



THE BREASTPLATE

The Newsletter of Saint Patricks Episcopal Church

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Register for VBS today!

When: July 13th - 17th

9am - 12pm

Ages: 4 years -

Rising 5th Graders

Cost: \$50

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13

**[Click Here](#)
[to Register](#)**

Get ready for an unforgettable winter sports extravaganza with Snowball Mountain Challenge!

Join Ollie the Arctic Seal for an exciting winter sports event where kids become Challengers, gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith. They will come to realize that with the strength God provides, they can share their gifts, be brave, give their all, pray, and hope.

VBS Mountain Guide News

VBS is just a month and a half away! There are three training options for VBS adult and youth crew. Please mark your calendars to attend one of these trainings:

- Saturday, June 6th 10:00—11:30 am
- Wednesday, July 1st 4:00—2:30 pm
- Thursday, July 9th 6:00—7:30 pm

Not yet a part of the VBS crew, but interested? Opportunities are available for youth (rising 6th graders and up) and adults. Please fill out the [crew form](#) to share your interest with Eryn Kindelin.

Crew Breakfast Sign Up

Scan the code (or click [here](#)) if you would like to help feed the VBS crew by bringing breakfast one morning!



Paper / Bank boxes with lids needed for VBS Mission.

Do you work at a company that uses lots of paper? VBS is in need of 12x12x18 recycled paper boxes with lids for our food boxes we are assembling for CRIS. We will use these boxes as decorations to build mountains for our "Snowball Mountain Challenge" theme and then fill them throughout the week with donations. Boxes can be dropped off in the church office.

Supply Donations



We are also looking for some supplies. You can scan the QR code (or click [here](#)) to see our Amazon wishlist and/or donate cash and/or gift cards, particularly to Kroger, Costco and Walmart!

We appreciate everyone's help in making VBS great this year!

The **Breastplate** is published
monthly by Saint Patrick's
Episcopal Church.

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Breastplate should be submitted to:

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Solar Makes St. Patrick's Green

On June 14th we launched our Solar Makes St. Patrick's Green project with a delightful coffee hour and parish forum. We are shifting to solar power because we are followers of Jesus. Not only are we given stewardship of creation in the first stories of the book of Genesis, in the prologue of John's gospel we are taught that all things came to be through the Word which is Jesus. Caring for creation is a devotional act. Furthermore, climate change due to carbon emissions is a real problem, one to which we can faithfully respond.

We are putting a solar panel array on the roof of that will generate 85% to 95% of our electricity every year. We currently spend \$14,000 a year on average for electricity, and that bill is only going up. So, joining this effort is not only an investment in the future of the environment, but also a legacy to help sustain the St. Patrick's faith community for decades to come.

I am sure you have a lot more questions, so, the Solar Team of Randy Edwards, Blair McGinnis, Mark Hanes, Alex Carter, and I, have produced the following FAQ which will also be on the church website: www.pats-dublin.org/solar.

Solar Frequently-Asked-Questions(FAQ) St Patrick's Episcopal Church

1. How does the "tax credit" work when we are a nonprofit?

The term "tax credit" isn't quite the right term. In 2022, Congress approved a direct pay reimbursement that helps defray the costs of renewable energy infrastructure (including solar panels) for non-profits, including churches. This Direct Pay Reimbursement provides for a basic reimbursement of 30 percent of total project costs for qualifying projects.

This benefit sunsets on July 1, 2026, so we need to get the project underway before then. We will not receive this direct payment until a year after the project is completed.

Some additional background: For more than two decades, commercial properties have received federal tax breaks for installing renewable energy, a provision of the 2005 Energy Policy Act, which created the Investment Tax Credit (ITC) for renewable energy infrastructure. In 2022, Congress voted to extend a similar benefit to non-profits. Non-profits don't pay taxes, so the reimbursement is simply a payment from the IRS.

Continued on the next page.....

Solar Makes St. Patrick's Green Cont.

2. What are the costs and payment schedule for the project?

The total project cost is \$246,000. This includes Energility (consulting firm) and Gold Path Solar (solar array installer). The solar array installation portion of the total cost is \$236,219. The payment schedule and amounts are:

- Downpayment (10%): \$23,621.90 due in June
- Phase 1 (40%): \$94,487.60 due in or around August/September .
- Phase 2 (40%): \$94,487.60 due in or around October
- Final (10%): \$23,621.90 due upon project completion (December time frame)

We have received sufficient donations already to cover the downpayment. The diocesan grant of \$50,000 will be used to cover approximately 50% of the Phase 1 costs. The federal Direct Pay Reimbursement for solar installations would be about 30% of the project (\$71,000). This amount will not be received by the church until mid-to-late 2027, however.

The remainder will be covered by fundraising and/or a loan, to be paid off by energy savings. The more we fundraise, the less we have to borrow, and the quicker the solar will pay for itself.

3. Is St. Pat's able to accept appreciated stock, QCDs, or other forms of planned giving for the solar project?

Yes. All forms in which you typically would give to St Pats can be used for the Solar project. The key is simply to designate the donation as "for solar". There are many tax-advantaged ways to give. Consult with your financial advisor or CPA for more details.

4. A question about financing: What happens if we don't get the donations we are seeking?

The St. Patrick's rooftop solar project pays for itself in 11 years through the savings we will receive by producing our own energy from the sun. This timeline is conservative and is based on no additional donations, but also no financing interest (via bank loan). The more donations we receive, the more quickly we pay off the loan and the sooner we will reap the full benefits of our home-grown energy source. Fewer donations mean a longer financing schedule and more interest payments to the banks.

5. Related to financing: What is the most advantageous financing loan? Line of credit?

We are in conversations with three different banks regarding loans. We are exploring traditional loans (full amount given up-front), lines of credit, and project loans (loan principal increases as project phases are paid). Interest rates for each, thus far, appear to be similar. We won't know which is the best option for us until we have received final information from the banks and can assess the advantages and disadvantages of what we are offered.

Continued on the next page.....

Solar Makes St. Patrick's Green Cont.

6. How will the solar panels be insured?

The panels are covered both by a manufacturer's warranty and under our standing building insurance policy.

7. Does this work affect the timeline for the elevator?

It should not, because the timeline for the elevator is still emerging. We recently received an anonymous donation for the entire cost of an elevator. Consequently, we have contracted with Mode Architects—a firm Rick Sicker has worked with on many occasions and trusts—to begin the design process. After design, we will solicit bids from contractors, and there will still be engineering, permitting, and other preliminary steps before construction can begin. Therefore, while the solar array installation might overlap a little with elevator construction, more than likely, the elevator construction will be after the solar array installation.

Fundraising update

The more funds we raise the less we will have to borrow and the sooner the solar array will pay for itself. I am excited to report that as of June 23rd we have collected \$23,762 in donations and have another \$3500 pledged. That is 22% of the \$126,000, and a great start. If you would like to pledge to make a contribution at future date, there are pledge forms in the narthex/lobby of the church. If you would like to right now, [CLICK HERE](#) or scan the QR code and select Solar in the drop down menu of our giving page.



God's Peace,
Father Jason+

Arts & Crafts Market Call for Vendors & Donors

Summertime is a great time to work on those artistic craft projects and exercise your creative skills. At the same time, why not plan to contribute to our fall Arts & Crafts Market on Friday & Saturday, November 20th and 21st. Vendors rent a table and sell their work. Donors do not pay for space, and they contribute all proceeds to the charitable causes. (Some artists do both.).

Friday, November 20 will be a preview evening for our parishioners, families, and friends. Saturday, November 21 is the main sale and is open to everyone.

This year we are raising funds for Nursing Scholarships for Choloteca and for the Episcopal Relief & Development Fund. All members of St. Patrick's Episcopal Church are given first priority to participate as vendors. Friends and community artists are welcome to apply as well. Please help spread the word and put this event on your calendars.

[Click here](#) for the application OR pick one up from the church office.

Please consider participating and celebrating the creativity of our parish family and wider community.

For more information contact
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John Mascazine at:

twineducation@yahoo.com

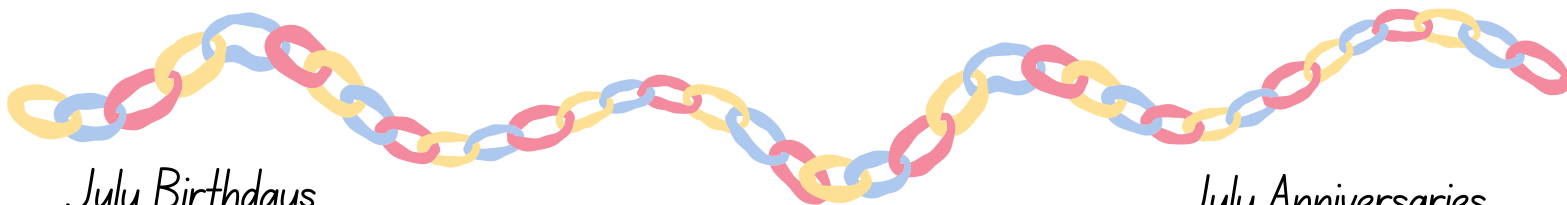
Social Justice Team Updates

Many of the people of St. Patrick's participated in the discernment process this winter to understand how we are called to continue to love our neighbors, both inside of and outside of our parish. We are grateful for this, and for the ministry leaders who stepped up to shepherd the teams who will continue to shape these ministries. If you are interested in participating, please contact the ministry shepherds through Realm. Here is an update:

