



ST. JOHN'S

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

THE GOOD NEWS

March - April 2024

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. - Adult Christian Education,
Parish Hall. Youth in the Chapel.

10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, Rite II
(In-person and Livestream)

Visit StJohnsMLB.org for links and more
info.

TUESDAY

5:30 p.m. - Scouts in the Parish Hall

WEDNESDAY

7:00 p.m. - Choir Rehearsal in the
Sanctuary

THURSDAY

9:00 a.m. - Staff meeting in the Rector's
office
6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer
7:00 p.m. - AA meeting in the Parish Hall

FRIDAY

8:00 a.m. - TGIF (Men's Breakfast and
Bible study), La Loma Coney Island,
1180 Aurora Road, Melbourne.

A WORD FROM THE RECTOR

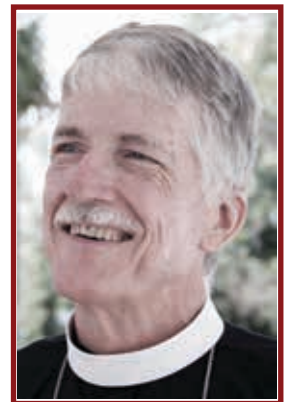
Dear Friends,

The "tyranny of novelty" is a cruel master because it is never satisfied and always requires the next thingamabob, the new color, the next purchase.

Preachers are not immune to this. We want the latest program, the newest insight. When it comes to preaching on holidays like Christmas and Easter, we feel the pressure to come up with something new and shiny. But the reality is that constant novelty never satisfies. Its titillation lasts only until the next, slightly more glittery thing comes along.

Before I was ordained, I worked as a youth minister at a large parish in St. Louis. The Associate Rector that I worked with had long wanted a Jeep Cherokee. Finally, the time came for him to trade in his old car and he leased a new Cherokee. Initially he was thrilled, but within a month he confessed to me that he had gotten into a friend's Cherokee that had more bells and whistles and he was already finding himself dissatisfied with the vehicle he had so long wanted.

The tyranny of novelty is not new. In the book of Acts, the author, Luke, with great disdain, wrote that "all the Athenians and the foreigners living there would spend their time in nothing but telling or hearing something new." (Acts 17:21) St. Paul warned that the time would come when "people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having



Continued on Page 2...

itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires.” (2 Timothy 4:3)
Are we there yet?

On the other hand, the church is about the Gospel. Not an ever-changing modern Gospel of flash and glitter, but the unchanging bedrock of Jesus and His love for us worked out on the cross and in the empty tomb. Remember the chorus of the old hymn?

I love to tell the story, 'twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love. *

So, I'm going to make the choice this Easter season to be satisfied with the old, old story. I'm not going to get caught in the tyranny of novelty. I will join St. Paul who said, "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified." (1 Corinthians 2:2) Let's celebrate Easter as a reminder of the unending truth of Jesus' death and resurrection at work in our lives today. Most of us need to be reminded of the basics pretty often anyway.

In Christ,

Fr. Eric Turner
Rector

* From I Love to Tell the Story, Kate Hankey (1866) and William G. Fischer (1869).



“Good News”

May - June 2024

Schedule & Deadline

The deadline for the next issue of “The Good News” will be **Tuesday, April 9**. Please email or delivery your submissions to office@stjohnsmlb.org by **April 9, 2024**.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Convention of St. John's Episcopal Church was held on Sunday morning, January 28. The Wardens and Treasurer gave reports. A financial summary is available with the Vestry Notes on page 9 in this Good News. Elected to serve on the vestry were: Katie Codlin-Wilson for a 1-year term, Julie Miller for a 2-year term, and Elizabeth Chludzinski, Peter Fishel and Ben Kendall were elected to 3-year terms. Thanks to all for their willingness to serve!



Diocesan Convention



The Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida was held on Saturday, January 27 at All Saints Church, Winter Park. Attending from St. John's were Ben Kendall, Amy Lacy, Deborah Miller-Caldwell and Fr. Eric Turner. The Convention was quite “undramatic” with just the normal pieces of business. The engaging part was that this was the first Convention with our new Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Justin Holcomb. Bishop Holcomb's addresses are available online and are well worth your time. Visit cfdiocese.org and click on the link for 2024 Diocesan Convention.

Parish Officers

Church officers were elected/appointed at the February 15 vestry meeting. Fr. Eric appointed Kathy Oas as Sr. Warden and the following were elected: Jr. Warden – Deborah Miller-Caldwell; Treasurer – Elizabeth Chludzinski; Ass't Treasurer – Susan Badgio; Secretary – Amy Lacy.

Thanks to all for their willingness to serve!

Tapping the Big Questions

Will continue to discuss the BIG questions the first Tuesday of each month 7 – 8:30 p.m. at Intracoastal Brewery, Eau Gallie.



Upcoming gatherings March 5 and April 2. Come on out and bring a friend!



Choir at St. John's

Steven Vaughn posted this on Facebook about a month ago. In it he opines:

"A church choir supports the congregational singing by singing along with it, sometimes in harmony! It also sings by itself, attempting to allow the listener to enter a deeper sense of prayer. By singing occasionally in other languages, the choir honors both the long tradition of sacred music and the international dimension of the church. It tries to reach the depths of our emotion and soar to the heights of the glory of God.

Churches need a continuing supply of people to build up the ranks of the choir. Joining the choir provides an opportunity to offer a unique and costly sacrifice of praise to God. It takes a commitment to come to rehearsal. Some choir members have devoted themselves to this ministry for years. Some take the music home and work on it between rehearsals. But it also develops the individual choir member as a person, as a Christian, and as a musician. Each singer is surrounded by peers drilling notes, studying texts, absorbing the music, feeling the passion, and that singer has no choice but to improve their own understanding of these things. So, if you think the choir might be for you, go to a rehearsal!"

We are fortunate at St. John's to have a choir; many of the churches in Brevard County do not. Our choir is a hard-working, dedicated, and talented group who warmly welcome newcomers. All that is required is an ability of read music and a willingness to be faithful. I'm certain that if we could recruit all the unchurched singers in the area we'd have the largest choir in the diocese.

Please help us recruit! - Dr. D.

A Worshiping Community

Lenten Soup Suppers:



Lenten Lenten Soup Suppers continue through March 20. Soup's on at 5:30, program begins at 6 and we will be done by 7 p.m.

How do we understand prayer? Does God really hear me? What does it really look like for prayer to be answered? How can I grow my prayer life? We will work toward a better understanding of prayer and its place in our lives.

Here is the schedule for the church groups who will provide the soup:

March 6	March 13	March 20
Lay Readers, LEMS, Altar Guild, Flowers	Ushers and Greeters	Daughters of the King

Evening Prayer



You are invited to a weekly Evening Prayer (Vespers) service Thursdays, 6 p.m. This brief gathering (about 15 – 20 minutes) will be an opportunity for renewal of focus, in the course of our busy lives. Evening Prayer is a rite of thanksgiving and praise that is part of the “prayer offices” in the Anglican tradition. This tradition dates back to the 3rd century and many scholars hold that it is based on an evening ritual practiced by Jews in the 1st century BCE.

If you would care to assist as a reader for these services, please email me mailjbh@gmail.com or speak with Father Eric. - Jamie Hamilton

Choral Evensong



Sunday, March 10

We will again host a Choral Evensong with free dinner at 6 p.m. and Evensong at 7 p.m. Come and bring a friend to enjoy this special combination of music, prayer, and Scripture.

Harbor City Harmonizers



Sunday, April 14

The Harbor City Harmonizers return after a very popular show last year, closing out our music series for the year. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the concert begins at 6. Mark your calendar and bring a friend!

A Worshiping Community

Looking Ahead to Holy Week and Easter

Our Lenten Soup Suppers will continue every Wednesday through March 20.

Palm Sunday

March 24, 10:00 a.m.

With Blessings of the Palms

Service begins in the park, weather permitting

Evening Prayer

March 25, 26 & 27, 6:00 p.m.

A quiet, spoken meditative service.

About 15 minutes. In the Sanctuary.

Maundy Thursday

March 28, 7 p.m.

With foot Washing and Stripping the Altar.



Stations of the Cross, San Luis Colorado

Bronze sculptures by Huberto Maestas Photo: Alamosa.com

Good Friday

March 29, Noon and 7 p.m.



