

THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
welcomes you



St. John's Spirit

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November 2016

We are committed to God, to our church, and to each other as a family in Christ, providing and cherishing spiritual growth and living our faith in the community.

Light a Candle. Pray for our Nation



Join us on **Monday, November 7th** between 5p and 7p (come and go as best fits your schedule). Light a candle and pray for our nation on the eve of the election. This has been a very divisive election season. We want to begin to heal by offering a time and space for reflection and prayer. **All are welcome**

**The church
has left
the building.**



What is Outreach: Easy question; simple answer: to help others. I looked it up in a dictionary and it means (1) to reach out and (2) to surpass in reach. So far, so good but the answer had to have more meaning than that, didn't it?

What does St. John's say? Reach out to the community near and far and it is integral to who God is calling each of us to be in response to God's love for us. We listed a number of Outreach programs that our members are involved in earlier this year (see the recap in earlier Newsletters this year). Each of those offers and opportunity for St. John's to be visible in the wider world sharing the love of God with our neighbor and all in need.

What does The Episcopal Church (TEC) say? TEC has a Mission Statement that lists Five Marks of Mission. The mission of the church is the Mission of Christ:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers.
3. To respond to human needs by loving service.
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation.
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Number 3: to respond to human needs by loving service is a call to Outreach. St. John's has about 60-70 Outreach Ministries. Some include 15-20 people and some are a single person. The number of people involved in a ministry has nothing to do with its importance. I feel now that the purpose of our Outreach is our way of expressing our love of Jesus through responding to human needs by loving service.

Are we doing those things? I don't feel qualified to make that call. Many things we do very well; some not so well. Do we have too many Outreach Ministries? Could we consolidate or refocus some of them? It is my feeling that any Outreach Ministry that meets the St. John's Mission Statement (see the top of the Newsletter) is a good Outreach Ministry. *—Bud Arnold, Chair*



Dear Saint John's Family, Life continues on apace in New Haven as I continue to adjust to my new surroundings and my new work. I'd like to update you on the work I'm doing every day at IRIS, to give a sense of what the ministry of the Episcopal Service Corps looks like at the individual level.

Most days, I see two main parts of IRIS: case management and the employment team. Case management is the heart of refugee resettlement, and is intensely involved with refugee families during their first 90 days in the US. I work for the two case managers coordinating the Cosponsor program, who liaise with the 30 churches and community groups around the state of Connecticut that are sponsoring families. I serve as a point of contact between these groups and IRIS, helping them get case files updated and paperwork completed, sometimes minute tasks that help my bosses maintain the bigger picture. It is a lot of deskwork, but it has allowed me to see the entire scope of the ministry that IRIS provides in New Haven and beyond, as I see all the moving parts that come together to get a family from a perilous situation abroad to a new home here in New England. The bureaucracy is frustrating at times, but is a necessary burden.

In the afternoons I move to the Education and Employment office, where my tasks are more varied and often get me outside the office. I help clients with resumes and job applications, assist the bike giveaway program (25 dollars gets a client a bike, helmet, light, and lock), register donated cars at the DMV, and have begun to plan the annual Thanksgiving party for clients, staff, and volunteers. This week I have been working with two high school sophomores to find after-school jobs.

My work at IRIS challenges me every day to see the world with the eyes of displaced people, people whose stories of resiliency and survival make my cross-country move to New Haven seem like a weekend vacation. Our clients are not victims, they are the survivors, the strong, the lucky few who have escaped conflict, endured a 24-month vetting process, and moved to the land of opportunity to make a new life. I am deeply intrigued to see how God will continue to work through this ministry to make the words of Jesus ring more truly: "I was a stranger and you welcomed me." *In Christ, Sam*

Our fall "Day of Change" is Sunday, **November 13th** – our children are hoping you will be generous so that we can offer the change gathered to a group near and dear to their hearts and help our community. Look for the bucket in the aisle and drop your



loose change in the bucket when you come forward for Communion on November 13th!



November is the time when the retiring members of the Vestry serve as a nominating committee. Their charge is to seek 3 persons who are willing to stand for election to the Vestry. The election is for a 3 year term.

Here are the expectations of Vestry members:

- I have responded to the call of my baptism to be a servant of Christ.
- I rarely miss weekly worship.
- I pledge and give of my financial resources to St. John's.
- I believe that prayer helps me to discern God's will for my life and for St. John's, including my role as a member of the Vestry.
- I am welcoming to those who are new and to those who have been at St. John's. This includes those with whom I hold differing positions.
- I work with the clergy, staff and other leaders to form an environment of trust and loyalty.
- I am willing to take a position on issues and to listen to the position of others who may hold differing positions, without name-calling or disparaging remarks.
- I understand that as a member of the Vestry, my ministry includes assisting others in the parish.
- I am on the look-out for others who might become leaders and to help others find ways to express their ministry as children of God.
- I realize that once my term as a member of the Vestry is concluded, I am called to continue to be present and to be a leader, although in a different role.
- I agree to be a liaison to a ministry group and report to Vestry regularly

Time commitments:

Monthly – Vestry meeting. One hour approximately. Vestry may choose, depending upon the health of the parish and matters to come before the Vestry, not to meet 1-2 times during the year (so rather than 12 meetings, it may be 10-11 meetings). If necessary, meetings may go longer than one hour if all agree. This has not been the norm.

Budget Hearings – it is important for Vestry members to attend at least one Budget Hearing meeting, typically held a week/two prior to the Annual Meeting. This enables Vestry members to make informed decisions when the vote is taken on the Budget at the January Vestry Meeting. Estimated time: 1 hour.

Vestry Retreat or Vestry College – Generally the Vestry has alternated between a Vestry Retreat of one day in or near Crawfordsville and the Vestry College, held at Waycross beginning on Friday night and ending Saturday afternoon. This enables the Vestry to review high-level goals & to get to know other members of the Vestry better.

Annual Meeting – it is very important for members of the Vestry to be present at the Parish Annual Meeting. Past practice has been to have one worship service at 9a followed by a pitch-in and the meeting. This is generally the last Sunday of January.

Liaison relationship – the amount of time depends upon which ministry group you liaise with and the depth of your involvement with that ministry group. At this time, most ministry groups meet at most quarterly and some annually and some on an as-needed basis.

Care for our entrances – it has become the practice for members of the Vestry to select one of our 7 entrances and to ensure that it remains clear of leaves and debris (so we don't get plugged up drains and water inside the building). Time depends upon the entrance selected and how much traffic and leaves are adjacent to that entrance.

Safeguarding God's People – all Vestry members are required to be current in their "Safeguarding God's People" curriculum. The required modules are all available online and can be taken at your convenience. They can be taken one after the other in one sitting or one at a time, as best fits your schedule. Meribeth Kussmaul is the Parish Safeguarding Administrator. Once you complete a module, you do not have to re-take it for 3 years. Each module takes about 15-20 minutes to complete.

Periodic events – from time to time, there may be Diocesan or other Parish events at which Vestry members are strongly encouraged to attend. E.g. there may be events relating to the selection of the next Bishop at which Vestry members would be strongly encouraged to attend.

If you are a Warden:

Pre-Convention Deanery Meeting – this meeting, which occurs once a year in late September or early October includes the Wardens and the Diocesan Convention Delegates. At the meeting, the proposed resolutions and budget are discussed. There may also be some Deanery elections (does not occur each year). Recently, the meetings have been held at St. Andrew's, Greencastle. In 2015, the meeting lasted about 2 hours (not including travel to/from Greencastle).

Note: The Rector's Warden is chosen by the priest. The People's Warden is chosen by the Vestry. More information on the responsibilities of the Wardens is available from Rev. Jan. This is done at the Vestry meeting which follows the Annual Meeting. If you are willing and interested in serving as a member of the Vestry, please contact Ellen Ball, Mark Kussmaul or Harry Siamas, the nominating committee.



Thank you to everyone who participated in our "Survey Monkey". The Vestry continued reviewing those responses at its October meeting (See the October Newsletter or the Information on the Bulletin Board in Whitlock Hall for prior response to survey comments).

Attracting younger people and young families: This concern is one that needs serious and deep reflection and discernment. What can and what does St. John's offer to anyone, but especially to younger people and young families that can make a difference in their choosing to worship with us and to be part of our faith tradition, both inside and outside the walls? If you have any suggestions for ways in which we might reach out to the unchurched please speak to a Vestry member. If you have any suggestions for ways in which we can be the Sunday morning choice for those who have so many competing demands upon their time, please speak up!

To take advantage for 2016, donors need to arrange for a direct transfer from their IRA to an eligible charity to take place by December 31, 2016. Talk with your tax adviser!



