A PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS & FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S BROAD CREEK EPISCOPAL CHURCH: "All are welcome - all inclusive - no judgment!"



THE ST. JOHN'S PRAYER

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for St. John's, Broad Creek. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, restore the penitent, draw the seekers, and increase our numbers. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your Holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

VISION STATEMENT

St. John's will continue to grow as a positive source of comfort and love in the lives of our diverse parish family. The surrounding community will come to know us as a welcoming, inclusive shelter in a world of uncertainty, and a source of help in crisis.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John's Church is an inclusive community of faithful believers and earnest seekers, where worship is the foundation of our common life, and where the Holy Spirit moves us to gather and thrive as

a loving extended family while reaching out to serve our neighbors with the Good News of God's Love.

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What do you do to get ready for Christmas? By now some of you are finished with your Christmas shopping. Others of you have long lists of "things to do" before Christmas: gifts to buy, decorations to locate in the closets and corners that they were tucked into when they were last put away, cookies to bake, and parties to attend. At church we advocate allowing some time for a dramatically different approach preparing for Christmas: Advent!

The word Advent comes from the Latin word adventus, which means "coming" or "arrival." As a season of the church year, Advent is the four weeks before Christmas that prepares us to celebrate the Nativity, the birth of Jesus Christ, on December 25th. If you think about it, Christmas is a mystery. We do not understand just how God comes to be among us in human form. Taking time to prepare to celebrate Christmas allows us to savor and appreciate that mystery. If we don't take time to get our hearts ready for Christmas, we could walk right by this mystery without ever really experiencing it! And so, we spend four weeks before Christmas anticipating and preparing for the coming of Christ.

DECEMBER 2nd Light the first purple candle for "Loving God, give Light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. Help us, watch and wait in hope for the coming of Jesus.

DECEMBER 9th Light 1 purple

candle and a second purple candle for peace. "Creator God, fill us with a sense of peace and love. Help us to listen to your voice in our lives each day. Amen.

(Wreath Idea, Advent prayers and some of the content above were found at

DECEMBER 16th Light the first and second purple candles and the pink candle for joy.

"Living God, fill us with joy and wonder in all your creation. Help us to keep our hearts and hands open to others. Amen."

Getting Ready for Christmas

Advent has a double spiritual meaning. We look back on an event that has already happened with gratitude and we look forward with anticipation to an event yet to come. While we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus that happened thousands of years ago, we are also anticipating Jesus' return as God unites our world with the place beyond our world we call heaven. If you listen to the scriptures that are read in church on the Sundays of Advent, you will hear both themes in the lessons.

"Celebrating" Advent is very simple: slow down, breathe, and be grateful for the mystery of God's presence with us. God is present to us extraordinary and ordinary ways: in the birth of lesus and in the smile of a stranger. Using an Advent Wreath in your home is a way to be intentional about your Advent observance.

An Advent Wreath need not be fancy. For less than \$5 at the dollar store you can make a wreath out of birthday candles, a tea light, molding clay/playdough, and some glitter. Light the candle/s and share some prayers at Sunday dinner (and Christmas Eve!). See the example below:

You will enjoy Christmas so much more if you slow down and celebrate Advent first!

Light all purple and pink candles and the

DECEMBER 24th

white Christ candle in the center. "Living God, thank you for coming to live among us. Help us to live with hope, peace, joy, and love. Amen "

DECEMBER 23rd Light 2 purple

candle, § the 3rd purple candle for

"Jesus, you are our greatest gift. Fill our homes with love and make us ready to receive you. Amen.

candles, the pink love.

buildingfaith.org. Building Faith is a wonderful resource designed for families and children but full of great ideas for everyone!)

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Ļр Starting this February, I added a "travel topic" to our newsletter. Every month, ONE page will be dedicated to the travel photos you want to share. Email only high resoultion photos (jpgs) to bsbrevard@yahoo.com by the deadline date for the newsletter. Don't send paper copies or flash drives. Only the name(s) of who provided the photos and the name of the destination will be listed. NOT listed will be captions, specific titles, addresses, and narratives.

Enjoy this month's destinationon the next page: Fort Washington, MD

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ST. JOHN'S WAY











IT'S A Beautiful World!

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Enjoy a different destination every month: Fort Washington, MD

Fort Washington is located in Prince George's County, Maryland. It borders the capital of the USA, Washington, D.C., situated south of the downtown district. It is a prosperous community with an African American majority population. The Fort Washington community is located west of Maryland Route 210, with some additional area to the east of the highway.

The community is named for Fort Washington, which upon its completion in 1809 was the only defensive fort protecting Washington, D.C.The fort is a stone structure and offered a good field of range for cannon fire at enemy advances on the Potomac River. During the War of 1812, the fort was quickly abandoned during a British advance.

















PHOTOS & INFO: Birgitt S. Brevard





We are seeking volunteers to sign up for COFFEE HOUR

both Sunday Services. This would involve

bringing an item to share for coffee hour. For example, coffee cake, cookies, or cheese & crackers. (Nothing elaborate, just something simple, however, you may be as creative as you like.)

The volunteer for the 8 a.m. service would be responsible for set-up and the volunteer for the 10:30 a.m. service would be responsible for the clean-up. The sign-up sheet is available in Bayne Hall.

Your participation would be greatly appreciated!

THE ST. JOHN'S **BROAD CREEK** EPISCOPAL CHURCH We are here for you

VESTRY

ST. JOHN'S VESTRY MEMBERS Barbara Duncan, Senior Worder Karen Herbert, Junior Warden lean Anderson-Jones, Secretary Sandra Bouchelion Winston Godwin Frica Kallop , Michael Lacy Sandra Rivera Betsy Winters

Alan Ritter, Finance Chairman Peter Persell, Outreach Chairmar Bea James, Treasurer Carol Thomas & Rudy Brevard Pledge Clerks

URGENT: WEBMASTER NEEDED

If you are looking to volunteer your expertise by working with WORSHIPTIMES on updating, programming, editing, adjusting our St. John's website - look no further - YOU ARE THE ONE FOR US! St. John's needs YOU.



Contact Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@stjohnsbroadcreek.org or Birgitt at bsbrevard@yahoo.com.



DEAR FRIENDS OF THE DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON,

I am thrilled to call our diocese together for a weekend of spiritual rededication and renewal January 24-26, 2020, culminating in a public revival with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on Sunday, January 26, at 2 p.m. at the Entertainment and Sports Arena in Washington, DC. The theme for the weekend and for the revival itself is More Jesus: More Love, a reminder that only as we draw closer to Jesus can we grow in our capacity to love as Jesus loves. The revival is not for ourselves alone, but for those we will invite to join us for a service of uplifting music,

personal testimony, the Presiding Bishop's word to us, and Holy Eucharist. Read more online

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS! In preparation for the More Jesus, More Love Revival on Sunday, January 26, 2020, we seek volunteers to serve in a variety of critical roles. We're looking for folks at all levels of experience who are excited, motivated team players willing to serve in the months leading up to and on the day of the event. Sign up to volunteerLearn more about the More, Jesus, More Love Revival weekend eventsQuestions?



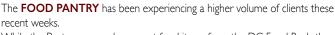
MONFY MA

Your St. John's Finance Committee is made up of volunteers who are responsibe of planning, advising, executing, and reporting of financial information and processes benefitting St. John's. We meet on the second Thursday each month. All parish members are invited to any meeting and are encouraged to join us. Free coffee and snacks at every meeting. For guestions, call ALAN at 301.292.3490.

BARELY SELF-SUSTAINING? BRING FINANCES UP TO PAR? How? Raise your pledge. Have an idea for fundraising? Great - step up - take charge - do it.

NOVEMBER FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- I. Previous Finance Committee meeting was held Nov. 14. Nine attendees.
- 2. Janney investment funds were up as of 11/01/2019.
- 3. Presentation of October 2019 draft financial reports.
- 4. B & G: Septic system for rectory not finished. Meeting report with county officials. HWH replacement completed in rectory.
- 5. Ring security estimates reviewed. Recommended approval by vestry.
- 6. New signage for Livingston Road planned.
- 7. Next long term Maintenance Committee to meet Dec. 3. 8. Received detail security proposal from one company.
- Waiting on second company bid.
- 9. Investments funds as of 10/31/2019: Historic Graveyard Fund: down. Operations Maintenance Fund: up.
- 10. Church rental proposal needs revisions. I I.Getting bids for new doors for Bayne Hall.
- 12.Next month's regular Finance Committee meeting will be
- Thurs., Dec. 5, 2019.



While the Pantry can purchase most food items from the DC Food Bank, there are some necessary items that are not available.

The St. John's Women's Ministry is collecting the following items: paper towels, toilet paper, toothpaste, tooth brushes, bars of soap, and deodorant.

We are asking the Parish to support this project by generously filling the baskets in the back of the church and in Bayne Hall. THANK YOU!

RECYCLE FOR ST. JOHN'S

- · DON'T put your aluminum cans (soft drink, beer, juice, etc.) in your county recycle bin! Small metal items, including aluminum cans may be dropped off at St. John's. Place items in the recycle bin or outside the kitchen door.
- DON'T throw away scrap metal (pipes, gutters, screens, aluminum siding, doors, etc.)!
- DON'T let contractors take away old material after having new gutters, siding, etc. installed!

Call Kathy Mierke at 301.292.3624 for pick up.

- · Usual recycling pick-up is on Mondays and handled by Kathy and Jim.
- ALL METAL, INCLUDING COPPER, ALUMINUM, BRASS, AND IRON, WILL BE COLLECTED.
- All recycled material will be sold and all proceeds given to St. John's. Questions? Call Kathy: 301.292.3624.

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The following names will be prayed for aloud during the Sunday Service, and during the week in our daily prayers. They will remain on the prayer list until November 31, 2019. If you want them on the long term list, please call the church office. Pray for Margaret, Carl, Diane, Rachaad, Lois, Erica, Autumn, Elizabeth, Lynn, Faith, Geneva, Catherine, Joan, Claudia, Claudette, Karl and lim.

The following names are to be prayed for during the week in our daily prayers. They will remain on the prayer list until December 31, 2019. If you want them to remain on the list, please call the church office.

Pray for Connie Duncan, the Gholson Family, Charles Gunter, Thomas & Gordon James, the Mierke Family, Lana Neil, and Mitch Otera

MY INTERESTING DAY IN SOUTHERN MARYLAND by Peter Ulrich

This morning I went to St. Andrew's, Leonardtown, the church of my son and family. I was down there to attend a play last evening at the high school. My grandson had a big role to play and Pop Pop could not possible miss it. I did not want to drive back late at night. I had no idea what a very special time

this was to be at St. Andrew's this morning.

It turns out that they were celebrating St. Andrew's Day a little early (the actual day is November 30). Each year around



November 17 they celebrate the anniversary of the founding of their church (1744). For this one service, all of the altar hangings and clergy stoles are sewn from the St. Andrew's tartan plaid. (That should be a familiar cloth to my son-in-law, Alistair Kean, PhD, St. Andrew's University, 1988) And, of course, a visiting bagpiper, resplendent in kilt, piped the processional and recessional.

In addition, our new Diocesan Assisting Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Chilton Knudsen (isn't that a wonderful name?) was scheduled for her periodic visit today.

Two Beautiful Ladies: Pastor Sarah and Jennifer Boniface

Let's

The blessings multiply! She gave a splendid sermon and celebrated the Eucharist. I introduced myself to her after the service

and said I was an "interloper" from St. John's, Broad Creek. She laughed and said she was looking forward to visiting St. John's in the New Year. She's very charming and energetic and also quite tiny. She said she is "just five feet and no inches tall, on good days" Hah-hah! Bishop Knudsen also read a letter from Bishop Budde congratulating the parish on its 275th birthday. The service was followed by a luncheon.

Quite a morning!

Starting with the January 2021 newsletter, "Selfie Time With Sarah" will be replaced by an op ed, called "Let's Be Frank". I will introduce a statement which is my honest opinion on things that happen in the news, stuff that we think about now and then, or something I may have seen. The article will be short. Sometimes you may agree - sometimes you may not. My intent is to provide you with some "food for thought". Nothing too serious. And yes - YOU are invited to "BE FRANK" as well. Between 250 and 500 words max, submitted to me via email at bsbrevard@yahoo.com.

HEAVENLY FATHER, GIVER OF LIFE AND HEALTH: Comfort and relieve your sick servants, and give your power of healing to those who Minister to their needs, that those for whom our prayers are offered may be strengthened in their weakness and have confidence in your loving care; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

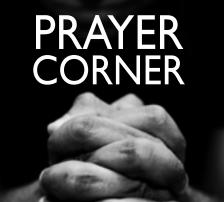
Pray for Archbishop of Canterbury: Justin; Presiding Bishop: Michael; Bishop of Washington: Mariann; Rector: Sarah

Pray for the President, the Armed Forces of the United States and our Allies, and for the people and emergent leaders of Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, Libya, and all the countries in the world that are in turmoil, as well as for our enemies and those who wish us ill. Pray for our Parish, especially our Staff, our Vestry and its Officers, and our Ministries and Committees.

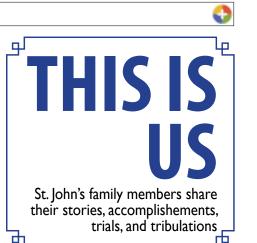
9. You have many other great ideas. Share them!

YOU ARE NEEDED!

Pastor Sarah, your vestry and those involved in these activities, are ready to provide practical advice on how you can get involved to help out.









- Feed the hungry Ι. Work at the Fort Washington Food Pantry for an hour a week or an hour a month.
- 2 Teach the children Tutor a child with Homework Helpers on Tuesdays; Give school supplies for Church World Service School Kits.
- Protect the vulnerable Make a financial donation to PGC Family Crisis Center.
- 4. Help mothers, girls, and their children Make a financial contribution to the United Thank Offering of the Episcopal Church Women.
- 5. Support victims of natural disasters Give to Episcopal Relief and Development and Church World Service.
- Treat refugees and immigrants as you would treat other Americans Engage with refugees and immigrants; discuss among ourselves how to do this best.
- 7. Be polite, smiling and kind to everyone you encounter
- 8. Call, write, text, email and meet with elected officials to let them know that you expect the to feed the hungry, teach the children protect the vulnerable, help women, girls and children and respond compassionately and effectively to natural disasters.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dates and times are subject to change, please check with the office at 301.248.4290 or online at www.stjohnsbroadcreek.org for changes/updates.

SALE! 2020 CALENDARS Calendars are \$10 each. Please see Sandra Bouchelion.

SALE! PERSONALIZED BRICKS

Please see Karen Chapman for details.

SALE! ST. JOHN'S SHIRTS FOR \$20 EACH Call Karen Herbert at 301.440.4294.

BIBLE STUDY* 10:15 a.m. after Wednesday Worship 7 p.m. in the Rectory

FOOD PANTRY Saturdays at 9:30 a.m.

WORSHIP

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. Eucharist followed by Bible Study* Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

YOGA \$10 PER SESSION Mondays at 7 p.m.

BROAD CREEK CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM Contact Stephenie Ratty: 301.248.6665.

CHOIR REHEARSALS Every Thursday from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

HOMEWORK HELPERS Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

GUTTS & BUTTS CLASSES "BUILD - FLEX - TONE"

Group fitness class to be held in Bayne Hall. Tuesdays: 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. or Sundays: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. **Cost Per Person:** \$10 RSVP at <u>thewellologist@candicecamille.com</u> or 301.752.8737.

35TH ANNUAL FOOD BASKET PROGRAM

November 17 through December 20

Donations of canned goods will be collected at the District 7 Police Station on Fort Washington Road Contact Bill Milligan at 240.508.9080 for info.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to submit information to be considered for inclusion in the "St. John's Way" newsletter, email your information DIRECTLY to bsbrevard@yahoo.com at least one week in advance* of the newsletter's distribution date (which is usually on the first day of the next month). Inclusion in the newsletter is NOT guaranteed.

* Deadlines for submissions can also be found on the last page of the newsletter

COAT DRIVE

October 1 through December 7 Donate gently worn and/or new coats to the PGC POLICE STATION 11108 Fort Washington Road CONTACT: Cpl. Rannacher at 240.507.8110

STUDY SESSION WITH DEACON JOAN

5 weeks on Tuesdays, starting on Tuesday, November 19 at 1 p.m. CHRIST CHURCH CLINTON 8710 Old Brandywine Road, Clinton, MD BOOK: Let Your Life Speak AUTHOR: Parker Palmer Bring a snack.

CYBER MONDAY

Monday, December 2

LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesday, December 3 CARPOOL: 11:15 a.m. in St. John's parking lot THE CARLYLE GRAND CAFE 4000 Campbell Avenue, Arlington, VA For reservation, call Karen Herbert at 301.440.4294.

FINANCE MEETINGS

Thursday, December 5 at 7 p.m.

POINSETTIAS SALE (Limited quantity)

December | through |4 **Cost Per Poinsettia:** \$17 For details, see Jan Kohout or Betsy Winters.

ADVENT STUDY &

WEDNESDAY SOUP SUPPERS Wednesdays, December 4, 11, and 18 Soup Suppers: 6 p.m. Matthew's Gospel(3-week study)

ST. NICHOLAS' VISIT Sunday, December 8

MEN'S MINISTRY HOLIDAY BRUNCH Sunday, December 8 After 10:30 a.m. service BAYNE HALL

ABOUT YOUR SUBMISSION(S)

- Articles which are selected for publication will be proof read for content, spelling, and grammatical errors.
- Articles should be submitted in Word format and
- discuss subjects relevant to the St. John's community.
- Articles should include section headings.
- Illustrations, tables, sidebars are encouraged to illustrate and emphasize the message.

STRUCTURE OF YOUR ARTICLE(S)

News items and announcements
Short, topical, news oriented

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Sunday, December 8 at 4 p.m. (Doors open at 3:15 p.m.) OXON HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Michael Lacy, Kathy Mierke

VESTRY MEETING

Thursday, December 12 at 6 p.m.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE @ THE RECTORY

Sunday, December 15 from 4 to 6 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Tuesday, December 24

Family Eucharist and Gathered Pageant: 4 p.m.

Come early to pick out a costume so you can play a part in a Christmas Story Pageant. There will be angel, sheep and shepherd costumes! Everyone is welcome!

Carol Singing and Festive Eucharist: 10 p.m.

Traditional Christmas Eve service with all the sights and sounds of Christmas worship! Invite your friends and neighbors!

CHRISTMAS DAY

Wednesday, December 25

Breakfast: 9 a.m.

Hosted by the Odderstol Famiy in the Parish Hall. Come as you are! THIRD Annual Slipper Contest! (Sarah will have a "very special prize" for the contest winner.) Casual Eucharist with Carols: 10 a.m.

DONATION DEADLINE FOR JESUS' BIRTHDAY GIFT

Sunday, December 29

NEW YEAR'S EVE Tuesday, December 31

W.O.W. NEWS

WOW will NOT visit the Alpaca Farm. All are welcome to make their own arrangements. SHOP HOURS: Fridays (beginning Friday after Thanksgiving), Saturdays, & Sundays until January 5, 2021. VILLA DE ALPACAS FARM 22410 Aquasco Road, Aquasco, MD 20608. 301.888.2742

- Major Articles
 - In depth discussions of topics of interest

ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE SUBMISSIONS

Information to be considered for inclusion on the website is very limited and will undergo strict review!

Email your information DIRECTLY to

bsbrevard@yahoo.com at least two weeks in advance of possible placement. Please remember, submitting your article does not guarantee placement on the website.





Prince George's County Public Schools 2019-2020 School Calendar – Approved by Board of Education 3-7-19

2019	
July 4-5	Independence Day Holidays – Schools and Offices Closed
August 11	Eid al-Adha*
August 19-21	Professional Duty Days for New Teachers
August 22-30	Professional Duty Days for All Teachers
August 28	Professional Development
August 29	Orientation Day for Pre-K and Kindergarten Students
August 30	Orientation Day for New Gr. 6&7 Middle Schoolers & New 9 th Graders
September 2	Labor Day Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed
September 3	First Day of School for All Students
September 27	Professional Development – 3-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students
October 1	Rosh Hashana*
October 9	Yom Kippur*
October 18	Professional Development – Schools Closed for Students
October 27	Diwali*
November 5	End of First Quarter (45 days)
November 6	Professional Day for Teachers – 3-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students
November 11	Veterans Day & Parent-Teacher Conferences – Schools Closed for Students
November 27-29	Thanksgiving Holidays – Schools and Offices Closed
December 23-31	Winter Break & Christmas Holidays – Schools and Offices Closed
2020	
January 1	Winter Break & New Year's Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed
January 20	Martin L. King Jr. Day Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed
January 24	End of Second Quarter (45 days)
January 27	Professional Day for Teachers – 3-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students
February 17	Presidents' Day Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed
March 30	End of Third Quarter (45 days)
March 31	Professional Day for Teachers – 3-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students
April 6-9	Spring Break – Schools Closed for Students and Teachers
April 9-16	Passover
April 10 & 13	Spring Break & Easter Holidays – Schools and Offices Closed
April 24	First Day of Ramadan
May 23	Last Day of Ramadan
May 24	Eid al-Fitr*
May 25	Memorial Day Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed
June 12	3-Hr. Early Dismissal for Students ¹
June 15	Last Day for Students ¹ and End of Fourth Quarter (45 days) – 3-Hr. Early Dismissal for
	Students
June 18	Last Day for Teachers ¹

IMPORTANT CALENDAR NOTES

There are 180 student days and 192 teacher days (195 for new teachers). Last days for students and teachers are subject to change. 10- and 11-month employees can refer to Bulletin M-1-19 for clarification on workdays.

¹INCLEMENT WEATHER MAKE-UP DAYS

Three inclement weather make-up days are built into the school calendar. If two days are used, the last day for students will be June 12 and the last day for teachers will be June 17; if one day is used, the last day for students will be June 11 and the last day for teachers will be June 16; if no days are used, the last day for students will be June 10 and the last day for teachers will be June 15.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

Major religious holidays are noted for planning purposes only. Jewish and Muslim holidays begin the day before at sunset. To avoid excluding students, families and staff from important meetings or activities, PGCPS prohibits scheduling these events on major holidays noted with an asterisk (*) on this calendar. This restriction does not apply to state or regional events.

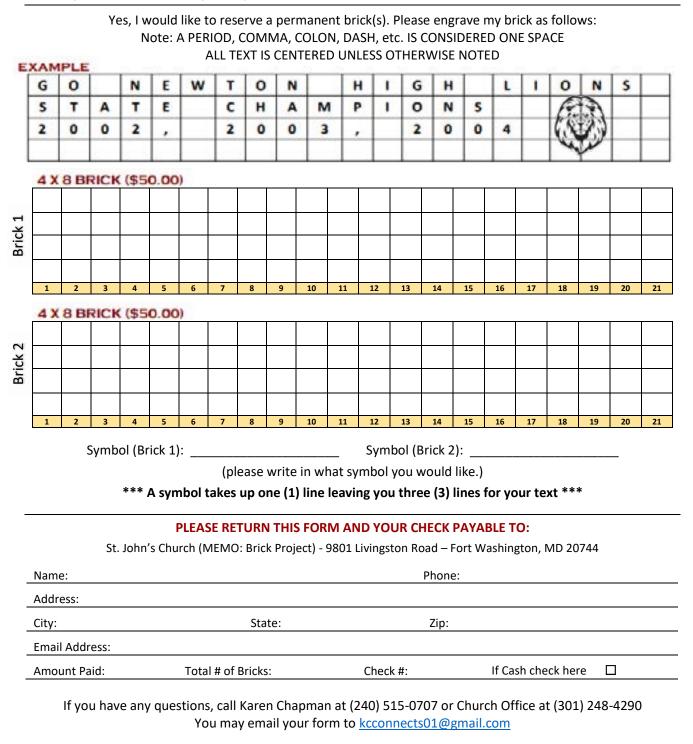


ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A PLACE IN TIME CONTINUED...

With St. John's "A Place in Time" Brick Project, we are looking forward to adding your personalized brick "in memory of", "in thanksgiving for", you or your family member's baptism, an anniversary or a message of encouragement.

St. John's bricks are \$50 each for a 4x8 brick. You may purchase as many as you wish. Engraving is included. If you wish to add a symbol to your brick, please add \$10 to your order. Symbols can be email upon request or seen in the binder in the back of the church.





The deadline for the January 2020 issue of "St. John's Way" is Thursday, December 19

Submissions can be left in the newsletter box in the church office; either as hard copy, on CD, or on a flash drive. You also have the options to mail or email your submission.

The preferred way to receive your submissions is as a Microsoft Word document, via email. More info on "Upcoming Events" page.

Please email your letters, ideas, articles, comments, information, questions to **bsbrevard@yahoo.com**.

NOTE: Dates, times, locations mentioned in this newletter are subject to change. All information has been edited to the best of our abilities. Be kind and understanding. PEACE!

REMEMBER the December 19 deadline.

***ST. JOHN'S WAY**



A publication for members and friends of St. John's Episcopal Church, Broad Creek: "All are welcome - all inclusive - no judgment!"

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