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St. John of the Cross Strawberry Social

In 2018, St. John of the Cross Episcopal Church celebrates their 175th Anniversary. As one of the many events they have planned, they built a model of the church for their float for the 2018 Homecoming Parade, and won 1st Prize in the Float Division. After the Parade on Saturday, July 14, 2018, they once again offered their yearly Strawberry Social where they serve homemade shortcakes with strawberries, ice cream and cool whip. But this year they offered the delicious treat FREE to celebrate this banner year. Many people gathered to partake of this offer and socialize with family and friends. The Riverbend Choral Group of South Bend sang for the event. The Church will be announcing other exciting events tied to the founding of the church on April 25, 1843 in Bristol. They first met in the storeroom of Thomas Wheeler and established a new Episcopal congregation here. The Samuel Judson family gave the group an acre of land which eventually became the site of the church, the cemetery and the former rectory. They had a site, a charter, eleven families, and a visiting priest. Ann Jeanette Judson, wife of Samuel, returned east in 1844 and twice more later on to solicit friends there to raise enough to finish the church.

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