April 2022

Dear Friends,

We have come to the end of the Lenten season with great anticipation about our Lord's resurrection this year. During the Lenten season we were able to transition from a time of observing some of the restrictions of the pandemic to returning to the way we were before the pandemic. And now in the midst of it all we will celebrate our Lord's resurrection.

Have you ever thought about how the original disciples felt or perhaps thought after they realized Jesus had risen from the dead? They were on a movement with our Lord during his life like ours as they were serving and proclaiming the Good News of God being with us but then he died and as the gospels tell us they thought they would return to their old ways. Peter said after the resurrection I'm going fishing. (John 21:3) But the resurrected Jesus would not leave them alone. As they arrived at the shore after not catching anything he was waiting for them. They were able to experience Jesus in a different way than they thought they would. Peter became the first Pope. Matthew and John wrote two of the Gospels. Their ministry wasn't over and in many ways all of their lives had just begun in this new way of experiencing their friend in the resurrection.

There are all kinds of possibilities that we can engage in and I am very interested in hearing what your thoughts are as we experience the resurrection of our Lord and the freedom we now have to become part of different ministries here at St. John's.

As our ways of being prior to the pandemic have been restored how is it that we plan to experience this regained life. Where is Jesus calling you in the resurrection? One thing Ede and I did a week or so ago was to meet with adults who are new to our community of faith. During our meeting I asked them what do you need from St. John's? Another way of asking this question is how do you want to live out your life of faith in this wonderful community of faith. As the conversation developed it was clear to me there is a need for a young adults' Sunday school class. I also heard about this need during the pandemic. Therefore, next month we will meet during the Sunday school hour. We will discuss The Rev. Furman Buchanan's book, Gifts of God for the People of God. This class is open to all of our young adults.

Also, a couple of months ago, Donna Stewart and I met with Pastor Larry Hawkins at Union Baptist Church to discuss ways for us to come together as we serve our Lord together. One of the possibilities we discussed once the restrictions of the pandemic open up is to do an outreach project together. Our conversation was wonderful and fruitful as we discussed all kinds of possibilities like building a Habitat Home together.

Christ's peace.

Tomt

# Let's do some spring cleaning

We are looking for any and all volunteers who can help during St. John's Annual Work Day on Saturday, April 9. We plan to work around our grounds from 8:30 until we wrap up.

We will be sprucing up the outside areas around the church. There are several ways you can help - trimming, pulling weeds,

pressure washing, raking, laying mulch or pine straw, etc.

Please let the office know if you can help. If you have any gardening/yard work tools you can bring, let the office know. Trimmers, chainsaws, rakes, pitchforks, pressure washers are all needed.



St. John's will again host soup and sandwich lunches during Holy Week. The lunch dates are Monday through Thursday, April 11 through 14, at 12:40 p.m. following the service.

Come join us! In the past, these lunches have been a wonderful time of fellowship during the week leading up to Easter.

We are asking for volunteers who are willing to prepare sandwiches and/or soup for one of these dates. We still have a few available slots in our sign-up list.

## **Flowering of the Cross**

The Flowering of the Easter Cross is a tradition of transforming a symbol of death, darkness, and pain into something beautiful, new and alive in celebration of the Resurrection of Christ.

On Easter Day, we will be Flowering the Cross at the 10:30 service. Please don't forget to bring your lovely spring garden offerings. So many plants are blooming this month. All members are invited to bring a bloom — children and adults.

The cross will be at the front of the church. Please add your blossoms wherever there's a spot when you enter the church. Let's transform that old wooden cross into a sign of celebration, gratitude and hope.

## **Children's Ministry Calendar Update**

**April 9 - Jackson County Children's Ministry Spring Gathering** hosted by St. John's 9 – 10:30 a.m. The Theme is *Growing*.

**April 17** – Children's Easter Egg Hunt following the 10:30 a.m. service. Please bring filled plastic eggs no later than Thursday April 14, to be hidden during the service. Also, please have your child bring their Easter basket with them.

