

# The Compass

... Pointing People toward Christ

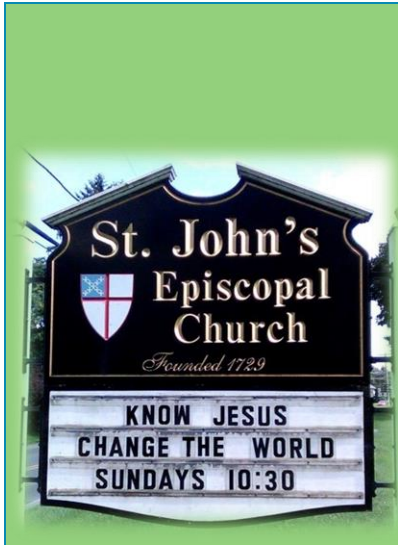


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SPRING 2019



In February, I read a newspaper article about how 'smart homes' are vulnerable to hacking. These are dwellings in which nearly *everything* is computerized and digitized. Appliances and lights can be turned on and off, thermostats reset, doors locked and unlocked, kids and pets watched—all remotely. Talking boxes such as Amazon 'Alexa' or Google 'Home' provide the current weather report, sports scores, restaurant recommendations, music playlists, and far more.

But the *Chicago Tribune* recently reported that an Illinois couple suddenly heard a man's voice coming through the security camera on their baby monitor. The voice was rude, vulgar, and cursing. In a panic, the parents thought their child was being threatened. At the same time, their thermostat that had been set at 72 shot up to 90. Soon, they realized their devices had been hacked.

Around the same time, a warning claiming to be from

Civil Defense blared out of a 'Nest' camera's speaker in a California family's living room. It said three ballistic missiles were aimed at Los Angeles, Chicago and Ohio, and President Donald Trump had been taken to a secure facility.



The family called Nest and 911 to confirm there was no danger, as their child hid under the living room rug in fear of an impending missile.

In December, a Houston family reported hearing a voice speaking obscene expletives through a monitor in their infant's room. When they turned on the lights, the 'Nest' camera in the room activated. A man's voice ordered them to turn off the lights or the baby would be kidnapped.

As I learned about the vulnerability of computerized homes, it occurred to me that our minds are in much the same state, when it comes to our thoughts or impulses being

susceptible to "hacking" by the devil, the enemy of our souls.

Temptation resembles those nasty voices speaking obscenities, curses, and threats into the families' electronic devices. The intrusion of sinful thoughts into our minds is also unwanted, causes anxiety, and must be dealt with.

On March 6<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday, the penitential season of Lent begins. On the first Sunday, our Gospel lesson deals with Jesus' temptation by Satan in the wilderness. His peaceful desert retreat was hacked into by the Adversary, showing us that even our Lord was as vulnerable as we are. People whose electronic homes are invaded by evil are forced to strengthen their digital security. We Christians who are harassed by the devil also need to increase our *spiritual security*. Jesus got rid of the devil by knowing and quoting Holy Scripture—and the Bible can be our defense, as well. Ephesians 6:7 refers to the Word of God as "the sword of the spirit."

*This Lent, may God keep safely in His care your mind, body, and spirit.*

*In His love and service,  
Mother Nina +*

Join us for a  
**Lenten Taizé-style service  
of Worship and Prayer**  
**Saturday, March 9 at 7:00 pm**



This informal, candlelit service (without a sermon, offering, or Eucharist) includes inspirational Scripture readings, easy-to-sing uplifting chants, prayer, and peaceful, meditative silence.

It's the perfect opportunity to invite an unchurched friend or neighbor—and to decompress from the week's stress!



**Sunday, March 10 at 2:00 am  
Daylight Saving Time begins**

If you don't **move your clock forward one hour**, you'll be an hour late to church on Sunday! Try changing the clocks early **Saturday evening, March 9**—that lessens the time-change shock just a bit.

## Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

Join us in welcoming as our  
**Guest Preacher**  
**The Rev. Patrick Reed**



*Mother Nina has known Patrick since he was a teenager, formerly served as his pastor, and officiated at his marriage to Michele. The Reeds write:*

**“Life is opening our hearts to God's word and following his call.** That is where the story of Patrick and Michele begins. Michele received Christ at the age of 12 when she attended a youth group night. At the age of 19, Patrick and Michele began a courtship even though Patrick did not believe in God. A year later, God prevailed, and Patrick received Christ into his life. They have been happily married since 2002 and have three wonderful children [Alyssa, Danielle, and Luke].

