

# *St. John's Episcopal Church*



## **St. John's is a vibrant congregation with a big heart.**

We are an inclusive and welcoming community of faith where:

- families are supported in their spiritual growth,
- questions and discussion are always welcome,
- worship sustains our faith, and
- our mission to help others is part of all we do.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate our life together in Christ.

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### **Outreach and Mission**

- We provide 400 lunches annually to the Bailey's Crossroads homeless shelter.
- We donated 289 pounds of food, contributed \$850, and bagged over 1200 pounds of produce for the Arlington Food Assistance Center.
- Our youth coffee/tea sales help start micro-businesses in third world countries. The profits go to charities here and around the world.
- At Christmas needy children receive toys and clothes through the Angel Tree gift program.
- We host Cristo Rey, a Spanish language congregation of more than 80 members.
- We welcome a weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meeting: "I have 21 year's sobriety through the grace of God and all the meetings."



### **Worship and Music**

- On Sunday, we celebrate the Eucharist at both a quiet service at 8 am and a service with music at 10 am.
- Our organist and choir provide music "from Bach to spirituals," adding an uplifting element to our worship.
- The weekly sermon applies scripture to daily living, so people can live out their ministry in the world and bring others to Christ.
- Our youth actively participate in worship as acolytes, readers and gift bearers, helping them to grow in their life in Christ.
- We welcome all to inspirational Holy Week, Easter and Christmas services, inviting people to join with us in praise and worship and to seek to know Jesus Christ better.



## Christian Education

- We have created a robust Family Ministry Program to teach our young people how much God loves them and to help them grow in faith.
- Our children and youth each year attend more than 40 sessions of Christian education, in which they carry out service projects, make crafts, and talk about their faith journeys and the importance of God in their lives.
- Our summer vacation Bible school, in cooperation with another church, attracted 20 children who each spent more than 12 hours learning about God's love.
- We offer 36 sessions of Adult Christian education annually on a wide variety of spiritual topics, which have included the story of Jacob, overcoming our fears, and justice ministry.
- We partner with Education for Ministry to provide theological education for people of the area, presenting an opportunity for people to identify and confirm their lay ministries in the world.



## Pastoral Care

- We provide Holy Communion and companionship to ill and homebound parishioners and others, giving a listening ear to those who would otherwise feel isolated and making them feel a valued part of the community.
- We conduct baptisms, weddings and funeral/memorial services to celebrate important moments in people's lives.
- We offer intercessory prayer and card ministries to make connections within our parish family.

## Church Life

- We celebrate community at the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, spaghetti dinner, intergenerational game night and other activities, inviting others to join us at St. John's.
- Parishioners engage the neighborhood community in activities, including Christmas caroling, a book club and more.
- We hold an annual parish retreat at Shrine Mont, providing a place for rest, spiritual re-creation, and for getting to know one another better.
- We work together on maintenance projects to make St. John's an attractive and inviting place.
- We fill and hide more than 200 plastic eggs for children and teenagers at our community Easter Egg hunt, providing another fun activity where we can reach out to our neighbors.



### Part of Our Community

St. John's serves our entire community.

If you would like to learn more about us, I would be pleased to talk with you. I am also available to meet with you on other issues in your life.

*Rev. Ann Barker*