

THE EVANGELIST

SEPTEMBER 2026

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SAINT JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

GREETINGS, BELOVED!



The Rev. David Bumsted, Rector

We're so excited for our fall ministry kickoff here at Saint John's! This year, we want you to experience some of the many opportunities to serve and fellowship at our great parish. I thought I'd use my newsletter space to help you get oriented for Rally Day. Please prayerfully consider how you might "serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song (Psalm 100:1). I can't wait to see how the day shapes up! Please make sure you go visit as many ministries as you can!

Blessings,

HOW TO RALLY DAY!

Go see Diana Carter at the Welcome Table in the Common Room for a handy map and the day's Ministries schedule! **You will also pick up a food ticket with your designated taco time**. Families with children will receive the first ticket times, and then we'll work through the remaining guests in scheduled groups. This way, no one has to stand in one long taco line.

While you wait for your turn, go explore the experiences the ministries have to offer! So grab your ticket, enjoy the celebration, and when your time comes... **¡Vamos a comer! – Let's Eat!**

Common Room Experience:
11:30 am: Join the **Flower Guild** by the flower room for a quick tour of their space and supplies, then move to the common room for an arrangement demonstration!

Experiences in the Sanctuary:
11:15 am: Meet at the Altar Rail with the **Altar Guild** to see how they set up and clean up after the service.
11:30 pm: Meet in the choir pews with our **Music Ministr**y and enjoy a Hymnal Sing-along.
12:00 pm: Meet with the wonderful ladies of **St. Barbara's Guild** in the back pews to learn how to walk our labyrinth in prayer. Everyone is welcome!
12:20 pm: Join Fr. Carson in the first row pews for a quick demo on how to be a **Lay Eucharistic Minister.**

Experiences by the labyrinth:
11:00 am – 1 pm: Happy Farms Petting Zoo for the kids and kids at heart.
11:00 am – 1 pm: El Ranchero Food Truck - *Get your food ticket at the welcome booth!*
11:00 am – 1 pm: Drink Station on the patio with the **Scouts!** Grab a drink and learn about all the wonderful things our Scouts do on and off Saint John's Campus.
11:30 am – 12: 30 pm: Garden & Grounds with Doug. The first 25 visitors will get a pack of pollinator flower seeds!

The Kitchen is Open!
11:30 am – 1:00 pm: Swing by and see Nick and Abby for a sweet treat from Poncho Anya to complement the wonderful Tacos!
12:15 pm: Plating Demonstration with Nick and Abby from Hospitality! Learn how to plate a beautiful spread for a crowd and how you can get involved in the **Hospitality Ministry**.

HOW TO RALLY DAY CONTINUED

Experiences on the Lower Level:
11:30 am – 12:30 pm: Stop by and be a part of the **Prayers & Squares** 75th Anniversary Quilt! Sign your name to a square that will become part of this commemorative quilt. What an amazing way to celebrate 75 years of faith and fellowship together!
11:45 am – 12:30 pm: Grab lunch, then take the kids down to the **Youth and Kids' Ministries** Classroom to make a special prayer bracelet to take home. And learn about wonderful volunteer opportunities coming up! Our youth program is growing, and we would love your help.

Powell Hall Experiences:
11:15 am – 12 pm: Meet the teachers who benefit from all the wonderful donations we gather for **Outreach!** Even better, bring a school supply item while you're there!
12:00 pm and again at 12:30 pm – Join the Brotherhood of St. Andrew for a Men's Prayer in Powell Hall.

Library Experiences:
12:00 pm – Fr. Thom will do a sample **Dead Theologians' Society** class;s a great opportunity to see what DTS is all about!
12:30 pm - Learn how to make Pocket Prayers with the ladies of the **Daughters of the King!**

SAINT JOHN'S RALLY DAY & MINISTRY FAIR

We look forward to seeing everyone for the 2026 Saint John's Rally Day & Ministry Fair on Sunday, Sept. 13!

Parishioners, neighbors, and friends are all invited to join us following the 10 am service. Celebrating the many ways to connect, serve, learn, and grow in Christ at Saint John's in honor of our 75th Anniversary!

This year, Rally Day is all about experiencing ministry! Instead of simply visiting ministry tables, you'll have the opportunity to experience our ministries hands-on. We invite you to try something new, meet the people who make our ministries happen, and discover where you might find your own place to connect.

Friendly Farms Petting Zoo is back! And because Ministry Fairs are always better with good food, we'll have tacos from El Ranchero's taco truck and delicious Mexican pastries from a local bakery to enjoy as we gather.



Come celebrate where we've been, discover where we're going, and find your place in the next chapter of Saint John's!

TREASURER'S MESSAGE

Planned Giving Meeting

Discover how thoughtful planning can create a lasting legacy of faith and generosity. All church members are warmly invited to an upcoming informational meeting about planned giving. We will discuss meaningful ways to support the church's mission and ministries through wills, trusts, beneficiary designations, and other legacy gifts.

The meeting will provide practical information, answer common questions, and explain how planned gifts can strengthen the church for future generations. This is an educational gathering only, and there is no obligation to make a commitment. We hope you will join us.

For questions or to RSVP, please contact Amanda Storms at astorms@sjtulsa.org.

12:00 pm on Sunday, November 1st, 2026
In Fox Library

Bill Chevaillier

ST. BARBARA'S GUILD

St. Barbara's Guild is a group of women dedicated to the study of the Bible, service projects, fellowship, and support of each other and Saint John's Episcopal Church.

Meetings are the third Thursday of the month at 11:00 am in the Multi-Purpose Room on the Lower Level (also known as the Prayers & Squares Room). Bring a sack lunch. Beverages of water and coffee are provided. **Our September meeting is on Thursday, September 17th @ 11:00 am.** We will begin our study of the Book of John with Father David. Please remember to bring your Bible.

Join us on Rally Day on Sunday, September 13th in the Church Sanctuary. St Barbara's Guild members will be presenting an interactive labyrinth: a meditative/prayer walk through the pews at 12:00 pm.



Want to learn more about St Barbara's Guild Bible Study and Service Projects?
Contact: Kathleen Moss – 918-633-8881 by phone or text. Join us! *Kathleen Moss*

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Daughters of the King will resume regular monthly meetings on September 3 at 9:30 am in the library. They will be discussing their plans and agenda for the 2026-2027 term. On October 1st, at 10:00 am, Mother Susanne Methven will meet with the daughters to teach and demonstrate how to use a Labyrinth for meditation and prayer. And on November 5th, Father David will teach about intercessory prayer. If you are interested in being part of Daughters of the King and joining our journey of spiritual growth, please know you are welcome.

The Daughters of the King is a national organization, and prospective members complete a 12-week study before making a membership commitment. New members are always welcome. Officers for the 2026-2027 year are: President – Pam Diaz, V. President – Gail Dodson, Secretary – Pat Elsberry, Treasurer – Lexey Cavert

Join us on Rally Day in the Library at 12:30 pm to learn how to make prayer pockets! We look forward to showing you how to make this thoughtful gift! See you there. *Pam Diaz*

MUSIC NEWS

September marks the beginning of a new season for our music ministry at Saint John's. All choirs resume in full, and we are eager to resume with our full forces. We are especially excited about our matriculation services on October 4th at 5 pm. We will have a special festive Evensong featuring all our choirs and several guest musicians to celebrate our 75th anniversary. October also marks the return of Music at Midday with a wonderful lineup this fall. Please see the nearby ad for more details. Also, save the date for our Choral Requiem service on the evening of November 1st. This year, we will offer the beautiful Romantic German composer Josef Rheinberger's setting of this liturgy.

Finally, please save the date for our production of Handel's Messiah on December 4th and 5th. We are excited to be collaborating with the Oklahoma Baroque Orchestra and some of our favorite soloists for these special performances!

Music at Midday Schedule
October 14th – Vesko Todorov and Lyndon Meyer – Viola and harpsichord/organ
October 21st – Mary Ann Stewart and Cathy Venable – Soprano and piano
October 28th – Bartlesville Bells, Marjoleine Gravley, director – Handbell ensemble
November 4th – The University of Tulsa Cappella Chamber Singers, Kim Childs, director – Choir *Dr. Zach Malavolti*



HOSPITALITY NEWS

Passionate about community? Enjoy delicious snacks? Become a part of our Hospitality Team! It's simple, enjoyable, and a fantastic way to build connections. We rotate Sundays, focusing on teamwork, creativity, and making everyone feel at home. No prior experience required, just bring your enthusiasm! To sign up today and make a difference, reach out to Amanda Storms at astorms@sjtulsa.org.

Swing by and see Nick and Abby on Rally Day for a sweet treat from Poncho Anya **and learn how to get involved in Hospitality. The plating demonstration will be at 12:15 pm!**

Reminder: No nuts at Hospitality Hour! *Amanda Storms*

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY NEWS

Wednesday Night Youth Group: Join us for 5:30 Choristers, 6:00 Dinner, and 6:30 Lessons and Fun. This semester we are diving into the Bible and Art. We are rolling up our sleeves to create beautiful, functional pieces for use by the youngest children in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. We'll study a corresponding Bible passage and make 3D sheepfolds, topographical maps, photobooks, and much more!

We need volunteers - it's all hands on deck! We're looking for help welcoming the kids, leading crafts, running experiments, preparing snacks, teaching, decorating the parish, and more. There's a place for everyone. Please reach out to me as soon as you can if you're willing to help; we need as many people as possible to make this a great week for our children and visiting families.

Acolyte - Join the team! We're inviting all kids ages 8 and up to serve during worship. Being an acolyte is a special way to grow in faith and leadership. To sign up, reach out to Fr. Thom!

Wednesday Evening Potluck - If you're able to provide or donate a meal for 10–15 people, we would be so grateful. Your generosity helps create a welcoming space where our youth can gather, connect, and be nourished in more ways than one. Questions? Reach out to Fr. Thom.

Monthly Supper and Service Projects - Stay tuned for monthly Supper and Service projects. This month, on October 7th, we will pack dog food for homebound folks and their pets.

Rally Day - Stop by Children's Ministry to chat, make a prayer bracelet, see our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd materials, and/or learn about how to volunteer!

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is starting at Saint John's, and we need your help!

What is CGS? Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a Montessori-inspired faith formation program that will begin by serving children ages 3-6. In it, children encounter the word of God through what they see, hear, touch, feel, and smell. We are in the process of setting up our atrium, the sacred space for the children to experience the word of God. We need your help! **Wanted: woodworkers, seamstresses, and crafty types.**

Do you have any of these items lying around? Please see Emily Foon about donating them.

- Small, child sized wooden tables
- Small, child sized wooden chairs
- Low coffee table (2)
- Low shelves (bookshelves or classroom shelves) (3)
- Q tips
- Cotton balls
- Small watering cans
- Large glass vases (2)
- Silver and brass objects
- Hand towels or dish towels
- Carpet Sweeper
- Small tabletop broom and dustpan
- Straw baskets
- Plastic aprons
- Clipboards
- Tiny jars
- Sacred art images
- Lamps (4)
- Colored pencils
- One or two sets of large crayons
- Plain pencils
- Manual pencil sharpeners (3)
- Rulers
- Scissors
- Plain white paper
- 8.5 inches x 8.5 inches tracing paper
- Colored construction paper
- Basin or wide bowl
- Small soap dish
- Small bar of soap
- Small flower vases

Emily Foon

OUTREACH

Schools Still Need Some Help, and so does the Coffee Bunker! Edison needs more help! A request just came in from Edison asking specifically for the following: school binders; spiral notebooks; belts, size medium for boys/young men; deodorant; popcorn kernels, seasoning, & oil (students and staff love popcorn in the morning!); paper towels; and bottled water. Let's join together and get Edison what it needs!

And it's time—time to help replenish Coffee Bunkers' coffers! Our veterans often need a helping hand, especially with their groceries. We need any of the following: canned vegetables, meats, fruits, soups, broths, dried goods, and any other items you think our veterans would like.

As always, thank you so very much for all you do for the organizations we serve. Outreach is evangelism!

Come see Outreach on Rally Day in Powell Hall! We will have a school representative with us, so come say hi! Even better, bring a school supply item for them to take back to their school!

Janice Ingle



SEE LIST OF NEEDS ON THE OUTREACH TABLE IN THE COMMON ROOM

ADULT FORMATION & ACTIVITIES

The Rector's Forum Sundays at 9 am in Powell Hall - Father David will show you how to enjoy the Bible through a careful reading of the Joseph story in Genesis. There's more to the book than just a fancy coat!

Iron Gate – On Saturday, October 3rd, at 8:15 am, our Saint John's volunteers will head to Iron Gate with The Brotherhood to serve breakfast to our neighbors with dignity and kindness. Your presence can make a meaningful difference, sometimes more than we ever realize. If you feel called to serve, please reach out to Bob Baker at 918-688-7777 to sign up.

Dead Theologians Society - Join us on **Thursday evenings at White Lion Pub at 6:30 pm**. We're studying St. Cyril of Jerusalem's *Mystagogy*. No theology degree needed; come to read and discuss the ancient wisdom of the Church and how it applies to our lives today. September 10th, September 24th, October 8th, October 22nd, November 5th, and November 19th.

BISHOP VISIT









PRAYERS & SQUARES - 75TH QUILT!



