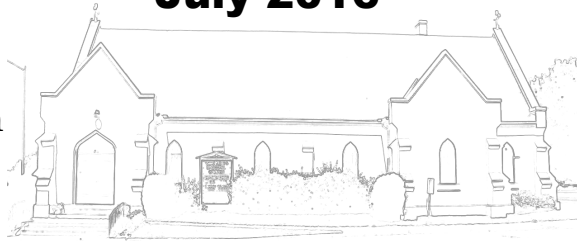


Good News from St. John's

July 2016

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.

SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

The Season after Pentecost is “the time in which we actually live—the period between Pentecost and the Second Advent. The Season after Pentecost is the longest season of the church year reflecting that most of our life is spent in the “in between” times—in between the big exciting events of life.

Nothing seems to change, the routine is established and one day is like the next. But if we will allow it to, ordinary time strips away the outer stuff to help us see and trust the inner world. It means we must live from the inside out. The Season after Pentecost invites us to look within instead of looking around, to find the extraordinary in the ordinary, and to allow our ordinary everyday life to become our prayer.

When we truly live the Season after Pentecost we discover that every moment is sacramental, nothing is just ordinary, and the Kingdom of God is within. Perhaps the greatest impediment to discovering and living the sacrament of the moment is the busyness of the moment.

Most of us have our life structured by paper or electronic calendars and task lists. They tell us where to go, when to be there, and what to do. Our schedules may be organized but what about our lives? What about that scattered, chaotic, restless feeling that comes from way down deep inside of us? It seems that no matter how well we stick to our schedule or how many tasks we accomplish the feeling that there is or should be something more is still around. And then it strikes us—our tools of organization often serve only to document how disordered our lives have become!

St. Augustine said that our hearts are restless until they rest in God. “Resting in God” sounds like a great idea, but many of us think we are too busy to take time to rest in God. And if we can just do or schedule a little bit more, then maybe that restless feeling will go away. Wrong! That restless feeling is God calling to us.

We may not have “Resting in God” written on our calendars but the Church does. It is called the Season after Pentecost. During this time God is calling us to rest in God's presence, to experience his love, and live our Christian faith in ordinary everyday life.

Resting in God does not mean that we simply sit around and do nothing. And it does not necessarily mean that we have to give up our daily schedule and tasks—though some changes might be in order. Everything we do—work, study, play—can be considered as prayer in the sense that what we do and who we are, connects us to the reality of God.

The Church offers us the Season after Pentecost and says, “Look at all the opportunities you have to practice resting in God”. Will you join with me, and take time to rest in God during the Season after Pentecost?

Season after Pentecost through the Eyes of Daily Life

The twenty-six collects for the Sunday's that follow Pentecost, this year, fall broadly under four themes. Each theme is a statement of a basic Christian truth, which applies to us at any age. As organizing principles for learning, these truths enhance the educational life of the church community and make teaching more than mythology, because they are directly related to our lives.

We are God's children:

- ❖ Throughout his life on earth, Jesus told others about his Father, and did what he knew to be God's will for his life. Jesus served and honored his Father in all ways in his life and in his death.
- ❖ As we grow in faith and in years, to know ourselves as children of God calls for increasingly mature responses, but the underlying truths are there for us at any age.
- ❖ Because we are God's children we trust him, we believe in him, we want to worship him, and most of all we want to discover his will for our lives.

We have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and a ministry of love to other people:

- ❖ Through our prayers, the sacraments, and the life in the community of the church we have a relationship of faith with the living Christ and his mission.
- ❖ We know that Jesus is God. We know, too, that he is our brother. His incarnation, death, resurrection, and ascension are faith events for us, centered in the celebration of the Eucharist,
- ❖ We try faithfully to respond to the commandment of Jesus Christ that we love another as he has loved us.

God calls us to be open to the reality of the presence and action of the Holy Spirit:

- ❖ We learn to understand the nature of the Holy Spirit as shown to us in the teaching of Jesus and elsewhere in the Bible.
- ❖ We increase our ability to recognize the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in

the world through prayer and thoughtful listening

We believe in the church as the Body of Christ in the world and in the church's mission:

- ❖ We believe in and work with the church as it carries on its mission of bringing about the Kingdom of God in the world through prayers, service, and witness.

It is our hope that you have enjoyed these articles and have grown in your spiritual life and journey.

Adult Education Team & Evangelism Ministry Team

Gloria Young

Martha Stone

Alice Miller

Mother Sharon

Verlyn & Bess Stone-Bolinger

St. John's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

June 13, 2016

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

Development:

Gospel Based Disciples included a reading from Matthew 17:14-21

Treasurer's report:

The report was approved.

Old Business:

The Vision Team reported the consensus of the meeting is the only help the churches of the SE Convocation will receive from the diocese for preparing for the future is training of our Lay leaders. The team has asked for a list of trainers in a letter to Canon Lightcap. With access to a certified trainer, the SE Convocation could then schedule the training without having to depend on the diocese.

The results of the Vision Team's vestry survey has yet to be compiled.

No bids were received concerning re caulking the windows in Fox Hall. Other options will be explored.

