

ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

St. John's Episcopal Church • 325 Little Silver Point Road • Little Silver, NJ 07739
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A 'Favorite' from the Rector

Covenant (by Margaret Halaska, *osf*)

*The Father
knocks at my door
seeking a home for his son:*

Rent is cheap, I say.

I don't want to rent, I want to buy, says God.

I'm not sure I want to sell,
but you might come in and look around.

I think I will, says God.

I might let you have a room or two.

**I like it, says God. I'll take the two.
You might decide to give me more someday.
I can wait, says God.**

I'd like to give you more,
but it's a bit difficult. I need some space for me.

I know, says God, but I'll wait. I like what I see.

Hmm, maybe I can let you have another room.
I really don't need that much.

Thanks, says God. I'll take it. I like what I see.

I'd like to give you the whole house
but I'm not sure—

**Think on it, says God. I wouldn't put you out.
Your house would be mine and my son would live in it.
You'd have more space than you ever had before.**

I don't understand at all.

I know, says God, but I can't tell you about that.

**You'll have to discover it for yourself.
That can only happen if you let him have the whole house.**

A bit risky, I say.

Yes, says God. But try me.

I'm not sure—
I'll let you know.

I can wait, says God. I like what I see.

Rector

Rev. Valerie T. Redpath

Deacon

Rev. Eve Chamberlain

Parish Administrator

Elaine Winkler

Treasurer

Lyle Connor

Music Ministers

Karen Feeney
James Scavone

Vestry

Tom Perez
Sr. Warden

Gregg Abella
Jr. Warden

Nancy Ali
Lydia Brenner
Robbie Brown
Amy Dixon
Kate Galbavy
Paula Hayes
Marcia Keeler
Eileen Kennedy
Jeanne Lauro

Our Walk with Jesus

Lenten Quiet Day

Renewing our repentance, faith, and daily focus on Jesus

Saturday, April 6

9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.

Saint John's Episcopal Church

325 Little Silver Point Road, Little Silver, NJ

PLEASE RSVP There is no charge, but we do need to plan for materials and refreshments stjohnslittlesilver@verizon.net



Lenten Pot Luck Supper And Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, April 10th

6:30 p.m. Lenten Supper

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Bring whatever you like to the pot luck supper and invite a friend to join you! The Stations of the Cross is a powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us.

From Mike Redpath

Blessed to be Blessers

Our new stewardship theme and logo illustrate the wonder of God's economy. God loves us so plentifully that he blesses us abundantly and sufficiently without ceasing. God expects only that we will bless others by using that with which he has blessed us; multiplying his provision.

The graphic in the logo is heart-shaped to signify God's boundless love for his creation. That heart is formed by a series of hands giving to each other in a continuous cycle. When we make a priority of giving generously from our blessings to bless others, we align ourselves with God's economy and are blessed ourselves.

This is not the consumerist Prosperity Gospel that suggests that if we do the right things God will reward us. Rather, it is recognition that we interrupt the flow of God's blessings when we are not a generous source of blessings to others. That places us within humankind's economy, an economy of scarcity and fear, rather than God's economy, an economy of abundance and joyful sharing.





Do you sleep? Do you feel safe when you sleep?

Are you aware that there are folks, young people even, who do not have a safe place to sleep? Are you aware that this is true even in Monmouth County?

Do you want to help the homeless in our area?

Join the **St. John's team** for the Second Annual Covenant House Sleep Out on Friday, May 17th at Trinity Church in Asbury Park! (8pm-7am)

You simply join us for the evening, meeting the young people being served at the Covenant House Asbury Park facility, as well as the caring staff members. Learn about the great work being done and for one night "experience" what it is like to sleep outside with only a sleeping bag and piece of cardboard for a mattress! Comfortable? No! Incredibly rewarding? Yes!

Each Sleeper is asked to raise \$1,000. You will have a fundraising page on the website and you ask your friends and family to make whatever donation they can...\$5, \$10, \$50...whatever they can afford. Every contribution helps support the kids through the work done at Covenant House.

Here is the link to the page to sign up, just copy and paste it into a new tab:

<https://www.sleepout.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=7711>

or search the site for the **St John's Cares** team.

I've already committed to sleep out! If you can join me it would mean we could realize even more funds for this important cause. Let me know if you're interested. If you can't join us we are also grateful for any donations you may be able to make to our team!

Eve





The money you raise when you Sleep Out is put to work immediately.

Covenant House New Jersey provides food, shelter, immediate crisis care, and essential services such as education and job training to homeless youth in 7 cities across New Jersey. When you Sleep Out, you help us keep the lights on and doors open for the thousands of kids who seek away off the streets this each year.

What is expected of participants?

To approach the event with an open mind and a willingness to work hard for something outside of your comfort zone. Spend an evening getting to know some of the kids whose lives will be better because of your efforts- and spend the rest of the night sleeping on the streets in their place.



Can I Sleep Out with my friends or co-workers?

Yes! You can create a team when you sign up. All attendees must be eligible and registered for the event.

Will I be safe?

We have 24/7 on-premises security and work closely with local authorities to ensure you are fully protected.

- **57% OF HOMELESS KIDS SPEND AT LEAST ONE DAY OF EVERY MONTH *WITHOUT FOOD*.**
- **NEARLY 2 MILLION** KIDS WILL FACE HOMELESSNESS THIS YEAR.
- **50%** OF TEENAGERS WHO AGE OUT OF THE FOSTER CARE AND JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS ARE HOMELESS WITHIN 6 MONTHS

Outreach

The logo for "Taking it to the Streets". It features a stylized city skyline in the background. The words "TAKING IT TO THE" are written in a colorful, blocky font, and "STREETS" is written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font below it.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS



Sunday school continues on their Lenten journey with bible study, videos and prayer group.



The kids are collecting loose change for the Heifer Milk project. They hope to be able to sponsor 1 classroom in Tanzania, with milk for 1 year!



Help needed for Easter:

We need someone to hide the eggs, and we are looking for donations of filled eggs. Due to several food allergies, it would be great if the eggs could be filled with non-food items. (Coins, stickers etc.). Please no nuts or peanut butter.



There is no Sunday school on April 28th The last Sunday school before summer break will be May 19th.

Warden's Update - April 2019

As the new Vestry has begun, we welcome new members Nancy Ali, Robbie Brown and Marcia Keeler. Many thanks to Hazel Kelly, John Davies and Chris Nalbandian, as they leave for their years of dedicated service. We appreciate Gregg Abella for stepping up to take the Junior Warden position, as well as Amy Dixon for heading up Hospitality and Robbie Brown for assuming the challenging task of Buildings and Grounds.

The Vestry had the opportunity to participate in a Joint Vestry Retreat with Christ Church, Shrewsbury and All Saints, Navesink. The retreat was held at St. John's and was lead by Fr. Bud Holland, a retired Episcopal priest with many years of experience working in various parishes, with diocese, seminary and more recently consulting. He encouraged us to view things from a more positive perspective in facing our challenges. All of us found that the three parishes had much in common and could benefit greatly by working together and sharing resources. The Wardens of the three churches are planning to meet on Saturday, April 13th to begin the process.

We are now past the midpoint of Lent and Mission Possible is well underway with the local charity, Shore House and global charity, Medical Mission Ecuador being chosen. We look forward to hearing from the Bishop regarding the Diocesan charity. Many thanks to Erica Abella for heading up our most important outreach program for the second year. Please prayerfully consider your pledge to help us attain our goal of \$10,000. Pledges are due by Good Friday, April 19th.

Minutes from the Vestry meeting are posted on the bulletin board.

We are always interested in hearing your concerns and look forward to receiving your feedback.

Best regards,

Tom and Gregg

Mission Possible

St. John's Lenten Outreach Program

We are pleased to announce that:

Locally, we will be supporting Shore House. Shore House is based in Long Branch, NJ. Here are the details about this outstanding organization:

Shore House is a local community resource where people who participate are known as members. Membership is open to adults living with a mental illness. Shore House is not a treatment program or mental health service, but rather a place where members can learn new skills, develop new relationships, and explore new opportunities.

At Shore House, we believe that meaningful work is restorative. Staff and members work in partnership to execute all aspects of Clubhouse operations. We also provide educational and employment opportunities.

Shore House recognizes that members arrive at various points in their lives and recovery. One member may come to Shore House every day and be involved in many activities, while another may come and get help with employment. Each member determines his or her own level of participation.

Membership is free, voluntary, and for life.

For more information: <http://www.shoreclubhouse.org>

Globally, Medical Mission to Ecuador will receive our support. The Horneys are very instrumental in this effort to serve those in need. Here are the details:

Medical Mission Ecuador was founded 26 years ago by Ambato, Ecuador natives Drs. Henry and Luis Vasconez, and their sister Beatrice. The Vasconez brothers have both been Chief of Plastic Surgery at their respective institutions (University of Kentucky and The University of Alabama, Birmingham). Their sister Beatrice had done research for Plastic Surgery at UAB. The three Vasconez siblings looked at their country of birth and saw the obvious – a great number of Ecuadorians that suffered needlessly because they had little or no access to medical care.

So with the help of his family and the collaboration of the Ambato Rotary Club in Ecuador, Dr. Henry Vasconez decided to form a group of volunteers made up of physicians from different surgical specialties and other medical and support personnel who could provide free medical and surgical care to the children of Ecuador.

Mission Possible continued.....

Why the emphasis on children? “Because they are the future of Ecuador,” Dr. Vasconez states.

MME has been going to Ambato every year for the last 26 years. It is a group of experienced medical professionals from the University of Kentucky, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and other parts of the US. More than 10,000 patients have received free medical services, including more than 1700 operations.

Medical Mission Ecuador also provides a teaching component for the physicians, nurses, medical students and other health care workers in Ecuador. They deliver lectures and provide hands-on experience with the latest medical information and techniques.

The organization operates primarily in the Regional and Municipal Hospitals of Ambato. They are aging and poorly equipped facilities. MME has partnered with other groups to provide better equipment and has donated medical supplies to various poor hospitals in Ambato, Quito and other Ecuadorian cities.

For more information: <https://www.medicalmissionecuador.org/>

Lastly, our Diocesan component is yet to be announced. Stay tuned!

Pledges are due April 19th.

Erika Abella

Episcopal Church Women

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- * On **Wednesday, May 1, noon**, in the parish hall, ECW will enjoy its delightful, delicious **Spring Luncheon** and fun fund-raiser **Auction**.
- * St. John's **Spring-Summer Clothing Collection for Lunch Break of Red Bank** will be held on **May 11-19**. Please bring clean, gently-used clothes for infants, children, women, and men in labeled bags and place them at the designated areas in the back parish hall. Also, we welcome professional apparel for Lunch Break's "Suited for Success" program that prepares teens and adults with employment skills, interview techniques and business clothing. We thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.





Holy Week at St. John's

Saturday, April 13

5:30 PM—Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist (Church)

Palm Sunday, April 14

10 AM—Liturgy of the Palms & Holy Eucharist (begins in Parish Hall)

Wednesday, April 17

7 PM—Stations of the Cross

Maundy Thursday, April 18

7 PM—Maundy Thursday Liturgy with Communion (Church)

9 PM—thru Friday Noon—Maundy Thursday Vigil (Church)

Good Friday, April 19

12:00 NOON Stations of the Cross

7 PM—Good Friday Liturgy (Church)

EASTER

Saturday, April 20

7:30 PM—THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

Bring bells & drums and make a joyful noise at our celebration of Jesus' resurrection.

Easter Sunday, April 21

10 AM—Choral Eucharist

Bring bells & drums and make a joyful noise at our celebration of Jesus' resurrection.

Easter Feast and Children's Easter Egg Hunt

to follow our 10 AM Eucharist!



Easter Vigil Note: The Great Vigil of Easter begins with the lighting of the Paschal Flame in the vestibule. Make sure to arrive early to be seated. For your safety, the doors will close once the fire is lighted and will remain closed until the candle procession is completed.

DISCOVER THE JOY OF BEING A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER



If you have a warm heart, a listening ear, and the gift of compassion, you can make a difference in the life of a hospice patient or family member. VNA Health Group is offering training for all individuals interested in becoming hospice volunteers in several counties throughout New Jersey.

There are many rewards and opportunities available to hospice volunteers though home visitation, phone calls, companionship, administrative support, pet therapy, or phone calls from our office.

Training will be provided by members of the VNAHG Hospice team on 3 consecutive : Thursdays, April 18th, 25th , and May 2nd from 10 am till 3:pm at VNA Health Group, 23 Main Street, Suite D1 Holmdel, NJ. Volunteers must attend all 3 sessions.

To register, please contact Pauline De Palma, BSW (732) 224-6933



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

**Help Support
St Brigid's Food Pantry
at St James'.
Canned Goods, Pasta, Cereal and
Baby Food are always needed.**

We invite you to pray for those in our parish family and our friends who need our prayers. Our prayer list in our weekly bulletin is for you to take home and pray daily for those listed. The list is below. Please call the church office to add anyone.



Raza Ali, Brother Richard Biernacki, Bruce & Lori Lynn, Mike & Laurie Ann Collins, Andrew Cook, Ed, Karen Feeney, Bob G., Karina George, Alison Hayes, Emily Hayes, Natalie Hewitt, Alvaro Jaramillo, Kym, Susan K., Sue Lutz, Jackie Mack, Maria Madden, Marina & Austin Liu Mello, Marge Mistysyn, Rick & June Neal, Rene O'Neil, Piper Palmieri, Mike Redpath, Eleanor Reese, Barry Jr., Grace Scott, Ted & Grace Stampien, Diane Steets, Justin Tucker, Walter Zacharczyk, Alice, Annie, Blanche, Bob, Charles, Jennifer, Lois, Lou, Sabrina, Scott, Sally & family.

ST JOHN'S CHURCH
325 LITTLE SILVER POINT ROAD
LITTLE SILVER, NJ 07739

ST JOHN'S OFFICE HOURS:

Parish Administrator, Elaine Winkler

Monday thru Thursday 8am—12 noon

Mother Val is in the office on Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning. She may be at diocesan meetings or on pastoral visits on other days, but she is available for emergencies and can meet with you for pastoral appointments. Please do not hesitate to call the office if you need an appointment..

Please note that her sabbath day is Friday.

