

St. John's Episcopal Church
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Montgomery, AL 36104
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Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #376
Montgomery, Alabama
36104

St. John's Episcopal Church



The Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 19, 2019

*"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*

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Rector:
Robert C. Wisnewski, Jr.

Associate Rector:
Jamie Osborne

Priest Associate
Deonna D. Neal

Staff:
Libby Poole
Financial Administrator
Fay Worrirow
Parish Secretary
Anne Tippett
Assistant to the Rector

Christian Formation
Sarah Collier
Director of Children's Christian
Formation
Joleen George
Director of Youth Ministries

Music:
Joel Gregory
Organist and Choirmaster

Maintenance:
Mike Jarrell, Superintendent
Myron Smoke

Vestry of St. John's:
Bill Eskridge Sr. Warden
Jimmy McLemore, Jr. Warden

Class of 2020
Dick Arrington
Georgia Holmes
Austin Huffaker
Alice Longshore
Jean Smyth
Bob Young

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
Radney Ramsey
Emily Wise

Treasurer
Helen Wells

Clerk of the Vestry
Anne Tippett

BENEFICIARIES

Most rectors make a mistake when we come to a church. We come in and act like nothing good has been accomplished before our arrival. In our efforts to spur growth and chart our course of leadership, we talk about our new initiatives and the changes we are going to institute. Changes are often good and necessary in institutions but sometimes we seek to change everything and arrogantly want to impress everyone with our talent. Sometimes we act like the world just started with our arrival.

Some years ago, when I was called to be rector here, I imagined myself as mounting my white horse and riding into town to save the day. I thought I needed to come here to bring a new vision, a new energy, and I had a zillion ideas as to what needed to be changed. Pretty quickly, however, at a place like St. John's, the rector gets many reminders that the world started a very long time ago. I'm the fifteenth rector in our history and the important thing about that is that I am the one who falls in between the fourteenth and the sixteenth rectors, which is to say I am just one of many.

On my first Sunday here I turned and faced the congregation and I saw very clearly in the faces of those in the congregation that everything I thought I was supposed to bring to this place was already here. Not only did I quickly see that the St. John's world wasn't beginning with me; I also saw that I didn't have to do anything heroic for the place to continue to be successful. I simply had to accept my place as the latest of the priestly leaders and work alongside the lay leaders to move forward into the next step in our history.

Read the beginning of the Book of Joshua and see if you can relate to it. There we find that the people of Israel have been brought

through the wilderness under the leadership of Moses. Moses brings them to the River Jordan but that's as far as he is allowed to go in his lifespan. Moses dies and now Joshua is appointed to be the next leader. He will take them across the Jordan into the Promised Land. As I read the account, it sure seems like Moses did all the hard work and Joshua gets to swoop in for all the good stuff. Moses got the weird food, the bitter water, and the long, hard walk. Joshua gets to cross the beautiful river and find the land flowing with milk and honey.

A real problem with people of privilege is that we tend to think we have caused all that is good or that we have some entitlement to all that we have. We forget that much of what we have has been graciously provided for us. There's nothing more irritating than dealing with someone who was born on third base but thinks he hit a triple. And perhaps we all fall into that category from time to time.

Joshua is the beneficiary of Moses' efforts, not to mention the thousands of people who were doing the work, and the grace of God which upheld them. I am the beneficiary of fourteen other rectors, not to mention the thousands of people who have done so much work in this place, and the grace of God which has upheld this parish.

Isn't the same true in each of our lives? The world didn't begin when we tumbled out into it. It was started long ago and we are just the most recent of players in a continuum. Original Sin, it has been said, is pride or arrogance. We act that out regularly when we forget that life is a gift and that our privileges are not entitlements. They are evidence of God's grace.

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



St. John's Young Adults

are going to the

Biscuits Game

May 23 @ 6:35

Contact Jamie for your ticket!

Jamie@stjohnsmontgomery.org

THE LESSONS:

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

THE COLLECT:

O Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know thy Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leadeth to eternal life; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Flowers on the Altar this Sunday are to the glory of God and in memory of:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Grover Keyton | Frances Kitty Marks |
| Lucille Bush | Eloise Virgin |
| Keyton | William Virgin |
| Mary Emily Keyton | Jennie Wadsworth |
| Henry Churchill Marks | Virginia |
| Priscilla Scott | Ira Virgin |
| Marks | Legrand Stakely |
| Dr. Charles Lewis Marks | Davis Stakely |
| | Libby Stakley |

MINISTERS SERVING THIS SUNDAY

ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER: Joel Gregory

ACOLYTES: Josie Stough, Anna Mitchell Clark, Cate Peeples, William Lawlor, Brett Westhauser, Laura Stanton Strickler, Anne Layton Lee, Alex Marks

LAY EUCHARIST MINISTERS: Chuck Moore, J. R. Marshall, Maria Pacheco-West, Will Hamlett

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS: Mary Hughes, Carolyn Placeway
VESTRY: 7:30 Virginia Banister
10:30 Bill Eskridge, Dick Arrington, Todd Westhauser, Emily Wise

ALTAR GUILD: Kitty Coleman
PASTORAL CARE: Debbie Wakefield, Kitty Coleman, Mary Simons, Betty Mathews

FLOWER DELIVERY: Melissa Carter, Debbie Schremser, Will Gunter
Flowers by the St. John's Flower Guild

We did not bring ourselves to this place. Nor are we alone to carry the world ahead. Our job is to be faithful to the Lord who provides all that is good. Cross the Jordan into the Promised Land but don't forget who carried you here.

Yours faithfully,
Robert C. Wisnewski, Jr.

VBS REGISTRATION GOING ON NOW!

Deadline is MAY 20!

June 3-6, 2019

St. John's is hosting VBS, and this year our theme is a modified version of "Farm Fresh Faith!" Children rising Pre-K4 through 6th grade may participate. Look for registration forms online!

**** Volunteers NEEDED—**

Please email

sarah@stjohnsmontgomery.org



JOY AND CONCERN

Your prayers are requested for the following parishioners: Sarah Spratling, Shirley Price, Glen Price, Valerie Lee, Sarah Stone, Florence Jordan, Christopher Marshall, Karen Jarrell, Jim Thomas, Eddie McDowell, Joe McGough, Cynthia Hill.

Prayers are also requested for these friends: Gloria Hudgeon, John Robertson, Johnny Smith, Mary Linger, George West, Randy Rushton, Phil Dotts, Doris Thornton, Tommy Oliver, Ruth Jones, Karen & Angelo Pacheco, Acra Hackney Samuels, Margaret (Marty) Hackney, Ed Sellers, Tom Broadhurst, Ricky Hatfield, Willie Fred Gamble, Monica Powell, Chase Pickett, Al Perkins, Debbie Steindorff, Betty Harper, Jennifer Pruitt, Pam Litel, Aaron Hines, Catherine Riddell, Hugh Lee Earnest, Daphne Oliver, Dawn Damato, Dottie Campbell, Scott Bradford, Mary Steindorff, Jack Mitchell, Margaret Carlson, Paula Hamm Roberts, Kim Barnhart, Lavada Spears Person, Charles Colvin, Cookie Zibilich, Charlie Smith, Clemmon Barlow, Chuck Holley, Sandy Lynn Stevens, Masha Kloberg, Andy Silverman.

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

Honduras Pill Count

Our pill count will continue this Sunday, May 19th in the 3rd floor youth area immediately after church. A light lunch will be available. We have already processed over 40,000 of the various tablets, but still have at least that many more to do. Any help is appreciated and we hope to see you there.

EVENTS AROUND THE CORNER

Pill Counting—After the 10:30 service

Deadline for VBS May 20th

Avis and All Angels—May 21st 6:00 p.m. @ Laura McLemore's
2337 Rosemont Place

Young Adults go to the Biscuits Game—May 23rd 6:35

VBS—June 3-6

Honduras Trip—July 19th-27th

May Ingathering

Aid to Inmate Mother's (AIM)

Donations include:

Gently used purses

Toiletries

Feminine Hygiene Products

Women's undergarments

Please bring to the Education building



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

How the Bible was Put Together— Not meeting this Sunday May 19th

Meeting **April 28-May 26**

in the Parish Hall

Led by the Rev. Dr. Deonna Neal

In this class we will look at how the Bible, as we hold it in our hands today, was put together. We will begin with how the Hebrew Scriptures came into being, followed by the development of writings after Jesus' death, and then conclude with how the final "canon" of the Bible was established in the 5th century.

A Historical-Critical Study of the Letter to the Philippians

Led by Jamie Osborne

Meeting **May 5 to May 26** in the library

This course will focus on Paul's letter to the Philippians and will be based on Dr. Paul Holloway's recently published Philippians: A Critical and Historical Commentary. Dr. Holloway is Professor of Classics and Ancient Christianity at The University of the South where he teaches courses in both the School of Theology and the College of Arts and Sciences. The commentary is recommended but not required for the course.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

SUNDAY,

- 7:30 am Holy Eucharist
- 8:15 am Breakfast in the Parish House
- 9:15 am Christian Formation for all ages
- 10:30 am Holy Eucharist
- 4:20 pm Children's Choir
- 9:00 pm Complaine on FB Live

MONDAY,

- 12 Noon Clergy Led Bible Study in the Small Dining Room
- 6:00 pm Men's Group in the Library

TUESDAY,

- 7:00 am Holy Eucharist
- 8:10 am Morning Prayer on FB Live
- 8:30 am Prayer Group

WEDNESDAY,

- 11:30 am Centering Prayer
- 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist

THURSDAY,

- 12:05 pm Holy Unction and Holy Eucharist
- 6:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

St. John's Faithfulness

Required Weekly

\$35,331.16

Received Sunday

\$25,334.86

Required to Date

\$671,292.04

Received to Date

\$635,309.68

Building Fund Debt

\$27,000