

The Grapevine

The Newsletter of
St. John's Episcopal Church
705 Rayburn Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

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PARISH - Planning And Reawakening In Spiritual Harmony

Yes, that is a new acronym for St. John's - **PARISH**. In the next few weeks you will all be receiving a letter of explanation and a questionnaire to complete. The questionnaire was designed by your Vestry and its purpose is to obtain information about your desires, hopes, unhappiness, or ideas for our parish. It is the Vestry's plan to take the information gained from the questionnaire and use it to better serve you, our parishioners. No names will appear on the questionnaire, so do not be hesitant to be frank, honest and open with your responses. We want to revitalize, renew and reawaken the parish by changing what needs to be changed and you are a vital part of this process. **PLEASE** take the time to complete the questionnaire; it is important to our success as a parish and our spiritual renewal. You will see this same note in the next few issues of the *Grapevine* and in the weekly worship bulletin to remind you that we need your input. Additionally, members of the parish will be **PERSONALLY** contacting you to pick up the questionnaires, answer any questions you may have and provide additional information. Thanks for your support and be watching your mail in September as our first questionnaires are mailed out and calls are made to collect completed questionnaires!!!!

Book Swap Program to Commence

Read any good books lately? Is it a good book that you would recommend to others? Would you be willing to trade it for someone else's "good read?" Then the Book Swap on Sunday, September 19, is for you! Bring your books to the Great Hall and find the table with Book Swap on it and put down your books to share and take some away with you. On Sundays when the Book Swap is not displayed, the Swap Books will be in the book case in the second floor Education Wing of the Parish Hall.

St. John's Photo Directory

 We have had good response to sign ups for portraits for the St. John's Photo Directory. Our photographer, parishioner Margaret Reynolds, was kept busy last Sunday with her cameras. She was able to take more than those scheduled! Portraits are being taken in Ruddiman Hall directly across the street from the front doors of the church. The portraits will require all family members in the photo to arrive at the scheduled time (15 minutes is allotted for each family group) and have completed a photo information form (which includes current address, phone and email addresses). The photos may be accessed online at a web site and members may print their own copies of the photos. A copy of the family group will be included in the photo directory...some copies will be available for sale (for those unable to print pictures off the internet). If you were unable to sign up, someone will contact you in the next week or so to schedule a date for your family.

What's Happening in EYC?



Sunday, September 5 - No meeting - Labor Day Holiday

Sunday, September 12 - 4:30 PM - Junior EYC

5:30 PM - Dinner Jr. & Sr. EYC

Sunday, September 26 - Organizational meeting for EYC Graduates at 6:30 PM in Ruddiman Hall

Daughters of the King will meet at the home of Marcia Blevens, 3625 Portree Place, on September 7 at 6:00 PM for their September meeting. A light supper will be provided.



Church Offices closed Monday, September 6
in observance of Labor Day

Ministry Sundays

On Ministry Sundays a lot of persons expressed interest in the many offerings. Here are the various areas with contact information. If you are looking for a little spiritual "SALT and PEPPER," and still would like to volunteer in other areas, here's contact information: Altar Guild - Judy Ashby (875-2601) or Virginia Montgomery (875-8985) or mvmonty@gmail.net; Flower Guild - Joyce Jurik (875-7895) or jurexco@aol.com; Adult Choirs- Kevin Benefield (249-6600) or kdbene@cableone.net; St. Cecilia's Ensemble - Cynthia Ramseur (282-5000) or cynthram@bellsouth.net; Altar Servers (Vergers, Lectors, Acolytes, Crucifers, Torch Bearers and Ushers) - Lena Melton (875-8480) or DrLena@aol.com; Buildings & Grounds - Leah Snyder (875-1099) or eastbeach@cableone.net; Sunday School - Heidi Forgione (447-3091); EYC - Nick Gault (327-7401) or saintnick@cableone.net; Cursillo - Foley Ranson (875-4689) or Lena Melton (875-8480); Religious Reading Group - Fr. Ray (875-4454); Pastoral Care Committee - Judy Kreckler (872-4544); Monthly Book Exchange - Sheree Ranson (875-4689); Families with Young Children - Marsha Ackerman (617-842-2656); St. Mary's Guild - Barbara Mabry (374-1942) or stagemanager1@bellsouth.net; Saints & Sinners Men's Group - Pete Jones (219-4246) or artbypjones@cableone.net; Dinners for 8 - Fr. Ray (874-4454); Samaritan Ministries - The Rev. Jim Lancaster (380-0775); The Lord is My Help - Peggy Butera (875-7049) or the church office; Interfaith Hospitality Network - Linda Schroeder (875-8173); St. Luke's Guild - Linda Deleebeeck (249-2913); St. John's Preschool - Jean Matteson (872-3343 or 424-8365); Cookie Walk - Toni Norman (219-6463) or Jean Hanlin (872-3386); Renaissance Festival - the church office.

Family Night & Live Music Concert

Event is sponsored by St. John's Preschool and will feature music by Ken Gaines, 2005 Texas Music Awards Singer and Songwriter of the Year. The Concert is from 7:00-9:00 PM in the parish hall. Light refreshments will be served. Concert is free, however, donations will be accepted for the preschool bell choir instruments.



The Preschool is selling subscriptions to *The Gazette* as a fundraiser. Subscription Forms are available from the school and church offices. Each week *The Gazette* will feature a St. John's preschooler as the school's "Angel of the Week."

EFM (Education for Ministry)

Are you interested in a weekly theological education group? EFM or Education for Ministry is a theological education by extension program offered by the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. The lessons and group meetings run for about nine months and there is a small tuition. St. John's has a number of graduates of the program. If you have an interest in studying in this group, please contact the Rector.



Saints & Sinners' 17th Annual Original Texas BBQ
Chicken Dinner is October 30 from 11:00 Am until 3:00 PM. A donation of \$7.00 will get you 1/4 BBQ Chicken, Cole Slaw and BBQ Beans. Tickets are available from any Saint or Sinner and from the Church Office.

The Saints & Sinners will meet on September 9 for dinner at 6:30 PM. Call Chuck Aldridge (875-2673) or Dane Turner (875-0082) so they will have a dinner count for the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS...Thanks to HERB MOORE for washing coffee mugs and cups after the coffee hour the past couple of weeks. This is an effort to make St. John's more environmentally friendly by using fewer Styrofoam cups. Anyone else want to share the dishwashing duties? Volunteers can contact the church office...**Sound, Camera, action!** Thanks to parishioner Hervey Purcell for rigging sound and installing a video camera to provide picture and sound from the church to the parish hall building. It will be used in the Parish Hall for a variety of purposes. **Thanks** to our Sunday school teachers and Children's Chapel volunteers who have begun their duties on Sunday, but a reminder, **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON LABOR DAY WEEKEND.**

Parish Notes: The Sympathy of the Parish is extended to Tina Cassimus and Renee Bracciante and family on the death of Wayne Cassimus.

----- WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday - 7:30 AM, Holy Eucharist Rite One; 9 AM and 11:15 AM, Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Child care available at 9 AM and 11:15 AM services
 Wednesday - 5:30 PM Holy Eucharist with Healing

 Phone: Church Office 228-875-4454 - FAX 228-875-4485 - E-mail: stjohnsosms@cableone.net
 Website: www.stjohnsoceansprings.org

Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM; Wednesday 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM