

# Views from the Mountain

#### From the Rector

The Reverend Susan R. Ironside

I have a stack of books that have been waiting for me all year long. Novels, mostly. I love getting lost inside of a story, and I do my best reading in the summer, when the days are longer and my schedule is less demanding, and the beach is more readily available. So my stack of books lives in my bedroom, and it grows over the school year, as I acquire more books, and I try to make the stack disappear by September.

I have rarely succeeded in that goal. This is, in part, because I sometimes fall asleep when I am reading at the beach. Or I get distracted if the waves are too interesting, or too hypnotic, and staring at them is more compelling than the book in my lap, or someone at the beach with me tells me a story that is more interesting than the story in my book. Year after year, it seems, I pack more books than I actually finish. So they go back in the stack until next time.

I have the same problem when I go away on retreat. I pack many books, lugging them to retreat locations, holy books, sometimes, or books that will feed my soul. But at the end of my time away, I often put the unread books back in my luggage, having not accomplished my reading goals.

Once I complained about this to a wise friend. "I have nothing to show for my time away."

Son +

He nodded. "Except you rested. And you spent time alone. And time with people you love. And you got to hang out with God with no agenda whatsoever."

I still pack the books in my beach bag or my luggage, but I am learning how to rest in God's presence with no particular agenda. I have no idea why God wants to hang out with me, because I suspect I am pretty boring company. But God doesn't seem to mind. God likes to stare at the waves too, I guess.

Whatever you have packed or planned for your summer, try to find time to put it aside and do nothing. Because God wants to hang out with you, too.

And when you are in town on Sundays, come hang out with me at 9:30 and we will share Bread and Wine together. And also lemonade.

**Summer Sunday Service Schedule** 

through September 3rd 9:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music

#### **FELLOWSHIP NEWS**

#### Nancy Strong Turns 90!

Cherished parishioner Nancy Strong celebrated her goth birthday last month. Over 100 friends from our community came to Parish Hall for a fantastic party. Lots of food and drink...and reminiscing with Nancy about years of fun and fellowship up on the Mountain!



Nancy Strong celebrates her 90th birthday with her children.

#### Best Wishes as you celebrate your birthday in July and August

Wendy Argent-Belcher, Doris Aufschläger, Chip Baird, Sally Chubb, Tabby Cochran, Walter Elliott, Sue Ely, Kathy Falcon, Steve Forbes, Binx Lee, Vicky McGlynn, Michael Mitchell, Pat Moody, Barbara Mushalko, Joan Powell, Jack Snyder, and Trish Sullivan

#### **Sue & Bill Catlett**

July 2, 2017

Treasured members Bill & Sue Catlett celebrated their last worship service at SJOTM on July 2nd. We celebrated their ministry and friendship after worship with a special Coffee Hour. We wish the Catlett's Godspeed as they begin a new life journey in Wisconsin.



Mother Susan and Wardens Nina Dixon & Steve Sbaraglio honor former Senior Warden Sue Catlett on her last day at SJOTM, July 2, 2017.

#### **Lemonade Hour**

Hosts are needed for *Lemonade Hour*, which immediately follows the 9:30 am service. It's easy; all you need to bring is a small treat as the lemonade is provided by the church. A sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside of Parish Hall. Weather permitting, Lemonade Hour will take place outside in the front courtyard.

#### **WORSHIP NEWS**

#### **Parish Register**

### We welcomed into the Household of God through Holy Baptism

Logan Ann Palma



#### 2017 Holy Baptism Date

We baptize primarily on those dates set aside for baptism, as listed in the Book of Common Prayer. Since the presence of the community of faith is essential for welcoming the newly baptized into the church, baptisms take place in the principal service on the appointed Sunday. The next date for Baptism is:

•Sunday, November 5th at 10 am Questions about baptism? Please contact Mo. Susan at rector@sjotm.org.

## Healing Service and Visit With The Warlick Family

Sunday, July 23 at 9:30 am

On Sunday, July 23 we will celebrate Holy Eucharist with Prayers for Healing. Lisa McBride will be with us for worship at 9:30 and will spend some time with us sharing about her family and their experience with ALS. Lisa's brother, Peter Warlick is a former member of our community who was diagnosed with ALS in the summer of 2015. Lisa will educate us on the work of the foundation, Warlick's Warriors, that was established to fund collaborative research to identify treatments to halt ALS. Please join us on July 23 to pray and worship together and to spend time with Lisa.

#### **Prayer List**

If you would like to have someone added to the Prayer List, please call 9098-766-2282 or email the Parish Office office (asjotm.org.

#### **MUSIC NEWS**

#### Join our Summer Intergenerational Pickup Choir at SJOTM

Through Labor Day weekend, all people of the parish - kids and adults - are invited to help lead worship this summer by singing in the choir. Meet at 8:45 am in the Choir Room to learn a simple anthem and hymns for the day. Come once, or often. All are welcome!

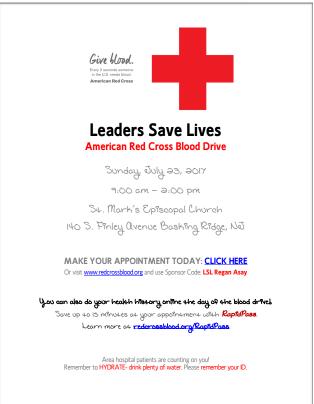
#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

## Local Clergy Meet With Congressman Leonard Lance

Mother Susan and several other Episcopal priests had a productive meeting with Congressman Leonard Lance, discussing various issues that are of concern to the faith community. The meeting began and ended with a time of prayer for our nation and its leaders.



# **Blood Drive**Sunday, July 23rd St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Basking Ridge



#### **IMPORTANT FALL DATE**

#### Sunday, September 10th

Regular Sunday Service Schedule Resumes

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I in the chapel
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II with music and childcare

First Day of Sunday School

#### CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS

## Vacation Bible School Camp Report

During the week of June 26th -June 30th, 36 children discovered their strength in God at "Hero Central" camp here at SJOTM. Children heard Bible stories; created beautiful artwork including tie dye shirts; completed science experiments including making oobleck, a fluid that behaves like a liquid or a solid depending on the pressure exerted on it; played games; and even cooled off with some outdoor water fun!

Thank you to our youth and adult volunteers, including Julia Binns, Hailey Bosworth, Scarlett Campbell, Rose Costello, Allie Cappucci, Andrea DeMarco, Ava DeMarco, Juliana DeMarco, Charlotte Diemar, Ashely Hartnett, Tara Hartnett, Sally Hespe, Cameron Jelinek, Tim Jelinek, Clyde Leef, Brigette McGee, Cydney McGee, Casey McGrath, Meredith Mitchell, Lori Morris, Sammy Morris, Meghan Robinson, Sean Robinson, Olivia Rosenthal, Mia Sbaraglio, Melissa Sharron, Ben Solomon, Sydney Solomon, Caroline Thoms, Ellie Thoms, Lily Thoms, John Tober, Kathy Tober, and Mackenzie Urena.





Mark Your Calendar for the first day of Sunday School Sunday, September 10th





# Best Wishes as you celebrate your birthday in July and August

Meghan Lukacsko, Elliot Goulding, Reagan Panik, Jack Panik, Summer Lichtenfeld, Jack Morais, Liam Baird, James McKeon, Jack Rutz, Audrey Panik, Gianna Galesi, and Tucker Daggett

# to the CLASS OF 2017



#### **High School Graduates**

#### **Emma Ewing**

Will graduate from Mendham High School and attend University of Texas in Austin, TX

Do you know of a parishioner that graduated high school or college with the class of 2017? Were they included in the June or Summer newsletter? If not, contact the office at office@sjotm.org so we may honor your graduate.

### ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS





St. John Nursery School summer campers beat the heat, June 12, 2017

The quiet days of summer are upon us, and it seems as though our busy classrooms are in the distant future. Summer will fly quickly by and soon our classrooms will be filled with love, learning, and laughter once again!

Enrollment looks great for September, with our two 3 year-old and 4+ classes filled to capacity. We still have limited space available in our 2 and 4 year-old classes.

Our current teachers plan to return in September- Mrs. Julie Bosworth, 4+ class; Mrs. Janet Moose, 4s class; Mrs. Karen Skoglund, 3s class; and Mrs. Susan DeGasperis, 3s & 2s classes. We are pleased to share that there will be a teacher's aide in each class-Mrs. Joanne Marcus, 4+ class; Mrs. Christina Clark, 4s class; Mrs. Andrea McGee, 3s class, Mrs. Lauren Diemar, 3s class, and Mrs. Carey Kane, 2s class.

To request more enrollment information or schedule a tour of our nursery school, please contact the director, Jeanne Williams at jwilliams@sjotm.org.

August 26

#### MISSION OUTREACH

### **Tend the Garden** at Ross Farm

SJOTM is rotating garden responsibilities with our friends at St. Mark's and St Bernard's. Each church will take the lead on alternating weeks. Weeks begin on Saturday mornings and end on the following Friday night. Responsibilities are primarily harvesting and weeding beds. For more info, contact Hilary Thomas Dorer at hilarity31@gmail.com.

# **Volunteers are need for the following weeks**July 15 August 5



Wow! 730 pounds of fresh produce delivered to the Food Bank by June 26!





Fresh vegetables grow in our plot at Ross Farms. Volunteers are need to pick produce.

#### Grace Soup Kitchen

Friday, July 28th 600 Cleveland Avenue, Plainfield, NJ

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 on the last Friday of each month. Join us one Friday as we prepare and serve lunch. The next day scheduled for St. John on the Mountain to serve is Friday, July 28th from 10 am – 1 pm. To sign-up email Graham Argent-Belcher at gabelcher@msn.com.

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

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

#### **PARISH STAFF**

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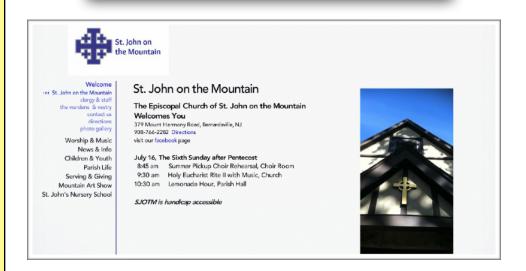
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Edward Burke Sexton

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#### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED