



June, 2023



## ST. JOHN'S JOURNEY

*LIVING IN HOPE † UNITED IN FAITH † LED BY*

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Dear Friends,

As you might guess from the contents of this issue, May was a busy, very upbeat month. We welcomed Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz for her first Sunday as a guest priest at St. John's. She seemed to fit right in and has promised to return for the first Sunday services through the summer. Later this month, we will welcome Rev. Sharon Voelker for her first Sunday with us. I'm pretty confident we'll be glad to welcome her back too.

Then, of course, we had a BIG Sunday with Bishop Singh. He was warm, a good listener, encouraging and thoughtful. He loves small churches and is very aware of the challenges that face us as well as our strengths. He talked about his early days in India where he was "the" priest for over 100 parishes. He would ride his motor scooter to each parish to celebrate Eucharist on whatever day of the week he arrived. He said, "It was always "Sunday" when I got there". He also said he was encouraged in discovering there are roughly 30 people feeling a call to orders over the next 3 years. Some of these are priests/ministers from different denominations who have found a "home" in the Episcopal church. That might bear fruit for St. John's in time.

Ina Dockham and friends did a great job of getting our Garage Sale up and going. The parish hall was cram-packed with all sorts of "stuff" and a few of us held mini-garage sales from our cars in the parking lot. Thursday was a reasonably busy day but Friday was very quiet. Next year, we may only participate on Thursday. Even so, the effort raised a little over \$500 for St. John's. That's sure to come in handy for a variety of needs. More on that in next month's newsletter.



And finally -we made it to Summer! I hope everyone has a joyous time during this season so long in coming. I look forward to hearing all about it when I see you on Sunday. Blessings  
Becky



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Please join us on June  
18<sup>th</sup> to welcome  
Rev. Sharon Voelker  
to her first Sunday at  
St. John's!

**Editor: Becky  
Foster**

St. John's Journey is published monthly. We're looking for your photos and articles. Please email them to "stjohnschurchdryden@gmail.com" with the word "Newsletter" in the subject line. Deadline for July is June 30<sup>th</sup>

**The Annual Garage Sale Team – well, most of them**



We also had help from Ida Lynn and Dianne and everyone who donated items to our stash. We did well – only two days and just over \$500! Thanks to Ina and Connie for keeping the ball rolling so smoothly.

**Remember St. John's in your will:**

Please consider helping the mission and ministry of St. John's by remembering the church in your will. You can do so by using the following wording:

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to St. John's Episcopal Church, a non-profit church, with the current address of 4074 S. Mill St., Dryden, MI 48428, and its successor, the greater of \$\_\_\_\_\_, or \_\_\_\_\_percentage of my gross estate, to be used in such manner as determined by its vestry."

## Bishop Singh Visits St. John's – What a special day!



This vestment was hand made by a very talented Episcopalian! Stunning colors and glass beads that catch the light with a phoenix in flight. And his message to us was just as vibrant. Try catching it on FB if you weren't with us in person. Our coffee hour was quite a spread and the Bishop had a chance to chat with almost everyone. Thanks to everyone who helped us prepare for and facilitate the actual visit. We did ourselves proud!

**Welcome, Rev. Mary Jo Schuetz! We look forward to your return.**



Rev. Mary Jo at the altar.



John's debut as a crucifer – and he didn't drop it once!

# Financial Updates

April is the most recent month reviewed by the Vestry. The basic figures (full numbers only, rounded up) are below:

April 2023	Monthly Budget	Monthly Actual	Better or Worse than Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Better or Worse than Budget
<b>Income</b>	\$4,933	\$10,102	<b>\$5,169</b>	\$19,733	\$27,730	<b>\$8,006</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	\$4,848	\$4,584	<b>\$263</b>	\$19,390	\$16,731	<b>\$2,660</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	\$86	\$5,518	<b>\$5,432</b>	\$343	\$11,009	<b>\$10,666</b>

Pledge donations are above budgeted amounts for another month. There were several extra generous donations that are much appreciated. Total income is exaggerated by the transfer of Curacy Funding from our Restricted Accounts to the P&L. This will help us cover Supply Priest Expenses. It will continue to make YTD income look higher than expected so we need to be careful to not get too excited in the coming months. Expenses came in below monthly budget amounts even though Utilities were over budget again. Can't wait for the warmer weather.

However, the Clergy Housing and Clergy Salary accounts, which we will not need immediately, artificially make our Total Expense-to-Total Budget numbers look favorable. If you back those funds out of the total, Expenses were over budget this month by \$514 (not a real problem, it will improve when the furnace stops running). Vestry has approved the transfer of these Clergy funds to Restricted Cumulative Salary Allocation (like we did last year) with the intention to transfer to Vanguard at year's end. This will make actual expense spending easier to track.:

