

The Grapevine



Art of Giving

Our "Every Member Canvass" (annual stewardship campaign for 2016) the "Art of Giving," has begun. During this campaign, you will be asked to make a pledge of your time, talent and treasure to the parish for 2016.

As you are considering your pledge to the parish, we ask that you think of stewardship as a spiritual discipline. Like prayer and the reading of scripture, stewardship is a religious devotion. Developing the good steward in yourself is a life long process. The discipline of giving yourself away, through the gifting of your time, your talents, and your treasure, is an exercise in piety worth advancing and

growing. One of the ironies of the gospel is that we are most alive when we give ourselves away.

As you are considering the financial portion of your pledge, know that the goal in the Episcopal Church is the tithe or the spiritual discipline of giving away ten percent of your income. I ask that you move closer to that goal this year. If you have never pledged before, begin this year by making a pledge. If you gave 2% of your income last year, raise that giving to 3% this year. By giving for the first time or by increasing your pledge by 1%, you will be moving toward the goal of tithing.

Stewardship is a spiritual discipline that will aid in the development of your own personal faith, but it is also an exciting opportunity to engage in mission. When you make a pledge of your time, talent and treasure to St. John's, you are investing in the mission of the parish. The mission of God is a winning cause, and the mission to which God has called St. John's is a winning cause. You will find it exciting to invest generously and wisely in the mission to which God has called us. Your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, are that on which the foundation of God's mission at St. John's is built.

OUTREACH

There are several events this fall that offer opportunities to give to local charities, especially at a time when outreach ministries are preparing to give greater assistance for Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Be generous with your time and donations! With and through your participation, many will be blessed.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR AND COOKIE WALK, Saturday, December 5, 9:30am – 1:30pm. Arts, Crafts, Holiday Novelty items, Christmas Cookies & baked goods. Contact Lee Armstrong 875-8985 or Toni Norman 365-9598

ANGEL TREE: Gifts for children and mothers at the Women's Shelter. ID Cards with age, clothing sizes and needs will be available on the Christmas Tree in the parish hall. Pick up the card during the first week of advent and return unwrapped gifts with their ID card. Project sponsored by Saints and Sinners. Contact Bruno Schroeder 697-3376 or Terry Armstrong 238-3557

ORGAN RECITAL with Dr. Janet Hamilton, Thursday, December 3, 7pm. Dr. Hamilton is on the organ faculty at SE Indiana University (and niece of Ed Krecker). Recital will begin with a brief evening prayer and followed by a dessert reception. Offerings received at the recital will benefit St. John's local charities.

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAKE SALE. Everyone needs a delicious and beautiful rum cake for the holidays. Reserve your cake by signing the reservation sheet on the ministry table. Cakes with or without rum, pick-up in the parish hall as requested on the sign-up sheet. Contact Harriet Perry 875-2713 or Barbara Mabry 327-2931. \$25.00 per cake. All proceeds benefit the Women's Shelter for Non-violence, Samaritan Ministries and Wilmer Hall Orphanage in Mobile.

ART OF GIVING

Annual Giving Campaign

Goals for the Every Member Canvass of 2016

\$355,000 - Pledged

145 - Pledges

**Pledge cards will be placed in the offering baskets and blessed at the altar on November 8.*



DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Dear Daughters

The regular meeting of Daughters of the King will be Tuesday November 2, 2015 at 1 pm in the Parish Hall at St John's Episcopal Church.

Martha Thompson will be collecting items for the shoe boxes for Christmas. Items are needed for boys and girls ages 4 -12 (crayons, stickers, small games, pencils, puzzles...items that fit in a shoe box).

Call Ginny Dugaw (360-661-0691) if you need transportation.

JACKSON COUNTY PET SHELTER

The month of November is the special time we take to think about all of the many blessings that God bestows on us each day and give him thanks.

I thank God for my St. John's family and for all their devotion to supporting the Jackson County Pet Shelter.

I ask you to please make a donation to the shelter this month in thanksgiving for the blessing of your personal pets.

Thank you.

Jill Roth

HAPPENING #82

Happening #82 will be held at St. John's, Pascagoula, November 13-15. Happening is a spiritual renewal retreat for people in the 10th-12th grades. Participants can sign up online through the diocesan website. The registration fee is \$30 (cheap!!), and scholarships are available.

FALL 2015 EYC SCHEDULE

SUNDAYS @ 4:30 PM

Nov. 6-8 - Sr. High DOY Weekend

Nov. 15th - Happening Closing

Nov. 22 - Thanksgiving Dinner @ St. John's

Dec. 6th Angel Tree @ St. Mark's

Dec. 13th All Coast EYC Christmas Party @ St. Peter's

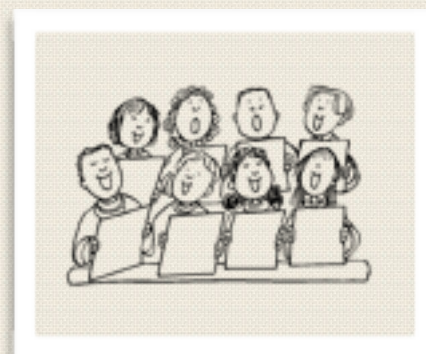


SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School. "Living the Good News" Sunday School for Preschool and Elementary School age children is held each Sunday at 10:10 a.m. All preschool and elementary school age children are invited to attend. For more information regarding Sunday School at St. John's contact Alexis Williams.

CHANCEL CHOIR

The adult choristers of St. John's meet for rehearsal at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays in the choir room on the second floor of the education center under the direction of the Choirmaster, Cynthia Ramseur. Some of the choristers sing at the 9:00 a.m. Sunday Family Service and some sing at the 11:15 a.m. Sunday Principal Service. For more information about the Chancel Choir contact Cynthia Ramseur.



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's Choir meets on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m. in the choir room. For more information contact Cynthia Ramseur. 228-282-5000.

FAMILY NIGHT AT WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS.

“Family Night” at Wonderful Wednesdays is the first Wednesday of the month. Come to celebrate parish birthdays and share cake. Fun for the whole family. For more information contact Cecil George Smith.

EVENING PRAYER, NOVEMBER 3

Linda Healy, postulant for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church will lead Evening Prayer on Tuesday, November 3 at 5:30 p.m. Ms. Healy will also give the homily. November 3 is the day we remember Richard Hooker on the church calendar.

PUBLIC SERVICE OF HEALING WITH ANOINTING AND THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Public Service of Healing with Anointing and the Holy Eucharist is held on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Nursery care available during the worship service. Worship service is followed with dinner in the parish hall.

ODDS & ENDS

Grapevine via email. You can receive the Grapevine via email—delivered to your inbox! Click the link on the parish website and follow the step by step instructions to sign up.

Grapevine via US Mail. You can receive the Grapevine via the U.S. Postal Service—delivered to your mail box! Call the parish office to have your name and address put on the Grapevine mailing list.

“Take me off the Grapevine US Mail List.” If you want to be taken off the Grapevine mailing list, (for instance, if you have signed up to get the Grapevine via email and no longer want a hard copy mailed to you), please notify the parish office.

ST. JOHN’S GOT TALENT!

St. John’s Got Talent! Thank you to Martha Thompson for volunteering to coordinate “St. John’s Got Talent!” Coming this Spring! More details TBA soon. St. John’s Talent! is being rescheduled from November 15 to April 2016! Keep practicing your talents and watch for the date. Contact Martha Thompson 228-875-7331

St. John's

Adult Forum

The Adult Forum meets monthly on one Sunday a month during the coffee hour (at 10:10 a.m.). For more information about Adult Forum, contact John Switzer. You can reach John at 251-380-4669.

Bell Choir

St. John's Bell Choir meets on a variable schedule. For more information about St. John's Bell Choir, contact Martha Thompson at 228-875-7331.

The Merry Widows

The Merry Widows meet on the first Friday of the Month at 5:00 p.m. Contact Ame Severson to RSVP at 228-327-0689.

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wonderful Wednesday Dinner Volunteers. Eight teams of volunteers rotate preparing dinner for "Wonderful Wednesdays" at St. John's. For more information call Melissa Johnson at (228) 231-1235 or Cecil George Smith at (228) 424-6899.

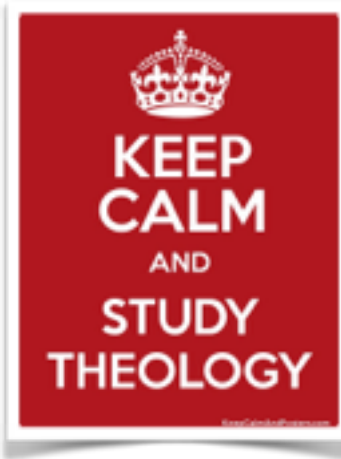
The Lord is My Help

St. John's is responsible for volunteers for *The Lord is My Help* on a rotating schedule. If you can volunteer, contact Peggy Butera (228-875-7049) or Jim Lancaster. Our remaining weeks for 2015 are:
November 2-6.



St. Luke's Guild

St. Luke's Guild meets on the third Thursday of the month for their monthly pot-luck dinner. St. Luke's is composed of ladies from St. John's and the community who meet for fellowship and support our preschool. Everyone is invited - come make a new friend.



Thursday Theology Group

Thursday Theology Group with the Rev. Harold Roberts meets on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 2:00 p.m. in the Kindness Room on the second floor of our education center. For more information contact the Rev. Harold Roberts.

Second and Fourth Thursday
2:00 p.m.



Saints & Sinners

Saints & Sinners (the men's group of St. John's) meet on the second Tuesday of the month. All the men of the parish are invited to join in the fun. For more information on Saints & Sinners contact Terry Armstrong at 228 238 3557.

Second Tuesday of the Month
6:00 p.m.

Happening



Centering Prayer

Centering Prayer meets on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. For more information about Centering Prayer contact Sharon Manuel at 872-4041 or 229-9307.



Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible Study with the Rev. Bruno Schroeder meets in the Kindness Room on Sunday mornings at 10:10 a.m. and Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. For more information contact Bruno Schroeder at 228-697-3376.

Sundays, 10:10 a.m.
Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.

EYC meets at DeMiller Hall, Biloxi; or, at one of the member parishes. EYC-East Gulf Coast is a ministry of Church of the Redeemer, Biloxi; St. Mark's, Gulfport; and St. John's, Ocean Springs. All Middle School and High School age youth are invited. For additional details see this month's special insert or contact Luke Gautier at 228-617-0905.

Sundays
4:30 p.m.

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King meet on the first Tuesday of the month. Contact Lisa Baker for more information about the Daughters of the King at 228-282-3733.



EfM

Education for Ministry meets on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Kindness Room. New students are registered each August for the coming academic year. For more information contact Susan Ray.



Learning, Serving...

St. John's

Ultreya

Ultreya. St. John's has four Ultreya groups. The first meets on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. in the Rawls Room. The evening group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the parish hall. The third meets on Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Rawls Room. The fourth meets at Pat Spear's home on Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m. For more information about Ultreya at St. John's, contact Lena Melton.

Spanish Language Holy Eucharist

Spanish Language Holy Eucharist. Sunday evening, 4:00 p.m.: Our Spanish-language service with the Rev. Margarita Swetman; bringing together communities and cultures to celebrate God in the Episcopal tradition.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Presented by our Children & Youth on Christmas Eve Thursday, Dec 24, 4:00 p.m.

Please sign-up your family members who wish to participate in this year's Christmas Pageant! Sign-up forms are in the parish hall – or call the church office: 875-4454.

If your children (3 & up) or youth (thru high school) would like to participate in the Pageant, please complete the form in the parish hall to assist us with planning. There will always be a place of friends and family to participate at the last minute – but the primary participants need to be identified early so that we have ample costumes.

We will need singers, instrumentalists, readers, angels, stars, shepherds, stable animals, wisemen and a holy family. Practices will take place during Advent Church School hour.

Thank you!

