

# Join Us!

## St. John's Norwood Parish Ministries and Committees

Fellowship, Service and Spiritual Growth Opportunities

2024-2025 Program Year

**“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?”**

- *Micah 6:8*

As parishioners, we are St. John's. We are a community in Christ that cares for one another, for our neighbors, and for our world. Pursuing justice and practicing kindness, we seek God's intention for the world – shalom, abundant life for all. Through fellowship and service, we grow as disciples of Christ and help make God's kingdom a reality on earth. St. John's offers many opportunities for you to do this good work, engaging in the life of the church and connecting with our broader community. There is an activity that is perfect for you! Please join us in supporting worship, promoting spiritual growth, building community, and making a difference – at St. John's, in our neighborhood, and in the world!

For more information and to connect with fellowship and service opportunities at St. John's, contact the Rev. Anne Derse, Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement, at (301) 401-5717 and [aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org).

You can also reach out directly to the ministry and committee leaders listed in the attached document.

We look forward to welcoming you!

# Worship

Worship is central to spiritual and community life at St. John's. We welcome everyone, of all ages, to participate in making it a beautiful and enriching experience. There are many opportunities, listed below, to support worship at our 8:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:15 am or 5:00 pm services. Contact our Office Assistant at [office@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:office@stjohnsnorwood.org) for general information on worship services.



## Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is an essential and sacred ministry, that involves preparing all that is needed to set the table for the sacrament of Eucharist, before and after services. Altar Guild members are men and women of all ages who care for the items that grace the altar, such as candles, linens and chalices. Prior experience is not required. Hands-on training is tailored to the members who serve with a partner about twice a month, on Saturday or Sunday. Contact Terri DeLeon ([tkdeleon@aol.com](mailto:tkdeleon@aol.com)) and Christine Curto ([cjcurto@verizon.net](mailto:cjcurto@verizon.net)), parishioners.

## Acolyte Guild

Acolytes lead the procession and recession; light and extinguish candles; assist during the Offertory and help set the altar for Communion during 9:00 am Sunday worship. Organized into Teams, their ages range from 9-18 years. Acolytes serve once a month. There are no weekday obligations. New Acolytes are coached by the Guild Leader as well as experienced Acolytes. Experience and comfort level guide role assignment. Contact Christine Curto ([cjcurto@verizon.net](mailto:cjcurto@verizon.net)), parishioner.





## Eucharistic Ministers

Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs) assist the clergy with the serving of wine, and occasionally bread, during communion, and read prayers or Scripture during the service. Depending on the service, they may also light the candles, carry the cross, and receive the offering. LEMs have the option to serve "vested" (wearing a white alb) or "unvested" and are generally scheduled for 1-2 services a month.

Contact RoseMarie Fonseca ([rmfonessa2001@gmail.com](mailto:rmfonessa2001@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Eucharistic Visitors

Eucharistic Visitors bring fellowship and communion once a month to St. John's parishioners who are unable to attend services. Training is provided. Contact Penny Winder ([pwinder44@gmail.com](mailto:pwinder44@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Flower Guild

The Flower Guild serves to bring the beauty of God's creation to our worship. New members are always welcome, including one-time volunteers for special times such as Christmas and Easter. No experience is necessary - training is provided by our talented members, and the schedule is flexible. Contact Scheduler Carol Assman ([assmancarol@gmail.com](mailto:assmancarol@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Healing Prayer Ministry

Healing prayer ministers listen, love, and pray with those who would like to receive healing prayer one-on-one laying on of hands and anointing with oil. Volunteers offer these prayers during communion in the quiet, private Tower Chapel next to the sanctuary. Clergy provide training. Contact Peter Plocki ([peter.plocki@dot.gov](mailto:peter.plocki@dot.gov)), Marny Helfrich ([marnyh@gmail.com](mailto:marnyh@gmail.com)), or Tom Hebert ([tom.hebert@bayardridge.com](mailto:tom.hebert@bayardridge.com)), parishioners.



## Lectors

Help illuminate the Scriptures for our community by reading the lessons during worship services. Volunteers who love sharing Scripture and reading aloud are invited to join the team! Scheduling is flexible, with volunteers typically reading once every month or so.

Contact Andrew Ramsey-Moor ([aramseymoor@gmail.com](mailto:aramseymoor@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Music Ministry

Inspire and guide our community in worship by joining one of St. John's musical ensembles! Add your voice to the St. John's choir (adults and teenagers) or the Choristers (age 8 – high school), learn to play handbells with the Norwood Ringers, or offer an instrumental or vocal solo during our services. See the Music Ministry page on the church website for details. Contact Jason West ([jwest@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:jwest@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Director of Music.





## Tech Team

St. John's Tech Team produces the live-stream of our weekly worship service and other educational opportunities to reach a broader audience. Our ministry touches those who are homebound and can't come to the service in person, and many former St. John's parishioners who have moved out of the area but still want to stay connected through our worship service each week. The team is anchored by one expert and supported by volunteers. It's the perfect job for teens and young adult volunteers. Contact Johnna Story ([johnna.story@finnegan.com](mailto:johnna.story@finnegan.com)), parishioner.

## Welcome Ministry

A warm welcome and friendly hospitality are hallmarks of St. John's at all Sunday services! St. John's Welcome Teams, including Ushers and Greeters, offer parishioners and guests their first welcome at the door, with a smile, handshake, and service bulletin. Youth and their families are especially encouraged to serve together as Welcome Teams. Teams usually serve for a month at a time on a rotational basis, but the schedule is flexible, and substitutions are easily accommodated. For the 9:00 am service, contact Scott McNulty ([scottmcnulty.sm@gmail.com](mailto:scottmcnulty.sm@gmail.com)); for the 11:15am service, contact Cheri Espersen ([c\\_espersen@msn.com](mailto:c_espersen@msn.com)), parishioners



# Grow in Mind, Body and Spirit

*At St. John's, we believe that growing in mind, body, and spirit is an essential part of growing as a disciple of Christ. How will you grow?*



## Adult Education Hour

St. John's adult education hour offers a chance to grow together in our faith through a variety of stimulating presentations, conversations, and other offerings. Join us on Sunday mornings at 10:15 as we deepen our understanding of self, community, and discipleship through speaker series, adult confirmation classes, seasonal topics, and other discussions on diverse and pertinent topics. Contact the Rev. Sari Ateek ([sateek@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:sateek@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Rector.

## Bible Study

Join fellow parishioners and friends for an in-depth Bible Study online on Mondays at 7 pm, and Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Seekers and doubters are most welcome. Contact the Rev. Sari Ateek ([sateek@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:sateek@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Rector.





## Church School

Join the fun and dedicated group of volunteers who teach church school classes on Sunday mornings from September to June. The team is comprised of teachers who love helping children and young adults from 3 years to 12<sup>th</sup> grade learn about Christ's teachings, and grow in community, character, and creativity. Teachers work in teams and training is provided. Rotational schedules are available. Contact Dawn Molloy, ([dmolloy@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:dmolloy@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Director for Children, Youth and Families Ministry (CYF), or Marny Helfrich ([cyf@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:cyf@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Assistant to CYF.

## Education for Ministry (EfM)

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a seminar-based theological education program for lay people. EfM focuses on theological reflection and study of the Bible and other relevant writings. We share insights and discoveries in a confidential setting, deepening friendships and our sense of how to live faithfully. We bring the Christian tradition into conversation with our experiences of the world. You can sign up for one academic year at a time in this 4-year program from the The School of Theology of the University of the South. Please join us! Contact Barbara Ordway ([ordwaybp@gmail.com](mailto:ordwaybp@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Journey to Adulthood, "J2A"

Journey to Adulthood is a spiritual formation program for students in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades, which includes the modules Rite 13, J2A, and 4Ward. Through fun and food, friendships, Bible Study, service projects, outings, and prayer, young people learn what it means to be an adult in Christian community. The program includes exploration of the "3 S's" (self, spirituality, society), confirmation at the National Cathedral, and a high school pilgrimage. Contact Dawn Molloy ([dmolloy@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:dmolloy@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Director for Children Youth, and Families (CYF), or Marny Helfrich ([cyf@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:cyf@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Assistant to CYF.



