



Volume XXV
Issue 5

The Correspondent

Monthly Newsletter of Saint Ann's Episcopal Church, Sayville, New York

May 2018

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WEEKEND SERVICES

Saturday 5:00 PM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II
Sunday 8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II
Sunday 10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist–Rite II

WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE CHAPEL

Tuesday
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS

May 10.....Ascension Day
May 13.....Mother's Day
May 20.....Pentecost
May 27.....Trinity Sunday
May 28.....Memorial Day



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to spread the gospel of Christ in thought, word, and deed to our community and the world.

Pentecost Petals

The Pantheon, dedicated in 126 A.D. as the home of ancient Roman gods, is now a Catholic basilica. In a tradition dating back to the seventh century, on Pentecost Sunday thousands of rose petals are dropped through the roof's opening onto worshipers below. The red petals symbolize the Holy Spirit descending on Jesus' disciples, as well as the blood Jesus shed on the cross.

To accomplish this "rose rain," five firefighters climb to the roof after mass. While the choir sings the ancient hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* ("Come Creator Spirit"), firefighters empty seven bags of petals through the building's 27-foot-wide oculus, or eye in the sky.

Only a fortunate few can witness this spectacular event in person each year, but videos are available online. Here's one video you can click on right here:

<http://www.italymagazine.com/news/pentecost-pantheon-rainfall-rose-petals>



Sevenfold Flame

Tongues of fire are a common symbol of the Holy Spirit, based on the Pentecost events of Acts 2. However, when seven flames are depicted together, they also represent the seven gifts of the Spirit as named in Isaiah 11:2-3: wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear of the Lord and delight in the fear of the Lord (sometimes paraphrased "joy in the Lord's presence").

FROM THE EDITOR

I took a vacation at the end of last month. As with all vacations, I worried about the things left undone and things missed back home. Nevertheless, my nephew and his family had invited us, along with other family and friends to come to Lake Worth, Florida, and share the joy of his oldest son's Confirmation. Normally, I wouldn't fly to Florida for this for just one weekend, but my son and his wife decided to extend our trip to Florida with a cruise to several Caribbean islands. When they asked me to join them, how could I refuse? It was wonderful to spend a week with my older son, his wife, and my 6-year-old grandson. On the minus side, I am not much of a beach person. I have Irish complexion and sunburn easily. There were many entreaties on the ship and in port to buy \$700 watches and \$1000 earrings! (All of which I declined). However, there were many things on the bright side. In Port Amber, Dominican Republic, we enjoyed a dolphin encounter—close up and personal. I got a hug and a kiss on the cheek from a dolphin named Luna. The Dominican Republic is beautiful with hills filled with lush greenery, flowers, and waterfalls. We visited Grand Turk Island where we had massages in a tent on the beach. I *almost* got my hair braided, but there are long lines even on islands! We spent a day on the cruise line's private island where we swam and enjoyed a barbecue. On the ship, my Trivial Pursuit team won first prize—the highly coveted plastic model of a ship on a stick for each of us! On our last day we took a day trip to Atlantis in Nassau, Bahamas. I think my daughter-in-law would have happily stayed behind on one of the islands, but for me, I was glad to be back. Vacations are fun, but there's no place like home!

--Rodney Dudley

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2016 Saint Ann's Episcopal Church

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June Deadline

Thursday, May 24

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COME TO SHOP
COME TO VOLUNTEER
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THE RECTOR'S CORNER



Here's the Church, Here's the Steeple, Open the Doors, and...???

Dear Parish Family,

Like many of you, I have noticed that church attendance is dropping on Saturday night and Sunday mornings. And like all of you, it concerns me. Please know, this isn't just a Saint Ann's situation, it's true in churches across denominations, not only in Sayville, but across the country. To put it simply, Church has become an option, and not an obligation. All of my colleagues in ministry in Sayville see the same thing happening at their churches: *People who used to come to church every Sunday, now come only two times a month and feel that is considered regular attendance.* And all clergy are concerned and dare I say alarmed about this.

