

Good News from St. John's

March 2017

St. John's Episcopal Church
313 S. 18th St. – PO Box 882
Parsons, KS 67357



620-421-4540

www.StJohnsParsons.org

MISSION STATEMENT: With God's help we seek to share our love, fellowship, charity and faith with all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

LENT 2017

The highlight of the year for Christians is Easter, the day when our Lord rose from the dead. Lent is a 40 day season of preparation for Easter.

We will begin the season of Lent with the **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday February 28 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.** Shrove Tuesday is also called "Fat Tuesday" because on that day a thrifty housewife uses up the fats that she has kept around for cooking, but that she will not use during Lent. Since pancakes are a standard way of using up fat, that is why we have a pancake meal. The Evangelism team will decorate the parish house with a "Mardi Gras" theme.

Our first Lenten service begins on **Ash Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. on March 1st.** All candles on the Lenten Wreath will be lit at this service, and beginning on the First Sunday of Lent, one will be extinguished each week, with the final candle extinguished on Good Friday.

On Sunday's we will begin with **The Holy Eucharist: Rite One** in the BCP on page 323. There are many changes in this service. We sing the Kyrie, say the second version of the Nicene Creed, a different form of the Prayers of the People, different version of the confession, the Comfortable Words, Eucharistic Prayer 1, a different version of the Sanctus, prayer of Humble Access, a different post-communion prayer, and the Solemn prayers over the people. There is no blessing at the end of the service during Lent. I encourage you to look this service over before Lent, so you can be as comfortable as possible, and enjoy your Lenten journey.

Mother Sharon

“ASHES TO GO”

Have you ever heard about “Ashes to go?” It was begun in St. Louis, in 2006, by an ecumenical Bible study group made up of clergy, spearheaded by an Episcopalian. This group realized that many people could not attend church on Ash Wednesday to receive the Imposition of Ashes because of work schedules or other valid reasons. They mentioned, you can order food at the drive-thru, pickup you cleaning and do your banking, so why not offer “ashes to go.”

So the idea was born to take ashes to the streets. They felt very strong that the need, humility, and healing, shouldn't be confined to a church building. Jesus preached and taught everywhere he went; feeding multitudes of the hungry, preaching from the mount, plain, river bank, by going out to meet his people where they were, even walking on water and climbing that hill with his cross. This movement has spread across the country to at least 31 states and Canada, the UK and South Africa, as an expression of liturgical evangelism.

So taking ashes out to share with our communities cannot begin to compare with the impact that Jesus' life and ministry had and still has on the world.

This is not to be used as an excuse not to attend the Ash Wednesday service, but it is an opportunity for those, of the Episcopal tradition, as well as ALL people to receive ashes and to take a fresh look at the church and the gospel.

Gloria Young & I will be at 18th & Corning, and Verlyn & Bess Stone Bolinger will be at 18th & Main from 11:00 to 1:00 pm.

Mother Sharon

Adult Education Lenten Study

The topic for this year's Lenten study is: “Exploring the Apostles Creed: What Christians Believe and Why.”

Books are on the desk in the office with a sheet to sign your name. We will begin on Monday March 6 at 6:30 pm with Evening Prayer from Enriching Our

Worship in the church, followed by snacks, and study in Fox Hall, ending at 8:00 pm.

Thoughts on Evangelism

As chair of the Evangelism committee I would like to thank you for taking the time at the annual meeting to look at our exhibit that we had prepared for you. We hope that it gave you a bit of information regarding some of the things we try to share with the Parson community on behalf of you, our St. Johns family.

Having said the above, I would like to share the following information with you. I understand that Evangelism is for many of us and particularly for us 'Episcopalians' it has become a foreign word and something we are not particularly comfortable with. With those thoughts in mind Please take the time to pick up a mug of tea or coffee and share the following thoughts with me.

“Evangelism is fundamentally a spiritual practice, as important to our spiritual health as prayer, worship and study. As such, evangelism is not simply an act or set of Christian 'techniques'. It is not a programmatic effort or formulaic recitation of memorized speech. It is not a generation of false sentiments or a sale of artificial emotion. It is not wanton advertising of religious slogans. It need be neither demonstrative nor dogmatic. It is not recruitment. It is not judgement.

“True evangelism emerges from a practiced disposition of gratitude, a willfully embraced motivation rising from our experience of wonder, delight, and gratification in the Holy Spirit that propels us out to others to share our good news. And it is a new way of seeing and hearing others---as people who also have stories of delight and gratitude for God's movement in their lives. Evangelism is a willful, joyful spiritual discipline of seeing and naming the Holy Spirit at work in ourselves and those we encounter---giving voice to our own grace-filled experiences, and helping others find their voice. It is practicing what we read in the Psalms---no matter what our current state, we can recall for ourselves and others the great works of God in each other's lives.

“Evangelism begins most fundamentally with you. On your holy pilgrimage to carry gifts for the world that are far deeper than you can even begin to recognize.*

- Transforming Evangelism: David Gortner /episcopalcafe

Gloria Young

Vestry Meeting Summary

St. John’s Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

February 13, 2017

Present: Alice Miller, Candy Scarborough, David Bamberger, Gary Chubb, Verlyn Bolinger, Jupe Allen and Mother Sharon.
Absent: Martha Stone

Development:

Gospel Based Disciples included a reading, Mark 11: 1-11

Treasurer’s report:

We are slightly behind on pledges. The Parochial report was reviewed and accepted. The previous Treasurers report was discussed and approved.

Old Business:

The alarm system has been upgraded with the installation of new components for the budgeted amount of \$840.

The counter top for the basement restroom project is still in progress.

