The Reverend S. Grayson Clary and his family arrived in St. Paul to serve as Rector of St. John the Evangelist in 1964. He remains the longest tenured rector of the church, retiring from service to the parish and from full-time ministry as a priest in the Episcopal Church in 1986, a full 22 years later.

The world outside the four walls of St. John's went through remarkable change and upheaval during those two decades. In 1968 the intersection just north of the church at Selby and Dale was the site of the worst race riots in the city. St. John's, already involved in the work of trying to save a neighborhood in decline, welcomed Mr. Clary's leadership in addressing racial inequality and poverty.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, Mr. Clary was at the forefront of the earliest part of the civil rights movement in the parishes and communities he served in Virginia, South Carolina, and North Carolina, working tirelessly for integration in the local school systems and preaching for racial equality. His vocal support of desegregation was not always well-received. In the mid and late 1950s in North and South Carolina, the Clarys regularly received harassing phone calls, and more than a few death threats.

Though outspoken and activist on issues concerning racism and poverty, Mr. Clary was by no means a liberal. When it came to many other hot button issues of his day, he could easily be characterized as a traditionalist. While he welcomed the breaking down of some barriers in the church when it came to women, welcoming girls to serve as acolytes and vestry members, he held mixed feelings about women's ordination. On matters liturgical he remained staunchly conservative. He used the 1928 Book of Common Prayer at the early service long after 1979 Book of Common Prayer was introduced, and indeed after the former's use had been prohibited.

In October of 1986, just prior to his final Sunday at St. John's, a farewell party was held in his and wife Jean's honor at the Town and Country Club. More than 300 attended. The gifts bestowed were generous, and the accolades many and deserved. He had, in his two decades, overseen growth in attendance, including the largest annual pledge drive to that date. And amidst it all he had maintained a spirit of deep humility in his leadership, compassionate care in his pastoral work, and, perhaps his greatest legacy, an unflagging commitment to addressing social and racial inequality. In his time in this diocese, he was, as then Bishop Robert Anderson said of him, "a priest's priest," an example to his colleagues of faithfulness, zeal, and humility. Grayson died December 14 and was inurned in the St. John's columbarium at a funeral service presided over by Bishop Brian Prior on December 20. He is survived at St. John's by his wife Jean, son Brad, daughter-in-law Mary-Louise, and grandsons Sam and Ben.
Come...
Join Us In Epiphany

Sundays
8:00 am Service:
  Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00 am Sunday Forum:
  Fireside Room
10:00 am Service:
  Sung Eucharist Rite II

January 12: Baptism Sunday
January 19: Project Home Commissioning

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From the Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson

Dear Friends in Christ,
In J.R.R. Tolkien’s now immortalized *The Lord of the Rings*, the aging hobbit Bilbo warns his younger nephew:

> It’s a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don’t keep your feet, there’s no knowing where you might be swept off to.

Of course Tolkien developed the race of hobbits to be much like many of us, a people not prone to adventure, and happy with the comforts and familiarity of home. Like hobbits, many of us are content to play it safe in life—to risk little and to protect ourselves and those we hold dear. And to live thus is perfectly natural. Bilbo is right, to leave our doorstep, that is, to step out from the comfort and safety of the familiar, is to risk the many dangers of the world.

Unfortunately, for those of us who have chosen the Christian life, we have signed on for risk and adventure, for the Christian is ever being called “come and follow me.”

The first disciples who dropped their nets at the Sea of Galilee risked leaving the familiarity of home, the safety of lives they had built, to follow Jesus into the unknown life of faithful service to the least, the lost, and the lonely. I am reminded of that risky life in the witness of our Rector Emeritus, the Rev’d Grayson Clary, and his own willingness to put his life on the line for the cause of racial equality and social justice.

And, the adventure is often less obvious—at least in the beginning. As was remarked by Jerry Woelfel at our December vestry meeting, “the work of the church is always an adventure.” As he pointed out, who knew last January that we would end this year with a new preschool—we took a risk in seeking to bring Crocus Hill to St. John’s, and we’ve succeeded. Indeed, many of the turns of the last year point to the adventure that is life in community—being vulnerable enough to invite and welcome in new members, parachute jumps to raise money for Kayoro, and leaving the comfort of our pews to serve in the community—all of these involved some risk and an adventuring spirit. And we’ve only just begun.

