



News & Notes for September 20, 2026

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, September 21:	2:30PM	Fiber Arts – <i>Westfield Manor</i>
Thursday, September 24:	4:15PM	Voice Choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – <i>Parish Hall</i>

Adult Forum Returns with "*Jonah — A Show About Nothing (and Everything)*"

Join Pastor Brian this morning as we kick off our new Adult Education season with a fresh look at the **Book of Jonah** — yes, the one with the **fish**. If you've ever loved a **sitcom** where nobody learns their lesson and nobody really changes, you'll recognize Jonah immediately. Through the lens of *Seinfeld*'s famous "show about **nothing**," we'll dig into a story that's really about **everything**: mercy, resentment, and who gets to be inside the circle of God's grace. Come with questions, leave with more — no tidy endings guaranteed!

Choirs are Back!

Choirs resumed rehearsals last week, but there's still time for you to join! Voice Choir meets at 4:15PM and Bell Choir meets at 6:00PM. If you can carry a tune at all (you don't need to sing solo or even read music), the chancel choir would love to welcome you! Interested? **Call Carol Kugler at 618-581-3079.**

Chili Cook-Off Help Wanted!

'Tis the season! Belleville's annual Chili Cook-Off will be **Friday, October 9 and Saturday, October 10**. The production and sale of St. George's chili benefits both congregations, and volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Tentative plans are to make and sell at least 200 gallons of White Chili this year.



Preparation begins next week! **Chicken cooking** is scheduled **9:00AM-3:00PM** on **Wednesdays September 23, 30 and October 7**. Each cooking day needs two three-hour shifts of two people to accomplish the grinding, cooking and bagging of the cooked chicken.

The signup sheet for helping with the Chicken Cooking is in the Parish Hall on the wall opposite the stairs.

Church Picnic NEXT SUNDAY

After the weather put a damper on our pool party but still wanting to have an outdoor church event, we have pivoted back to a **church picnic**, which will be **NEXT Sunday, September 27** from **noon to 3pm** at **Schranz Memorial Park** in Swansea. Format will be as in years past: bring food enough for you and your family, and a game to share!

Change to Franklin School Lunch Packing

Normally at this time of year we would be recruiting volunteers and soliciting donations for **packing lunches for children in particular need at Franklin elementary school**. However, we were contacted by the principal at Franklin to say that their needs have changed, and while they very much have appreciated our efforts to provide nutritious meals over holiday weekends, **they will not be participating in the sack lunch program this year**. They would like to find some other way to partner with us, so keep an eye on this space for more information. And, THANK YOU all for what you've done to support this program for many years!

School Supply Drive Thank You Note

St. Mark received a thank you note from Franklin School. You can see it on the bulletin board in the welcome area by the calendar.

Thank you so much for your continued support and supplies for our kids. Your donations and love are always valued and appreciated. - Franklin School

St. Mark Offerings for 9/13: General Fund: **\$2,442**

Coming Soon!

Saturday, October 24, 6:00PM: **Reformation Potluck and Hymn Singing**

Friday, October 30, 5:00-8:00PM: **Downtown Belleville Trick or Treat**

Sunday, November 15: **Pumpkin Palooza**

Saturday, November 21: **Boy Scout Food Drive**

