

# THE EVANGELIST

Newsletter for  
Saint John the Evangelist  
Episcopal Church



October 2015

Church of the Open Door Since 1881

Vol. CXI, No. 10

## New Sunday Forum Series

### BEYOND CONFLICT: *Faith* and Science in *Dialogue*

Many people today think that science and religion unavoidably conflict with one another. Anti-religious scientists and science-denying creationists fuel this perception, but the reality is that people of faith and scientists have been in fruitful dialogue for quite some time.

This Sunday Forum series will explore the fascinating ways Christian faith and science are informing and enriching each other in our contemporary world. We will host a number of speakers who will discuss topics such as: theology and current cosmology; contemporary bioethics; theology and the environment; and conceptions of human beings in light of modern science. A captivating conversation is taking place these days between theologians and scientists. We hope you will come be a part of it **Sundays at 9:00am in the Fireside Room.**

#### Schedule of Speakers

**October 4** – Dr. Don Postema on Bioethics

**October 11** – Dr. Ken Reynhout on Human Beings in Light of Evolution

**October 18** – Dr. Nate Van Yperen on Theology and the Environment

**October 25** – Dr. Philip Rolnick on the Origins of the Universe

*See page 10 for speaker's bios.*



## Join Us This Fall!

### Sundays

**8:00 am Service:**

#### **Holy Eucharist Rite I**

9:00 St. John's Café  
(Meditation Room)

9:00 Sunday Forum  
(Fireside Room)

9:00 Choir Rehearsal  
(Chancel)

9:45 Godly Play  
(School)

**10:00 am Service:**

#### **Sung Eucharist Rite II**

11:15 Coffee Hour  
(Gathering Space)



**November Issue**  
**October 14 at 4pm**

All groups and individuals are **encouraged** to submit news and items of interest to *The Evangelist*. Email (church@stjohnsstpaul.org), mail, or bring your **written and titled piece and/or photos** to the church office *before* the deadline shown. Thank you!

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

#### **Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday  
9:00 am to 4:00 pm

## From the Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson

Dear Friends in Christ,

It is more common to be spiritual than religious in the current post-Christian culture. This reality prompts popular theologian and Lutheran pastor, Nadia Bolz-Weber to ask, somewhat tongue in cheek, "Will your yoga instructor bring you a casserole when your mother dies? No, you need a Church." Perhaps overstated to make her point (there are, I'm sure, many fine yoga instructors out there who'd bring a casserole – or, rather, a kale and quinoa salad – to a grieving student, and the Church by no means has the corner on the hospitality market) there is still some truth to her observation that spirituality disconnected from church, communities and rituals, does little to answer some of our deepest human longings. We want to know that we're connected to one another and to something greater than ourselves, and that is just one simple example of why we need church. Church is a place that not only believes sharing one another's burdens is important – it's a community where we ritually enact and teach that mutual interdependence is part of what it means to be created in the image of God. It's not that others outside the church won't show up with a casserole in times of grief. Rather, it's that the Church teaches this is an essential part of our identity – that we show up, tangibly, physically, and with soul and body to comfort our brothers and sisters in distress. Because this is what God did for us in the person of Jesus the Christ.

The only way we create a community, a church, where such is the shared value and norm of life together, is to engage as a community in a process of formation wherein we learn and are shaped into people capable of abundant hospitality and mutual interdependence. We need to learn what words like baptism and Eucharist mean – that these things are not just beautiful rituals but also the means through which we are transformed into the body of Christ. We need to hear our common story in the scriptures and develop a common language rooted in practices like forgiveness and peacemaking, and truth-telling. And we need to cultivate and discover these things together in community, in the "classroom," and in worship as we serve others and one another together in the world.

This is the premise behind the Sunday Project – creating space for our faith community to engage in formation and worship apart and **together**. To do this we need to look at our practical life, schedules and curricula, and how we spend our resources as a church. We need to ask if we're making spiritual growth a priority in all these things. Through the Back Porch series we engaged in conversations about the importance and value of formation and we named some important things. We expressed in our stories that Church is a place where we learn about and come to know God. It's a place where we come to know that we are beloved of God. It's a place where we come to know our lives in light of God. And it's a place where we make sense of the world and come to an appreciation of how to engage the communities and world around us in light of who God is and what God does. Some of this was discussed in a Fireside Chat with the Rector on September 27, and plans are now in the works to survey the congregation about how we can better embrace this vision and value of formation at the center of our community. How can we better



redistribute our time and resources to make room for formation and worship for all at St. John's?

This could be changing our worship schedule slightly to enable a common time for worship, worship prep, and formation. It might mean creating a Wednesday evening program for adults, youth, and children around a common meal. It might mean, as the Strategic Plan insists, that we create more resources for formation in the home and in small groups. All of these are possibilities and our survey will help illuminate which will work in the varied lives of our members, so that we can shape our life together in the best way for the whole. Thank you for taking this process seriously, for praying with us over it all, and for seeking in your own lives to deepen your faith in God in the midst of our sometimes messy community called the Church.

I'll see you in it...the Church that is!

Faithfully,



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## From the Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

Friends,

We celebrated Peace Sunday on September 20th. At the end of our worship, we read "May peace prevail on earth." in all the languages of our peace pole: Hebrew, Korean, Spanish, Hmong, Shona, and English. When we installed our peace pole, we chose these languages because the people of Saint John's spoke them.

We as a congregation carry stories in many languages. Some of them are stories of peace; some are stories of conflict, injustice, and persecution. Many of them are stories of faith, perseverance, and love. Our stories are complex, just as our relationships with one another and with the world are complicated by our brokenness and the brokenness of others. Each Sunday in church, we acknowledge those complications, that brokenness and sin, in our prayers and confession. We do not come to the altar without reaching out and asking our brothers and sisters for forgiveness.

On Peace Sunday in particular, we acknowledged the brokenness of the world and our responsibility to help heal it through the Litany of Peace we prayed, based on this writing of Joan Chittister. I invite you to read it once again, and reflect on the places where you might help heal our communities and the world. Do you extend a hand, pray together, walk together, serve a meal? Please share with one another, and with me, the ways in which you promote healing and peace.

Faithfully yours,

Kate



## Prayer for World Peace

by Sister Joan D. Chittister, O.S.B.

Great God, who has told us  
"Vengeance is mine,"  
save us from ourselves,  
save us from vengeance in our hearts  
and the acid in our souls.  
Save us from our desire to hurt as we have been hurt,  
to punish as we have been punished,  
to terrorize as we have been terrorized.  
Give us the strength it takes  
to listen rather than to judge,  
to trust rather than to fear,  
to try again and again  
to make peace even when peace eludes us.  
We ask, O God, for the grace  
to be our best selves.  
We ask for the vision  
to be builders of the human community  
rather than its destroyers.  
We ask for the humility as a people  
to understand the fears and hopes of other peoples.  
We ask for the love it takes  
to bequeath to the children of the world to come  
more than the failures of our own making.  
We ask for the love it takes  
to care for all the peoples  
of Afghanistan and Iraq, or Palestine and Israel  
as well as for ourselves.  
Give us depth of soul, O God,  
to constrain our might,  
to resist the temptation of power,  
to refuse to attack the attackable,  
to understand  
that vengeance begets violence,  
and to bring peace - not war - wherever we go.  
For You, O God, have been merciful to us.  
For You, O God, have been patient with us.  
For You, O God, have been gracious to us.  
And so may we be merciful  
and patient  
and gracious  
and trusting  
with these others whom you also love.  
Amen.

## Stewardship 101

Stewardship of our time and finances is the way we make our faith tangible. We give out of gratitude for all that God has given us, because there are needs that cannot be met without our help, and because it reminds us to trust that God will provide what we need.

The gifts of money and talent that we share with others are a clear reflection of our values. The biblical tradition of tithing directs us to give back 10% of our earnings to support God's work in the world. Most of us don't tithe, but many people find that giving a proportion of their income helps them to make giving back a priority.

### Why do we have an annual Pledge Campaign?

St. John's is self-supporting. We pay for all of our expenses with contributions from parishioners and our endowment. In the fall we ask parishioners to make a pledge of financial support for the coming year. The Vestry uses the amount pledged by the parish to determine the budget for the following year.

### Do I really need to pledge?

Our budget is based on pledges, so your commitment to pledge allows us to plan for the coming year. Scripture is full of references to money and giving. One of the recurring themes is first fruits, offering back to God first. A pledge is a concrete first fruits commitment for the following year.

### What is the Endowment?

St. John's endowment, or Cornerstone Trust, was created by financial gifts given over a period of many years. The money in the endowment is invested and the income earned help support our programs and maintain the building. Our long-term goal is to be less reliant on endowment income for everyday expenses and thus have more funds available to pay for large repair or maintenance projects that are inevitable in a 100 year old building.

### How do I Pledge?

Fill out a pledge card and return it to the church. Pledges can be paid by direct deposit, or by contributions to the plate. You can pay weekly, monthly, or annually. If you have specific questions, ask anyone on the Vestry or Stewardship Committee, or call the church office. While a pledge is a commitment, it can be adjusted as circumstances change.

## Please Scoot Over!

### How to welcome visitors, new members, and new friends to your pew.

Imagine walking into St. John's for the first time. You are greeted warmly by the greeters and the ushers, and then you scan the crowd for an empty seat. Where to sit? It looks kind of full. People are sitting together in clumps, everybody seems to know everybody. And, often the seats next to the aisle, the easiest ones to slip into, are occupied. A barrier has been created. An unwritten "do not pass" sign has been posted. The gate is down, you will not pass.

What to do? You could mumble apologies as you climb over a stranger. You might ask, "Is this seat taken?", before beginning the climb. Or you might just circle around looking for a vacant spot somewhere near the middle. It can be an awkward introduction to our wonderful faith community.

*Scoot Over!* is about opening up our pews, our seating arrangements and our hearts to people who are new to St. John's by making room in the pews. We invite you to join us in making more space by leaving those spots next to the aisle open for our visitors and new members.

Thank you!



## Next Baptism Sunday, November 1

### All Saints Sunday

We believe, at St. John's, that baptism is about what God is doing through the Spirit and about what God is up to in the life and death and resurrection of Jesus. In this way, Baptism is less about a rite of passage, or even about one individual, but more about locating our individual lives in the wider life and story of God and God's grace.

If you are interested in getting baptized or having a child baptized, please contact the Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson at 651-228-1172 x11 to set up a time to meet. The next baptism Sunday after All Saints will happen on January 10, 2016, when we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord.

## It's Not Junk Mail!

by Barbara Mraz

Periodically, something arrives in your email box from "epistlesandepiphanies.wordpress.com."

This is a blog from the clergy that come out periodically. Before you automatically delete it, give it a read. You can also access older blogs at the website above.

Here are some excerpts:

### June, 29, 2015: What is it with Lions?

"How do we reconcile the overwhelming response to the death of Cecil with the lack of significant response to the human lives lost each day?

Well, animals can be easy to love. Many of them depend on us for their welfare, directly or indirectly and we like their gratitude....

But since today we are mourning Cecil, it is time to revisit the greatness of lions via Frederick Buechener: 'I think the greatest service that C. S. Lewis perhaps ever did, the greatest single service that that very skilled Christian writer ever did was to use as an image for Christ the figure of Aslan, the great lion.... Christ is not the Tab Hunter with the shaved armpits. He's not gentle Jesus meek and mild; he's the lion. And one of the things that keeps being said about

Aslan is he's not a tame lion. He's a wild lion. He's a dangerous lion, but he's a wonderful lion. When he appears, the children sometimes climb on his back, and he lets them bury their fingers and the faces in his great golden mane, but also he's a fierce lion..."



*Daniel in the Lions' Den*

### June 17, 2015: I survived Sunday School

"In the Fifties, violence and suffering didn't seem like immediate threats to those of us who sat in our child-size folding chairs for the once-a-month treat of "The Bible on the Big Screen!" that is, the screen that stood perilously on its little stand in front of the large room in the basement (undercroft?) There, all of the classes K-6 gathered once a month to experience the story of 'Daniel in the Lions' Den' (mauling, anyone?), 'The Flood' (God destroys the whole earth except Noah and his group), and 'Sodom and Gomorrah' (God burns a whole city and kills Lot's wife whom made a wrong move). The Lutherans didn't mince about Good Friday either: the nails in the hands, the blood... Mel Gibson could have gotten some ideas here...."

### September 25, 2012: The Face

"Creation continues to unfold before our eyes. More evidence of God's artistic handiwork from Sunday's Star-Tribune:

"Researchers stumbled upon a new species of monkey in a remote region in Africa. They were tipped off by its brilliant color: a blond chest, red tail and very blue backside. One scientist said that 'the coloring is unlike anything I've ever seen.'"

There in the newspaper, in the midst of election hype, political analysis, dire economic predictions, and sleazy articles about reality TV was a picture and article about the lesula monkey. It lives in the Democratic Republic of Congo and is a species we never knew existed until recently.

There's so much more to life than our narrow worlds, problems, schedules, and moods. So much more to be discovered. So many more connections to be made. The caption for the picture was "Hello, I'm New...."

We have not seen it all. Stay awake."

### To Sign Up for St. John's Blog:

Go to: <https://epistlesandepiphanies.wordpress.com/>

Click on the "+Follow" tab, in the bottom, right corner of your screen.

Enter your email address and click "Sign me up".

You will receive an email from WordPress asking you to confirm your registration, please follow the instructions.

# Faith in Action

## News from Hearts to Homes....

The 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina is also the anniversary of the establishment of Project Kathleen. After Hurricane Katrina, members of St. John's wanted to extend help to the anticipated homeless who would come north to safety. When the Hurricane Katrina refugees never appeared, the Project Home committee, under the sage advice of a local homeless advocate, reapplied St. John's energy to homeless families in our community whom would benefit from sponsorship from the St. John's congregation.

St John's worked in collaboration with Episcopal Community Services (ECS) for a number of years. Kat was the head of the first family St. John's sponsored. Kat and her family, with the help of a mentor, were able to find appropriate housing for their family of 3 boys and a daughter and Kat's very young sister-in-law. One of the boys and the sister received scholarships to attend a summer program at Stepping Stone Theater with the help of Project Kathleen.

Kat's family was also the last family we mentored with ECS. Just before ECS dissolved, ECS notified Project Kathleen that Kat was in need of knee replacement surgery. Project Kathleen was able to help. Now, 4 years later, we hear good news from Kat and her husband Andre. They have lived near Andre's family in Seattle for the past 4 years and were back in St Paul to see their children and sister. All the children finished high school and are employed. Andre's sister is attending college and is a theater major where she will be studying abroad this fall. The summer program she attended years ago, with the help of Project Kathleen, had whetted her appetite for theater.

About 4 years ago, Project Kathleen was re-vamped and we began collaboration with YWCA of St. Paul. The program was re-named Hearts to Homes. The anniversary is celebrated with an annual **Chili Cook Off. This year's cook off will be Sunday, November 8, following the 10am service.** If you are interested in entering a chili contact Holly Weinkauf, betterwein@yahoo.com, or Alice Johnson, aklightner@aol.com. The entrance 'fee' to the event is a contribution to the H2H closet of household products or canned goods for the food shelf. Some ideas of household products needed are:



*Chili Bowl 2015*

Dishes, Sponges, Flatware, Pots and pans  
Kitchen and Bathroom towels, washcloths  
Floor wet mop, Swiffers, dust cloths  
Glasses, Tooth brushes, toothpaste, Dental Floss  
Zip-lock bag, Plastic food storage containers  
Dish detergent, Clothes detergent, Laundry Baskets  
Bath soap, Shampoo, Conditioner  
Waste basket, Kleenex

## Join us for Garage-a-poolza!

On **Saturday, October 3**, join Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity in partnership with Thrivent Builds, Frogtown Neighborhood Association, Veterans' Voices, and Frogtown Rondo Home Fund for Garage-A-Palooza, a community wide event. In 1 day, we will repair and paint 6 garages and do a block clean-up of the surrounding area.

Garage-A-Palooza is part of Twin Cities Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization efforts to improve the overall quality of life in Frogtown. This is the 2nd of a series of innovative events focused in the Frogtown area this summer. Earlier this summer, we completed a block wide neighborhood cleanup with over 50 volunteers.

Join us for a community wide celebration throughout the day. This will be a family friendly event with activities for kids all day! Lunch will be provided.

**Sign up for the garage painting at <http://tinyurl.com/pzv4w3w>**

**Sign up for the Neighborhood Cleanup at <http://tinyurl.com/pfl23rk>**

Thank you!

## Family-to-Family Program: Partner with a Family in Kayoro, Uganda

Our faith calls us to care for one another and serve those in need. Yet the magnitude of the world's needs can seem overwhelming, beyond our ability or capacity to affect. So it was in 2008 that St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church made a seemingly modest, but incredibly bold decision to do "one good thing."

Five years ago, after much consideration and with a lot of faith, St. John's decided their "one good thing" was to get to know the people of Kayoro, Uganda. Partnering with the nonprofit organization Give Us Wings, we built a clinic for the residents of Kayoro. Since then we have continued to provide limited financial support for special outreach programs of the clinic and each Sunday we pray for those living in Kayoro. Some parishioners visited Kayoro during trips in 2011, 2013, and 2015, getting to know the clinic staff and Kayoro residents who use the clinic.

While these various connections and commitments remain, now there is a new opportunity to deepen our connection with the people in this community half a world away. The nonprofit Give Us Wings has started a new program called Family to Family, to help support families in Uganda while building ties with families in the U.S.

The goal of Family to Family is to help families in Uganda overcome the obstacles that prevent their children from completing their education. Using a holistic approach and with the assistance of Give Us Wings staff, each participating Ugandan family identifies their barriers to ongoing sustainability. Then the family receives assistance to enroll one of their children in a private school, a health care spending fund that can be used to pay for services at the St. John's Kayoro Health Center, opportunities to improve parenting skills, and access to business mentoring and small loans.

Those in the U.S. who sponsor a family will receive an introductory packet providing photos and information about the family, including the child whose education will be supported. Over the course of the



FAMILY TO FAMILY

year, the sponsor will also receive at least one letter from the student and two reports from Give Us Wings staff about the student's and family's progress. Sponsoring families are also encouraged to write to their partner family in Uganda. The program offers a unique opportunity for both families to learn about each others lives and hear each others stories. And for those of us at St. John's, it will help put names and faces on the people for whom we pray each week.

Sponsoring a family costs \$1,500 a year with donations made on an annual, quarterly, or monthly basis. While the goal is that the sponsorship will continue through the student's graduation from high school, the commitment is on an annual basis.

To participate in the Family to Family program, a St. John's "family" can take a variety of forms – a nuclear or extended family, a bevy of friends or cohorts, a house group, or any assemblage of parishioners that share a passion or a pew. Partnering here at St. Johns to enable partnering with a family in Uganda multiplies the blessing.

Jennifer Kinkead will be happy to work with interested families or individuals who would like to form a sponsoring group or learn more about the Family to Family program. Contact Jennifer at [khunterlane@aol.com](mailto:khunterlane@aol.com) for more information.



## Parish Thanksgiving Service Project

First Nations' Kitchen (FNK) is a ministry of All Saints' Episcopal Indian Mission in Minneapolis and has been serving healthy, organic, traditional indigenous food in a welcoming, family environment every Sunday evening since 2008.



Every week, First Nations Kitchen also rescues and distributes fresh, organic produce both to dinner guests and to underserved people throughout the Twin Cities.

This summer St. John's has been donating fresh produce to FNK through Holy Apostle's *Fields to Families* program.

For our parish Thanksgiving service project, St. John's volunteers will serve meals at First Nations' Kitchen (located at 3044 Longfellow Ave. in Minneapolis) on **Sunday, November 29**. We serve in four shifts, none longer than 90 minutes.

Contact Margaret Thor at 651-631-8308 or [margaretthor@gmail.com](mailto:margaretthor@gmail.com) for more information. To sign up for a volunteer shift, go to: <http://tinyurl.com/nalve68>.



*St. John's volunteers serving at First Nations Kitchen, Thanksgiving 2014*

**Hearts to Homes Meeting** - Thursday, October 22, at 6:00 pm in the Library. To learn more, contact Patty Byrne Pfalz at 651-224-7784.

**Faith in Action Meeting** - Thursday, October 15, at 5:30 pm in the Gathering Space. To learn more, contact Colleen Swope at [ccswope50@gmail.com](mailto:ccswope50@gmail.com).

## Cabaret - Saturday, November 21

The 2nd Annual Cabaret to benefit Kayoro Clinic & St. John's Youth Pilgrimage will be a fun evening of live entertainment, auctions, and great food. We've gotten some fabulous donations for the auction, and we're still looking for more for our auctions and game prizes. These can span a cross-section of items, we'd love to include great life experiences. If you would like to be part of our entertainment contact Joan Potter, 651-492-8837 or [jepotter60@gmail.com](mailto:jepotter60@gmail.com). If you would like to donate or volunteer contact Cammie Beattie, 651-683-2820 or [crbeattie@att.net](mailto:crbeattie@att.net).

## Please support the J2A Pilgrimage 2016!



The St. John's J2A youth group is selling **wreaths and poinsettias** to raise funds for their 2016 pilgrimage to Nova Scotia. Sales begin **Sunday, October 18** after the 10am service and run through Sunday, November 22.

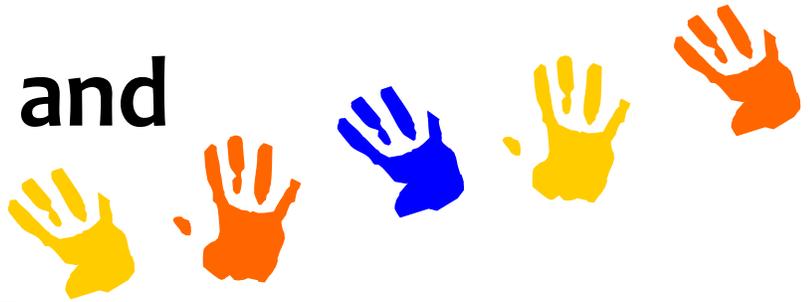
Order forms will be available beginning on October 18 at the back of the church on the usher's desk, and in the undercroft on the coffee hour table. Please fill out your order form, attach your check with Youth Pilgrimage written in the memo, and place into the basket located in the undercroft on the buffet nearest the stairs.

Orders are due no later than Sunday, November 22. Pick up is Saturday, November 28, and Sunday, November 29 in the gym. For more information contact Alice or Todd Johnson, [aklightner@aol.com](mailto:aklightner@aol.com).

## Faithful Parenting

Beginning, **Sunday, October 4** on the first Sunday of every month, all parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, faith parents, godparents and other adults who care about kids will gather at **9am in the Green Room** for conversation, support, and best practices in Christian parenting. Treats provided. Bring your beverage of choice, and get to know your St. John's faith family. For more information contact Jean Hansen, 952-201-0424.

# Children, Youth, and Family Ministry



## Confirmation

Youth, 9<sup>th</sup> grade and older, are invited to participate in confirmation. There are two tracks for confirmation preparation:

1. Wednesday evenings during the two-year J2A segment, or
2. a two-year cycle in collaboration with Holy Apostles Episcopal Church – our companion parish, which meets one Sunday a month for 2 hours alternating between St John’s and Holy Apostles.

Confirmation is a reexamination of one’s Baptismal vows; it is an important sacrament that explores and honors a youth’s transition into spiritual adulthood. Youth will be given the opportunity to explore and take responsibility for their Christian faith. Confirmation is not merely the final goal of your spiritual youth ministry experience; it’s the beginning of another layer of your spiritual cloak.

**Sunday Confirmands** – please mark your calendars with our meeting dates. Confirmation will meet at 1pm, the first Sunday of the month October through April.

**What:** Confirmation Preparation

**Where:** Alternating between St. John’s and Holy Apostles – first meeting at St. John’s

**When:** 1pm – First Sunday of the month – October through April

**The dates are:** 10/4, 11/1, 12/6, 1/3, 2/7, 3/6 and 4/3.

## Godly Play

The Godly Play curriculum engages what is most exciting about religious education: God inviting us in—to—and pursuing us in the midst of—Scripture and spiritual experience. Godly Play practice teaches us to listen for God and to make authentic and creative responses to God’s call in our lives.

We invite you to consider volunteering in this ministry, either directly with the children or in a support role. There is something for everyone.

### Godly Play Volunteer Job Descriptions

*Storytellers:* 2 hours per week, including preparation and classroom time for telling stories, arts, feast, and prayers.

*Greeters:* 1.5 hours per week; greet families, keep attendance, help children to get ready, and support storyteller with classroom management.

*Classroom Set-up:* 20 minutes per week; arrive by 9am to Godly Play classrooms, turn bookcases, arrange stories, stock art supplies.

*Classroom break-down:* 20 minutes per week; after church – clean up stories and materials and turn bookcases

Training, stories, and supplies all provided. We would like a commitment for the program year which is 26 Sundays, September through May. No classes on First Sunday. Option of co-teaching alternate weeks, so only 13 weeks per year. For more information, please contact Jean Hansen, 952 -201-0424.

## Youth Dinner Schedule

October 7: Baxter Family, Aimee and Tom

October 14: No Youth Gathering – MEA break

October 21: Olson Family, Kim and Jeff

October 28: Brooks Family, Cathy and Mike

November 4: Weinkauff Family, Holly and Don

November 11: Krall Family, Anneke and Andrew

November 18: Docherty/Conklin Family, John and Marilyn

November 25: No Youth Gathering – Thanksgiving break

# Faith Formation

Faith Formation strives to serve every individual at St. John's many opportunities to grow their faith and apply their faith to action, so that each person feels closer to God and her community. We invite each parishioner to attend as many of these opportunities as possible, as each gathering hopes to develop individual aspects of faith, and collectively hope to comprehensively enrich each spiritual life.

The Formation Commission (working with clergy and staff) organizes and promotes educational opportunities such as Sunday Forum, Basics Classes, Café, other classes and retreats, and is exploring other ways to provide educational opportunities that allow people at every stage to explore the Bible, theology, and their own experience of God in productive ways.

Faith Formation also includes Youth and Family ministry, as well as house groups, and overlaps in significant ways with Faith in Action.

We hope that you will join us, to hear your voice, to use your talents, and to help you become the disciple of Christ that God has called you to be.

## "The Basics" Faith Formation Series

**Sundays, September 27 thru November 15**

This is an eight-week faith formation series on Sundays at **12 noon in the Fireside Room**. The Basics classes give the knowledge and skills that inspire us to live a balanced spiritual life, and they offer a way for individuals to learn and grow in community. They are offered for all parishioners, especially those looking to refresh their knowledge on the basic categories of Christian faith, and are required for parishioners marking a significant transition in the church (baptism, confirmation, reception, reaffirmation of baptism, joining St. John's, marriage).

These classes tell the Christian story, teach how to read the Bible, and teach the basic Christian disciplines. The Basics classes are anything but "basic" and will engage both the heart and the mind so that we might, as a congregation, deepen our faith and draw closer to the One who is its source.

For more information please contact the Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson at 651-228-1172 x11 or [jered.weberjohnson@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:jered.weberjohnson@stjohnsstpaul.org).

## Sunday Forum Speaker Bio's

### Beyond Conflict: Faith and Science in Dialogue

#### Oct. 4 – Dr. Don Postema on Bioethics



Don Postema has taught ethics and bioethics, and is an ethics consultant to healthcare organizations. He is Program Director for Medical Bioethics for HealthPartners, Ethicist-in-Residence at Gillette Children's Hospital, and Professor of Philosophy at Bethel University. Don and his wife are members of St. John's.

