

# THE EVANGELIST

NEWSLETTER FOR SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

AUGUST 2011

VOL. CVII, NO. 8

COME...

## JOIN US IN WORSHIP

### Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Service:  
Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m. Services:  
1st - First Sunday Worship  
2nd - Holy Eucharist Rite I  
3rd - Holy Eucharist Rite II  
4th - Morning Prayer &  
Holy Eucharist  
5th - Holy Eucharist Rite II

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



**September Issue / Aug. 19**  
**October Issue / Sept. 16**

All groups & individuals are  
ENCOURAGED to submit news and  
items of interest to  
*The Evangelist*.

E-mail, mail, or bring your fully written  
and titled piece and/or photos to the  
church office on or before the deadline  
dates shown above. Thank you!  
Barb Schaer-Mady, Editor

**NOTE: Please use this e-mail address  
for all parish office e-mails:  
[church@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:church@stjohnsstpaul.org)**

**St. John the Evangelist  
Episcopal Church  
60 Kent St.  
St. Paul, MN 55102  
651-228-1172  
(fax) 651-228-1144  
[www.stjohnsstpaul.org](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org)**

## FROM THE REV. JERED

[jered.weberjohnson@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:jered.weberjohnson@stjohnsstpaul.org)  
(651) 228-1172 x11

Dear friends in Christ,

We have only just said our first hellos and the summer seems to march right on – parties, picnics, meetings, projects, and that’s just at St. John’s! There is much afoot around here at your home church this summer. Right now we’re planning for fall, getting programs squared away, tweaking the calendar, recruiting volunteers (have you been screening your calls?), mending the roof, keeping up with many of your comings and goings, welcoming new visitors, and praying like mad over the whole of it. And, we pray over it because we believe – no, we have experienced and thus know – God is in the midst of all this activity. Just as the Spirit of God brooded over the deep, and brought order out of chaos in the beginning – we trust that the same God broods over the chaos of our lives, and is even now bringing meaning and hope and new life out of it.



God is in our midst. In my first sermon with you, I asked you to consider where in your life, in your daily comings and goings, where have you experienced the presence of God? And, then, I asked you to do as Jacob did, to set up a stone marker in that spot, to arrange a small pile of stones there to commemorate the moment you sensed God most near at hand. Some of you have already begun sharing your stories with me of where that spot is. So, I want to solicit more of those stories – where is your stack of rocks? Where have you encountered God this summer? Send me a picture of your stack or a story or both so I can pass it along (anonymously of course and with your permission) to the rest of us. As we hear and see where God is at work in our lives as a community, my hope is we will all begin to have a clearer sense of just how *much* God is with us.

## VESTRY MEMBERS

Jay Debertin, *Senior Warden*  
Libby Snelson, *Junior Warden*  
Anneke Krall, *Youth*  
Rob Beattie, *Music*  
Fred Berndt, *Stewardship*  
Sue Cadwell, *Clerk of Vestry*  
Gary Gleason, *Spiritual Life*  
Pam Richards, *Children's Ministry*  
Lynn Hertz, *Adult Education*  
Kathy Brown, *Membership*  
Terri Fishel, *Communication*  
Diane Norman, *Fellowship*  
Jennifer Kinkead, *Faith in Action*  
Tony Grundhauser, *Finance*  
Don Weinkauff, *Property*  
Jim Johnson, *Treasurer*  
Rick Rinkoff, *Assoc. Treasurer*

## ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Kent Furois, *Head Usher*  
Jill Thompson, *Lay Reader Coordinator*  
Paige Hagstrom, *Coffee Hour Coordinator*  
Dusty Mairs, *Parish Coordinator*  
Fred Myers, *Historian*  
Diane Power, *Altar Guild*  
George Power, *Columbarium*  
Artaria String Quartet, *Artists in Residence*

## CLERGY

The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson, *Rector*  
The Rev. S. Grayson Clary, *Rector Emeritus*  
The Rev. Keely Franke, *Assistant Rector*  
The Rev. Barbara Mraz, *Deacon*

## STAFF

Lizza Berry, *Youth & Children Choirs Director*  
Nina Costello, *Nursery Supervisor*  
James Frazier, *Director of Music & Organist*  
Chris Henry, *Interim Building Supervisor*  
Kate Graber, *Handbell Choir Director*  
Jean Hansen, *Youth and Family Minister*  
Ellen Harrington, *Children's Minister*  
Chris Henry, *Building Assistant*  
John Oldfield, *Office of the Asst. Treasurer*  
Barb Schaer-Mady, *Office Administrator*  
Longkee Vang, *Youth Ministry Assistant*

As I have said at more than a few junctures, and will likely say again, I am very heartened to be in your midst at St. John's. I see my work in this coming year as that of relationship building and learning your stories. I want to know what makes this place tick – who and what keeps us working on the ministry we've been given to do? What makes St. John's the special part of the Body of Christ that it is? I want to learn and learn some more about who we are. Then, and only then can I move us toward a shared vision. Then, and only then will I be able to fully celebrate with you the many strengths that this community has to offer St. Paul, and the wider world. Then, and only then will I be able to see as clearly as you do, how the One who called us and created us is even now in our midst.

There is, of course, much work to be done in addition to building relationships and learning stories, and I welcome your support, your input, your feedback and your continued prayers as we tackle it all. Please don't hesitate to set up an appointment to meet with me. If you stop by the parish office, you will likely find, barring any previous meetings, that my office door is open. I welcome drop-ins and visitors. I look forward to working together with each of you as we pursue together the mission of God here in this corner of the world and beyond.

Summer blessings to each of you!

Faithfully,  
Jered+



*The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson on his first Sunday at St. John's.*



**Altar Flowers Given to the  
Glory of God in Memory of:**

**Aug. 7 – 8<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

George Mairs

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

Mary S. and William T. Platt

Sandy Vogt

**Aug. 14– 9<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

Helen M. and John W. Thompson

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

OPEN

**Aug. 21 – 10<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

William August and

Alma C. Lindeke

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

Pat Allen

**Aug. 28 – 11<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

Charles R. Brynteson

Ralph and Estelle Drought

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

OPEN

**ALTAR FLOWERS 2011:**

The memorial flowers on the Main and Little Sanctuary altars are given by parishioners on a perpetual calendar basis. For next year, 2011, there are a few Sundays available for donors to sign up to give the flowers for either of our altars. The cost is \$35 for the Main Altar and \$15 for the Little Sanctuary altar. If you are interested please contact **Dusty Mairs** or **Barb** in the office to find out the available dates for each altar.

**THE NEW HISTORY OF ST. JOHN'S**

Jim Frazier has nearly completed work on the first eight rectors for the new history of St. John's. He is reading all the vestry minutes and every *Evangelist*, has spent many hours at the Ramsey County Historical Society and the Minnesota Historical Society, and is in the process of interviewing parishioners, old timers who have long memories of their days in the parish.

If you have a story that should be included in the book, or a photo, or just some anecdotes about people who exercised leadership here, please contact Jim right away. He would particularly appreciate good wedding photos, photos of any of the buildings under construction, shots of the famous Christmas pageants (when angels stood above the altar), of the spring concerts, ordinations, consecrations or Christmas parties...virtually any photo that is well-composed and in good condition, as long as it communicates something about a person (or persons), a building or event in the life of the parish. Remember that space is limited.

The Advisory Committee that meets regularly to guide the process includes Alden Drew, Jim Johnson, Dusty Mairs, Patricia McDonald, Betty Myers and Fred Myers. Feel free to contact any of them if you have questions about the book or the process of producing it. It will be published in 2012 by the Afton Historical Society Press and will be available for purchase by anyone wanting a copy.

By the way, the photo of the congregation standing outside on Portland Avenue on Easter Day is terrific! It will appear prominently in the book, and perhaps elsewhere in coming months.

Jim can be reached at the church: 651 228-1172, x38; or [james.frazier@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:james.frazier@stjohnsstpaul.org)

**A Project Kathleen Update**

*- by Mary Frances and Lyelle Palmer*



Linda Zelig (photo on left) is the new mentor for our latest Project Kathleen housing family, Tina and her two children. She and her husband have two sons, Erik and Jeff who are grown and gone. She is a self-employed fund-raiser and development consultant who enjoys sailing in the Caribbean and boating on the St. Croix River.

Linda has been a paid anchor soprano in our St. John's choir for the past eleven years, and she recently enrolled in the M.A. program at the University of St. Catherine.

We welcome Linda to Project Kathleen that supports families for one year who are on the cusp of becoming financially independent.

## *Thank You St. John's From the Rev. Peggy Tuttle*

".... Thank You! Thank you for your recognition on Sunday, (June 12) for the kind words spoken by Jay Debertin, and for the incredible roses both he and Libby Snelson gave me. Thank you for the many expressions of gratitude from so many of you! It has been a joy to be here with you and I shall miss you. Thank you to the Wardens, the Vestry, the Staff, and all the committees that welcomed me to their meetings. Thank you to the Acolytes, the Altar Guild, the Choir, and all the volunteers. Thank you to the Youth, to the youngest members of our congregation who occasionally joyously announced their presence during our services and the TEC Teams. St. John's has not only survived this transition but you have thrived because you are committed to the future! May God continue to bless you and the Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson as you join together in ministry.

The Rev. John Claypool used this dismissal at every service and as I leave, I leave it with you: ***Depart now in the fellowship of God the Father, And as you go, remember: in the Goodness of God you were born into this world; by the Grace of God you have been kept all the day long, even until this hour; and by the Love of God, fully revealed in the face of Jesus, you ... are being ... Redeemed.***

Peggy's address is:  
**5656 Kramer Rd., Mound MN  
55364-7380**

## **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JULY 18 VESTRY MEETING**

- by Libby Snelson, Jr. Warden

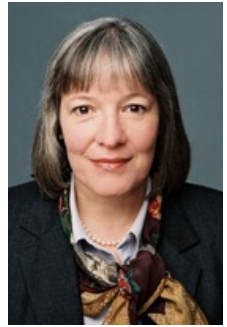
The Reverend Weber-Johnson led the meeting and introduced his immediate, near term, midterm and long-term priorities for discussion. Knowing and learning from members of St John's is first and foremost in importance and in apparent enjoyment for our new Rector.

Stewardship for St John's is already in the planning stages as we gather our resources in support of ministry here.

Libby Snelson reported on policy review work Terri Fishel, Diane Norman and she began as directed at the last meeting. Vestry members will be reviewing and updating St John's policies as needed.

Barbara Mraz presented her research on parking problems and hoped-for solutions, which will be reported in detail in the Evangelist.

Reverend Weber-Johnson polled the members as to their positions and priorities. The meeting concluded with Compline.



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## ***From Where I Sit***

- by Lulu Berg, D.C. (Domestic Cat)

Away again this month, dear reader, speaking at the National Conference for Feline Equality and Advancement in Atlanta, and then a few days with Bo Obama.

Until I return, a few words from Mark Twain: "If animals could speak, the dog would be a blundering outspoken fellow, but the cat would have the rare grace of never saying a word too much."

Indeed.

Enjoy the "dog days" of summer, dear ones.

I will have the rare grace to say nothing more.

- Lulu Berg, D.C.



Children's Ministry article  
continued here:

"The role of the gardener, then, is simply to discern what manner of plant or child is trying to emerge...then simply ask, "How do I help it grow into what it is in its roots?"

Be in touch, revel in the sun and warmth...in our long and lovely Trinity season  
- Ellen Harrington

[ellenrhar@gmail.com](mailto:ellenrhar@gmail.com) or  
651-699-4867

**(Note the new email address!)**

## Annual Diocesan Convention News

The Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church will be held **October 28-29 at the Northland Inn in North Minneapolis.**

Guest speaker is Rt. Rev. Mary Gray-Reeves, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real.

Guest musician is Charles Milling, Contemporary Music Director at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Boynton Beach, Florida.

For more information, visit the Convention website:  
[www.episcopalconvention-mn.org](http://www.episcopalconvention-mn.org).

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**Please join us for  
Compline this summer!  
Every Thursday ~ 7-7:15pm ~  
Small Chapel**

The Contemplative Service group will be leading Compline this summer every Thursday evening. Compline is the final service of the day, recognizing that the work day has come to an end and it is time to enter into a more peaceful realm of rest. Feel free to drop by from time to time this summer for this simple and most beautiful service!

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- by Ellen Harrington, Director of Children's Ministry



This morning's sermon left me excited by the nearness of the Holy. And our tendency to mark places to remind us of that experience. For years I have added rocks to a shallow wooden bowl. The rocks have been gleaned from all over. To be in the bowl, however, the rocks need to be heart-shaped. One day as I kept track of a group of young children at Valley Fair, my patience solely tried by heat and short attention spans, I looked down and noticed a hole in the sidewalk. In the hole was a small heart-shaped rock. I put it in my pocket. It had a calming effect during the remainder of our stay. That day the Holy showed up as a rock. I like the idea that some days 'God' may show up as a new idea or thought, a good book or conversation, or maybe as an illness or a challenge... all potential in my dailyness. Whatever shows up is 'God' that day. Omnipresence regardless of external or internal circumstances.

In Godly Play, we float the idea of Mystery every week. Apart from standard Godly Play stories, older kids occasionally read a novel with secular imagery for Mystery. In Phillip Pullman's, *The Golden Compass*, the characters have multiple and parallel universes. Everyone has a daemon. A daemon is an animal-shaped alter-ego that's all but inseparable from its human. Children's daemons can change shape but as a person ages the daemon settles on a single image that reflects the human's essence. It's like an external conscience and ideal companion. The Godly Play kids have had fun picking what they'd like for a daemon - picking qualities of an animal that spoke to how they experience life.

*The Messenger*, is the third novel in a Lois Lowry series. The boy, Matty, is present in all three stories. At first he's a nondescript urchin, who morphs into a messenger as the story progresses. His true role slowly emerges, "It began with the tiniest sensation...different from the searing agony in his arms and hands...it was a whispered hint of power...he could sense his blood beginning to warm and flow...he could perceive blood's separate cells, and see their colors, the prisms of their molecules ...gasping Matty called for his gift to come...he became aware that he had been chosen for this...his brain and spirit became part of earth...he rose...he floated above...he gave himself to it willingly, traded himself for all that he loved and valued, and felt free...now it was unfolding, like a flower coming into bloom, radiant with possibility." It was awesome for kids to follow his experience of Mystery.

After a bit of raking, I found a heart-shaped rock in the narthex basket this morning as a reminder of the newness of this day. And as far as I know there are plenty of new days ahead this summer! Don't forget to try a short **Family Liturgy**. Copies are at the back of the church. Godly Play will return on **September 18<sup>th</sup>**. Here is a poem by Dawna Markova to close with and capture a thread of becoming and newness that we need a 'Trinity' for - to hold so much Mystery.

"They say a child is born a blank shape to be molded, a tabula rasa to be written upon. But children come like a plant with a rhizome - its food source, the genetic coding for what flower it will become, how often it will bear fruit, what its artistry is; all of that born into it with the seed.

*(This article is continued in left-hand column above.)*



**August Birthdays**

- 1 Emily Brooks  
Bree Yaeger  
Sam Clark  
William Rinkoff  
Erika Binger
- 2 Scott Edgerton  
John Gross
- 3 Marty Brown  
Jennifer Lassey
- 4 Helen Docherty  
Gary Hagstrom  
Ellen Harrington
- 5 Caroline Krall
- 6 Allan Klein
- 7 Zander Brooks  
Mike Dueber
- 8 Kathleen Moberg
- 9 Michael T. Ganzel  
Jessica Schreifels  
James Morley
- 10 Sally Sand
- 11 Ginny Lund
- 12 Mary Lassey
- 13 Edward Johnson  
Marjorie Dow
- 15 Eric Husband
- 16 Sara Maronde
- 17 Jessica Drucker  
Cheri Wiegand
- 18 Mimie Pollard  
Glenn Kimball
- 20 Alexander Cook  
Jennifer Kinhead  
Andrew Krall
- 25 Andrea Edgerton  
Rob Beattie
- 27 Mary Frances Palmer  
Zoe Weber
- 28 John Mercer  
Polly O'Brien
- 30 Margaret Jeffery  
Archer Lightner
- 31 Lauren Debertin  
Alyson Westerhaus

**August 1936 – 75 years ago  
During the “Great Depression”**



**A SUMMER PARABLE**

Now it came to pass that, as the time of vacation drew near, a certain member of the Church bethought him of cool streams where fish were found, and his children thought of sandy beaches by the sea, and his wife thought of the mountains. And this church member spoke and said, "Lo, the hot days come and my work lieth heavy upon me. Come, let us depart and go where fishes do bite, and where the cool winds bring refreshment and the land is beautiful about us."

