

# The Red Door

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

August 2022

### AND DELIVER US FROM NEMO

I used to be the associate at a parish with a large Church School. Sunday mornings I'd stop by the classrooms to see how the teachers were doing.

One Sunday the lessons were on The Lord's Prayer and the teacher in the 1st Grade group said they had worked on memorizing it. One of the little girls, about 7, volunteered to recite it. She was doing pretty well...until she got to "And lead us not into temptation...But deliver us from Nemo..."

The teacher paled, and was about to correct the girl when my look stopped her. First, because it had taken a lot of courage to do this before her peers, none of whom seemed to think what she said was wrong. Second and most importantly, if in her prayer she needed to be delivered or saved from Nemo, then that was perfectly acceptable to God. I wisely did not ask if she meant Captain Nemo or the Disney fish.

The majority of us are terrified of praying before a group, and I think probably alone before God, too. I remember in seminary when we were required to pray before the start of each class (and a plethora of other times!) which was okay by me. Except some professors would wait until we were all seated and then spin around and point to one of us to do the prayer. We were reminded that once we wore the collar everyone...anywhere...at any time would point at us and expect us to pray...to have the right words.

If you want to turn a person to stone, just point at them or ask them to open a Vestry meeting, Bible Study, worship, or a meal with a prayer. Even the most loquacious will get tongue-tied.

A fear, I think, that somehow failing to pray "correctly" or not perfectly will somehow offend God and cause the earth to open up and swallow us whole. Or that we'll sound weird, not be good at it, or that we might offend someone.

This fear of praying is not confined to praying out loud before a group. As a chaplain and priest, I cannot tell you how many times I've been asked to pray for someone because they didn't have a prayer book or they didn't know what words to say to God...even when they were quite ill! Most people are afraid to pray I think...to open that one-on-one dialogue with God...because in doing so you have to face your vulnerabilities. Plus, addressing the Lord can be daunting.

In Luke 11:1-13, the disciples ask Jesus to teach them how to pray. I always thought it was because they were as terrified as we are of praying. However, I no longer think that's the case. As devout Jews, the disciples would be required to pray and give blessings throughout the day...when they arose, went to bed, before meals, after meals, when they gathered. They had lots of prayers and blessings to use.

I believe that what they are asking Jesus is not WHAT to pray...but HOW to pray as he does.

They've seen him go off by himself to pray and center himself in dialogue with God. They've seen the strength, courage,

faith, and obedience to God's will that resulted.

Teach us this, Lord...Teach us that way to pray.

Jesus gives them a formula for prayer, a template for a letter to God, if you will. He gives them The Lord's Prayer. (Of course, he didn't actually call it that. We did, a lot later.)

The template goes like this:

Address the Lord ...the Salutation.

Our Abba...Our creator...who is in heaven. Holy and glorious is your name.

Recognize God's power and be humble.

Your will is paramount here on earth as in the heavens. May we do your will and bring about your kingdom

The Reason for calling upon God

Sustain...encourage...and support us in this world and in all we do. Give us the courage not to be afraid when facing temptations. Keep evil from taking our hearts and souls (especially defend us from someone named Nemo). And forgive us when we get it wrong. As you expect we'll forgive others who've also gotten it wrong.

And then close it out...which Henry VIII did...with a Doxology. My trust and faith are yours Lord, because all creation...all power...all knowledge is yours. As it was...as it is...as it will be...for all time. Amen...so be it.

The Episcopal Church in its wisdom, recognizing the need to provide prayers for every possible occasion, has provided us...beginning on Page 810 of the BCP...a plethora of prayers to use. If you look at those prayers, they follow this simple template. You can find one you like and adapt it as needed. Or, since the BCP is online and electronic, it's always at your fingertips if you need a prayer.

Prayer is important in the Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Church. In fact, the entire BCP and what we do in every worship service and liturgy is one giant prayer. We even have a name for it...

Praying Shapes Believing...

what we pray is what we believe.

And what we believe is what we pray.

This is from the early 5th Century theology, *Lex Orandi...Lex Credendi*. Latin for, the law of what we pray is the law of what we believe.

Because prayer is more than a one-way petition to God for something; a To Do list or get out of jail free card for things we don't want to do; or...something we offer when we don't know what else to say and we really don't want to do something.

Next month, Part 2 will be what Praying Shapes Believing is and how it shapes our life in Christ.

