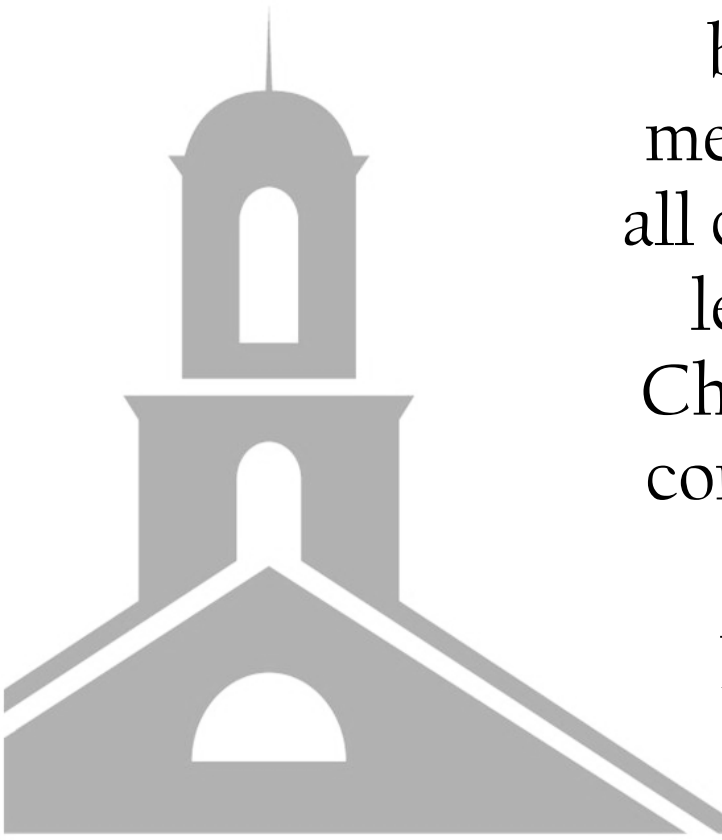


St. John's

Each of us has a unique reason for becoming and being a member of St. John's. We all create our own path and level of connectedness. Choose one or more of the community activities that move you on your journey of faith.



Welcome Home

WORSHIP

Holy Eucharist Rite I: The Rite I service most closely follows the traditional language used in the Episcopal church and is a quiet and contemplative service, without music.

Holy Eucharist Rite II: The Rite II service is the version of the liturgy using more modern American language and is usually celebrated with music: organ and, during the school year, one or more of the Choirs.

Holy Eucharist & Healing Service: Healing Service is a weekday celebration of the Holy Eucharist (Rite I) followed by a laying on of hands for healing for those who wish to participate.

Centering Prayer: A method to practice the ancient prayer of the heart, commonly called contemplative prayer. It is a 20 minute time of silence where one seeks to be with God with time for discussion of topics of spiritual importance .

Compline: Offered Sundays during Lent, Compline is a meditative and expressive candle-lit liturgy that explores the passage of day to night, weaving together themes of peace, comfort, watchfulness, and guidance.

Kids Praise: A unique worship experience tailored just for kids during the time adults are experiencing the sermon in the church, rejoining their families in church for the Eucharist.

Acolytes: Acolytes assist the priests in the worship services of the parish. Their roles include: crucifers, servers, torch bearers and banner bearers.

Lectors: Lay people who offer the reading and prayers during Sunday services.

Eucharistic Ministers: Lay people who administer the chalice during Sunday services.

Eucharist Visitors: Lay members who delivery Holy Communion to persons unable to attend.

Altar Guild: prepares the elements of the Eucharist for presentation to the priest and to supervise the after-care of the altar.

Ushers: welcome newcomers, hand out bulletins, find seating, and guide the congregation through the line for the Eucharist at church services.

LEARN

Kids Church: PreK through 5th grade
Kids Church Classes: Explore, adventure, discover, and grow!

Rite 13: All youth in 6th through 8th grade are welcome to join the "Rite13" Youth Group. Throughout the year as we grow together and discover God's love, we'll form a tight community, explore the important real world issues that matter to us, and support one another through laughter, celebration, service, and excursions.

Journey To Adulthood (J2A): Teens in 9th through 12th grade should come join our family each week as we Journey to Adulthood! The path to being an adult is filled with all kinds of incredible opportunities to discover who you are, figure out how to make your mark on the world, and nurture lifelong friendships.

Adult Sunday Morning Forums: Gospel Chat most Sundays, discussing the Gospel lesson for the upcoming week.

St. John's Night: Wednesday evenings we gather to Eat, Learn, and Pray.

BibleWorkbench: Tuesday mornings we explore our story through sacred stories.

EfM (Education for Ministry): a comprehensive four-year program, to which a participant commits one year at a time; designed for individuals seeking theological education. Participants gain an understanding of the Christian tradition, to learn to find God's presence in everyday life, and to decide how to live in response to that presence.

Men's Book Group: reads, discusses and explores the intersections of self, soul, Spirit and community, in its many forms.

Women's Book Groups: shares ideas, feelings and questions all garnered from the weeks reading in some pre-selected spiritual book.

MUSIC

Cherubs Choir: children age 4 through 2nd grade learn basic musicianship skills in a fun and engaging atmosphere, by playing games, learning riddles and jingles. The Cherubs perform approximately once per month during the academic year and sing in the Christmas Pageant, Family Christmas Eve service, and on Easter Sunday.

Junior Choir: open to grades 3 through 8, singers receive weekly vocal training, learn and grow musicianship skills, sing in several languages, and explore many styles of music. Junior Choir regularly sings at Sunday morning services and special events: Evensong services, Lessons and Carols, the Christmas Pageants, and the Spring Musical.

St. J Singers: provides an opportunity for junior and senior high students (grades 7 and up) to shape the sound and intent of their group, while learning what it means to be a member of an ensemble, and instilling the expectation of excellence through the grace of God. Members are given key roles in the Christmas Pageant and Spring Musical.

Parish Choir: made up of men, women, and select high school students, the Parish Choir sings most Sunday morning Rite II services, in addition to a full range of festival services throughout the liturgical year. Rehearsals are Sunday mornings from 8:30am to 10am.

The Choir School: provides youth in grades 3-7 with a comprehensive musical education, as well as an opportunity to be a part of a dynamic and supportive community. This afternoon program meets three days per week.

Compline: a men's schola revives an ancient prayer tradition in chanting the office of Compline. A contemplative, transformative, traditional worship opportunity during Lent at St. John's.

Concerts on the Hill: a chamber music series focused on presenting engaging programming to the Seacoast area.

The Young Organist Collaborative (YOC): an outreach program of St. John's designed to train the next generation of organists.

CARE

Archivists: preserves, celebrates and shares the rich history at St. John's.

Common Table: Planning, cooking and serving a weekly nutritious meal to all in need in St. John's Thaxter Hall.

Cooking for Crossroads House: each month the Youth Group gathers in the kitchen in Thaxter Hall to prepare a meal for the residents of Crossroads House, the local homeless shelter.

Common Cents Economy Shop: accepts donations and provides low cost clothing, household items, sheets and blankets to the community at large.

Knitting Group: knit prayer shawls or seaman's hats to be given to those in need.

Loafers: bake bread to welcome newcomers and visitors to St. John's.

NeighborCare: creates community through extending loving service and care to our neighbors, including meals and/or rides, practical help in the house or yard.

Office Volunteers: assist the staff with all kinds of administrative tasks.

Prayer Chain: prays daily those who are troubled in any way.

Receptions Ministry: provides a reception for funerals. All food and drink is provided by volunteers who prepare the food, set up the reception hall and help the families through a difficult time.

Salvation Army Soup Kitchen: prepares, serves and cleans up a meal at the Portsmouth Salvation Army Soup Kitchen monthly.

Seacoast Family Promise (SFP): a network of volunteers from various faith communities. Using donations of time and funds, they provide a safe place for homeless families to turn for food, shelter, and social services. Participating congregations reach out to families in crisis offering guidance and encouragement while preserving their dignity as they take important steps to regain independence.

Vestry: oversees the management of church financial matters and the calling of the rector.

GIVE

Annual Pledge: Financially support the day to day expenses for the Worship, Music and Education programs of St. John's.

To support the mission of St John's by providing the financial resources needed from its members and activities to enable the daily and continued ministry, worship, music and education to all. Through stewardship activities, we will inform, inspire and invite others to share their gifts from God so St John's can do His work.

Legacy Giving: Remember St. John's in your will or estate plan.

To create a sustainable, financial foundation/future for St. John's through planned giving, legacy donations and other bequests/investments that preserve the future health of the church, its ministry and the sharing of God's love with others. Donors who contribute a planned gift are honored in St. John's Legacy Society.

Community Support: Contribute time, talent and funds to St. John's Outreach efforts that reach beyond the St. John's the community.

To share God's love in our community through St John's outreach and to actively pursue the support, financial generosity and resources of other organizations to join with St John's and share/minister to those in need in our community.

To learn more about any activity, please contact Joanne in our office. She will be able to answer your questions or direct you to the person who can.

You can reach her at 603-436-8283 or administrator@stjohnsnh.org

We highly recommend adding your name to our mailing/email list. You will receive weekly announcements and a monthly newsletter.