

# PARISHLIFE

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church

February 2017

Volume 33, Issue 1



## Annual Meeting 2017

St. John's Annual Meeting was held in January and we had a wonderful meal and time to celebrate God's many blessings upon us in 2016. The Annual Meeting Report highlighted this in writing, but most people don't attend the Annual Meeting or read the report. This Parish Life will give you an abbreviated Annual Report format. Complete Annual Meeting Reports are available in the Church office.



## Rector Annual Report Fr. Joe Maiocco

I want to express my sincere appreciation to the St. John's family for being part of our life together. Embracing God, Loving our Neighbor and Serving the World form the foundations for our spiritual journey. As we walk in this common vision, our Lord continues to bless us with new life in Him, transforming our lives thru the Holy Spirit and touching our world!

We began our year with Terry & Barbi Franklin leading us in worship and teaching, encouraging us to embrace God's call to worship, pray and fast for the spiritual awakening of our nation and world. During 2016, approximately 25 people from St. John's participated in three 40 Day seasons of worship, prayer and fasting, with two of them spearheaded by Franklin Graham and Dick Eastman in "As One: A National Appeal to Heaven."

This was a spiritual watershed for St. John's, our community and world. Numerous relationships and ministries continue to be forged as we live out "thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." Even more exciting Kingdom moments are before us!

### **WE CELEBRATE!**

\*Worship that embraces traditional, evangelical and charismatic streams of practice and music. We have more men in the choir, evidence of God answering our prayers, and we're thankful for every Music Ministry member!

\*Lenten Series "Sharing Our Journey", developed by Betty DiBiaso, which captured the moving faith stories of St. John's members.

\*Bible studies for men, women and coed at various times throughout the week; Numerous Prayer opportunities on Wednesday; 12 step groups galore; Foyers in its 8th year with 97 people.

\*Christian Healing Center officially opened November 2016 and is supported by St. John's and OSL. The study and practice of Healing prayer continues to expand into our community.

\*Outreach Grant Celebration was so moving, with 14 Collier charities receiving \$160,000 in grants to help the neediest among us. St. John's Thrift Shoppe and parishioners made this a reality!

\*Expansive Outreach includes St. Matthew's Feeding the 5,000 (\$4,466) & Golfathon (\$9290); Family & Regular Benevolence Funds (\$71,917); Emmanuel Community in Aleppo (\$20,000); Missionaries Ned & Sky/Bishop Grant & Wendy (\$7,500); Stitches of Love and more!

\*We have ministries mostly led by our laity. THANK YOU to every dedicated individual and ministry. You have touched so many lives!

**GOD BLESS YOU!**

# St. John's Episcopal Church

## Clergy and Staff

**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**A Congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida**  
**The Rt. Rev. Dabney Smith, Bishop**

500 Park Shore Drive, Naples, Florida 34103  
[\(239\) 261-2355](tel:(239)261-2355) - Fax: [\(239\) 261-2591](tel:(239)261-2591)  
<http://stjohnsnaples.com/>

### CLERGY & STAFF

Rector: The Rev. Joseph F. Maiocco, III  
Asst. Rector: The Rev. Christian Maxfield  
Parish Secretary & Clerk of Vestry: Ann Witmer  
Music Director: Glenn Saffran

#### 2017 Vestry

Ruth Adams  
Vickie Bauch  
Donna Beecher  
Sue Boujoukos  
Richard Clapp  
John Gualdoni  
Bob Matthews  
Skip Ruch

#### 2016 Vestry Nominees

Donna Beecher  
Skip Ruch  
Roger Stiefel

#### Outreach

Nevin Souers (Chair)  
Julie DuRoss  
Betsy Eschholz  
Jean Morley  
John Soggs  
Mary Tilney  
Leo Velazquez

#### 2016 Vestry

Senior Warden: Sue Boujoukos  
Junior Warden: Gary Jarrell  
Treasurer: Peter Zimmermann  
Outreach: Nevin Souers  
Thrift Shoppe: Pat Costa

#### Departing Vestry Members

Gary Jarrell  
Linda Smith  
Jack Wert

#### Vestry Nominating Committee

Pat Costa  
Jean Morley  
Linda Smith  
Myra Tutwiler  
Jack Wert

#### Finance Committee

Bob Matthews (Chair)  
Peter Zimmermann  
Arlene Austin  
TM Hayes  
Clay Jones  
Richard Miller

## Diocese of Southwest Florida

St. John's Parish is one of the congregations of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida, which in turn is part of the Episcopal Church of the U.S. The Diocesan Cathedral, St. Peter's, is located in downtown St. Petersburg on the southwest corner of 4th Street at 2nd Avenue North.

The Diocesan offices are in Diocesan House, 8005 25th St. East, Parrish, FL 34219

Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida Phone: [800.992.7699](tel:800.992.7699) FAX: [941.566.0321](tel:941.566.0321)  
Website: <http://www.episcopalswfl.org/>

Day Spring Conference Center east of I-75 on US 301. To reach Day Spring, turn off I-75 at Exit 224 (US301), which is the first interchange immediately north of the Manatee River. At the traffic light at the foot of the exit, turn east (left) on 301. Go about one mile passing three traffic lights (you will see a fire station on your left at the 3rd). Two blocks further on 301 is an Amoco station on your right and a Day Spring roadside sign. Turn right on this road for about 3/10ths of a mile, then turn left at what is the first intersecting street. You will see a Day Spring sign on your right immediately after the turn and a road turning off to the right. Follow this curving drive to the Center office for check-in or further directions.

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## Associate Rector Annual Report

### Fr. Christian Maxfield

I cannot think of many lovelier ways to end 2016 than sharing in the Christmas Eve Children's Sermon with Fr. Joe. It was my pleasure to be asked to take part in it alongside Fr. Joe and to be able to invite the children to 'taste and see' how lovely a Hersey's kiss is to eat and then, together, equate unwrapping and "taking in" the Hersey's kiss to inviting the Lord Jesus into ones life and taking Him in, that as the Psalmist writes we might, "Taste and see that the Lord is good." (Ps 34:8)

Psalm 34:8 has been on my heart for some time now. As we come into this new year, I urge us all to take advantage of the many opportunities we have before us, not only in our personal lives but also within our Church family at St. John's, that we would taste and see that the Lord is good!

For our children, we love to see you at our weekly Sunday school for 5th grade and under during the 9 am Sunday service, when we come together to learn the stories of the Bible in very experiential ways using the Godly Play curriculum.

For junior and senior high students, we hope you will make time to join us for youth group, which is a great opportunity to share in food, fun, fellowship and godly instruction on the 1st and 3rd Sunday afternoons of each month, following the 11:15 service.

For families, we hope that you will take part in our family gathering potlucks, church activities, and summer VBS programs, which are all great opportunities to share meals together, fellowship with one another, play together in a safe environment and build good, godly relationships with one another as we strengthen our relationships with our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is my hope and prayer that as we make the time to truly take full advantage of the benefits of having a church family, we will more and more taste and see how good, how awesome, how indispensable the Lord is to us, and how important and powerful it is to be an active part of a church family like St. Johns. Then as we share the good news in our circles of life, others will learn of what a loving and great church family we have and the importance of staying connected with faithful and growing Christ-followers.

I ask your prayers and support as we continue to do what God has called us to do at St. John's, creating a greater family and youth presence within this wonderful church family and within the greater Naples community that we would all continually taste and see that the Lord is good.

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## Sr. Warden Aleppo Update

### Sue Boujoukos

St. John's Family,  
Once again we read another inspiring message from Aleppo. What strong Christians our brothers and sister remain!



Sue Boujoukos  
'If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatsoever ye will, and it shall be done unto you.' John 15:7  
\*\*\*\*\*

Aleppo update: "Emmanuel". (January 10, 2017)  
From Andre Codouni's Facebook update

"We mourn, Yes! But not like the pagans do!"  
The scene is a shop in Aleppo, the shop owner inside is working hard to sustain his wife and kids.

A missile: A direct hit. The man lies on the floor in a state too horrible to describe....  
His best friend told me: "Yes I mourned him, I had so many questions. Those around me suffered with me for a few days ". He continues" "Yet God has redeemed the situation and his widow has come very close to God and our group as a result of this tragedy".

I sat silent. No words came for me to say.

Saint Paul writes that we should mourn but not like those who have no hope. The mystery of suffering, pain and death is a mystery that people since the beginning of time have had to grapple with. We mourn like those who have hope.

The challenge for me of what to say in front of this terrible tragedy is answered by the experience of many who have walked the Christian journey before us. They lived their lives as if dead to the world. Here are some of these heroes who followed Christ and taught us how to be unattached to the world.

Saint Francis of Assisi; a saint beloved by many who left behind the last possession he had from his rich merchant father and went to seek God with his whole being.  
The famous Russian Pilgrim monk setting out on a journey seeking heaven while carrying only the Philokalia book, the Bible and his prayer beads murmuring the Jesus Prayer: "Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner", over and over again in the silence of his breath.  
Saint Peter of Alcantara his feet bleeding from walking the rough terrains of Europe to evangelize and pastor people. He ended up playing a crucial role for the renewal of the Church by encouraging Saint Teresa of Avila to found her first monastery in her reform of the Carmel.  
Saint Paul carrying the gospel to those in Asia Minor, travelling through mountains and valleys in order to found those Christian communities among people who were pagans in Turkey and Greece.

Dear Aleppo brothers and sisters! I express what many in the Sword of the Spirit feel towards you. Please remember that you are supported by many who love you and are inspired by your example. Their hands extend towards you in prayer as you rebuild the many shattered lives in your city.

Christ is our Hope!



## **Jr. Warden Annual Report**

### **Gary Jarrell**

During this past year, I served as your Junior Warden. While many of the problems encountered were routine, some were unexpected and quite challenging. Ann and Randy were a tremendous help and made the job less difficult than it would have been without them on the "team". Some of the things that were accomplished were new pumps for the fountains, assist/grab bars in all bathrooms (Sanctuary, Sugden & Brewster Hall), a new climbing net for the children's' playground and a visual security system for our Parish Office. It has been a busy year, but I have enjoyed serving our St. John's family as Junior Warden for 2016.

God's Blessings to All in 2017!

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## **Music Annual Report**

### **Glenn Saffran**

It has been another exciting year for the Music Ministry at St. John's! Highlights include our choir's anthems, proclaiming the good news in song each Sunday from November to May. Our music group has done an excellent job leading worship at the 11:15am service and throughout the summer months. We are happy to have welcomed Brandon Sciuto to the Music Ministry as a member of the choir and a worship leader at 11:15am. We look forward to hearing more from Brandon in the coming months. Above all, we are most grateful for the vigorous participation of the congregation each and every Sunday as we sing our Lord's praises in this place. Thank you as always for the opportunity to lead the people of St. John's in its song of praise. God Bless you all!



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## **Cursillo Annual Report**

### **Dorothy Lowrie**

The word Cursillo is short for Cursillos de Cristiandad, literally a short course of Christianity. Cursillo is led by the Laity of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

The goal is to train and support ongoing development of lay leadership in the church. 3 days are comprised of 15 talks, group discussion and worship. The 4th day represents how we live a Christian life in support of one another.

#### **2015-2016**

In 2015, 4 pilgrims attended and 2 individuals served on team.

In 2016 Cursillo #134 "Walk in the Light" Dorothy Lowrie, Rectora; Fr. Joe Maiocco, Spiritual Director; Lisa Maiocco, Barbara Johnson and Mike Johnson served on team.

