

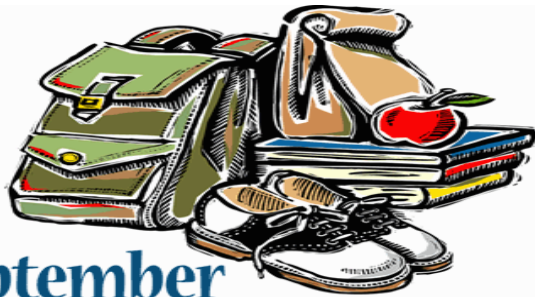


# The Messenger

St. John's Episcopal Church

Springfield, Missouri

September 2024, Issue 140, No. 9



## September

## Mark Your Calendars!

Nominees for Bishop of West MO visit St. John's  
September 17, at 10:25 a.m., Nominees arrive at 10:00 a.m.



## Save the Date!

Annual Chili Cook-off & Silent Auction  
October 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.



## In This Issue

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- † How You Can Help Save the Pollinators
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## Parish Potluck



September 21, 2024  
Following the  
Saturday 4:00 p.m. Mass

St. John's will have a Parish Potluck in honor of Fr. David & Laura Kendrick's ministry at St. John's and with a fond farewell and blessings for their new Ministry in Washington DC. Meat and regular drink fare will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

## St. John's Episcopal Church

### Bishop Provisional

The Right Reverend Diane Jardine Bruce

### Rector

The Reverend David P. Kendrick

### Director of Music

Kevin Grice

### Senior Warden

Victor Matthews

### Junior Warden

Jan Rorrer

Parish Office: (417) 869-6351

website: [www.stjohnsspringfield.diowestmo.org](http://www.stjohnsspringfield.diowestmo.org)

e-mail: [stjohns-spgfld@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohns-spgfld@sbcglobal.net)

## ALTAR FLOWERS

### OPPORTUNITIES BEFORE ADVENT

Now that summer and vacations are ending, your thoughts may turn to giving special thanks for a joy in your life or to particularly remembering an individual who is now among our dear departed. A gift of altar flowers is an especially good way to put those thoughts into action. There are a few Sundays that have not yet been reserved before we enter Advent. Each Sunday, beautiful arrangements of flowers for the two vases cost a total of \$50. It is also possible to arrange with another family to share a particular Sunday by each funding one vase for \$25. There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the hall near the glass doors. Please be sure to pay for your altar flowers before the Sunday you have requested. Altar flowers are a wonderful contribution to our worship!



## Long Distance Friendship

You've probably noticed that on the left wall of the hallway between the church office and chapel are portraits of the 19 rectors who have served St. John's. At some point, soon after his or her arrival, that tradition will continue with a photo of the 20th being framed and hung below mine.

For a 138-year-old parish, that's quite a large number of priests. However, look at the dates underneath each photo, particularly from 1886-1927. Do the math and you'll find the average tenure in those first four decades to have been only four years. Then for the next 45 years, from 1927-72, St. John's had only two rectors — Lewis Anschutz (for whom the Narthex doors are named) and Canon Harold Whitehead. No one has hung around that long since. So, 11 years in my case is a reasonably long time.

All of which is to say: St. John's will be alright. Rectors come and go; the Parish remains. You have strong and diverse leadership in your Vestry. You have the active support of your Diocese. There is an increased diversity of ages, backgrounds, and wisdom among you; and I believe I am leaving you better than I found you in 2013. I have felt the affection expressed in your sadness at my leaving. I promise that I will take your affection and wisdom in my heart to the Diocese of Washington.

With that said, there does need to be a period (two years) in which you learn to live without me, to not ask, "What would Fr. David do?" You need that time to give thanks for my gifts and ministry, and also to ask what different gifts might be needed in a future Rector. And then that Rector will need the space to establish their relationship with you.

So, once Laura and I leave during the week of September 22nd, I will no longer be your priest. I will not be able to officiate at weddings or funerals; that will be for the Priest whom God calls to serve you. After that period of time, I will be able to come back at the invitation of the new Rector, in consultation with the Bishop, as your former pastor — and forever friend. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

—  
In Christ's love always,  
Fr. David

"Sin is necessary, but all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well."  
(St. Julian of Norwich)



## It's not easy being green...

When you go to the garden center to purchase your plants for fall, look past all the fancy doubled and frilled chrysanthemums and choose daisy (single) mums, asters or sunflowers for your display. You will delight the pollinators looking for late season nutrition.





## How You Can Help Save the Pollinators of North America

This year the articles written for this newsletter by members of the Green Team have focused on the pollinators that we all rely on for our fruits, vegetables, nuts and berries.

We've focused on specific pollinators, such as honeybees, mason and leaf cutter bees, butterflies and hummingbirds, and on avoiding use of pesticides and herbicides because of their indiscriminate killing of both beneficial and harmful insects and plant material.

Now we would like to enlist your help in maintaining a healthy and productive population of native bees. They are solitary and docile because they have no hive or queen to protect, so having them near your house and in your yard poses no threat to you or your pet's health. If you have a garden, or if there are native plants or a garden within 300 yards of where you live, you are already well set to be of assistance to the pollinators. A garden would ideally have plants with flowers available from March through October. That is easier than it sounds. Jacob's ladder, wild geranium (a great ground cover), columbine and spice bush all bloom in early spring. Summer provides a plethora of options, including false indigo, black eyed Susans, coneflower, blazing star, milkweed and garden phlox. And late summer into fall offers goldenrod, purple and blue asters, sneeze-weed (helenium) and perennial sunflowers.

In addition to providing food for these beneficial insects, we also need to provide nesting and building materials. Many native bees use cavities and tunnels created in old wood and dead stems both to lay their eggs and for shelter through the winter. Leaving old snags (dead tree trunks) standing or on the ground and providing areas where water can puddle to make mud are excellent ways to help our pollinating friends. Don't be scrupulous in cleaning up your fall flower beds. If you feel you must cut back stems, leave as much standing as your aesthetics allow – 12-18 inches is great. Let the cut off portions fall to the ground for the winter, thus providing some mulch as well as cover for the native bees.

Finally, a word about bee houses and butterfly houses. Our local lawn and garden stores have cute butterfly houses and bee houses for sale, and if you would love to have one in your garden, you might want to purchase one for decorative purposes. But you need to know a couple of things: butterflies do not winter over in butterfly houses – they head for the cover of woods and forests. Thus, your winter tenants are more likely to be wasps, ants, and perhaps even mice. All of which will greatly enjoy your hospitality, and which you may want to harbor for the winter. The majority of bee houses, particularly those sold at lawn and garden centers, are not correctly designed for our native bees and may even increase the mortality rate among this already threatened population.

The Green Team is developing a workshop for those who might be interested in learning more about the native solitary bees and in learning how to provide shelter for them in a safe and secure manner. If you think you might be interested, please contact Lindsey Parks or Cheryl Moon about particulars. And stay tuned for an announcement in the bulletin soon.

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## Outreach Ice Cream Social Delights All

The Outreach group enjoyed serving the annual Ice Cream Social, August 25 (with treats also on Saturday.) We also collected new socks, which are especially welcome for those unsheltered in August. For September, we will be collecting items for Rare Breed. Check the Outreach bulletin board for a list of those items.

## Gifts from the Heart

Giving away extra items in the house that are not needed or giving loose change that you pull out of your pocket at the end of the day are not gifts from the heart. What if you were to give your spouse for their birthday tickets to your personal favorite baseball team? Are you giving that gift out of love or for your personal benefit? Another example of giving that is not always done from the heart is giving away outdated clothes or clothes in need of repair. Yet another example would be financial gifts to a church for the purpose of receiving tax deductions. Giving may or may not originate from our hearts. However, giving that pleases God is done from the heart. As we mature in faith, we grow in grace to be able to give freely of our lives and resources.

