

# ST. JOHN'S WAY

**PAGE 10** *We need you more than ever!*  
**DONATIONS**  
 Make them online at [stjohnsbroadcreek.org](http://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

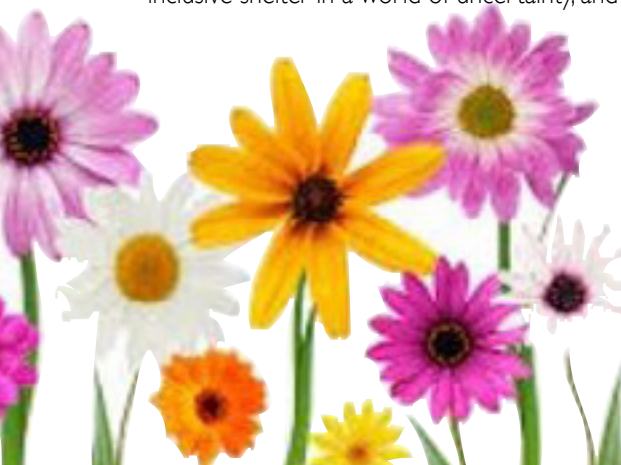
St. John's Church is an inclusive community of faithful believers and earnest seekers, where worship is the foundation of our common life, and where the Holy Spirit moves us to gather and thrive as a loving extended family while reaching out to serve our neighbors with the Good News of God's Love.

## MAY

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**ST. JOHN'S BROAD CREEK  
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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## FROM THE PULPIT



# Living With Uncertainty



The Rev. Sarah Douda Oldenstiel

The last time we worshipped in our Church together was March 8th and +Bishop Chilton was with us. Do you remember that? It seems like ages ago...and like yesterday. We know that stay-at-home orders will end and that we will once again gather around our altar for Holy Eucharist, but when that will be is still uncertain.

On April, 22, +Bishop Mariann released the beginning of guidelines for reopening our churches. She was VERY CLEAR that we cannot assume that we will be back in our spaces by May 16. (+Bishop Mariann originally set May 16th as a target date to reopen.)

In that press release, +Bishop Mariann wrote: *"In collaboration with our neighboring dioceses, we are working on guidelines for a **phased reopening of our churches**, along with a check-list of measures for each congregation to complete before being granted permission to resume public worship or face-to-face meetings. Such measures will include sanitation/cleaning policies, plans for physical distancing, strategies for public gatherings under the proposed number of people allowed.*

*Given our geography and diverse populations, the process of re-opening may not be uniform across the diocese, and officials have warned that we must also be prepared for re-closures in the future. I will have more specific information to share within the next two weeks, and I ask you to begin thinking of how your congregation can start preparing now for limited worship and face-to-face meetings."*

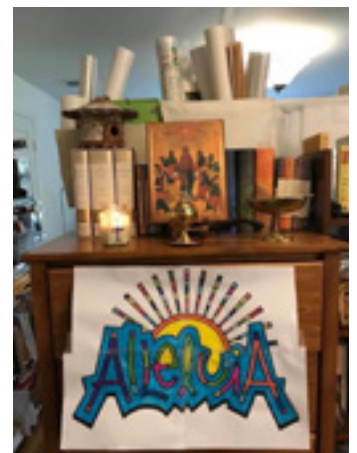
While we live with the uncertainty of when, we can trust that the Episcopal Diocese of Washington is working to provide us with guidelines that will allow us to resume gathering in our spaces as a community as safely as possible.

Covid-19 as made visible some of the great disparities that exist in our culture: access to medical care (PG County!!!), access to healthy food, people who have to GO to work vs people who can work from home...so many more. (Not to mention the new appreciation we have for educators and child care providers!)

There are so many people whose lives were already fragile with uncertainty; so many people pushed further to the margins by the Corona Virus crisis.

