

St. John's Episcopal Church
2220 Second Street
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Address Services Requested

Glad Tidings May, 2019 Edition
St. John's Episcopal Church
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Adult Education News (from Deacon Sally)

Journeying with Scripture during the Interim.

Join us for a four week series exploring how Holy Scripture can help us live more faithfully during this interim time as individuals and as the Body of Christ.

I hope that many of you, those new to St. John's and those who have been members for many years, will be able to join us on **Wednesday evenings beginning May 22.**

We will be looking at passages from the Old and New Testaments to see how together we can use these experiences to help us during this period of transition. Through Bible stories we can gain a deeper understanding of what it has meant to be St. John's in the past and listen to how God is calling us as a congregation into the future.

Don't miss this opportunity to explore possibilities for our own personal spiritual lives, and to deepen relationships with each other and with God who is with us every step of this journey.

Please bring your Bible, and if you would like to bring some **food to share**, we will eat together pot luck style. There should be plenty to eat if you forget.

We will meet **Wednesdays May 22, May 29, June 5, and June 12.**

We will start at 6.30 and finish at 8 pm.

The Deacon's Bench
May 2019

To me, May is one of the best months of the year! The weather is usually warm but not the heat of summer. The rains of April are over, and the ground is blooming.

Years ago, May was also the month of the first trip to Canada. The 2nd Saturday was usually opening day for bass! I love May!

My son Dan was born May 24th. I found out he was angry with me because I was never home for his special day.

One Spring when Dan was 9, he lost his eye due to an accident! He seemed to adjust quickly and was healed nicely so I took him out of school, and we drove to the cottage in Canada. We spent a week together and we bonded like we never were before! I found a very resilient young man who seemed to take life as it was thrown at him!

The following year I had him help me install wrought iron railings on Saturdays during school and when I needed help throughout the Summer!

Dan was good with tools, even at that age! I taught him to look ahead of what was currently happening, anticipating what needed to be present during the next move. An example would be; while I was drilling the holes to anchor the railing, he would get the bolts and washers counted out and placed nearby!

Dan was a great help at cutting down time, but mostly, his companionship was wonderful! We had a great time working together!

This brings me to the spiritual lessons to be learned at this time! One of the best gifts Rev. Zeke gave us was encouraging different people to move out of our comfort zones. He saw a need for the Laity to begin helping run the parish long before he left!

It was due to how rapidly our congregation grew in such a short length of time. Zeke wanted us to be preparing to care for the influx of new members! He had a very busy Vestry, who looked at every aspect of our ministry, asking how we could make things better and more efficient!

His deep understanding of faith and love of God brushed onto many congregants. They looked at what was being done in God's presence and sometimes made changes toward the Holy!

Some people saw what was not being done yet could help the comfort of others! Valet parking comes to mind as a good example of a new ministry.

Rev. Daniel G has expressed his views on our time of transition as being a time to develop deeper faith, being strong in service to others and accepting St. John's *IS* Ok and in good health!

Shortly after my son Dan was hurt and his eye had been removed I was under the car repairing the exhaust system. I was frustrated because I couldn't loosen *one stupid bolt!*

I heard Dan's young voice say to me, "Hey Dad, what are you doing? Do you need any help?" I looked over at Dan on his back, patch on his eye and his remaining eye sparkling and glistening!

I told him: "Yes, hold this wrench for me while I hit the bolt one more time!"

No! It didn't come loose but the effort was genuine! HaHaHa!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Deacon Bill

A Note from Deacon Sally

Easter season, a time of Resurrection.

As I write this, I am still reeling from the shock of seeing Notre Dame go up in flames during Holy Week, and hearing the news that more than three hundred people were killed and many hundreds more injured in bomb attacks in Sri Lanka on Easter morning. And the violence and destruction has not stopped. With all that is going on in the world, how do we make sense of the Easter message of new life? How can we even believe in something like the Resurrection? Jesus' crucifixion and death were public events with some historical evidence, but Jesus' risen appearances cannot be proven factually. Only women were present for the angelic message at the resurrection and typically, reports by women were not taken seriously. After that, Jesus appeared to his followers many times, but these were personal experiences, not corroborated in historical documents.

Historical facts like scientific facts are believed because they can be compared to other events that happened, but when it comes to a God event, there is no way to prove it factually because there is nothing on earth to compare it to!

But, as Jurgen Moltmann put it, if the resurrection was just a fact, “merely a historical circumstance, we would probably say, 'Oh, really?' register the fact and go on living as we did before.”

Christ's resurrection from the dead is not just a fact, it was and is a living, creative process, and it turned the world upside down.

When it comes to “knowing” about God, there is a kind of knowing that is deeper than knowing the facts. It is like knowing we are hungry, or that someone loves us, or that we love someone. How can you describe that kind of “knowing”? Peter did not really “know” Jesus until he was asked three times, “Do you love me?” That is when his life really changed. That is what resurrection is all about. Really knowing Jesus, loving Jesus, and allowing God's love through the Holy Spirit to fill our lives.

“If (the resurrection) is a creative act of God, then we shall be born again to a new life. A faith like this is the beginning of freedom,”*

Easter and the resurrection promise that the destructive power of death is driven out of creation. Where the Holy Spirit is experienced, the fear of death dies and the fear of life disappears too. Then we can wholly live and wholly love.

This is what gives us hope at times when loss and destruction seem overwhelming.

And this is that what gives us the courage and hope to see new opportunities.

That is God's loving message of Easter for this world.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen. The Lord is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Deacon Sally.

**Jesus Christ for Today's World by Jurgen Moltmann (1994)*

From the Senior Warden,

Interim Process Update:

Our Interim Consultant, Chester Bowling, met with Vestry during the March meeting. He spent over an hour explaining the process he uses to aid parishes on their journey to find a new rector. He broke it down into four main segments:

- Interim positions
- Self Analysis (who we were then, now and who we want to be in the future)
- Search
- Installation

The first segment, Interim positions, is completed with the installation of Deacon Sally as our Interim Pastor and getting the Interim Consultant on board. The Self Analysis segment will begin as soon as the Search Committee is in place. Vestry will be reviewing the names submitted by the congregation

Capital Projects:

Our application for the grant & loan was reviewed by the diocese Financial Committee. They had some questions before they will make their decision. Fred & Liz are putting our response together and will send these as soon as possible.

Pledged Contributions:

	Current Period		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted
March	12,451	10,415	33,482	31,245





We continue to be ahead of our pledged amount, thank you. *Praise God from Whom all blessings come.....*

Any comments or questions please use the Communications Boxes or see a Vestry member.



MAY, 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Good Neighbors Sunday 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Class 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Worship Committee noon-3 pm Lily Sale 12	 Yoga 7:00 pm AA 7:30 pm 6	 Book Club 7:00 pm 7	Men's Breakfast 8:30 am Eddy's Deli & Restaurant No Morning Prayer & Bible Study Group Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm Women's NA 7:30 8	St. Monica's 10:30 am Yoga 6:00 pm NA 7:30 pm 9	 AA 7:30 pm 10	Scott Schlemmer Funeral 11:00 am  5:00 pm Vespers, Chapel 11
Youth Sunday!! 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Class 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Soup's On Committee Meeting 26	June Newsletter deadline  St. Theresa's 6:30 pm Yoga 7:00 pm AA 7:30 pm 20	 Akron Coin Club 7:00 pm Book Club 7:00 pm 21	Morning Prayer & Bible Study 9:30 am BIBLE Study Women's NA 7:30 22	Yoga 6:00 pm Executive Committee Mtg. 6:30 pm (rescheduled)  NA 7:30 pm 23	 AA 7:30 pm 31	Rummage Sale Soup's On 11:00 am  5:00 pm Vespers, Chapel June 1
8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Class No Children's Sunday School for the Summer 10:30 am Worship 27	Church Office Closed  No Yoga AA 7:30 pm 27	I ♥ Book Club Book Club 7:00 pm 28	Morning Prayer & Bible Study 9:30 am  Women's NA 7:30 29	Yoga 6:00 pm NA 7:30 pm 30	 AA 7:30 pm 31	 5:00 pm Vespers, Chapel
Happy Mother's Day 8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Adult Class 9:45 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 12	Music Planning Meeting 6:30 pm  Vestry 7:00 pm Yoga 7:00 pm AA 7:30 pm 13	 Book Club 7:00 pm 14	Morning Prayer & Bible Study 9:30 am "Missing Mountain" Relay 4 Life Fundraiser 4-9 pm 2811 Front St. Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm (last one for the season) Women's NA 7:30 15	Yoga 6:00 pm NA 7:30 pm 16	St. Time and Love Time AA 7:30 pm 17	5:00 pm Vespers, Chapel 18

Dear Gentlepeople:

St John's is a happening place. We said farewell to Zeke and his family at the beginning of the year, installed a new deacon, Sally Goodall, (with many priests and ministers in attendance), held a funeral service for Dr. Wilson and ate corned beef and cabbage for St. Pat's day. My head is spinning but my tummy is sooo full. The end of April brings the Swiss Steak dinner once again. And Easter.



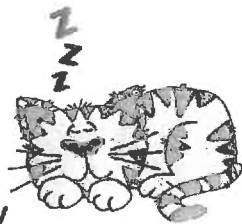
I like living here.

As I watched the procession of bishops, priests, deacons and church leaders proceed down the aisle for Sally's installation, there was a feeling of godliness spreading through the church reminding us we are all God's creatures. This is Sally's second career, called by God to minister to his people. I was touched. Having a huge luncheon afterward also touched me – will someone make the entrance to my mouse house a little bigger. It's getting harder and harder to squeeze into.

Also, we celebrated the life of a beloved and longtime member and friend of St. John's, Dr. Wilson. Sad day. I did not know him, but everyone thought highly of him. And, of course, there was food.

St. Patrick's Day saw us eating corned beef and cabbage. I'd never eaten that before, but it was great and I loved it. It was heavenly. Thanks Don Laconi.

Please thank all of St. John's cooks who made so many of these occasions exceptional. Watch out for that cat.



Hurry Spring. Love Johnny



Team Helping Heroes Fundraiser
for The American Cancer Society's
Relay for Life

Canna Lily Sale

Sunday, May 5 Noon-3pm
St. John's Church
2220 Second Street, Cuyahoga
Falls

100% of your donation goes to
the American Cancer Society!

Drink, Dine, Donate!



Missing Mountain
Brewery
2811 Front Street
Cuyahoga Falls

4PM TO 9PM

**WEDNESDAY
MAY 15, 2019**

15% of sales to The American Cancer
Society Relay for Life!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thank you to all the people who worked behind the scenes to make Holy Week and Easter such a rich experience for us all!

Special thanks to Altar Guild, who spent many hours getting the church ready for Palm Sunday, then stripping it down for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, and then putting together all the festive decorations for Easter. Your efforts really added to our worship experience.

Thank you to Donna, who labored tirelessly getting all the bulletins put together so carefully so that the services would run smoothly.

Of course many thanks to those who participated in the services also; choir, those who served at the altar, ushers and the prayers and voices of everyone in the congregation. Finally very special thanks to all those who prepared food for us all, especially for the wonderful meal on Maundy Thursday and the receptions on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Kim Krueger and Don Laconi deserve special recognition for the wonderful job they did preparing delicious food and making the undercroft look amazingly festive,
Thank you everyone!

Deacon Sally

Rummage Sale on the Square!



We will be joining Falls First Christian in a large outdoor rummage sale.

It will be the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend, May 25, 2019.

We will be doing a group set up that morning. Our funds will be separate.

That's all the info I have right now. Please listen for coming

updates during church.

During May, we will take your donations.

We will not take up Donna's time to do that, if we can help it.

Please contact me directly to schedule drop-offs. Also, if you'd like to volunteer to help with the sale, we can schedule that too.

Thank you in advance. Hope to see you there.

Kim Krueger

234-380-3861

kkru@yaho.com

On Tuesday April 9, eight members of St. John's attended an Interfaith Seder with a Jewish community. Here are some reflections on the evening by two of the participants.

Matzah with friends. That's how I'd recap our journey north to Beachwood for Seder at the Anshe Chesed Fairmount temple a few weeks ago. A large banquet hall with many groups of faith. Hosts were at each table sharing their own stories of Passover meal with family. The story came alive as we shared our meal. A reminder of the power of hospitality to bring community together. Consider attending next year. Thanks to Sally for arranging our visit. Heidi H

During Passover, every generation has had obligation to share their physical and spiritual history with everyone in their lives. It renews the desire to keep your heart open to building relationships with others with compassion, understanding and love. It was truly an exercise in seeing God in all of humanity. Bev

Wednesday Morning Prayer and Bible Study

The Wednesday Morning Prayer and Bible Study Group continue to meet
each Wednesday at 9:30 am in the Church Library

There are treats before class and devotions afterward.

Bible Study is being held following the Morning Prayer and will begin around 10:15 am.

All are welcome! If you have questions, contact Tom Hopton at (330)688-3996.



Men's Breakfast: On the 2nd Wednesday of each month the men of St. John's gather for breakfast at 8:30 am at Eddy's Deli & Restaurant, 2655 Oakwood Drive, in Cuyahoga Falls.

Join us on May 8th for great food and bad jokes!

2019 FLOWER AND CANDLE DEDICATIONS

There are still many open spaces on the sign-up sheet for flowers and candles on the board near the entrance to the Sanctuary.

Please sign up now for your special Sundays in 2019.

Or you may contact Carol Weitzel at 330-650-0099 if you are interested in donating.

Flowers are \$25.00 and candles are \$5.00



Book Club News

The Tuesday Book Club, led by Tom Hopton, meets each week at 7:30 pm.

They are currently studying *The Cloister Walk*, by Kathleen Norris, which is a spiritual journey that brings joy to the meanings of love, grace and faith.

Why would a married woman with a thoroughly Protestant background and often more doubt than faith be drawn to the ancient practice of monasticism, to a community of celibate men whose days are centered on a rigid schedule of prayer, work, and scripture? This is the question that poet Kathleen Norris asks us as, somewhat to her own surprise, she found herself on two extended residencies at St. John's Abbey in Minnesota.

Quoted in part from Amazon reviews

Feel free to join this group at any time, whether you can attend every Tuesday or not. There's much discussion, with as much or as little participation as you would like.

Please see Tom Hopton if you have any questions.



The April **Soup's On** meal will be on *Saturday, May 25th* beginning at *11:30 am*.

We appreciate everyone who volunteers their time for this worthwhile project.

The **Soup's On Committee** will meet **Sunday, May 19th** after the **10:30 service**.

Cuyahoga Falls Good Neighbors: "Offering a hand up – not a handout"



Feeding the Community

Many St. John's church members volunteer at Cuyahoga Falls Good Neighbors on a regular basis. Volunteers are necessary to continue the great works of this valuable organization. But Good Neighbors also needs **donations**, so if you're unable to volunteer, but you'd like to do something to support this program, the following items are needed to help them assist families:

Paper Towels, Toilet Tissue, Cereal, Canned Soup, Canned Vegetables, Canned Ravioli, Canned Spaghetti, Baked Beans, Kidney Beans, Beef Stew, Pasta: Spaghetti, Macaroni or Noodles, Crackers, Mac & Cheese, Ramen Noodles, Peanut Butter & Jelly, Jell-o, Cake Mix or Muffin Mix

Any of these much-needed items can be placed in the large rectangular basket on the table near the entrance to the sanctuary or in the large barrel in the first floor hallway. If you donate, you'll be glad you did, and the needy families will be very glad you did!

The First Sunday of each month is "Good Neighbors Sunday" designated to bring in donations for this great program!

Communications Boxes are here!

In this time of change and transition, Vestry decided it would be good to have "Communications Boxes" so that you can give questions, concerns, comments, etc.

Please see the bright floral boxes in the back of the Chapel and Sanctuary. We would appreciate it if you would sign your name (in case we have questions) but you may remain anonymous if you prefer. But please communicate what's on your mind!

PLEASE NOTE/UPCOMING EVENTS:

◆Sundays◆

- "Good Neighbors Sunday" is the first Sunday of each month. Donate food to help them
- **Morning Worship Services** are at **8:30** (in the Chapel) and **10:30 am** (in the Sanctuary) each Sunday
- **The Adult Formation Class** is held each week at **9:30 am** in the **Library**
- **Sunday School** is held each week at **9:45 am** in the 3rd floor classrooms
- **Mother's Day is May 12th**
- **Youth Sunday is May 19th**
- **The Soup's On Committee** will meet **May 19th at 11:45 am**

◆Mondays◆

- **The Monday Yoga Class** continues each week at **7:00 pm** on the 3rd floor
- **The A.A. Group** (Alcoholics Anonymous) meets each **Monday at 7:30 pm**
- **Vestry** meets on the second Monday of each month at **7:00 pm**
- **St. Theresa's Guild** will meet on **May 20th at 6:30 pm** (the 3rd Monday of the month)

◆Tuesdays◆

- **The Book Club** meets each **Tuesday at 7:00 pm** in the **Library**
- **The Akron Coin Club** will meet on **May 21st** (the 3rd Tuesday of each month) at **7:00 pm** in the **Undercroft**

◆Wednesdays◆

- **The Wednesday Morning Prayer and Bible Study Class** meets at **9:30 am** in the **Library** on each week except the 2nd Wednesday)
- **The Men's Breakfast** is on the second Wednesdays at **Eddy's Deli & Restaurant at 8:30 am**
- **The Choir** rehearses each **Wednesday at 6:30 pm** in the **Choir Room** (*last rehearsal is 5/15*)
- **The Women's N.A. Group** (Narcotics Anonymous) meets each **Wednesday at 7:30 pm**

◆Thursdays◆

- **The ECW Board** meets the first Thursday of each month at **10:30 am**
- **The Thursday Yoga Class** continues each week at **7:00 pm** on the 3rd floor
- **The Thursday N.A. Group** (Narcotics Anonymous) meets each **Thursday at 7:30 pm**
- **St. Monica's Guild** meets the second Thursday of each month at **10:30 am**

◆Fridays◆

- **The A.A. Group** (Alcoholics Anonymous) meets each **Friday at 7:30 pm**

◆Saturdays◆

- **Evening Vespers** is held each week at **5:00 pm each week** in the Sanctuary Chapel
- **The Soup's On meal** will be **May 25th at 11:00 am** (the 4th Saturday of the month)

The Newsletter Deadline is the 20th of each month

**The Church Office will be closed on:
Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day**