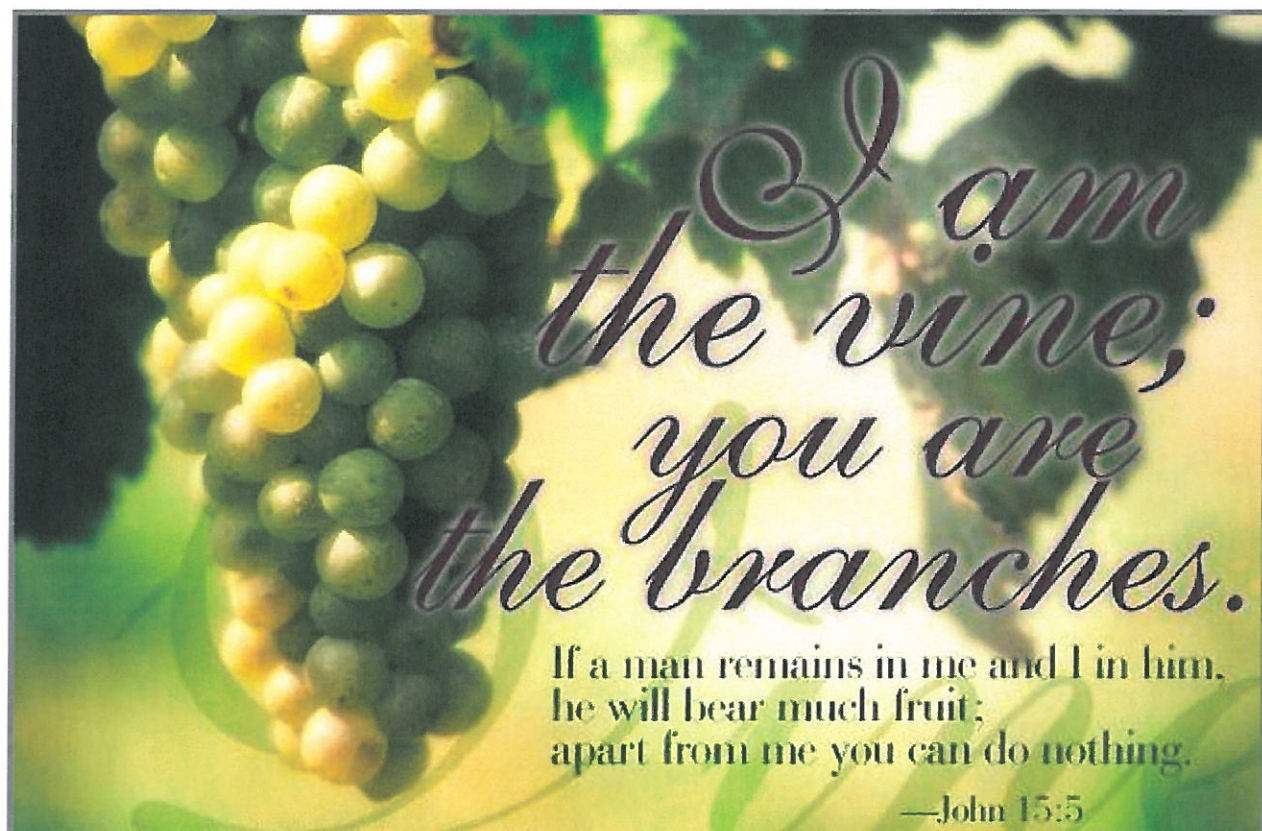


PARISHLIFE

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church



*"Go therefore and make disciples
of all the nations"
Matthew 28:19*

Are You Engaged?

St. John's vision is to: EMBRACE GOD; LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR; AND SERVE THE WORLD. You can choose among more than 20 different ministries to engage in that vision.

Last year, 220 of us engaged in at least one of these ministries, a few participated in more than six! WOW! We are a vibrant community that hears God's call on our lives and answers that call! Will more of us engage in 2018? I sincerely hope so.

