

ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



PENTECOST 2020
MINISTRY HANDBOOK

Greetings and welcome to all:

Whether you are a newcomer or longtime parishioner, single or married, young or less young, we are glad that you are part of the Saint John's family. We hope that each of you will come to know this parish church as your spiritual home.

The worship of God is central to our faith and community, not only on Sundays but throughout the week. We have three services almost every Sunday with a special time for younger children in children's chapel during the first part of our 9:15 service. The 8:00 service is a simple celebration of the Holy Eucharist without music. Our 11:15 service is generally a more formal choral mass. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist during the week on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Sunday School for children age three through fifth grade takes place during the first part of the 9:15 service. We also have youth groups for older children. Check the current service bulletin or the Wednesday Scroll for the current schedule.

Our ministry offerings in the areas of liturgy, education, pastoral care, and community development are extensive. Information on each of these ministries is provided on the following pages. I encourage you to look through this book and find a ministry that might be rewarding and nourishing to you personally.

This is an exciting time for Saint John's Church, and we are looking forward to a wonderful year of worship, education, service and fellowship as together we endeavor to proclaim by our words and actions the good news of God in Christ.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chie" followed by a plus sign "+".

The Reverend Charles E. Connelly
Rector

Our Mission

To proclaim, by word and example,
the Good News of God in Christ, and to
build a spiritual community through
worship, education and outreach.

Service Schedule

(Please note that our service schedule may adjust due to the
COVID-19 health pandemic. Please contact the office or check
our website for the most current information)

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I
9:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
9:15 a.m. Children's Sunday School
10:20 a.m. Adult Christian Formation, during school year
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I

Weekday Eucharist

Wednesday at 12:15 p.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Thursday at 10:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist and
Healing Service, Rite II
Holy Eucharist is also celebrated in honor of major feast days
on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
Check the website for the schedule of these services

Prayer List

Members of the congregation are encouraged to place names
on the prayer list. Names are read during the Prayers of the
People on Sunday. Names remain on the prayer list for two
weeks and may be added again at any time.
Contact: John Edgar, jedgar@stjohnstampa.org or 259.1570

**For information regarding a specific ministry, please
contact the Parish Offices at 813.259.1570 or
parish@stjohnstampa.org**

Table of Contents

The Sacraments	
Baptism.....	7
Confirmation.....	7
The Holy Eucharist.....	7
Stewardship.....	8
The Vestry.....	8
The Church Office and Facilities.....	9
Publications.....	9
Ministry in St. John's.....	10
Children's Ministries.....	11
Children's Sunday School.....	11
Vacation Bible School.....	11
Youth Ministry.....	11
Adult Formation.....	12
Contemporary Women's Bible Study (CWBS).....	12
Enquirers' Class.....	12
Men's Thursday Noon Bible Study and Lunch.....	13
Safeguarding God's Children.....	13
St. John's Book Club.....	13
Wednesday Nights at St. John's.....	14
Women's Mid Morning Bible Study.....	14
Stitch 3, Pray 3.....	14
Sewing for Hope.....	14
Music Ministry.....	15
Liturgical Ministries.....	16
Acolytes.....	16
Altar Guild.....	16
Lay Eucharistic Ministers.....	17
Lay Readers/Lectors.....	17
Pew Organization.....	17
Ushers.....	17
Vergers.....	17
Parish Life.....	17
Kitchen Guild.....	18
The Circle.....	18
The Soirée.....	18
St. Margaret's Baptism Banner Guild.....	18
The Esther Society.....	18
The Father's Ministry.....	19
Cursillo.....	19
Holy Hospitality.....	19
Pastoral Care.....	20
Pastoral Care Leadership Team.....	20
Flower Team.....	20
Home Visitors.....	20
Meals Ministry.....	20
Newborn Celebration.....	20

Hospital Visitors	20
Grace Guild.....	20
Lay Eucharist Visitor (LEV).....	20
Walking the Mourner’s Path.....	20
Outreach and Evangelism	21
Service Projects	21
Alpha House of Tampa– Mothers’ Day Ingathering	21
Cornerstone Kids.....	21
Faith Café.....	21
Sandwich Sunday	22
Hyde Park Preservation, Inc.	22
Meals on Wheels.....	22
Metropolitan Ministries	22
Mission Projects.....	22
Dominican Republic—Tampa Deanery Project	22
Episcopal Relief and Development.....	23
Love, INC	23
Evangelism	23
Kairos Prison Ministry	23
Invite Welcome Connect.....	24
Newcomers Ministry.....	24
Contact Information for St. John’s Church	25
Contact Information for St. John’s Parish Day School	26

The Sacraments

Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. The bond which God establishes in Baptism is indissoluble. Each candidate for Holy Baptism is to be sponsored by one or more baptized persons. Sponsors of adults and older children present their candidates and promise to support them by prayer and example in their Christian life. Sponsors of infants, commonly called godparents, present their candidates, make promises in their own names, and also take vows on behalf of their candidates. It is fitting that parents be included among the godparents of their own children. Preparation for Holy Baptism is required. Please contact the parish offices to sign up for these classes.

Confirmation

In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop. Those baptized as adults are also expected to make this public commitment.

Adults and young people age sixteen and older are prepared for Confirmation by our Enquirers' program. Conducted by a member of the clergy, these classes generally begin in January or February. Young people of middle school age are prepared for Confirmation through faithful church attendance and active participation in youth Confirmation Classes.

The Holy Eucharist

Holy Eucharist is the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's Day. It is the sacrament commanded by Christ for the continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection until his coming again. The Eucharist (which means "thanksgiving"), also known as Holy Communion, was instituted by our Lord at the Last Supper. We believe Christ's living presence is manifest in the consecrated bread and wine, the Body and Blood of Christ. Christians of all ages who have been baptized with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, are invited to receive Holy Communion in St. John's Church. If you have not been baptized, or do not wish to receive Holy Communion, you are invited to come to the rail for a blessing.

Educational materials regarding the Holy Eucharist are available in the Parish Office.

Stewardship

Stewardship is the management and development of all the gifts God has given to each of us – money, time, talents, and the created world. Through our giving, we thank God for all the blessings we have received. St. John's carries out its many ministries through our gifts. An annual budget will be presented to the congregation during the Annual Meeting. That budget is based on the financial commitments made by all of our members. Parishioners are encouraged to submit a financial pledge card to the church in the fall, promising to give a proportion of their income to God for the coming year. Members of the congregation present personal testimony or stewardship witnesses during Sunday services to encourage us to think about our pledge to the work of God's Church. As you consider your financial pledge to St. John's, think about these words from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians: "The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

The Vestry

The Vestry is a servant ministry responsible for providing the necessary funding for our parish and for acting as "helpers in whatever is appropriate to lay persons for the furtherance of the Church's welfare." Members of the vestry are elected at the Annual Parish Meeting for a three-year term, with one-third of the vestry being elected each year. The Vestry generally meets monthly.

Office Volunteers

There is always work to be done in the parish offices from answering phones to assisting in ministry areas. We invite you to use your talents and free time for God's good pleasure. Contact: The Parish Offices, parish@stjohnstampa.org or 259.1570

Facilities Use and Grounds

St. John's Church and School covers three different campuses and provides a variety of spaces for meetings and events. Because we are spread out, it is necessary that all activities be organized through the parish offices. To reserve a room for a meeting or event please contact the parish office to reserve the date on the calendar. If room set-up is required, an Event Request Form must be filled out. The forms are available in the parish offices.

Publications

The Weekly Compass is printed each week and inserted into the Sunday Bulletin. Deadline for submission is Tuesday at noon of each week and should be submitted to Lee Lowry at llowry@stjohnstampa.org

The Wednesday Scroll is our weekly email newsletter. The email newsletter highlights what is going on in our parish each week and is a reminder about upcoming special events. To sign up for weekly updates, follow the newsletter link on the St. John's website. Submissions are due each Tuesday at noon and should be submitted to Lee Lowry at llowry@stjohnstampa.org

www.stjohnstampa.org is St. John's website, which is designed to provide information about our parish and how to get involved. The parish calendar can be accessed via the website.

The Ministry Handbook is designed to provide parishioners and visitors with a glimpse of who we are as a parish and how to get involved in parish life, education and ministry opportunities throughout the new season of ministry. Additional copies are available in the parish offices.

The Parish Directory is available online through our Realm system. Registration is required for access.

The Annual Report is printed for the annual meeting held in January each year. It summarizes the worship, ministries, activities, and financials of the church.

Ministry in St. John's

"For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness" (Romans 12:4-8).

Paul reminds us that as God's people we have a variety of gifts. We are called to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit working in, by and through us for God's good pleasure. Join us, therefore, as we become the people that we are in Christ - a people who in thought, word, and deed, love and serve the Lord.

Children's Ministry

St. John's Children's Ministry is organized with the idea that children will only be the church of tomorrow if they are the church of today. Therefore, we provide a variety of ways for children to become involved in the life of the parish to help them form habits that will last a lifetime.

Through Sunday School, community outreach, special activities, and much more, our children come to know the joy of God's love for us. It is important for the children to be a part of their own community within our parish, and this is accomplished through regular attendance.

Children's Sunday School (for ages 3 years old [Potty-trained] through 5th grade) - This special time for the children takes place during the 9:15 service. The children come directly to the Parish Hall, and a Sunday School Representative makes contact with the parents at this time. The children join their parents in the church at the Peace.

The children are divided into the following classes: 3-4 year olds, K-1st, 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th

Vacation Bible School- VBS meets for a week during the Summer from 9 a.m.-Noon. VBS is an exciting time for kids to experience God's love through singing, crafts, snacks, and hands-on activities!

Youth Ministry

Youth Group (EYC)- Meet friends. Grow in faith. The aim of St. John's EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is fellowship and discipleship for youth from 6th through 12th grades. The weekly EYC meetings are designed to give youth a place where they can have fun, meet life-long friends, be supported, and deepen their faith in Christ. There is time for games, dinner, and a lesson. The Youth Director coordinates the programming with Youth parents and other volunteers.

Summer Mission Trip—St John's participates in an annual Summer Mission Trip, serving for a week in a needy community. The Mission Trip is a unique experience of transformation and bonding—both within the group, and with others along the journey.

Adult Formation

Adult formation in St. John's is committed to providing a variety of opportunities for adults of all ages to delve into the wondrous life that God has given us here in this parish. Through Sunday School, Bible studies, lectures, and more, we provide parishioners and visitors with fruitful dialogue and discernment as to what it means to be the people of God.

We hope you will join us for any of our formation offerings and embark with us on the journey whose beginning and end is the Triune God we worship day in and day out.

The Contemporary Women's Bible Study (CWBS) is an opportunity for women with busy lives to become involved in an in-depth Bible study. CWBS is for women who want to benefit from reflection upon biblical texts that address faith and life today. It is for women who seek a supportive and congenial gathering with an eagerness to take the Word to heart. CWBS invites women of all ages to join this dynamic group for prayer, lively discussion, faith and fellowship as we discern the meaning of scripture for our lives. Whether you are an introvert or an extrovert, appreciate the big picture or delight in detail, this fresh approach will offer interesting and inspiring insights for everyone. CWBS is for women who are able to or must get up and out early. We pray that we will be blessed with mental and spiritual alertness as we gather each Tuesday morning at 6:45 a.m. in the Lowry Room at the Orleans Campus. Coffee and a light breakfast are shared before the study begins, and the gathering concludes at 8:00 a.m. Rotating facilitators guide the group. In addition to attendance at the weekly gathering, the group does "homework" by reading scripture, study guides, and supplemental handouts.

Enquirers' Class is a twelve-week program for those (age 16 and over) seeking Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church or Reaffirmation of one's Baptismal Covenant. You will learn about the beliefs of Episcopal Church; the sacraments, creeds, Book of Common Prayer, history, music and more. This class is also an opportunity to get to know a group of people with whom you feel comfortable attending church events, coffee hour, dinners, etc. Following Confirmation you have a purpose and direction for serving in the body of Christ. The series begins in January or February depending on the date of Easter Sunday.

Men's Thursday Noon Bible Study and Lunch, meets each week to study the lectionary readings for the coming Sunday. This is an informal, open discussion of scripture. What did it mean then, what does it mean now and how should we respond.

Join us. Study the readings St. John's will use for the coming Sunday. Give comfort, get comfort. Strengthen your faith through God's Word.

When: Every Thursday from 11:45 to 12:45...no punishment for being late or leaving early.

Where: The Lowry Room at the Orleans Campus.

Format: Read and discuss St John's readings for the coming week. You can lead, You can participate, or You can listen and observe.

The Bible is a foundational part of our church. Our outline of faith states, "We understand the meaning of the Bible by the help of the Holy Spirit, who guides the Church in the true interpretation of the Scriptures."

Safeguarding God's Children, mandated by our church insurance company, our Vestry, and the Diocese, is designed to equip parents, family members, and those engaged in ministry with the information they need to protect our youngest members from becoming a victim of abuse. One in four girls and one in eight boys will be abused by the time they are eighteen years old. All paid staff members of our Church and School, all those who work with youth and children, anyone in a position of authority such as Vestry, School Board, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, etc. are required to take the training within 6 months of assuming their position. However, everyone is encouraged to participate in this online training course.

The St. John's Book Club, formed fifteen years ago, offers discussions of books that can change, amuse, teach, or inform readers. Using a broad range of fiction and non-fiction, the Book Club meets from September through May in the Lowry Room at 4:00 p.m., the third Tuesday of each month. Each month a different member of the Book Club leads the discussion. Each year in April, members select and vote on eight books from annotated lists of prize-winning texts for the next year's book list.

The St. John's Book Club offers lively, friendly discussions that provide insights into members' readings. Participants find that they increase their capacity to enjoy reading when they discuss a book with the group. Everyone is invited to join the St. John's Book Club.

Wednesday Nights at St. John's is held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday. We gather for a potluck fellowship meal from 6:30 until 7:15 with a program to follow ending at 8:30. Topics of study consist of but are not limited to the teachings of Jesus, Old and New Testament studies, biblical history both Jewish and Christian, current events of the church and other topics relevant to our spiritual growth. Bring your covered dish, favorite study Bible and an open heart and mind for wonderful fellowship and stimulating conversation.

The Women's Mid Morning Bible Study The Women's Mid Morning Bible Study meets on alternate Tuesdays, 9:45 - 11:00 a.m., in the Church Sanctuary. Our meetings include time for fellowship, discussion and prayer, as well as teaching, shared among members of the Bible Study and our clergy. We invite you to join us as we seek to expand and enliven our understanding of the Old and New Testaments.

Stitch3, Pray3: This Outreach Commission was started for the purpose of knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, lap blankets, caps and scarves for those in the hospital, newborns, Military members and anyone who needs to be wrapped in God's love. The stitching is done in motions of three, representing the Trinity.

Sewing for Hope: This dedicated group of sewers makes patterned dresses as part of a national ministry based in Naples, FL. Receiving a dress opens many opportunities for these little girls such as going to church or school. Sewing for Hope is a project of the Tumaini Fund USA which assists thousands of AIDS orphans and widows in the Kagera region of NW Tanzania. Sewing for Hope helps clothe the children by providing dresses, shirts, and sweaters.

Music Ministry

Choristers are part of the music ministry at St. John's as the choir leads the congregation through the musical parts of the liturgy. In the process, choristers learn the importance of teamwork and respect for others. They learn to read music from many different periods, from the ancient to the modern. They sing in many different languages, including Latin, French and German. They learn about the great composers, and about the liturgical seasons of the church year. Opportunities exist for responsibility and leadership within the choir. Singing has been shown to benefit attention span and concentration, which strengthens academic studies. Reading and language skills, rhythm, listening and teamwork all benefit from choral singing. Choristers become so adept at these skills that they become professionals.

St John's Choir is an adult choir that provides choral music at the 9:15 and 11:15 Sunday services. Repertoire is drawn from the fifteenth century through the present day. The choir sings a Gradual Psalm, Offertory Anthem and Communion Motet, and a full setting of the mass at 11:15. The choir is open to Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Basses who are able to sing in tune, possess a good sense of pitch and have experience of reading music. Admission is via informal audition with Simon Morley, Organist and Director of Music.

Choir Guild members support the ministry of music in St. John's Church in numerous ways. They organize receptions and support for the Festival of Lessons and Carols, as well as the Annual Benefit Concert. The Guild is composed of many choir families, however, all interested members of the parish are warmly welcomed.

Liturgical Ministries

Acolytes play an important role in the life of the Church by serving at the altar on Sunday and for other special services during the year. Through training and serving, young acolytes develop a disciplined approach to Christian prayer and service, and a deep sense of the importance of liturgy in the life of a Christian. To become an acolyte at St. John's Church, a young person must be at least eleven years of age and have a sincere desire to serve during the liturgy. Acolytes complete a thorough training program of five to eight sessions of approximately one hour each. After this initial training, and after serving for four to six months, acolytes undergo advanced training to learn additional skills.

The Altar Guild members have the privilege of giving their time and talents to preparing the church for worship services, weddings, and funerals, as well as preparing the chapel for weekly services. Some members specialize in helping with weddings and funerals. Other members serve once a month, at Christmas, and at Easter to create the beautiful flower arrangements for the church and chapel. Most of the Altar Guild volunteers serve one weekend a month, in teams, to get the church and altar ready for Sunday services. They polish silver and brass vessels; fill candles with oil; vest the chalice that is put on the altar; place chalices, wine, wafers, water, and LEV kits on the credence table; arrange the celebrant's chasuble; put hymn numbers on hymn boards; mark the readings in the Gospel and Lectionary; put out offering plates and bulletins; and prepare the font for baptisms. Some members also spend time at home washing, ironing, and mending altar linens and purificators.

Wedding Altar Guild

St. John's is home to several weddings each year. Members of the Wedding Altar Guild take turns working in pairs for an hour at the rehearsal and two or three hours on the wedding day preparing the church for the wedding, assisting the bridal party, and reorganizing the altar for Sunday services after the wedding.

Funeral Altar Guild

Members work individually or in pairs and take turns assisting clergy in preparing the altar for funerals and assisting in other funeral-related duties.

Lay Eucharistic Ministers, or chalice bearers, administer the elements of Holy Communion in the church, under the supervision of clergy, when a sufficient number of clergy are not available for a particular service. Because of the qualifications required, there is an application and interview procedure for these ministries. Lay Eucharistic Ministers must be licensed by the Bishop of the Diocese of Southwest Florida after the invitation of the Rector. A background check is required and training is provided.

Lay Readers/Lectors read the scripture lessons at regular Sunday and festival services as well as Morning Prayer services each Sunday for the residents of the Health Care Center at Canterbury Towers.

Pew Organization is done every Friday to clean, straighten and prepare the pews for worship on Sunday. Members of the team ideally serve once a month.

Ushers welcome all who come to attend services at St. John's and assist with the orderly movement of the congregation through proceedings on Sundays, feast days, and special occasions. They are responsible for collection of the offering, and ensure that all hymnals and prayer books are replaced and that left over bulletins are collected at the end of the services. Ushers usually serve one Sunday per month during whichever service they regularly attend. New ushers are always welcome and needed for all three Sunday services.

Vergers are committed lay ministers within the Church who are well versed in the parish's history and the various orders of service. They assist the clergy in the conduct of public worship, especially in the marshaling of processions. Their duties include responsibilities such as the oversight of the preparations for services. Vergers free the clergy to prepare themselves spiritually for the day's services by ensuring that everyone assigned to participate in the service is present and knows his or her responsibilities. Vergers also often lead visiting clergy and speakers to the pulpit and attend to their physical needs during their visit.

Parish Life

As the church we are called to live our lives communally. The Apostle Paul tells us in his first letter to the Corinthians that "a body is not a single organ, but many" (1 Cor 12:14). We in St. John's strive in all manners to truly live as Christ's Body. "If one part suffers, all suffer together; if one flourishes, all rejoice together" (1 Cor 12:26).

In order to live this intentional life we engage in fellowship with one another through potluck dinners, The Soirée, newcomer gatherings, The Circle, block parties, and a variety of other fellowship opportunities. Each fellowship offering is intended to provide regular opportunities for communal interaction that will also give rise to more spontaneous engagements with others in the parish.

The Kitchen Guild was established to ensure our kitchen is a warm and inviting space. Guild members establish guidelines for kitchen use, and work with ministry groups, parishioners and the parish school to provide a functional space for all to share. The guild prepares our monthly parish breakfasts and meals for special events.

The Circle, where faith, fellowship, and friendship are un-broken, is a group of parishioners of all ages who gather for dinner and fellowship in each other's homes several times during the year. The purpose is to create a close-knit community of friends who enjoy spending time together. The yearly calendar includes several adult events and sometimes one family event.

The Soirée is an informal and friendly social gathering for our adults. As we have a large parish, this is an easy and fun way to get to know our parish family. Everyone brings an hors d'oeuvre to share and their favorite beverage.

St. Margaret's Baptism Banner Guild members meet on the last Thursday of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the Discovery House. They make felt banners for children who are being baptized in St. John's Church. The banners include the child's Christian name, symbols of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, and the water of Baptism. The banners carry the words, "Christ's own forever." The group always welcomes new members who would like to cut out, glue, or iron on symbols and letters.

The Esther Society is one of St. John's newest fellowship initiatives. Drawing on the strength and courage of Queen

Esther, this ministry fosters friendship, fun, and spiritual growth among our fabulous female parishioners.

The Fathers' Ministry seeks to strengthen the unique bond between fathers and their children, while developing camaraderie between fathers within the church community. The ministry pursues its mission by hosting two primary annual activities: a canoe trip which is open to all family members and the Fathers Camping Trip, enjoyed by fathers and their children in the fall. Other activities include providing cooking services at two annual cookouts and the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. The Fathers Ministry also hosts occasional social gatherings and welcomes opportunities to collaborate with other family-oriented church ministries.

Cursillo (A Spanish word meaning "little course in living Christianity") is a movement designed to help Christians deepen their commitment to Christ, enrich Their Spiritual life, and enliven their involvement in the church. The Cursillo experience begins with a three-day weekend at DaySpring. Website: www.cursilloswfla.org

Holy Hospitality in its current form at St. John's grew out of our first "Taste of St. John's" food-themed Rally Day in 2018. That event served as a reminder that food, fellowship and service go hand-in-hand, and that feeding one another, as Jesus and his disciples model again and again throughout the Bible, is a vital part of Christianity and something we have historically done well at St. John's.

Monthly Parish Breakfasts between services are a well-established tradition. The delicious and hearty breakfasts have been faithfully provided by the Kitchen Guild for several years. Building on that success, the Holy Hospitality team formed to make coffee hours on the non-breakfast Sundays more inviting and meaningful.

Enthusiasm for the ministry, and its positive impact on our Parish community, including our ability to welcome newcomers, were strong and immediate. The Holy Hospitality Ministry quickly expanded to give team members more opportunities to serve by providing food for other Parish events.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Leadership Team meets bi-weekly under the direction of the Associate Rector and is chaired by the Pastoral Care Team Coordinator, who organizes and coordinates the communication between Pastoral Care Team members and clergy to insure information is distributed in a confidential and timely manner. Pastoral Care Team Members who are represented include Homebound Visitors, Meals Delivery, Flower Ministry, Hospital Visitors, Grace Guild, and Newborn Ministry.

The Flower Team delivers the altar flowers from Sunday services to parishioners who are sick or bereaved.

Home Visitors go to see our homebound parishioners on a regular basis bringing encouragement, friendship and news about the parish.

Meals Ministry prepares and delivers a meal to parishioners who have recently been the hospital or are sick at home, if they so desire.

Newborn Celebration delivers a small gift to families at the time of the birth of a child.

Hospital Visitors are a small group of parishioners who visit parishioners who are in the hospital and rehab facilities.

Grace Guild The mission of The Grace Guild is to provide a welcoming and comforting experience for our parish families during funeral services at our church. Following the meeting with the clergy, a member of The Grace Guild reaches out regarding family attendance and other details. Grace Guild members greet the family upon arrival, ensure that the Lowry Room is set with a simple refreshment and attend to needs the family may have before and during the service. The Grace Guild is another component of support that complements, and does not replace, the work of the Altar Guild or pastoral care.

Lay Eucharistic Visitor (LEV) is a person licensed by the Bishop, upon the recommendation of the Rector, to take the consecrated elements to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration of Holy Eucharist on Sunday or other Principal Celebration. LEV's generally take the Sacrament to the communicant once a month. A background check is required for participation in this ministry.

Walking the Mourner's Path is a series of 8 weekly

workshops designed to help those who have experienced a loss. Attendees are guided through the program by lay leaders and by Deacon Kathleen Moore.

Faithful Friends operates as a small group ministry ensuring that our members are not forgotten during their time of grief. The group does this through the sending of timely and thoughtful cards, phone calls, invitations, and other tokens. Pam Shives and Fr. Cannon co-lead the group with Deacon Moore serving as advisor. Please contact one of us if you would like to get involved or know someone who would benefit.

Outreach and Evangelism

The Outreach and Evangelism Commission is comprised of four committees: Service Projects, Mission, Evangelism and Financial Support. Meetings will be scheduled as determined by each committee. Parishioners who have accepted "Bridge Builder" assignments report on the activities of the organizations for which they act as a liaison.

Service Projects:

Alpha House of Tampa—Mother's Day Ingathering

Alpha House provides safe housing and counseling for pregnant women in crisis. Our Mothers' Day ingathering provides Alpha House with much needed supplies for both mother and baby. Website: www.alphahouseoftampa.org

Cornerstone Kids is a ministry at St. James House of Prayer that reaches at-risk inner city children in the Tampa Heights area, and assists in their educational, spiritual, and emotional development in a safe, secure and nurturing environment. Funds are used to subsidize general operating expenses and for "CHAP" (Cornerstone Homework Assistance Program) which provides 25-30 children with homework assistance in small groups by grade level. St. John's parishioners raise funds for this ministry and support the annual Christmas Party. Website: <http://www.sjhoptpa.org/ministries.html>

Faith Café serves our neighbors in need with dignity and respect, offering meals, the opportunity for a shower and referral to other services. A hot lunch 6 days a week and a hot dinner on Sunday are prepared by Metropolitan Ministries and delivered to Faith Café, located at 1340 Clearview Ave., by a volunteer driver. Other local vendors donate surplus food and the volunteer kitchen staff prepare additions to each meal. Between 65 - 95 meals are served each day. Approximately

20 parishioners are among the faithful volunteers who coordinate, prepare and pick up food, serve the meals and clean up on the 3rd and 4th Fridays of each month.

Parishioners also contribute gently worn clothing and toiletries to the Angel's Closet. St. John's Church, along with 6 other south Tampa churches, supports Faith Café by paying annual dues to cover operating expenses and by designating 2 board members to represent it on the South Tampa Ecumenical Ministries (STEM) Board. For more information or to volunteer access the website at www.faithcafetampa.com

Sandwich Sunday takes place every 3rd Sunday between the 9:15 a.m. service and the 11:15 a.m. services, and is a collective effort of the entire parish -- from individuals and families volunteering to host or to assemble the meals to the children's program decorating the lunch bags. Volunteers make sandwiches and goodies to provide a 'take away meal' to be given out at Faith Café.

Hyde Park Preservation Inc. St. John's is uniquely located in the heart of an historic neighborhood and is a member of this active neighborhood organization.
Website: www.oldhydeparkfl.org

Meals on Wheels helps homebound individuals of all ages to remain independent members of society, maintain their health, and live their lives with dignity by providing hot, nutritious meals delivered by caring and compassionate volunteers. Website: www.mealsonwheelstampa.com

Metropolitan Ministries serves poor and homeless men, women and children year-round in the Tampa Bay region. During their Thanksgiving food drive campaign, they provide holiday food boxes and turkeys for nearly 12,000 families. Our parish participates in the annual Thanksgiving food drive.
Website: www.metromin.org

Mission:

Dominican Republic (Our Companion Diocese):

Tampa Deanery Project

In 1999, St. John's sent its first mission team to the DR leading to the initiation of the Tampa Deanery Project, a collaborative effort between Tampa area Episcopal Churches and our Diocese. Since then, members (both adult and youth)

of Tampa Bay Episcopal churches and friends have traveled to the DR on mission teams. In 2018, Tampa Deanery sent 29 persons on three teams, representing eight congregations from two dioceses, to participate in the third year of a four-year project to build Iglesia San Timoteo in Nizao, which began as a mission church for Iglesia San Matías in nearby Santana, Baní. On June, 30th, the church was consecrated by the new Bishop of the Dominican Republic, Moisés Quezada Mota.

San Timoteo is the tenth building completed. Working with these mission partnerships, the Tampa Deanery has built five churches, one clinic and six schools. San Matías School, adjacent to the church, was constructed in 2002, 2003 and 2010. In addition to using the conference hall at the school to build furniture for the new church, needed repairs are also being performed at the school.

The Companion Diocese relationship with the DR is facilitated by the Dominican Development Group (DDG) office located at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Tampa.

The Clinica Esperanza y Caridad (Hope and Charity Clinic) is located on the grounds of the San Esteban Episcopal Church in San Pedro de Macorís, is a medical clinic dedicated to bringing health services to the poor. Tampa Deanery Teams have worked in or near San Pedro de Macorís (San Esteban School, Centro Buen Pastor, and Mission Santa Cruz) for nine of the nineteen mission trips.

Website: www.dominicandevlopmentgroup.org

Episcopal Relief and Development works in collaboration with church partners and other local organizations to facilitate healthier, more fulfilling lives in communities that are struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster and disease. They also work around the world and here in the US responding to and rebuilding after disasters. Their programs impact the lives of over 3 million people annually.

Website: www.er-d.org

Love, INC (In the Name of Christ) St John's is a member church of Love INC of Metro Tampa, an organization that mobilizes local churches to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ. Love INC networks churches, church volunteers, and community organizations together to help people in need. Through Love INC:

- People in need receive coordinated help through a network of church and community services and resources;
- Local churches no longer work alone to meet the needs that come through their doors but at the Body of Christ across denominational lines to fulfill our biblical mandate to serve our neighbors in need;
- Church members have the opportunity to use their gifts and talents in meaningful ways that benefit others;
- Community agencies can refer people in need to Love INC or receive referrals from Love INC.

Love INC offers a Lunch & Learn and a volunteer training session at the Portico in downtown Tampa each month.

For information contact Deacon Kathleen Moore at kmoore@stjohnstampa.org.

Evangelism:

Kairos Prison Ministry is a Christian, lay-led, ecumenical, volunteer international prison ministry, in which men and women volunteers bring Christ's love and forgiveness to incarcerated individuals, their families and those who work with them. Kairos assists in the transition to becoming productive citizens. Parishioners serve on teams, underwrite the weekend financially, donate cookies, and deliver letters from our Sunday school children.

Website: www.kairosprisonministry.org

Invite Welcome Connect

Invite Welcome Connect is a framework for church and individual growth led by Rick Eckhard and Dallas Coffield. Focus on the core Christian values of invitation, hospitality, and connection lead us into new relationships while deepening existing ones. This small group ministry provides important leadership for both evangelism and discipleship. Invite Welcome Connect is open to every member of the church.

The Blue Bags are prepared to welcome visitors to our parish and to provide a variety of information about St. John's for those wishing to make us their church home.

St. John's Episcopal Church Contact Information

Website www.stjohnstampa.org

Telephone · 259.1570

Clergy Emergency Contact · 813.906.5199

The Rev. Charles Connelly, Rector	259.1570
The Rev. Michael Cannon, Associate Rector	259.1570
The Rev. Dr. James Reho, Chaplain to the School & Associate Rector	849.4200
The Venerable Dr. Kathleen Moore, Deacon	259.1570
The Rev. Donald Goodheart, Priest Associate	259.1570
Simon Morley, Organist and Choirmaster	397.1012
Ayana Grady, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries	259.1570
Lee Lowry, Communications Director	259.1570
Laurie Lawther, Financial Administrator	259.1570
Janis Elliott, Office Assistant and Registrar	397.1004
Ken Johnston, Sexton	259.1570
John Edgar, Parish Administrator	259.1570

Email addresses for all clergy and staff are the first letter of their first name with complete last name, followed by @stjohnstampa.org. For instance: John Edgar is jedgar@stjohnstampa.org.

St. John's Parish Day School Contact Information

Website www.stjohnseagles.org

Mission: St. John's prepares each of its students for lifelong intellectual and spiritual growth by providing a superior educational experience within a nurturing Christian environment.

Hugh Jebson, Head of School	849.4200
The Rev. Dr. James Reho, Chaplain to the School & Associate Rector	849.4200
Ana Ibanez, Head of Primary School	849.6200
Michael Salzer, Head of Lower School	849.5200
Lisa Strauch, Assoc. Head for Tech./Curriculum & Head of Middle School	849.4200
Gail Kelley, Director of Admissions	849.4200
Cindy Fenlon, Director of Alumni Relations	849.4200
Michael Matthews, Director of Operations & Chief Financial Officer	849.4200

Email addresses for all staff are the first letter of their first name with complete last name, followed by @stjohnseagles.org. For instance: James Reho is jreho@stjohnseagles.org.

