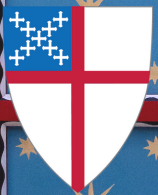


# The Evangelist



## July 2021 A Newsletter for our Parish and Church Family

### ***In this Issue:***

Rector's Message - 1  
Treasurer's Report - 2  
Simple New Way to Give - 2  
Get to Know: Flower Team - 2  
Get to Know: Vestry - 3  
The Daily Office Invite - 3  
Get to Know: Choir - 3  
Music News - 4  
Family & Youth News - 4  
Tuesday Trekkers - 5  
Brotherhood News - 5  
Bookstore News - 5  
EIS Seeking Volunteers - 5  
Communication Corner - 6  
Get to Know: Acolytes - 6  
Milestones - 7  
Graduation Kudos - 7  
Brotherhood Golf Classic - 8

Follow all our social  
media platforms &  
share our news!

Web: [sjtulsa.org](http://sjtulsa.org)  
Facebook: @sjtulsa  
Instagram: @sjtulsa  
Twitter: @sjtulsa  
YouTube: Saint  
John's Episcopal  
Church-Tulsa

4200 S. Atlanta Pl.  
Tulsa, OK 74105  
(918) 742-7381

## Greetings!

I pray that your summer is going well! And by that I really mean I hope you have been able to get some rest and relaxation in. As I write this, I'm grateful that several of our staff have already begun their summer vacations. It's a little quieter around the parish without their company, but it is a very good thing that they, and you, can get some time for recreation.

The quieter days of summer always bring my mind back to the Sabbath, the seventh day of rest, pronounced by God at creation. The Sabbath is a rich topic for consideration and meditation, especially because it is such a unique idea in the ancient world. In the twenty-first century, many of us have a couple of days each week to do "not-work" stuff. Some of us get a single day for that. But throughout the ages, a day for "not-work" would have been unthinkable, a waste of a day's wages or labor, even seen as irresponsible for those with mouths to feed at home. And yet, throughout the Scriptures, God consistently calls his people to hold a particular day out of the week for rest, for "not-work."

History shows us that the idea of the Sabbath has caused much debate over the millennia, and we can even see that in the Gospels, Jesus was in regular conversations with his contemporaries about the nature of the Sabbath (Matthew 12 would be a good place to start looking if you're curious). Despite the many disputes around the Sabbath, the insight behind the command to "keep the Sabbath day holy" is that human beings need to rest so that we do not become exhausted; and human beings need a chance to recognize that God will provide for us. Thus, in taking a day for "not-work," the ancient Israelites were meant to have a day where they relied on God and His provision for them; placing all cares, occupations, and burdens on God. There's not enough space here to unpack how amazing this is, but for now, we can consider anew that Christ, as Lord of the Sabbath, means for us to find our truest peace and rest in him.

Which is to say, as the gathered people of God hard at work in the vineyard of our wonderful parish of Saint John's, it is very good for us to get the rest we need. And when we do so, let us rest not apart of Christ, but rejoice that by his blessings are we truly re-created. Thus even by our rest is Christ magnified because by true recreation, by our recognition of God's provision for us, and by His life in us, can we be ready for whatever is coming next.

A restful recreation in summer means an exciting fall ahead, beloved!

Your friend,



*The Rev. David Burnsted  
Rector*



## Treasurer's Report

- Bill Chevraillier

I have summarized information below on the present financial status of Saint John's Church for May 31, 2021. Operating revenue and expense through May combined are:

- Total income of \$463,125.73 is <\$34,442.11> under budget for the year to date. Total pledges are under budget for the year by <\$9,938.85>. Contributions and plate of \$31,712.12 are <\$29,954.53> under budget for the year to date. Miscellaneous income and bequests of \$102,113.92 are \$5,451.27 over budget.
- Expenses of \$503,083.12 are \$52,523.46 under budget for the year to date.
- Net loss is <\$39,957.39> vs. budgeted loss of <\$58,038.74>.
- Operating Funds had a balance of \$81,584.40 as of May 31, 2021.

As you can see, we are not too far from budget. We are hopeful that in-person attendance will continue to improve along with our contributions and plate revenue. If there are additional items that are of interest to you, please feel free to contact me. My email is billchev@gmail.com.

## Simple Giving by Smartphone

It's easier than ever to make a donation to Saint John's, especially on those days when you don't have cash in your wallet, forgot to write a check, or simply want to give fast but also get a receipt. To donate by scan, hover your smart phone over the QR code to the right and follow the steps.



