

PARISHLIFE

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



Vol. 31, Issue 10
October, 2015

Take heart!
I have overcome
the world.

John 15:33

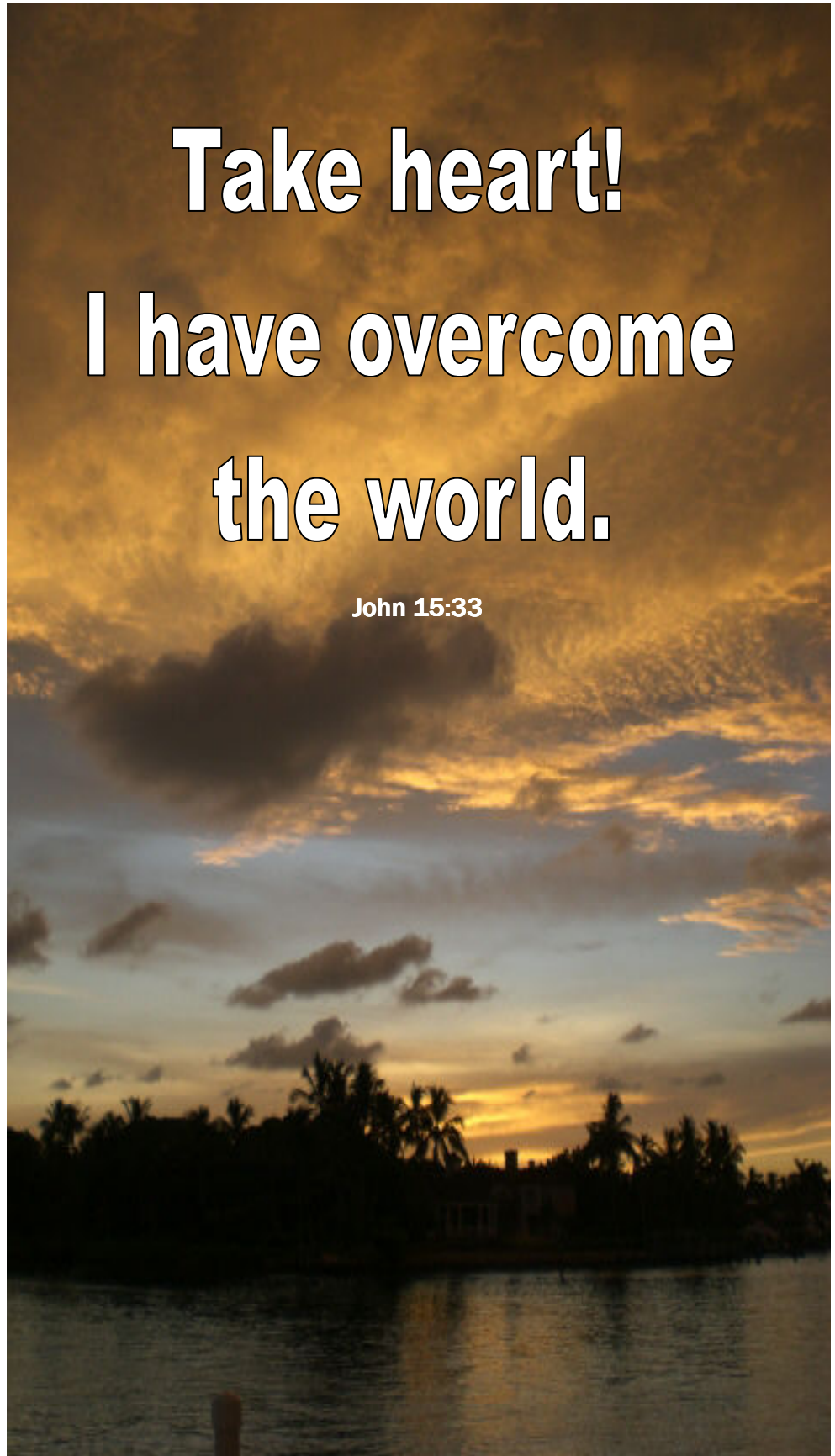


Photo by Bob Geroy



Games galore and even more!
Fun and fellowship
Sunday, October 11
6 to 8 p.m. in Sugden Hall
 Bring your favorite game & snack to share.



