



NEWSLETTER



St. John's by the Campus
Episcopal Parish and Student Center
January 2023

Dear Parish Family of St. John's by the Campus,

Thank you very much for your gift and the amazing accordion booklet, by Dot Prater, of your notes of care and well wishes presented by Vestry member, Diane Rioux, on December 18. I am so very grateful for the efforts of our parish administrator, senior warden, and vestry members, and so many, many of you in continuing the work of this parish during the past nine months. This has indeed been a team effort. My fellow priests, The Rev. Jean McCarthy and The Rev. Robert Kem enjoyed meeting all of you, and they greatly helped with the Sunday morning responsibilities which made it possible for the three of us to also minister to the people of Grace Church, Boone, and Church of the Good Shepherd, Webster City. To be able to minister to people during the joys and challenges of their lives is a sacred privilege, and I will treasure those moments. David supported me in pastoral care, weekly Compline, and the extra services at Green Hills and Northcrest. All of those ministry opportunities have given us many things to ponder and treasure. David and I came to this parish in 1979, and we still call Ames and this parish home. We could not be more pleased and excited for this parish family that Fr. Tom and Sara Early will soon assume leadership here. At Bishop Monnot's guidance, David and I will be taking some sabbatical time from the parish to allow all of you to get to know Fr. Tom and Sara, and to discern the way forward for ministry and mission together. God's grace goes before us into the future and will be waiting for us when we arrive. David and I thank you for your love, support and kindness expressed in so many ways.

As we are Enfolded in God's Love,

Mary Jane+ and Dave Oakland



St. John's Bell Choir, December 18, 2022

Parish Office

St. John's by the Campus
Episcopal Parish and Student Center
2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014

Clergy

The Rev. Tom Early, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland, Assisting Priest

Parish Assistants

Rachel Thevenot, Church Admin/Bookkeeper
David Moore, Chaplain
Dr. Miriam Zach, Music Director/Organist
Jane Galyon, Newsletter Editor
Cristine Mincheff, Stewardship/Verger

Vestry 2022

Sr. Warden: John Joiner
Jr. Warden: Corey Mellies
Clerk: Diane Rioux
Elizabeth Charbonnet, Brenda Freeman,
Diane Gillott, Debbie Haywood,
Leigh Ann Long, Cristine Mincheff
Treasurer: Joan Aiton

How to Communicate

St. John's Office: (515) 292-6655

Office: church@stjohns-ames.org

Rev. Mary Jane Oakland:

mary.j.oakland@gmail.com

Dr. Miriam Zach: miriamzach@gmail.com

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St. John's Website: www.stjohns-ames.org

Diocese of Iowa: www.iowaepiscopal.org

January 2023 Newsletter Vol 29, Num 1

This Newsletter is published monthly except in July by the Episcopal Parish of Ames, a non-profit organization, 2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50014. Comments or inquiries may be sent to the church office. The deadline for the next Newsletter is Wednesday, January 25. Please submit articles via email to church@stjohns-ames.org or jgalyon@iastate.edu.

January Birthdays

- 1 Robert Hoenike
- 3 Jim Andrews, Saikat Banerjee
- 5 Andrew Montgomery
- 7 Mary Kay Abbott
- 13 Carole Magilton
- 16 Barbara Martin
- 20 Robert Harvey
- 22 Erica Cobb
- 23 Tim Muggli
- 24 Andy Hillier
- 27 Robin Fletcher, Jen Matthews
- 28 Mark Bloom
- 29 Andrew Charbonnet
- 31 Lee Cagley

January Anniversaries

- 1 Vicki & Steve Davidson



Welcome Father Tom

Father Tom Early's first day in the office will be January 3, and the first services he will preside over at St. John's will be on January 8.

Holiday Giving Tree

St. John's has teamed up with YSS to be a part of their Holiday Giving program! Help provide hope and opportunity to youth this holiday season by participating. Look for the Holiday Giving Tree set up in the Gathering Area at St. John's. **Take a tag from the tree, purchase the requested gift, and return the gift and tag to this location by January 1.** There is a donation box in the office where these gifts can be dropped off.

Annual Parish Meeting – January 29, 2023

The Annual Parish Meeting has been set for Sunday, January 29, 2023, after the 10 a.m. service. The meeting will be held in the St. John's Parish Hall. If you have a report to submit for the Annual Meeting, please send it to Rachel at church@stjohns-ames.org. Annual Meeting Reports are due by January 9.

2023 Parish Directory

Work has begun on the 2023 Parish Directory. If you need to update your address, phone number, email address, directory photo, or family info, or if you are not included in the directory and would like to be, please contact the office by calling 515-292-6655 or emailing church@stjohns-ames.org. Please submit this information to the office by January 16, 2023.

Altar Guild and Greening Thanks

Thanks to St. John's Altar Guild volunteers for their time and energy on Saturday morning, December 3, to polish brass and silver in preparation for Bishop Monnot's parish visit on Sunday, December 4. And special thanks to Diane Rioux's sister and brother-in-law, Cathy and Jim Loseke ([see photo](#)), for their thorough vacuuming and dusting of the nave and sanctuary that same morning. Our worship space was sparkling (with stars and cleanliness) in anticipation of the Christmas Season!

And thank you to all those who helped after our December 18 10 a.m. service with the greening of the nave, sanctuary and gathering area and the placement of candles, creche and beautiful Poinsettias in preparation for Christmas. Thank you to Diane Rioux and Nancy Port for making the drive to Boone on the very cold morning of Dec 17 to pick them up!

