



St. John's Episcopal Church

The Saint

*The Mission of St. John's Parish is to glorify God
by growing in Christ's love and sharing that love with others
through worship, fellowship, and service .*

Give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; For His lovingkindness is everlasting.

Psalm 118:1

From the Pastor

There is a joke around that one word can strike terror into the heart of every Episcopalian. And what is that word? That one word would be "Evangelism!" Actually, I think that joke is wrong. The word "evangelism" can probably strike fear into the heart of almost every person who claims to be mainline protestant and even the Roman Catholics. We just seem to have trouble with being evangelical. (Just seeing the word "evangelical" quite possibly made a few people's skin crawl!)

This is aversion to the words "evangelism" and "evangelical" is really too bad. The basic meaning of "evangelical" is to "spread the good news of Christ," which is not a bad thing. But for many of us, spreading the good news of Christ can be an uncomfortable thing. I think part of our discomfort has to do with how we were raised. If you were like me, you were raised that polite conversation did not involve "Religion or Politics." And also, if you were like me, you may have had encounters with pushy people who called themselves "Evangelical" that caused you to be very uncomfortable. However, aversion or not, we are called to be evangelical; we are called to spread the Good News! So, as Episcopalians, how are we supposed to go about doing that?

The first step to take is to embody the realization that God created you as a wonderful and unique gift to the world! The things that go together to make you have not happened before and will never happen again. Your likes, your dislikes, those things that bring you joy, those activities you find fulfilling are all gifts from God. As such, we need to pay attention to these things. We need to increase our awareness of what brings us joy. (Note: Joy is to happiness as love is to infatuation; happiness is fleeting, but joy is a sense that continues, even through the ups and downs of life.) Participating in things that bring us joy also increases our energy. When we finish an enjoyed task, we may be physically tired, but we are not spiritually exhausted. If we are continually tired, perhaps we are not pursuing those things that truly bring us joy.

When we grow to understand those things that bring us joy, we usually want to share those things with others. We want those who surround us to have the same joy-filled experiences we have, not for any other reason that we want the other person's life to be enriched. When we encourage someone to try a new hobby or a new restaurant, just so that person can enjoy it, we are, in effect, doing evangelism. If what I am doing does not bring me joy or if the restaurant was not that good, I am not going to tell others about it. I do not want to be responsible for someone having a bad time. If I try to be excited about something that does not excite me, I will soon become tired and try to find a way to stop what I am doing. But when I am totally enjoying what I am doing, that is when I am functioning fully. The joy we feel when we are functioning fully is contagious!

When we think of evangelism for our congregation, we need to start with what things about our congregation are we truly excited about? And we need to be honest with this assessment. If what we truly love about our congregation is Coffee Hour, then celebrate that! I was associated with a church that put on coffee hours that included full on buffets, not because they had to, but because there was a group of people who loved to feed others! The people took the things that gave them joy and shared those things with those around them. God gave them a passion and they used those passions to bring glory to God! This was their passion, in another congregation, doing huge coffee hours would not work, but for this one, it was great. God gives us each a unique set of gifts and passions, we need to work to find these passions!

So often, when we think of evangelism, we have the goal of bringing people into the church. But our goal is NOT to bring people into the church but to help people find the joy of living in the love of Christ. That is where it starts, out there, out in the world. We need to be willing to go out and into the world and share our joys and passions, and hopefully one of those passions is Christ's love.

This is just a start. But hopefully in this start, you are able to see that being an Episcopal Evangelist is not impossible. It starts with observing what brings us joy, finding what we love about our congregation, and sharing that love with those IN the world. We are called to make disciples, there are out there! Let's go find them!

Fr. Wayne +

Fr. Wayne attended the Evangelism Matters Conference in Cleveland.

The Partnership Team (formerly the Covenant Committee)

On Thursday, April 19th, 2018, about 15 parishioners representing St. John's and St. Paul's met for a Covenant Committee meeting at St. John's. One of the decision made by the group was that going forward, we would call ourselves "The Partnership Team".

