



St. John's Episcopal Church

3507 Pine St. Pascagoula, MS 39567

Dear Friends,

November 2022

I hope all of you are doing well as we enter the fall season. It is a nice transitional season as the temperature becomes cooler and leaves begin to change color. This season is a reminder that change is always present.

A change that I learned about on Thursday, October 27th was the announcement that The Rev. Kyle Seage a former curate at St. John's and Bishop Seage's wife, has accepted a call to St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Belvedere, CA. She will start her new call on the last

Sunday of Advent. While I am certainly excited for Kyle in her new cure, I am sorry that Bishop Seage is resigning as the 10th Bishop of Mississippi, so that he and Kyle can be together in Belvedere. The bishop's resignation is a long process as it could take up to 24 months.

I am sorry Brian is leaving us because he has been a friend, mentor, and pastor to me since I was ordained in 2006. Brian was my assigned mentor for the first two years after I was ordained a deacon. He has given me wise counsel over the years and was a great pastoral presence to Marjie and me when our son Will died. Brian has certainly been a friend to St. John's during his tenure as bishop.

As we move into this time of change you may have a lot of questions about what is happening and why is it taking so long for us to select a new bishop? First of all I am glad we will have this time with Bishop Seage to say our

good byes and thank him for his ministry here in this parish and throughout the diocese. As he said in his letter to the clergy, he will not be holding back during this time and will still be functioning as a bishop until the next bishop is elected, ordained, and seated as the eleventh bishop of Mississippi. My expectation is that he will be at St. John's on February 5, 2023, for his visitation and confirmation services.

Part of the reason it will take up to 24 months for our diocese to elect and seat a bishop is the rules and process that must take place before and after a bishop is elected. If this election happens like it did when Bishop Seage was elected, he will formally inform counsel in Natchez this coming January about his intent to leave the diocese of Mississippi and call for a new bishop to be elected. This will begin the process of the standing committee selecting a search committee. The committee will be made up of ordained and lay people. You can apply to the diocesan standing committee to be on the search committee. This committee will probably do a survey of the diocese via the web which all of us are encouraged to participate in.

The survey will help determine where the diocese is in reference to needs and desires and what the diocese is looking for in our next bishop. Around this time the search committee will ask for priests or bishops to

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Expanding our reach in the community

Blessing Bag Ministry for Homeless

Beginning All Saints Sunday (Nov. 6), all members of St. John's have the opportunity to participate directly in our outreach ministry. Specifically, members can take a Blessing Bag to keep in their car and give to someone homeless in our community.

A Blessing Bag is a gallon-size ziplock bag filled with necessities that most of us take for granted but are not always available to those who are homeless. Our bags will include items that support the nutrition, hygiene, self-respect and overall well being of the recipient. Items include socks, a washcloth, water, protein bar, bandaids, hand sanitizer, soap, chapstick, toothbrush/paste, deodorant, a comb, tissues and more. Each bag will also include a *Forward Day by Day* as well as a card listing helpful resources for homeless individuals.

St. John's Church Outreach Ministry already serves a broad cross-section of needy citizens in and around Pascagoula. So far this year, we've provided more than 5,500 pounds of food and toiletries for nearly 1,000 people through our Food Pantry. With funding from the St. John's Permanent Endowment Fund, this Blessing Bag outreach project will equip St. John's members with food and supplies to give to homeless individuals in our community, significantly expanding our reach.

"We're hoping to provide a little help and hope to homeless individuals," said Liz Evans, coordinator of the effort on behalf of the St. John's Outreach Team. "Providing these little things that bring comfort to people is really important in supporting their quality of life."

As Father Tom has reiterated in his announcements about this new ministry, we are asking all members to use proper caution. Always ask first if the person wants a bag. Other churches with similar programs suggest that asking "Would you like a bag with some food and supplies?" works well.

"Our hope is that members who want to participate will be able to personally provide much-needed help and assistance in the community and be Christ's feet on the ground," said Liz.

If you are interested in participating, pick up a bag or two after church on Sunday and have it ready to share. If you have questions, please reach out to Liz or to Jenn in the church office.



Let's Give Thanks
TOGETHER

PLEASE JOIN US IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE MANY
BLESSINGS OF OUR ST. JOHN'S FAMILY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 13TH AFTER THE
10:30 AM EUCHARIST IN THE PARISH HALL

TURKEY & DRESSING WILL BE PROVIDED.
PLEASE BRING YOUR FAVORITE SIDE DISH
OR DESSERT TO ACCOMPANY THESE ITEMS

Halloween Trunk or Treat



Sweets and
Treats for
all!!

* Photos provided by Amy Baker and Shirley Battley

be nominated to become our next bishop. We will be able to nominate someone via the internet. If you know a priest or bishop who you would like to nominate you can do so.

