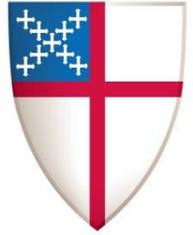


St. John's Episcopal Church and Day School

Alamogordo, New Mexico

- Our Mission is to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel
and to seek and serve Christ in all people -



2019 - August Newsletter

From The Rev. Michael Drinkwater, Rector

There is something I want you to know about me: I am a pastor and teacher that has been formed by the prayer life of the Episcopal Church. I have always been drawn to the ministry of teaching and I am very much looking forward to my first Christian Education series at St. John's, which (fittingly) is the Gospel of St. John our patron. My first birthday in my relationship with Sarah, she reached out to a friend of mine from seminary about what to get me and he suggested two books, which I opened expectantly on my birthday: Bible Commentaries on the Book of Genesis and the Gospel of John. My friend helped her to understand the meaning: both of these books start with the words "in the beginning". As such, he thought it was a fitting gift for my first birthday at the beginning of our relationship.

As I break open the text once again (I did a study of John at the Cathedral) to do my first study with you all as a parish, I am struck by the significance of this new beginning and I hope to have the joy of getting to know many of you within the context of that formation hour beginning on August 18.

For those of you not drawn to teaching, I would like to invite you to get to know me in a different way. I understand that different pastors have different approaches to pastoral care. Mine has always been one of availability. I want to know each and every one of you better: whether that means a phone call, a house call, or a coffee appointment. I want to know your joys and your struggles. I want to hear your story. So please know that each of you has an open invitation to reach out to me in the way in which you are most comfortable.

I would also like to extend an invitation to join me for morning prayer at the church, which I read every morning that I am in the office (Monday through Thursday) at 830. If you prefer something less formal, each of you is also invited to participate in Lattes with the Padre at the coffee shop at Lowe's across the street on Wednesdays from 10-11.

So there you have it, there are opportunities to participate with me as a teacher, pastor, and Priest. I sincerely hope that you will take me up on them as you are able and on your own terms. It is a pleasure to continue to serve you as your Priest and Pastor here at St. John's. Blessings from...

Your Brother in Christ,

The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

Diocese of the Rio Grande

*The Rt. Rev. Michael Buerkel Hunn,
Bishop*

St. John's Rector:

The Rev. Michael Drinkwater

St. John's Deacon:

The Rev. Aileen Walther

Day School Director:

Christine Duncan

Day School Business Director:

Karla Warren

Organist:

Connie Broughton

Violinist:

Tom Lubenau

Parish Administrator:

The Rev. Deacon Aileen Walther

Our Vestry

Senior Warden:

Randy Burroughs

Junior Warden:

Ann Bagby

Treasurer:

Available

Yvonne Perkins, Susan Schultz,

Roy Benavides, Kim Buie

Ministry Contacts

Altar Guild:

Jane Bedwell

Community Kitchen:

Bill Henchar

Eucharist Ministers:

The Rev. Michael Drinkwater

Lectors:

The Rev. Michael Drinkwater

Mission and Outreach:

Available

Senior Warden's Report

Your vestry has been busy these last months. Changes in the composition of the vestry include two new members - Roy Benavides and Kim Buie. We also have a new President and CEO, but I will touch on that in just a minute. Leaving the vestry were Louise Elliott and Bryan Harris. Thanks to Louise and Bryan for their efforts on behalf of St John's. The vestry members are Ann Bagby, Yvonne Perkins, Susan Schultz, Roy Benavides, Kim Buie and Randy Burroughs.

Highlights:

1. The ADA bathrooms were contracted for and constructed. Ann Bagby has been the driving force on this effort. Funding came from a bequest by the Colvin Agnew family and also funds from church accounts.
2. The state enacted new regulations on the delivery of food services. We really worked on this one. The Community Kitchen is such an important part of our mission and we explored lots of options on how we would comply with state requirements to keep the kitchen going. Bill Henchar stepped up and said he would be the food manager. Bill was employed and is doing just fine.
3. A blessed and special task was the calling of Father Michael P. Drinkwater as Rector. The vestry stepped out in faith to meet the monetary adjustments in this calling. Father Michael said yes and now this parish and Father Michael are building a new and exciting St John's. We are already blessed to have Michael as our Rector. Under our structure the Rector serves as President of the vestry and is the Chief Executive Officer.
4. The vestry and members of the church stepped up and prepared new offices for the church. There is a new administrative office and an office for the Rector (still under construction). Special thanks to Steve and Nikki Van Vliet for their efforts.

The vestry is involved on a continuing basis with other needs of St John's. These include stewardship, audit committee, Day School, repairs, insurance, budget adjustments and Diocesan contacts. I look at the vestry in its many secular and spiritual activities and am proud to be the senior warden of this group of fine people. We work for the love we have for our Christian faith, our church and the community of St John's. While doing the day to day work to keep St John's viable, the vestry also joins together in prayer and worship for our church, today and tomorrow.