Stations of the Cross, San Luis Colorado

Bronze sculptures by Huberto Maestas Photo: Margaret Sanders©

Easter Sunrise Celebration

March 31, 7 a.m.

At the Altar in the park

Easter Celebration

March 31, 10 a.m.

Festival Worship



Guided by Scripture

Adult and Youth Christian Education

The Adult class (in the parish hall) will continue with the book of Lamentations. Youth Christian Education in the Chapel, at 9 a.m.

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Daughters of the King

The St. John's chapter of Daughters of the King serve the church and the community and would welcome you to join the organization. If you are interested, we invite you to attend our meetings held the first Sunday of the month.



A prayer request box is available in the Sanctuary beside the votive candles. The Daughters have taken a vow to pray for others and we take this vow seriously. In lieu of access to the prayer box, please give prayer requests directly to any Daughter listed on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. All prayer requests are strictly confidential, and we, as Daughters, honor that confidentiality.

Prayer is available at the altar after Sunday service. If you need prayer, we encourage you to come to the altar. If anyone in the congregation would like to be an intercessor in prayer at the altar after the service, please see Mary Highland.

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Men of St. John's



TGIF, our men's breakfast and Bible study gathers every Friday, 8 a.m. at La Loma Coney Island Restaurant, Aurora Rd.

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Worship Volunteers

Worship volunteers are needed for a variety of roles at the Sunday services.

We will train you! All that is needed is a willing heart. Prayerfully consider one or more of the following ministries.

Ushers and Greeters: to welcome the Sunday worshipers.

LEM'S and Lay Readers: needed to read lessons and assist with Communion.

A/V & Livestream: to run our sound and livestream systems. Only moderate comfort with a computer is required.

Altar Guild: the parish ministry that cares for the altar, vestments, vessels, and altar linens of the parish.

Please contact the church office at office@stjohnsmib.org for more information, or any volunteer serving on Sunday

Outreach Focus – Sharing His Love

March



The OUTREACH FOCUS for the month of **March** is a new organization, Life Recaptured. Life Recaptured is a local program that assists girls to escape the nightmare of sex trafficking. Their residential safe homes provide refuge and freedom for their residents. They work closely with local law enforcement as well as contacts in other areas and are making an impact for change. This vile trade operates right under our noses here in Brevard County, and we are delighted that God has opened a way for us to support this rescue. Florida is #3 in the nation for sex trafficking.

Their gift shop and beauty boutique are open Monday through Saturday at 5515 N. Courtney Parkway, Merrit Island, and well worth the visit. Their Connections Café offers delicious food, support for the organization, and a way for those rescued to learn a marketable skill. On Saturday they also hold a farmer's market. Visit liferecaptured.org for more information.

Outreach Meetings

The Outreach team will meet the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. by Zoom. Upcoming meetings are March 12 and April 9. A link for the Outreach meeting is on the St. John's website.

Daily Bread

The upcoming duty days are March 7, and April 4, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. To volunteer please email the office.



April



The OUTREACH FOCUS for **April** is Nana's House, whose mission is to provide a safe, secure, loving home where neglected, abused, needy or abandoned children can experience God's love and healing. Their most recent announcement has been a partnership with One More Child. Through this new relationship, they will be able to extend the reach of Nana's House to foster families outside of their gated community, and become involved with other programs such as the single moms program and the safe homes for sex traffic rescues. Visit nanaschildrenshome.com for more information.

Family Promise



Our next hosting will be May 5-12. There are lots of opportunities to volunteer some time and more!

Join one of Gail Dunbar's Heaven's Kitchen volunteers as they prepare and serve an evening meal. Time investment - 2-3 hours, one day during hosting week.

Join one of Sarah Kendall's volunteers for a Saturday shift. Time investment - 2 hours, one Saturday of hosting week.

Join the mealtime / post-mealtime fellowship. Time-investment - 2 hours, one day during hosting week.

Join the overnight host team - 7-10 hours, the majority spent sleeping! You'll be paired with a veteran volunteer.

Contact: Ben Kendall 832-229-0142 (cell), ben.kendall@gmail.com (email)

Contact: Linda Fletcher 321-704-7100 (cell), lcalvert1956@yahoo.com (email)

Contact: Gail Dunbar 321-419-4810 (cell), gailbeverly@bellsouth.net (email)

Vestry Notes

December 21, 2024

Father Terry Highland thanked the Vestry for allowing him to be a part of St. John's as Priest Associate doing special projects, visiting and providing supply. Part of Terry's reason for stepping down is that he is now the Chaplain for the DOK for the Diocese. Fr. Eric thanks Terry for his service, especially to be able to call for counsel or to handle a pastoral need and know it will be handled well.

Junior Warden's Report:

The claim that was filed last month with the City of Melbourne asking for the sewer charge to be reduced because of the water leak was granted in the amount of \$406.00.

Rector's Report:

Thanks everyone for Parson's Purse gift. Not doing Epiphany service this year. Anticipate doing it again next year. Father Eric will be on vacation January 13th thru 20th.

Fall Stewardship and 2024 Budget:

The Stewardship pledges for 2024 came in over \$4,000 more than the pledges for 2023. The 2024 Proposed Budget projects a small surplus. This hasn't happened in years.

Treasurer Elizabeth Chludzinski noted an 18% rise in fire and liability insurance costs for next year.

The Vestry elected delegates for the Diocesan Convention on January 28th. They are Ben Kendall, Amy Lacy and Deborah Miller-Caldwell, with Kathy Oas as an alternate.

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January 25, 2024

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Elizabeth Chludzinski, presented the financial report for December 2023. Year-to-date (year end at this point) deficit is \$9,046.90. However, the January pension and health insurance was paid on December 31. These should have waited until 2024 and without those payments the deficit for the year would only be \$4,549.74. Contributions for Outreach outdid last year significantly. Wonderful for a church our size, almost \$20,000. Endowment fund had an 11% increase last year.

Junior Warden's Report:

Yellow house water is now on. The city came out and found the water pipe to the house was broken. The pipe was repaired at city expense and there is now running water available. Cleaning and clearing out the Yellow House is starting in February. The Turners will start storing items in the Yellow House on a temporary basis beginning this month leading up to a yard sale in the parish hall as they sell their home to downsize.

The Sanctuary's electric bill for the period of 15 December 2023 to 17 January 2024 was \$497.93. All are asked to help ensure the heat/ac and all electrical appliances are turned down or off.

Vestry Notes (con't)

Two (2) signs have been put up in the Parish Hall informing the users of the Parish Hall they must return all chairs and tables back to the original configuration or there will be \$100 fee charged to the violating group.

Deborah has developed a Facilities Use Agreement. It was discussed in detail and several amendments were suggested. A new draft will be presented at the February meeting.

The Outreach team is developing a vetting process for new outreach ministries to be considered.

Veronica and Paul Mitz are designing a new sign for the corner of US1 and Young Street, to be done with the same dimensions as the sign there now.

St. John's Stewardship Summary for October 31, 2023				
	Dec 2023 Budget	Dec 2023 Actual	2023 Annual Budget	2023 Annual Actual
Income	\$20,762	\$25,883	\$232,362	\$244,967
Expenses	\$17,146	\$22,728	\$236,654	\$254,014
Net	\$ 3,616	\$ 3,155	\$ -4,292	\$- 9,047*
Outreach for December: \$ 466 to Diocesan Missionaries. Total for 2023: \$ 19,439				

*As noted above, bills totaling \$ 4,497 (pension and health insurance) were paid 12/31/23. These should have waited until 2024. This would have yielded a deficit of \$ 4,550, only \$ 257 more than the deficit projected at the beginning of the year.



St. John's Memories

Long-time parishioner, Paul Burleson has compiled a book of Vicars and Priests of St. John's from inception to present day. This book is available for purchase at \$25.

Also available at \$20, Fifty-one years of Memories of St. John's. This is not a history of St. John's, just a collection of memories, along with many pictures. Fun both for those old enough to share the memories and for those looking for a more personal insight into the life and people of St. John's!

Please contact the office if you are interested in purchasing either of these books.



Loaning of Church Items

If you would like to borrow tables, chairs, cribs, linens etc. please speak with Fr. Eric or Deborah Miller-Caldwell, 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 Deborah at farxpert@gmail.com, Fr. Eric at eric@stjohnsmlb.org, or call the church office at 321-254-3365.

