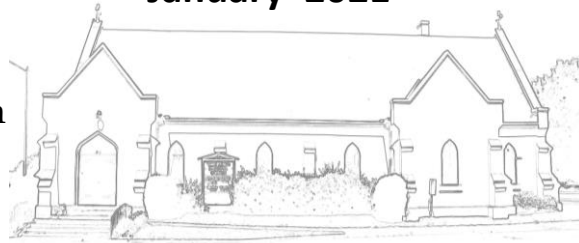


Good News from St. John's

January 2021

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.

The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ

The Epiphany of our Lord is the wonderful liturgical festival observed on January 6th. It is the oldest of the Christmas festivals and originally the most important.

Epiphany Day itself commemorates the arrival of the Magi in Bethlehem to worship the Messiah and bring him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Since the earliest days of the church, these wise men have been considered to be representatives of all the peoples of the earth. By means of a miraculous star, God showed them that Jesus was born to be not only the King of the Jews, but the Lord and Savior of all nations.

Epiphany is on a Wednesday this year, the kings will arrive at the creche. As of this writing, no in person service is allowed, however, if that should change, an eblast will be sent.

We will live stream regardless which type of service we have.

Mother Sharon

The Christmas Season and Epiphany

One of the great opportunities we have these days is to savor the Christmas season. Christmas is not a single day; it's a season over a period of 12 days. Having prayed that our Lord might come to us, we can let the reality of His coming enter more deeply into our daily experience, by savoring the story and letting His being one with us become a more conscious reality as these stories intersect our daily lives.

Imagine yourself in the stable.

Listen to what Mary & Joseph are saying to each other.

Let yourself be moved by how open the shepherds were to this mystery.

Did you want to hold the Christ child?

What happened to you as you looked at the Christ child, knowing he would die on a cross, but would be raised to breathe the Holy Spirit into us all?

The Feast of Epiphany, one of seven principal feasts, is celebrated on the 6th day of January. We will have an Evening Prayer service that night to celebrate Epiphany.

The Three big events we remember in Epiphany are:

The visit of the wise men bringing gifts to the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

The flight of Mary & Joseph with baby Jesus to Egypt to escape the threat of Jesus' young life from King Herod.

Jesus' baptism by John in the river Jordan revealed his divinity as the Son of God.

May you have a Holy and blessed Christmas & Epiphany season.

Mother Sharon

St. John's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting

November 9, 2020

Present: Verlyn Bolinger, Karla Cox, Martha Stone, Dennis Condon, Jupe Allen and Mother Sharon.

Development:

Gospel Based Disciples included and reading from Luke 14:12-24

Treasurer's Report:

We are about \$ 1,800 behind with pledges. Some reminders were sent to people behind in pledge payments. The transaction and budget reports were reviewed. The report was approved.

Old Business:

The Thanksgiving Dinner donation list is posted on the board in the vesting room.

The Nominating Committee are still recruiting candidates and will have a full report at next month's meeting.

The initiatives for parishes to research social injustice presented last month were discussed.

More volunteers are needed to operate the camera and the organ box. Karla volunteered for both.

We will continue to live stream weekly. UTO donations need to be submitted by December 1. An e-blast to that effect will be sent.

New Business:

Bishop Bascom has issued a directive that we monitor local Covid-19 infection numbers to determine if we are allowed to have in person services. The possibility exists that in person services will once again be suspended.

A register of all in attendance at the weekly service needs be kept. Mother Sharon has accepted responsibility for this task.

The search continues for a lay person to be on the SE Minster committee. There has been some interest in the position and it will be mentioned again in the next e-blast.

The plan for Christmas is a service Christmas Eve at 7:30 and no service Christmas day.

There will be not be a Christmas dinner this year.

Assessment:

Minutes from the September meeting were approved.

Vicar's Report: No report.

Wardens:

Senior: No report.

Junior: No report.

Discernment:

Worship & Music: Examining the December schedule.

Outreach: No report.

Evangelism: No report.

Communications: No Report

Education: Sunday School is starting November 22.

Stewardship: Another email will be sent this week with pledge sheets attached. More testimonies will be given next week.

Treasurer Verlyn presented church expenses separated by category to the Vestry for comment and approval. He will present the data the last Sunday of the month in church. A Tree of Life charm will be ordered and presented to those who make a pledge to the church.

Planned Giving: No report.

Buildings & Grounds: No report.

Endowment: \$115,815 is the balance on September 30.

ECW: No report

Next meeting, December 14, 2020

A prayer by Mother Sharon concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jupe Allen
Clerk

Upcoming diocesan events for youth and young adults

Miqra & Mini-Miqra
ONLINE | JANUARY 15-18, 2021
edokformation.wordpress.com

Youth Game Night



Sundays:
January 3
February 7
March 7

7-8:30 pm on Zoom
Email us for the link:

kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org

& Compline

of our traditional Alternative Spring Break. We will be working at St. Martin in the Field Episcopal Church in Edwardsville, KS (near KC) in the morning, have lunch in their parish hall, then go to the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art together in the afternoon. Thursday, January 7. Please RSVP to Anastasia (internksu@episcopal-ks.org) or Clarke (internku@episcopal-ks.org). Free for young adults, ages 18-24ish.

Miqra and Mini-Miqra registration now open! Due to the on-going pandemic, we anticipate Miqra will need to be online this year. We've scheduled multiple sessions over the traditional Miqra weekend, January 15-18, and invite all youth in grades 6-12 and young adults age 18-24ish to join us. The registration fee is \$20 and includes a Miqra stocking cap and Miqra-in-a-box with activities and handouts for Miqra. Please register by January 1 to ensure timely arrival of your Miqra box. More information and registration available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/EDoKUltraCampSessions>
Questions? Contact Karen Schlabach, kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org.

Alternative Break

Thursday, January 7, 2021 in Kansas City



A morning of service and afternoon of fun!
Open to young adults and college students.

edokformation.wordpress.com/alternative-spring-break

Miqra readers needed! While we cannot have Miqra in-person this year, the reading will continue, online! All members of the diocese are invited to help with the reading, Friday, January 15, 10 am through Sunday, January 18, 10 am. Sign-up for a reading slot, log-on to Zoom at your time, find out from the previous reader where to begin, and read! You may recruit/invite others to read with you and split the time up however you wish. Just make sure someone replaces you before you leave. Sign-up for time slots to read here:

volunteersignup.org/ETBWT. Questions? Contact Karen Schlabach, kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org.

Miqra stocking caps available Instead of t-shirts we'll be offering embroidered Miqra stocking caps this year. They will be dark grey hats with a red brim and a pop-pom on top. The Hebrew Miqra letters will be embroidered on the rim. Order yours online and they will be shipped in early January.

Young Adult Alternative Break Day All young adults are invited to join us for one-day of service and fun. Several universities have canceled their spring breaks this year, so we're offering this in lieu

Hats are \$8 plus \$5 shipping & handling. Order here: <https://tinyurl.com/MiqraHat> (one hat is included with registration in Miqra or Mini-Miqra).

Youth Game Night & Compline On the first Sunday of the month, there will be a youth game night for all youth in the diocese in grades 6-12. Join us!

- Sunday, January 3, 7-8:30 pm
- Sunday, February 7, 7-8:30 pm
- Sunday, March 7, 7-8:30 pm

To join on Zoom, use meeting ID: 857 4195 0793 and the passcode is the current season of the church year. (Don't know? that's okay, e-mail kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org and she'll send you the info, or text her at 913-708-5927).

Karen Schlabach

she/her/hers ([why pronouns matter](#))
Youth, Young Adult & Campus Missioner
The Episcopal Diocese of Kansas
10003 W. 70th Ter.
Merriam, KS 66203
913-708-5927 mobile/text
<http://edokformation.wordpress.com>
kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org

Treasurer Report



Fellow Parishioners,

Times are tough these days. The world is a changing place, and it seems like these days it's changing at a rapid pace. We know we're not always able to meet in person due to COVID-19, but we're still here for you. Unfortunately, with that being said, we still need your support. Currently, we're still behind on pledges. This pandemic has affected us all. We all know someone it has affected in some way. Your ongoing support helps with the costs of the Church. So please, continue your support for St. John's Episcopal Church.

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



Prayer List

Teresa, Jim, Mary, Harry, Gina, Gloria, Ethan, Jim, Janie, Kelly, Kara, Phyllis, Wuanita, Jeffrey, Barry, Boo, Jane, John & family, Regina, Doug, Gale, Valerie, Janice, Ava & Zoe, Bretton, Richard, Robin, Bob, Lynn, Carolyn, Lynn, Dwayne, Doris, Breklyn, Casey, Cayla, Randall, Dominic, Jaylyn, Joe, Marla, Alan, Kay, Jennifer, Leslie, Lorrie, Tina, Addlee, Randy, Jon, Tara, Josh, Vickie, Ron, Sharon, Daniel, Denise, Bill, Randy, Lisa, Noah, Jennifer and family, LuAnn, Mary, Keith, Dennis & family, Mother Ann, those with the coronavirus and their families, healthcare workers, scientists and researchers, those whose jobs have been lost or changed, teachers, staff, students and parents who are facing the uncertainties of the school year, Bishop Cathleen and her family, churches in the Southeast Convocation in their call to mission, the Southeast minster project, all Southeast Convocation clergy especially Gary, Dick, and David, BKSM students, dispatchers and 1st responders, 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:

Those from the coronavirus

Those from the Wildfires

Those from the hurricanes



January Birthdays

6 Sue Long
12 Karla Cox
26 Fran McLarty
29 Regina Cook



January Anniversaries:

12 Mike & Candy Scarborough
18 Lynn Reeves

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

JANUARY 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1		1 Mother's day off	2
3 The Second Sunday after Christmas Service at 9:30 am and live stream	4	5	6 The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ – service at 7:00 pm and live stream	7	8 Mother's day off	9
10 The First Sunday after the Epiphany Service at 9:30 am and live stream	11 Vestry meeting 6:00 pm	12	13	14	15 Mother's day off	16
17 The Second Sunday after the Epiphany Service at 9:30 am and live stream	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20 Worship & Music meeting 5:30 pm	21	22 Mother's day off	23
24 The Third Sunday after the Epiphany Service at 9:30 am and live stream	25	26	27	28	29 Mother's day off	30
31 The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany Service at 9:30 am live stream Annual Meeting 11am						

St. John's January 2021 Schedule

	01/03/2021 Morning Prayer	Epiphany 01/06/2021 Evening Prayer	01/10/2021 Morning Prayer	01/17/2021 Morning Prayer	
Officiant	Verlyn Bolinger	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Bess Stone-Bolinger	
Prayers of the People					
Lector	Ivan Crow	Jupe Allen	Alice Miller	Candy Scarborough	
Acolytes	None	None	None	None	
Organist	Becky	Becky	Becky	Becky	
Soloist	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Ivan Crow	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Ivan Crow	
Greeters	None	None	None	None	
Counters	Vestry				
Altar Guild					

St. John's January 2021 schedule

	01/24/2021 Morning Prayer	01/31/2021 Morning Prayer			
Officiant	Martha Stone	Mother Sharon			
Prayers of the People					
Lector	Candy Scarborough	Verlyn Bolinger			
Acolytes	None	None			
Organist	Becky	Becky			
Soloist	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Ivan Crow			
Greeters	None	None			
Counters	Vestry				
Altar Guild					