



August 4, 2023

Josh's Jottings

"There's an opportune time to do things, a right time for everything on the earth." Ecclesiastes 3:1 (The Message)

It's hard to believe, but this week marks the end of summer for students attending APS schools this Fall. It seems awfully early. Yet a school year marks a new beginning, not just for children and families, but for all of us. Church schedules tend to follow the school year in important ways too. Business and work tends to slow down a bit in the summer and pick back up in the Fall as well. It is a turning of the page, from one period to another.

I like Steven L. Case's observation about the start of a new school year:

One thing a school year is not is just another school year. You are not headed back to the same old school to see the same old teachers and eat in the same old cafeteria. The school year is not just "more of the same". This school year is the beginning of something new. It's like when a family has a second child. The second child is never born into the same family as the first child. A first child is born into a family that has no children, but a second child is born to a family that has experience. Everything is brand-new if you choose to see it that way. God spoke to the prophet Isaiah and said, "See, I am doing a new thing."

Whether you have children, grandchildren, are a student yourself, or none of those things, the season is changing. New things are on the horizon...if we will look for them, name them, and live into them.

I am excited for the new adventures that await for St. John's in this new time.

Blessings to you this week.

Pastor Josh



Mountain Cathedrals Hike on August 12

The August Mountain Cathedrals hike will be Saturday, August 12, on the Embudito Trail and a nearby loop trail on the west face of the Sandia Mountains. This will be a fairly strenuous hike, with the precise route depending on the group's ability and consensus. It is likely to be around 4.5 miles long with a climb of 1600 feet (elevation range 6300 - 7700 feet). Amazing views of the Albuquerque area await. We'll meet in the St. John's East Parking Lot at 7:00 a.m. to carpool, or at the trailhead at 7:20 a.m. (Google Maps location Embudito Trailhead). Plan to be back at the church by about 2:00 p.m.

Romans 10 brings up some knotty thoughts about the Law and belief. How do we reconcile these? What governs our own lives?

Contact: Mike Furnish, CLM, mdfurnish@comcast.net; 505-440-7292

Memory Café Meets this Saturday

Memory Café Albuquerque is having a Hawaiian Luau for our August meeting. Join us on the beach on August 5 from 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Sonshine Café. Our entertainment is a Hula Dancer who will also be teaching us a dance! We will also have beach ball games, trivia, snacks, and information for caregivers and loved ones. [Click here](#) to see the event flyer.

Memory Café meets the first Saturday of each month from 1:30 p.m. -3:00 p.m. in the Sonshine Café. It is a supportive fellowship for anyone affected by memory loss/Alzheimer's and their caring partners. Meet and share with others traversing a similar journey. This is not a drop-off event. For more information (505) 323-7522 or ssmjens@aol.com.

Hospitality Center Orientation/Reorientation this Sunday

On Sunday, August 6, immediately following the 11 a.m. service, current volunteers and potential volunteers will gather for fellowship and lunch, in addition to an orientation / reorientation for what happens in the Hospitality Center on Sunday mornings. **We REALLY NEED more volunteers** so if you think you would be a good "fit" for greeting and helping people on Sunday mornings through the Hospitality Center, then please plan to join us on August 6. We will provide the training and place you with an experienced person! You can volunteer as little or as much as you want. Shifts are 8 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Come join us! It's a great way to meet people and also to use that gift of hospitality! For planning lunch numbers, please contact donnabruce@comcast.net to RSVP by Tuesday, August 1.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of St. John's Member

We are sorry to announce that longtime St. John's member Ben McCarty passed away on July 30. Services are pending. Please extend your prayers to his daughter, Fay Barz, and to the rest of their family.

Memorial Service for Larry Oliver

There will be a memorial service held for St. John's Church member, Larry Oliver, on August 19 at 10 a.m. in our Sanctuary here at St. John's. All are invited to join in this service of remembrance for Larry.

Media Communications Process

St. John's staff members are working together to continue the successful procedures established by our former Media Coordinator, Nicole Creaturo. We want to inform you of the current process for submitting items for the Disciple Connection. The Disciple Connection includes both the emailed E-Disciple on Friday and the printed Newsletter (containing the same information) on Sunday.

Please email your notices for the Disciple Connection to communicate@stjohns-abq.org by the new deadline of **noon on Wednesday** for them to be included in the weekly communications to our congregation on Friday and Sunday. Your message must include the date, time, and location of your event, plus the name and contact information of a person who can answer questions. Please contact Joy Heaviland at the Church Office (505-883-9717), if you want to schedule a meeting at the church. Disciple Connection notices will be published for a maximum of three consecutive weeks.

Proposed edits for the church's website will be considered by the new Media Coordinator after that position has been filled.

Social Concerns: ABQ Reads

If you have time during school hours, and would like to help children who are a little behind in reading, please consider volunteering as a part time tutor at ABQReads.com. There are a number of elementary schools where tutors are needed. You can volunteer for three sessions a week or just one. These sessions begin in early September, You could also volunteer to be a substitute, on an as needed basis. Each session is about an hour and a half. During that time you'll help two children. There are children who are falling behind because there aren't enough tutors to help them. Please consider volunteering. Call Dennis Scherlacher, 505-918-5991, if you have any questions.

Please Help Host Family Promise Week in August

We need your help for Family Promise host week August 13-20! Family Promise is a national program that supports homeless families in cities across the United States including Albuquerque. For six weeks during the year, St. John's is responsible for meals brought to the Montgomery site. In addition, we are asked to stay on site for two hours to give relief to the permanent staff.

If you would like to pair up with someone to provide a meal and stay for two hours, please contact Jenn (jennshields200@yahoo.com) and 505-450-9978) or Linn (swimsew@comcast.net). [Click here](#) to sign up to volunteer online.

To see more information about Family Promise [click here](#).

Asbury Pie Café Needs Help

I see postcards around the church, why? - 2023 Asbury Pie Café NEEDS help! Volunteers are gearing up for another New Mexico State Fair. There are many, many, many ways to help make the Asbury Pie Café successful. Just to list a few - attend pie parties, bake pies, store frozen pies, work at the Café, and/or donate. [Click here](#) to see a list of ways to help and [click here](#) to see an invitation to the pie parties. Both can also be found at the Hospitality Center and the Abide Service. Contact Jenn Shields at jennshields200@yahoo.com or 505-450-9978 for more information.



Children's Chapel

Children will stay in worship on Communion Sundays to join the community in communion. They will not be dismissed to children's chapel. Contact, Tiffany Hollums, thollums@stjohns-abq.org.

Solid Ground Swim Party

All youth including rising sixth graders are welcome this Sunday from 4-6 p.m. at the Weaver home for a welcome back to school swim party. The address will be in the Children and Youth slack feed. Contact Tiffany Hollums at thollums@stjohns-abq.org.

Collecting School Supplies

The Youth and children are collecting school supplies for Pajarito Elementary school which serves children in the south valley and is in desperate need of school supplies.

We are collecting the following:
spiral notebooks

composition notebooks
pencils #2
pink erasers
color pencils
water based markers
crayons
scissors
glue sticks
Elmer glue
pencil sharpeners
plastic folders with pockets
boys' and girls' backpacks

Anything you can help with, will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Tiffany Hollums for more information, thollums@stjohns-abq.org.



Prayer Quilt Recipient

Ora Keller is the recipient of the prayer quilt currently on display in the Hospitality Center.

In lieu of tying knots, please pray this prayer (or your own prayer) for Ora:
"Heavenly Father, we ask that you give Ora the hope and courage she needs today and every day. Comfort her pain, calm her fears and surround her with your peace. Amen."



Zuni Weekend Meal Bag Project

Our St. John's Missions' focus for September is the Zuni Weekend Meal Bag project. We'll collect the following items: in single-serve sizes; shelf-stable white and chocolate milk, nut-free granola or cereal bars, nut-free cookies and oatmeal. You can place your donations in the bins in the Hospitality Center. We really appreciate you, St. John's, and all you do to

August Special Offering: Wesley Foundation at UNM

School is starting up again and that means UNM and Wesley Foundation as well. The group continues to meet at Central UMC under the leadership of Pastor Lisa Baylock. There will be a fall kick off barbecue on August 21.

The old Wesley House is in the process of being sold to UNM. Sadly, given the condition of its electrical, plumbing and heating systems, the Wesley Foundation Board believes this is definitely the right thing to do. Meeting at Central is a good fit for the group.

Speaking of the Board, there are a couple of spots to fill on the board of this very important ministry. What a wonderful way to help spread the gospel to the students at UNM! Contact Pastor Baylock at Covenant UMC if you are interested. We have the opportunity to generously support Wesley in the month of August as school begins.

Family Promise Needs

Family Promise is in a difficult position. The funding for the renovations is on a reimbursement basis - which will make it hard to cover day to day costs, once construction starts. Please go to the [link](#) to see the entire issue, and how to donate. Thank you. Linn Furnish, Family Promise Coordinating Team

Albuquerque Christian Children's Home

Thank you, St. John's, for your generous donation to the Albuquerque Christian Children's Home (ACCH) through the May special offering. Alicia O'Rear, Development Director for ACCH, stopped by the church to personally thank us!

We can continue to help them through purchasing gift cards for ACCH for use in buying school supplies and needs for the children as they arise. They are in need of Amazon, Target, Visa and WalMart gift cards. You can purchase these in any amount and bring to the Hospitality Center on Sundays or the church office during the week. A representative from ACCH will pick them up from the church.

If you have questions, come by the Hospitality Center or contact Donna at donnabruce@comcast.net.



Our worship services are livestreamed so you can watch them from home. To watch a worship service live, click on the service that you would like to watch on Sunday morning at

its scheduled time.

8:15AM Mosaic
Worship

9:30AM Abide
Worship

11AM Traditional
Worship

Submission Deadline for Disciple Connections is Wednesday evening for the Friday weekly edition. [Click here](#) to send your articles to the editor.

Visit Our
Website

Give Online

St. John's United Methodist Church

2626 Arizona Street NE | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110
Office Hours (call only): Monday - Thursday, 9a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Pastor 24-Hour Hotline | (505) 808-1624

Pastor care is available for after-hours emergencies. Any congregational care needs, please send those to Pastor Tiffany at thollums@stjohns-abq.org as we all work together to love one another well.



St. John's UMC | 2626 Arizona Street NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

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