



St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

APRIL 2024

TIDINGS

SPRING PROGRAMS

YOUTH, SJDS, BIBLE STORIES & MORE

GARDEN ANGELS

SPRUCE UP THE CAMPUS

CONCERT

CANTATE CHILDREN'S
AND YOUTH CHOIR

PLUS!

EASTER AT ST. JOHN'S &
THE PHILADELPHIA 11 SCREENING

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Saints of St. John's,

Never before have Alison and I seen so many shades of green! Ireland was a spectacular experience as we encountered postcard pictures after every turn and met genuinely kind and loving people in every place. We feel as though we had two vacations: one in Ireland and the other in Dublin. The countryside, towns, and villages we visited demonstrated the vast imagination of our God. Dublin was a fascinating metropolitan area with a great diversity of people.



You were prayed for in each church we visited, including those places which were only remnants of holy spaces built over a thousand years ago. One parish we stopped to see was founded by St. Patrick himself, including the well he used to baptize the earliest of Christians in the 5th Century.

In Dublin we attended a women's soccer match between Ireland and England which was loads of fun. We made it to the Aran Islands and had a great day tour there, including buying a cable-knit wool sweater. There was only one day of rain and another with a windstorm, but all in all the weather was perfect for us.

We return feeling refreshed and renewed. Thank you for giving us the opportunity for a respite. We truly feel blessed by God to be with you and to return home to you.

Faithfully in Christ,

Chris

THE REV. CHRIS ROUSSELL, RECTOR



REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY

- 8:00a Holy Eucharist, Church
- 9:00a Breakfast
- 9:20a Nursery available
- 9:30a Adult Forum, Middle and High School Formation, Chapel Chat and Sunday School Prek-5th
- 10:30a Holy Eucharist, Church & [Livestream](#)

TUESDAY

- 8:00a George Bean Men's Group, Magill Hall

WEDNESDAY

- 11:00a Bible Study, - The Book of Mark, Magill Hall and [Zoom](#)
- 12:10p Holy Eucharist, Chapel

THURSDAY

- 10:00a Women's Book Study, Library
- 4:00p Evening Prayer, Westminster Canterbury Chapel
- 7:00p Parish Choir Rehearsal

LOOKING AHEAD: APRIL

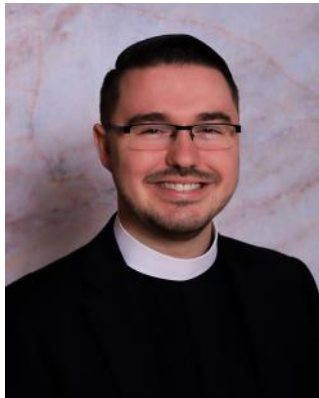
- 28 9:45a Combined Service, Bishop's Visit, Confirmation, Baptisms
- 28 TBD, Youth Group

LOOKING AHEAD: MAY

- 2 11:45a Westminster Canterbury Luncheon, WC
- 5 4:00p Cantate Concert, Church
- 6 Youth Group Hike and Picnic
- 12 Mother's Day
- 13 10:30a Program by Beard Center on Aging
- 14 5:15a COA Meeting, Chapter Rm
- 19 Pentecost Sunday
Recognition of High School Seniors
Last Sunday of Program Year



ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S MESSAGE



The Great Fifty Days

What are the Great Fifty Days, and why should we care? Easter Sunday is past, and while we are entering full spring and the anticipation of summer, we need not forget that this glorious season of excitement and anticipation is matched in the church year by not one, not ten, but fifty days of celebrating Christ's

Resurrection! Welcome to the Great Fifty Days!

Two years ago I challenged the congregation to pray the Pascha Nostrum (Christ our Passover) Prayer each of the Fifty days of Easter. This prayer includes three key passages that tell us what Easter is all about. This prayer, and the Sunday morning readings throughout Easter season teach us to find Jesus in our midst, that we might recognize him and believe. We've already heard the accounts of the first witnesses on Easter Sunday, of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and the disciples (including Thomas) who physically encounter Jesus as he appears to them behind locked doors. This theme continues with readings from John's gospel: "I am the Good Shepherd." "I am the true Vine." "Abide in me." These readings point us to the resurrected Christ through whom many new things are possible—including the possibility that he is with us each day.

So rejoice in these Great Fifty Days as we celebrate the resurrection. Join us at church as we celebrate the Good News and draw closer to God in Christ. See you Sunday!

