

St. John's The Evangelist

The monthly newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, Mt. Vernon

August 2016

Serendipity — *The accidental discovery of something pleasant, valuable, or useful.*

Destiny — *The apparent predetermined and inevitable series of events that happen to somebody.*

Providence — *Wisdom, care, and guidance believed to be provided by God.*

Other similar words — *Fate, chance, luck.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I want to tell you a true story about a hat; more specifically, a Knights Templar Commandery Chapeau. You see, Lydia's father was a long-time member of the Masons and was involved in the Commandery. The Commanders wear an elaborate uniform, a feathery chapeau, and carry a sword strapped to their side. With these trappings, they perform drills and ceremonies. I was never a Mason, so I don't know all of the details, and that's not the point of the story.



When Lydia's father was no longer able to serve in the Commandery, due to health reasons, Lydia ended up with his Commandery equipment. Several years ago, while in Shelbyville, Lydia had a chance encounter with one of the current members of the Commandery and got his telephone number. His name is Randy. Lydia wanted to return her father's equipment to the lodge, and Randy was eager to receive it, especially the hat. The plan was that Lydia would take it to him the next time she made a trip to Shelbyville. Another couple of years went by and the hat was never returned. Each spring, during our spring cleaning, we would encounter the hat. Finally, this spring I started to encourage (badger) Lydia to get Randy's address and mail it to him. She insisted the hat would be taken to Shelbyville and given to him in person the next trip. A trip was planned for mid-June but the timing didn't work out with her sisters; the primary reason for the visit. Again, I insisted, "let's just mail the darn thing!" Finally, the hat was put into the car and taken with us on our recent trip to Indianapolis and Shelbyville.

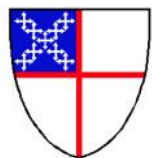
Lydia called Randy to make arrangements to meet up with him and turn over the hat. He was out of town, but he was still eager to get the hat. He called his mother and arranged for us to give the hat to her. Her name is Claudine. Lydia called Claudine to get the address and set up a time to drop off the hat. I plugged the address into my iPhone GPS and it came up on the map close to where Lydia and I used to live. We had driven by her house hundreds of times. Lydia and I arrived at her house and were welcomed inside to sit at the kitchen table to chat. Claudine is in her early 80s, sharp as a tack, and was eager for company.

Randy had told his mother that she probably knew Lydia's father, Glenn, from being associated with the lodge. Claudine said she and her husband had lived in Indianapolis for 20 years, and she did not remember Lydia's father. However, as the conversation continued and family names were evoked, Claudine came to the realization that she and Lydia's mother, Betty Mae (Waltz) had worked together at Camp Atterbury in 1945. I spent the next hour listening to Claudine describe Betty Mae in her younger days as a single, working woman full of vitality. Lydia filled in the gaps of time after Claudine and Betty Mae lost touch. Claudine and Betty Mae had crossed paths again in the early 1980s, when Betty Mae worked as an administrator at a Shelbyville cemetery. Lydia had a beaming smile the whole time her mother was being described.

After this trip down memory lane with Lydia, Claudine turned to me and asked, "so where are you from?" I replied, "St. Paul." She stated that she had relatives in the St. Paul area and we began to compare family names and common associates. Then, I told of how my Sabbatical research, with the help of my nephew, had revealed that the Rutherford family was connected with the Mitchell family from way back in the early 1800s, when they were pioneer neighbors in Kentucky. She stated, "I have Mitchells in my family." Claudine took out a piece of paper and began to write out a rough family history. Halfway down the list, she writes out the name "Polly Ann Mitchell." I exclaimed, "that's it!"; Polly Ann (Rutherford) Mitchell. Claudine and I are related, if very distant. Call it what you will; serendipity, destiny, providence, luck, chance, fate? I turned to Lydia and stated rather reluctantly, "I guess we weren't suppose to mail the hat after all!"