## Norwood Parish Library/Library Council

Your library supports many ministries at St. John's by providing information and inspiration. Join the Library Council to help select new adult and children's materials, learn cataloging, advise readers, and research faith formation questions. Training is provided and time commitment is flexible. Contact Denise Galbo, ([denisegalbo@gmail.com](mailto:denisegalbo@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Exploring Spirituality Ministry

Building on our tradition, Exploring Spirituality offers Wednesday evening lay-led services in St. Mary's Chapel. Our vision includes a variety of personal worship experiences, including Compline and Evening Prayer to nourish souls, foster community, and fortify each of us for serving God in the world. Come for quiet, anticipating a peaceful hour – apart from the busy-ness of days – and prepare for rest with the guidance of the Spirit. Please contact Cindy Anderson ([cindy.h.anderson@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.h.anderson@gmail.com)) and Tom Hebert ([tom.hebert@bayardridge.com](mailto:tom.hebert@bayardridge.com)), parishioners.

# Build Community

We have many exciting opportunities to give life to St. John's mission: "building community at the crossroads of faith and life." Join us!

## Cooking and Baking with Love

The Cooking and Baking with Love ministry is full of parishioners that enjoy pouring their love into delicious food. We are available to provide a home cooked meal or delicious baked goods to others in need, in a life transition, or dealing with a difficult time. If you enjoy preparing food for others, we would love to have you join us. Contact Ellen & Chris

Kalisz ([ellen.whitesides@gmail.com](mailto:ellen.whitesides@gmail.com)), parishioners.



## Koinonia Fellowship Dinners

Table fellowship was an important part of Christ's ministry and is an essential part of Christian community. Join a Koinonia Dinner Group and meet periodically with fellow parishioners to build fellowship and close personal connections! Contact the Rev. Anne Derse ([aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement.

## 'Mens Book Group

Join fellow readers for conversation and fellowship. Contact Earle O'Donnell ([earle1odonnell@gmail.com](mailto:earle1odonnell@gmail.com)), parishioner.





## Men's Ministry

The Men's Ministry is currently very active in community engagement to address community needs. In normal times, the Ministry sponsors periodic Sunday evening cookouts and two annual events, a late summer all-parish gathering and a winter weekend retreat. Past retreats have focused on men and their work, men and their fathers, men and their brothers, and men and their children. Contact John Ross ([jfr@johnfross.com](mailto:jfr@johnfross.com)), parishioner.

## New Parents Ministry

The New Parents Ministry supports new parents by delivering soup and flowers, visiting if desired, and inviting the family to take part in a welcome ceremony during a Sunday worship service. Contact Carol May ([carolkafka@hotmail.com](mailto:carolkafka@hotmail.com)) or Lizzie Glidden-Boyle ([egliddenboyle@gmail.com](mailto:egliddenboyle@gmail.com)), parishioners.



## Parish Life

St. John's outstanding Parish Life volunteers provide warm hospitality for community events throughout the year with wonderful food, table fellowship, and the opportunity to connect with fellow parishioners in fun and relaxed settings. If you have a taste for hosting, organizing, cooking, baking, or just generally helping out with an enthusiastic and congenial team, join this dynamic group that is vital to St. John's community. Plan, publicize, cook, serve, decorate, and more with the Parish Life team. Time commitments and activities are flexible; sign up as your schedule allows. Contact Lee Walsh ([leecogburnwalsh@gmail.com](mailto:leecogburnwalsh@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Serving Seniors Ministry

St. John's is blessed to have a wealth of life experience, knowledge, and commitment-to-community in its senior members. The Serving Seniors Ministry seeks to tap that great resource by building intergenerational connections and supporting our seniors' engagement in service and the life of the church. Parishioners of all ages are invited to join! Contact Monica Zoll ([mpruitt3@hotmail.com](mailto:mpruitt3@hotmail.com)), parishioner.



## Stephen Ministers

Stephen Ministers are trained Christian caregivers who provide confidential, supportive listening to parishioners who seek spiritual support while facing personal challenges or making difficult life choices. The 50 hours of training required to be commissioned is offered periodically. Stephen Ministers typically meet once a week for one hour with their care receivers as long as needed and meet monthly with Stephen Leaders for supervision and continuing education once trained and commissioned. If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a Stephen Minister or if you or someone you know would like to have a Stephen Minister, please contact Rob Hartmann ([rhartmann6948@gmail.com](mailto:rhartmann6948@gmail.com)), Sandie Stoianovici ([stoianovici@netscape.net](mailto:stoianovici@netscape.net)) or Penny Winder ([pwinder44@gmail.com](mailto:pwinder44@gmail.com)), Stephen Leaders and parishioners.

## .St John's PRIDE Alliance

St John's PRIDE Alliance is a group of LGBTQ+ parishioners and allies who create and provide support and safe space for each other and our beloved youth. Among other things, we seek to better understand issues important to the LGBTQ+ community and to lend our support and resources to addressing those issues. Contact Maya Crone ([scott\\_and\\_maya@verizon.net](mailto:scott_and_maya@verizon.net)) parishioner.





## St. John's Drama Troupe

Have you ever acted in or directed a play, or been involved in backstage activities such as designing or creating sets, costumes, lighting, or sound? Have you ever wanted to? Are you interested or experienced in front office activities like selling tickets, designing posters, programs, or advertising materials? St. John's Drama Troupe is for you! The Troupe plans readings and productions of adult dramas that deal with the human condition. Contact Rob Hartmann ([rhartmann6948@gmail.com](mailto:rhartmann6948@gmail.com)) or Emily Morrison ([emilylovemorrison@me.com](mailto:emilylovemorrison@me.com)), parishioners.

## Women's Book Group

Join St. John's women in stimulating conversation and fellowship over great literature! Contact Maire Hewitt ([maire.hewitt@gmail.com](mailto:maire.hewitt@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Womens Ministry

The Women's Ministry is a community of mutual support and fellowship. In the midst of our busy lives, we seek to nourish ourselves and each other. As women know, when we are cared for, we are better equipped to attend to the needs of others. The Women's Ministry organizes periodic Social Suppers and an annual retreat, and we are always open to new ideas. We keep an email list as a way to invite women to join other activities such as afternoon tea, morning walks, or museum outings. Anyone who identifies as a woman is welcome to join and share ideas for this developing ministry! Contact Roxy Wolfe ([wolferw@icloud.com](mailto:wolferw@icloud.com)) or Mary Packard-Winkler ([marypackwink@gmail.com](mailto:marypackwink@gmail.com)), parishioners.



# Make a Difference

*St. John's embraces service in our church community, in our broader neighborhood, and in the world, living our commitment to love our neighbor as ourselves. All are invited to get involved in the diverse opportunities outlined below. Come help us make a difference – your energy and individual gifts are welcome and valued.*

## **Books to Prisons Ministry**

DC Books to Prisons provides free books to individual prisoners and supports prison libraries. Work is done solely by volunteers using donated time and resources. DC Books to Prisons is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that each year sends more than 7,000 book packages to prisoners in over 600 prisons in the United States. The organization serves state and federal prisoners in 34 states.

Contact Peg Sanders

([mhsanders02@gmail.com](mailto:mhsanders02@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## **Clothing Ministry**

The Clothing Ministry is an opportunity to give life to St. John's mission: "building community at the crossroads of faith and life." This ministry reaches out to those in need, whether they are current residents or have recently arrived, with only the clothes they are wearing and no money to purchase clothing or personal care items. The Clothing Ministry makes a difference in the lives of those in need. Volunteers welcome! Contact Denyse Corrado ([dcdrcorrado@gmail.com](mailto:dcdrcorrado@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Eco- Action Team

The Eco-Action Team promotes consciousness of our charge to steward God's creation and offers opportunities to explore and enjoy its beauty. Join in spiritual nature hikes and other activities to promote environmental responsibility. Contact Jane Houlihan ([jhoulihan@me.com](mailto:jhoulihan@me.com)) or Carolyn Peirce([peircecst@verizon.net](mailto:peircecst@verizon.net)), parishioners.

## Faith in Action Coordinating Committee

Our Faith in Action (FIA) team promotes consciousness of and opportunities for engagement on a broad range of social justice issues, including fighting hate and racism and promoting gender equality and immigrant rights. The group meets the first Sunday of every month at 12:30 p.m. Contact Penny Winder ([pwinder44@gmail.com](mailto:pwinder44@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Gun Violence Prevention Group (GVP)

Join fellow parishioners in efforts to prevent and reduce gun violence through prayer, education, and action. The Gun Violence Prevention (GVP) Ministry meets on the third Sunday of the month at 12:30 pm and all are welcome. Contact Margaret Hilton ([mhilton8@gmail.com](mailto:mhilton8@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Holy Land Committee

The Holy Land Committee (HLC) builds knowledge of the Holy Land and engagement with its issues and people. Join in working to promote education, support humanitarian projects related to the Holy Land, and engage in advocacy and in activities which deepen connections among Christians, Muslims, and Jews. This committee meets on the fourth Sunday of every month at 12:30. Contact Nancy Adams ([njadams1@verizon.net](mailto:njadams1@verizon.net)) or Kirk Campbell ([kirkcruachan@yahoo.com](mailto:kirkcruachan@yahoo.com)), parishioners.



## Humanitarian Response Committee

Love and serve others through community projects and activities supported by St. John's Humanitarian Response Committee (previously known as the Outreach Committee), which allocates a portion of St. John's funds to humanitarian non-profits, disaster relief efforts, and other St. John's ministries. The Committee also oversees hands-on community engagement efforts by the parish. We welcome your ideas for such efforts! Contact Peter Plocki ([peter.plocki@dot.gov](mailto:peter.plocki@dot.gov)), parishioner.



Projects and activities supported by the Humanitarian Response Committee include:

- **American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem (AFEDJ)** – St. John's supports a nurse's salary at St. Luke's Hospital, Nablus, West Bank through AFEDJ and has also taken on special fundraising projects such as raising money for a new ambulance and an ultrasound machine for St. Luke's and contributing to the operating budget of Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza. Contact the Rev. Anne Derse ([aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement.
- **Bethesda Cares** – St. John's conducts periodic toiletries drives for those experiencing homelessness in Bethesda. Contact Denyse Corrado ([dcdrcorrado@gmail.com](mailto:dcdrcorrado@gmail.com)), parishioner.
- **Bethesda Help, Inc.** Bethesda Help is a local all-volunteer non-profit that provides food and limited financial assistance to those in need in the Greater Bethesda area. Contact Peter Plocki ([peter.plocki@dot.gov](mailto:peter.plocki@dot.gov)), parishioner.
- **Betty Ann Krahnke Center** – The Betty Ann Krahnke Center (BAK) is Montgomery County's emergency shelter for victims of domestic abuse and intimate partner violence. Contact Carolyn Schugar ([frank.schugar@comcast.net](mailto:frank.schugar@comcast.net)), parishioner.