1. Welcoming Ministry with LGBTQ Persons, led by Kelly Lehman: We have a welcoming banner on display now, and we've all received communications about how to participate in local Pride events. The team continues to discern more ways that they are called to ministry. St. Patrick's is listed as a welcoming congregation through Love Boldly.
2. Meeting Neighborhood Needs: Adopt-a-School, led by Denise Birkhoff: This year's school is Buckeye Middle School, which closes at the end of the 2026-27 school year. Denise worked with the social worker at the school to plan a teacher appreciation soda and chip bar held the first week of May, a school supply drive in August for about 300 students, and to provide food for the kids to take home over winter break in December. We'll also make sure the social worker has some Kroger gift cards to use for the kids, too. Next May, we'll sponsor teacher appreciation again.
3. Immigrant Advocacy, led by Jodie Emerson and Dina Bornhorst: We will be partnering with CRIS in a food ministry to help single moms.
4. Ministries of Reconciliation: Implicit Bias Training, led by Lissa Barker: Lissa is finding a qualified facilitator for our education sessions, and plans to apply for a grant to help cover expenses.

We will continue to keep you posted, and please feel free to bring us your ideas and questions!

In gratitude,
Kim Nelson



July Birthdays

Maria Baker	Jeffrey DeShon	Paige Maxcey-Richard
Lissa Barker	Abrielle Dufort	Lindsay Mayo
Charles Bratton	Paige Dunham	Marie Mayo
Kat Brennan	Quinn Essex	Nancy McCracken
Peyton Brunswick	Sally Fullerton	Whitby Montgomery
Jermaine Carew	Griffen Gates	Kim Nelson
Kojo Carew	Zachary Haney	Lisa Palchick
Josie Cline	Charles Horton	Mark Peacock
Stu Collins	Jordan Krull	Justin Pearson
Michael Conroy	Tawnya Lewis	Val Pittsenbarger
Ila Dawson	John Mascazine	Mariann Price
Tom Deschler	Karen Mason	Margaret Robinson

Tom Ruf
Pat Santanello-Shannon
Julia Searle
Julia Searle
Tom Semans
Theo Shannon
Robert Swift
Bill Train
Benjamin Yehsakul

July Anniversaries

Jim & Vicky Bratton
Cathryn & Michael Conroy
Neil & Jamie Greenfield
Charles & Mary Horton
Dan & Kim Hull
Patrick & Amanda Kennedy
Ashley & Jordan Krull
Bill & Val Lawrensen
Chuck & Kelly Lehman
Matt & Tawnya Lewis
John Mascazine & Mark Hanes
Rick & Karen Mason

Listening for God's Voice

"Prayer is conscious conversation with God."

—Fr. James Martin, S.J., in "Learning to Pray: A Guide for Everyone"

In last month's column, I suggested that you might want to pray with some passages from Scripture, by simply talking to God and then listening for God's voice—having a "conscious conversation with God." Sometimes lots of things may come up for us as we pray. We experience emotions, insights, memories, images, and more. Sometimes it might seem like nothing much is happening, and we experience silence. This does not mean that there is something wrong with how we are praying, or that God has abandoned us. Silence is a time in which we can trust that God is with us, and enjoy being in God's presence.

Fr. Jim writes that "It's never a waste of time to be in the presence of God—even if it doesn't feel like much is happening." He assures us that the more time we spend with God, including in times of complete silence, the more we will grow, because "being in the divine presence is always transformative."

May you trust that God is with you in the silence of your prayers,

Kim Nelson



Grief Support

Grief Support will be on vacation in July. Our next meeting will be August 17.

Thank you!



Calling All Would-Be Acolytes!

Did you know that the word acolyte means "one who assists", and acolytes were one of the highest forms of lay ministry in the early church? At St. Patrick's, acolytes are critical leaders in the church service, and they assist in carrying the processional cross and torches, lighting and extinguishing altar candles, helping with the offering and communion, and many other ways.

At St. Patrick's, being an acolyte is open to everyone regardless of your age. For younger people starting in 5th grade, they will be trained as torchbearers, and then can progress to crucifers. If you are an adult and are interested in being an acolyte, we would love to have you join our ranks as well!

We will be having our next acolyte training session starting at 11am on Sunday September 13th. If you would like to learn more about being an acolyte, or are already an acolyte and would like to be trained in a new role or if you would just like a refresher, please plan to join us in the sanctuary. The training session will last for approximately 1 hour.

If you would like to join our ranks but aren't available on September 13th, please let Father Jason or me know and we can set up a 1-on-1 training session at your convenience.

I hope to see you there!

In Christ,
Matt Lewis



Stephen Ministry

The Stephen Ministry team would like to announce a fall training for anyone interested in becoming a Stephen Minister. The training includes 50 hours of class time and would start August 24 and finish before Christmas. Training will be held at Powell United Methodist Church and would be most Monday evenings and two Saturdays. If you are interested in taking the training, please reach out to Amy O'Neill at amyjoneill@gmail.com. We will schedule a time to meet and then we will get you prepared to start classes in August. Training books can be purchased by the church and we just ask that you commit to serving as a Stephen Minister for 2 years.

If you or someone you know is in need of a Stephen Minister, please reach out to Father Jason. Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, illness, or relocation. It is a listening ministry in which we simply walk beside someone in need as they navigate challenges in their lives.

Amy O'Neill

Troop 299 has had a very busy spring. The scouts continue to be active with high adventure outings and also participate in service projects locally. During their meetings on Tuesday nights, the boys have cleaned out their cooking boxes, practiced First Aid and knot tying skills, and also worked on team building leadership.

In March, the troop visited a cave in Kentucky where they went spelunking and rode on underground zip lines in the dark. The outing proved to be one of the Troop's favorites. For many scouts it was their first time in the cave and everyone had a great time. During March, Troop leadership conducted leadership training for older scouts who are ranked First Class and above. This training focused on building skills for leadership including how to plan meetings and outings, how to communicate with peers and the Troop at large as well as conflict resolution and teamwork.

In April, the troop welcomed several new scouts who crossed over from cub packs to join the Troop. Appropriately, April's campout was the annual "Back-to-Basics" outing camp out at Falling Rock Scout Camp just north of Newark. The older boys led several workshops and clinics helping the younger boys learn and hone basic camping skills emphasizing fire-building, wood-cutting, cooking, knot-tying, and other skills.

In May, the scouts went to the New River in West Virginia for a weekend of whitewater rafting. They camped out on Friday and Saturday nights and rode the class IV+ rapids in rafts on Saturday. They were able to swim and also "surf" the rapids on the rafts.

This summer, the troop will return to Camp Conestoga in Somerset, PA for a week of Scout Camp where the boys will work on merit badges and other outdoor leadership skills. If you are interested in learning more about Troop 299, contact Jim Bratton or visit their [website](#).





Wellness Words



Happy 250th anniversary of our nation. This is the time to fly the flag (if you don't already). It is also the time to get out and cheer at a parade, smile at people you don't know, hug a friend, and generally enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Even those pesky creatures God created and we wonder why- like mosquitoes, flies and ticks.

Speaking of pesky creatures, some of them can carry microbes that cause serious diseases. In this part of the world, we don't have to worry too much about things like malaria and yellow fever, so most of the time, mosquito bites are annoying but not serious. Treat them with some hydrocortisone cream you can get over the counter. Try not to scratch the bites, that's when they get infected. If the itch is annoying, try icing the bite. That will calm down the itch message to your brain. Generally, Benadryl topical creams are not very effective, but over the counter Benadryl tablets or capsules can help, but remember that more is not better.

Getting out to the metro parks, or even better, going to Procter, gives you the opportunity to take walks, enjoy nature, have a picnic and spend some time thanking God for the beauty of creation. Now, when you arrive back at home, make sure that you haven't brought some nature back with you- like a tick or two. These pesky little arachnoids love to attach at hairlines, skin creases, and anywhere else we have exposed skin. So, the first rule is prevention. As with mosquitoes, it's a great idea to use a repellent spray before you go out and to reapply it after swimming (like your sunscreen). Make sure what you use has DEET as a major ingredient. There are some herbal ones that have some value, but they are less effective than the DEET containing sprays. If you do get a tick bite, removing the tick is essential. You must get the entire tick out- so using a tick removing tool really makes the process easier. Don't try the old attempt like putting a match to the tick or using Vaseline to smother it- that won't work. If you get a tick bite, though, call your provider right away to get a prescription for doxycycline to prevent Lyme disease.

Summer is wonderful as long as you take reasonable precautions, hydrate, and give thanks for the beauty of creation. Be gentle with the earth and even respect those pesky creatures that have a place in God's kingdom.