After all the profiles are complete and nominations are in, the search committee will pick a group of priests or bishops whom they feel best fit the profile of what the people in the Diocese of Mississippi are looking for an interview them face to face. From this group of priests and maybe a bishop they will narrow it down to five or six candidates.

My guess is that those in this group will do something called a walk about where they speak to groups of people in the diocese in different regions of the diocese. I think when Bishop Seage was elected there was a walk about meeting in Gulfport. After the walk abouts there will probably be a special council called that will meet at St. Andrews Cathedral in Jackson to elect our new bishop. This election will probably take place in late 2023 or early 2024. The members of our delegation to council will be the ones who vote on the new bishop. Once the person has been elected

then he or she will have to be approved by all the diocesan standing committees in the Episcopal church along with all diocesan bishops in the church.

Since our delegation to council have already been chosen for 2023, you would like to be a delegate in 2024, please submit your name to Kelly Smith or myself. St. John's vestry will elect three delegates and three alternates in the January vestry meeting per the by-laws of St. John's. We have three delegates and three alternates available. The delegates are the ones who vote but if one or more are not able to attend the meeting then alternates move up to become delegates.

I know this a long and laborious process but it is a process that must happen to find a good a faithful bishop to lead us. So please pray for our diocese during this time of change and pray for Brian and Kyle as they make their transition to her new parish in California.

Christ's peace,

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

St. John's Annual Meeting
December 4, 2022
During the 10:30 a.m. service



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

2022 Vestry

Kelly Smith - Senior Warden
Deborah Banahan - Junior Warden
Deborah Banahan - Parish Activities
Rhonda Shook - Outreach
Con Lancaster - Treasurer
Donna Stewart - Vestry Clerk
Bobby Baker - Assistant Treasurer
Amanda Johns - Member
Matt Jones - Member
Kathy Khayat - Member

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 Birthday or Anniversary please email or call Jenn with the date. Thank you!

NOVEMBER

[SUNDAY](#)

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| 30 | 31 | 01 Gary Bardwell Jesse Diaz *Okee & Chiazo Ekenna | 02 | 03 | 04 Emily Higdon Mitchell Latady | 05 Michael Donahue Katelyn Miller *Harty & Charles Couey |
| 06 Micheal Tolleson | 07 | 08 | 09 Mary Margaret Bailey | 10 | 11 Dawne Dungan Trey Sublett | 12 Doug Green Houston Parrish |
| 13 Emma Wilson | 14 JoAnne Forten- berry Kathy Roberts | 15 | 16 | 17 John Goshorn | 18 Lee Vance *Monica & Bob McDonald | 19 Corbin Switzer |
| 20 Pashala Battley *Dylan & Dustin Demouey | 21 | 22 Lauren Burnsed Anna Stewart Judy Williamson | 23 Tyler Branch Kristin Pugh *Beth & Aaron Masters | 24 Beth Black Paul Jacob Tirstani *Gina & Gary Bardwell | 25 Shirley Hunter | 26 Susan Harris Lynda Howell *Loretta & Ed Ranck |
| 27 Bryan Bosio | 28 | 29 Charlie McVea | 30 Fred Peterson | 01 | 02 | 03 |

*Anniversary

Lay Ministry Schedule November 2022

| | November 6th | November 13th | November 20th | November 27th |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| | All Saints Sunday | The Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost | The Last Sunday after Pentecost | The First Sunday of Advent |
| Verger | Bill Nelson | Dustin Taylor | Dale Harkey | Bill Nelson |
| Lectors/ Chalice Bearer | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am |
| | Teresa Williamson | Mary Maner | Gina Bardwell | Bob McDonald |
| | 10:30am | 10:30am | 10:30am | 10:30am |
| | Kathy Khayat | Karl Steinberger | Calen Wills | Mary Mgt Bailey |
| | Carol Hutcherson | Anna Stewart | Kathy Roberts | Carol Hutcherson |
| | Bruner Bosio | Monica Donald | Rick Roberts | Bruner Bosio |
| Acolytes | Landon Beasley, Emily Pugh, Nelson Pugh | Gabby Kyzar, Parker Demouey, Anderson Wills | Fin Battley, Emily Pugh, Nelson Pugh | Landon Beasley, Parker Demouey, Anderson Wills |
| Worship Camera | Bob Plovanich | Bill Stewart | Matt Jones | Bob Plovanich |
| Ushers | David Minkler | John Banahan | Calen Wills | Ted Battley |
| Altar Guild | Anna Stewart | Marilyn Boman Amanda Johns | Tonya Latady Judy Williamson | Rhonda Shook Priscilla Battley |
| Flower Guild | Deborah Banahan | Mimm Bilbo | Amy Baker | Stacey Baumhauer |
| Sunday School Teachers | Amy Baker, Deborah Banahan, Abby Wills | Kristin Pugh, Amy Baker, Therese Jones | No Sunday School | Amy Baker, Deborah Banahan, Taylor Banahan |