For years we have seen the downward trend of attendance following Easter; and that attendance will be lower in the summer for the obvious reasons of summer vacations. But, summer vacations don't last three months! And contrary to the old adage, *God does NOT give the summer off to Episcopalians.*

So, the Sunday mantra becomes *where is everybody?* And now, I am asking you the same question: *Where are you on Sunday?* Your faith is something that needs to be fed on a regular (meaning weekly) basis and it is only an hour of your time. I understand the summer offers many outdoor activities for you and your family to enjoy, and you should by all means enjoy them. I also understand that in the fall and spring sports take place on Sunday mornings. So, come to the 5:00 Saturday night service; which is only 45 minutes of your time.

The point is feeding your spiritual life is just as important as feeding your body; because it allows you to live your faith more fully every day. The church and the holy sacrament offer you that opportunity every week.

So please, since we have three service offerings each and every weekend, I hope I will see more of you at one of them in the coming months. It's not just good for you, it's good for the entire parish community.

Blessings, *Mother Diane*✙

What Makes a Community Great

In Acts 4:32-35, Luke describes the first Christians (not even yet called that) as having "everything in common," with no "needy person among them."

Theologian Fred Craddock says the early church embodied both the Old Testament ideal and the Greek ideal, which held that "for friends all things are common." Clearly, Luke is presenting the early church as the embodiment of both the Jewish and Greek ideal community in which unity and charity thrive."

Vestry Visions

St. Ann's Thrift Shop Has a New Manager and Gets a Makeover

Our Thrift Shop has been blessed with a new manager, her name is Nanci Guerra. Nanci is full of energy, great ideas and quite passionate about volunteering at our Thrift Shop. She is responsible for getting the Thrift Shop renovation underway. She closed the store for a few weeks and cleared the first floor having all merchandise moved into the basements (which was a massive undertaking) so the painters could paint. The old and broken shelving was repaired and stored in the basement or thrown out and new shelving ordered. With the building cleared out, the painters could get in and prep and repair the walls and get the painting started. When the painting was complete the carpet was steam cleaned and Lou, our Sexton, painted the concrete floor in the "porch" area. Now with all that work completed, they were ready to assemble and set up all new shelving and display cases. Many thanks to Nanci, her husband Dean and Lou who assembled all of these new bookcases and shelves. Once all new shelving was assembled, the windows were washed, new mirrors were hung and new displays set up. Nanci was there every day from morning till evening cleaning, organizing and doing most of this work and when not doing the work, she was there supervising the work.

We also owe a huge thank you to parish member Paul Stoehrer who volunteered his time and his employees to take down all the old lighting fixtures that were up in the Thrift Shop and replace them with the new fixtures we purchased. We would not have been able to do all the new lighting if Paul had not donated all of his time and his employees. Thank you, Paul!

Nanci has traveled to other thrift shops in our area to introduce herself and to check out what they offer. She has networked with other local churches as well to work as a community in helping those in need. She created a voucher system with Our Lady of the Snow which does not have access to clothing. If they have someone in need of clothing they can now send them with a voucher to St. Ann's Thrift Shop to get the clothes they need. In return, Our Lady of the Snow has knowledge and connections to social services and town services for helping people with housing, heating and food should we have any customers in need of this sort of help. Together we can work with our neighbors and help our community thanks to Nanci's networking.

Nanci also negotiated with different vendors to get the best possible company to benefit from the clothes we do not sell. She chose a company that donates to veterans. Once a month they pick up clothes donated to us that we do not sell and pay us each month for these clothes. Not only are we getting paid every month but the clothes are helping our veterans. She wants to make our Thrift Shop the best it can be. She has great vision and knowledge and so many terrific ideas and has begun to implement them into the Shop. She cares very much about customers and loves helping them. We also are blessed to have so many wonderful volunteers who show up week after week to work shifts at the Thrift Shop. Many of these volunteers have been helping for many years. We could not be the success we are without them! (continued)

Vestry Visions

(continued)

Another wonderful new addition to the Thrift Shop that Nanci is working on is the recycling of all the unsold books that get donated. She has found a company that recycles, donates and sells books they collect, and, in turn, they pay us for these books. This is great! Providing books to people who need them and earning money for the Thrift Shop. This would be a wonderful addition if it works out.

Other news at the Thrift Shop is the new wooden deck at the rear of the building. We had the old rotting wooden deck behind the shop taken down and replaced. We doubled the size of the deck so the volunteers can move around comfortably when emptying the donation bins. We also put in new handrails and a ramp to make the deck safer.

Please make a point to go over to the new refurbished Thrift Shop and say hello to our terrific volunteers and see how amazing everything looks. When you see Nanci, Paul or any of the other people who volunteer in the Thrift Shop please remember to thank them for helping to make our Thrift Shop so great.

Nancy Koinoglou for the Vestry

No-Bake Bake Sale

It's NO-BAKE SALE time! Once again, we are asking parishioners to help fund an Achievement Award for a graduating high school senior who has been active in the programs at St Ann's.

We will accept these donations and applications for this award through May 20.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD APPLICATIONS

Applications for the Achievement Award will be available in the Parish Hall, the narthex, and the church office.

The award will be announced at the St Barnabas Day service on June 10th.



OUR GRADUATES

If you or someone in your family will be graduating from high school or college this spring, please notify *The Correspondent*, so that we may honor you in our June issue.

Please send: 1) your name, 2) the name of your school, 3) any honors or noteworthy activities while in school (e.g., Honor Society, drama activities, sports, etc.), 4) involvement at St. Ann's, and 5) your plans for the future (e.g., college, military, travel, new job, etc.) to STANNS_EDITOR@YAHOO.COM.

P.S.—High School graduates, don't forget to apply for St. Ann's Senior Achievement Award!



Closer to God

(And How I Embraced the Winter)

By Diane Miller-Magnani

Where do you find yourself closest to God? Some folks may find God in the beautifully decorated church at Easter time. Some find God in the faces of their beloved family members. Others may feel closest when performing good deeds. Me, I find God most often in the great outdoors! This past February, I was lucky enough to go on a wonderful vacation to Minnesota, where I was able to enjoy God's amazing work firsthand.



Being recently retired, I found myself with more time to travel and cross some items off my ever-expanding Bucket List. So, I signed up for a trip with a travel company created for women, called Adventures in Good Company. They run adventurous vacations all over the world, including all kinds of exciting activities and opportunities to learn about local culture. I travelled with this organization last year to Santa Fe, New Mexico for a hiking and rafting trip and had a ball. So, when I saw they had a trip for snowshoeing and dog sledding, I knew I had to try it. I love dogs and thought it would

be fun to try to be a "musher."

I knew no one else going on the trip, but I met eleven terrific women from all over the country who shared my interests. Our two guides met us in Duluth and drove us two hours north, along the shore of Lake Superior to a town called Tofte. The temperatures ranged from -20 to 0 during our stay. The snow was at least 2 feet deep. From our home base at a condo complex right on the lake, we spent five days exploring the winter wonderland around us. We spent many hours snowshoeing up and down mountains and across rivers cross-country skiing along incredibly scenic trails, laughing, eating well, sharing stories, and becoming fast friends.

The highlight of the trip for all was the day we went dog sledding. The temperature that morning was a balmy -9 degrees and stayed pretty close to that all day long. We were properly dressed for the weather and thrilled to learn all about the dogs and our roles on the sleds. We were surprised to see that the dogs lived outdoors in separate little houses filled with hay and chained to stakes driven into the snow. They got so excited to go out and run that they howled and barked a joyful chorus when they saw we were getting ready to harness them up. (continued)



(Closer to God, continued)

There were two local guides assigned to our group, and they taught us the basics. Six dogs would be hooked up to the line attached to each sled. One woman would travel in the sled, one would drive, and then we'd switch off during the day. To get the dogs to go, you simply said "all right" in a normal tone of voice. To stop, the driver said, "whoa;" to turn left, "haw;" and right was "gee." All dogs have excellent hearing, so no need to yell. Also, to stop, there were two brakes; one to slow down and one to stop. To steer, there was a little dance the driver could do to shift their weight from one runner to the other, leaning farther to one side or the other, or evenly distributing it on both sides. It surprised us all that no one was yelling, Mush!"

