

# The Pious Press

St. John's Episcopal Church, Wilson, NY

November 2024

*From Pastor Susan...*

## **Annual Meeting Sunday, December 8 Mark your calendar!**

For those of you who are newer to the Episcopal Church, the Annual Meeting is when we have elections, pass a budget, receive reports and consider the coming year. Because the first Sunday of December is early this year, we are going to hold our Annual Meeting on the second Sunday of December, instead of our usual date. Following the 9:30 service we will have brunch and our meeting.

Aside from marking your calendar, there are three matters on which we need action during November to prepare for the meeting:

- We invite our friends and members to consider making a pledge to the operating budget, which the Treasurer and Vestry will be working on in November. You have probably already received a letter from Pastor Susan with a pledge card enclosed. We are asking you to consider making a pledge and to return the card to us by Nov. 3. It is very helpful to our planning to have an idea of what income St. John's will have in 2025. We're finishing 2024 in good shape and appreciate the support!
- We are inviting nominations to the Vestry during November. Lucy Kraatz is finishing up her term as Senior Warden and our Junior Warden Jane Hamilton will be moving up to the position of Senior Warden, so we are looking for a new Jr. Warden for a two-year term. Priscilla Moot is coming off the Vestry, so we need a new member for a three-year term. As retiring members, Lucy and Priscilla will form the Nominating Committee and they invite your nominations... and welcome volunteers! Who is eligible to serve on Vestry and who is eligible to vote? According to our By Laws, "Male and female persons of the age of eighteen years or more who have been baptized and are regular attendants at worship and contributors to the support of this Parish for at least twelve months prior to such Annual Election or Special Meeting of the parish shall be qualified voters at any such meeting or election."

- If you are the leader of a parish organization or activity, please write a few paragraphs about it for the Annual Meeting. This is your chance to thank the members who work with your activity, to recruit more helpers, to inform the congregation about your hopes and plans for 2025 and enlist their support. Please have reports in to the parish office by the end of November, so we can reproduce them for the Annual Meeting.

**Pastor Susan thanks you for your attention to these matters!**

All Saints Sunday is Nov. 3rd! Pastor Susan is encouraging parishioners to come to service dressed as a saint or Bible character. Instead of a sermon, we will try to guess the identities of our saintly guests, so be prepared to give some hints about your identity. This is meant to be fun and to perhaps teach us about a saint or two. Don't worry about the authenticity of your costume, just be prepared to give us some hints.

## *Sr. Warden Report...*

Fall is all around us, even with the unseasonably warm temperatures but we know they will be gone soon. Thanksgiving is right around the corner and will be here before we know it. With all the weather-related tragedies that have happened around the US and the world, I am so glad I am right here. We are blessed to not have been impacted by Mother Nature. I know that I am also so blessed and grateful to be here with my church family. We have put a deposit down for the rear driveway/parking lot to be blacktopped by Bedford. Unfortunately, this can't be done until the spring, but we are on the list. This is being covered by the grant I was able to secure for this purpose from the diocese.

We have accepted the bid for our snow plowing needs from TLK (Kyle Doty) so we know we will be well taken care of.

Jerilyn Carney has been taking care of our cleaning needs for several years. She will no longer be our sexton starting January 2025. If you or someone you know would be interested in taking this over, please let me know. Please check the calendar since we have several things in November.

As always, feel free to contact me anytime.

Moving forward with God,  
Lucy Kraatz  
859-816-6869

## *It's Here !!!*

### **ELECTION DAY CHICKEN N' BISCUITS,** **Tuesday, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>**

- \* **Serving at 4:00**
- \* **Reservations good idea**
- \* **We are still accepting monetary donations to cover the expenses of:**
  - **Chicken**
  - **Biscuits**

When paying by check, please write "Chicken n' Biscuit" on the memo line!

**Thank you in advance for your continued support.**  
Priscilla Moot

#### *Birthdays....*

**Ariane Watts 11/13**  
**Doug Keppy 11/14**  
**Aaron Watts 11/24**



#### *Vestry Report – October 2024...*

*The following was discussed at our last meeting:*

- *Pledge letters will be mailed out with a return date of Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.*
- *Annual Meeting date is changed to Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.*
- *We will be holding a joint Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. John's with Exley Methodist Church at 7 p.m. on November 27<sup>th</sup>.*
- *We have voted to send 10% of the profits from the Chowder Sale and upcoming Chicken N' Biscuit Dinner to Hurricane Relief through ERD for the victims in Florida.*
- *Father Isaac from St. Stephen's in Niagara Falls will swap a Sunday with Pastor Susan so that we may learn more about his mission.*
- *We have received \$9,000 in grant monies from the Diocese. It was voted that we will be paving the remainder of the parking lot with that money in the spring of 2025.*
- *Chowder Sale: We made \$1,087.*
- *All Saint's Day Service on Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – the congregation is invited to dress as their favorite Saint.*
- *Snow Removal: It was voted that Kyle Doty from TLK Outdoor Services will be plowing this year as no other bids were received.*
- *Jerilyn Carney will be resigning from her job as Sexton beginning in January 2025.*

- *New Parish Directory will be coming out after the Annual Meeting and elections are held.*
- *Priscilla Moot has asked Janet Hoffman and Jerilyn Carney to help her on the Fellowship Committee.*

*Jennifer Farwell-Puskas*  
*Clerk of Vestry*

#### *Treasurer's Report...*

##### **January - September 2024**

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Income:                                   | \$30,779.48  |
| Expense:                                  | -\$25,875.01 |
| Dividends Reinvested:                     | +\$ 3,115.65 |
| Interest:                                 | +\$ 17.99    |
| Total Net Income:                         | \$ 8,038.11  |
| Total Ordinary Income<br>(Dividends Out): | \$ 4,922.46  |



If you have recently joined us here at St. John's and are contributing weekly you may request an envelope number from Jennifer Farwell-Puskas. This number helps our Treasurer track your contributions for your records and tax purposes. Statements are printed quarterly.

It is pledge time again! All pledge letters have been mailed out with a return stamped envelope and a pledge card for 2025. Please return your pledge card by **Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**. These numbers are helpful as we plan out our budget for 2025 which is done before our Annual Meeting in December.



## ***Buildings & Grounds...***

I want to thank John Carney and Kevin Brown for their work throughout the summer to take care of our landscaping needs. Fine job as always.

As I mentioned in the Warden's report our snowplowing is being taken care of by Kyle Doty this year. He has done it in the past, so he knows what our needs are. We are in great hands.

Please feel free to contact me anytime.

Lucy Kraatz, Chairman  
Buildings & Grounds



Hurricane Helene AND MILTON! If you would like to help with relief efforts, one way of doing it is making a contribution through ERD, which administers donations through Episcopal congregations in affected areas. You can make a donation online at <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/hurricane-relief> or you can put your donation in the mail, making the check out to: Episcopal Relief & Development, 815 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10017

**WANTED**

***Liver donor needed!***

***Pastor Susan's friend and neighbor Ron Rice is in need of a liver donor.***

***The liver is one organ that can be split between two people and will grow to accommodate the needs of both.***

***Donors need to have Type B or Type O blood.***

***For more information, check out Ron's Facebook page: Save Ron Rice: Liver Donation Needed***

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Will (who is stationed in Iraq); Dylan, Kevin, Zack, and Joe (recovering from collisions); Priscilla & John, Lincoln, Joan, Theresa, Eleanor, Ron, Dawn, Craig, Alberta, Chris and Ela, Marcia and Ren, Father Sam, Brian, Jennine, Vicki. Pray for Bishop Sean as he prepares to take on the responsibility of the office of Presiding Bishop; and for our Diocesan partnership, as we begin to consider our future leadership needs. Pray for our Roman Catholic neighbors who are facing the closing of their church; the people of Ukraine, Israel and Palestine, the hostages taken in the October attack on Israel.



## ***Fellowship Committee September 2024...***

- ✓ I am happy to say Jerilyn Carney, Janet Hoffman and Anne Frank have officially joined the Fellowship Committee!
- ✓ The Fellowship Committee assumed coffee hour responsibilities and provides refreshments for other occasions after the Ladies Guild was dissolved.
- ✓ The Fellowship Committee looks forward to planning nonprofit events for the congregation and/or our community in the coming year. If there is something you would like to see happen, we are open to suggestions.
- ✓ Thank you to all who have graciously signed up for coffee hour especially some of our new comers. There is no right or wrong to coffee hour!! It's great fellowship! Let's fill in the rest of the Sundays for 2024.

God is Good.  
Priscilla, Chair Fellowship Committee



**Head's up: the time change happens this Saturday! The clock falls back an hour in the wee hours of Saturday, Nov. 2nd. If you forget, you'll get to church an hour early and miss your chance to sleep in!**

## SJC Moms Group...

- \* Megan Schmidt, coordinator brought her espresso coffee maker and ingredients to the meeting giving the moms their favorite espresso or homemade chai tea for a Halloween treat.
- \* The moms completed their Halloween ghosts/goblins.



- \* **We are still looking!** Please reach out to me if you would enjoy a change. A couple of mornings a month will keep you feeling younger and put a smile on your face; filling your heart with joy, doing God's work. With the childcare workers being retiree, we take longer vacations.
- \* The twelve kiddos went home with trick or treat bags and some had fun cupcakes with blue frosting!!



GOD is Good.  
Priscilla Moot



Every year we have been able to assist the food pantry with help on the Thanksgiving dinners that they give out to our friends, family or neighbors. This year we have been asked to collect turkey gravy (can or jar) and large boxes of instant mashed potatoes. Please have it in by November 17th so they will have adequate time to put everything together. As always, feel free to contact me with any questions.

Lucy Kraatz  
859-816-6869



### ***Thanksgiving Eve Service:***

*This year our neighbors at Exley United Methodist Church are going to join us at **St. John's** for a 7 PM service on Thanksgiving Eve. Pastor Shelley Andrews will be preaching this year, with Exley organist Joe Breczka playing. Please let Pastor Susan know if you would like to sing in the joint choir, so she can let you know when choir rehearsals will be held.*

### ***St. Andrew's Community Store located in Newfane accepts donations under the following guidelines:***

Clean Usable Clothing: infant, children, men and women  
Household linens  
Books, DVD's, videos, CD's and records  
Children's toys, games, and puzzles  
Small electronics and household items (do include all pieces & manual if available, and test item to make sure it works)  
\*\*Recently items received have been notably dirty, stained and unusable. If you are donating we ask that ALL items be cleaned before dropping off\*\*

### **Store Hours:**

Wednesday 11 am – 4 pm  
Thursday 10 pm - 4 pm  
Friday 12 pm - 3 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Hours may vary due to volunteer availability.  
Sorry for any inconvenience.





[www.stjohnswilson.org](http://www.stjohnswilson.org)

As always if you would like something to be on the website please feel free to contact me.

Jennifer Farwell-Puskas  
Parish Administrator



In the spring of 2025 we would like to partner with our friends at Exley Methodist Church for a workshop. 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Barn Quilts held a workshop in the Fall of 2024 and it was a huge success.

There are many designs to pick from. If there is enough interest we will schedule the date and information will be available. The class will be held on a Saturday and runs from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cost is \$110. You will take home a barn quilt ready to hang inside or outside as it is made on weather resistant material.

If you are interested please let Jennifer Farwell-Puskas know. We are taking a head count at this time.



The "Giving Tree" will be put up and available as soon as we get our family information. As part of our Christmas tradition, we will be using the Reverse Advent Calendar which is on a separate sheet of this newsletter. Along with a gift please purchase one item on the calendar for our family.

Many thanks –  
Jennifer Farwell-Puskas  
Chairman

**St. Andrew's**  
**b a z a a r**

*Attic Treasures  
Homemade Candy  
Holiday Decorations & Gifts  
Bake Sale  
Basket Auction*

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 2024**  
**10:00-2:00**  
**Chicken & Biscuit Luncheon**  
**11:00-1:30**

Wilson-Burt & West Creek Roads, Burt  
Luncheon - Adults: \$12.00, Children 12 & Under: \$7.00  
**WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS!**  
Handicapped Accessible

**St. John's Episcopal Church  
P.O. Box 28  
Wilson, NY 14172**

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**