Special thanks to Amy Abbott (Mary Kay's daughter), who joined us. We had a great team of volunteers, and the transformation of our worship space from the Advent Season to the Christmas Season was a joy to behold. Please note the two mini-artificial Christmas trees at St. John's south entrance, whose ornaments are now changed from Advent purple to Christmas red. Our thanks to Melanie Cornwell (Mary Kay's daughter) for donating the trees to St. John's.

And finally, thanks are due to the Star-Team who mounted the candelabras on the windowsills and pews when the stars were hung - it made our December 18 job so much easier!



Adult Forum

St. John's Adult forum time between Sunday services (9 to 9:45) will resume on January 22, 2023, skipping January 29 (Annual Meeting) and resuming for February 5, 12, and 19. Lent will begin after February 19 with a Lenten study.

We will explore "What does it mean to be a disciple?" This is an opportunity to practice Story Sharing regarding the meaning of discipleship. Our fall book study of Rev. Stephanie Spellers' "The Church Cracked Open" ended with the call to discern our discipleship and our call to become a Beloved Community. Come and join us.

Greta Levis

Kathleen Sallee

Thank You to the Freeman Family for hosting Christmas dinner at St. John's on December 25, 2022. About 10 people attended the dinner and were treated to turkey, ham balls, stuffing, potatoes, pie, and more. Six take-home meals were put together as well.

Grounds Gratitude

Steve Prater, thank you for cleaning our gutters before the snow came and for climbing that ladder!



Music News

You are invited to Spring 2023 musical events in Ames:

- **Saturday, February 11, 1:30 p.m.**
“Palimpsest” concert - ISU organ studio of Dr. Miriam Zach, ISU, Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall in the Music building
- **Saturday, February 18, 7 p.m.** “Ames Town and Gown Musicale” (\$\$\$), St. John’s Episcopal Church, organized by Paula Forrest
- **Saturday, March 4, 1:30 p.m.** - “27th International Festival of Women Composers,” Iowa State University, Martha-Ellen Tye Recital Hall in the Music building, organized by Dr. Miriam Zach,
- **Saturday, April 22, 1:30 p.m.** concert - ISU Organ Studio of Miriam Zach, St. John’s Episcopal Church

St. John’s Flowers

If you are interested in donating flowers for the Altar in honor of a special date or person, please sign up on the sheet on the long table in the Parish Hall. The instructions for donating are printed and available there as well.

Thank you very much for supporting the St. John’s flower fund.

Diane Rioux, Flower Coordinator

DiRio02@msn.com. 515-450-3311

Bible Study

Bible Study meets every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. We have been on a Christmas break and will resume Wednesday, January 4. Irv will be the leader. We are in the Lifeguide Series, The Twelve Disciples.

Please join us! If you have any questions, please contact me!

Sarah Terrones, Bible Study Coordinator

515-290-6931

Online Parish Services

You can join us live in-person or online for our Sunday Services at 10 a.m. Services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel and service leaflets are included in the email we send out beforehand and in the YouTube video description box. The link below will take you to our channel.

[youtube.com/@stjohnsbythecampus](https://www.youtube.com/@stjohnsbythecampus)

The Food at First Program continues to serve a free meal every day at First Christian Church, 611 Clark. As always, everyone is welcome, and no questions are asked. They typically serve over 100 meals every day.

- Sun.-Fri. Meals are served from 5:45 - 6:15 pm
 - Saturday meal served from 11:30 am-12:15 pm
- The Free Market program distributes food three times a week:
- Monday and Thursday 4:30 – 5:30 PM
 - Saturday 10 – 11 AM

It takes an army of volunteers and support to provide this critical ministry to the Ames community every day. For more information or to volunteer, go to

<https://foodatfirst.wordpress.com/>

**The Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
St. John's by the Campus
November 16, 2022 6:30pm**

Present: John Joiner (Sr. Warden), Corey Mellies (Jr. Warden), Diane Rioux (Clerk), Joan Aiton (Treasurer), Brenda Freeman, Leigh Ann Long, Debbie Haywood, Diane Gillott, Cristine Mincheff, Elizabeth Charbonnet, The Rev. Mary Jane Oakland, and Amy Mellies (Diocesan Representative)

Minutes of October 20th, 2022, meeting were accepted.

Financial Report for October 2022 was accepted.

Financial Committee met in October to discuss Budget. Joan Aiton gave brief report.

Income looks positive. St. John's qualifies for Employee Retention Credit as part of the Cares Act.

Application is in process. Endowment interest decreased this year caused by stock market.

New Business

Adopting/ Amending Safe Church Policy:

Sub-committee was formed to adapt the Policy to St. John's needs:

Diane Gillott, Elizabeth Charbonnet, Leigh Ann Long

Switching Online Payment Platform:

Debate on Realm vs PayPal and costs and fees related to using each one.

Motion was made to discontinue use of PayPal because of fees.

Realm will remain until Jan. when Fr. Tom will share information on using CDM.

New Policy for use of St. John's credit card and approved spending:

Policy will be written and approved by December 31st, 2022.

New cards and new approved signatures will begin January 2023.

Old Business

Audio/ Visual System is completed:

The Hearing Loop is now working.

More adaptations will be made with the goal to have a 6-person trained team of volunteers to rotate Sundays for livestreaming.

Sr Warden Report:

Lay Personnel Policy is being approved by the Diocese and is expected to be ready by the December Vestry meeting.

Reports are due on Jan. 9 for upcoming Annual Meeting from all committees.

Bishop Visitation Sunday, December 4th. All Vestry should be present.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Draft Submitted by Diane Rioux, Clerk
Edited by Rachel Thevenot, Parish Administrator/Bookkeeper