



JOURNAL

Second Quarter 2023

Staff

The Rev. Laura A. Bryant
Rector
revlbryant@stjohnstn.org

The Rev. Cathy L. Johnston
Deacon
cjmtnbike@charter.net

Jon Lau
Parish Administrator
jlau2jctn@aol.com

Nick Andrews
Admin. Assistant / Dir. of Music
Office@stjohnstn.org

Rae Grosserode
Dir. of Children's Education
rae.grosserode@gmail.com

Ryan Clinton,
Youth Coordinator &
Assistant for Special Projects
ryanclinton4747@gmail.com

Crystal Brandon, Sexton
Church Office: 423-926-8141
Office@stjohnstn.org

Vestry & Officers

Tom McGinnis, Sr. Warden
Bill Archer, Jr. Warden

Kathi Horne
Anne Koehler
Rucht Lilavivat
Lee Phillips
Allen Pickel
Rita Plemmons
Hugh Webb

Theresa Bryant, Clerk
Bob Cooper, Finance Chair
McKenna Cox, Chancellor
Reneau Dubberley, Treasurer

A message from the Rector

The Fullness of Life

When people ask me, "How are you?" or "How are you doing," I often simply say "Life is full!" This seems like the best and only answer I can give. Life is full. Life in the church, in this beloved community, is full. My days are full, long, but still too short. My mind is full – of plans and projects, good ideas and bad ones, confusions and clarities. My heart is full – of wonder and sorrow, loves and passions, anxieties and worries, gratitude and frustration, and many hopes and dreams.

My prayers are full. How could they not be?

Full. Life is full. Yours is too.

On Easter Day and throughout the Easter season, we prayed the Eucharistic Prayer D, which includes this beautiful line near the beginning: *Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.* Life is full because God fills us, at our creation and each day ever after, with God's love and blessing.

On Pentecost Sunday we learned that the Holy Spirit filled the whole house where the disciples were gathered, and that all the disciples, each and every one, were filled with the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ever after, as they went out into the world to share the good news, they might have answered, "Life is full." Yours is too, because you have been filled with the gifts of the Spirit.

Later on Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus, "I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." And we have been knit together in one body, which is the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Life is full. Because we have been filled, at our creation with God's blessing and love and gifts, and because we have each other and are knit together in the fullness of this body.

Thanks be to God for the fullness of life. Life is full. Because of you. I give thanks every day for this beloved community, for all your gifts, ministries, and prayers, and for the ways in which God is leading and calling us in our life and mission together.

Peace,

Rev. Laura

Milestones and Celebrations - CONGRATULATIONS!



Katherine Hall's diverse career spanned three states and a range of positions in the chemical industry including business development, market strategy, and account management. She was with Eastman for the last 30 years and retired in February 2023.



Phil Pindzola moved to the TriCities in 1978. He retired from the City of Johnson City in February 2023 after 44 years – the last 40 as Public Works Director. Lots of changes over that time, so as you might imagine, Phil says, “There’s never been a dull moment.”



Phil Ulmer retired in July 2022 following a 45-year career as a CRNA (Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist). Most of this time was spent traveling as an anesthesia contractor in six states across the Southeast. Phil has made Johnson City his home since 1996.



Bill and Mary Alice Fryar have been married for 60 years (as of June 29, to be exact).

They moved to Johnson City in 2000, promptly joined St. John's, and wasted no time getting involved. Bill and Mary Alice continue to generously volunteer their time and energy to St. John's, the community we live in, and beyond.

In addition to their son Alan and his wife Carol in Kentucky and their daughter Kathryn in Florida, they have four grandchildren. Bill and Mary Alice, blessings to you and yours. We wish you all the best for ever and a day!



Chance Pendleton recently graduated from Boones Creek Elementary School. He will enter Daniel Boone High School in August. His sister **Haley Pendleton** recently graduated from Science Hill High School and plans to enter East Tennessee State University in the Fall.

Chance, Haley, and their sister Caitlyn have been active in our youth programs and served as acolytes. They are grandchildren of Fred and Veronica Mackara.



Charlotte Monin Harrington, granddaughter of Tom and Marilyn Monin, graduated from Occidental College in Los Angeles in May with a B.A. in Psychology. Marilyn reports that she made the Dean's List all eight semesters. Way to go, Charlotte ... Keep us posted!



Charles and Aniela Kinser were wed on June 3 in the Chapel at St. John's. Charles' parents are William and Jennifer Kinser. You'll frequently find Charles along with his dad managing the sound system and Facebook livestream during Sunday morning worship.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, pour out the abundance of your blessing upon this man and this woman. Defend them from every enemy. Lead them into all peace. Let their love for each other be a seal upon their hearts, a mantle about their shoulders, and a crown upon their foreheads.

Milestones and Accolades - CONGRATULATIONS!

Mountain View Garden Club – 70 years strong!



Several of our fellow parishioners are long-time members: **Liz Biosca, Sharon Cole, Harriett Cone, and Linda Spence.** Additionally,

Lucy Gump was a member for 57 years.

Since its founding in 1953, the club's stated objectives have been "to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, to study and help preserve the natural beauty of the area, and to enjoy fellowship with one another." The group also carries out community beautification projects such as the entrance to Johnson City/Washington County Veterans Memorial, the JC/Washington County Animal Shelter, and a section along the Tweetsie Trail.



Kudos to **James Allen**, Executive Chef at Blackthorn Club, which was recently named the 19th best culinary experience for all private clubs in the nation by *Club+Resort Business* magazine.

Nick Andrews recently was awarded the inaugural James Litton Grant for Choral Training from The Association of Anglican Musicians. The grant's purpose is "to aid musicians in developing their own choir training skills, building a chorister program for young singers, or for another endeavor which lives into the spirit of creating excellent choral experiences within the Episcopal Church."



Nick expressed his deep appreciation upon being selected, and we have deep appreciation for all the ways that Nick serves St. John's. For more information about the inaugural grant, visit <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/pressreleases/nick-andrews-awarded-inaugural-james-litton-grant-for-choral-training/>.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism and Rite of Confirmation



Bishop Brian Cole was with us for the Easter Vigil worship service on April 8 to celebrate Holy Eucharist, Baptism, and Confirmation.

A total of nine congregants were confirmed, including two who were also baptized.

Pictured at left along with Bishop Cole and Rev. Laura:

Gregory Lenske, Jennie Carr, Finn Lilavivat, Elizabeth Stillwell, Craig Osborne, Daniel Cutshall, Cathy Osborne, Chris Honeycutt, and Jeremy White

Almighty and everlasting God, let your fatherly hand ever be over these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Word, that they may serve you in this life, and dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Remembrance



Evelyn Huyck

June 27, 1937 - March 1, 2023



James Don "JD" Swartz

August 5, 1935 - May 25, 2023

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Committee is organized to reach out to St. John's members with support in times of emotional, physical, and spiritual need with meals, visits, flowers, calls, and cards. It surely "takes a village" to carry out this ministry.



Flower Power: Delivering a bit of sunshine in the form of flowers to those in the parish who are ill or home-bound. If you'd like to help, here are a couple of ways: Bring your extra vases (and pretty jars) to the church, marked for the altar flower program. You can help disassemble the altar flowers to re-create small arrangements or help with delivery. Thoughts, questions, requests? Please contact **Jackie Mabrey** (jackiemabrey@gmail.com) or the church office (423-926-8141 or Office@stjohnstn.org). **Also, please let a committee member know if you know of someone who might appreciate a floral gift.**

Memorial Plaques: Many of you have visited the memorial chapel in the bell tower for quiet prayer. There is a kneeler and a votive stand available for private use, and several memorial plaques have been made for our loved ones who have died so we can remember them there. If you are interested in having a remembrance plaque placed for a loved one, please contact **Rita Plemmons** (423-388-5051 or retp62@gmail.com) with name, dates of life and a quote that speaks to you about them.

Kudos: We'd also like to congratulate and celebrate milestones, achievements, and accolades among our fellow parishioners. If you have news to share, please send info (and a photo, if possible) to Office@stjohnstn.org.

The Pastoral Care Committee is comprised of **Jackie Mabrey (Chair), Mary Alice Fryar, Rita Plemmons, Phil Ulmer, Rev. Laura, and Deacon Cathy Johnston.** Please get in touch with any member of the committee with ideas and/or if you'd like to assist in any way.

Outreach

Caring Cabinet & Streetside Food Pantry (SSFP) Our Eastertide collection (which was organized around bringing in one particular item each week) brought in:



906 oatmeal packets
67 cans + 181 cups of fruit
116 cans of Spaghettios and
164 cans of soup.