"Thou speakest words of wisdom," said his wife. Yet three, nay even four, things must we do ere we go."

Three things think I of, but not a fourth," said her husband, --- "that we ask our neighbor to minister unto our flowers, that we arrange for our grass to be mowed and watered, that we have our mail forwarded; but no other thing cometh to my mind."

"The fourth is like unto the other three, but greater than all," said his spouse, "even this, that thou dig into thy purse and pay the church pledge, in order that the good name of the church may be preserved, that the heart of the treasurer be made glad, and that it may be well with thee. For, verily I say unto thee, thou has more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

And the husband replied, "Verily, thou art noble and wise among women." And he did pay his pledge for the summer, and the treasurer rejoiced greatly, saying, "Of a truth, there are those who care for the good of the church." And it was so.

**FAMILY PLACE DINNER**

**Reminder**

*Sunday, August 7*

St. John’s Faith in Action Commission will again host a dinner for homeless families. If you are willing to be a part of this “hands-on” outreach – cooking, serving, eating with the families, or clean-up, please talk to Sue Cadwell (651-489-1741).

We have found it easiest to do most of the food preparation in our homes earlier, with last minute heating-up in the Family Place kitchen. The location of Family Place is at First Baptist Church, 244 10<sup>th</sup> St. East, at Wacouta.

August 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**WEEKLY MEETINGS**

**Monday:**  
6:00 pm Men's St. John's Alanon

**Tuesday:**  
8:30-Noon The Big Net  
10:00 am Staff meeting

**Thursday:**  
5:30 pm Job Seekers Mtg.  
6:00 pm Stories AA Group  
7:30 pm Women's Recovery Group

**Friday:**  
9:00 am Organ Practice

**Sunday:**  
8 & 10 am Services

**MONTHLY MEETINGS  
(unless announced otherwise)**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday:**  
9:00 am Men's Breakfast

**3<sup>rd</sup> Monday:**  
4:30 pm Finance  
6:00 pm Vestry

**4<sup>th</sup> Thursday:**  
6:30 pm Project Kathleen

**2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays:**  
7:00 pm The Big Net Seminars

**3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday:**  
5:30 pm The Big Net Congregational Planning Mtg.

**SUMMER CHOIR**

If you would like to sing in the summer choir, we welcome you! Come on any Sunday that is convenient for you. We meet at 9:15 in the choir stalls to rehearse a simple anthem for the service. We're a friendly group and we hope you'll join us.

**St. John's 2011 Calendar**

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**Sun., Aug. 7 – First Sun. Eucharist – 8th Sun. after Pentecost**  
Family Place Dinner

**Tues., Aug. 9** 7:00 pm The Big Net Seminar  
All day - Ramsey County Primary Election - Gym

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**Sat., Aug. 13** 9:00 am Men's Breakfast

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**Sun., Aug. 14 – Holy Eucharist Rite I – 9<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pentecost**  
10:00-2:00 pm - Parish Picnic with Holy Apostles Church at Como Park

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**Sun., Aug. 21– Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10th Sun. after Pentecost**

**Mon., Aug. 15** 4:30 pm Finance Mtg.  
6:00 pm Vestry Mtg./Dinner

**Thurs., Aug. 18** 12:30 pm Wedding in Chapel  
6:00 pm Faith in Action Mtg.

**Tues., Aug. 19** 5:30 pm Big Net Congregations Mtg.

**Tues., Aug. 23** 7:00 pm The Big Net Seminar

**Thurs., Aug. 25** 6:30 pm Project Kathleen

**Fri., Aug. 26-28** Youth Group Camping Trip Weekend

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**Sun., Aug. 28 – Rite I Morning Prayer/Eucharist – 11th Sun. after Pentecost**

**Tues., Aug. 30** 3:00 pm People Inc. Board Mtg.

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**WELCOMING OUR NEW  
RECTOR  
AND HIS FAMILY**

*The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson*

**Sunday, August 14**  
8:00 Service at St John's  
10:00 Joint Service and Picnic with Holy Apostles at Como Park  
(Watch Evangelist/Bulletins for specific location)

**Thursday, September 8**  
Festive Service and Installation of our new rector by Bishop Prior  
At St. John's 7 P.M.

Watch the Bulletin, Evangelist and website for further information.



## THE MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

All men are welcome!  
We invite you to join us on  
**Saturday, August 13, 9:00 a.m.**  
**in the Gym Kitchen.**  
Be prepared for good food, good  
fellowship, and lively conversation.

Then, mark your calendars for  
these dates in **2011 to meet in  
the Gym kitchen!**  
**September 10**  
**October 8**

## SAVE THE DATE!

### FAITH IN ACTION MEETING

**When: Thurs. Aug. 18**  
**Where: Undercroft**  
**Time: 6:00 p.m.**

## DON'T MISS IMPORTANT CHURCH EVENTS!

Did you know that if you use  
Google calendar for managing  
your calendar, you can import  
events from the Church  
Calendar? See the Calendar at  
**[http://stjohnspaul.org/news-  
events/calendar/](http://stjohnspaul.org/news-events/calendar/)**.

