HOLY CONVERSATIONS

Last month I wrote about the process of our discernment year, why we were doing it and what we hoped to gain from it. This month I would like to continue that conversation and describe the upcoming Holy Conversations.

This activity is really just small groups of people, between 4-6 individuals sitting together with a vestry member to talk about six different questions that are already pre-printed on a sheet of paper. Everyone will have a copy of these discussion points and someone in the group will be keeping notes on the responses. Remember, we will not be including names or writing down who says what. The hope is to have a lot of good input and participation from as many people as possible.

Jim Gettel met with our vestry on Wednesday, May 30 to train us in how to lead these Holy Conversations. These discussions are part of our planning and visioning for St. John’s as they help us think and dream about our shared values, practices and sense of vocation as we discern our plans for the future. It was an enjoyable few hours spent together and now our vestry is ready to meet with all of you!

We decided to hold these conversations on Friday, September 7th in our Parish Hall so please add this to your calendar now. Everyone is invited to come for a simple supper at 5:30 pm and then we will break into small groups at 6:30 and begin the conversations. Our end time is 8:30 pm. If we are missing some members of our congregation on this day, we may schedule an additional time to meet with those individuals. Once we have completed these discussions, our vestry will meet to compile all this information and will then write up a profile of St. John’s and everyone in the parish will receive a copy. This should give everyone a good idea of who we are, what our ministry is about and where we are going in the coming years.

Once we have this document, our vestry will be ready to develop a list of skills and experiences that we want and need in a priest who will be called to walk with us in our shared work. This is a collaborative effort where the priest joins the parish to support us in our mission. The old way of doing things was to bring in a priest who would then create the direction and the parish would just follow along wherever the clergy led. This is an important distinction and it may take some getting used to.

In addition, our vestry will be putting together a projected budget for the next five years to determine how much we have to spend on all of our important areas of mission, worship, outreach, programs, events, building maintenance and of course salaries. This will guide us in knowing what we are calling a priest to be: full-time, three-quarter time, half time or quarter-time. Honesty and transparency are important factors in this process because St. John’s has to be financially sustainable going forward.

Once all this information is compiled, our vestry is then ready to determine if Fr. Steve is the right person to call and Fr. Steve will also be able to decide if this is the right place for him to serve. So you see, this is a mutual process so Fr. Steve may or may not be the person called to St. John’s. If he is not, the vestry will have the necessary information to search for another clergy.

So, we need your presence and participation on Friday, September 7th at 5:30 to make all of this happen!

Blessings,
Fr. Steve
On Saturday, May 12 from noon – 5pm we held our 3rd annual Spring Bazaar! This event was very successful even with the cooler temperatures and rain. All of the flowers sold and of course our bake goods did well. After expenses we brought in a total profit of $1,287.28, which is terrific! Out of this we took the bake sale proceeds of $411.50 and put that in our parish food pantry fund and the remainder of the profit went to our general operating fund.

A special thank you to Mary Vellardita for coordinating this event, Sharon Scott and Viola Streeter for handling the food sales, Sande Godbout for overseeing the baked goods, Don Streeter and Ed Parker for managing the flower sales with some help from the boy scouts, Charmaine for communicating with all the crafters, Kim and Bill Goeman for the janitorial support, Sue Parker and Julie Jones for jumping in wherever needed, Erin Downey-Tarnowski for managing the finances and everyone else who came to work a shift, help out or just browse around and shop!

SPAGHETTI DINNER REVIEW

All the pasta loving people came out on Friday, June 8 to help shop, set-up, cook, eat, clean up and enjoy a fabulous dinner! We served 80 people and made a profit of $776.41 that went into our general operating fund. Thank you to Sharon Scott for coordinating, Mary Vellardita for sharing her mother’s secret sauce recipe and Sande Godbout for shopping. And of course we couldn’t have done it without all the help from the Parkers and the Streeters and lots of other parishioners who pitched in at the event!

The Spaghetti Dinner was Great…and Just Look at those Desserts (...the Cannolis Disappeared First!!)
Fr. Steve’s July Schedule

Fr. Steve will be working at the General Convention in Austin, Texas from Monday, July 2 – Saturday, July 14. He will then be on vacation from July 19 – 31. There will be a supply clergy here to celebrate Eucharist on Sunday, July 15 and a priest will be on call for emergencies during July while Fr. Steve is away. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Charmaine in the office at 734-721-5023 or one of our co-Sr. Wardens, Sharon Scott or Nick Hamblin and they will make sure that a priest is available to assist you.

More SPAGHETTI DINNER Pics

St. John’s has been invited to send volunteers to this Westland annual event on August 3-4. We will receive a financial donation based on the number of volunteer hours we provide. Anyone in our parish may sign-up for a three hour shift doing a variety of different things. If you are able to volunteer anytime during this event, you need to register online at http://city-ofwestland1.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/?id=28897

If you do not have access to the internet you may call the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222 to sign up. Please make sure that you indicate that you are from St. John’s otherwise we will not get credit for the hours. This is an easy way to help with fundraising at St. John’s and take part in a fun community event! Thank you in advance for participating!
Birthdays & Anniversaries

June Birthdays
2 Jon Erickson 11 Ken Kowalski
2 John Harmon 16 Nicholas Hamblin
3 Jory King 17 Michael Montgomery
3 Yvonne Williams 25 Rae Kleinbrook
4 Grant Brown 26 Heather Kellogg
18 Cheryl & Michael Montgomery
19 Robert & Jill Shork

July Birthdays
5 Claudia Aston 21 Sharron Copland 27 Robert Shork III
8 Susan Russell 21 Judith Gagnon 28 Grace Kowalski
14 Spencer Attard 21 Thomas Presnell 30 Daniel Caulfield
19 Abigail Clayton 21 Jillian Downey
20 Lucas Downey 26 Fr. Steve

July Anniversaries
2 David & Maritza Cox
5 Sonya & Ken Kowalski
14 Brian & Melissa Clayton
24 Sue & Ed Parker

St. John’s Episcopal Church
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Office: (734) 721-5023
Parish office hours: Mon–Fri. 11 am–3pm
www.stjohnwestland.com
stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com

We’re on Facebook:
St. John’s Episcopal Church - Westland MI

St. John’s Episcopal Church
STAFF
Rev. Steve Domienik, Priest–in–Charge
FrSteve@stjohnwestland.com
Rev. Deacon Carolyn E. Johnson
Cell: 248 705 9695
Charmaine Wells, Parish Secretary
stjohnschurchwestland@gmail.com
Dana Hull, Music Director Bill & Kim Goeman, Sextons

2018 OFFICERS
Nick Hamblin & Sharon Scott, Senior Co–Wardens
Don Streeter, Junior Warden
Sande Godbout & Mary Vellardita, Co–Clerks
Erin Downey–Tarnowski, Treasurer

2018 VESTRY MEMBERS
Neil Barbu, Sue Daniel, Cindy Fowler and Julie Jones

FOOD PANTRY OPEN
Thursday, JUNE 14 &
Thursday, JULY 12
New Hours: Noon–2 pm
*Please bring donations in
by Sunday, July 8
for July Distribution

JUNE/JULY Events & Meetings Calendar
SUNDAYS:
June 17 Happy Father’s Day!

WEDNESDAYS:
June 20 & 27
July 11, 18 & 25
Senior Exercise Class 9 am (free will donation)

AUGUST
Aug. 3–4 Westland Blues, Brews & BBQ – volunteer
and St. John’s receives a donation!