

# St. Francis at the Point Anglican Church



## OCTOBER 2021 Newsletter



### OCTOBER

Saturday, October 2 - 9 am  
**Pet Blessing**

Sunday, October 3 - 10 am  
**First Fruit Sunday**

Saturday, October 9 - 9:30 am  
**AWG Meeting**

Thursday, October 14 - 4:30 pm  
**Finance Committee**

Sunday, October 24 - 11:30 am  
**Vestry Meeting**



### VESTRY:

Dick Upchurch – Senior Warden

Gerald Lewis – Junior Warden

Maureen Moreland

Dave Howard

Anne Howard

Gypsy Van Antwerp

Robin Renn – Secretary

Jeanine Wickham – Treasurer

## WHAT A DIFFERENCE

Have you ever wondered if having the chapel open for prayer was worth it or if anyone ever stopped by?

With over 80 million Americans now claiming to be “none”, which is a person who does not claim to belong to a religion, you may wonder if having a space for prayer makes a difference.

I can tell you it does. People stop almost every day and some days I see a number of people stop and go in the chapel. I’ve had people say that having a quiet, beautiful, sacred space to pray made a huge difference in their life because they were dealing with huge difficulties.

Two stories. One day I arrived and noticed a ton of large spider webs all over the garden area between the parish hall and the chapel, so much so that it would have been difficult to sit on the benches. I sprayed the spiders with wasp spray and went inside. While inside, I saw a woman go into the chapel for a few minutes and then leave. I went back out to see if the wasp spray worked. While I was looking at the webs, a medium to small dog came walking by on the path. He had a collar on and so I called to him. He came right over to me and then headed to the fountain for a drink. I called the number on the tag and a woman answered. I told her about the dog at the church. She said, “I was just there a few minutes ago praying in your chapel for my dog to come home.” What a reunion that was!

Second story. A woman came by, prayed in the chapel, and picked up a brochure on forgiveness. She had been through a hard time with a loved one and the message of forgiveness was exactly what she needed at that moment. It spoke directly to her heart giving her hope that healing could happen.

*Having sacred space for people makes a difference!*

## FLOWERS

If you are interested in making flower arrangements for the Sundays when a memorial is scheduled, please talk with Fr. Gary. He's looking to put together a



small team for this ministry. The church will reimburse you for the cost of the flowers you purchase for the arrangements.



## VESTRY MEETING

Our regularly scheduled Vestry Meeting will be held immediately after services on Sunday, October 24th, 2021.

Members of the Parish are invited to attend.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The men's breakfast will be starting back up again soon!



## FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Our regular monthly Finance Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, October 14th at 4:30 P.M. in the Parish Hall.

All members are invited to attend.

## PHOTOGRAPHS

**WE DON'T SEE YOU! I**



If you haven't already had your photograph taken or have submitted one, please be sure to have your picture

taken after services. This is important because we are planning to publish a new church directory as soon as all the new photos are taken. Our new members are anxiously awaiting publication.

**Please Do Not Be the Obstacle.**



## AWG MEETING

The monthly meeting of the AWG will be held on Saturday, October 9th at 9:30 A.M. in the Parish Hall. Ladies we only have three meetings before Fall Festival. There are a lot of decisions to be made. Please come to these planning sessions if at all possible.

*All ladies of the church are invited and encouraged to attend.*



## FR. GARY ON VACATION

Fr. Gary and Leona will be on vacation from Oct. 5 - 13. Fr. Milton will be handling pastoral calls. His cell number is 985-640-2328.

## PET BLESSING

On Saturday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m., we are holding the annual Blessing of the Pets service. Please share the time and place of this service with family and friends. All of God's creatures are welcome to attend and Father Gary will bless them.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

The most recent financial report which has been approved by the vestry will also be posted on the bulletin board next to the vestry minutes. Any member who wants to see a more detailed report can ask the Treasurer, Jeanine Wickham, for a copy.

### AUGUST

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income:	\$ 22,188	\$ 19,321
Expenses:	\$ 21,352	\$ 22,136



## MORTGAGE REDUCTION PLAN AND REPORT

Our mortgage currently stands at \$ 297,470.99 for August

We are asking every member to prayerfully consider giving a small amount every month towards the mortgage. Every dollar you give to reduce the mortgage is worth more than a dollar to the church because we will no longer pay interest every month on that dollar.

**total given to date: \$ 10,015.00**

**How to give?** Add your gift to your regular check, write a separate check, or put cash in an envelope. In each case, note the amount for the mortgage.



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Lindda Kay Wise - 10/01  
 Kathy Justiss - 10/02  
 Sherrin Aubry - 10/03  
 Betty Riley - 10/03  
 Pat Baker - 10/06  
 Providence Upchurch - 10/11  
 Janice Davis - 10/13  
 Paula Alvarez - 10/19  
 Gena Jackson - 10/23  
 Jim Bob Powell - 10/30

## ANNIVERSARIES

Eric and Theresa Lacey - 10/05  
 Peter and Mary Herndon - 10/25



*If your date is not on these lists or if your information is incorrect, we do apologize.*

*Please email the church office at [stfrancisatthepoint@gmail.com](mailto:stfrancisatthepoint@gmail.com) or fill out a communication card with the correct information.*

## ECUMENICAL DONATIONS

This month, Ecumenical Ministries is requesting toiletries which include shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, shaving cream, toothbrushes, combs, etc. for distribution. Their shelves are bare of these items because they sent them to hurricane Ida relief. All our donations go to families and individuals who are our neighbors.

In these difficult times please be generous as many of our friends and neighbors are in extreme need.



## YEAR OF PRAYER

Just a reminder to everyone to pray a bit more over the next year for our church, our diocese, our province and all churches globally. The world is a mess and God's solution is the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

There is a printed brochure in the narthex with prayers you can use when you pray.

Please pick up a copy.



## SEND GIFTS TO A CHILD

Operation Christmas Child has begun! We're doing it a little differently this year. You have three options:

(1) You can take a box, go shopping, fill it and bring it back to the church; (take a brochure)

(2) you can go to the Samaritan's Purse website and build a box online; or

(3) donate \$25 for each box to the discretionary fund and Fr. Gary will go online and build a box(es) for you. This is a powerful ministry that brings joy to children and, even more importantly, introduces them to Jesus. All boxes are due by Nov. 14th.



## WINE PULL

Again this year, the AWG will offer a Wine Pull at the Fall Festival. We are requesting that members donate red or white wine that retails at a value of at least **\$15.00 per bottle**. The AWG will offer the bottles at \$10.00 each so our guests can expect a substantial savings. Leave the wine in Father Gary's office.



## SWING SET

The new play set has been completed with all the activity areas completed. Thank you to the men of the church who helped install the set.

Our Sunday school children are already enjoying this new addition. If you haven't gone into the yard yet, please go see this exciting new play area.