As some degree of certainty eases back into our lives, will we allow our blindness/numbness to socio-economic disparity to return as well? Much of Jesus' ministry was centered on addressing the injustices of the religious/governing bodies of his day. Jesus died because he believed (and taught and lived) that all people are worthy of God's love and mercy.

Of this we can be certain: the God who created us loves us! As Christians, following Jesus means sharing this love. We actually promise to do so – with God's help! Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? (Baptismal Covenant BCP293) Has your experience of the Covid-19 crisis changed the way you look at life? What you take for granted? How you cope with uncertainty? As we explore our new normal at St. John's, how might we expand our efforts to reduce socio-economic disparity and its inherent uncertainties for our neighbors? We are all in this life together – our wellbeing is inextricably tied up with the wellbeing of others. I am certain.



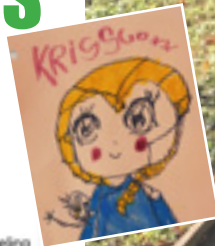




# ZOOM WITH



# ST. JOHN'S



Mariann Edgar Budge  
Friday at 5:21 PM · 13  
Should you wake up Easter morning feeling  
sad, scared, or strangely empty inside...





# “A WORLD UNITED”

Song Lyrics and **SOUND CLIP**

**Jan Nigro**

If Earth was attacked by monsters from outer space,  
Would we pull together as a human race?  
Oh tell me, is that what would have to take place,  
For us to be a world united?

And if the law of gravity changed today,  
So that things on Earth began to float away,  
Then maybe every country would start to say,  
We better think as a world united!

## CHORUS:

We don't need catastrophe,  
For us to see that were all family.  
Respect and understanding, that's what could bond us,  
It's not beyond us, I believe it... I believe it!

And if one day the sun decided to leave,  
And the whole world over people started to freeze,  
Oh tell me, would every nation then say "Please!,  
We've got to think as a world united!"

## CHORUS

We don't need catastrophe,  
For us to see that were all family.  
Respect and understanding, that's what could bond us,  
It's not beyond us, I believe it... I believe it!

And if nations feel the challenge to go to war,  
Let us see the day when they will say "NO MORE!"  
Oh let's accept the greater challenge and explore,  
The ways to be a world united!

Oh we could be a world united!





## REPORTS



We are still looking for volunteers to sign up for **COFFEE HOUR** following the 8 and 10:30 a.m. services. We are looking for teams of two people for each service who will commit to one

coffee hour for each quarter in 2020. This means each team will be responsible for up to four coffee hours in the year. If we get enough response, the number of coffee hours per team will be reduced. For hosts' planning purposes, a schedule will be prepared at the start of each quarter. The first schedule will cover February and March.

Responsibilities are simple: Set up coffee and juice, provide simple snacks, and clean up. Training will be available.

To volunteer, or for more information, please contact **Carol Thomas** by phone at **301.802.0165** or email at **jthomas498@verizon.net**. You can sign up with a partner or alone. Include your preference for 8 or 10:30 a.m. This is a gender-neutral activity! **Everyone is welcome.**



### THE ST. JOHN'S BROAD CREEK EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We are here for you

## VESTRY

#### ST. JOHN'S VESTRY MEMBERS

Betsy Winters, Senior Warden  
Karen Herbert, Junior Warden  
Jean Anderson-Jones, Secretary  
Sandra Bouchelion  
Erica Kallop  
Michael Lacy  
Sandra Rivera  
Kristen Wolfe Slattery  
Peter Ulrich

Alan Ritter, Finance Chairman  
Peter Persell, Outreach Chairman  
Bea James, Treasurer  
Carol Thomas & Rudy Brevard, Pledge Clerks

Alan Ritter, "Mr. Finance"



## MONEY MATTERS

Your St. John's Finance Committee is made up of volunteers who are responsible of planning, advising, executing, and reporting of financial information and processes benefitting St. John's. We meet on the second Thursday each month. All parish members are invited to any meeting and are encouraged to join us. **Free coffee and snacks at every meeting.** For questions, call ALAN at 301.292.3490.

