



St. John's Episcopal Church - Newsletter Sunday, August 7, 2022

LET US PRAY:

O God, who has blessed and sustained this parish through the years; we ask that you continue to lead us, stretch us, and direct us, in our search for a new rector. Raise for us, we pray, a priest and pastor who will boldly proclaim your Gospel, faithfully administer your Sacraments, and serve your people with love and compassion, that we may continue to grow in the likeness of Christ and be a beacon of love and hope to our community and the world. To the glory of your holy Name. **Amen.**

Special Music will be included in the Sunday service for August 7. We are very fortunate to have Kallen Esperian return as our soloist on this Sunday.

Due to the number of cases in Phillips Co., we will be using our COVID protocols **Medium Risk Level** this week. **Social distancing** will be practiced in church and temperature checks, hand sanitizer and masks are available as you enter. The church is professionally sanitized each week using an ozone generator. All approved COVID protocols list is below.

WORSHIP AND EDUCATION NEWS:

Worship: August 7, the Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with Rev. Teresa Cantrell

Readings: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 14

Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

PASTORAL NEWS:

Pastoral Ministry needs volunteers for Sunday Angelic Autos. Thank you for your help.

Please keep the following in your prayers: Debra Richardson, Kathy Sullivan, Courtney Turner, Kathleen Gibson, Cole Jefferies, Carol Spencer, Bonnie & Charles Rowland, Jo Liddy, Janet Juengel, Jim Howe, Cliff Clark, Sylvia Ross, Linda Dowling, Susan Taylor, Abigail Grace Fox, Sarah Jones, Pam Catlett, Debbie Ewart, Vivian Wright, Chuck Pierotti, and Susan Carter.

OUTREACH NEWS:

St John's ECW is sponsoring **Bingo** at **The Manor** monthly on the **second Tuesday from 1 – 2, August 9**. Contributions are welcome for the prizes. What they like includes: Kleenex (square and rectangular boxes), paper towels, toilet paper, candles, batteries, soap, body wash, lotion,

muffin mix, chocolate candy, gum, microwave popcorn, decorative paper plates & napkins, anything decorative/seasonal, and air freshener. There is a small box at the back of the church for these prize donations.

Grace Food Pantry – plastic bags go in the labeled container in the narthex.

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Adult Sunday School Class will not meet until after Labor Day in September.

Aug 7, Holy Eucharist Service at 10:30 am at St. John's

Lay Eucharist Minister: Ann Lee

Acolyte: Eli Pillow

Altar Guild: Julie Pittman & Andrea Clark

Ushers: Bob Lee

Video - Facebook: Jessica Pillow

Altar Flowers: Walter & Jayne Morris

Angelic Autos: Paulette Parker

******Jessica and Jack Pillow are working on adding new photos to our website. Please contact her if you have any old photos of past St. John's events that might be interesting to put on our website. We want these photos not to be so much of old family memories (which are important), but of things and events that might attract people or new rector's to St. John's.

CDC COVID-19 guidelines (Vestry approved) Complete list is on table in the back of church



For those that cannot attend in person, there will be live streaming on Facebook.

The new link for Sunday service is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/929943537685987>

Facebook Group: **St. John's Episcopal Church-Helena, AR**

St. John's Church Office: Phone: 870-338-8115

Email: office@saintjohnshelena.org Mailing address: P.O. Box 770, Helena, AR 72342

The following protocols are all **vestry approved** and will be implemented when the CDC COVID-19 level in our county reaches each risk level. Your patience, cooperation and respect for your fellow man are greatly appreciated. The vestry sincerely hopes and prays that our CDC COVID-19 risk level will remain low or become unnecessary.

Vestry approved

COVID-19 protocols mandated during **ALL CDC RISK LEVELS**

1. Social distancing mandated at all times.
 2. People with COVID symptoms, a positive COVID test, or exposure to someone with COVID should not attend church until they are no longer a risk to others.
 3. Peace will be passed remaining in one's pew, but one may wave or hold up peace sign to others from your pew.
 4. Social distancing between households at the communion rail.
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Vestry approved

COVID-19 protocols during **LOW CDC RISK LEVELS** in county.

1. Hands-free sanitizer and thermometer available.
2. Social distancing **mandated** at all times.
3. Usher return to steps, **not** guiding congregation pew by pew.
4. Masks **NOT** required, but **may** be worn.
5. At Communion **both** wine and wafer offered with **3 options**:
 - a. One may receive both wafer and wine as **done regularly**.
 - b. One may receive wine by **intinction**. (The dipping of the wafer into the wine in the chalice)
 - c. If receiving **only the wafer**, one remains kneeling in prayer, hands crossed over chest until the people in front of you have received wine.

(In other words, do not leave altar rail after receiving only the wafer, but wait until the people kneeling to the right of you have received the wine and then leave the altar rail.)

Celebrant and LEM will **sanitize their hands** before and **wear masks** as they administer the sacraments.

6. No Gospel procession with the **LEM, only with acolyte**.
 7. Still no passing the peace **except with people on the pew with you**. Feel free to wave or hold the peace sign up to others from your pew.
 8. Events with food may be held **outside freely** and **small** events with food may be held **inside with social distancing**.
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Vestry approved

COVID -19 protocols during CDC MEDIUM RISK LEVEL

1. Hand sanitizing and taking temperature **highly recommended**.
 2. Masks become mandatory while **singing** indoors.
 3. Eucharist: 2 options
 - a. wafers and wine **only by intinction**.
 - b. **Wafer only** but remaining at the altar rail until the chalice has passed by
 4. Gospel procession with **no LEM** holding Gospel Book, only the acolyte carrying the cross.
 5. Celebrant, LEM and acolyte **must** wear masks while they are **singing** and when **administering** the sacraments.
 6. Choir **must** wear masks when singing.
 7. The Passing of the Peace **only** with those in your pew but may wave or hold up peace sign to all others.
 8. **No** activities that involve food/eating indoors, but may take place outside.
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Vestry approved

COVID-19 protocols during CDC HIGH RISK LEVEL

1. Hand sanitizing and hands-free temperature taking mandatory.
2. Masks mandatory at **ALL** times.
3. Eucharist: **Wafers only** and **standing** at the altar gate to receive. **No kneeling**.
4. Gospel procession with **no LEM**, acolyte may still carry cross, wearing a mask.
5. Celebrant, LEM, acolyte and choir **must wear masks**. LEM may remove mask for all readings from the lectern and while leading the Prayers of the people. Celebrant may remove mask for Gospel reading, Sermon, Blessings, salutation, collects, Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic prayer and dismissal.
6. No service music: Gloria, Doxology, Sanctus, and Fraction anthem are spoken.
7. Passing of peace with **only** immediate family in your pew.
8. **No** activities with food and no large indoor gatherings such as annual meetings etc.