PARISHLIFE

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, Naples, Florida

Volume 32, Issue 5 May 2016





Joyful, Joyful

"Joyful, Joyful we adore thee," a hymn sung in church this past weekend keeps resounding in my head!

To be a member of St. John's is an amazing journey. This month we heard a heartfelt testimony of healing from one of our new members; we witnessed another member's induction into The Order of St. Luke The Physician. and listened to a number of leaders of the many ministries we have available — so many opportunities for participation that it is difficult to select all doing good deeds for the Lord.

One of the rewards of joining a ministry is getting to spend real quality time with our community, which doesn't happen during the regular church services.

Some of our members had the opportunity this week to play golf in the annual St. Mathews Golfathon on a beautiful day here in Naples!

Yes, I repeat — "Joyful, joyful we adore thee." \Box

Sue Boujoukos, Senior Warden







Eight St. John Crusaders golfed for St. Matthew's House 2016 Golfathon

Capt. Fr. Christian led his eight-person team to the Imperial Golf Club on Tuesday, April 19th, to participate in the 19th Annual Dean Lind Memorial Golfathon. The tournament is the major fund-raiser for St. Matthew's House ministries, and all proceeds from the event support the homeless recovery, the addictions recovery and the food for the needy programs.

Team members this year were: Sue and George Boujoukos, Charlie Harriman, The Rev. Paul Fieder, ret.; Peter Zimmermann, Paul Eschholz, Charley Horton and Fr. Christian Maxfield.

The team played a total of 654 holes with Fr. Christian playing 100 holes and Rev. Paul playing 96 holes. □

Charley Horton



Happy Mother's Day

I want to wish every mother a very happy celebration on your special day. I'm grateful for all that you do for so many, the spirit of love and concern for your family, desiring to see the best in their lives! Proverbs 31 extols the wise mother who "provides food and clothing for her family, with her children proclaiming her blessed." A loving mother is treasured!

Mother Teresa was a caring presence to many children, regardless of their age, and continues to touch the hearts of many with her example of compassionate love. Champion of the poor, unborn and rejected, she spent a lifetime holding the dying until their last breath, wiping the sores of the leper and feeding those hungry in body or soul. Join me in learning from this wise mother as we ponder her statements:

- We must make our homes centers for compassion and forgive endlessly.
- The world today is hungry, not only for bread, but hungry for love, to be wanted and loved.
- We have been created to love and to be loved.
- If we really want to love, we must learn how to forgive.
- Intense love does not measure; it just gives.
- Give until it hurts.
- Do not allow yourself to be disheartened by any failure as long as you've done your best.
- Little things are indeed little, but to be faithful in little things is great thing.
 - To God there is nothing small. The moment we give it to God, it becomes infinite.
 - A nation that destroys the life of an unborn child, who has been created for living and loving, who has been created in the image of God, is in a tremendous poverty
- I see God in every human being. When I wash the leper's wounds,
- I feel I'm nursing the Lord himself. Is it not a beautiful experience?

Be Blessed, Mothers!

New Books on Timely Topics



By Mark Batterson,

(Author of <u>Draw the Circle</u>: The 40 Day Prayer Challenge, which many of us read during the recent Lenten season)

The Circle Maker:

Praying Circles Around Your Biggest Dreams and Greatest Fears

In a Pit with a Lion:

How to Survive and Thrive When Opportunity Roars

The Grave Robber:

How Jesus Can Make Your Impossible Possible

Wild Goose Chase:

Reclaim the Adventure of Pursuing God If:

Trading Your *If Only* Regrets for God's *What If* Possibilities

By Dr. David Jeremiah,

A.D. The Bible Continues:

The Revolution that Changed the World

Agents of the Apocalypse:

A Riveting Look at the Key Players of the End Times

Agents of Babylon:

What the Prophecies of Daniel Tell Us About the End of Days

By John Eldredge,

Epic:

The Story God is Telling, book and DVD

Waking the Dead:

The Glory of a Heart Fully Alive

Moving Mountains:

Praying with Passion, Confidence, and Authority

Wild at Heart:

Discovering the Secret of a Man's Soul

A Wind in the House of Islam: How God is drawing Muslims around the world to faith in Jesus Christ by David Garrison

<u>Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus</u>: A devout Muslim encounters Christianity by Nabeel Qureshi

<u>Hiding in the Light</u>: Why I risked everything to leave Islam and follow Jesus by Rifqa Bary

<u>Islamic Imperialism</u>: A history by Efraim Karsh

<u>Dreams and Visions</u>: Is Jesus Awakening the Muslim World? by Tom Doyle

<u>War Room</u>: Prayer is a powerful weapon a novelization by Chris Fabry based on the motion picture

The Barbarian Way: Unleash the untamed faith within by Erwin Raphael McManus

<u>If You Want to Walk on Water, You've Got to Get Out of the Boat</u> by John Ortberg

God's Debris: A thought experiment by Scott Adams, creator of the cartoon, *Dilbert*

<u>Telling the Truth</u>: The Gospel as tragedy, comedy, and fairy tale by Frederick Buechner

And God Said: How translations conceal the Bible's original meaning by Dr. Joel M. Hoffman □

Colleen Spangler, Librarian



Latest update from the Emmanuel Community

Jamie Treadwell sends the following update from Andre Coudini regarding Andre's recent contact with the Emmanuel Community in Aleppo.



About eighty people from the People of God community in Lebanon and about eighty people from Aleppo met "halfway" in the mountains of northern Syria for a weekend retreat. Andre writes:

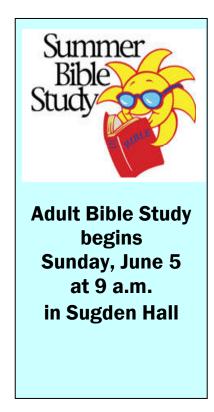
"HALLELUJAH!! The following quotes are from our brothers and sisters in Emmanuel in Aleppo, who have just held a joint retreat with the People of God – Lebanon:

- 'All of us were very deeply touched by the presence of God, the love of the brothers and sisters and their encouragement.
- 'People outside our community clearly see the brotherly love and the unity among us and they bear witness to it.
- 'If we hold a Life in the Spirit Seminar, we would have 400 people attend.'

'Thank God for keeping us safe and in very high spirits! Thank you all who pray for us constantly." \Box

Andre Coudini







St. John's Shoppe

If you are looking for something to do, We have a meaningful spot just for you. St. John's Shoppe is the place to go, A morning or afternoon will help us so. To benefit our community is the goal, And, our volunteers take on that role.

A worthwhile cause with friends and fun, Our work continues and is never done. Donations piled high to be sorted and priced, Customers are waiting to be enticed. We invite you to join our volunteer crew, To this great purpose, we need you!

And, don't forget the most important thing, Donations to the Shoppe are the best that you bring.

A piece of clothing, purse, or shoes,
To our great customers will feel brand new.
Your furniture donations we anxiously await,
They bring top dollar and make our sales
great.

You and your donations are our wealth, They contribute to all our charities' health. To help those less fortunate is our goal, To this great Mission, you have the title role!

Myra Tutwiler, for the Shoppe Board

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL SHARON @ 597-9518

St. John's Shoppe

Tamiami Square 14700 Tamiami Trail, North Mon-Sat 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.



Photos by Bob Geroy











Pentecost

Fr. Christian Maxfield, Assistant Rector



Romans 8:28 says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

During the month of May, the church will celebrate one of its seven principle feast days (a day which takes precedence over other days of observance), the day of Pentecost. On this day of Whitsunday, as it is named in Britain, we commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus' disciples after His ascension into Heaven. Whitsunday comes from the contraction White-Sunday, so named because of the catechumens who dressed in white garments and were traditionally baptized on this feast day, receiving the Holy Spirit and becoming part of the family of God.

Pentecost is still regarded as one of four feast days recommended for Baptism. Also, many consider this day to be the birthday of The Church. We read in the Acts of the Apostles of the disciples' witness of the amazing way the Holy Spirit led them to do what Jesus commissioned them to do — to "...go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19)

What were those days like in the beginning of the early church you might ask? Luke tells us, at the end of chapter two in his Acts of the Apostles, saying, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day, they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (2:42-47)

The Church is an interesting thing. Are there deficits? Yes. Are there problems? Yes. Are there things that upset us? Yes. Is it perfect? No. Can it ever be perfect? No, not until Christ returns. So, what are we to do?

I say let us strive to do what the early church did, in our own time. Let us devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Let us hold things in common as the people of God. Let us continue to meet together, sharing meals, finding joy in one another, praising God and enjoying the power and favor of God. And may the Lord add to our number as we live out our faith in all faithfulness and obedience, by the power and leading of the Holy Spirit, to the honor and glory of His name.

Speaking of the family of God ... following a very wonderful and successful Celebration of Ministry Weekend at St John's, and as our Sunday School comes to a close, I send a heartfelt thank you to all who give of their time, talent and treasure to the work, service and building up and expanding of The Church as you live out the call the Lord puts on your life to be His hands and His feet. May you be blessed as you are a blessing to others. \$\frac{1}{2}\$



6:30 p.m., Saturday

June 11

Moorings Beach Park

2101 Gulf Shore Boulevard, North

Food will be provided. Bring your own drinks and a folding chair.

Sign-ups will begin in May. Watch your bulletins for details!

Sunday School



Pool Party & Cook-Out Sunday, May 15

at Pat Costa's Stratford Condo 5601 Turtle Bay Drive

3-5 p.m.

- Burgers, dogs & drinks provided
- Bring a dish to share, along with your swim gear

Please let Fr. Christian know if you are attending so we'll have enough food!

Coming July 30! Vacation Bible School



BIG FISH:

Seeking God — Even in the Belly of a Whale

Watch your bulletins for times and other info!



Heading North for the Summer?

We'll miss you!
Remember to notify the Parish
Secretary so we can keep in touch
until your return!



The Birthday of the Church

Fill in all the words missing from the story. If you need help, look in Acts, Chapters 1 and 2. When you are finished, copy the letters inside the boxes to the spaces below. Then you will know the special name for the birthday of the church.

Jesus told his followers to tell the good news to $____$	all over the
world.	
Then Jesus went back to	
Fifty days after Passover, the followers were together in $_$	place.
Suddenly they heard a noise that sounded like a	wind.
Then they saw something that looked like	of fire.
The flames were separated and stood over person	n•
The followers were all filled with the	speak
Spirit .	violent
	tongues
The Spirit gave them the ability to	people
in foreign language	peter
	heaven
Then stood up and	each
spoke to the crowd.	one
	Holy
(The special name of the Church's birthday))



Peter Zimmermann, Treasurer



Below is a summary financial statement of the Church's operations compared to budget for the quarter ended March 31, 2016. Not included in these results are the unrealized gains of \$59,600 in the Church's investment portfolio and a \$5,000 outreach grant to support God's work in Aleppo.

Below is the financial report of the Thrift Shoppe through March 31, 2016, compared to budget. After a rough January due to inclement weather, the Thrift Shoppe has rebounded nicely and is nearing its budgetary goals.

St. John's Episcopal Church Financial Report January 1 to March 31, 2016

	Actual (unaudited)	Budget
Revenues:		
Pledges	\$179,854	\$181,000
Non-pledged	87,616	96,150
Other	5,216	5,250
Total Revenues	272,686	282,400
Expenses:		
Salaries and benefits	94,086	95,470
Church facilities	11,676	15,425
Utilities	4,668	5,900
Administration	32,800	33,347
Ministries and Committees	28,606	33,543
Total Expenses	171,836	183,684
Net Operating Result	\$100,850	\$98,716

St. John's Episcopal Church Thrift Shoppe Financial report - January 1 to March 31, 2016			
	Actual (unaudited)	Budget	
Total Revenues	\$99,556	\$102,963	
Less credit card fees	1,241	1,606	
Net revenues	98,315	101,357	
Expenses:			
Salaries and benefits	20,287	20,178	
Rent	19,912	20,040	
Maintenance	2,575	2,898	
Utilities	976	1,335	
Advertising	3,656	4,648	
Delivery pick up	1,756	2,400	
Administration	2,581	3,200	
Other	3,034	600	
Total Expenses	54,777	55,299	
Net Operating Result	\$43,538	\$ 46,058	

As a reminder to all of our Parishioners who are heading to their other homes, please check to make sure your pledges are up-to-date. St. John's is now heading into it's "slow" season when revenues drop off, but operating expenses remain the same.

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St. John's Episcopal Church 500 Park Shore Drive Naples, Florida 34103 Telephone: 261-2355 Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE PAID Naples Fla 34101 Permit No. 84

Thank you, Lord, for current resident or

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<u>Asst. Rector</u>: The Rev. Christian Maxfield E-Mail: Clergy2@stjohnsnaples.com

Secretary: Ann Witmer

E-Mail: ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com

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St. John's: www.stjohnsnaples.com Diocese: www.episcopalswfl.org

St. John's Webmaster: Glenn Saffran St. John's Archivist:: Bob Geroy

Intercessory Prayer Chain Requests:

Pat Mills 239-596-8890

2016 Vestry:

Sr. Warden: Sue Boujoukos
Jr. Warden: Gary Jarrell
Treasurer: Peter Zimmermann
Clerk to the Vestry: Ann Witmer

Members: Ruth Adams, Vickie Bauch, Richard Clapp, John Gualdoni, Robert Matthews,

Linda Smith, Jack Wert

Ministries: Worship, Fellowship,

Discipleship, Outreach

St. John's Shoppe for Upscale Thrift

Tamiami Square

14700 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, FL

Phone: 239-597-9518

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Website: www.stjohnsshoppe.com

Shoppe Board of Directors:

Chairperson: Pat Costa

Vice-Chairperson: Myra Tutwiler

Secretary: Marylou Boone **Treasurer:** Barbara Bongard

Volunteer Recruiting: Jean Morley

Vestry/Outreach Liaison: Sue Boujoukos Major Events: Rose Prescott

Manager: Sharon Marceau

Asst. Manager: Rosanne Sausser



NEW MEMBERS

Richard W. Miller
Donna D. Beecher
Elizabeth G. Hunziker
Linda Goss
Jackie Poliakoff
Donald Rinedollar
Michael J. Thomas

DEATHS & BURIALS

Elena Patterson March 24, 2016

TRANSFERS OUT

Maria & Ewald Forsbrey

Please advise Parish Secretary Ann Witmer of any corrections or omissions.

Deadline for the June/July combined *Parishlife* is noon, Friday, May 29.
Word limit is 300. Send to kay-geroy@mindspring.com