



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY

The Newsletter

158 West High Street, Somerville, NJ 08876 • 908.722.1250 • stjohsomerville.org

S U M M E R 2 0 2 2

From the Rector

SPIRITUAL GOODS

SPIRITUAL GOODS are different from material goods.

Through faith and God's amazing grace, we constantly grow in our understanding that the more we give away material goods, such as money, land, houses, clothing, food, etc., the less we have. Spiritual goods are quite the opposite. The more we give, the more we receive. The more we give away without expectation of a return, the more we have.

The more we love, exercise peace and justice, show solidarity with all our brothers and sisters, spread the Good News of Jesus Christ, and practice forgiveness, the more we gain as children of God, and greater appreciation we receive in being Christians.

Thus, giving and receiving are intimately connected. This is one of the basic building blocks of our faith. Everything is connected. We are all God's children living under the same rainbow of hope and love.

A SUMMER PRAYER:

"O God, grant that we may understand that by giving generously and freely we will also receive all that we need in abundance. May we always acknowledge the incredible generosity and unconditional love, that You, O Lord, so freely give to us in our daily lives so that we may, in turn, share the same with the world. Amen."

See you in Church or online!

Father Ron

—from the writings of Brazilian theologian Leonardo Boff



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



WELCOMING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Holy Eucharist at 8 and 10:15

Church School Registration

Ministries Fair

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

*All-Parish barbecue beginning at 12 noon
with Dan's Backyard BBQ*

Invite your friends!

STEWARDSHIP 2022 CAMPAIGN

Update as of July 29:

**108 pledges totaling \$208,330
toward our goal of \$235,000**

THANK YOU for your Love and Commitment to St. John's Church! Our mission "*To Know Christ and To Make Him Known*" is being felt throughout the community. To ensure that we continue to live up to our mission and have a positive impact on the world, we need your help. We are \$26,670 short of our pledge goal for 2022. We want to close the gap.

We believe if we can get 100 parishioners to increase their 2022 pledge by \$5 or \$10 per week, we can successfully meet our goal, and continue to be a place of worship where Love Abides. Can you help? Will you increase your pledge for the rest of 2022? If you need help increasing your pledge, you can contact the Parish Office, use the QR code above, or go to <https://stjohnsomerville.org/pledge-card-form>.

**2022 Goal:
\$235,000**



**\$208,330
108
Pledges**



Thank you for your commitment to the mission and ministry of St. John's Church!

The Stewardship Committee:

Christine Bean, Dee Britt, Mark Hernandez, Devron Robinson, Marianne Salanik, Linda and Harold Willard



THE WORK OF MINISTRY

St. John's Clothes Closet

The Closet is located on the lower level of the parish house and is open *two* Saturdays each month, 9 am until 12 noon. Purchases are cash only. Please wear a facemask and bring your own shopping bag.

Featured in August will be several racks of spring and summer Clearance items. You may also check out our Fall Preview offerings plus Back to School clothes including new underwear and socks. Our *Chic Boutique* racks have expanded to include designer brand clothes

for men, women, and children. Our popular *free* table is always available.

We are accepting only fall and winter items now. If you are interested in donating any clothes, shoes, or accessories, you must contact Linda Willard at nolaandboogie@aol.com or 347.276.2491. As the Clothes Closet's needs vary by season and storage space, Linda is happy to advise what items we can accept. She will then schedule a mutually convenient time to drop them off. We accept men's, women's, and children's clothes for all ages. They should be clean, gently used, and in current fashion. Please do not donate clothing with damage, stains,

or signs of heavy wear. Not acceptable are underwear, socks, pajamas (unless they are new), or any non-clothing items.

Sales are averaging \$1,000 a month which goes to support St. John's ministries. The Clothes Closet council includes Taffy Scherr, Valerie Gibson, Marianne Salanik, Linda Willard, and Paula Windus. Valued volunteers are Barbara Christel, Mike Christel, Carolyn Gioia, Niki Hoffman, Jean Stamets, and Liz Eisinger. If you would like to help sort clothes or sell the day of the sales, please contact the Parish Office at 908.722.1250.

Meals to Go News

Thanks to the generosity of our partners at the Branchburg Rotary Club, we have been able to serve our community with quality meals on a weekly basis since early 2021. In addition to delicious chef-prepared entrees and soups, we also provide other items as available: toiletries, canned goods, and most recently, a huge stash of Girl Scout cookies!



This important ministry is a beautiful way to share the welcome and hospitality of St Johns. We are here for everyone in our community—both our parish family and our wider Somerville family—who can benefit from a warm, healthy meal.

Volunteers from the Branchburg Rotary and St Johns are crucial to this ministry's success! Each week, Rotary volunteers deliver meals to St. John's, and in turn, St. John's volunteers are in the Parish Hall each Saturday 9-10 am to meet people who stop by to pick up meals. Parishioners also volunteer to deliver meals to those in our community that may not be able to stop by for whatever reason. A huge *thank you* to our St. John's volunteers—we appreciate your time and energy!

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Most importantly, please keep Meals to Go and those we serve in your prayers. We also invite you to consider volunteering—it's a short time commitment that pays big dividends in our community. This ministry is a simple and impactful activity that families can engage in together. We also welcome our teens who may be looking for service opportunities.

Are you interested and want to find out more? Please contact me, Christine Bean (cbean727@gmail.com) or the Parish Office. Or stop by on a Saturday morning to see this ministry-in-action. If you're ready to sign up, the online sign up calendar for August can be found here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45AFAD2BA2F8C70-meals7>

Laundry Love News

Laundry Love is hosted on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 5 to 6 p.m. at Somerville Express Wash Laundry, 20 Division St., Somerville.

Guests are encouraged to sign up prior to each Laundry Love event, to ensure we have enough bags on hand with quarter rolls and supplies; walk-ins are served, too. The support of the St. John's community is needed—and very much appreciated. We depend on donations of rolls of quarters to continue this ministry, and volunteers are also welcomed to sign up for one of the future Thursdays to help and meet our guests. For more information on how to participate, please contact Paul Grzella, pgrzella@verizon.net, 908.507.8020, or call the Parish Office at 908.722.1250.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Loose Change Sunday: First Sunday of every month

Loose Change Sunday is back. Our next scheduled date is Sunday, August 7. If you would like to participate in this important ministry, please feel free to bring a jar (or a ziplock sandwich baggie) filled with loose change to church and put it in the designated baskets in the Narthex (front door area of church) or on the little table by the side door that leads to the parish hall. Or, simply put whatever loose change you may have into the baskets. This money will be placed into the Discretionary Fund and used to answer the needs of the many who reach out to St. John's for assistance.

Wanted: New School Supplies for Children

St. John's Church, along with our Church School, has launched its annual *Children's School Supplies Collection*. Children of families at St. John's and children we know in our local community will benefit from donations.

New school supplies, such as: backpacks, notebooks, three-ring binders (1½ to 3 inches), pencil cases that fit inside binders, paper, glue sticks, safety scissors, index cards, rulers, highlighters, markers, pens, pencils and crayons will be accepted. Donations made be dropped off at the Parish Office. We are typically open during the week between 11 am and 3 pm, and they can be dropped off Sunday morning in the large basket box located on the stage in the Parish Hall. On Sunday, September 4 and 18, we will conduct the Blessing of the Backpacks and Children's School Supplies during both the 8 am and 10:15 am Eucharists.

We see many families struggling to make ends meet, and for them, our brothers and sisters in Christ, we want to be able to reach out and help. We hope that parishioners will once again support "Children's School Supplies Collection" and help these children get a good start this fall.





OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

St. John's Parish Choir

The Parish (Adult) Choir resumes choir rehearsals on Thursday, September 14 at 7:30 pm., and we will sing for the first time on Welcoming Sunday, September 18 at the 10:15 service. We will sing Evensong for All Souls' with Bound Brook Presbyterian at St. John's on Sunday, November 6 at 5 pm, and Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December

11 at 5 pm. *Everyone is welcome!*

St. John's Choristers

The Chorister program is open to all young singers in our community. We will have our first rehearsal on Sunday, September 25 after the 10:15 service.

Opportunities this year will include an Epiphany Evensong with other choirs from the area on Sunday, January 8 and the Annual Diocesan Choir Festival at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on Saturday, January 21.

Brent F. Miller Memorial Music Fund

Grateful thanks to all who continue to give to the Brent F. Miller Memorial Music Fund. Your donations help us to expand our musical offerings throughout the year, including our professional section leader, music supplies, instrumentalists, and more. *Thank you!*

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

We will begin the 2022-2023 season with a meeting on Monday, September 12 at 7 pm. We'll meet in the Parish Hall and will be available online as well. Zoom credentials will be sent later.

We look forward to a new year, with some new initiatives and our ongoing support of the ministries of St. John's. To find out more about Episcopal Church Women, contact Judy Marine, *President*, jmarine5@verizon.net, or Neva Rae Fox, *Vice-President*, Nevarae@aol.com.

AROUND THE PARISH GROUNDS

A New Sign!

Thanks to Harold and Linda Willard we have new sign facing West High Street! The new sign lists our Sunday services and Church School times as well as our website address and phone number. The Episcopal Church welcomes you...and St. John's in Somerville welcomes your visit to our beautiful, historic church and awesome parish community of faith.



Parking Lot Paving

Have you noticed St John's has two new paved driveways and parking lot? Our new parking lot looks spectacular! Many thanks to all who helped complete this much-needed project: members of the vestry, wardens, the Property Committee, Sam Galpin our treasurer, but we offer hearty thanks to Leigh Meaders Robinson and Karen Whitmore who really took charge and made things happen. Henry's Paving LLC was the company we engaged to do the work. The total cost of the project was \$42,153.



DATES TO REMEMBER

August 8-22: Fr Ron away on vacation

Sunday, August 14: Fr Scott Russell, Guest Celebrant & Preacher

Sunday, August 21: Fr Scott Russell, Guest Celebrant & Preacher

August 24-30: Mark Trautman away on vacation

Sunday, August 28: Stewardship Committee Meeting, 9:15 am

September 5-12: Fr. Ron away on vacation

September 4 and 18: Blessing of the Backpacks and back-to-school supplies

Sunday, September 18: Welcoming Sunday, Church School Reg., Ministries Fair

Sunday, September 18: Youth Group Meeting, St. John's & St. Martin's, Parish Hall, 5 pm

Sunday, September 25: All Parish- Barbecue. Dan's Backyard BBQ, 12 noon

Sunday, October 2: Annual St Francis Blessing of the Animals, 3 pm, spons. Stewardship

Sunday, October 9: Blood Drive sponsored by Stewardship Committee, 9 am-2 pm

Sunday, October 9: Youth Group Meeting, St. John's & St. Martin's, Parish Hall, 5 pm

Saturday, October 15: Vendor Fair in Parish Hall

Sunday, October 16: Diaper Day sponsored by Episcopal Church Women

Sunday, October 23: Stewardship Sunday

Sunday, October 23: Youth Group Meeting, St. John's & St. Martin's, 5 pm

Sunday, November 6: All Saints Sunday

Sunday, November 6: All Souls Evensong and Remembrance, 5 pm

Sunday, November 13: African Team Ministries sale in Parish Hall after both services

Sunday, November 13: Youth Group Meeting, St. John's & St. Martin's, 5 pm

Thursday, November 24: Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist with music, 9 am

Sunday, November 27: First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 27: Youth Group Meeting, St. John's & St. Martin's, 5 pm

Sunday, December 11: Advent Lessons and Carols, 5 pm; Unveiling of Gingerbread Church and Dessert Extravaganza Reception

Saturday, December 24: Christmas Eve Eucharist, 5 pm and 11 pm

Sunday, December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist, 8 and 10:15 am

Saturday, December 31: New Year's Eve/Feast of the Holy Name, Eucharist, 5 pm

Sunday, January 1, 2023: Feast of the Holy Name, Eucharist 8 am and 10:15 am

JULY: WE CELEBRATE, WE REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

1. Roseann Brown
2. Carol Boyer, Justin Matyas
3. Connie Van Arsdale
4. Brian Hewett
5. Emerson McTernan, Kenneth Morrison
7. Clinton Bowers, Kelly Mehring, Rebecca Wiley
9. Nicholas Venet, Gabriel Ruiz
10. Cheyenne Britt, Karen Pasquale, Joseph Gaitan
12. Kyle Ferris
13. Robin Fehring
14. Mark Hernandez, Dani Conceicao
15. Megan Roth
16. Paula Windus, James Barna
17. Elizabeth Lande
18. Lori Ellis, Aiden Hernandez
20. Lia Belle Buchanan, Steven Roll
22. Jonathan Marshall
23. Kermit Saunders, Jessica Jacob
25. Rohan Tonk
26. Kristian Fried
27. Karl Spolarich, Caryle Steggall
28. Lynne Neff, Charlotte Metrokotsas
29. Michael Normant
31. Cherie Fox, Alice Marshall, Nesi Calderon, Patrick Brienza

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1. Bob & Buffy Disko, Paul & Annie Aikens, Kelly & Brian Hamer
10. Sue & Russell Tepper
31. Regina L. Spolarich, Ruth Kletz.

AUGUST: WE CELEBRATE, WE REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

1. William Vandever
3. Crystal Bowden, Thomas Brown, Jason Matyas, Pamela Ansbro
4. Emily Windus Sarles, Mia Mlenak
5. Patrick Bower, Shaun Keker
7. Ivan Rogalsky, Jessica Williams, Erik Franko, Katelyn Scott, Kathy Bakes
8. John Plesniarski
9. Karen Pompey, June Rose, Lucas Smith
10. Ava Poklikuha
11. Olivia Kutlow
12. Marianne Salanik
13. James Robert Van Arsdale, Geoffrey Osinski
14. Edward Manko IV
15. Roopal Tonk, John Nawrath, John Fuhrmann
16. Edward Manko
17. Ben Agins
18. Amy Vadala
19. Buffy Disko, Graysen Fleming
20. Griff Dowden
22. Stuart Steggall
23. Gabriela Saenz, Crystal Marshall, Lorraine Westmoreland, Kristen Wawrzyniak
24. Cathleen Daniels
25. Lynn Giordano, Andino Liberatoscioli, Jaxon McCann, Will Carlson, Chase Chudy
26. Jamie Rae & Stephen Osinski

13. Cherie & Tony Pieroni
16. James & Alison Voss
17. Matt & Kimberly Fleming
18. William & Nihoko Hoffman
19. Robert & Christine Massey, Edward & Alison Manko
23. Andrew & Kelly Mehring, Steven & Carly Smith
31. Michael & Sinead Normant

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

1. Alexis Smith
2. Joseph H. Chapman, Beth Ann Manfredi
7. George Preston Fleet
8. Joseph P. Gaughan
9. Grace Vadala, Margaret Wachter, Shirley Rostron
10. Thomas L. Berry Jr.
11. Theresa Allgair
12. Dan Eldon, Salvatore Salzano
13. Jean Chittenden
19. Walter Miggins Sr., William Marshall Jr., Ben Neal
22. Lucy Matthews, Vincentina Frazer
25. Theodore F. Richart, Margaret Rogers
26. Jessamine & Richard Henderson
28. Florence Ellis
29. Lavona Oasler, Arthur Van Tassel, Linda Perrone
31. Regina L. Spolarich, Ruth Kletz.

27. Ryan Pierson
28. Brian Santostefano, Dorothy Spolarich
29. Dominick Abbatiello
30. Gloria Bower, Amelia Pieroni, Johanna Alzate
31. Karl Watts

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1. Vincenzina & Steve Mlenak,
10. Margaret Chan & Jason Thorpe
11. Paul & Marika Foreman, Michael & Katelyn Scott
12. Christine & Frank Tardiff
13. Johana & Esteban Soriano, Victor & Mori Marshall
15. Stephanie & David Soden
16. John & Kimberly Nawrath, John & Sheila Fuhrmann
27. Roy & Danielle Barry
28. Marc & Jill Brodsky

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

1. Jay Vandever
12. Anna Recktenwald
15. Gertrude Miggins
18. Florence Ann Jones
25. Lawrence Thomason
26. Roseann Wawrzyniak
28. Etta B. Demaray, Irene McCoy
29. Maurice Aikens

Stay Connected to St. John's in Somerville

PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Canon Ronald N. Pollock, Rector, frronpollock1@verizon.net

The Rev. W. Keith McCoy, Deacon Associate, kmccoy1@optonline.net

Mark A. Trautman, Organist-Choirmaster and Administrator, mtrautman@stjohnsomerville.org

Ministers: The People of St John's

Altar Guild

Paula Windus, Directress, paulawindus@verizon.net

Linda Willard, Treasurer, nolaandboogie@aol.com

Dana Keefer, Flowers, Weddings, & Funerals, dzkeefe@yahoo.com

Bread & Wine and Altar Candles, stjohnsomerville@gmail.com

Music Program

Mark A. Trautman, mtrautman@stjohnsomerville.org

Canon Chancellor John W. Goldsack Church Library

Deacon Keith, kmccoy1@optonline.net

Church School

Marielena Cardinale, Superintendent, jcardinale123@comcast.net

Michelle Hernandez, Teacher, chellehernandez1@gmail.com

Tracey Jameson, Teacher, tkayj@aol.com

Endowment and Planned Giving

Finance Committee

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

Judy Marine, President, jmarine5@verizon.net

Neva Rae Fox, Vice-President, Nevarae@aol.com

Mary & Martha Guild

Joanne Polito, President, jozpolito@gmail.com

Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) Advisers

Carolyn Gioia, cgioiabella@gmail.com

Leigh Meaders-Robinson, lmozzelle@aol.com

Kraig and Janice Williams, windstudies2@icloud.com, jmwbells@icloud.com

Mission Outreach

Father Ron, frronpollock1@verizon.net

Red Door Ministries

Baby Blankets for newborns and those baptized: Pauline Boyer, 908.722.1832

Loose-Change for Discretionary Fund: Andrea Dalrymple adal227@verizon.net

Happy Mealers: Parish Office, stjohnsomerville@gmail.com

Stewardship

Fr. Ron, Adviser; Christine Bean, Dee Britt, Mark Hernandez, Devron Robinson,

Marianne Salanik, Linda and Harold Willard

Treasurer

Sam Galpin, Parish Treasurer, Sam.Galpin@outlook.com

Anne Tom, Parish Co-Treasurer annetom@comcast.net

Vestry (Class year)

Steve Mandraccia, Senior Warden, Smandraccia@verizon.net (2023); Kenneth Miller, Junior Warden, kemiii3@yahoo.com (2024); Dee Britt, brittchey@aol.com (2023); Jon Anobile, Jonathan.anobile@gmail.com (2023); Marianne Salanik, msalanik@optonline.net (2023); Jean Stamets, Jasoz08887@gmail.com (2024); Justin Mastykarz, jmastykarz@me.com (2024); Michelle Hernandez, mhernandez718910@gmail.com (2024); Megan McNamara, meganmcnamara1@yahoo.com (2025); Leigh Meaders-Robinson, lmozzelle@aol.com (2025)

