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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

JOURNAL

Lenten Wednesdays in March

When: March 4, 11, 18 and 25

Dinner 5:30 - 6:00 pm (a simple supper will be provided. A \$5

donation is requested for adults, children eat free)

Program: 6:00 -7:00 pm

Join us on Wednesday evenings in March as we journey together through Lent. This 4-week series will offer an opportunity to connect more deeply with yourself, with others, and with God, during the season of Lent. We'll be using the Living Compass devotional: *Living Well Through Lent 2020; Practicing Courage with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind.* We have free devotionals for everyone located in the narthex.

Our facilitators for these gatherings will be Canon SuzeAnne Silla and Robbin Brent. Robbin has been dreaming, convening, and facilitating contemplative gatherings since 2010. She has served as the Executive Director of the Center for Spiritual Resources in the Episcopal Diocese of Western, NC, convener of Circles of Trust discernment groups, and facilitator of numerous spiritual deepening programs and retreats. Through Wisdom Way of Knowing, which she founded in 2016, Robbin curates contemplative Wisdom resources (wisdomwayofknowing.org), and hosts and films Wisdom Schools with Cynthia Bourgeault. She also serves Living Compass, a spirituality and wellness initiative, as Director of Publications and Resource Development; and is currently an associate in the Shalem Institute's program for Transforming Community; Leading Contemplative Prayer Groups and Retreats.

Children's Lenten Wednesday activities

A children's class will be provided during the Wednesday evening Lenten programs. Families will gather for dinner at 5:30 pm, then all children ages 5 - 12 will go downstairs to the Sunday School room for their own activity when the adult program begins at 6:00 pm. I look forward to seeing you there!

Rae Grosserode

Children's Education Director

Rector Search Committee Report

This is a busy and exciting time for your Rector Search Committee, as we prepare to interview candidates. Recently we held a second retreat, in which we conducted a practice video interview and worked on our questions. We are expecting to receive the names of candidates from Canon Bolt this month and begin the official interview process. Please continue to pray for the search process and for our future rector.



Jackie Mabrey

Greetings from SuzeAnne

A year ago on Wednesday evenings during Lent you engaged in Holy Conversations to discuss who you had been at St. John's in your history, who you are now, and who you might become in the future. You discussed your concerns, joys, challenges and hopes. Your valued input has now been documented in the parish search profile and has shaped the discernment process. (You can find the completed search profile on St. John's website. Stjohnstn.org)

Also last year, during the Lenten season and beyond, you began exploring the story of the biblical narrative from Exodus – the recalling of the Israelites traveling through the desert, impatiently wondering when they would reach the promised land. Turns out a lot of preparation work was happening during their wandering, with God shaping and forming them, and preparing them well for their future.

William Bridges in his book "Managing Transitions" calls this **in between time**, the Neutral Zone, a time when much is happening that we may or may not be aware of.

You have been discovering and naming the many things taking place at St. John's during your own time of transition – your own neutral zone. (To date, two or more newsprint pages have been filled up with your own neutral zone accomplishments – not the least of which has been the paying off of the mortgage.) Along the way you have also acquired new skills and gained new insights.

As we began the season of Lent last year, the search committee led us through Wednesday night gatherings, and with these Holy Conversations the search process for your next Rector began.

This Lenten season, St. John's will be entering the final phase of the search process for your next priest. As was announced on Sunday, February 16, the search committee will be on retreat in February, finalizing their interview process in preparation for receiving names of potential candidates.

Last year we were focused on ourselves at St. John's, as was appropriate in order to acquire the needed data for your search process. Now it is time to begin turning outward in preparation for the new experiences which will arrive with your new rector.

Bishop Brian, in his sermon at the burning of the mortgage, said that we now need to let go of the burden of the mortgage and take our light into the "burdened place" outside our doors. He called St. John's to a place of hope and expectation with these words: "after all you have accomplished, just imagine what's next!"

And so, it is most fitting that we once again gather on Wednesday evenings during Lent in preparation for the next part of the journey. Preparing for the calling of the person who will be St. John's next priest.

Robbin Brent, the editor of the Living Compass and a well-known workshop leader, will lead these Wednesday evening gatherings along with myself beginning March 4th. Robbin formerly served with Bishop Brian in the Diocese of North Carolina and has a strong reputation for her work.

My prayer is that you will engage this next step in St. John's journey during these Wednesday evenings in Lent with the same energy and enthusiasm you brought to Holy Conversations last year. (Please see Journal article for details.)

In Christ,

SuzeAnne+

Safeguarding Awareness

On March 1st we will have a safeguarding awareness training for teens and adults based on one of the Safeguarding videos. The training is being offered for those who are interested in having the ability to recognize signs that might indicate abuse. This training is not required.

St. John's YTD Financial Report

	Jan 2019 Actual YTD	Jan 2020 Actual YTD	Jan YTD Budget	Variance YTD 2020 Vs 2019	Variance YTD Vs Budget
Plate Offerings	\$693.00	\$502.00	\$800.00	-\$191.00	-\$298.00
Pledge Payments	\$33,706.94	\$57,306.76	\$34,100.00	\$23,599.82	\$23,206.76
Prior Pledges	\$870.00	\$285.00	\$800.00	-\$585.00	-\$515.00
Contributions	\$4,175.00	\$6,169.00	\$3,500.00	\$1,994.00	\$2,669.00
Misc. Income	\$315.00	\$160.00	\$93.33	-\$155.00	\$66.67
Prepaid Pledges	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$40,759.94	\$64,422.76	\$39,293.33	\$23,662.82	\$25,129.43
Total Expense	\$28,798.99	\$28,979.24	\$29,096.01	\$180.25	-\$116.77
Net Income	\$11,960.95	\$35,443.52	\$10,197.32	\$23,482.57	\$25,246.20



Greetings from Senior Warden, Suzanne Donaldson

As we enter into Lent, we will be reflecting on things we have done and things we have left undone. Lenten discipline reminds me of New Year's Resolutions, we have good intentions about making changes that will improve our lives. I often fall short of the goals I set for myself but I will keep on trying. One goal I set in January was to attend at least one 10:30 service each month. I am thankful that I have been successful two months in a row. Hopefully more of you recognize me now and will introduce yourselves to me and talk to me about St. John's.

The Facilities Long Range Planning Committee has been working diligently to identify and prioritize our needs. We look forward to projects over the next few months which will continue to improve our space and make us even more welcoming for our new Rector. And for all my 10:30 friends, by the time you read this, we will have a temporary electronic organ installed to provide beautiful music while we address the problems with the existing Moller organ. We will have this available to us through the end of May so Easter should be glorious.

I would say our Vestry retreat was a total success. We held the retreat at the Eureka Inn in downtown Jonesborough. What a great time we had since the whole place was rented to us. The proprietors, Blake and Katelyn Yarbrough, went out of their way to attend to our needs and the food was yummy. Our new vestry members quickly became part of the fold. It was the first retreat to have a teenager on the vestry and I must say Owen Grosserode is a bright, insightful young man who contributed to our sessions. We also were blessed with Emily Bidgood's baby boy visiting and being passed around during brainstorming sessions. There was a lot of energy and enthusiasm and great ideas for how we prepare for our transition period. My To-Do list is long and I am working to partner and coordinate with the many talented vestry members to keep the momentum going.

Suzanne

Prayers and blessings for Jude Morrisey

We celebrate the fact Jude Morrisey has been offered a wonderful position at Yale. Her last Sunday at St. John's was in January. We sent her off with prayers and blessings using liturgy specific to the occasion.

While at St. John's, Jude organized and developed an Adult Faith Formation program including an online version. Jude also taught the Inquirer's Class, along with Fred Mackara and John Nash. She and her children will be greatly missed in many ways and on many levels. She has offered, much to our delight, to continue with the online option from afar, augmenting scheduled AFF presentations once or twice a month.

Thank you, Jude, for all of your work on behalf of St. John's!







Streamers

If anyone is interested in learning how to use the big streamers in our worship service, please contact Rita Plemmons at 423-388-5051 or retp62@gmail.com.

We will also once again have little streamers for little people on Easter Sunday. Those interested should meet in the back of the nave around 10:00 am on Easter Sunday.

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

Hi All!

As my last B & C report for the Journal I want to give you an overview of what happened at Convention 2020 in Chattanooga, Friday, February 6 and Saturday, February 7th. I most want to focus on the theme of Convention – *Reconciling All Things in Christ* – *Broken and Mending* – and how that was addressed throughout our time together.

Bishop Brian Cole gave two very important talks on Friday, the second of which has been posted on the Diocesan web page and is actually his sermon for the Convention Eucharist and his official annual address to the Convention. I hope you will either listen to it or read it in its entirety – very powerful, inspiring as well as challenging. He talks so poignantly about our "call to rebuild Christ's Church!"

In Bishop Cole's Friday morning address, two concepts on the theme of our Convention stood out for me: The process of **mending our broken relationships is an art**, and **"grace" can show up in an instant** – often surprising us who are engaged in the work of reconciliation.

In the Biblical passage the Bishop referenced where Jesus is in the temple with the prophetess Anna, he emphasized that a great part of Anna's ministry, as it was for Mary Magdalene at the tomb, was just "showing up" in the moments when there is brokenness and pain. If we don't show up, there is no path to reconciliation in our personal lives, in parishes, in our communities, and in the broader world.

His final reminder was that a great deal of ministry is "off stage" and not caught in any microfilm. In this age of Facebook, twitter, etc., this is something that we often forget. The reflections given by fellow Episcopalians of our diocese on specific themes of reconciliation brought both tears and appropriate laughter and will long be remembered: Annie Wong Smith told a personal, heart-warming, and really quite humorous story of Gracie Davis in her topic on Reconciliation through Mission of how her sunglasses became a surprising tool of evangelism with the children in Kondoa, Tanzania. Lisa McNeese shared the story of Reconciliation through Art as she told of the Diocesan Quilt project and the many lessons her group learned about patience and humility as well as flexibility and community wisdom. Howard Vogel challenged us all to see the way of Reconciliation through Mediation.

Then there were the **Affinity Groups** which lasted over two hours as we ate our box lunches on Friday.

Our own Canon SuzeAnne Silla facilitated the group called Racial & Cultural Reconciliation.

Several of our St. John's delegates, including Lee Phillips and McKenna Cox, attended **Parish Vitality** and **Health.**

I, along with Jim Anderson, were the B & C recorders/listeners in **Civil Discourse & Social Justice**, facilitated by The Rev. Claire Brown of St. Paul's, Chattanooga. Bill Fryar, a St. John's delegate, also attended this Affinity group. Claire began our session with a tool she uses in her on-going reconciliation and social justice work:

R - (take) responsibility for our own words and emotions

E - (use) empathic listening

S - (be) sensitive to different communication styles

P - ponder what you hear before you respond

C - (honor) confidentiality – not sharing others' stories for them or without their permission

T - trust ambiguity

Clair also strongly encouraged our 50 participants to utilize the National Episcopal Church's website, which has lots of resources on this topic. episcopalchurch.org

Other Affinity Groups included Global Climate Change & Environmental Stewardship, Evangelism for Episcopalians, and Small Churches: Challenges & Joys.

Each of the **Affinity group facilitators** (including Canon SuzeAnne) gave a report to the whole Convention on the key elements that were discussed in their groups and any action items for B & C to consider at their next meeting and as they set the Diocesan agenda for the rest of 2020 and beyond.

Now, news to celebrate: I am very proud to announce that Lee Phillips was elected on Saturday to be one of four Lay Deputies to General Convention in 2021 along with Canon Beverly Hurley Hill, Sinead Doherty, and William Simerly. The priests elected were The Rev. R. J. Powell, The Rev. Leigh Preston, The Rev. Leyla King, and The Rev. Cal Calhoun. Lee was the only deputy, lay or priest, elected from Upper TN. Congratulations Lee!

Also, I have to give a "shout out" to our own **McKenna Cox** who did a great job as the Convention Parliamentarian! During the elections on Saturday,

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

while we were waiting for results to be announced, McKenna was one of several, including our own Bishop, who entertained the waiting convention delegates with limericks, many original to that day, or jokes from family members. Ask McKenna to tell you the ones she shared. They brought great laughter! Thank you, McKenna!

I also want to announce that **elected to B & C as Lay Representative for Upper TN for a three-year term**, which began on the last day of Convention, is my good friend **from St. Paul's in Kingsport, John Bellamy**. We will be well represented! Congratulations to John!

On a personal note:

Having three inches of snow on Saturday morning in Chattanooga offered a beautiful if challenging drive back to Upper TN. Thank you everyone for your prayers for our safe journeys there and back.

Highlights for me at our 2020 Diocesan Conventions include my having had the opportunity to work as registrar and teller for the third time in the six conventions I have attended. The other three I attended as a delegate. I have also now served in some official capacity with three of our most recent Bishops, Charlie, George, and now Brian, giving me the opportunity to witness each of their unique gifts, wisdom and great commitment to the Episcopalians of East TN.

I have seen many things change as we've moved from location to location across the diocese and as we've gone from having outside experts come talk on relevant topics to now for the past two years, inviting our own East TN Episcopalians to share reflections and present information.