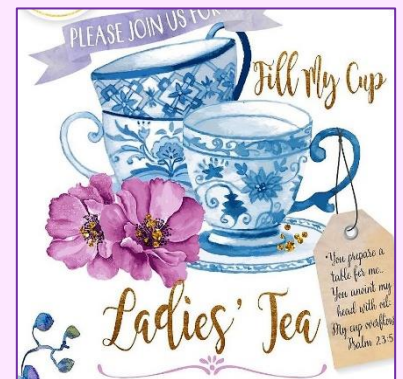
In February 2017, after working in the business sector for 20 years, Patrick heard the Lord's call to serve in foreign missions. That March, God opened Patrick and Michele's hearts to start a ministry of church planting in The Gambia [in West Africa]. Their burden is to share the message of salvation

with the Gambian people through business and education. They are currently raising support for their ministry. The Gambia is over 95% Muslim and has less than one percent evangelical Christians.

Grace Baptist Church in Hurlock, Maryland is their sending church and where they currently spend much of their time serving Christ. The Association of Baptists for World Evangelism (ABWE), as a mission board in partnership with Grace Church, is giving them the training and guidance they need to minister to the people God has called them to reach.”

To learn more or to donate to the Reeds' mission and ministry, visit [www.ReedsforChrist.com](http://www.ReedsforChrist.com) and click on the *Outfit/Passage Campaign* tab.

## Ladies' Tea Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm



Guests will be asked to bring donations of items to benefit Good Samaritan Services.

**Sunday, March 10, during Coffee Hour, there will be an organizational meeting to plan for this event.**

Volunteers are needed to help decorate, provide food, set up, and clean up.



Wednesday of Holy Week, **April 17<sup>th</sup>**, at **6 pm**, we will hold our second annual **Messianic Seder** in the Parish Hall. Last year, many of us felt that this special meal enhanced our understanding of Jesus' Last Supper and made the Maundy Thursday Eucharist that much more meaningful. Give it a try, and *invite a friend!*

**Please inform the Church Office or Suzanne Turpin if you are planning to attend, as we need to know how much food to make.**



**WE NEED TO BORROW YOUR PLANTS FOR OUR MAUNDY THURSDAY (April 18<sup>th</sup>) GARDEN OF REPOSE that will be set up on Wednesday, April 17.**

Please bring them to church on April 14. They will be returned on the weekend.

## Calling All Cooks!



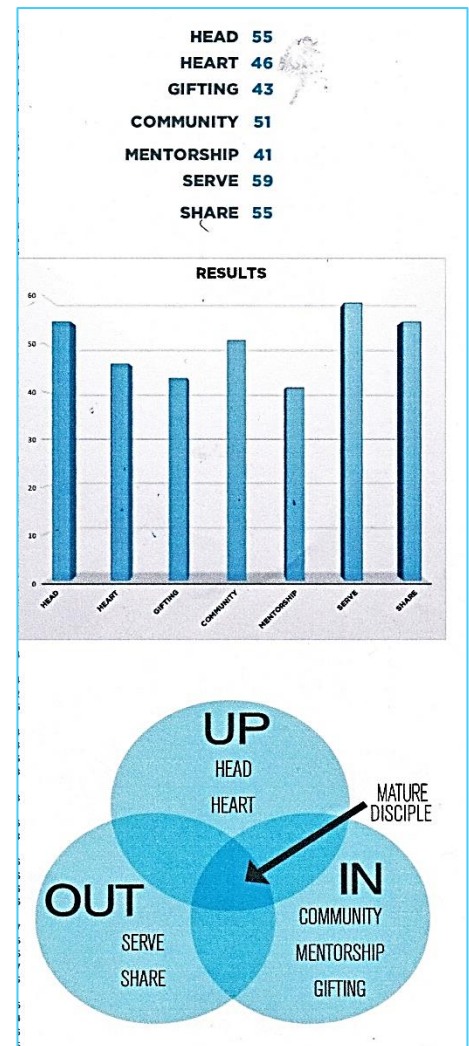
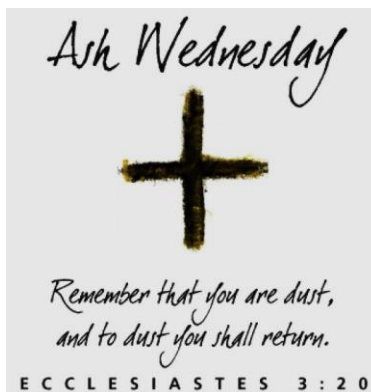
For our **290<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** in September, we will be publishing a cookbook featuring our favorite recipes from St. John's famously wonderful cooks!

Recipe forms are available at church. You can fill one out and give it to the Church Office, or you can go online to the publishers' website and type in your recipe.

Instructions are available from the Church Office.

**All recipes are due by April 7, 2019.**

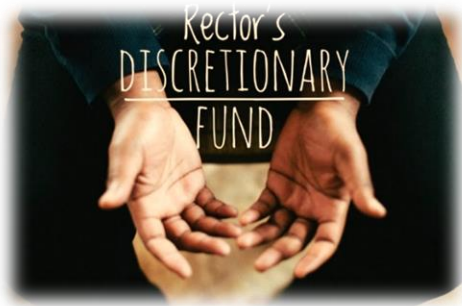
**MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 7 PM**



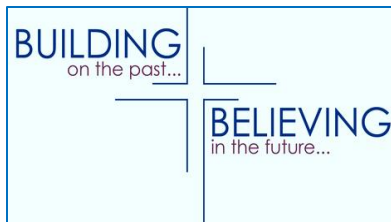
Our Rector filled out an online survey about discipleship, answering questions about St. John's life in Christ. The results showed that our strongest areas are:

- **“head”** (understanding faith issues);
- **“community”** (working well with others);
- **“serve”** (meeting the needs of others);
- **“share”** (living out our faith through actions).

In The Episcopal Church, **The Rector's Discretionary Fund** is a checking account used at the discretion of the pastor for *charitable purposes*, such as: helping the homeless or hungry; assisting those who need money for gas, fuel oil, or a place to stay for the night; or making donations to worthy causes.



At St. John's Church, the **loose plate offering on first Sundays** is designated for this fund. However, often there is very little loose offering. Therefore, the Vestry is asking that each member **prayerfully consider making a donation** (check or cash), on a regular basis, to this fund that enables our Rector to help those in need.



**Third Sunday's loose plate offerings** are designated for **St. John's Building Fund**. Parishioners are invited to prayerfully consider giving on a regular basis to this fund, as well.

*Thank you, and God bless you!*

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**  
**FRIDAYS, MARCH 15 — APRIL /12 @ 6PM**



**MARCH**

- Letitia Grimes 3/2
- Jennifer Hoskins 3/4
- Gregory Wilkinson 3/4
- Nancy Rohrer 3/10
- Skip Hoskins 3/15
- Pat Owens 3/18
- Alex Wilkinson 3/22
- Amy Wilkinson 3/22
- John Strattan 3/25
- Elsbeth Zaayenga 3/28
- Ned Baldwin 3/29
- John Trofe 3/30
- Grier Hoskins 3/31
- ♥ Bo & Sabra Grimes 3/15

**APRIL**

- Nina George-Hacker 4/1
- Tina Zurcher 4/6
- Terri Fant 4/11
- Susan Gansauer 4/13
- Ron Kelly 4/17
- James Trofe 4/18
- Betty Buchanan 4/18
- Nick Kinka 4/22
- April Wilkinson 4/26
- Benjamin Baldwin 4/24
- ♥ Hank & Terri Fant 4/15
- ♥ Andrew & Liz Baldwin 4/22

**MAY**

- Joanne Cipollini 5/2
- Giulianna De Marco 5/4
- Fran Gilfillan 5/6
- Debbie Martin 5/15
- Joan D'Aloisio 5/19
- Joan Lorenz 5/20
- Lou D'Aloisio 5/22
- ♥ Tom & Nancy Rohrer 5/6
- ♥ Rick Hacker & Nina George-Hacker 5/14
- ♥ Barry & Linda Baldwin 5/17

*If we don't have your birthday or anniversary listed, please inform the Church Office.*



**Palm/Passion Sunday, April 14**, Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 10:30 a.m.

**Holy Wednesday, April 17**, Messianic Seder in the Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m. – celebrate the Passover as Jesus did.

**Maundy Thursday, April 18**, Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 7:00 p.m., followed by a **one-hour prayer vigil**.

In Matthew 26:40, Our Lord asks His disciples, “Can you not watch with me one hour?” Surely, we can try to do as they did. All who attend are invited to stay as long as they can, even for a few minutes, to engage in silent prayer before the “altar of repose,” where Jesus waits in the Garden, on the night before His Crucifixion. There will be prayers in the bulletin you can use, and devotional books available as well.

**Good Friday, April 19**, Solemn Liturgy and Communion from the Reserved Sacrament, 7:00 p.m. This service incorporates a brief time of prayer and reverence before the Cross of Jesus.

**Holy Saturday, April 20**, the **Great Vigil of Easter** begins with the lighting of the paschal fire and the singing of the Exsultet, followed by stories and songs of God’s plan of salvation, ending with the first Eucharist of Easter.

**Resurrection Sunday / Easter morning, April 21**, following a casual breakfast in the Parish Hall, we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ with a high festal mass with special choir music and guest trumpeter Vincent Shickora.



**BRIDGE OF HOPE / GOOD SAMARITAN SERVICES**

**Annual Garden Luncheon**

**Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>**

**At the Desmond Hotel, Malvern**

The price of the annual luncheon is \$70, which benefits this charitable organization that “*provides emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing and supportive services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Lancaster and Chester Counties.*”

In the past, those attending from St. John’s have shared a table together. If you would like to attend, **please contact Sharon Fremont ASAP** at 717-799-9495 or [sef101@verizon.net](mailto:sef101@verizon.net) to make your payment, and so that she can reserve a table for us.

**THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER | MAY 2, 2019**

**Service at St. John’s Church – 7:00 pm**

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★

**LOVE ONE ANOTHER**

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU JOHN 13:34



**For those interested in **Spring Lunch Bunch** dates, times, and locations, please contact Terri Fant at 717-371-4662.**

*“When in our Music God is Glorified”*

**Organ Dedication Recital ~ Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm**

Join us as we worship God, giving thanks for the gift of music and for our new **Rodgers Inspire Series 233 organ**. A reception follows in the Parish Hall. Four talented organists have been invited to play their favorite pieces that will highlight this instrument’s unique features:



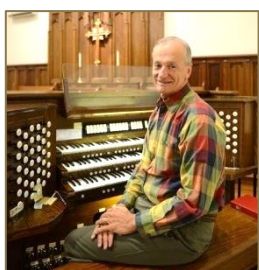
**Richard Hacker** studied at the Lancaster Conservatory of Music and holds a Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Mansfield University. He has taught piano privately and performed as an accompanist at the National Cathedral and Constitution Hall in Washington DC, and for the National Association of Teachers Singing Finals. He served as Organist/Choir Director at Ross Street United Methodist Church, Lancaster, for 25 years; as Organist at Damascus United Methodist Church in Maryland for 10 years; as Organist/Choir Director at Grace

Episcopal Church in Waterford, New York for 8 years; and has held the position of Organist/Choir Director of St. John’s Episcopal Church, Compass since 2016.



**Eileen Laurence** graduated from the Juilliard School of Music with a Master’s Degree majoring in Voice and Opera Theatre, with a secondary major in Organ and Church Music. She retired in August 2014 from her position as Director of Music at the First Presbyterian Church in Katonah, New York, after having served there for 38 years. She was responsible for playing all worship services and directing all vocal and handbell choirs, as well as instrumental ensembles. Eileen presently lives in the Willow Valley Retirement Community in Lancaster. There, she serves as a substitute organist and directs The Willow

Bells and the Handbell Choir of the First Presbyterian Church in Lancaster.



**Bruce Tonkin** holds a Bachelor’s degree from Mansfield University, a Master’s degree from West Chester University, and completed advance coursework at Westminster Choir College. For over 30 years, he was a music teacher in Norristown where he was Choral Director at the high school and taught elementary classroom music, and music to students with special needs. After many years at New Hanover Lutheran Church, Gilbertsville, and Jerusalem Lutheran Church, Schwenksville, Bruce now holds the position of Director of Music Ministry at St. James’ Lutheran Church in

Pottstown. There, he serves as Organist, Director of the Adult Chancel Choir, the Handbell Choir, and two Children’s Choirs. He also coordinates St. James’ Concert Series Programs.



**Douglas Wimer** holds a Bachelor of Music degree in Piano and Vocal Performance from Cairn University and a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance from the Westminster Choir College. Previously, he served as Organist at Great Valley Presbyterian Church, Malvern; Associate Organist at Tenth Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia; adjunct faculty at Cairn University; and Organist at the Evangelical United Methodist Church, New Holland. Doug is currently Organist / Choirmaster

at St. Stephen’s Reformed Church in New Holland; Owner/President of the Buch Organ Co. in Ephrata; and a former Dean of the Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.