

# 1706 Voice

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## Welcome!

Hello << Test Your First Name >> << Test Your Last Name >>. A Voice in the Wilderness is the newsletter of the Church of St John in the Wilderness in Copake Falls, New York. We hope you'll enjoy it. Please forward to your friends who care about the church and the Roe Jan area. They can [signup](#) here to be on our mailing list.

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# A Voice in the Wilderness

Newsletter of the Church of St John in the Wilderness, Copake Falls NY  
June 2017

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## From the Desk of the Senior Warden

### *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*

For my column in this issue of *A Voice in the Wilderness*, I planned to write an essay related to the fifth of the Anglican Communion's [Five Marks of Mission](#): "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth." I had been inspired to do so by the sermon that Father John delivered in church on June 4<sup>th</sup> in which [Psalm 104](#) was the centerpiece.

As I was contemplating my essay, I read a June 1<sup>st</sup> [statement by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry](#) that enunciated much better than I could have what I was aspiring to express. His statement is reproduced below verbatim. I humbly defer to Bishop Michael's statement:

*With the announcement by President Donald Trump of his decision to withdraw the commitment made by the United States to the Paris Climate Accord, I am reminded of the words of the old spiritual which speaks of God and God's creation in these words, "He's got the whole world in his hands." The whole world belongs to God, as [Psalm 24](#) teaches us. God's eye is ever on even the tiny sparrow, as Jesus taught and the song says ([Luke 12:6](#)). And we human beings have been charged with being trustees, caretakers, stewards of God's creation ([Genesis 1:26-31](#)).*



*The United States has been a global leader in caring for God's creation through efforts over the years on climate change. President Trump's announcement changes the U.S.'s leadership role in the international sphere. Despite this announcement, many U.S. businesses, states, cities, regions, nongovernmental organizations and faith bodies like the Episcopal Church can continue to take bold action to address the climate crisis. The phrase, "We're still in,"*

*became a statement of commitment for many of us who regardless of this decision by our President are still committed to the principles of the Paris Agreement.*

*Faith bodies like the Episcopal Church occupy a unique space in the worldwide climate movement. In the context of the United Nations, the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, we are an international body representing 17 countries in the United States, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia and the Pacific. We also are an admitted observer organization to the UNFCCC process, empowered to bring accredited observers to the UN climate change meetings. Furthermore, the Episcopal Church is a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion, the third-largest Christian tradition, and we remain committed to ensuring that Anglicans everywhere are empowered to undertake bold action on climate change mitigation and adaptation.*

*We know that caring for God's creation by engaging climate change is not only good for the environment, but also good for the health and welfare of our people. The U.S. is currently creating more clean jobs faster than job creation in nearly every other sector of the economy. and unprecedented acceleration in the clean energy sector is also*

*evident in many other major economies.*

*My prayer is that we in the Episcopal Church will, in this and all things, follow the way, the teachings and the Spirit of Jesus by cultivating a loving, liberating and life-giving relationship with God, all others in the human family, and with all of God's good creation.*

*In spite of hardships and setbacks, the work goes on. This is God's world. And we are all his children. And, "He's got the whole world in his hands."*

*The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry  
Presiding Bishop and Primate  
The Episcopal Church*

*Brian Boom*

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## St. John celebrates 165 years in Copake Falls

On Sunday, June 25, St. John in the Wilderness will celebrate 165 years in Copake Falls. On St. John the Baptist's day in 1852 the new church was consecrated.

This year, we will celebrate with several community-oriented events:

- 8:30 am. Coffee and doughnuts at the Iron Works Museum in Taconic State Park. The Pomeroy's, owners of the Iron Works, were founders of the church.
- 9:00 am. Starting at 9:00 there will be a colorful parade, including banners and vintage cars, from the Museum to the Church. The parade will end at the Pomeroy gravesite at the church.
- 10:00 am. Choral Eucharist at the church.
- 11:15 am. Free community picnic on the church grounds.

Please come — and invite your friends.

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## 5K Fundraiser for Backpack programs





On Saturday, June 17th, we held the annual St. John in the Wilderness 5K Fundraiser for the Backpack programs of Taconic Hills and Webutuck Schools. Walkers and runners came to enjoy the scenery, to exercise and to help raise money to feed children in need.

All donations go to the Northeast Regional Food Bank, which supplies the food for the Backpack programs at these two schools. \$183.00 a year ensures that a student brings home food every weekend for an entire school year.

It is not too late to donate! If you would like to give to this worthy cause, please contact me at [garrar26@gmail.com](mailto:garrar26@gmail.com) or 845-797-9210. Donations can also be mailed to my home at 964 Mitchell St., Hillsdale, NY 12529, with checks made out to the Regional Food Bank of NENY.

*Rebecca Garrard*

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## Summer Sparkling Soirée

The Summer Sparkling Soirée returns for a third year on Saturday evening, July 29. This gala evening will feature a special performance by singer and Broadway composer, Jim Wann, a member of our parish. Following this performance there will be food and drink under the tent as well as a silent auction. The Soirée will be fun for all who attend and will be the church's major summer fundraising event, taking the place of the Country Fair and Auction.

Invitations for the Soirée will be mailed in late June. Put the date on your calendar and plan to join us for a great event at St. John in the Wilderness.

Special thanks to Marjorie Hoog who is providing leadership for the Soirée.

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## Social Justice Committee

Do you have room in your home and your heart to help give an immigrant student a successful future? The Social Justice Committee of St. John in the Wilderness needs your help!

Two 18 year old student immigrants are seeking housing and guardianship for one year while they work towards getting their green cards and becoming citizens. They are enrolled in high school, do not have family, and need a local family to welcome them into their homes. Similar to exchange student responsibilities, you would treat them as one of your family members—provide meals, include them in family activities, support them with homework as much as you are able, provide transportation as much as you are able, etc. In addition, they need someone to agree to become their legal guardian. This does NOT need to be the same person as the host and is not as daunting as it sounds. Specifics regarding the requirements for this can be explained in detail upon request.

After these most pressing needs are filled, we are looking for help in supplemental roles. Volunteers are needed to tutor, mentor, offer job opportunities, provide transportation assistance, donate computer supplies to the students, and donate money to help in the care of these students.

If you would like to change someone's life and volunteer, please contact Rebecca Garrard at [garrar26@gmail.com](mailto:garrar26@gmail.com) or call 845-797-9210. Thank you in advance for your caring!

advance for your calling:

Rebecca Garrard

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## Calendar June through October 2017

**June 25, Commemoration Sunday.** Celebration of St. John's 165<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

- 9:00 am. Parade at Iron Works, Blessing at Pomeroy Gravesite
- 10:00 am. Church Service
- 11:30 am. Community Picnic

**July 29, Saturday. Summer Sparkling Soirée.** Gala event to support the church.

- 6:00 pm

**August 19, Saturday, Copake Falls Day.**

- St. John's **Salad Bar**
- **Lecture**, Friends of Taconic State Park and *Away to Garden*

**September 2, Saturday.**

- **Bake Sale** at KOA, West Copake. 10:00 am - 12 noon

**September 10, Sunday.**

- **First Day of Church School.** 10:00 am

**September 23, Saturday.**

- **5K**, In support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

**September 24, Sunday.**

- **Church Picnic**, 11:00 am

**October 8 Sunday**

October 8, Sunday.

- **Harvest Fest, 12 noon—4:00 pm**

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We need your news and photos for future issues of the *Voice*. Please send your contribution two weeks prior to the publication date. Remaining scheduled publication dates for 2017 are:

September 17

November 19

Louise and Dale Peterson, editors [peteroulouise@gmail.com](mailto:peteroulouise@gmail.com)

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### **A Voice in the Wilderness**

Newsletter of the Church of St. John in the Wilderness (Episcopal)

Copake Falls, New York 12517

The Rev. John Thompson, Rector

Brian Boom (1/18) Warden

Karen Flynn (1/19) Warden

#### *Vestry*

Tonya Carter (1/18)

Rebecca Garrard (1/19)

Catherine Kaputa (1/20)

Susan Mollo (1/20)

Jane Shannon (1/19)

Madeleine Tramm (1/18)

Richard Peck, Clerk of the Vestry (1/21)

Louise Peterson, Treasurer (1/19)

#### *Eucharists*

Sunday, 8:00 am (spoken)

Sunday, 10:00 am (choral)

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