If you select an event - for  
example the installation of the  
new rector on Thursday, Sept.  
8th, you will see a link "Add to  
my Calendar" and you can  
seamlessly import the event to  
appear on your own personal  
calendar. This is an easy way to  
make sure you don't miss  
events! Questions?  
Please contact Terri Fishel,  
tafishel@visi.com.

## HOLY APOSTLES SPONSORS INNOVATIVE "FIELDS TO FAMILIES" PROGRAM\*

- by the Rev. Letha Barnard-Wilson

In the first three weeks of our new "Fields to Families" project, the Holy Apostles community has delivered nearly 5,000 pounds of fresh produce to three food shelves in St. Paul, Stillwater, and River Falls. The produce was grown by Hmong farmers who attend Holy Apostles and supported by a member of Ascension, Stillwater *Fields to Families*, a first-year demonstration project, is the inspiration of Lee Miller, a long-time member of Ascension in Stillwater, and friend of Holy Apostles. Although the idea has been percolating for a few years, Mr. Miller first spent time building relationships with people at Holy Apostles. He has attended funerals, fundraisers, and Sunday worship on a regular basis. This spring, he approached Wa Meng Lor, Holy Apostles senior warden, to explore if there were farmers in the community who would be interested in supplying food for the project. Two couples, Mr. and Mrs. Vang Yer Chang and Mr. and Mrs. Nor Yang Chang agreed to supply produce. Mr. Miller grew up helping his Irish grandfather sell produce in the Washington, D.C. area. He appreciates the hard work of small-scale farmers who do most everything by hand without using pesticides.



Nor Yang Chang and his wife, Pa Lee, rent a 3-acre plot of land just west of Stillwater. They grow everything from peas to raspberries and usually sell their produce at local farmers' markets. But they are happy to have a steady buyer, this summer, and provide food to families who may not have the money to buy fresh produce regularly. Much of the food is distributed three mornings a week to Merrick Community Services foodshelf, which serves a large Asian population on the Eastside of St. Paul. Deu Lor, a coordinator of the Merrick foodshelf, said this is the first time they have had fresh produce directly from the field, and people are really happy to be able to get it to feed their families.

As a demonstration, we're working out the logistics of the project, this summer, recruiting volunteers to help transport the produce to the foodshelf and building relationships with the farmers and foodshelves. Next year, we plan to offer "shares" of produce that individuals, families, groups, and congregations, can purchase to support the Fields to Families project. Eventually, we dream of finding farmland that can be used by the farmers rent-free, that will be a stable place for them to farm for years to come. Watch for opportunities to purchase "Fields to Families" shares next spring to provide low-income families in our communities with fresh produce and support local small farmers.

\* This article is from the Episcopal Church of Minnesota website.

## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SERVICE SCHEDULE – AUGUST 2011

	READERS	ALTAR GUILD TEAMS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GODLY PLAY GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR
<b>August 7 – First Sunday Holy Eucharist, The 8th Sunday after Pentecost</b>						
8:00 am	*					
10:00 am	(A) * (B) *	Diane Power Team	Ethan Furois Madeline Weinkauff Tim Krall	Kent & Karin Furois, Ethan and Wyatt	See you Sept. 18	Jim Johnson and Lucy Jones
<b>August 14 – Holy Eucharist Rite II, The 9th Sunday after Pentecost</b>						
8:00 am	*					
10:00 am	(A) * (B) *	Dusty Mairs Team	Cameron Gemlo Wyatt Furois Alex Joyce	Bob Horn Benoni Grimes		Fred Myers
<b>August 21 – Holy Eucharist Rite II, The 10th Sunday after Pentecost</b>						
8:00 am	*					
10:00 am	(A) * (B) *	Pam Strom Team	Cooper Olson Madeline Weinkauff Eli Weinkauff	Barbara Snowfield		Liz & Pat Collins
<b>August 28– Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist, the 11th Sunday after Pentecost</b>						
8:00 am	*					
10:00 am	(A) * (B) *	Pat Brynteson Team	Madeline Weinkauff Eli Weinkauff Alex Joyce	Shirley Sailors Patty Byrne Pfalz		OPEN

*Please read the above schedule carefully. Remember that you are responsible for finding your own replacement.  
\* To be determined. Names were not available at the publishing deadline.*

**On Sunday, July 17 the Rector, Jered Weber-Johnson celebrated and preached at St. John's for the first time. A special coffee hour reception welcomed the Weber-Johnson family.**



*Steve and Helen Michaels visited with the Rev. Jered.*

# THE AMAZING PARKING ADVENTURE

- by the Rev. Barbara Mraz

It started with a letter from a parishioner:

*“St. John’s members should band together to protest the number of parking tickets cited on Kent St. I received a parking ticket because I was not parked 30 feet away from the intersection of Kent and Holly. I was eight feet from the intersection and paid \$33.*

*In mentioning this to other members, seven shared that they, too, have received tickets on Kent. One member said she has received three. When I saw my ticket on my window, two tenants of the apartment house across the street told me everyone in the apartment has had tickets. The apartment dwellers have limited parking – it must be rough. The couple told me they each got a ticket on the same day on Kent!*

*A number of those seven people said that the church has been remiss for years in not addressing the Kent Street parking concerns. Is this a legitimate gripe?”*



Good question, so I took my notebook and camera and went out to “investigate” (cue dramatic music).

## Part One

I went to the Highland Precinct Office to speak with Sgts. Gayle Porter and Denise Gilbertson of the Parking Enforcement Division. These two really knew their stuff, and while not actually scaring me, came close.

