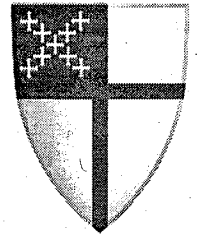


St. John's Episcopal Church and Day School



Alamogordo, New Mexico

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

2022 – June Newsletter

Greetings as we near ordinary time together!

It feels strange to say as we move out of the time of the church year dedicated to resurrection and renewal; but I am excited to share with you some new things going on at St. John's. I hope they will be exciting to you as well.

As many of you know, we are working in closer conjunction with our Day School this year than we have before, to the point that we are cooperating with regard to budget items that are important to both organizations: my position, the director's position, and now I have one more to share. As we near the end of a major transition at the Day School, it is our intention to add music enrichment to our offering to the students at the day school, our church family, and our wider community by creating one new position that will serve two functions: musician for the church and music educator at the school.

You will each have a chance to meet this new person as we finish the preparations; but this is a huge moment for music at St. John's. I know that music has been a challenge as we moved in and out of quarantine over the last two years; but I am thrilled at the prospect of bringing someone on to breathe new life into the music of our worship and our relationship with the community.

More information will be shared as details are worked out; but I hope that you will mark your calendar for the new musical offerings at St. John's, including a concert in a few weeks (details inside). Blessings from...

Your Brother in Christ,

The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater

The Senior Warden shares highlights of recent Vestry meetings

February 2022:

Fr Michael gave the Vestry a general overview of expectations and goals for the year ahead. Each person was asked to speak about their past experience. All our perspectives will be important. Big projects we will have for this year include, (1) helping the Day School move from transition to a future where the Day School and the Church work together; (2) working with a tenant who wants to move into our space. That tenant is Otero Hunger Coalition who are interested in moving into our space to use our commercial kitchen and deliver hot meals; and (3) being the Vestry and being aware of the financials.

Fr. Michael then directed our attention to the financials for January and explained how we have handled this review in the past. Last year we used the consent agenda process, and these sorts of documents were sent out about a week in advance with an agenda. Then at the meeting, they could be approved with one vote unless there were questions that needed discussion.

Fr. Michael began a more detailed discussion of the January financials. Noting that the \$100 expense under discretionary was assistance for a person needing help with utilities. The budget is conservative, it is our experience that congregational giving has been above what we budgeted.

Fr Michael introduced the topic of possibly partnering with our neighbors, Otero Arts Space, and th the Otero Native Plant Society in planning landscaping for our front yard. Fr Michael encouraged us to direct people who might be interested in landscaping ideas to him, so we can plan a landscape that conserves water and beautifies our front area.

March 2022:

Fr Michael has been looking at the budget for the Day School and he believes we now have enough information to set a price for services for the fall of 2022. He has noticed that the Day School fees have not been revised above \$115 per week for several years even though costs have gone up and salaries were not reflective of skills. Last September wages were raised to \$15 for entry level. This avoided high turnover. The grant the Day School received last year has enabled some further changes. It now includes 25% of Fr Michael's salary. Also, it has enabled Fr Michael to begin interviewing for a music ministry enrichment position at the Day School that would also include liturgical needs for the Church. Even with these changes, we can safely keep our weekly fees at \$165 to \$170. A revised policy may be established to set an ongoing increase in fees to reflect the COLA. This would help staff get the COLA too. Vestry members reacted to these ideas positively.

John made a report on the parish hall floor. His plan is to get together with the group next week to put down the new tiles.

The next item for discussion was to answer the Bishop's questions for our Covid response. Fr Michael said he believes the questions are designed to help us discuss our intention and to help us reach decisions that would reflect the needs of our congregation. Following the Vestry's discussion, Michael said he would draft a letter to the congregation and ask for our review.

April 2022

The Vestry meeting this month was a Workshop to get more acquainted with the financial documents that the Vestry has to review each month.

The Musicians of St. John's will be performing in a concert titled **"May You Always Have a Song"** on Sunday, June 12th at 2:30 p.m., presenting a variety of secular music from classics to Broadway with lots in between! Also featured will be a variety of combinations of voices and instruments. Our Musicians are Ann Bagby, Casey Evans, Hannah Draper Burnett, Helen Garrett, and Gabe Mauger. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall. We hope everyone will come and enjoy!

You will know Ann from the past 24 years she has been apart of the St. John's family and used her soprano voice in many services. Ann is a visual and performing artist originally from Nebraska. She majored in vocal music at Cottey College in Nevada, Missouri, then attended the Kansas City Art Institute, graduating in 1966 with a B.F.A. degree in Painting and Printmaking. She has exhibited and sold paintings in Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas and New Mexico. To supplement her artist's income, she has had a wide variety of other jobs through the years including many graphic design jobs. After 23 years in Kansas City and then 10 years back in Nebraska, she says she was then "pushed by a larger hand" to Alamogordo, where she has continued painting and advocating for arts issues and women's rights. And curiously and miraculously in Alamogordo she has had the pleasure of participating in many wonderful musical events, theater at NMSU-A, and art exhibits and made some special friendships with musical and artistic friends. When not working the vocal chords or the paint brush, she enjoys gardening/yard work, traveling, and is cared for by three cats.

Casey Evans, soprano II/alto and clarinetist, was born in California but grew up in Niceville, Florida. She is an officer in the United States Air Force. She has received a BS degree in Electrical Engineering, a SM in Technology and Policy from MIT, and SM in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from MIT. She played clarinet in her high school band, and has sung alto in church choirs and in the cadet chorale. She has played baritone horn in the Drum and Bugle Corps at the U.S. Air force Academy. She was Music Director for the MIT student led musical. She is currently stationed at Holloman Air Force Base, and fortunately for St. John's she sings in church as often as she can. Casey enjoys visits with her parents and her younger brother. She enjoys hiking. She says music at St. John's has been a highlight of her time here.

Our versatile Hannah Draper Burnett, Contralto, is from Kentucky, but has journeyed far beyond, collaborating with ensembles such as Te Deum (Kansas City), Cincinnati May Festival, Universitatis Schola Cantorum, Antiqua, Vocal Arts Ensemble, Lexington Chamber Chorale and the Kentucky Bach Society. Her special interest is in interpretation of Baroque vocal music. Her conducting and performance career has taken her throughout the United States as a featured choral clinician, adjudicator, conductor, and soloist. She has two master's degrees and has studied with several cutting-edge choral directors of the 21st century. She has held posts in music education spanning collegiate positions to preschool general music. Hannah's musical mission is to nurture all people to creatively express themselves through vocal music. Hannah and her husband came to Alamogordo to teach in the public schools. She says she came to St. John's looking for community, and found it!

St. John's is also benefiting from her husband's computer experience. In her spare time Hannah is apt to be reading, working on electronic music, playing video games, and studying languages.

Most everyone at St. John's knows our visiting pianist/organist Helen Garrett. Helen is a native New Mexican who grew up in Las Cruces. Her education eventually took her to Texas where in 1971 she earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Theory and a Master of Music degree in Music Theory and Composition in 1975, both from the University of Houston. She worked as Supervisor of the University of Houston Music Library from 1975 – 1983. Her professional performance experience includes Organist positions in Houston at Presbyterian Church of the Covenant; at the Keller United Methodist Church in Keller, Texas; and

at Meadowbrook Methodist Church in Fort Worth. She has worked as an Accompanist for the Keller Community Chorus, the Keller High School Choirs, and the Texas Girl's Choir.

After Helen and her husband moved from Texas to Alamogordo she was hired as Organist by Grace United Methodist Church until she retired the end of last year, although she is still asked to play. As a dedicated teacher and creative musician Helen often uses her composition talents to help her students and to expand the organ and piano repertoire. When not practicing she enjoys gardening, traveling, photography and exploring other visual arts media. Her cat Murgatroid keeps her company. When asked about her favorite musical experience, she answered:

"Making music was never more challenging or rewarding than when I agreed to direct a Music Mission Trip to Slovakia in 2008. On this venture, we combined a church choir from Texas with a Praise Band from Slovakia and toured that country, singing 17 times in 10 days. We picked up and dropped off band members and singers with regularity, re-arranging music for a new ensemble almost daily. We moved people and equipment across the country in buses, trains and vans. All of us felt the presence of God in profound and life-changing ways. I have been forever grateful for that experience."