One way we EMBRACE GOD is as ushers. In 2017, 46 individuals served as ushers. Ushers serve an important role all year. Lauralee Uihlein schedules ushers and has called for additional volunteers to serve at the 5:00 Saturday service. Can you help?

In addition to ushers, 29 individuals served as lay readers and acolytes, 19 provided vocal or instrumental music, 10 Lay Eucharistic Visitors took communion to shut-ins.

Christian educational opportunities abound! In 2017, weekly adult Bible studies during the "school year" attracted 15 men and 21 women. Sunday morning co-ed studies throughout the year attracted about 15 on average. Skip Ruch is currently leading a co-ed study of Isaiah on Sunday mornings and, later this summer, I will lead a study of C.S. Lewis' The Screwtape Letters. Please join us!

More than 7 individuals provided child care, Godly Play instruction, Vacation Bible School and other programs for our children and youth. This year Vacation Bible School will be the last week of June. Can you help?

We LOVE OUR NEIGHBORS! FOYERS is our most popular ministry! In 2017 John and Mary Frances

Aiken formed 97 individuals into dinner groups for great fellowship. Other compassionate ministries include prayer groups, healing teams, the Order of St. Luke, Sisters for Life, and Spirit Alive. St. John's has a passion for healing the hurting and the broken. Love is in the air!

We SERVE THE WORLD in a variety of ways. In 2017, St. John's Upscale Thrift Shoppe engaged 15 volunteers in receiving and selling donated items, raising funds for outreach grants. At St. Matthew's House you'd have found 57 individuals from St. John's serving meals to the hungry. Through Stitches of Love, 12 women met regularly to create prayer shawls, mother-baby hearts, and other items to comfort and clothe. Another 7 individuals held a spirited Good News Club for 50 elementary school children at Gulf Coast Charter Academy. In addition to our time, we gave financial support to the Emmanuel Community in Aleppo, Syria, and to victims of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma.

If you engaged in one or more of these ministries last year, you were a true blessing to others. Serving together in ministry binds us together, grows our faith, increases our love and makes a difference in the world. Can we count on your engagement this year? Don't miss out.



Donna Beecher
Sr. Warden

St. John's Thrift Shoppe – The Outreach Ministry of St. John's Episcopal Church

St. John's Shoppe is one of this parishes' largest ministries. We offer quality "nearly new" men and women's clothing. We have furniture, home accessories and jewelry. We are open six days per week from 10 AM to 5 PM. The Shoppe is truly one of God's wonders as for the past thirty-five years we have been able to provide local charities with funds so that they, in turn, can help those that need help.

So occasionally God needs help. We have volunteers that give their time freely and donations from those who are more fortunate than those that we help with our ministry.

To continue our giving to those in need we again need to have more donations. We need more volunteers to help at the Shoppe. Volunteering at the Shoppe is sharing and giving. Because when you go home, you know you have help in some way to help those who are in need.

DONATE AND VOLUNTEER. Donations are accepted Mon. through Sat. from 10AM-3PM
Volunteer any time you have free time.

Contact Sharon at 239-597-9518 to find out about giving your time to volunteer and donate furniture. Once you provide Sharon with your information about your furniture she can arrange to have it picked up free.

The location of the Shoppe is at 14700 Tamiami Trail, N. North, Naples, FL

Right past the Mercedes car dealer on the right-hand side going North in the Tamiami Square Shopping Center. It will be easy to find once the Pewter Mug Restaurant moves next door. So you can bring your donations, shop and eat all in one day.



St. John's Thrift Shoppe
The Outreach Ministry of St. John's Episcopal Church, Naples FL
Tamiami Square Shopping Center
14700 Tamiami Trail, N
Naples, FL
www.stjohnsshoppe.com
stjohnsthritshoppe@gmail.com

YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

We all likely know what VBS stands for, but I would submit that we look at it in a new and different light, as we invite your youth to a fabulous **Vital and Biblically Sound** week of fun, geared to instill in us the Word of God in new and exiting ways that we would grow in our relationship with God and bear fruit, all to the glory of God.



