

# St. John's Announcements

## March 1, 2026



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### 2026 Stewardship Dinner



Dear Friends,

We will do one of my favorite Lenten traditions this Sunday. After the 10:00am service in the lower parish hall, the youth are invited to make pretzels. Pretzels have been a traditional Lenten treat going back as far as the seventh century. During the Middle Ages, Lenten fasting requirements were much stricter than today's - with no eggs, milk, or butter being permitted. Pretzels can be made of simply water, flour, and salt (though the ones we make will be a little more interesting than that). Similar to bagels, pretzels are boiled first before they are baked. The pretzels are shaped like arms crossed over the chest in prayer. This is one of the most ancient prayer positions. Like other Lenten observances, this Lenten treat was designed to inspire prayer. After the children have had their portion, pretzels may be eaten by anyone who wants one. For my German friends, it is a little early for a pint, but I will at least bring some mustard.

Blessings, *Marc*

### UPCOMING EVENTS IN ST. MARY'S HALL:

3/4 @ 10:30am  
Wednesday Eucharist

3/4 @ 12:30pm  
Bible Study

3/5 12 noon  
Lunch Bunch

3/15 -St. Patty's Day  
Dinner



**Deuterocanonical Bible Study**

The Bible Study will finish Paul's Epistle to the Galatians on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**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.

**Lenten Diaper Drive** - St. John's will be collecting diapers, pull-ups and wipes beginning now until Palm Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>. All sizes are needed and donations will benefit *Gentle Love Connections*, a regional non-profit providing diapers/wipes to families who are in need. To find out more about their good works head to [www.gentlelove.org](http://www.gentlelove.org)  
Questions? Contact Sarah Tierinni at [sarah.i.brown23@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.i.brown23@gmail.com)

**Lunch Bunch** -Lunch Bunch will meet Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at noon in St. Mary's Hall. Desserts and beverages will be provided. If you are able, please bring a dish to share! Hope to see you!

**St. Patty's Dinner** – Please join us for the 14<sup>th</sup> annual St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in St. Mary's Hall. Tickets are Adults \$10/Families \$25.