

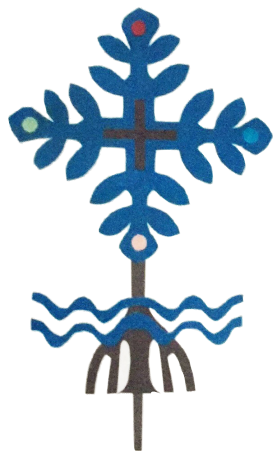
# ST. JOHN'S WAY



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ST. JOHN'S BROAD CREEK  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
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Fort Washington, Maryland 20744  
Office Phone: 301.248.4290  
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[www.stjohnsbroadcreek.org](http://www.stjohnsbroadcreek.org)



## THE ST. JOHN'S PRAYER

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for St. John's, Broad Creek. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, restore the penitent, draw the seekers, and increase our numbers. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your Holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## VISION STATEMENT

St. John's will continue to grow as a positive source of comfort and love in the lives of our diverse parish family. The surrounding community will come to know us as a welcoming, inclusive shelter in a world of uncertainty, and a source of help in crisis.

## MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's Church is an inclusive community of faithful believers and earnest seekers, where worship is the foundation of our common life, and where the Holy Spirit moves us to gather and thrive as a loving extended family while reaching out to serve our neighbors with the Good News of God's Love.



# Off-Road Ministry

TOD BOLSINGER

## CANOEING THE MOUNTAINS

CHRISTIAN  
LEADERSHIP IN  
UNCHARTED TERRITORY

I am reading a book on Christian leadership:

**Canoeing the Mountains ~ Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory.**

The book is by **Tod Bolsinger**, who after many years in church ministry is now a professor at

Fuller Theological Seminary.

Bolsinger uses the story of Lewis and Clark's expedition to explore the Louisiana Purchase as a driving analogy for his book. **Meriwether Lewis and William Clark** set off believing they would be able to canoe their way across the country. They believed, like everyone before them, that the unexplored west was exactly the same geography as the familiar east. The Rockies were a HUGE surprise! Bolsinger claims that churches are facing uncharted territory, if we can adapt and



Tod Bolsinger



FROM THE PULPIT

adventure as Lewis and Clark did when they found themselves unprepared for their future, we can thrive.

Bolsinger argues that two forces have rendered the religious landscape unnavigable using old models for ministry. 1) After centuries of relative stability with slow, incremental change, in less that one generation our world has become VUCA: volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous. 2) We live in a post-Christian/Religion world. Extracurricular activities from music lessons to sports participation are considered by most parents to be more effective at forming good character in our children (and getting them accepted to good colleges!) than the church. Spirituality has become wildly popular but so deeply individualistic that the fastest growing "religious affiliations" among those under thirty are "none" and "spiritual-not-religious".



Meriwether Lewis and William Clark

The Rockies were "the most terrible mountains (Lewis and Clark) had ever seen." They were highly experienced river explorers; they had no experience scaling mountains. Lewis and Clark could have turned around and gone home, but instead they embraced the adventure and adapted their skills to tackle this new and unexpected terrain.





FROM THE PULPIT continued ...



The Rockies

St. John's made a similar decision when you decided to call a full-time rector. The sensible and prudent, financial decision might have been to hire part-time clergy...to turn around, go home...and wait to die. But no! Encouraged by +Bishop Mariann, you made the decision to embrace adventure. **You called me to be your 34th rector and I am grateful everyday.**

After only six months, you have already shown me your willingness to adapt. Our "experiments" with liturgy this summer were a small step in the right direction. **We are doing off-road ministry!** While we are not facing the Rockies like Lewis and Clark, we do have a significant adaptive obstacle looming over us. Scaling this obstacle will require new tools, new techniques, and new thinking.

For the past three decades, St. John's has been in a state of decline (along with many/most other churches and synagogues). For the last decade or so, St. John's has operated with a deficit budget – meaning we do not receive enough offering income to cover our expenses.

We have gotten very good at surviving. Surviving is not going to get us out of the ruts in which we are stuck.

**St. John's has too much to offer to just survive!**

To be a community that is rooted and reaching – striving to share God's love and mercy by serving those most in need – offering joy and radical hospitality – we need to thrive! In order to thrive, we must tackle the adaptive obstacle of financial sustainability. Our budget is so lean; it is like trying to do ministry with our hands tied behind our backs.

What makes St. John's a community worth investing in? What is your story? In the next days, you will receive a letter introducing our annual giving campaign – **To You All Hearts Are Open.** (You will recognize this line as coming from a prayer we hear almost every Sunday in worship!) What can you offer towards becoming a thriving church? Are you willing to offer a sustaining gift?

**We are doing ministry off-road!  
I am so grateful we are  
on this adventure together!**



The Rev. Sarah Dadds Oldersol





## DEAR ST. JOHN'S CHOIR

Paul Patton



Thank you all so very much for the wonderful farewell reception on Sunday! When I met with Sarah Odderstol the prior Tuesday, she told me the Vestry would be giving me something and also the Choir. However, I have to say I didn't really expect such an elaborate send-off as you prepared for me. Special recognition goes to Faith, Jana, and Marcia for organizing all the fabulous food, a veritable sit-down luncheon! If any of the men had anything to do with bringing food, thank you to you also in that regard.

Peter's beautiful painting, "St. John's, Broad Creek in the late afternoon" was an unforgettable gift, and is now hanging on my living room wall and will always remind me of the wonderful and loving people I served as Director of Music for almost two years. I suspect I will return in the future for some as yet unknown event at St. John's.

Thank you all for your faithfulness. I am grateful to Charles Day who arranged my coming to St. John's, and to the Wardens at the time, Don Horton and Edith Pulsack, to the Interim Rector, Steve Rorke, and to Jean Anderson-Jones, parish secretary, for giving me such a gracious and generous welcome into the Parish, and last but not least to your new Rector, the very gifted Sarah Odderstol, for our brief but fruitful collaboration of the last nearly 6 months.

Godspeed to all of you!  
And may God be with you till we meet again!

## THANK YOU ...

... Dr. Jean Eisenbrey for making each Sunday special for your St. John's family.

Your team spirit, limitless knowledge, and talent made it possible that our beautiful Sunday Services did not have to go without music.

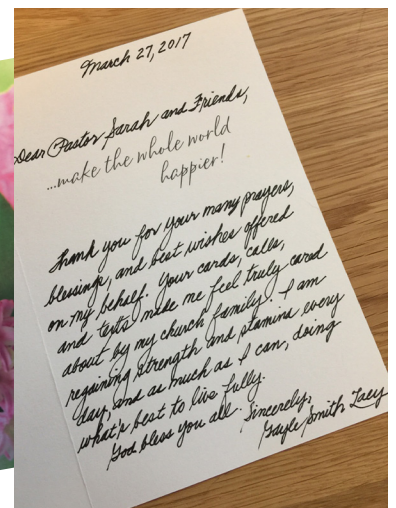
You provided music for our hearts and souls while the search for a new music director is being conducted.

Thank you for making our wait so much sweeter.  
(Birgitt Brevard)

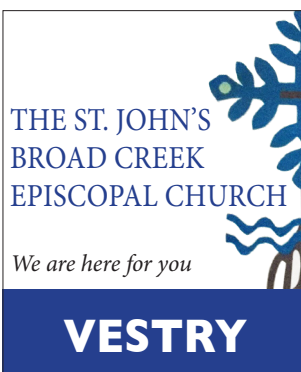
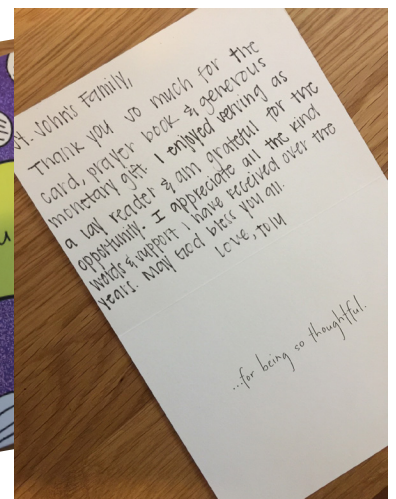


## ON THAT NOTE ...

THANK YOU from  
Gayle Alexis Smith Lacy



THANK YOU from  
Tolu Akindoba



### ST. JOHN'S VESTRY MEMBERS

Michael Lacy, Senior Warden  
Willy Alexander Junior Warden  
Jean Anderson-Jones, Secretary  
Barbara Duncan, Administration  
Karen Jones Herbert, Communications  
Peter Ulrich, Christian Formation  
Alan Ritter, Finance Chairman  
Peter Persell, Outreach  
Pam Ritter, Parish Life  
Robbie Pratt, Social Media  
Bea James, Treasurer  
Ruth Anne Cumberland, Worship  
Carol Thomas & Rudy Brevard, Pledge Clerks



## FINANCE



Alan Ritter,  
"Mr. Finance"

### THE FINANCE COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU AND YOU!

The membership of St. John's Finance Committee is down to its bare bones.

We need some new members to share with us the work we do for St. John's.

We meet monthly on the second Thursday evenings of each month with occasional small work assignments in between meetings.

We do not just crunch numbers at every meeting; we have many spirited discussions and decision making.

Please contact ALAN RITTER with your interest at 301.292.3490.

## PARISH LIFE

### WOW

- Is gearing up for the Annual Tea on September 30, 2017.
- In the next few weeks you will also notice new cabinets and sink in Bayne Hall.

### MEN MISSION

- Potholes are being filled in the parking lot - thanks to Mr. Thomas and Mr. Herbert.
- A group of men will be going to Potomac Landing to welcome the students back to school.
- Other projects and events will be forthcoming – stay tuned to the Newsletter and your weekly bulletin for announcements.

### CRAB FEAST

- The crab feast was a success and a big thank you for all of those that helped and to Sandra Bouchelion for all her arduous work in making this such a success.

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

- **September 24: ADULT FORM**  
*Between services – extended coffee hour.*

### PASTORAL CARE

- If you know of someone who is ill, in the hospital, or unable to get to church and would like a pastoral visit. Please leave their name in the little wooden box in the back of the Church or contact Diann Puzon or the Church Office.

### ACOLYTE TRAINING/RETRAINING

- If you are an ACOLYTE or interested in becoming an ACOLYTE, contact [stjohns1692@verizon.net](mailto:stjohns1692@verizon.net).

## RECYCLE FOR ST. JOHN'S

- **DON'T put your aluminum cans** (soft drink, beer, juice, etc.) in your county recycle bin! Small metal items, including aluminum cans may be dropped off at St. John's. Place items in the recycle bin or outside the kitchen door.
- **DON'T throw away scrap metal** (pipes, gutters, screens, aluminum siding, doors, etc.)!
- **DON'T let contractors take away old material** after having new gutters, siding, etc. installed! Call Kathy Mierke at 301.292.3624 for pick up.

Usual recycling pick-up is on Mondays and handled by Kathy and Jim.

**ALL METAL, INCLUDING COPPER, ALUMINUM, BRASS, AND IRON, WILL BE COLLECTED.**

All recycled material will be sold and all proceeds given to St. John's. For any questions, call Kathy at 301.292.3624.



*This is how it looks when we can't wait for Sunday Service to start.*

## REMINDERS







# THIS IS US

St. John's family members share their stories, accomplishments, trials, and tribulations

## EUDORA BALLET

Birgitt Brevard

The St. John's Family thanks the **Eudora Ballet Group** for joining us for worship and for their uplifting presentation. Four beautiful young ladies spoiled the congregation with their grace and talent.

Ms. Batts held a Ballet Summer Camp in Bayne Hall and is offering fall classes, beginning September 20. (More on page 8.)



## ST. JOHN'S SIXTH ANNUAL CRAB FEAST

Sandra Bouchelion

On August 5, St. John's once again, demonstrated its hospitality and community outreach at the **Sixth Annual "All You Can Eat" Crab Feast**. More than 200 people were treated to great food, fun, fellowship, games, and dancing for the young and young-at-heart.

Many thanks to our community sponsors, Darrah's Café, and Kalas Funeral Home. This year's event was made successful by all who attended and/or made donations. **Kudos to the terrific volunteers** that helped with logistics and made everything go smoothly.

We welcome your suggestions for improvement.

Mark your calendars for our next Crab Feast, scheduled for August 4, 2018.



## PRAYER CORNER



**HEAVENLY FATHER, GIVER OF LIFE AND HEALTH:** Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who Minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**Pray for** Archbishop of Canterbury: Justin; Presiding Bishop: Michael; Bishop of Washington: Mariann; Rector: Sarah

**Pray for** the President, the Armed Forces of the United States and our Allies, and for the people and emergent leaders of Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, Libya, and all the countries in the world that are in turmoil, as well as for our enemies and those who wish us ill. Pray for our Parish, especially our Staff, our Vestry and its Officers, and our Ministries and Committees.

**Pray for** Sarah Ballard, Nancy Bloemenshine, Richard Bowden, Claudia Brooks, Vincent Carter, Carole, Charles Gunter, Donita and Mark Jefferson, Anthony Less, Lana Neil, Alexis Mccann, Loretta Penn, Harry Whitehead, Walter Woodall.