## HOW TO DONATE ONLINE! NEW INSTRUCTIONS!

1. If you have a Realm account, sign into realm. If not, skip this step ... or better yet, email Betsy Winters (**betsywinters@gmail.com**) to get you signed up!
2. Go to **www.stjohnsbroadcreek.org/give** -- you can also get there via the St. John's Homepage by clicking "Donate Online" at the top right menu.
3. Fill out the form to submit your one-time or regular donation! Some options on the form:
  - A) Recurring donations: You can set it to give once per week, once every two weeks, once per month, or once per quarter!
  - B) Funds: Right now we have everything going to General Funds with this new system, but feel free to write details on the MEMO line if you'd like to designate monies for other funds or just to write details.
4. Click "Continue" and complete the steps to process your payment! You will have a couple more options:
  - A) ACH or Credit Card: ACH Bank Transfer is now available -- the exact same thing as writing a check, and less fees.
  - B) You will also have the option to offset the fees for the online banking service, which St. John's would greatly appreciate!

#### Then you're done! Hooray!

If you've logged into Realm, this donation will be automatically entered into your account. If not, we'll post the donation to your account as quickly as possible.

#### How To Donate via Text!

St. John's is excited to introduce giving via text! Text **StJohnsBroadCreek \$50 to 73256** and replace the \$\$ amount with the amount of your choosing! Then follow the instructions when you receive a text back.

#### Then you're done! Easy as pie!

NOTE: Standard text message rates apply.

#### ONLINE GIVING VIDEO



The **FOOD PANTRY** has been experiencing a higher volume of clients. While the Pantry can purchase most food items from the DC Food Bank, there are some necessary items that are not available. The St. John's Women's Ministry is collecting the following items: paper towels, toilet paper, toothpaste, tooth brushes, bars of soap, and deodorant.

We are asking the Parish to support this project by generously filling the baskets in the back of the church and in Bayne Hall. **THANK YOU!**

### *Praise and Thanksgiving* by Faith Elizabeth Chisholm

*When we all get together –  
What a day of Rejoicing that will be*

*When we all see each other –  
we will sing and shout for victory*

*What joy awaits us on that special day –  
when the Corona virus has passed away*

*We will greet each other with laughter, hellos and smiles –  
We'll sing praises to the Almighty that we are still here!*

*Oh! What a blessing that day will be –  
We will rejoice and thank God that we are still here and free*

*We pause to remember our family and friends  
who succumbed to the call and sad end –  
God bless their souls, think of them dearly  
with freedom and everlasting life –*

*What joy awaits us one day we will see them –  
there will be no more strife!*

*Peace and Love be with all...*



## IMPORTANT REMINDER

### 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. Questions? Call Kathy: 301.292.3624.

## MY HEART IS HEAVY

*Just a few days ago this beautiful gentle spirit left our world. Michael, a young man, 32 years of age, an talented artist. So much creativity. I remember talking to him about his art and what the future may hold for him - a long time ago. I knew he was gifted but did I really understand. His drawings, paintings, airbrushed murals, sculptures, etc. - his wisdom reached so far and touched so many.*

*While grief paralyzes, I believe he's in a better place. He has joined the grand circle of likewise minds and artists. I wonder what they are talking about, what questions he may ask them. Now he's roaming with artists of the past - gentle, still, beautiful. And maybe sometimes they let loose - dance, sing, scream, laugh - feeling the "The Unbearable Lightness of Being". Michael is not lost to us here. His spirit - his art - his warmth - his soulfulness will continue to inspire us, maybe makes us better. He's smiling at us. But we miss him so - and that really hurts.*



*The Sleuth is one of Michael's father's favorites. See that smile...*

**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.

*The following names will be prayed for aloud during the Sunday Service, and during the week in our daily prayers. They will remain on the prayer list until March 30, 2020. If you want them on the long term list, please call the church office.*

**Pray for** Paul, Autumn, Elizabeth, Larry, Sigismund, Faith, Thomas, Rhonda, Jane, Frank, Benji, and Isaac.

*The following names are to be prayed for during the week in our daily prayers. They will remain on the prayer list until March 30, 2020. If you want them to remain on the list, please call the church office.*

**Pray for** Connie Duncan, the Gholson Family, Charles Gunter, Gordon James, the Mierke Family, Lana Neil, and Mitch Otera.