Happy Birthday United States, here's to many more years of our messy democracy, though much beloved, country.

Blessings and love
Lissa and Rose



THE RECTOR, VESTRY & WARDENS OF ST. PATRICK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH		
The Rev. Jason Emerson Rector	Randy Edwards	Kim Nelson
Alex Carter, Senior Warden	Tom Jones	Jan Redman
Blair McGinnis, Junior Warden	Eryn Kindelin	Kelsey Sicker
Angel Cinco	Nick Machesky	Caroline Wagner

Vestry Highlights – June 17, 2026

The Vestry met on Wednesday, June 17th at 7p.m. with an opening prayer by Blair McGinnis.

Thank Yous and A Welcome!

Thank yous were extended to Jan Redman and her team, who hosted the fantastic reception for Mo. Catherine on June 7th. To the Solar Panels Team for their outstanding work with regards to the development of this project. And, last but not least, to the Associate Rector Search Advisory Team. We welcome the Rev. Stefi Baiju to St. Patrick's. She will join us beginning on July 6th.

Solar Panels Project Moving Forward

The contract with Gold Path Design was signed on June 17th. Also, a Church Foundation Grant of \$ 50,000. has been successfully secured to facilitate funding of the project.

Accessibility Improvements

Regarding motorizing the doors to the Narthex and Office, 2 quotes have been received from contractors for review, and waiting on quotes from electricians.

An anonymous donor has come forward and pledged the full cost for an elevator. Project is moving forward by contracting with Mode Architects for the preliminary stage of design.

Financial Update

The church's financial position remains strong. Revenue is slightly ahead for the year, while expenses are modestly over. Cash reserves remain healthy at approximately 3.40 months.

The Vestry approved the financial report, as well as the minutes from May, 2026.

Meeting concluded at 8:15pm, with a prayer recited by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bernadette Westman

Clerk of the Vestry



July Calendar



Wednesday, July 1st

10AM St. Arbuck's
10AM Staff Meeting
10AM Men's Group
12PM Holy Eucharist
12:30PM Chicken Salad
for the Soul
1PM VBS Training Camp

Thursday, July 2nd

10AM LITDS
4PM Caroline Wagner Visitation

Friday, July 3rd

Parish Office Closed
11AM Caroline Wagner
Funeral & Meal

Sunday, July 5th

8AM Holy Eucharist
9:30AM Holy Eucharist

Monday, July 6th

SciKidz Camp
6PM AA Meeting
7PM EfM Survivors

Tuesday, July 7th

SciKidz Camp
7AM Men's Group
at First Watch
1PM Newcomers Team Meeting
5PM Yoga

Wednesday, July 8th

SciKidz Camp
10AM St. Arbuck's
10AM Staff Meeting
10AM Men's Group
12PM Holy Eucharist
7PM Vestry Meeting

Thursday, July 9th

SciKidz Camp
10AM C.A.T.C.H. Court
10AM LITDS
6PM VBS Training Camp

Saturday, July 11th

9AM VBS Decoration Day

Sunday, July 12th

8AM Holy Eucharist
9:30AM Holy Eucharist
11AM VBS Decoration Day

Monday, July 13th

VBS
8:30AM VBS
6PM AA Meeting

Tuesday, July 14th

VBS
7AM Men's Group
8:30AM VBS
5PM Yoga

Wednesday, July 15th

VBS
8:30AM VBS
10AM St. Arbuck's
10AM Staff Meeting
10AM Men's Group
12PM Holy Eucharist

Thursday, July 16th

VBS
8:30AM VBS
10AM LITDS
3:30PM Friends of the Homeless

Friday, July 17th

VBS
8:30AM VBS

Sunday, July 19th

8AM Holy Eucharist
9:30AM Holy Eucharist
11AM VBS Reception
11AM Stephen Ministry

Monday, July 20th

6PM AA Meeting

Tuesday, July 21st

7AM Men's Group
5PM Yoga

Wednesday, June 22nd

10AM St. Arbuck's
10AM Staff Meeting
10AM Men's Group
12PM Holy Eucharist

Thursday, July 23rd

10AM LITDS

Sunday, July 26th

8AM Holy Eucharist
9:30AM Holy Eucharist

Monday, June 27th

6PM AA Meeting

Tuesday, June 28th

7AM Men's Group
5PM Yoga

Wednesday, July 29th

10AM St. Arbuck's
10AM Staff Meeting
10AM Men's Group
12PM Holy Eucharist

Thursday, July 30th

10AM LITDS



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Social Justice Update

Troop 299

And More.....

July