



Views from the Mountain

From the Rector

We lost power during worship on All Saints' Day. The wind gusted and the lights flickered, and then I heard the hissing sound of the organ blower go silent. Mr. Morgan and I looked at each other and shrugged and smiled. We are not in control of the wind or the electricity. Both the weather and JCP&L are above our pay grade. We continued with worship, because what else were we to do? Mr. Morgan led us as we sang the psalm and then the hymn a cappella. With bold voices we sang:

*"Ye holy angels bright,
who wait at God's right hand,
or through the realms of light fly at your Lord's command,
assist our song,
for else the theme too high doth seem for mortal tongue."*

The holy angels heard our plea and did indeed assist our song. The loveliness of the voices of our sisters and brothers filled the room. The Word of God was proclaimed. Water splashed and oil was poured and Benjamin Wiley became a member of the Body of Christ. The piano was pushed to the doorway that was flung open. A holy people feasted on Holy Food and Drink.

*"Ye saints, who toil below,
adore your heavenly King,
and onward as ye go some joyful anthem sing;
take what he gives,
and praise him still, through good or ill, whoever lives!"*

Thank you, dear saints who toil below. It was a perfect All Saints' Day. I wouldn't have changed a thing.

Don +

PARISH REGISTER

**We Welcomed into the Household of
God Through Holy Baptism**

✠ Benjamin Quinn Wiley



We Pray God to Grant Eternal Rest

✠ Frederick "Fritz" Lark

MISSION OUTREACH

PROJECT WARM YOUR HEART

The Sunday School is participating in Project Warm Your Heart to collect winter clothing for kids in Somerset County. Children of families served by the Food Bank Network of Somerset County and other organizations will benefit from this winter-clothing drive. We are collecting new or very gently used coats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats for children. Donations are requested by Monday, November 17, 2014. There will be a box for donations in the chapel each Sunday morning, or donations can be dropped off in the church office during weekdays.

FALL FUN DAY at Middle Valley Farms

On Saturday, October 25th, the Outreach Committee hosted an outing for local families dealing with cancer. Almost twenty people gathered at Middle Valley Farms in Mendham on a beautiful Fall day and enjoyed pumpkin picking and decorating, face painting, hayrides and a corn maze.

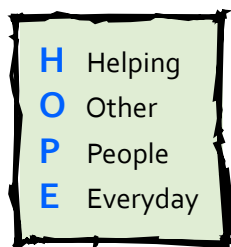
Thanks to Katie and Jim Porter for arranging the use of the farm and to our teen volunteers Holly Lippman, Julia Eisele, Regan Chatwin, and Meredith Hespe.



Lucas decorating his pumpkin.
You can follow his story at
www.caringbridge.org/visit/lucas7

FENN PUTMAN Social Responsibility Champion

Fenn Putman (posthumously) was presented the award of **Social Responsibility Champion** by the New Jersey YMCA State Alliance as a leader dedicated to giving back and providing support to our neighbors. Fenn gave of his time, talent, and treasure for decades and encouraged others to take active roles. Fenn advocated for diverse, underserved populations and modeled the principals of inclusion and diversity. Following his lead, the Outreach Commission has designated November 2014 "Food for Fenn" month in his honor.



Fenn's moto



Commemorative shopping bags in
honor of Fenn

FOOD FOR FENN

The Outreach Commission has designated November 2014 "Food for Fenn" month in honor of its beloved leader, Fenn Putman, who died this summer. Fenn was an inspiration to us all. We remember his outstanding dedication to the hungry at the Food Bank Network of Somerset County and Grace's Soup Kitchen at Grace Church, Plainfield; his loyalty to the young people attending camp at Frost Valley YMCA in the Catskills; his immediate generosity when financial support was needed. A literal example; at a vestry meeting several years ago it was suggested that we could solve a nagging financial problem if each vestry member gave \$100. Fenn reached in his pocket, drew out a \$100 bill and put it on the table. What an example to us all!

In recognition of this fine man we propose to flood the Food Bank with "Food for Fenn."

We ask all parishioners to step to up their efforts this month and bring donations of food or money to provide for the hungry guests who arrive at the Food Bank in Somerville every Saturday morning. We have even provided commemorative shopping bags to encourage your efforts. We welcome all types of non-perishable food, plus hams and frozen turkeys for Thanksgiving meals. (If you would like to bring a frozen turkey to church for the Food Bank, please do so on Sunday, November 16th. We will collect them that day and keep them frozen until they are distributed on Saturday, November 22nd.)

On Saturday, November 8th we have invited members of Fenn's family to join us at the Food Bank to celebrate with us. Some of them have been actively involved over the years. We will thank them and celebrate Fenn in the name of those he served.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Help save a struggling family's Thanksgiving and Christmas by providing an uncooked meal. It's easy! Just buy the makings for a meal, and deliver it uncooked to your *Adopt-a-Family*. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board near Parish Hall. Please call Sue Kennedy at 908-234-0267 with any questions. If you have a particular family you have been supporting in the past, please let Sue know so that she can inform the Food Bank. All contributors this November will receive a special commemorative "Food for Fenn" T-shirt!

GRACE SOUP KITCHEN

November 28th

Grace Soup Kitchen serves 1,000 hot nutritious meals the last five days of each month to the hungry of Plainfield. St. John on the Mountain parishioners help prepare and serve lunch on the last Friday of each month. Join us on Friday, November 28th from 10 am – 1 pm at 600 Cleveland Avenue, Plainfield. Sign-up sheets are on bulletin board outside kitchen or contact Graham Argent Belcher at gabelcher@msn.com.

COMMUNITY/FELLOWSHIP NEWS**Plaid House Stocking Stuffers Donations**

The annual wrapping party for the Plaid House Girls' gifts will be held at 10:30 on Thursday, December 3, at 10:30 am in the Meeting Room. The Plaid House, located in Morristown, is a home that provides residential and related services to adolescent girls as they reenter into society. Thanks to your huge generosity last year, we are again looking for donations of stocking stuffer gifts (ages 14 through 18) to add to the packages. Our knitted gift this year are afghans for each girl. Last year's stockings contained donations of lip gloss, hand sanitizer and cream, socks, hair bands, candy, pens, paper, etc., all much appreciated by the girls. We package and deliver 10 bags for their annual Christmas party. If the Spirit moves you, please leave any donations in the meeting room no later than December 2nd, and include your name for acknowledgement. Thank you from the Knitting Group and the Plaid House girls!

LADIES' LUNCHEON

Thursday, November 20th

All are welcome to join us on Thursday, November 20th at 12 noon for the Ladies' Luncheon at the home of Jane McKnight at 257 Douglas Road in Far Hills. Please bring a sandwich; beverages and dessert will be provided. Please RSVP to Jane at 908-647-6371.

MEN'S LUNCHEON

Thursday, November 6th

Please join us on Thursday, November 6th at 12:15 pm at the Morristown Club at 27 Elm Street in Morristown. The luncheons are open to members of the parish and their guests. For more information please contact Alan Enos at 908-234-1321 or aenos4@verizon.net.

NEW CONTACT INFORMATION**Mary Ellen Hawn**

maryellen.hawn@gmail.com

Albie Booth

albiebooth@gmail.com

November Birthday Wishes to

*Katherine Hermes, Sarah Hitchcock-DeGregori,
Ron Kennedy, Dorothy Smullen,
& Harriet Snyder*



FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN*Bob Courtemanche*

With the beginning of our Stewardship Season and the close of a successful Art Show we have had some excellent questions asked by members of our community about the state of our finances, the relationship between the parish and the Nursery School, and details on our fundraising efforts with the Capital Campaign and the Vestry's recent decision to allocate funds raised at the Art Show to two of our Capital Campaign goals.

I have included a financial summary tracking our pledge history, parish debt and mortgage expense, our efforts to balance our budget, manage expenses and restore our commitment to Outreach spending and our Diocesan Assessment. I have also provided an update on our Capital Campaign pledges and dollars pledged and directed to greatest need vs. specific purposes.

You will see from the numbers that we continue to make steady progress toward our goal of retiring our debt and increasing our outreach and Diocesan contributions. We also have stayed focused on balancing our budget each year and diligently managing our expenses. I want to thank Lisa Keenan, our Finance Manager, Joe Ray, our Treasurer, and Finance Committee Members Kathy Christie, Nina Dixon, Beirne Donaldson and Betsy Blair for their ongoing dedication to this important task. We welcome any interested parishioners to join the committee.

The Capital Campaign continues to go well and the Vestry has identified retiring the debt as our top priority. If we are able to hit our Stewardship goal of \$358,000 and pay down our debt to \$100,000 in January, we will be able to significantly increase our Outreach and Diocesan contributions in 2015.

I'd like to also clarify the questions about the relationship of the Nursery School to the Church. The Nursery School is very much a part of the Church. The Rector and a Vestry member are standing members of the Nursery School Board of Trustees. Both are voting members. Mother Susan is at every Nursery School Board meeting as is our Vestry liaison and Nursery School parent, Jeff McKeon. The current President of the Board, Blake Putnam, is also a parishioner. The Church also exercises financial oversight of the Nursery School as the Nursery School By-Laws require budgetary review and approval by the Finance Committee of the Church. Lisa Keenan is responsible for managing the finances of the Nursery School as well as the payroll for school employees.

One of the reasons we called Mother Susan was her passion for youth ministry. Over the years, the Nursery School had drifted away from the Parish. They had basically become a tenant. Susan has made a tremendous effort to be involved in the life of the school and attends school holiday events, Parents' Nights and other school functions. She has a close relationship with the Nursery School Director, Jeanne Williams. Susan's visibility and

relationship building have brought the school back to its religious roots and, in recent years, many new families have joined the church after being Nursery School parents.

In the last two years our Vestry has been considering a broader mission for our Christian community. Last year, after prayerful consideration, we decided to focus our efforts on a joint project with the Nursery School to build a fund that allows local families without the financial means to have their children attend the Nursery School. St. John's Nursery school is very well regarded and the local grade schools know that a St. John's graduate hits the ground running in Kindergarten. The leadership agreed that this could make a local impact and could help create bridges to the Hispanic community that could provide other opportunities for outreach ministry in the future. As the program develops, we may need aftercare and transportation assistance that would provide additional volunteer opportunities to St. John's parishioners. Another positive aspect of this decision was a common mission with the Nursery School Board who also strongly supported this concept. We established a fund managed by the Church for this purpose and the current balance is \$31,500. It is important to note that this mission, while an area of focus, will not be the sole area of our dedication of time, talent and dollars. Our Outreach committee continues to support and partner with a number of worthy organizations with an eye toward parishioner involvement with exciting prospects for engagement of our Parish youth in a number of excellent causes.

We had our first scholarship student last year (funded from our Outreach Budget with approval of the Outreach Committee and support of the Vestry). There is a joint committee of parishioners and Nursery School parents who are developing the longer term vision and plan to build out the needed infrastructure to support these students in the future. Last Spring both the Nursery School Board and our Vestry agreed to work on a joint fundraiser which was very successful, raising \$26,000 for the fund. The Vestry agreed to forgo the \$11,000 budgeted for our operating income because we knew we had more pledges in hand than we had budgeted for and we had conservatively projected prepaid pledges (\$30,000 vs. \$59,000 received in 2013).

In order to maximize the fundraising potential of the Art Show, at the September Vestry meeting the Vestry decided to allocate the proceeds from the Art Show to two Capital Campaign projects; the Building Preservation Fund and the Nursery School Scholarship Fund. An unrestricted contribution from a parishioner was received (with the parishioner's enthusiastic support) of \$25,000 that would allow us to dedicate the Art Show proceeds with no adverse impact to our operating budget. As you can see from the financial summary, we are still projecting a small budget surplus in 2014.

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We welcome your questions and comments on any of the topics discussed here and we thank our members who had questions. The Rector, Wardens, and Vestry are committed to transparency and dialogue. We are excited about the future of the community as we look to live out Christ's mission in the world. At this point in our life together we have four scholarship students at the Nursery School who would not have the opportunity to get a great start in their educational life were it not for our community's efforts. We

also are on our way out of the painful past of internal focus and debt worry to a brighter future where we can use the gifts given us to care for others, while being responsible stewards of our finances and our physical plant. Please let me, Mother Susan, Heather Leef, or Joe Ray know if you have any questions on anything presented here. We are thankful for this Parish, proud of this community and honored to serve as your leaders.



St. John on The Mountain – Financial Summary

Pledge History (Actual)

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (F)	2015 (proj.)
Units	124	117	116	115	113	118	122
\$	356,000	354,000	344,000	297,000	345,000	344,000	358,000

- Pledging demographic profile has transitioned from mid-2000's where a few parishioners gave a disproportionate total to a much more balanced number today.

Parish Debt – Mortgage Balance & Debt Servicing Expense

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (F)	2015 (proj.)
Balance \$	1,245,000	500,000	491,000	480,000	370,255	262,000	100,000
Debt Service Expense \$	93,000	73,550	32,792	28,000	30,000	20,000	7,000

- Capital Campaign in 2009/10 allowed us to pay down \$750k of debt.
- Refinanced interest rate from 5.125% to 4.125% with pay-down in 2013.

Budget Balancing – Actual Surplus / Deficit by Year

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (F)	2015 (proj.)
(\$86,949)	(\$82,979)	\$25,388	(\$36,450)	\$17,500	\$1,000	\$4,000

- Deficit spending was curtailed with strong financial oversight.
- Pre-paid pledge pattern has proven difficult to predict as they vary greatly by year and have impacted results in 2011/12/13.

Managing Expenses

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (F)	2015 (proj.)
Expense Budget \$	586,000	542,000	470,000	440,000	440,000	456,000	452,000
Expense Actual \$	592,000	541,000	451,000	435,000	446,000	446,000	---

- Closely managing what we spend and making difficult choices on how to allocate our resources.

Outreach Spending

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (F)	2015 (proj.)
Actual \$	10,850	12,000	11,600	16,000	17,000	18,000	25,000

- Outreach giving reduced from 50-60k in mid-2000's when debt service load taken on.
- Slowly restoring as our financial picture improves.

Diocesan Contribution

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (F)	2015 (proj.)
Actual \$	19,000	25,000	22,500	28,000	30,000	32,000	40,000

- Slowly restoring as our financial picture improves.

Current Capital Campaign – Results to Date (as of 11/1/14)

Goal: \$750,000 (\$350k debt retirement, \$200k buildings, \$200k St. Johns Scholarship Fund)

Total pledges to date \$397,111

- Greatest Need \$123,011
- Debt Reduction \$238,000
- St. Johns Scholarships \$20,100
- Buildings \$11,000

WORSHIP NEWS

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study group meets every Friday in the Parish House Meeting Room at 9:15 am. We are studying Bible Stories based on the E-100 (Essential One-Hundred Bible Reading Plan) curriculum. Books can be purchased for \$10 from the office.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY Wednesdays at 8:15 am

Join us on Wednesdays at 8:15 am in the Parish House Meeting Room.

