

The St. John's Journal

APRIL



2013

Dear friends in Christ,

We are now in the beautiful season of Easter! Just as the earth around us claims new life once again, so do we as a people and parish. Our Vision Statement is meant to help us focus upon and discern what that new life might be.

Lovingly connected to Christ the Vine
who calls us to bear fruit that our joy might be complete,
we are called at St. John's
to be connected to Christ and to one another,
to model that connection and embrace our children and youth,
and to be Christ's devoted people in service to our world.

We spent each Sunday in Lent getting acquainted with this Vision and hearing stories in our parish of how this Vision is already a reality among us. We now look to further discernment with regard to new life and ministries to which our Lord may be calling us. We will have an opportunity in April to do this. We will tweak the statement with input from you and then as a congregation we will be invited to embrace, endorse and vote upon whether this is to be the Vision of St. John's for this time and place. Your individual endorsement is an invitation to live out the vision here with your sisters and brothers. It is an invitation to ownership and commitment.

I am excited about a couple of ways that we might be called to live out this Vision with sisters and brothers outside of our immediate parish. We were invited by Our Savior, Plainville to attend their St. Joseph' Day Pasta Supper on March 22nd. This is an invitation to get to know one another and perhaps begin talking about how we might do this in a more intentional way. The other is the possibility is some kind of relationship with our sister, Noora Brown, and her community.

Noora is Gretchen and Jim Brown's daughter. As you know our beloved Gretchen passed away last December. Noora became a Muslim in college. She and her husband and their three children live in Farmington where Jim lives in an attached apartment. Jim and Gretchen are a wonderful example of loving parents who support their children on whatever journey they are called to undertake. Gretchen was a woman of beautiful openness and acceptance of all the ways that God is at work in the world and in other people.

(continued on next page)

Noora and her husband, Khamis, are part of the Islamic community in this area. They currently attend the Islamic Center in Berlin which is busting at the seams with growth. Noora and Khamis have joined with other sisters and brothers in the Farmington Valley to approach the diocese about renting the facility that was home to Christ, Avon. We are currently awaiting word from the diocese about whether this will take place. Dave and Diane Desmarais, Kim and I attended an event in March during which the Islamic community in this region, under the leadership of Khamis, Noora and others, began considering where a home for an Islamic center in this Farmington Valley region might be. Where ever that home becomes a reality, these sisters and brothers desire that interfaith dialogue be an essential part of their life together.

It would be a wonderful opportunity to get to know sisters and brothers of another faith should this Islamic Center become a reality! At this time in our country's history we would have the opportunity to model a commitment to learn about others, perhaps to work with them on issues facing all of us, and to extend a warm welcome to those who might be making a new home among us.

These are two exciting ways to 'be Christ's devoted people in service to our world' - as our Vision puts it. Working with others to make a difference is an invitation to relationship that involves mutual support, understanding and loving commitment. I look forward to us looking at these possibilities of new life together!

Pastor Martha



SPRING CLEAN UP DAY



APRIL 27TH 8:00 – NOON

Please mark your calendars for a spring clean up day.

Bring a chain saw if you have one as we have much debris and downed trees to clean up.

Bring your other tools, wheel barrels & garden equipment.

We would like to ready the flower beds as well.

Lunch together will be provided before we take off for the day.

See Dave Desmarais for more information.

Thank you for your willingness to care for this wonderful gift that our Lord has given us!

Taste and See Welcome Dinner - April 30th @ 6pm

Plans are underway for a dinner here at St. John's, officially welcoming the newest members among us!
We are calling this event the ***Taste and See Welcome Dinner***.

It's been a while since we've had a welcome dinner,
so our list of invitees will go back to those who have joined us since 2011.
Representatives from many of St. John's Ministries/Committees will be available to share their excitement
& passion around good works that are accomplished here at St. John's and within the greater community.

We have over 25 active Ministries/Committees here at St. John's,
which is amazing, considering the size of our parish! God is good!
If you are a new member, watch your mailbox for your special invitation!
We hope you'll be able to join us for this evening of fellowship, sharing and good food!

++++++

Adult Bible Study >> Altar Guild >> Angel Tree >> Annual Women's Retreat >> Arts & Liturgy >> Building & Grounds >>
Care Team Ministry >> Choir >> Coffee Hour Ministry >> Confirmation >> Eucharistic Visitors >> Finance Committee >>
Fundraising Ministry >> Garments of Grace >> God at Home >> Godly Greetings >> Haiti Ministry >> Little Lights of God >>
Mission Trips >> Prayer Tree >> Public Relations Committee >> Shoe Box Ministry >> Soup Kitchen >>
St. John's Counseling Center >> Talbot's Food Collection >> Wellness Focus Group >> Worship Assistants >>

Women's Retreat

Women's Retreat...we still have a few spaces available during the mid-week session.
Why not join us on beautiful Enders Island in Mystic (Wednesday, May 22, 3 pm to Friday, May 24, 1 pm)!
Our topic is "Prayer, Forgiveness & Wellness". Our Facilitator is the ever-popular Diane Hunt.
For more information, contact Chris MacArthur (860-582-2609 or cjmac812@yahoo.com)

Episcopal Church Women - Annual Meeting & Luncheon Diocese of Connecticut

The 132nd Annual Meeting & Luncheon will be held Thursday, May 2, at the Aqua Turf, Southington, CT.
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Timothy B. Safford from Christ Church, Philadelphia.
The cost is \$18. per person. Reservation deadline: postmarked by April 15th.
More information could be found on the bulletin board.

Donations for Children of HAITI

Donations to help feed children at St. Vincent's in Haiti are greatly needed,
63 cents will provide a meal for 1 child.
If you would like to help with this, Please make your tax deductible donation to: "Friends of St. Vincent"
send what can to: Hope Lennartz, Friends of St. Vincent's Handicapped Center, 105 Federal Street,
West Hartford, CT. 06110. For questions please contact Dave Desmarais 860-690-3299

**It's Time...
To Hear God's Call To Mission
For Central Connecticut Deanery**

Do you like the feeling you get when you help others?
Do you like being involved with your church?
Do you like meeting new people?
Are you called to a ministry of outreach and service?

We invite you to attend the next Central CT Deanery meeting.

Tuesday, April 23, 2013, 7:30 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church, Bristol

Guests will be representatives from Prudence Crandall Center
in Plainville and Chrysalis from Meriden/Wallingford

Help us formulate a deanery-wide mission and outreach ministry.
Your input is very important.

For more information, please speak with Pastor Martha.



St. John's Meatloaf Dinner

We would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions for the Meatloaf Dinner -
whether it was preparing, shopping, serving, or a donation for the Meatloaf Dinner!

A good time was had by all!

The total came to around \$ 910.00 which went into the church fund to help with the bills.
St. John's next Dinner is scheduled for September 21st.

We are asking for input which they prefer - Pork or Pasta dinner - the majority will rule.

Mary Beth, Bob Wade & Peg Moderacki

Camp Washington

Camp Washington is a resident camp and retreat center operated by the Episcopal Diocese of CT as an outreach ministry open to all faith traditions since 1917.

Located on 300 acres in the Litchfield Hills, in the summer, you will find a small camp where campers can take a break from their routine, make new friends, deepen their faith, have fun, learn new skills and return home with memories that will last a lifetime!

At Camp Washington you will find:

- A caring community centered on Christian values and beliefs
- A strong commitment to helping each camper grow in faith
- A professional well-trained staff focused on the needs of campers
- An active, fun & challenging program with something for everyone
- A healthy & safe camp environment

You may find additional information and updated brochures on our bulletin board.



APRIL

- 9 Joyce Valeri
- 14 Matt Cornish
- 15 Derek Case
- 17 Mike Ambrosio
- 20 Alyssa Paradis
- 22 Ann Flower
- 26 John McGowan

Lectionary Readings

April 7

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

April 14

Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)
Psalm 30
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

April 21

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

April 28

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35



Public Relations

If there are any upcoming St. John's events that you would like assistance on getting the word out to the community about, please seek out Christina DeLaat during coffee hour or at cj232571@msn.com. Please give at least 3 weeks notice for the events!

St. John's Youth Group



The youth group will be having a meeting on April 7th & 21st from 7:00 - 8:30.

The youth group will be venturing off on another mission trip this summer!!

This time to New Jersey to help with hurricane Sandy Relief.

One long term fundraiser we will be doing is called "Connecting through Mission". After church every Sunday we will be selling strips of paper decorated by the youth group. Like last year with our foot sale, each strip will cost \$5, and anyone who purchases a strip will put their name and address on it and we will send you a post card in the mail from our trip AND one Sunday after we return the youth group will provide breakfast/coffee hour and share our trip with you all.

Worship Assistant Schedule

DATE		CHALICE BEARERS	USHERS	LECTORS	CRUCIFER	COUNTER
4/7	9 am	Betty Plisko	Paul Coombs Bernie Baker	Carol Reeves	Reese McGowan	Peg Moderacki
4/14	9 am	Chris MacArthur	Gil & Alyssa Paradis	Janice Lee	Abby Paradis	Joyce Valeri
4/21	9 am	Karen Lombardi	Fred Markowich Krissy Bourdeau	Chris Knowles	Joey Lombardi	Lucille Rozanski
4/28	9 am	Cameron Flower	Tim & Ann Flower	Gary Mason	Adam Petosa	Peg Moderacki

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			The Pines 10:30 AA 10:30 am Mother's of Multiples 7:30 pm	Holy Eucharist 10:00 am AA 10:30 am		AA 8:30-10:30 am
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Youth Group Meeting 7 p.m.		Discernment Committee Meeting 7:00 pm	AA 10:30 am Confirmation 6 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	Holy Eucharist 10:00 am AA 10:30 am Vestry Meeting 7:00 pm		AA 8:30-10:30 am
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Holy Eucharist 9:00 am			AA 10:30 am Confirmation 6pm Bible Study 7 pm	Holy Eucharist 10:00 am AA 10:30 am		AA 8:30-10:30 am
	(---- Office Closed --- Kristen's Vacation ----)					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Holy Eucharist 9:00 am Youth Group Meeting 7 p.m.		Central CT Deanery Meeting 7:00 pm in Parish Hall	AA 10:30 am Confirmation 6 pm Bible Study 7:00 pm	Holy Eucharist 10:00 am AA 10:30 am		Spring Clean Up 8 - Noon AA 8:30-10:30 am
28	29	30				
Holy Eucharist 9:00 am		Taste & See Newcomer's Dinner 6-8 pm				



The St. John's Journal is a monthly newsletter of
St. John's Episcopal Church, Diocese of Connecticut

Bishop, The Right Rev. Ian T. Douglas, PhD
Bishop Suffragan, The Right Rev. James E. Curry
Bishop Suffragan, The Right Rev. Dr. Laura Ahrens



St. John's Episcopal Church
851 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT 06010

Office Phone: 860-583-5445
Office email: stjohnsbristol@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.stjohnsbristol.org

Priest-In-Charge

The Rev. Dr. Martha Klein-Larsen
Pastor's Cell: 203-577-8332
Pastor's Home: 860-217-0270

Deacon

The Rev. Diane Caggiano
Deacon's Phone: 203-879-3148