# THIS IS US

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



- 1. Feed the hungry**  
Work at the Fort Washington Food Pantry for an hour a week or an hour a month.
- 2. Teach the children**  
Tutor a child with Homework Helpers on Tuesdays; Give school supplies for Church World Service School Kits.
- 3. Protect the vulnerable**  
Make a financial donation to PGC Family Crisis Center.
- 4. Help mothers, girls, and their children**  
Make a financial contribution to the United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church Women.
- 5. Support victims of natural disasters**  
Give to Episcopal Relief and Development and Church World Service.
- 6. Treat refugees and immigrants as you would treat other Americans**  
Engage with refugees and immigrants; discuss among ourselves how to do this best.
- 7. Be polite, smiling and kind to everyone you encounter**
- 8. Call, write, text, email and meet with elected officials** to let them know that you expect the to feed the hungry, teach the children, protect the vulnerable, help women, girls and children and respond compassionately and effectively to natural disasters.
- 9. You have many other great ideas. Share them!**

### YOU ARE NEEDED!

*Pastor Sarah, your vestry and those involved in these activities, are ready to provide practical advice on how you can get involved to help out.*

# PRAYER CORNER





# UPCOMING EVENTS

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](http://www.stjohnsbroadcreek.org)



## MAY

Barbara Duncan, Diane Miceli  
Ursula Neely, Ike Puzon  
Carol Thomas, Miles Rochester  
Marge Stevens, Angie Vereen

## STAY HOME - STAY HEALTHY - STAY TUNED

All public worship services and normal parish operations will be cancelled within the Episcopal Diocese of Washington and parish buildings will be closed until at least May 16. Check [www.edow.org](http://www.edow.org).

## SUNDAY SERVICE - WORSHIP - BIBLE STUDY

Please continue to check your emails for directions on accessing ZOOM.

Pastor Sarah, Deacon Joan, and Music Minister Libby are working diligently to provide you with spiritual support throughout these tough times.

### SALE! 2020 CALENDARS

Caleendars are \$10 each.  
Please see Sandra Bouchelon.

### SALE! PERSONALIZED BRICKS

Please see Karen Chapman for details.

### SALE! ST. JOHN'S SHIRTS FOR \$20 EACH

Call Karen Herbert at 301.440.4294.

### STEWARDSHIP GARDEN

Our stewardship garden is in need of pollinators. Thank you to all who planted seeds for growth and vitality by pledging to support St. John's financially in 2020. Erica Kallop created a beautiful poster for the Parish Hall as a visual representation of how you can extend your support of St. John's. The flowers represent items/areas of need at St. John's. You can indicate your intention to underwrite that need by placing a butterfly on a flower.



### CINCO DE MAYO,

or the fifth of May, is a holiday that celebrates the date of the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during

the Franco-Mexican War.

### THE MONTH OF MAY IS DESIGNATED FOR:

- Asian American Month
- Date Your Mate Month
- Foster Care Month
- Gifts from the Garden Month
- Lupus Awareness Month
- National Barbecue Month
- National Bike Month
- National Blood Pressure Month
- National Hamburger Month
- National Photograph Month
- National Recommitment Month
- National Salad Month
- Older Americans Month
- Pacific Islander Heritage Month

### THESE WEEKS IN MAY ARE DESIGNATED FOR:

- Nurse's Week - first full week of month
- Wildflower Week - week two
- National Bike Week - third week
- National Police Week - third week of month
- Emergency Medical Services Week - fourth week of month
- Second Chance Month
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month
- Stress Awareness Month
- World Landscape Architecture Month

### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

On Friday, April 17, State Superintendent of Education Dr. Karen Salmon announced that all Maryland public schools will be **closed until Friday, May 15**. Distance learning will continue..

