



# The Tower

September 2024

Beloved in Christ,

At the beginning of this summer I had hoped that this piece for the Tower would be introducing our new Director of Music Programs here at St. John's. Unfortunately that is not the case. So instead of introducing a new member of this community I figured I would fill you in on what our process has been and where we stand right now.

Shortly after Jacob announced he would be leaving I began thinking of members of this community who would be good choices to form a small search committee for our next Director of Music Programs. We settled on three people in addition to myself for this committee. The group was set with Christine Wallis, Karen Cooper, and Wendy Smith. Everyone brings different gifts and important perspectives on what we are looking for. Christine is not only a longstanding member of our Choir and a fill in pianist on Sundays but knows quite a bit about working in a church. Karen has worked closely with Jacob over the years planning and promoting the concerts he has offered here and helping with grant applications to fund some of those concerts. Wendy not only represents the vestry in this group as our Jr. Warden but also attends the 10am service and all our Principal Feast Days, and isn't afraid to let us know how we did with the hymn selection for those feast days. Though it is a small group I believe it offers the variety of perspectives we need to ensure we find the best possible candidate to join our parish.

The plan for interviews is that candidates interview with this committee and then hold a brief choir rehearsal with the choir. We have begun the interview process with two applicants so far and have another two potential applicants who have reached out for more information but have not officially applied yet.

As I already mentioned, I had hoped we would have moved more quickly with this process and have had the position filled by now. I am however glad that we are taking our time and being deliberate about this. I don't just want to fill the position but I want to make sure we have the right person joining us to lead our music ministries.

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## DIRECTORY

### Clergy

The Reverend Patrick Greene  
Rector  
Patrick@stjohnsbarrington.org  
Ext. 16

### Staff

Dale West  
Parish Administrator  
Dale@stjohnsbarrington.org  
Ext. 11

Liz Curran  
Business Manager  
Liz@stjohnsbarrington.org  
Ext. 13

Caitlin Bogert  
Director of Children & Family  
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Caitlin@stjohnsbarrington.org  
Ext. 15

David Murray  
Head of Buildings and Grounds  
David@stjohnsbarrington.org  
Ext. 12

### Vestry

Steve Primiano, Warden  
Wendy Smith, Warden  
John Cavanagh, Clerk/Secretary  
Susan Taylor, Treasurer  
Dan Barlow  
Matthew Heffner  
Anne Massa  
Pixie Medeiros  
Carl Seadale  
Judy Tavares

401-245-4065  
[www.stjohnsbarrington.org](http://www.stjohnsbarrington.org)

# STEP DOWN TO ENCORE

## Hours

*Tuesday & Thursday*  
10:00am—4:00pm

*Saturday*  
1st & 3rd Saturday  
of the month



## Encore

Encore will open on  
Saturday, September 14th.  
They will start to take consignments by  
appointment only on Tuesday,  
September 10th.  
Please call 245-7380 to make an appointment.



## ST. JOHN'S TOWER

Please consider writing for The Tower.  
Personal reflections, articles, poetry,  
essays and commentary are always welcome!  
**Next Tower Deadline: September 23rd.**  
**The October Tower will be mailed on**  
**September 27th**

Please send articles, announcements and  
"Letters to the Tower" to [dale@stjohnsbarrington.org](mailto:dale@stjohnsbarrington.org)

# COMMISSION ON CHILDREN'S FORMATION

## Children Ministries News

Our Church School will meet each Sunday this September, with the exception of September 29th which will be a family service. The meeting time will change back to 10am beginning on September 8th . Our schedule is as follows:

September 1- Church School-9am  
September 8- Church School-10 am  
September 15- Church School-10am  
September 22- Church School-10am  
September 29- Family Service- 10am

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## Movie Night

Join us Friday, September 20th at 5:30pm for a family back to school pizza and movie night! The kids will be voting on a movie in church school.



## St. John's Family Service

Sunday September 29th at 10 am we will be having our first family service. This is an opportunity for children and their families to participate in the service in roles they don't usually have, such as ushers, acolytes, lectors and an intercessor. I will send an email out to church school families with more information about this.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN ~ ECW

### ECW News

Women Helping Women!

Let's all join loving hands to make a difference! Mark your calendars for our next ECW program, Women Helping Women, on September 18 at 5:30. We are deeply grateful for an opportunity to extend a warm fellowship to aid those in need. A Women's Resource Center presenter will be at St. John's to guide us on an exploration of some significant ways we can best assist their meaningful work. For those of us who may like to get a head start on supporting the resource center, it has been suggested that Walmart gift cards would be a practical gift idea to help meet back to school needs of families with school age children. Please feel free to bring any donated gift cards to the September meeting to present to the Women's Resource Center that evening or drop them off at the church office anytime. As always all women are welcome at ECW, so please forward your email address to ECW secretary, Nancy Seadale at nseadale@gmail.com if you would like to be added to our group list.

See you all on September 18th!

### FROM THE VESTRY

"For my ways are not your ways..."

About once a week, I'll go to morning prayer and see this passage. Although I can understand and (try my best to) practice the Christian ways of forgiveness, charity, and not casting judgment, other ways are incomprehensible and send me searching for answers.

I wish I could say that my searches stem from wonder over our universe, but many of those answers can be found in books or a Google search. Rather, the roots of my internal questioning of God's ways range from selfishly-seeded disappointment ("Why didn't her path & mine better align?"), to small-scale bafflement ("Is there a reason I encountered this particular stranger today?"), to universally-shared disgust ("If you're all good and powerful, why do you allow pointless suffering?").

My default answer is 'a natural consequence of human's free will.' When that doesn't satisfy, Fr. Patrick will patiently help answer some 'capital T' theological questions. Others answers require patience and trust in God's ways, no matter how tough they are to grasp.

Regardless of how and when we receive such answers, I'm glad that this is a church where we can freely ask questions, attempt to find those answers, and align our ways with God's."

Matthew Heffner, Vestry Member

## COMMISSION ON OUTREACH

### Back Pack Drive

Thank you to everyone who donated backpacks and school supplies during the last month. With your generosity we were able to collect over 40 backpacks and supplies. This year 8 of the backpacks went to the Women's Resource Center for families that they are helping out and the rest will go to The Martin Luther King Elementary School on Camp St. in Providence. This is one of the neediest schools in the state and they were thrilled to get them!



## COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

### Transitions

#### *September Anniversaries ~ Congratulations!*

Bryan & Karen Cooper ~ September 8, 1984 ~ 40 years  
Charles & Emily Reade ~ September 9, 1978 ~ 46 years  
Andy & Mary Davis ~ September 11, 2010 ~ 14 years  
Angus & Jenny Junkin ~ September 17, 2011 ~ 13 years  
Maxwell & Laura Mayer ~ September 17, 2016 ~ 8 years  
Jay Billingsley & Rose Murrin ~ September 20, 2002 ~ 22 years  
Christine & Phillip Wallis ~ September 20, 1975 ~ 49 years  
John & Cheryl Pace ~ September 24, 1988 ~ 36 years  
Carl & Nancy Seadale ~ September 27, 1969 ~ 55 years

#### *The Life Eternal*

Ginger Dreier ~ July 11, 2024

# COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

## Silver Spoons

Silver Spoons is a monthly gathering with lunch for any of our parishioners over the age of sixty. Each month lunch will be prepared and served by Fr. Patrick. This month's lunch will take place on Thursday, September 12th and will be eggplant parmesan sandwiches. If you would like to attend we ask you to RSVP to [patrick@stjohnsbarrington.org](mailto:patrick@stjohnsbarrington.org) by Tuesday, September 10th.

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## Morning Prayer

Come start your day off with a little prayer, scripture and silence. Monday through Thursday we gather around the altar for Morning Prayer at 8:45, the service lasts around fifteen minutes.

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## Coffee Connections

You can find Fr. Patrick nearly every Wednesday at Starbucks from 11am-12:30pm, drop on by to chat with him. Every so often he may be running a little late or unable to make it, usually when this is happening our Facebook and Instagram pages are updated with that info.

