

AUGUST 2023



St. John Journey

www.stjohnabingdon.org

Council President's Corner

The heat and humidity of this last week in July reminds me that summer is fully upon us. Council typically takes off the month of July and doesn't meet. This July is no different; but that doesn't mean that we (Council) aren't busy preparing for the second half of the year. On the contrary, the second half of the calendar year is a busy time for Council and the St. John congregation. Here is a hodge-podge of information for you to think about moving forward into the rest of this year.

In June, Council established a nominating committee consisting of Ken Croghan, Chris Meacham, and Dave Morris (these three folks are rotating off Council at the end of 2023). When you see these folks, thank them for volunteering. And don't be surprised if you are approached by one of them and asked if you are willing to serve on Council. Better yet, be bold, and approach one of them and put your name in the hat. If you want to see first hand how the business of the Church is conducted, then serving on Council is a great way to experience this.

Our August Council meeting will reflect a full agenda and make for a busy night. The nominating committee will report back to Council with a list of those persons agreeing to put their names in the lot. Additionally, we will set the date for the September congregational meeting (typically the third Sunday of the month) when we will elect three new Council members. We will also begin planning for the annual stewardship campaign as well as initiate preliminary work on the annual budget for 2024.

Also in August, St. John will host a second conference-wide evangelism workshop on the 20th. Pastor John Wertz, Assistant to the Bishop will lead the workshop. This is a great opportunity to showcase St. John and simultaneously learn more about modern-day evangelism in a parish and community like ours. We hope to have a big turn-out from St. John folks.

September – November will focus on budget planning and stewardship. From a congregational perspective, I would also like to have another stewardship fair in September / early October with tables set up by all the standing committees, ad-hoc committees, working groups, etc. As we continue to return to pre-pandemic ways and physically doing more such as ushering, reception, counting, etc., we need more folks to volunteer. Please consider using your various time and talents in this regard.

Finally, December is always the time of year when we conclude the calendar year and start the church year. Typically, we will hold our annual congregational meeting on or about the 2nd Sunday of December to ratify a budget. I've always thought it was interesting that that we consider budget approval during the same time that Advent is beginning. Literally, Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "arrival" or "come into," as in Jesus coming into the world for us.

I am looking forward to working with each of you to successfully complete our goals and objectives for the remainder of this year. I also look forward to the new year and ask that each of you prayerfully consider how you can contribute time, talent, and resources to successfully accomplish the work of the church, our church.

Peace and Blessings,

Bill



Prayer Chain

Joanna Wolfe
Kathy Smith
Bob Murphy
Richard Brumleve
Joel Rosen
Dallas Church
Holly Salmon, Joan Shaver's daughter

Peg Curphey
Dennis Bailey
Tony Hogston
Erik Flynn
Chris Hale
Taulbee Cherry

We pray for all on the front lines: doctors, nurses, medical personnel.

We pray for the homebound: Marty Dunn, Vickianne Dotten, Ann Godsey, Barbara Wright, Nancy King, Betsy Bohham

If you have names to add (or ones to be taken off) the prayer chain, please email Joan at the church office.

REMINDER: NO WORSHIP SERVICE AT ST. JOHN ON SUNDAY JULY 30TH--We will join the Highlands Conference for an 11:00AM Service at Hungry Mother Lutheran Retreat Center, followed by the Annual Corn Roast.

Sunday August 20th--3-5PM

Highlands Conference Evangelism Workshop, St. John Fellowship Hall. Pastor John Wertz, Assistant to the Bishop, will lead the workshop. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Hymnal Supplement in the Pews

St. John has purchased 60 copies of All Creation Sings, the new supplement to the ELW. 15 copies have been allocated for the choir, and the rest have been placed in the pews. Look for more new hymns in upcoming worship services as we utilize the new hymnals rather than having to print an insert.

August Birthdays

August 1--Frank Morris
August 2--Ken Croghan
August 3--Ed Davis
August 5--Charlie Garnett
August 11--Joan Shaver
August 13--Carolyn Church
August 14--Joel Rosen
August 19--Vickianne Dotten
August 24--Jared Kluttz
August 26--Sue Croghan

If we missed your August birthday, please let the church office know.

Volunteers for August

Sunday August 6
Lay Asst.: Joan Shaver , Lector :Bill Spencer
Ushers: , Altar Guild:
Sunday August 13
Lay Asst :Ed Davis, Lector :Helen French



Ushers: , Altar Guild:

Sunday August 20

Lay Asst.: Linda Garnett, Lector: Charlie Garnett

Ushers: , Altar Guild:

Sunday August 27

Lay Asst.:Ken Croghan , Lector: Dave Morris

Ushers: Sue Croghan, Don Williams,

Altar Guild:

Sign-up sheets for Usher and Altar Guild are on the bulletin board. There is also one for after church snacks.

Please find someone to trade with if you cannot serve your assigned Sunday.