1. We offered feedback on the Lenten worship and study series and the Holy Week services. There was a consensus that attendance at St. Paul's in the evening was significantly lower than at St. John's in the daytime. Holy Week services were well attended at both locations. Going forward, the clergy and respective vestries will discuss options for further classes and midweek worship at both locations.
2. Sample covenant agreements from other partnerships in the Diocese were distributed. A subcommittee was formed to write a proposal for our partnership. The emphasis would be strongly on the spiritual aspects of our cooperation, with very little, if any, legal terminology used or implied. The Covenant would include a prayer for our partnership that would become part of the Prayers of the People every Sunday at both churches. The subcommittee will be: Shawn D'Luhy, Ed Walker, Valerie Banks, Marcie Lynch, and Mother Barbara. They are scheduled to meet on May 10th to come up with a draft that will then be reviewed by the Partnership Team on May 24th, before presentation to the respective vestries.
3. Fr. Wayne reported on an Evangelism Conference he recently attended. The key point he learned was that congregations should focus on doing what they love. He will be writing an article for the newsletter on the topic of the conference.
4. We discussed the need for pastoral support for one another within each congregation. Fr. Wayne and Mother Barbara will be exploring options for training for caregivers. The Partnership will continue conversation about what might be offered, such as emergency meals (like when someone has surgery, etc.), and other ways the congregants could support one another.

5. A desire was expressed for a joint retreat day for the men and women of both parishes. The focus of the retreat would be: “What brings you joy? – Who does God say that you are?” Mother Barbara is researching dates for Stella Niagara.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **May 24th at 7 pm at St. Paul’s, Lewiston.**

Mother Barbara +

Priest’s Schedule

Sunday, 5/6 – Mother Barbara
Sunday, 5/13 – Mother Barbara
Sunday, 5/20 – 9:30 am Eucharist and Healing –
Pentecost – WEAR RED
Sunday, 5/27 Fr. Dan
Friday, 5/25 through Friday, 6/1 – Mother Barbara
on vacation

Other Dates: Saturday, 5/5 – 11 am to 2(?) pm –
Dessert Auction and Lunch to benefit the Hope
Center at SPL
Wednesday, 5/9 – 7 pm - Vestry
Thursday, 5/10 – 7 pm - Covenant Writing for the
Partnership (subcommittee) at SJY
Wednesday, 5/16 – 7 pm – Police Memorial Service
at SPL
Thursday, 5/24 – 7 pm – Partnership Team at SPL

Vestry Report

Fr. Wayne shared his experience at the Evangelism Matters conference. Mother Barbara brought us up to date on her activities and vision. We approved Ingersoll’s estimate to repair the steeple, etc. They will be starting soon. Plans for the Strawberry Fest are going full speed ahead. Please pray for good weather and a good strawberry crop that will be ready for the festival.

Star Wars Night at the Bisons

May the Force be with you on Saturday June 2nd (6:05 pm start) for a great night of Bison baseball, some of your favorite Star Wars characters, and an awesome firework show. The diocese has reserved a group of seats on the third baseline for the

evening. Tickets are \$11.00. To order tickets, please print out the Bisons Game Flyer and send in with payment to the Ministry Center by May 1st. All questions should be directed to Wendy Schumacher, First Thirty Event Coordinator, at wschumacher@episcopalwny.org.

Discover Sunday May 20th

The next Discover Sunday sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese will be held on Sunday, May 20th, and you are invited to come and discover the Roycroft Campus in East Aurora, N.Y. The Roycroft Campus is the best preserved and most complete complex of buildings in the USA that housed guilds which evolved as centers of craftsmanship and artistic philosophy. Founded by Elbert Hubbard in 1895, participants were known as Roycrofters, and their work had a strong influence on the development of American architecture and design in the early 20th century. This event is a tour of the campus located at 31 South Grove Street - it is free and all are welcomed.

