



ST. JOHN'S

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

September - October 2020

THE GOOD NEWS

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

SUSPENDED — Holy Eucharist, Rite I

SUSPENDED — Adult Christian Education

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM - 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 — Cub Scouts

ONLINE ONLY — **Bible Study -**
Email for details,
Office@StJohnsMLB.org

WEDNESDAY

7:00 P.M. — Choir Practice in Sanctuary

ONLINE ONLY — **Bible Study**
Email for details, Office@StJohnsMLB.org

FRIDAY

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

A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

Dear Friends,

Ah, another election season. We will enjoy civil and informative debates between respectful candidates. Media coverage that seeks to enlighten a literate electorate on the positions and track records of the candidates, who are anxious to be known transparently and truthfully. Ads that state a candidate's vision and strategy without demonizing, caricaturing or misrepresenting the opponent.

I can dream, can't I?

So what is a Christian to do? I'm not here to tell you how to vote or what party to support.

I will remind us, as I have in the past, that we need to set aside "knee-jerk" politics where we simply respond based on whether we like some particular politician or not, or whether there is a D or an R following their name. Do the hard work to evaluate the statements, policy positions, character and record honestly. Do not just listen to FOX or MSNBC. Read beyond Occupy Deomcrats and Brietbart. Watch political ads with not just a grain of salt but a shaker full. Fact check. Do not let yourself be sucked into conspiracy theories that feed your biases and prejudices.

Be careful what you post and share on social media. First, make sure it is truthful. It is not enough that it strokes your bias. If the "other side" is being presented, are they presented in a way that they would recognise and own? Make sure it is truthful not just in the words but in tone and character. Second, do not mock. I know we all like to have a little humor. But in times like this,



Continued on Page 2...

mocking degrades our public discourse and obscures the truth. I get the temptation to share that funny cartoon or meme, but if it is just mocking another, stay away from the share button. Let us, as the Christian community, be part of raising the quality of our public discourse.

If we are to be wise Christians in this world, we must also be deliberate about taking in Christian values and attitudes. It takes intention and effort to balance all that the world feeds to us. Read your Bible and let it challenge your preconceptions. Pray fervently. Gather with other Christians, and not just those you already agree with. Gather for worship, even if you have to do it online for now. When you've had it with the evening news, don't just flick over to some other mind numbing agent. Fill your mind with something better. A Bible. A good book. Prayer. Good music. Your loved ones. Thankfulness for what God has placed in your life.

Corrie Ten Boom said, "If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. If you look at God you'll be at rest." Of course, we cannot ignore what is going on around us, but we can choose where to look. Choose wisely.

In Christ,
Fr. Eric Turner • Rector

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).

GROWING SERVANTS OF CHRIST Vestry Membership

We are beginning to gather names and recruit candidates to stand for election to the vestry at the parish meeting in late January, 2021. A list of possible candidates is being gathered. If you would like to serve, or would like to nominate someone, please contact Lee Steininger at leestein645@aol.com or (321) 773-7242.



"Good News" Nov - Dec 2020 Schedule & Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of "The Good News" (November – December, 2020) will be Tuesday, October 13. Please email (preferred) your submissions to office@stjohnsmlb.org or get them to the church office by **October 13, 2020**.

Thank You from the Staff

At the August vestry meeting (see meeting notes) it was reported that the vestry had surreptitiously approved gifts to the staff in recognition of special efforts and challenges during this pandemic. On behalf of all the staff members, I thank you for this much appreciated gift!

Fr. Eric Turner, Rector

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.

St. John's Episcopal Church

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Phone: 321.254.3365 • Web: www.StJohnsMLB.org
Church Email: Office@stjohnsmlb.org

Bishop Gregory O. Brewer

Rector - Fr. Eric Turner

Eric@stjohnsmlb.org • Cell: 321.615.0205

Priest Associate - Fr. Terry Highland

redeemcec@gmail.com • Cell: 321.831.2587

Deacon Elizabeth Murray

yarrumea@gmail.com • Cell: 321.777.0168

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.

