



OCTOBER 2023 | STJOHNSLYNCHBURG.ORG

REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

SUNDAYS

- 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](#)

TUESDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

- 11:00a Bible Study, Magill Hall
- 12:10p Holy Eucharist, Chapel

THURSDAYS

- 4:00p Evening Prayer, Westminster Canterbury Chapel
- 7:00p Parish Choir Rehearsal

LOOKING AHEAD: OCTOBER

- 19 5:30p SJDS Board Meeting, Chapter Room
- 21 9:00a Day of Sharing
- 22 5:00p Youth Scavenger Hunt, Youth House
- 25 5:00p Children's Autumn Spooktacular, Magill
- 29 9:45a Combined Holy Eucharist

LOOKING AHEAD: NOVEMBER

- 1 12:10p All Saints Service, Chapel
6:00p All Saints Service, Chapel
- 2 11:45a Westminster Canterbury Luncheon, WC
- 5 4:00p Requiem Concert, Church
5:00p Youth Group at McCarthy's
- 6 6:00p Kids Haven, Magill
5:30p Outreach Meeting, Chapter Room
- 16 SJDS Board Meeting, Chapter Room

MESSAGE FROM THE REV. CHRIS ROUSSELL, RECTOR

Dear Siblings in Christ,

In 2018, I was part of a delegation of Episcopal priests, bishops, and laity who visited Israel and Palestine. The purpose of the trip was to gain a clearer understanding from both sides of the conflict in the region. We met with a variety of representatives, including a former member of Israeli parliament, the press secretary of the PLO, a Muslim family in their home, a Palestinian journalist residing in Israel, and the retired bomb scene investigator for the Israeli police force. Hearing from both sides of the conflict helped us understand the complexity of the history between the two sides.



We also met with an Israeli military official. He was an attorney by trade and was one of many who were charged with investigating any Palestinian death at the hands of an Israeli soldier. Who gave the order? What was the provocation? Who pulled the trigger? We were told that Israel's military actions are guided by Jewish Law. "Though shall not murder" is an important guiding post, so the investigation into whether a justifiable killing like self-defense had to take place or not is investigated thoroughly.

The Palestinian Muslims we met with were peaceful people whose faith is much like ours - rooted in love and generosity. Imagine their horror when radicals hijack their Koran to justify such brutality and bloodshed, just as we reel back in horror when Christians use Scripture to justify hate or bigotry. We must remember that those who have brought this evil into the world do not represent either the entire Muslim world or actual Muslim beliefs.

While in Jerusalem, we also met with the Reverend Hosam Naoum of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. He is now the archbishop there. He explained the difficulties of being a Christian minority in a predominantly Jewish and Muslim area. During this time of war, I ask that you keep Archbishop Naoum and his flock in your prayers.

Let us pray that the war ends now. Let us pray for peace. Let us pray for evil to be vanquished. Let us pray for the dead, the missing, the hostages, and the survivors who are left to deal with the trauma inflicted upon them. Let us pray for our Jewish, Muslim, and Christian brothers and sisters in the region who are innocent victims of this violence.

In Peace and Love,

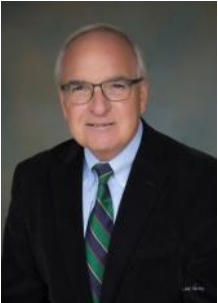
Chris



Rooted IN Abundance

When I read the theme of our 2024 Stewardship Campaign: Rooted in Abundance – Wisdom, Works and Wealth, it seemed like a pretty difficult connection. Then I began to equate those words to the Biblical attributes of giving that I knew: Time, Talent and Treasure. Now to me, it's the Wisdom gained over Time, the Works created by the gift of our Talents and the Wealth and Abundance of what we Treasure.

St. John's is a unique place. I moved to Lynchburg right at the beginning of the Covid shutdowns. As a newcomer looking for a church home, I was welcomed by Father Chris and the faces in the squares of a Zoom coffee hour just as if I had been a member for 70 years. Today, it's interesting and exciting to watch St. John's grow out of the depths of closure to a church with regularly filling pews, an active youth program and a full calendar of events and activities. Evidently folks like what they see! Just as apparently we each must prayerfully commit to supporting and nurturing what we have through the Wisdom, the Works and Wealth (and Abundance) we all have.



I am very appreciative of what St. John's has given me and I intend to prayerfully support it with the Work, the Wisdom and the Wealth that I can provide.

Gratefully,
John Welker

WHAT TO WATCH FOR:

Sunday, October 15th Stewardship Pledge Sunday. Please bring your pledge card to either service to place on the altar, or return by mail or [online via Realm](#).

2024 STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE:

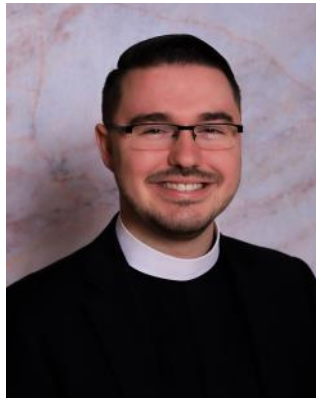
Tommy Battle
Pam Bradford
Laura Casler
John Edmunds
Chris Kennedy

Brenda Kincaid
Joe Krakora
Jennifer McCarthy
Mac McWane
Brad Pennington

John Stone
John Welker
Anne Wood
Heather Zippel

ASSOCIATE RECTOR'S MESSAGE

BY THE REV. BENJAMIN COWGILL, ASSOCIATE RECTOR



Dear Siblings in Christ,

It is an exciting time to be at St. John's. As I settle into my new role, I look around at all of you, from newcomer to lifelong member, and am in awe. We have a wonderful parish, and a wonderful, growing community. This is true, and there is work to be done.

Our faith is never finished. This November, we have some exciting formation opportunities for you as we continue to grow into our full stature as Christians. In Adult Forum, we'll have a series answering a much-asked concern. We frequently worry about our young ones and their participation in church, whether that is here at St. John's or young people in another place. The answer is simple—for every committed, faithful adult in their life that is willing to share their faith, research shows us that it increases that young person's chance at maintaining or reconnecting with their faith throughout their lifetime. How then, do we share our faith, and how do we share it when we don't live with that young person? We will explore that question and more in our new class "Grandparenting and Godparenting: Raising Young Christians from a distance." This class will be some lecture, but as a person who is neither a grandparent nor a godparent, my intention is to create space for the wisdom of those in the room to be shared.

In Wednesday Bible Study, we will have a two-part series on images of "Christ the King" found in scripture and celebrated on Christ the King Sunday, also known as the Last Sunday after Pentecost. Chapel chat continues with amazing conversations, as do our book groups and other small group ministries. Soon, we'll be turning to our Advent programming and classes—but I'll leave that for next month. One last thing—if you haven't filled out our Adult Formation survey, please do so by October 25! Contact me if you need the link or a paper copy.



God bless you!

Yours in Christ,
Ben

ben@stjohnslynchburg.org

Welcome to Fall!

BY AMY PANZER

Fall is in the air! As the colors and seasons change, the children have been enjoying nature walks, pumpkin projects, and beautiful weather for playground time. We had a fun visit from the Lynchburg Fire Department for Fire Safety week, their favorite stuffies received special blessings from Fr. Chris and Fr. Ben during the Blessing of the Stuffed Animals, we look forward to a fun Fall festival and, of course, our annual Halloween Parade! October is a fun and eventful month at the Day School!



We want to give a special THANK YOU to all the volunteers who helped prime the walls of our multipurpose room and those who will help paint it on the Day of Sharing! The school is looking good!

The school updated its security system last school year with a camera and doorbell system. The old fobs no longer work. If any former day school families still have their fobs, please turn them into Amy. We still have your deposits!

If you want to see some of the cutest trick or treaters, please join us at our parade, October 31 starting at 11:30a. Line Boston and Elmwood Ave and hand out treats as the costumed children parade by. Hope to see you there!



SUMMER FUN!

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



Greetings Children, Tweens, Teens, Parents and Grandparents!

Our children and youth showed up in full force during the month of September! Elementary Sunday School classes were filled with worship, friendship, and hands-on learning activities. Our 4th and 5th graders met one evening, to bake their own delicious dessert recipes for the Parish Picnic and over 40 kids enjoyed our first two Youth Group meetings! Thank you to our dedicated Sunday School teachers, Youth Group leaders and to the parents and parishioners who volunteered to bake with our children and provide drinks and snacks for Youth Group. Parents and parishioners, please be on the lookout for volunteer requests and sign-up genius opportunities. We want you to GET INVOLVED!

OCTOBER IS HERE AND WE HAVE PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR EVERYONE!

AUTUMN SPOOKTACULAR

Registration is open for our **Children's Autumn Spooktacular** on Wednesday, October 25, 5p-7p. All PreK-5th graders will gather in Magill Hall and move by age group to separate parts of our church for a spooky story time, eerie art activities, beastly baking, and a ghoulish glow in the dark dance party. No costumes please.

EPISCOPALIANS VS PRESBYTERIANS

Our Youth Group challenged First Presbyterian Church to a kickball game and field day. On our Day of Sharing, they will work with our partners at Kum Ba Yah to spruce up the campsite. Later in the month, we will meet in the Youth House to cookout and spend some down time together.

CLUB 54

4th and 5th graders are too young for Youth Group, yet too old to hang with the 1st and 2nd graders, so we are rolling out a brand-new program for them called CLUB 54! Plans for this pre-youth group are in the works!

We have had a wonderful start to the program year; let's keep that momentum going. Folks have been asking, "Why isn't Sunday School thriving?" or "Why are our youth programs failing?" The answer is simple: parents must bring their children to church! It is up to YOU to get your children to Sunday School and youth activities. They will have a blast, form positive relationships, AND build a strong Christian foundation. Text, call or email any time!

Lalla

Cell: 434-944-3407 | Office: 434-473-7521

lalla@stjohnslynchburg.org



BY PEGGY HAAS HOWELL



ST. CECILIA CHOIR FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL SINGERS

St. Cecilia is the patron saint of music. The St. Cecilia Choir is made up of middle and high school treble voices who meet on designated Sunday mornings before Sunday School. St. Cecilia Choir will meet on October 22 and October 29 from 8:45a-9:25a. The rehearsal on October 22 will be in the choir room, and October 29 will be in the choir loft. The choir will sing at the 9:45a combined service on October 29. Join us in the choir room on October 22 at 8:45a if you are a middle or high school student and are interested in singing in the St. Cecilia Choir.



ALL SAINTS CONCERT

Dan Locklair's *Requiem* is the featured work in St. John's concert at 4:00p on November 5 that will be guest conducted by the composer himself. There is a wonderful recording of the requiem on YouTube.

»<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ONYxUn-kyvE>

The producer of the recording, George Richford, states, "This is music of confident, muscular vitality which breathes new life into the Requiem Mass. There are moments of great intimacy and solace to be found amongst the drama of this setting and the unequivocal final impression is one of true celebration and thanksgiving." The *Requiem* is accompanied by 12 string players and organ. The concert opens with a haunting piece in memory of Locklair's mother for string orchestra, *In Memory H.H.L.* Other works include *Remembrance*, a setting of the Beatitudes for choir, organ, and trumpet, and *When in our music God is glorified* for choir and organ.



All Saints' Sunday Concert

Sunday, November 5, 2023, 4:00p

Requiem and other works

by Dan Locklair

St John's Choir, Cantate Children's and Youth Choir
Soloists: *Kris Blackthorn, Tara Bouknight, Christopher Swanson,*

Philip Bouknight

String ensemble, Organ

Dan Locklair, Guest conductor

Composer-in-residence and Professor of Music at Wake Forest University, Dr. Locklair is a highly esteemed and frequently performed composer of symphonic works, a ballet, an opera, and numerous solo, chamber, vocal, organ, and choral compositions.

St. John's Episcopal Church, Lynchburg
Freewill offering

OUTREACH REPORT

BY CATHY DALTON, OUTREACH CHAIR

Plan to join us at our last meeting for 2023 on November 14, at 5:30p in the Chapter Room. If you cannot join us for the meeting, please join us in our Day of Sharing!

St. Andrew's Society and Salvation Army: We are looking for two volunteers to be on the committee to be our liaisons with the St. Andrew's Society and Salvation Army.

Lynchburg Grows: Lynchburg Grows is growing as I write this. Help will be needed when it is time to harvest the kale, cabbage, carrots, and beets. The greenhouse is located at 1339 Englewood Street. <https://www.lyncburggrows.org> Please contact Bip Fauber at (434) 384-1942 for the opportunities for feeding your soul and those of our community.

Daily Bread: Many thanks to Molly Jenkins the awesome organizer, who recruited Bill Burruss, John Morgan, Laura Morgan, Sallie Rabe, and Chris Roussell to join me on September 19. Please read the letter below from Jennifer McCarthy of Daily Bread and St. John's:

It was great to see familiar faces at Lynchburg Daily Bread on September 19! I wanted to pass along information about what was accomplished that day because of Outreach support from St. John's. 795 meals were prepared and served to guests at Clay Street. Another 64 meals were prepared for outreach sites, including our St. John's neighbors at Miriam's House, along with 15 meals for the Monacan Nation Elder lunch program. Volunteers provided staff "free hands" to manage our free weekly produce market, provide produce and grocery boxes for Bedford YMCA preschool program, Joseph's Dream, Free Clinic of Central VA, Roads 2 Recovery, and Revival Fellowship of Gladys, unload and sort donations, fill buckets with food scraps for Lynchburg Grows to compost, and prep for the next day. Your support allows Daily Bread to meet the challenges of increasing food insecurities.
Jennifer McCarthy

DAY OF SHARING—SAT., OCTOBER 21

Day of Sharing 2023 is almost here! Join us October 21 from 9:00a-12:00p for service around the city. We have a variety of projects for you to choose from below, including a donation option and an option to support by providing food for the lunch after. Lunch will be served at Camp Kum-Ba-Yah for all who participate or volunteer, at any of the sites, at 12:00p.

PROJECTS THAT YOU CAN BE A PART OF:

Camp Kum-Ba-Yah: We plan to paint the rope shed, clean up around the area, and work on weeding the amphitheater. The Youth Group will join at Camp Kum-Ba-Yah— youth, please sign up with Lalla Johnson!

St. John's Day School: This year we are partnering with NoWalls Holy Rollers to paint our large multi-purpose room at the Day School! NoWalls and some St. John's volunteers primed the room on October 7; St. John's volunteers will paint the room on October 21.

NoWalls Open Table House: This home provides quality affordable housing for a family in need and generates rent revenue that funds the NoWalls Open Table program. By assisting in this project, we support their ministries as well as our neighbors who live there; they also are collaborating with us to paint the Day School! Volunteers will plant shrubs, spread mulch, trim existing bushes, and haul away trash. Please bring your own shovels and trimmers to assist in this ministry.

Miller Home: We are returning to the Miller home to assist with some interior painting and yardwork.

Miriam's House Donation option: Not able to make the Day of Sharing, or not sure you are able to participate in any of the above projects? You can still participate by donating to Miriam's House! They need cleaning supplies (Clorox wipes/toilet cleaner/409/brushes/buckets) as well as full size sheets, trash bags, toilet paper, paper towels, and dishwasher tabs/powder. Please drop off all donations in the Fauber Gallery.

Assistance with Lunch: We are looking for people to bring sides and dessert for the luncheon; the outreach committee will provide sandwiches. See the sign-up Genius for specific food requests! Sign up now! Once you make your selection make sure to scroll down to hit the SAVE and CONTINUE button.

We need you! We have need for 36 volunteers and for those of you who will be out of town or happy to avoid physical labor please consider donating food for the picnic at Camp Kum-Ba-Yah or supplies to Miriam's House. Everyone may sign up for the picnic!

St. John's
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DAY OF SHARING

OCTOBER 21, LYNCHBURG, VA

@stjohnsepiscopal

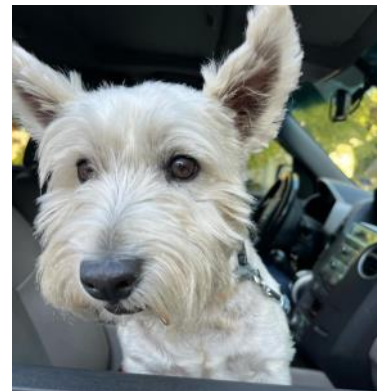
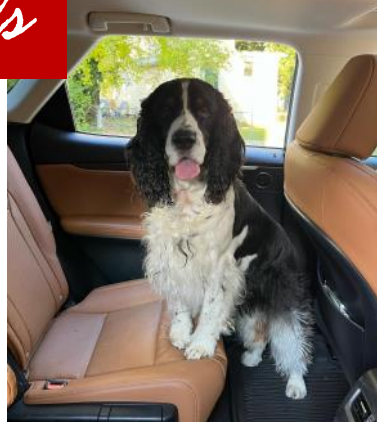
AROUND ST. JOHN'S LYNCHBURG



Outreach



Blessing of the Animals



AROUND ST. JOHN'S LYNCHBURG



2023 Parish Picnic

Special thanks to all those who coordinated and helped make the Parish Picnic a success, especially David & Mary Bice and Drake, John & Randall Watts.





St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

Save the Date

St. John's Holiday Bazaar

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

Homemade food items!

BOSTON AVENUE CREAM
PIES ARE BACK THIS YEAR!
YOU CAN ORDER ONLINE OR
IN FAUBER GALLERY.

PLEASE LOOK FOR WAYS TO
VOLUNTEER IN FUTURE
ANNOUNCEMENTS.



St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

Chapel Chat

@stjohnslynchburg

We're excited to announce that Chapel Chat is back on Sundays at 9:30a! You are welcome to join us for a discussion-based small group exploring how our faith helps us live our everyday lives.

All Saints' Day



St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

All Saints Sunday, a service to remember our departed loved ones, is coming up soon. We will include all those who have passed away in the past year. If you would like to include others to be listed in the Sunday bulletin, please send names to [Nicole Cook](mailto:Nicole.Cook@stjohnslynchburg.org).



St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

AUTUMN SPOOKTACULAR

OCTOBER 25, 5-7p

SPOOKY story time | EERIE art activities
BEASTLY baking | GHOULISH glow party
prek-5th | no costumes
stjohnslynchburg.org

Join our Children's Autumn Spooktacular. All PreK-5th graders will gather in Magill Hall and then move by age group to separate parts of our church for a spooky story time, eerie art activities, beastly baking, and a ghoulish glow in the dark dance party! [Learn More & Register](#)





St. John's
Episcopal Church
LYNCHBURG

IN SERVICE

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Mark A. Bourlakas,
Bishop of Southwestern Virginia
The Rev. Christopher Roussell, Rector
The Rev. Benjamin Cowgill, Associate 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 2023

Commission on Administration
Betsy Worthington (Sr. Warden) (2024)
Neal Davidson (Jr. Warden) (2024)
John Casler (Sr. Warden Elect) (2025)
John B. Morgan III (Jr. Warden Elect)
(2025)
Scott Kowalski (2023)
Charlie Pryor (2023)

Commission on Christian Formation

Christie Hooper (2023)
Julie Andrews (2025)

Commission on Outreach

Heather Zippel (2023)
Tom Eppes (2025)

Commission on Liturgy & Music

Eleanor Dovel (2024)
Anna McWane (2024)

Commission on Parish Life and Care

Judy Arthur (2023)
Walker Sigler (2024)
Brenda Kincaid (2025)

Office: (434) 528-1138

HAPPY

Anniversary

OCTOBER

October 1

Hellen & Billy Carrington (29 yrs)
Drake & Jessica Watts (12 yrs)

October 2

Anne & Jack Flippin (19 yrs)

October 3

Ellen Bryant & Joe Krakora (8 yrs)

October 4

Marjorie & Daryl Barclay (43 yrs)

October 9

Peyton & Davis Moore (3 yrs)

October 10

Liz & Jeff Florio (31 yrs)

October 12

Julie & Will Andrews (10 yrs)

October 15

Randall & John Watts (46 yrs)
Laura & Clay Coleman (35 yrs)

October 20

Shelley & John Stone (22 yrs)

October 22

Sherri & Tom Meyer (24 yrs)

October 26

Amy & Scott Kowalski (27 yrs)

October 27

Judy & Angi Arthur (16 yrs)

October 29

Bowie & David Shields (40 yrs)

NOVEMBER

November 6

Kennon & Charlie White (24 yrs)

November 8

Joanne & Letcher Newcomb (26 yrs)

November 11

Sara & Vaden Hunt (17 yrs)

November 13

Cathy & Matt Sackett (30 yrs)

November 17

Cindy & Matt Joyner (14 yrs)

November 19

Beth & Daniel Payne (18 yrs)

November 20

Lea & Billy Barksdale (41 yrs)

November 22

Paula Ryan & Paul Feinman (37 yrs)

November 23

Reva & Robert Fox (62 yrs)
Nicole & Segar Jordan (10 yrs)

November 24

Jodi & Philip Showalter (23 yrs)

November 27

Sarah & Tim Hellewell (24 yrs)

November 28

Clare & Greg Weaver (36 yrs)

November 29

Nina & Jerry Salmon (37 yrs)

Did you know? You can follow St. John's Lynchburg on all of your fave social media platforms to receive updates, announcements, watch live events, get reminders and much more. Just search for: @stjohnslynchburg

St. John's Episcopal Church
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TIDINGS

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