

From the *Interim Rector*

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? [1 Thessalonians 3:9]

Dear people of God at St. John's Episcopal Church,

The words of the Apostle Paul resonate so loudly with me when I think of how fond I've grown of you in my ten months of ministry among you.

And yet, I can't express with greater joy what more still awaits you in the months to come.

The search committee has finally been commissioned and has begun its work in finding a Priest-in-Charge to lead St. John's into the future. There is joy in the anticipation.

We begin a new season and a new liturgical year on December 1, the First Sunday of Advent.

In the past several years I've adopted the practice of establishing a theme that will guide my thoughts and prayers for the coming year.

This year I am thinking about "HOPE."

On this first Sunday, we light the candle of Hope on the Advent wreath.

I invite you for the coming year to concentrate with me on that word, *hope*, because it is what pulls us in the direction of what is yet to be.

One of my favorite poets, Emily Dickinson, wrote that:

*"Hope" is the thing with feathers—
That perches in the soul—
And sings the tune without the words—
And never stops—at all—*

Hope is strong, hope is irrepensible, hope is relentless, hope is undeniable.

We've often heard the expression, "Don't get your hopes up," but that is exactly what hope is for. Hope keeps us turned toward the future.

As we light an additional candle on the wreath in each of the following Sundays of Advent, what we will see developing is our light in the darkness. It is the visible form in which Christ promises to be with us. Make this the mental picture that you carry with you throughout the weeks to come.

It is obviously the symbol of this season of hope, but it is not the only way Christ is with us. Because he also comes to us in the waters of baptism, in the bread and wine we share each Sunday. And as he fills us with hope, he also calls us to be hope to others.

I've mentioned elsewhere that our Gospel readings for the coming year will be taken primarily from the Gospel according to Luke. Luke is also recognized as the author of the book of Acts as well as a physician. His feast day - October 18 - emphasizes the church's ministry of healing by showing concern for all those in the health care profession.

As God's people, we, too, can relieve some of this world's suffering by offering glimpses of the coming Kingdom to others through our witness and our actions.

God calls us, then, to bear the word of hope and healing to a broken world.

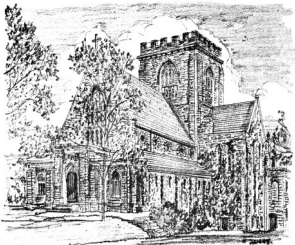
May that be our theme for this coming year and beyond.