Your Brother in Christ, Allen⁺

Serving Christ In The Community For 160 Years



St. John's Episcopal Church, Mt. Vernon, Indiana

A member of The Southwest Deanery of The Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis; The Episcopal Church in the United States; and the Worldwide Anglican Communion

The Rt. Rev. Catherine M. Waynick, Bishop
The Rev. Allen D. Rutherford, Rector
Mr. Bruce Dingman, Senior Warden
Mr. Barry Cox, Junior Warden
Mrs. Alex Jeffries, Vestry Clerk
Ms. Susan Harrison, Treasurer

Church Address:

602 Mulberry Street
P.O. Box 503
Mt. Vernon, Indiana 47620
(812) 838-5445
(812) 838-4881
mtvstjohns@sbcglobal.net

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8 am — Noon
Robin Price, Secretary

For pastoral emergencies, please call:
The Rev. Allen D. Rutherford, Rector
Home: 812-838-4406
Cell Phone: 812-430-2443
E-mail: rutherford317@sbcglobal.net

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning Service

10:00a.m. Holy Eucharist RITE II

Coffee & Refreshments follows the Eucharist in the Parish Hall

Sunday Morning Nursery Assistance
Available beginning at 9:45a.m.

Weekday Schedule

Morning Prayer, Friday, 8:30a.m.

Mission Statement

The mission of the people of St. John's Episcopal Church, Mt. Vernon, Indiana is to:

Proclaim the love of God and the Gospel of Jesus Christ through prayer, study, and action.

Vision Statement

With God's help,
we commit ourselves to:
Recognize God as the author of all creation

Be a place of welcome and refuge for ourselves and others

Offer weekly worship and Eucharist
Stay grounded in God's Word through Christian education
Pray for our needs and those of others

Lend a helping hand to those in any kind of need or trouble,

and finally to

Maintain thankful hearts for God's many blessings

*Look us up on the web
at www.mvstjohns.org*

*Also become our friend on
Facebook:*

mtvstjohns@yahoo.com



“Thank You”s

Thank You to Beth Dingman for all her help organizing this year's vacation bible school. Our mountain backdrop looked great and the kids enjoyed dressing up as Moses with the Ten Commandments. Thank you also to Diane Stover for leading the kids in the VBS music and helping with crafts. Thank You to the Bells for providing the snacks and to Gail Robb for helping serve and help with crafts. Thank You to all the parents who let us borrow your kids for a VBS afternoon.

Thank You to Bob Webster for organizing this year's swim party at the Country Club. Thank You to everyone that showed up and made it a great evening of swimming and fellowship.

Thank You to Karen Lawson and Sue Webster for their dedication this summer in keeping all our flower gardens cared for and well loved.

Around The Church

There have been a number of construction workers around the church between rain drops during the last couple of months. Barry's Junior Warden "To Do" list is getting a little smaller. Some of the long-standing repairs needing to be done on the north side of the church have been completed. The back door in the prayer garden (hallway door) was replaced, the threshold elevated to hopefully keep flash flood waters out of the building. Repairs were made to the roof over the altar area where periodic leaking was taken place.

The Vestry discussed two proposals for altering and updating the landscaping on the southside of the building. The lowest bidder was chosen and we got what we paid for! After much delay the project was hurriedly done. It doesn't look terrible, but it wasn't exactly what we wanted. Additional modifications will need to be made to get it right.

Comments were made this spring about the lexan on the front church sign looking very yellowed. Seimers has been contacted to replace it in the near future.

Give Barry a call if you see a maintenance issue around the church. 812-483-4319

Treasurer's Report

By the time of our next newsletter we'll be looking at fall. I know all of you are as tired of this hot damp summer as I am. God did not make enough Roundup to keep my weeds under control this year. But time just keeps marching on whether my grass ever gets dry enough to mow before it rains again! If it were dry we'd probably complain about that too. :)

As far as the church finances are concerned, we've had a very calm summer. Not having a disappearing priest and not putting up a giant tent and sound system on the lot across the street has made a big difference this year! We are running right on track with the budget. Our investments are continuing to perform as projected and the pledges and other giving have maintained our income as we have needed.

