



# St. John's Episcopal Church

3507 Pine St. Pascagoula, MS 39567

Greetings, St. John's,

July 2023

Wow! What a month we had. I have been mentally referring to June, 2023, as the Month of "The Good, The Bad and the Love."

The Good - many fun & joyous activities:

We held a church grounds clean-up day. A small group gave quite a bit of muscle and sweat pulling weeds, trimming bushes, and spreading pine straw. And, a tasty brunch was provided too.

We held our annual crawfish boil. The chefs and their entourage decided to have the boil site in the front parking lot. The intention, in addition to serving delicious crawfish, was to allow our larger community to see activity at St. John's. The hope is that some will be interested enough to visit or inquire about what we are doing.

Vacation Bible School was held in June. The good word of our Lord was shared with many children, some our members and some not. At the following Sunday's service, we honored our fathers and celebrated the end of VBS. The children marched in, instruments in hand, and showed the congregation how they were Being God's Instruments. I, along with most of the congregation, was grinning ear to ear witnessing such sheer joy and excitement from our young parishioners and their guests. We participated by clapping to the beat as the kids sang and played. (Note: If you were unable to attend or watch the service that day, I highly recommend watching the replay on St. John's You Tube channel.) After the service, we had a reception honoring St. John's fathers.

The Bad:

In June, a Tornado touched down in Moss Point, damaging or destroying a lot of property. Thankfully, there was no loss of life due to this Tornado.

The Love:

Almost immediately following the weather threat, the phone calls, texts and other types of check-in began. St. John's parishioners were checking on each other and our neighbors as well. I received updates of those in our congregation who were directly affected but spared major damage.

We were able to donate money to those most in need. And, this help is still on-going. I am always emotionally overwhelmed by the outpouring of offers of help – help both physically and financially. Should you want to contribute financially, you may have the option to use Simple Give on our webpage (just make sure you add the optional note that the payment is for Moss Point Disaster Relief.)

I have been asked why I don't address the rector transition first when I give the announcements or in these letters. Let me explain.

The answer is simple and my choice of order is intentional. While it is vital for us to have trained spiritual guidance and pastoral care, of which a staff Rector will provide, I believe that this search process should not define us and should not be our primary focus. This transition process is extremely important and is on my mind daily (really, hourly). It's one of the many objectives we have at St. John's – Pascagoula. The rector transition is, by all means, being intentionally worked. I hope that reading the above paragraphs will confirm for you that we are a strong and loving church. We need a spiritual guide who will enhance what we are doing. What we are not: a church waiting and hoping for a new Rector to make us strong and loving (we have that part covered!).



# VBS 2023



(cont. from page 1)

Continue to keep our Church, the search committee and the rector transition process in your prayers. Pray that we continue our loving ways. Pray for a faithful leader to guide us. Pray for a new leader who will encourage, support and guide our areas of strength. Pray for a new leader who will add strength in areas where we are weak.

In Christ's peace and with his love,

## Rector Search Update

By Matt Jones

The search committee held our second meeting with our search consultant recently where we discussed in detail the current tasks in front of the team. In accordance with the Episcopal Rector Search Manual, the team is currently working to develop a church survey to more deeply understand our parish needs as it comes directly from our parishioners. When the survey document is published to the parish in the upcoming weeks, we are asking for feedback from each and every parishioner because we want every voice to be heard on what is needed in our new priest.

In parallel, we are working to update the parish profile which will be one of the main documents that helps show potential candidates what St. John's is really about. Information from the survey will directly shape the profile and showcase who we are at St. John's. Shortly after the profile is complete, we will then work with the diocese to formally announce our opening to the Episcopal network. It will be then that we begin to review candidate interest and look at next steps.

As we have been told by Bishop Seage and our search consultant, this is a process that takes time, patience and prayer from the parish as a whole. The search committee is appreciative of all the support during our journey to finding St. John's a new rector. If anyone has any questions about the process, please reach out as I will be happy to elaborate further.

## Drawdown Sponsorships Available

St. John's 17th Annual Drawdown is quickly approaching -- August 5th at the Grand Magnolia.

We are seeking those who would like to sponsor this year's Drawdown.