+The Rev. Abraham D. Allende

The **GOOD NEWS**

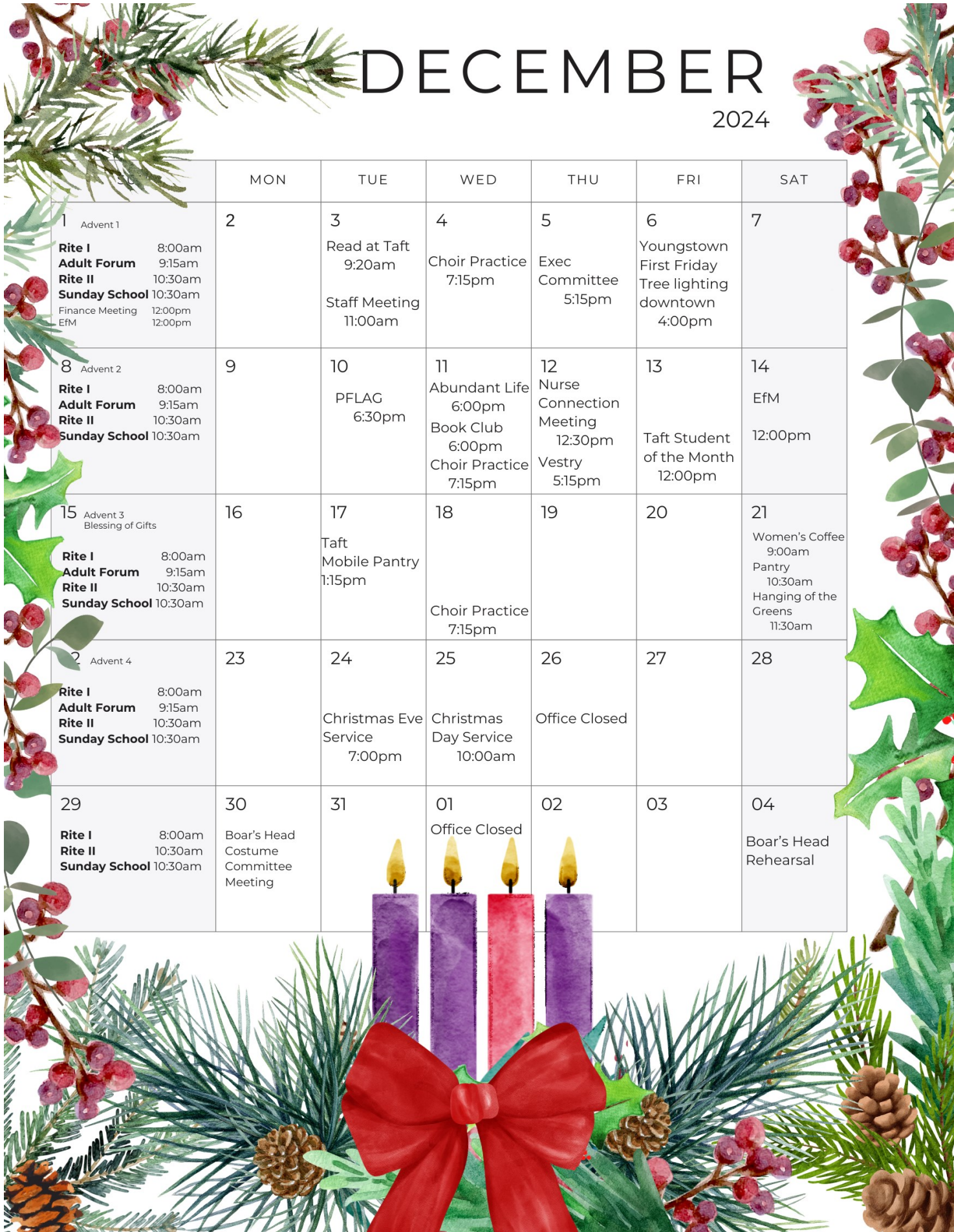
DECEMBER 2024 · NUMBER ELEVEN VOLUME TWENTY-FOUR

A publication of **ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



DECEMBER

2024



	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Advent 1 Rite I 8:00am Adult Forum 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am Finance Meeting 12:00pm EfM 12:00pm	2	3 Read at Taft 9:20am Staff Meeting 11:00am	4 Choir Practice 7:15pm	5 Exec Committee 5:15pm	6 Youngstown First Friday Tree lighting downtown 4:00pm	7
8 Advent 2 Rite I 8:00am Adult Forum 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am	9	10 PFLAG 6:30pm	11 Abundant Life 6:00pm Book Club 6:00pm Choir Practice 7:15pm	12 Nurse Connection Meeting 12:30pm Vestry 5:15pm	13 Taft Student of the Month 12:00pm	14 EfM 12:00pm
15 Advent 3 Blessing of Gifts Rite I 8:00am Adult Forum 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am	16	17 Taft Mobile Pantry 1:15pm	18 Choir Practice 7:15pm	19	20	21 Women's Coffee 9:00am Pantry 10:30am Hanging of the Greens 11:30am
22 Advent 4 Rite I 8:00am Adult Forum 9:15am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm	25 Christmas Day Service 10:00am	26 Office Closed	27	28
29 Rite I 8:00am Rite II 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am	30 Boar's Head Costume Committee Meeting	31	01 Office Closed	02	03	04 Boar's Head Rehearsal



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WINTER

CHRISTMAS EVE
SERVICE
December 24
STARTING AT 7 PM

323 WICK AVE., YOUNGSTOWN, OH



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WINTER

CHRISTMAS DAY
SERVICE
December 25
STARTING AT 10 AM

323 WICK AVE., YOUNGSTOWN, OH

Christmas Services Schedule

	Altar Guild	Usher	Lector	Chalice Bearer	Videographer	Verger	Acolyte
December 24 7pm	Eva S.	Joe D.	Noah S.	Judy G.	Tony M.	Eva S.	Emerson Quin
December 25 10am	Allen D.	Cindy S. Tom S.	Sam D.	Sam D.	Tony M.		



The Red Door Food Pantry

EVERY THIRD SATURDAY AT 10 AM

Red Door Food Pantry

Our upcoming Red Door Food Pantry is Saturday, December 21st from 10:00-11:15am. Volunteers are always needed. If you or your group would like to volunteer, please contact the church office at office@stjohnohio.org



Women's COFFEE

EVERY 3RD SATURDAY AT 9:00AM

Women's Coffee

Join us for Women's Coffee Saturday, December 21st at 9:00am.



Taft Elementary School Outreach

Reading at Taft Elementary Tuesday, December 3rd, 9:20am

Taft Student of the Month will meet Friday, December 13th, at 12:00pm

Taft Mobile Pantry will meet Tuesday, December 17th, at 1:15pm at the United Way Volunteer Center.



Nurse Connection Group

Nurse Connection Group

Meeting December 12th at 12:30pm

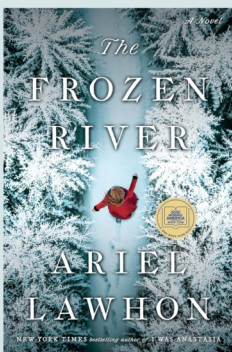


SUNDAY school

Sunday School

Join us each Sunday, for our Sunday School program at 10:30 am. Children will meet in the Sunday School room.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WINTER



St. John's Book Club

323 Wick Ave., Youngstown, OH 44503

All are welcome to join in our book discussion of the Ariel Lawhon novel *The Frozen River*.

Wednesday
December 11th
6:00-7:00pm
St. John's Parlor



For more information on the book, scan the QR Code.

Currently Reading

All are welcome to join in our book club discussion of *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. We are meeting on Wednesday, December 11th at 6:00pm in the St. John's Parlor. Light Refreshments will be served.

About the book:

A gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard, a renowned 18th-century midwife who defied the legal system and wrote herself into American history.

WE HAVE A LOT TO Celebrate

December Birthdays

- 3 Lance Grahn
- 10 Rachel Hanni
Elizabeth Cianciola
- 11 Dean Wheeler
- 16 Mary Jo Kovachick
- 17 Olivia Baber
Nicholas Elliott
Corinne Huff
- 19 Mary Kay Chisholm
Denise Martin
- 22 Jackie Pitman
Rebecca Rogers
- 24 Charles Rumberg
Egan Hare
Donna Wynn
- 25 James Boyd
Ron Gould
- 27 Zack Warchol
Matthew Bonte
Erin Moore
- 28 Emma Jones
Fallon Amedia
- 29 Jendi McNicholas

December Anniversaries

- 01 Sam and Jan Barillaire
- 02 Randall and Lisa Gardner
- 10 Margie and Dick McBane
- 18 Fr. Denny and Nancy Blauser
- 20 Linda and Dean Wheeler
- 27 Gary Walker and Nesha Kovalick

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed in or removed from upcoming newsletters or bulletins, please contact the office at (330) 743-3175 or email office@stjohnohio.org



Altar Flowers

If you would like to add a new name to the Altar Flower list, you can now do so on the bulletin board on the second floor. Altar Flowers are \$25 for a week and names are listed in the weekly bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Heather or Karen in the church office.



The Good News Submissions

If you would like to submit something to the St. John's newsletter, please contact Heather in the office. Submissions are due by the 20th of each month and will appear in the following month's edition. We accept prayers, reflections, articles about events, or even things from the archives.



We Pray For

Those who have requested prayer this month: T.J. Leo, Allen DeMarks, Kim Daniels, Jim Ehret, Vickey, Ginger Elliott, Carmela, Adam Sullivan, Doug Hotchkiss, Charles Rumberg, Twila, Carol, Wally, Emma Jones, Ron Robertson, Diane New, Gaynell Harris, Carlos & Julianna Caguiat, Heather Foley, Pastor Allende, Denise Lancaster

The faithful departed and their families: Thomas Wrona died on Friday, November 8, 2024 and will be remembered at St. John's on Saturday, December 28th at 10:00am. Brian Hill died Saturday, November 9th in San Francisco and will be lovingly remembered by family and dear friends.



2024 Reverse Advent Calendar
December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Band Aids	Hand Sanitizer	Toilet Paper	Nail Clipper	Juice	Deodorant	Toothbrush
Canned Soup	Kleenex	Dish Soap	Jelly or Jam	Pasta	Canned Vegetables	Paper Towels
Canned Fruit	Shower Gel	Toilet Paper	Toothpaste	Canned Tuna Fish	Q-Tips	Peanut Butter
Cereal	Rice	Light Bulbs	Pasta Sauce	Bring items in by noon on Tuesday, December 21st		

This Christmas, let's remember those who are in need. Just place one item a day in a bag, see calendar for suggestions, and then bring to St. John's, 323 Wick Avenue, Youngstown, OH 44503 by December 31st. 330-743-3175

ST. JOHN'S · YOUNGSTOWN
LOVE GOD · LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR · CHANGE THE WORLD



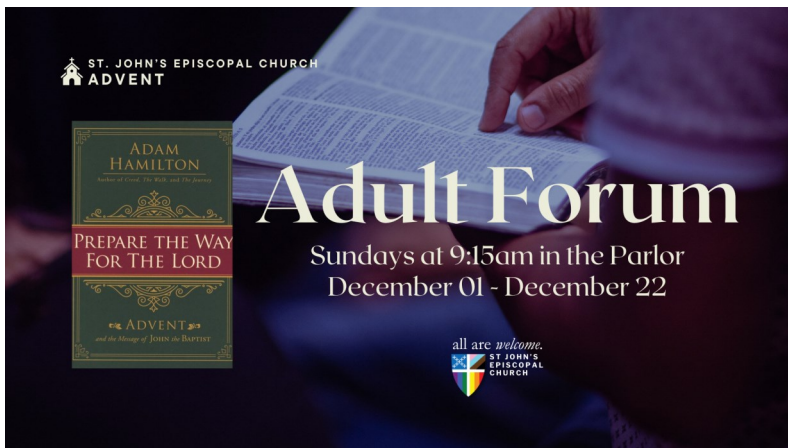
Reverse Advent Calendar

As we prepare for the advent season beginning on December 1st, we remember those who are in need.

We will email the Advent Calendar out through our weekly email and have some copies printed on the bridge for you to take. Please consider participating by placing one item each day into a box/bag and bring to St. John's. Items will be collected for *The Red Door Food Pantry*. Thank you.

Adult Forum

For two thousand years, Christians have turned to the story and message of John the Baptist in the weeks leading up to Christmas. In *Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist*, best-selling author and pastor Adam Hamilton explores the Advent themes of John's life and ministry, and how John calls all followers of Jesus to prepare our hearts and lives for his coming. All are welcome to join us in the Parlor at 9:15 a.m. Dec. 1 through Dec. 22. A donation of \$ 5 is asked to defray the cost of the study books.



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ADVENT

ADULT FORUM

Sundays at 9:15am in the Parlor
December 01 - December 22

all are welcome.
ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Christmas Memorials

You may remember loved ones at Christmas by making a donation to Altar Guild for the

Christmas flowers in their memory.

Their name will be listed in the Christmas bulletin.

Please contact Heather in the office at:

office@stjohnohio.org or call 330-743-3175.



Upcoming in January 2025

January 1
Offices Closed

January 4
Boar's Head Rehearsal

January 5
Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival

January 26
St. John's Annual Meeting



6 2 N D A N N U A L
Boar's Head & Yule Log

FESTIVAL

January 05, 2025

1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

TICKETS: \$20

No meal will be served this year

Mail this form with payment and a self-addressed envelope for ticket mailing.
 St. John's Episcopal Church 323 Wick Avenue Youngstown, OH 44503

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____ **Please add me to the email list**

1:30 pm Performance
 _____ Quantity x \$20

4:00 pm Performance
 _____ Quantity x \$20

Total Due:

Total Due:

Boar's Head Patron

Patrons are asked to choose one of the below benefactor categories:

BOAR'S HEAD ANGELS	donation of \$95	4 performance tickets
PIPES AND DRUMS	donation of \$150	6 performance tickets
STAR OF THE EAST	donation of \$300	8 performance tickets

With the following donations, please select your ticket request.

YULE LOG PAGES	donation of \$500	_____ performance tickets
WAITS	donation of \$750	_____ performance tickets
KING'S PAGES	donation of \$1,000	_____ performance tickets
BEEFEATERS	donation of \$2,000	_____ performance tickets
YULE LOG SPRITES	donation of \$3,000	_____ performance tickets
CHRISTMAS SPRITES	donation of \$5,000	_____ performance tickets

Total Patron Amount:

Ticket requests are fulfilled based on availability. *To insure your selection is available and to insure your name is published in the Boar's Head Program, place orders by December 4th.*

Thank you so much for your support & generosity.

December Serving Schedule

	Dec 1	Dec 8	Dec 15	Dec 22	Dec 24 / 25	Dec 29
Altar Guild 8:00 am	Kathy Y.	Kathy Y.	Kathy Y.	Kathy Y.	Please See Holiday Schedule On Inside. Page #3	Kathy Y.
Lector 8:00 am	David B.	John M.	Gail & Jack	Sally O.		David B.
Usher 8:00 am	Joe D.	David B.	John M.	Joe D.		John M.
Altar Guild 10:30 am	Eva S.	Mara A.	Eva S.	Eva S.		Eva S.
Verger 10:30 am	Eva S.	Meg S.	Noah S.	Meg S.		Eva S.
Usher 10:30 am	David S.	Cindy S. Tom S.	David S. Matt B.	Cindy S. Tom S.		Bill B. Matt B.
Lector 10:30 am	Logan B.	Sam D.	Judy G.	Eva S.		Sam D.
Chalice Bearer 10:30 am	Judy G.	Noah S.	Logan B.	Sam D.		Noah S.
Videographer 10:30 am	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.	Tony M.		Tony M.
Counters 10:30 am	Lance G.	Lance G.				
Acolyte 10:30 am	1. Emerson 2. Sveva	1. Sveva 2. Quin	1. Morgan 2. Sveva	1. Quin 2. Michael		1. Mathew 2. Morgan

Service Times and Schedules

8:00 am & 10:30 am In Person 10:30am streaming on Facebook Live & YouTube
Adult Forum 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am

Staff & Leadership

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly	<i>Bishop</i>
The Rev. Abraham Allende	<i>Interim Rector</i>
Dr. Richard A. Konzen	<i>Organist/Choirmaster</i>
Heather Seno	<i>Administrative Assistant</i>
Karen Warchol	<i>Financial Secretary</i>
Adam Sullivan	<i>Sexton</i>
Christa Buckler	<i>CE Coordinator</i>

Officers & Vestry

Tony Manhollan	<i>Senior Warden</i>	
Martie Witt	<i>Junior Warden</i>	
Joe DeNiro	<i>Treasurer</i>	
Jon Caguaiat	<i>Clerk</i>	
Brenda Barry	Sarah Quaranta	Liz Johnson
Logan Burrows	Sue Flasco	David Bobovnyik

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 4 pm

The Good News

Send submissions to newsletter@stjohnohio.org

S · A · I · N · T

JOHN'S

Episcopal Church · Youngstown

Contact Us

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