



JOURNAL

May 2021

Congratulations to our Graduates!

Staff

The Rev. Laura Annette Bryant
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The Rev. Cathy L. Johnston
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Lynn McCoy
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The Episcopal Diocese of
East TN
<https://www.dioet.org/>

Worship Schedule

Sundays
9:00 Sunday Morning Worship
St. John's Episcopal Church
Zoom/Facebook page

Tuesday
5:30 pm Tuesday Evening
Worship, Prayer with Litany
for Healing
Zoom Meeting contact
office@stjohnstn.org for
information

Thursday
10:00 am Worship Morning
Prayer
Zoom Meeting contact
office@stjohnstn.org for
information

St. John's wishes to congratulate and commend each graduate for the hard work, perseverance and academic excellence you have demonstrated in order to fulfill your graduation requirements. Wow, the past year and a half has been challenging as you have adjusted to new ways of learning and scheduling changes. You are the hope and bright light for the future. **Congratulations!!**



Owen Michael Grosserode, son of Rae and Mike Grosserode, is a lifelong member of St. John's. He will graduate with honors from Science Hill High School on May 28th. Owen will attend the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in the fall as a member of the Chancellor's Honors program.



Liam Alexander Medina, son of Jocelyn Medina and Jose Medina, will graduate from Science Hill High School on May 28th. He will attend the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga in the fall.



Wyatt Phillips, son of Lee and Will Phillips, is a lifelong member of St. John's. He will graduate from University High School on May 28th. Wyatt is busy visiting colleges to decide which one he will attend in the fall.



Emma Elizabeth Wallen, daughter of Ellen and Joe Wallen, has been a member of St. John's since age 2 ½. She will graduate with honors and distinction from Science Hill High School on May 28th. Emma will attend East Tennessee State University Honors College in the Honors-In-Discipline Program in the fall on the pre-med track.



Finnigan "Finn" Paul Cox Lilavivat will graduate from 8th grade at Ashley Academy on June 16th. Finn plans to attend Science Hill High School in the honors program. Finn is the son of McKenna Cox and Rucht Lilavivat.



The Reverend Dr. Laura Annette Bryant completed her Doctor of Ministry degree from Columbia Theological Seminary. Her degree was conferred in December 2020. She is the Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Johnson City, Tennessee.



Greetings from Laura

I love new experiences. New adventures. New people in my life to know and love. New books. New insights.

I love our God, whose mercies are new every morning, and who says “I am about to do a new thing. Do you not perceive it (Isaiah 43:19)?” Easter celebrates the gift of new life out of death. The gospel we proclaim is Good News.

But I also love those experiences which only grow in richness and meaning with repetition and time. Friendships which deepen over decades. I love praying the same ancient prayers week after week and the profundity that emerges and continues to surprise in familiar texts.

Such was my experience this past Sunday praying together the prayer of thanksgiving at the end of the 9:00 a.m. service.

“Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and the mystery of love...Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ...and through him, at all times and in all places, may we give thanks to you in all things (BCP 836).”

I was overwhelmed in the moments of praying this prayer by thanksgiving for the abundance that surrounds us on every side—splendor, beauty, wonder, and love. I am grateful to be traveling with you, even and especially during the trials of pandemic time. I am grateful to those who make possible our outdoor worship services (in the splendor and beauty of God’s creation!) and worship and learning via Zoom (in the splendor of technology!). I am grateful to those who have offered their gifts in new ways and to all those who keep “showing up” to pray and serve and give in whatever ways are possible.

As we slowly emerge from the pandemic, we will delight in a return to old and familiar patterns and places. But we have grown and changed, and God will do new things with us and through us, and God will call us to new adventures.

Thanks be to God for what is old and what is new.

Faithfully,

Laura

Bishop’s Visitation and Confirmation

May 16th 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars! With joy we announce that Bishop Brian will visit St John’s on the evening of May 16th and confirm 12 people from our parish. This celebration has been long awaited. You may remember that this event was scheduled for last spring, but postponed because of the pandemic. More details about the service will be forthcoming. Please keep the confirmands in your prayers.

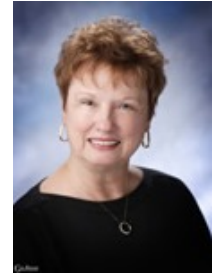
Samuel Pettyjohn
Kate Beatty
John Edwards
Rex Gregg
Andrew Carter
Deborah Bryan

Nancy Jane Earnest
Susan Parks
Garland Honeycutt
Bradley Osborne
Owen Grosserode
Peter Krause



Senior Warden's Report

There are many people who do great and loving work to keep our church flowing. One of those people is **Lynn McCoy**. Lynn has been the editor of this monthly newsletter, *The Journal*, since August 2013. The May issue is her last one as editor. She has decided to step away after 7+ years. Thank you, Lynn, for sharing your gift! Your dedication to this publication has been such a blessing to St. John's Church and I look forward to seeing where you are led to continue your loving work. We will honor you as a congregation in person soon! As a church community, communication with each other is vital, especially as we prepare to return to our building for worship and fellowship. Also vital is our communication with the broader community and region around us. I serve as the Vestry liaison for Communication and Evangelism. Who will join me to review all aspects of this vital piece of our overall flow? Please contact me at 423-791-4619 or jackiemabrey@gmail.com to join the Communications Team! Lynn, you are an inspiration. Thank you!



Jackie Mabrey

Thanks for the memories...

Looking out my window today I wonder what I will be doing next month at this time. What does the Bible say about everything has a season? I have been so very blessed to be the editor of St. John's Journal for several years (a season?) I will miss working on the Journal and interacting with friends at St. John's. Thanks to everyone who provided articles to keep us all informed about the happenings at St. John's. Thank you to Ellen Wallen who captures special moments for us to remember – I would say on film but I guess everything is digital now. And of course Nick Andrews is often there to give us a pictorial glimpse of things behind the scenes. And I would be remiss if I did not thank those who have patiently(?) proofed the Journal.

Lynn McCoy

St. John's YTD Financial Report

	Mar 2020 Actual YTD	Mar 2021 Actual YTD	Mar YTD Budget	Variance YTD 2021 Vs 2020	Variance YTD Vs Budget
Plate Offerings	\$1,581.53	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,581.53	\$0.00
Pledge Payments	\$111,222.76	\$78,695.66	\$80,200.00	-\$32,527.10	-\$1,504.34
Prior Pledges	\$285.56	\$1,685.00	\$400.00	\$1,399.44	\$1,285.00
Contributions	\$17,993.40	\$14,122.78	\$7,500.00	-\$3,870.62	\$6,622.78
Misc. Income	\$194.00	\$45.00	\$237.51	-\$149.00	-\$192.51
Prepaid Pledges	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$131,277.25	\$94,548.44	\$88,337.51	-\$36,728.81	\$6,210.93
Total Expense	\$83,982.39	\$72,294.50	\$80,976.31	-\$11,687.89	-\$8,681.81
Net Income	\$47,294.86	\$22,253.94	\$7,361.20	-\$25,040.92	\$14,892.74



Family Promise and Melting Pot

Family Promise is currently serving 6 families with the following number of family members, respectively: 9, 7, 6, 5, 2 and 2, a **total of 31 people housed in motel rooms**. All members of the family of 9 currently have COVID. Families receive a \$100 Kroger card each week to supplement food stamps. **You can support Family Promise by donations to its Thrift Store (215 W. Watauga Avenue) which provides significant support to the ministry.** Family Promise also can use donations of gently used autos. Church rotations are planned to resume July 11th.

Melting Pot bag lunches, 180 in total, were provided by St. John's on Thursday, April 29th. Each lunch included a sandwich, chips, water, and a snack. **St. John's will again provide lunches for Melting Pot on Thursday, July 29th.**

Mary Alice Fryar

To the Members of Saint John's Episcopal Church,

We would just like to **thank you for your recent donation to the food pantry at Good Samaritan Ministries**. Your donation will be placed in our monthly food boxes that go out to our neighbors in need. We could not accomplish feeding those who are hungry in our city without your support. Thank you for partnering with us as we combat poverty and change lives in our area. Thank you again and may God bless you for blessing our ministry.

Respectfully,

Sallie Biles

Good Samaritan Ministries
Food Program Director

Shelley Morgan

Good Samaritan Ministries
Assistant Food Program Director



Centering Prayer

We will continue to meet throughout the spring and summer at 6:00 pm on Tuesday nights for **Lectio Divina and Centering Prayer**. All are welcome. Nick sends out the notice on Tuesdays with the Zoom link. We will continue on Zoom until we are able to meet in the Prayer Room at some time in the future.

If you wish to be on the email list to receive the weekly Lectio Divina, please notify me at jxn621@gmail.com. If you wish to be *off* the email list, please let me know. Thanks to everyone who continues to attend as they can.

Frances Jackson

Congratulations Graduates! 2021



Owen Grosserode, Wyatt Phillips
& Liam Medina
February 2015



Emma Wallen & Liam Medina
Summer 2015

GREAT VIGIL



EASTER SUNDAY 2021 - VIA ZOOM



EASTER SUNDAY 2021 ROTARY PARK





EASTER SUNDAY 2021 ROTARY PARK



Happy May Birthday

1	Robert Steuart	9	Veronica Mackara	21	William Kinser
2	Eleanor Pettyjohn	9	Jerrold Windbigler	22	Lindsey Baughman
2	Jennifer Green	11	Rachel Bowman	24	Anne Koehler
3	John Nagy	12	Rab Summers	24	Sharon Cole
3	Eleanor Byrne	14	Ed Jordan	26	Jennifer Kinser
4	Wilkes Harper	16	Griffin Sutton	28	Eric Strickland
5	Lee Bidgood	20	Cary Green	30	Sarah Plemmons
6	Cassandra Pusateri	21	Jane Leonard		



Happenings

Special events in May

Morning Worship -	Sundays	• 9:00 am	Zoom video gathering
Virtual Coffee Hour	Sundays	• 10:00 am	Zoom video gathering following Morning Prayer
In-person worship	Sundays	• 11:15 a.m.	Location to be announced -- please watch weekly emails for more information
Mother's Day	Sun, May 9	• 11:15 a.m.	
Blessing of graduates	Sun, May 9	• 11:15 a.m.	Location to be announced -- please watch weekly emails for more information
Bishop Brian visitation & confirmations	Sun, May 16	• 6:00 p.m.	Location to be announced -- please watch weekly emails for more information
Memorial Day -- Church office closed	Mon, May 31		

Monthly Scheduled Meetings

Finance Committee (online meeting)	Tue. May 18	• TBA	Zoom video gathering
Vestry Meeting (online meeting)	Tue. May 18	• 7:00 pm	Zoom video gathering

Weekly Scheduled Meetings

Sunday School for Children (K - 6th)	Sundays	• 10:30 am	Zoom video gathering. (last class June 9)
EfM	Sundays	• 5:00 - 7:30 pm	Zoom video gathering. (last class May 30)
Tuesday Worship, Evening Prayer with Litany for Healing	Tuesdays	• 5:30 pm	Zoom video gathering.
Centering Prayer Group (on line meeting)	Tuesdays	• 6:00 pm	Zoom video gathering. Zoom meeting opens at 5:45, meeting starts at 6:00 pm.
Morning Prayer (Rite I)	Thursdays	• 10:00 am	Zoom video gathering.

Vaccines

Have you had your COVID-19 vaccine? Have you registered to receive one? St. John's strongly encourages parishioners and their loved ones to get vaccinated. The vaccines are safe, effective, and protect you and others from the spread of the pandemic. If you need help registering for a vaccine or have other concerns, please contact the church office at office@stjohnstn.org. We will put you in touch with someone to assist you.





Here I Am Day

Here I Am Day 2021
A Day of Discernment

Here I Am, Lord.
Where are you calling me?
Saturday, May 8, 2021 | 8:45 am to 12:30 pm
ZOOM

Every baptized Christian is called to ministry. Sometimes God’s call to us is clear, other times we need help to figure it out.

On Saturday, May 8, the Diocese of East Tennessee will host its second annual *Here I Am* retreat day. This program is intended for anyone who is discerning a call to licensed lay ministry, the vocational diaconate, or the priesthood. It will include remarks by the Bishop, panel discussions with lay and ordained ministers, and opportunities for prayer and fellowship.

All individuals who have begun a process of discernment within their parish are expected to attend along with their sponsoring clergy. Others who are just beginning to explore a call and who would like more information about different ministries and tools for discernment are encouraged to participate. For more information, call 865-966-2110 or email editor@dioet.org. Register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrc-orjktHdJkLMRki2ak1EPms7cyeioz>

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