Sylvia Blake, Ladeborah Boozer, Randy and Edie Burgess, Tony Carter, Barbara Drake, Jane Hudnall, Gordon James, the Mierke Family, Mitch Otera, Caitlin Meyers, Nancy Paleyan, Kay Trotter, the Uniake Family, and Suresh Verghese.

## 2017-2018 Post-Labor Day School Calendar

<b>July 4</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Holiday – Independence Day – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
August 21-23	Monday - Wednesday	Professional Duty Days for New Teachers
August 28-31	Monday - Thursday	Professional Duty Days for All Teachers
<b>August 30</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Professional Development</b>
August 31	Thursday	Systemic Orientation Day for Pre-K and Kindergarten Students
September 1	Friday	Professional Duty Day for All Teachers
September 1	Friday	Eid al-Adha*
<b>September 4</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Holiday – Labor Day – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
September 5	Tuesday	Systemic Orientation Day – New Gr. 6&7 Middle-Schoolers & New 9 <sup>th</sup> -Graders
September 6	Wednesday	First Day of School for All Students
September 21	Thursday	Rosh Hashanah*
<b>September 29</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Professional Development – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
September 30	Saturday	Yom Kippur*
October 19	Thursday	Diwali*
<b>October 20</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Professional Development – Schools Closed for Students</b>
<b>October 30</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Professional Development – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
<b>November 3</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Professional Development – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
November 9	Thursday	End of First Quarter (46 days)
<b>November 10</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Veterans Day (Observed) &amp; Parent-Teacher Conferences – Schools Closed for Students</b>
<b>November 13</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Professional Day for Teachers – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
<b>November 22-24</b>	<b>Wednesday - Friday</b>	<b>Holidays – Thanksgiving – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
<b>December 8</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Professional Development – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
<b>December 25-29</b>	<b>Monday - Friday</b>	<b>Winter Break &amp; Christmas Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
<b>January 1</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Winter Break – New Year's Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
<b>January 15</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Holiday – Martin L. King, Jr. Day – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
January 25	Thursday	End of Second Quarter (44 days)
<b>January 26</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Professional Day for Teachers – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
<b>February 9</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Professional Development – Schools Closed for Students<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>February 19</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Holiday – Presidents' Day – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
March 28	Wednesday	End of Third Quarter (42 days)
<b>March 29</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Professional Day for Teachers – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students</b>
<b>March 30 &amp; April 2</b>	<b>Friday &amp; Monday</b>	<b>Holidays – Easter – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
March 31-April 6	Saturday - Friday	Passover
<b>April 3-6</b>	<b>Tuesday - Friday</b>	<b>Spring Break – Schools Closed for Students and Teachers<sup>1</sup></b>
May 16	Wednesday	First Day of Ramadan
<b>May 28</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Holiday – Memorial Day – Schools and Offices Closed</b>
June 14	Thursday	Last Day of Ramadan
June 14	Thursday	2-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students <sup>1</sup>
June 15	Friday	Last Day for Students – 2-Hr. Early Dismissal – End of Fourth Quarter (48 days) <sup>1</sup>
June 15	Friday	Eid al-Fitr*
June 20	Wednesday	Last Day for Teachers <sup>1</sup>
<b>June 26</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Holiday – Primary Election Day – Schools and Offices Closed</b>

### IMPORTANT CALENDAR NOTES

- There are 180 student days and 192 teacher days (195 for new teachers).
- Jewish and Muslim holidays begin the day before at sunset. To avoid excluding students, families and staff from important meetings or activities, PGCPs prohibits scheduling these events on major holidays noted with an asterisk (\*) on this calendar. This restriction does not apply to state or regional events.
- Last days for students and teachers are subject to change.
- 10- and 11-month employees can refer to Bulletin M-1-18 for clarification on workdays.

### <sup>1</sup>INCLEMENT WEATHER MAKE-UP DAYS

Two inclement weather make-up days are built into the school calendar. If one day is used, the last day for students will be June 14 and the last day for teachers will be June 19. If no days are used, the last day for students will be June 13 and the last day for teachers will be June 18.

If schools are closed due to inclement weather for three or more days, the following non-school days may be used as make-up days: February 9, April 5 and April 6.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Provided by Jean Anderson-Jones

Dates and times are subject to change, please check with the office at **301.248.4290** or online at **www.stjohnsbroadcreek.org** for changes/updates.

## BIBLE STUDY\*

Wednesdays  
10:15 a.m. after Wednesday Worship  
and 7 p.m.

## YOGA

Mondays  
7 p.m.  
\$10 per session

## BROAD CREEK HISTORIC DISTRICT HISTORY LECTURE

Saturday, September 16  
3 p.m.

## FOOD PANTRY

Saturdays  
9:30 a.m.

## HOMEWORK HELPERS

Tuesdays  
7 p.m.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, September 14  
(Monthly on 2nd Thursday)  
7:30 p.m.

## VESTRY MEETINGS

Thursday, September 21  
(Monthly on 3rd Thursday)  
7 p.m.

## WORSHIP

Wednesdays  
9:30 a.m.  
Eucharist followed by Bible Study\*

Sundays  
8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

## LIFELINE SCREENING

Thursday, September 7  
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
For health screening appointments,  
call 1.888.653.6450.  
Flyers are available in the back of the church.

## TWO SERVICES

Beginning September 10, we will have  
two Services on Sundays  
(8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.)

## CELEBRATION OF NEW BEGINNINGS AND BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Sunday, September 10  
During both services, Pastor Sarah  
will bless all who are celebrating new  
beginnings and a new school year.

## WOW MEETING

Tuesday, September 12  
11 a.m.

## BALLET CLASSES

Beginning Wednesday, September 20  
Ages 10-16  
For information, call Ms. Batts  
at 301.575.4465.

## ADULT FORUM

Sunday, September 24  
(Between Services)

## WOW TEA

Saturday, September 30  
2-4 p.m.

## BROAD CREEK CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Open enrollment for  
2017-2018 school year.  
Openings available for  
2, 3, and 4 year olds.  
Contact Stephenie Ratty  
at 301.248.6665.

## ST. JOHN'S SHIRTS

Shirts are \$20 each.  
If you are interested, call Karen Herbert  
at 301.440.4294.



## AUGUST

John Bowman  
Jean Eisenbrey

Don Horton  
Susan Petroff  
Pam Ritter

## SEPTEMBER

Jonathan Brevard  
Merlin Petroff  
Sebastian Pratt

Diann Puzon  
Marty Stewart  
Rob Tyrrell





# ST. JOHN'S IS REACHING OUT

St. John's is gathering new school supplies to assemble kits for children in refugee camps and for needy children in the U.S. We are giving the kits to **CHURCH WORLD SERVICE (CWS)**. All contributions, large or small, are greatly needed. Money contributions will buy missing items and cover shipping and CWS's handling costs (\$2 per kit). Please bring supplies to church any Sunday, beginning September 3. **For more information, contact Peter Persell at 301.742.3975.**

## CWS KITS



### PROVIDE HOPE FOR TOMORROW

School Kits • Hygiene Kits  
Emergency Cleanup Buckets



[cwskits.org](http://cwskits.org)

## SCHOOL KITS

### Supplies needed:

- One pair of blunt scissors removed from package (rounded tip only)
- Three 70-count bound notebooks or notebooks totaling 200-210 pages (no loose-leaf or filler paper)
- One 30-centimeter, 12" ruler
- One hand-held pencil sharpener removed from package
- One large eraser (no pencil cap erasers)
- Six new, unsharpened pencils with erasers removed from package
- One box of 24 crayons
- One 12" x 14" to 14" x 17" finished cotton or lightweight canvas bag with handles (solid color and kid-friendly fabric; no logos, reusable shopping bags, or backpacks)

**This outreach initiative  
has no time limit - our children need  
support throughout the year.**



## LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

The deadline for the next issue of "St. John'S Way" is Thursday, September 21, 2017.

Submissions can be left in the newsletter box in the church office; either as hard copy, on CD, or on a flash drive. You also have the options to mail or email your submission, as well as sending it via fax to 301.248.7838.

Please email your letters, ideas, articles, comments, information, and questions to [Karenlynn47Herb@yahoo.com](mailto:Karenlynn47Herb@yahoo.com).

Always remember the September 21 deadline.

## ST. JOHN'S WAY



A publication for members and friends of St. John's Episcopal Church, Broad Creek

RECTOR: The Rev. Sarah Odderstol

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Vacant

OFFICE STAFF: Jean Anderson-Jones

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Birgitt Brevard

CREATIVE: Birgitt Brevard

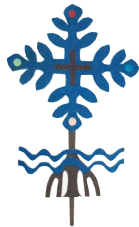
COMMUNICATIONS TEAM: Karen Jones Herbert, Pam & Alan Ritter, Jean Anderson Jones, Charles Day, DeHaven Colston, Birgitt Brevard, Michael Lacy, Rob & Marie Pratt

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