Women's Monday morning Bible Study
 resumes **October 12, 10 – 11 a.m.** in the
 library. Study is Ezekiel.



All are welcome! Pass this
 invitation along to a friend!
Saturday , October 3
9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
on St. John's Patio

in honor of St. Francis of Assisi and
 to celebrate our pet friends.
Please bring your pet(s) on a leash
or in a cage or pet carrier.



Community-wide Health Fair planned for January

St. John's will be sponsoring
 a community-wide Health Fair
 Saturday, January 23. We are
 particularly looking within our
 own parish family for those who
 work or provide a service in vari-
 ous areas of health and wellness.

Please call Becky Jarrell
 (239-250-5042) or e-mail
jarrelland@aol.com with your in-
 terest in participating.



October 11- Family Game Night.
See Page 2 for details.

October 18 & 23 - Sunday School Kickoff open house and brunch. Parents and kids are invited to join us from 9 to 9:45 a.m. as we talk about the Fall Sunday School Plan and have some fun.

October 22 - Kids Connection. Calling all at-home moms/dads and children for Kids Connection. This is a great opportunity for kids to connect with parents and parents with parents as we have fun reading stories, playing games, singing songs and more. 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.



St. John's members joined believers around the nation in a repentance and prayer walk on Sunday, September 13, ending the year of Shemitah, a time of rest.



Fr. Christian Mavfield. Assistant Rector

Being "people of the book," I draw your attention to the prayer of St. Francis, which you can find in the Book of Common Prayer, within the Prayers and Thanksgivings, on page 833.

"Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life." Amen.

I ask you to take time to ponder and pray this prayer, not only because Oct 4 is the Feast Day of St Francis, but also because this prayer speaks to the heart of God and the challenge to be more and more like Him in thought, word and deed. Not only did St. Francis love the animals he saw in creation, he also recognized that all things in creation have the ability to bring glory to God; therefore, St. Francis preached to the birds and people alike.

Beloved, let us open our hearts and minds to the things of God that we would be made instruments of peace. ☩

Fr. Christian+

A mother woke her son for church one Sunday. When she knocked on his door, he said, "I'm not going."

"Why not?" she asked.

"Two good reasons," he said. "They don't like me and I don't like them."

His mother said, "Here are two good reasons you WILL go:

One, you're 47 and two, you're the pastor."

St. John's Shoppe ready for a spectacular new season!

Welcome October! It has been a long hot summer, but fall is showing its pretty face with cooler air and a blue sky, bringing our snowbird volunteers and customers back to St. John's Shoppe. Returning volunteers are catching up with old friends while they work and sort merchandise. The Shoppe is beautifully dressed with new treats to entice you! We are ready for you and, as always, we appreciate your help!

This month, we are stocking up our inventory for our Annual Christmas Open House on November 21. Please look around your homes for those household items no longer being used and the gently-worn clothing that you no longer wear that is cluttering your closets. Your donations of clothing, shoes, purses, jewelry, home accessories, artwork, books, lamps and furniture will be displayed and sold in the blink of an eye. If you are redecorating, don't consign! Donate to the Shoppe and feel blessed that you are helping those less fortunate in our area. For furniture inspection and pick-up, call Sharon Marceau, Shoppe Manager, at 597-9518. Our St. John's family is our lifeline for donations. Ask your friends and neighbors, too. Remind them that all proceeds go to fund Outreach and the many Collier County charities our church supports.

With the fall and winter season upon us in our new location, we will need to increase our volunteer work force and our hours to handle the additional donations and customer traffic. If you have extra time and would like to volunteer at the Shoppe, come join our friendly team. We have a great group of men, women and even some teens that help us out on full days or in morning or afternoon shifts, six days a week. It is not hard work to see the smiling faces of satisfied customers. Plus, one of the real blessings of this ministry is the formation of long-lasting friendships that are made by working together. Share your time with us by calling Jean Morley, Volunteer Recruiter, at (239)649-8282 or Shoppe Manager Sharon Marceau, at (239) 597-9518, or stop by the Shoppe from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday to volunteer.

You will find us at Tamiami Square -14700 Tamiami Tr., N. (Just past the intersection of Old 41 and the East side on Tamiami Trail) Call 597-9518 for more information.



STEWARDSHIP 2015

Accepting God's Gifts – Responding in Gratitude

In October, many thoughts turn to football games, the baseball World Series, and Thanksgiving. We are also reminded of all of the wonderful gifts that God has bestowed on our country, Southwest Florida, Naples and St. John's Church. Our church provides its members and guests with a spiritual community of faith, where we enjoy each other's care in worship and Christian fellowship.

Our weekly bulletin shows our church is about much more than a coming together for weekend-only worship. Almost every weekday, something is going on that serves our members and our community: prayer and bible studies, music, bridge and other fellowship opportunities, outreach programs and support groups for those recovering from various addictions. With the care and counsel of Fr. Joe and Fr. Christian, we are truly a 24/7 community of faith for our members and our community.

Fall is also a time when our Vestry, Treasurer, and Finance Committee begin an annual examination of our financial needs and potential opportunities to serve our members and our community in the coming year. We can take great pride in the strong financial condition of our church. Still, each year, we must balance our financial pledges and gifts with the numerous fixed costs of operating and maintaining our physical facility; and the operating expenses to provide compensation for our pastors, church staff, insurance, accounting and audit – expenses we do not

think about as we worship and participate in the social activities at St. John's.

St. John's congregation has shown a strong commitment to our community through the years. For most, living in Southwest Florida and Naples is close to paradise on earth ...but not for all. Opportunities to help members of our own congregation and outreach activities to help others in our community are critical to our mission to "Embrace God, Love Our Neighbor and Serve The World."

Therefore, we ask that you prayerfully consider the potential for your financial gifts in support of St. John's and its mission in the coming year. If you give, consider a pledge...if you already pledge, consider increasing your gift or tithing.

Thanks to all who have given so generously in the past, and thanks in advance for your financial contributions in the coming year so that we can all be a witness to Jesus and our Christian faith in our giving and serving as ministers of His Word to our members, our community, our country, and to the world. □

Bob Matthews
Chair, Stewardship Committee

New on the Narthex Tract Rack

Please take a moment to look on the west side of the Narthex for our new "Care Note" display. These little booklets are there for you to take as the title touches your heart. □

Plans intact for Hurricane

As we in Florida continue to move thru the annual hurricane season, an update on St. John's role needs to be mentioned.

A Hurricane Response Team is in place to implement what efforts need to take place pre and post hurricane.

Betty Kirtley is responsible for the Altar Guild and the following persons for the rest of the physical plant: Becky and Gary Jarrell, Leo Velazques, Morgan Rees, Mike Johnson and myself.

We would like to have you contact the church if you will need assistance during this time so we can meet your needs. In the meantime, continue to pray that 2015 will be a quiet weather season! ☐

Sue Boujoukos, Junior Warden



"Stitches of Love" now meeting

"Stitches of Love" begins again October 2 at 10 a.m. in Brewster Hall. However, many knitters and sewers have been busy all summer and the beautiful results of their labors will be seen at this first meeting.

We have several new projects we will be working on as a group during our meetings, and we welcome those who are willing to cut, tie, and stuff, in addition to those who sew or knit ... or those who would like to learn!

