

St. John's Announcements

February 22, 2026



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With yesterday's Ash Wednesday services, we are now fully in Lent, our most solemn and reflective time of the year. While our accessibility project continues, we remain in St. Mary's Hall for worship. We seem to be on track to return to the church by Easter which will be a joyful occasion indeed. I thank all of the church's ministries for your positive attitudes around moving from your usual locations and sharing space when that was not asked for previously. I know when we request people to change pews, it does not usually go well, but, the parish has dealt with these transitions with grace and aplomb. While I look forward to being back in the church, this little road trip has had several joys. Worshiping in the simplicity of the space matches the simplicity we strive for during this Lenten season. The clear south-facing windows have also revealed beautiful snow-filled vistas on several mornings. I thank you for continuing to walk along this road with me, as there are many exciting events in the near future.

Blessings, **Marc**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN ST. MARY'S HALL:

2/25 @ 10:30am
Wednesday Eucharist

2/25 @ 12:30pm
Bible Study

2/26 @ 6pm
Lenten Series

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Lenten Series – Letty Naigles and Andy Burr will be leading our Lenten Series this year, focusing on the House of Bishops' pastoral teaching that challenges The Episcopal Church to face the urgency of the environmental crisis and to take bold and faithful action as an expression of our love for God and God's creation. We will be using materials developed by Bishop Ely, Rev. Jerry Cappel, and ECCT's own Rev. Stephanie Johnson. They created lessons which invite reflection, prayer and engagement with the Bishops' call for a flourishing life for all creation, and we look forward to sharing these with the parish. We will be meeting on five consecutive Thursdays beginning Feb. 26, 2026, for supper at 6pm followed by a different lesson each Thursday, ending with Eucharist. You are welcome to join us for however many sessions you can.

Feel free to reach out to Letty and/or Andy with any questions.

Medical Equipment Ministry Update – Bill and Diane Gutzmer are now heading up the Medical Equipment Ministry and there are lots of new donations! If you are in need of equipment or would like to donate, please contact Bill and Diane – 860-875-1041, billgutzmer@gmail.com

Deuterocanonical Bible Study

The Bible Study will finish Paul's Epistle to the Galatians on Wednesday, February 25th. On the Wednesdays following, we will be studying some of the Deuterocanonical texts. Deuterocanonical means "second canon". They are books the Anglican Communion has decided are worth reading in church and studying, but we do not base doctrine on them. What is clear to scholars is that the New Testament writers alluded to them and quoted from them revealing they held no such distinction. Many of these stories were very familiar to earlier Christians but are less so today. Some are a little strange, some are entertaining, and there is some fine poetry present. The Deuterocanonical books were written at different times by different people, but they tend to focus on the period from the building of the second temple to the birth of Christ. If you have always wondered what those funny books in the middle of your Bible are, come and see on Wednesdays at 12:30 pm during Lent. Sessions will be in-person and through Zoom. Please let Marc know if you need a zoom link.