I've also seen our Friday night events go from having big time professional entertainment, to an interview with Bishop Brian, to this year going to the Chattanooga Aquarium for food and awesome marine life and butterfly exhibits, which allowed delegates to bring their families and children.

I've especially been thrilled at the inclusion of children and youth into our liturgies and as official delegates. We've also created special events just for them which included this year an amazing Friday night lock-in at a climbing center and a special lunch with Bishop Brian on Saturday at the end of the Convention.

I really look forward to joining so many of you at St. John's and others in Upper TN this coming year as we plan and then host the 2021 Convention right here in Johnson City!

In closing: At Convention 2020 we were inspired to take seriously that we are an East TN community of fellow Christian travelers, from large and small churches, seeking to offer reconciliation in a civil manner in the "civil" arenas of our world wherever there is brokenness, and pain, including on our planet. We have been called to rebuild our Church in love for one another across all differences as pilgrims who follow daily the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth as we seek to "reconcile all things in Christ."

Thank you, St. John's, and Upper TN for allowing me the privilege of representing you for three wonderful years as I've traveled this amazing Diocesan journey on Bishop and Council, with priests and lay folks from all over our wonderful Diocese.

In Christ's Spirit, may you be greatly blessed. Marty Woodward

Earth Guild News

Earth Guild welcomes David and Hilde Lark to the group as our newest members! This year the group is exploring new ways to lead and support St. John's important Earth-care efforts. If you are interested in learning more or getting involved in this ministry, please contact Shelley Stahlman at shellstahl@hotmail.com, or join us for an upcoming monthly meeting. Look for meeting dates posted in the Church Calendar, in Connecting or in the Journal. Meetings will not be held the same Sunday each month. The March meeting is Sunday, March 8th after the 10:30 service, location TBA.

Old Enough Bunch

The next OEB (Old Enough Bunch) lunch will be on Thursday, March 19th at noon in the Great Hall. We'll celebrate all things IRISH with corned beef and cabbage! We had 25 brave souls who came through the "snow storm" to enjoy lots of soups on February 20th. Many signed up to help the OEB group with food and service in the future. Blessings upon them!



2020 Inquirers' Class: Reborn, Renewed, Received

The Rt. Rev Brian Cole, Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee will visit St. John's on Sunday, May 24th. As part of his visit, the Bishop will perform the pastoral rites of Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation.

Prior to the Bishop's visit, St. John's will offer a series of classes to present, explain, and discuss the Episcopal Church, Christian doctrine, history, and worship. We call this program the "Inquirers' Class: Reborn, Renewed, Received." This program is intended for everyone who would like to be confirmed, received into the Episcopal Church or to reaffirm your Baptismal vows. It is also open to anyone who just wants to know more about the Church and our faith.

The classes will meet from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm, beginning on Sunday, March 15th. There will be 8 weekly meetings, excluding Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Anyone interested in this class should contact the Parish office.

March 15	Welcome & introduction – Canon SuzeAnne Silla
March 22	Scripture – Jude Morrissey (via teleconference)
March 29	An Episcopalian's Tool Kit (The Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, and the Hymnal) – Fred
	Mackara
April 5	Palm Sunday / No meeting
April 12	Easter Sunday / No meeting
April 19	Sacraments & Relationships – Canon SuzeAnne Silla
April 26	Foundations of Faith – Fred MacKara
May 3	Ministry & Stewardship – Deacon Cathy Johnston
May 10	Church History & Governance – Dr. John Nash

Preparation for Bishop Cole's visit – Canon SuzeAnne Silla

On Sundays in March there will be a table with information in the narthex for answering questions from inquiring "Inquirers", on baptism, confirmation, being received into the Episcopal Church from a different denomination, and any other membership questions that one might have! If you want to know how to become a member at St. John's, we can help you understand the process.

Men of St. John's

May 17

St. John's Men's Group will meet Tuesday, March 10th at 6:00 pm at Cafe Lola's (1805 North Roan) for food and fellowship. Plan to join us!

Women of St. John's

Women of St John's will meet Sunday, March 15th following the 10:30 service at Chili's Grill and Bar, 3040 Franklin Terrace. Please join us as we enjoy good food and fellowship.

Labyrinth



The Labyrinth will be open in the chapel for quiet meditation from Sunday morning until Saturday afternoon most weeks – not just Saturday and Sunday. Come walk and pray.



