

~ **St. John's Church** ~
Weekly News
October 25, 2023

Readings for Sunday, Oct. 22, 2023

Leviticus 19:15-18

Psalm 1

Matthew 22:34-36

Loose Plate Offering
General Fund

Sunday Morning Prayer Service

Scottie Emery-Ginn will lead the Morning Prayer Service.

All Soul's Day

Dear Friends,

There has been some questioning about the practice of All Souls' Day. So here you go!

The church in her wisdom has smushed together All Saints' Day and All Souls' day which in the distant past followed each other, November 1st & 2nd and currently suggests that they be honored on the Sunday we celebrate All Saints' Day. In this way we can acknowledge both the saints of the church and the saints known to each of us.

I've been interested to see the growing "celebration" of Halloween in our culture which sort of pays homage to "the dead" or scary skeletons, ghosts, witches and goblins. By contrast the church honors the "dearly departed" by naming those whom we have loved and have gone before us to become one with the saints in light or the 'Communion of Saints' as we say in our creed each week.

So, I am inviting you to write out the names of those you have loved who have died and hand them into Nancy by November 1st. I shall then read out all our saints' names at the beginning of the Eucharistic prayer on Sunday, Nov. 5th. I think you will find it deeply touching and meaningful.

I do miss seeing you, 3 weeks makes it too long! Fortunately, there are only a couple of 5 Sunday months each year!

Endless blessings,

Diane+ (The Very Rev.)
Interim-priest-in-Charge

Prayer List

At St. John's we welcome the opportunity to pray for those who are experiencing a difficult time in their lives. We keep each of you in our minds, our thoughts and our hearts each day. In order to maintain an up-to-date prayer list we need to know who is serving as the advocate for each person. To this end, we are publishing the most current information that we have below. If the information is incorrect or the person no longer needs to be on the prayer list please contact Bobbi Perez at 518-537-1015.

[Scottie Emery-Ginn](#)

Josua, Steven, Tom, Karen

[Betsy Tisdale](#)

Lillian, Chris, Rae

[David Tisdale](#)

Larry

Sylvia Tospann

Chris

Kalora Finucane

Olivia

Etta Moredock

Cheryl

Carole Harsh

Noa

Eve Ticknor

Abra, Mike, Beverly

Rinda Foster

Judy, Thomas

Bruce Stephan

Stanley, Trish

Jon McBride

Geraldine, Nancy, Arthur

Kathy Schoolcraft

Gerry

Diana Lawrence

Geoffrey

Lois Coonrod

John

Bobbi Perez

Denzel

Darcey Hale

Hanna

Thank you for helping us to keep friends and family in our prayers and for helping us to keep our records current.

Prayers for Those in any Kind of Need or Distress

We pray especially for: John, Josua, Denzel, Hanna, Geoffrey, Arthur, Geraldine, Nancy, Gerry, Stanley, Trish, Judy, Thomas, Abra. Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Larry Steven, Tom and Karen

Prayer for the Search

Dear Lord, grant us your wisdom and guidance as we embark upon our search process. Help us to humbly discern and accomplish your will for St.

John's. We know this will be a challenging journey for all of us, but we pray that it will strengthen our faith and our respect and love for each other. Help us to share more deeply our faith in you as we learn to listen to each other with open hearts and minds and to hear your voice in all that we say and do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Vestry Meeting Highlights September 21, 2023

- The meeting commenced with a prayer for the search for a new rector.
- A priest will lead the Sunday services on the first three Sundays each month. Services on the fourth, and fifth Sunday if there is one, will be lay led Morning Prayer.
- Interim Priest-in Charge Diane Nancekivell will conduct a Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, Oct 8th in observance of St. Francis Day.
- Diane will initiate a commissioning of various programs, groups and committees, which is an important ritual and tradition in the Episcopal Church, and she plans to initiate this at St. John's. The Vestry will be the first group to be initiated.
- Diane will be putting together a pastoral care group whose members will reach out to those who are ill or are experiencing any distress in their lives.
- The Summer Soiree netted \$6,700. \$4,200 be allocated to ReNew and \$2,500 to the food shelves.
- The vestry formally expressed its gratitude to Bruce Stephan for his leadership of this endeavor as well as all of the volunteers who actively engaged in making the Summer Soiree a great success.
- A vestry group will explore possible uses for the Rectory while it is not occupied by a rector.
- The Vestry will conduct a study of the history of the Columbarium, its current policies and procedures, and any plans for the future.





News from AFRI

On Sunday evening, Oct. 22nd, AFRI held its bimonthly Global PotLuck supper featuring pumpkin carving. Five Latin American and two African countries were represented among the 29 persons attending. This included Racheal and Naomi from the Republic of Congo who were sponsored by the Welcome Corps from the Keene Valley Congregational Church.

Next month, Dec.3rd, we hope to have some winter activities before the potluck supper at 5. This Sunday suggestions regarding how to actually enjoy getting out into the cold weather were made. Many former warm climate inhabitants were skeptical that this could be possible. However AFRI members in general promised to do their best to inspire a love of the Adirondacks in all seasons in our new residents from warmer climes.



Welcome Core

Last Thursday, Oct. 10th, our organizing committee invited St. John's

Last Thursday, Oct. 19th, our investigative committee received St. John's Vestry's blessing to participate in the U.S. Department of State's Welcome Corps. Welcome Corps is "administered by a consortium led by the Community Sponsorship Hub with funds provided by the U.S. government."

Parker Newburn is our assigned "Mobilizing Manager" from Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) and I volunteered to be the official Sponsor Group Coordinator. Members of our committee are: Bob and Carole Harsh, Dick Perez, Pat Ingram, Steve Rucker, Bill Tribou, Kevin O'Neill and Heather Maxey. Bill, Kevin and Heather will be advising us as their time permits but we all will need background checks this week to continue the process.

Parker said it was possible for us to sponsor two Spanish speaking adults as we have a number of Spanish speakers in our community, among whom is Steve Rucker, as well as members of AFRI's steering committee and many Latin Americans living relatively close by.

We have to raise \$2,375.00 per refugee. Each refugee has already been vetted by the State Department. As of last Sunday, we are halfway there. I will be sending regular updates on our progress through the Weekly News and will have handouts available at the back of the church next Sunday. Please consider going online to welcomecorps.org for further reading.

To quote St. Francis, "For what else are God's servants but His minstrels, whose work it is to lift up people's hearts...."

Thank you.
Bobbi Perez

Veteran's Day Dinner Volunteers Needed **Friday, Nov. 10th**

The churches in our area show your appreciation of the thousands of veterans who served their country in a variety of ways by offering them, and their families, a delicious dinner in their honor. We need volunteers who can help with preparing the food in the morning, serving the dinners and cleaning up after the dinner. If you can help please contact Dick Perez 802-233-6332. Thank you!

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday Contemporary Bible Study (Zoom) 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Tuesday Community Potluck Supper 6 PM

Wednesday Meditation (Zoom/In Person) 5 PM

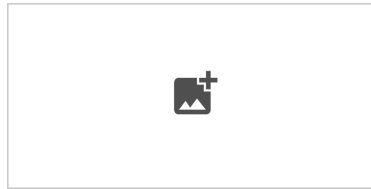
Thursday Morning Prayer (Zoom) 10 AM

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 AM (Zoom/in person)

Sunday AA Meeting (Zoom/In Person) 7 PM

Your Vestry

Scottie Emery-Ginn and Bill Tribou (Wardens)
Louise Baietto, Bruce Hale, Diana Lawrence, Jon McBride
Bruce Stephan, and Julie Wever (Members)
Darcey Hale (Clerk)
Antonia Bullard (Treasurer)



St. John's Episcopal Church | 4 Church Street, Essex, NY 12936



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