

PARISHLIFE

The Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church

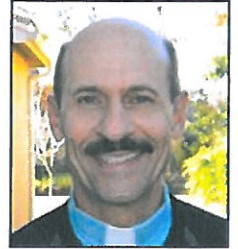


LET  
YOUR LIGHT  
*Shine* BEFORE MEN  
that they may see your  
GOOD  
WORKS  
& Glorify your Father  
who is in  
*Heaven*  
MATTHEW 5:16



# The Power of a Story

Dr. Paul Brand was speaking to a medical college in India on “Let your light shine before men that they may behold your good works and glorify your Father.” In front of the lectern was an oil lamp with its cotton wick burning from the shallow dish of oil. As he preached, the lamp ran out of oil, the wick burned dry, and the smoke made him cough. He immediately used the opportunity. “Some of us here are like this wick. We’re trying to shine for the glory of God, but we stink. That’s what happens when we use the fuel of ourselves for our witness rather than the Holy Spirit. Wicks can last indefinitely, burning brightly and without irritating smoke, if the fuel of the Holy Spirit is in constant supply.”



I’m grateful for Dr. Brand’s story and inspired illustration of the oil lamp. We are called to let the light of God’s love shine forth from us, empowered by the Holy Spirit, that people would be forever touched and glorify God. One of the ways our light touches others is by sharing with them the difference our Lord has made in our lives. We can do this through our actions, praying for them or sharing our experience of Jesus.

I don’t know about you, but I love to hear people’s testimony of how God has moved in their lives. These stories are often inspiring, insightful and deeply moving. Some of the most significant progress on my spiritual journey has come after hearing someone’s tale of temptation, illness or last chance and how God delivered them.

## **God uses sacred stories to bring us closer to Him & one another**

I’m excited to share with you that “The Hope that is in Us”, a collection of people’s testimonies from St. John’s and other, is going to print. This inspiring work is full of hope. I’ll let you know when it’s available for purchase and trust many of you will buy one for yourselves and others.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to the story tellers who will inspire us, Connie Pinckney and Colleen Spangler for their hard work to make this dream a reality, and Ann Witmer for making individual stories available at

[www.stjohnsnaples.com](http://www.stjohnsnaples.com) under “Inspirations.”

**Celebrating God’s Story in Your Life!**



Please enjoy Chapter 16 from 'The Hope that is in Us'

## A FORCEFUL PRESENCE

*"And suddenly there came a sound  
from heaven,  
as of a rushing mighty wind . . ."  
Acts 2:2 (KJV)*

Six weeks before my twentieth birthday, I was getting married.

It was the time in young girls' lives when we'd all graduated and gotten jobs. The next step was getting married. I looked forward to being a wife very much, and was determined to go through with the wedding even after my fiancé's aunt and uncle warned me that it was not a good idea. "Are you sure you should go through with this?" they asked in concern.

As the wedding day approached, my excitement grew. When the day dawned, it was bright and sunny. "You know you don't have to do this, don't you?" my mother said before we went into the church. Maybe I did, but I wasn't backing out.

Right before the ceremony, my dad walked me in the back door of the church. To get to the altar, we had to make a right-hand turn.

When I made that right-hand turn, a forceful wind pushed me back. I knew immediately it was the Holy Spirit, but I wanted so desperately to be married, I tried to convince myself everything would turn out well.

"I can make it work," I repeated to myself as Dad and I made our way down the aisle. I remember little of the wedding ceremony except my debate with the Holy Spirit.

"I can do this," I reasoned. "Just give me a chance. I can, I'll show you. I can, I'll prove it!"

Through all my protestations, the Holy Spirit never wavered. It remained right up in my face.

Nonetheless, I went through with the wedding, and needless to say, the marriage did not work. That made me sad because I thought I would be excommunicated from the church. (I wasn't!)

Years later, when my mother and I discussed my early marriage, I finally told her about being pushed back by a forceful wind.

"I felt it, too," she said in awe. "It took my breath away!"



Joan McCarthy

### Healing & Miracle Services with Joan Hunter

God has called you to take His healing power beyond the 4 walls of the church to the 4 corners of the earth. Joan Hunter Ministries can equip you to do just that!

We will show you the words to say, the words to pray and help you develop the confidence to step out and share Jesus everywhere you go!



August 2 - 4  
Fort Myers Christian Outreach Center  
Pastor Lynn Braco  
Fort Myers, FL

[JoanHunter.org](http://JoanHunter.org)



### Healing & Miracle Services with Joan Hunter

August 2 - 4  
Friday 7pm  
Saturday 10am & 6pm  
Sunday 10am

Fort Myers Christian Outreach Center  
Pastor Lynn Braco  
3500 Fowler St  
Fort Myers, FL 33901  
239-481-6262  
[fmcoc.com](http://fmcoc.com)



# News from the Vestry

Someone asked me recently to share what the Vestry has been doing. As you may or may not be aware, the minutes of the last month's Vestry meetings are posted on the bulletin board at the entrance to Sugden. Minutes of past meetings are filed in the parish office and available upon request. I and other members of the Vestry are always willing to answer your questions and to consider your concerns or suggestions.

A typical Vestry meeting includes the Rector's review of upcoming events; the Senior Warden's report; the Junior Warden's report; and the Treasurer's report regarding the status of investments and funds.

Recently, we:

- ✚ reviewed the results of the annual audit which included a "clean" report.
- ✚ reviewed a description of duties for a new part-time position of Youth Program Director, to coordinate Sunday School, youth and family ministries.
- ✚ reviewed the adequacy of security measures, considered recommendations by the Naples Police Department, and approved the installation of additional security cameras and the locking of select entrances during worship services.
- ✚ committed to personally contacting and welcoming new members.
- ✚ approved the installation of new air-conditioning equipment and the exterior painting of the campus buildings.
- ✚ monitored the progress in upgrading the parish website, including the livestreaming of Sunday services and the inclusion of inspirational testimonies.
- ✚ began engaging with a newly established committee to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. John's Parish in the spring of 2020.
- ✚ weighed the adequacy of the parish's insurance coverage for liability and property damage.

- ✚ decided to renew the lease on the property at 14700 Tamiami Trail N for an additional 5 years per the recommendation of the Thrift Shoppe Board.

This last decision was particularly noteworthy because it involved, not only the Vestry but, the Finance Committee, the Thrift Shoppe Board and the Outreach Committee.

The current lease expires on October 1, 2019, and requires 90 days advance notice to terminate. The net proceeds from the Thrift Shoppe support outreach grants to local charities, as vetted and recommended by the Outreach Committee. In recent years the Finance Committee and the Vestry have noted that, despite the amazing work and dedication of the Thrift Shoppe volunteers and staff, the net proceeds are trending downward. At present, the Thrift Shoppe proceeds supply roughly half the total amount of the outreach grants: \$60,000 out of \$120,000. Fortunately, generous parishioners have increased their financial giving, enabling St. John's to sustain its uncommonly high level of community outreach.

After much discussion, the Vestry decided to renew the lease for an additional 5 years. We recognize that rent and other expenses will undoubtedly continue to rise over time and revenues may fail to keep up. The Finance Committee and Vestry will continue to monitor these trends. We will encourage the Thrift Shoppe Board to explore new fundraising ideas, as well as fresh marketing ideas to compete with an ever-growing thrift and consignment economy in the Naples area.

The Vestry will do everything in our power to support the ongoing operations of the Thrift Shoppe. However, we foresee a time when a future Vestry may have little choice but to re-evaluate the thrift store business model.



Donna Beecher  
Sr. Warden

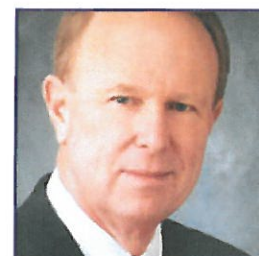


# TREASURER'S REPORT

We have completed the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2019, and our financial statements reflect great strength in terms of our liquidity, asset value, and operating performance. Our assets include more than \$3.8 million in cash and investment securities, distributed in our designated, restricted, and undesignated/unrestricted accounts. We are debt free. The value of our buildings, improvements, and contents, has been recently reappraised by our property insurance carrier at \$4.2 million, and we have raised our insurance coverage to reflect this increase in value. We are also seeking FEMA flood insurance we do not currently have to protect us from potential costs resulting from a hurricane surge if we were to experience such an event.

Our Net Revenues (revenues less expenses) for the 1<sup>st</sup> six months amount to \$194 thousand...\$42 thousand ahead of the prior year's six months results. We were particularly blessed with a single, non-pledged gift of \$100,000. Our Operating Expenses are also up by \$51 thousand, but this includes major maintenance costs of about \$61 thousand for campus painting, air conditioning repair/replacement, and roof repair. We expect seasonal net losses in the coming Summer and early Fall months, consistent with prior years. However, we have every reason to expect that our Net Revenues will exceed budget for the 12 months of 2019.

