



LOGOS

The Newsletter for St. John's Episcopal Church, Arlington

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness did not overcome it" John 1:5

March 2023

Lent and Holy Week Observances

Services and Studies will be held at both
St. John's and St. Patrick's.

Lenten Study: Book of Psalms – Wednesdays, Noon at St. Patrick's and 6:30 p.m. at St. John's

Stations of the Cross – Sunday evenings at 6:30 p.m.: March 12 at St. John's, March 19 at St. Patrick's, and March 26 on Zoom

Palm Sunday Services (April 2) – 9 a.m. at St. John's; 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's

Maundy Thursday Services (April 6) – Noon at St. Patrick's; 6:30 p.m. at St. John's

Good Friday (April 7) – St. John's and St. Patrick's will be open from 11 a.m. through sunset for prayer and meditation. Prayer services will be held at Noon at St. Patrick's and 6:30 p.m. at St. John's

Easter Sunday Services (April 9) – 9 a.m. at St. John's and 11 a.m. at St. Patrick's, with Coffee Hour to follow both services

All listed activities will also be accessible online via Zoom. For more information, visit <https://www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org/Worship/On-Line-Services/Lent-Holy-Week/>.





Laissez les bon temps rouler! St. John's welcomed members of the community and St. Patrick's to its Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 21.

St. John's Staff and Leadership

Staff

Rector: The Rev. Julie D. Bryant
 Minister of Music: Lynn Robinson
 Organist: Judith Marcinko
 Parish Administrator: Virginia Pearson
 Sexton: Julio Sorto

Parish Leaders

Peter Olivere, Treasurer
 Eileen Tallent, Chair, Altar Guild

Vestry

Sandy Winger, Senior Warden	Diane Henderson
Jeff Aitken	Peter Olivere
Dave Dunlap	Lisa Pope
Bryan Harbin	

Words on Hymns: *Make Me a Blessing*

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing” (Genesis 12:2). Saying blessings is part of the Jewish people’s tradition. They make a blessing on hearing bad news as well as good news, for they truly believe that everything God does is for the best (even if they can’t fully understand why). The words “Baruch Hashem“ or “Blessed be God” are often heard. When expressing condolences, a common Jewish saying is “May his/her memory be a blessing.”

The hymn *Make Me a Blessing* resulted from the combined efforts of George Shuler and Ira Wilson, who were roommates at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, Illinois. Wilson wrote the lyrics to the song and Shuler composed the musical setting.

At first, the song was rejected by music publishers. Not to be stopped, Shuler had 1,000 copies printed to distribute on his own. One copy fell into the hands of George Dibble, an outstanding singer who was the music director for the International Sunday School Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. Dibble asked for permission to use the song, and it was

granted. Soon people everywhere were singing it, and publishers wanted to distribute copies. It was first published in 1924. The popularity of the song has grown to the extent that Christians in many locations can sing it from memory.

A strange thing happened to Wilson as the years passed, however. He said to his friends, "I don't remember writing the lyrics to that song." Right up until he died, he never remembered his poetic creation.

Wilson was born September 6, 1880, in Bedford, Iowa. He died April 3, 1950, in Los Angeles, California, and is buried at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, California. Wilson’s sister taught him to play the violin and organ while he was still living at home. Around 1902, Wilson began his studies at the Moody Bible Institute. In 1905, he went to work for the Lorenz Publishing Company in Dayton, Ohio. Wilson’s compositions appeared in *The Choir Leader* and *The Choir Herald*. Among other accomplishments, he also served as editor-in-chief of *The Volunteer Choir*.

Carol Dunlap



Parish News

Upcoming Events:

➤ Join the fun of St. John's virtual Bingo night the second Saturday of each month at 7 p.m. To request Bingo cards, contact Sandy Winger at bingo@stjohnsarlingtonva.org or 571-268-7555 no later than mid-day the Friday before the game. For details on the Zoom link, see the Calendar section of the St. John's home page at <http://stjohnsarlingtonva.org>.

➤ The St. John's Book Club will meet on **Tuesday, March 14**, at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom to discuss *The Language of Bees* by Laurie R. King. For details on the Zoom link, see the Calendar section of the St. John's home page at <http://stjohnsarlingtonva.org>. Participants will return to their regular meeting schedule on **Tuesday, April 4**, at 7:30 p.m. when they gather in the undercroft to talk about *How Much of These Hills Is Gold* by C Pam Zhang. This novel tells the story of two Chinese siblings who set out on a journey of transformation in the American West.

Thank You to:

➤ Peter Olivere for coordinating the Mardi Gras Pancake Supper on Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 21, and all the volunteers who made the event such a success: Louisa Bennett, Patricia Broida, Dave Dunlap, Richard Henry, Kathi Martin, Peter and Barbara Olivere, Lisa Pope, Bill and Faye Pritchard, Lynn Robinson, Eileen Tallent, Liz White, Christine Williams, and Sandy Winger.

We celebrate with all who have birthdays in March:

Rev. Ann Barker, Pierce Kaufman, Peter Olivere, Cristina Tallent, and Nora Wien-Herman.

Save the Date: The St. John's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 26, following the worship service.

LOGOS

LOGOS is published monthly at the beginning of the month, except for a combined July/August issue and occasional other double issues.

Lisa Pope, LOGOS Editor

Email articles to logos@stjohnsarlingtonva.org. The deadline for the April issue is March 24.

St. John's Vision Statement

St. John's Episcopal Church is an inclusive congregation that nurtures Christian spiritual growth and community through worship, education, outreach, mutual care, and fellowship.

St. John's Mission Statement

St. John's mission is building a strong spiritual community in Christ; welcoming all who enter our doors, including believers, seekers, and doubters; and reaching out to those in need both within our congregation and around us.