

St. John's Good News



From Reverend Sarah...

Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.' (Genesis 1:6)

Dear Friends,

After creating the waters, the mountains, the animals and plants God created humanity. Then God gave humans dominion over all the animals in order to serve as stewards of creation. As stewards, humanity is expected to take care of creation and use it responsibly for food, shelter and other necessities. This is an incredible gift that expressed God's love for and confidence in humans.

We are inheritors of this gift and many others. In receiving these gifts, we agree to be good stewards: to use these gifts to glorify and serve God. This year the Stewardship Ministry Team chose a theme based on the stewardship of gifts, *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."* (I Peter 4:10). In a few days you will receive this year's stewardship mailing packet with a note from the Stewardship Ministry Team and a 2019 Pledge Card. We will officially begin our stewardship season on Sunday, October 14 and the team looks forward to sharing their work with you.

Stewardship is never an easy topic, it can bring up uncomfortable conversations about lack of money and lack of people. However, this year's conversation is different because of the choice to hire a clergy at half-time rather than full-time. After a year serving with you I know that this was a painful choice but it created a healthier financial situation.

The budget deficit dropped from \$40,000 to around \$10,000, freeing the parish from some anxiety about money. I'm often asked what does a half-time priest do? What is possible/reasonable to accomplish in 20 hours per week? Here is a breakdown for an *average week* of how I work as a steward of your shared gifts of time and money as your clergy:

October 2018

Fall Worship Schedule

Sunday Morning
8am Rite II
10am Rite II

Phone: 781-233-1242

Twitter:
@StJohnsSaugus

Facebook: St. John's
Episcopal Church
Saugus

Inside this issue	Page
From Rev. Sarah, October Happenings	1-3
Prayer List, ECDS	3
Community Outreach, Ice Cream Social, Lobster Roll Sale, Fair, Dinner, etc.	4
Word Search	5

Contd.

24% or 4.8 hours for Administration/Communications/Meetings with Vestry and other Leadership groups

19% or 3.8 hours preparing for and leading Worship

18% or 3.6 hours for Christian Education (Bible Study/Lenten Program)

15% or 3 hours preparing sermons

11% or 2.2 hours meeting one-on-one with parishioners

7% or 1.4 hours for Outreach

6% or 1.2 hours for meeting with local clergy groups

As we enter the stewardship season with conversations about pledging our money and time to St. John's I hope this gives you a better of sense of how some of those resources go to the maintaining and building up of this congregation. I encourage you to review this list and notice if there's something missing that you believe is important for your clergy to be doing on a regular basis. Then share that feedback with myself (svangulden@gmail.com) or a Vestry member (emails to Vestry can be sent to stjohnssaugus@gmail.com).

Peace,

Sarah

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

BIBLE STUDY ON ANIMALS THEN ON TO PAUL'S FIRST LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS.

In honor of Francis of Assisi we, on Wednesday, October 3, 1:30-3, will look at the different Bible stories about animals: the Creation, the Flood, Jonah in the whale, Daniel in the Lion's den, Balaam's donkey, Jesus's and the sheep and goats etc. Then on Tuesday, October 9, 10:30-12 we will begin reading Paul's First to the Letter to the Corinthians!

DUNKIN' DONUTS OFFICE HOURS, WEDNESDAYS, 10-NOON. Join Rev. Sarah for a few minutes or an hour for a coffee and conversation! This is a great way to spend time with your priest and spread St. John's message of love to the Saugus community. If you are interested in evening office hours please speak or with Rev. Sarah or email at svangulden@gmail.com about possible times and locations.

HEALTHY STUDENTS, HEALTHY SAUGUS, UPDATE! At a recent info meeting the School Superintendent announced they are currently reaching out to families that would benefit from extra food on the weekend. The hope is that first bags will be distributed on October 12 which means the first bag-packing will be October 11 at 4pm at the Cliftondale Church of the Nazarene 60 Essex Street, Saugus. Rev. Sarah will host a meeting for St. John's volunteers at 9:15am on Sunday, October 14.

2019 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN IS HERE! The Stewardship Ministry Team is excited to share this year's campaign based on *"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."* (1 Peter 4:10). Stewardship mailings will go out on October 9 and include a letter from the team, a form to request to have your pledge automatically withdrawn from your bank account and your 2019 pledge card. On Sunday, October 14 the Stewardship team will share information about the 2018 budget and how we might want to make changes for 2019. On Sunday, October 21 during Sermon Conversations we will talk about the many options to give support to St. John's church.

PRE-CONVENTION MEETING, THURSDAY, 10/18 IN TOPSFIELD. Each year our Diocese holds an Annual Convention to vote on the upcoming year's budget, vote for new leaders on Diocesan committees, pass resolutions and celebrate the past year's ministries. At the Pre-Convention meetings Diocesan leaders present the budget and resolutions for discussions about the possible effects on local parishes. Our Pre-Convention meeting will be at Trinity Church, Topsfield on October 18 at 7pm. Please RSVP to Rev. Sarah if you would like to attend.

YOUTH GROUP CARVING PUMPKINS AND SHARING TREATS! This month the Youth Group, which is open to all youth in grades 6-12 will meet after the 10am service on October 28. Bring a pumpkin to carve (Rev. Sarah will 1 or 2 extras) and your favorite Halloween treat to share with the group. Check out the St. John's Facebook page to see the results!

GUEST PREACHER ON OCTOBER 28! On Sunday, October 28 we will welcome Natalie Finstad as our guest preacher. Natalie is the Director of Program and Engagement for Episcopal City Mission and in the ordination process to become a Vocational Deacon. Natalie will share information about an exciting new program to help parishes find ways to deepen relationships with the community.

~~~~~

**Prayer List Updates**

As always, we strive to keep our prayer list current. Please let the office know if someone should be added/removed from the list—thank you!

~~~~~

Every Child Deserves to Smile



We continue to collect non-perishable food items and everyday needs (paper plates, napkins, plastic utensils, baggies, etc.) Donations may be left in the Every Child Deserves to Smile collection container in the vestibule. If you have any questions, please contact Jeanne Seaboyer at 781-662-4342 or jmseaboyer@gmail.com

Contd.

Community Outreach

Update: Thank you to all who generously helped to fill five boxes with Back-to-School supplies for Saugus children in need. The supplies were delivered on September 20th to the Saugus School Superintendent's Office.



We've got the scoop at St. John's!



THANK YOU to all who came out to volunteer on Founder's Day, Saturday September 8th! It was a sweet day as we mingled with the crowd on the street and treated over 300 patrons in the church and Ashworth Hall to an art exhibit featuring the talents of Belmonte Middle School students and passed out complimentary ice cream sundaes. Ice cream connoisseurs expressed their appreciation by donating to two charity opportunities. We are sending \$61 to Dana Farber Cancer Institute and \$114 to Healthy Students, Healthy Saugus. It takes a village to make this event, and our village was well represented!

~~~~~

**Lobster Roll Sale Results!**

Many thanks to volunteers who helped set-up orders, bake brownies, deliver and pitch in for our lobster roll sale. At last count we've sold almost 250 rolls! We are so grateful for everyone's support!

~~~~~

Pie Social, Annual Fair and Yard Sale

Pie Social Event Kickoff: Friday, Oct. 19th at 6pm
Annual Fair & Yard Sale: Sat., Oct. 20th begins at 9am
Crafts ~ Baked Goods ~ Cookout (weather permitting) ~ Homemade Candy
Knit Table ~ Jewelry ~ Silent Auction ~ and much more!

~~~~~

**Roast Beef Dinner**

**Saturday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm (please note date change!)  
One Serving ~ Limited Seating**

**Adults: \$14      Children 7 to 12 yrs. old: \$7      Children 6 and Under: Free**

Family-style menu: Roast beef, roasted red potatoes, green beans almondine, salad, roll, beverage, and homemade pie. Again, seats are limited ~ kindly contact St. John's parish office to RSVP: 781-233-1242.

~~~~~

HELPING HANDS!

Volunteers are needed for both the fair and dinner. If you have time to set-up, clean-up, etc., please contact the parish office or see the sign-up sheet in Ashworth Hall. Your assistance makes all the difference at our events—**thank you!**

WORD SEARCH

D I S G U I S E N X D U W X D C D
 P B F A U T U M N A L J M F J C U
 N U C I W D Q P O S T A R T L E G
 O U M J A N W K M A I Z E P P L H
 O Z F P H A Y S T A C K D Q R D N
 A C G C K C H E S T N U T S A T P
 W H C L Q I O K R I S L Z F N Z F
 V O H A N Z N Q E Y A X C K K H W
 K B I Q P M A S Q U E R A D E P C
 Y G L D U P E E E T M O O N L I T
 U O L R S C A R E C R O W D C P X
 S B I Z Z H A R W D D E K A Q V Q
 I L N Q O Y I V I F U R A H A G A
 O I G S C S P W M T P B N T Z M Z
 Z N I J C J I R V F I T Q E D K M
 Q L J O W L F M W I C O T K D K H
 E E R I E M E C I D E R N I W U Q

Apparition ~ Autumnal ~ Chestnuts ~ Chilling ~ Cider ~ Disguise ~ Eerie
 Haystack ~ Hobgoblin ~ Maize ~ Masquerade ~ Moonlit ~ Owl ~ Prank
 Pumpkins ~ Scarecrow ~ Startle ~ Treat

~~~~~



**Officers:** The Reverend Sarah van Gulden, Priest-in-Charge ~ T. J. Martin, Sr. Warden ~ Fritz White, Jr. Warden ~ Phil Littlehale, Treasurer ~ Janet Lancaster, Asst. Treasurer ~ Sandy Mears, Clerk of the Vestry

**Vestry:** Brenda Caggiano (2019) ~ Dale Coogan (2021) ~ Al Coppola (2021) ~ Paul Felci (2020) ~ Sandy St. Clair (2019) ~ William 'Bill' St. Clair (2021) ~ Jeanne Seaboyer (2020) ~ Jenna Sharwood (2020) ~ Diana White (2021)