- **Bishop Walker School** – Bishop Walker School is a tuition-free school of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington for boys from traditionally underserved communities. Contact Peter Plocki ([peter.plocki@dot.gov](mailto:peter.plocki@dot.gov)), parishioner.
- **Housing Up** – Help furnish apartments for families moving from homeless shelters into their own homes. Contact Earle O'Donnell ([earle1odonnell@gmail.com](mailto:earle1odonnell@gmail.com)), parishioner.
- **Interfaith Works Women's Community-Based Shelter** – Join a team to prepare a meal for homeless women in transition at the Women's Community-Based Shelter in Rockville, Maryland. St. John's provides meals for one week twice a year, usually in February and August. Contact Rick McUmbur ([mcumber@gmail.com](mailto:mcumber@gmail.com)), parishioner.
- **Lutheran Social Services** – St. John's works with LSS on a range of activities, including our Refugee Ministry (see below). Contact Nancy Adams ([njadams1@verizon.net](mailto:njadams1@verizon.net)), parishioner.
- **Nourishing Bethesda** – Nourishing Bethesda is a church-led coalition of many local community partners and the County that seeks to meet important needs in our broader community, create discipleship opportunities, and build a stronger community response to food insecurity. There are many ways you can help! Contact John Ross ([jfr@johnfross.com](mailto:jfr@johnfross.com)), parishioner.
- **Rozana** –Rozana is an interfaith coalition that builds relationships between Israelis and Palestinians through healthcare. Contact the Rev. Anne Derse ([aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement.
- **Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington** Serve those experiencing homelessness and unemployment through administrative support, resume writing, computer mentoring, and more. Contact Roxy Wolfe ([wolferw@icloud.com](mailto:wolferw@icloud.com)), parishioner.
- **Seabury Resources for Aging** Seabury Resources for Aging® provides personalized, affordable services and housing options to help older adults in the greater Washington, D.C. area live with independence and dignity. Contact Suzanne Welch ([suzanne Welch@comcast.net](mailto:suzanne Welch@comcast.net)), parishioner.
- **Shepherd's Table** Join St. John's Shepherd's Table team by shopping and delivering ingredients, cooking chili, and serving dinner to those experiencing homelessness at Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring, Maryland. We cook and serve dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month. Contact Julia Andrews ([juliaandrews@netscape.net](mailto:juliaandrews@netscape.net)), parishioner.
- **A Wider Circle** – A Wider Circle offers a range of volunteer opportunities to help fight poverty through educational programs and furnishing homes. Contact the Rev. Anne Derse ([aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement.



## Immigrant and Refugee Ministry

St. John's has a long tradition of supporting refugee families, including two from Vietnam in the early 1980s, recently, families from Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gaza and the southern border. Volunteers help find and furnish housing, raise funds, tutor, organize medical care and employment, and help in financial planning.

Contact Nancy Adams  
([njadams1@verizon.net](mailto:njadams1@verizon.net)), parishioner.

## Interfaith Ministry

St. John's seeks to build strong connections with other faith traditions through our engagement with the Interfaith Council of Greater Washington, the Montgomery County Faith Community Advisory Group, and relationships with diverse local faith communities, including Jewish, Muslim, and Sikh partners. Please join us in engagement with brothers and sisters of other faiths! Contact the Rev. Anne Derse ([aderse@stjohnsnorwood.com](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.com)), Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement



## Interfaith Works Women's Community-Based Shelter

Join a team to prepare a meal for homeless women in transition at the Women's Community-Based Shelter in Rockville, Maryland. St. John's provides meals for one week twice a year, usually in February and August. Contact Rick McUmbler ([rmcumber@gmail.com](mailto:rmcumber@gmail.com)), parishioner.



## Nourishing Bethesda

Nourishing Bethesda is a coalition of St. John's, many local community partners and the County that seeks to meet important needs in our broader community, create discipleship opportunities, and build a stronger community response to food insecurity. There are many ways you can help! Contact John Ross ([jfr@johnfross.com](mailto:jfr@johnfross.com)), parishioner.

## Olive Oil Ministry

The Olive Oil Ministry is a subset of the Holy Land Committee. As part of a larger inter-congregational effort, the Olive Oil Ministry raises awareness of the Middle Eastern conflict, promotes peace by selling olive oil on select Sundays, and donates the proceeds to Tent of Nations, an organic farm near Bethlehem owned by the Palestinian Christian Nassar. Tent of Nations seeks to build bridges between people, including neighboring Jewish and Muslim communities, and between people and the land. Contact Helen Habiby ([helenhabiby@yahoo.com](mailto:helenhabiby@yahoo.com)), parishioner.