Christ’s promise is that even greater things than these will we do. The life of faith is an adventure. Every time we hear “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord” our throats should clench just a little as we say “Thanks be to God.” For as we go, we are aware that “there’s no knowing where we might be swept off to.” Our only certainty comes from the season we have just celebrated—that God has come into our midst, goes with us where so ever we might go, and his promise is he will be with us unto ages of ages. That’s an adventure I welcome!

See you in church.

Faithfully,

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
Dear People of St. John’s,

The season of Epiphany is upon us as you read this Evangelist. The wise ones are journeying from the East, wherever that might be, toward the Christ child in the stable in Bethlehem. In our house, they are on the window sill in the living room opposite the book-case where the holy family rests in their stall, with beasts, shepherds, and angels in attendance.

I always think the wise ones must be weary, travel stained, and questioning whether the star is leading them on a wild goose chase through the desert and the night. Are they questioning their vocation as followers of that star? Are they thinking, “Surely, if I had chosen the other path, and become a soothsayer instead of an astronomer, I would be sheltered by wealthy patrons, not camped out here in the desert.”

Their quest is one of identity as much as it is a physical journey. As they persist in following the star, they become more fully who they are: believers in what seems impossible. Just so is our own journey of faith. So often, we are in the desert, uncertain of who to follow, or where to go. We discover pieces of our own identity as believers as we travel. We have glimpses of God that capture our imaginations and lead us on. It is the journey of a lifetime to come to the fullness of who we really are, and who Christ, lying in that manger, really is.

Even as not knowing can be profoundly frustrating, it is also richly rewarding. Rainer Maria Rilke describes the quest in this way:

I circle around God, around the primodial tower.

I've been circling for thousands of years
and I still don't know: am I a falcon,
a storm, or a great song?

Who are you, in this season of Epiphany? As we see the Christ child once more, God invites us to share, with one another, who we are, and what we believe.

Faithfully yours,

Kate
Limitations

I was touched by this blog post by Bishop Jelinek and thought it might be a helpful reference as we move to make the Eucharist more accessible for everyone at St. John’s, regardless of their physical condition. One of these moves will be to add a “station” at the small altar to the right of the church where no steps are present for access. There you may stand to receive Communion, or kneel. -The Reverend Barbara Mraz.

One evening last winter my exuberant then-10-month-old puppy bolted into the dark after some animal, just as I was turning from closing a storm door and off balance. I flew 10 to 12 feet horizontally—the flight was good, the landing not so—and landed on my right thigh, breaking the femur. Surgery, rehab, and a lift in the shoe help, but I now limp, and that imbalance triggers the serious arthritis in my other foot. Not so bad, really, but it is a new limitation for me, and I usually do not like when I have to accept and get used to them, and I hate to baby myself (some might say, “take extra care”). But that is what I am learning to do yet again.

I share this story about myself because for years I have watched people with limitations make every effort to climb whatever stairs there are to get to the altar rail, and then make every effort to kneel to receive the Holy Eucharist. I have watched people wincing, seen tears coursing down cheeks, have even heard groans. I have seen a shaky hand outstretched for the bread while the other was white-knuckled and grasping the rail for dear life. I have asked myself: “Who could have taught this person that God needs or wants them to suffer in order to receive the gift of God’s presence and love?”

Years ago I started mentioning this to people after a Eucharist when I noticed the suffering. I urged them to stand at the rail, or at the foot of the stairs or remain seated in their pew to receive. Some of them took the suggestions with relief and communion became a different experience for them. Without their bodies screaming at them, they were really present to receive the grace God was trying to give them. Others told me that when the pain of kneeling became too bad in the future, they would not come to church anymore because they would be too embarrassed to “receive special treatment” (communion in the pew). Some reacted with anger because they thought these heroic efforts gave them some merit in God’s eyes, and I was taking that away from them.

With my newly experienced limitations, I have gone through all those same feelings and attitudes. Yet once again, so I am really writing this for myself with the hope that it may be helpful to others, who are, like me, part of what I like to call “the gimp and hardware club.”

Bishop Jim Jelinek is the interim rector at St. Paul’s, K Street and former bishop of the Diocese of Minnesota.

Epiphany and the King Cake

Officially observed 12 days after Christmas on January 6, Epiphany is a Christian festival that commemorates the journey and arrival of the three wise men (or kings or magi) who came to pay homage to the baby Jesus. January 6 is also the beginning of New Orleans’ Mardi Gras season, and the time when King Cakes are the dessert of choice at parties and office lunch rooms.