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## Compline is Back on Zoom

We are putting away the fire pit and marshmallows as Compline is moving back to Zoom until next summer. Join us Wednesday evenings on Zoom or Facebook Live at 8pm as we end our day together in prayer.

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## Ancient Practice Series

Over the coming months you are invited to join Fr. Patrick in reading and discussing the books from the Ancient Practice Series. Once a month we will gather on a Sunday evening at 6:30 for one hour to discuss that month's book. In September we will start with the introduction to the series, *Finding Our Way Again* written by Brian McLaren. This series looks at seven practices common to the major world religions and examines them in light of Christian faith and practice. We will meet according to the following schedule:

We will meet according to the following schedule:

Sunday, September 8th – *Finding Our Way Again*, Brian McLaren

Sunday, October 13th – *In Constant Prayer*, Robert Benson

Sunday, November 10th – *Tithing: Test Me In This*, Douglas Leblanc

Sunday, December 8th – *The Liturgical Year: The Spiraling Adventure of the Spiritual Life*, Joan Chittister

Sunday, January 12th – *The Sacred Journey*, Charles Foster

Sunday, February 9th – *Sabbath*, Dan B. Allender

Sunday, March 9th – *Fasting*, Scot McKnight

Sunday, April 13th – *The Sacred Meal*, Nora Gallagher

If anyone is interested in taking part in this please talk to Fr. Patrick. There are a few copies of each book available to borrow if needed.

## COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

### **Monday Bible Study**

Beginning on Monday, September 9th our Noon Monday Bible Study will be transforming from a Bible Study into a theology discussion. Each week we will discuss a different theological topic to better understand our faith. If you would like to join us we meet from noon until 1pm in the Living Room and on Zoom. If you have any questions please speak with Fr. Patrick.

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### **Welcome to Blinn Dorsey**

This fall we are welcoming Blinn Dorsey a seminarian out of the Diocese of Massachusetts. As part of his formation Blinn will be serving at St. John's, similar to an internship or student teaching. In addition to taking part in our liturgy Blinn will be helping to bring back the Sunday Morning Adult Forum. Starting on Sunday, September 15th we will once again be offering the Adult Forum in between the 8am and 10am services. Please make sure to introduce yourself to Blinn when you see him!

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### **Youth Group is Back!**

All our Middle and High School Students are invited to come out for fellowship and fun. We will meet on the first and third Sundays of the month beginning on Sunday, September 15th. Our plan this year is each month to have one meeting at the church at 6:30 and one offsite activity like going bowling or to play mini-golf. On Sunday, September 15th we will meet at the church at 6:30. If you have any questions please reach out to Fr. Patrick.

We look forward to seeing you on September 15th !

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### **You Tube**

Our Worship services can be found on our YouTube Channel. Make sure to subscribe to receive notifications when we are streaming. Our YouTube channel can be found here: [###https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoC6LP37Ql\\_ovQTMm9Qw9wQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoC6LP37Ql_ovQTMm9Qw9wQ)

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### **Weekday Morning Services**

Please join us for our morning weekday services, Morning Prayer at 8:45am Monday-Thursday and the Wednesday Eucharist at 9:30am.

## COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

### Church Angels Among Us

We are fortunate here at St. John's. But you already knew that.

This is a story about some very special parishioners. Parishioners who consistently offer to lend a hand with the many weekly tasks in and around the Church that need attention. Many of these activities make our worship time special, and even more beautiful. And many of them go un-noticed... but if they were not done, you'd soon take notice.

Seems there's been an increase in VSP's (Very Special Parishioners) lately, so we thought it'd be a great time to shine some light on them and say thank you. If you'd like to become a St. John's VSP, even if it's just now and again all you gotta do is holler – we'd love to have you. Call Dale anytime, day or night. It's a pretty good chance you'll reach her between the hours of 11pm and 6am. She won't mind, she loves VSP'S!

Anyway, here's just a few in our little spotlight, in no special order:

Judy Travares is a weekly visitor to Church, quietly resetting the prayer books and hymnals and making sure there's crayons for the kids each week. It always looks so nice and neat when Judy's done.

Debbie Jerome is another weekly visitor, and just as quiet, tending to her work, keeping our altar flowers looking good and for as long as possible. She's a great floral arranger, too!

Steve Carter has been burning the midnight oil. He's like an orchestra conductor overseeing all the plans for revitalizing our Memorial Garden. This is a grand project, with many moving pieces. I'm sure you'll be hearing more on this as it unfolds.

And speaking of the Memorial Garden, there's definitely been some angels working in there. Ann Glosson is perhaps the best weeder on the planet, she is tireless, leaving proof of her work with pristine garden areas, while Debby Barton has been toiling in the Cross Garden, transplanting Vinca minor, aka myrtle; Debby has been digging the ground cover in her yard and filling the Cross Garden.

Our beautiful church doors are almost complete, and with the attention Mike Javery and his co-worker, Bob Mitchell have offered, these doors will now last for years to come. Incidentally, Mike has also partnered with Steve Carter to build a beautiful display panel in Field Hall. The display will become the vehicle to keep us all informed as work progresses in the Memorial Garden, so be sure to visit it often for the latest developments.

Another angel to recognize is the stellar work provided each year by that "Great Pumpkin" himself, Tom Billops, whose untiring attention to detail produces our very successful Pumpkin Patch extravaganza. This year Tom will be assisted by Pat Anderson.

Incidentally, you can see more of Pat's handy work in our atrium. The sunflowers are magnificent this year.

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## COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

So, although our VSP's (Very Special Parishioners) don't have wings, they still seem to get the jobs done! We know there are more angels out there, and don't think for a minute that they're not appreciated. They are!

We'd love to hear about the talents you've been cultivating and perhaps find a way to put them to work to make our beautiful Church spectacular. So, call Dale... anytime.

A heartfelt thank you to Judy, Debbie, Steve, Ann, Debby, Mike, and Bob, Tom, and Pat and all the VSP Angels quietly and not so quietly working in and around our Church. You make God smile!

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### Loaves & Fishes RI

Once again we will be taking the Loaves & Fishes truck and helping out those in need in Providence. On Sunday, September 29th we will loading the truck with bagged lunches, socks, toiletries and other personal items. The shiny white-and-silver Loaves & Fishes RI truck is a gathering place for poor and homeless individuals throughout Rhode Island. Those in need are drawn to the truck for fresh sandwiches, fruit, energy bars, cookies, and more. "With kindness and compassion, we serve food and provide clothing to our neighbors in need, while honoring their dignity." This is the mission of LFRI. During the month of September we will be looking for donations to help fill the truck. If anyone is interested in going on the truck or helping with the bagged lunches please give me a call 401-245-4065 X11 or email me at [dale@stjohnsbarrington.org](mailto:dale@stjohnsbarrington.org). I hope to see you on the 29th!!



## COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION

### **The Pumpkins are Coming!!**

It is that time of year again! Delivery of pumpkins is scheduled for Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 am, and volunteers are needed for both managing and unloading pumpkins. So please save the date and plan on bringing your able bodies and wheelbarrows to help unload.

Unloading of the pumpkins is generally complete by noon at which time we will open for sales.

Volunteers for pumpkin sales on the afternoon of the 30<sup>th</sup> and thereafter will be needed. Stay tuned for more information on pumpkin patch shift times and sign ups – we anticipate using “Sign-up Genius” as we have for the past several years. Please contact Tom Billups at [thomas-billups54@gmail.com](mailto:thomas-billups54@gmail.com) or at 401-569-4546 with questions, thoughts, comments suggestions.



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### **Don't Forget The Big Green Bin**

Don't forget the big green donation bin sitting behind the church. The bin serves as a collection point for community donations of clothing, shoes and cloth items (sheets, towels, etc.) to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Rhode Island's mentoring program. For 55 years BBBDRRI has supported hundreds of young people and diverted millions of pounds of cloth out of the RI landfills. St. John's will receive funds based on the number of pounds collected from our bin.

The bin is located in the parking lot right behind the church school wing.

So please bag up your unwanted clothing, shoes, sheets, towels and all other cloth items and drop them off! NO TOYS or HOUSEHOLD GOODS PLEASE!!

# September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>9:00am &amp; 5:30pm</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 9:00am Church School	<b>2</b> Labor Day Parish Office Closed	<b>3</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am Zoom Coffee Hour 10:30am Staff Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:30am Holy Eucharist 8:00pm Compline Online	<b>5</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 1:00pm Knitting Group 5:00pm Zoom Happy Hour	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:30am John's Meals
<b>8</b> <b>8:00, 10:00am &amp; 5:30pm</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00am Church School 10:00am Baptism 6:30pm Adult Formation	<b>9</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 12:00pm Book/Bible Study 6:00pm Finance Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am Zoom Coffee Hour 10:00am Encore Open Consignments 10:30am Staff Meeting	<b>11</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:30am Holy Eucharist 8:00pm Compline Online	<b>12</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 10:00am Encore Open Consignments 12:00pm Silver Spoons 1:00pm Knitting Group 5:00pm Zoom Happy Hour 7:00pm COBSI Refreshal	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 8:30am John's Meals <b>10:00am Encore Open</b>
<b>15</b> <b>8:00, 10:00am &amp; 5:30pm</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00am Church School 6:30pm Youth Group	<b>16</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 12:00pm Book/Bible Study	<b>17</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am Zoom Coffee Hour 10:00am Encore Open 10:30am Staff Meeting 7:00pm Vestry Meeting	<b>18</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:30am Holy Eucharist 8:00pm Compline Online 5:30pm ECW Meeting	<b>19</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 10:00am Encore Open 1:00pm Knitting Group 5:00pm Zoom Happy Hour	<b>20</b> 5:30pm Church School Game Or Movie Night	<b>21</b> 8:30am John's Meals <b>10:00am Encore Open</b>
<b>22</b> <b>8:00, 10:00am &amp; 5:30pm</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00am Church School	<b>23</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 12:00pm Book/Bible Study	<b>24</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:00am Zoom Coffee Hour 10:00am Encore Open 10:30am Staff Meeting	<b>25</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 9:30am Holy Eucharist 8:00pm Compline Online	<b>26</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 10:00am Encore Open 1:00pm Knitting Group 5:00pm Zoom Happy Hour	<b>27</b> Dale Off	<b>28</b> 8:30am John's Meals <b>9:00am Pumpkin Delivery</b>
<b>29</b> <b>8:00, 10:00am &amp; 5:30pm</b> <b>Holy Eucharist</b> 10:00am Family Service 10:00am Church School 10:30am LFRI	<b>30</b> <b>8:45am Morning Prayer</b> 12:00pm Book/Bible Study 6:00pm Property Meeting	<b>TOWER DEADLINE</b>				
<b>MAIL TOWER</b>						

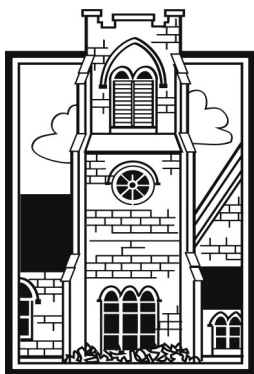
**Church - Red**    **Living Room - Blue**    **Choir Room - Purple**  
**Church School Wing - Green**    **Field Hall - Brown**    **Encore - Pink**    **Off Site - Orange**  
**Outside - Turquoise**    **Online - Aqua**

Hopefully we will have this all settled soon. As we continue this process, however, I ask that you all continue to pray for St. John's in our search and for our next Director of Music Programs, whoever that may be.

Yours in Christ,



Patrick+



*The mission of  
St. John's Church  
is to be a community of  
Christians committed to  
the care, nourishment and  
spiritual growth of all.*

## September 2024

The Reverend Patrick Greene, Rector  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
191 County Road, Barrington, RI 02806  
Phone: 401-245-4065  
Website: [www.stjohnsbarrington.org](http://www.stjohnsbarrington.org)

Parish September Office Hours  
Monday – Thursday 8:00am - 4:00pm  
Friday - Closed

Worship Services  
Sunday ~ 8:00am Holy Eucharist  
          10:00am Holy Eucharist  
          5:30pm Holy Eucharist  
Wednesday ~ 9:30am Holy Eucharist