For November, we celebrate our ministry of St. Martha's (Hospitality) Life. You might not think of St. Martha's as a ministry but it is! This group ensures we have coffee and snacks on Sunday mornings and facilitates receptions for funerals or parish events that are held at St. John's (e.g. the Annual Meeting and Easter pitch-ins). If you are interested in helping, please contact Meegan Reidy, chair.

Reminder! Our Policies, Vestry Minutes, information about Sacraments and other important information can be found on our website: www.stjohnscville.org or on our bulletin boards.

Sermons are posted on our website, too.



Rev. Jan is available by cell phone (765-225-8554) or email (janet.oller@gmail.com). Office hours are by appointment. Check the calendar posted on the office door for the most current schedule. She generally does not read or respond to emails or voice messages on her days off or her Sabbath.

	Lector	LEM	Crucifer	Acolyte	Greeters	Altar Guild	Counters	Flowers	LEVs	Coffee Host
Nov. 6										
8a	M Kussmaul	M Kussmaul		P Swanson						
10:30	B Easterling	K Roberts & J Burd	R Pickering	CJ Charles	Hudsons	C Meyer & J Tussey	E Fain & W Olander	Burd	Pickerings	
Nov 13										
8a	A Ashbaugh	A Ashbaugh		C Fields						
10:30a	S Fain	J & B Culley	J Burd		J Binder & B Easterling	B Culley & M Reidy	J Gary & T Twarek	Oller	D Booher & H Hudson	
Nov 20										
8a	K Haffner	S Charles		K Haffner						
10:30a	C Meyer	A Ashbaugh & R Pickering	S Hildebrand	P Lohorn	C Smith & J Gallagher	S Evans & J Gallagher	S Albrecht & J Gary	Evans	D Booher & H Hudson	
Nov. 27 <i>Lessons & Carols- Advent I</i>										
8a	P Swanson R Pickering	P Swanson		T Titus						
10:30a	J Hartnett, N Bennett, W Olander	S Charles & M Hudson	W Turner	B Turner	Olanders	J Yerkes & T Lawrence	A White & J Roberts	Advent	S Fain & K Gary	

Meals on Wheels: Nov 3- Carole Meyer & Betty Culley; Nov. 10- Christopher Short & Tom Twarek; Nov. 17-Sam & Susie Hildebrand; Nov. 24-Thanksgiving (No deliveries)

*If you are not able to serve as noted, please arrange for a substitute **and** let the office know ASAP. Thank you!*

~ November 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7p-Comm Chorus (WH) 9:25a-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep	2 7:30a-Centering Prayer 12-Flower Lovers (WH) 4p-Bible Study (WH)	3 7p-Choir 6p-Girl Scouts (WH) Rector's Sabbath	4	5 EWM (WH) – all day (Sue Fain contact) LEV Training @ St. Albans
6 Daylight Saving Time Ends: Day of Change 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15-Formation 2p-EFM	7 5-7p:“Light a Candle. Pray for the Nation” (Nave) 12-League of Women Voters (WH)	8 Election Day 9:25a-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	9 7:30a-Centering Prayer 12-Clergy Lunch/Creekside 4p- Bible Study (WH)	10 7p-Choir 6p-Girl Scouts (SSchool) 6p-YSB (WH) Rector's Sabbath	11 Veterans' Day-Office Closed	12 Oller Day Off
13 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15-Formation 2p-EFM	14 7p-Living well until you die (WH)	15 9:25a-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	16 7:30a-Centering Prayer 4p-Bible Study (WH) 7p-Vestry	17 7p-Choir 6p-Girl Scout (SSchool) 6p-League of Women Voter's (WH) Rector's Sabbath	18 Oller Day Off	19 8:30a-Divorce Recovery Workshop (library)
20 8 & 10:30a-HE: Lessons & Carols 9:15-Formation 2p-EFM	21 Oller Day Off	22 9:25a-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	23 7:30a-Centering Prayer 4p-Bible Study (WH)	24 Thanksgiving Day- office closed	25 Office Closed	26 Rector's Sabbath
27 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15-Formation 2p-EFM	28 Oller Day Off	29 9:25a-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	30 7:30a-Centering Prayer 4p-Bible Study (WH)	Notes: Rev. Jan is available by cell phone: 765-225-8554 and email: janet.oller@gmail.com. Office hours by appointment.		