As the name suggests, the festive King Cake is baked in honor of the three kings (or wise men or magi) who traveled to see Jesus. Most cakes, made with a rich sweet yeast dough, are either braided or simply formed into a ring. After baking, the cake is implanted with a small symbolic plastic baby or other trinket, and then decorated with vibrantly colored purple, green, and gold sugars. The person who gets the piece with the plastic figure is charged with hosting the next party.

In addition to honoring kings of old, the King Cake also gives Mardi Gras revelers a chance to thoroughly enjoy themselves before the more austere season of Lent.
Strategic Planning Commission Update

by Phyllis Rawls Goff

In our research and analysis work to develop a strategic roadmap to guide Saint John’s over the next 3-5 years, we recognize the critical importance of understanding our place and role as a parish within the broader Episcopal community and also our East Metro neighbors. With that in mind, our December 8th meeting featured guest speaker Becky Garthnofer, a fellow Saint John parishioner and representative from Saint John’s on the East Metro Mission Area (EMMA) Leadership Team of the Minnesota Diocese.

Becky provided a report on the results of a recent mission survey conducted in October with the East Metro Episcopal faith communities (i.e., congregations, Episcopal Homes, etc.) Becky explained that the objective of the survey was to ascertain areas of common interest and mission among the various congregations and groups, and then start to identify any possible opportunities for joint mission programming in 2014 and beyond.

The survey was distributed to over 150 stakeholders representing the 19 Episcopal churches in the East Metro area, plus Episcopal Homes. The survey results revealed that most of the parishes are currently involved in initiatives that address feeding the underserved, international mission work, and support to families in need. She shared that almost every congregation has some type of food program (either food shelf or meal service); and every parish has some type of international outreach mission, mostly in Uganda but also in Haiti.

Other current community outreach programs included environment protection advocacy; education and tutoring programs; and college access and young adult support.

The strongest areas of opportunity for future collaboration (in priority order based on the survey responses) included the following initiatives: 1) food/nutrition support; 2) immigration; 3) environment; 4) housing; and 5) partnering with the Hmong/Southeast Asian community. The EMMA Leadership Team is now in the process of taking the survey results and identifying specific focus areas and supporting program recommendations for the future collaboration.

In summary, Becky underscored that the mission and vision for the work of the East Metro Mission Area, in representing all of the Episcopal communities in the greater Saint Paul area, is to share mission information and resources, and to especially seek out collaborations and partnerships that leverage for greater impact through joint efforts. As quoted from Garthnofer, “There is so much more potential for greater impact and results by leveraging those things that we do best, and by doing them together where it makes the most sense.”

Next steps for the Strategic Planning Commission include further external environmental assessment data-gathering (including information from Met Council Regional Planning; Wilder Research; and the Episcopal Church Foundation) and then the development of vision statements and strategic priorities for the future. The plan is to present a ‘working draft’ to the Vestry in January, and then to the parish at our annual meeting in late January.

As always, we welcome your insights, comments and questions. You may contact the co-chairs of the Strategic Planning Commission (Gabrielle Lawrence at lawrence@macalester.edu; and Phyllis Goff at phyllisgoff@msn.com) or any member of the Strategic Planning Commission.
Vestry Transitions

Like other denominations, the Episcopal Church has a unique (some would say peculiar) structure for its governance and polity. At a congregational level, parish leadership is shared between the lay board (the vestry) and the ordained clergy. On a practical level, vestries are charged with managing the parish’s fiduciary responsibilities and the church’s physical property in accordance with local law and the canons of the Episcopal Church and regional “diocese.” Vestries do the work of a nonprofit board. However, because they operate within the church, they are also called to the work of leadership. This is, as set forth in the Vestry Resource Guide by the Episcopal Church Foundation, a “sacred ministry.”

The work of leading a congregation cannot occur in isolation from the mission of the church: reconciling people to God and each other in Christ.

As such, vestries should be as diverse as the congregations they represent. The congregation nominates and elects members at a time appointed in the church by-laws. At St. John’s, vestry members are elected to a three year term at the annual meeting on the final Sunday in January. Our Annual Meeting is January 26th, after the 10:00 am service. Each year we celebrate the work of a portion of the vestry as they conclude their term and elect an equal number of candidates to replace them.

One role on the vestry is that of warden—junior and senior. These members, along with the treasurer and rector, form the Executive Committee at St. John’s. The Executive committee sets the agenda for meetings and convenes, between monthly vestry meetings, to track progress on motions passed, staff work, and the work of commissions and committees. When the senior warden’s term is concluded, he or she is succeeded by the incumbent junior warden and, as this year, a new junior warden is elected. To stand for warden one has to have previously served on the vestry.

In the coming month we will celebrate the vestry’s work on a Sunday morning, giving thanks for outgoing members, and posting names and information about those who have been nominated to stand for election. We invite you to attend the Annual Meeting and vote for our vestry. As stipulated in church canons, all members in good standing are entitled to a voice and vote. If you want to know if you are a member in good standing, please contact the parish office. Please also pray for our current vestry and those who are preparing to join.

New Member Information

Paul Rudoi

Paul Rudoi is a classical vocalist and composer who sings with the male vocal ensemble Cantus. He moved to the Twin Cities from Hartford, Connecticut, in 2008, and now lives in the Uptown/Whittier neighborhood of Minneapolis. His original church background is Methodist but he has attended churches of many denominations in his family’s moves around the country over the years. “I began attending St. John’s as a section leader in the choir,” says Paul, “but beyond the music program was a strong sense of community. People wanted to help one another and wanted to reach out and support the locals in need.” Paul looks forward to becoming involved in the outreach efforts of the church as well as continuing his involvement with the fine music program here at St. John’s.

New Year, New Member Gatherings

Are you new to St. John’s and interested in exploring what it means to be a member here? Our next session of New Members Gatherings will be held at 9:00 am in the Green Room (above the side chapel):

- Sunday, January 19
- Sunday, January 26
- Sunday, February 2

Sessions are relaxed and conversational—we spend time getting to know one another, talking about what membership means at St. John’s and in the church, and exploring how you can plug in to what St. John’s has to offer for growing in faith and serving one another.

New members will be received on the following Sunday (February 9), and are invited to a welcome brunch sponsored by the St. John’s vestry after the service.

If you want to participate or learn more, contact Judy Stack-Nelson at judy.stacknelson@stjohnsstpaul.org, or simply come to the first session.
Update from Kayoro Clinic

We recently received an update from St. John’s Kayoro Health Centre in Tororo, Uganda. Below is an example of how the clinic is serving local people from Anthony Muthike, Cashier and Administrator at St. John’s Clinic.

Accompanied by her mother, Afwono Jessica, three-year-old Priscilla Achieng checked into the St. John’s Kayoro Health Centre II on the 20th of November in late evening. The little girl was visibly sick, weak, and in a worrying state. Laboratory test confirmed that she had severe malaria, a disease known to cause loss of appetite and general body weakness.

Thanks to the Health Centre’s medical team, Priscilla’s condition has greatly improved. Now that she is feeding well, both her mother and the Health Centre staff are very happy.

On the 29th of November, the Health Centre held a Clinic Day. There was a good turn out due to the Health Centre’s efforts to reach out and raise awareness in the community. It was a very successful day for St John’s Kayoro Health Care Clinic.

Below right, Mama Jessica radiates with joy as Priscilla shows interest in transit vehicles passing by in the road.

Below left, Priscilla enjoys a cup of sweet, warm porridge after the IV was removed from her left arm.

In the left picture, patients wait in line to consult with the In-Charge. Below, the In-Charge reads out treatment that will be administered to the patient.

Below left, the Laboratory Technician examines blood samples taken during the Clinic Day.

Below left, the Nursing Assistant dispenses drugs to patients and advises them on proper drug use.

At left, the Laboratory Technician examines blood samples taken during the Clinic Day.

Below left, the Nursing Assistant dispenses drugs to patients and advises them on proper drug use.
Faith in Action

Beginning Saturday, February 1, 2014, St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church will provide homeless individuals and their family members with a place to sleep, some snacks, and hosts with compassion for their present situation. As a Parish, we are combining our efforts with those of St. Clements Episcopal Church and our companion parish, Holy Apostles Episcopal Church. We are asking the members of these congregations to band together and volunteer their time to help us provide an invaluable service to those greatly in need.

We will need four volunteers each day to provide these services. The first two volunteers will volunteer from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm and help welcome our guests as they return from dinner and a day’s work, training, or daycare. Duties may include preparing a healthy evening snack, tidying up the kitchen facilities and eating area after use, engaging children and youth in activities such as reading, homework, games, videos, or lending a sympathetic ear to those struggling with homelessness.