This Summer we invite our youth ages 5-12 to embark with us on a Mission to the Jungle, as we learn how to be missionaries in our own day and culture from a young boy who lives in the Jungles of India, so that God can use us to touch the lives around us that they would be turned around, toward the Kingdom of God.

Our Mission to the Jungle runs Monday - Friday, 9AM-Noon, June 25-29, 2018.

We hope you will plan to join us this summer at St John's for a **Vital and Biblically Sound** week of fun, music, learning, games and personal growth. Email Fr. Christian or call the office for more information and to receive a registration form.

It is more and more difficult to get not only ourselves- but even more so our youth- out of the house and into God's nature. Summer Camp is a super way not only to get our youth on the water, paddle boarding, swimming, and canoeing but also to learn about the Lord our God who offers us "Living Water" as He offers Himself to us in Word and Sacrament.

This year at Summer Camp we will not only make new friends within the Episcopal Diocese of SWFL, but come to know Him who called the woman at the well- and all of us- to drink from the wellspring of Life that we would never go thirsty and in turn have within us a spring of water welling up to eternal life.



If you are a rising 9th grader or a recent grad, you are invited to join me at Senior High Camp this summer, June 17-22, 2018. Email Fr. Christian or call the office for more information. You can register, not only for High school camp but also see other options of camp for all ages at WWW.DAYSPRING.ORG.

St. John's Security

In response to concerns expressed by St. John's members, the Junior Warden and I have been reviewing the security of the St. John's campus with expert help. Roger recently attended a security briefing at Trinity by the Cove, security articles have been reviewed during Vestry meetings, and we recently had a security review of the St. John's campus by the Naples Police Department.

Officer Bonollo & Detective Perry presented "Run, Hide, Fight!", including a you tube video and the material below. A discussion of best practices followed, things St. John's should consider and next steps. For security purposes, it was decided Sugden Hall doors closest to the Nursery would remain locked during worship services and we may do the same with 2 Sanctuary doors. We are also looking into a complete security camera system.

Please take time to watch the you tube video "Run, Hide, Fight", read the material below and consider your response in case of an active shooter event. The time to be prepared for an event like this, which could occur anywhere at any time, is before it happens.

Please join me in prayer for God's continued protection of St. John's Episcopal Church and all humanity from such senseless violence as we intercede using the Collect for Peace (BCP, p.57):

"O God, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us, we thy humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies, that we, surely trusting in thy defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries, through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

God's Blessings of Peace,

Fr. Joseph Maiocco

RUN, HIDE, FIGHT!

...a community active shooter guide



Due to violent events that have occurred worldwide, the Naples Police Department would like to provide the public with tips on what to do in the unlikely event you find yourself in an active shooter situation.

An active shooter is defined as an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. An active

shooter incident typically occurs quickly and is often over in 10-15 minutes. As members of the public, it is imperative to be aware of your surrounding and the possibility of dangers to ensure your safety.

RUN

You are going to be nervous, scared and may have tunnel vision, but you need to run away from the immediate threat and try to find a safe place.

Once you are out of harm's way, call 911 immediately. It is critical to provide the 911 dispatcher with as much information as possible.

Information such as the location of the shooter, a description of the shooter, and any other details you provide will help officers responding to the scene.

HIDE

If you are unable to safely run from the area, you need to find a safe place to hide and remain as quiet as possible until you see identifiable law enforcement personnel.

- Lock the door or place items such as furniture against the door.
- Silence your cell phone so it does not ring and reveal your location to the shooter.
- Hide in an area that does not restrict your movement or block you from an exit route.
- Remember, the shooter may be wearing camouflage clothing or equipment that may be similar to law enforcement personnel, so analyze the situation carefully before coming out of your hidden area.

FIGHT

If you end up in a confrontation with the shooter, you need to fight any way possible.

- Use objects such as a fire extinguisher, office equipment, or anything else nearby as a weapon.
- You need to fight for your life, act aggressively and attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Never surrender or negotiate with the shooter. If you lawfully carry a firearm, please make sure you are properly trained and know how to utilize it legally and safely.

