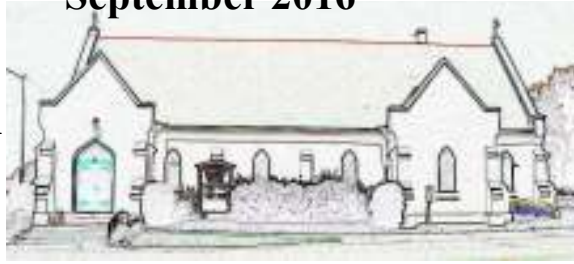


Good News from St. John's

September 2016



St. John's Episcopal Church
620-421-4540
313 S. 18th St. – PO Box 882
www.StJohnsParsons.org
Parsons, KS 67357

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.

The Anniversary of September 11th

“For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, I will let you find me, says the Lord” (Jeremiah 29:11-14).

In the years since 9-11-01, we have seen signs of hope and restoration and signs of God's people listening, trusting, and relying on God as they live their lives. We do not know God's timeline for the future, but we can trust God's unending love and God's long history of providing for God's people. It is hard not to know God's plan for the future, but it is good to know that God does have a plan. That does not mean that we will never suffer. In fact, it is amid strife that we find compassionate responses, loving acts of kindness, prayer, images of hope, and the presence of God.

On this anniversary of 9-11, you can continue to move forward, looking to the future with hope, while still remembering the feelings of the past. But those feelings can be washed in God's love and care. For surely we know that God has a plan for us!

This year, September 11, 2016, falls on our picnic Sunday. We will have special readings, prayers, and music. Please plan to join us on the north lawn, weather permitting.

Mother Sharon

LABOR DAY

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is a creation of the labor movement and is dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

Labor Day began in 1882, in New York City. Street parades were held to exhibit to the public “the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations” of the community, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families. Then speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the economic and civic significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement.

The vital force of labor added materially to the highest standard of living and the greatest production the world has ever known and has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pay tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation’s strength, freedom, and leadership—the American worker.

A Pastoral Directive Regarding the Presence of Firearms in Churches

Effective August 1, 2016, the carrying of firearms will formally be prohibited in all church facilities in the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas and in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Kansas, except as carried by law enforcement officials in the line of duty. In order to comply with state law, all church owned property must post signs indicating that guns are not permitted. (You will notice we have posted the required signs on the door leading into Fox Hall, the door at the top of the ramp, and the front doors facing 18th street.)

Over the last several years, a series of radical changes in firearms laws in the State of Kansas has led to permission being given to carry firearms, openly or concealed, into churches and other houses of worship. These changes reverse long-standing law and practice regarding firearms in our state. These changes reflect the efforts of an active gun manufacturers' lobby, and in our judgment, they unnecessarily endanger the citizens of our state and the members of our parishes.

Under these laws, firearms can be prohibited from churches when the ecclesiastical authority expressly prohibits their presence and erects signage making clear such prohibition. Together we are making that clear judgement through this directive.

As Christ's body, the Church and all its members belong to the coming Kingdom. Every time we celebrate the Eucharist we demonstrate God's generous, nonviolent for all creatures. We even call the space we use for our worship "a sanctuary."

The Right Reverend Dean E. Wolfe
Ninth Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas

The Right Reverend Michael P. Milliken

**St. John's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
August 8, 2016**

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

Absent: Jupe Allen

Development:

Gospel Based Disciples included a reading from John 3:1-21.

Treasurer's report:

Treasurer's report was approved.

Thermostats will be re-programmed to reduce the electric bill.

Balance in Clergy Support Fund \$31,159.58 as of June 30, 2016.

Old Business:

Bid from Scott Harding on re-glazing the windows in the parish house in the amount of \$1,500.00. No action taken.

When will gutters be cleaned out and bushes trimmed by sign?

Discussion on bid for flooring in the basement classrooms in the amount of \$2,162.21. No action taken.

Martha volunteered to paint the 2 basement classrooms, and bathrooms.

The Lenten Study on John will conclude the third Monday in August.

Picnic date changed to September 11, 2016 at 10am.

The "no guns" signs will be placed on the north side doors with magnetic photo pockets. Still researching for a way to place on 18th street doors.

New Business:

Not-for-Profit annual report has been filed. Copy is in office.

Signs have been placed on both north doors reminding people to lock and latch doors and make sure alarm is set.

Thank you notes from LAC and Gloria Young.

Diocesan Convention information has been received.

Assessment:

Minutes from the July 11 meeting were approved.

No Vicar's Report.

No Wardens reports.

Discernment:

Worship & Music: No report

Outreach: Loose plate offering from August 14th will be designed for school supplies and given to LAC.

College: L&L resumes August 25th.

Communications: No report

Stewardship/Planned Giving: Stewardship program in planning stages.

Evangelism: Next meeting August 22nd.

Education: Sunday school will begin September 11.

Building & Grounds: Covered above.

Endowment: \$120,516.01 as of June 30, 2016.

ECW: Picnic: Church will furnish meat, buns, drinks; everyone to bring side dish.

Next meeting: September 12, 2016

Meeting closed with a prayer by Mother Sharon.

Mother Sharon-for the 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) \$23,896.50 we are \$1,854.81 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.



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, Shelby, Kylie, Bruce, Vickie, Ethan, Marisa, Tiffany, Paula, 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:



September Birthdays

5 Linda Nichols
26 Carrie Tierney
27 Jupe Allen III
29 Mike Scarborough



September Anniversaries:

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.



How Do
YOU
Keep The
Doors Open ?

ALL PARISH MEETING
Sunday, October 9
Immediately following the service

St. John's Episcop



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Outreach meeting 6:00 pm		1 Mother in office 1-5 pm Laundry & Latte 5:30-8:00 pm	2 Mother's day off	3
4 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion 9:30 am	5 Vestry dinner meeting 5:30	6 Outreach meeting 6:00 pm	7	8 Mother in office 1-5 pm Laundry & Latte 5:30-8:00 pm	9 Mother's day off	10 SE Convocation Board Meeting 10:00 am
11 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost PICNIC Holy Communion 10:00 am North Lawn	12 Adult Study 6-8pm	13	14	15 Mother in office 1-5 pm Laundry & Latte 5:30-8:00 pm	16 Mother's day off	17
18 The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Morning Prayer and Sunday School 9:30 am	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21 Worship & Music meeting 6:00 pm	22 Mother in office 1-5 pm Laundry & Latte 5:30-8 pm	23 Mother's day off	24
25 The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion and Sunday School 9:30 am	26	27	28	29 Laundry & Latte 5:30-8:00 pm	30 Mother's day off	

St. John's September 2016 schedule

	9/4/2016	9/11/2016 - Picnic	9/18/2016 Morning Prayer	9/25/2016
Officiant	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Martha Stone	Mother Sharon
Eucharistic Minister	Verlyn Bolinger	Candy Scarborough		Gary Chubb
Lector	Daria Condon	Gloria Young	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Linda Nichols
Acolytes	Karla Cox, Tim Downum	Verlyn Bolinger	Karla Cox	Verlyn Bolinger, Katrina, Bess Stone-Bolinger, Meisters
Eucharistic/Pastoral Visitor	Senta Meister	None	Daria Condon	None
Greeters	Bruce Lindemann, David Bsmberger	Alice Miller		Jim & Linda Nichols
Coffee Hour	Help Yourself	PICNIC	Alice Miller	Jim & Linda Nichols
Counters	Jupe Allen, Candy Scarborough			
Altar Guild	Martha Stone			