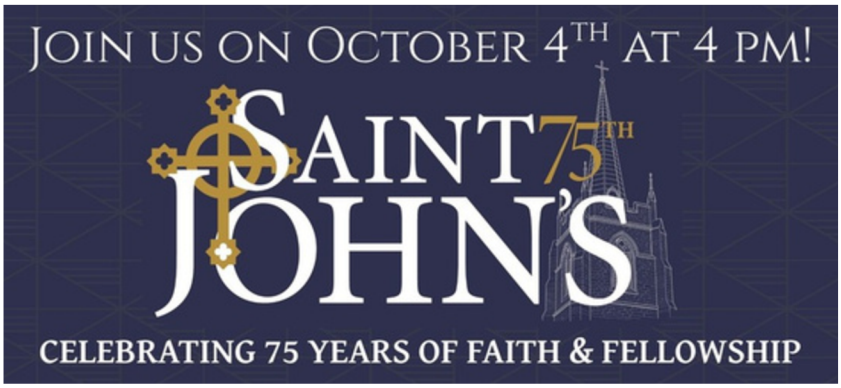
This Rally Day, Prayer's & Squares is creating something extra special for Saint John's 75th Anniversary: a quilt made from the names of the people who are part of our church family!

Join us in the Lower Level in the Multi-purpose room from 11:30 am –12:30 pm on Rally Day and add your name to a quilt square.

Your signature will become a little piece of Saint John's history, helping us create a keepsake that celebrates the 75th Anniversary of Saint John's!

While you're there, learn about our wonderful Ministry! We are always open to people who sew or would like to learn! If you or someone you know needs a prayer quilt, reach out to any member or Contact Peggy Landrum at landrum.peggy@yahoo.com. Peggy Landrum

75TH CELEBRATION



We can't wait to celebrate our 75th Anniversary of Saint John's with you on Sunday, October 4! Join us at 4 pm on the lower level for hors d'oeuvres and to take a look at photos from the past, then join us at 5:00 pm for our Michaelmas & Matriculation Service!

Following the service, the celebration continues out on the labyrinth and lawn! We will have live music, delicious food catered by the Meat and Cheese Show with Chief Joel, home-brewed beer, something special from Cabin Boys, wine, refreshing sparkling water, and tea. And, of course, Something special and fun for the kids! Guests will receive a commemorative 75th glass to take home to remember this wonderful occasion!

This will be a particularly special evening as we gather to celebrate 75 years of faith, fellowship, worship, and ministry at Saint John's. What better way to honor all that God has done through our parish than by coming together as one for an evening of worship, celebration, food, music, and fun?

Bring your family, invite a friend, and come ready to celebrate the wonderful community that has been growing here for 75 amazing years. Whether you've been part of Saint John's for decades or are just getting to know us, you are part of the story, and we'd love to celebrate with you! It's going to be a fantastic evening of faith, friendship, gratitude, and a whole lot of fun. We hope you'll join us!

BLESSING OF OUR PETS

The Blessing of Our Pets is coming up on Sunday, October 11th! Bring your furry, feathered, or even scaly friends to join us for this joyful tradition. Father David will lead a special service at 2 pm on the labyrinth, celebrating the love, companionship, and joy our pets bring into our lives. Come and share in this heartwarming afternoon of gratitude, community, and wagging tails!



LIVING CHURCH - RADIANT PAGES: REDISCOVERING THE BIBLE

Join us from September 24-26, 2026, for A Living Church Conference, hosted by All Souls' Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City.

What does it mean to love Scripture? How does Jesus encounter us through every part of the Bible, even the most difficult parts, revealing God's Wisdom? How can we better "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest" God's beautiful and life-giving Word together?

Join The Living Church in Oklahoma City for "Radiant Pages: Rediscovering the Bible." This three-day conference will empower lay people and clergy alike to read the Bible with greater skill, care, and confidence. It will also provide tools for priests and teachers to reinvigorate their teaching and preaching.

In keynotes, conversation, and practical workshops, we'll delve into questions like:

- Is there an "Anglican way" to read Scripture?
- Do Christians still need the Old Testament?
- Did Paul preach the same gospel as Jesus?
- How do I reconcile John with the rest of the gospels?
- How can I encounter Christ in devotional reading?
- How can I deepen Bible reading for preaching?



Scan the QR code and use code ASOKC at checkout for $100 Registration!

