St. John's Episcopal Church **-** Newsletter Sunday, July 16, 2023

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.**

Temperature checks, hand sanitizer and masks are always available as you enter **if needed**. The church is professionally sanitized each week using an ozone generator.

WORSHIP AND EDUCATION NEWS:

Worship: July16, Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with **Rev. Joe Porter** at 10:30 am.

Readings: Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 10

Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-14; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

PASTORAL NEWS:

Please keep the following in your prayers: Debra Frazier Richardson, Courtney Turner, Kathleen Gibson, Cole Jefferies, Jo Liddy, Jim Howe, Sylvia Ross, Linda Dowling, Susan Taylor, Abigail Grace Fox, Pam Catlett, Debbie Ewart, Gill Pillow, Jerry Wenzel, Helen Faulkner, Camden Riley, Gene Parker, Gibson Turley, Hank Boudinot, Bennie Madden, Patricia Gibson, Brad Storey, Vivian Wright, and Joe Ann Hargraves.

Rev. Teresa Cantrell will instruct an **Acolyte/Lay Reader Training Class after church, Sunday, July 23rd.** Anyone interested please let us know. Call or email the St. John's office.

OUTREACH NEWS:

St John's ECW is sponsoring **Bingo** at **The Manor** on **Tuesday** from 1 – 2, **July 13,** Contributions are welcome for the prizes. There is a small box at the back of the church for these prize donations. Thank you.

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

CHURCH OFFICE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CANDIDATES FOR BISHOP OF ARKANSAS, Meet & Greet dinner and conversation at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Stuttgart, Friday, August 4 at 5:30. (Invitation below)

JULY 16, Holy Eucharist Service at 10:30 am at St. John's with **Rev. Joe Porter**

Lay Eucharist Minister: Allison Biederman
Acolyte: Eli Pillow
Ushers: Ben Pittman & Macon Kirkman
Altar Guild: Bennett Sellers & Lindalu Hargraves
Video – Facebook Live: Jill Pillow
Flowers – Jim & Susie Anders

Rev. Teresa Cantrell will instruct an **Acolyte/Lay Reader Training Class after church, Sunday, July 23rd.** Anyone interested please let us know. Call or email the St. John's office.

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 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
Website: http://www.stjohnshelena.org/

Dear All,

It is my honor to invite you to a meet and greet with candidates to be the next bishop of Arkansas at **St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Stuttgart, Arkansas, on August 4, at 5:30 pm**. This meet and greet is intended to be for our churches in the southeast and the southwest. I hope you will help us spread the word and bring a group over!

We will have a moderated conversation with candidates at 5:30, followed by dinner. The event will be livestreamed to the St. Alban's Facebook page, and childcare will be provided. Our building is fully handicapped accessible.

While the meet and greet in Little Rock or Jonesboro may be more convenient, it is our hope that this event in Stuttgart will highlight our churches in the southern part of the state. We are doing great work and have a lot to be proud of. We also have unique challenges that may not be shared by larger congregations in more urban settings. Bringing our bishop candidates to rural Arkansas is a great opportunity to share what the Episcopal Church looks like in the southeast and southwest.

I have attached an invitation to this email. Consider downloading it and sending it out electronically and/or posting to a bulletin board. **If you are planning to be here, please let us know.** Our planning committee will be reaching out to ask you to help with our dinner that evening.

In addition, if you haven't already, please consider submitting questions for our candidates at the following link: https://www.episcopalarkansas.org/news/bishop-candidate-meet-and-greets. **Questions will not be taken from the floor on the day of the event, so please submit questions soon.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out. We have a lot to be proud of in the southeast and southwest, and I hope we can show ourselves off on August 4.

Mark+

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