

September, 2017

The Baptizer

The Newsletter for St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church
1505 East Wooster Street, Bowling Green, OH 43402

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St John's is busy working with students with the collaboration of St. Timothy's. It is fun, enjoyable and a ton of work. St. Timothy's parishioners collaborated with us to welcome freshmen to BGSU as they arrived on the 17th. It was a warm day, and the students and parents were grateful for the water and cookies. We had a good time asking what they were going to study and finding out from where they hailed. In addition to cookies, the two-sided bookmark created by Hope Jarvis, chairman of the West Mission Area Council (WMAC) and a member of St. Tim's, was handed out along with magnets with information on the Thursday dinners.



We are **old and young, male and female, gay and straight, single, married, divorced, and widowed, white and black, CEO and unemployed, rich and poor. We are everybody.**

There are no prerequisites.... GOD LOVES YOU, NO EXCEPTIONS!

We work in our communities, we try to further God's kingdom on earth. We support one another in good times and bad, and we try to see Christ in everyone we meet.

The Episcopal Church welcomes everyone at the communion table, because we believe everyone is invited into a relationship with the living God.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 10
Potluck

September 10 & 17
UTO Fall Ingathering

September 16
St. Paul's Anniversary
Fremont, 3:00pm

September 26
Vestry Meeting

September 24
Gideon's Presentation

October 15
Crop Walk, 1:00pm
BG City Park

October 23
Registration Deadline

July, 2017 Financial Report



What is an Episcopalian?

The word “Episcopal” refers to **government by bishops**. An Episcopalian is a person who belongs to the Protestant Episcopal Church, the branch of the worldwide Anglican Communion in the United States. As Episcopalsians, we believe:

- The Holy Scriptures are the revealed word of God, which inspired the human authors of the Scripture, and which is interpreted by the Church under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- The Nicene and the Apostles Creed are the basic statements of our beliefs about God.
- The two great sacraments of the Gospel, given by Christ to the Church, are Baptism and the Holy Eucharist. In Baptism we renounce Satan, repent of our sins, and adopt Jesus as our Lord and Savior. In the Holy Eucharist, the center of our worship life, we remember and participate in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ until his coming again.
- The historic episcopate continues the work of the first apostles in the Church, guarding the faith, unity, and discipline of the Church, and ordaining men and women to continue Christ’s ministry.

	July 31, 2017	YTD
Income:	\$ 3,290.25	\$26,608.09
Expenses:	\$ 3,350.23	\$29,711.62
Net Income	\$(59.98)	\$(3,103.53)

If you have any questions about this financial report, please call
St. John’s office at (419) 353-0881.

Jon Klever
Parish Treasurer

I have been reading “The Great Code” by Northrup Frye. For many years, the author taught a course called “The English Bible” at Victoria College (now Victoria University) in Toronto. His book describes how he ultimately concluded that the Bible is not literature as it is ordinarily defined. As a literary critic, Frye studies the alternation of metaphorical and demotic language in the texts and concludes they don’t fit the definition of either fiction or non-fiction. To be sure, there are historical accounts of actual events, but the biblical texts are not meant to be read as historical fact. Even when real-life incidents that happened are recounted, they are used in support of a spiritual lesson. Although certain books abound in poetry, especially the Psalms and the Song of Solomon, the Bible is not primarily a poetic work either. Frye argues that the Bible, along with certain other works such as the Koran, is in a different category of written works that he calls exhortation. Most of the stories in the Bible are there because they convey an important spiritual truth. The messages do not depend on having the facts exact, in the journalistic sense that the text presents what happened, along with where, when, and to whom it happened. In some cases, with Noah and the Flood for example, the plot of the story aligns with myths of other Middle Eastern cultures, such as the Gilgamesh epic. Frye’s view of the Bible gives a far richer range of possible interpretations of these texts. In the Old Testament, Frye interprets the flight of the Hebrew people from Egypt as a crisis which bound the Jews into a unified community, which was then prepared to receive the law. The concept of the law was further defined through the rather fractious relationship of the Jewish people with the Prophets. The Prophets, over many centuries, developed the consciousness that the Jews were awaiting the Messiah. Frye proposes, then, that the Old and New Testaments are an internally coherent description of how the Messiah’s coming was foretold and how it unfolded when the time was ripe. The New Testament describes the fulfillment of the prophecies and then ends with its own prophetic book of Revelations.

One of Frye’s interpretations that I found fascinating has to do with the Biblical handling of time and space. There are some non-linear aspects of time in the Bible, such as when Jesus says he was there before the beginning of time. Frye argues that, rather than existing in the time and space we know from our human experience, concepts of God and the spiritual life exist outside the structure of time and space. Another part of the Bible that describes the timeless aspect of the relationship between humans and God is in Luke 17:20-21, where it reads “The kingdom is within (or among) you.” (The Greek preposition can be translated either way.)

Carol Heckman

Pat's Ramblings

Thanks to all hands that worked to make the Wylie repast a success. St. John's and St. Tim's collaborated again.

We have received an invitation to join St. Paul's Episcopal Church as they celebrate **175 years** On Saturday, 16 September. There is a 3pm Celebration Service followed by a 4pm reception and open house. St. Paul's is located at 206 N. Park Avenue in Fremont, OH. If you require more information, contact the church at 419-332-3032 or Father Matt Directly at 419-388-5806.

The Diocesan Convention will be a Diocesan Bicentennial Weekend from Friday-Sunday, 10-12 November 2017. The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop will be there. Would you like to attend? Registration forms are on the diocesan website. The deadline to register is 23 October.

WSOS Community Action is providing area youth a work experience through their Wood County Ohio Youth Works workforce program. The goal of the program is to help the future workforce get experience and exposure to various fields of interest as part of their career development. The participants will work 25-35 hours per week, \$10.00 per hour. Must be a Wood County youth, age 14-24. Income must be at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines. Call for details. John Page, Amber Haas & Lucille Phillips, Career Coach, 419-353-7407, ext. 265.

ENDING HUNGER, ONE STEP AT A TIME!

BG Area Crop Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 15, starting at 1:00pm
BG City Park – Register at Kiwanis Shelter

Make checks payable to CWS/CROP

Walk. Give. Change the World.

More than 120,000 people helped to

raise over \$10 million to fight hunger locally and globally through CROP Hunger Walks, supporting 1,918 local hunger fighting agencies.

The CROP Hunger Walk partners with the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts to provide individuals with the food they need to survive and leads communities toward long-term solutions to end hunger. The Food Bank is the largest distributor of emergency food that reaches individuals and families in the region. CWS has given more than \$123,000 over 25 years. "Now, that's impressive and a testament to CWS' commitment to taking on hunger in our region!" says Andrew Morehouse, the Food Bank's executive director.

Just last year, 50,217 global neighbors were provided stable sources of nutritious food. 795 million more people around the world are waiting for your help.

\$20 is a year supply of micronutrient packets, \$60 will cover jerry cans for a small village, \$100 will pay for training for 25 farmers, and \$500 will pay for seeds and gardening supplies for a community garden.

Crophungerwalk.org

St. John's office has received a resource book for older adults from the Area Office On Aging. The Older Adult Resource Guide covers everything you may need to know, from medical care to making a will, housing options, caregivers, prescription drugs, social services and emergency assistance, to name just a few. If you would like to look at the resource guide, come to the office during office hours or even on Sunday morning after church.

Remember – your articles are most welcome!

News from the Vestry

St. John's held its regular monthly vestry meeting August 15, 2017

The meeting opened with prayer. The following was discussed:

Building & Grounds:

Much thanks to the anonymous person who mulched our flower beds! Maintenance to various parts of the building were discussed. It was decided that the wiring and the front door have top priority.

Financial:

Our financial situation is stable. We now have a Maintenance Fund.

Senior Warden:

The West Mission Area Council met on Sunday.

Other Business:

Repainting our front lawn sign to have our website listed on the "Wooster Street" side was discussed. The Fire Department requirements were discussed. Set-up for the new student move-in day will be at 9:00am on Thursday, 8/17.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Next Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 7pm.

Remember that all parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings.



9/15 Richard Ginger

9/20 Nancy Wolcott

Please take a moment this month to pray for those members of our community who celebrate a birthday. Even better, send a card, give a phone call, or share your good wishes in some more personal way. Everyone loves feeling special on their birthday!



The Mission of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church

Our mission is to serve Christ by nurturing and educating people in the faith, providing a spiritual home for our community and Bowling Green State University students through prayer, worship, and theological programs. To do so, we are committed to motivate parish members and students to reach out in active service to our community and the world

Please join us for worship and fellowship!

Our Sunday morning worship service is at 10:00 a.m.

Vestry Members

Carol Heckman – Clerk

Pat Patton- Senior Warden

Pam Bechtel-Junior Warden

Helen Wylie - Member

Treasurer - Jon Klever

St. John's Episcopal Church
1505 E. Wooster Street
Bowling Green, OH 43402

St. John's Episcopal Church

September, 2017 - Server Schedule

Date	Officiant Celebrant	Chalice Bearer & Crucifer	Acolyte	Usher	Reader	Coffee Hour
Sept. 3	Rev. Tim Rothfuss	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Carol Heckman	Rosemary Brown	Rosemary Brown
Sept. 10	Rev. Tim Rothfuss	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Pat Patton	Pat Patton	Potluck
Sept. 17	Rev. Tim Rothfuss	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Robert Ormsbee	Pat Patton	Pam Bechtel
Sept. 24	Pat Patton	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Robert Ormsbee	Pam Bechtel	Pat Patton