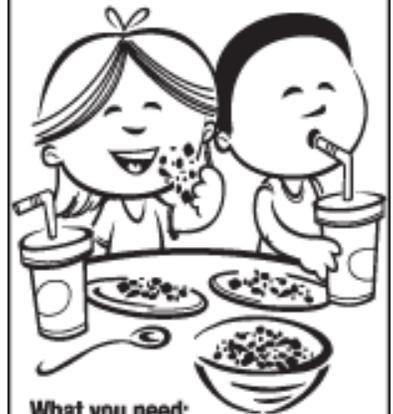
Let us not become _____ in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galatians 6:9, NIV

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the _____!
They are ripe for harvest. John 4:35, NIV

Answer: weary, fields, peace

HARVEST *Trail Mix*

This portable snack combines favorite fall flavors.



What you need:

- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2/3 cup pecan pieces
- 1/3 cup roasted pumpkin seeds
- 1/3 cup almonds
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2/3 cup dried fruit (any)

What you do:

1. Microwave syrup, spices, seeds and nuts for 30 seconds at a time, stirring frequently, until mixture thickens.
2. Spread the mixture on a baking sheet lined with wax paper. Let cool and harden.
3. Break the candied nuts into chunks. Combine with dried fruit.
4. Store in airtight container.

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 November Forerunner is **October 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

76 Market Street, Salem, NJ 08079

Established 1722

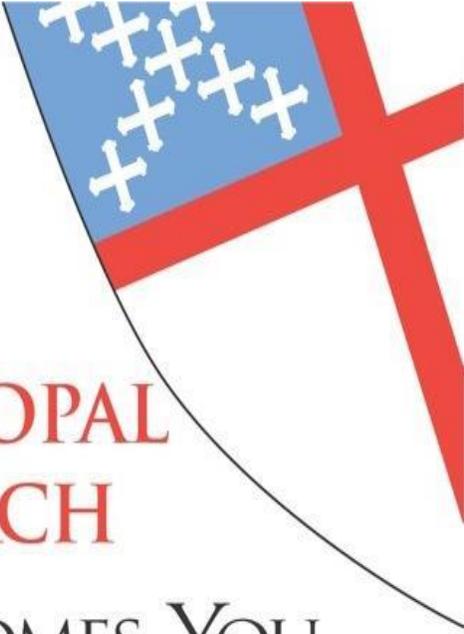
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Vestry Class of 2022 David Miller Ron Wohlrab
Class of 2021 Ryan Bailey Ron Magill (Clerk) Bill Mecum
Class of 2020 Sue Harker Gwen Norton Ann Neff
Recording Secretary: MaryAnne Clisham



**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)

Special Services

October 6—Blessing of the Animals after services
October 31—7:15 PM All Hallows Eve Service



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76 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