On a final note, we are thankful for Clay Jones' service as Stewardship Chairman for the past two years, and we are grateful that Stan Lane has accepted this role for the coming year.



Bob Matthews



## Seeking Donations

Stitches is not presently meeting, as most of our members are enjoying probably cooler weather somewhere north of South Florida. Meetings will resume in fall with the return of our stitching snowbirds!

However, Stitches is always interested in receiving both stashes of cotton fabrics as well as remnants of fabrics from completed upholstery, slipcover, and other home projects. If Stitches cannot use these donations, we will pass them on to other non-profits. We are also seeking ribbons, zippers, large (1" diameter) buttons, and other notions which will be used in making Fidget Cloths, our newest Stitches project. We are also looking for objects which might come from a workbench...washers and similar objects which can be attached to a Fidget Cloth and which also might capture the interest of people suffering from Alzheimers and dementia.

As always, we welcome new members, and there is no knitting or sewing skill required! For more information, contact Bonnie Schlichting at 239-430-9766 or [bonnieschlich@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieschlich@gmail.com).



Bonnie Schlichting



## ST. JOHN'S THRIFT SHOPPE STAYS OPEN WHEN IT RAINS OR GET'S HOT



*Do you stay indoors during the hot and raining weather?*



*If you stay indoors, find something to do. Start gathering all of your household items, clothing, books, jewelry, home accessories, shoes, art, purses, and hats. If you have not used them in a long time, now is the time to transfer them out of your home and donate them to St. John's Thrift Shoppe.*

*Do you have furniture that is gathering dust? Call the Shoppe, talk to our manager, and we will pick up your furniture free. Ask your neighbors if they have anything to donate to us. Know someone that is moving, leaving the area, getting rid of old furniture for new, let them know about St. John's Shoppe.*

**Remember 100% of net sales from your donations go to local charities.**

**Check our website and Facebook page.**

**[www.Stjohnsshoppe.com](http://www.Stjohnsshoppe.com)**

**Do you have time on your hands? Join our team of wonderful volunteers.**

**Call us for free furniture pick-up at 239-597-9518.**

**We accept donations between Mon. – Sat. 10 AM - 3 PM.**

**We are part of "The Outreach Ministry of St. John's Episcopal Church, Naples, FL."**

**St. John's Thrift Shoppe**

**14700 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, FL 34110.**

**Open Mon. – Sat. 10 AM – 5 PM**

Faye Bruso  
Member Board of Directors  
St. John's Shoppe



### **New Members:**

Jamie, Emma and Erica Schofield. James & Shelley Payer.

### **Parishioner Deaths:**

Sara Iredell (05.19.2019); Richard Berry (07.15.19).

**Transfer Out:** Joyce Gainor.

**Baptism:** Erica Grace Schofield (07.20.2019) – Age 3



*Did you know that the flowers that adorn the altar during service are re-purposed after the weekend? It's true! We love to surprise some of our ill parishioners or maybe birthday members or anniversary couples with a fresh arrangement.*

*If YOU know of someone you would like to share flowers with as well, please contact Becky Jarrell (239-250-5042) or the Parish Office by Monday morning if you take a vase of flowers after the last Sunday service.*







Monday, July 15, 2019, Daphne/SsizzZ went clowning at NCH Baker Hospital. She was wheeled in a wheelchair by two fellow clowns, BubblesSs and Ukelili.



The program of 'Clowns on Rounds' at NCH Hospitals begun by Daphne is now more than 20 years old and she has trained more than 130 clowns in the discipline of hospital clowning. Clowns begin their training as 'Performing Artists' learning makeup and costuming along with hospital procedures and first becoming Hospital Volunteers. Several St. John's parishioners have gone through the training as well as one of Father Joe's daughters.



Daphne Pfaff



## "The Body Is Designed To Heal"

We will soon be hearing about flu season in all forms of media. Learn about Truth and Myths. Grab your coffee and join us for a "Health Talk".

Speaker: Dr. Joel Bohemier  
D.C.

**When: Sunday, August  
25th 11:30 a.m. in Sugden  
Hall.**



Dr. Bohemier will share healthy ways to boost your immune system and be prepared for the season.

You will be armed with researched material and data to help you make an educated choice as to what is best for you.