Love is what motivated God to give, and, because of his love, he didn't give leftovers; he gave his best. He gave us what we needed -- his own Son. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him should not perish but may have eternal life" (John 3:16). Through faith, we begin to understand God's tremendous love for us, and we are compelled to share with others the love of God that fills our hearts. The more fully we understand how richly God has blessed us, the deeper will be our love and gratitude to him and the greater will be our desire to respond in generous giving of all that we have to offer — not just our monetary gifts but our time, efforts, and abilities as well.

"If you haven't any charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble." (Bob Hope)



## The Gospel According to Luke

### Adult Bible Study

**Wednesday evening Bible study classes will resume on September 18 following Mass and dinner.**

What do we know about the writer of the Gospel According to Luke and his sources? What is unique to Luke, and how does it compare to the other Gospels? What are the major themes? What are the messages of the Gospel for today? These and other topics will be included in our examination of Luke and its background.

**Linda Robertson will lead the discussion. All adults are welcome.**

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## Our Cup Runneth Over: Nurturing a Culture of Abundance

In last month's *Messenger* we laid out the case that our culture in the developed world can be seen as one of false scarcity. In other words, many of us who are living quite comfortably harbor the fear of scarcity. Scarcity thinking is a commonly used marketing strategy to convince potential customers that products are in scarce supply and we need to compete with each other in order to get what is "our due."

From the marketplace, that sense of not having all that we need carries over into our personal relationships, even within the context of church. Although scriptures tell us over and over of God's loving provision of "far more than we can ask or imagine," we scurry around afraid that we won't have adequate resources for ourselves, much less enough to be open and generous with others. Our faith tells us the opposite: that it is in giving and being generous that we receive.

So how do we ensure that the culture at St. John's reflects the truth of God's Word?

There are many signs of an abundance culture, and the list below is only a start, but is meant to stimulate your thinking of ways that you could personally take on the task of nurturing a culture of abundance at St. John's.

- Spend time each day reflecting on the many things in your life that are measures of "grace freely given." Your health, your mobility, a dry place to sleep, friends, more than enough to eat. Humbly begin to realize how much your life and present abundance are a gift from others and from a loving God. Start your prayers with praise and thanksgiving before any supplications that you have.
- Say "Thank you" frequently and regularly. If you can specifically name what you are thankful for, it increases the social value of the compliment several times over. A thankful congregation exudes a spirit of abundance and appreciation that is apparent even to casual visitors in our midst. Do it often and specifically.
- Resources are not just time, talent and treasure. You have within you the ability to create a more generous and giving culture by recognizing other people and the efforts they are making. Give sincere compliments frequently. Make the compliment even more generous by looking the person in the eye when you give it, or by saying their name before the compliment, and by adding just enough more of a comment that the compliment does not sound perfunctory. Compliments about actions are safer than compliments about appearances, but both are appreciated.
- Start looking for positives in the occurrences at St. John's. Stop focusing on where someone may have fallen short. Rather, give the most generous interpretation that you can to any shortcomings.
- If you have something that is negative that needs to be said, say it directly to the person who is responsible, in private. Then drop it. Do not rally an "invisible mob" of folks who agree. Spreading negativity to others erodes the trust that is characteristic of an abundant culture. Likewise, if something negative doesn't need to be said, don't say it.
- Greet EVERYONE with a smile and with words of welcome and acknowledgement. No one comes through the doors of St. John's without an invitation from God, and we are all members of the family of Christ. Let your brothers and sisters know how good it is to see them.

Have fun with learning how to make our culture at St. John's truly a culture of abundance.

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## Fruits of the Spirit (Part 2)

Hello from Carol and the Parish Health Committee! Fall is beginning and we are continuing our discussion of St. Paul’s Gifts of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-26). Last month we looked at the gifts of **love, joy, and peace**. September brings a discussion of the following gifts and how they enter our lives: **patience, kindness, and goodness**.

**Patience!** I feel like this concept often requires an exclamation mark. It is hard to take that deep, calming breath. It is even harder to remind ourselves that we may need to take several deep breaths because God’s timing, while perfect, is often not what we feel it should be. St. Paul talks about “long suffering” or *makrothumia*: a Greek word meaning the ability to be wronged and not retaliate (Colossians 3:12). Practicing patience not only extends grace to others, it gives us time to listen to God and discover his plans for us (James 5:7-8).

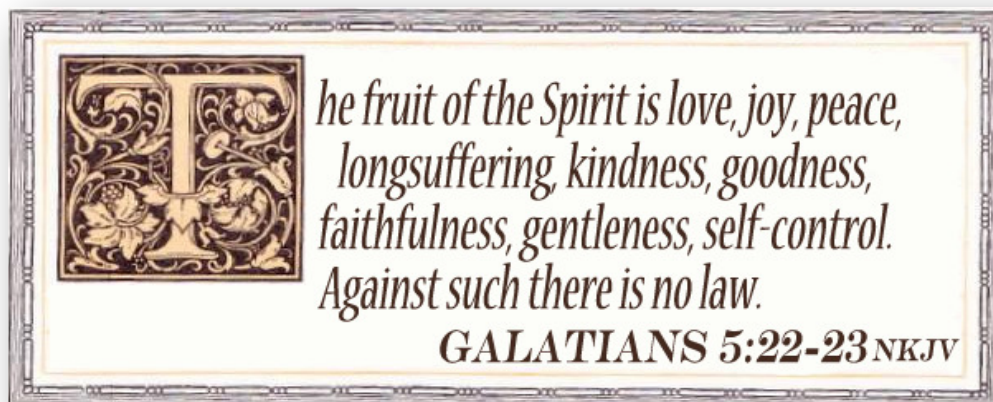
**Kindness** is contagious. Its impact on others is noticeable. Kindness has been referred to as a “heart posture,” easy to recognize even in its tiniest appearance. Kindness is remembered. The act stays with the recipient as well as the giver, and the impact often multiplies. How about the kindness God shows us as his disciples? We each need to take time daily to thank God for the unwavering love and kindness He gives to us. Put intentional kindness on our daily “to do” list and watch what happens to those around us and to ourselves! “For great is His love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever” (Psalm 117:2).

“Surely **goodness** and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.” (Psalm 23:6) Goodness is a gift that God gives us – freely and plentifully. We need to seek it, though, in prayer and scripture. And then we should be generous with our God-given gifts (time, talent, resources, love) and bless others as we have been blessed. This makes us a conduit of God’s grace and mercy, doesn’t it? What an honor we receive when we accept these gifts.

Well, this article leaves the last three Gifts of the Spirit to be discussed. The October 2024 *Messenger* will bring **faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control** for us to review. Take some time – even just a few minutes – over the next month to see how these nine gifts really do touch your lives and hearts.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another” (Galatians 5:22-26).

Carol Matthews





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1 15 Pentecost</b> 10:30 a.m. Mass (Rite II) (RCL) 12:15 a.m. Outreach</p>	<p><b>2 The Martyrs of New Guinea</b> <b>Labor Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b> 4:00 p.m. Stewardship Com.</p>	<p><b>3 Phoebe</b></p>	<p><b>4 Paul Jones</b></p>	<p><b>5 Katharina Zell</b> 12:00 p.m. Mass and Anointing</p>	<p><b>6 Hannah More ❖</b></p>	<p><b>7 Kassiani</b> 10:00 a.m. All Saints Week Day 4:00 p.m. Mass (Rite II)</p>
<p><b>8 16 Pentecost</b> 10:30 a.m. Mass (Rite II) (RCL) <b>Breakfast Club Brunch</b></p>	<p><b>9 Constance and Her Companions</b></p>	<p><b>10 Alexander Crummel</b> 10:00 a.m. St. Clare's Guild</p>	<p><b>11 Feria</b> 5:00 p.m. Summer Book Club</p>	<p><b>12 Holy Cross Day Tr.</b> 12:00 p.m. Mass and Anointing</p>	<p><b>13 Cyprian of Carthage ❖</b></p>	<p><b>14 Holy Cross Day</b> 4:00 p.m. Mass (Rite II)</p>
<p><b>15 17 Pentecost</b> 10:30 a.m. Mass (Rite II) (RCL) 12:15 p.m. Green Team</p>	<p><b>16 Ninian in Galloway</b> 6:00 p.m. Veary</p>	<p><b>17 Hildegard</b> 11:30 a.m. Nominces for Bishop of West MO Visitation</p>	<p><b>18 St. Matthew Tr.</b> 6:00 p.m. Mass 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19 Theodore of Tarsus</b> 12:00 p.m. Mass and Anointing</p>	<p><b>20 John Coleridge ❖ Paterson</b></p>	<p><b>21 St. Matthew</b> 4:00 p.m. Mass (Rite II) 5:00 p.m. Parish Potluck</p>
<p><b>22 18 Pentecost</b> 10:30 a.m. Mass (Rite II) (RCL) <b>Fr. Kendrick's Last Sunday</b></p>	<p><b>23 Thekla</b></p>	<p><b>24 Our Lady of Walsingham</b> 10:00 a.m. St. Clare's Guild</p>	<p><b>25 Sergius of Moscow</b> 6:00 p.m. Evening Prayer 6:30 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study</p>	<p><b>26 Lancelot Andrewes</b> 12:00 p.m. Mass and Anointing</p>	<p><b>27 Vincent de Paul ❖</b></p>	<p><b>28 Feria</b> 4:00 p.m. Mass (Rite II)</p>
<p><b>29 St. Michael &amp; All Angels</b> 10:30 a.m. Mass (Rite II) (RCL) <b>Fr. Chaz Marks</b></p>	<p><b>30 Jerome of Bethlehem</b></p>					

❖ Day of special devotion, observed by special acts of discipline and self-denial in commemoration of the Lord's crucifixion.

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**515 E. Division St.**  
**Springfield, MO 65803**

**Return Service Requested**

*The Messenger*  
**a Newsletter of**  
**St. John's Church**

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**Remembering Special Dates & People**

**Birthdays**

September 1 Karen Daniel  
September 2 Patti Crowe  
September 3 Lee Schmidt  
September 4 Prae Gamel  
Matthew Gray  
Christopher Roop  
September 5 Amelia Schweitzer  
September 6 Rhonda Axtell  
Donna Strothkamp  
September 7 David Nelson  
Mary Yarber  
September 8 Ron Daniel, Jr.  
September 10 Larry Goforth  
September 11 Danny Madson  
September 12 Jason Becker  
Michelle Sage  
September 15 Shanna Robertson  
September 16 Martha Cutting  
Larry McMillen  
September 17 Julia Merica  
September 18 Corbin Blomberg  
Sherry Iott  
September 19 Britaney Johnson  
September 21 Terry Greer  
Rachel Taylor  
September 22 Nadine Gentry  
Patricia McCall  
September 23 Bruce Ratcliff, III  
September 26 Jennifer DuVall  
Corey Mays  
September 30 McKenzi Payton  
Allison Wall  
Christopher Wilhoit

**Anniversaries**

September 7 Rob & Bridget Close  
September 8 Ben & Pat Schultz  
September 12 Eric & Jill Vahldick  
September 13 Blake & Cinnamon Smith  
September 14 Donald & Stephanie McCoy  
September 21 Douglas & Ashley Patton  
September 24 Tom & Alnita Mulvihill  
September 26 Pat & Donna Strothkamp

**Faithful Departed**

September 1 Joe Brown  
September 8 Vickie Snider  
September 9 Bill Gamel  
September 10 Arthur W. Beck  
Jim Burroughs  
J. J. Sand  
September 11 Charles H. Evans  
September 12 William R. Webb, II  
September 13 Vincent Bondi  
September 14 Elaine Crabtree  
Homer Ingenthron  
September 15 Eliza White  
September 16 William Decatur  
Phillip Vicory  
September 18 Jerrold Bachus  
September 19 Leva L. Hiler  
September 21 Mary Bondi  
Norbert Bondi  
September 22 Eleanor Webb  
September 24 Andree Leshner  
September 25 Dorothy Mason  
Gladys Moon  
September 26 O. Kenneth White  
September 27 Charles Alfred  
David Bradley  
Virginia Haszelbart  
September 30 John R. Duckworth  
Sarah J. Cogswell