

ST. JOHN'S JOURNEY UPDATE



March, 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A Note from Tom	1
Vestry Notes	2
Celebrations	2
St. John's in the News!	3
Taste & See	3
The Saxton's Bell	3
Keyboard	4
Linked Hearts Sunday	4
Ministry Schedule	4
Good Friday Offering	5
Financial News	5
Prayer for the Ukraine	6
The Bishop is Coming!	6
Seder Invitation	7
Easter Schedule	7

St. John's Episcopal Church
4074 S. Mill St.
PO Box 86
Dryden, MI 48428
(810)795.2371

Priest
Tom Manney

Senior Warden
Becky Foster



A Note from Tom

Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia. The promise of spring is new life, renewed hope, and (we pray) better weather! As we approach the resurrection of our Lord, it is with gladness in our hearts that we welcome the birth of life in our world. See the miracle of God in the blue skies, the emerging flowers, and the animals and people all scurrying about. And with it, God's pledge to us all: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." (Jn 3:16) We also mark Easter 2022 with prayers for endings. We pray for an end to the pointless war in Ukraine. We pray for an end to the violence and suffering of the innocents there. And we pray for an end to the misguided notions of world leaders who

turn to war to solve their differences. We also pray for an end to the terrible Covid pandemic; an end to the sickness and death it has brought. And we recall the great commission given to us by Christ: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." This Easter, may we all commit to sharing the joy of spring with our neighbors. Let us reach out and proclaim with Mary Magdalene and the others in the tomb: he is not here, he has risen! Let me be the first to wish you a happy Easter and a springtime filled with happiness and fun. And let us rejoice in blessings of God as we make our Easter proclamation: Alleluia. Christ is risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! With every blessing... Tom+



Resurrection of Jesus Christ by Raphael, 1502

Website: www.stjohnschurchdryden.org
Email: stjohnschurchdryden@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook!



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 May is April 29th.



Happy Birthday...

- Becky Foster
- Connie Ogg
- Roxanne Todd
- Sarah Underwood

Dear Friends,

We're half way through Lent and Easter is in sight. With Covid at low levels, we are planning for some in-person events and services for the first time in two years. I hope you can attend the Seder Dinner scheduled for Saturday, April 9th. It really sets the tone for the coming week. I always reflect on how Jesus was once the youngest at the table and asked "Why is this night different from all other nights?". Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are also planned. We have a visiting priest for Easter Sunday – join us for a celebration of the Resurrection AND for a special Easter coffee hour. You know how good that will be.

Some Vestry news – Connie Ogg decided the Treasurer's position was not a good match for her talents and resigned from the position. However, Jim Fry has graciously offered to assume Treasurer

duties. Thanks to both of them for their support.

On another note, the Vestry is considering reviving Music Nights at St. John's. Some of you may remember when we hosted visiting musicians for community enjoyment. We're looking for talented individuals or groups who would be interested in performing in an intimate setting for a modest fee. If you have anyone in mind, please share with any Vestry member. This will be fun and exciting.



This season is be all about hope and renewal. May Easter bring hope and peace to you and to our world.

Blessings,
Becky



Outreach Teen Relief Gets some Press

This picture was on the cover of the recent edition of "The Feast", the newsletter

for the Eastern & Western Dioceses of Michigan. Looking good, folks. We're exploring how we might provide additional assistance to our local young people. Thanks to Russ Underwood and Rev. Tom Manney for their continued work in this ministry.

Taste and See Classes

Dates: Monday, April 4 - Church History: The Episcopal Church

Monday, April 18 - Spirituality – Taizé Service

Monday, May 2 - Tackling Theology

Monday, May 16 - Intro to Homeletics

Time: 5:30

Location: St. John's Parish Hall

Course materials will be provided.

Please bring a dish to pass.



About Church Bells –

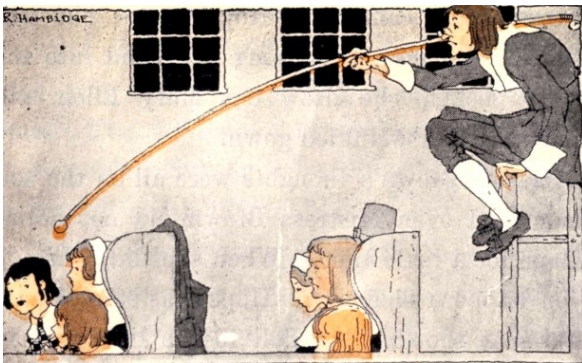
In 1888, a clergyman, Thomas North, wrote a book on church bell-ringing in England. Many of the traditions were already dying out. But I thought we might consider bringing this one back. What do you think?

The Sexton's Bell

Bishop Thirlwall relates a curious custom connected with the church hand-bell in recent times; "As I returned through the church yard I was greeted by very respectfully by a person whose dress seemed to indicate that he was a functionary of the church. I learnt that he was the sexton, but that he also discharges another very useful office, which, as far as I know, is peculiar to Kerry. It appears that it is by ancient custom, a part of his duty to perambulate the church during service time with a bell in his hand. To look carefully into every pew, and whenever he finds anyone dozing to ring the bell. He discharges this duty, it is said, with great vigilance, intrepidity, and impartiality, and consequently with the happiest effect upon the congregation; for if he or she gives way to drowsiness the fact will be forthwith made known through the whole church by a peal which will direct all eyes to the sleeper, the fear of such a visitation is almost always sufficient to keep everyone alert."



From English Bells and Bell Lore by Thomas North



Note from your secretary. This is how nodding worshippers were dealt with in the Puritan (Congregationalist) tradition. This was the Tithingman . If he caught you dozing in church, he'd either bop you on the head with a weight or tickle your nose with a feather depending on whether you were male or female. Unruly children were similarly dealt with.

Bells are better.





Our Keyboard is SICK!

The video display on our keyboard is failing. Since that is how we identify songs we want to play, it's a pretty important part. A replacement has been ordered. It's coming from China. Best guess is 4 weeks. It may be longer. In the meantime, Kitty Underwood has a workaround that should get us by. However, there may be a few times when she needs to stop the music if the wrong song is playing or if it's going too fast. Please be patient. And also, please pray that the new part will work – new instruments like this cost between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

Linked Hearts Sunday

Beginning in March, we will be gathering supplies to send to Linked Hearts on a monthly basis. Each month, we will post the items that Linked Hearts has requested in our newsletter AND in our bulletins. On the 3rd Sunday of each month (March 20th), we will bless these donations during

the service and then transfer them to Linked Hearts. All items must still be within their use-by date. The items Linked Hearts says they need currently includes:

- Ketchup
- Coffee
- Pudding
- Mayo
- Canned Ravioli

- Toothpaste
- Mustard
- Dish Soap
- Kleenex
- Pancake Mix
- Shampoo
- Paper Towels
- Cereal
- Rice Meals
- Canned Meats

Ministry Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Eucharistic Minister</u>	<u>Worship Leader</u>	<u>Videographer</u>	<u>Counting Member 1</u>	<u>Counting Member 2</u>
April 3, 2022	Mary	Tammy	Rev Manney	Sherry Wagner	Wes	Ina
April 10, 2022	Ina		Becky	Wes Wagester	Jack	Becky
April 14	Margaret	Corinne	Rev Manney	Ina Dockham	Ina	Neil
April 15	Darlene	Mary	Rev Manney	Ida Lynn Dodd	Becky	Wes
April 17	Kathy	Neil	Rev Manney	Becky Foster	Neil	Jack
April 24	Wes		Kitty	Mary Cameron	Wes	Ina
May 1	Jim	Tammy	Rev Manney	Becky Foster	Jack	Becky
May 8	Mary	Corinne	Rev Cavin	Sherry Wagner	Ina	Neil
May 15	Neil	Mary	Rev Manney	Ina Dockham	Becky	Wes
May 22	Tammy		Neil	Wes Wagester	Neil	Jack
May 29	Ina		Becky	Ida Lynn Dodd	Wes	Ina



Good Friday Offering

Creating new relationships with and among the Christians of the Middle East

The history of the Good Friday Offering reaches back to 1922 when, in the aftermath of World War I, The Episcopal Church sought to create new relationships with and among the Christians of the Middle East. From these initial efforts which focused on a combination of relief work and the improvement of ecumenical and Anglican relations, the Good Friday Offering was created.

Through the years many Episcopalians have found the Good Friday Offering to be an effective way to express their support for the ministries of the three dioceses of

the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Pastoral care, education and health care continue to be primary ministries through which the reconciling spirit of the Christian faith serves all in need. Participation in this ministry is welcome. The generous donations of Episcopalians help the Christian presence in the Land of the Holy One to be a vital and effective force for peace and understanding among all of God's children.

Financial News

We are starting a new column to report on our financial status. This will be done bi-monthly as part of our full newsletter. For those who wish more details, our monthly financial reports will be available in the Parish Hall. And you are welcome to bring your questions to Becky or Jim Fry.

In general:

Income through February was \$13,516.92 (\$3,500.28 over budget). Some of this reflects one-time gifts This is more than we had expected and we are most thankful for those who have contributed.

Expenses through February were \$6,293.19 (\$3,696.63 under budget). To get a clear picture of this, you need to subtract \$2,500 (see next paragraph). Expenses are still under budget, but \$1,196.63 more accurately reflects intended expenses.

That creates a \$7,223.73 "net profit" over expenses. But remember, we're trying to live within a budget that would allow us to pay for half-time clergy. We "budgeted" for \$1,250 a month for clergy salary. That's not quite enough to do the job (the goal is \$1,670/month) but it's close. If you subtract the funds we would have spent for salary so far this year (\$2,500), we're still in the black by \$4,723.73. It's a good start for the year but if we need to pay for unexpected expenses, like our keyboard repair, we'll be playing it pretty close to the line. We will need to maintain a high level of income amount to break even. That is our minimum objective.



Thank you for your prayers and for your financial support.

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.

We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their
decisions.

Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in
fear,

that you would hold and protect them.

We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

Amen



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of St Edmundsbury
and Ipswich



The Bishop is Coming!

The Bishop is Coming!

Our Provisional Bishop, Bishop Singh, will visit St. John's on Sunday, December 4th. We are so excited to welcome him to our church during Advent. It sounds like a long time off but we all know how quickly that changes. Mark your calendars and start planning for an AWESOME Pot-Luck!

YOU
ARE
INVITED
TO
CELEBRATE
A



Date: April 9th

Time: 6:30PM

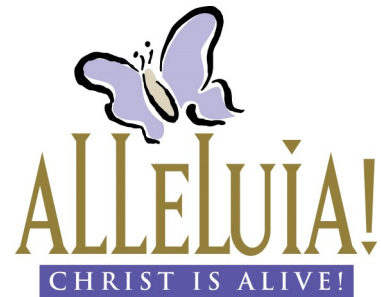
Location: St. John's Parish Hall

R.S.V.P: Sign up sheet in Parish Hall or Kit-ty Underwood



I know worrying works, because none of the stuff I worried about ever happened!

Will Rogers



Holy Week at St. John's Episcopal Church

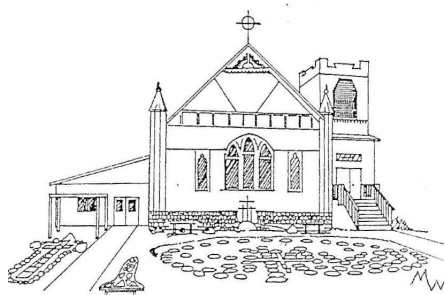
Maundy Thursday 6:30 pm

Good Friday 12:00 pm

Easter Morning 10:00 am



Christ is Risen Indeed!



St. John's Episcopal Church
PO Box 86
4074 S Mill St.
Dryden, MI 48428