Katherine Kingren (502) 608-3785

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY ROTA

Wonderful Wednesday Rota November 2015

November 4 (Birthday Night) Harriet Perry harrietperry@bellsouth.net 875-2713, Barbara Mabry stagemanager1@bellsouth.net 374-1942, Ellen Wilkerson klad23@writeme.com 243-2676, Barbara Campbell 872-2835, Bonnie Luft 875-8553 (h) 547-7424

November 11 Nathan LaBlanc nathan_leblanc@bellsouth.net 327-5758, Emily Lancaster, ewlanca@att.net 341-0775, Martha Thompson gtainc1@bellsouth.net 330-647-4831

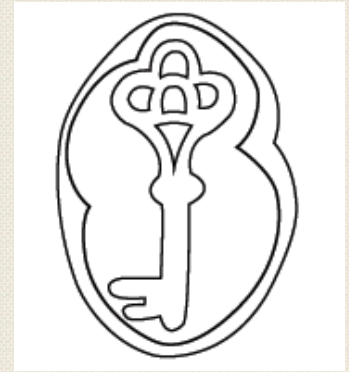
November 18 Bobby Rumfelt tlefmur@gmail.com 601 291-7159, Tiffany Asher, Mark Seepe seepemesr@gmail.com 382-7549, Kay Cox kaycox711@gmail.com 239-9275, Anne Williams annfwilliams@cableone.net 324-2203

November 25 Pizza Night

December 2 Stuart Smith

**Following the Wednesday night service, the parish enjoys a meal prepared by one of eight teams. Everyone is invited. The first Sunday of the month is a birthday celebration; the third Sunday of the month features a children's activity. We welcome all children each week but try to have something special for our little ones at the third Wednesday meal.*

PRAYING IT FORWARD CAMPAIGN



A Capital Campaign for St. John's

\$725,000 - goal
\$737,506 – pledged (146 pledges)
\$278,810.63– paid on pledges (through September 30, 2015)
\$458,695.37 to go

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year-to-Date Report: End of September

	Actuals	vs.	Budget
Tithes, Offerings, etc.:	\$281,406.80		\$264,885.03
Expenses:	\$290,867.73		\$308,564.40

*At the end of September, the parish was ahead of budget on tithes and offerings. And, the parish was under budget on expenses.

Some of you have asked why our budgeted expenses are higher than our budgeted income. Expenses are higher than income because we are currently running a budget deficit. The difference comes from our cash reserves (our savings). When our cash reserves are depleted, we will either have to cut expenses for mission and ministry or raise more money via the annual Every Member Canvass.

You will note that we have not yet had to “dip” into our savings for 2015. In that regard we have done better than our projections. Offerings have been stronger than expected to date and expenses have been less than expected to date. Some of the expenses, however, are merely timing issues and we continue to expect them before the end of the year.

MISSION STATEMENT AND VISION STATEMENT

Mission Statement. We will know, love and serve God, be renewed by His Spirit and share Christ.

Vision Statement. Inspired by Christ, we will strive for spiritual maturity to attain a greater knowledge of God's divine plan. We will embrace those seeking spiritual renewal and growth. We will offer a diversity of programs and worship to fulfill the needs of all ages and backgrounds. We will be responsive to the changing needs of our Parish and world community. We will develop facilities to support our Vision Statement.

THE ART OF GIVING

“The Art of Giving “ is alive and well at St. John’s Episcopal Church

Sunday, September 27 the Lay Ministry Fair showcased the ministries of St. John’s

Did you Know?

St. John’s Outreach Ministry provides financial support to

The Boys and Girls Club of Ocean Springs

Rebekah’s House

Financial support and Volunteers to

The Lord is My Help

Samaritan Ministries

Fundraisers for Outreach

St. Luke’s Guild

St. Mary’s

Cookie Walk and Bazaar

Did you Know?

The Organ Restoration Fund is supported by

Derby & Jazz Party

Hat’s and Afternoon Tea

Did you Know?

Every worship service is supported by

Greeters, Ushers, Choir, Musicians,

Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch Bearers, Lectors, Vergers,

Flower Guild, Altar Guild, Chapel Leader and Tellers

Did you Know?

Sunday School is available to our children from 10:15 -11:00 each Sunday

Did you Know?

Pastoral Care Committee, Daughters of the King, Jr Daughters of the King minister to the needs of our parishioners

Did you Know?

Saints and Sinners help with many aspects of Parish Life

Did you Know?

The Newcomers Committee, Building and Grounds Committee and Young Families Group work to strengthen our community of faith and take care of our building.

Did you Know?

Wonderful Wednesdays are truly Wonderful

We All Know?

St John’s is vibrant and growing thanks to each of you.

