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WORDS FROM OUR PRIEST-IN-CHARGE



www.cpg.org/global/online-resources/cartoon/

I came across this cartoon by the Rev. Jay Sidebotham on Facebook the other day and of course it made me chuckle, his cartoons are cute and funny, but it gave me pause to think about how we treat God and church during the warm, beautiful months of summer. I talked about this cartoon during Noonday Prayer and the little girl asking her dad if God goes on vacation. In our prayer circle we joked thank God that God doesn't go on vacation! Yes, thank God indeed that God does not go on vacation! If God took a vacation from us, we would be in grave danger, our day to day lives would be completely upended and full of chaos.

While summer is a wonderful time to get away from the hustle and bustle of our daily routines, a chance for kids to take a break from the rigorous demands of school and extracurricular activities and yes, for clergy to get some downtime as well, but it does not mean that we take a vacation from God and our church. I encourage all of us (myself included) to do some

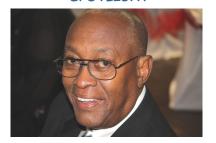
homework this summer. See the summer as an opportunity to discover new ways to deepen your relationship with God, maybe give meditation a try, or going for a prayer walk and get some Vitamin D at the same time! Try reading a book of scripture that you've been avoiding or haven't had a chance to read...the bible is an extraordinary library.

While church activities may slow down during the summer months, the life of the church does not stop and neither does our commitment to its mission. Now is a great time to catch up with your pledge commitments if you seem to have fallen behind a bit. If you'll be traveling, consider mailing your pledges or using our online giving option. Remember Believing in God's abundance is an all-day everyday way of life.

As we prepare to enjoy the summer months and breaks from our daily routine, remember to use the time be refreshed, renewed and reinvigorated and ask to the Holy Spirit to lead us in news to be of service to others in the building of God's kingdom. Have a blessed and refreshing summer! Mother Samuel+



PARISHIONER SPOTLIGHT



Bernard Lee Get to Know Your Fellow Parishioners

Mr. Lee has been a St. John's parishioner for more than 60 years! He has two sons, one daughter and two granddaughters. All of his children were baptized here at St. John's. Both his sons served as acolytes here at St. John's. Mr. Lee is a member of the Usher & Altar Guild and the Resilient Men of Faith Ministry. Mr. Lee is known for his generosity of picking up and taking his fellow parishioners to and from church. He also assists Mo. Samuel with her home visitations. He will always greet you with a warm and welcoming smile. He is staple here at St. John's and can be mostly found sitting in the rear of Church ushering in and seating parishioners and visitors alike.

NEW SOUND/VIDEO SYSTEM



Thanks to everyone who participated in our 90th Anniversary fundraising events, due to your

generosity we were able to upgrade our sound and video system. In keeping with the abundance of stewardship, Sharon Hunter & Gwen Cardoza have donated a 65" Roku TV to go along with our new sound and video system.

"SACRED STEWARDSHIP STORIES" - Sharon Hunter

For the Christian, as Scripture proclaims all that we have belongs to God, we manage the property of our Lord. Knowing that everything belongs to Christ, we need to have the attitude and view that our things are His things, our stuff is His stuff, that all we could have now, all we have lost, all we will have, is His, including our very bodies and spiritual gifts. We are mere lessees of the property, money, relationships, talents, time, and even our lives. That means all that we are and all that we have are not really ours to begin with. They belong to God. So, the duty of the Christian is to learn how to become responsible stew-



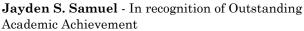
ards of our Lord's resources entrusted into our care. I find that giving back to the Church, whether it is financially or by using my skill-sets makes for a more blessed and fulfilling life.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Pre-K: Liam Williams Elementary: Nia Young

College: Tamera Roberts & Latoya Warren-Pile

YOUTH SHOUTOUT



Daniel Samuel - Academic Achievement Award Kaleem Peters - Honor Roll: Academic Excellence

ST. JOHN'S PS 37 READING PROGRAM



L to R: Patricia Taylor, Barbara Taylor, Pat Hamlet, Ann Brown, Danielle Carter (Missing)





L to R: Jayson Lasshley, Kaleem Peters, Joshua Tanner, Ariel Amos, Nia Young, Mylasia Colebrook (center)

FAIR & BLOCK PARTY



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