Here is a summary of what I learned (note these are not direct quotes).

Q: People get so many tickets near St. John’s that, frankly, we feel targeted. The same officer’s name seems to be on most of the tickets. We’ve even seen an officer on Kent St. with a measuring stick! Do you assign a higher number of police than usual to our area?

A: *No one is targeting you. One criteria we use to assign officers is the previous number of violations in the area so that may account for what you see as more aggressive enforcement.*

*Some times we practice “directed enforcement.” This overwhelming reason for this is neighbors complaining about illegal parking.*

*And while new recruits are typically assigned to the parking detail, the number of violations they record is only one part of their evaluation.*

*The person assigned to your area varies by date and time of day. There is a constant rotation of officers. Parking officers issue an average of 55 citations per day.*

Q: St. John’s is in such a parking-dense area, given the number of nearby apartment buildings and homes. Even though we have a parking lot, on Sundays people often have to park some distance away. Couldn’t some of the regulations be relaxed on Sunday mornings?

A: *No. Not unless you get new laws written. Remember that people are required to know the parking distances on their driver’s tests. The required distances shouldn’t be a big surprise. They have been the same for thirty years.*



Thirty feet from stop sign

*If you give us a call when you have a large event such as a funeral, however, we can try to be understanding. (Ed. Note: this has been true in the past).*

Q: So how can you help us not break the parking laws? How about painting areas of the curb yellow?

A: *We don't do that any more. Snow.*

Q: Can we paint it ourselves?

A: *No you cannot. Defacing city property.*

Q: What if "some person" put a marker on the boulevard indicating where parking can begin?

A: *Then "that person" would be liable if someone moves their sign and an accident happens.*

Q: How about more signs? I've noticed that some streets have "No parking here to corner" signs- could we have one of those on Kent St. at the 30 foot marker?

A: *You'd have to call the Public Works Department. Often there is a charge to have signs put up. They have to investigate and see if it's warranted. Why don't you just post the information on your doors? Or hand out these blue flyers? (she gives me a stack).*

## **Part Two**

Next I call the Public Works Department of the city to get their take on things. A sweet-voiced woman answers my questions.

Q: Can we get some additional signage on Kent and Holly to help guide legal parking?

A: *We can come out and take a look at the area and get back to you.*

Q: What determines where signs are put up?

A: *We can come out and take a look at the area and get back to you.*



*Twenty feet from crosswalk*

Q: On the south side of Holly Avenue, near Kent, parking is allowed on both sides of the street on Sunday mornings, but the first sign that says this is half way down the block, impossible to see from the corner. There used to be an additional sign but it went away or was taken away or something... Can we get that sign replaced?

A: *We can come out and take a look and get back to you.*

Q: Is there anything you can suggest to give people guidelines about where legal parking begins:

A: *Someone should take a can of paint and make a mark on the curb where legal parking is allowed and the ticketing area ends. Lots of people do this.*

Q: That's legal?

A: *Oh yes.*

*And we will get back to you.*

Stay tuned for the next episode, including what we learn when the Public Works Department "gets back to us," and based on that information, what actions the Vestry might take as a result.

In the meantime, unless it's packed with cars or walking is a problem for you, park in the lot!



*“Education is not the filling of a bucket, but the lighting of a fire.”*

WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS

## Annual School Tools Drive

Give homeless and low-income children the tools they need to flourish in school! We will be collecting NEW school supplies to help kids in our community thrive in their education. Sponsored by St. John’s **Faith in Action Commission**.

**Please bring your donations August 7-28 and place them in the boxes at the church entrance in the hallway outside the church office.**

**Checks may be made payable to St. Paul Area Council of Churches with “School Tools” in the memo line.**

### Supply List

All items should be NEW!

We serve elementary, middle, and high school students.

### Especially Needed:

- Backpacks
- 3-ring binders & Trapper Keepers
- Calculators
- Pocket dictionaries
- Facial tissue (boxes or individual packs)
- Spiral notebooks (wide-ruled)

## 2011 School Tools Recipient Programs & Agencies

- **American Indian Magnet School:** Serves 325 students and is located on the East side of St. Paul. It serves children of all ethnic backgrounds in grades Pre K-6. Approximately 50% of the student body is American Indian.
- **Catholic Charities Migration and Refugee Services:** Helps refugees achieve self-sufficiency as soon as possible while addressing their immediate, transitional needs. Its mission is to serve and advocate for immigrants, refugees, migrants and people on the move.
- **Community School of Excellence:** A new Hmong language and culture charter school. 80% of students are recent immigrants/refugees from Laos and Thailand. The school uses a community-based approach to education promoting high academic standards and parent and community ownership of the school.
- **Department of Indian Work - Emergency Services:** Addresses emergency needs in the American Indian community, respecting the cultural and spiritual diversity of the people it serves. Emergency services include student assistance, food shelf, clothing closet, and funeral and transportation assistance. A program of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches.
- **Emma’s Place: Emma Norton Services:** A housing development in Maplewood for formerly homeless single parents with three or more children. It is sober housing that provides out of school time programming for children/teens and support services to assist families in achieving self-sufficiency and home ownership.
- **Project Home Family Shelters:** With the help of area churches, synagogues or schools, Project Home provides three emergency overflow shelters for families facing homelessness in Ramsey County. In 2008, Project Home served 877 children. Project Home is a program of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches.
- **Project SPIRIT:** A tutoring and cultural-enrichment program which serves African American youth, ages 6-12. It is a program of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches with sites in three St. Paul congregations.
- **St. Paul Public Schools Title I Program for Homeless Families and Children:** Provides educational support services, academic services, social service support, and family education services to children and families living in transitional housing sites, domestic abuse shelters, and emergency shelters in St. Paul.
- **Wilder Family Support Services:** Made up of five programs which serve over 450 homeless families in the East Metro area. All five programs focus on maintaining affordable housing and promoting the healthy development and school success of children.

### Other important supplies:

- Spiral notebooks (narrow-ruled)
- Composition notebooks
- Science calculators
- Pencils
- Pens
- Erasable pens
- Markers
- Folders
- School boxes
- Erasers
- Highlighters
- Pencil sharpeners
- Colored pencils
- Rulers
- Glue sticks & bottles
- Loose-leaf paper (wide-ruled)
- Loose-leaf paper (narrow-ruled)
- Scissors
- Crayons (8–10 large size)
- Crayons (24–48 regular size)
- White out/Correction tape
- Poster boards
- Display boards
- Watercolor paints

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY

- by Jean Hansen, Youth and Family Minister

Greetings Friends,

Here we are – almost at the end of summer. We have been a part of so much change this past year and a half. Through this time I have come to understand change as a sort of death. Change, like death can be very hard. However, change much like death is necessary in order for there to be new life. Many times the process of death can be long and painful. And we are thankful for the times when there is little or no suffering in death. The process of change can also be long and painful for some people. Both change and death are inevitable. Every living thing must go through death, thus the hope rises of new life. I think we are finally experiencing new life here at St. John's, and the burgeoning growth will be beautiful.

I am reminded over and over again that God takes part in our change, or in our death, and in life. God is living right along with us in our pain and in our joy. I'm so thankful for this. I'm thankful for the many people in my life that continually share God's Kingdom with me. I'm thankful for those that allow me to come to know the living God present within them. It's not a secret. God is indeed living and moving within each and every one of us. Jesus spent so much time during his short ministry trying to convince people that the kingdom of God was a present reality. It's right here, right now – ours to partake in. And people really had a hard time understanding what Jesus was trying to say – we still sometimes do. Have you ever heard the phrase "thin place"? In simple terms a 'thin place' is a place where the veil between this world and heaven is *thin*, and heaven is more near.

Mahatma Ghandi in his Spiritual Message to the World in 1931, speaks of this.

*"There is an indefinable, mysterious power that pervades everything. I feel it, though I do not see it. It is this unseen power that makes itself felt and yet defies all proof, because it is so unlike all that I perceive through my senses. It transcends the senses".*

My mom often saw the whole world as a thin place. I remember feeling embarrassed when she would talk about it in front of other people. When I was eight years old I made my first communion. This was a special first communion for my family because it was in our home. My mom would often talk about how she encountered the Holy in that place in the living room where we received communion that day. She would talk about it even years later when she would be in that same spot and encounter God. I used to say "there she goes again – talking about feeling the Holy Spirit in our living room". It wasn't until many, many years later that I realized what a gift it was to grow up with a mom who was ever mindful of this living and present God – to live with someone who so often had experiences of a thin place. I sometimes struggle with being able to witness the Holy in my everyday life. But when I do notice, it's a feeling that is so hard for me to explain. To me, describing the meaning of a thin place is like describing love, or holding your newborn child or the existence of God. All attempts are unsuccessful and all talk is cheap.

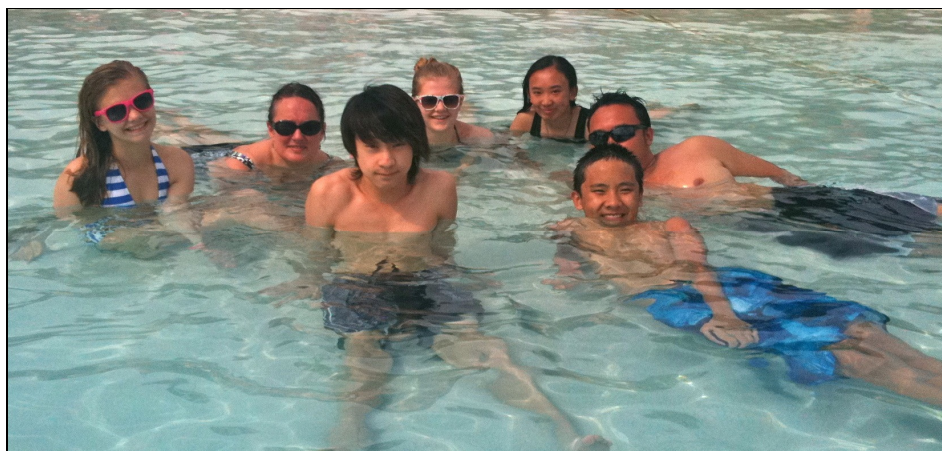
These inexplicable thin places are so wonderful, and I am ever so blessed to be able to share in the thin places of our youth. I am continually invited into their worlds, and in turn I am given the opportunity to encounter the Holy within them. What an honor it is when we are able to encounter that Mystery in others. It is so affirming of the present reality that is God's kingdom right here and right now.

These past few weeks have been especially Holy for me. The youth of St. John's and Holy Apostles have come together one day a week for the past five weeks to participate in mission and fellowship with each other and our community. We have done work at our churches, cleaned and stocked food at a local food shelf, and worked together to package food that will feed starving children in Haiti. And we have played together, cooked together, swam together, and watched movies together. Together we have grown in the Spirit and in love – love for each other and for the One present within us and others. I give thanks to God, who continues to move and live within us. And I give thanks to God for the blessing of encountering Jesus in these young people.

This month is ECAD – Episcopal Creative Arts Day camp at St. Mark’s Cathedral. I, along with my sons Paul and Luke will be participating in the Holy, with our Whole imaginations! This camp is unique in that there are no projects planned for the kids to re-create; rather we will present them with stories/ideas and a variety of art and allow them to create, as the Holy Spirit may move them! The bible stories will be taken from a Godly Play series called “Knowing Jesus in a New Way”. And each person will have the opportunity to know Jesus in a new way. If the Godly Play series sounds familiar to some, that is because it is. We used this same series here at St. John’s a couple of years ago in our own Vacation Bible School. I hope you can participate! Please check the St. John’s website for more information and registration.

At the end of August all youth entering grade 7 through grade 12 are invited on a weekend camping trip to Cannon Falls, MN. Mark your calendars for August 26, 27 & 28 when we will have one more chance to be together before summer ends to swim, canoe, and/or tube on the Cannon River, fish and have at least a couple of bonfires. It’s also another chance for all of us to encounter the Holy in each other, and in God’s vast and beautiful creation in southern Minnesota. Registration is due by Sunday, August 14 (same day as the St. John’s/Holy Apostles worship and picnic), and registration forms are on the St. John’s website.

## ***Memories From Summer Stretch***



## TWO GRANDMOTHERS

- by M. Craig Barnes\*

*Note from Barbara Mraz: Gary Gleason sent me this article from the magazine, The Christian Century. I thought it articulated well the balance necessary in many areas of life, including liturgy. It is reprinted by permission from the May 31, 2011 issue of The Christian Century.*

WHEN I WAS A BOY I spent a lot of time with my grandmothers. One was a city grandmother who maintained a small but elegant Victorian home. The other was a country grandma who still lived on the family farm. Although both were getting by on Social Security and what their husbands had set aside, their experience during the Great Depression had left them with the nagging fear that they could still lose everything. They responded to this anxiety in dramatically different ways.

My brother and I stayed with these women during our childhood summers, and we were formed by their different understandings of how to live in a volatile world. These differences became clear when we were called to the table for dinner.

The city grandmother always served dinner at a dining room table covered in a yellowed lace cloth. Her chipped china was carefully placed around small but polished silver candlesticks. She taught me that I should put the linen napkin in my lap immediately, that I should always stand if a lady approaches the table, and that it was impolite to reach. She made sure that there was classical music playing on the stereo.

Eating at her table was a chore. I don't remember any conversations from those dinners. I remember being dressed up, speaking in soft tones if at all, and being terrified of spilling my juice on that lace tablecloth.

By contrast, my country grandma served her meals in the kitchen since she didn't have a dining room. Her table was always covered with a red and white checked vinyl cloth that took a spill pretty well. There was only one fork per person and if it fell on the floor you picked it up and wiped it off with a paper napkin—you had to be fast because there was a dog named Brownie who was always nearby. We used a strange assortment of plastic glasses that were decorated with names like John Deere or the Red Moon Pizzeria.

The conversations at her table were often boisterous, and there were often several going on at the same time. But anytime Grandma started to tell a story, everyone would listen. When she got to the funny part of her story, she would laugh so hard that she'd slap the table as she coughed.

Both women were responding to their anxieties. One chose to rise above them by insisting on elegance and by refusing to allow her fears to reduce her character. The other chose to respond to each day with laughter and joy. Both seemed to know that they could choose how to respond to their fears.

As a pastor who frequently stands behind the Table of the Lord, I often think about these two influential women. My city grandmother would be impressed with how carefully members of the congregation prepare the communion table, with its beautiful cloth and our finest silver. The music is classical. We stand and sit at the correct times. The last thing any pastor wants to do is spill the juice on the tablecloth.

Our theology of this sacrament, however, is more about the lessons I learned from my country grandma's table. The eucharistic feast is all about joy. If you make a mistake or commit a sin, well, that is why we have the sacrament of grace. Strangers are always welcome. **There's holiness in careful elegance as well as in living with abandonment.** Still, I am not about to suggest to our worship committee that we get rid of the lace cloth and begin using a red and white vinyl cloth, or that we replace the polished silver with plastic vessels.

I suppose this is because the city grandmother was also trying to teach me something I don't want to forget. She wanted me to learn how to be elegant. In my middle age, I think that this too is a means of grace. We could certainly use more elegance and civility in our current debates. There's holiness in being careful, just as there is in laughter and living with abandoned trust. We still live in a time of great anxiety. When I serve communion, I see these two grandmothers, now leaning over the balcony of heaven, encouraging us with their different counsel for modest elegance or sheer delight. The sacrament calls for both. \* M. Craig Barnes teaches at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

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## ***SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE AND ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC AT COMO PARK***

Please join us on Sunday, August 14 for Saint John's annual summer picnic. The 10:00 worship service will be at the Como Pavilion, followed by a picnic lunch. This event will be a joint celebration with parishioners from Holy Apostles.

**WHEN:** Sunday August 14

- Worship Service at 10:00 am
- Picnic Lunch following the service

**WHERE:** Como Park Pavilion – 1199 Midway Parkway

We'll provide picnic food (Burgers, brats and veggie options), beverages, games, and music. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share:

- A-G: salad or side dish
- H-Z: dessert

***Please RSVP to the Church Office: [church@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:church@stjohnsstpaul.org) or use the sign-up sheet at the usher's station or in the Undercroft.***