Additionally, the MITE Box ingathering totaled \$2,480! Altogether that means we have gathered \$4,471. That is the work of a community that cares about our neighbors and is making a difference in people's lives. Thank you! Contact: **Jennifer Kinser** (612-388-0218 or jjkinser@comcast.net)

Donation Drop-off: Our next drop-off date will be the first Saturday in August. Contact: **Peter Krause** (423-617-2763 or peter.kp.krause@web.de)

If you have ideas about these ministries or if you'd like to assist in any way, please get in touch with any member of the Outreach Committee, which is comprised of **Sam Pettyjohn (Chair), Kate Beatty, Bill Browder, Mary Alice Fryar, Lissa Jackson, Jennifer Kinser, Peter Krause** and **Rev. Laura.**

Worship Ministries – Many ways to get involved

*Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit;
and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord;
and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.
To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
1 Corinthians 12:4-7*

Have you ever thought about serving in one of the many roles related to worship? Please consider this an invitation to explore the possibility. There's quite a variety, such as Ushers, Lay Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Altar Guild, Greeters, and more. Training will be offered this summer. **Please contact Rev. Laura if you'd like to learn more.**

Youth Mission Trip

The youth of the parish traveled to West Liberty University in Wheeling, West Virginia for a summer mission trip in partnership with St. Paul's of Kingsport, Holy Family of Fishers, IN and St. Matthews of Wheeling, WV.



High Country Fresco Pilgrimage

A small band of “pilgrims” from St. John’s carpoled to Ashe County, North Carolina on May 6 to visit two churches that harbor Benjamin Long’s frescoes. Our day started with a prayer of Thanksgiving before heading out.

Our first stop was a small, unassuming white church at the edge of West Jefferson that might be easy to miss. There are no billboards telling a passerby to “See the Frescoes here!” But step inside the sanctuary of St. Mary’s Episcopal Church, lined with rough-hewn beams and paneled walls, and ... just set awhile. The hushed space seems to naturally quiet the mind and allow the soul to breathe.



The frescoes here were created in 1975. They are colored by minerals in plaster – no paint, yet the colors are deep and vibrant. Somehow the art is humble yet majestic, as is fitting for its subjects: John the Baptist, Mary Great with Child, and The Mystery of Faith.

Our second stop was Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Glendale Springs, North Carolina, which has a life-sized fresco of The Last Supper. We shared a picnic lunch on the grounds and, later, Eucharist in their memory garden. We headed home with gratitude for the gifts of this day and our fellowship together.

If you’re ever looking for a day trip that’s scenic, fascinating, and uplifting, whether in solitude or with a friend, this one fits the bill. For more info: <https://www.ashefrescoes.org>.





Easter 2023



Music at St. John's



On May 7, St. John's Friends of Music sponsored a beautiful and unique program and concert entitled Hildegard & Sisters: Women Pioneers of Sacred Music



The pipe organ project is both massive and intricate, interesting to watch, and nearly complete!



May

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Robert Steuart | 5 Jeremy White | 14 Ed Jordan | 24 Sharon Cole |
| 2 Jennifer Green | 6 Cassandra Pusateri | 16 Jennie Carr | 24 Anne Koehler |
| 3 John Nagy | 9 Veronica Mackara | 20 Cary Green | 26 Jennifer Kinser |
| 4 Wilkes Harper | 10 Pamela Hall | 20 Nathan Montgomery | 28 Eric Strickland |
| 5 Lee Bidgood | 11 Rachel Bowman | 21 William Kinser | 30 Sarah Plemmons |
| | 12 Rab Summers | | |

June

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 The Rev. Laura Bryant | 5 Jayne Harper | 16 Neshan Keshian | 28 Jean Archer |
| 1 Seth Goad | 6 Lorene Kirk | 18 Bill Ballard | 28 Jacob Smith |
| 1 Deb Paessler | 9 Danielle Bass | 18 Katie Goad | 28 Tonya Wilkes |
| 3 Ian Wilson | 11 Rod Biosca | 20 Ellen Wallen | 30 Bradley Boling |
| 4 Kevin Arnold | 12 Rick Patton | 24 Ed Brading | 30 Kathy Jordan |
| 4 Jeannine Edwards | 14 Julia Webb | 24 Marti Cleveland | 30 Allen Pickel |
| | 15 Kathi Horne | 27 Barbara Lau | |