For those who are able to arrive by 1:00 pm, there will be a showing of the PBS documentary about Elbert Hubbard in the Power House (campus directions will be provided). A one-hour docent guided tour of the Roycroft campus will begin at 2:00. Following the tour, everyone is invited to attend a reception in All Saints Hall at near-by St. Matthias Episcopal Church located at 374 Main Street. (FYI: the service of Holy Eucharist for The Day of Pentecost is at 10:00 am at St. Matthias.)

So that the Roycroft Campus can prepare with the needed number of tour docents, we ask that you please pre-register for the event at <https://goo.gl/forms/dBSsSd6ieghXnq2T2> or call the diocesan office at 881-0660.

For those who might be interested, a Buffet Sunday Brunch is served at the historic Roycroft Inn from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm - call soon for reservations at 716-652-5552. The buffet cost is \$30 per person. The Roycroft Inn is located at 40 South Grove Street adjacent to the Roycroft Campus

UTO

The following was written by a fellow parishioner and devoted UTO donor:

“United Thank Offering”

These are 3 great words! Which one of these words is most important to you?

To me “THANK” is the greatest of these words. There are so many things to be thankful for in this wonderful world of ours.

Are you thankful? Do you have a UTO Blue Box? In it you can drop coins or cash for something you are thankful for, many of which we take for granted daily.

For example, getting home safely in bad weather, having everyday problems solved and even being grateful to be alive for another day. Friends, family. The list is endless.

One of these little “Blue Boxes” should be in every home.

We have a Fall and Spring Ingathering for UTO every year. This Ingathering is a worldwide Episcopal Church Ministry. As an Episcopal Church Outreach, our offerings support grants for valuable ministries at home and overseas.

Blue boxes are available on the back table of our sanctuary.

Why not pick one up the next time you come to church?

And a reminder that our Spring Ingathering Sundays are:

May 13th and May 20th

United Thank Offering Prayer

Gracious God, source of all creation, all love, all true joy: accept, we pray, these outward signs of our profound and continuing thankfulness....

May Birthdays

- 1 Kay Collard
- 12 Doreen Enman
- 13 Ryan Comerford
- 24 Conner Lynch
- 29 Ken Wieland

May Anniversaries

- 20 Joseph & Kathryn Fabian
- 31 Donald & Heather Finkle

From The Diocese

Intercessory Prayer for our Children!

St. John's in Youngstown and St. Paul's in Lewiston invite us all to join them in prayer every day at noon to End the Violence in Schools and For the Safety of All Children.

Just a simple "I pray for the end to violence in our schools and for the safety of all children" will do. If you would like something more formal, Bishop Bill suggests the Collect for Peace found on page 99 of the Book of Common Prayer (Morning Prayer II).

21st Annual Interfaith Police

Week Memorial Service

Honoring fallen officers who served in our region.

Wednesday, May 16th at 7 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
North Fourth & Ridge Streets
Lewiston, NY 14092

Reception to follow.

For information call 716-754-7081

Let Us Pray

The Parish Rota: This is a list of the members of the parish. It allows us to pray for everybody each month.



