



ST. JOHN'S

E P I S C O P A L C H U R C H

May - June 2020

THE GOOD NEWS

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

SUSPENDED — Holy Eucharist, Rite I

SUSPENDED — Adult Christian Education

LIVE STREAM ONLY - 10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II • Visit StJohnsMLB.org

SUSPENDED — Converge (Youth Ministry)
Holy Apostles', 505 Grant Ave.,
Satellite Beach

MONDAY

SUSPENDED — Bible Study

SUSPENDED — A.A. (Big Book Study)

TUESDAY

SUSPENDED — Bible Study
at Anneke Bertsch's home

SUSPENDED — Cub Scouts

ONLINE ONLY — Bible Study in Fr. Eric's
Office - Email for details,
Office@StJohnsMLB.org

WEDNESDAY

SUSPENDED — Choir Practice in Sanctuary

ONLINE ONLY — Bible Study at Turner's
Email for details, Office@StJohnsMLB.org

FRIDAY

ONLINE ONLY — TGIF
Email for details, Office@StJohnsMLB.org

A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

The disciples were on lockdown after Jesus' crucifixion and, we have to admit, for obvious reasons. They were in a locked upper room and only went out for the bare necessities. Of course, they didn't have TV, internet, etc. to keep them amused. They just had one another.

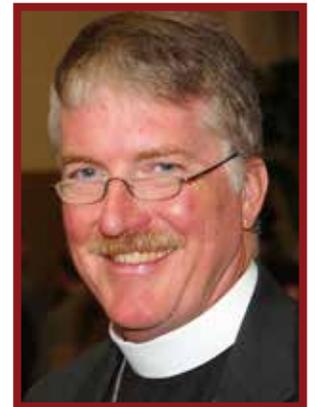
Then came the word that Jesus had been raised from the dead. Fake news? Hoax? Delusion?

They didn't know until Jesus actually came and appeared to them. You might think (hope?) that alone would be enough to thrust them confidently into public again. Alas, it was not. In their defense, Jesus did tell them to wait until they were "clothed with power from on high." But it seems that every time Jesus appeared to them He began with "Peace be with you."

The term Jesus uses is not simply the equivalent of "calm down" but is actually closer to "all is well." It is more of a statement than a command, and as such is a reminder to recognize the peace that God has already provided us more than a command to create this peace yourself.

While the anxiety we are experiencing now is different than that of the disciples, we have had our lives and habits disrupted and we look to the future with an uncertainty most of us have not experienced in our lifetimes. So what does this peace that Jesus promises look like?

As with the disciples, each of us will experience it a bit differently. Some fear death in this pandemic. Some wonder if they will be able to support their families. Some don't know if they can live up to the new demands of homeschooling children, family relationships that have changed, work lost or changed and so on.



Continued on Page 2...

The peace Jesus promises is not a peace that comes in knowing what will come. It is not the temporal peace of knowing everything will work out. It is the peace that whatever happens in our circumstances, we are Jesus', and he will lose none of what the Father has entrusted to him. It is a peace not dependent on our knowledge, skill or wit but on choosing confidence in Jesus.

But here's the tricky part. It doesn't mean that we sit back and wait for God to fix it or bring us home. It means that we pick ourselves up and do what we can. I remember a colleague having a poster that read, "Pray as if everything depends on God. Work as if everything depends on you." And Jesus' peace can take the fear and anxiety out of the work by reminding us that we are His and the results are His. Either way, we are secure!

Whatever comes out of this, I pray that we will all find a little more clearly what Jesus' peace means in our lives!