Gabe Mauger, pianist, is preparing to graduate from NMSU in Las Cruces with a degree in computer science. Gabe is a talented and enthusiastic musician who composes music when he is not working on computers or helping St. John's broadcast services on Zoom and Facebook. We appreciate his willingness to play the piano at Sunday services, and we are eager to hear how Gabe's career will develop.

REMEMBER: Sunday June 12th at 2:30 pm.!

May You Always Have a Song!

Schedule of Sunday Readings

Date	Old Testament	Psalm	Epistle	Gospel
5-Jun	Genesis 11:1-9	Psalm 104:25-35, 37	Acts 2:1-21	John 14:8-17, (25-27)
12-Jun	Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31	Psalm 8	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
19-Jun	Isaiah 65:1-9	Psalm 22:18-27	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
26-Jun	1 Kings 19:15-16,19-21	Psalm 16	Galatians 5:1,13-25	Luke 9:51-62

Rota

Date	Sunday	Reader - 8:00	Reader - 10:15	Preacher	Altar Guild
5-Jun	Pentecost	Joyce Summers	Yvonne Perkins	The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater	Elliott
12-Jun	Trinity Sunday	John Shipe	Nancy Gregory	The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater	Kelman
19-Jun	Pentecost 2	Randy Burroughs	Hannah Draper Burr	The Rev. Michael Peter Drinkwater	Henchar
26-Jun	Pentecost 3	John Shipe	Nancy Gregory	The Rev. David-Luke Henton, BSG	Van Vliet

Community Kitchen Schedule

June 7	St. Joseph's
June 14	PPW
June 21	Christ Community Church
June 28	St. John's

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Blessing Bag Ministry

Blessing Bags contain **travel** size items (i.e. hand sanitizer, small note books, toothbrush, toothpaste, pens, pencils, shampoo, deodorant, granola bars, soap, tuna/cracker packs, underwear, socks etc). We place several of the items in a gallon storage bag and distribute them to those in need. Currently, we are working closely with COPE and local partners in addition to Rio Grande Borderland Ministries.

If you are interested in helping in this ministry, please contact Sharon Kelman at 757 718 9451 or email ke4zia@gmail.com. You may bring any items you purchase to the church and deposit them in the bag that is located in the Narthex any Sunday.

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 Parish Hall. All men and women from the community with an interest in the study of scripture are invited to attend.

Caring card ministry

I would like to thank everyone who has donated cards, stamps and stickers to this ministry. We would like to help you celebrate **ALL** occasions. So, if you haven't signed up on our birthday (we just need month and day-**NO YEARS**) and anniversary lists, please do so. If you know of someone who may enjoy receiving one of our cards, please let me know. The sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex. If you prefer, you may contact me directly: Sharon Kelman email: ke4zia@gmail.com or 757-718 9451 call or text.

Pet Prayer Chain

Many people in our congregation have pets. We all love our pets. They are part of our family. When they are sick, elderly or lost, it is a comfort to know that our church family is praying for them as well as us. If you have or know of a pet that could benefit from our ministry, please let David-Luke or Nancy know.

Daily Office

Morning Prayer is offered Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m. Evening Prayer is offered Monday through Friday at 4:00 p.m.

Links to these services can be found on the website. The service is also streamed to our Facebook page when technology allows.

Formation Hour

Join us on Sundays at 9 for our Bible Study on Deuteronomy. Been to a lot of bible studies? None? All are welcome.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you knit or crochet? Are you interested in doing it as part of an ongoing spiritual practice that gives back to the community? If you are and would like more information, like patterns or prayers, please contact Joyce at joycesummers@mac.com

St. John's Episcopal Church

1114 Indiana Avenue, Alamogordo

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

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