



JOURNAL

October 2019

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The Episcopal Diocese of
East TN
<https://www.dioet.org/>

Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist I
9:15 am Church School
10:30 am Holy Eucharist II

1st week of the month:

Tuesday
5:30 pm Evening Prayer
Thursday
10:00 am Morning Prayer

Remaining week day services:

Tuesdays
5:30 pm Healing service
w/Eucharist

Thursdays

10:00 am Eucharist Rite I

Nominations for 2020 Vestry Sought

The Parish is seeking nominations for candidates to replace three current members of the Vestry whose terms will end this year. The members whose 3-year terms conclude in December are John Nagy, Mary Alice Fryar, and Fred Mackara. These outgoing members will serve as the Vestry Election Committee.

The elections will begin on Sunday, November 10th.

Your participation in this process is requested. Members of St. John's who are at least 16 years of age are eligible to serve on the Vestry.

You can nominate yourself or someone else. If you wish to nominate another member of the Parish, please get his/her permission to do so. If you prefer, you can pass along the name of someone you believe would be a good candidate for the Vestry to John, Mary Alice or Fred. They will check with the prospective nominee to ascertain his/her willingness to serve.

Next year will be an exciting year for our Parish as the process of selecting our new Rector progresses. The Vestry will play an important role in this process.

Your help is essential. We hope that you will prayerfully consider being a member of the Vestry or nominating another member of St. John's for membership on the Vestry.

Look for more information about the Vestry elections in the St. John's Journal, Connecting, and the weekly service sheets and announcements. Information regarding nomination forms and ballot boxes will be coming soon via Connecting and Bulletins.

If you have questions about the Vestry elections – or to submit your nominations! – contact Fred Mackara (wfmvhd@yahoo.com), John Nagy (nuclearnagy@aol.com), or Mary Alice Fryar (maryalice.fryar@yahoo.com).

Fred Mackara

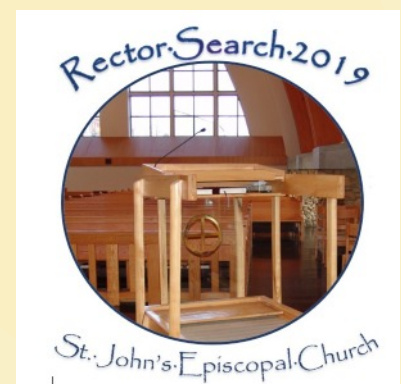
Rector Search Committee Report

The Rector Search Committee has edited the Office of Transition Ministry Portfolio and forwarded it to Canon Michelle Bolt and Bishop Brian Cole for review. Meanwhile, we continue to write the narrative for our Parish Profile. We are meeting frequently and have assignments to complete between meetings.

We are grateful for the experience, expertise, and commitment that our consultant, Canon Michael Spear-Jones, brings to the process, and we feel confident in the guidance that we are receiving.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support. We join you in praying for our parish, our time of holy listening, and for the rector who is being prepared to answer the call to serve at St. John's.

Please contact any committee member with questions or concerns.

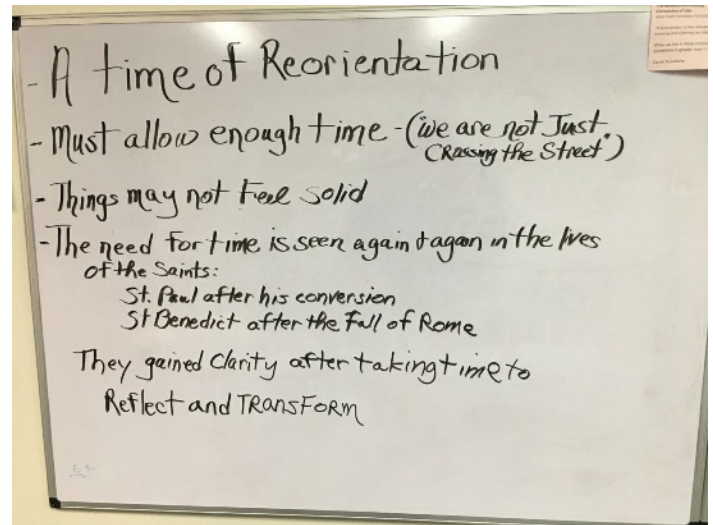
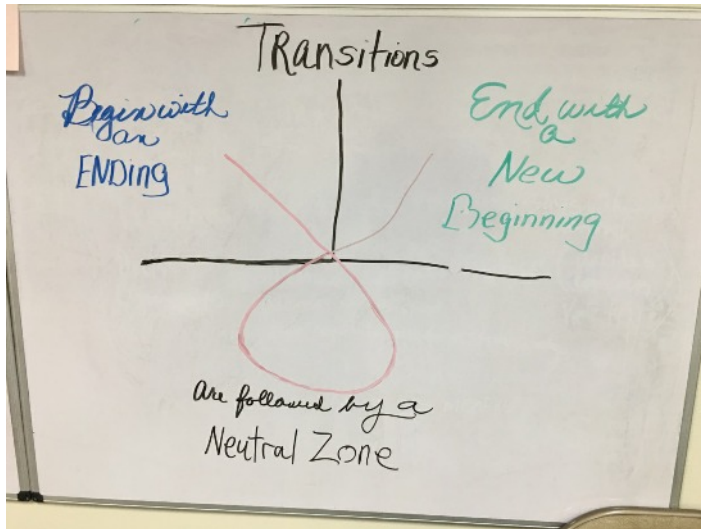




Greetings from SuzeAnne

I am sitting on my deck this first official day of the fall season. My heart is filled with appreciation for St. John's energy and high level of commitment in service to our Lord. The presence of Jesus and the movement of God's Holy Spirit is discernible. As you move through the Search Process toward the calling of your next Rector, a whole lot is happening, though not all of it is visible at a given moment.

The author William Bridges in his book titled "Managing Transitions" calls this period of time the Neutral Zone. A very important and very necessary time to ensure a successful partnership with your next Rector and to the fulfillment of God's desire for you in this part of His vineyard. See illustration below:



Next month's Journal will outline many of your Neutral Zone accomplishments – so stay tuned.

In the meantime, I would be remiss if I did not express my gratitude to each of you for your witness to the Gospel as you serve Christ in this congregation and in this community. You are preparing yourself well to receive your next Rector and to becoming all God intends St. John's to be.

In Christ, SuzeAnne+

Pledge cards for 2020

Pledge cards will be mailed out the week of September 29th and may be returned to the church at anytime. On October 27th there will be an ingathering to return any cards that have not been sent in and bless the pledges.

Have you taken your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for 2019?

If you are 70½ or older, you can make a contribution to St. John's Episcopal Church directly from your Traditional IRA simply by instructing the custodian or plan administrator to make the transfer directly to St. John's as a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). You are allowed to transfer up to \$100,000 a year to the charities of your choice.

YTD Financial Report					
	Aug 2018	Aug 2019	Aug YTD	Variance YTD	Variance YTD
	Actual YTD	Actual YTD	Budget	2019 Vs 2018	Vs Budget
Plate Offerings	10,477.75	8,067.26	10,300.00	(2,410.49)	(2,232.74)
Pledge Payments	159,092.27	197,067.13	193,000.00	37,974.86	4,067.13
Prior Pledges	2,555.00	870.00	1,000.00	(1,685.00)	(130.00)
Contributions	35,690.72	33,196.42	23,000.00	(2,494.30)	10,196.42
Misc. Income	761.90	811.00	666.64	49.10	144.36
Prepaid Pledges	3,440.00	1,000.00	4,800.00	(2,440.00)	(3,800.00)
Total Income	\$212,017.64	\$241,011.81	\$232,766.64	\$28,994.17	\$8,245.17
Total Expense	\$206,855.81	\$220,667.14	\$221,312.41	\$13,811.33	-\$645.27
Net Income	\$5,161.83	\$20,344.67	\$11,454.23	\$15,182.84	\$8,890.44

Your gift will be transferred directly to St. John's, will not be reported as taxable income and will count toward your minimum distribution requirements for 2019.

And, most important, your generous support will help sustain St. John's work in our congregation and in our neighborhood, bringing about renewal and positive change in our community.

Ask your IRA custodian or plan administrator about this option. The funds should be mailed to St. John's Episcopal Church as a donation for **Your Name**. The mailing address is 500 N. Roan Street, Johnson City, TN 37601.



Junior Warden's Report

A bid to purchase and install a digital mixing board for the sound system in the nave was approved by the vestry. The bid includes a Linksys router, an iPad, installation and training.

A question was asked about our theater lighting system and why it does not work. There was an overload on the dimming panel during the Christmas Eve service in 2003 that resulted in a fire in the dimming system that destroyed the dimming panel. Following that, the power panel was rewired, bypassing the dimming panel. That fix excluded the theater lights. An electrician with experience in theater lighting will be checking to see if they even have power to them.

The location of the upper lighting fixtures makes working with them almost impossible. I have recommended disabling the wiring to the upper tier of lights. It would be difficult to remove them, and they are not a visual distraction. The lower tier of lights is incandescent and, if working, would use a lot of electricity. The current cost of replacement is prohibitive. The argument for having an operable system of theater lights is that it would increase the use of the nave as an evening performance space. For the time being, if they are deemed operable and we have a group that would benefit from using them, I recommend we use them as is.

On September 7th a team attacked removing the carpet from the two rooms designated for the youth. Many thanks to Ted Tyra, Jon Lau, John Nagy, Emily Nagy, Bill Fryar and Michael Bowling. We found the sub flooring to be sound, except for a small bit that had disintegrated. The renovation of the Youth Room is continuing. A six-foot opening has been cut between the two rooms to allow both rooms to be used. We expect to be finished in mid-October. Watch for a date to help the youth with painting their space and for moving furniture back in.

The shrubbery on the Roan Street side has been severely cut back. One of the yews was removed. The tall hollies were trimmed so they are no longer on the building. That work was done by Vic Shepherd of Shepherd's Lawn Service. Additional grounds improvement was done by Michael Bowling.

Gemini Janitorial is still providing once per week cleaning service. A sexton candidate has been identified and is expected to begin work in late October. In the meantime former sexton, David Bingham continues to work on Mondays.

The exterior of the older part of the building continues to deteriorate. Replacement of the rotten wood and painting should begin as soon as possible. I will present bids for that work next month.

The fan motor for the older cooling tower has expired, and a replacement motor has been ordered. This is a back-up system that switches on when the temperature is high and relieves stress on the motor of the newer tower.

Repair of the remaining interior damage, particularly visible in the kitchen, is on hold until we have a heavy rain to be certain there are no further leaks.

The undercroft is about as clear as possible. Please request space if you need storage. Resist the temptation to simply dump something there. Volunteers to help with maintenance in any area are gratefully appreciated.

Mary Alice Fryar



Mary Alice, our Junior Warden, busy trimming shrubs!

Bishop Brian's article below was sent out via email on September 11th. It is being printed today because it has an important message for us every day. You can receive Bishop Brian's messages via email by signing up on the DioET.org website.

RECONCILING THOUGHTS

A monthly message from Bishop Brian

Today is September 11th. 9/11. For many, this day will always take us back to an incredible national tragedy, a day of deep and unspeakable loss, as deaths in New York City, Washington DC, and a field in Pennsylvania touched all of us.

Today is also my mother's birthday. Before 2001, this day was all celebratory for my family. Now, while we still express thanks for my mother's continued health and presence in our family's common life, we do so with the awareness that we give thanks on what is now also a day of mourning and remembrance.

When Episcopalians gather and share in the Prayers of the People, we do so with individual stories woven into a collective narrative. As we pray, someone is giving thanks for another year's clean scan while the person next to them is grieving that their husband is entering hospice. One set of prayers will end up holding joy and hurt, hope and despair, your worst day and someone else's best.

Today, a child will be born. Today, September 11th. The parents won't ask to change the date on the birth certificate. Tragedy is not the only thing this day can hold. It is very right and appropriate this day to remember the loss of life from 2001, to remember the bravery of firefighters and first responders and all those who ran toward violence and chaos in order to help and repair.

In the Incarnation, we acknowledge that Christ Jesus entered into our world, our time, our calendar. As followers of Jesus, we still pay attention to time, to ordinary days, to calendars that hold the totality of our lives. The same gracious God who sits with us in times of grief also dances with us in times of joy.

Peace,



Episcopal Relief and Development

On September 1, 2019, Hurricane Dorian made landfall in the Bahamas as a Category 5 hurricane. The hurricane stalled for 40 hours and left the island in tatters. You can help provide the affected communities with immediate and long-term support by contributing to the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund at support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief.

Please continue to pray for all those impacted by natural disasters, for those that respond to emergencies, those that have begun the initial work of relief and recovery, and for church communities as they reach out to their most vulnerable members and neighbors.

Food for thought!

It takes plastic bags anywhere from 10-1000 years to decompose in landfills! These bags can be recycled through a drop off at your local grocery store. Aluminum cans are one of America's favorite items to recycle. But at the same time, enough cans are thrown away in the trash within a three-month period to rebuild the U.S. commercial air fleet! Yes, that is a lot of cans! It also takes them about 80-200 years to decompose in a landfill.

Safeguarding God's Children

A second Safeguarding training session has been scheduled for Saturday, November 9th. The morning session, covering Safeguarding God's Children, will be held 9:00 am until 12 noon. An afternoon session, covering Safeguarding God's People, will be held 1:00 pm until approximately 4:00 pm.

To confirm that you will attend, please email the staff office at office@stjohnstn.org or call 423-926-8141.

Jon Lau



Have you ever wondered how things get done?

Many of the things that happen around St. John's to keep us going are done quietly by volunteers. They work so unnoticed and efficiently you never have cause to think about how it happens.

Our volunteers are responsible for diverse activities such as: a business manager who manages the affairs of the parish, money counters, Connecting, printing bulletins, collating and stapling, maintaining computers and databases, composing and printing the Journal, proof readers, Acolytes, Altar Guild, addressing and mailing the Journal, choir, updating and maintenance of St. John's website, lawn maintenance, Labyrinth, prayer warriors, general office tasks, painting, Sunday school lessons, ushers, greeters, special events, food preparation, kitchen help, e-gnomes, committee members, vestry, and even more!

There are many more activities going on here where volunteers make it happen! Some of these volunteers have more visible faces attached to them. And then there are those volunteers who work "under cover". Without all the many hours of work – seen and unseen – each and every week, week after week, we could not survive as a worshipping community. **Please be sure to thank them and tell them how grateful you are for their servant hearts.**

ONE OF THE
GREATEST GIFTS
YOU CAN GIVE
IS YOUR TIME

St. John's E-gnomes

A gnome is a subterranean creature that works very hard behind the scenes and makes any project appear to be completed by magic.

That's what we are asking you to be at St. John's! It is an important part of our life together that we celebrate all of the events that enrich our lives. Whether it is a birth, wedding or celebration of life, we need to make our facility available to everyone in our parish family. So we want to recruit everyone to be a GNOME or more specifically an e-gnome. (Episcopal-guild of no meetings).

What's great about this is that everyone can help. There are always cookies to bake, punch to pour, tables to set up and dishes to wash. Mardi Gras, receptions and the Annual Meeting are just a few examples of how the e-gnomes can help. Sometimes it may mean bringing soup to someone who is ill or recovering from surgery, or mowing someone's lawn when they physically can't handle it.

It may be that you will be able to help for one event or several. It's all about everyone doing a little and no one group having the entire responsibility. So please sign-up to be an e-gnome.

We will send out a request for help via email and those who can help will. No one will call you if you do not respond. We want this to be positive and low pressure while at the same time making it available to everyone. Who knows what gifts we will discover!

Call or email Jo Anne Bullington at 423-282-8119 or paty@etsu.edu.





Rally Day

Taste of Silence

Taste of Silence will be held in the Prayer Room on Saturday, October 26th from 10:00 am - 12 noon. Morning Prayer will be followed by three (3) twenty minute sits. You may leave between sits if you do not wish to stay for the whole time.



Men of St. John's

St. John's Men's fellowship will meet 6:00 pm, Tuesday, October 8th, at El Charolais (1805 W State of Franklin Road) for food and fellowship. Plan to join us!

Old Enough Bunch

The Old Enough Bunch will enjoy a **Halloween lunch with an Italian flavor on Thursday, October 17th at noon in the Great Hall.** Come join us for good stuff!

And consider your Thanksgiving Day plans – we're sponsoring the **third annual Thanksgiving Day church dinner – November 28, 2019 at 2:00 pm.** OEB will provide turkey, ham, beverages, etc. The remainder of the dinner will be potluck with the wonderful variety of side dishes provided by attendees. We will have sign-up sheets in the Narthex. It's a wonderful time of fellowship and food and thanksgiving. Plan to attend and participate.



Weston Jennings Organ Concert

Friday October 18, 2019
7:30 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church
Johnson City, TN

Works by Bach, Lefebure-Wely, Bridge, Corne, Pärt, Mendelssohn, Dupré



Alash Ensemble w/Shodekeh, concert

Thursday, Oct. 17, 7:30 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, \$20/15/5

Mixing old and new, Eastern and Western traditions and music, Alash Ensemble is a trio of throat singers and instrumentalists trained in Tuvan music since childhood. In Tuvan throat singing, the performer produces a fundamental pitch and simultaneously, one or more pitches over that. Joining Alash will be Baltimore-based beat boxer Dominic "Shodekeh" Talifero, known for exploring new musical collaborations globally. [Visit the Alash website](#)

Happy October Birthday

1	Kathryn Bagby	9	Patrick Collins	17	Joy Nagy	28	Diane Wonder
1	Margaret LoBue	12	Brooke Stanley	18	Betty B. Cooper	28	Ted Jackson
1	Daniel Johnson	12	Bette Lucas	20	Bennette Rowan	29	Susan Miller
2	Lynn McCoy	12	Phil Pindzola	21	Jocelyn Medina	29	Lestasia Lange
4	Leslie Booher	13	Alice Grosserode	21	Donn Gallatin	30	Betsy Byrne
5	Linda Spence	13	Liz Biosca	22	Peg Pickens	30	Jim Thornton
6	Wayne Sprague	15	Alex Cassell	23	Chandler Hayden	30	James Allen
7	John Frizzell	17	Melinda Boling	23	Tim Herron		