In Christ,
Fr. Eric Turner • Rector

Rector's Summer Schedule & Vacation

The current pandemic has thrown everyone's summer schedule into uncertainty. It is not known at this time whether Fr. Eric and Charlene will be traveling to Uganda with a Solar Light for Africa mission team and vacation plans are also up in the air, not knowing what travel restrictions might be in place or the willingness of people to travel. The parish will be updated as the picture gets clearer.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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Bishop Gregory O. Brewer

Rector - Fr. Eric Turner

Eric@stjohnsmlb.org • Cell: 321.615.0205

Priest Associate - Fr. Terry Highland

[redeemcec@gmail.com](mailto:redemcec@gmail.com) • Cell: 321.831.2587

Deacon Elizabeth Murray

yarrumea@gmail.com • Cell: 321.777.0168



"Good News" July - August 2020 Schedule & Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of "The Good News" (July – August, 2020) will be Tuesday, June 9. Please email (preferred) your submissions to office@stjohnsmlb.org or get them to the church office by June 9, 2020.

Loaning of Church Items

If you would like to borrow tables, chairs, cribs, linens etc. please speak with Fr. Eric or Kathy Oas, Jr. Warden, first as there might be an event on the schedule where these items are needed. And, of course, we need to keep track of the church's property. Please contact Kathy at kmoas40@gmail.com, Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org, or call the church office at 321-254-3365.

Nursery

We have re-opened St. John's Nursery for Sunday mornings, but could still use a few more volunteers. This is generally a once a month commitment. Please speak with Deacon Elizabeth (321-777-0168) if you are willing to help in this important ministry!

SUSPENDED UNTIL IN PERSON WORSHIP CAN BEGIN AGAIN

Church Calendar

Since so many church functions have been suspended for the pandemic and we do not know what the re-opening might look like, we are not publishing a calendar in this issue as it will surely change, probably several times. We will provide updates as the situation develops.



Converge: Our Joint Youth Ministry

Two Episcopal Churches in the area have teamed up for ministry with middle and high school students: Holy Apostles, Satellite Beach and St. John's now have a joint youth ministry called "Converge" and meets:

**SUSPENDED DURING
LOCKDOWN**



Men of St. John's - ONLINE ONLY

TGIF, our men's breakfast and Bible study usually gathers every Friday, 8 a.m. at the Old Village Restaurant, 1180 Aurora Rd. (just west of Route 1). We are now gathering online and studying the first epistle of Peter.

Email office@stjohnsmib.org for log in information.

Seaside Stitchers

now meets at St. John's, but are suspended for the duration of the lockdown. Church members are welcome to join, and several have! The schedule varies, so please contact Shirley Muzzy (321-254-2206 or shirleymuzzy@aol.com).

Outreach Focus - May



For the month of May, the Outreach offering has been designated to go to the Children's Hunger Project. Normally, Children's Hunger Project provides prepackaged, ready to eat food for a weekend each Friday in children's backpacks across Brevard County Schools, at the discretion of the teachers. As schools are not in session now, they have had to find a variety of new and creative ways to get this much needed food assistance out to the children so they are being as creative and flexible as possible.

Visit thechildrenshungerproject.org to learn more. Anything clearly marked for outreach in the month of May will go directly to Children's Hunger Project.

Outreach Focus - June

For the month of June, the Outreach offering has been designated to go Daily Bread. Daily Bread is a ministry well known to the people of St. John's as we already provide teams to work two days per month (see announcement elsewhere). But Daily Bread provides so much more in services to the homeless and needy of our community. These funds go to support the entire operation. Visit dailybreadinc.org to learn more. Anything clearly marked for outreach for the month of June will go to Daily Bread.



Short Term Mission Opportunity

Have you had an itch from God to be part of a short term mission work?

Perhaps you know someone who might want to do something truly adventurous? You can refer them to Charlene Turner (321-615-0206, charlene@solarlightforafrica.org) or sent them to the SLA website at solarlightforafrica.org to learn more. An open, multi-generational trip is planned for July 1 – 15.



KEEPING UP WITH ST. JOHNS ONLINE



ST. JOHNS WEB

StJohnsMLB.org

You will find a variety of information there including schedules, the church calendar, archives of the "Good News", Sunday Ministry schedules, the latest eNews and much more. Poke around!

FACEBOOK

If you are on Facebook, you can also search "St. John's Episcopal Church" and like the page. Then you will get updates in your newsfeed, which you can respond to, or share with your friends.