## The Restricted Funds -

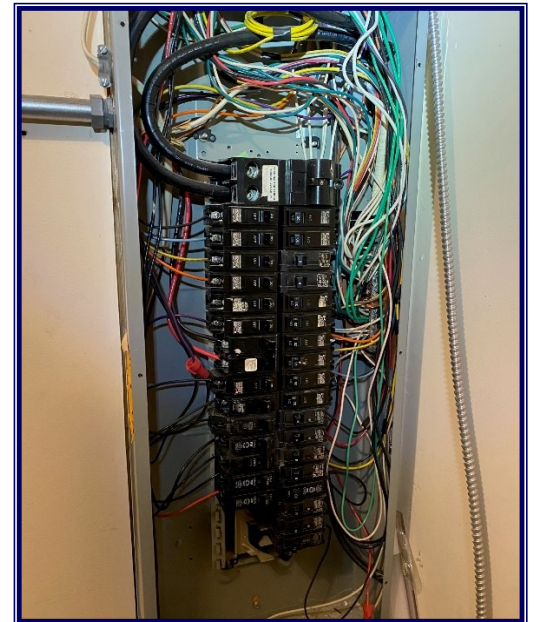
- Vestry decided to use the funds from the spring concert and some other donations to establish a Building Improvement fund. This will help cover costs for door repair and replacement and other big ticket repair needs.
- Outreach Teen Relief provided \$300 to Dryden High School for Prom & Project Graduation
- Current balance in Restricted is \$17,042 – most of which is in funds for the Bell Project.
- **Vanguard Investment Account** – total value \$81,467 as of April 30, 2023
- ETF Investment – Original investment \$65,000. Current Value close to \$60,021. About the same as last month. Vestry approved moving the balance from this fund to a more general ETF fund (Vanguard Total Stock Market – VTI) that has a better track record (7.24% YTD). This will be completed before the next meeting.
- CD - \$21,000. This will remain stable until next year when interest is added to the amount.

If it's spring, it's time to move the furniture! The choir loft gets a new look



The final look – what an improvement!

And How Old is this Breaker Box?



Jack discovered that there just wasn't room in this box for the wiring hook-up for the new bell ringer. A professional Electrician will help with this. I'm glad we're getting it redone – looks like prayers and sealing wax are holding it together.

## Russ & Kitty are Grandpuppyparents!

Rosie, Russ & Kitty's lab, had 13 puppies! Poor mama needs a little help come suppertime. Here's Kitty helping out. What a cutie – the puppy too!



## A Coffee-Hour Reveal!

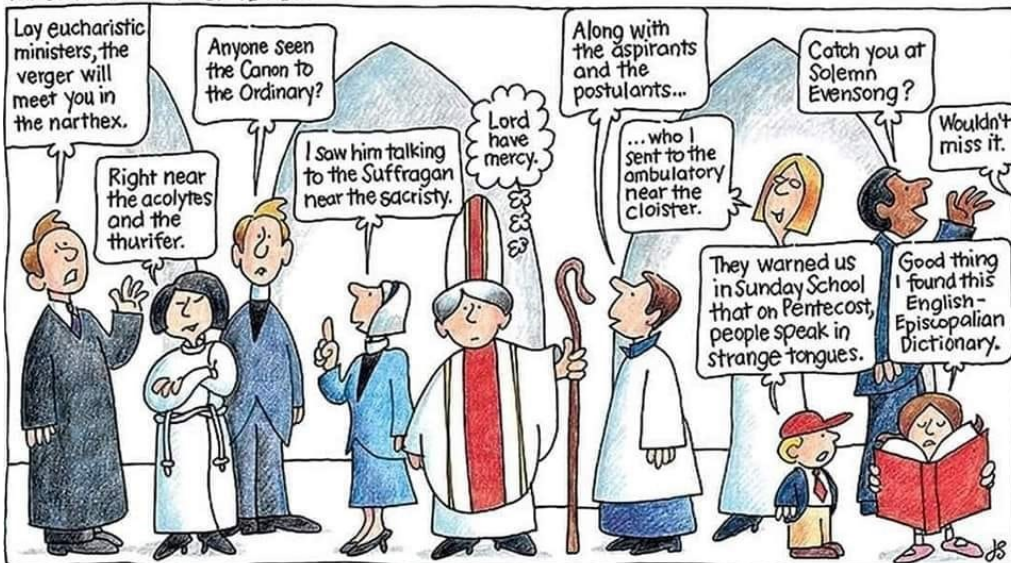
Becky's Latest Quilt project. As you can see, it was a hair raiser!



## Ministry Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	<u>Crucifer</u>	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Video</u>	<u>Counting Member 1</u>	<u>Counting Member 2</u>
June 4	Wes	Kay	Neil	Rev Schuetz	Ina Dockham	Connie	Ina
June 11	Neil	Tbd	Tbd	Rev Barb Cavin	Ida Lynn Dodd	Wes	Russ
June 18	Margaret	Neil	Jack	Rev Voelker	Sherry Wagner	Russ	Becky
June 25	Tammy			Neil	Wes Wagester	Becky	Jack

### THE BISHOP ARRIVES FOR PENTECOST...



Signed

Your Parish Administrator,

Roxanne



# Buried Treasures

(from Encore! Nashville)

With thanks to Connie Ogg!

This is a super easy party pleaser.

1c mayo

1/3 c horseradish

1t dry mustard

1t lemon juice

1/2 t salt

1lb small cooked shrimp (peeled and tails off)

1 pint cherry tomatoes (leave whole)

1 can small pitted black olives (drained)

1/2 head cauliflower florets (optional)



Combine mayo and seasonings. Fold in remaining ingredients.

This is best prepped a day ahead and refrigerated overnight.



And none of you thought to remind me to wear red for Pentecost!?!



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