1. Betty Ames, Allan Aureli, Mary Ellen Aureli
2. Michael Banks, Valerie Banks, Shawn D'Luhy
3. Kay Collard, Tony Collard, Heidi Dent
4. Brandon Comerford, Debra Comerford, Ryan Comerford
5. Stu Comerford, John Eodice, Priscilla Eodice
6. Joseph Fabian, Kathy Fabian,
7. Doreen Enman, Donald Finkle, Heather Finkle
8. Christine Foster, Mark Foster,
9. Jerry Freischlag, Mary Lou Freischlag, Angela Gebauer
10. Jean Gerlach, John Gerlach, Annie Given, Carl Gonder
11. Art Hannah, Judy Hannah, Esther Hardison
12. Don Henry, Donna Huggins, Col. Jack James,
13. Donna Jeffs, Harold Jeffs, Kelsey Jeffs, Shannon Jeffs
14. Dolores Jones, Greg Jordan, Kris Jordan,
15. Casey Jordan, Lisa Leffler, Mark Leffler,
16. Pat Lloyd, Carla Lynch, Connor Lynch,
17. John Lynch Sr., John Lynch Jr. Alison Martin,
18. Brittany Machmer John Mies, Sandy Mies
19. Lark Mattoon, Ed McGreevy, Ed Tormay
20. Irene Myers, Marie Oblamski
21. Karen Oddy , Deborah Pauline,
22. Shirley Oldfield,, Helene Pavlock,
23. James Poole, Nancy Poole
24. Linda Reynolds, Raleigh Reynolds, Carol Reinbird,
25. Jane Richardson, Kellie Smith, Mickey Suitor, Deacon Vickie Suitor
26. Karran Swayze, Randy Walck, Larry Walck

27. Sabre Whipple, Deb White, Michael White
28. Marie Stephens, Ken Wieland, Mary Wieland
29. Kit Williams, Dr. Michael Wilson, Michael Wilson
30. Kristen Wilson, Luke Wilson, Barbara Yandian.

Diocese of Western New York

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. R. William Franklin

716-881-0660

Team Coordinator/Priest in Charge

Rev. Canon Barbara Price

716-440-2950

Associate Priest Rev. Canon Dan Pinti

716-440-6924

Associate Priest/Pastoral Care

Fr. Wayne Knockle

716-880-0461

All other church concerns, contact the

Wardens

Deacon

Vickie Suitor 716-745-7010

Wardens

Mary Wieland 716-745-7440

Shawn D'Luhy, 716-745-3124

716-263-0210

Vestry

Mike Banks 716-745-3828

Don Henry 754-1080

Lark Mattoon, 716-745-3431

Treasurer

Mike Banks 716-745-3828

See us on Facebook at:

**St. John's Episcopal,
Youngstown NY**

FUND DRIVE

Youngstown – Porter Senior Van

The Senior Van takes Youngstown and Porter Seniors to dialysis, doctor's appointments, the Senior Center, the bank and to stores. In the last 12 months, 2,783 rides were given to seniors.

This fund drive was created because the van is worn out and needs to be replaced. St. John's and members of the community want to help. If you would like to donate, checks may be sent to:

**St. John's Episcopal Church Senior Van
P.O. Box 366
Main & Chestnut Streets
Youngstown, NY 14174**



Checks are payable to St. John's Episcopal Church with "Senior Van" in the note area.

**If you prefer to donate online, The Go Fund Me page is:
Youngstown Porter Senior Van Fund Drive**

Every penny raised will be donated to the Village of Youngstown who provides this service with the help of the Town of Porter.

Facebook page: Youngstown Porter Senior Van Fund Drive

This Fund Drive is being run by St. John's Episcopal Church, Youngstown.



**St. John's
Episcopal
Church**

**Main &
Chestnut,
Youngstown**

Saturday, June 23

11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Featuring homemade strawberry
shortcake!**

Youngstown Lions will be
serving grilled foods!



CHURCH IS OPEN CONTINUOUSLY FOR SELF-GUIDED TOURS

DONUTS D. CLOWN PERFORMING 12 – 3 P.M.

LOCKPORT COMMUNITY BAND 2 P.M

BASKET AUCTION TO BENEFIT SENIOR VAN FUND DRIVE

Bring a lawn chair for the concert

ST JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SERVICES SCHEDULE

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone/Fax: 716-745-3369

stjohnsytown@verizon.net

www.stjohnsyoungstown.org

If you would like more information about St. John's, have a prayer request or would like to talk to the clergy, please call or e-mail the office.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

P.O. BOX 366

MAIN & CHESTNUT STREETS

YOUNGSTOWN, NY 14174-0366

Change Service Requested