The one change I want to mention is, during the June Vestry meeting, the vestry voted to give increases in compensation to the employees of St. John's. Fr. Allen was given a 5% increase in the salary portion of his compensation. That change also gave him an increase in his pension which is provided 100% by the church as part of his overall compensation package. The full details of his compensation can be made available upon request. As Sexton, Sara Goad received a 3% increase, which is based on her monthly salary. For secretary, Robin Price received a 2.5% increase which was given in recognition of her extra efforts to quickly learn all the aspects of her new job! Even though her "official" first year is not for a couple of months, the Vestry wanted to reward her for hard work and to get her compensation timing with Fr. Allen and Sara. None of our contractor employees required adjustments at this time.

As always, thank you all for your constant dedication to the financial health of St. John's and all the good that is done throughout our community due to your generosity. God continues to bestow abundant blessings on this parish, please take time to thank Him.

Just a personal note, a heartfelt thank you to all the members of my St. John's family who offered condolences on the passing of my brother. It was greatly appreciated as were all the many cards and wonderful Facebook posts of thoughts and prayers from so many of you. Thank you. He is with Jesus now, and I'll see him again some day.

Susan Harrison, Treasurer

: Reaching Out To Others

FOOD PANTRY August Contribution Canned Fruit

Please bring in cans of fruit and place them in the round bin in the parish hall. Generic versions are acceptable.



August Outreach Tithe Recipients

Children's Learning Center, \$1000
Posey County Pound Puppies, \$250
Wadesville Daycare, \$500
Posey County Young Life, \$250

Samaritan's Purse: Operation Christmas Child



It is about this time each year that we begin requesting items to be purchased for shoeboxes to be assembled in November. This year, we are asking each parishioner to assemble their own completed boxes. It is not too early to be thinking about how many boxes you might be able to make and purchasing items, like school supplies.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:

A Mt. Vernon Habitat build is scheduled to start sometime in August and continue through September. St. John's will be notified by Habitat if we can help out on a Saturday either with the build or providing food for builders. The Spring build was focused on corporate sponsorship and corporate building. The hope is that this upcoming build will shift back to encouraging churches to have more involvement.

St. John's Sweet Shop

2016 River Days Festival

**Friday through Sunday
September 9, 10 & 11**

**Booth
Planning Meeting,
Tuesday, August 2nd
at 6:00PM in the
parish hall**

Over the last several years we have become known for our Episcopade, cotton candy, and homemade fudge and peanut brittle. These will be our staple items to sell again this year. Last year, cooler than normal temperatures helped us sell coffee and hot chocolate.

"BE OPEN ON SUNDAY OR LOSE YOUR BOOTH LOCATION!"

This is the dire warning from the Festival Committee. Last year they downsized our booth space because we refused to be open on Sunday. This year, they will move us to a location off of Water Street if we are not open Sunday. We will consider our options at our August 2nd meeting. If we are open Sunday, an early morning worship service will be held. What we might sell on Sunday, will need to be determined.

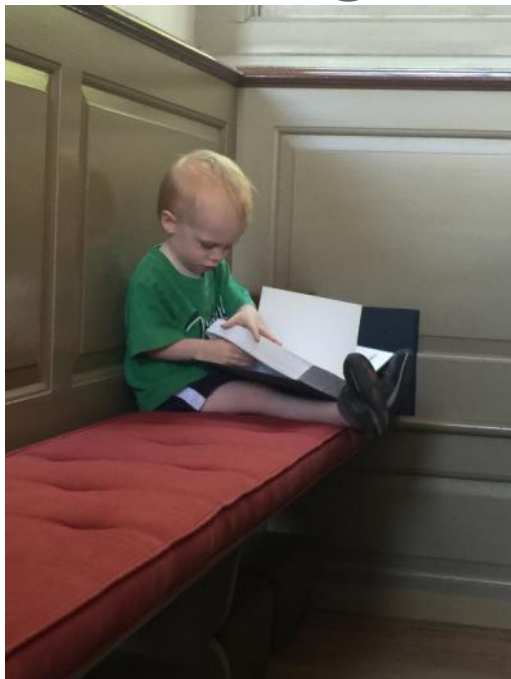
WE NEED ALL THE VOLUNTEER HELP WE CAN GET FOR SET UP, TEAR DOWNS, AND BOOTH SALES.

EVENINGS ARE OUR BIG SELLING TIMES

Friday and Saturday evenings are our big selling times, so we really need maximum help these times.

PROCEEDS

We will once again, split the profit from our sales between the youth group pilgrimage account and our capital projects fund account.



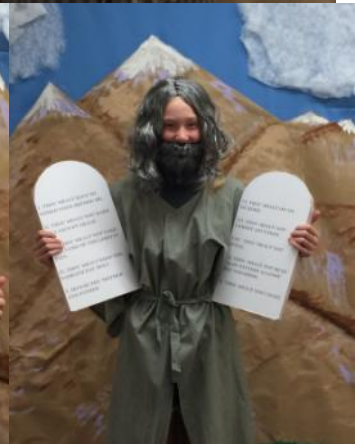
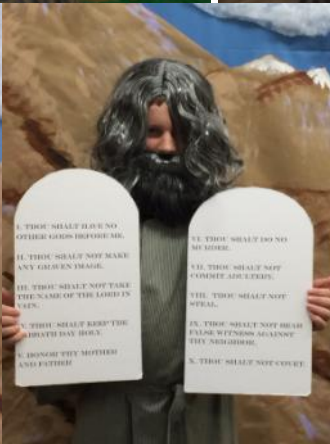
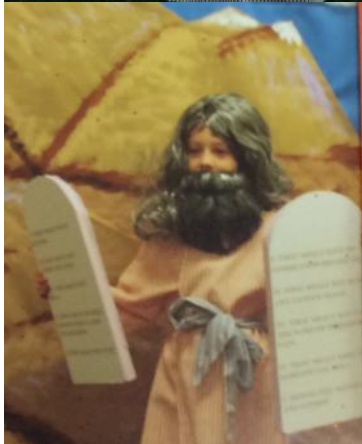
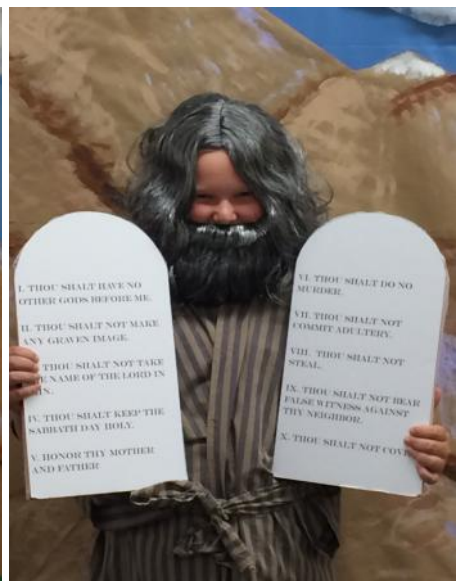
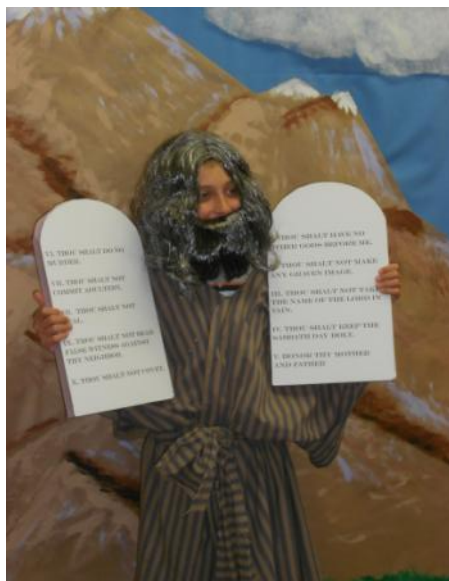
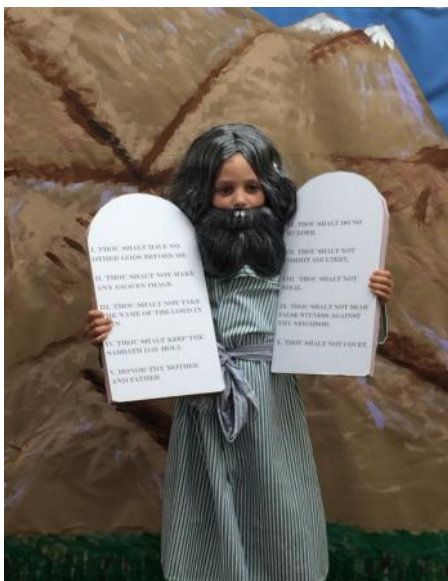
Christian Education Meeting

**Sunday, August 14th
(after morning service)**

Robert Henry Bell and family recently worshipped at Bruton Parish Episcopal Church in Williamsburg, Virginia.

The church was established in 1674, and like many colonial churches, still has pew boxes. Luckily for RHB, the pulpit is extremely elevated so he doesn't have to stand up to see the preacher.

2016 Vacation Bible School



Serving Christ through...: 2016 Vacation Bible School



Serving Christ through...: 2016 Parish Pool Party



WAYCROSS ADVENTURES



2016



The Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows



The Rev. Dr. Grace Burton-Edwards



The Rev. Canon Lance Ousley



The Rev. Dina van Klaveren

BISHOP SEARCH COMMITTEE ANNOUNCES SLATE

Meet the four talented, faithful candidates the Bishop Search Committee has nominated for the Eleventh Bishop of the Diocese of Indianapolis: The Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, The Rev. Dr. Grace Burton-Edwards, The Rev. Canon Lance Ousley, and The Rev. Dina van Klaveren. You'll find candidate biographies, videos, resumes, and information regarding petition nominations and walkabouts at <http://hoosierbishopxi.org/index.php/slate>

There is a process in place for other candidates to be added "by petition", so this group of four may grow in number before the election. The petitioning process replaces the older process of electing candidates "from the floor."

Events & Celebrations

August 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August Events:

- 01 — River Bend Food Pantry, St. John's Volunteer Day
- 02 — St. John's, River Day's booth planning meeting, 6:30p.m. in the parish hall
- 14 — Christian Education meeting after the morning service.
- 15 — River Bend Food Pantry, St. John's Volunteer Day
- 16- (Optional) Mt. Vernon Ministerial Association meeting, TBD.
- 18 — Vestry meeting, 6:00 p.m. in parish hall
- 29 — River Bend Food Pantry, St. John's Volunteer Day

August 10



August Birthdays:

- 06 — Savannah Weatherford
- 12 — Hadley Weatherford
- 16 — Lesa Webster
- 18 — Ann Rains
- 24 — Riley Angel
- 30 — Amanda Rutherford



August Anniversaries:

- 26 — Meb & Cynthia Jackson

Did we list it wrong?; Is your date missing?; let us know.

Recipe from a Sunday School hand-out I received over 30 years ago. Each student filled their name in the blank and called it _____ Treats (Robin's Treats).

- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1/4 powdered sugar
- 1 cup rice krispies cereal
- 1/4 cup honey
- 1/2 cup raisins

Mix ingredients together. Roll into balls and place on to a cookie sheet. Put cookie sheet into the freezer. Clean up dishes. Once frozen (1/2 hour or longer), EAT!!! Makes about 16-20 balls.

