



† ST. FRANCIS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMMUNIQUÉ

September 2018

The Newsletter for St. Francis, Dunellen

A Letter from Fr. Jack Zamboni, Rector



Fr. Jack Zamboni

Back to School

It's the week before Labor Day as I write and school opening is just around the corner. School start-up for kids (and parents) is an exciting time and, often, an anxious one. What is my teacher going to be like? Who's going to be in my class? Maybe I'll be starting in a new school, or a whole new kind of school. How

am I going to learn the ropes? Fit in? What am I going to learn? How will I need to change? Will I do OK? Will my parents be proud of me? The mixed bag of starting school is wonderfully captured in an old book of *Peanuts* cartoons I recently found on my shelves in which Charlie Brown's little sister, Sally, tries every way she can to get out of starting Kindergarten. But after her (excellent) first day, she thinks every child should be whisked off to Kindergarten.

School start-up is on my mind not only because of the calendar and *Peanuts*, but because I've just started school again myself. If you've listened to my preaching at all over the past few years, you know I've been deeply enriched by the work of Roman Catholic Franciscan, Fr. Richard Rohr, whose approach to Christian faith and life I first encountered in depth in our Lenten Formation program in 2015. Since then, reflecting on his email meditations has been a part of my daily spiritual practice. I've also live-streamed several conferences from the Center for Action and Contemplation (CAC) Richard founded in Albuquerque, New Mexico, now some 30 years ago. (If you want to check out these resources, visit www.cac.org.)

Through all of that, I learned about The Living School, one of CAC's major offerings. The Living School is an

intensive two year spiritual formation program that offers students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and practice of the Christian contemplative tradition while also being (further) formed for engagement with the suffering and needs of the world in work of service and justice. Action and Contemplation, Rohr believes, belong together.

After prayer and consultation with trusted friends, I applied to the Living School last September and learned in January (to my delight and ... anxiety) that I'd been accepted. I attended my first Symposium (see below) in Albuquerque this August.

The Living School includes:

- three annual symposia in New Mexico with core faculty and invited teachers
- at-home reading, reflection, contemplative practice, and course work
- online discussions and teachings
- one five-day intensive in New Mexico with Richard Rohr
- interactions with fellow students

The Living School is led by three core faculty: Richard Rohr, James Finley, and Cynthia Bourgeault. Jim has been a clinical psychologist for much of his life, but as a young man in the 1960s spent six years at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Kentucky. There, his spiritual guide was Thomas Merton, arguably the most influential Christian writer on spirituality in the 20th century. Cynthia is an Episcopal priest and retreat leader who has written widely on Centering Prayer. The three together are among the leading living teachers of the Christian contemplative and mystical tradition. You can hear them talk about their vision for The Living School on this video (<https://vimeo.com/123890368>).

Learning from Richard, Jim and Cynthia in Albuquerque was immensely enriching. Equally so was getting

(Continued on page 2)

to know the other 10 members of the Circle Group I will be connected with through on-site meetings and video conferences over the next two years.

My group includes a clinical psychologist in practice in Montclair, NJ; a social worker in Vermont who assists families and children who live with chronic medical conditions and disabilities; a writer who splits time between Rochester, NY and Richmond, VA, where she teaches college; an Englishwoman who for many years led humanitarian work for the UK Foreign Office in Afghanistan, the Sudan, and other global hot spots; women and men with backgrounds in government and business who use their skills to address issues of poverty, injustice, and human trafficking worldwide; a man (also in the UK) who founded and leads the Centre for Compassionate Communication – and more. I’m the only ordained person in the group. I’m in awe of what these new friends do for God in the world and their deep commitment to spiritual growth. I’m learning much from them already – and we haven’t yet started the online course work which we will share in some fashion not yet clear to me.

Why do I tell you all this, besides the fact that I’m excited, grateful, and, yes, a bit anxious about going back to school in this way? I can name two related reasons, for now.

First, the Living School offers itself as a path for “profound transformation” – inner and outer change that may happen in unexpected, sometimes challenging, ways. Spouses/significant others of applicants are asked to consent to their partner embarking on this path, since such change will inevitably impact significant relationships back home. Though I can’t yet know how, I am sure the Living School will change me, with impact (for the better, I trust) on all my important relationships, including as your priest. So I want you to know that I’m on this journey, as well as ask for your prayers along the way.

Second, a stated goal of *The Living School* is that its students will become “multipliers,” sharing what they learn wherever they live and work. For me, of course, St. Francis is a very large part of that. It is, of course, too early to

know what shape that might take, but I will seek to be open to God’s leading in the time ahead and be in conversation with you as possibilities emerge. I may also be led to do some new things beyond the parish.

All that said, I’m mindful of the patience urged in these wise words of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a French Jesuit priest, theologian, geologist, and paleontologist, which are used often in the Living School:

*Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in everything
to reach the end without delay.
We should like to skip the intermediate stages.
We are impatient of being on the way to something
unknown, something new.
And yet it is the law of all progress
that it is made by passing through
some stages of instability—
and that it may take a very long time.*

*And so I think it is with you;
your ideas mature gradually—let them grow,
let them shape themselves, without undue haste.
Don’t try to force them on,
as though you could be today what time
(that is to say, grace and circumstances
acting on your own good will)
will make of you tomorrow.*

*Only God could say what this new spirit
gradually forming within you will be.
Give Our Lord the benefit of believing
that his hand is leading you,
and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself
in suspense and incomplete.*

Excellent words, I’d say, for anyone going back to school, wherever she or he may be in life.

Peace,

Jack +



ECW Happenings

Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of New Jersey (ECW)

The St. Francis ECW ladies met on August 6th in Hillsborough and had lunch with Leslie Oliver and Carol Propsner. They were both very happy to see us and we treated them to a lovely lunch at Old Man Rafferty's. They enjoyed the company and lunch, and we all caught up on the children and grandchildren. After our visit, Barbara Dalto sent Carol a card with parishioners' notes that she was able to collect on Sundays. The group will be planning a luncheon and visit in late September. Please see Barbara Dalto for further information.



ECW PRESENTS... Let Your Yoga Dance

- A moving celebration of Spirit
- A place where fun and joy meet deep and sacred
- LYYD is for Every Body
- No Yoga or Dance experience required
- For the very young and old alike
- All yoga dance can be done from a chair

The mission of LYYD is to spread joy and consciousness throughout the world by transmitting brain health, body health, heart health, and soul health. The day's activities will be presented by Jane Hager & Janice Higgins. Light refreshments will be available.

When: October 21, 2018 @ 12:00 pm

Where: St. Francis' Episcopal Church (Milbank Hall)
400 New Market Road, Dunellen 08812

Suggested Donation to ECW: \$5 per person

RSVP/Questions to: Elaine Patania at elai15@aol.com or (732) 968-6781

Registration requested by October 14th

Evensong Honoring Ministry of Older Adults

Trinity Cathedral
Saturday, September 29th, 2:00 PM.

2018 Honorees from St. Francis:

Gloria Barnes
Princess Thomas

Please attend to celebrate our parishioners!

Registration for attendance is requested for planning the reception following the service.

Please register online at <https://tinyurl.com/OAAtt09292018>

or contact Mary Anne Clisham at Diocesan House: mclisham@dioceseofnj.org

or 609 394-5281 Ext. 10.

Sunday School News

We hope everyone had a good summer and we look forward to another good year of Sunday School for children from ages 3 and up (Nursery Care is available for younger children). We all gather at 10 am in the Nellie Reid room downstairs for prayers, a bible lesson, singing, and a creative craft. We will be learning some bible verses and some more hymns and songs this year. The class lasts until the passing of the peace, at which point we all join our family and friends for the celebration of the Eucharist.

We hope your children will join us for another fun year of learning!

Teachers—Kathy Balenson, Nathalie Edwards, Monique Phua



Saying “Until Next Time” to Elma Adams



At the end of July, our organist and choir director, Elma Adams, asked to speak with me after worship. Elma told me that she had decided it was time for her to retire from serving at St. Francis. She has been working in churches for many years (alongside her several teaching positions) and feels she’s ready to rest from that responsibility.

Elma has been at St. Francis the last dozen or so years, playing services and leading the choir faithfully, and for the 10 years I’ve been here, bearing with a priest with his own musical background and opinions (a mixed blessing to church musicians, often). I’m grateful for her willingness to go down some unfamiliar musical and liturgical paths with me (especially in Holy Week). I know she will be missed not only by the choir, but also others at St. Francis with whom she’s become friends.