Overnight volunteers will arrive at 8:00 pm, greet families, and secure the building for guests to go to sleep. Guidelines for bedtime are around 9:00 pm on weekdays and 10:00 pm on weekends. Overnight volunteers will sleep at the church and wake families around 6:00 am on weekdays and 8:00 am on weekends.

Project Home will provide breakfast items when available. Donations are always appreciated. Overnight volunteers should tidy the kitchen and have our guests ready to be picked up at 6:30 am on weekdays and 8:30 am on weekends. Each volunteer will be given information on responsibilities and Project Home will provide training in January for those who request training. In addition we will need volunteers on the morning of February 1 to help set up and organize sleeping arrangements for those people staying with us. In total we need more than 125 people to serve in the name of Jesus Christ during the month of February. Please be one of them!

Bring your children or grandchildren. Partner with hosts from our companion parish, Holy Apostles or St. Clements. This exposure can be an invaluable lesson to many who take housing and food for granted and give each of us an opportunity to show compassion for people who are facing a very difficult time. Most importantly, support us in providing a caring, respectful and friendly place for those who are struggling to make it in a time of high unemployment during an economic downturn.

We have been blessed with a beautiful place to worship, a loving and spiritual congregation and an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of a few during the month of February. To sign up or learn more, please contact Gary Hagstrom 651-492-2969 or John Edgerton 651-214-0947. Beginning January 1, 2014 we will have sign up on line. Links will be provided on the church website under PROJECT HOME 2014. We will also be available on Sundays after church.

Jennifer Kinkead’s White Chili with Chicken

- 1 ½ tbsp. oil
- 1 large onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced or pressed
- 2 c. cooked chicken or chicken breasts, cooked and shredded or cubed
- 1 4 oz can chopped mild green chiles
- ½ to 1 tbsp. diced canned or fresh jalapenos, or more, to taste
- 1 ½ tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. oregano
- 1 10 ½ oz can condensed chicken broth
- 1 soup can of water
- 1 (14 ½ to 16 oz) can of Great Northern Beans
- ½ tsp cayenne (ground red pepper), optional
- Salt, to taste
- ½ c (6 oz) shredded Monterey Jack cheese
- ½ c dairy sour cream
- Chopped green onions for garnish

Heat oil in a large saucepan or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the onions and garlic and cook, stirring frequently, until onions are translucent. Add the chicken, mild chiles, jalapenos, cumin, oregano, broth, water, beans, cayenne, and salt. Stir well, bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer, covered, 10 to 15 minutes. Just before serving, add cheese and sour cream, cooking over low heat just until cheese is melted. Serve at once, garnished with chopped green onions.
Annual Adult Choir Retreat
The yearly retreat will be held the last weekend in January (and over the first two days of February). While we are in Collegeville, MN at St. John’s University, the Evangelist Choir will sing the anthems on February 2nd, 2014. Our guest organist for that morning will be Carsten Slostad, a long-time member of our neighborhood and organist at a local Norwegian Church! Carsten is a graduate of St. Olaf College (Northfield, Minnesota) and he also conducts the Wells-Fargo Company Choir (of which Jill Thompson is a member) in Minneapolis. Previously, he served as organist of St. Paul’s United Church of Christ on Summit Avenue. Please welcome Carsten on February 2nd!

Compline
Now that Advent is behind us, the service of compline will be held the 2nd Thursday evening each month. The January service will take place at 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 9, and the February Compline is on Thursday, February 13. This beautiful prayer service is the perfect end to a stressful day. A small choir leads the music. Incense is used during the service.

Correction
According to one of our church historians (Fred Myers, who sung in the choir here for many years) our former Organist/Choirmaster, George H. Fairclough, served at St. John’s from 1901-1943. As you may recall, we sang his Communion Service in A-flat during the four Sundays of Advent 2013.

Shepherd Band Plays January 26
Our Shepherd Band (an intergenerational instrumental ensemble) will meet and play on Sunday morning.

Special February Evensong
Our next Evensong and a presentation of Amahl and the Night Visitors will be held on Sunday afternoon, February 16, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This delightful opera, about the visit of kings following a star in search of the Christ child, will be the “concert” portion of the Evensong. Several of the choir members will serve in the roles of Amahl, the mother, the three kings, the page, and the townspeople. Please invite your friends and neighbors to attend.

Try out Choir this Year
All choirs (including Handbell, Children’s, Youth, Evangelist and Adult) invite new members to try them out. Visit our website for the rehearsal times and/or speak with our directors (contact information for Lizza Berry, Kate Graber, and Jayson Engquist are on the website: www.stjohnsstpaul.org).

Artaria String Quartet Concerts
Plan now to attend one or both of the upcoming Artaria String Quartet concerts. They will be held at St. John the Evangelist at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary on Friday, February 7, 2014 and Friday, April 25, 2014. Come and enjoy the warm, rich sound that is Artaria String Quartet’s hallmark.
Youth Ministry

Wreath and Poinsettia Fundraiser
Thank you to everyone who purchased a festive wreath and/or a beautiful poinsettia from St. John's Youth. We hope you enjoyed them, because you really helped make the fundraiser a big success. Our goal for this fundraiser was to sell $3,000 in wreaths and poinsettias. We sold just over $3,000. We would also like to extend a HUGE thank you to Cathy Grun dhauser who coordinated and led the efforts of this fundraiser.

Pancake Tuesday Fundraiser
While this is not a pilgrimage year, we still work hard to raise money for future pilgrimages and mission trips. This program year we are running four fundraisers. Our three remaining fundraisers will take place in 2014. Mark your calendar and plan to support us during our next fundraiser – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner – on Sunday, March 2, 2014. Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Tuesday is typically observed the day before Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year), the first day of Lent.

First Nations Kitchen
On Sunday, December 8, members of St. John's and Holy Apostles spent time giving back to the community in Minneapolis. Confirmation students, along with their parents, young adults, and the clergy of both churches gathered at First Nations Kitchen to cook, serve, and eat with those in need in the area. First Nations Kitchen is 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 November 2, 2008.

The time we spent at the Kitchen gave many of us an opportunity to see what a difference a hot meal can make to someone. It also gave everyone the experience of living as Jesus Christ has taught us to, namely loving our neighbors as ourselves. Dinner that night was headed by Longkee Vang and included buffalo stir fry, roasted vegetables, and a vegetable soup cooled by our own Kat Zerebiec. It was a very insightful, fun, and hard working time for all involved. Thanks to Longkee Vang and Jean Hansen for organizing, and for those who took time out to volunteer.

First Nations Kitchen has open volunteer slots available for 2014. If you or a group are interested in going, please talk to Longkee Vang about organizing a group to represent the community of St. John’s. You may also check out the First Nations Kitchen website (http://firstnationskitchen.org/) for further details.
Pageant Fun and Cookie Decorating

Pageant 2013

The Christmas pageant this year was great! These pictures are from the Saturday rehearsal. There was a lot of chaos, but everyone worked together to get through the morning. The children did a great job memorizing their lines. Thank you parents for getting your children to rehearsals and pageant day on time. A special thank you to the parent helpers - Chris Howie, Laura Smith and Jody Dueber. And to the many youth - Limea Kral, Tim Kral, Michaela Allen, Johannah Frisby, Vivian Scheel, Helen Baxter, and Tessa Johnson - (forgive me if I forget anyone) you all helped me through my first pageant season with grace - thank you so much!

Godly Play Storytellers and Assistants

By Jean Hansen

Through the coming months we will feature our Godly Play Storytellers and Classroom Assistants. This month we recognize Christa Rutherford and Jay Clark. Please take time to thank our Godly Play storytellers. They have been called to a very special ministry working with, and helping to form, our precious children.

Christa Rutherford

This is my first year as a storyteller. I have two sons in Godly Play and wanted to participate in some way. It’s a really beautiful program and I feel as though I learn as much as the children do.

Jay Clark

I have been doing Godly Play for 12 or 13 years now. I have always been fascinated by the stories of the Bible - how so much can be communicated by such short stories. I was drawn to Godly Play by its emphasis on the stories, its focus on the mystery of each story, and the idea that we “get lost” in them at different points every time we hear them. I feel that these stories can play such a huge part in helping us deal with all the situations that life throws us into. I think that it is so important that children know that there are often no set and easy answers and reactions when one starts thinking about each story.

Cookie Decorating at the Olsen’s

Once again the Olsen’s—along with the other Olsen’s—provided fabulous treats for coffee hour the day of the pageant. Jeff and Peggy Olsen spend hours and hours every year making cookies to share the day of the pageant. In the past Charlie and his friends would help decorate the sugar cookies. With Charlie in Korea, the Olsen’s needed help. Thank you to Michaela Allen and Matt Richards for joining me in the afternoon of decorating fun. We had so much fun! May be a new tradition. Thank you Jeff and Peggy for your generous donation to the Youth Pilgrimage fund. We hope you enjoyed the cookies!
Faith Formation

For Adults and Youth 2013 - 2014

ANIMATE: FAITH Continues
“What we’re hoping for is intelligence on fire.” ~Brian McLaren

The series ANIMATE: FAITH tackles the meaty questions and ideas of Christian faith by combining video clips of compelling speakers with discussion and activities that engage your experience and imagination.

Great conversations are happening! Join us for a series that will enliven your faith and inspire your thinking! Attend Sunday mornings or 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings in the Fireside Room.

Upcoming topics

Sundays 9:00 am (45 min. each)
- January 5 and 12 — Salvation, parts 1 and 2
- January 19 and 26 — Cross, parts 1 and 2
- February 2 and 9 — Bible, parts 1 and 2
- February 16 — Church

1st and 3rd Tuesdays 7:00 pm (90 min. each)
- January 7 – Cross
- January 21 – Bible
- February 4 – Church

Please Note:
Bible Study will be on Winter Break from December 11, 2013 until our first meeting of 2014 at 11:00 am on Wednesday, January 22nd in the Library.

January 2014

The Epistle to the Philippians

Wednesday evenings
January 8, 15, and 22
5:30 pm dinner 6:15 pm class

Paul’s brief letter to the Christians in the Greek city of Philippi is filled with profound spiritual insights as well as practical teachings for daily life. By looking at both the letter and the historical context in which it was written, we will see how Paul weaves together themes of humility, joy, and hope by focusing on the example of Jesus and by relating his own experiences. The letter helps us see how we can live lives that are meaningful and faithful. The session is taught by Judy Stack-Nelson.

House Groups— “Joining Together, Growing Together”

House groups are a place to share your lives and journey together. They are gatherings of 8-12 members that meet regularly for friendship, spiritual support, and building deeper relationships. Some groups also meet to study or have a common interest or focus.

For those on the other side of the river, a new Minneapolis house group is starting in January!

To find out more about the new Minneapolis group or 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 Judy Stack-Nelson at judy.stacknelson@stjohnsstpaul.org.
St. John’s Crossword

Here is the solution to last month’s crossword puzzle. Get your magnifying glass back out and see how you fared.

Next Baptism January 12

Our next Baptism Sunday will take place on January 12, 2014. 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 Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson at 651-228-1172, x11 to set up a time to meet. The next baptism after January 12 will happen on April 19.

Kitchens to be Organized January 25

It is time to organize St. John’s three kitchens (main kitchen in the gym, Undercroft kitchen, and Fireside Room kitchen). Please join Dusty Mairs on Saturday, January 25 at 10:00 am to help with this important project.

Book Club Returns January 2014

Book club will next meet Saturday, January 4, 2014 at 9:30 am in the Fireside Room. We will be reading *A Romantic Education* by Patricia Hampl. *Zealot* by Reza Aslan will be our selection for the February 1st meeting and *Sarah Thornhill* by Kate Grenville will be discussed on March 1. Thanks to all who make our gatherings so enjoyable! Contact Mary Ellen Elliott at 651-426-4146 to learn more.

January Meetings

**Men’s Breakfast** - Saturday, January 11, at 9:00 am in the Gym Kitchen. To learn more, contact Jim Johnson at 651-698-5655.

**Men’s Group** - Tuesday, January 14, at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Josh Colton at 612-275-6004.

**Down Syndrome Group** - Tuesday, January 21 at 6:00 pm in the Undercroft and Nursery. To learn more, contact Lindsay Radford, LRadford@kstp.com.

**Hearts to Homes** - Monday, January 27 at 6:00 pm in the Fireside Room. For more information, contact Colleen Swope at 651-246-4292.
Happy Birthday to...

January*

1 Patrick Giese
2 Olivia Bloomquist
3 Peggy Lemmon
4 Daniel Brian Ropal
5 Keith Davis
6 Michael Richards
7 Anne Hodgson
8 Joe Johnson
9 Anne Elsinger
10 Pat Brynteson
11 Dorothy Ek
12 Josh Colton
13 Julia Fergusson
14 Ella Ebenhoch
15 Payton Kinkead
16 Bob Horn
17 Dorothy Thompson
18 Anne Hodgson
19 George Power
20 Dorothy Ek
21 Charlotte Rose Peterson
22 Vivian Scheel
23 Josh Colton
24 Joan McCanna
25 Dick Slade
26 Barbara Mraz
27 Megan Richards
28 Judy Stack-Nelson
29 Mary Ann Mason
30 Kim Ohon
31 Ann Booth
32 Marge Jeddeloh
33 Terry Williams
34 Dusty Mairs
35 Sandra Francis
36 Elliott Allen
37 Ray Frisby
38 Mary Soie Haberman
39 Shirley Sailors
40 *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:

January 5, Epiphany Sunday
Main Altar
Newton B. and Sarah S. Frost; Robin and Marguerite Baker Frost; David R. and Elizabeth Frost
Small Altar
Ruth and Ralph Brooks

January 12, Baptism Sunday
Main Altar
Dorothy B. and Adrian Drew
Small Altar
Virginia Lauren

January 19, The Second Sunday after Epiphany
Main Altar
Phyllis and Edward C. Brown
Small Altar
Debbie Pilacinski, Tom Woelfel, Bert Smith

January 26, The Third Sunday after Epiphany
Main Altar
Nathaniel P. and Theodosis Langford; Nathaniel P. and Mildred Milton Langford; Joseph and Louise Milton; Ted Lottsfeldt
Small Altar
Phyllis and Allen Acosta

Altar Flowers 2014
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 January Service Schedule 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>READERS*</th>
<th>ALTAR GUILD TEAMS</th>
<th>USHERS</th>
<th>GREETERS</th>
<th>COFFEE HOUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January 5, 2014 - Epiphany Sunday</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Craig Lindke</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A - Mark McNulty</td>
<td>Pat Brynteson</td>
<td>Alden Drew, Mimie Pollard, Jennifer &amp; Peter Rosendale</td>
<td>Patricia Durst, Don Weinkauf</td>
<td>Erin Weber-Johnson, Leah Brown, Kim Olson</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 12, 2014 - Baptism Sunday</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Joan McCanna</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A - Judy Southwick</td>
<td>Diane Power</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Peter Gilbertson, Jeff &amp; Peggy Olsen</td>
<td>Phyllis Frisby, Kathleen Hanson</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 19, 2014 - The Second Sunday after Epiphany</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>David Aylesworth</td>
<td>Dusty Mairs</td>
<td>Pat Brynteson, Patty Byrne Pfalz, George Kinkead, Hank Snyder</td>
<td>Phyllis Goff, Jennifer Kinkead</td>
<td>Shirley Sailors</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A - Joan Potter</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>January 26, 2014 - The Third Sunday after Epiphany</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Brad McCanna</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A - John Docherty</td>
<td>Pam Strom</td>
<td>Aimee &amp; Tom Baxter, Marvin Cadwell, Alex Joyce</td>
<td>Cammie Beattie, Libby Snelson</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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</table>

### January Acolyte Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 5</th>
<th>January 12</th>
<th>January 19</th>
<th>January 26</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johannah Frisby</td>
<td>Madeline Weinkauf</td>
<td>Matt Richards</td>
<td>Tim Krall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Brooks</td>
<td>Rachel Clark</td>
<td>Aiaka Schmidt</td>
<td>Caroline Krall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maura Lynch</td>
<td>Will Rinkoff</td>
<td>Eli Weinkauf</td>
<td>Linnea Krall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Grundhauser</td>
<td>Matt Brooks</td>
<td>Thea Bishoff</td>
<td>Helen Baxter</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Tessa Johnson</td>
<td>Logan Finkel</td>
<td>Samantha Rosendale</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Please Rush - Dated Material

ANNUAL MEETING
This year’s Annual Meeting will be held in the gymnasium on Sunday, January 26 after the 10:00 am service.
Have lunch, thank outgoing vestry members and warden, approve the new slate of parish leadership and learn about the 2014 budget. Most importantly, come celebrate the wonderful work being done at St. John’s!
Child care provided, but please call the office to let us know how many children will be coming.
Please bring a dish to share.

The blog of St. John’s: Do You Get IT?
To help parishioners become aware of and gain access to the blog of St. John the Evangelist, we have sepia toned cards in the pews asking, “Do you get it?”
On the back side of the card is the online address of the blog and directions for those who wish to receive the clergy’s blog posts. Either follow the directions on your home computer to sign up, or fill in your name and e-mail address and place the card in the offering plate so we can sign up on your behalf.
You can get it if you so desire.