July

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 John Webb | 9 Kate Beatty | 18 Marty Woodward | 23 Landon Tipton |
| 2 Brenda McNenny | 9 Linda Hipple | 19 Paul Pusateri | 24 Jackie Mabrey |
| 2 Thelma Yoder | 10 Hunter Hayden | 20 Rob Hungate | 26 William Benson |
| 3 John Pedersen | 13 Magnolia Allen | 20 Amanda Osborne | 26 Joe Ripepi |
| 5 Andrew Carter | 13 Ryan Clinton | 21 Anna Miller | 26 John Thomas |
| 6 Deborah Bryan | 13 Dorothy Minor | 22 Bob Bagby | 28 Randy McVeigh |
| 6 Fred Mackara | 16 Julie Fann | 23 Bill Browder | 31 T.K. Story |
| 8 Marianne Cox | 16 Rita Plemmons | 23 John Hutton | 31 Pat Thornton |
| | 18 Ryan Armstrong | | |

Financial Times

Endowment Fund: Current and Planned Giving Contact: Suzanne Donaldson

Have you ever wondered what the Endowment Fund is for, how it works, or about the possibility of making a gift to the Fund? If so, it's best to not wait until December to look into it. Now is the time to start consulting with your personal finance advisor/s to determine if current or future gifts to the Endowment Fund may be beneficial to you and to St. John's.

Fundamentals: The Endowment Fund is...

- » intended to enable the Parish to fulfill its mission more completely by developing ministries beyond what is possible through our annual operating fund;
- » a "gift that keeps on giving," because only a small portion of the fund balance is spent in any given year;
- » used only for expenses that meet very specific criteria.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact Suzanne Donaldson. (sdlynx68@gmail.com or 423-292-6413) Suzanne is joined by Emily Bidgood and Bill Fryar on the 2023 Endowment Committee.

As of May 31, 2023, the balance of the Endowment Fund is \$162,873. This includes all contributions and earnings, and it has grown substantially over the last three years. *NOTE: St. John's Episcopal Church Endowment Fund is governed by The Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) which gives clear direction on the investment and spending policies of the fund.*

Snapshot of Operating Budget Contact: Reneau Dubberley, Treasurer

Through the first half of the year, we continue to enjoy a healthy operating budget. Income is ahead of budget, expense is lower, and we are in a net positive position. Thanks to each of you, along with our staff, for continuing to make sure we use our treasures wisely.

Finally, as a reminder, the Pipe Organ Fund is still approximately \$140,000 short of our goal. Additional donations will be very much appreciated.

About the Journal

We're re-working the Journal to be a companion of sorts to the weekly e-newsletter instead of just a summary document, hoping it can be more reflective of the spirit and energy of our parish by sharing photos, stories, and news about our fellow parishioners. So, a few favors to ask:

- 1) What do you think? Does the Journal have more meaning to you with this approach? Do you still want to receive the Journal? Please send comments to Journal@stjohnstn.org or call **Katy Pindzola** at 423-914-2411 to share your thoughts.
- 2) We want to celebrate your momentous occasions and achievements. **Please share your news** by sending an e-mail to Office@stjohnstn.org and cc Journal@stjohnstn.org. Include a photo, if possible.
- 3) Does the weekly e-news (*This Week at St. John's*) meet your needs and preferences for information about current happenings? In addition to schedules and program announcements, the weekly e-news includes the current prayer list and pastoral notes. If you're not already subscribed, please send an e-mail to Office@stjohnstn.org or call **Nick Andrews** at 423-926-8141. (You can provide multiple e-mail addresses so everyone in your household receives his/her own e-news.)

Thank you in advance for providing feedback. All comments and ideas are appreciated!

The current "plan" is for the next edition of The Journal to be issued at the end of the third quarter of the year. In the meantime, watch for current news in the weekly e-newsletter, and please remember to send in your news and photos!

Monthly Meetings

Men's Group Fellowship Dinners, 2nd Tuesday of each month
Vestry Meeting, 3rd Tuesday of each month

Programs Recurring Weekly - Summer Schedule

Tuesdays Centering Prayer, 6 pm, via Zoom
Fridays Community AA meeting, 7 pm
Sundays Adult Faith Forum, 9:15 am
..... Centering Prayer, 9:55 am, in-person

Regular Worship Schedule

Tuesdays 5:30 pm Evening Prayer/Healing Svc
Thursday 10 am Morning Prayer
Sundays 8 am Holy Eucharist Rite I (*Chapel*)
Sundays 10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
Nave & via Facebook Live
Note: Sunday School classes for Children and Youth are on "Summer Break" until the Fall.

Return Service Requested