Milestones

July Birthdays

1 Alex Abney
Blu Lawson
Marc McCaw
2 Elizabeth Crews
Marian Greenwood,
LeaAnn Lee
Joshua McCormick
3 Noah Baum
Phillip Bedford
4 Kathy Hoyt
5 Susie Byers
6 Stephanie Byrd
Ivan Cox
8 Karen Abney
Cooper Smith
9 John Burkhardt
11 Michael O'Kelly
12 John Brock
Claire Cumming
Rachel Etheridge
13 Marilyn Bedford
Miriam Young
14 Michael Christian
15 Brad Brown
16 Judy Cairl
Shannon Johnson
Hossein Kalami
Gretchen Mitchell
Chelley Wallack
17 Rhonda Breaux
John Gray
Charlie Nutter
Tim Vogel
18 Robert Adkison
Tony Beeson
Dean Luthey
Case Rycroft
19 Al Davies
20 Amanda Davies
21 Elliott McCaw
22 Barbara Burke
Trudy Vestal
23 Richard Dodson
24 Iona Hoopert
Bridget Johnson
25 Steve Dodson
26 Jeff Baum
Angela Swanson
27 Charlene Hanlon
Scott Randall
Lisa Schooley
28 Betty Bilbrey
Judy Hays
29 Carolyn Nierenberg
30 Jim Perdue

MEET TROOP 2319 (GIRLS), SCOUTING AMERICA!

Troop 2319 serves as an extension of Saint John's commitment to forming young people in faith, character, and service. Through Scouting America, our young ladies learn leadership, responsibility, and compassion—values that reflect the Gospel and the mission of St. John's. The troop provides a welcoming space where young ladies grow in confidence, discover their gifts, and learn to serve Christ in their community.

By supporting Troop 2319, Saint John's invests directly in shaping the next generation of faithful, capable, and service-minded leaders.

Visit us online. We are incredibly proud to celebrate seven Scouts from Troop 153 who recently participated in an outstanding leadership experience at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico!

In the photo, Eli Thomas is pictured on the far left. Eli had the opportunity to serve on staff at Philmont, helping make this incredible experience possible for fellow Scouts. The other six Scouts participated in the National Advanced Youth Leadership Training course. Visit us in person on Monday nights from 7-8 PM in the Lower Level of Saint John's.

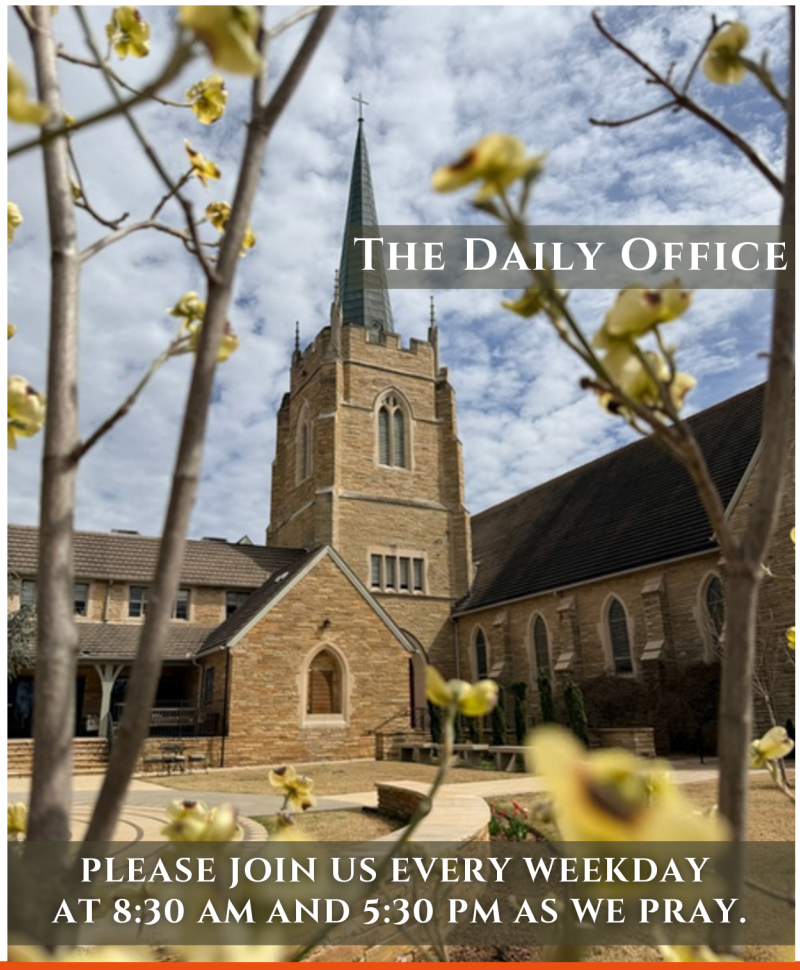


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THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH