



ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

## *The Red Door*

WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME

*Monthly newsletter of the people and ministries of  
St. John's Episcopal Church*



**NOVEMBER 2019 - Volume 5 Issue 11**



## Getting Our Priorities Straight

*“Gracious God, we give you thanks for this day, and for your many blessings which we enjoy.”*

A wise and faithful Christian once said that two things reveal a person or household's true priorities and the locus of their faith. They are: 1) their calendar; and 2) their checkbook. These two things, our calendars and our checkbooks, reveal our true priorities. They also reveal where we put our trust. Our calendars reveal what is important enough to spend our time on, and our checkbooks or credit card statements reveal what is important enough to us to spend our money on and where we put our faith.

What does your calendar say about your priorities for the time that God gives you? I hope that it includes at least a few minutes every day for reflection and prayer. I hope that it includes at least an hour a week for corporate worship, here at St. John's either at 11:30 on Wednesdays or on Sunday morning. I hope that your calendar includes time to care for your body through exercise, and time to care for your spirit through relationships and activities with friends and family. How we choose to spend our time matters to God, who is the giver of all time. God blesses each of us with the same amount of time every day and every week.

What does your checkbook or credit card statement say about your priorities for the financial resources with which God blesses you? We do not have as much control over our financial resources as we may like to have. We do not, for instance, have much control over what we must give to support our local and national services, which we pay in the form of taxes. After that, however, we probably have more control than we think we do. Each of our households gets to decide on discretionary spending, such as for food, clothing, housing, perhaps travel, vacations, and transportation. We can spend a lot on these things, or not so much.

And we can choose to support St. John's either before or after we decide on our discretionary spending. To put it very bluntly, we can give back to God out of what is left-over, or we can give to God first, and decide on our discretionary spending based on what is left-over.

Personally, I find giving to God first and deciding on my discretionary spending second to be very freeing. Yes, it means that I shop at resale shops first, purchase groceries based on what is on sale, and do my best to re-cycle, re-use, and use less. All of these practices are part of my ethic of stewardship, which encompasses all of what I do with all of the blessings that God gives me. Giving to God through the church first deepens my relationship with God, for I am confident, that where my treasure is, there my heart will be also.

I pray the same for you. I pray for your heart and treasure to be firmly fixed on God, the giver of all good gifts.

Peace and all blessings,  
Henny+

### *Worship Opportunities All are Welcome*



### *Sunday Services*

- Nov. 3 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am & 10:30 am  
Celebrant Rev. Henny
- Nov. 10 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am & 10:30 am  
Celebrant Rev. Henny  
John Buehner preaching
- Nov. 17 Holy Eucharist 8:30 am & 10:30 am  
Celebrant is Rev. Henny
- Nov. 24 Morning Prayer 8:30 am & 10:30 am  
John Buehner preaching

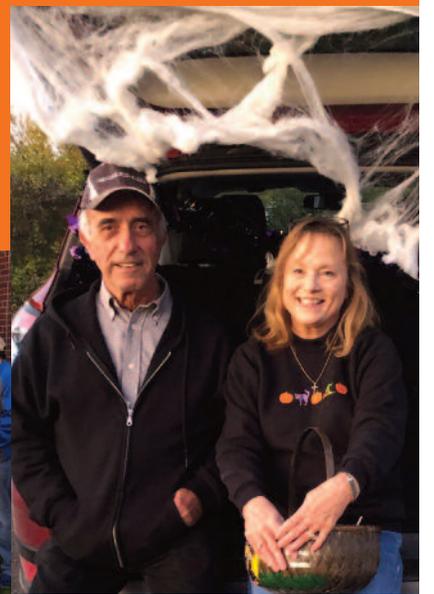
### *Wednesday Bible Study & Eucharist*

Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27

Bible Study 10:00 am  
Holy Eucharist 11:30 am

# TRUNK OR TREAT

We had our Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 27th and had a great time treating the kids! Thanks to all who donated and participated this year.



# Pledge Cards are Due Back by November 17. We Need Them to Prepare a Budget!

Each household of St. John's has now received a letter, a statement of your support of St. John's from July through September, and a pledge card for how you anticipate being able to support the ministries of St. John's in 2020. If your household did NOT receive a pledge card, please call the church office, and Charmaine will get one in the mail to you, or, you can pick one up the next time you are in the building. They will be in the office and in the Parish Hall.

The Vestry asks that all pledges be returned by November 17, so that it can begin to craft a budget for next year, which the Vestry will adopt at its December meeting and present at our Annual Meeting on January 19.

*Please understand that the Vestry considers pledges as promises and not as binding contracts;* as circumstances change, our abilities to fulfill our promises may also change. If your pledge needs to change during the course of the year, please let St. John's Treasurer know as soon as possible, and thank you!

## MORE TRUNK OR TREAT!



## Let's Honor The Lord With Our Giving

"Remember this, whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly.  
And whoever sows generously will also reap generously."  
2 Corinthians 9:6



Spaghetti Dinner tickets are available through Vestry members or contact the Church Office. There is a Sign Up Sheet for helpers and workers on the table in the Parish Hall.

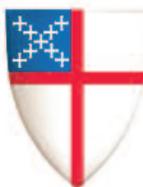


Spaghetti  
Dinner  
Fundraiser

Friday, Nov. 15, 2019  
5 - 7 pm

*Includes spaghetti, salad,  
bread, dessert & beverage.*

Adults \$10 • 12+under \$4 • 3+under FREE!



ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH



555 S Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186

For more info call (734) 721-5023



## Birthdays

5	Nathan Fowler	21	Angela Hamblin
5	Edward Grimm	22	Raymond Kellogg
17	Hunter Howe	22	Emily Buehner
18	James Godbout	28	Owen Smith

## Anniversaries

02 Michael & Christine Brown

## FOOD PANTRY OPEN

Thursday, November 14,  
Hours: Noon-2 pm

Donation always welcome!  
(no expired foods please)



## Help Needed for Thanksgiving Boxes

The Food Pantry needs your help to provide 25 Thanksgiving Turkey Boxes to those attending our Food Pantry. Items needed are stuffing, canned yams, turkey gravy, cranberry sauce and canned corn or other vegetables. If you prefer to give a monetary donation for the turkeys, please contact Rae Barbu, Angela Hamblin or Cindy Fowler. **Deadline for donations is: Sunday, November 10. Your help is appreciated. Thank you**

## NOVEMBER EVENTS & MEETINGS

### SUNDAYS:

Sunday, Nov. 3 Daughters of the King, 12 pm  
Daylight Savings Time Ends  
(turn clocks back 1 hr. Sat. pm)  
Breakfast, 9:30 am

Sunday, Nov. 10 Vestry meeting at 12 pm

Sunday, Nov. 17 Breakfast, 9:30 am

### WEDNESDAYS:

Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27 Senior Exercise Class 9 am  
(free will donation)

### FRIDAY:

Nov. 15 Spaghetti Dinner 5-7pm

### SATURDAY:

Nov. 2 Service for Rev. Jerry Herrington  
@ 1pm. Followed by luncheon.  
(let Violet Streeter know if you can help or bring food)



## Meet & Greet

Reminder: if you haven't signed up for a Meet & Greet with Reverend Henny please contact the office to sign up before November 14.

## St. John's Episcopal Church

555 S. Wayne Rd., Westland, MI 48186

Office: (734) 721-5023

Parish office hours: Mon-Fri. 11 am-3pm

[www.stjohnswestland.com](http://www.stjohnswestland.com)

[stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com)

**facebook** We're on Facebook:  
[St. John's Episcopal Church - Westland MI](#)

## St. John's Episcopal Church Staff

Rev. Henny Grosseohme, *Priest-in-Charge*

[RevHenny@stjohnswestland.com](mailto:RevHenny@stjohnswestland.com)

Charmaine Wells, *Parish Secretary*

[stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com)

Dana Hull, *Music Director*

Rae Barbu, *Sexton*

### 2019 OFFICERS

Sharon Scott & Mary Vellardita, *Co-Senior Wardens*

Don Streeter, *Junior Warden*

Cindy Fowler & Julie Jones, *Co-Clerks*

Erin Downey-Tarnowski, *Treasurer*

### 2019 VESTRY MEMBERS

Rod Aston, Neil Barbu, John Buehner, Jory King