



No Rector's Class: *Wednesday, November 15 and 22.*

Happening #38 at St. John's: *November 17-19.* We will utilize both buildings.

UTO (United Thank Offering) In-gathering: Bring your envelopes or little blue boxes on *Sunday, November 19th*. Hopefully you have been putting coins in your little Blue Boxes...but just in case, there are extra boxes at both entrances to the church.

United Thank Offering is not a fund drive, but rather a discipline in our daily life in Christ wherein we offer prayers of thanksgiving for our countless blessings. Each time you feel thankful, say a prayer of thanksgiving and drop a coin in the little Blue Box. Twice a year, you will be asked to bring in the money so that we can send it to the UTO In-gathering...to make a real difference in so many lives around the world. In previous years, our own Next Step Homeless Services and the Good Samaritan Clinic have received funds from the UTO to enable them to continue to do the great work they do here in Fort Smith.

Bicentennial Book Update: I had hoped that the Bicentennial books would have arrived by now, but after contacting the publisher early this month I was told it now looks like it will be the end of November.

I wish I had better news, but I must just ask you to keep the faith & they will be here eventually
Thank you, Angela

Saints Alive – November: *Saturday, November 18 at 6:00 pm* at the home of Jim & Susan Horton. The main course will be vegetable beef stew. Please bring a side dish, or dessert, and the beverage of your choice. Their address is 4013 Gascony Way, Fort Smith, AR. Call 479-650-1580 for directions.

“Blessing Bell” Tree: Christmas outreach to Howard Elementary & Boy's Shelter. Pick up bell, wrap gifts, and return by Dec. 10. Youth will wrap if needed.

Thanksgiving Service: Each year our nation sets aside one day for a day of “Thanksgiving.” The Episcopal Church recognizes this civic holiday as a Feast-day for the church. At St. John's we commemorate all we have to be thankful for as a nation with a service of Holy Eucharist. This year's celebration will be held at *12:00 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, November 22nd*. This sacred service will allow worshipers to focus on the spiritual side of the holiday and then families can spend time together on Thanksgiving Day.

Church Offices will be closed on *Thursday, November 23 & Friday, November 24* for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will reopen on November 27 at 8:30am. Hope you have a great holiday.

Cards for Others: Please bring your unwanted holiday cards so that our new coordinator - Mrs. Barbara Burgess can get the cards to the proper places in time for the holidays. See the basket in front of the Skinner building reception desk, or the basket in the Parish hallway.

Girls Night Out: Full of turkey and all the trimmings? Come join this group of ladies for a change of menu on *Tuesday, November 28th*, at **Sam's Southern Eatery – Seafood Restaurant**, 9709 Rogers Avenue, starting at 6:00 pm. Very good catfish and jumbo shrimp are just two entrees that can be found on their menu. You will be contacted for reservations. Fun and fellowship are always part of this ecumenical group.

Altar Guild Clean-Up: Our annual Altar Guild Cleanup will be *Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 9:00am* in the Parish Hall Kitchen. Please make every effort to attend. For more information contact Lee Vlademar at 782-2820 or any other AG member.

Advent Lessons & Carols: It's coming – *December 3.*

Laymen's League: The Laymen's Steak Fry will be held on *Friday, December 8 at 6:00 pm* in the Parish Hall. The menu is steak, potatoes, a vegetable and a dessert. See you then.

Poinsettias for Christmas: If you would like to contribute toward the Christmas Flowers, complete a form from the Sunday bulletin or Holy Babble the and leave it along with your check (marked "Christmas Flowers") in the church office or place it in the alms basin on Sunday. Deadline for turning in your information is *Sunday, December 17.*

Did you know? You can make a secure donation to St. John's using your PayPal account or your Debit Card. Just click the link to go to our website <http://stjohnfs.org/giving/> it's that easy!



CONNECTIONS GROUPS: For Service, Social, or Study opportunities: Online Sign Up- www.stjohnfs.org Home Page. Or Forms are on the Hallway Bulletin Board.

- **Rector's Classes** – Story of the Church in America. *Wednesdays at 5:00pm* in the Skinner Building and *Sundays at 9:15am* in Chambers Hall. **NO Rectors class on Nov. 15.**
- **"First and Third Thursdays" Bible Study:** *Thursday, Nov. 16 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.* you are invited to be a part of a new Bible study group that is forming at St. John's. Bring your lunch and we will provide the drinks. The study will begin in Genesis and work through the Story of the Old Testament. Contact Emily Zeigler 462-2366 or Father Mike 221-4030.
- **Casserole of Life:** *8:30am, Dec. 8*, Parish Hall Kitchen – prepares hot meal for Next Step Homeless Services clients. Serve meal at 11:30. Contacts are Mariko Clifton (479) 461-9417, Betsy or Jeff Champlin (479) 353-1316.

- **Enneagram:** Meet 5:30pm-6:45pm, 2nd & 4th Monday, next meeting Nov. 27 in the Youth Room/Skinner Building. Group meets 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.

YOUTH:

STARFISH– 6th-12th grades: 2017-18: Hope & Worship Meet: 2nd & 4th Sundays; 12:00-2:00 pm with lunch provided.

- **Nov. 26**—STARFISH, Dolphins & Families—Hanging of the Greens: Decorate Chrismon Tree & Hang greens in Parish Hall
- **Dec. 1** (Friday) 6:00 pm. STARFISH Dinner and attending Shabbat of Jewish Community. RSVP to Jeannie. Must give number, as we are invited to their meal. Friends welcome to join us. *Optional: Return to church for Lock In.... youth will decide.*

Dolphins – (3rd-5th grades) –

Girls Scouts: Next meeting, **Nov. 20**. Meetings are first and third Mondays from 5-7 at St John's in the classrooms by the nursery (church side of campus). Everyone please bring a snack, its potluck! As always, guests are always welcome. Leader: Natalie King-Hyman.

WORSHIP MINISTERS –Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017

8:00 service:

Usher: Chris Glasco.

Lay Ministers: *1st Lesson*, Mack Skeen; *Psalm & 2nd Lesson*, Rick Hayes; *Prayers*, Muggy Murray; *Chalice*, Muggy Murray & Rick Hayes.

Altar Guild: Connie Smith.

Hospitality: Jo Ann Flocks.

Announcements:

10:30 service:

Ushers: Pettus Kincannon & Harry Foltz.

Lay Ministers: *1st Lesson*, Richard Hossley; *2nd Lesson*, Pat Klahr; *Prayers (Form III)* Harold MacDowell; *Chalice*, Mary Ann Arnold & Stan Vlademar.

Acolytes: *Server*, Will Robinson; *Asst. Server*, Wyatt Robinson; *Crucifer*, Gregory Alan; *Torches*, Walker Cloninger & Sam Cloninger; *Parent helper*, Polly Cloninger.

Children's Chapel: Mary Young.

Altar Guild: Joan Kincannon, Lee Vlademar.

Hospitality: Patricia Irby.

Announcements: