



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

Holy Eucharist

Lyn Burns, Officiant

Readings for Sunday, April 28, 2024

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40

Psalm 22:24-30

1 John 4:7-21

John 15:1-8

**Loose Plate Offering
Missons**

Message from Diane

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday after church at coffee hour a number of us looked over the book entitled:

“The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend our Broken Hearts and World” by Sharon Brous. It comes highly recommended and I think it will give us a deeper look into the Hebrew Scriptures, which of course we call the Old Testament, and also help us understand and appreciate the ways we can effect our own community. Everyone who saw it climbed quickly on board.

So beginning Wednesday May 1st and running to June 19th we will meet via Zoom on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:15. Our format will be the same as our previous “Study”. We’ll read a chapter a week, but we will rotate our leaders among everyone who wishes to take a turn. We’ll commit to sending out the questions for discussion on Mondays so that we have some lead time to cogitate our responses. You do not need to have been part of our Lenten study to join this fun, informative, provocative discussion. We will get to know each other better and quite possibly ourselves as well. And remember, absences are permitted and interest is hoped for!

Please send your email address to Heather Maxey so she can create the Zoom link and be sure you are on the list. Heather’s email is heathermaxey@gmail.com

Hope to see you there!

With much love and blessings,

Diane

Message from the Senior Warden

Missions Update

The vestry has agreed that we would like to change the way we fund our mission/outreach activities. At a high level, we would like to move from a silo approach to a more broad based approach, with the goal of providing more funding to our community organizations. This will enable us to get in line with Diocesan and National church guidance on providing mission/outreach to the

community. We will have a new approach finalized by the annual meeting at the latest and we will communicate that widely to the congregation in the weekly news, at announcements, and in the bulletin. Until we have that new approach finalized, we will continue to gather money as we have for many years with plate designations by week.

Lakeside Friends of Refugees A Giant Step Forward

We are very excited to share with you the good news that Lakeside Friends of Refugees was certified by Welcome Corps as a Private Sponsor Organization on April 16. As part of this second stage, we have been assigned a new “manager” from the Integrated Refugee and Immigration Services. This person “will guide and oversee our Private Sponsor Organization during the 90 day sponsorship period”. Britten Bolenbaugh, our assistant, will guide us and provide resources as we need them.

We are going to rely on you, our dear faith family, to make the resettlement process for the two persons we have invited as positive and enriching an experience as possible. Our deepest gratitude for all of your support and encouragement thus far.

Bobbi Perez, Coordinator

Welcome Corps Letter to the Editor Plattsburgh Press Republican Bobbi Perez

I am the coordinator of a local committee of volunteers, Lakeside Friends of Refugees, which is under the auspices of a federally sponsored program called Welcome Corps. This national program was established in February, 2022 with the purpose of resettling “vetted” refugees. The key word here is “vetted”. To achieve this designation a person must successfully pass through eleven categories, the most stringent security clearance requirement of any other country. To quote from the U.S. Immigration website, “This vetting ensures that if at any stage, there is doubt about the refugee’s history, affiliations, identity or credibility, the individual does not enter the U.S.”

The first step is a referral from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. This leads to the involvement of the U.S. Dept. of State, then the U.S. Refugee Admission Program. It is next up to the Resettlement Support Center to pre screen applicants, prepare a case file and initiate a

Center to pre-screen applicants, prepare a case file and initiate a biographic analysis with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. This in turn calls in the interagency of the Dept. of Defense, the FBI and Dept. of Homeland Security before approval can be granted, a medical screening done and an appointment made with the Resettlement Support Center. The International Organization for Migration arranges travel to the U.S. that the refugee has to reimburse for flight expenses. When the refugee finally arrives in America, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection conducts additional background checks at the port of entry. Less than 1% of refugees to the United States are classified as “vetted” as the process is so arduous.

I urge anyone interested in the Welcome Corps to simply Google welcomecorps.org. As far as my motivation for being a resettlement volunteer, I offer this quote from the Talmud: Do not be daunted by the enormity of the world’s grief. Do justly now, Love mercy now, Walk humbly now. You are not obliged to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it.

Prayers For Those in Need or Any Kind of Distress

O compassionate One, hold us in your mercy: heal the sick, mend the broken, protect the vulnerable, shelter the refugee, strengthen the weary, rescue the lost, and give courage to all who struggle: we pray especially for Margaret, Charlie, Carolyn, Rob, Geoffrey, Alex, Lois, Abra, Mike, Beverly, Noa, Lillian, Chris, Rae, Olivia, Cheryl, Steven, Tom, Chris, Eve, Ella, Louis, John, Arnold, Alicia, Sarge and Yvonne.

Hear us when we pray to you.





TIME TO CLEAN UP THE HIGHWAY

Last Call for Participation

Once again it is time for a team of volunteers to help clean a nearly two-mile section of NY State Route 22 that St. John's has adopted. We are responsible for cleaning the section of the road between the Essex Firehouse and the Octagon schoolhouse. We are inviting YOU to meet at Persell Hall this Saturday morning, April 27 at 9am. Reflective vests, helmets, long-handled pickers, and trash bags will be provided. You need to come wearing long pants, sturdy shoes/boots, work gloves, and insect repellent. A section of the road will be assigned for each team and hopefully we will complete the job within one hour. If the weather is really stormy, we will postpone the clean-up until another date. Questions? Call Carole Harsh at 518-637-2622.

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

History Tidbit

Part 25

Essex, N.Y. April 2nd, 1923

The annual Parish meeting was held this day at St. John's Church for the election of Wardens and Vestrymen.

Motion made by I. D. Townsend, seconded by Mrs. G. R. Lowrey, thanking Mr. E. H. Morhous for his service on the Vestry and expressing regret at his leaving. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. I. D. Townsend, seconded by Mr. W. A. Townsend, that this meeting express regret at the decision of Mr. Harris not to accept our call.

Motion made by Mrs. Knapp, seconded by Mrs. C. R. Lowrey that this meeting express their appreciation of Miss Johnson's loyalty and service as

meeting express their appreciation of Miss Johnson's loyalty and service as Treasurer. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mrs. I. D. Townsend, seconded by Mrs. C. R. Lowrey, recommending the funding of Parish Moneys. Carried.

Discussion of parish finances.

AND

At a special meeting of the Vestry, held after the Parish meeting this day the following motions were made and carried:

That the envelope system be continued

That Mr. W. A. Townsend be elected Treasurer

That the Vestry express their regret at losing Mr. Morhous and express their appreciation of his service

That the Vestry appreciates Miss Johnson's faithful service as Treasurer

That a finance committee be appointed consisting of Mr. Cruikshank, Mr. W. A. Townsend, Mr. Fred D. Marshall, and Mr. I. D. Townsend

That concrete steps be placed at the vestry door

That the rectory be made available after July 1st. 1923.

June 2nd, 1923

At a meeting of the Vestry held this day,

Mr. I. D. Townsend reported that the cement steps at the Vestry door had been completed.

The following subjects were discussed: Condition of the Church property: Program for the Summer: General Parish business.

Motion made and seconded that the church expend not over \$5. to lay Calcium Chloride.

Motion made and seconded that it is the opinion of this Vestry that the offertory taken at the morning service on the first Sunday of the month, known as the "Communion (sic) Arius" be turned into the General Parish fund.

July 18th, 1923

At a meeting of the Vestry held this day,

Reading and discussion of the minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes approved.

Amendment to resolution regarding Communion Arius passed at the last meeting: -The Vestry pledges itself to turn over to the rector such sums as may be necessary for him to dispense for the objects commonly known as the Communion Arius.

Archdeacon Purdy talked on the title to the church property.

Motion made by Mr. Noble & seconded by Mr. Halpin that a committee of two be appointed to look up the title to the property on which the Church & Rectory stand and report: Committee consisting of Mr. W. A. Townsend & Mr. G. R. Lowrey appointed.

Motion made by Mr. Noble, seconded by Mr. Halpin that all accounts for running expenses be approved by two members of the finance committee before being paid by the Treasurer.

Discussion of Parish Canvass.

Motion made & seconded that a budget be submitted by the Finance Committee at the next meeting.

July 25th 1923

At a meeting of the Vestry held this day,

Motion made by Mr. Halpin, seconded by Mr. Cruikshank that the budget as presented be adopted.

Motion made by Mr. Halpin, seconded by Mr. Cruikshank that the chair be empowered to appoint committee for the Canvass of the Parish.

1. Willsboro

-Mr. Marshall to appoint his colleague

2. Visitors

-Mr. Halpin & Mr. I.D. Townsend with power to add

3 Town of Essex & former residents

-Mr. W.A. Townsend with power to add

November 29th, 1923

At a meeting of the Vestry held this day the following:

Discussion as to calling Rev. Lovelee as priest-in-charge.

Discussion of Parish finances.

Motion made be Mr. I. D. Townsend, seconded by Mr. W. A. Townsend: That the Vestry call the Rev. Lovelee as priest in charge with every intention of

making him rector. Motion carried.

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>

Buildings & Grounds Committee

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

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

Wednesday Meditation (Zoom/In Person) 4 PM

Thursday Morning Prayer (Zoom) 10 AM

Sunday Holy Eucharist 10 AM (Zoom/in person)

Sunday AA Meeting (Zoom/In Person) 7 PM

Your Vestry

1001 vcsuy

Scottie Emery-Ginn and Bill Tribou (Wardens)
Louise Baietto, Bruce Hale, Diana Lawrence, Jon McBride
Bruce Stephan and Anne Zilch (Members)
Darcey Hale (Clerk)
Antonia Bullard (Treasurer)
Dick Perez (Chair, Search Committee)

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



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