



**ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD**  
Chevy Chase-Bethesda

# SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Volume 29 Number 40

July 13, 2014

[www.stjohnsnorwood.org](http://www.stjohnsnorwood.org)

## Dear St. John's Community,

As you know, The Rev. Sarah Lapenta-H's last day with us will be August 10. We will celebrate Sarah's time with us with a special farewell celebration that day after the 10:00 service.

As we prepare to say "goodbye" to Sarah and Paul, we find that there is interest in creating a "purse" for Sarah as she moves forward in her ministry. Everyone is invited to show their appreciation for Sarah and Paul's ministry by contributing to the purse.

We will be collecting for the purse up until Sunday, August 3rd so that we may present the purse to Sarah and Paul on August 10. If you would like to contribute, please get your contribution to Liz in the office.

John Ross, Senior Warden

## Community Based Shelter Week

The sign-up sheets are up! August 10 through 16, is one of the two weeks this year that volunteers from St. John's will provide breakfast, lunch, and dinner at the Community Based Shelter (CBS) on Wilkins Avenue in Rockville. CBS houses 35 homeless women in counseling and job training programs to become self-sufficient. The Outreach Committee provides their breakfasts just by dropping off supplies, but parishioners can volunteer to help in two main ways: (1) You can sign up to assemble the bag lunches one day that week from supplies provided by the Outreach Committee in the church kitchen and to drive and deliver the bag lunches to the shelter; or (2) you can sign up to help provide, cook, and/or serve the dinner one evening. Each dinner is usually provided and served by two to four parishioners/families. This is a very family-friendly shelter and many St. John's families with children in elementary school volunteer every year. Feel free to recruit a friend or neighbor to volunteer with you. Sample menu ideas and very thorough instructions are provided to all volunteers. Please sign up to help on the Outreach bulletin board!

Julia Andrews

## Rector's Corner

I hope that you enjoyed your 4th of July weekend. The highlight for me was attending a family wedding in Georgia with Tanory and the kids. At one point several years ago I counted 120 relatives on my father's side alone! (the majority of whom now reside in Texas and Georgia) and this wedding was a perfect opportunity to see many of them. But perhaps the most gratifying aspect of the weekend was watching our 6 year-old and 4 year-old connect with a whole bunch of their relatives that they had never met - especially all the cousins closer to their age. This, in large part, made the 13-hour drive each way worth it, namely the value of connecting and building relationship with family and friends.

Many of us look forward during the summer months to getting away and enjoying time with family and friends. Sometimes all it takes is a break from the hustle and bustle of our lives to realize that the most important thing in life is nurturing relationships with those whom we care for and love. As a church, we are also at our best when we remember that our greatest mission and ministry is to people - caring for one another, and continuing in the good work of sharing the love of God with all of God's children - both those within and beyond the walls of our church.

To that end, I look forward this coming Sunday (July 13) to sharing a message with you from the pulpit entitled, "The Art of Listening: what makes the Church relevant," in which I hope to offer us some thoughts that I pray will bring more wholeness to our interactions with others - both as individuals, and as a church community. Your summer schedules permitting, I hope that you will join us for one of our 3 services this Sunday.

My favorite quote of the week

"Leadership is a choice not a rank...Many people have authority, but they are not leaders." --- - Simon Sinek

## The Vision Thing

*Then Jesus said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." Matthew 9:37-38*

The Vision Team is tasked with helping guide St. John's toward a better understanding of how we, as a church, might best engage and serve the community as an extension of Christ's love, and in fulfillment of our mission as a church to share the Good News of Christ with all people. To do this, the Vision Team is currently engaged in two types of assessments:

1) An internal assessment of St. John's: This will help us learn more about ourselves as a church in terms of the types of activities that are most exciting to us, and what it is that we have to offer in the form of natural or intrinsic gifts.

2) An external assessment of the broader community: This will help us learn more about Bethesda-Chevy Chase, i.e. the community beyond our walls, with a special focus on what might be areas of actual or perceived need in the community.

Both of these areas of assessment are critical to understanding how our natural gifts as a church might be of best service to, and make the greatest impact in the community.

---

On the verge of completing the internal assessment (#1 above), The Vision Team is now in the process of turning its attention to learning more about our broader community (#2 above). To that end, there are 2 main components to the external assessment: a) collecting official census and other statistical data related to the immediate area surrounding our church, and b) performing formal and informal interviews with members of the community. We believe that interviewing members of the wider community will allow us to learn what the people perceive as the challenges facing Bethesda-Chevy Chase, and more importantly what individuals in the community believe would make it a more holistic place to live. Such interviews will also raise awareness of our church as engaged in the community.

We are, therefore, inviting all members of St. John's, beginning with the vestry, to join us in this mass effort of "listening" to our community. Sari+ will deliver a sermon this Sunday, July 13, on the subject of "listening," followed by an invitation to the congregation to commit to interviewing at least one person in the broader community the following week (more instructions to follow). Be sure to join us at church this Sunday at 8am, 10am, or 5pm, or stay tuned via email as we take the next exciting step in our vision process.



## Strawberry Festival (7/20)

Join us for our annual Strawberry Festival on Sunday, July 20, to give our Youth a fabulous send-off as they head to Camp Joy in West Virginia for a week of volunteer work repairing the homes of people in need. The Festival will take place immediately following the 10 AM service on the lawn (weather permitting) or in the Parish Hall. Your help in baking shortbread or brownies, or serving during the event is most welcome! Please contact Johnna Story (johnna.story[AT]finnegan.com) if you are available and willing to help.

Johnna Story

## Downtown Bethesda Plan

In connection with ongoing efforts to update the Downtown Bethesda Plan for the next 20 years, county planners are reaching out to the community in various ways. In addition to formal briefings and meetings which the Adjacent Property Committee is following closely with respect to St. John's interests, planners also hope to "get to know" members of the community in more informal settings. The next opportunity for such interaction - which we believe is a great opportunity for St. John's to demonstrate our interest in the re-development process and its outcome, our engagement with and in the community and the value the church brings to the community - is on Wednesday, July 16, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm when the Streetsense design and strategy firm will host a Happy Hour with planners at its offices at 3 Bethesda Metro Center. We hope to see St. John's well represented! Those who would like to attend can RSVP directly to [untappedrsvp@streetsense.com](mailto:untappedrsvp@streetsense.com) or to [derseae@hotmail.com](mailto:derseae@hotmail.com).

## Passages

*“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.”  
1 Cor. 12:26*

*We join in mourning the deaths of ...*

Frank Trenholm Lyman III, grandson of Frank and Rachel Lyman

Sally Barthold\* - service to be held at St. John's on June 20 at 3:30 pm in the Chapel

Will Helfrich (Marny's brother)

Mary Elizabeth Hotchkiss\* - service to be held July 11 at 10:30 am at the National Cathedral, Bethlehem Chapel

Omar Barth (Barbara Frink's father)

*Please contact the Office if you have a celebration, thanksgiving, sorrow, or other news to share with the Parish.*

## Welcome New Members!

Anne Core was warmly welcomed as a new member of St John's at the Liturgy of Welcome on June 15 at the 5 PM service, and Emily Morrison has joined us as well! We welcome them to our community—you can find their photos on the New Members bulletin board soon. The next Liturgy of Welcome will be held in the Fall; those interested may contact the church office.

Connections Committee

## Save the Date: Sunday, August 17

Jason Evans (EDOW Young Adult Missioner) will be visiting St. John's on August 17 and looks forward to meeting with young adults after the 10am service. So, save the date! More details to come.

## “Good-bye,” Potluck, Picnic in the Park

**Sunday, July 27 at 11 AM | Norwood Park**

Join Felix Hora folks in saying “good-bye” to Sarah+ as she leaves to serve as the rector of St. Mary Magdalene in Boulder CO (her last Sunday and all-church party at St. John's is August 10th). Please bring a potluck item to share, and meet us at Norwood Park (behind the fire station near church) or walk over after the 10am service. Event contact: Kurt Ellison, kurt.ellison[AT]runbox.com

## Doing a Lot of Good with a Little Effort

Are you looking for an opportunity to contribute to the life and mission of St. John's but don't have a lot of extra time? Want to help but don't love meetings?

The Norwood Parish Fund is St. John's endowment fund for growing new ministries and sustaining ongoing projects at the parish. It is managed by a small board that meets roughly twice a year to evaluate submissions from parishioners for grants to tackle these projects. We are looking for new board members who will help us make the decisions that support the life of St. John's.

We review applications for grants and make recommendations to the Vestry on approving them. No experience is necessary and Board membership affords a great view into all aspects of Parish life. A term on the board is three years with an option to extend through two terms. You can learn more about NPF's mission at <http://stjohnsnorwood.org/norwood-parish-fund/>. Please contact NPF Chair Carolyn Schugar at frank.schugar[AT]comcast.net or 301-946-5607 if interested.

## Building Community at the Crossroads of Faith and Life

Our members represent a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds, nationalities, family configurations, sexual orientations, abilities, and religious traditions. Indeed, chances are that there's someone like you at St. John's. We are single, married, partnered, divorced, widowed, remarried, gay and lesbian, with and without children, empty nesters, old and young, and differently-abled; you name it - we are here.

# SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Periodicals  
postage paid  
at  
SUBURBAN, MD  
20898

Saint John's at the Crossroads (USPS 756-490) is published weekly (except biweekly June—August) by Saint John's Episcopal Church, Norwood Parish, 6701 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase MD 20815-5351; telephone 301/654-7767; fax 301/654-8830; e-mail *office @ stjohnsnorwood.org*. Periodicals postage paid at Bethesda, MD 20814. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS, St. John's Church, 6701 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-5351.

## Calendar

### Sunday July 13, 2014

Deadline for newsletter submissions

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon  
St. Mary's Chapel
- 9:00-12:00 Parish Library Open
- 10:00 am Children's Chapel – Hines Hall
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon and music  
- Nave
- 11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn – Tower Lawn  
Bible Study – Library
- 5:00 pm Come as You Are Eucharist – Nave

### Monday, July 14, 2014

- 6:30 pm Anderson-Pedemonte wedding – Nave  
followed by Parish Hall reception
- 7:30 pm Property Committee – location TBA
- 7:30 pm Sunday Forum Committee - Library

### Tuesday July 15, 2014

- 1:30 pm Church Staff – Rector's Office
- 7:30 pm [Vestry devotions] – Lounge
- 8:00 pm Vestry [open meeting] – Parish Hall

### Wednesday July 16, 2014

- 10:30am Bible Study - Library
- 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist and Healing – Chapel
- 6:30 pm Centering Prayer – Chapel

### Saturday, July 19, 2014

- 9:00 am Beautification Day – West Ave. Lobby

### Sunday July 20, 2014

Deadline for newsletter submissions

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon  
St. Mary's Chapel
- 9:00-12:00 Parish Library Open
- 10:00 am Children's Chapel – Hines Hall
- 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon and music  
& Camp Joy send-off- Nave
- 11:00 am Strawberry Festival – Tower Lawn  
Bible Study – Library
- 3:30 pm Sally Barthold funeral - Chapel
- 5:00 pm Come as You Are Eucharist – Nave

---

If you wish to be removed from the Saint John's mailing list, or no longer wish to receive the *Saint John's at the Crossroads* newsletter, please let the office know.

---

The next issue of *Crossroads* will be dated July 27, 2014,

Final article drafts must be submitted to the Parish Office by the \*Sunday\* prior to publication. One may e-mail articles to [newsletter@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:newsletter@stjohnsnorwood.org) (with "Crossroads" in the subject line). Sending text in the body of the e-mail is preferred.

**Note:** The editor and church staff reserve the right to determine the content of *Crossroads* and edit for grammar or length requirements.

---

#### CENTERING PRAYER REMINDER

Join us, in the Chapel on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 - 7 pm for Centering Prayer. ALL are welcome! It's quiet, peaceful and cool! Continues through August 27.

"Come unto me, all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you." (Matt 11:28)