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GUIDED BY SCRIPTURE

Weekly Meditations

Beginning in mid-September, Fr. Terry Highland will be offering a very brief, weekly meditation. It will be available both as a video (2-3 minutes) and in written form. This will be an opt-in, meaning that we will send it to those who request it. The meditations are expected to come out on Tuesdays. Please email office@stjohnsmib.org if you would like to opt-in!



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 THE PANDEMIC

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Nursery

SUSPENDED DURING THE PANDEMIC



Clean Up Day

A clean up and work day is being planned for late September, hopefully after temperatures are down. This will be a Saturday morning and we will have a list of a variety of tasks for any skill level, so call can help! Social distancing will be observed and masking where needed. Watch for more information as we get a day set.

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Thank You!

While most of us have been out of the buildings, some folks have been hard at work on a number of improvements. Contractors have replaced the roof over the office section of the building, which was leaking in several places, and we then had needed repairs done to the ceilings inside. Contractors have also made repairs to several doors and some soffit and fascia that were rotted. Rosie Scheunemann and Kathy Oas cleaned the offices by the courtyard & the library, including the rector's office. Bob and Dennis Stitzel had a contractor do some landscaping work in the Memorial Garden and trim the bushes trimmed in front of church. Lee Steinger has done a lot of work around the property cleaning up, plus tending Memorial Garden. Andy Lester, along with Will and Jack, have done a lot of work getting a permanent set up for live streaming in the sanctuary. There are certainly others, and thank you to all!

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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.

KEEPING UP WITH ST. JOHNS ONLINE



YOUTUBE CHANNEL

St. John's now has a YouTube Channel which is where we post worship live streams and sermons. Visit YouTube.com and search for St. John's Episcopal Church, Melbourne Florida, then follow us! You can also find links to all past and upcoming worship services by visiting stjohnsmlb.org and clicking on Worship Live Stream.

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.

SHARING JESUS' LOVE

Daily Bread Duty Days

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 September:
Sunday, September 20

Duty Day for October:
Sunday, October 18

FOURTH THURSDAY

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

Duty Day for September:
Thursday, September 24

Duty Day for October:
Thursday, October 22

GUIDED BY SCRIPTURE



Growing Servants of Christ: **Men of St. John's** ONLINE ONLY

TGIF, our men's breakfast and Bible study traditionally 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 following a study called "Dare to be Uncommon" by NFL coach Tony Dungy. Email office@stjohnsmlb.org for log in information.

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GROWING SERVANTS OF CHRIST **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. The new class of Daughters will be inducted on Sunday, October 11 at 11 a.m., following the 10 a.m. service. All will be able to join by livestream. DOK continues to take the call to prayer seriously, even more so during the pandemic. 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.

GROWING SERVANTS OF CHRIST

Leadership Training **at St. John's**

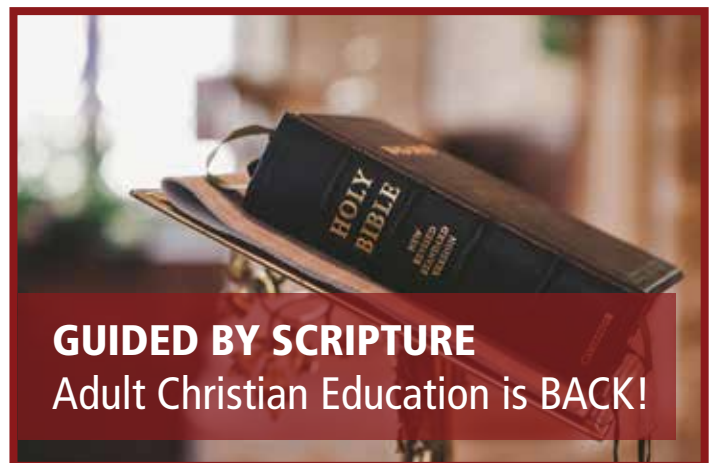
We are developing a training program designed to bring new people into various leadership roles in the life of St. John's, provide some basic training and framework for Christian leadership in a church family and provide ongoing support for those in leadership roles.

Initially, Fr. Eric will provide the basic teaching, but in time others will also contribute based on their own expertise and experience.

This is intended for potential and current vestry members, leaders of various parish ministries, Bible studies, etc., and anyone who would like to explore these roles.

We will gather for about 1½ hours, once per month, on the first Thursday in the parish hall. We will begin on Thursday, October 1 at 7 p.m. We will gather in person in the parish hall, and the meeting will also be available via Zoom. Please contact Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org for more information.

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GUIDED BY SCRIPTURE Adult Christian Education is BACK!

We will re-start Sunday morning Adult Christian Education on September 13 at 9 a.m. We will gather in person, with masks and social distancing, and the class will also be available via video conferencing. If you would like to join by Zoom, please email the church office at office@stjohnsmlb.org and we will send you the necessary link and information. We will pick up with our study of Genesis, which was suspended with the pandemic.

SHARING HIS LOVE

Family Promise Will See Major Changes

The only certainty about the Family Promise Shelter Program is that it will be different; probably a lot different. It is very uncertain when it will resume and may take an entirely different form.

Mark Sexton, Program Services Coordinator, Family Promise of Brevard, at the virtual June 8, 2020 quarterly Coordinators meeting, attended by our Coordinator Ben Kendall, stated "it is hard to imagine we can return the same way. There is so much unknown."



How will it look? Phase I is information gathering and FPOB will contact churches about their individual situations regarding reopening and capability to continue with Family Promise. Some have already said they will not be able to. By August they hope to have a good understanding of what it will look like. Mark says there is no urgency as they are successfully providing services to those in need. St. John's, as of today, is planning to continue participating in the Shelter Program.

Mark described the tremendous work that FPOB has been doing during the pandemic to serve homeless families. Outreach, prevention, financial support, and rehousing services have continued due to the around the clock work of the FPOB staff. While in quarantine the staff has streamlined some of their programs, especially noteworthy is the applications process is now completely online speeding up the process.

Other interesting information from the Coordinators meeting included:

- FPOB received 16 thank you notes from families!!
- Changing the names of the three FPOB programs to Prevention, Shelter, and Stabilization which are much more descriptive of their missions.
- FPOB has added one full time employee and three college interns to the staff.
- The annual golf tournament is canceled, but the ball drop will continue. The sponsor, Indian River Colony Club, has decided not to have tournaments.
- The annual volunteer appreciation function will be virtual. No details yet.
- They are still looking for another Resource Center (the church that owns the house they are now occupying needs it back). An abandoned Cocoa Firehouse is a possibility.
- They are looking for a fixed location to use for a week or more for just one family. Let Ben Kendall know if you have any information.

Please contact ben.kendall@gmail.com for more information.

Sharing His Love: Hispanic Outreach

St. John's Vestry has been thinking and praying for some time for new opportunities to reach out to our community with the love of Christ and to draw new people into this church family. The recent property sale has provided us with a small "nest egg" on which to draw for the expenses related to a possible new venture.

Add to that the growing Hispanic population in central Florida generally and the fact that the nearest Episcopal Hispanic outreaches are in Kissimmee and Port St. John and an opportunity was born. Knowing that we had no expertise in this, we reached out to Canon Luis De la Cruz, who is from the Dominican Republic and currently serves as the Hispanic Missioner leading an outreach at St. John's Episcopal Church in Kissimmee. He, in turn, included Fr. Jose Rodriguez, a Puerto Rican priest now serving as vicar of Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret in Orlando. Both are also members of the Hispanic Commission of the Diocese of Central Florida.



The vestry met with them on Friday, August 14, where we had a lively discussion about the possibilities for such a ministry to be born out of St. John's. While many questions and hurdles remain, and there are some things that are simply unknown until we start the work, the vestry remains enthusiastic about the possibilities of God working through us in this community.

It is critical to remember that nothing is set in stone, but if we embark on this outreach we would be bringing in a Hispanic priest to reach out to the Hispanic community in the area and launch an Episcopal worship service in Spanish. This would work around our regular worship schedule, but the details are as yet unknown. It is likely that a new worship service would not begin until the pandemic is significantly more under control.

While services would be separate, the expectation is that this would be a part of St. John's and not simply another church meeting in our building. This is not an initiative that is designed simply to bring more people to our existing services, but to reach out to a needy and often unnoticed segment of our community. The enthusiasm, energy and positive buzz can only serve to help grow St. John's English speaking services and programs, but that would be a happy consequence rather than an essential design.

Many will be wondering what this might cost. At this point, we do not know, but we do not expect a high cost. We have some funds from the property sale that could be devoted to this, plus it is likely that the Diocese would provide some financial assistance should we seek it.

There are several things coming up on this. In early October, Canon Luis and Fr. Jose will visit Melbourne again and make some "on the ground" inquiries into the local Hispanic community to begin to gauge interest and potential. We are looking for a small team (3-4 people) to work with Fr. Eric, along with Canon Luis and Fr. Jose in investigating this possibility. Please let Fr. Eric know if you are interested in being involved and especially if you speak Spanish.

We will have an informational meeting for the whole parish on Sunday, Sept. 13 at 9 a.m. This will be available both in person and online via Zoom. Information for joining by Zoom will be circulated on St. John's Chat and St. John's eNews closer to the time.

Please add this to your prayer list and pray for both wisdom and boldness!

Vestry Notes

There was no vestry meeting in July. The vestry met in person combined with video conference on Thursday, August 20, 2020 at 7 p.m.

The financials were reviewed and discussed, and requests to plan the 2021 budget and Stewardship campaigns were put on the record. The Vestry discussed fall reopening and related considerations. The drive to raise funds for organ repair will begin, and a request by Jen Lester, Music Director, for \$1,800 to replace the piano 'hammers' was met by a Vestry member's spontaneous and anonymous donation. Physical plant repairs, including roof, ceiling, doors, siding, and lights were reviewed. Lee Steininger presented the 10-Year Facility Plan featuring accomplishments and future projects. The Vestry planned for introducing the topic of a possible Hispanic ministry to the parishioners at large.

In response to a parishioner proposal, the Vestry approved one-time financial distributions from soon to be Payroll Protection Program grant to Eric Turner, Jen Lester, Teresa Chernault, Carol Taylor (bookkeeper), and Ray McClendon for their extraordinary efforts throughout the pandemic. Other champions of St. John's projects and programs recognized at the meeting were Bob Stitzel, Andy Lester, Andy Weeks, Ben Kendall, and Linda Miller.

Financial Summary:

	Jun Budget	Jun Actual	July Budget	July Actual	YTD Actual
Income	\$ 18,245	\$ 14,642	\$ 15,500	\$ 18,163	\$ 125,680
Expenses	\$ 17,725	\$ 18,615	\$ 17,350	\$ 16,953	\$ 121,944
Net	\$ 760	\$ -3,973	\$ -1,850	\$ 1,210	\$ 3,736
Outreach	Daily Bread: \$280		Children's Hunger Project: \$395		Total: \$4,400

Micro-Watch Parties

Looking for a way to make joining the livestream a little more social, while still keeping safe? Invite a few friends or family members over on Sunday morning and join together in the Worship Livestream. You can even do this at a time other than Sunday mornings, as the recordings remain available on the St. John's Youtube Channel. Then you can discuss the lessons, sermon, or whatever the worship motivates in you!



A WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

Organ Fund Drive

In the next couple of weeks, you will receive a letter seeking your support for a substantial upgrade to our pipe organ. The proposed work has been in development for some time and it was presented at the Parish Meeting last January, however, the project got sidetracked amid the pandemic. It is now time to get this moving again.

The organ was built by the Austin Organ Company in 1923, and has been substantially overhauled at least twice since. The organ is approaching 100-years old and the internal controls are well past their useable life. The proposed repairs involved replacing the current console (where the organist sits, in the balcony) with a new console and a digital control system. The existing pipes will remain, so to the average ear, the sound will not change. However, more of the organ will be available as there are now portions that do not work and must be "worked around," maintenance needs will be dramatically reduced, and the usable life of the organ will be extended for decades.



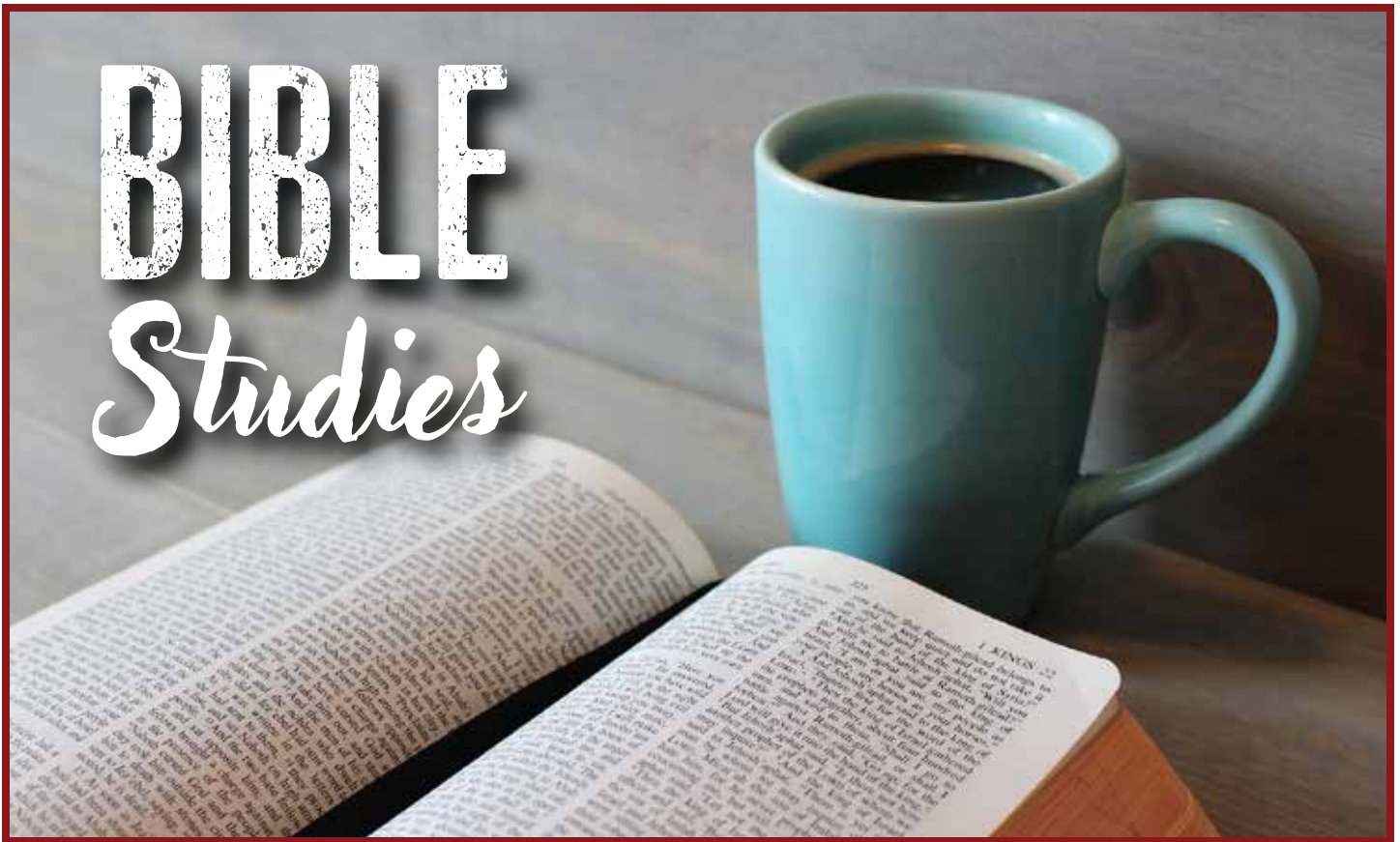
It is expected that this will cost approximately \$25,000. Hasty Miller has already committed \$8,000, including purchasing a new console case and preparing it for installation of the digital control system by Peterson Electro-Musical Products. When that work is completed, Hasty will set about the work of connecting it to our pipes.

