

Good News from St. John's

July 2017

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



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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 through the Eyes of Daily Life

The twenty-five 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.

I hope you enjoy these articles and they help you to grow in your spiritual life and journey.

Mother Sharon

STUFF THE BUS



Needed

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| Backpacks | Index Cards |
| Binders | Rulers |
| Pocket folders | Calculators |
| Wide & college rule spiral notebooks & loose-leaf paper | |
| Blue, black & red ink pens | Crayons |
| No. 2 pencils | Colored pencils |
| Washable markers | Glue sticks |
| Highlighters | Safety & |
| pointed scissors | |
| Pink erasers | Bottles glue |
| Expo markers | |
| Tissues | Hand sanitizer |

Monetary donations are also needed to fill in the gaps of needed supplies not received. Checks should be made to LCEAC with a notation of "school supplies" on the memo line.

The "red tub" will be in the narthex beginning July 9, 2017, and school supplies will be blessed on Sunday August 13, 2017.

"Breath on me Breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love as thou hast loved and do as thou may do."

We have just celebrated Pentecost. Pentecost is one of the prominent feasts in the Christian liturgical year commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ and is considered by many to be the official "Birth of the Church" "As Christians we have a tendency to see and/or even ignore the power and beauty of this Feast Day and then, all too often, put it safely tucked away, tucked into the special place of beautiful thoughts and memories along with Christmas, Easter, the Resurrection, etc.

In so doing we miss a greater part of the mystery of Christ' life: His purpose; death; resurrection; and ascension! Examine these questions: Who is the Holy Spirit? How should we approach Him? What are His attributes? What does the Bible say about Him? At the very beginning of Genesis, you have God's Word, Jesus; you have God the Father; and you have the Holy Spirit: the Trinity all represented in creation. The interesting part of this is the Hebrew word for spirit. We almost get a little spooky talking about the Holy Ghost, but the Hebrew word behind spirit is *ruach*, and it means "air in motion." It is the same word for "breath." It also means "life." By resemblance to breath and air in motion, it

means "spirit." That's where we get the translation, and the Hebrew word contains all those different meanings. If we just leave it with our English word "spirit," we're not getting the full attributes of what the Bible is trying to describe. It's trying to describe that there's a breath involved. Jesus is talking about the Holy Spirit, and He's saying it is like wind. When you get into the Greek behind that, the Greek word is *pneuma*, which again means "a current of air," "breath," or a "breeze" and again by analogy, "a spirit." So both the Hebrew and the Greek word are talking about breath.

I'm asking you to take those thoughts with you through the day, through the month, through the year. What place does the Holy Spirit take in my life? The Holy Spirit, the breath of God. When you get into that kind of analogy, you now understand better what the attributes are. It's no longer something spooky, but it's something very close to you. It's as close to you as your very breath both the Hebrew and the Greek word are talking about breath. I think Christians now more than ever need to be filled with the Holy Spirit, need to be filled with His authority, really need to have the power of God working in their lives. We live in perilous times we need to be fully armed, fully prepared with the Holy Spirit. Let me conclude with this. It's the conclusion that is found in the 150th Psalm. It's the very last word in Psalms. It's the very last Psalm. There are a 150 of them, and here's the very end of it. It says, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!" Let your breath praise the Lord today!



Treasurer Report

The following is a brief report on how our 2017 pledges and donations received to date compare with 2016:

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Total of pledges received	17	17
Total pledged (annual)	\$52,900	\$61,717

We are behind \$952.32 in pledge income so please maintain your pledge of support.

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



26 Sidni Meister
29 Senta Meister

Prayer List

Our prayers have been asked for:

Jim, Terry, Teresa, Jim, Sharon, Sammie, Ruth, Kris, Terrell, Mary, Harry, Jolene, Syrus, Gina, Gloria, James, Ethan, Judith, Betts & Umbarger families, Jim, Janie, Michael, Jamie, William, Becky, Troy, Diane & the Young family, Jackie, Kelly, Nick, Nicky, Kara, Phyllis, Wuanita, Trinity, Shelby, Bruce, Vickie, Raymond, Janelle, Lyla, Wally, Delaney, Chris, Ed, Sue & family, Michelle, Jim, Doug, Betty, Bob, Kip, Michelle, Ron, Pat, Vincent, Bev, Barbara, Jeffrey, Barry, Melva, Gabriel, Rocky & Sandy, Boo, Betty, Pat, Jane, Susie, Robyn & Steve, 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 Bishop's search and transition committees, 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 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.



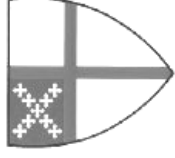
July Birthdays

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



St. John's Episcopal Church

JULY 2017



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

St. John's July 2017 schedule

	7/2/2017	7/9/2017	7/16/2017	7/23/2017	7/30/2017
Officiant	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon
Eucharistic Minister	Gary Chubb	Candy Scarborough	Verlyn Bolinger	Martha Stone	Joe Stone
Lector	Gloria Young	Alice Miller	Linda Nichols	Jupe Allen	Daria Condon
Acolytes	Verlyn Bolinger	Karla Cox	Tim Downum	Karla Cox	Tim Downum
Eucharistic/Pastoral Visitor		None	Daria Condon	None	None
Greeters	Bruce Lindemann, David Bamberger	Bob & Carolyn Adams	L.T. & Carrie Tierney	Need Volunteers	Need Volunteers
Coffee Hour	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	Help Yourself	Help Yourself
Counters	Gary Chubb,				
Altar Guild	Candy Scarborough				