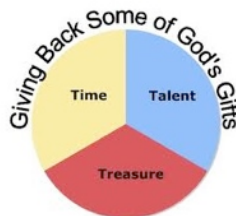
STEWARDSHIP

2015 Pledge for The Church of St. John on the Mountain

"All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee." 1 Chronicles 29:14

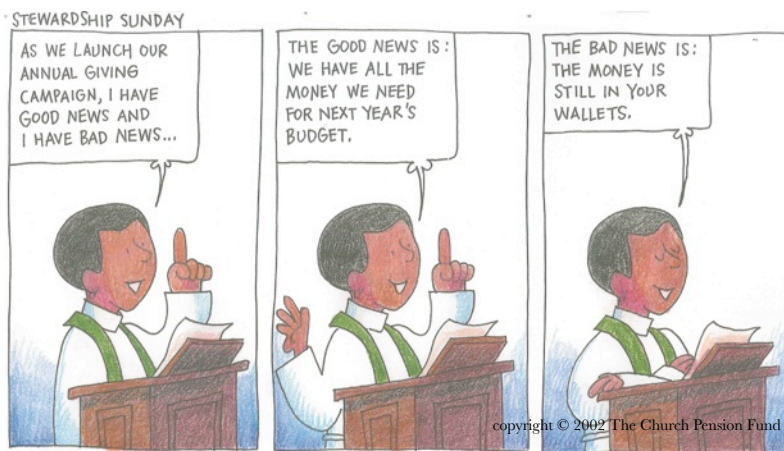
2015 Stewardship Goal and Initial Projections

After prayerful consideration we have set a goal of a 4% increase in our pledging dollars to \$358,000. We believe this is achievable given the foundation of long-term engaged parishioners combined with the new families that have joined our Community. If we are able to achieve our goal we plan to budget a significant increase in outreach spending as well as smaller increases to cover our other operating expenses and once again to operate with a small surplus.



Did You Know You Can Donate Your Stocks to SJOTM?

The tax advantages of giving stock, instead of cash, to church can make doing so very worthwhile. We would be happy to accept stock donations for 2015 as form of pledge payment. To learn more, please contact Lisa Keenan in the office at 908-766-2282 ext 13 or by email at L.Keenan@sjotm.org.



2015 PLEDGE CARD FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

"All things come of thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee." 1 Chronicles 29:14

In appreciation for God's love and the work of Christ's church, and in thanksgiving for all the gifts God has given us, I/we pledge the following toward the mission and witness of the Church of St. John on the Mountain an amount of \$_____ for 2015. I/we will contribute ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ other timing.

Would you like contribution envelopes? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name(s) _____
Address _____
City, State Zip _____
Signature(s) _____ Date _____

CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

ADVENT WREATH MAKING FOR ALL

Please join us on Sunday, November 30th as we make Advent Wreaths (in Parish Hall). All materials will be supplied. A \$5 donation to help off-set the cost of supplies is greatly appreciated.

- Children will make their wreaths at 10:00 (in lieu of Sunday School).
- Adults are welcome to make theirs immediately following the 10:00am service.

ADVENT ARTS & CRAFTS

You won't want to miss Coffee Hour on December 7th and 14th! Please join us for some creative seasonal arts and crafts.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21ST

Get Your Forms in by November 19th

The pageant is open to all interested Pre-K – 12th grade students. Please take the time to discuss with your child(ren) the time commitments involved with each type of role and their willingness to perform it. In order to participate they must be able to attend the required practices. See below.

- Mandatory practices for those with SPEAKING PARTS and MUSICAL ROLES:
 - Thursday, December 18th at 4:00 pm
 - Saturday, December 20th at 10:00 am (with a parent)
- Mandatory practice for the ENTIRE cast:
 - Saturday, December 20th at 10:00 am (with a parent)

Sign-up forms are located on the table in the narthex, in the Parish House Church Office, on www.sjotm.org, or via email (lynnmitchell@sjotm.org). Forms must be returned no later than November 19th. Roles will be announced and scripts will be available on Monday, December 1st. Parent volunteers are also needed.



**Best Wishes as you
celebrate your November
birthday!**

*Devon McKeon, Konrad von Hollen,
Regan Chatwin, Clyde Leef,
Sumner Putnam, Kendall Rich,
Mai Seay Gibson, and Marshall Hespe*

CHURCH BUDDIES

The Sunday School is still looking for 7th graders and up to become a buddy with a child in the Pre-K/K class. Once a month the older children will "shadow" their buddies and attend chapel time and Sunday School with them, sit in church with them, and hang out with them after church during coffee hour. It will be a great experience for the older kids and a special treat for our younger buddies. We hope to get the program started as soon as possible. If your child is able to help us in this important ministry by "shadowing" a buddy, please email Devon McKeon at green@mckeeon6.com or Lynn Mitchell at lynnmitchell@sjotm.org and your child will be matched up with someone. This is a great way to earn community service hours, and we are hoping that this will make a positive difference in our church's youth community.

ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

October was filled with visits from our community helpers- Police Officer Kelley, Firefighter Matt, local Librarian "Miss Jenna" and the Emergency Medical Team of Michelle and Chuck. The nursery school driveway played host to some interesting vehicles: a police car, fire truck, and an ambulance!

We honored the start of pumpkin season with a school trip to Middle Valley Farms on a gorgeous fall morning. Of course October ended with our annual Halloween parade and parties.

November's themes will focus on learning about Native American culture. Children gather for a "pow-wow," playing

drums and singing around a camp fire. *Sharing Day* includes our traditional Thanksgiving feast, with food contributions from all of our SJNS families. We can always depend on Mother Susan to offer the pre-feast prayer, and we are all reminded to be thankful for all of our many blessings. Happy Thanksgiving from your St. John's Nursery School families and teachers!

For more nursery school information, please contact Jeanne Williams, SJNS Director, at jwilliams@sjotm.org or 908-766-0374. School tours will be available in January, along with registration for the 2015-16 school year.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

379 Mount Harmony Road
Bernardsville, NJ 07924
908-766-2282

PARISH STAFF

The Reverend Susan Ironside
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The Reverend Dr. Patrick Malloy
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Richard Morgan
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Patti Lippman
Parish Administrator
office@sjotm.org x10

Lisa Keenan
Finance Manager
L.Keenan@sjotm.org x13

Edward Jené
Sexton



All Saints' Day Necrology

Babs Shrader
Eleanor Johnston
Mary P. How

Fritz Lark
Mary Vogel Marsh
Oscar Gottscho

Patricia Gilpin
Reding Fenn Putman

In addition to the Necrology, we remember the following in
thanksgiving for their lives and for their faithful witness

Jake Ballantine
Gerardus Beekman
Howard Bock
Marguerite Bock
Robert Brown
Helen Catlett
Bernadette Chamberlain
William Chamberlain
James Christie
Joann Christie
Geraldine Dell
Barbara G. Donaldson
Coleman D. Donaldson
Bob Dorian
Stanley Draper
Alan Enos
Alice Enos
Annette Faux
Annette Marie Faux

Herbert Faux
Robert G. Faux
Malcolm Forbes
Roberta Forbes
Mathew Gerrity
Cory Gilmartin
Steven Haas
Harold Haywood
Julia Haywood
Richard Herold
Campbell Hoyt
Haywood B. Huntley
Robert D. Johnson
Judy Johnson Jones
Mary Lou Landry
Raymond Landry
Hunt Marckwald
Eugene W. Mason, Jr.
Eugene W. Mason, Sr.

Eugene W. Mason, III
Eugene W. Mason, IV
Dick McKenna
Albert Merck
Letitia Millspaugh
Sidney Clarke Moody, Jr.
Andrea Palmer
Bob Peabody
John Rowe
Walter Sbaraglio
Ann C. Searing
Robert J. Searing
Martin Selch
Carl Steiniger
Maybel Steiniger
Christine Louise Stiger
John Stokes
Catherine Sutcliffe
Joanna Thon

Luke Tober
Reagan Tober
Fay Todd
Dana Uhler
Evelyn Van Ingen
Lawrence Van Ingen
Gene Varney
Michaela Waddell
Cope Walbridge
Libby Walbridge
Harry Wise

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