**July 10-12** - **Vacation Bible School** 5 -7:15 p.m. The theme this year is *The Trinity*.

# Search ster Word

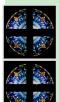


**APOSTLES** CROWN LAMB PRAYER RESURRECTION SON

CHURCH FAITH MARY REDEMPTION RISEN SUNDAY

CROSS **JESUS** MIRACLE REJOICE SAVIOR TOMB













### St. John's Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Brian Seage, Bishop The Rev. Tom Fanning, Rector The Rev. Ede Plovanich, Part Time Associate Priest

Hope Shotts Steiner, Organist-Choir Director Terry Willis, Sexton Jenn Johnson, Church Secretary Amy Baker, Children's Ministry

Pam Eaves, Nursery Attendant Alix Thrower, Nursery Attendant



Kelly Smith - Senior Warden **Deborah Banahan** - Junior Warden **Deborah Banahan** - Parish Activities TBD - Inreach

Rhonda Shook - Outreach Con Lancaster - Treasurer Donna Stewart - Vestry Clerk Bobby Baker - Assistant Treasurer

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - noon Phone: 228-762-1705

E-Mail: office.sjecpm.org Web: www.sjecpm.org

If we missed your Birth-	day or Anniversary	please email or call	Jenn with the date.	Thank you!	Fridav
					Thursday
				SUNDAY	Wednesday
					Tuesday

	Saturday	02 Amee McLendon Seth Waters	Kiel Green Bill Nelson Carpenter Stevens	*Taylor & Trey Sublett	16	Oliver Morris John Warren	*Theresa & Karl Steinberger	23	Marielle Harkey Marjorie Irvine		30	Abigail Banahan Cordie Nelson Jarret Pettis	Jane Pillsbury	07
day or Anniversary please email or call Jenn with the date. Thank you!	Friday	01 Sophia Shows	Melly Smith	*	15			22	Beth Pickel		29	Addyson Switzer Melanie Tristani		90
	Thursday	31	07 Terral Latady		14	Kate Battley	*Taylor & John Banahan *Pashala & Jason Battley	21	Nathan Bosio	*Cayla & Joshua Switzer *Jane & Larry Pickel	28	Cole Branch Becky Ewing	*Dane & Ryan Zelenka	05
SUNDAY	Wednesday	30	90		13	Hart Banahan William Battley	*Kellie & Steve	20	Greg Kinsey	*	27	Porter Jordan		04
	Tuesday	29	0.5	*Beth & Kevin Williamson	12	Terry Guynn		19	Brunson Hilsabeck Carol Hutcherson	*Kristin & Parker Pugh	26	Parker Pugh	*Nichole & Archie Fitch	03
APRIL	Monday	28	04 Kevin Williamson	*Tina & Greg Hicks	11	Frances Latady		18			25	Gayden Purcell Blaire Stewart Kavla Waters		02
2022 APRIL	Sunday	27	03 John Bailey		10			17		*Kathy & Rick Roberts	24			01

	Lay M	linistry Sched	Lay Ministry Schedule April 2022	2	
	April 3rd	April 10th	April 16th	April 17th	April 24th
	The Fifth Sunday in Lent	Palm Sunday	The Great Vigil of Easter	Easter Day	The Second Sunday of Easter
Verger	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey	Dustin Taylor
	8:00am	8:00am	7:30pm	8:00am	8:00am
Lectors/	Bob McDonald	Gina Bardwell		Teresa Williamson	Gina Bardwell
Chalice	10:30am	10:30am		10:30am	10:30am
Bearer	Calen Wills	Teresa Williamson		Calen Wills	Karl Steinberger
	Monica Donald	Carol Hutcherson		Anna Stewart	Kathy Khayat
					Bruner Bosio
	Gabby Kyzar, Fin			Gabby Kyzar, Fin	
Acolytes	Battley, & Jonathan			Battley, & Jonathan	
	Gates			Gates	
Worship Camera	Matt Jones	Bob Plovanich	Bob Plovanich	Bill Stewart	Matt Jones
Ushers	Calen Wills	David Minkler		Calen Wills	Ted Battley
Altar Guild	Tonya Latady & Judy Williamson	Marilyn Boman & Nell Norwood	Rhonda Shook	Priscilla Battley, Rhonda Shook, & Len Muray	Amanda Johns & Laura Branch
Flower	N/A	Stacey Baumhauer	Stacey Baumhauer	Amy Baker	Sherry Boman
Sunday School Teachers	Deanna Battley & Dylan Demouey	Amy Baker & Deborah Banahan	N/A	N/A	Dylan Demouey & Abby Wills