St John's welcomed 100 individuals for team meetings, luncheons and worship. Two Ultreya's were held at St. John's and musicians from the Cursillo Community led worship. Lisa Maiocco and Barbara Johnson gave the witness talks on the Altar Guild Ministry.

The 3-day weekend in September had 40 individuals on the team from 16 Parishes. 34 pilgrims attended from 12 Parishes in SWFL. New friendships were made along with new ministries.

If you are interested in attending or serving in 2017 or 2018, please contact me at 239-821-4907.

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## **Treasurer's Annual Report**

### **Peter Zimmermann**

The Church's finances are as strong as ever and through December 31st, our projected revenues have outpaced our budget by almost \$80,000 and our operating expenses are under budget by \$45,000. The stock market has been very good to St. John's also. Through November 30th, the value of our investments has improved by over \$120,000. To say that 2016 has been extraordinary from a financial standpoint would be an understatement.

But, it's been extraordinary for a lot of other important reasons. The past several years has seen us focus much of our attention on restoring our Church home. The last piece, the renovation of the Sacristy was completed this past summer. However, throughout the restoration process, we never lost sight of the needs of others.

Our outreach efforts, through a combination of the Church and the St. John's Thrift Shoppe, increased to \$160,000 this year!

This represents a \$20,000 increase in the amount distributed to local agencies which we celebrated on December 14th. And, this does not include the myriad of outreach activities of the Church and the contribution of time, talent and treasure of our parishioners, which you will find summarized on the next page. As you will see, over 32% of the Church's revenues are spent on outreach activities. By every measure, St. John's is demonstrating its commitment to our Mission to Love God, Love our Neighbor and Serve the World

As you will see in the report from the Stewardship chairs, as of this writing 141 members have made pledges for 2017 totaling \$464,000. What a great start to this coming year.

And, while we look outward to see where we can help, there is a strong need to look inward too. It's what I like to refer to as "Inreach". Our church family is blessed with many who can afford to support the Church's mission. And, 2016 is an example of exceptional response to the needs of our members who face financial burdens and hardships. When those general needs were revealed to the congregation by Fr. Joe, over \$89,000 was received from parishioners and an additional \$25,000 added from the Vestry Designated Fund. Those funds have provided food, shelter, medical and legal services to some of our members who had no where else to turn for help. This has kept them in their homes, fed and cared for.

This past year, we also reorganized our endowment funds. We now have endowment funds which focus on purpose. There is an an Outreach Fund, a Music Fund, a Youth Fund and a Property Fund. (Currently, there are no funds in the Music and Youth Funds.) While we will continue to honor the individual donors, this reorganization will enable you to focus your legacy giving to the areas of most importance to St. John's.

Finally, I would like to thank Randy Stewart for his tireless help to St. John's and the St. John's Thrift Shoppe. His professional services have enabled us to have independent audits confirming the accuracy of our accounting record keeping and financial reporting.

Thank you and God bless!

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## Finance Committee Annual Report

### Bob Matthews

The Finance Committee is responsible for all aspects of the financial operation of St John's Episcopal Church. During 2016, the responsibilities of the Committee were narrowed to exclude matters dealing with the physical property of the Church. Those duties are fulfilled by the Junior Warden, with review by the Vestry. The Finance Committee meets at least quarterly and sometimes monthly in order to meet its responsibilities.

At each meeting of the Committee the agenda calls for:

- Review and discussion of the Treasurer's Report, including analysis and discussion of the most recent monthly Balance Sheets and Results of Operations for the Church and for St. John's Thrift Shop
- Review of Treasurer's Report on performance of various funds under management by our Investment Manager, currently Northern Trust Company
- Approval and/or review of expenditures, if any, from various Restricted, Designated, or Endowment funds
- Review of any proposals for significant capital Expenditures, project budgets, contracts, etc., if any

Other responsibilities and business matter on meeting agendas throughout the course of the year include:

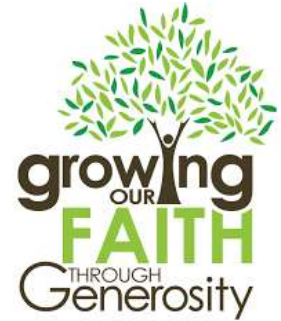
- Review with the Treasurer the results of the annual Stewardship Campaign at the end of the year (annually)
- Review with the Treasurer the proposed operating budget for the coming year...revenues, expenses, compensation for pastors and staff, etc., for recommendation to the Vestry at the December meeting (annually)
- Meeting to evaluate audit engagement proposal and audit plan by outside accounting firm for recommendation to the Vestry (annually)
- Meeting with outside audit firm to review the results of the audit of year-end financial statements, findings, and recommendations, if any (annually)
- Review of Investment Policy and Endowment Policy and recommended changes, if any, for presentation to the Vestry (annually)
- Review with the Treasurer, the annual Parochial Report to the Diocese, for presentation to the Vestry (annually)
- Review of insurance coverages for all policies in force...consideration of needs and potential changes to coverage (annually)
- Meeting with Investment Manager representative from Northern Trust to evaluate investment guidelines and performance of the funds under management (quarterly)

The membership of the Finance Committee is comprised of capable members with career backgrounds in banking and finance, accounting and the law, and business management. Those currently serving include: Peter Zimmerman, Church Treasurer, T.M. Hayes; Clay Jones; Arlene Austin; Rick Miller; and Bob Matthews, Chairman. Other attending meetings include: Ann Witmer, Secretary; Fr. Joe Maiocco, Rector, and Sue Boujoukos, Sr. Warden. All have worked diligently and contributed to the Committee's meetings and activities to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Committee during the course of the year.



## Stewardship Committee Annual Report

### Bob Matthews / Clay Jones



For the coming year, 2017, we continued with our themes of Stewardship for sharing Heart, Time, Talent, and Treasure.

On the matter of giving for our financial needs at St John's, our parishioners renewed their commitment of generosity for 2017 to support our day-to-day operations, maintain our physical campus, provide compensation for our outstanding Priests and staff, and provide for our Outreach commitments for our community and beyond. As of this writing, 141 members/families have made pledges for 2017 totaling \$463,600...this compared with pledges for 2016 by 134 members/families of \$418,000. This represents an increase, year-over-year of \$45,600, or 10.9%. We extend our most sincere thanks to our members and families that have given so generously. These gifts will go far in support of our mission to "Embrace God, Love your Neighbor, and Serve the World."

We would invite everyone to consider what they might contribute during the coming year in terms of their Time and Talents. There are so many opportunities to participate in the activities and work of the Church. We know that all of our members and families have Talents, and most of us have Time as well. Along these lines, would it be fair to ask ourselves if we come to Church not just to receive the benefits of worship and fellowship...but that we come seeking ways to serve the Lord's Church? Put another way, are we putting as much into our service to the Church and its needs as we are receiving through worship and fellowship?

There are many opportunities to serve...some very visible and some behind the scenes. We would love to train more Acolytes, Lay Readers, and especially, Ushers, to assist with our worship services on Saturday and Sunday. Those who serve to schedule participants for worship activities each week could use your help and contribution.

Our Altar Guild would likely appreciate more members to help with their duties in the preparation and care of the Sacraments at each service.

We need volunteers to help and supplement the work of the money counters who take care of the collection and counting of offerings from the weekend services and make the bank deposits on Monday morning.

And if expanding your knowledge of the Bible and God's Word with fellow members interests you, we would welcome your participation in the Men's and the Women's Bible Study sessions during the week. New attendees would contribute significantly to the already lively and exciting discussion of God's Word.

These are but some of the ways that members could "give back" to the Church for all of the spiritual worship and fellowship benefits that we find at St. John's.

We would invite you to prayerfully consider if you can share your Time and Talent for the benefit of St John's and provide support for our Mission in 2017. If you would like to participate in the many opportunities to serve, please contact the Church Office, our Priests, or members of the Vestry. We would welcome the Stewardship of your Time and Talent in the coming year

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## **Outreach Committee Annual Report** **Nevin Souers**



The Outreach Committee completed another great year. This was a banner year as the Outreach Committee distributed one-hundred and sixty thousand dollars to fourteen Collier County Charities.

The charities receiving grants were: The Christian Healing Center, Habitat for Humanity, Shelter for Abused Women and Children, Alzheimer's Support Network, Laces of Love, Harry Chapin Food Bank, St. Matthews House, Baby Basics of Collier Co., Charity for Change, Literacy Volunteers, Salvation Army, Angles Undercover, Naples Equestrian Challenge and Naples YMCA.

The funding for the charities was provided through St. John's Thrift Shoppe, its volunteers, donors, St. John's Church and contributions from generous anonymous donors.

On December 11, 2016, St. John's Church had a glorious celebration with fourteen charities receiving their grants. It was a moving experience as each charity representative explained how these grants are a blessing to the needy they serve.

May God continue to bless St. John's Thrift Shoppe, St. John's Church and all who make these grants possible.

The Outreach Committee is composed of seven members: Jean Morley, Mary Tilney, Betsy Eschholz, Julia DuRoss, John Soggs, Leo Velazquez and Nevin Souers.

May God continue to bless St. John's Thrift Shoppe, St. John's Church and its members in 2017.

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## **Acolytes, Lay Readers & Chalice Bearers Annual Report** **Ruth Adams**

The ministry of Acolytes, Lay Readers and Chalice Bearers is an active one that is very important to the church. In 2016, we had 28 active members, 1 who was inactive due to health problems. We had two training sessions throughout the year for new people as well as established people. The training was lead by Ruth Adams and Walter Roxey. Fr. Joe and/or Fr. Christian also attended as clergy advisers to answer any questions.

As of this season, I will be scheduling and training only. My health prevents me from participating, especially in the serving of the elements. I will miss serving and reading.

This is a very special, fulfilling ministry and all are welcome to join us for the training sessions. (Watch the announcements in the Sunday bulletins, for notification of time and date.)

All Acolytes, Lay Readers and Chalice bearers are required to be licensed by the Diocese of Southwest Florida. Once you have your license, you will need to be trained in the way of the priests of St. John's. If interested, you can contact Fr. Joe, Fr. Christian, Ann, Walter Roxey or me. You and St. John's Parish will be blessed by your participation.

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## **Altar Guild Annual Report**

### **Barbara Johnson**

The gift of serving on the Altar Guild is sacred and beautiful. If you feel drawn to serve the Lord, priests, and congregation in this ministry, I invite you to prayerfully consider joining the Altar Guild.

2016 has been a busy year for the Altar Guild at St. John's. Under the leadership of our Assistant Directress, Mary Zimmerman, our Sacristy was updated. We now have beautiful new cabinets, flooring, countertops and fresh paint on the walls. Thank you, Mary, for your oversight with this project.

Another big change for the Altar Guild this year was the retirement of Betty Kirtley as our Altar Guild Directress at St. John's. She lovingly served in this capacity for four years. Father Bill invited Betty to be on the Altar Guild 21 years ago, and in her own words she said "I loved it from the beginning!" Betty completed a very detailed Altar Guild Manual replete with pictures, that we all appreciate very much and use every week! She also set up a Disaster Preparedness Plan and a detailed inventory of our sacred items. We thank Betty for her hard work and devotion to the Altar Guild at St. John's.

Betty and I attended the 48th Annual Diocesan Convention in Punta Gorda and assisted with the Altar Guild's Free Market recycling table. We had a fabulous time helping people find things they needed and conversing with other Altar Guild members in our Diocese.

Ally Karavakis helped us again this year with new bows for the Christmas wreaths. Betty and Ally hung the beautiful wreaths that adorn the inside and outside of our church.

During 2016 we were responsible for the preparation of nine funerals, two Baptisms, each weekly service, and special services.

Altar Guild Members are: Ruth Huber, Carol Kistler, Donna Stewart, Kim Hirsch, Judy Mertz, Betsy Dyke, Mary Zimmerman, Assistant Directress, Jane McDermott, Assistant Directress, and Barbara Johnson. We are grateful for the help of many others throughout the year.

I look forward to hearing from members of the church who would like to join us in serving.

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## **Birthday & Anniversary Cards Annual Report**

### **Ann Witmer**

In 2016, Fr. Christian or Fr. Joe sent out approximately 515 birthday and anniversary cards to church members.

If you are not receiving a card or are receiving a card on an incorrect date, it may be that we do not have your information listed or listed incorrectly in the computer. Please call the church office at [\(239\) 261-2355](tel:2392612355) and let Ann know of any errors so that our records can be corrected to reflect your special occasion.



## Centering Prayer Annual Report

### Katy Esterline

In 2016 parishioners and friends in Christ continued to gather in the Prayer Room on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 AM. It is a special time to return and rest: "Be Still and Know that Thou art God".



Following the teachings of Father Thomas Keating and John Main, our Centering Prayer time is a time of sharing a thought, Biblical passage, or a reading to focus us on the Lord before entering into 20-30 minutes of quieting our minds and bodies to allow time for the Lord to speak to us in our silence. We set aside our daily agendas, worries, concerns, prayers, etc. to experience the Prince of Peace. The end of the time draws us into leaders softly saying the Lord's Prayer. There is a more genuine and deeper quietness that many have shared that is not present when we do centering alone at home. After our quiet time, we are free to share or not share our experiences, and then there is usually an informal extended sharing for those who want to stay a little longer. It is a relationship, sharing time with the trinity and our friends in Christ.

There are several group leaders throughout the year. We thank Pat Mills, Marilyn Hibbert, Betty Kirtley, Jim Bongard, Helen Zurlo and others for sharing a variety of readings and materials with us.

An open invitation is extended to join us on Wednesdays to experience prayer #59 *For Quiet Confidence* in the Book of Common Prayer. Father Joe would welcome a conversation with you to explain this precious time with our Lord.

**"God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us."**

A deepening and expanding peace has been the experience of those who gather together to seek him in quiet places.

Acts 17:27

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## Foyer's Group Annual Report

### Mary Frances & John Aiken

Foyer Groups are a fun and easy way for small groups of church members to gather together informally over dinner in each other's homes. We meet three times between January and April. It is a wonderful way to extend a community of people who care about and take care of each other.

97 people are registered for Foyers in 2017. There are 10 Group Leaders who organize the dates, menus, and places.

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## **Garden of the Resurrection Columbarium Annual Report**

### **Ruth Huber**

The Columbarium Committee consists of Ruth Huber, Barbara Buzzanca, Midge Voss, Ellie Leigh and Jeanne Price.

Although we no longer offer assigned plots to our church members, we are continuing to offer scattering of cremains in an area of the Garden that is chosen by the Priests at the time of need.

Our committee meets once a year, plus on an as needed basis for the carrying out of our various responsibilities. We encourage others to learn and to pray about being a part of this ministry as a way of serving our Lord and each other.

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## **LEV Ministry Annual Report**

### **Toni Horton**

We currently have 10 LEVs (Lay Eucharistic Visitors) who have been trained and licensed to take communion to those members that are not able to attend one of our services at St John's Church. During 2016 our clergy and the LEVs provided the nourishment of Holy Eucharist to 505 communicants.

All of us that attend a regular service have the opportunity to receive communion. Our brothers and sisters in Christ who are not able to join us at regular services are valued members of our family and need to have this same opportunity. It will not happen unless we know who they are. It may be you, or a relative, or a friend. Please call the church office ([239-261-2355](tel:239-261-2355), Ext. 4), or the Horton residence ([239-261-1132](tel:239-261-1132)). Let us know the name of the person that we should contact. One of our LEVs will be in touch with that person and arrange for a convenient time to visit. It's that simple.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors for 2017:

Toni and Charley Horton, Betty and Jack DiBiaso, Thomas Eppley, Jr.,  
Ellie and Tony Leigh, Dorothy Lowrie, Ruth Randazzo, Walter Roxey.

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## **Office Volunteers Annual Report**

### **Ann Witmer**



Our office volunteer workers deserve our grateful thanks for all their faithful service. This group of dedicated people has a variety of duties. In-office assistants greet and welcome parishioners when they come to the main office and when they phone us. They also proofread and print the church bulletins as well as provide office coverage when the Parish Secretary is out of the office. Assistants who work from home help with scheduling readers/acolytes, schedule ushers, help with putting the annual report together and may also help with office coverage.

The assistance that the volunteers provide is invaluable. The volunteer office support staff is made up of the following persons: Ruth Adams, Lauralee Uihlein, Betty Kirtley, (who tried to retire in 2016 but I really won't let her) and our new addition this year - Cynthia Langslet. I would also like to thank the various parishioners who have stepped up on occasion to help out during 2016: Sue Boujoukos, Pat Costa and Amber Ferreira. These volunteers bless me greatly.

Peace and blessings!

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## **Library Annual Report**

### **Colleen Spangler**



The Brewster Hall library hosted the annual book discussion in February. 2016's book choice was "Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus: A devout Muslim Encounters Christianity" by Nabeel Qureshi. Two of the attendees, a former Muslim and his wife who converted to Christianity, gave remarkable witness to their conversion and the work they do with other Muslims in our country. Circulation of materials, books, DVD's and CD's is increasing as members become more familiar with the collection, its contents and organization. Also noteworthy is the library's available large screen monitor, utilized by several groups, including the book discussion group who could view the author in a presentation accessed through the Internet. Donations were generous. New books relating to Christian living, current social issues facing our nation, history, classics, and inspiring fiction are always appreciated. The DVD and CD collection continues to grow. Posting library resources on the church website is an ongoing project. Check out these resources under the home webpage headings "Celebrate" - "Learning." Look forward to additional listings of books under various topics, such as Author Spotlights and Social Challenges. Members should be apprised that the library houses an extensive Archival collection. These Archives, compiled by Bob Geroy for over 40 years, consist of historical documents recording the church's inception, growth, and renovation of building and grounds, information on former church leaders, obituaries, church trips, copies of Kay Geroy's publications of Parish Life that records church activities from 1982 to 2016, various memorabilia and extensive photo albums. If anyone wishes to contribute items of historical significance t, including obituaries, contact the librarian. While the major portion of the Archives are locked for safe keeping, access can be arranged through the librarian, who has undertaken maintenance of these valuable church records. To appreciate our current blessings, we must acknowledge the efforts of our former church members. We must remember our past and treasure all that has been achieved at St. John's, as we look forward to future years.

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## **Order of St. Luke Annual Report**

### **Vickie Bauch**

The Order of St. Luke continues to grow. We started off 2016 with new classes for training over 6 weeks. In February we had our Healing Mission with Father David Reed. This was well attended, with people from other churches attending.

We meet every Wednesday with healing prayer, study and then our OSL meeting. Last year we read "Finding Victory, When Healing Doesn't Happen", by Randy Clark and Craig Miller. This was a very informative book which lead to weeks of discussion. We have been lucky enough to have one of the authors, Craig Miller, agree to come in February of 2017 for our Healing Mission.

The Christian Healing Center of Naples has opened at 680 2nd Avenue North. The hours are Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 4 PM and Thursday evening from 5 to 8. As for right now it is being staffed by St. John's. In the future we hope to train and welcome others into healing practice. The CHC is a safe and confidential place for anyone to come for healing prayer and get to know the love of Jesus Christ.

The healing prayer teams are available every Sunday at each service and Saturday evening.

We started our training classes early this year in November and will finish up the first week in January. Most of the present OSL people are taking a refresher and we have about 8 people taking it as new members. We are very lucky to have this many people interested in the positive power of the healing ministry during this very tumultuous time in the world.

Dr. Tom Hudson, author of "Journey To Hope", came to speak to our OSL and will be returning in January to speak to the whole congregation concerning the power of prayer and spiritual wellness during cancer or any illness. If anyone is interested in joining the OSL or has any questions concerning the CHC, please feel free to talk to any OSL member or contact the office. Blessings!



## Parish Life Annual Report

### Ann Witmer

Parishlife, the newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, keeps members advised of parish activities and acquaints visitors and prospective members with life at St. John's.

Previously ParishLife was published on a monthly basis for the past 32 years by our long-time parishioner Kay Geroy. Kay did a wonderful job with the ParishLife, always adding a personal touch to each edition by adding her own personal artwork to the front cover, not to mention the many long hours of love and editing she added to ensure that what we were reading was correct, on time and enjoyable. We will all miss Kay very much and her contributions here at St. John's. God bless.

In 2017, the ParishLife will be published on an every-other month basis, beginning in February.

The full-color, down loadable version is distributed via e-mail and archived on the parish website ([www.stjohnsnaples.com](http://www.stjohnsnaples.com)). A black and white issue is also mailed to homes of those members requesting printed copies (contact the office).

Deadlines are by noon on the Fridays designated on the chart above. The mailing page of each Parishlife also carries the next issue's deadline, as well as the deadline for St. John's Enews.

News articles are always welcome and may be left in the Parish Secretary's mailbox in the church office or e-mailed to the Editor at [parishsecretary@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:parishsecretary@stjohnsnaples.com) .(Please designate that your article is for ParishLife or Enews.)

Articles over 300 words are subject to abridgment, depending on available space. Please send any photos as a JPEG attachment.

Special thanks to Amber Ferriera who assisted during Kay's absence. Thanks, too, to Bob Geroy for his proofreading during the past year and Glenn Saffran for posting Parishlife on the parish website.

Please enter the 2017 deadline dates on your calendar.

Peace and blessings to all.

2017 News Article Deadlines		
Publication	Month of Publication	Deadline: Noon, Friday
ParishLife	February	1/20/2017
Enews	March	2/17/2017
ParishLife	April	3/17/2017
Enews	May	4/21/2017
ParishLife	June	5/19/2017
Enews	July	6/16/2017
ParishLife	August	7/21/2017
Enews	September	8/18/2017
ParishLife	October	9/15/2017
Enews	November	10/20/2017
ParishLife	December	11/17/2017

Please enter these dates on your calendar NOW.

Articles must be no longer than 300 words, submitted in MS Word or Excel formatting and any pictures must be submitted in .pdf or .jpeg file format.

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## Ushers Annual Report

### Lauralee Uihlein

The Usher Ministry continues to need new members! It involves welcoming all who enter our doors with a warm smile, handing out bulletins, passing the Offertory plates, guiding folks to Holy Communion and tidying the pews after service. Training is easy and involves "assisting" another set of ushers until you feel comfortable! Many warm friendships have been formed between fellow ushers and we invite you to join our Ministry! We need you! Please call the parish office [\(239\) 261.2355](tel:2392612355) or call/email Lauralee and Richard Uihlein [\(239\) 352-9012](tel:2393529012) or [lauhlein@gmail.com](mailto:lauhlein@gmail.com) if you may be interested or have any questions.



## **Parish Pastoral Caregiver Annual Report**

### **Becky Jarrell**

It is once again such a privilege to say, what a gift St. John's church has been for me, the last several years!

Most parishioners think of me as "that flower lady" and YES I am that! But I'm also a part of the staff under both Fr. Joe and Fr. Christian as a Parish Caregiver.

Much of what I am delighted to provide though, depends on good communication throughout the staff and within the parish! It's important to share with the church what's happening in your life! We pride ourselves that we are a family who cares for one another and we want to support and celebrate life together! With three services, it is incredibly hard to determine who might be missing! If there is no communication, we sometimes pass by those really important circumstances that are happening to the folks we love! Perhaps there is a lingering illness or incapacitation, a planned surgery, a special birthday or anniversary. If we're not made aware, or you don't want people to "bother", then we all miss out on that meaningful connection. So please tell one of the priests, the church secretary or tell me so we can care for and about you. So we can pray with and for you. So we can rejoice with you! I think that's what it means to be a "family of God". Just as a side note, NCH has a program that notifies a church when a parishioner is admitted. However, neither Physicians Regional Hospitals has a notification method. Please be sure to have someone call the church office in that instance.

It is my pleasure to visit at the hospital, care centers, homes and certainly just over coffee or lunch visit! I am also available to lend grief support either as a group or individually as well as partner with people as they walk the really tough journeys of illness, divorce, relocation and loneliness. I am here to serve the Lord by serving you!

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## **Sisters for Life**

### **Connie Pinckney**

Sisters for Life meets Monday evenings from 7-8:30 in St. John's library for the purpose of providing women encouragement and fellowship, building up one another in faith so that our trust in Christ will grow, and we will proclaim Him Lord of every facet of our lives (1Thessalonians 5:11).

As our small group shares and studies the Bible together, seeking to apply its truths to our daily lives, we experience the fruit of God's Holy Spirit in abundance as we believe and abound in hope (Romans 15:13).

This past year, "Sisters" concluded two in-depth studies of Daniel and Revelation utilizing Dr. David Jeremiah's Agents of Babylon and Agents of the Apocalypse.

Currently, "Sisters" is studying Dr. David Jeremiah's Is This the End? as we embrace our mission as Christians in today's world.

Throughout 2017, "Sisters" will discover the hidden depths of Holy Scripture through daily devotional reading using Jonathan Cahn's publication The Book of Mysteries.

If you long for the closeness and support of caring Christian women who seek to follow Christ and help you do the same, your Sisters for Life warmly welcome you. Please join us.

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## St. John's Shoppe Be Our Valentine

February brings Valentine's Day, gifts of love, and St. John's Shoppe Month at our Parish. We are asking you to be our Valentine. Won't you take time to reflect on your many blessings and consider the "gift of giving" to others less fortunate in your community as your Valentine gift this year? We have many ways for you to give those gifts of love. Remember that all Shoppe proceeds go to local charities through this Outreach Ministry of our Parish.



**Volunteer.** Learn new skills and make new friendships. Volunteering feeds the soul like nothing else. Daily shifts are mornings, afternoons, or all day. You will be surprised at the fantastic bargains you find to purchase as you are contributing your time. Sort donations, visit and assist customers, make new friends. Other avenues for volunteers are marketing, advertising, and promotion of the Shoppe with local organizations. We are open from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM Monday - Saturday. **We need your help ..... Be Our Valentine! Volunteer!**

**Donate.** February has been designated "St. John's Shoppe Month" at our Parish. Bring donations to the Shoppe during business hours in the month of February. Our inventory is very low due to seasonal sales. Don't forget your furniture donations. They bring added dollars! Call Sharon @ 597-9518 for furniture inspection and pick up. **We need your help.....Be Our Valentine! Donate!**

**Shop.** Everyone who walks into the Boutique atmosphere of the Shoppe is amazed at the quality merchandise, beautiful displays, and friendly staff of St. John's Shoppe. No other shop like St. John's can be found in the Naples area. Bargains galore can be found in home furnishings, accessories, exquisite clothing, china, silver, electronics, etc. **We need your help.....Be Our Valentine! Shop!**

*To the world you might be one person, but to the Shoppe and our community charity recipients  
....you might be the world.....Be Our Valentine!*

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## St. John's Shoppe 2nd Annual Fashion Show Luncheon

\$40.00

(cash or checks only)

Net proceeds benefit Collier County Charities

**SATURDAY, MARCH 25, 2017**

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
12:00 PM ~ SUGDEN HALL

**BUY YOUR TICKET TODAY!  
NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.  
RESERVATIONS NEEDED**



CALL: (239) 597-9518 For Tickets & Reservations  
EMAIL: [stjohnsthiftshoppe@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsthiftshoppe@gmail.com)

## **Spirit Alive Annual Report**

### **Katy Esterline**



Spirit Alive hosted a variety of events in 2016: Caring Card Ministry, Community Visitation, Support for OSL's Healing Mission, book discussion, and Lenten Quiet Day. Below are the highlights of the 2016 events.

Spirit Alive's Caring Card Ministry is active all year long.

Spirit Alive continues to show its love for our parish family by extending an expression of caring through our Card Ministry. We invite church members to volunteer to assist with Spirit Alive by notifying us or the church if you know someone who could use a caring card.

St. John's Community Visitation was a visit to the Historic Palm Cottage, one of the oldest homes by Naples Pier.

Although the weather started out a little cool and wet, the tour inside was very warm, interesting and informative. We learned a lot about the construction and living in the early days in Naples. We all had a special lunch at the nearby Ridgeway restaurant. It was good to meet members we had not met and share what we learned at Palm Cottage.

Spirit Alive supported our Order of St. Luke's Healing Mission Feb 5 - 7th.

Father David Reed came to Naples to share Renewal and Healing with OSL members, parish members and friends.

The 2016 Book Discussion of Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus by Nabeel Qureshi was held February 25 in Brewster Hall.

