



Fab Friday, June 23, 2023

EVERYTHING HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN'S THIS WEEK (AND MORE)



I so enjoy writing these little notes for you each week. Read them at your own risk. One thing is for sure, in writing these missives, I have learned a lot about topics of interest that I never knew I needed to know.

For example, summer solstice. Just what is it - is it one day, two months, does it happen at the same time in each hemisphere? Does it hold significance for us as Christians? So off I go to Google. Not quite as great as our old World Book Encyclopedias - but better in the fact that we can cut and paste (plagiarize) without having to retype information.

What I found is that the summer solstice occurs during each hemisphere's summer. In the Northern Hemisphere, this is the June solstice (20 or 21 June). Do you know whether it was June 20 or 21 here this year? In the Southern Hemisphere, the summer solstice occurs as the December solstice (21 or 22 of December). Since prehistory, the summer solstice has been a significant time of year in many cultures, and has been marked by festivals and rituals.

One such celebration happens annually at Stonehenge, a prehistoric stone circle on a plain in southern England. Druids, pagans, hippies, local residents and tourists, many clad in an array of colorful costumes and even antlers, stay and celebrate at Stonehenge for the night and greet sunrise on the summer solstice, which is the longest day in the Northern Hemisphere. Stonehenge continues to captivate and to bring people together to celebrate the seasons, just as it has done for thousands of years.

Stonehenge was built on the flat lands of Salisbury Plain in stages starting 5,000 years ago, with the unique stone circle erected in the late Neolithic period about 2,500 B.C. Some of the stones, the so-called bluestones, are known to have come from the Preseli Hills in southwest Wales, nearly 150 miles (240 kilometers) away, but the origins of others remain a mystery. The site's meaning has been the subject of vigorous debate, with some theories seemingly more outlandish, if not alien, than others.

English Heritage notes several explanations — from Stonehenge being a coronation place for Danish kings, a druid temple, a cult center for healing, or an astronomical computer for predicting eclipses and solar events. The most generally accepted interpretation "is that of a prehistoric temple aligned with the movements of the sun." After all, the stones match perfectly with the sun at both the summer and winter solstices. So, there you have it!

The [bulletin for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost](#), is here for your reading pleasure. Just click on the link to follow the order of service.

Peace be with you!
Nancy

What's coming up at St. John's
Please note important dates coming up this June:

Remaining Wednesdays in June at 10:30 am – Daughters of the King Discernment Class in the Parlor

Remaining Wednesdays in June at 5:30 pm – Evening Prayer in Mary Chapel

Remaining Wednesdays in June at 7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Wednesday, June 28 – Lewis Honor Carr's surgery

Thursday, June 29 at 6:30 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral – Ordinands Dana Orwig and William Font Sanchez celebrated!

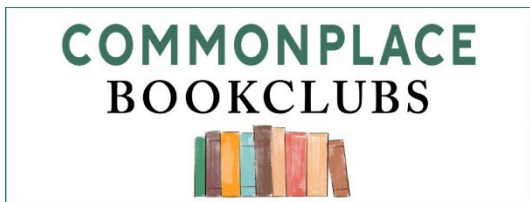


**Lewis Honor's surgery is this week,
Wednesday, June 28!**

Lewis Honor's long-awaited surgery is this week. Please remember to pray at any time throughout the day, starting as early as 5:00 am for you early risers, as it will be a very long day for the whole family.

We have some posterboards and get-well cards in the Parlor for you to sign or draw on this Sunday. The idea is to have something to brighten each day for the first week. Please stop in before or after church to sign one of the cards or posters (mainly for the kids to draw on). If you still want to sign up to take meals to the Carrs, [click here](#).

Dreams of Summer Fun - images below are links to summer activities for children and adults of all ages. If you're curious, just click on one of the logos for information on that program. NOTE: There are a number of summer book club offerings at Commonplace - click the logo to check them out.





