



# Views from the Mountain

## From the Priest

*The Reverend David L. Jones*

A Treeing Walker Raccoon Hound (it's breed) arrived at our house with the new year. (He came from Nashville, so we named him "Elvis.") He is just as good with people and patient with other animals as was promised.

In other ways, life with this gregarious and gentle dog has been a series of changed expectations. Estimated to be 7-8 years old in the written description, our Vet guessed that he's about 14 . . . appearing on the website to be moderately sized, he weighs in at about 70lbs . . . assumed by us to be as comfortable with the rest of the world as he immediately was with people, we never noticed that in all his videos, he was filmed outside. He may never before have lived inside a house.

He immediately embraced Orvis dog beds and quickly affirmed the refrigerator door sound, but the idea of doors still puzzles him and the expectation of stair climbing drives him manic with fear. There are accommodations with lighter dogs or flatter houses, but we are stuck with 70+ lbs. on three stories and a dog who circles like a jet above Newark Airport when called from another floor.

Fear can do that. Fear can make you writhe, and fear can shut you down. Mary froze and wept. The disciples locked themselves away in fear. Thomas was afraid to believe. And to each of them, all of us, Jesus comes to be the one who unlocks and unfreezes. He doesn't deny the darkness or dismiss the despair. But he remains. He accompanies, Jesus himself stands among us.

The post-resurrection story is not one of a world becoming magically wonderful. Our expectations are sometimes unmet and our desires unrequited but the risen one is with us in all of that. "Remember. I am with you always," he says. Sometimes we believe that. And step by hesitating step, together we climb.



*Elvis*

*David*

**ROGATION SUNDAY**

Sunday, May 9

So much to celebrate! On May 9, our Confirmation Class will be distributing pre-planted bean seeds to anyone willing to water and care for them in the next week. They will be collected on the 16th and planted in the Giving Garden.

May 9 is also Mother's Day. Flowers will be given to all the nurturers in our worshipping assembly. We will also thank God for all the Mothers who have raised and supported us throughout our lives.

**THE OPEN TABLE**

Wednesdays at 8:15 am

The group is currently wrestling with Making Sense of Paul: A Basic Introduction to Pauline Theology by Virginia Wiles. The book is available at Amazon for \$24.

We admit that Pauline Theology is winning the match right now. As a result, we'll be moving to Hanging by a Thread by Sam Wells in a few weeks for solace and simpler sentences.

A well-known Anglican Priest, Sam has been the Vicar of St Martins in the Fields since 2012. He spent the nights of his first week there in a sleeping bag alongside the people on the church's front steps. He has served as a parish priest for 20 years and was Dean of Duke University Chapel for 7.

Sam is married to Jo Wells, who is Bishop of Dorking. They have two children.

Please contact [Rich McGlynn](#) here for more information. Especially contact Rich if you want to receive a reminder and the Zoom link early on Wednesday morning.

**The Daily Office****Morning Prayer**

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 am

Join us in our Zoom room or in-person in the Chapel

**Evening Prayer**

Wednesdays at 5 pm

Join us in our Zoom room

**NJ TOGETHER**

A handful of SJOTM people have regularly been Zooming with representatives of other Bernardsville/Bernards Township faith communities, civic organizations and Frank McMillan of *NJ Together*. We're investigating how we can effectively nurture a stronger, more inclusive and more just town. *NJ Together* has a well-defined process that they have used successfully elsewhere, including in the Morristown area.

The next gathering is a Zoom gathering on Tuesday, May 18 at 7:30pm. Please [contact Dave](#) for the link if you would like to know more.

**A BIG "THANK YOU"  
TO BOB DANNHAUSER**

For well over a year, Bob Dannhauser has been the SJOTM audio - visual expert, making sure those at home can hear and see the liturgy over Zoom and other platforms. On Sunday, Bob was recognized for all he has done to broadcast the liturgies during the pandemic. Thank you, Bob, for all you have done to keep the SJOTM community connected!



*Bob accepts a gift card to Cafe Azzuro from Ward Dorer*

## CHURCH CAMPUS CLEAN - UP

**Saturday, May 15, 8 AM**

Join Us!

All ages and abilities welcome.

Indoor & Outdoor.

We have jobs for every age group.

Coffee, juice, bagels, and donuts  
will be served



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**St. John Nursery School Fundraiser**

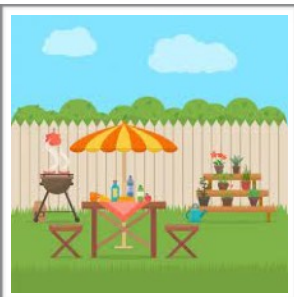
**Friday, May 21, 5:30 - 7:30 pm**

**Invitations mailed soon!**



## **S.O.S**

### **(SIMPLE OUTDOOR SUPPERS)**



Now that the weather is becoming warmer, and isolating restrictions are being lifted at long last, many of us want to find ways to renew friendships by getting together in person! What better way to reconnect with your church family than by participating in Simple Outdoor Suppers (or brunches)? If you agree and want to join in, and especially if you have space outside and are willing to host a group, please sign up by contacting Wendy Argent-Belcher by phone (908-766-1011), email ([wargentb@msn.com](mailto:wargentb@msn.com)) or text (908-872-7167) or Lisa Coakley in the church office ([office@sjotm.org](mailto:office@sjotm.org)). You can raise questions and make suggestions in the same way. The goal is to be able to get started in early May, so don't delay.

## MUSIC NEWS

by Christopher Harlow-Jennings

### About the Pipe Organ

Every month or so, this column will feature some information and tidbits about what Mozart called, "The King of Instruments." At St. John on the Mountain we have two pipe organs on campus, in the chapel and church respectively. There are so many complexities to our instruments and to pipe organs in general that many will find fascinating or interesting. Stay tuned for video demonstrations on our YouTube channel as well.

The pipe organ has the greatest dynamic and tonal range of any instrument, with pipes that are as tall and thin as a pencil and some that are over sixteen feet tall and wide enough for a grown adult to stand inside. The pipes are classified into four families of sound, principal, flute, string, and reed. The principal sound is unique to the organ while the others seek to emulate other instruments: flute, strings, oboe, trumpet etc. In organ terminology, trumpets and trombone stops fall into the reed category.

Pipe construction is either wooden or metal. A stopped pipe produces a sound one octave lower as the stopper doubles the length of the pipe. Some pipes have a cone shape at the top and some have other special shapes to make their sound unique. For example, reed stops have a reed at the bottom that buzzes against the resonator to make the sound, while flue stops (flute, string and principal) all produce sound via air traveling up through the bottom of the pipe and over the "mouth" and "languid."

Pipes get their wind from the blower, which lives in a separate room from the rest of the organ. The blower produces wind which is transported via a metal duct system into the wind chests. When a stop is drawn at the console and a note played, the respective pipes on that wind chest sound.

### CHOIR 'BYO' LUNCHEON

Sunday, May 23rd

On May 23, after church (~11:15ish) choir members are invited to join Christopher for a brief **rehearsal OUTSIDE** and a brief **BYO Lunch**. If you want to bring a bottle of wine to share that's fine too. Food will not be offered buffet style, but if you want to pre-package food somehow and share that's great (like cookies in a ziplock bag etc).

Please note that this rehearsal and lunch is only for choir folk and spouses. If it rains we will reschedule.

### MEN'S LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 6th

Please join us on Thursday, May 6th at 12:15 pm at the Morristown Club at 27 Elm Street in Morristown. The luncheons are open to members of the parish and their guests. The favor of a reply is requested in order that a place may be reserved for you at the table, but last minute drop-ins are always welcome. Hope to see you there. For more information please contact Peter Mercer at [jpmercer@comcast.net](mailto:jpmercer@comcast.net).

### May Birthday Wishes to

Jim Christie, Alan Enos,  
Cookie Goulding  
& Craig Johnston





**CHILDREN & YOUTH NEWS****ROGATION SUNDAY**

Sunday, May 9th

Please join us on Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup> to pick up a seedling to be nurtured for one week. The confirmation students planted bean seeds in pots for everyone to bring home for the week. All seedlings need to be returned on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> to be planted at God's Giving Garden.

Mothers and nurturers of all kinds are also being honored next Sunday by receiving a Snapdragon also potted by the confirmation students.

**Best Wishes as you celebrate your birthday in May**

*James Bohr, Mason Bohr, Michael Sullivan,  
Charlie Lichtenfeld, Meredith Mitchell,  
and Sarah Iossa*

**EASTER EGGS**

This is a friendly reminder to return your empty plastic Easter eggs from the annual Easter egg hunt. We would like to be able to recycle these eggs for next year's hunt. There is a bag in the Parish House office where you can drop off your eggs.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS NEWS**

*The Confirmation Class prepares seedlings that will soon be transferred to the Giving Garden at Ross Farms*

## MISSION OUTREACH

### GOD'S CO-OP PANTRY

Our neighbors and Bernardsville friends need help. You may drop off crucial food items at the church office or in the Narthex.

#### Requested items are

5 lb bags of long grain rice  
1 lb bags of dry black beans  
Powered chicken bouillon  
Canned chicken

#### Next Outreach Meeting

Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. on ZOOM. Any parishioner who has an interest or would like to suggest a not-for-profit program for our support, is welcome to attend. Contact Hilary at [hilarity3121@gmail.com](mailto:hilarity3121@gmail.com).



At the Somerville Food Bank

Mike Ewing, Sophia Gudgion, Rita Gudgion,  
Scotty Schmitt (Rita's nephew), Ward Dorer.  
Not pictured: Hilary Thomas Dorer

The Outreach Committee thanks Sally Hespe for her years of support to its ministry. She will be missed. We will send a donation in her name to the Manchester (VT) Community Library where she is now working.

### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE AT THE BERNARDSVILLE LIBRARY

The English As a Second Language program at the Bernardsville Library is entirely funded by St. John on the Mountain. Hilary Thomas Dorer had a discussion with Shura Arnold, Executive Director of the Bernardsville Library recently.

The ESL program was closed for 2020 and will continue to be closed for 2021. It is expected to start again in January 2022. The funds we gave them for 2020 are still available and will be used to fund 2022. We can expect a new request for funding for the 2023 program in the fall of 2022.

Shura asked that we help in any way we can to get the word out about the new and growing Spanish library collection. They don't need money, but they can use word of mouth to let people know that there is a collection at the library

A liaison with the Library will be needed in 2022. If anyone is interested, please let us know.

### SJOTM AT THE FOOD BANK Saturday's in April

Thank you to the volunteers who worked at the Panty on Saturdays in April. Sue Kennedy, Hilary and Ward Dorer, Evelyn, Georgia and Peter Kissel, Blake and Sumner Putnam, Rita, Sophia and Reagan Gudgion, Scottie Schmidt, Lynn and Meredith Mitchell, Betsey Blair, Graham Argent-Belcher, Margot, Jane and Sarah Lewis, Chip, Tressa and Owen Baird, Mike Ewing.

Thank you to all of you who donated. You gave more than 95 hams, chickens and lasagnas for Easter. Thank you.

Sad news. Our friend and regular Food Bank volunteer, Craig Ferrante, died suddenly on March 29th. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Our next donation to the Food Bank will be made in his honor.

### GIVING GARDEN At Ross Farm

Planting of early crops is completed. Bean seeds will be reared by Sunday School children for planting on May 15th. The work schedule is still under COVID restrictions.

Volunteers should contact Nina Dixon ([rosinadixon@verizon.net](mailto:rosinadixon@verizon.net)) if they wish to help.

## ST. JOHN'S NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

The past few weeks have been truly action packed at SJNS. Our time has been spent launching our new Exercise study which the children have seemed to thoroughly enjoy and have included numerous fun activities and learning adventures. Teachers and students also celebrated Earth Day by planting flowers outside the classrooms which has certainly brightened up the look of our landscaping. Thanks to all the SJNS families who sent in flowers. Additionally our staff spent an afternoon last week completing their CPR and First-Aid certifications.

Registrations for the last session of Lunch Bunch came in fast and furious as soon as they were publicized and we are thankful to our families for their interest in these programs.

Although our regular school year will end on June 4, we are very pleased to be reinstating our SJNS summer camp program, affectionately called Preschool Pals. Camp will run the weeks of June 7 & 14. Registration closed on April 30 and it seems that there are 32 children enrolled for the first week and 29 for the second week.

With regards to our new unit of study surrounding exercise, the students and staff are thoroughly enjoying this newest study. The weather, combined with the children's end of the year energy, has made this study the perfect fit! We began by exploring the topic, which entails teachers prompting children to explore what they already know about the subject. This becomes the building block for successful learning as the study progresses. The more active that children are in their learning, the more they connect prior knowledge and retain new knowledge. This week the classes investigated the question "What are different kinds of exercise?". The engagement and real world applications of these concrete topics (trees, buildings, exercise), resonate in the child's world. The teachers assessed the students' prior knowledge by asking children "What is exercise?". This gives teachers a starting point. The older children's answers included "I like to play tennis", "It is a sport", "It is good for your heart", "I like stretching and doing obstacle courses", and "They make you sweat". Examples of the younger classes' thoughts included "Exercise is when mommy pedals on a peloton bike" and "I run in a circle". It is fascinating to note the increasingly complex sentence structure. Most importantly, teachers are then able to deliberately build on what their students know and have experienced. A special Mother's Day video is being developed (as a surprise!) that ties into this newest study!





## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN ON THE MOUNTAIN

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## JOIN US SUNDAYS

8:00 am	Holy Eucharist Rite I
10:00 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:45 am	Coffee Hour

## DAILY OFFICE

10:00 am	Tuesday Morning Prayer
5:00 pm	Wednesday Evening Prayer
10:00 am	Thursday Morning Prayer

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED