

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ;

At our last vestry meeting we had a discussion about our copier, the potential for a new less expensive contract and it's use in the church office.

That led to a discussion about our bulletins and thought that we should communicate to the parish. So here we go...

You surely have noticed that our bulletins have gotten bigger towards the end of the major time in the pandemic. This started because we were not to share prayer books and hymnals at that point in the pandemic. We moved ahead properly with the guidelines at that time and created what is called an "all inclusive bulletin". Everything one needs is in it and there was no need to share books.

There is however, another, very substantial reason for an "all inclusive bulletin". It is a gesture and sign of hospitality. For people that enter our church, that are not Episcopalians, juggling a bulletin, a prayer book and a hymnal is tricky business. It's not a very hospitable way to treat a newcomer. You'll remember that at Meredith's ordination to the Priesthood, the Diocese supplied an "all inclusive" bulletin as well. Big events like ordinations, baptisms and funerals frequently include many people who are not familiar with our traditions and not having them deal with 3 or 4 sources of printed materials is a sign of hospitality. Even as the pandemic lessens we will continue to have this kind of bulletin.

That said, using more paper is a concern. It is costly both in financial resources and natural resources. So, we're thinking of ways to help mitigate that circumstance. They will involve some technologies that we are currently working on. Don't worry, even when we have helpful solutions, we will always have printed bulletins as well. The ultimate hope is to have solutions that can allow us to print less of them.

If you have questions, please talk to me or a member of the vestry.

On a totally different subject, it's summer time! It's a very beautiful time of the year in the part of the world in which we live. Things slow down for some of us and for that I'm grateful. As I look out at the world every day, I'm reminded that when God created all of it, he said that "it was good". Very good indeed.

Grace and Peace,

John +

Father John ☩

ON-LINE WORSHIP

Sundays - 10am Worship Service

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97774056978?pwd=ZytJSVZjWmt3MUdSMk13U1JaaGNLZz09>

Meeting ID: 982 7706 2680

Passcode: 435902

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Other Zoom Worship Schedule and Numbers

Tuesdays – 10am Bible Study

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94333886777?pwd=WnNKSncyQkkzS1g0Yjc3ZGIVbk1PQT09>

Meeting ID: 943 3388 6777

Passcode: 577455

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Wednesdays – 12pm Worship Service

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95528786615?pwd=Z01DVGdvcG5XeVBIUVRMKzFFVVBjZz09>

Meeting ID: 955 2878 6615

Passcode: 634665

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Thursdays – 10am Coffee and Conversation

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97366952412?pwd=WUtQVFMyWlFKWmRBT1UyTHQ2Rm5Rdz09>

Meeting ID: 973 6695 2412

Passcode: 120228

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Monday – Tuesday – Wednesday – Thursday – Friday

MORNING PRAYER – RITE II

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/john.rohde.16/>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/92662278952>

Meeting ID: 926 6227 8952

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 926 6227 8952

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ac4XCk34Dn>

Vestry Voice

The June Vestry meeting began with an opening devotional. The May minutes were approved.

Father John has been talking with Diane Bauso from the Montessori School. His proposal is to pro-rate her rent based on enrollment. Vestry agreed that this seems fair.

Father John stated that the cost-of-living increase that is proposed by the diocese each year will be substantial for the upcoming year.

The May financials were approved.

We have been locking the gates and this seems to have discouraged people from camping out in the back yard.

Mike Ferro has offered to do the floors in the church for free. There were some issues in the past and we want to avoid any repeats. Motion was made and approved to accept his offer.

With the recent church shootings, churches in our district have been talking about what can be done to keep our congregations safe during services. Possibly locking the doors after the service begins or cameras on the doors that would alert someone if anyone came in. No system will be perfect and more discussion is needed on this topic.

The trouble with Father John's wireless microphone has been fixed. Joy O'Donnell's second Grant proposal has been approved, pending the diocese receiving our 2021 audit. Father John will talk to Terry Beyor about this as he was the one in contact with the audit firm.

Joy O'Donnell and Cailin will be out of town July 3rd and will not be able to do the live streaming of the service. There has not been anyone trained at this time.

It was discussed about putting up screens in the front of the church that can be lowered and raised to project the service bulletin. This would eliminate the need to print bulletins. Father John suggested a field trip to Skaneateles to see how theirs work. There was some concern about marring the appearance of the church.

The May Osborne Memorial Youth Fund has not been updated in some time. Terry will do an adjustment to bring this account current. William Abdullah volunteered to contact Van Guard, the company that handles this fund, and get a copy of the original documentation to open this account and find out who has any authority with this account. Interest payments from Van Guard should be going to the Youth Fund instead of Interest Income. Motion was made and approved to reimburse the Youth Fund for the current deficit.

It was suggested that we ask Shirley Quigley and/or Jeff Sawyer what should be on the plaque for Bill Suhr. William Abdallah volunteered to contact the place that did Jack McLane's plaque to determine a price once the wording has been established.

William Abdallah stated that he has not heard from Jack McLane's widow about a date to unveil his plaque. He will try to contact her again.

A new company came in and gave a quote for changing our copier supplier. It was

substantially lower than our current provider. Since we have been with our current provider for some years, it seemed only fair to let them know we were considering other companies. They came back with a new contract that would provide for more copies included and would save us money. It was decided to stay with our current provider. Since we are now printing the entire service in the bulletin, we are using more paper and more toner. The cost of paper has sky rocketed. Our old contract only allowed us a certain number of copies for free and then it was a per copy charge. Our new contact allows us unlimited copies.

The meeting closed with Father John offering a brief blessing. Next Vestry meeting July 13, 2022.

Statement on Supreme Court Dobbs decision by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry

June 24, 2022

Office of Public Affairs

Today the Supreme Court released its decision in the case of *Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization*. The court has overturned the constitutional right to abortion that was recognized in the seminal 1973 case *Roe v. Wade*.

While I, like many, anticipated this decision, I am deeply grieved by it. I have been ordained more than 40 years, and I have served as a pastor in poor communities; I have witnessed firsthand the negative impact this decision will have.

We as a church have tried carefully to be responsive both to the moral value of women having the right to determine their healthcare choices as well as the moral value of all life. Today's decision institutionalizes inequality because women with access to resources will be able to exercise their moral judgment in ways that women without the same resources will not.

This is a pivotal day for our nation, and I acknowledge the pain, fear, and hurt that so many feel right now. As a church, we stand with those who will feel the effects of this decision—and in the weeks, months, and years to come.

The Episcopal Church maintains that access to equitable health care, including reproductive health care and reproductive procedures, is “an integral part of a woman's struggle to assert her dignity and worth as a human being” (2018-D032). The church holds that “reproductive health

procedures should be treated as all other medical procedures, and not singled out or omitted by or because of gender” (2018-D032). The Episcopal Church sustains its “unequivocal opposition to any legislation on the part of the national or state governments which would abridge or deny the right of individuals to reach informed decisions [about the termination of pregnancy] and to act upon them” (2018-D032). As stated in the 1994 Act of Convention, the church also opposes any “executive or judicial action to abridge the right of a woman to reach an informed decision...or that would limit the access of a woman to safe means of acting on her decision” (1994-A054).

The court’s decision eliminates federal protections for abortion and leaves the regulation of abortion to the states. The impact will be particularly acute for those who are impoverished or lack consistent access to health care services. As Episcopalians, we pray for those who may be harmed by this decision, especially for women and other people who need these reproductive services. We pray for the poor and vulnerable who may not have other options for access. We urge you to make your voice heard in the way you feel called but always to do so peacefully and with respect and love of neighbor.



Church Picnic

Save the date
August 21, 2022
Emerson Park Pavilion

The Communal Paradox

Thomas Merton recognized this paradox at the heart of what we think of as “salvation”:

We cannot find ourselves within ourselves, but only in others, yet at the same time before we can go out to others we must first find ourselves. We must forget ourselves in order to become truly conscious of who we are. The best way to love ourselves is to love others, yet we cannot love others unless we love ourselves since it is written, “Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself” [Mark 12:31]. But if we love ourselves in the wrong way, we become incapable of loving anybody else. . . .

The only effective answer to the problem of salvation must therefore reach out to embrace both extremes of a contradiction. . . .

Only when we see ourselves in our true human context, as members of a race which is intended to be one organism and “one body,” will we begin to understand the positive importance not only of the successes but of the failures and accidents in our lives. My successes are not my own. The way to them was prepared by others. The fruit of my labors is not my own: for I am preparing the way for the achievements of another. . . .

Every other human is a piece of myself, for I am a part and a member of humankind. . . . What I do is also done for them and with them and by them. What they do is done in me and by me and for me. But each one of us remains responsible for our own share in the life of the whole body.
[2]

[2] Thomas Merton, *No Man Is an Island* (Garden City, NY: Image Books, 1955, 1967), 13, 16–17. Note: minor edits made for inclusive language.