#### Oct. 11 – Dr. Ken Reynhout on Human Beings in Light of Evolution

Kenneth Reynhout is Assistant Professor of Theology at Bethel Seminary and is Program Director for "Intersections: Science and the Church" at Bethel. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, where his work on the interdisciplinary dialogue between theology and the sciences led to publication of his first book. Dr. Reynhout also served as Co-Director for the Science for Ministry Institute at Princeton.



#### Oct. 18 – Dr. Nate Van Yperen on Theology and the Environment



Nathaniel Van Yperen, a member at St. John's, currently serves as Assistant Professor of Religion at Gustavus Adolphus College. He earned a Ph.D. in Religion and Society at Princeton Theological Seminary. His writing and teaching contributes to moral theology and ecological ethics, particularly on the themes of wilderness and wildness.

#### Oct. 25 – Dr. Philip Rolnick on the Origins of the Universe

With a doctorate from Duke, Dr. Rolnick is the author of many theological books and articles. After teaching at Greensboro College, he's now Professor of Theology and Chair of the Science and Theology Network at the University of St. Thomas. Dr. Rolnick is frequently invited to speak to churches, and to lead retreats for ministers, students, and lay people.



## House Groups

### Joining Together, Growing Together

House groups are a place to share our lives and journey together. They are gatherings of 8-12 members that meet regularly for friendship, spiritual support, and building deeper relationships, sometimes rotating among the members' houses or meeting elsewhere. Some groups meet to study or have a common interest or focus, but all build community around our shared life of faith. Many groups meet monthly, but each group can determine how often to meet and what to do in their time together. Below some house group members share their reflections:

"Our house group began when six of us--the Kassekerts, the MacBains, and the Elliotts--joined St. John's at about the same time, and the Rev. Barb Mraz invited us to launch a group with members Phyllis Merrill and Kathleen Hanson. We have gathered semi-monthly--as work and travel schedules permit--for some great dinners and conversation. From time to time we've also scheduled specific topics, from books (on prayer, the afterlife, comparing the Gospels) to worthy causes that we've supported as a group. We've also gone on adventures together touring, shopping, and dining in nearby locales. Our goals have been to get into serious topics without getting TOO serious and to have a good time together."



"As a member of our St. John's family for over 30 years, I have participated in a fair number of small groups: healing, gifts course, house group, Bible study and women's group. Even long term committee work has functioned as a small group for me. As I take a moment to think about my experiences in these wonderful groups what I see is a pattern. To begin with, each group had something that either I felt

called to participate in or intrigued me. Here I would say God was nudging me. I went into each group with some preconceived ideas or goals etc. about the group and myself. And then by showing up, participating, being open and vulnerable; the incredible Holy Spirit working with sighs too deep for words showed me, gave me a deeper, much deeper bond/affection with my St. John's family and with the Divine. And as this "rock tumbler" effect of the Divine, small groups and me has happened; there are so many beautiful points of light in the pews as well as in the world connecting all of us to each other. How could it be any different?"

"Our House Group is essentially a Cursillo small group that meets weekly. All meetings are at our home. Individuals sign up to lead the Study or bring treats on a volunteer basis. We had a visitor to our group few years ago, evaluating us shook her head and declared: Only God could bring a group as diverse as this together. I have to believe there is a God!"

To explore how you and your friends can form a house group or to connect with an existing group or with others who are interested in forming a group, contact Kate at 651-228-1172 x18 or [kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org).

### St. John's Cafe

Come for the coffee, stay for the good news! Join us **Sundays at 9am in the Meditation Room** as we discuss the lectionary gospel in the context of the week's news. Bring your coffee and whichever newspaper you read and come for thoughtful conversation. Youth and adults are welcome.

Contact Kate for more information at 651-228-1172 x18 or [kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org).



# Musical Notes from the Organ Bench...



## St. John's Adult Choir in Guthrie Theater Performance

St. John's Adult Choir will participate in the Guthrie Theater's presentation of *The Events*, which explores themes of community, tragedy, healing, and forgiveness surrounding the tragic shootings in Norway two years ago, and how a town choir was able to help heal the community through music.

At each performance a choir from our region will give voice to a set of songs written specifically for the show. The St. John's Adult Choir will participate on **Tuesday, October 20 at 7 pm**. For further details, contact Jayson Engquist at [orgjre@gmail.com](mailto:orgjre@gmail.com). For ticket information go to [guthrietheater.org](http://guthrietheater.org).

## Free Violin Recital by Ray Shows

Artaria 1st violinist, Ray Shows, will be giving a free violin Recital at St. John's on **Monday, October 26 at 7pm**. He will be playing Beethoven violin *Sonata No.6 in A major* and Sergei Prokofiev violin *Sonata No.1 in F minor* and Erich Korngold's transcription "*Much ado about Nothing*". Lots of Russian influences in this program. His pianist will be John Jensen.

## Weekly Sung Compline

Compline services are held at **7pm in the Chancel every Thursday** from September through June (except for Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Maundy Thursday).

In keeping with the earliest practices of the monastic communities, Compline is offered by candlelight at a time when the work of the day is finished and the quietness of evening begins to settle over the hearts and minds of those gathered in prayer. Incense will be present at this service, as well as the Holy Spirit. All are welcome.

### October Compline Musicians:

- 1: Lumina
- 8: St. John's Lay Clerks' Ensemble
- 15: Shanta Hejmadi & Emily Greenleaf sing duet excerpts from Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater*
- 22: St. John's Lay Clerks' Ensemble
- 29: The Mirandola Ensemble

## Fall Evensong

Our adult choir will offer sung Evening Prayer (Evensong) on **Sunday, October 25 at 4pm**. In addition to the evening canticles (the *Magnificat and Nunc dimittis* in *A Major* of Charles Villiers Stanford) and the *Preces and Responses* of Kenneth Leighton, anthems will include Stanford's uplifting setting of the *Te deum (in B-flat)*, Jamey Ray's *Sure on This Shining Night* and William Harris's *Behold, the Tabernacle*. A festive reception follows. Please invite friends and neighbors.

## Children's and Youth Choirs

**Children's Choir** (K through 4th grade) rehearses on Sunday mornings at 9 am (for 45 minutes) in the Music Room on the lower level. **Youth Choir** (5th grade through high school) rehearses on Wednesday afternoons at 5:30 pm in the Music Room (for one hour). If you would like to join or find more information please contact Director, Heather Hunt at [HHuntenp@gmail.com](mailto:HHuntenp@gmail.com)

## Adult Choir and Handbell Choir

Our **Handbell Choir** is open to anyone high school and older. We rehearse on Tuesday evenings from 5:45-7:15 pm. Our **Adult Choir** rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:30-9:15 pm (in the lower level Music Room). Sunday morning rehearsals are at 9 am in the Chancel. If you would like to sing or ring for special occasions (ie Christmas, Easter, Evensongs) we have a choir for you! Our Evensong Choir will be singing for the special Sunday afternoon services about 3 times a year. Please speak with Jayson Engquist, 651-228-1172 x36. We welcome all singers and ringers and have room for you!

## Instrumentalists

**Recorder Ensemble:** If you play the recorder, we now have a small ensemble of recorder players. Contact Jayson Engquist at 651-228-1172 x36.

**Drum and Percussion Ensemble:** Several St. John's members play percussion instruments. If you'd like to be a part of an ensemble please contact Kevin Wall at [kevinwall@gmail.com](mailto:kevinwall@gmail.com) or 651-690-1675.

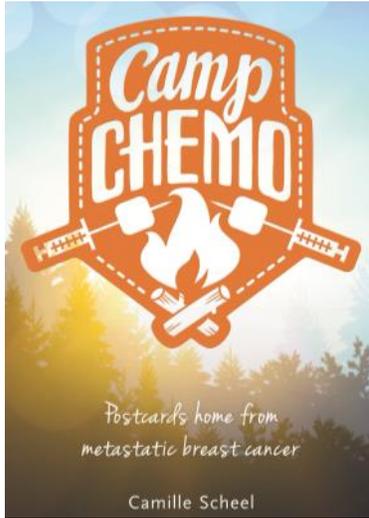
# Community Life

## Camp Chemo Book Party

The book, *Camp Chemo: Postcards home from metastatic cancer*, started as a blog in September 2007 with Camille's first breast cancer diagnosis. This true story continues today. Young, vibrant, and very much alive, Camille Scheel shares her true tale of living with uncertainty. Through journalistic updates dubbed

"Postcards from Camp Chemo," Scheel communicates her unfiltered hopes, struggles, and successes in the face of what many people fear most. With astounding fortitude and grit, and often with a surprising sense of humor, Scheel shows us that light shines in even the darkest of hours if only we know where to look.

Written with tenderness and wisdom, *Camp Chemo* presents insights for anyone - with or without cancer.



St. John's will celebrate *Camp Chemo: Postcards Home from Metastatic Breast Cancer* by parishioner Camille Scheel on **Tuesday, October 6. The event starts at 6:30 pm in the Fireside Room** and will include

book signings and excerpts from

the book read by the author. This celebration is free and open to the public. Proceeds benefit the Scheel family. For more information on the book and author, visit [www.campchemo.com](http://www.campchemo.com).

### We give prayers of thanksgivings for the births of:

**Lilly Mabel Waldo**, granddaughter to John and Rita MacBain, and **Eleanor Stoltenberg Farhadieh**, daughter of Jennifer Stoltenberg and Piran Farhadieh, and granddaughter to Philip and Jessica Stoltenberg.



## OWLs Luncheon

OWLs are "older, wiser laity." Anyone who identifies themselves as such is welcome to attend the OWLs events. (The "wiser" is optional!)

**Wednesday, October 21**

**12:00 Noonday Prayer in the chapel**

**12:30 Lunch in the parish hall**

**Lunch:** a buffet of dishes prepared by the clergy and staff. (Jered is already fine-tuning his recipe... and he *did* win the Chili Cookoff.....)

### **Program: "Seasons of Loss"**

How do we cope as we lose more and more of our friends and family as we get older -- and the end of life also grows closer for us as well?

What is the hope and comfort promised by our faith?

## October Meetings

**Prayer Shawl Gathering:** Wednesday, October 7 at 9:30 am in the Gathering Space. Contact Anneke Krall at 651-248-8932.

**Men's Breakfast:** Saturday, October 10 at 9:00 am in the Gym Kitchen. Contact Jim Johnson at 651-698-5655.

**Men's Gathering:** Tuesday, October 13 at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Josh Colton at 612-275-6004.

**Faith in Action:** Thursday, October 15 at 5:30 pm in the Gathering Space. Contact Colleen Swope at 651-246-4292.

**Property Commission:** Monday, October 19 at 4:00 pm in the Library. Contact Don Postema, 651-485-9632.

**Vestry Meeting:** Monday, October 19 at 6 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Don Postema, 651-485-9632.

**Down Syndrome Group:** Tuesday, October 20 at 6:00 pm in the Gathering Space. Contact Ellison Yahner at [ellisonyanner@gmail.com](mailto:ellisonyanner@gmail.com).

# Happy Birthday to...

## October\*

1	Tessa McLaren Johnson	Andrew Aldridge		Kasey Keeler
2	Caroline Lightner	Julia Debertin	22	Colin Parsons
	Emily Hodgson	J. Bradner Smith		Meredith Tessier
3	Talulah Clamons	11 Frank Loiseaux-Purcell	23	Brittany Olson
	Marschall Smith	12 Madeleine Grills		Charles Sand
	Megan Edgerton	Jack McDaniel		Judy Southwick
	Kerry Hennessey	13 Cydney Hagstrom	24	Lisa Henry
5	James Harstad	Linda Stack-Nelson	25	Douglas Lassey
	Jon Bailey-Zimmerman	14 Sarah Gemlo		Jessica Berry
	Tina Harstad	Grace Brown		Kirsten Loiseaux-Purcell
6	Todd Spainhower	Terri Fishel		Thomas Rinkoff
	Rex. E. Haberman	15 Beverly Finley	27	Jim Langler
7	Catherine Olsen	Brandi Ryan		Michaela Allen
	Isabella Avery	16 Jeremy Dorrell		Andrew Schmitt
	Roxy Markie	Peter Sullivan		Bradner Smith
	Skyler Rosendale	Cecelia Wall		Sarah Thompson
	Tessa Burrows	17 Christina Avery	28	Aidan Schmidt
8	Nancy Langler	Nicole Cross	29	Katherine Thomas
	Nora Howie	19 David Aylesworth		Laura Nicholson
	Cali Ann Kraemer	Carly Loch	30	Maverick Tiller
	Erin Sunder	20 Ria Newell	31	Ian Cudworth
9	Jay Clark	Steve Sims		Michael Kern
	Tara Ebenhoch	Annette Swanson		Ginny B. Parrish
10	Liz Collins	21 Cooper Olson		Louis Suarez
		Laurie Arbes		

*\*If your birthday was missed, please call or email the church office so our records can be updated.*

## Altar Decor Given to the Glory of God in Memory of:

### October 4 - The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

*Main Altar:* Art MacDonald

*Small Altar:* Herbert, Gladys, & Cecil Griffith

### October 11 - The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost

*Main Altar:* Debbie Pilacinski, Tom Woelfel, Bert Smith

*Small Altar:* Ann Bruce Ashmun

### October 18 - The Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost

*Main Altar:* Bob Martin

*Small Altar:* Margaret M. & William H. Plummer

### October 25 - The Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost

*Main Altar:* Mary Ann Horn, Mr. & Mrs. H.E. Horn

*Small Altar:* Melissa Leigh Mosvick



## Altar Flowers 2015

Memorial flowers on the Main and Little Sanctuary altars are given by parishioners on a perpetual calendar basis. A few Sundays are available for donors to sign up to give the flowers for either of our altars. If you are interested, please contact **Dusty Mairs** or the **Church Office** to find out what dates are open for each altar.

# St. John the Evangelist October 2015 Service Schedule

TIME	READERS	USHERS	GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR	ACOLYTES
<b>October 4 - The Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost</b>					
<b>8:00 am</b>	Craig Lindeke	Pat Brynteson Julia Ferguson Rick Rinkoff Lynn Hertz	Cammie Beattie Jeff Olsen Peggy Olsen	First Sunday	Matt Brooks Charlie Docherty Will Rinkoff Thea Bishof
<b>10:00 am</b>	A—Chris Howie B—Mark McInroy				
<b>October 11 - The Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost</b>					
<b>8:00 am</b>	Joan McCanna	Kathleen Hanson Don Husband George Kinkead Mason Kinkead	Phyllis Goff Lea Ann Schmidt Colleen Swope	Carole Selin	Helen Baxter Roan Weinkauff Charlie Olson Chris Olson Aidan Schmidt
<b>10:00 am</b>	A—Shirley Sailors B—Jeff Olson				
<b>October 18 - The Twenty-first Sunday After Pentecost</b>					
<b>8:00 am</b>	David Aylesworth	Bob Baumann Cammie Beattie Mary Gilbertson Peter Gilbertson	Phyllis Frisby Vern Kassekert Barbara Lindeke	Barbara Lindeke	Madeline Weinkauff Eli Weinkauff Tessa Johnson Maren Johnson Elliot Wall
<b>10:00 am</b>	A—Jill Thompson B—Troy Stack- Nelson				
<b>October 25 - The Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost</b>					
<b>8:00 am</b>	Brad McCanna	Patty Byrne Pfalz Marvin Cadwell Alex Joyce Barbara Lindeke	Kathleen Hanson Suzanne McInroy Judy Southwick	Ian & Liz Dobson	Tim Krall Caroline Krall Linnea Krall Sabine Kraff
<b>10:00 am</b>	A—Carole Selin B—Holly Stoerker				

## Altar Guild Teams

**October 4:** Diane Power, Paige Hagstrom, Sarah K. Smith, Sabine Krall, Ginny Schauss

**October 11:** Dusty Mairs, Phillip Baird, Shirley Cooper, Phyllis Frisby, Patty Byrne Pfalz, Bill Sherfey

**October 18:** Pam Strom, Kathy Brown, Sue Cadwell, Shirlee Gooch, Heather Joyce, Sue MacIntosh

**October 25:** Pat Brynteson, Caroline Krall, Nan Lightner, Phyllis Merrill, Elaine Sutton, Jill Thompson

## St. Francis Day Celebration

In honor of St. Francis, who loved all creatures great and small, we will be blessing the animals on **Wednesday, October 7 at 5 pm in the parking lot.** Treats for animals and humans alike will be available after the service. We will also give thanks for our Farmers' Market, which will close for the season in mid-October. Please bring your pets (dog, cat, fish, rabbit, etc.) and join us for a joyous celebration of our earth and God's creation.



St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church  
60 Kent Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55012  
[www.stjohnsstpaul.org](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org)  
*Join us for Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am Sundays*

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***THE EVANGELIST***  
*OCTOBER 2015*