All ministries are open to volunteers and encourage you to sign up!

Prayers for the Sick

Almighty God, giver of life and health: Comfort and relieve those who are sick and give your power of healing to those who minister to their needs, that they may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



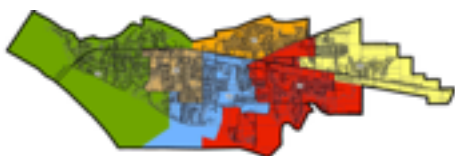
Parish Family

Mary Jo Jones, Howard Newby, David Stephens, Bob Kluck, Gene Newman, Kay Woods, Ed Krecker, Marge Aldrich, Chuck Aldrich, Roselyn & Lindy Ross, Jim & Linda Shaw, Hazel Hall, Charlie Ashby, Jean Boley, Terry Armstrong, Amanda N., Pat Spear, Charlie Melton, William Lewis, Fran Newby, Jim Lancaster, Charles Fowler, Frank Hedges, Marilyn Hoad



Extended Family

Joseph Riley, Ann Kolesar, Stephen Griffies, Brett Ashley, Vera Barton, Marlene Mclean, Leota Ray, Gladys Efaw, Roger Collier, Lillian Delzell, Judy Braun, Will Newman, Frances Kennedy, Claudia Reda, Teri Coate, Keith, Blake Jackson, Judy Nash, Donna Brown, Emily Lee, Diane Hutchinson, Joan Mercer, Frannie Brown, David Kulick, Huron & Bessie Virden, Scott, Floyd Patrick, George Sparkman



Greater Community

Todd Penn, Jr., Judith Brown, Heather Ross Toche, Shirley Angus, Eric Smith, Jackson Tharpe, Karen Sock, Rosemary Gonzalez, Belle McCann, Judy Williams, Julia Gregg, Butch and Paula, Mikel Anthony, Karen Nelson, Gail Banks, Hannah Raymo, Monty Noblitt, Norma Langdale, Betty Smith, Melissa Lee, Dee Smelly, Connie Avera, Betty Page, Delores Carter, Gary Michaels, Brianna Medina, Robert, Kathy Grizzard, Glen Angus, Stacey Randall, Angela Clary, Daisy Clauselet Pilot, Arthur Carlisle, Helen Lloyd, Margaret Moniet, Leroy, Patrick, Victoria, Glenn, P. Bell, Tim Cyrus, Vanessa, Amy, Donna & Rodney, Brian Gurney, Kendall Lamb, Nichole Gilbert.

ORGAN RECITAL

Thursday, December 3

7:00 p.m.

Recital begins with Evening Prayer

Followed by a dessert reception

Dr. Hamilton is Organist and Instructor of Organ at Indiana University Southeast. She is also Ed and Judy Krecker's niece. Please join us to celebrate the Advent season with this special musical offering.

Janet Hamilton (organ) earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from Indiana State University and both Masters and Doctorate degrees in Organ Performance from Indiana University, Bloomington. Most recently, Dr. Hamilton has performed at the Covington (KY) Cathedral, St. Peter's Lutheran Church in New York City, and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Louisville. She is the music director at St. Mary Catholic Church in Lanesville, Indiana and is a member of the Southern Indiana Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Grapevine *St. John's*

St. John's Episcopal Church
705 Rayburn Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

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U.S. Postage Paid
PERMIT NUMBER 20
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

Mailing Address

WINTER SOLSTICE FOR YOUTH

Attention youth currently in grades 9 - 12 registration for Winter Solstice at Camp Bratton-Green is now open.

Winter Solstice is a diocesan program for those in high school. The dates are December 27, 2015 through January 1, 2016. The cost to attend is \$400.

The diocese would also like to let you know that registration for our summer camp sessions will open on January 1, 2016. Shortly after we open camper registration, we will also open applications for our ministry partners (volunteers/counselors/adult staff). Our camping program is unique in that we operate largely by the grace and dedication of those young adults that are willing to give a week of their summer doing the hard work of ministry for our younger campers.

If you have any questions about registration, please contact me at your convenience at ezell@graycenter.org or 601-859-1556. This year the Winter Solstice Directors are the Rev. Jennifer Southall and Mr. William Boyles.