Check [www.pgcps.org](http://www.pgcps.org) for more information.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to submit information to be considered for inclusion in the "St. John's Way" newsletter, email your information DIRECTLY to [bsbrevard@yahoo.com](mailto:bsbrevard@yahoo.com) at least one week in advance\* of the newsletter's distribution date (which is usually on the first day of the next month). Inclusion in the newsletter is NOT guaranteed.

\* Deadlines for submissions can also be found on the last page of the newsletter

### ABOUT YOUR SUBMISSION(S)

- Articles which are selected for publication will be proof read for content, spelling, and grammatical errors.
- Articles should be submitted in Word format and discuss subjects relevant to the St. John's community.
- Articles should include section headings.
- Illustrations, tables, sidebars are encouraged to illustrate and emphasize the message.

### STRUCTURE OF YOUR ARTICLE(S)

- News items and announcements
- Short, topical, news oriented

### Major Articles

- In depth discussions of topics of interest

### ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE SUBMISSIONS

Information to be considered for inclusion on the website is very limited and will undergo strict review!

Email your information DIRECTLY to [bsbrevard@yahoo.com](mailto:bsbrevard@yahoo.com) at least two weeks in advance of possible placement. Please remember, submitting your article does not guarantee placement on the website.

## A PLACE IN TIME CONTINUED...

With St. John's "A Place in Time" Brick Project, we are looking forward to adding your personalized brick "in memory of", "in thanksgiving for", you or your family member's baptism, an anniversary or a message of encouragement.

**St. John's bricks are \$50 each for a 4x8 brick. You may purchase as many as you wish. Engraving is included. If you wish to add a symbol to your brick, please add \$10 to your order. Symbols can be email upon request or seen in the binder in the back of the church.**

Yes, I would like to reserve a permanent brick(s). Please engrave my brick as follows:

Note: A PERIOD, COMMA, COLON, DASH, etc. IS CONSIDERED ONE SPACE

ALL TEXT IS CENTERED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

### EXAMPLE

[illegible]

**4 X 8 BRICK (\$50.00)**

Brick 1																				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

**4 X 8 BRICK (\$50.00)**

Brick 2																				
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Symbol (Brick 1): \_\_\_\_\_ Symbol (Brick 2): \_\_\_\_\_

(please write in what symbol you would like.)

**\*\*\* A symbol takes up one (1) line leaving you three (3) lines for your text \*\*\***

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM AND YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO:**

St. John's Church (MEMO: Brick Project) - 9801 Livingston Road – Fort Washington, MD 20744

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:

Amount Paid:                  Total # of Bricks:                  Check #:                  If Cash check here    ☐

If you have any questions, call Karen Chapman at (240) 515-0707 or Church Office at (301) 248-4290

You may email your form to [kcconnects01@gmail.com](mailto:kcconnects01@gmail.com)





## LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

**The deadline for the June 2020 issue of "St. John's Way" is Tuesday, May 26.**

Submissions can be left in the newsletter box in the church office; either as hard copy, on CD, or on a flash drive. You may also mail or email your submission.

**The preferred way to receive your submissions is as a Microsoft Word document, via email. More info on "Upcoming Events" page.**

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

**NOTE:** Dates, times, locations mentioned in this newsletter are subject to change. All information has been edited to the best of our abilities. Be kind and understanding. PEACE!

**REMEMBER** the May 26 deadline.



A publication for members and friends of St. John's Episcopal Church, Broad Creek:  
**"All are welcome - all inclusive - no judgment!"**

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