



# JOURNAL

February 2020

## Epiphany Pageant

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with the Epiphany Pageant on January 5<sup>th</sup>! This year we had two first-time players of Mary and Joseph: Eleanor Buerkle and Willis Bidgood. They were terrific! Rebecca Tyrcha once again led the angels as Gabriel, with Emma Wallen and Owen Grosserode as fellow members of the heavenly host. Joel Tramel reprised his role as Innkeeper. Crawford Lilavivat and Sam Benson shepherded their flock – the adorable Grant Buerkle in his pageant debut. Jack Benson, Finn Lilavivat, and newcomer Lee Bidgood played the Magi. Alice Grosserode took another turn as narrator. Special thanks go to Joy Nagy, who once again played the carols for us all to sing. Everyone did a great job, and I'm pretty sure we're booked for next year!

*Rae Grosserode*



## Staff

Rev. Canon SuzeAnne Silla  
Interim Rector  
[interim.rector@stjohnstn.org](mailto:interim.rector@stjohnstn.org)

The Rev. Cathy L. Johnston  
Deacon  
[cjmtbike@charter.net](mailto:cjmtbike@charter.net)

Jon Lau  
Parish Administrator  
[jlau2jctn@aol.com](mailto:jlau2jctn@aol.com)

Nick Andrews  
Organist/Choirmaster  
[music@stjohnstn.org](mailto:music@stjohnstn.org)  
Administrative Assistant  
[office@stjohnstn.org](mailto:office@stjohnstn.org)

Rae Grosserode  
Director of Children's Education  
[tngrosserode@comcast.net](mailto:tngrosserode@comcast.net)

Emily Nagy  
Youth Leader  
[emilynagy9@gmail.com](mailto:emilynagy9@gmail.com)

Hannah Holder  
Lead Nursery Attendant  
[hdfsteppenstoneacademy@gmail.com](mailto:hdfsteppenstoneacademy@gmail.com)

Lynn McCoy  
Journal Editor  
[journal@stjohnstn.org](mailto:journal@stjohnstn.org)

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

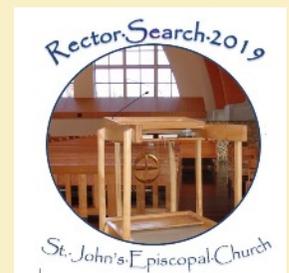
**1<sup>st</sup> week of the month:**  
**Tuesday**  
5:30 pm Evening Prayer  
**Thursday**  
10:00 am Morning Prayer

**Remaining week day services:**  
**Tuesdays**  
5:30 pm Healing service w/Eucharist

**Thursdays**  
10:00 am Eucharist Rite I

## Rector Search Committee Report

Our Office for Transition Ministry Portfolio has been updated to the national church database, and our Parish Profile has been published to our website. Now our Diocesan Office will begin receiving names of priests who are interested in our parish. Canon Michelle Bolt will give us the names of relevant candidates, and we will conduct interviews and contact references. During the time of waiting for the names, we are finalizing our interview questions and preparing ourselves for discernment. Please continue to pray for our search process and to pray for our future rector.



# Greetings from *SuzeAnne*

Epiphany is the liturgical Season of hope and possibility – a time to celebrate the gift of God’s presence among and with us in the birth and incarnation of His Son Jesus. A time of new beginning and new understanding. This particular season of Epiphany in the year 2020 is a time when you are being called forth in new ways. You have done a lot of work, individually and as a congregation, through conversations, data gathering and prayerful discernment to see how God has particularly equipped this congregation to fulfill the mission of His Church. You have done really good work in preparation for a ministry with the person God is also preparing to be your next Rector.

The search process for a Rector is well underway, a vestry has been installed with three newly elected members, and you have a debt-free building along with wise financial oversight. You are in a very good position to have a healthy and strong future.

St. John’s is being blessed with so much – the possibilities for the mission of the church to be manifest through you in this community are endless. And each and every person who walks through these doors becomes part of these possibilities. Continue to say your prayers for the needs of the world and for all you meet. And remember that our Hope in Christ becomes manifest in each of us as we take His presence into the world.

In Christ  
SuzeAnne+

## *The Golden Broom Award*

The tradition of awarding a “Golden Broom” by the rector is a longstanding one at St John’s. The award is given to a person that has provided selfless service in carrying out day-to-day activities that keep the church running, or going above and beyond in a special project, often very much behind the scenes. Below is a list of the Golden Broom award winners since 1987.



### *Golden Broom Award*

#### *Recipients*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Recipient</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Recipient</b>
1987	JOHN HILLENBRAND	1996	DOTTIE CROLEY	2004	JACKIE MABREY	2013	RITA PLEMMONS
1988	ROSALIE KING	1996	DORIS CANNON	2005	MARY ALICE & BILL FRYAR	2014	ANN VANDREUMEL
1989	HARRY & MERLE FEIGIN	1997	CHARLIE WOFFORD	2006	MINA McVEIGH	2015	SETH COOPER
1990	NONNIE BOWERS	1998	JAN SPARKS	2007	JON LAU	2016	PAM BEALS MARTY WOODWARD
1991	BILLY JOE CRAIG, SR.	1999	JOYCE DELOREY	2008	KITTY ADAMS	2017	JOHN NAGY
1992	MARY & JULIEN EISMANN	2000	JUDITH ALLEN	2009	GARY BURLESON	2018	MARY ALICE FRYAR
1993	FRED MACKARA	2001	LUCILLE FRIZZELL	2010	JO ANNE BULLINGTON	2019	JON LAU
1994	KATHERINE TROTH	2002	CLARENCE McKINNEY	2011	JOHN & TARA THOMAS	2019	BOB COOPER
1995	CAMILLE PILCHER	2003	BILL ARCHER	2012	VAN & EVELYN HUYCK		

We give thanks to all those named and all those not known to us.



# Senior Warden's Report

Hello, I am your new Senior Warden for 2020. As I was getting ready to go to a meeting with Rev. SuzeAnne Silla, I was doing some of my most critical thinking while showering and blow-drying my hair. It came to me that I wanted to have a theme for my year and that it should be Thankfulness. There are so many things to be thankful for this year, not the least of which is the repayment of the debt and the accumulation of additional funds for much needed repairs to our beautiful but elderly church. Our stewardship campaign was also a blessing with 90 families pledging a total of \$331,618 which gives us a balanced budget and the resources to attract and welcome our next rector.

To the old timers; you will remember this is not my first term, however, the times are very different. The last time I was Senior Warden, we were saying goodbye to Rev. Frank Cooper, struggling with the debt and beginning the search process for our next rector. And yes, the roof was leaking as usual.

I am thankful for our interim Rector whose leadership has been invaluable as we move through this time of healing and growing and discernment and anticipation.

I am thankful for our new vestry members, Emily Bidgood, Owen Grosserode and Ed Jordan. We will be off to Jonesborough the weekend of January 24<sup>th</sup> for our vestry retreat. Please pray for us as we continue our planning for transition.

Lastly I am thankful for all the parishioners who make St. John's our home.

Since I usually attend the 8:00 am service, I may be new to many of you. I plan to attend the 10:30 am service once a month to meet and talk to you. I encourage your thoughts and comments as we move forward with thankful hearts in 2020.

*Suzanne Donaldson*

## 2020 Vestry & Officers

Suzanne Donaldson, *Senior Warden*  
Joe Ripepi, *Junior Warden*  
Jean Archer  
Emily Bidgood  
Wesley Buerkle, *Treasurer*  
McKenna Cox, *Chancellor*  
Owen Grosserode  
Ed Jordan  
Jackie Mabrey  
Katy Pindzola, *Clerk of the Vestry*

## Safeguarding God's Children

Safeguarding God's Children and Adults training will be held on Saturday, February 15. The morning session (9 am - noon) will focus on the children portion and the afternoon session (1pm - 4pm) will focus on the adults. If you plan to attend both sessions please plan to bring a bag lunch with you. For more information, feel free to contact the church office at 423-926-8141 or office@stjohnstn.org.

## St. John's YTD Financial Report

	2018 Actual YTD	2019 Actual YTD	Budget	2019 Vs 2018	Vs Budget
Plate Offerings	16,044.75	12,911.32	16,000.00	(3,133.43)	(3,088.68)
Pledge Payments	247,906.80	285,689.70	286,000.00	37,782.90	(310.30)
Prior Pledges	2,555.00	870.00	1,000.00	(1,685.00)	(130.00)
Contributions	65,528.72	59,498.11	40,000.00	(6,030.61)	19,498.11
Misc. Income	1,125.33	1,418.00	1,000.00	292.67	418.00
Prepaid Pledges	21,710.00	43,200.00	24,000.00	21,490.00	19,200.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$354,870.60</b>	<b>\$403,587.13</b>	<b>\$368,000.00</b>	<b>\$48,716.53</b>	<b>\$35,587.13</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$321,077.01</b>	<b>\$334,862.59</b>	<b>\$348,918.80</b>	<b>\$13,785.58</b>	<b>-\$14,056.21</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$33,793.59</b>	<b>\$68,724.54</b>	<b>\$19,081.20</b>	<b>\$34,930.95</b>	<b>\$49,643.34</b>

## Stewardship Report

Through January 8<sup>th</sup>, 90 families have pledged \$331,618 for 2020. If you have not turned in your pledge card yet, it is not too late. Many thanks to everyone for generously supporting our parish.

UPPER EAST TN Bishop & Council report  
From your Upper TN Lay Representative, Marty Woodward, D. Min.

Happy February! The on-going work of Bishop and Council is focused right now on **Convention 2020, which is to be held in Chattanooga on February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.**

I encourage all Journal readers to check out the Convention website at [dioceseconvention.org](http://dioceseconvention.org). This year's theme is: *Reconciling All Things in Christ: Broken and Mending*. There are special videos at the website that are informative for everyone even if one is not going to the Convention. As Bishop Brian wrote to us on January 16: The Convention ... "will be an opportunity for personal contact – to be together for conversation, business, worship, election, and sending forth."



St. John's Delegates are McKenna Cox, Bill Fryar and Lee Phillips. Alternates are Mary Alice Fryar and Joe Ripepi. Our Clergy, Canon SuzeAnne and Deacon Cathy, will also be attending, as well as yours truly (B & C members are part of the Convention leadership team.)

As there will be NO required Regional Meetings for Delegates and Alternates to attend this year, I remind all of you attending to be sure to read the Convention News and to watch the videos for information about the theme and program, St Paul's Episcopal Church building (including where the registration will be held), as well as the Diocesan 2020 proposed budget, nominees for Diocesan positions and committees, daily Convention schedule, special events (for the whole family), and places to eat, etc.

As Upper TN will be hosting the Convention in 2021, it is very important that everyone who will be at this year's Convention take great notes about everything. We in Upper TN will build upon the experience and work done in Chattanooga as we prepare to hold the 2021 Diocesan Convention, most likely right here in Johnson City.

Since I've been on B & C, our Convention has developed into B & C taking on the key leadership roles supported by our outstanding Diocesan staff. At last year's Convention and again for the 2020 Convention in Chattanooga, we have in addition to taking care of the business of the Diocese as a non-profit corporation, and receiving the Bishop's annual report which will be given during the Convention Eucharist, created an interactive and participatory Convention. There will be lots of time for personal story-telling, and serious listening to delegates' stories through presentations on questions like "Why are you a Christian in 2020?" and in the Affinity Groups (break-out groups). This year's Affinity Groups are: Racial & Cultural Reconciliation; Evangelism for Episcopalians; Small Churches; Challenges & Joys; Global Climate Change/Environmental Stewardship; Civil Discourse & Social Action; and Parish Vitality and Health.

In the March Journal I hope to share some of the happenings and highlights of the 2020 Convention.

Finally, please remember all of us in your prayers for safe travel and good weather to and from Chattanooga.

Blessings,

Marty

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## Lenten Offerings

The Lenten Season is one of the most important seasons in the Christian faith. It is a period of 40 days, starting with Ash Wednesday and ending with Easter Sunday. During this period, Christians around the world participate in a season of penitence, prayers, fasting and self-denial, just as Jesus did when he spent 40 days in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-25 and Luke 4:1-13).

Canon Silla is putting together some Lenten programming for our parish family. There will be Lenten booklets from Living Compass. Living Compass and Robbin Brent, the editor, made a gift to us of the Advent booklets. These provoked such a positive response, that St. John's will have booklets for Lenten study. Additionally, Robbin Brent will be leading some group discussions during this time. STAY TUNED for details.

## Children's Sunday School

**Children's Sunday School continues to meet at 9:15 on Sunday mornings.** This quarter we will learn about People in Parables before turning to a study of the sacrament of Communion. **All children in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome anytime!**

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## Women of St. John's

**Women of St John's will meet at Olive Garden, 1902 N Roan Street, following the 10:30 service on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.** Please join us as we enjoy good food and fellowship.

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## Men of St. John's

**St. John's Men's Group will meet Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Southern Craft BBQ, 601 Spring Street.** Join us!

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## Pancake Breakfast



**Join us in the Great Hall on Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:45 - 10:00 am as the Men of St. John's cook & serve breakfast.** There

will be pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice for you to enjoy as you visit with other members of St. John's. Donations accepted.

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## Pump up the volume!

If you have an interest in learning to adjust the sound system during the 10:30 am services please let Nick Andrews or Mary Alice Fryar know. We are in need of several folks who want to know how to manage the sound during services so that we will always have someone available who can take care of it. A shared load is easier to manage!

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## Labyrinth

Our Labyrinth continues to be open for those who would like to walk and pray. It is usually open from Saturday until after the 8:00 am Sunday service.



## 2020 Holiday Schedule for St. John's

St. John's office will be closed on these dates in 2020.

New Year's Day	Wednesday	1/1/20
Martin Luther King, Jr.	Monday	1/20/20
Easter	Monday	4/13/20
Memorial Day	Monday	5/25/20
Independence Day	Friday	7/3/20
Labor Day	Monday	9/7/20
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday & Friday	11/26/20 11/27/20
Christmas	Friday	12/25/20

## Soup's On!

The Old Enough Bunch (OEB) is back in session with **lunch on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at noon in the Great Hall.** We'll have a variety of soups, each with its own bread, and cookies for dessert. YUM! Simple but elegant – it's a great way to "celebrate" winter with warm soups.

OEB has been a lively activity since February 2014. It was originally formed to provide a get-together for some of our members who weren't able to make evening meals or activities. It's a purely social group of delightful people who enjoy eating together and talking. Our average attendance is about 30-35 each month. Those who wish to do so donate funds to help with expenses of the lunch.



However, we have a problem: the guiding committee of OEB is getting older and getting tired. We

need help! We've decided that we need to cut back on the menus (although fixing new items has been such fun!). We plan to reduce the elaborateness of the events (but we still love to decorate for different themes). But, most of all, we need HELP! The 4 to 6 people who head up OEB are wearing out. So-o-o, we're going to talk with folks about this at the February lunch and perhaps ask for people to sign up to help in specific ways over the months. If we cannot get some help in planning, preparation and clean-up, we'll have to shut OEB down and we really don't want to do that. Think about it and how you can help this group continue. And be sure to **join us on February 20<sup>th</sup> at noon for lunch.**

The following letter was addressed to St. John's from Family Promise, December 21, 2019



Family Promise of Greater Johnson City opened its doors in the Fall of 2000. This coming year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for us. That makes me think back to all the people who were a part of helping launch this ministry and all those who came after and helped so many families over the last 20 years. People like Calvin Ross were very instrumental in getting Family Promise off the ground here. Brian Rosecrance was our first Director, leading the organization for 14 years. So many wonderful staff and volunteers gave countless hours of their time and great quantities of love and attention to families who often had received little in their lives. This love and attention translated into hope for those who so often struggled just to make it day by day.

And then, there have been friends like you who've ensured we had the resources, the funds, we needed to fulfill our mission, our ministry. St. John's has been a big part of our success. Thank you for sharing your financial resources with us. Your congregation's generous donation of \$415 helps carry on the work and dreams of so many before us. Thank you for allowing us to continue to bless those most vulnerable in our community.

Sincerely,  
Bob Hall

*We appreciate ya'll so much!  
Thank you.*

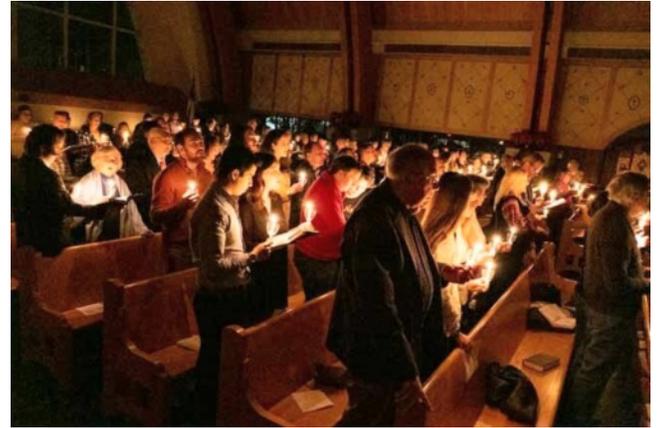


Photo credits: Ellen Wallen



Vestry Installation

# Happy February Birthday

2	Keith Sutton	9	Alicia Benton	20	Gary Fuller
3	Keith Hart	10	David Kalwinsky	21	Sherry Hart
5	Gary Mabrey	10	Richard Luther	24	Elisabeth Dubberley
5	Steve Felix	11	Zoie Green	25	Mary Alice Fryar
6	Bill Padgett	14	Messina Lyle	25	Brandon Guffey
7	George Taylor	14	Katy Pindzola	26	Cabell Lonon
7	Beatie Campbell	14	Frank Newman	26	Beth Brading
7	Susan Bricks	14	Chris Honeycutt	26	Cathy Johnston
9	Frank Ray	16	Joe Nagy	27	Pearl Ume-Nwagbo
9	Harriet Cone	18	Jim Radford	29	Don Hart



## Happenings

### Special events in February

Canon Michelle Bolt, Celebrant	Sun, Feb 2	♦ 8:00 & 10:30 am service	Chapel Nave
Diocesan Convention 2020	Feb 7 and 8	♦ see schedule	St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga
Safeguarding God's Children & Adults	Sat, Feb 15	♦ 9:00 - noon Children 1:00 - 4:00 pm Adults	Vestry Room
Soup;s On! -- Old Enough Bunch Lunch	Thurs, Feb 20	♦ noon	Great Hall
Pancake Breakfast prepared & served by Men's Group	Sun, Feb 23	♦ 8:45 - 10:00 am	Great Hall -- donations accepted
St. John's Mardi Gras Pot Luck	Tues, Feb 25	♦ 5:30 PM	Great Hall
Ash Wednesday Service	Wed, Feb 26	♦ 12 noon & 6:00	Nave

### Monthly Scheduled Meetings

Back Porch Guild	Tue, *	♦ 5:30 - 7:30 pm	* For date & location see BPG Facebook page
Earth Guild	Sun, Feb 2	♦ after 10:30 service	Coffee Shop
Men of St. John's	Tues, Feb 11	♦ 6:00 pm	Southern Craft BBQ, 601 Spring Street
Women of St. John's Luncheon	Sun, Feb 16	♦ after 10:30 service	Olive Garden, 1903 N Roan Street
Old Fields Singers	Sun, Feb 16	♦ 2:00 - 4:00 pm	Great Hall
Vestry Meeting	Tues, Feb 18	♦ 7:00 pm	Vestry Room (#104 & 105)

### 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	Nave
	Sundays	♦ 9:30 am	
Eucharist Rite I	Thursdays	♦ 10:00 am	Chapel
Elementary Sunday School	Sundays	♦ 9:15 am	Class Room
Children's Sunday School	Sundays	♦ 9:15 am	Class Room
Youth Sunday School	Sundays	♦ 9:15 am	Class Room
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>

Enjoy the Journal in color on the St. John's website: <https://stjohnstn.org/publications/>



**St. John's Mardi Gras**

**Cajun / Creole Pot luck**

Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>                      5:30 pm in the Great Hall

It's that time again when we celebrate Mardi Gras "and let the good times roll!" Wear your Mardi Gras best and bring your favorite Cajun/Low Country or Appalachian Highlands cuisine to share. We will have good music, good food and good fellowship. There will be a signup sheet in the narthex so that you can tell us how many are coming. *Don't miss this party of the year!*

*JoAnne*



	<p><b>Ash Wednesday Service</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup>                      12:00 noon &amp; 6:00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Services in the Nave.</b></p> <p><b>Music at each service.</b></p>
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Return Service Requested

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