Elma’s last Sunday with us will be September 9th, and we will be recognizing her at coffee hour that day. Please join us to wish her farewell and Godspeed.

I have begun working on next steps towards leadership for our music program in consultation with the Vestry and will let you all know more as soon as I have news to share.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack +".



OUTREACH

Outreach coordinator: Pam Maiolo

FISH Hospitality — St. Francis was called upon twice this past summer to house FHP guests on an emergency basis. We were able to provide a safe space for families at St. Francis when two other area churches were faced with emergency situations that made housing impossible. The Fish Hospitality organization was extremely grateful for our assistance.

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Grace's Kitchen — Our next date to serve at this local soup kitchen is Oct 29th. We begin our service of meal preparation at 10:30am & conclude our service at 1pm. All are welcome to participate in this important ministry at Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield.

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FISH — The suggested donation for September is Hot/Cold Cereal. As we celebrate the feast of St. Francis in October, we will collect wet & dry pet food to donate to St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center. Although monthly suggestions are given for donations, all non-perishable food items are accepted at any time.

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FISH (misc.) — The food room is always in need of plastic grocery bags for bagging food items. Also donations of clean egg cartons, greeting cards, & calendars are wanted. There is a box at the top of the stairs for their collection.

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Eyeglasses — This is a year round collection of all types of eyeglasses — children's, adults, reading or sun. The glasses are then donated to the Lions Club recycle for sight program. There is a bucket on the narthex table for collection. 25 pairs of glasses have been collected to date.

FISH Donations



Serving Middlesex, Union, and Somerset
Counties in New Jersey

Donation suggestion for this month:

September: *Hot/Cold cereal*

All donations are welcome! Please check expiration dates.

The collections basket is located in the narthex.

Monthly FISH Donation 2018/2019

<u>JULY</u> Juice	<u>AUGUST</u> Peanut Butter / Jelly	<u>SEPTEMBER</u> Cereal Cold / Hot
<u>OCTOBER</u> Canned/Dry Dog/Cat Food	<u>NOVEMBER</u> Canned Vegetables	<u>DECEMBER</u> Milk Powdered or Parmalat box
<u>JANUARY</u> Pasta / Sauce	<u>FEBRUARY</u> Canned Tuna / Meats	<u>MARCH</u> Rice & Beans
<u>APRIL</u> FISH Hospitality Donation (TBA)	<u>MAY</u> Canned / Jarred Fruit	<u>JUNE</u> Your choice

- The suggestions for each month are just suggestions for donation. You may give any food or personal product at any time.
- Please remember to check expiration dates on the food that you donate. All products with expired dates will be discarded.
- THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

STEWARDSHIP GET INVOLVED!



Sharing our time, treasure, and talent with others.

Stewardship is sharing the gifts God has given us.

WELCOME BACK BRUNCH

September 16 @ 11:30am

Join us for our annual Welcome Back Brunch! See Carline Sinckler or Heather Nunes for more detail.

EVENSONG HON- ORING MINISTRY OF OLDER ADULTS

September 29 @ 2pm

Gloria Barnes and Princess Thomas will be honored at this year's Evensong Ministry of Older Adults at Trinity Cathedral. Registration details are on page 4 of this *Communique*.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 🐾

October 7 @ 12pm

Join us for our annual procession of animals. Pet food donations accepted – dry food preferred. Details can be found on page 12 of this *Communique*.

LET YOUR YOGA DANCE

October 21 @ 12pm

Come for a moving celebration of the Spirit! No dance/yoga experience required. Turn to page 3 of this *Communique* for more information.

GRACE'S KITCHEN

October 29 @ 10:30am—1pm

Lunch preparation begins at 10:30am and serving to guests concludes at 1pm. Grace Episcopal Church, Plainfield. For more info, contact Pam Maiolo.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

November 5 @ 9am – 2pm



Take part in this life-saving opportunity. Details are on page 13 of this *Communique*.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

November 11 @ 10am (only service of the day)

The Stewardship team is looking for parishioners to join the group to begin preparation for Consecration Sunday. Tasks include organizing events and speaking briefly at services. Contact Elaine Patania for more information.

HOST COFFEE HOUR

Sundays after 10am service

Fellowship after Sunday services is a time-honored tradition, and a great way to connect with your fellow parishioners and new comers. Volunteers are needed to provide beverages and light refreshments. Sign up sheets are in the narthex. To learn more, see Cynthia Pelliccia

AMAZON SMILE

Ongoing

Remember to use smile.amazon.com when shopping on Amazon. 0.5% of your purchase price will be donated to St. Francis! Follow the link on our homepage at www.stfrancisduellen.org for more information.

Support St. Francis Episcopal Church.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com,
Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazon smile

A Letter on Consecration Sunday

Consecration Sunday Is Coming



Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Once again, our congregation's Vestry and finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During the three weeks leading up to Consecration Sunday, you will hear from members of the congregation. They will tell you a little about themselves and their spiritual commitment to the question of what God is calling for me to give?

During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

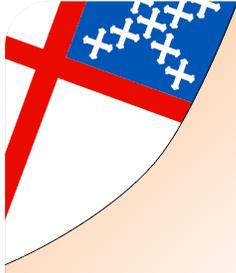
Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday, November 11th. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader, Father Don Muller, will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and the Vestry. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Elaine Patania,
Stewardship Chairperson



EVENT CALENDAR and LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 15th Sun. after Pentacost 9am Holy Eucharist	3 Labor Day	4	5 11:30am Mid-week Worship 7:30pm A.A.	6 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	7	1/8
9 16th Sun. after Pentacost 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist	10 7:30pm A.A.	11	12 11:30am Mid-week Worship 7:30pm A.A.	13 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	14	15
16 17th Sun. after Pentacost 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist 11:30am Welcome Back Brunch	17 7:30pm A.A.	18 7pm Vestry Meeting	19 11:30am Mid-week Worship 7:30pm A.A.	20 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	21	22
23 18th Sun. after Pentacost 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist	24 7:30pm A.A.	25	26 11:30am Mid-week Worship 7:30pm A.A.	27 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	28	29 2pm Evensong Honoring Ministry of Older Adults
30 19th Sun. after Pentacost 8am Holy Eucharist 10am Holy Eucharist	<i>October 1</i>	2	3	4	5	6

Worship Schedule:

Holy Eucharist, Sunday School, & Nursery – Sundays, 8:00am and 10:00am (only 9:00am on Sept. 2)

Mid-week Service – Wednesdays, 11:30am

Visit www.stfrancisdunellen.org, call 732-968-6781, or email contactus@stfrancisdunellen.org for more information.

St. Francis Liturgical Schedule

September 2018

DATE	ALTAR GUILD	LECTORS	CHALICERS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETER	COUNTERS
<i>9:00 AM Service</i>							
9/02	Pam W. Gail S.	Alan B. Sharon B.	Dave M. Kia P.	Maddie Pf. Everette Pf. Katherine Pf.	Cynthia P. Yuennadi M.	Audrey J.	Carol G. Kathy B. Pam M.
<i>8:00 AM Service</i>							
9/09	*	Ilia S.	*	Paul S.	Carroll W.	Coffee Break Sincklers	*
9/16	*	Paul S.	*	David Do.	Sharon B.	*	*
9/23	*	Carroll W.	*	Paul S.	Ilia S.	*	*
9/30	*	Alan B. Sharon B.	*	David Do.	Carroll W.	*	*
<i>10:00 AM Service</i>							
9/09	Audrey J. Nathalie E. Sharon B.	Rillette H. Sam M.	Tiffany O. Princess T.	Jonathan Pa. Jaeden Pr. Julia Pa.	Arthur M. Pam M.	Ava P.	Cynthia P. Karen B.
9/16	Geri P. Karen W.	Princess T. Pam M.	Elaine P. Kia P.	Jayden Ph. Gianna M. Avery D.	Karen W. Sam M.	Heather N.	Elaine P. Anna T.
9/23	Pam M. Barbara D. Princess T.	Rillette H. Larry Q.	Dave M. Tiffany O.	Jonathan Pa. Jaeden Pr. James Pa.	Elaine P. Tom P.	Barbara D.	Ava P. David Du. Larry Q.
9/30	Pam W. Gail S.	Elaine P. Pam M.	Princess T. Kia P.	Everette Pf. Maddie Pf. Katherine Pf.	Larry Q. Cynthia P.	Audrey J.	Pam M. Paul S.



Join us for a procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even hermit crabs at the...

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 7, 2018

12:00 Noon on the lawn at
(inclement weather—inside Milbank Hall)

St. Francis Church
400 New Market Road
Dunellen, N.J. 08812
(732) 968-6781



St. Francis of Assisi loved all God's creatures and followed God's example of kindness, mercy, compassion and love for all creation.

Pet Food Donations Accepted – Preferred dry foods



*Donating blood is
as easy as pie!*

American Red Cross

St. Francis Episcopal Church
American Red Cross Blood Drive

Monday, November 5, 2018

3:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Milbank Hall

400 New Market Road

Dunellen, NJ 08812

Appointments are preferred.

To schedule an appointment, [CLICK HERE](#)

Or go to redcrossblood.org and enter the sponsor keyword:

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Convent Corner



Just a short drive from Dunellen, is the beautiful Convent of St. John Baptist. This Episcopal convent has been located in Mendham, NJ since 1916. It's the home of the Community of St. John Baptist (CSJB), an Episcopal Religious Order of women, founded in 1852. The Sisters serve on diocesan committees and guilds throughout the dioceses of New Jersey and Newark. In addition, they have ongoing outreach programs serving people when they are in need, both locally and worldwide. Some Sisters are ordained priests serving in area churches.

Learn more at www.csjb.org. Next newsletter, we meet the Sisters!





CELEBRATIONS

September 2018

Birthdays:

09/01 Joyce Tereman
09/06 Branden Villa-Chauvin
09/08 Carline Sinckler
09/09 Kia Phua
09/13 Norma Tucker
09/13 Heather Nunes
09/13 Tyler Klastava
09/14 Cecil Baker
09/18 Cheryle Wilson
09/18 Virginia Meeker
09/18 Karen Williams
09/20 Anthony Klastava
09/20 Matthew Klastava
09/21 Tiffany McConney
09/25 Paul Sinckler
09/29 Danielle Dessino

Baptism:

09/02 Joanne Mathew
09/04 Connor Dunham
09/11 Gregg Palmieri
09/13 Joyce Tereman
09/20 Derek Palmieri
09/21 Everette Pfeiffer
09/23 Susan Peck
09/23 Jonathan Parmelee
09/24 Jayden Phua
09/25 Monique Phua
09/28 Tracie Toke

Confirmation:

None this month

Wedding Anniversaries:

9/03 Pam Warntz & Gail Slater
9/03 Jay & Tito Villa-Chauvin
9/09 Princess & Francis Thomas
9/27 Pamela & Vincent Maiolo

*St. Francis Episcopal Church
400 New Market Road
Dunellen, NJ 08812*

ST. FRANCIS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

www.stfrancisdunellen.org 732-968-6781

September 2018

Rector

The Rev. Jack Zamboni

Deacon

The Rev. Margaret Forsythe

Organist & Choir Director

Elma Adams, B.A., M.A.

Wardens

Cynthia Pelliccia, Paul Sinckler

Vestry Clerk

Anna Tirado

Treasurer

Ilia Scriven

Sunday School Team

Kathy Balenson, Nathalie Edwards,
Monique Phua

COME! Co-Chairs

Heather Nunes, Carline Sinckler

Vestry

The Rev. Jack Zamboni – Rector, Finance

Cynthia Pelliccia – Sr. Warden, Fellowship, Finance

Paul Sinckler – Jr. Warden, Finance, Buildings & Grounds

Rillette Hammond – Fundraising, COME!

Anna Tirado – Vestry Clerk, Fundraising

Karen Baker– COME!, Fellowship

Carol Gold – Newsletter Editor, COME!

Carline Sinckler – COME!, Fellowship supplies

Pam Maiolo – Outreach, Finance, Buildings & Grounds

Kathy Balenson – Sunday School, ECW, COME!

Elaine Patania – Stewardship, Finance, ECW

Larry Quirk – Stewardship