The fee for sponsoring the event is \$300, and the business logos and/or names of those who sponsor will be featured on a banner at the Grand Magnolia the night of the event. Their names will also be announced throughout the night.

If you know a business or individual that may be interested in sponsoring this year's Drawdown, please reach out to them and share the sponsorship form found on the next page of this newsletter with them. You can reach out to the Church office or Drawdown Committee Member Parker Pugh for additional information.

The sponsorship form will need to be completed and payment can be made by check or Venmo (@StJohns-EpiscopalChurch). All sponsorship payments by Venmo will need to list the business/individual name with the words Drawdown Sponsor.

We value the community support we have been shown in years past and are looking forward to making this year's Drawdown our best one yet!

## Bi-annual Giving Statements

The bi-annual giving statements will be mailed out the week of July 10. Please check your statement upon receipt, and if you believe there is an error please contact our Treasurer Bobby Baker, or Jenn in the office.



### 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](mailto:office.sjecpm.org)  
Web: [www.sjecpm.org](http://www.sjecpm.org)

Please share with interested businesses or individuals

# St. John's Drawdown Sponsorship Form

*St. John's Episcopal Church*  
3507 Pine Street  
Pascagoula Mississippi 39567  
Telephone (228) 762-1705  
Tax Id 64-0352374



St. John's Episcopal Church  
Annual Drawdown

SPONSORSHIP

Sponsor's Name:

Sponsor's Address:

Sponsor's Telephone Number:

Amount of Sponsorship: \$300.00

# 2023 JULY

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	01 Carter Warren
02 Anna Kate Pettis	03 Kailey Hunter	04 Carl Megehee	05 Linda Holden	06 Fin Battley Andrew Bosio Joshua Dickens	07 Curtis Bailey Mary Maner	08 Priscilla Battley Randy Kirksey *Sharon & Ben Thames
09 Tonya Stevens Charles Stevens	10 Kevin Williamson	11 Tom Beery Lanny Beery *Lanny & Tom Beery	12	13	14 Gabrielle Baker Mary Kirksey	15 Mackenzie Boman
16 Suzanne Kinsey	17 Steve Baker	18 Barry Baria Stephanie Lee Charles McVea	19 Brenda Lancaster Fred Waters	20	21	22 Debra Smith *Stacey & Bill Baumhauer
23	24 Charles Busby Joshua Switzer	25	26 John Battley	27 Thomas Nichols Amelia Parrish	28 Judy Kinard Larry Pickel John Stoudenmire Shannon Waters	29 Elizabeth Bailey Bob Donald Cody Fitch
Rocky Bond Jarrett Green Kathy Khayat Tristin Fitch Nikki Scoville	*Anniversary					

## Lay Ministry Schedule July 2023

	July 2nd Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	July 9th Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	July 16th Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	July 23rd Eighth Sunday After Pentecost	July 30th Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
<b>Verger</b>	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey	Bill Nelson	Dale Harkey	Dale Harkey
<b>Lectors/ Chalice Bearer</b>	8:00am Gina Bardwell	8:00am Bob McDonald	8:00am Teresa Williamson	8:00am Mary Maner	8:00am Priscilla Battley
	10:30am Karen Nelson	10:30am Carol Hutcherson	10:30am John Banahan	10:30am Calen Wills	10:30am Charles Shook
	Bruner Bosio	Kathy Khayat	Kathy Roberts	Anna Stewart	Monica Donald
<b>Acolytes</b>	Gabby Kyzar, Paker Demouey, & Anderson Wills	Fin Battley, Bennett Switzer, & Ann Banahan	Landon Beasley, Izabella Beasley, Emily Pugh, & Nelson Pugh	Gabby Kyzar, Paker Demouey, & Anderson Wills	Fin Battley, Bennett Switzer, & Ann Banahan
<b>Ushers</b>	Terry Harris	David Minkler	Ted Battley	Calen Wills	John Banahan
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jo Anne Fontaine Len Murray	Amanda Johns Priscilla Battley	Rhonda Shook Tonya Latady	Marilyn Boman Anna Stewart	Mary Bet Evans Catherine Miller
<b>Flower Guild</b>	Sherry Boman	Pat Russell-Shira Taylor Sublett	Stacey Baumhauer		Kathy Roberts