Once out on the trails, it was magic! The dogs settled into their work, no more barking, with the runners cleanly slicing through the snow. The sky was an impossible blue, with the scent of the pines heavy in the icy air. The loudest sound was the jingle of the harnesses as the dogs flew down the path. This was truly God's country! We drove the dogs for about an hour and a half until we reached a frozen lake where we stopped for lunch. We built a fire, drank the most delicious hot chocolate and cooked bratwurst on sticks over the open flames. It was the best lunch ever!



As I drove the sled on the way back, I found it was not as easy as it had seemed at first. My dogs were getting a bit lazy and wanted to cut corners. As they did, the sled got pulled into the deeper snow and tipped over, with my passenger inside and me hanging on the back for dear life! You can't let go or you lose your whole team. I wish I had a video of that, flat out, hanging onto the sled handle, being dragged in the deep snow until I could get them to stop. I still laugh every time I think of what it must have looked like. I was able to pull it upright and push us out onto the trail. That was hard work, but what a feeling of accomplishment when I finally got it right!

That trip definitely brought me closer to God. I saw Him in the groves of birch trees shivering in the wind, the mighty mountain vistas, the glorious sunrises, the frozen rivers and lakes, in the strong and trusting animals I worked with, and in the camaraderie of the women who began as strangers and ended as friends. I have been moved by the majesty of God's work. I am grateful for the opportunity to experience the wonder and beauty of this world that the Lord has made. It was a trip I will never forget as long as I live, and I will continue to thank Him for all He has given us.



We have received a thank you note from Angie Morris, ECW Suffolk coordinator for the Seamen's Church Institute, for the hats, scarves and other items which have been provided by parishioners and friends towards the SCI Christmas at Sea yearly appeal. Anyone willing to knit for this project, please call the church office and we will provide patterns and yarn when available. – **Ellen Stoll**



Confirmation Class



1. *Olivia Grenci*
2. *Ava Gustafson*
3. *Ryan Mattimore*
4. *Olivia Paschetta-Hynes*
5. *Charles Brayton Smyrk*
6. *George Winderl*
7. *Holly Barry*

Congratulations to our new confirmands, who received the sacrament of Confirmation on April 21st at the Cathedral in Garden City.

A Message from the Hesters...

Dear Saint Ann's Family,

Thank you all very much for praying our son Joseph through his 30 years in the US Coast Guard. He has officially retired as of April 13, 2018. He would love to continue his service, but the rules require the he retire after 30 years.



Joseph's faith has been a major part of his service. He has prayed for the Lord's direction with every move he has made. He feels very blessed to had so many wonderful experiences.

Joe, his wife Lynne, and their 14-year-old daughter Katy have bought a house (their first) in Fairfax, Virginia. Katy is very happy that she will be in her four years of High School in the same school!

Again, thank you for your prayers for Joseph and all others serving our country.

In Christ's love and with ours,

Don & Judy Hester

VIEW FROM BEHIND THE POLE

“The only thing better
than singing
is more singing.”

Ells Fitzgerald

The Choir is grateful to Stu Chamberlain, who was a substitute organist for Kathy Senese on April 29. We enjoyed having Stu with us, and it gave Kathy a chance to travel to Charleston, SC, for her niece's wedding. A win for all! We also thank Christine

Mulroy who sang an *a cappella* solo. We always enjoy hearing her beautiful voice!

The Choir is getting ready for Pentecost on May 20 and St. Barnabas' Day on June 13. We will sing through the end of June before taking a couple of months off.



Summer is right around the corner!

This year, let's keep our environment in mind when we're out enjoying Long Island's beautiful beaches! If we just take care to pick up 3 extra pieces of plastic every time we go out, that will be 3 pieces of plastic that doesn't end up around a sea turtle's neck or in a fish's stomach. Plastic is unhealthy and it doesn't dissolve. Let's make sure we all remember to help. If 100 people each pick up 3 pieces of plastic off the beach (or the park or the street), that's 300 fewer pieces of plastic cluttering up our community.



The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries.

By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings.

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars.

In 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day. Waterloo—which first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees; the change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.



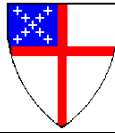
“The Book Our Mothers Read”

We search the world for truth; we cull
The good, the pure, the beautiful,
From graven stone and written scroll,
From all old flower-fields of the soul;

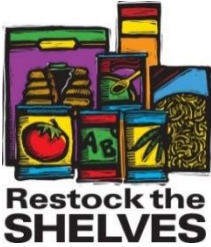
And, weary seekers of the best,
We come back laden from the quest,
To find that all the sages said
Is in the Book our mothers read.

—John Greenleaf Whittier

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY– MAY 13, 2018



NOTES



OUR DAILY BREAD

Monday & Thursday, from 10:00 AM -12:00 Noon

We really need **new volunteers** to help shop, stack groceries in the food pantry, and help serve customers. Please consider giving an hour or two a week—or a month. Every little bit helps!



OPERATION HOPE

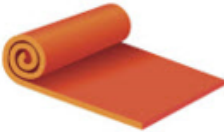
Prayer squares are available in the Narthex of the church. You are invited to take them for yourself and others who are in need of prayer. Help is greatly needed for the Operation Hope workshop on **Wednesday mornings from 9:30-12:00 Noon** to cut bags for the plastic bag mats for the homeless.



CHRISTIAN YOGA

Thursdays, 1:30 to 3:00 in the Parish Hall

Our yoga group is back to regular sessions! We have yoga mats if you'd just like to visit, and we do basic stretching exercises, breathing and relaxation. All ages welcome! There is no charge.



ST. BARNABAS' BUDDIES



Whether you need help or can give help, call Gerry Hoek at 631-868-7278 for further information.

- (1) Prepare a meal for someone recovering from a recent illness or fall.
- (2) Drive someone to a doctor's appointment and bring them home.
- (3) Bring someone to church (perhaps once a month) if they are unable to drive.

Make a phone call to someone homebound just to let them know they are not forgotten.

Peanut Butter & Jelly Ministry



If you would like to donate to the PBJ Ministry, the things we are currently in need of are:

Socks * Sneakers/Boots * Sweatshirts * Sweatpants * Toilet Paper * Backpacks * Duffle Bags



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IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS REGARDING
THE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES LIST, PLEASE
CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 631-589-6522.



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2	Isar & Joanna Castaneda	14	Mark & Wendy Schmittzeh	19	Christopher & Cara Kudlek
4	John & Donna Stankovich	16	Ron & Laura Sanchez	27	George & Nancy Koinoglou
8	John & Christine Brunner		James & Carrie Whitehouse		Jonathan & Cameron Weybrecht
	Darrell & Diane Lichtenberger	18	William III & Kay Lembeck	28	Jason & Emily Cole
14	Daniel & Anna Guido				



1	Alexa Dowling	10	Mary Fisher	16	Lisa Castelli	24	Donald May
	Danny Madigan		Janet Kennedy	18	Virginia Schaum-Sorenson		Paul Weeks
2	Ian Chung		Jesse Munno	19	Lucia Ferzola	25	Garrett Meinsen
	Jayna Catalina		Anthony Palmieri		Dorothy Grodewald		Melissa Speicher
3	Amy Minerva	11	Mary Hofbauer	20	Ciel Guardado	26	Maureen D. Echeverria
4	Sheila Jones		Garrett Klein		Jeannette Hayes	27	Zachary Beach
6	Ethan Madigan	13	Kevin Catalina	21	David Gandolfo		Barbara Leuly
	Marie Madigan		Emily Lowe		Andrea Hanlin	28	Craig LoNigro
	Randy Schultz	14	Skylar Johnson		Michael Russell		Kenneth Schmidt
7	Raymond Graunke		Thomas Munkelwitz	23	Jesse Lasko	29	Jacob Minerva
	Austin Schutte		Anthony Sanseviro		Brian Rockwood, Jr.	30	Sandra Immoor
9	Wendy Schutte		Kaitlyn Walsh	24	Josephine Leuly	31	Shirley Brown
10	Christine Brunner						