Dr. Bohemier is originally from Canada. He has a thriving clinic in Naples and has trained many physicians from all over the country sharing his expertise and knowledge. He is a father of two and a devout follower of Christ. He firmly believes in honoring the temple/the body Christ gave us by taking care of it in every healthy way possible. He will educate about vaccinations backed by research and the things to be aware of while offering tips on natural ways to strengthen your bodies amazing ability to heal and stay well. Handouts with research and data will be provided. Q&A will follow the 45-minute talk.

Dr. Bohemier is extremely knowledgeable and also realizes this may be a controversial subject for some depending on where their previous information and learning came from. His passion is to share factual information so others can make their own educated decisions while learning the difference between health care and sick care.

Margie Rysner



*I share "This Old House" and trust it will bless you as it did me! Fr. Joe.*

## This Old House

by Pam Ford Davis

As children our surroundings seem so big, "bigger than life." Things tower above us. My memories hold many of those shadowy giants. Each time I have the opportunity to return to my old neighborhood, it's such a revelation, to see how small the community really is, how small many of the houses are, and how small our yard was!

Up at the head of the road we lived on, stood a big old house, a very special old house. It was the home place of my Dad, his parents, and his older brothers. Dad grew up there, when it was a working farm. He told me stories of Grandma fixing big meals for them and the hired hands, who I am sure, must have been very grateful for the delicious home cooked foods. In my earliest memories the house was then home for Grandma and Grandpa. Shortly after they moved from there to live with my aunt and uncle in a smaller house on the corner.

The old house had very large rooms, both upstairs and down, and wonderful porches. Downstairs there was an open porch all around the front, which also wrapped around one side of the house. Upstairs there was a big screened sun porch.

If this were the end of my attraction to this big house it would still be special; but the story continues. My best friend while growing up, then made the old house her home on a couple of occasions. Her family owned the local gas station; and she lived in a smaller home at the side of the service station, when they did not reside in the big house.

The years she spent in the big house were exciting as we would play in the large closets, and sleep on the sun porch during hot summer nights. Outside it even had an old hen house,

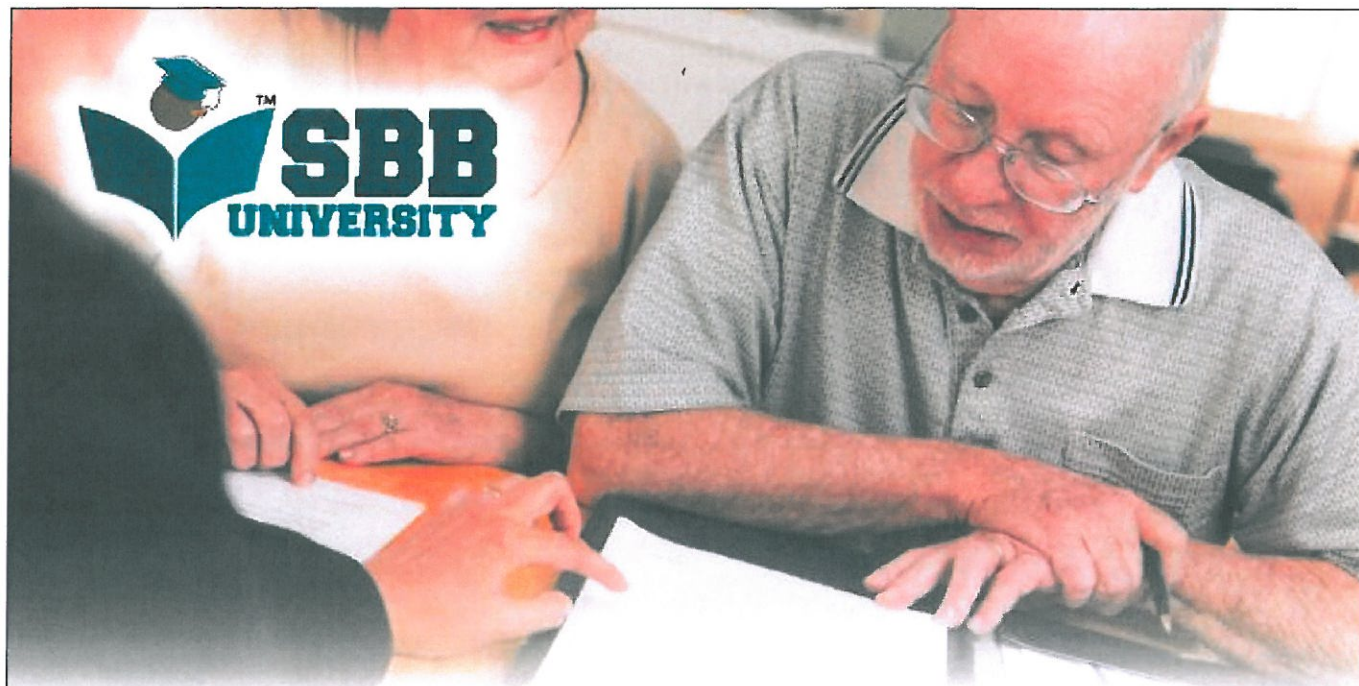
fixed up to be a playhouse for her! So, once again the house was a part of me. I could walk the long upstairs hallway, or descend the stairs...It was almost like it was still "in the family."

Years passed and the old home place was turned into an apartment house. I would visit the newest occupants, in this strangely familiar setting. It had new trappings, a "face lift"; but under the new paint and paneling, there stood that same old home place. I married and moved out of the state. I returned to visit my parents and got to enter the warmth of that old house again. My younger sister had married, and now lived there in one of the apartments with her husband and little boy. So, again my feet walked the floors of this historic house.

My latest update on the big old house brings sadness. On vacation last summer we drove through my "old stomping ground." When we saw the house it almost took my breath away. It had some kind of signs that implied it was ready for destruction. It looked very much like homes all across America, neglected, run down, and no longer safe. So, the next time I drive through that area I am prepared to see a vacant lot, or maybe a newly constructed house. Things change and people change, but they can't take away my memories!

We have all heard the expression, "If those walls could talk..." I wonder what I may have heard from that old house? Maybe stories of My Dads' childhood pranks and laughter, or maybe secrets of two school girl chums! With God all things are possible!





**Death and Taxes -**  
*Having The Uncomfortable Conversations*  
**Thursday, August 22nd 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

**AVOW Hospice, Waterview Room**  
**1223 Whippoorwill Ln, Naples, FL 34105**



**Event is FREE but RSVP is required call 239-776-7353 to reserve your seat today!**

Benjamin Franklin said it best with this famous quote "In this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes". Although the topic may be an uncomfortable one, it is one that needs to be addressed. Join SBB University and our panel of experts as we discuss the documents that you need to have in place, best tax practices while you are alive, pre-planning your funeral arrangements, as well as hospice care and bereavement counseling.

*Panelist to include:*

- **The Law Office of Jeffery Janeiro,** Jeffery Janeiro
- **AVOW Hospice,** Marge Peters BHA, RN
- **Modern Woodmen of America,** Leonard Cannova
- **Gendron Funeral and Cremation,** Michael P. Gendron
- **Green Palms Health and Wellness Clinic,** Dr. Paul Weisman



**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:**

Rector 239-216-2333

**Rector:** The Rev. Joseph F. Maiocco III

**E-mail:** Clergy@stjohnsnaples.com

**Secretary:** Ann Witmer

**E-mail:** ParishSecretary@stjohnsnaples.com

**Treasurer:** Bob Matthews

**Email:** Treasurer@stjohnsnaples.com

**Music Director:** Glenn Saffran

**Email:** MusicDirector@stjohnsnaples.com

**ParishLife Editor:** Ann Witmer

**E-Mail:** 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 Librarian:** Colleen Spangler

**Intercessory Prayer Chain Requests:**

Becky Jarrell: [jarrelland@aol.com](mailto:jarrelland@aol.com)



**PARISHLIFE**

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

*Thank you, Lord, for current resident or*

**2019 Vestry:**

**Sr. Warden:** Donna Beecher

**Jr. Warden:** Roger Stiefel

**Treasurer:** Bob Matthews

**Clerk to the Vestry:** Ann Witmer

**Members:** Arlene Austin, Brent Guillot, Tish Gullo, Skip Ruch, Mary Tilney, 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](http://www.stjohnsshoppe.com)

**Shoppe Board of Directors:**

**Chairperson:** Margo Ziolo

**Vice-Chairperson:** Carol Viehe

**Secretary:** Carol Viehe

**Treasurer:** Ricki Soule

**Marketing:** Faye Bruso

**Volunteer Recruiting:** Mary Lou Boone

**Outreach:** Betsy Dyke

**Major Events:** Margo Ziolo & Faye Bruso

**St. Shoppe Manager:** Sharon Marceau

**Assistant Managers:** Donna Bartuccio & James Meehan

**2019 News Article Deadlines**

Publication	Month of Publication	Deadline: Friday (3rd Fri/mo)
Enews	September	8/16/2019
ParishLife	October	9/20/2019
Enews	November	10/18/2019
ParishLife	December	11/15/2019

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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