

The MESSENGER

ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH



SEPTEMBER 2020

ONLINE SERVICES CONTINUE

For those parishioners that do not feel safe coming back to church, we will be continuing to offer the service online. You may join on Zoom or watch Facebook live. If you cannot join at 10 AM, you may watch at your convenience on our St. James Episcopal Church facebook page or on our webpage stjamesnewcastle.org

We have had up to 18 for Eucharist and 5-15 for MP.



RESUMING STUDY ON ZOOM

We will be restarting our Lenten Study, "Anxious for Nothing" as a Zoom class. It is a 6 week study and we will start on Tuesday, September 8th at 3 PM and meet each Tuesday through October 13th. Our study was interrupted by the anxiety provoking COVID-19 and everyone should have a lot of fresh insights to share. If you want to attend but don't have internet, let Marilyn or Pat know and we'll help if we can.

SEARCH COMMITTEE FORMED

The Bishop's Committee met with Jennifer Phelps from the Diocese recently regarding the Search process. The committee consists of Marilyn Witt, Sonny Carter, and John Thompson from the BC and Carolyn Shupert and Cindy Bullard.

We will all be meeting for Holy Conversations as we discern our wants and needs for our future at St. James. We have to find the best way for everyone to be involved. For those that do not have internet, we want to connect you with someone that does for a Zoom meeting.

PRECONVENTION EDGE

NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

There is a Zoom call, Tuesday, September 29th at 7pm for Clergy, Wardens, and Delegates and Alternates to convention. One advantage of Zoom is we can record the session if you are unable to make it and send you the link. They will send out the link for the meeting a week ahead of time.

CONVENTION NOVEMBER 7TH, 2020

This year we will have a one day Zoom meeting for convention.



FORMING A TECH COMMITTEE

Cindy Bullard has learned to use the Mevo camera and Zoom to help with worship to be seen online. Marilyn Witt and Aimee Chapman will be soon. If you have an interest in doing this, I would be forever grateful. Let me know. Pat Carter

NEW WEBSITE

Cindy Bullard is in the process of creating a new website on SquareSpace. The Diocese has asked us to take over the financial responsibility of the website they had been providing. Thank you, Cindy!

BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the BC will be on Wednesday, at 6:30 PM, September 9th. We will be meeting on Zoom.

DOK MEETING

There will be a DOK meeting on September 16th at noon for social time and the meeting at 12:30. You will get a ZOOM invite by email.

HEALING RETREAT

Because of COVID concerns, it has been decided to wait until Lent, 2021 to hold our retreat. It will be on Saturday, March 13. More details will come later. Everyone already registered will be contacted.

SCHEDULE

There is not a schedule again this month. Thanks for stepping up and doing what needs to be done at the last minute. Deacon Barry will be here the 1st and 3rd Sundays with Father Jeff Bessler.

BISHOP MICHAEL CURRY'S PODCAST

THE WAY OF LOVE is the Bishop's Podcast. He speaks with other people in the faith community about current issues. You can listen to it by searching your browser. They are very uplifting and faith filled.

I was just listening to one from May 18th where he was talking to Teddy Reeves about the being in the midst of a pandemic and the future of the church and millennials. He referred to the pandemic and resorting to online church as an example of how the future may need to look. Millennials have been saying for years that we need to embrace technology to embrace untraditional ways to be the church to people that don't want to come to a building at a set time. Full of wisdom.

THANKS

Shawn from the AA group power washed the front patio cement. It looks much better. They have been meeting outside.

Virtual Assembly for Episcopal Women's Ministry

Episcopal Women's Ministries Fall Retreat September 25 and 26 on Zoom

Living our Call as Disciples – a Virtual Retreat

Led by the Reverend Canon Kristin White ALL are welcome to participate – women, men, couples, youth; from the. Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis or beyond Registration is FREE!
Here is the registration link: https://bit.ly/EWM_Fall20 Call-in, audio-only option available.

Zoom DOK DIOCESAN ASSEMBLY

THEME: There is a balm in Gilead.

October 17th, 9 AM to 1230 PM

Registration is in the Diocesan Newsletter sent by Marilyn on July 24th.

Greetings,

It is a great honor to serve as Senior Warden. I would like to thank all of you who have been so kind and supportive. We have a lot of positive momentum in our small church. I am so impressed with the number of volunteers that quietly, but faithfully, serve in their own way, week after week. It is wonderful to see all of you getting involved and taking the initiative to serve, from learning new ways to have Zoom church services and other events remotely during this Pandemic, to planning worship services and music, to working on a new website, to cleaning, making calls, and more.

Who knew when the year began and we were starting the search for a new priest that Covid 19 would come along and change our world as we knew it. I certainly didn't know I was going to fall and break a wrist and shoulder to make my life even more difficult.

We are now, once again, into the Transition Process with Jennifer Phelps leading us. She is working with the Bishop's Committee and the Search Committee to show us the way. The Search Committee has been chosen and is: John Thompson, Sonny Carter, Carolyn Shupert, Cindy Bullard, and Marilyn Witt. You are all now on the "Prayer Committee". We all can use prayers. We will begin working

together to gather data to create a new profile through Holy Conversations.

Everyone will be involved. The search committee will figure out just how to do this. Some will be remotely and perhaps some can be in person. We want everyone's thoughts. Think about:

Who have we been?

Who are we now?

Who is God calling us to be?

One of the things we are working on is improving our website, which will include relevant and up-to-date information on the church and the search process, for the benefit of both potential candidates and Thank you, Cindy Bullard for working on this.

My hope and prayer for the coming months is that we continue drawing closer as a church family, that we recognize and embrace the many blessings that we have, and that we put our trust in God that we will find the priest that He has prepared for us.

Thank you for your confidence, thank you for your trust, and thank you for all that you do to make St. James a great place to worship.

Marilyn

