



# St. John's Episcopal Church

3507 Pine St. Pascagoula, MS 39567

June 2023

Greetings, St. John's,

The month of May has been an exciting month for us. Liturgically speaking, it's been a time of moving from Easter to Pentecost then to Ordinary Time.

We have enjoyed many celebrations and ceremonies this past month. We honored our moms, we celebrated our graduates, and we welcomed the newest member of St. John's with a joyous baptism. There was a 'sea of red' as we gathered for Pentecost. We also celebrated the life of one of our faithful members with a beautiful service by Bishop Seage.

Outside of our celebrations and Sunday services, lots of things are happening.

Regarding an Interim Rector: While this process has taken longer than any of us had wanted, I have high hopes that an Interim will be officially contracted by the end of June. (As my grandma used to say, "If the good Lord is willing and the creek don't rise!")

Regarding the Rector Transition Process: Matt Jones was appointed as our Search Committee Chair. Following parish nominations, Matt and the Wardens recommended a search committee to the Vestry. The vestry unanimously accepted this group as the Search Committee. Then, on Trinity Sunday, the Search Committee was officially installed.

The Vestry invited Fr. Stephen Kidd to serve as our Search Consultant. Jointly, the Vestry and the Search Committee met with Fr. Stephen. Fr. Stephen defined the roles of each group so that each member would understand what's expected. He reminded us to continue to share information with you about this process, regarding what is happening and where we are in the process. He also emphasized the need for confidentiality regarding the specifics of the candidates. He also shared that, though there are many smaller and time-consuming steps, the search

process consists of 4 major tasks:

- Develop a Parish Profile and related documents
- Develop a process for and secure nominations
- Devise a screening process and narrow the list of nominees
- Issue a Call for a new rector

Your help is needed as well. The search committee will need your input while developing our parish profile. Watch for and please respond to surveys once we begin sending them out. Your input will help ensure we reflect the entire congregation's "voice" when we draft the profile.

This and That: Starting last Sunday, the 8:00 am Sunday Services are being held in the Chapel. We hope this makes for a more intimate service. I'm happy to share that we have a new secure and user-friendly way to tithe or donate to the church. Simple Give is now active on our website. See page 2 for more details. We are sponsoring a St. John's adult intramural softball team. Watch for announcements regarding upcoming games, and let's cheer them on when they play.

Vacation Bible School starts Sunday. Next month, backpacks will be blessed and we will have special prayers for our returning teachers and students. The annual drawdown is scheduled for August 5. Please get the word out and help sell tickets and raffle tickets (see article on page 3).

Finally, please keep the search committee and the rector transition process in your prayers so that we may find a faithful leader to guide us. I pray our new leader will add strength in areas where we are weak and encourage, support and guide our areas of strength.

In Christ's peace and with his love,



## New Online Giving Option

St. John's has collaborated with Simple Give to launch our new online giving system. Simple Give is safe and secure, rated PCI Level 1 Compliant, which is the highest security standard in the card payment industry. You can follow the steps below if you'd like to begin giving online.

<https://my.simplegive.com/app/giving/stjo6215761>

Enter the link above into your web browser, which will take you to our personalized giving page.

The first page that populates is the Give Now Screen. It allows you to make a one-time donation, or set up a recurring payment for bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annual payments.

You will select a fund from the drop down menu (currently the only fund available is general) and then fill in an optional note (i.e. flower guild, outreach, memorial, disaster relief, etc.). If you are contributing toward your pledge, simply select the general fund and leave the note section blank.

Next, you will enter the amount you would like to give. Once you do this, the payment options will appear. You can pay by credit or debit card, Google pay, or a checking account.

Once you enter your payment information, you will enter the billing information associated with the payment option you selected, and hit Submit.

One of the features of Simple Give is that it allows you to create a login to keep track of your payment history, store a payment method, and update your personal information. If you choose this step you will receive an email to confirm your account creation.

If you have any questions, you can reach out to Jenn in the office or Bobby Baker.

## Servers needed: Here I Am, Lord

We are looking for those of you who would like to serve in one or more aspects here at St. John's. We are needing to fill spots in the following areas: Ushers, Altar Guild, Lectors, and Live Streaming Camera Operators. Training will be provided.

If you are willing to volunteer in one or more of these areas or just want more information to help you decide, please contact Jenn or one of the Wardens for more details.

## Earth Angels' Garden

# Playground plantings



This month, during St. John's workday, several members decided to plant a vegetable garden in a spot Hervey Purcell had created in the playground. Dale and Barbie Harkey and Mike and Kathy Khayat created the garden for the children of St. John's.

They planted cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, red and orange peppers, a white eggplant and basil.

"We named it Earth Angels' Garden because the children are the youngest of the angels in our St. John's family," said Kathy, adding, "Hopefully by the time the children start back with Sunday school, the plants will be producing. The kids can watch the miracle of God's love as the plants grow and hopefully know we can find God in the smallest of things."

