

St. John's Good News



Summer 2023

From Rev'd. Paul...

Here is something that I have noticed as a newcomer, that might be of use to you as members of the congregation. There was a 'buzz word' that used to be around in technology circles a while ago. It was 'connectivity'. By means of 'connectivity' my calendar on my cell phone, automatically appears on every other device I have. I can watch TV via our big screen television set from my iPad. I can get traffic condition updates on my GPS via my cell phone. Like an ecosystem, everything is connected to everything else.

This word came to me when I was reflecting on the anxiety that some members of the congregation were expressing about the slow, but sure decline in numbers of the members of St. John's. One of the ways of addressing this issue (but by no means the only thing that needs doing) is to make sure that a new person is welcomed if they come to our Eucharist. This means *connecting them* with someone as they arrive, and it means *connecting this* information with the person making the announcements so that they can invite newcomers to the coffee hour. It means *connecting* with that person after the first time that they come by collecting information about them (if they are willing) and then ringing them (lay people are more effective welcomers than clergy) during the next week to say 'Hi'.

This simple process of congregation wide focus on 'connecting up a welcome' is one step in a big, long chain of activities that we can do to make sure that what we say we are 'We are a welcoming inclusive congregation' happens on the ground. It is this authenticity that is likely to communicate to newcomers. Since I have been locum in Saugus, I have experienced such a welcome. It has been great. I have noticed that the welcome of newcomers to Sunday Eucharist could be a bit more intentional and 'connected up'.

Blessings on your faithfulness. May it bear fruit.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sunday worship remains at 10am, in-person and virtually: All are welcome to participate, and seating capacity is now at 75. The service also continues to broadcast via Zoom, with link options shared by email.

Phone: 781-233-1242

Twitter:
@StJohnsSaugus

Facebook: St. John's Episcopal Church Saugus

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Annual Yard Sale Update

Thank you again to our yard sale volunteers. The camaraderie was great and it was so nice to welcome familiar faces and meet new people from the community. Donors were quite generous with contributions for the sale.



There were a number of tasks to arrange; setting up tables, bringing donations outside, and selling. We had an impressive show of helpers on hand, and thankfully the weather held out. Our final profit was \$838.00 – an increase of over 60% from last year!

Special thanks to: Rev. Paul, T. J., Janet, Kristina, Sandy, Karen, Dean, Bill, Lahneen, Dan, Linda, Dibby, Janice, Ken, Brenda, Susan, Ingrid, Ray, Sandy, Linda, Steve, Fritz, Bill, Donna, and Angela.

~ Donna Manoogian, Yard Sale Chair

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The Nelson Scholarship

Any active, contributing member of St. John’s Church who is graduating from high school and plans to continue his/her education is eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applications are available by contacting Rose Holt at mamarosie119(at)aol.com. Completed applications should be returned ASAP.

~ Rose Holt

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Bible Study Change/Update

With continued interested interest, Tuesday morning (10am) Bible study will in fact continue this summer – for July and August. However, July 4th is a holiday; we will not gather that week, and, during this time the group broadcast by Zoom is not available. As always, all are welcome to attend!

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Looking ahead...

- September 9th ~ Saugus Founder’s Day
- September (date TBA) ~ Lobster Roll Sale
- October 21st ~ Roast Beef Dinner (take-out)
- December 2nd ~ Annual Fair (w/ downstairs yard sale and snack bar)

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Community Garden



We are seeking volunteers to weed the garden this summer. If you are able to lend a hand, even for a 1/2 hour per week, it would be very much appreciated. Organizers Dee LeMay and Laura Eisener have been tending the seedlings during June and will continue to water them as necessary.

The plants are now well-established and we look forward to a decent crop! Dee and Laura meet Friday mornings from 9-11am – if it is more convenient to help at a different day/time please contact Dee through the parish office. Thank you!

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Every Child Deserves to Smile

During July and August, we are collecting fresh fruit, snack items, and single serve beverages such as fruit juice, water, lemonade, iced tea, etc.

Urgently needed items:

- *Summer clothing (adult & child)
- *Diapers sizes 3, 4 and 6

Also during the summer months, we are collecting back-to-school supplies to help fill backpacks for the children when they return to school in the fall. Some needed items: crayons, colored pencils, binders, notebooks, pens, pencils, pencil sharpeners, rulers, ruled & plain paper and notes of encouragement!

We continue to collect non-perishable food items, toiletries, and everyday needs (paper plates, napkins, plastic utensils, baggies, etc.) and Stop & Shop and Market Basket gift cards.

The next quarterly meeting will be held **Thursday, September 7 at 10:30am** in the Hurl Room. All are welcome to attend. Donations may be left in the donation baskets in the vestibule, and any questions may be directed to Jeanne Seaboyer.

Founder's Day 2023 - How sweet it is!

It's time to start thinking of ice cream sundaes again! Don't miss out on the opportunity to have some fun scooping ice cream and enjoying the company of fellow St. John's members and the community! Join us on September 9 for a few minutes or all day. You'll be glad you did! Contact Jeanne Seaboyer to put your name on the volunteer list and help the community see what's so special about St. John's!

~ Jeanne Seaboyer

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Word Search

Some of these dog breeds will be familiar, and others, not so much. Can you find them?

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

Akita ~ Basenji ~ Boxer ~ Bulldog ~ Collie ~ Dachshund ~ Dalmatian
 Havanese ~ Komondor ~ Kuvasz ~ Labrador ~ Maltese ~ Mastiff
 Newfoundland ~ Otterhound ~ Rottweiler ~ Papillion ~ Pug ~ Samoyed
 Schipperke ~ Weimaraner ~ Vizsla

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Officers: The Rev'd. John T. Beach, Priest-in-Charge ~ The Rev'd. Dr. Paul Dalzell, Guest Priest, Brenda Caggiano, Sr. Warden, Daniel Casey, Jr., Jr. Warden, Phil Littlehale, Treasurer, Paul Felci, Assistant Treasurer, and Kristina Palazzo, Clerk of the Vestry & Sexton

Vestry: Bill Bidmead, Sr. (2026), Dibby LeBlanc (2026), Duana 'Dee' LeMay (2024), Sandy Mears (2025), and Donna Manoogian (2024)