God bless you!

Ben

THE REV. BENJAMIN COWGILL
ASSOCIATE RECTOR

ben@stjohnslynchburg.org

CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

Pascha Nostrum

Alleluia.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us; *
therefore let us keep the feast,
Not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, *
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. Alleluia.

Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; *
death no longer has dominion over him.
The death that he died, he died to sin, once for all; *
but the life he lives, he lives to God.
So also consider yourselves dead to sin, *
and alive to God in Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia.

Christ has been raised from the dead, *
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since by a man came death, *
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, *
so also in Christ shall all be made alive. Alleluia.

Book of Common Prayer, 83
1 Corinthians 5:7-8; Romans 6:9-11; 1 Corinthians 15:20-22



ST. JOHN'S DAY SCHOOL

BY AMY PANZER

April brings lots of fun activities and learning opportunities throughout the school! How often do we get the chance to teach about a Solar eclipse?! It was all the hype as we returned from Spring Break just in time for Eclipse Day 2024! Lots of fun eclipse themed crafts, activities and snacks were enjoyed by all!

This month we also invite all our students' grandparents to join us for our 2nd Annual Grandparent's Day! We look forward to meeting those special people in our children's lives, sharing some donuts and coffee, showing them around our school and singing for them at our spring concert. Grandparent's Day will put the exclamation point on our School Spirit Week! We

will show our SJDS pride with fun dress up days, so, if you are around the church and happen to see a bunch of cowboys or Disney characters, have no fear, we are just having a bit of fun!

Our PreK once again took part in a walking fieldtrip across Rivermont Ave to the Change for Change Caring Meter. Founder, Libby Fitzgerald, also took part in our walk and we were able to present her with a very heavy bag of coins collected by our students. We are so proud of our little community heroes, as their efforts will go to support Meals on Wheels!

**Hope you all have a
happy spring!**



YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

BY LALLA SYDNOR JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES



Greetings Children, Tweens, Teens, Parents and Grandparents!

The long month of March passed quickly at St. John's. Our children, youth and families were busy being acolytes, singing in the choir and attending our Lenten program. We are seeing more and more beautiful young faces join in all our activities and events.

Blessed Art Thou: Spirituality in Art was the highlight of my month. Many PreK-fifth graders had such fun dining with families and exploring various art forms in the Youth House. The Wednesday evenings were educational, creative, and fun. The positive energy was contagious!

**HAVE FUN!
HELP OUT!
HAPPY HEARTS!**



Early in the month, Youth Group enjoyed a fun afternoon rock climbing at Rise Up. Club 54 and Youth Group joined the Garden Angels to help spruce up the grounds for our beautiful Easter services. A big thank you to David Frantz and John Welker for the afternoon spent with our youth!

As we move into the Easter season, I hope we continue to see new faces and elevated participation in all that St. John's offers. There are many opportunities to get involved with the children and youth at St. John's. Nursery, Children's Chapel, Youth Group, Club 54, Sunday School, and our upcoming children's summer program: All Things Bright and Beautiful are in need of extra helping hands! If you are ready to have some fun, text, call or email me and we will find the right ministry for you!

Lalla

Lalla Sydnor
Cell: 434-944-3407
Office: 434-473-7521
lalla@stjohnslynchburg.org



MUSIC CORNER

BY PEGGY HAAS HOWELL,
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

Cantate Children's and Youth Choir Spring Concert

On Sunday, May 5, at 4:00 p.m., Cantate Children's and Youth Choir will present their annual Spring Concert, "An die Musik" ("To Music") at St. John's. "An die Musik" was composed by Franz Schubert and speaks of music as being the highest art. A cantata of children's songs, "Friday Afternoons" by Benjamin Britten will be a featured work in the program. The concert will end with two Malaysian folk songs, one about flying kites and the other about fish, sung in the original language, and performed with dance movements. An offering will be taken. Cantate is a community choir of about 25 singers from second grade through high school. They rehearse at St. John's, and are directed by Peggy Howell and accompanied by Elizabeth Wilkinson. The Greater Lynchburg Community Foundation provides scholarships for the choir. To find out more about Cantate, visit Cantatechoir.org.



FINANCIAL UPDATE: 03/31/24 STATEMENT

BY GENE KIDD, TREASURER

Description	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance
Pledge Income	\$ 213,312	\$ 264,081	\$ (50,769)
Other Contributions	7,241	3,622	3,619
Other Revenue	24,972	22,640	2,332
Total Revenue	\$ 245,525	\$ 290,343	\$ (44,818)
Administration	\$ 191,633	\$ 202,252	\$ 10,619
Property	\$ 49,488	\$ 42,442	\$ (7,046)
Christian Formation	\$ 1,847	\$ 2,867	\$ 1,020
Worship/Music	\$ 7,239	\$ 5,900	\$ (1,339)
Parish Life and Care	\$ 2,801	\$ 2,047	\$ (754)
Total Expenses	\$ 281,186	\$ 283,538	\$ 2,352
Net	\$ (35,661)	\$ 6,805	\$ (42,466)

Year-to-date Revenues were 15% below budget. Pledge Income was 19% below budget while Other Contributions and Other Revenue were slight above expectations.

Overall, total expenses were \$2,352 below budget. Property expenses were \$7,046 over budget. This was offset by Administration costs that were \$10,319 under budget.

Net Results through March were \$42,466 less than budgeted.

OUTREACH

BY CATHY DALTON, OUTREACH CHAIR

St. John's parishioners rally to provide Easter Goodie Bags for Miriam's House Kids

A HUGE thank you to all the parishioners who donated Easter candy, crayons, stickers, colored pencils, bubbles, stuffed animals and more for the children at Miriam's House.

And a special THANK YOU to our Westminster Canterbury residents who took time out of their day to help stuff all the bags, creating

colorful and yummy Easter treats for over 68 kids.

A good time was had by all and Father Ben concluded the event by blessing the bags and leading us all in an inspiring chapel service.

Miriam's House is incredibly grateful for St. John's continued support of their mission and is thankful to have a partner helping to make our community a more loving place. Our next Outreach meetings will be June 4, September 3, and November 5 at 5:30p in the Chapter Room. If you cannot join us for the meetings, please join us in our activities.

Many thanks to Pam Bradford (Treasurer), Bill Burruss, Jennifer McCarthy (Staff Member), Victor Millner, Jim Peery, and Sallie Rabe for joining me April 2, at Lynchburg Daily Bread! We served 635 meals.

Lynchburg Daily Bread Dates

Tuesday, June 4
Friday, August 9
Tuesday, November 5

Day of Sharing October 19



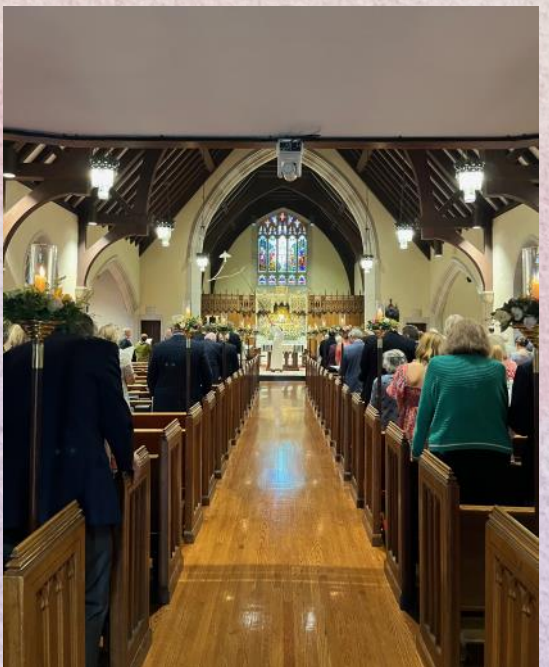
GARDEN ANGELS

BY DAVID FRANTZ

Thanks to all who helped with our postponed Mulch Day. It was a beautiful morning to enjoy the fellowship with each other and the stewardship of God's Creation! Big thanks to BK Mundy, Gary Urquhart, Suzanne Saunders, Judy Frantz, Doug Lee, Hollyday, Landon and Brody Marks, Bill Hobbs, Greg Amonette, John Welker, Charlie Pryor, and John Watts!




EASTER AT ST. JOHN'S



STJ FEATURES

Philadelphia 11 Film Screening



 **St. John's**
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LYNCHBURG

Bible Stories for Grown-Ups

Kids Bible Stories
Reimagined
for Adults

stjohnslynchburg.org

Join us at Adult Forum Sundays at 9:30a for our next series, *Bible Stories for Grown-ups*. In this series we will explore favorite children's Bible stories, their adult counterparts, and what the children's versions leave out.

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COMBINED SERVICE + *Confirmation*

April 28
9:45a

Get excited for Sunday, April 28 at 9:45a for the Bishop's visit, Confirmation and much more. This is a combined service. We look forward to seeing you!

ANNIVERSARIES



St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

APRIL

April 5

Allen and Rebekah Moody (16 yrs)

April 8

Cheryl & Mark Warren (29 yrs)

April 9

Emily & Neal Davidson (19 yrs)

April 16

Dee & Scott Rainey (8 yrs)

April 17

Sarah & Tray Petty (20 yrs)

April 18

Sue & Jerry Bass (65 yrs)

April 19

Katherine & Joe Payne (55 yrs)

Patricia & William Townsend (55 yrs)

Mary Jane & Charles Pryor (44 yrs)

April 20

Suzanne & Chris Saunders (28 yrs)

April 21

Dave & Linda Johnson (17 yrs)

April 22

Gail & Frank Morrison (40 yrs)

April 23

Nora & Brian Moore (19 yrs)

April 24

Ashley & Bruce Carrington (31 yrs)

April 25

Beth & Mike Doucette (26 yrs)

Caroline & Mike Malott (26 yrs)

April 29

Mollie & Ray Snead (57 yrs)

April 30

Anna & Paul McWane (36 yrs)

Leah & Jimmy Thompson (19 yrs)

MAY

May 1

Lisa and Luther Joyner (56 yrs)

Chantal and Jimbo Redmond (25 yrs)

Kim and Brad Robertson (31 yrs)

May 2

Mitzi and Kevin Frady (37 yrs)

May 3

Alice and John-Paul Jones (27 yrs)

May 4

Liz and Jesse Zellner (39 yrs)

May 5

Sarah and Alan Williamson (23 yrs)

May 7

Sheri and Jeff Fox (19 yrs)

May 8

Peggy and Richard Howell (42 yrs)

May 10

Cathy and Randy Dalton (27 yrs)

Katherine and Rodney Pitts (2 yrs)

May 15

Judy and David Frantz (42 yrs)

Carrie and Jeff McCall (20 yrs)

May 16

Robin and Hurst Edson (32 yrs)

Belle and Chad Evans (26 yrs)

May 17

Farley and Ed Dawson (44 yrs)

May 18

Mary and Mike Sloan (22 yrs)

May 22

Elizabeth & Marc Hopkins (14 yrs)

May 25

Sallie and Bill Watson (50 yrs)

May 27

Warren & Shelby Crist (36 yrs)

Carter and Tom Jennings (35 yrs)

Doris and Jim Peery (46 yrs)

Kristen and David Robertson (18 yrs)

May 31

Rie and Eddie Godsey (44 yrs)

Lucy and Justin Mutch (27 yrs)

Kate and Walker Sigler (16 yrs)

IN SERVICE

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas,
Bishop of Southwestern Virginia
The Rev. Christopher Roussell, Rector
The Rev. Benjamin Cowgill, Associate
Rector for Formation

LAY STAFF

Peggy Haas Howell, Organist and
Choirmaster
Nicole Cook, Executive Assistant to the
Rector
Pam Reynolds, Parish Administrator
Amy Panzer, Director of St. John's Day
School
Lalla Sydnor Johnson, Director of
Children, Youth and Family Ministries
Gracie Johnson, Sexton
River Segel, Sexton

VESTRY 2024

Commission on Administration

John Casler (Sr. Warden) (2025)
John B. Morgan III (Jr. Warden) (2025)
Charlie Larson (Sr. Warden Elect) (2026)
Jack McCarthy (Jr. Warden Elect) (2026)
Betsy Worthington (2024)
Neal Davidson (2024)

Commission on Christian Formation

Farley Dawson (2026)
Julie Andrews (2025)

Commission on Outreach

Bill Burruss (2026)
Tom Eppes (2025)

Commission on Liturgy & Music

Eleanor Dovel (2024)
Anna McWane (2024)

Commission on Parish Life and Care

Judy Frantz (2026)
Walker Sigler (2024)
Brenda Kincaid (2025)

Office: (434) 528-1138



St. John's Episcopal Church
205 Elmwood Avenue
P.O. Box 3123
Lynchburg, VA 24503
434-528-1138

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