SCAN ME

WE LOVE TO SEE YOUR SMILE...

...BUT IF YOU ARE NOT FULLY VACCINATED, WE ASK THAT YOU WEAR A MASK WHILE IN THE CHURCH FACILITIES.



THANK YOU SO MUCH!

## Getting to Know... Our Flower Crew

A self-described "cradle" Episcopalian, Lise Dean has been attending Saint John's for the past twenty-three years. She was baptized, confirmed and married in the Episcopal faith. And, throughout the last year, she has been a faithful member of the small flower committee, filling our sanctuary with blooms and reverent beauty.

A retired registered nurse, Lise has worked most of her career as a neurosurgical/neurological nurse manager in Texas. When she moved to Tulsa in 1997, she began working at Saint Francis Hospital in the Outpatient Surgery Department. Most recently she retired from working as a temporary school nurse at Holland Hall, where her children graduated.

Lise is married to Jim Dean. This summer the Dean family celebrated their daughter Erin's twenty-first birthday in Las Vegas. Erin is beginning her Junior year at Pepperdine University this fall. The Deans are currently



preparing their son, Evan, for his move to The University of Tennessee in Knoxville to begin his freshman year there this August.

Family is Lise's great joy and she noted that they love to travel. She and Jim hope to enjoy more of it now that they have entered the "empty nest" chapter of life.

When asked what draws her to serve Saint John's through the flower team, she shared the following: "I have always had an admiration for beautiful flower arrangements. I am always taking notice of the beauty of nature and thank God for his creations. I never take for granted the smell of a rose, or the beauty of a peony. So when I had the opportunity to work on the flower committee, I jumped at it. I love taking nature and bringing it to the Altar to enhance a Sunday service, a wedding or any other celebration, all for the Glory of God. I find deep satisfaction and humility knowing my work is serving God and our congregation."



## Getting to Know...Our Vestry

Imona Omole joined the Saint John's Vestry in January of 2021 and serves as an usher. He wasn't raised Episcopalian, yet felt very familiar with the tradition having been raised Anglican. He was baptized in the Anglican Church in the United Kingdom.

Imona joined this parish in 2015, when he moved back to Oklahoma. Work with Phillips 66 brought him to Green Country. He is the Director of Fuel Cells, where he leads a team of engineers and technicians in developing new technology for the energy transition. He holds a PhD in chemical engineering from Georgia Tech and, as an inventor, has successfully filed multiple patents.

Prior to the pandemic, he traveled widely. Imona shared that he enjoys going to "interesting places" and has lived on three continents (Africa-Nigeria, Europe-UK and North America) and in the states of Massachusetts, Georgia, Oklahoma and Texas.

Imona likes to exercise, spend time with friends and family, and learn new things related to technology, business, philosophy, and sometimes politics. He also loves to grill and smoke foods. "I got a smoker last year and have used it nonstop, smoking chicken, turkey, pork, and beef using all kinds of wood chips," he explained. "I also eat out frequently on the weekends. I live in the Brookside area, so I end up going to restaurants nearby. My go-tos are Charleston's, Doc's, ITR and Keo." His top cooking tip: try out different types of seasonings.



## You are Invited - Join the Daily Office

Father David and the Lay Readers of Saint John's invite you to attend the Daily Office, offered Monday through Friday, at 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The church's east doors are open ahead of each prayer time. Participating in this tradition is a reminder that all time is sacred, since all time belongs to God and the sanctification of the individual. It's a way to draw personally closer to God.

## Getting to Know...Our Choir

Meet Rosalyn Heilman, an alto and singer in our Saint John's Parish Choir. She was an active Roman Catholic up until a few years ago when she began searching for something that aligned better with her values. She hadn't been attending any church regularly when an invitation came in the fall of 2019, from Joseph Arndt, to be part of our choir. She was happy to have a reason to attend church again.

In her professional life, Rosalyn is a proofreader at an accounting firm which she describes as "the perfect job for me." When not working, a few of Rosalyn's favorite pastimes are baking, watching movies, and walking. Some of her favorite television series are Schitt's Creek, The Good Place and Grace & Frankie. Also a reader, a recent novel she completed and recommends is Trevor Noah's *Born a Crime*.

Rosalyn's husband, Jason, is a freelance musicologist and writer. He hosts a weekly radio show, Classical Tulsa, on KWTU 88.7FM. During the past year they found themselves working from home together and she admits, "We still like each other!"

She's happy to be back in choir and added, "I sound a lot better when I'm in the choir as opposed to singing by myself at home! Plus, it is a reminder that our lives are getting back to normal, which is a blessing."





### Mixed Blessings Concert a Huge Gift in June

If you missed the Chamber Music Tulsa presentation of Mixed Blessings last month, we cannot recommend highly enough that you find it on the Saint John's Facebook or YouTube page and take in the whole program!

Barron Ryan (piano), a Tulsa native and Holland Hall graduate, led guest musicians Christopher Whitley (violin) and Titilayo Ayangade (cello) in performances of - "Pineapple Rag" by Scott Joplin  
"Summerland" by William Grant Still  
"Graceful Ghost Rag" by William Bolcom  
"Suite Thing" by Barron Ryan.

The concert concluded with an original composition by Ryan, "My Soul is Full of Troubles," which was commissioned by Chamber Music Tulsa for the Tulsa Race Massacre Centennial.

### Soaring into Summer

We jumped into July with two special events this year. On July 3 the music ministry hosted a special summer Music at Midday in honor of Independence Day weekend. Adam Pajan and Joseph Arndt presented patriotic music live and livestreamed for parishioners and friends of the church music program.

They performed music by American composers and concluded with Dudley Buck's virtuosic variations on "The Star Spangled Banner."

Father David, the Sunday evening choir, and Joseph also offered a special Evensong on July 4. Many thanks to the musicians and AV staff who worked the holiday to share these offerings.

### Summer Breaks

The Parish Choir is performing at 10 a.m. on Sundays, but taking a break from weeknight practice for the summer. Also, look for Music at Midday to return regularly in mid-September.

We are really starting to get back on track with our typical youth and family programming, so we have a lot of good news to share. In this newsletter, we will discuss the nursery, family videos, adult education, acolyte training, volunteer opportunities, and a Young Adult Brunch!

### Nursery

The Nursery is open! We opened in May, but I wanted to reiterate the reopening. We serve kids ages 0-4 in the nursery and we make sure we follow all the safety precautions per the Bishop's guidelines. Please let me know if you have any questions by getting in contact with me.

### Family Shorts

We will still continue family videos, but instead of exploring the building we will switch to small, bite-sized topics about Christianity. Some of these videos will have activities, while others will consist of vlogs.

### Adult Formation/Education

Adult Education resumed with Father Bumsted discussing Church history. This class is held both via Zoom and in-person in the Common Room Sunday at 9 am. Come on in to learn more about our Christian roots! If you want to join via Zoom, just email me and I will provide the link, or check the e-news for it.

### On the Lookout for Acolytes (of All Ages)

Calling all Acolytes! We will be meeting again in August so please keep an eye on your emails. Any kid ten and up is welcome to join, as well as those who are younger, yet previously have served. If you have children who are interested, or know of someone who has children who are interested, please contact me (at [jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org](mailto:jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org)) or Father David (at [dbumsted@sjtulsa.org](mailto:dbumsted@sjtulsa.org)) and we will be happy to get them into the program.

### Volunteers

We still are looking for more volunteers to help out particularly with Children's Chapel. Since we will be outdoors for chapel, all we ask is for the second person to show up and maybe participate in some of the activities during the 10 a.m. service. Please contact me if you are interested.

### Young Adults' Brunch

Young Adult's Brunch is back! We will be meeting July 25 after the 10 a.m. service. If you are interested in coming, let me know so I can reserve seats. Also, feel free to throw in suggestions for restaurants we can visit in the future.

We are so excited to finally start moving toward a more appropriate kids and family ministry. I hope you are all as excited as we are. Hope that you have a wonderful time and we cannot wait to see you around!







Our walking group has become a walking and waving ambassador program for the church throughout the neighborhood. We look forward to more Saint John's members, their friends, and perhaps even neighbors tagging along in the month ahead.

Don't fret over a little Oklahoma summer heat. Just dress cool and bring a water bottle! The Trekkers take off each Tuesday evening at 5:35 sharp from the Saint John's labyrinth for a "figure eight" walk through our "hood."

Only have time or energy for a shorter jaunt? Need to get home to fix family supper? No problem. Trek with us for the first 30-minute loop. Love to walk longer? Great, lace up for the full double loop (two distinct half-hour routes). We'll conclude at the church about 6:40 p.m.

Whether you like a "move at a stroll speed" or prefer the "let's get our heart rate up" sort of walking, there will be someone there that wants to be your trekker buddy. If you want to bring small kiddos, you need to bring a stroller or wagon so that our walking group can get some fitness and fellowship from the walk.

To recap: we take off at 5:35 p.m. (so please arrive five to ten minutes earlier), and enjoy midtown with new and old friends.

On June 29, Beka and Father David treated the walkers to a post-stroll wine and cheese refreshment stop at St. John's House. Many thanks, Bumsteds, for the southern hospitality!



## Brotherhood of St. Andrew

Thank you to everyone who came out and celebrated America's independence anniversary with our cookout supper, speaker, and patriotic verse sing-a-long on July 4 at Saint John's. With this holiday falling on a Sunday, we moved our traditional Hamburger and Hotdog Cookout this year to take place after the church's patriotic Evening service.

Thank God for Independence Day and for our ability to be together more safely than we were able to be for more than a year. We were fortunate to have Steve Balman back with another talk about how America became our United States. We also continued the much-anticipated drawing for an American flag. This tradition was initiated by Brother Phillip Chenoweth about sixty years ago.

*- Bob Baker*



## Bookstore Now Open!

Our wonderful Saint John's Book & Gift Shop is once more open and full of terrific items for just about any birthday, special day, hostess gift, or "oh, I just have to have that" need that may arise. The store is open from 8:45 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Sundays. Come in and see the items (for all ages) the shop keepers have curated for all our gifting and special occasion needs.

## EIS Seeking Volunteers

In June a parishioner shared with the office that Emergency Infant Services (EIS) needs volunteers to watch children in their play area. The time period would be one day a week from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Jessica Stowell said, "It's the best job I've ever had...rocking babies, reading stories and playing with blocks."

She added that the EIS nursery and play zone is a happy place with lots of color and natural light, well organized, and staffed with cheerful employees. Children enjoy supervised play for about twenty minutes while their parent shops for necessities.

Located at Eleventh Street and Denver Avenue, EIS is in the former Librarium. Call Kimberly, the volunteer coordinator, at 918-582-2469 if you might be interested in helping. PS, Jessica added that the rocking chairs are padded and very comfy!



## Communication Corner

### Brag Board

Thanks to media pitching and wonderful publishers, Saint John's has continued to enjoy "earned" (not paid for) news coverage around Tulsa and in the Diocesan e-newsletter. Next time you are in the building, visit the east door bulletin board to see a few of the stories.

### Why Wednesdays

Father David continues his new "getting to know us" video segment on Facebook called "Why? Wednesdays." In each short edition he answers questions he is often asked about our church or denomination's practices, places or traditions. Check them out, usually weekly, on our Saint John's social media channels and the website.



Launching the last weekend of June, Father David's Sunday sermons began being published on the church website. You can find his homily transcripts under the "From the Rector" tab. Scroll down and select "Weekly Sermons" to select a mass you missed, or reflect on a particularly interesting, thought-provoking or memorable message from our Rector.



### Saint John's on YouTube

Just a reminder, most livestreamed church offerings are now also posted on our YouTube channel. Visit, subscribe, and help us grow our social media reach.

## Getting to Know...Our Acolytes

How well do you know Piper Szabo, daughter of Karen and Gary Szabo? She humored us by participating in our new Acolyte Q&A. Enjoy!



Q: Where are you in school? A: I go to Jenks High School, and am entering tenth grade.

Q: Tell us about your recent big win in gymnastics! A: I won first on beam at Regionals.

Q: You said you are "retiring" from competitive gymnastics. What are you excited to have more time to do? A: I'm currently trying to learn guitar and want to expand on my origami hobby. I will also be in Jenks High School's show choir, Trojan Spirit, next year.

Q: What school topics do you find most interesting? A: I have always been interested in many forms of STEM. Recently, I've been drawn to forensic psychology, forensic pathology, and architectural engineering.

Q: Do you have a "go to" food style? A: I've discovered an affinity for acai bowls and boba tea.

Q: We heard you love to bake. Tell us more! A: One of my favorite things to bake are cakes and cupcakes. I like to play around with different icing designs, or observing how the icing acts on different textures, temperatures, etc.

Q: What are your fav television shows? A: A few of my favorite shows: Sherlock BBC, Supernatural, Mindhunter, Haikyuu!! and Kim's Convenience.

Q: Tell us about the Szabo family pets. A: I have a dog named Polo and a cat named Rosie. Polo is a Lhasa Apso, and while he is not the smartest, he makes up for it in love. Rosie is a calico, and she is nicknamed "Rosie the Intolerable" due to her attitude. Nevertheless, she is very cuddly and loves affection.

Q: Got any advice for a new Saint John's acolyte? A: Don't stress too much about whether you get a certain move right or wrong. There are always people that will help you, and there is no shame in asking. Sharp turns are always good, and the communion gate needs a bit of force to move.





## Milestones & Marriage

The milestones column will begin to look a little different starting this month. We are delighted to continue to share parishioner names and invite the whole Saint John's family to pray for all the special people in our church lives. Celebrating another year around the sun is a big deal! What we will no longer be able to share are the dates for each birth anniversary in the month or the last name. This step, recommended as a best practice by ministry and business leaders across the country, is to help keep our friends and family safer from identity fraud.

Just remember, every day in the life of a brother and sister in Christ is a very special day. And, birthdays are really meant to be celebrated as a season, right?!

### Birthdays

Bonnie A.  
Alicia B.  
Anne B.  
Leanne B.  
Kent C.  
Timothy C.  
Doug C.  
Madelyn D.  
Robert D.  
Joanne D.  
Beverly E.  
Patricia E.  
Eric E.  
Lori F.  
Karen G.  
Clinton G.  
Julia G.  
David G.  
Greg G.  
Marsha G.

Mary H.  
Helen Jo H.  
Debbie H.  
Todd H.  
Jon H.  
Will J.  
Lawrence J.  
Susan J.  
George J.  
Karen J.  
John K.  
Joci L.  
Peggy L.  
Russell L.  
Larry L.  
Debbie L.  
Cynthia M.  
Tom M.  
Cheryl M.

Millie M.  
Tyler M.  
Amanda N.  
Margaret P.  
Nancy P.  
Barrett P.  
Don S.  
Steve S.  
Tina S.  
Janice S.  
Gary S.  
Terri T.  
Priscilla T.  
Liz T.  
Susan V.  
Pete W.  
Rowan W.  
Cynthia W.



### Wedding

Best wishes to Tyler Acord and Courtney Clear who were wed at Saint John's on June 26. May their years together be many and full of laughter, love, health and many graces.

## Congratulations Graduates!

Family members of recent graduates from high school and college are really proud of the young people in their lives. And we are too! We are sharing a "shout out" to the young men below because their parish friends shared with the church office. We will print graduation kudos in the month of August as well. If you have a new grad in your life, send us their information and a photo!



**Ivan Cox**, grandson of Judy Cairl, graduated from Broken Arrow High School and will be attending Barton Junior College in Great Bend, Kansas this fall to play baseball. Ivan was an active member of Saint John's Youth Group helping with the Day Center for the Homeless feeding program and also travelling with the youth on several mission trips. Congrats, Ivan!

**Alex Vardachi**, son of Jane Bryce and nephew of Phyllis and Steve Anderson, has graduated from Bishop Kelly High School and is headed to New York City this summer for college. Alex was accepted into the prestigious Manhattan School of Music, a conservatory, to pursue studies in musical theater. Alex was a regular singer in the Saint John's Bach Choir prior to the pandemic. Bravo, Alex!



This Month at Saint John's Church  
July 2021 Newsletter  
Saint John's Episcopal Church  
4200 South Atlanta Place  
Tulsa OK 74105-4331

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U. S. Postage  
Paid  
Tulsa, OK  
Permit No. 54

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*Save the date & register for the Brotherhood of Saint Andrew's*

# Golf Classic

## *Details:*

8 a.m. Saturday, August 21, 2021  
Battle Creek Golf Course  
Silent auction & BBQ lunch follows tourney  
Check-in from 7-7:45 a.m.  
Go to Saint John's web page  
for forms & payment information  
Foursome \$400

## *Benefiting:*

New Hope Oklahoma  
South Tulsa Community House  
Boy Scouts of America Troop and Crew 153  
The National Brotherhood of St. Andrew

## *Sponsorships:*

Sponsors at many levels welcome!  
To learn more, contact Doug Crews  
at [dlcrews@cox.net](mailto:dlcrews@cox.net)/918-605-5558