Youth Group

St. John's Youth Group will be meeting on the following Sundays, mark your calendars and join us!

 Sunday, March 29
 5:00 - 7:30 pm

 Sunday, April 26
 5:00 - 7:30 pm

 Sunday, May 17
 5:00 - 7:30 pm

Volunteer chaperones are needed for each of these dates! If you are interested please contact Emily Nagy at emilynagy9@gmail.com. Thank you!

Happy March Birthday

 	4 9		•		
1	Charlotte Caudill	7	Joan Lancaster	21	Charlene Lilly
1	Michael Humby	7	Claus Bricks	21	Melissa Van Tassell
1	Kennie Boling	8	Glen McCoy	26	Marian Bertotti
4	Beth Herron	9	Phil Ulmer	26	Eric Combs
6	Ted Tyrcha	11	Donna Winton	27	Bob Cooper
6	Anna Faye Honeycutt	11	Bruce Donaldson	27	David Champouillon
7	Margot Humby	16	Michael Maylott	28	Ruth Miller
7	Reneau Dubberley	17	Rucht Lilavivat	28	Bucky Farnor
		17	Benjamin Cleveland	31	Esther Pawlowicz



Happenings

Special events in March				
Safeguarding awareness training for teens and adults	Sun, Mar 1	•	3:00 pm	Vestry Room (#104 & 105)
Wednesdays in Lent Dinner Program	Wed, Mar 4, 11, 18 & 25	•	5:30 pm 6:00 pm	Great Hall Children's class in downstairs classroom followng dinner
Inquirer's Class: Reborn, Renewed, Received	Sun, Mar 15, 22 & 29	•	6:00 pm	Coffee Shop (continues on Sundays April 12 - May 17)
Joy Nagy / Elisa Wardeska Recital	Sun, Mar 15	٠	2:00 pm	Nave
ETSU Mandollin Orchestra	Sun, Mar 29	٠	4:00 AM	Chapel
Monthly Scheduled Meetings				
Back Porch Guild	Tue, *	٠	5:30 - 7:30 pm	* For date & location see BPG Facebook page
Earth Guild	Sun, Mar 8	٠	after 10:30 service	To be announced
Men of St. John's	Tues, Mar 10	•	6:00 pm	Café Lola's (1805 N Roan)
Women of St. John's Luncheon	Sun, Mar 15	٠	after 10:30 service	Chili's Grill & Bar (3040 Franklin Terrace)
Old Fields Singers	Sun, Mar 15	٠	2:00 - 4:00 pm	Great Hall
Vestry Meeting	Tues, Mar 17	٠	7:00 pm	Vestry Room (#104 & 105)
Old Enough Bunch Lunch	Thur, May 19	٠	noon	Great Hall
Youth Group Meeting	Sun, Mar 29	•	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	Nave
	Sundays	•	9:30 am	41007
Eucharist Rite I	Thursdays	٠	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	٠	9:15 am	Class Room
Adult Faith Formation Classes	Sundays	•	9:15 - 10:15 am	Rooms 104 & 105
EfM	Sundays	٠	5:00 - 7:30 pm	EfM room

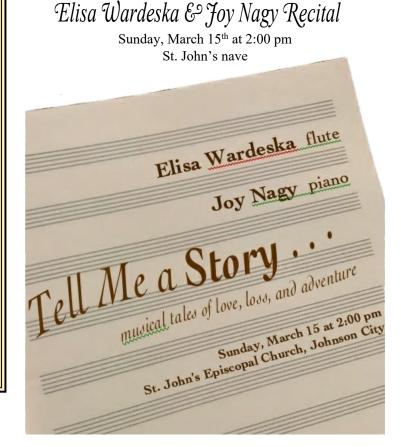
ETSU Mandolin Orchestra Concert

Sunday, March 29th @ 4:00 pm St. John's Chapel

The ETSU Mandolin Orchestra, led by ETSU professor and St. John's member Lee Bidgood will present a concert in the Chapel at 4:00 pm on Sunday, March 29, 2020.

The performance will feature the mandolin family (mandolin, mandola, and mandocello), playing material from the golden age of mandolin orchestras ca. 1900, and an eclectic mix of material from near and far. The program theme focuses on Latin American and Hispanic repertorie, with uppity and vernacular music from the Old World and the New World.

Join us for a unique evening of music!



Return Service Requested

Мом-Ряогт Овс. U.S. Роѕтасе РАІD Јониѕои Сіту, ТИ Ревміт Мо. 176