I think I need to go make some now.

If you have a recipe to share—please let Robin know and it can be posted here next month.

Thanks

More 2016 Events & Celebrations

Mark these dates on your 2016 calendar

Many listed events are tentative; please continue to check the events listed in each month's newsletter and the Sunday bulletins.

September 2016

- 05 — Labor Day Holiday (church office closed)
- 08 — Clergy Ember Day @ Indy
- 09-11 — Mt. Vernon River Days Festival
- 11 — St. John's will hold an early morning service at the church in order to have our booth open on Sunday
- 15 — Vestry Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 17 — Executive Council meeting @ Waycross
- 18 — Kick-Off Sunday for Sunday School classes and choir; pitch-in lunch following the service
- 19 — St. John's, River Bend Food Pantry day
- 20 — Mt. Vernon Ministerial Association meeting at First Presbyterian Church, 3:00 p.m.
- 21 — Deanery Council Meeting at St. James', Vincennes

October 2016

- 02 — St. Francis Blessing of Animals, 4:00 p.m.
- 03 — St. John's, River Bend Food Pantry day
- 03 — *Journey in Faith*, 6:00 p.m. parish hall
- 09 — Harmonie State Park Worship Service and Picnic
- 11 — Mt. Vernon Ministerial Association meeting
- 13-15 — Meet & Greet with Bishop Candidates, locations & times TDB
- 13 — Vestry Meeting, 6:00 p.m. (tentative)
- 17 — St. John's, River Bend Food Pantry day
- 17-24 — Father Allen to CREDO conference in North Carolina
- 27-29 — Diocesan Convention in Indy, Election of new bishop
- 31 — Halloween

November 2016

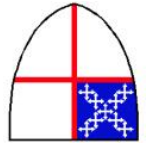
- 01 — All Saints' Day
- 02 — Commemoration of All Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)
- 04-05 — Executive Council Overnight Retreat @ Waycross

- 05 — Women's Guild Rummage Sale
- 05 — *Journey in Faith*, Parish Hall 6:00 p.m.
- 06 — **DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS**
- 06 — **All Saints' Sunday**
- 06 — First Episcopal Fund For Human Need (EFHN) Ingathering Sunday
- 07 — St. John's, MVMA Food Pantry volunteer day
- 07 — *Journey in Faith*, Parish Hall 6:00 p.m.
- 11 — Veteran's Day
- 13 — Second EFHN Ingathering Sunday
- 13 — *Operation Christmas Child*, filling of shoeboxes after the service
- 15 — St. John's, MVMA Food Pantry volunteer day
- 17 — Vestry Meeting, 6:00 p.m. in parish hall
- 20 — Christ The King Sunday, The Last Sunday of Pentecost
- 21 — St. John's River Bend Food Pantry volunteer day
- 24 — *Thanksgiving Day*—Church office closed.
- 25 — Church office closed.
- 27 — First Sunday of Advent/Father Allen at Solarbron for afternoon worship

December 2016

- 04 — St. Nicholas visitation to St. John's
- 05 — St. John's, River Bend Food Pantry volunteer day
- 05 — *Journey in Faith*, Parish Hall 6:00 p.m.
- 11 — Rose Sunday
- 13 — Christmas Present Ingathering
- 15 — Vestry Meeting, 6:00 p.m. in parish hall
- 17 — Greening of the church, 8:30 a.m. and pageant practice, 10:00 a.m.
- 18 — Last Sunday of Advent
- 19 — St. John's, River Bend Food Pantry volunteer day
- 23 or 24 — **Greening of the church.**
- 24 — Church office closed.
- 24 — *Christmas Eve*, SPECIAL 4:00 p.m. afternoon service with Christmas Pageant
- 25 — *Christmas Day*, 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist service (church office closed)

St. John's Episcopal Church
602 Mulberry Street
P.O. Box 503
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620



W
A
Y
C
R
O
S
S