Seaside Stitchers

The Seaside Stitchers would welcome you to visit them in the Parish Hall on most Thursdays during the month. If you are interested in joining the sewing group contact Shirley Muzzy 321-254-2206 or shirleymuzzy@aol.com for more information.

Seaside Piecemakers

St. John's member, Kathy Oas is active in the Seaside Piecemakers quilting group that benefits local organizations. Kathy helped to organize and present this year's Quilt Show 2024, at the Melbourne Auditorium. Throughout the year the 350-member group donates many quilts to organizations in the area. The proceeds from this year's Quilt Show raffle will go to Nana's House; and their Christmas 2023, monetary donation was presented to Life Recaptured.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

BIRTHDAYS

March:

Amy Lacy	3/4	Ray McClendon	3/14	Laure Bennett	3/19
Olivia Brotherton	3/9	Marie Salmon	3/14	Ryan Hambel	3/19
Jen Lester	3/10	Sandra Pekar	3/17		
Linda Fletcher	3/12	Ginny Bradley	3/18		

April:

Pam Putnam	4/1	David Langenbach	4/5	Trish Seymour	4/29
Quentin Campbell	4/3	John Hawkins	4/22		
Lorraine Burleson	4/4	David Kaleel	4/25		

ANNIVERSARIES

March:

Rudy & Nicole Tuten	3/11
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April:

Dick & Pam Jarvela	4/5	Austin & Cati Stitzel	4/20
Doug & Gail Dunbar	4/16	Lee & Nancy Steininger	4/22
Debbie & Quentin Campbell	4/19		

KEEPING UP WITH ST. JOHN'S ONLINE



St. John's Chat - an email list to receive the latest updates from St. John's. You can also share things with the parish this way.

St. John's Weekly eNews - includes a short reflection from the rector and news about important events and what's happening Sunday. The eNews drops into your email Thursday afternoon at 4 p.m.

To subscribe to **St. John's Chat** or **eNews**, please email office@stjohnsmlb.org

St. John's YouTube Channel - you will find worship live streams and sermons, and links to all past and upcoming worship services. Visit stjohnsmlb.org and click on **Worship Live Stream**.

St. John's Website at stjohnsmlb.org. A variety of information including schedules, the calendar, archives of the "Good News", Sunday Ministry schedules, the latest eNews and much more.

Visit Facebook - search for "St. John's Episcopal Church, Melbourne" and like our page. You will receive updates in your newsfeed, notifications when we are live, and more.

To subscribe or to contact St. John's - email office@stjohnsmlb.org or phone 321-254-3365.

St. John's Pet Cemetery



Our Pet Cemetery is located on the East side of the sanctuary.

Please contact the office if you would like to have your pet laid to rest there.

Mar 3	.....	Daughters of the King, at 11:30 a.m.
Mar 5	.....	Tapping the Big Questions, Intracoastal Brewery, 7:00 p.m.
Mar 6	.....	Lenten Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
Mar 7	.....	Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
Mar 10	.....	Choral Evensong & Dinner, 6:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m.
Mar 12	.....	Outreach Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
Mar 13	.....	Lenten Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
Mar 20	.....	Lenten Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m., Parish Hall.
Mar 21	.....	Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Chapel & Zoom.
Mar 24	.....	Palm Sunday Celebration, 10 a.m.
Mar 28	.....	Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 p.m.
Mar 29	.....	Good Friday Liturgy, noon & 7:00 p.m.
Mar 31	.....	Easter Sunrise Service in the Park, 7 a.m.
Mar 31	.....	Easter Festival Worship, 10 a.m.
Apr 2	.....	Tapping the Big Questions, Intracoastal Brewery, 7:00 p.m.
Apr 4	.....	Daily Bread, 10:30 a.m.
Apr 7	.....	Daughters of the King, at 11:30 a.m.
Apr 9	.....	Outreach Meeting, Zoom, 7:00 p.m.
Apr 14	.....	Concert in the Park featuring the Harbor City Harmonizers, dinner at 5:30, concert beginning at 6:00 p.m.
Apr 18	.....	Vestry Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Chapel & Zoom.

Many meetings include Zoom. Check the web page calendar for details.

ZOOM and Livestream Links: All Zoom meeting and Livestream event links are available by visiting stjohnsmlb.org > Parish Life > Calendar or by sending an email to office@stjohnsmlb.org.



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