

June 14, 2020

St. John's Episcopal Church



E St. John's Eagle

*"Have you not known, have you not heard
those who wait for the Lord shall mount
up with wings like eagles."*

Isaiah 40:28,31

Soft Reopening Scheduled for July 5

We are tentatively planning a very limited reopening of St. John's to in-person worship beginning July 5. It is important for us all to recognize that this plan is still a tentative one and may need to be changed to a later date. It is also important that we acknowledge how very different things will be as we slowly open to groups gathering for worship. This will not be a grand re-opening, by any means, but we are eager to take the first step toward being together fully and completely. That will take some months to accomplish and this is just the first step. Over the coming months we hope to dial things up, like a dimmer switch. We will start with many limitations and expand in a responsible way.

Please know that, as we take this first little step, we are not asking you to take any health risks you are not comfortable taking. We are not actually going to encourage you to come back to church just yet but we want to invite a few people at a time to join here for in-person worship. Be assured that we will take every precaution we can, that you will be asked to take every precaution, and that our Sunday services will continue to be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube and will be recorded so that you may view them when you are not able to be here in person.

Here's how things will look on July 5 or whenever we are able to have our first service with people in the pews:

We will have only one service – at 10:30

Only 56 family units will be able to attend. Every other half-pew will be open to allow seating for between 1 and 5 people. No one will be seated in the half pew beside you, in front of you, or behind you. You will be asked to sit only with the people you have been with in your home during social-distancing. The pew you are used to sitting in may well not be available. Since seating is so very limited, you will be asked to register by email or telephone prior to attending. When the 56 slots are full, we will begin a list for the next week's service.

Masks will be required for all those attending. The clergy will wear masks except when speaking.

There will be no Communion served. Worship will be Morning Prayer with Sermon.

There will be no acolytes, no lay readers, no procession in and out.

There will be no congregational singing and no choir. A vocalist and our organist will provide music.

St. John's Episcopal Church

113 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, Alabama 36104
334-262-1937
Fax: 334-262-1931

Rector:

Robert C. Wisniewski, Jr.

Associate Rector:

Jamie Osborne

Priest Associate:

Deonna D. Neal

Staff:

Libby Poole
Financial Administrator

Anne Tippet
Assistant to the Rector

Christian Formation:

Sarah Collier
Director of Children's
Christian Formation

Joleen George
Director of Youth Ministries
and Parish
Communications

Music:

Joel Gregory
Organist and Choirmaster

Maintenance:

Mike Jarrell, Superintendent
Myron Smoke, Judson George

Vestry of St. John's:

Jimmy McLemore Sr. Warden
Radney Ramsey Jr. Warden

Class of 2021

Virginia Banister
Richard Bradford
Kathryn Dailey
Mike Jenkins
Stephanie Norrell
Todd Westhauser

Class of 2022

John Carter
Will Gunter
Katie Keller
Mary-Nelms Parsons
Nick Prillaman
Emily Wise

Class of 2023

Betsy Cannon
Cissy Johnson
Brice Johnston
J.R. Marshall
Scott Mitchell
Dudley Perry
Will Hill Tankersley, JR.

Treasurer

Helen Wells

Clerk of the Vestry

Anne Tippet

THE LESSONS:

Genesis 18: 1-15
 Psalm 116:1, 10-17
 Romans 5:1-8
 Matthew 9:35-10:8(9-23)

THE COLLECT:

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

St. John's Websites

Services Available on Facebook Live and YouTube

(Recordings on

www.stjohnsmontgomery.org)

FB page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmontgomery/>
 Youtube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS2K0pViHs7eS7-lhghifHQ>

Recordings of those Sunday services will be posted on our website.

There will be no prayer books or hymnals in the pews. Printed bulletins will be provided. You are encouraged to bring your own prayer books.

Collection plates will be on stands and will not be passed down the pews.

There will be no nursery, no Children's Chapel, no Sunday School, no breakfast.

There will be no receiving line after the service.

You will be asked to keep distance between yourselves and other family units before and after worship.

The church will be thoroughly disinfected following every service.

As you can tell, these restrictions will drastically affect the atmosphere of our worship. Your patience may well be tested and your kindness and cooperation will be necessary and most appreciated. You may well prefer to stay home and watch on-line and that will actually be helpful and is encouraged. Eventually things will be less restricted but these are necessary precautions for our beginning.

Making a reservation to attend is not something we want to impose on you but it will be necessary since our seating is so very limited. To reserve a spot, please email Anne Tippett (anne@stjohnsmontgomery.org) or call me on my cell phone (334-312-0347). At least that way, this will all be a little more personal.

I am proud of our congregation for the manner in which we have all handled things so far these past few months. I look forward to these restrictions being eased. And I am grateful for your understanding and help as we take this first step.

Yours faithfully,
Robert C. Wisnewski, Jr.

ECW BAZAAR CANCELED

If this was a "normal" year, plans and activities for the annual bazaar would be well underway but with face-to-face activities still on hold, the ECW Board, through consultation with the Rector, has voted to cancel the bazaar.

Plans call for the continuation of the bazaar in 2021 and Debbie Schremser, ECW president, said the time off will allow the various committees to design an even bigger and better bazaar.

While isolated at home for the last several months, many families have cleaned out closets and cabinets with the idea of donating to the Bazaar's Treasure Attic. Unfortunately, there is no storage space at the church to store items until the next bazaar so PLEASE DO NOT bring items for the Treasure Attic to the church this summer.

JOY AND CONCERN

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners: Christopher Marshall, Sarah Stone, Jim Thomas, Karen Jarrell, Eddie McDowell, Shirley Price, Florence Jordan, Joe McGough, Cynthia Hill, George Wakefield, Frances Condit, Johnny Smith, Marilyn Pickett.

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Rob Ludington, Gloria Hudson, Mary Linger, George West, Randy Rushton, Phil Dotts, Tommy Oliver, Karen & Angelo Pacheco, Acra Hackney Samuels, Margaret (Marty) Hackney, Ed Sellers, Tom Broadhurst, Ricky Hatfield, Willie Fred Gamble, Monica Powell, Chase Pickett, Al Perkins, Pam Litel, Aaron Hines, Daphne Oliver, Dawn Damato, Dottie Campbell, Scott Bradford, Mary Steindorff, Jack Mitchell, Margaret Carlson, Paula Hamm Roberts, Kim Barnhart, Lavada Spears Persons, Charles Colvin, Cookie Zibilich, Charlie Smith, Clemmon Barlow, Chuck Holley, Sandy Lynn Stevens, Masha Kloberg, Andy Silverman, William Hardwick Ray, Meredith McLemore, Elizabeth McLemore Baker, Ernie Reddick, Vaughan Dozier, Jennifer Passineau, Raye Gregory, Richard Burk, Bob Capra, Gillian Flory, Eleanor Jones, Randall Williams, Savannah Wright, John Stallings, Tomy Gamble, Linda Robbins

Please notify us when you are sick or hospitalized so that we might provide pastoral care.

Staying Spiritually Grounded During COVID-19

Wednesday Evenings 6.30pm

April 22 through June 24

Via Zoom, Facebook, and YouTube

This 10-week course will be team taught by the St. John's Clergy. The goal of the course is to introduce participants to a variety of Christian spiritual practices so that they might incorporate them into a Rule of Life.

June 17 Personality Types and Spiritual Practices: MBTI and Enneagram

Jun 24 Creating a Rule of Life (and sticking with it!)

If you would like to join the class on Zoom at 6.30pm on Wednesdays, please email Deonna at deonna@stjohnsmontgomery.org and she'll send you a Zoom invite.

If you cannot attend the class at 6.30pm, the recordings will be offered for future viewing on the St. John's sites

National ECW Website

The National Episcopal Church Women recently launched its updated web page that allows the organization to share the accomplishments of members, as well as news about women in the church from all over the United States. In addition, it has created a weekly "Women in Action-News Blast" that includes articles and stories about women in the church.

Visit the National Episcopal Church Women at ecwnational.org to see what our sisters in Christ are sharing.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY

10:30 am Morning
Prayer with Sermon

MONDAY thru FRIDAY

8:10 am Facebook
Live Morning Prayer

9:00 pm Facebook
Live Compline

St. John's Faithfulness

Required Weekly

\$35,556.41

Received Sunday

\$27,677.63

Required to Date

\$817,797.43

Received to Date

\$830,134.81

Keeping Pledges

Current

During the time in which St. John's is closed to group gatherings and public worship, our expenses continue. You can mail your offerings in using your pledge envelopes and adding a stamp. You also can use Bill Pay through your bank or instruct your bank to do an automatic draft. Thank you for your continued faithfulness in your stewardship.

St. John's Episcopal Church
113 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104
Phone: 334-262-1937
Fax: 334-262-1931
Email:
churchoffice@stjohnsmontgomery.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #376
Montgomery, Alabama
36104

«LA_LABEL_NAME»
«AD_ADDRESS_1»
«AD_CITY», «AD_STATE» «AD_ZIP_CODE»

The Eagle is available on the
internet at
www.stjohnsmontgomery.org

Monday Noon Bible Study via Zoom

The Monday 12pm Bible study will be offered via the streaming service Zoom. It is a free service and easy to use.

An email will be sent out each week to all that would like to join, with a link to the Zoom meeting. Here's a quick tutorial on how to join a Zoom meeting. If you would like to participate in the Bible Study, please let Robert know, and he will add you to the weekly email

Streaming Services

St. John's will offer Morning Prayer Monday-Friday at 8:10am and Compline Monday-Friday at 9:00pm. All of these services will be offering on the St. John's Facebook page via Facebook Live Sunday Morning Prayer & Evening Compline Morning Prayer performed in the chancel with a sermon will be offered by both Facebook Live and YouTube, every Sunday at 10:30am.

Compline will be offered at 9pm on Facebook Live

If you would like to watch any of the services via Facebook, it is easier to access if you have a Facebook account.

The Sunday morning service of Morning Prayer is also live streamed via YouTube. You do NOT have to create a YouTube account to view the service.

The link to the St. John's Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsmontgomery/>

The link to the St. John's YouTube page is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCS2K0pViHs7eS7-lhghifHQ>