Qureshi devised a litmus test for Christianity and Islam, in that, if it could be proved that Jesus died on the cross, rose from the dead and claimed to be God, the case for Christianity would be strong. During this process, he also analyzed his beliefs in the pillars of Islam, and the teachings of Mohammed and the Quran. He eventually became a Christian. We had a parishioner who brought a couple to our discussion. When he introduced us to them, we learned that he too had converted due to the change in his wife after she was Baptized in the Holy Spirit. They brought so much to our discussion and shared how dangerous it is for those who have converted. Several members were able to hear the author speak in Bonita Springs last year. The discussions carried over to other times and places. If you have not read the book, we strongly encourage you to read it.

Spirit Alive's Quiet Day was held on our beautiful spirit filled campus on March 16th.

Many parishioners gathered at St. John's beautiful campus for Spirit Alive's Quiet Day. It was an affirmation, again, that the Holy Spirit was present among us throughout the day. The morning began with registration, praise and worship songs before our opening with Morning Prayer. Reflections by Pam Hicks, Madeleine Harvey, and Kim Hirsch were very special sharings to transition us into our quiet time with Jesus. In addition to time to be alone with our Lord, each had an opportunity to join Centering Prayer and/or Intercessory Prayer. After our lunch and a group picture, we met at the Park Shore beach for our annual Quiet Day Eucharist celebration on the shore of the Gulf of Mexico. After moving and dancing in praise, we shared Christ's body and blood in reverence to him. This day was an extremely special time to honor Jesus and the Holy Spirit who continues to guide us and our parish to live closer to Jesus and strengthen our relationship with him. The day was warm, sunny, and full of the spirit of our Lord.

Spirit Alive is so thankful for those who generously volunteered to help in a variety of ways to make our events this year extra special. I thank each one of you who helped and or participated in our 2016 events.

## New Members in 2016

### Leo & Faye Bruso

Welcome to Leo & Fay Bruso who are new members of our parish, attending the 9am services from October through May.

Leo works in commercial, real estate and land development and some of you may already know that Fay specializes in event planning (see her handi-work during events here and during coffee hour!)

Welcome aboard the St. John's train you two...we're glad you're aboard!



### Bruce & Pat Korda

Bruce and Pat joined St. John's in the fall of 2016. You can meet them worshipping at the 9am Sunday service.

Welcome to St. John's Korda family!



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## Stitches of Love Annual Report

### Bonnie Schlichting

The women of Stitches of Love have had another busy and productive year.

Our knitters continue to make beautiful prayer shawls, a most comforting expression of love and prayers, and a powerful symbol of the caring of the St. John's family. We would especially welcome more knitters for this important ministry.

Our knitters also made more than 230 newborn baby caps, which go off to the neo-natal nurseries at Lee Memorial in Fort Myers and Mission Hospital in Ashville, NC. Our sewers are making "Mother's Hearts" for Lee Memorial, which help those tiny babies, too sick to go home from the hospital, to connect with their mommies.

We made toddler dresses for orphan girls cared for by the Missionaries of Charity sisters in Les Cayes, Haiti, as well as cuddly dolls for those children who often do not get enough cuddling. Over a dozen colorful hand-tied quilts have been completed and donated to the Abuse Shelter for Women.

Stitches of Love generally meets on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at 10:00 a.m. Knitting or sewing skills are NOT a requirement as meetings often are spent assembling or finishing projects assembly-line fashion, and extra hands and new faces would be most welcome.





## Contact Information

### St. John's Episcopal Church

500 Park Shore Dr., Naples, FL 34103  
PH: [239-261-2355](tel:239-261-2355) FAX [239-261-2591](tel:239-261-2591)

**Office Hours:** Mon.-Fri., 9 am - 5pm

### After Hours Emergency:

Rector [239-216-2333](tel:239-216-2333)  
Assistant Rector [309-229-6572](tel:309-229-6572)

**Rector:** The Rev. Joseph F. Maiocco, III  
**E-mail:** [Clergy@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:Clergy@stjohnsnaples.com)

**Asst. Rector:** The Rev. Christian Maxfield  
**Email:** [Clergy2@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:Clergy2@stjohnsnaples.com)

**Secretary:** Ann Witmer  
**E-mail:** [ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com)

**Treasurer:** Peter Zimmermann  
**Email:** [Treasurer@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:Treasurer@stjohnsnaples.com)

**Music Director:** Glenn Saffran  
**Email:** [MusicDirector@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:MusicDirector@stjohnsnaples.com)

**Interim Parishlife Editor:** Ann Witmer  
**E-Mail:** [ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com](mailto:ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com)

**Web sites:**  
St. John's: [www.stjohnsnaples.com](http://www.stjohnsnaples.com)  
Diocese: [www.episcopalswfl.org](http://www.episcopalswfl.org)

**St. John's Webmaster:** Glenn Saffran

**St. John's Archivist:** Colleen Spangler

### Intercessory Prayer Chain Requests:

Pat Mills [239-596-8890](tel:239-596-8890)

### 2017 Vestry:

**Sr. Warden:** Sue Boujoukos  
**Jr. Warden:** Roger Stiefel  
**Treasurer:** Peter Zimmermann  
**Clerk to the Vestry:** Ann Witmer  
**Members:** Ruth Adams, Vickie Bauch, Richard Clapp, Donna Beecher, John Gualdoni, Robert Matthews, Skip Ruch.

**Ministries:** Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Outreach.

### St. John's Shoppe for Upscale Thrift

Tamiami Square  
14700 Tamiami Trail No., Naples, FL  
Phone: [239-597-9518](tel:239-597-9518)  
Hours: Mon-Sat. 10am-4pm  
Website: [www.stjohnsshoppe.com](http://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:** Margo Ziolo  
**Manager:** Sharon Marceau  
**Assistant Manager:** James Meehan

**PARISHLIFE**

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
500 Park Shore Drive  
Naples, Florida 34103  
Telephone: 261-2355

*Thank you, Lord, for current resident or*

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