ST. JOHNS CHAT

is an email "list" that allows you to keep up with the latest news at St. John's, prayer list updates, etc. You can also share things with others at St. John's. To subscribe, please just send your email address to Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org.

WEEKLY ENEWS

is a weekly email newsletter giving information on upcoming activities, what will be happening on Sunday, and other things. It generally includes a reflection from Fr. Eric on the lessons for the coming Sunday along with links and other information. This comes out every Thursday afternoon at 4 p.m. To subscribe, please send your email address to Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org.



We have 2 Daily Bread teams! They are open during this time of lockdown serving carry out only, so volunteers are still needed to prepare and distribute the meals. Those who are not in a high risk group and are comfortable in such a role are encouraged to continue to volunteer.

Your help is greatly appreciated!

THIRD SUNDAY

10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Contact Doug Ludwig
321.243.3686 • Ludwig.Murray@att.net

Duty Day for May:
Sunday, May 17

Duty Day for June:
Sunday, June 21

FOURTH THURSDAY

10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. • Contact Ian Johnson
321.674.0932 • Johnsoni051075@gmail.com

Duty Day for May:
Thursday, May 28

Duty Day for June:
Thursday, June 25



Daughters of the King

The St. John's Chapter of the DOK has suspended meetings during the lockdown and will resume when we are able to resume in-person worship and meetings. At that time, the studies for new members will resume and others will be welcome. DOK continues to take the call to prayer seriously. You may send your prayer requests to Sarah Kendall at 537sarah@gmail.com or 702-203-6093. Please be aware that prayer requests to the DOK are only shared with the members of the DOK. They will not be shared with the clergy or put on the church prayer list unless specifically requested.



Learning our Liturgy

A new feature of our Sunday bulletin is "Learning Our Liturgy," a short reflection by Fr. Eric on some aspect of our worship service. This, too, will return when we are back to in-person worship. If there are particular topics you would like to see covered, please suggest them to Fr. Eric by sending an email to eric@stjohnsmlb.org.

Sunday Ministries Schedule

For the time being, we will not be developing or publishing a calendar or Sunday Ministries schedule. When we return to in-person worship we will publish a new Sunday Ministries Schedule.



Thank you for your Food Donations!

We collect non-perishable food for a local food pantry. This need continues during this pandemic and you can still drop off your food donations. You can bring them to the 5 p.m. Drive-In service, or drop them by the church during the week. We will pick them up and get them delivered. Bob Stitzel has been faithfully delivering the food and the folks from the Pantry write: "Dear Bob and all the wonderful ladies (sic) at the church that are so faithful to us at the Food Pantry: Thank you so much! It always helps and seems to come just when we need it. God bless the servants of the Lord! We appreciate you!"

Jan McCarthy
Director

COVID-19 Changes Family Promise

The Coronavirus pandemic has changed just about every aspect of our lives and Family Promise is not immune. All hostings are now on hold until further notice and when resumed we don't know what form our hostings will look like. Clearly, how we host will change. For now it appears our May 31 – June 6 hosting will not happen although never say never so we need to be prepared.

The Family Promise mantra is "Semper Gumby" – ALWAYS BE FLEXIBLE – and that is the approach our team must take.



Now is a time when many families desperately need our help. With Family Promise suspended indefinitely, let's come together and find ways to help. There are many opportunities, not just at St. John's, but throughout our community.

During this season, Family Promise has doubled down on their efforts in their program to help families avoid homelessness and as well as to help their client families who have moved into housing to sustain that housing in very trying circumstances.

Before COVID-19, we hosted two families the first week in March including a family of three; a single mom, daughter 11, and son 9. We are delighted to report they have successfully moved into housing. The other family of five, who were new to Family Promise, unfortunately opted out of the program after just three days. We were very sorry to see them leave and wish them every blessing.

