

THE EVANGELIST

Newsletter for
Saint John the Evangelist
Episcopal Church



January 2015

Church of the Open Door Since 1881

Vol. CXI, No. 1



Inter-Generational Wreath Making Workshop



Come... Join Us!

Sundays

8:00 am Service:

Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 am Service:

Sung Eucharist Rite II

9:00 Sunday Forum

(Fireside Room)

9:00 St. John's Café

(Meditation Room)

9:00 Adult Choir Rehearsal

(Chancel)

9:00 Children's Choir Rehearsal

(Music Room)

9:45 Godly Play (Gathering

Space & Classrooms)

11:15 Coffee Hour

(Gathering Space)



February Issue

January 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 above. 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,

A few months back I wrote to you about Servant Leadership. I talked about the example of our own Dusty Mairs, long-time parishioner at St. John's, who has served and continues to serve through our parish, in a myriad ways. I talked about how her example of humility in service, how she often leads from the sidelines and out of sight, and how she has often shouldered the undesirable tasks that others might consider beneath them – reminds me of the gracious and humble service of Christ. In that letter I said I would be creating an award to be presented in the coming year called the Dusty Mairs Servant Leader Award to acknowledge others who demonstrate considerable humility and service in leadership. Can you think of someone who fits this description?

Truth is, we don't often speak of things like humility and service in the wider culture, or, sadly, even in the church. And it's a hard thing to discuss for many reasons. For one, it is difficult to actually recognize humility or service when we see them. Sometimes false humility masquerades as the real thing. False humility protests being placed in the spotlight, all the while craving it. And, sometimes true service, the kind that comes with no real intrinsic or extrinsic reward, the kind that really requires one to humble oneself, to become less, is (understandably) avoided for acts of service that others recognize or that fit well within one's comfort zone. What's more, if we actually spoke of servant leadership as a chief virtue and value, we might (we fear) undermine some of the prevailing values of our wider culture – personal ambition and achievement, private gain and greed might be lost in favor of uplifting the lowly, bringing relief to the oppressed, and filling the hungry with good things.

One of the required readings for all freshman during my undergraduate experience was the pithy book *In the Name of Jesus* by Henri Nouwen, an author who has continued to challenge and inspire my Christian journey and that of countless others. In that book Nouwen tackles the issue of servant leadership. He writes:

The world says . . . "when you grow old you will be able to make your own decisions, go your own way, and control you own destiny." But Jesus has a different vision of maturity: It is the ability and willingness to be led where you would not rather go The way of the Christian leader is not the way of upward mobility in which our world has invested so much, but the way of downward mobility ending on the cross It is not a leadership of power and control, but a leadership of powerlessness and humility in which the suffering servant of God, Jesus Christ, is made manifest.

These words continue to haunt and challenge me. As someone who enjoys more privilege and power than most of the world – as a priest in the church, as a citizen of this nation, even as one born white, straight, and male – I am conscious, sometimes painfully so, of what true service would look like from me. And, I confess that most days I don't measure up. But, if the mission



with which I was entrusted, the mission each of us shares at St. John's, to show forth our service to God in our service to others, is ever possible, it will be as we lift up the examples of those who model humility and downward mobility in service of others. Then, too, we might begin to make manifest, as Nouwen suggests, the presence of Jesus Christ, in our own lives and in the lives of those we are called to serve.

As we enter a new year at St. John's, I invite you to join me in praying for a spirit of humility and service so that not only our lives, but the life of our whole community might continue to be transformed more and more into the image of the One we celebrate in the feast of the Incarnation, the humble baby of Bethlehem. A blessed Christmas and Epiphany to you and yours! I hope have a very happy New Year.

Faithfully,

Annual Meeting

This year's Annual Meeting will be held in the gymnasium on Sunday, February 1 after the 10:00 am service.

Have lunch, thank outgoing vestry members, approve the new slate of parish leadership and learn about the 2015 budget. Most importantly, come celebrate the wonderful work being done at St. John's! Please bring a dish to share.

Childcare will be available, but please contact the office to let us know how many children will be coming. You can call 651-228-1172 x10 or email church@stjohnsstpaul.org.

Candidate profiles for vestry members will be shared later in the coming weeks before the meeting.



From the Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

Dear friends in Christ,

As we prepare to celebrate Epiphany, I have been telling my children the story of the wise men. They play with our wooden crèche figures, and they have watched, although probably not understood, as Mary and Joseph and the donkey journeyed to Bethlehem, as Jesus was born and joined them in the stable, and as the shepherds and sheep arrived. Finally, the wise men are making their way around our living room, progressing from window sill to bookcase toward the stable. Soon, they will arrive.



