

St. John's Announcements

March 23, 2025



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Spring Crocuses in Bloom!



Today we are celebrating ERD (Episcopal Relief and Development) Sunday. ERD was created 85 years ago as The Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. Over that time, ERD has worked in over 80 nations focusing on alleviating hunger and improving the food supply, creating economic opportunities to strengthen communities, promoting health and fighting disease, and responding to disasters and rebuilding communities. The latter has become increasingly important as hurricanes and wildfires have displaced tens of thousands just in the last couple of years. ERD is working on its parish outreach, not only to help support this important ministry, but also to get to know people in the local community who may need help in the event of a disaster.

Blessings, *Marc*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

3/26 - Wednesday
Eucharist @ 10:30am

3/30 - Undie Sunday



Dear Friends:

It is our honor and privilege to announce that the wardens, officers and vestry of St. John's Vernon met on March 16, 2025 and after prayerful discernment agreed to call Rev. Marc Eames as our Rector. We have notified Bishop Mello of our decision, he has blessed it and we now look forward to assistance from ECCT to prepare a letter of agreement and plan a celebration of new ministry.

Yours in Christ, Skip Sutcliffe Senior Warden and Bill Francis Junior Warden

Lenten Soup Supper Series – Please join us for the Lenten Soup Supper Series on Thursday evening from **March 13th through April 10th from 6 pm to 8 pm**. This year, Deacon Scott will be leading a program he has developed entitled "Living Our Baptismal Promises". We will delve into the implications of the five Baptismal promises contained in the Baptismal Covenant (*Book of Common Prayer*, pp. 304-305) for our daily life and ministry both as individuals and as a congregation. Please join us for a light supper and interesting conversation!

Grace Palmer Live! – Join us for a concert benefiting Boston' Children's Hospital **Sunday March 23rd at 1:30pm**. Enjoy great music and support her sister Olivia Palmer's Boston Marathon fundraising efforts. Suggested donation is \$20.

The Accessibility Project - continues to move along! Preliminary design drawings are done, a contractor's preliminary cost estimate has been obtained, and bidding documents are busily being prepared. We are having a meeting on **Sunday, March 23 at 9 a.m.** in St. Mary's Hall to update the congregation on project progress and we hope you can come to hear more and ask questions. Drawings of the new, revised project will be available for viewing at the meeting.

See you then.

Jim Hutton

Accessibility Project Team Leader

Undie Sunday - This year we will share what we've collected in underwear, socks and cash/check donations with social service department East Hartford, Manchester Area Conference of Churches (MACC) in Manchester and the elementary school nurses in Vernon.

- For the East Hartford community: The town's social service department will use cash/checks to purchase (and distribute) needed underwear and socks.
- For the Manchester community: MACC is asking for summer socks for women, men and kids; women's medium and large undies; men's medium, large and extra-large boxers; and kid undies of all sizes up to a size 12.
- For the Vernon community: the five elementary school nurses are asking for girls' and boys' undies sizes 4t to 14/16, especially sweatpants 5t to 16 and girls leggings 5t to 16. There is a marked collection box in the Narthex. We also accept cash and check donations to purchase additional items. If making cash or check donation, please complete the donation form found on the table in the Narthex and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Please make out checks to St. John's with Undie Sunday on the memo line.