We have another Family Promise success testimony from our own Katie Wilson who writes:

Picking up groceries at Walmart, the gentleman in the parking spot next to me and I exchanged pleasantries through our masks. Referring to the St. John's sign in my car window, he asked if this was the church on Young Street. The gentleman was David - a past guest, along with his daughter, Ajaray, at St. John's during a Family Promise of Brevard hosting! He and his daughter are doing great and he shared how much the FPOB program, the people he met at all the participating churches, and particularly St. John's meant to him and his daughter. You can see his testimonial on the FPOB website (familypromiseofbrevard.org)."

Our Family Promise Coordinator, Ben Kendall, is keeping abreast of the changes and will keep our team advised. We have a never ending need for volunteers. If you are not a volunteer and would like to help, please contact Ben Kendall or Lee Steininger at the contacts below.

Ben Kendall

832-229-0142

ben.kendall@gmail.com

Lee Steininger

321-773-7242

leestein645@aol.com

Vestry Notes

The February vestry meeting was re-scheduled to the fourth Thursday of the month and was, therefore, too late to be included in the last newsletter, so the notes from that meeting are included here.

The February meeting was called to order on Feb. 27. Steve Bradley presented the report for the month ending 1/31/20. Revenues for the month were \$14,502 against a budget of \$15,000 – lower than budget by \$498. Expenses for the month, \$17,632, were less than budget by \$168. The month ended with a deficit of \$3,130 (revenues to expenses). The budget for the month predicted a deficit of \$2,800. 2020 Outreach to date was \$822 to Clergy Discretionary Fund.

Phone system replacement is moving ahead. Alfrey has been contracted to replace the roof over the office block. We are awaiting scheduling.

The March meeting was called to order via teleconference on March 24 at 7 p.m., delayed one week due to coronavirus restrictions. Steve Bradley presented the finance report for the month ending February 29, 2020. Revenues for the month were \$18,341 against a budget of \$18,250 – slightly higher than budget by \$91. Expenses for the month, \$17,602, were less than budget by \$500. The month ended with a surplus of \$739 (revenues to expenses) and the year to date deficit was \$2,392. The budget for the month predicted a surplus for the month of \$148 and a year to date deficit of \$2,653. 2020 Outreach to date was \$712 to Clergy Discretionary Fund, \$286 to Daily Bread, \$609 to Nana's House.

Sr. Warden's Report: Lee Steininger reported the Vestry Training Workshop of February 29, 2020 was worthwhile, especially for new Vestry members. He provided a quick review of Memorial Garden work in progress and plans for the future.

Jr. Warden's Report: Kathy Oas reported on the status of repairs to the sprinkler system and the progress Bob Stitzel was making in tree and stump removal from the property purchased.

Rector's Report: Coronavirus Update: The March Vestry meeting, originally scheduled for March 19 was postponed, by decision of the full Vestry, until suitable and secure virtual meeting software could be obtained. The meeting was rescheduled on March 24 via Zoom. Fr. Eric worked with Facebook Live, later moving to YouTube Livestream for Sunday services at 10 a.m. Search and purchase of an FM transmitter is underway to hold services in the park, preferably Sunday evenings, with parishioners staying in their parked cars listening to the service via FM radio. St. John's has canceled all onsite meetings and gatherings. The primary forms of communication to the parishioners and interested individuals are the St. John's website, St. John's Chat, weekly eNews, and the Newsletter. Zoom will be used for Bible Studies and the School of Healing Prayer.

A decision was made to create phone lists distributed to each Vestry member to conduct outbound calls to parishioners.

Phone system: New phones have been purchased and installed but some re-wiring is still pending.

Possible Leasing of Yellow House via Family Promise of Brevard: Consideration of additional modifications of the Yellow House for use by FPOB for short term rental. This would be considered an offering and not income generation, modest rent would be charged, there would likely need to be \$600 - \$800 additional work to make the Yellow House available for this.

James House: The current tenant has experienced near total loss of income due to the impact of the Coronavirus on her business. The Vestry agree to forgive one month's rent, requiring her to cover utilities and reconsider future arrangements at the April meeting.

The Vestry met by video conference on April 16, 2020. The primary topics of discussion for the April meeting were Covid-19 related and St. John's response to it. The Vestry also focused on positioning St. John's for growth in the future, once the Covid-19 threat has passed. Livestream of Sunday 10 a.m. services is underway. Drive-in service at 5 p.m. in the park will start Sunday, April 19.

Ongoing Memorial Garden work, repair of wood siding on the church, leaky faucets, and roof repair were outlined and budgets reviewed each.

With in-person services suspended, the Vestry is very focused on the financial health of St. John's. Concerns about future reduced income and the impact were weighed. Investing in online payment systems like PayPal will be researched and instituted. The Vestry agreed - it is important to keep the financial state of St. John's transparent to pledgers and non-pledgers appealing for all to do their part to the extent possible.

	January Budget	January Actual	February Budget	February Actual	March Budget	March Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$15,000	\$14,502	\$18,250	\$18,341	\$18,575	\$18,774	\$51,617
Expenses	\$17,800	\$17,632	\$18,102	\$17,602	\$18,596	\$17,691	\$52,925
Net	\$(2,800)	\$(3,130)	\$148	\$739	\$(21)	\$1,083	\$(1,308)



Treasurer's Chat

From April 2:

Thank you for your mail in contributions. For the month of March, we fell a little short of our target of \$18,575 versus \$17,924 received. With the new Stay at Home guidelines now going through the whole month of April, your mail in contributions will be more important than ever. April is normally our second highest giving month of the year because of Easter and our current income target is \$20,000. This will be more challenging due to several factors. Obviously, the Easter service is one of the best attended services of the year. Unfortunately, this year with a cancelled service guests and parishioners could not attend. This will impact the outside financial contributions to the church. Our tenant in James' House has had her income go to zero due to cancellations and lost business. The vestry decided to forego her April rent of \$750 and just have her pay utilities. We felt this was the right thing to do, sometimes Outreach starts right in your backyard! Needless to say, we have a challenge ahead of us this month and probably May also. Please continue to mail in your pledges as we all pray this pandemic will end soon and we will be able to worship together.

April 22 update:

April is St John's second biggest month for receiving contributions, obviously driven by Easter. The income plan for April is \$20,000. As of last Sunday we have received \$18,154 with one more Sunday to go. Thanks to all parishioners that have contributed through the mail or dropped off pledges at the office. If you haven't done so this month yet, please help St John's make its income goal. You can now donate through PayPal through a link on the St John's website. Stay Safe!

Steve Bradley,
Treasurer



May

Will Lester • 05/05

Carl Smith • 05/09

Carl Holliday • 05/14

Amanda Coleman • 05/23

Ruth Renner • 05/26

Floyd Trogdon • 05/07

Lilian Collins • 05/09

Steve Bradley • 05/16

Carol Hawkins • 05/23

Bob Stitzel • 05/28

Charlie Williams • 05/07

Mary Highland • 05/14

Frank Herrnkind • 05/16

Bill Renner • 05/23

Bill McDonald • 05/29

June

June Stitzel • 06/01

Rachel Crane • 06/17

Berry Trogdon • 06/27

Elias Hambel • 06/10

Susan McDanel • 06/17

Murray Ludwig • 06/28



May

Jim & Brenda Williams • 5/7

June

Jack & Gloria
Kenworthy • 6/4

John & Dorinda
Campbell • 6/20

Terry & Mary
Highland • 6/10

Douglas Ludwig &
Elizabeth Murray • 6/21

Bill & Susan
McDanel • 6/17

Hal & Sally Martin • 6/26



Worship Live Stream

Every Sunday, 10 a.m.

The Live Stream will continue even after we resume in-person worship services.

While in-person worship is suspended, Communion (bread only) will be available by drive-thru in front of the sanctuary doors 11 – 11:30 a.m.

Visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on Worship Live Stream where you will find a link to the Live Stream as well as the Order of Service and the News and Notes for the week.



Drive-In Worship

Every Sunday, 5 p.m.

In the park

Come and stay in your car.

Sound will come into your vehicle via FM radio (91.30) Communion (bread only) will be brought to your car. This will continue at least until in-person worship resumes and will be re-evaluated as the situation continues to develop.



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