We are reading the story out of many books, including several children's Bibles, but my favorite creative version is *The Fourth King: The Story of the Other Wise Man*, by Ted Sieger. You may have heard me read it in church last year. In it, King Mazzel sets out with the other three wise men, but quickly becomes separated from the other kings by a sandstorm. He is delayed time and again as he helps others he meets along the way. At the last, he is waylaid again, this time as he—unaware—helps the Holy Family evade capture. He arrives to an empty stable and, sorely disappointed, is about to start for home when a voice from heaven reminds him of all he has done to care for those in need. He is reassured and, filled with joy, settles into a new life as a shepherd caring for others. He never returns to being a king.

How often are we on a journey in our lives where we do not know the way or the outcome? Surely, the wise men had no idea who they would meet, either along the way or in the stable. We are equally likely to meet the Son of God in the midst of our own journeys. In this season of Epiphany, pay attention; where have you met God along the way?

Faithfully yours,

Kate

Office Closed

The church office will be closed January 1 for the New Year's Day holiday and January 19 for Martin Luther King Day.

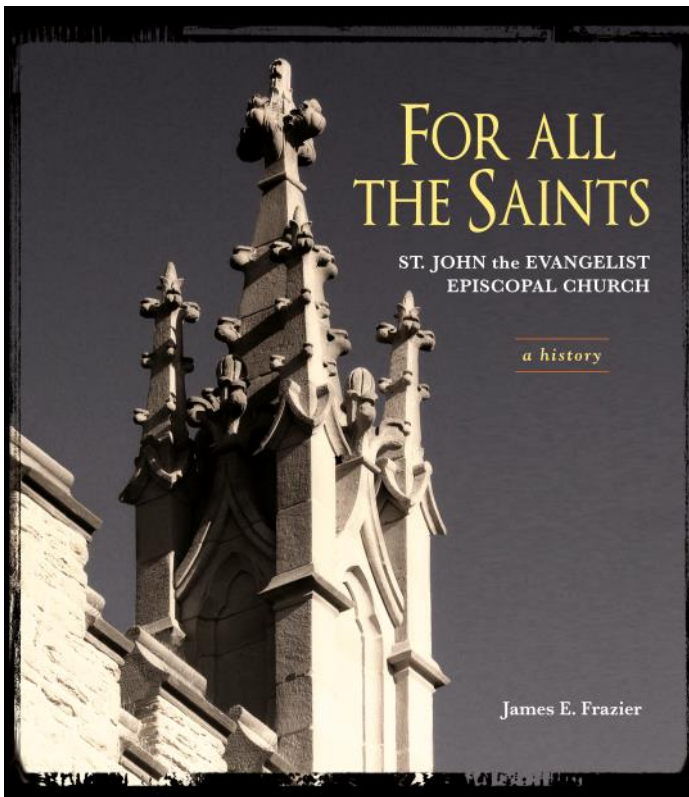
For All The Saints Available in February

The eagerly awaited illustrated history of St. John's, *For All The Saints*, will be available for sale in February. This 311 page volume was written by our former Music Minister, Jim Frazier, and is filled with pictures and stories of the myriad families and individuals who have made St. John's the place it has always been. There's a good chance that your family may be included.

The narrative brings to life the eras of all of our 16 rectors from Mr. Kittson in 1882 up to the present. A history of St. John's is also the history of St. Paul as many of our parishioners over the years have been the political, business and cultural leaders of our city and indeed our state.

A full announcement and an order form will be arriving in the mail in January and you can bring it to church with a check for \$43.05 per copy (tax included) to claim your book. Order forms will be available throughout the winter for your convenience. Books can be shipped for a small charge if you'd like copies for friends and family.

Countless hours of writing, editing and picture gathering have gone into producing what we think is as fine a parish history as has ever been produced. We think you will agree.



More For All The Saints news!

Summit Hill Living is "a social magazine for residents of Cathedral, Crocus, Ramsey, & Summit Hill," and is a small neighborhood publication specifically created for those residents. The exciting news about their December 2014 issue is that St. John's made the cover! Plus, there are four pages dedicated to the upcoming release of *For All The Saints*. If you don't receive this magazine and would like to see a copy, contact Dusty Mairs or stop by the church office.

New Member Profile: Holly Stoerker

Holly Stoerker started coming to St. John's a little over a year ago, after being introduced to the church by Lynn Hertz.

Lynn told her she could come for a Sunday, a season, or forever. Holly



started with Compline, then the Christmas Eve service, and then the 10 a.m. worship service. She credits the worship service and the "big hearted" welcome from people like the Frisbys as the reasons she kept coming back. This fall, Holly was received into the Episcopal Church here at St. John's.