*Rev. Terri*

# VESTRY

John Joy, Sr Warden  
 Charles Everhart, Jr Warden  
 Richard Davis  
 Judy Franklin  
 Andrea Harner

open

Newsletter editor—John Glaze  
*Submissions to THE RED DOOR are welcomed. © items cannot be published without consent of the owner.*

*Samaritan Outreach continues to depend upon donations to meet their current needs. Please help us help SOS serve our community. The collection box is now in the Parish House.*

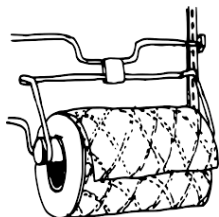


Diapers

Clothes Washing Liquid

Toilet Paper

Paper Towels



*If you would prefer to mail a monetary donation:  
 Samaritan Outreach Services  
 PO Box 242  
 Hillsboro, OH 45133*

# Vestry Report

I am pleased to report some progress as far as the Sanctuary floor is concerned. On July 20, Charles Everhart, Doug Karnes of McCarty Associates, Jeremy Decker of Legacy and I met to coordinate the next steps for the floor and joist replacement project. A preliminary sketch was reviewed and the following is a summary of the next steps:

- ⇒ Legacy will clear out all the old joists and debris. The joists will be saved for repurposing, as we believe 150 year lumber has value. If anyone knows or has some storage space in Hillsboro, please notify the office as soon as you can.
- ⇒ Legacy will hand dig a few holes to determine how far down the joist foundations need to be and communicate that to McCarty.
- ⇒ McCarty will then finish the design and submit for a permit. Legacy will provide an estimate of the cost of the foundation and joist repair. Drawings and/or meeting with Advanced HVAC to determine ductwork and installation details.
- ⇒ New electrical wiring and any audio/visual or network wiring to be completed under the floor.
- ⇒ Once joists and ductwork are installed, flooring can proceed as originally planned.

I would also like you all to know that both the architect and contractor said similar things about the floor. To paraphrase, they both said much of the support of the floor came from the floor itself. It was impossible to tell the poor state of the joists because the floor seemed solid in most places, but was not. They both commented the altar floor seems softer than the sanctuary.

The annual audit is due at the Diocese by September 1. Rich Davis and I worked on the last couple, but we cannot do the audit this year because of our positions. Anyone interested in helping on this during August please let Maggie know. A couple hours from 1-3 folks would be a big help. We are hoping to plan a Work Day at the church in the fall, and possibly hold a “listening session” conducted by Rev. Terri in the next couple months to capture the needs and vision of our Sanctuary space for the coming decades. We want to take this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see if a different layout or furnishings would be a benefit to our services and programs. More details will follow on these! Thank you to all who assist with making our services flow smoothly, and to all the new and returning folks who have helped boost our attendance in recent weeks. You are all truly a blessing.

Respectfully submitted, *John Joy*

## When all else fails.... ?

In one of those light bulb moments, your editor came to the conclusion that we are “supposed” to be a people of faith, those whose lights should be beaming from the high mountain, a people about whom other folks should look to as an example of faith in practice, people who demonstrate their faith by relying on God’s provision for our needs. This all sounds very much like it is a no-brainer and everyone knows that’s just how we roll, **HOWEVER**, I have listened in as folks talk about our sanctuary floor and the cost to get things back on track. So much of the talk is right out of the pages of the

## Gloom and Doom Play Book

with comments such as, “We just won’t be able to stay open,” “Where will we ever come up with that much money?” “I bet the diocese will just close us down,” and so on. Interestingly enough, I’ve not heard anyone tell others that “We now are in a

# GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

time!!! This is a great time for St. Mary’s to really show Hillsboro and Highland County just what we’re made of!” And, oddly enough, I’ve not heard anyone comment that they have been on their knees asking for God’s help in charting these new waters in which we find our ship.

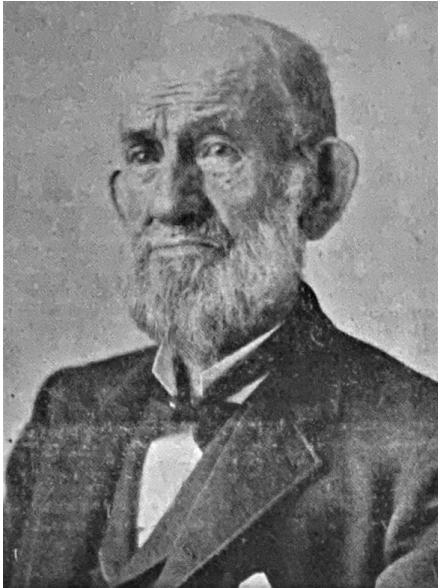


## Time to meet J. MILTON BOYD

J. Milton Boyd was one of our founders, but he proved himself more than just a good churchman. He was also a community leader. This story is reproduced from *The Hillsboro Gazette* issue from Friday, September 13, 1907. 1907 should mean something to you if you know Hillsboro's history. That was the date of the Centennial of the town! So, let's take a look at Mr. Boyd.

Chairman of the Centennial Reception Committee, is the oldest native-born citizen of Hillsboro, having been born August 12, 1817, at his father's residence which stood on the lot now occupied by the Masonic Temple. He is one of the family of eleven children born to Dr. John Boyd and his wife, Sara Pierce.

When Mr. Boyd was six years of age the family removed to the Rocky Fork neighborhood and established the grist mill known as Barrett's Mills. At the age of twelve he entered Kenyon College with his brother, Rev. John Boyd, who was five years his junior, graduating from that institution of learning in 1842, and studied law in the office of the late Wm. Scott. He married Arabella Mary Blair, who was born in Georgetown, D.C., in 1826, in the year 1845.



In 1853, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd removed to Hillsboro where he engaged in business for a number of years, the chief industry in which he engaged being the milling business, becoming the head of the firm of J. M. Boyd & Co., which was the largest of its kind the city has ever had.

He continued in business until advanced age made the relinquishment of active business necessary, and has since lived in retirement at his home on West Walnut Street. He was one of the founders of St. Mary's Episcopal Church and is now the Senior Warden of that organization.

Although ninety years of age he enjoys good health, and with his estimable wife is passing toward the shadows of the evening of life in peaceful contentment.

In all the public affairs of the village, especially so far as the schools and colleges were concerned, he always took an active interest and aided in their advancement by his influence and means. Now that he is nearing the sunset of life, it is with great ...*(can't read this line)*...part in the Centennial Celebration of the city that was his birthplace, and in whose growth and progress he has always been intensely interested.

## Hall of Fame

Congratulations to St. Mary's Music Director, Webmaster and Historian. He has been named among a class of five inductees into the Highland County Historical Society's "Hall of Fame" for 2022.

John has been a long-time contributor to community events in the areas of music and history. Before the Covid era, he established our popular Music At St. Mary's Concert Series and served as Director of Southern State Singers, a local choral group. He continues to work tirelessly for projects at the historical society and the Hillsboro Cemetery Association. In his spare time he serves as newsletter editor for St. Mary's and the historical society. WELL DONE, JOHN!

*Dea Flinn*

Highland County Historical Society

HALL OF FAME

*First Presbyterian Church*

*21 August—2pm*

*Reception at  
Highland House  
follows*

## PARISH PRAYER LIST

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation and these on our Parish prayer list:

Shirley Furbee, Margaret Lyons, **the family of Brooke Lawson**, Joyce Kittrell, Herschel Hook, Nancy Orth, Mary Reynolds, Maxine McGrath, Sharon Kamm, Bob & Dorothy Hodson, Dan Fisher, Bob Lowell, and the prayer concerns of Paul and Joyce Nort, those affected by the Coronavirus pandemic and those serving to relieve their suffering, those thousands who have lost loved ones in Ukraine. the patients and staff at Georgetown Veterans Home and those serving in our armed forces: Macy Lyle, Henry Sherrill, Jaden Chin-Franz and Javier Paula.

*\*Names in **Bold** will be removed at the end of the month. If you know the person continues to need our prayers, please call the church office.*

# The Red Door

St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
234 N. High St.  
Hillsboro, OH 45133



## September

3—*Andrea Harner*  
13—*David Harner*  
19—*Dan Fischer*  
21—*Bob Lowell*  
22—*Jim Heathcote*  
22—*Maria Weisenborn*

## ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH INFORMATION

The Diocese of Southern Ohio  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
234 N. High St Hillsboro, OH 45133  
937-393-2043

The Rev. Terri Thornton  
Supply Priest

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:00 am  
IN PERSON & *delayed posting on Facebook*  
COMMUNION FOR THE HOMEBOUND—  
Sunday after service.

*We strive to be safe and make our parishioners and  
guests feel safe and welcome!*

### WEB SITE:

[www.smehillsboro.weebly.com](http://www.smehillsboro.weebly.com)

### Lector & Intercessor Schedule

**1st wk Betty & Jim Heathcote**  
**2nd wk Connie Reynolds & Dea Flinn**  
**3rd wk Carol & John Joy**  
**4th wk Rich Davis & Connie Reynolds**  
**5th wk Connie Reynolds & Dea Flinn**