## Update on Emma Wilson



St. John's members Kathy and Mike Khayat and Barbie Harkey recently visited Emma Wilson in Brandon. They report that she is doing well and adjusting to her new home.

All agree that Emma loves any reminders of her time in Pascagoula and her many friends here. If you would like to send a card or letter to Emma, please contact Jenn in the office to get her mailing address.

*Emma Wilson enjoys her visit with "Nikki Khayat" during a recent visit.*

## St. John's Annual Drawdown & Silent Auction

Tickets for this year's event are now on sale for \$100. Each ticket admits two (insurance is available for an additional \$20). Only 250 tickets will be sold, and you may purchase tickets at the office or through a church member selling them.

This year's event theme is Peace, Love & St. John's.

As part of the drawdown this year, we are selling raffle tickets for this beautiful Vahan bracelet from Johnson's with a retail value of \$1600.



Raffle tickets are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20 and can be purchased by cash, check or Venmo. You can buy them from a church member selling tickets or from the church office, as well.

Checks should be made out to St. John's Episcopal Church. Please write "raffle" in the bottom left corner on the For line.

If you pay through Venmo, please list your name, phone number and the number of tickets you are purchasing. The Venmo account is @StJohns-EpiscopalChurch.

The drawing will be at the drawdown event on August 5 between 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. at The Grand Magnolia. You do not have to be present to win.

## Children's Activities

**June 11 - 13**

Vacation Bible School from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Theme: "Being God's Instruments"  
Dinner will be served each night.

**June 14**

Pool Party at Taylor & Johnny Banahan's. Dinner and snacks will be served. Wear your swimsuit and bring a towel!

**June 18**

The children will sing during the 10:30 a.m. Eucharist. Donuts with Dad will follow the service.

**July 16**

Blessing of the Backpacks

"Setting Sail into A New School Year!"  
Lunch will be served and we will have a fun water day! Wear your swimsuit and bring a towel!

**September 10**

"Hot Dog! It's Rally Day!"  
New Sunday School Year, we are expanding to two classrooms!

## Reviving Eucharist ministry

We are reviving our lay Eucharist ministry to provide communion at home for those unable to attend a service. This ministry went dormant during COVID.

We will be contacting parishioners and former visitors to determine the extent of the need and to organize a schedule. If you know of any parishioner who needs home communion or if you would like to participate as a lay Eucharist visitor please contact Jenn at the Parish Office or Dale Harkey at 228-219-9330.



### St. John's Parish Staff

The Rt. Rev. Brian Seage, *Bishop*  
Vacant, *Rector*  
Hope Shotts Steiner, *Organist-Choir Director*  
Terry Willis, *Sexton*  
Jenn Johnson, *Church Secretary*  
Amy Baker, *Children's Ministry*  
Pam Eaves, *Nursery Attendant*  
Lily Burnsed, *Nursery Attendant*

### St. John's Vestry

Kelly Smith - *Senior Warden*  
Bob McDonald - *Junior Warden*  
Bobby Baker - *Treasurer*  
Donna Stewart - *Vestry Clerk*  
Amanda Johns - *Personnel*  
Liz Evans - *Outreach/Communications*  
Johnny Banahan - *Activities*  
Kristin Pugh - *Children's Ministry*  
Matt Jones - *Drawdown & Camera Ops*  
Kathy Khayat - *Member*

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

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

# JUNE

## SUNDAY

If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary please email or call Jenn with the date. Thank you!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	01	02	03
Sara Elizabeth Baker Archie Fitch	04	05	06	07	08	09
Wendy Frederic Joseph Green	11	12	13	14	15	16
*Linda & Bruce Grimes	18	19	20	21	22	23
Bennett Switzer	25	26	27	28	29	30
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\*Anniversary

## *Lay Ministry Schedule June 2023*

	<b>June 4th</b> Second Sunday after Pentecost	<b>June 11th</b> Third Sunday after Pentecost	<b>June 18th</b> Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>June 25th</b> Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
<b>Verger</b>	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey
<b>Lectors/ Chalice Bearer</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>8:00am</b>
	Bob McDonald	Anna Stewart	Teresa Williamson	Priscilla Battley
	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
	Karl Steinberger Carol Hutcherson	John Banahan Monica Donald	Calen Wills Kathy Roberts	John Banahan Anna Stewart
<b>Acolytes</b>		Gabby Kyzar, Paker Demouey, & Anderson Wills	Fin Battley, Emily Pugh, & Nelson Pugh	Landon Beasley, Izabella Beasley, Paker Demouey, & Anderson Wills
<b>Ushers</b>	David Minkler	Ted Battley	Calen Wills	John Banahan
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Priscilla Battley Rhonda Shook	Len Murray Priscilla Battley	Connie Belk Marilyn Boman	Anna Stewart Amanda Johns
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Barbie Harkey	Theresa Steinberger	Deborah Banahan Kathy Roberts	Amy Baker