



~ **St. John's Church** ~
Weekly News
January 24, 2024

**Rev. Jeremiah Williamson, Bishop-Elect,
Officiant**

Readings for Sunday, Jan. 21, 2024

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Mark 1:21-28

Loose Plate Offering
Consecration Fund
Bishop-Elect Jeremiah Williamson

A Message from Diane

Leading up to January 28th, 2022

Dears,

What a wonderful opportunity we have coming up this Sunday! Bishop-Elect Jeremiah will be our Celebrant and Preacher at the 10:00 service. Of course, it will be a Zoomed as well as in person service.

What makes this so special is the status of this visit. The next time we see him he will be official, wearing that crazy hat and our relationship will be different because even though our Episcopal polity is not all that hierarchical he will have some authority over us and we will be beholden to him in a way that is yet to come. So, this Sunday there will be more freedom between us than possibly ever again. That freedom invites us to be completely who we are. We do not need to try to impress him and likewise he won't feel the need to be our "bishop" yet. We can just be people together, each of us trying to follow the exquisite example of sacred living that Jesus modeled for us.

So come and meet this remarkable man, Jeremiah. Welcome him into our midst and help us re-establish our relationship with the Diocese of Albany of which we are a part. In a real way we are the prodigal parish returning to the fold. Let us welcome his wife, Jennifer, herself an ordained Methodist pastor, and their two sons Oscar and Isaiah.

Looking forward to this wonderful opportunity.

With Epiphany blessings and love,

Diane

An Important Reminder

Please be sure to wear your name tag on Sunday so that Jeremiah will know who you are.

Prayer for the Bishop-Elect

Prayer for the Bishop-Elect. Eternal God, our Shepherd and Guide, we bless and thank you for your servant, Jeremiah, Bishop-Elect of your Episcopal Diocese of Albany.

By the working of your Holy Spirit grant him grace and every spiritual gift as he prepares to take up his role as our chief pastor and teacher

as he prepares to take up his role as our chief pastor and teacher.
Make him a shepherd after your own heart,
who will walk in your ways and watch over your people with loving care.
Strengthen and guide him to lead in vision.
Fill him with courage to teach your truth.

Prepare our hearts to welcome Father Jeremiah, Jennifer, Oscar, and Isaiah
joyfully into our Diocesan community.
Continue to purify our intentions, and lead us into holiness,
that we may bear witness to your Son without shame or fear,
in unity, humility, and mutual charity,
devoted to your will for the good of the world.

BRUNCH WITH THE BISHOP ELECT

We Need Your Help!

We went over the menu today and, many thanks to all of you, we have plenty of food and a great variety of sweets and savories. We are so appreciative of your thoughtful generosity. There will be people in Persell Hall who are ready to receive your offerings and put them in their proper places. If you are bringing something that has to be cooked please do that beforehand and bring it warm and ready to be put on the waiting hot trays. If you would like to help with receiving the food this please call or email Carole Harsh.

On Saturday the 27th at 10am we will need help setting up chairs and tables and putting out linens and cutlery and decorations, as well as organizing the counters to receive the food items that will be brought in prior to the service. If you can help with this please contact Carole Harsh or simply join us at 10am on Saturday morning. Many Thanks!

Prayers

For Those in Need or Any Kind of Distress

Geoffrey, Ella Lois, Art, Joyce, Abra, Beverly, Noa, Chris, Olivia, Larry, Steven, Tom, Karen, Sally, Lynne, Eve, Matt, Thomas, Frederick, Carolyn, Jim, Lee, Betsy and Ron.

Mike, Lillian, and Rae have been on our prayer list for some time. If you are the person who put one of these names forward we ask that you call Bobbi Perez at 518-837-1015 or email her at perezgonehome@gmail.com to give her an update on the person's condition.

Our special thoughts and prayers go to Julie Wever whose father died recently and to her husband, Kevin, and her son Edward.

News from Lee Maxey

Dear Loving Community of St. John's,

Thank you so much for the tremendous outpouring of love and kindness for Heather and me. We have been floored by your compassion and practical thinking about how to help someone in need.

As an update, I am home in the barn resting (and sleeping much better than at the hospital). The surgery went well, and I go to clinic this Friday to hear more detail on the prognosis. Since both quad tendons were completely severed, this will be a very long recovery. I will be in a straight leg brace for at least two or three months and no weight bearing on my feet for probably 6 weeks of that. The actual recovery to full strength will be many months.

I will be a loyal zoom attendee for our Sunday services until I can wheel down there..

Thank you for all your love and prayers.

Gratefully,

Lee

Meal Train

Many have asked how they can help Heather and Lee. At this time, assistance with meals may be the best way along with notes and cards. Below, if you click on the site, it will open "Meal train" which will keep everything organized. Here you can sign up for taking a meal for two and delivering it between 1:30-4 pm. Drive in and go to the barn door. If no one answers, food can be left on the table for both Lee and Heather, but small quantities for just one meal please. If cooking is not your expertise, consider buying food for two from one of our local restaurants or cafes.

Thank you, Norma Goff, for setting this up. If you have a problem call or text her. Call or text her with questions at 518-569-8318 if you have any problem with sign up.

<https://mealtrain.com/6rqd3y>

AFRI Update

The Vestry values the important work that AFRI is doing for refugees and immigrants in the North Country and wishes to continue supporting it financially and through volunteer activity.

As St. John's anticipates welcoming a new rector, the Vestry has been examining its financial operations and mission programs to ensure that all is in order and compliant with church, diocesan, IRS and federal regulations related to our tax-exempt status. We have some concerns about AFRI's advocacy and activist initiatives in this regard.

In late December, Bill Tribou, Warden, and Louise Baietto, Finance Committee Chair, met with Bob Harsh and Bobbi Perez to discuss the Vestry's concerns and discuss options going forward, specifically either AFRI seeking its own tax-exempt status or joining its efforts with an existing tax-exempt organization established for a similar purpose.

This is a work in progress and the Vestry will keep the St. John's community informed as the situation is resolved.

Zoom

We have been truly blessed to have Zoom as a means of staying connected with parishioners and friends who are unable to attend services in person. We know how important it is for all of you who live afar to be able to participate in the the very special occasion of Bishop-Elect Jeremiah acting as our officiant this Sunday. We apologize for the fact that for the past two weeks we have had problems related to our internet connection and to some technical difficulties with the microphone and camera and assure you that we are taking every precaution so see that these issues have been corrected. If you are encountering problems send a message via a Chat to alert the person controlling Zoom. Thank you.

Search Prayer

Dear Lord, grant us your wisdom and guidance as we embark upon our search process. Help us to humbly discern and accomplish your will for St. John's. We know this will be a challenging journey for all of us, but we pray that it will strengthen our faith and our respect and love for each other. Help us to share more deeply our faith in you as we learn to listen to each other

with open hearts and minds and to hear your voice in all that we say and do.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Lost and Found

A pair of red frame half- size reading glasses was found outside after last Sunday's service. If they are yours you may retrieve them from the office this Sunday.

History Tidbits Part 11

Easter Monday April 10, 1882

The annual meeting of this Parish was duly called & held in the Chapel. this day. Present the Rector, the Rev. E. L. Toy, who presided. Also, Six members of the Congregation. There being no quorum the meeting adjourned to meet at the call of the Rector.

E. L. Toy. Acting Clerk, Pro Tem.

Essex N.Y. May 10th 1882

The Treasurer reported a deficit of thirty dollars on the last annual subscription.

Essex July 2nd 1883

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church duly called the meeting having been duly opened with prayer, the Rector Rev. E. L. Toy tendered his resignation as rector of St. John's Church to take effect August 1st prox. Stating at the same time among other reasons that while entertaining the kindest feelings towards the members of the Parish. He felt that since the separation of the Mission at Elizabethtown his field of labor had become too small, and having received a call to a larger Parish, had accepted the same. He also requested that he allowed to occupy the parsonage until he could remove his family, unless it became necessary to vacate for his successor.

July 5, 1883

On motion the resignation of the Rector Rev: E. L. Toy was accepted. On motion, it was resolved that Mr. Toy be allowed to continue to occupy the Rectory pending the removal of his family unless it became necessary for him to vacate for his successor. No change being made for rent during the time so occupied.

Understanding that the rector said went to live in the rectory.

[interesting that the rector paid rent to live in the rectory.]

On motion A. J. B. Ross & S. D. Derby were appointed a committee to take into consideration what action be taken if any towards securing another rector for the Parish.

Easter Monday. 1884

At a meeting of the Parish of St. John's Church held at the Chapel.
On motion, S. D. Derby, A. J. B. Ross & C. W. Woodford were appointed a committee to circulate a subscription for payment of a clergyman.

April 15, 1884

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church held at the office of A. J. B. Ross, the committee appointed July 5. 1883 to procure a clergyman reported that the bishop had appointed Dr: William N. Irish, as missionary to this Parish. and this Parish pay to said clergyman the sum of \$300.

Sept: 15, 1884

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church Essex, held at the Rectory.
Dr: William N. Irish, Rector presiding.

On motion of A. J. B. Ross, resolved that the Vestry loan a sum not to exceed \$75 to aid the ladies to put in new seats & carpet in the church & that C. W. Woodford, S. D. Derby be a committee to effect said loan, and that the Rector & Treasurer be authorized to give the note of the Church for such sum.

Easter Monday April 6th: 1885

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church held at the Chapel.
Dr. William N. Irish, Rector presiding.

On motion A. J. Tucker submitted his report for the year ending April 6th. 1885 showing bal: due Church \$4.35 which was received & placed on file.

[For reasons unknown no records were kept from and those that we have were put together by John Ross from his memory]

April 18th, 1887.

At a meeting of the Vestry of St. John's Church, Essex N.Y. held pursuant to notice at the rectory.

Rev: Wm. N. Irish, rector, presiding.

The Treasurer also reported that he had received the legacy bequeathed to the Church, by Mrs. Anna L. Atkins, \$500 and had deposited the same in the Saving Department of the Merchants National Bank of Burlington Vt:

On motion, Edward B. Atkins was appointed a committee to procure subscriptions therefore and to have the Chapel, arching, & fence around same

property painted.

Essex, 1888

At a meeting of the Vestry held at St. John's Church, a resolution was adopted & signed endorsing the character of George M. Irish, as a candidate for Holy Orders.

[Note the absence of a date.]

St. John's Zoom Passcodes

St. John's Sunday Service

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/worshipmeet>

Morning Prayer

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/morning-prayer>

Vestry Meetings

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/vestrymeet>

Finance Committee

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/financemeet>

Contemporary Bible Study

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/biblestudy>

Meditation

<https://www.stjohnsessexny.org/meditationmeet>

Sunday Service Zoom Recording

stjohnsessexnyzoom@gmail.com

Passcode: +W2t+Fwu

AA 12-Step Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID: 817 7797 4233

Passcode: 123456

Weekly Calendar

Tuesday Contemporary Bible Study (Zoom) 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Tuesday Community Potluck Supper 6 PM

Wednesday Meditation (Zoom/In Person) 4 PM

Thursday Morning Prayer (Zoom) 10 AM

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 AM (Zoom/in person)

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 AM (Zoom/In Person)

Sunday AA Meeting (Zoom/In Person) 7 PM

Your Vestry

Scottie Emery-Ginn and Bill Tribou (Wardens)
Louise Baietto, Bruce Hale, Diana Lawrence, Jon McBride
and Bruce Stephan (Members)
Darcey Hale (Clerk)
Antonia Bullard (Treasurer)

St. John's Episcopal Church | 4 Church Street, Essex, NY 12936



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