COMEDY FOR COMPASSION

JULY 28TH @ 6PM | GRACE CHURCH YUKON



OKC Improv performing at Grace Church (600 N. Mustang Rd. - Yukon)

Friday, July 28th

to raise money for **Magdalene House** a nonprofit organization that creates a home for women survivors, helping them heal and rebuild their lives. Grace Church will be catering a taco bar for dinner beginning at 6:00pm. Beverages provided by Coop Ale Works. Improv show starts at 7:00pm.

The show is family friendly and accessible for any age. Childcare is available for children 5 and under.

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)



St. John's Outreach News and Needs

The **YWCA OKC C.A.R.E.** offers victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking immediate crisis response services. The program includes crisis hotlines, advocacy, emergency residential shelter, and forensic nurse exams. Services, provided at no cost to YWCA OKC clients, are critical in breaking the cycle of violence and transitioning victims to safe and violence-free futures.

We are collecting comfortable pants or shorts for the assault victims after their exam (since their clothes are taken into evidence). During this traumatic time, women will appreciate something soft and loose, new or gently used sweatpants, gym shorts, or leggings in all sizes. There will be a collection basket in the narthex starting this Sunday.

CAIR is in need of our help! Even though they have closed the resource center here, their work continues. They recently received a \$5000 grant from Mayflower Congregational UCC to **purchase diapers and distribute them to Afghan neighbors along with educational materials on where to obtain free/low-cost diapers in the OKC metro area.** Because they received an overwhelming response from additional interfaith supporters, they will be able to provide a one-month supply of diapers and wipes to each Afghan child in need and an additional supply of diapers to The Spero Project for newborns and pull-ups for older children. Now they need volunteers to 1) assemble bags with diapers and wipes and 2) help the Spero Project by picking up and handing out diapers and wipes for Afghan refugees at their apartment buildings. [Click this link to signup](#) to volunteer with this project the weeks of June 19 and June 26.



By the Grace of God
The Right Reverend Poulson Reed
VI Bishop of Oklahoma

Will ordain

William Font Sánchez

To the Sacred Order of Priests
In Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

The Feast Day of The Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul
Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of June
In the year of Our Lord two thousand and twenty-
three Six-thirty in the evening

Saint Paul's Episcopal Cathedral
127 NW Seventh Street Oklahoma City, OK 73102

Reception to follow in Dean Willey Hall
Cassock, Surplice, and Red Stole

SAVE THE DATE: Thursday, June 29 at 6:30 pm, St. Paul's Cathedral - Ordination of Dana Orwig and William Font to the Priesthood. **Volunteers to bring desserts and help with the service and reception** have been requested. If you would like to assist, please contact Pat R who is leading this charge!

Dog Crate Available

Cynthia Cortright has a medium-sized dog crate that she would like to give away to home with a dog or puppy in need. Contact Cynthia if you are interested.

BC Clark Gives and Gives

Did you know that BC Clark gives back a 3% of sales to women's ministries. We recently received a nice quarterly gift. All you have to do is **ask for, and complete, a Church Coupon next time you make a purchase at BC Clark.** And you don't have to wait for the Anniversary Sale.

Rats – We Have Gnats!

Tuesday morning, I discovered paper plates with food left in a garbage can, and the fruit flies and gnats were swarming. Same in the kitchen. During these warmer days, **we need to be vigilant about making sure that trash with food is removed** from the church following any meeting or event. The Church Administrative Assistant thanks you!

New St. John's Security Measures:

In light of recent events, the Bishops Committee has been reviewing our safety and security guidelines. **As a safety precaution, a member of Bishop's Committee (BC) will lock the front door of the church after the Sunday service begins.** The BC member will remain near the door, for the duration of the service, to provide access for anyone arriving late for the service. Safety precautions are under review for other services. More to come.

Employment Opportunity:

St. John's is looking to hire a nursery worker who can commit to two / two-and-a-half hours per week for consistent service in our nursery. Background check and Safe Church training will be required. Please contact Nancy if interested.



