

THE FORERUNNER

November 2019

St. John's Episcopal Church



November ushers in the holiday season. Soon our families will gather for Thanksgiving then afterwards the joy of Christmas. This season we're prone to acts of kindness to those in need; we give out of our plenteousness to others who do not have the same advantages as we have, by grace, received. This is also the season of the year that your church home begins

to form a budget for the coming year. This process is crucial to our ability to sustain the physical campus and the ongoing ministries here at St John's. We rely on your commitment to financial stewardship to keep our church home functional to address the many needs of community and strengthens our mission and purpose.

It is difficult to talk about financial stewardship because it is a touchy subject for all of us. So, I try to come up with clever ways to talk about it and encourage giving; much like putting cheese on broccoli for a picky child. However, I do not feel it appropriate to talk about stewardship without including gratitude and thanksgiving. If stewardship is one side of the coin, gratitude and thanksgiving are the flip side. A heart filled with gratitude is the great cure-all for greediness and selfishness. Gratitude moves people to look for areas of need and opportunities to give.

A good starting point in understanding stewardship is to recognize that the material world can never be separate from the spiritual world. God's creation is a unification of matter and spirit. All of creation is primarily a living and free projection of the ideas of God all converging on Jesus, God in the flesh. Through Jesus, we can understand the material world as that which the divine has extended and propagated himself to; therefore, we gain understanding of the spiritual from the material.

To thank God for all that he has provided is to remember God. It is important for us to remember God because God is our life source. The early Church understood this through the Greek word *amnesia* - to remember. Many of the Church Fathers taught to remember God is to live, to forget God is to die. This seems like an obvious teaching, why would we have to be taught this? Because of the fall of man, humanity is inclined to forget; we are inclined to take without remembering the source, inclined to receive without saying thank you. And for us to take and not remember to express our gratitude to God is to break the natural order of creation. This is what happened when Adam

and Eve ate the forbidden fruit. Our gaze is taken from God and directed on the self.

The good news is that through the sacraments Jesus expresses the most perfect expression of praise and thanksgiving to God the Father and invites us to join with that expression of praise and thanksgiving by living a sacramental life. A sacramental life is one that requires us to be good Christian stewards – to remember that all that we have comes from God. Notice that the sacraments themselves require elements of the material world – water, oil, bread and wine.

We Christians must recognize that the material world and the spiritual world are connected. There is a right response for receiving which is gratitude and thanksgiving. The material world and all of us who live in it are used to express our thanksgiving of the grace of God, that is, how grateful we are for receiving the material.

Our care for the needy through our Food Bank, our involvement in parish work, our tithes and offerings, and our way of worship are investments of the material within the spiritual. Our offerings of time and treasure are responses of gratitude to God in the name of Jesus. We join with Jesus' expression of praise and thanksgiving to the Father. We are Christ to the world and acting so.

As we get the turkeys ready and do our Christmas shopping, let us first give thanks and praise to God for this ability and advantage we enjoy having a feast on Thanksgiving and gifts to open Christmas morning. Secondly, seek the well-being of our church home. The time has come for us to budget. We have been hit financially hard this year by the many storms and repairs that followed. We need your help. Yes, we NEED your financial help; but more than that we want you here on Sunday, we want you active in furthering God's Kingdom here in Salem and joyfully invested in the new thing God has placed before us.

With love and thanksgiving for you,
Fr. Chuck



Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday night, Nov. 2 before you go to bed



Sunday, November 10. There are still some shoeboxes available if you would like to pack your own.



The Deacon's Bench

When I was a child, my mother would take me to Philadelphia in December to see the marvelous Christmas displays at the big department stores like Lit Brothers, Macy's and John Wanamaker's. Two of my favorite memories are of walking through the Dicken's Village and shopping in the Secret Santa Shoppe. My memory fails me as to which stores had these displays, but nothing filled me with more joy than to have little presents that I personally selected for my parents, my grandparents and my siblings.

A few years ago, I thought about having a Secret Santa Shoppe for the children of Salem. We've had some learning curves along the way, like limiting the number of items each child may pick to 5 and using gift bags instead of wrapping each individual present but over the years, we have grown our Shoppe to reach 75 or more children in a chaotic four hour period on the second Saturday of December.

This event has garnered support from others in the ministerium who also bring us items for our table but I need your help! I have been asked to delineate how many volunteers I need and in what areas. It's a little bit like VBS, we need a lot of people so here is my wish list:

Event Date: December 14th, 2019 - event starts at 10 am (prep people needed by 930 am)

Set up: Friday December 13th - 6-9 pm, need 5 people, at least 2 able to carry items from upstairs to parish hall
Kitchen Help: 4-5 people, including 1-2 of them to help w keeping the 'lunchroom' clean and set up

Registration: 1-2 - these people will greet the children as they arrive and help them to write up their list and help them get to Shoppe when elves are ready

Shopping Elves: 5-6 - Elves take 1 child each with their list to select gifts and help wrap presents. We often also have an activity for kids to do while waiting their turn in the Shoppe, like coloring or stamping their shopping bags.

Wrappers: 1-2 people - it helps to have a couple people at the wrapping station to help with getting presents wrapped and in the large shopping bag so that children may rejoin their guardian and go home.

So, that means I need 15 people on Saturday and 5 people Friday night for set-up. Even if you can only spend a couple of hours - peak time is 10-12, that would be appreciated.

On Sunday, November 3rd, the ECW meeting will be held upstairs in my office. I have received many things over the months towards this event which need to be sorted and inventoried. Based on a cursory inventory, I predict I need many more items especially for the Men's table. If you are out shopping for yourself, pick up items such as toiletry kits, tools, socks, etc that have a

value of \$5 or less for our tables. As you sort out your Christmas Decorations or clean out your house, look for small unused or gently used items that can be added to our tables. And of course, monetary donations are gratefully accepted.

Our lunch is simple - hot dogs, mac and cheese, beverages. I do try to have some donuts for early birds (and us) as well as coffee. If you are inclined to make cookies or something to along with this, again I would be most appreciative.

Now as you clean out your closets, don't forget our annual scarf, glove and hat hangout in January, you can bring them along as well and we will set them aside for that event.

Blessings to all of you!

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, November 10 Shoebox Packing Party
During Fellowship Hour
Shoeboxes available in Parish Hall
Donations also accepted

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

January 2020 Fence Project
New or gently used Hats, Gloves, Mittens to hang on the fence for our community



CPR Training will be held on Saturday, November 9, 1-5 pm, in the Parish Hall. It will be a hands-on training, led by Courtenay Reece. Contact me (rrdmiller@yahoo.com or (609)-202-

7197) for more information.

The stove has been checked out and was not defective, so it is back in service.



Bylaws Amended/Vestry Elections

A resolution calling for an amendment to the bylaws of St. John's reducing the number of vestry members from nine to six was approved unanimously at the Special Meeting of the Parish held on October 20, 2019. Once this is approved by the Bishop, we will be electing two people, rather than three, to the vestry for three-year terms at the Annual Meetings of the Parish beginning in January 2020. There is a vacancy in the 2022 Vestry Class, so we also will be electing one person for the two years remaining in this three-year term.

A nominating committee of the vestry will be formed soon to select candidates for election in January. The vestry's primary responsibilities are parish finances and buildings and choosing a rector. Working with the rector to realize a vision of what the parish could be, but is not, is an essential component of the job. If you are interested in serving on the vestry or want to know more of the scope of the position, please speak with the rector or the senior warden.

Church Physical Plant Survey

To provide the information necessary for budgeting for current and future needs, a Physical Plant Survey Committee has been formed. The members of this committee, Bill Pankonien, David Miller, Jim Acton, Ron Magill, Father Chuck, Warren Bye and Larry Owen have begun a survey of the buildings and grounds that constitute the church campus. We are looking at everything inside and out, will present a written summary of the findings and will prioritize the needs discovered. If you are aware of problems that you believe are in need of attention, please contact Larry Owen (856-769-3212, lbjkowen1982@comcast.net), send an e-mail message to the church (stjohnssalemnj@comcast.net) or leave a message with the church secretary.

Larry Owen
Senior Warden



"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" Colossians 3:17, A.V. 1611 or King James Version

The westernmost protrusion of our earth's largest and most populous continent, Asia (fifty countries with four and a half billion people or sixty percent of the planet's population), is The Republic of Turkey, a nation straddling two continents and full of the history of the Greek, Persian, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires. In Sacred Scripture and ancient writings, the region is referred to as Anatolia, Asia Minor, Asia and the Anatolian Plateau. The region of central Anatolia which is called Cappadocia is where we are travelling to this month on our holy land pilgrimage. Cappadocia is surrounded by Galatia (Ankara) and Lycaonia (Konya) to the west, Armenia to the east, Pontus to the north and Kilikia to the south. Cappadocia has a landscape of pyramidal

hills, carved caverns, volcanic soil, rock formations and caves.

Some of these caverns and caves hid first century Christians hiding from Roman persecutions. Later, the area was a safe-haven for the Christians, under Muslim persecutions. Among the hundreds of churches carved in rock formations in the area are: Urgup, Goreme, Zelve, Avanos, Soganli, Derinkuyu, Kaymakli, Ihlara Valley, Cavusin, Pasabag, Ortahisar, & Uchisar. Many of these cave churches contain beautiful paintings and holy relics. Some even have underground brooks and springs that connect to ancient baptismal fonts.

The Kingdom of Cappadocia existed in the time of the Greek historian Strabo (c. 64 BC-c AD 24) as an independent kingdom. St. Paul is said to have established a Christian colony there. Cappadocians are mentioned among the witnesses to the miracle of the tongues at Pentecost, Acts of The Apostles 2:9. St. Peter addresses his first epistle to the Christians; "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the strangers scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia". The New King James Version translates the word strangers in that verse as "pilgrims". Thus we see a corollary to our own upcoming Thanksgiving holy day, when our own pilgrim forbears sought out a sanctuary for their freedom of worship. Salem is, of course, related as a Quaker settlement.

I pray these thoughts, and all our meditations on the sacred geography of the holy land gives you spiritual edification and tremendous blessing, as it does me. Moreover, as you partake of your Thanksgiving feast, I hope you will be cognizant of the long and holy history it represents. The Mayflower Compact, was signed by the 41 surviving Pilgrim men; composed of separatist puritans, adventurers and tradesmen, of the ship's company before disembarking. Five passengers died on the voyage, another forty-five, of the one hundred and two passengers, would die the first winter. Governor William Bradford recorded the first Thanksgiving; "And afterwards the Lord sent them such seasonable showers, with interchange of fair warm weather as, through His blessing, caused a fruitful and liberal harvest, to their no small comfort and rejoicing. For which mercy, in time convenient, they also set apart a day of thanksgiving. By this time harvest was come, and instead of famine now God gave them plenty . for which they blessed God. And the effect of their particular planting was well seen, for all had . pretty well . so as any general want or famine had not been amongst them since to this day" (Bradford Of Plymouth Plantation, pg. 132, edition of 1952, Knopf, NY, original journal deposited in State Library of Massachusetts, Boston).

Happy Thanksgiving with all my best wishes and highest regards.

"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





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



- 11/01 Cassandra Moore
- 11/03 Amy Schwarz
- 11/03 Aidana Messer
- 11/04 Sydney Gabrielle Lavine
- 11/06 Zachary Jaeger

- 11/07 Kaitlyn Roszkowiak
- 11/08 John Laning III
- 11/12 Henry James Hollenweger
- 11/16 Sean Vanderveer
- 11/18 Earle Robinson
- 11/21 Andrew Irvine
- 11/23 Rob Runkle
- 11/25 Roman Sassi



- 11/14 Amy & John Vanderveer
- 11/29 Kassandra & Rob Runkle



The Bailey Family is proud of Ryan Bailey, Jr. who just got his Green Belt in Karate. They are also proud of his accomplishments in the IMA PanAm Karate Tournament. He won first place in sparring and second place in forms. Congratulations Ryan!

If anyone has any extra mugs lying around the kitchen that you are looking to get rid of, we could use them in the kitchen at St. John's. Some of our mugs have been broken and we don't always have enough during coffee hour.



ECW CORNER by Eileen Miller

St. John's ECW meets the first Sunday of every month during Fellowship Hour. We discuss upcoming events and our participation in them. This month, ECW will provide \$7 of the postage needed per shoebox sent to Operation Christmas Child. In December, we will sponsor our Soup Lunch on Saturday, December 7 during the Yuletide Tour in Salem. From 11-4, soups, bread, hot dogs, and drinks will be available for purchase. This event is coordinated and run by the Frieze and VanSant families and is always a popular event. If you would like to help in any way, please contact the church office and leave your information or email me (ecmiler114@gmail.com). ECW is also supporting Santa's Secret Shop (see The Deacon's Bench for more information on that event).

One of ECW's weekly responsibilities is overseeing the refreshments during coffee hour each Sunday after the 10:30 service. Each week has a theme that we generally follow. First Sunday of the month is Birthday Sunday, with cupcakes baked by Chardana Sweeney (Dope Desserts). They are always a delicious way to celebrate the birthdays that month. The second Sunday is Sandwich Sunday. This is a fundraiser for ECW and features delicious sandwiches prepared by Laurie Bailey and others. Third Sunday is Healthy Sunday and fourth Sunday is Pie Sunday, where we ask anyone who is interested in helping to bring a pie to share (it doesn't have to be homemade!). When there is a fifth Sunday, we have Salad Sunday. If you are interested in helping to provide treats any week or help clean up afterwards (we really need help with that), please see Eileen or Laurie.

Music Around the County Presents
PICS AND PIPES
The Mark of Zorro
A Silent Movie Starring Douglas Fairbanks
Featuring Renowned Theater Organist **WAYNE ZIMMERMAN**
SATURDAY, November 9, 2019 7:00 PM
Alloway Baptist Church
41 W. Main Street, Alloway, NJ
FREE Event - Fun for the entire family!
Sponsored by: Music Around the County, A program of the Salem County Arts Alliance & Salem County Board of Chosen Freeholders



6:30 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)		1  9:30-4:30 ARC CPR Training		2 							
3 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Birthday Sunday ECW Meeting		4 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time		5 9 am Quilters 9:00 am-Noon IAC 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA		6 9 am-2 pm CIACC/YSO 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA		7 9:30-4:30 ARC CPR Training 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study		8		9 1-5 pm CPR Training for St. John's MAC Pics & Pipes The Mark of Zorro 7 PM Alloway Baptist Church	
10 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Sandwich Sunday Shoebox Packing Party		11  6:00 – 7:30 Father Time		12 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 8 pm NA		13 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist		14 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study		15		16	
17 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Church Fellowship Hour		18 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time		19 9 am Quilters 12-2 pm Food Pantry 6:30 pm Vestry Meeting 8 pm NA		20 10:30 am Bible Study 12 Noon Holy Eucharist 8 pm AA		21 6:30 pm Potluck Supper followed by Bible Study		22		23	
24 8 am Rite I Chapel 9 am Choir Rehearsal 9:15 Adult Forum 10:30 am Rite II Church Pie Sunday		25 6:00 – 7:30 Father Time		26		27		28 		29		30	



Activity Page




Puzzle

A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.



Directions: Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.

"I thank my God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3	Hannah
"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Luke 1:46-47	David
"He is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him." Exodus 15:2	Mary
"My heart rejoices in the LORD." 1 Samuel 2:1	Paul
"I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving." Psalm 69:30	Moses

Answers: Philippians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses; 1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David



GRATITUDE game

Start a fun tradition by playing this game on Thanksgiving.

What you need:

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

Red: a need God has provided for
Orange: a gift you've received
Yellow: something you've recently learned
Green: something in nature
Blue: a special memory
Brown: someone you love

What you do:

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!

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

Parish Office: 856-935-1798 Fax at office: 856-279-2121

E-Mail: stjohnssalemnj@comcast.net Website: www.stjohnssalemnj.org

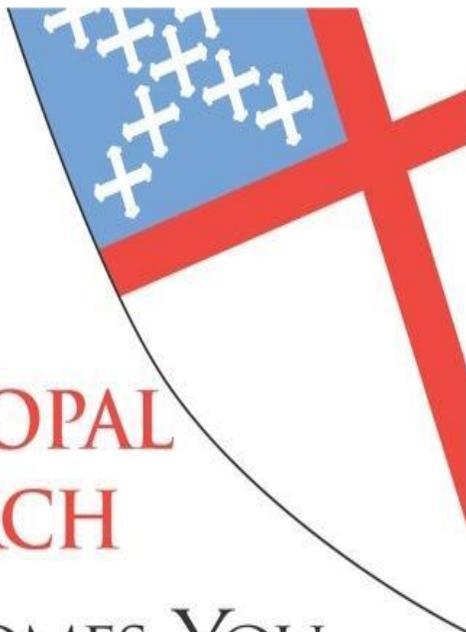
[FACEBOOK](#)

Rector:	The Rev'd Charles Messer	856-935-1798 (office) 610-800-8795 (cell)	frchuckmesser@gmail.com
Deacon:	The Rev'd Sally Maurer	856-769-1409 (home) 856-297-2385 (cell)	slarrabee@comcast.net
Senior Warden:	Dr. Lawrence B. Owen	856-769-3212	lbjkowen1982@comcast.net
Junior Warden:	David Miller	609-202-7197	rdmiller@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Ann Neff	856-358-9610	gwneff@mac.com
Admin. Assistant:	Marjorie Warren	856-935-1798	stjohnssalemnj@comcast.net
Minister of Music (Interim)	Joanne Owen	856-769-3212 (home) 609-420-0309 (cell)	lbjkowen1982@comcast.net
Forerunner Editor:	Eileen Miller	609-202-7220	ecmiller114@gmail.com

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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76 Market Street
Salem, NJ 08079

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

