

Good News from St. John's

February 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 Journey of Lent

Originating in the fourth century of the church, the season of Lent spans 40 weekdays beginning on Ash Wednesday and climaxing on Holy Saturday.

There are many ways for a congregation to mark the journey of Lent. A visual reminder of the season is the Lenten Wreath of Thorns. On Ash Wednesday all candles are lit and then each Sunday during Lent one candle will be extinguished as the day of Jesus' crucifixion and death draws near. The wreath's growing darkness signifies the sacrifice our Lord made for each of us and focuses our personal and spiritual preparation during this season of Lent.

Many people give up something during Lent, but I like to ask people to take on something. Since we are in a pandemic, I would suggest you send someone a "thinking of your card", calling one of our homebound members, praying for those on our prayer list, or anything else you might want to take on.

Whatever you choose to do, may it be something that will enhance your personal and spiritual journey of Lent.

Mother Sharon

LENT 2021

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 TO GO Pancake supper on Tuesday February 16 from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. (See article elsewhere in newsletter)** 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.

As of this writing, it appears we will NOT be doing Ashes to Go. If something should change we will let you know.

Our first Lenten service begins on **Ash Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday February 17th.** (As of the writing of this article, we don't know if we will have in person service or not.) 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.

May your Lenten journey be holy and blessed.
Mother Sharon

St. John's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting December 2020

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

Development:

Gospel Based Disciples included and reading from Luke 22:39-53

Treasurer's Report:

The transaction and budget reports were reviewed. After reaching out to a few parishioners, we

are now only \$1679 behind with pledges. We currently have 8 pledge commitments for 2021 for \$37,900 and more are expected. The report was approved.

Old Business:

Splash Pad donations totaled \$222. The church will match and send a check for \$444.

Candy Scarborough has accepted the position of Lay Person to the SE Minster committee.

The Thanksgiving Dinner was a success serving an estimated 110 people.

The Nominating Committee has submitted a list of 3 candidates for the two Vestry positions to be vacant: Candy Scarborough, Bess Stone-Bolinger and Carrie Tierney.

Candidates for delegate and alternate to Convocation and Convention are Verlyn Bolinger and Martha Stone. They are unopposed. Tommy McLarty is running unopposed for Endowment Board.

The search for additional parishioners to operate the camera and music box is suspended for now due to the closing of the church due to the pandemic.

New Business:

Our old copier in the church office is on its last leg with another breakdown and no parts available for repair. A gently used replacement is available from McCarty's Office Products. It is a Canon and costs \$2,100. Funding will be planned in next years budget.

Mother Sharon, after some deliberation, mostly concerning her health, has signed a letter of agreement extending her tenure as St John's Vicar for another year. The agreement contains provisions for her to take more Sundays off throughout the year.

Bishop Bascom has issued a directive that with the exception of Christmas Eve, no in person services be held until Epiphany, January 6, 2021.

From Epiphany to Palm Sunday the metrics on the Diocesan website must be followed using local Covid-19 infection numbers to determine if we are allowed to have in person services. As before, the possibility exists in-person services will once again be suspended.

One service for Christmas Eve will be held at 7:00 pm. Parishioners will be notified and asked if attending. If more than 25 respond favorably a second service at 8:30 will be scheduled.

A sizable donation to the Snack-Pack program was received in the amount of \$500. The Outreach committee will send a thank you card.

Assessment:

Minutes from the November 9 meeting were approved.

Vicar's Report: The Vicar has completed the required training and background check to be able to continue serving the church.

Wardens:

Senior: Worked on developing the Vicar's letter of agreement.

Junior: No report.

Discernment:

Worship & Music: Meeting Wednesday to develop the Christmas Eve service.

Outreach: No report.

Evangelism: Blue Christmas lights were strung and an Advent wreath was put up in the front yard of the church.

Communications: The time has come to proceed with updating the camera and sound system for live streaming. The funds were previously approved.

Education: Children's: In place of Sunday School, Bess is live streaming Evening Prayer and decorating the Jesse Tree via Zoom.

Adult: Since there will be no Advent study, inserts on the Way of Love campaign are being placed in the weekly E-blast.

Stewardship: 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: \$119,924.22 is the balance on November 30.

ECW: No report.

Next meeting, January 11, 2021

A prayer by Mother Sharon concluded the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jupe Allen

Clerk



Treasurers 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

New Vestry Members

Congratulations to Bess Stone-Bolinger and Carrie Tierney who were elected to the Vestry at the Annual Meeting.

Thanks to Martha Stone and Dennis Condon who finished their terms on Vestry.

Senior Warden in Verlyn Bolinger, Jr.

Senior Warden is Karla Cox

Clerk is Jupe Allen

Treasurer is Verlyn Bolinger, Jr.



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**



February Birthdays

- 6 Joe Brooks
- 14 John Daley
- 29 Brody Ellis



February Anniversaries:

- 12 Anna & Verlyn Bolinger, Sr.

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

FEBRUARY 2021



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Mother's day off	6
7 The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Service 9:30 am	8 Vestry meeting 5:30 pm	9	10	11	12 Mother's day off	13
14 The Last Sunday after the Epiphany Service 9:30 am	15	16	17 Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm	18	19 Mother's day off	20
21 The First Sunday in Lent Service 9:30 am	22 Newsletter Deadline	23	24 Worship & Music 5:30 pm	25	26 Mother's day off	27
28 The Second Sunday in Lent Service 9:30 am						

St. John's February 2021 Schedule

	02/07/2021	02/14/2021	Ash Wednesday 02/17/2021	02/21/2021	02/28/2021
Officiant	Verlyn Bolinger	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Mother Sharon	Martha Stone
Eucharistic Minister					
Lector	Jupe Allen	Alice Miller	Candy Scarborough	Patti Vernacchia	Ivan Crow
Acolytes	None	None	None	None	None
Eucharistic/ Pastoral Visitor	None	None	None	None	None
Soloist	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Ivan Crow	Bess Stone-Bolinger	Ivan Crow	Bess Stone-Bolinger
Greeters	None	None	Frank & Patti Vernacchia	None	None
Coffee Hour					
Counters	Vestry				
Altar Guild					