These names are offered each month as an opportunity to extend to our brothers and sisters the love of Christ on these special days and to express our thanks for the gift of their presence in our midst. They are also offered as an opportunity to pray for each one of these individuals and couples on these significant days in their lives.

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Our Church History



By Connie Currie

❖ The Garden of the Unforgotten

ELWOOD C. JOHNSON
Section 36 – Lot 6-7

ELWOOD C. JOHNSON died suddenly of a heart attack on July 15, 1976 at the age of 68. Mr. Johnson grew up in Flushing and was employed with Consolidated Edison as executive until his retirement in 1970. He was the grandson of Alfred Johnson of Sayville, who was Commissioner of Highways for the Town of Islip. His parents, the late Robert and Mary Johnson, both resided in Sayville until moving to Queens, where Mr. Johnson was a builder.

Elwood was survived by his wife Bertha, with whom he would have celebrated his Golden Wedding Anniversary on September 30; two daughters, Mrs. Elaine Steele of Skaneateles, NY, and Mrs. Sandra Miranda of Flushing; a brother, Robert, of Bayside; a sister, Mrs. Evelyn Logan of Brentwood; four grandchildren, and four nephews.

Services were held at All Souls Church in Stony Brook, followed by interment in St. Ann's Cemetery.

John Donne's Argument with Death

John Donne (1572-1631) was the brilliant pastor of St. Paul's Cathedral in London when the Great Plague surged through England. The plague came in three great waves leaving sick and dying people everywhere. In London alone during the final epidemic 40,000 people died.

Obviously, the Rev. Dr. Donne was overwhelmed with the task of pastoral care for afflicted families. Then he was struck down with a consuming illness himself. Physicians assumed it was the plague. For six long weeks he lay at death's door. For six weeks and more, he argued with what St. Paul called "the last enemy"— death.

It turned out that he did not have the plague at all, but an ailment which resembled that illness.

Out of that soul-challenging struggle grew Donne's confidence that ultimately death would not really conquer him.

He wrote the well-known sonnet known as "Death Be Not Proud." Here are a few pertinent sentences from that work:

Death, be not proud, though some have called thee
Mighty and dreadful, for thou are not so;
For those whom thou think'st thou dost overthrow
Die not, poor Death, nor yet canst thou kill me.
One short sleep past, we wake eternally,
And Death shall be no more; Death, thou shalt die.



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+Christian Symbol+



Fleur-de-Lis

Because the fleur-de-lis resembles a lily — a symbol of purity — it is sometimes used to represent the Virgin Mary. Due to its three-petal form, the fleur-de-lis also symbolizes the Holy Trinity.

AROUND SAINT ANN'S Monthly Schedule

See Correspondent pages and Bulletin for changes/cancellations.

Check out the website at: www.saint-anns.org

Sundays

8:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
9:00 AM---Sunday School
10:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
7:30 PM—AA Meeting

Mondays

10:00AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
7:00 PM—EfM
6:00 PM—Vestry Meeting—May 14
8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Tuesdays

8:00 AM—Men's Group
9:00 AM—Holy Eucharist
6:00 PM—Children's Choir
7:00 PM—Adult Choir

Wednesdays

9:30 AM—12:00 PM Operation Hope
10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
7:00 PM—Youth Group

Thursdays

10:00 AM—AA Meeting
10:00 AM—12:00 PM Food Pantry
10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open
1:30 PM----Christian Yoga Class
8:00 PM—AA Meeting

Saturday

5:00 PM—Holy Eucharist
10:00 AM-3:00 PM—Thrift Shop Open



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The Correspondent

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ACTS 10:44, ESV