The search for a child care attendant continues. A sign will be placed in the church yard and another ad will be run in the Parsons Sun.

The Sunday school teachers met to discuss moving the school to the basement. Floor covering was the main concern and options were debated. A recommendation is forthcoming. The newly revamped sound system will be able to accommodate the move.

New Business:

Fr. Bill Wolff is retiring and a gift of \$100 in an appropriate card was approved in honor of his many years of service as well as his friendship with St John's.

Carrie Tierney has retired as Sunday school coordinator. Bess Bolinger will take over in that capacity.

A candidate for the Vocational Diaconate has emerged. He is from Coffeyville and is named Charles Durland. Meetings for him to meet with the SE Convocation discernment committee will be scheduled.

A letter from the Bishop has been sent seeking monetary donations to finish construction of the Kansas School of Ministry in Topeka. No recommendation was made.

Assessment:

Minutes from the May 9 meeting were approved with corrections.

Vicar's Report: Has officiated in four funerals in four weeks and is praying for a respite.

Reports from the Wardens:
SR-No report

JR- No report

Discernment:

Worship & Music: No report

Outreach: No report

College:No report

Communications:No report

Stewardship/Planned Giving: No report.

Evangelism: Plan to have a float in the Christmas Parade.

Education: Children's reported above. Adult: The remaining 2 weeks of the Lenten study will be scheduled.

Building & Grounds: No report

Endowment: May 31 total \$118,732.80

ECW: No report

Next meeting: July 11, 2016

Meeting closed with a prayer by Mother Sharon.

Jupe Allen, Clerk



Treasurer Report

The following is a brief report on how our 2016 pledges and donations received to date compare with 2015:

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
Total of pledges received	22	17
Total pledged (annual)	\$59,496	\$52,900

Total Amount Received (to date Number of Pledges Received) \$19,341 we are \$1,708.14 ahead of budget.

Thank you again for your generous and persistent support of our great church. Thank you for all who have pledged for 2016.

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



Prayer List

Our prayers have been asked for:

Jim, Terry, Teresa, Jim, Sharon, Sammie, Ruth, Kris, Terrell, Jean, Mary, Harry, Jolene, Syrus, Gina, Gloria, Jean, Jennifer, Derek, James, Ethan, Adin, Judith, Cathryn, Betts & Umbarger families, Jim, Janie, April, Avery, Harrison, Austin, Michael, Fred, Jamie, Jim, Steve, William, Jim, Becky, Nolan, Troy, Carole, Diane & the Young family, Jackie, Julia, Kelly, Nick, Nicky, Kara, Phyllis, Wuanita, Trinity, Roger, Cindy, Shelby, Kylie, churches in the Southeast Convocation in their call to mission, President Obama & his family, all college ministries in the Diocese of Kansas, all Southeast Convocation clergy especially Gary, Dick, and Jerry, 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:



July Birthdays

2 Terry Reeves
3 Patricia Chrisman
8 Jolene Main

9 David Bamberger
10 Brad Meister
11 June Brooks
18 Martha Stone
20 Brittanya Dunlap
23 Carolyn Adams
26 Sidni Meister
29 Senta Meister



July Anniversaries:

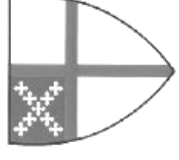
31 Jean and Terrell Scarborough

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.



St. John's Episcopal Church

JULY 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Mother's day off	2
3 The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion 9:30 am	4 Outreach team meeting 6:30 pm	5	6	7 Mother in office 1-5 pm	8 Mother's day off	9
10 The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion 9:30 am	11 Vestry dinner meeting 5:30 pm	12 Outreach meeting 6:00 pm	13	14 Mother in office 1-5 pm	15 Mother's day off Newsletter Deadline	16
17 The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion 9:30 am	18	19	20 Worship & Music team meeting 6:00 pm	21 Mother in office 1-5 pm	22 Mother's day off	23
24 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion 9:30 am	25	26	27	28 Mother in office 1-5 pm	29 Mother's day off	30
31 The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion 9:30 am						

St. John's July 2016 schedule

	7/3/2016	7/10/2016	7/17/2016	7/24/2016	7/31/2016
Officiant	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon
Eucharistic Minister	Martha Stone	Candy Scarborough	Gary Chubb	Joe Stone	Verlyn Bolinger
Lector	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Linda Nichols	Jupe Allen	Daria Condon	Alice Miller
Acolytes	Bess Stone-Bolinger, Verlyn Bolinger	Verlyn Bolinger, Karla Cox, Gary Chubb	Tim Downum	Tim Downum, Karla Cox	Tim Downum, Bess Stone-Bolinger, Joe Stone
Eucharistic/Pastoral Visitor			Daria Condon		
Greeters	Bruce Lindemann, David Bamberger	Jim & Linda Nichols	LT and Carrie Tierney	Bob & Carolyn Adams	LT & Carrie Tierney+
Coffee Hour	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	Help Yourself
Counters	Candy Scarborough and Martha Stone				
Altar Guild	Linda Nichols				