Update about Emmanuel Community

Given to St. John's Episcopal Church

Jamie Treadwell

April 28, 2018

It's a pleasure to return to St. John's today and give you a brief update regarding the Emmanuel Community in Aleppo, Syria. St. John's has been journeying alongside this fledgling community in Syria for about 5 years now.

As we've been aware through the bad news coming out of Syria, the war continues. There's been the recent atrocities and military strikes in response. There's heavy fighting in at least two cities in the western section of the country, with one battle just 30 miles outside of Aleppo. The Middle East continues to be mired in a tense and complicated conflict on many levels. This is happening and real, but it is not the whole story. In the midst of these difficulties, God is also at work.

The beginnings of the Emmanuel Community are traced to a Christmas mission event run by a group from the Sword of the Spirit community in Lebanon about 10 years ago. A bus load of university students and some leaders from the large established community in Lebanon responded to a request for help from a local parish church in Aleppo. This was before the war. Their Christian mission planted seeds for renewal. As the war swept through Syria in the following years, a core of 16 men and women chose to commit themselves together to stay in Aleppo and build community. That core enabled many others to rally with them to remain in Aleppo during the devastation of the war. St. John's came alongside them at that time, and the main focus was prayer for their survival and the practical outreach they were involved with to sustain others with some level of food, water, and medications. The community group could not meet; indeed their daily life was in the midst of the battle for Aleppo.

In December, the ceasefire took hold, and the community was able to partner with the Greek Catholic Church in Aleppo to establish a base in their facilities. St. John's was instrumental in providing the funding to set up and equip this center. Now that the center is in place, the focus of the community has moved to investing directly into the people.

The Emmanuel Community now has 89 people involved in membership and the formation program. This is a high commitment. Each member of the community attends their own local church in the mornings. Then on Sunday afternoon, they come together for an open prayer meeting and teaching. The community itself has members from several different churches. There are about 120 people attending these meetings on Sunday afternoon. Each member of the community is also involved in a small group for weekly support and accountability. From this base, the community runs its various outreaches.

Of particular encouragement is the growing involvement of young people. 41 of the 73 people in formation are singles under 35 years old. As the young woman mentioned earlier, some of these are now finding marriage partners within this committed core. This sense of support and shared mission is crucial for building an expansive presence in Aleppo.

It is estimated that about 500,000 refugees have returned to Aleppo since the ceasefire. What will they find on their return? The Emmanuel Community seeks to provide a rallying point for young Christians, and from that base provide a witness to Jesus Christ in the midst of a Muslim city.

This work with the young professionals is where St. John's has stepped in once again. This summer Emmanuel Community hopes to send between 50 and 75 young professionals to a conference in Turkey. This is made possible through the generous support of St. John's. This is no ordinary conference. It is sponsored by the Sword of the Spirit specifically to support and envision the young adults choosing to build community in situations like Aleppo across the Middle East. The theme of the conference is 'Here I am, Send Me'. The young adults will build relationships with their peers from places like Lebanon, Egypt, Turkey, Qatar, and other Middle Eastern countries who are choosing to stay and build Christian community.

On behalf of the Emmanuel Community, I pass on my heartfelt gratitude for the ongoing prayers, partnership, and financial support for their community-building project in Aleppo. Thank you. May God continue to bless each of us and equip us in our daily life witness in the place we live.

New Members

For those of our St. John's family, I would like to share with you how we find the process of reaching our guests in the pews each week to join us. As you already are aware, we ask our guests to complete the blue card and place it in the collection plate. Those cards travel to our parish secretary who then sends them to Fr. Joe and myself. Fr. sends them a note and I follow up with either an email or a phone call. Secondly, they receive a gift from us - either during the service or at the Coffee Hour following the nine o'clock service. The gift includes a New Testament bible, a listing of all the ministries' offerings plus a copy of our latest Parish Life. If we're lucky enough and they do come for refreshments and fellowship, one or more of us will reach them and welcome them to St. John's. What we have learned over the past year is that many have already gone to our website, listened to the sermons and are "hooked" already. Once they have spent time with Fr. Joe and joined our church, that information is turned over to one of our Vestry members. They in turn will essentially become their partners, so to speak, in that they will hopefully give them direction, answers, or suggest upcoming events here at St. John's. We find the process truly rewarding - for all! We are a welcoming church and take joy in being a small part of its success!!

Sue Boujoukos



CHC RECEIVES A \$50,000 MATCHING GIFT PLEDGE

What a blessing for Christian Healing Center! A couple has pledged \$50,000 as a matching gift. Every donation received is being matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. It is a delight to announce this gift and invite readers to learn more about Christian Healing Center which is supported through your prayers, volunteering, St. John's Outreach, and is blessed with St. John's leadership in its formation as a 501c3 charitable organization, governance and healing prayer. Five of our directors are members of St. John's, including Fr. Joe.

Tuesday Potluck and Night of Healing: We are gathering the third Tuesday of each month here at Sugden Hall from 6pm to 8:30pm for food, fellowship, teaching and healing prayer. This month more than 40 people came. The Holy Spirit was present in a mighty way, and we witnessed that Jesus is the same today as He was and will be, healing through love and prayer and laying on of hands. People came expecting healing and Jesus did as He always has: He heals. And He draws us to Him and God the Father. Everyone is invited to come. Come - there is room for you.

St. John's is very blessed with opportunity for healing prayer for everyone. Appointments can be arranged with Order of St. Luke prayer ministers at St. John's by calling the office, or healing prayer is available during most worship services, and people can make appointments with Christian Healing Center. All free of charge! Isn't this amazing?

To learn more about Christian Healing Center, you are invited to call Mike Johnson at 239 272 5580 or go to the website www.chcnaples.org.

God bless you,

Mike Johnson

Stitches of Love

Our busy Stitches group has received fourteen thank-you notes in response to one of our projects which went to a kindergarten class in Dallas, TX. Written in pencil and complete with drawings, here are just two samples: "Dear



Stitches, Thank you for the seat cover. I like purple." from Isaiah and.. "Dear Stitches, Thank you for the seat cover. I like mi cool seat cover." from Jayden.




These simple sacks, which were made from donated fabrics, are hung on the back of each youngster's chair to store books, crayons, and other supplies, helping to keep the tables clear and ready for the next learning event.

Stitches is not meeting for the summer, but will resume as members return, probably in late October or November.

Bonnie Schlichting



Volunteers are needed for the following positions at St. John's:

-  Ushers for 5pm Service
-  Readers for 5pm Service
-  Columbarium Management

Also searching for a cook (compensated position) for an elderly woman who used to be a member of St. John's. Nightly vegetarian dinners.

Please contact Ann at the Parish Office at (239) 261-2355 to volunteer or for more information.



Join us for the 2018 Sunset Beach Picnic

Saturday (6/16) from 6:30 – 8:30pm at Moorings Beach Private Park. 2101 Gulf Shore Blvd. N.

The deadline for your \$5 reservation is Wednesday (6/6)

Sign up by calling the office at (239) 261-2355

The Garden of St. Francis

The Garden of St. Francis is a beautiful part of St. John's set apart for animal cremains. Statues of St. Francis and different animals adorn this area behind Sugden Hall, offering a place to remember your pet. If interested, please contact the office for further details and an application. We give thanks to God for the gift of beloved animals!



More Than Just a Birthday Afghan

This past May my daughter Sarah and her new beau were with us for Mother's Day. In the week before their arrival, I started to think about my journey with her the last six or seven years.

In the summer of 2011, I decided to knit an afghan for Sarah to celebrate her November birthday. She had just returned from 3 years working in advertising in Paris and successfully completing a Master's degree in Conflict Resolution at American University at night. The subject of her thesis was the role of the French train system in Paris in transporting 76,000 Jews to the death camps in 1942.

Sarah returned to the United States that summer with a renewed sense of purpose and energy. Now her goal was to earn a PhD in Conflict Resolution at George Mason University in Arlington, Virginia. She would leave a lucrative job in advertising, take PhD courses, and apply for spring acceptance.

Once I finished knitting the birthday afghan, Paul and I decided to bring it to Father Joe and ask him to bless the afghan before sending it to Sarah in Virginia. "No," said Father Joe, "we must bless this afghan during a church service with the congregation present. It will be more powerful this way." I protested, but we did as he had suggested and wrote a short prayer which we attached to the afghan with a colorful ribbon. At the next church service, we placed the afghan in the first pew as Father Joe had asked, and then I nervously disappeared to the back of the church.

When the time came for the blessing, Father Joe picked up my afghan, held it in his arms, read our prayer, and added his blessing. When the blessing concluded, I breathed a sigh of relief—it was over. Later in the service we headed up the aisle for communion. As I knelt at the communion rail my eyes looked up to the altar. To my surprise, there was my afghan sitting prominently on the altar. I was overwhelmed and humbled—at that moment I knew that our daughter's future was in God's hands. And the shared support of the congregation held her up as well. I could feel the burden of my concerns leaving me, and I trusted that with God's help Sarah was on her way.

Sarah loved the afghan, the attached prayer, and the thought that our congregation was praying for her. She wrapped the afghan around her in quiet moments as she worked on her courses, wrote her dissertation, and speculated on her future. In the spring of 2012 she was accepted into the program with a full presidential scholarship and now has a PhD in Conflict Resolution. She's currently teaching at the University of Baltimore and loving every minute of it. It's heart-warming for me to watch God's gentle hand helping Sarah blossom and find her niche in this world. I'm comforted, knowing that prayers from St. John's and the blessed birthday afghan continue to support Sarah on her journey.

Betsy Eschholz

Happy Mother's Day!



From L to R: Betty Kirtley, Jan Hero, Madeleine Harvey

Madeleine Harvey, Jan Hero and Betty Kirtley serve up treats in style for Mother's Day (5/13/18)! Thank you for such "deliciousness" and blessing the Parish with your kindness on momma's day and thanks to all who serve as Coffee Hour Hosts throughout the year.



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 am - 5pm

After Hours Emergency:

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E-mail: Clergy@stjohnsnaples.com

Asst. Rector: The Rev. Christian Maxfield

Email: Clergy2@stjohnsnaples.com

Secretary: Ann Witmer

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Diocese: www.episcopalswfl.org

St. John's Archivist: Colleen Spangler

Intercessory Prayer Chain Requests:

Becky Jarrell: jarrelland@aol.com

2018 Vestry:

Sr. Warden: Donna Beecher

Jr. Warden: Roger Stiefel

Treasurer: Bob Matthews

Clerk to the Vestry: Ann Witmer

Members: Ruth Adams, Arlene Austin, Vickie Bauch, John Gualdoni, Skip Ruch, Richard Uihlein, Jack Wert.

St. John's Shoppe for Upscale Thrift

Tamiami Square

14700 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, FL

Phone: 239-597-9518

Hours: Mon-Sat. 10am-5pm

Website: www.stjohnsshoppe.com

Shoppe Board of Directors:

Chairperson: Pat Costa

Vice-Chairperson: Margo Ziolo

Secretary: Carol Viehe

Treasurer: Barbara Bongard

Volunteer Recruiting: Mary Lou Boone

Vestry/Outreach Liaison: John Gualdoni

Outreach: Betsy Dyke

Major Events: Margo Ziolo

Manager: Sharon Marceau

Assistant Manager: James Meehan

Marketing: Faye Bruso

New Members:

Jeff & Joan Hagopian; Dale & Joan McCarthy; James & Fran McGlothlin.

Deaths: Robert Holt – 05/29/18



Parish People

2018 News Article Deadlines

Publication	Month of Publication	Deadline: Friday (3rd Fri/mo)
Enews	July	6/15/2018

PARISHLIFE

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