No previous experience is necessary. Come and check us out on the first and third Fridays of the month in Brewster Hall. ☐

Bonnie Schlichting



Embrace God; Love our Neighbor; Serve the World

This is our mission and our method — the banner we hold up that helps define who we are as children of God and how we go about living life as a community of faithful.

It is also the watchword for Vestry, along with the ideas presented by Simple Church, a text Vestry opened years ago, from which our mission and method statement came.

This month, Vestry approved adding to funds anticipated from St. John's Thrift Shop for outreach. We also considered ways that higher amounts of giving can be sustained. This is becoming a continuous conversation and I am excited for the work done and the enthusiasm generated for more giving.

We reviewed fall events, some traditional, such as Feeding the 5,000 and Fr. Christian leading the stewardship teaching, and some new events like Family Fun Night and Fall Fest. There was also an urgent call for 24/7 prayer vigil. I delight in our heart-longing for more time with God in a structure of corporate prayer moving us in unity by God's grace. The repentance prayer walk was in the same vein. Thank you, Jesus! We noted Fr. Joe returns to us early November when three weekend worship services begin. We gave thanks to Fr. Christian for a powerful summer of praise, worship and prayerful resting in the Lord through His loving, pastoral spirit.

Lastly, we made preparation for you to elect three members to Vestry this fall. As you consider the gifts God gives you, I pray you will offer to serve if the call is on your heart. Gifts of administration, vision, discernment, listening, healing, faith, generosity, trust, courage and more are favored for this time in our corporate life. ☐

Mike Johnson, Sr. Warden

Seven to attend Diocesan Convention



The 47th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of SW Florida will take place in Punta Gorda, on Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17.

Representing St. John's, as delegates, will be Sue Boujoukos, Mike Johnson, Fr. Christian, Deacon Bill & Cheri Moyer and Ruth & Dallas Adams.

The lead speaker will be Brian McLaren. McLaren is an author, public theologian, ecumenical networker and leading figure in the "emerging church" movement. He is the founding pastor of Cedar Ridge Community Church, an innovative, nondenominational church in the Baltimore/Washington region

Bishop Smith will not be in attendance due to a medical treatment that prevents him from attending. Please pray for a full recovery for him. ☐

**Morning Prayer
resumes
Wednesdays
at 7 a.m.
beginning Oct. 7**



Three needed for 2016 Vestry. Three others needed to complete Nominating Committee

Qualifications for Vestry Nominees:

- Must be a communicant in good standing at St. John's.
- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Must demonstrate commitment to Christian tenets through regular worship attendance, Bible study, a witness of God's love to family and friends, make recorded contributions to St. John's and affirm our By-laws, Mission Statement and Core Beliefs.
- Must commit to completing their three-year term, consistently attend Vestry meetings and special gatherings, provide parish leadership as needed and strive toward tithing of time, talent and treasure.

Vestry members are important lay leaders for any church exercising a Holy calling that powerfully touches the lives of many people. It is important to get someone's permission before you nominate them for Vestry. We have three openings this year. Please submit names to Parish Secretary Ann Witmer.

The Nominating Committee plays a critical role:

- The Committee shall be comprised of two Vestry members and three Congregational members.
- They shall nominate members of the Congregation for the Vestry.
- They shall deliver their report to the Secretary in sufficient time for inclusion in the notice of election.

We need St. John's members who are willing to serve on the Nominating Committee as well as possibly stand for election to the Vestry. God may be calling you to step forward and serve at this time. We ask you to prayerfully consider these opportunities, and if the Holy Spirit is stirring your heart, please talk to Fr. Joe or call the church office at 261-2355.

It is an exciting time to be in leadership at St. John's as we experience numerical, spiritual and relational growth. Please keep this important process in your prayers. God Bless You. ☐

St. John's Vestry

Update to St. John's from the Emmanuel Community in Aleppo, Syria

The situation continues to be extremely challenging and dangerous on many fronts, but the brothers and sisters of the Emmanuel Community in Aleppo continue to meet, pray and support one another. This is what they are currently going through:

- 1) Uncertainty in security is terrifying. They live in constant alert with a background of explosions.
- 2) Snipers limit their movements. Sleep is regularly interrupted. Traveling outside Aleppo is tiring, unsafe and dangerous.
- 3) Church authorities encourage Christians to remain in the city — a call that is both courageous to issue or heed. A number of young men are thinking of leaving. They face a situation where there are no jobs, no future and insufficient funds. They would rather avoid military service.
- 4) Families are afraid their children may be hurt, maimed or even killed under the present circumstances. Emmanuel Community consists of about ten families or a total of 50 people including babies from one-year-old up.
- 5) Groceries are available locally, but increasing prices are prohibitive for those without finances and poverty is rampant.
- 6) Government-subsidized heating fuel is heavily rationed. Families receive enough for two months — not enough for the harsh Aleppo winters. They have about one hour per day of electricity and often have to get by without any running water for ten to twelve days.
- 7) People have mostly lost their private sector jobs. Those lucky enough to be government workers are still collecting their salaries but in greatly devaluated Syrian pounds.
- 8) Out of 15 churches, four or five still operate. Schools and university are open when security allows it. The Government still operates and provides needed supplies and furniture to the schools when possible.
- 9) Some subjects are still taboo. While reaching out to other Christians is something they do daily, reaching out to those of Muslim faith can be easily viewed negatively by the Muslim population surrounding them.

Please continue to pray and give generously. Your help is making a big difference. More news and prayer requests will be forthcoming when available. Be assured of their great appreciation for your continued prayers and generosity. □

Sue Boujoukos

July 10 - August 10 2015 Financial Report:

Month	Name	# Family	Description	St. John's grant	Expenses	Balance
				\$ 5,270		
July 2015	George K.	5	Daily needs*		375.	4,895.
July 2015	Abdallah H.	4	Daily needs`		300.	4,595.
July 2015	K family (widow)	4	Daily needs		300.	4,295.
July 2015	K2 family (widow)	4	Daily needs		300.	3,995.
July 2015	Jean Z.	4	Daily needs		300.	3,695.
July 2015	Lidea S. (divorced)	3	Daily needs		225.	3,470.
August 2015	George K.	5	Daily needs		375.	3,095.
August 2015	Abdallah H.	4	Daily needs		300.	2,795.
August 2015	K family (widow)	4	Daily needs		300.	2,495.
August 2015	K2 family (widow)	4	Daily needs		300.	2,195.
August 2015	Jean Z.	4	Daily needs		300.	1,895.
August 2015	Lidea S. (divorced)	3	Daily needs		225.	1,670.
July 2015	Toni J	120	prayer meetings and transportation		408.	1,262.
July 2015	Riyad S.		Restoration of house		614.	648.
August 2015	Abdullah H.		Surgery for his eyes		268.	380.
August 2015	George A.	25	Young people (17-25 yrs) support		236.	144.
				\$ 5,270.	\$ 5,126.	\$ 144.

*Food, transportation, clothes, water, electricity, scholarship, pocket money

Altar Guild members find joy in quietly serving God

Altar Guild is a lay ministry, which serves God in His house by preparing the Sanctuary for worship. It functions under the guidance and direction of the Rector, the head of the Guild.

Our Bishop, Dabney Smith, once referred to Altar Guild as “the mechanics behind the scenes.” How true that is! We currently have twelve members, including seasonal members, and could use more.

The Sacristy is the place where the sacred vessels, linens and vestments are kept. Scheduled teams of two or three members meet on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. and begin preparing the altar for that week’s services. We attempt to schedule each member twice a month, depending upon the number of members available.

Preparation includes dusting the chancel, checking altar linen for spots or replacement and checking proper vestments and hangings. Candles, lighters and the Sanctuary candle (the “eternal flame”) are refilled with oil and the Cross is adorned with flowers. Vessels are filled with bread and wine for Eucharist, the Christian ceremony commemorating the Last Supper in which bread and wine are consecrated and consumed.

After services, vessels are cleaned and chalices sterilized, in preparation for the following service.

Altar Guild oversees decoration of both the inside and outside of the church. In accordance with seasonal colors, vestments and hangings are white, green, red, or purple. In addition to the seasonal services of Christmas and Easter, other special services include baptisms, funerals and weddings.

Holy Week preparations include draping the Cross in red for Ash Wednesday, stripping the palms for Palm Sunday and preparing the Maundy Thursday foot washing (symbolic of Jesus washing His disciples’ feet). After Eucharist, the Altar is stripped in silence and the Cross is shrouded in black, signifying the death of our Lord.

This is a brief accounting of what we do, but it is through our love of Christ that brings us joy. Please consider and pray about sharing this ministry with us.

I can be reached at (239-595-1782). □

Betty Kirtley, Altar Guild Directress
Page 9 — October 2015 Parishlife



SAVE THE DATE FOR



St. John's Annual FALL FEST

**Saturday,
November 7**

**6:30 p.m.
In Sugden Hall
following the
5 p.m. service**

**Join us for food, fun
fellowship and
entertainment**

**COST: \$10 per person
(Children free)**

Watch for the reservation form in the church bulletins during October. Return the form, along with your check, to the office or place in the offering plate to assure your reservation.



**Set clocks
back 1 hr.
NOV. 1**

PARISHLIFE

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

CONTACTS YOU SHOULD KNOW

St. John's Episcopal Church

500 Park Shore Dr., Naples, FL 34103
Ph: 239-261-2355 FAX: 239-261-2591

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

After Hours Emergency:

Rector 239-216-2333
Assistant Rector 309-229-6572

Rector: The Rev. Joseph F. Maiocco, III
E-Mail: Clergy@stjohnsnaples.com

Asst. Rector: The Rev. Christian Maxfield
E-Mail: Clergy2@stjohnsnaples.com

Secretary: Ann Witmer
E-Mail: ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com

Treasurer: Peter Zimmermann
E-mail: Treasurer@stjohnsnaples.com

Music Director: Glenn Saffran
E-mail: MusicDirector@stjohnsnaples.com

Interim Youth Director: Barbara Johnson

Parishlife Editor: Kay Geroy
E-Mail: kay-geroy@mindspring.com

Websites:

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

2015 Vestry:

Sr. Warden: Mike Johnson

Jr. Warden: Sue Boujoukos

Treasurer: Peter Zimmermann

Clerk to the Vestry: Ann Witmer

Members: Richard Clapp, Fran Disselhorst,
Gary Jarrell, 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
Ph: 239-597-9518

Hrs: Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Website: www.stjohnsshoppe.com

Shoppe Board of Directors:

Chairperson: Pat Costa

Vice-Chairperson/Secretary: Myra Tutwiler

Treasurer: Barbara Bongard

Volunteer Recruiting: Jean Morley

Vestry Liaison: Richard Clapp

Outreach partnering: Sue Boujoukos

Member-at-Large: Lisa Kupcunas

Manager: Sharon Marceau

Asst. Manager: Rosanne Sausser



New Members

David & Betsy Dyke 8/24/2015

Ray Martin 9/4/2015

Deaths:

Don Mertz 8/14/2015

John C. Stewart Jr. 8/30/2015

Cynthia Benney 9/23/2015

Burials:

John C. Stewart Jr. 9/9/2015

Transfers Out:

Dan & Sarah Wilder 8/11/2015

*Please advise Parish Secretary Ann
Witmer of any corrections or additions.*

**Deadline for November Parish-
life is noon, Friday, Oct. 23.
Word limit 350. Send to
kay-geroy@mindspring.com**