Randy Burroughs Senior Warden

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St. John's Day School

Summer Wrap Up

We had a great summer. We kept busy with Tropical Sno, water days, arts and crafts and a lot of playing!

This summer our shade structure over the new play structure was installed.

We also had green grass this year thanks to our new sprinkler system!

We are looking forward to the new school year and all the new and returning students.



St John's Community Kitchen

There would be no Community Kitchen without volunteers, which are the lifeline of this ministry. Our goal is to feed the truly needy people in our community. St John's relies on the generosity of volunteers to help prepare and serve meals. If you feel that you would like to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor, and enjoy fellowship with some fine folks, please join us. St John's serves on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

A special thank you to Susan Schultz and Clark Magruder who are always willing to help.

Bill Henchar

St. John's Episcopal Church, Alamogordo, New Mexico
Vestry Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2019

Those present:

The Rev. Michael Drinkwater, Randy Burroughs, Ann Bagby, Susan Schultz, Yvonne Perkins, Roy Benavides

- Opening Prayers were shared with the members present.
- Approval of May Minutes –
 - May minutes were distributed. Randy apologized for numbers not matching exactly with Vestry agenda from May.
 - Michael moved to accept – Ann seconded – passed unanimously without discussion.
- Ratification of Appointment of New Member – Roy Benavides
 - Randy moved to accept – Ann seconded – passed unanimously without discussion.
- Rector's report
 - Michael discussed the interview with Nancy that will be published in *Together*. Michael and Sarah came for who St. John's is now, not who St. John's could be. Michael proposed that part of our calling is to be good stewards of the building and grounds we have been handed. Michael shared that he felt that the Day school and community kitchen are mission priorities.
 - Randy moved to accept – Ann Seconded – Passed unanimously
- Senior Warden's report
 - Randy offered temporarily assume treasurer duties until we find a replacement. Roy offered to assist. Randy agreed to put reports together for our next meeting to go over the budget. Randy agreed to investigate and implement night deposit. Michael will have something to present to the next vestry meeting from his conversation with Chuck.
 - Michael moved to accept – Roy seconded – passed unanimously
- Junior Warden's report
 - Planned giving materials were distributed from the Diocese. Ann reported that there was a small issue with the bathrooms that was quickly resolved.
 - Randy moved approval – Roy seconded – passed unanimously.

Ann commended Susan and Tim on much of their work for the beautification of the church.
- Financial report was moved to June due to miscommunication and transition in the treasurer's position.
- Old Business
 - The Open Vestry Position was discussed with possible names to fill that position. Yvonne reported on any needs for the upcoming yard sale. Revisions to the security protocols currently in place were discussed.
- New Business
 - Michael asked permission to explore the possibility of expanding the Day school to the south wing. Ann brought up the possibility of running a shelter out of the space. Roy mentioned downstairs. Michael asked permission to explore the possibility of changing to church insurance. Ann discussed the possibility of hosting a Diocesan women's retreat on August 10. Roy brought up the possibility of doing ministry with different groups in Alamogordo: the college, the base.
- The Vestry meeting was adjourned with prayer

August 2019 Scripture Readings and Serving Schedule

Aug. 4 Sunday Proper 13

Scripture:

Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 12-14, 2: 18-23

Colossians 3: 1-11

Luke 12:13-21

Psalm 49: 1-11

8:00 a.m.

Lector: L Fink

Prayers: S Kelman

Eucharistic Minister: Dc. A Walther

10:15 a.m.

Greeters: Y Perkins, D Bredy

Lector: D Bredy

Prayers: Dc. A Walther

Eucharistic Minister: Y Perkins

Acolytes: TBA

Altar Guild: L Elliott

Coffee:

Candles: available

Aug. 11 Proper 14

Scripture:

Genesis 15: 1-6

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

Luke 12: 32-40

Psalm 33:12-22

8:00 a.m.

Lector: R Burroughs

Prayers: J Bedwell

Eucharistic Minister: N Gregory

10:15 a.m.

Greeters: D Bredy, B Woltz

Lector: S. Van Vliet

Prayers: Dc A. Walther

Eucharistic Minister: S. Van Vliet

Acolytes: S. Van Vliet

Altar Guild: J Bedwell

Coffee: open

Candles: available

Aug. 18 Proper 15

Scripture:

Jeremiah 23: 23-29

Hebrews 11: 29-12:2

Luke 12: 49-56

Psalm 82

8:00 a.m.

Lector: J Shipe

Prayers: S Kelman

Eucharistic Minister: N Gregory

10:15 a.m.

Greeters: D Bredy B Woltz

Lector: D Bredy

Prayers: Dc A Walther

Eucharistic Minister: Y Perkins

Acolytes: TBA

Altar Guild: Henchars

Coffee: open

Candles: available

Aug. 25 Proper 16

Scripture:

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Hebrews 12: 18-29

Luke 13: 10-17

Psalm 103:1-8

8:00 a.m.

Lector: N Gregory

Prayers: J Bedwell

Eucharistic Minister: Dc A Walther

10:15 a.m.

Greeters: D Bredy B Woltz

Lector: Y Perkins

Prayers: Dc. A Walther

Eucharistic Minister: Dc. A. Walther

Acolytes: TBA

Altar Guild: J Bedwell

Coffee: open

Candles: available

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John's Community Kitchen served 460 meals during the month of July

Please see the calendar on the last page of the newsletter for this month's meal serving schedule.

Diocesan Newsletter

Click on the link below to read the current issue of *TOGETHER* online:

<https://www.dioceserg.org/NewsEventsMinistries/together-newspaper>

Diocesan Weekly E-newsletter

Click on the link below to read issues of *In the Loop* online:

<https://www.dioceserg.org/NewsEventsMinistries/in-the-loop>

Women of the DRG

For news about Women in the Diocese of the Rio Grande please visit:

<http://varietiesofgifts.blogspot.com/>

Bishop's Ridge: Stoney Camp & Recreation Center

For information about Camp Stoney and recreational or retreat opportunities please visit: <http://www.bishopsridge.org/>

St., John's Luncheon

The monthly St. John's luncheon will be Friday, Aug. 9th, at 11:45 am at Carinos.

Adult Christian Formation

New Formation Offering in August – The Gospel of John

On August 18, please join us for a new formation offering between the first and second service. We will be covering the Gospel of John. Please come, whether you have some experience with Bible Study or none at all. This is one of Father Michael's favorite books of the Bible and it is the work of our patron, St. John. The study is planned to last 8 weeks. Bring your bible, the more translations we have the better.

Brotherhood of St. Andrew Bible Seminar

The Brotherhood is a group of men who engage in the study of scripture and service. We currently meet each Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. for a Bible seminar in the Gerald Champion Regional Medical Center cafeteria. All men and women from the community with an interest in the study of scripture are invited to attend.

Additionally, the men of the Brotherhood meet each first and third Saturday at 9:00 a.m. BEFORE the Bible seminar.

For more information please contact Clark Magruder at two.blackstones2@gmail.com.

Latte with the Padre

Join the group for coffee and conversation, “Latte with the Padre”, Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. at Plateau Espresso in Lowe’s Signature Grocery. We have an open discussion on topics of general interest, so please come and join us!

Greeting Card Ministry

Care that is felt, and then expressed brings strength to the soul. It is a tangible way to show we care for each other. Few things can light up a face like the arrival of a greeting card. It allows us to convey our heartfelt emotions. It creates a doorway into someone’s heart.

Please take a moment and email me, Sharon Kelman at ke4zia@gmail.com to join our birthday list. I only need your birth month and day (NO YEARS). Also, please send me your wedding anniversary date so we can help you celebrate.

If you know of anyone that would benefit from one of our cards, (get well, congratulations, thinking of you, etc.) please send me their name and address. Thank you and God Bless!

Women’s Prayer and Support Group

Our prayer and support group is continuing a hiatus during August, but will resume in September. There are many prayer needs in the parish (and elsewhere), and I know much prayer is going heavenward.

Dc. Aileen

Birthdays and Anniversaries in August

We have 9 birthdays this month! including: Harriet Lubenau and B. J. Sanders on the 1st, both Nikki and Steve Van Vliet on the 2nd, Darlene Major on the 4th, Roy Benavides on the 6th, Rick Bedwell on the 15th, Deanna Overstreet on the 17th, and Sarah Drinkwater on the 18th. Happy birthday to all.

Three couples will celebrate their anniversaries this month. They include Susan and Skip Morrison on the 2nd, Jane and Rick Morrison on the 6th, and Makayla and Alec Robinson on the 6th. Happy anniversary.

Space City Evening Sertoma

Sertoma meets every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Please call 437.8046 for more information or feel free to attend a meeting!

St. John’s Episcopal Church

1114 Indiana Avenue, Alamogordo

Sunday Services: 8:00am Rite I; 10:15am Rite II

Office Hours M-Th 9:00am – 1:00pm

Office Phone: 437.3891

Email: stjohnsalamo@tularosa.net Website: <http://www.stjohnsalamo.co>

From the Department of Great Ideas

Several folks at St. John's are working on a wonderful project that is bound to enhance our worship experiences. They intend to update and reprint a booklet that describes the symbols on the rood screen, also called the chancel screen, that's the wooden screen behind the altar. When the project is complete, we won't need to just stare and wonder, we'll know what we're looking at and why those images were used.

