



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 .*

Our God Is Awesome! His Mercy Endures Forever!

The rollout of our trial period in a team approach to ministry is bearing rich fruit! God has been so gracious to us. A Planning and Visioning Committee has been formed and met for the first time on October 30th with Mother Barbara and Fr. Wayne. The purpose of the committee is to look at our church now and where we want to go in the future. The plan is to have three committee meetings at the end of those deciding if we want to end, extend or grow or trial period into a more permanent relationship. The committee began by looking at our strengths and weaknesses by asking themselves where our church is in the following:

- A. Going out into the world to love and serve in Christ's name. Having an identifiable outreach (hands on) ministry, particularly caring for the poor. Our understanding of the poor is intended to have both breadth and depth: the physically poor—financially or in terms of physical illness the aged or infirm and those of any diminished capacity; the mentally/emotionally 'poor' (addicts, mentally ill, emotionally disturbed, etc.); and the spiritually 'poor' – those in need of hearing the Good News, those who are alienated from the Church, etc.
- B. Caring for each other: prayer groups/prayer chains/healing ministries, pastoral care and calling ministries discernment of gifts and using our gifts together as one Body, equipping the saints for ministry, supporting one another 'through thick and thin' etc.
- C. Worshipping together: Eucharistic celebrations baptisms, other sacramental moments, praying together, singing together, praising God together, being thankful for and being good stewards of all the gifts God has given us both individually and corporately.

Three areas were focused on: stability, transformation, and obedient listening with the eventual goal of having those balanced.

The committee has been asked to: **“Pray explicitly asking the Holy Spirit to speak to you about how God is calling our parish: What is the next step”**. We ask you to join in that prayer. The committee members are: Luke Wilson, Lisa and Mark Leffler, Valerie and Mike Banks, Mary Ellen Aurelli. Wardens Mary Wieland and Shawn D’Luhy are ex-officio members.

Church begins at 9:30am!!

From the Pastor's Desk

As I write this newsletter article, we are celebrating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation begun when Martin Luther nailed his Ninety Five Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany On October 31st, 1517. Among other things, he was protesting the sale of indulgences. What were indulgences? They were (mainly) masses said for the dead to help shorten their time in purgatory and get them into heaven. You see, people paid the priests to say the masses. It was a pretty lucrative business for the church and her clergy. The saying was "When a coin in the coffer rings, another soul from purgatory springs." A Reformation was indeed needed, though Martin Luther never thought he'd be starting a new denomination in the church. He believed the Roman Catholic Church itself would be reformed. Oh, well....

We are in the midst of some reforming ourselves these days.

First – At our recent Diocesan Convention, it was announced that the Diocese of Western New York is about to embark on a period of listening and discernment about the future. Bishop Franklin is retiring in April of 2019. Rather than calling for a normal election process, Bishop Franklin has suggested that our Diocese consider the option of having what is called a Provisional Bishop. Within the next week or so, you will be receiving a special mailing that details the background of this proposal, and the 'next steps' for our consideration. We'll have about seven months for further conversation throughout the Diocese, including the Northern Region Deanery and our parish, before making a decision about whether or not to proceed.

Second – We are moving forward with our conversation(s) about the future at SPL (St. Paul's, Lewiston) and SJY (St. John's, Youngstown). Each congregation is convening a "Planning and Vision Group" to do some very intensive, short-term planning and visioning about the 'next steps' for each congregation. I

expect those groups will each meet about three times, carrying us forward to January. Hopefully, that will bring us to the place of doing some joint thinking about what we might do together. In February, each congregation will need to assess our current trial period and make a decision about the future. I would see three choices in front of us:

- a. Stop the experiment and go our separate ways.
- b. Extend the trial period by another six months for further study and delay making any firm decision.
- c. Affirm that things are working and continue moving forward together by forming a joint Planning and Vision group.

Additionally, 'Pledge Season' is upon us. You will be receiving a stewardship letter and pledge card in the same mailing with the information about the Bishop Transition proposal.

Finally, two important dates in November: On Sunday, November 19th we will have a Harvest Altar and celebrate the bounty of the season of Thanksgiving. On Wednesday, November 22nd at 7 pm the Lewiston/Youngstown Clergy Association will sponsor an ecumenical Thanksgiving service at St. Peter's RC Church on Center Street in Lewiston. I hope that many of our folks will be able to be present.

In the spirit of the conversations at both the parochial and diocesan levels, let us pray:

Gracious and loving God, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ

your Son our Savior. Amen. (BCP p. 816 #7 – adapted)

Mother Barbara +

Here is the schedule of priests for the rest of the year.

11/5 - Fr. Dan Pinti
11/12 - Mother Barbara Price
11/19 - Mother Barbara Price
11/22 – Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 7 pm St. Peter’s Catholic Church, Lewiston (hosted by St. Bernards)
11/26 - Fr. Dan Pinti
12/3 - Fr. Dan Pinti
12/10 - Mother Barbara Price
12/17 - Mother Barbara Price
12/24 (morning) - Mother Barbara Price
12/24 Christmas Eve Service 7 pm

A Great Time Was Had By All

Dear People of St. John's, Youngstown:
On behalf of myself and the people of St. Paul's, Lewiston, please accept these heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the wonderful chicken and biscuit dinner today. An abundant, delicious, main course and fabulous desserts! I'd come to your restaurant again any time 😊
May the peace of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit be with us all as we move forward in our conversations and discernment about the future. In Christ, Mother Barbara

Pastoral Care:

If you would like to talk with Fr. Wayne Knockle or be visited by him, please call him at 716-880-0461. He is a very compassionate man.

Meet Fr. Dan

Dear People of St. John’s, Youngstown,

I’ve been asked to write something to introduce myself, which prompts an odd mix of feelings. On the one hand, I’m happy to do it. On the other hand, it’s hard to know what to say, or even where to begin. And on the third hand, I really hope I don’t sound too boring! Anyway, here goes....

I’ve been a priest since 2011, serving first at St. Aidan’s in Alden and then at St Paul’s Cathedral before coming to St. Paul’s, Lewiston, and St. John’s. As a teenager I believed I was called by God to the priesthood, as a younger adult I thought I’d been wrong about that, and as I got into my 40s I realized I’d been right about the call but just not ready to answer it. What helped prepare me to answer God’s call were two other calls: the call to be a husband and father, and the call to be an English professor. These experiences were integral parts of the growth I needed in order to live into my priesthood.

As for the husband and father part of it, my wife Maria and I have been married since 1988. We have three children (who of course aren’t children anymore), Zach, John, and Rachel. Maria works at ECMC, Zach is a senior at Niagara University, and John and Rachel are seniors at Clarence High School. (Yes, they’re twins!) Maria and I grew up in Ohio, but moved to New Mexico after I finished graduate school to take my first teaching job. All three kids were born out west, after which we moved to Western New York when I accepted a job at NU.

My vocation to be an academic and a teacher is as strong as my vocation to the priesthood—in fact, I’d be described as a “bi-vocational priest” (a bit of a clumsy term, for sure). I’ve been an English professor at NU since 2001, where my teaching ranges from subjects like the English Bible as literature to

Dante's *Inferno* to modern comic books. Most of my research nowadays is on comics and "graphic novels," believe it or not, and I love it! I've also just begun a campus ministry for Episcopal students at NU, which is just getting off the ground, but which so far has been very promising and a ton of fun.

My main hobby is playing guitar—a subject you're welcome to ask me about, although I can't promise I'll ever stop talking 😊. I also read a fair bit, watch too much TV, play some serious table tennis (not "ping pong," mind you—table tennis!), and follow the Bills and the Sabres when they're worth following.

Beyond that, I'll just say I am blessed and grateful to be serving you at St. John's! Thank you for making my family and me feel so welcome! I look forward to seeing where the Holy Spirit leads us.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Dan+

Vestry Report

The Vestry met on Oct. 11th. We were pleased to have several members of our parish there. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Mother Barbara and Fr. Wayne detailed the work they had done this past month. They are busy people.

Mary said the T-Shirts would be in on Sunday and they came and are beautiful. You can pay by check noting that the money is for the T-Shirts. Shawn reported a problem with someone trying to use St. John's name to get money from another church. The problem was resolved.

The six month trial of sharing priests with St. Paul's is going very well. All the feedback the vestry has heard has been positive.

Suzanne Dietz will be having line dancing lessons in the parish hall for five weeks.

Mike Banks did an OUTSTANDING job on our sign out front. Thank you Mike!

Mary Wieland, Karran Swayze and Mary Ellen Aureli will be attending the Convention as our delegates. Thank you!

We have received two grants from the Episcopal Partnership for Outreach and Mission. One for helping us to provide additional personal care kits for Community Missions and the other to help us expand our outreach to the children in need at Lew-Port. We are very grateful for their help.

We are still trying to resolve the problems with the north roof on the church.

The company that made the copier we have is no longer in business and parts for the copier aren't being made anymore. We will keep it running as long as we can but are looking into replacing it when necessary.

Mitten Tree

Another year has flown by and it is almost time to put up the "Mitten Tree". The tree will be decorated with mittens, gloves, hats, scarves, socks, baby items and anything else you care to donate.

Most of the items will be delivered to the Village for the Christmas Baskets (at least 50 items) and the rest will be delivered to the Care-N-Share Food Pantry in Ransomville after Dec. 18th. The Food Pantry helps to feed the hungry and believe me there are many families in the Village of Youngstown, Lewiston, Ransomville, Town of Porter and surrounding areas.

Please open your hearts and thank you all and God Bless you.

Shirley, Randy, Kris and Casey

The Annual Meeting of St. John's Church will be held on Sunday, December 3rd following the regular 9:30 am service in the Parish Hall. A light lunch will follow the meeting. The ballot will include:

- 1. A warden for a 2-year term**
- 2. A vestry person for a 3-year term**
- 3. Convention/Deanery Delegates-(3) in all for a 1-year term**

Vestry will appoint a treasurer and a clerk at the first regular meeting of the vestry in January 2018.

If interested in any of these positions, please see a warden.

What does it take to be on the Vestry?

A willing spirit, a love of St. John's and an interest in being a part of its future. A member of the vestry attends the monthly meetings on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm. The last about two hours. Members of the vestry also take a leadership role in the Strawberry Festival and fulfill other needs in the Church as they can. It is a rewarding job and a wonderful way to serve God at St. John's. You should be an active member of St. John's attending Church regularly to be on the Vestry.

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTIONS DECEMBER 3RD, 2017

Who is eligible to vote?

According to our By-laws a qualified voter is a baptized member of the parish at least 18 years of age, a regular attendant at worship, and a contributor to the support of St. John's for at least the previous 12 months.

Who is eligible to run for election?

According to our By-laws you may run for election if you are a qualified voting member and a confirmed communicant in good standing.

What are the responsibilities of the offices?

Wardens and Vestry members attend monthly meetings, which are currently held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. They serve on at least one Parish Ministry Team. They may also be asked to attend some special meetings, training sessions or retreats.

Wardens also attend a second monthly meeting with the priest to plan the monthly Vestry meeting. They run the monthly Vestry meeting in rotation with the priest and are administratively responsible for the Parish in the absence of a rector.

Deanery Council & Diocesan Convention Delegates and Alternates attend quarterly Deanery meetings and Diocesan Convention.. Diocesan Convention is the last weekend of October.

Nominations

Voting members may submit written nominations for all available positions to the wardens or the nominating committee by November 20th.

Please remember that you **must have the consent of the person you are nominating.**

For our Veterans: News from the Village of Youngstown

Wednesday November 8th Niagara County Veterans Service Agency will be at the Village Center to assist our Veterans with issues they may need help with. Please bring a copy of your discharge papers and any recent correspondence from the VA.

Community Missions

The holidays and winter are coming and it's the perfect time to be thinking of those who need our help at the Community Missions.

Please bring personal care items in for our upcoming assembly of personal care items. We also need people to help bring the items we buy upstairs in the parish hall.

We will be assembling the personal care kits after church sometime before Thanksgiving. You can start bringing in your items any time. Thanks.

Would You Be Interested?

Evangelism Conference - March 15-17, 2018

Save the dates for the next Evangelism Matters, an Episcopal Evangelism Conference on March 15-17 for anyone excited to learn about sharing and growing loving, liberating, life-giving relationships with God.

Hosted by St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Cleveland Heights, OH, Evangelism Matters is a churchwide event co-sponsored by the Episcopal Church's Evangelism Initiatives Team and Forward Movement.

The March 2018 gathering follows the first successful Evangelism Matters conference in November 2016.

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will address the conference, and a diverse team of evangelism leaders will lead plenary sessions and workshops. A pre-conference is also underway for "evangelism catalysts" who have been designated by each diocese. Many sessions will be live webcast and available for download, and individual and satellite group participation is warmly welcomed.

If you are interested please let a member of the Vestry know.

Line Dancing

Learn to Line Dance! with Suzanne Diez

Dances seen in local clubs!

Beginner: Tuesdays 6:30PM-7:30PM

Intermediate: Tuesdays 7:30PM-8:30PM

5 Classes: Nov 7 – Dec 12

(no class on Nov. 21st)

\$25 for one course \$45 for both

St. John's Episcopal Church

Fellowship Hall

110 Chestnut St., Youngstown NY

Questions:

Dancing.With.Suzanne.Diez@gmail.com

November Birthdays

- 5 John Lynch (son)
- 6 Greg Robertson
- 9 Delores Jones
- 12 Carla Lynch
- 20 Brandon Comerford
- 23 Kit Williams
- 29 John Lynch

November Anniversaries

- 27 Jim & Nancy Poole

Here is a list of our members so you can pray for them.

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'Luhny
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, Phyllis Norwich, Marie Oblamski
21. Karen Oddy, Deborah Pauline,
22. Shirley Oldfield,, Helene Pavlock,
23. Sally Phillips, James Poole, Nancy Poole
24. Linda Reynolds, Raleigh Reynolds, Carol Reinbird,
25. Jane Richardson, Mickey Sutor, Deacon Vickie Sutor
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

Associate Priest
Rev. Dan Pinti

Associate Priest/Pastoral Care
Fr. Wayne Knockle
716-880-0461

All other church concerns, contact the Wardens

Deacon
Vickie Sutor 716-745-7010

Wardens
Mary Wieland 716-745-7440
Shawn D'Luhny, 716-745-3124
716-263-0210

Vestry

2017

Lark Mattoon, 716-745-3431

2018

Mike Banks 716-745-3828

2019

Don Henry 754-1080

Treasurer

Mike Banks 716-745-3828

See us on Facebook at:

St. John's Episcopal, Youngstown NY

THE SAINT
NOVEMBER 2017

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