Happenings

Special events in September

ECW Fall Gathering & Annual Meeting	Sat, Oct 5	• 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	Episcopal Church of the Ascension, Knoxville, TN
Joel Tramel - Homilist	Sun, Oct 6	• 8:00 & 10:30 am service	
Blessing of the Pets	Sun, Oct 6	• 3:00 PM	Courtyard
ETSU - Alash Emsemble w/Shodekeh	Thur, Oct 17	• 7:30	Nave
Episcopal Campus Ministry - Men's Fellowship hosting	Thur, Oct 17	• 6:30 - 7:30 pm	Emmaus House, 1323 Seminole
William Jennings -- Organ Recital	Fri, Oct 18	• 7:30 pm	Nave
Youth Paint Day	Sat, Oct 19	• 9:00 am	Youth Room - all day event!
Tom Day - Preacher and Celebrant	Sun, Oct 20	• 8:00 & 10:30 am service	
Taste of Silence	Sat, Oct 26	• 10:00 am - 12 noon	Centering Prayer Room
Michael Spear-Jones -- Preacher and Celebrant	Sun, Oct 27	• 8:00 & 10:30 am service	
Safeguarding training	Sat, Nov 9	• 9:00 - noon; 1:00 - 4:00 pm	Adult Faith Formation room
Acolyte Training	Sat, Nov 16	• 9:00 am - noon	Nave
Thanksgiving Lunch at St. John's	Thur, Nov 28	• 2:00 pm	Great Hall -- Save the date!

Save
the
date

Monthly Scheduled Meetings

Back Porch Guild	Tue, *	• 5:30 - 7:30 pm	* For date & location see BPG Facebook page
Earth Guild	Sun, Oct 6	• after 10:30 service	Coffee Shop
Men of St. John's	Tues, Oct 8	• 6:00 pm	El Charolais
Vestry Meeting	Tues, Oct 15	• 6:45 pm	Vestry Room (#104 & 105)
Old Enough Bunch Lunch	Thurs, Oct 17	• noon	Great Hall -- Halloween lunch
Women of St. John's Luncheon	Sun, Oct 20	• after 10:30 service	TBA
Old Fields Singers	Sun, Oct 20	• 2:00 - 4:00 pm	Great Hall
Evening Youth Gathering	Sun, Oct 20	• 5:00 - 7:30 pm	Youth Room

Weekly Scheduled Meetings

Healing Service w/Eucharist	Tuesdays	• 5:30 pm	Chapel
Centering Prayer Group	Tuesdays	• 6:00 pm	Prayer Room (Begins at 6:05 please wait outside if prayers have begun)
Choir Rehearsal	Wednesdays	• 7:00 pm	Choir Room
	Sundays	• 9:30 am	Nave
Eucharist Rite I	Thursdays	• 10:00 am	Chapel
Elementary Sunday School	Sundays	• 9:15 am	Class Room
Youth Sunday School	Sundays	• 9:15 am	Class Room (No SS on Sept 29 -- Youth Sunday)
Adult Faith Formation Classes	Sundays	• 9:15 - 10:15 am	
Children's Chapel	Sundays	• 10:30 service	Nave (then process to Narthex)
EfM	Sundays	• 5:00 - 7:30 pm	EfM room

Follow us on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsCommunityDiscussionForum>



St. John's Annual "Blessing of Pets"
Sunday, October 6th,
3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

St. John's Courtyard

Everyone is welcome to bring their pet(s) on leash or by safe containment for a brief liturgy and blessings from the Rev. Canon SuzeAnne Silla. What a great opportunity to give thanks to God for the gift of our animal friends! Canine to the Ordinary, Jerry Lee, cannot be with us, but you may visit him on the DioET website.



**ECW Fall Gathering
 & Annual Meeting**
Saturday, October 5, 2019
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
(Registration at 9:30 am)

Every woman of the Episcopal Church in East Tennessee and her guests are encouraged to attend this annual event! We will worship with Bishop Brian, spend time with our preacher, the Rev. Sara-Scott Wingo and our speakers, Elizabeth and Morgan Colonna; renew old friendships, make new ones!

Church of the Ascension
800 S. Northshore Drive, Knoxville

Registration opens at 9:30 am with Eucharist at 10.



**Acolyte
 Training**



Saturday, November 16

9:00 am - noon

St. John's Nave

ALL acolytes are requested, so we can be our best as we head into Advent and Christmas seasons.

Anyone 2nd grade and up is invited to attend!

Return Service Requested