All lectors attended the workshop but Linda and she met privately with Mother Sharon and so now everyone is up to speed.

Gary is making progress on the renovation of the pews for the sanctuary.

Mother Sharon reported the Council of Trustees held a meeting mostly concerning the process of replacing Bishop Wolfe.

New Business:

New contact sheets, ministry team assignments and budgets were dispersed to vestry members. New member David Bamberger will join the College Ministry team and will volunteer for Laundry and Latte.

Surplus furniture in basement was removed.

Candy gave a SE Convocation report outlining plans presented to relieve the priest shortage.

Assessment:

Sharing time:

Minutes from the January 8 meeting were approved.

Vicar's Report: No report

Reports from the Wardens:

SR-Candy Scarborough continues as Sr Warden.

JR- Alice Miller is new Jr Warden.

Discernment:

Worship & Music: Ashes to go will be distributed at two locations on Ash Wednesday, in front of the church and at 18th and Main.

Outreach: No report.

College: Welcomed David Bamberger as a new member

Communications: Distributed Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper flyers to all hirise residences as well as the college and Youth Crisis Shelter.

Stewardship/Planned Giving: No report.

Evangelism: No report.

Education: Children- Sunday school will now be held twice monthly.

Adult- Lenten study will be on The Apostles Creed by Adam Hamilton.

Building & Grounds: No report.

Endowment: January 31 balance is \$112,077.

ECW: No report.

Next meeting: March 13, 2017.

Meeting closed with a prayer by Mother Sharon.



Treasurer Report

Thank you again for your generous and persistent support of our great church. Thank you for all who have pledged for 2017.

Verlyn W. Bolinger Jr.
Treasurer of St. John's Episcopal Church

Please send Articles for The Good News to Senta
Meister, sentabradmeister@aol.com or St. John's
Episcopal Church, PO Box 882, Parsons, KS 67357.



Prayer List

Our prayers have been asked for:

Jim, Terry, Teresa, Jim, Sharon, Sammie, Ruth,
Kris, Terrell, Mary, Harry, Jolene, Syrus, Gina,
Gloria, Jennifer, James, Ethan, Adin, Judith,
Cathryn, Betts & Umbarger families, Jim, Janie,
Harrison, Austin, Michael, Fred, Jamie, Jim, Steve,
William, Jim, Becky, Nolan, Troy, Carole, Diane &
the Young family, Kelly, Nick, Nicky, Kara,
Phyllis, Wuanita, Trinity, Roger, Shelby, Kylie,
Bruce, Vickie, Ethan, Marisa, Tiffany, Paula,
Raymond, Edie, Janelle, Lyla, Wally, Delaney,
Chris, Ed, Sue & family, Michelle, Bill, Jim, Doug,
Betty, Bob, Kip, churches in the Southeast
Convocation in their call to mission, President
Trump & his family, all college ministries in the
Diocese of Kansas, all Southeast Convocation
clergy especially Gary and Dick, the Diocese of
Kansas Council of Trustees and staff, the men and
women serving our country here and abroad, and
those who have served, and those persecuted for
their faith in the Sudan.

Those who have died:



March Birthdays

14 Barbara Cunningham
16 Alice Miller
25 Tim Downum
28 Whitney Kephart



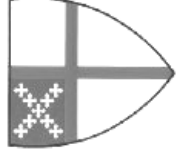
March Anniversaries:

16 Jupe & Debbie Allen



St. John's Episcopal Church

MARCH 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Ashes to Go 11 am-1 pm Ash Wed. Service 6:30 pm	2 Mother in office 1-5 pm L&L 5:30 - 8 pm @ Fabric Care	3 Mother's day off	4
5 The First Sunday in Lent Holy Communion 9:30 am	6 Lent Study 6:30 pm	7	8	9 Mother in office 3-5 pm L&L 5:30 -8 pm @ Fabric Care	10 Mother's day off	11
12 The Second Sunday in Lent Holy Communion and Sunday School 9:30 am	13 Vestry Dinner Meeting – 5:30pm	14 Lent Study 6:30 pm	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 Mother in office 1-5 pm L&L 5:30 -8 pm @ Fabric Care	17 Mother's day off	18
19 The Third Sunday in Lent Holy Communion 9:30 am	20 Lent Study 6:30 pm	21	22 Worship & Music team meeting 6:00 pm	23 Mother in office 1-5 pm L&L 5:30 -8 pm @ Fabric Care	24 Mother's day off	25
26 The Fourth Sunday in Lent Holy Communion and Sunday School 9:30 am	27 Lent Study 6:30 pm	28	29	30 Mother in office 1-5 pm L&L 5:30 -8 pm @ Fabric Care	31 Mother's day off	

St. John's March 2017 schedule

Ash Wednesday

	03/01/2017	03/05/2017	03/12/2017	03/19/2017	03/26/2017
Officiant	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon
Eucharistic Minister	Gary Chubb	Joe Stone	Verlyn Bolinger	Candy Scarborough	Martha Stone
Lector	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Alice Miller	Linda Nichols	Jupe Allen	Daria Condon
Acolytes		Karla Cox, Tim Downum	Verlyn Bolinger, Tim Downum,	Karla Cox	Verlyn Bolinger and Bess Stone-Bolinger
Eucharistic Visitor	None	Senta Meister	None	Daria Condon	None
Greeters	Alice Miller & Bruce Lindemann	Bruce Lindemann & David Bamberger		Bob & Carolyn Adams	Daria Condon
Coffee Hour	N/A	Alice Miller	Bob & Carolyn Adams		Tommy & Fran McLarty
Counters					
Altar Guild		Daria Condon			