A few weeks ago, Rick Bedwell asked me if I'd be willing to take some photos of that screen. I said yes, but that my recent shoulder injury would delay me helping. He said OK. Then I learned that Tim Schultz, a regular at our 8 o'clock service, is a photographer and he was very eager to help. He did a super job of photographing each individual square plus the entire wall. Now we're ready to move forward with republishing the booklet. I believe Steve and Nikki Van Vliet will be handling that part, maybe with assists from Rick and Tim.

Along the way, Rick turned up some fascinating background on the screen and one of the images in particular. It is reprinted below:

The Chancel Screen of Saint John's Episcopal Church

The chancel screen was designed by the architect, Edwin French, of Roswell, New Mexico, who is a communicant of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church there. The various symbols were designed by John Miksovic, a communicant of this parish. They were executed by Mr. Richard C. Woodcock and several assistants, all communicants of this parish.

The screen seeks to tell a story beginning with the creation and extending to the last things.

The cross with a round disk at the junction of its limbs which recurs throughout the screen is termed a Cross Nowy. The cross is the symbol of Christianity and the circle wherever it is found is the symbol of eternity.

Over the Gospel (North or left) Door and Epistle (South or right) Door are panels depicting four winged figures. These represent the four Evangelists. The symbols of the four Evangelists may be traced back almost to the beginning of the Christian Era. These winged creatures are the four winged creatures mentioned in the first chapter of the Book of Ezekiel, in the Old testament, as well as in the fourth chapter of the Revelation of St. John the Divine, in the New Testament, namely the Winged Man, the Winged Lion, the Winged Calf or Ox, and the Winged Eagle.

The screen should be read from left to right. Two vertical rows of symbols form a panel and each panel is read downward from the top of the screen to the bottom.

Nancy Gregory

From the Very Reverend Laurie Benavides,

Dean of the Southwest Deanery

Most recently Deacon Laurie has been involved with the 3rd Annual South Central Mountain children and Youth Summit on July 30, 2019 entitled Growing Resilience in the First 25 Years of Life. Other news from the Southwest Deanery includes the:

November 2 10:00 AM Fall Deanery Meeting, St. Francis on the Hill/El Paso and

Fr. Wally LaLonde's 2019 Mission of Hope/Mustard Seed Babies' Home Mission Trip –
<http://drgswdeanery.com>

Please don't forget the ongoing Borderland Refugee Crisis supported by the Southwest Deanery and the items that are still urgency needed, which include:

Infant formula—bottles that are easy to use with disposable liners, baby blankets and bibs,

Diapers, Desitin (or other suitable rash ointment), infant and children's liquid Tylenol, diaper bags (new and used), Jarred baby food, age appropriate clothing for traveling, disposable wipers (containers and refill packets) and/or Walmart Gift Cards or cash that can be used to purchase these type of goods. For further information, please contact Deacon Aileen Walther.

August 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--------|---|--|--|--|--|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 Community Kitchen-54 MXS 5-6 pm | 2 | 3 BSA@GCRMC 9:00am Bible Seminar 10:00 am |
| 4 Proper 13 Discretionary Fund 8am HE Rite I 9amAdult Class 10:15am HE Rite II w/music | 5 | 6 Community Kitchen-49 th MDG 5-6 pm | 7 Latte-Lowe's 10am Sertoma 7pm | 8 Community Kitchen-St. Joseph's Mission 5-6 pm | 9 Church Lunch 11:45 am at Carinos. | 10 BSA@GCRMC Bible Seminar 10:00am |
| 11 Proper 14 8am HE Rite I 9amAdult Class 10:15am HE Rite II w/music Vestry Meeting 12:00 | 12 | 13 Community Kitchen-LRS&FSS Senior NCO 5-6 pm | 14 Latte-Lowe's 10am Sertoma 7pm | 15 Community Kitchen-Retired Teachers 5-6 pm | 16 | 17 BSA@GCRMC 9:00am Bible Seminar 10:00am |
| 18 Proper 15 8am HE Rite I 9amAdult Class 10:15am HE Rite II w/music | 19 | 20 Community Kitchen-Christ Community Church 5-6 pm | 21 Latte-Lowe's 10am Sertoma 7pm | 22 Community Kitchen-1 st Presbyterian 5-6 pm Day School | 23 | 24 BSA@GCRMC Bible Seminar 10:00am |
| 25 Proper 16 8am HE Rite I 9amAdult Class 10:15am HE Rite II w/music | 26 | 27 Community Kitchen-St. John's 5-6 pm | 28 Latte-Lowe's 10am Sertoma 7pm | 29 Community Kitchen-St. John's 5-6 pm | 30 | 31 BSA@GCRMC Bible Seminar 10:00am |

Notes: Parish Office Hours—9am-1 pm Monday-Thursday