This leaves \$17,000 to be raised from the congregation.

The letter will come from our organist, Jen Lester, our organ engineer extraordinaire, Hasty Miller, and Dr. Jerry Davidson, a relatively recent addition to the St. John's family and a retired professor of music and organ who has consulted extensively on the project. If you have questions about this project, please speak with any of these three folks.

Even in the midst of the pandemic, the members of St. John's understand the importance of this instrument and the value of maintaining it. Please respond generously when you receive the letter.

BIBLE Studies



Guided by Scripture

We hope that you are able to find one that meets with your regular schedule!

Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. in Fr. Eric's office, led by Deacon Elizabeth. Contact Dcn. Elizabeth at 321-777-0168. **NOW ONLINE ONLY.** Email office@stjohnsmlb.org for log in information.

Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. at Fr. Eric's home (4581 Bellaluna Dr., West Melbourne), Contact Fr. Eric at 321-615-0205 for more information. **NOW ONLINE ONLY.** Email office@stjohnsmlb.org for log in information.

Friday morning: TGIF – Men's breakfast and Bible study, Fridays, 8 a.m. at the Old Village Restaurant, 1180 Aurora Rd. (just west of Route 1). In addition to solving all the world's problems, we are studying the first epistle of Peter. **NOW ONLINE ONLY.** Email office@stjohnsmlb.org for log in information.

Adult Christian Education - We will resume on Sunday, Sept. 20 at 9 a.m. and the class will also be available by Zoom. Email office@stjohnsmlb.org for Zoom link.

BIRTHDAYS



September

Karin Kuhn • 09/04
Austin Stitzel • 09/06
Tim Tuten • 09/10
Eloise Evans • 09/10
Christina Burleson • 09/15
Cindy Tuten • 09/15
Brian Collins • 09/15
Andy Weeks • 09/16
Edna Fitzgerald • 09/18
Gail Dunbar • 09/20
Linda Miller • 09/23
Teresa Chernault • 09/25
Paul Burleson • 09/27
Bill McDanel • 09/27

October

Steve Johnson • 10/05
Grace Heusinkveld • 10/06
Cindy Marshall • 10/06
Susan Badgio • 10/06
Patty Stitzel • 10/06
Richard Huffman • 10/10
Catherine Saylor • 10/14
Wally Burleson • 10/19
Jim Williams • 10/19
Justin Archey • 10/22
Vicki Crane • 10/22
Joan Roddan • 10/24
Yvonne Hayes • 10/26
Jim Hester • 10/26
Natalie Chartier • 10/26
Lacey Brotherton • 10/27
Rudy Tuten • 10/28
Jim Windt • 10/31

ANNIVERSARIES

September

Bob & June Stitzel • 9/5
Steve & Ginny Bradley • 9/11
John & Trish Seymour • 9/12

October

None Known

A WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY



Drive-In Worship

Saturday, 5 p.m.
In the Park

Come and stay in your car or sit in socially distanced seats. Sound will come into your vehicle via FM radio (91.30). Communion (bread only) will be brought to your car.



Worship Live Stream

Sunday, 10 a.m.

The Live Stream will continue even after we resume in-person worship services. 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 announcements for the week.

In-Person Worship - Sunday, 10 a.m.

We have in-person worship! Those attending are expected to wear a mask, use hand sanitizer and sign-in for contact tracing. Communion is bread only.

ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

610 Young Street
Melbourne, FL 32935