## Opportunity Shop

St. John's Opportunity Shop, a non-profit consignment and thrift store just two blocks from the church (4504 Walsh Street), supports our community and many parish efforts through the sale of donated and consigned items. If you have a talent for retail or management, join the Op Shop team. Volunteer as your schedule permits. Shop assistants and cashiers are especially welcome, and the time commitment is only a couple of hours a week. Contact Maire Hewitt ([mair.hewitt@gmail.com](mailto:mair.hewitt@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Racial Justice and Equity Committee

Our Racial Justice and Equity (RJE) Committee seeks to build a shared vision of the "Beloved Community." We seek to foster a welcoming

and inclusive congregation through sustained efforts to undo structures and practices of racism and white privilege within the congregation and in the broader community. Contact Bill Raisner ([wraisner@gmail.com](mailto:wraisner@gmail.com)) parishioner.



### s'Shepherd Table

Join St. John's Shepherd's Table team by shopping and delivering ingredients, cooking chili, and serving dinner to those experiencing homelessness at Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring, Maryland. We cook and serve dinner on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month. Contact Julia Andrews ([juliaandrews@netscape.net](mailto:juliaandrews@netscape.net)), parishioner.

### Social Justice Advocacy Committee

Our advocacy team was founded to amplify St. John's efforts to fight for social justice in our community. To this end, we seek to develop relationships with those who govern our county, state, and country and to lend our voices to the marginalized. Contact Lisa Raisner ([lraisner@gmail.com](mailto:lraisner@gmail.com)) or Annelise Hafer ([annelisehafer@yahoo.com](mailto:annelisehafer@yahoo.com)), parishioners.



## Ukrainian Support Group (USG)

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Support Group (USG) was created to provide parishioners opportunities for prayer, action and financial support for the people of Ukraine. Our partner in this effort is St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Silver Spring, Md. Led by Father Volodymyr Steliac who works directly with the Ukrainian government, St. Andrew is the premiere provider of humanitarian aid to Ukraine in our region. Direct fundraising efforts within St. John's and the outside community raised over \$30,000 allowing us to purchase a much-needed ambulance for Ukraine. The current focus of the USG is to help keep the war in Ukraine and the needs of the Ukrainian people top of mind with our parishioners and the community we serve and to explore opportunities to support Ukrainian refugees. Contact Sandie Stoianovici ([stoianovici@netscape.net](mailto:stoianovici@netscape.net)), or Rob Hartmann ([rhartmann6948@gmail.com](mailto:rhartmann6948@gmail.com)), parishioners.



# Leadership and Support

*St. John's is an active, growing parish and we rely on our strong lay leaders to provide the oversight and management needed to keep it thriving. There is a place for you!*



## Archives

Learn about the history of St. John's as you assist our archivist to maintain the records. Contact Cathy O'Donnell ([archives@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:archives@stjohnsnorwood.org)), parishioner and Archivist.

## Finance Committee

The St. John's Finance Committee works with the Vestry, clergy, and treasurer to oversee the church budget and finances. The committee meets one evening each month and participates in 1-2 budget planning sessions early in the year. Contact Nick Satriano ([nicksat@aol.com](mailto:nicksat@aol.com)), parishioner.



## Justice and Community Engagement Coordinating Committee

The Justice and Community Engagement Coordinating Committee (JC3) oversees all St. John's social justice and missional community engagement activities, including overall strategy, policy, and financing, on behalf of the Vestry. Members are appointed by the Vestry in accordance with the JC3 charter. Please contact the Rev, Anne Derse

([aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:aderse@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Deacon and Minister for Community Engagement.



## Legacy Giving

St. John's Legacy Giving Program assists parishioners to establish a plan to deal with possible incapacity during life and an estate plan to fulfill their personal and philanthropic goals after death, and encourages them to include St. John's in their wills, life insurance policies and pension plans. Legacy gifts provide a vital source of revenue to St. John's that will support our community for decades to come. We sponsor forums, write Crossroads articles, offer sample documents and meet with parishioners to help develop plans suitable for you. The Norwood Guild honors those who commit to make a legacy gift and the Norwood Saints includes those from whom we have received a legacy gift after their death. For more information or advice, please contact Earle O'Donnell, Legacy Giving Advisor, [earle1odonnell@gmail.com](mailto:earle1odonnell@gmail.com)

## Memorial Garden

22 Our Memorial Garden team assists with arrangements for interment in St. John's

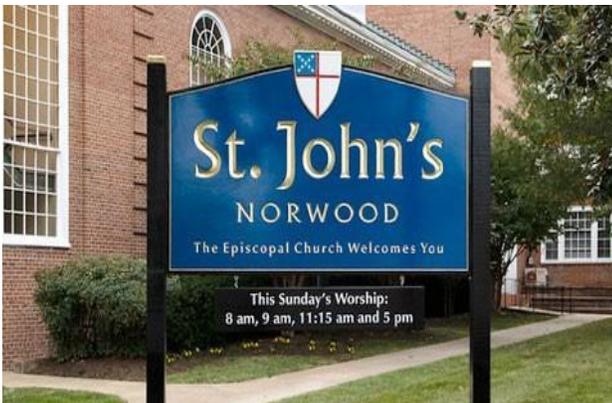


Memorial Garden. The vestry-appointed custodians carry out vestry policy regarding the Memorial Garden, meet with parishioners interested in interring ashes in the columbarium, and assist with other duties.

Contact Jim Rowley  
([rowleyjim9@gmail.com](mailto:rowleyjim9@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Memorials Committee

Help with memorial gifts made to St. John's in memory of loved ones. Oversee the acknowledgment of contributions and use of memorial funds. Help maintain "The Book of Remembrance." Contact Peter Plocki  
([peter.plocki@dot.gov](mailto:peter.plocki@dot.gov)), parishioner.



## Norwood Parish Fund (NPF)

The Norwood Parish Fund (NPF) helps make new ministries, programs, and special projects at St. John's possible. The NPF makes grants for new ministry start-ups, one-time projects and community engagement activities to serve St. John's mission. The board also educates parishioners on setting up legacy gifts to St. John's through their will, which contributes to the growth and sustainability of the fund. If you have a generous heart and a commitment to thoughtful, fair stewardship of resources donated to the fund, please consider applying to join the NPF Board. Board members are appointed. Contact Johnna Story  
([npf@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:npf@stjohnsnorwood.org)), parishioner.

## Personnel Committee

Work with the clergy and vestry to manage personnel matters at St. John's as our parish grows. Contact Carolyn Schugar  
([frank.schugar@comcast.net](mailto:frank.schugar@comcast.net)), parishioner.





## Property Committee

Help keep St. John's building and grounds beautiful and in good working order. The Property Committee is open to all and meets one evening a month to plan and execute projects. All parishioners are also invited to join in fun Saturday Beautification Days to keep our building and grounds in top shape. Plant flowers, paint walls, repair fences and furnishing, rake, prune, weed, mend, clean, fix, and install. Talk, laugh, connect with others, and have fun while making St. John's beautiful!

Contact Rick Seale ([rickseale@comcast.net](mailto:rickseale@comcast.net)), parishioner.

## Stewardship Committee

Help with St. John's annual fall pledge season, a mission-critical project that sets our budget for the year and gives us the resources to continue to grow into God's vision for our church. Work includes planning, publicity, web design, community engagement, and more. Contact Debra Parker ([debrap147@gmail.com](mailto:debrap147@gmail.com)) and Katherine Krule ([trout\\_2006@yahoo.com](mailto:trout_2006@yahoo.com)), Vestry members.



## Tellers

Our Tellers account for pledge payments and other income received during Sunday morning services. Each team of two tellers serves about once every five weeks for approximately a half-hour after in-person Sunday services to count money received. New volunteers are welcome and will be trained by experienced tellers. Contact

Penny Winder ([pwinder44@gmail.com](mailto:pwinder44@gmail.com)), parishioner.

## Vestry

Join the “Board” of the church – run for the Vestry! Elections are held every April at the Annual Parish Meeting. Vestry members serve one-, two-, or three-year terms. The Vestry meets the second Tuesday of each month. Contact Kevin Kehus ([seniorwarden@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:seniorwarden@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Senior Warden, or Janet Hall ([juniorwarden@stjohnsnorwood.org](mailto:juniorwarden@stjohnsnorwood.org)), Junior Warden.



September 5, 2024