While Holly may feel blessed to have found St. John's, once you get to know her, it will be obvious to you that St. John's is equally blessed to have her as a parishioner. Holly has many gifts to share and does so through her smile, positive attitude and welcoming spirit. Holly volunteers at a local St. Paul School, working with first and third graders.

She has many years of experience being a lay pastoral caregiver at her previous church. Now Holly is looking forward to being trained here as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and pastoral caregiver so she can continue to share her gifts with others.

Like many others at St. John's, Holly is a Macalester graduate and is looking forward to her 40th reunion this summer. Welcome, Holly!

Parish Snapshots

by Barbara Mraz

Thank you to...

All of the babies and young children in the congregation for raising the Cuteness Index way high.

Sabine, Linea, Caroline and Tim Krall for stepping up and being mainstays of the acolyte program, Youth Choir, and so many other things.

Sarah Stengel for offering her creative gifts by organizing the stunning art exhibit by the Fireside Room and for leading the lovely Advent Retreat.

Ellie and Sarah in the office for the outstanding stewardship materials and informative and beautiful Christmas letter.

The Coffee Hour hosts for week after week of reliable, delicious service.

Phyllis and Ray Frisby for the inspirational model of an enduring marriage.

Our new members who honor us and challenge us with their commitment and willingness to join us on our journeys.

Tricia Durst and the Parish Events Committee for outstanding service, event after event.

Jennifer Kinkead for her organized, steadfast leadership and her commitment to the people of Uganda.

The Faith Formation Commission for the inspiring slate of speakers on race.

Everyone who understands that compliments are more forceful than complaints and takes the time to offer them.

All of you not mentioned here who offer your gifts, week after week.

"Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for the sake of others. Thank you for never being afraid to try. Thank you for the quiet ways you have worked so hard and so long for so little for so many. Thank you for standing up for what you believed even though it cost you more than you ever let on. Thank you for being true to your vision even when others cast a critical eye. Thank you for being an inspiration without even knowing it." - Words from Bishop Steven Charleston

Vestry Members

Bob Baumann, *Clerk of Vestry*

Marilyn Conklin, *Music*

Tricia Durst, *Fellowship*

Mary Gilbertson, *At Large*

Phyllis Goff, *At Large*

Rex Haberman, *At Large*

Gary Hagstrom, *At Large*

Vern Kassekert, *At Large*

Suzanne McInroy, *At Large*

Don Postema, *Senior Warden*

Rick Rinkoff, *Treasurer*

Lea Anne Schmidt, *New Member/Welcome*

Colleen Swope, *Faith in Action*

Kevin Wall, *At Large*

Holly Weinkauff, *At Large*

Jerry Woelfel, *Junior Warden*

Volunteer Positions

Artaria String Quartet, *Artists in Residence*

Phillip Baird, *Verger*

Alden Drew, *Historian/Archivist*

Dorothy Ek, *Music Librarian*

Paige Hagstrom, *Coffee Hour Coordinator*

Jim Johnson, *Planned Gift Chair*

Craig Lemming, *Compline Coordinator*

Joan Potter, *Liturgical Coordinator*

Diane Power, *Altar Guild*

George Power, *Columbarium*

Paul Rudoi, *Composer in Residence*

Jill Thompson, *Lay Reader Coordinator*

Clergy

The Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson, *Rector*

The Reverend Kate Bradtmiller, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Margaret Thor, *Deacon*

Staff

Sarah Dull, *Parish Administrator*

Jayson Engquist, *Director of Music and Organist*

Kate Graber, *Handbell Choir Director*

Jean Hansen, *Children, Youth, and Family Minister*

Ivan Holguin, *Building Assistant*

Mary Kay Knapp, *Children's & Youth Choirs Director*

The Reverend Barbara Mraz, *Writer in Residence*

John Oldfield, *Office of the Treasurer*

Chris Tegeler, *Building Manager*

Longkee Vang, *Youth Ministry Assistant*

Ellie Watkins, *Communications Assistant*

Dunfa Weretti, *Building Assistant*

Stewardship Update



As we open a new year, I want to take the opportunity to say thank you to everyone who participated in the 2015 Stewardship Campaign: Called to Follow Christ. The campaign was structured to align with the five priorities of our

strategic plan: Faith Formation, Worship, Programming and Partnerships, Member Integration, and Building and Infrastructure. Funds raised during the annual campaign provide the financial resources needed to pursue these priorities and allow us to take steps to achieving our vision of becoming a "thriving and nurturing community that cares about its members and serves Christ in the world."

If you are reading this prior to the church annual meeting and have not yet made a pledge to the campaign, please know there is still time! Pledges can be made by visiting the St. John's web site and clicking the "Pledge Now" button at the top of the home page.

We received many compliments on the Sunday reflections, and people truly appreciated the prayer that was offered in advance of each reflection. I want to close the campaign by offering this prayer again. Indeed, there is a cost associated with our call to follow Christ, and please know that all that you do for

our church, through prayer and worship, financial pledges, volunteer time, guidance, and all forms of involvement is valued and adds to our life as a community.

Peace be with you and happy new year!

Dear Lord God,

You give us our daily bread that guides and sustains us on our life's journeys. We are eternally grateful for your abundant blessings.

We ask you, through the Holy Spirit, to help open our hearts and minds with thoughtful understanding and gracious acceptance of the ministry of returning to you, through St. John's, part of the treasures you have given to us.

We are confident that we who have been called to follow Christ" can reach the fulfillment of our collective ministries only with your steadfast care and love.

In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Tony



Total Amount Pledged So Far	Percent of Goal	Dollars Left to Reach Goal	Total Number of Pledges So Far	Pledges Still Needed	Average Pledge
\$494,072	90%	\$55,928	156	44	\$3,167

Crocus Hill Preschool Donates to the St. John's Food Collection

During the month of November, the Crocus Hill Preschoolers talked about families, food, and sharing. They were busy collecting non-perishable food items to donate to the St. John's food drive. Each day of Thanksgiving week, the children walked their donations down to the Gathering Space and talked about what they are thankful for and how they can help others.



Safe Church Training: January 31 & February 3

The adult portion of Safe Church training ("Safeguarding God's People") will be offered at St. John's on Saturday, January 31 from 9:00 am—noon as well as on Tuesday, February 3 from 6:00—9:00 pm. This training helps in preventing and responding to sexual harassment and exploitation in the church and ministries. A meal will be provided, so RSVP to the office by January 23 at 651-228-1172, x10 or church@stjohnsstpaul.org. You can also contact the church office to find out the date of your last training.

Faith in Action

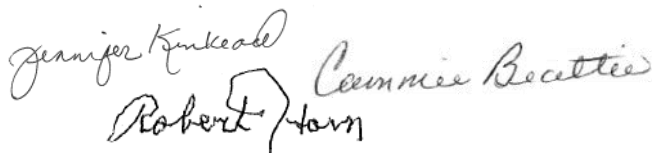
Mission Trip to Kayoro

Dear Friends,

At St. John's, you have been incredibly generous. In particular, your generosity has led to the building and support of St. John's Clinic Kayoro in Uganda. We have several parishioners who are prepared to travel with Give Us Wings in January 2015, to visit the people of Kayoro and build our relationship with them. While working with the people of Kayoro, we will be training on equipment designed to make the processing of grain more efficient and productive, we will be teaching at the clinic and where we are able, and we will be listening and learning so that we can help ensure better health, improve education and increase the standard of living in Kayoro, Uganda.

Two of our travelers feel called to travel to Uganda on behalf of our congregation but are in need of financial assistance to add to the contribution they are able to make to their travel expenses. Please consider adding a contribution to the Kayoro Restricted Fund to be used to assist these travelers. This can be done with a check made out to St. John's with "Kayoro Restricted Fund" noted on the memo line. If you would like to make donations over the year or a period of months, please contact the Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson at 651- 228-1172 x11.

The time and work of the travelers is an important component of our ongoing relationship with St. John's Kayoro Health Center. We hope that you will join us in supporting this work. Thank you.



Jennifer Kinkead, Cammie Beattie, and Bob Horn

Faith in Action Meeting - Thursday, January 8 at 5:30 pm in the Gathering Space. To learn more, contact Colleen Swope at ccswope50@gmail.com.

Hearts to Homes Meeting - Thursday, January 22 at 6:30 pm in the Library. To learn more, contact Patty Byrne Pfalz at 651-224-7784.

Project Home Starts February 2

During the month of February, St. John the Evangelist will provide homeless families with a place to sleep, snacks and hosts with compassion for their situation.

We need four volunteers each day to help provide these services—two evening volunteers from 5:30-8:30 pm and two overnight volunteers from 8:30 pm-7:30 am. Training will be available (see below).

A sign up link is on the church website at stjohnsstpaul.org/faith-in-action/project-home. To learn more about this important ministry, please contact Holly and Don Weinkauff (651-724-5200 or betterwein@gmail.com), Steve Sims (952-484-9292 or swiss7615@msn.com), or the Rev. Margaret Thor (651-631-8308 or margaretcthor@gmail.com). Holly, Don, Margaret and Steve will also help people sign up on Sundays.

Training for Project Home Volunteers January 18

Presented by Sara Liegl, the area coordinator for Project Home. Join us Sunday, January 18 at 11:30 am in the Fireside Room. For new volunteers, this is a great opportunity to learn more about Project Home and your responsibilities as a host. Returning volunteers are encouraged to come as well and learn about some exciting updates with the program.

If you have questions, please contact Holly Weinkauff at betterwein@gmail.com or 651-724-5200.

Are You Called to Lead the Huge Sale?

The Huge Sale is looking for new leadership! Our current Huge Sale leaders are stepping down after faithfully leading several Huge Sales. If you are interested in discerning with us whether your skills, time, and energy are a good fit for co-chairing and leading our May sale, when we welcome our neighborhood in our doors to shop for a wide variety of treasures, please contact our Faith in Action coordinator, Colleen Swope, at 651-246-4292 or ccswope50@gmail.com. In order for this ministry to remain sustainable and to continue, it will need new leadership and volunteers.

White Chili with Chicken

Jennifer Kinkead's winning recipe in 2014's "Chili Bowl" Cook-off for Hearts to Homes!

- 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 jalapeños, 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
- 1 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, jalapeños, 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 green onions.

Serving at First Nations Kitchen

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, fourteen volunteers from St. John's gathered at First Nations Kitchen to help serve a holiday meal. Located in Minneapolis, FNK is a ministry whose "primary intent is to provide food to indigenous people who would not otherwise have access to high-quality, fresh organic food in an environment of radical hospitality and cultural empowerment." It is a ministry for indigenous people led by indigenous people and run on an all-volunteer basis.

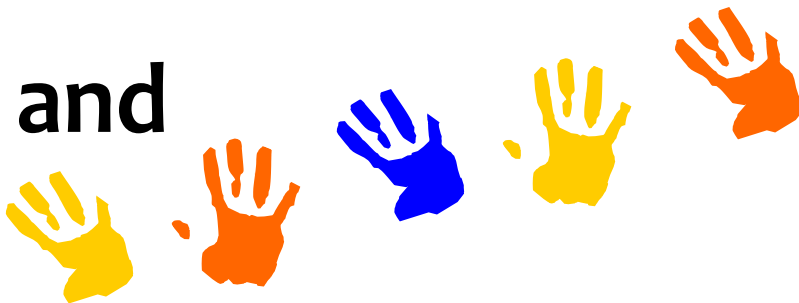
Most of the volunteers from St. John's that Sunday were new to FNK, and everyone had a good time. Their responsibilities spanned shifts in the afternoon and evening: a bread run, help with setup, plating the food, service and clearing of tables, and cleaning and preparing the kitchen for next Sunday's dinner. The meal included buffalo stew and vegetarian stew, plus a green salad.

Serving at the kitchen was easy and stress free. According to the Rev. Margaret Thor, who coordinated our involvement in the project, it was "just like serving family members for dinner." In fact, two of the first-time volunteers, Terry Dinovo and Diane Wallace-Reid, enjoyed their experience so much that they asked the kitchen coordinator if they could join FNK's call list of volunteers.

By serving others, we are able to honor God with thanks and praise for the gifts He bestowed on us. It was particularly fitting that St. John's was able to serve during the week of Thanksgiving and express our own gratitude for His abundance.



Children, Youth, and Family Ministry



Christmas Pageant

It's that time again to prepare for the annual Christmas Pageant, and we invite all children to participate in this year's production! The pageant will be presented during the 10:00 am service on Sunday, January 4, the Second Sunday of Christmas.

It is a great deal of fun, and youth of all ages, especially first-timers, are encouraged to join in. There are speaking and non-speaking parts, songs, animals, scripture quotes—something for everyone.

There will be a **dress rehearsal** on **Saturday, January 3 from 10:00 am—noon**. If you're interested, simply come to the dress rehearsal. Contact Jean Hansen at rjhansen3128@gmail.com or 952-201-0424 with questions.



Lock-in and Acolyte Training: St. John's Rite 13 Youth

Join us for an evening with lots of fun and little sleep! During our time together we will cook, eat, play and train. Bring a sleeping bag and pillow, and an air mattress if you have one.

Who: All Rite 13 Youth are invited!

When: Saturday, January 17 at 6:00 pm –
Sunday, January 18 at 9:00am

Where: Meet at St. John's

What: Lock-in and Acolyte Training with dinner, fun and games, bonding, great discussion, worship, and food!

2014 Fundraiser Update

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in our fall Cabaret/Talent Show. This joint fundraiser with St. John's Clinic Kayoro was a huge success. Thank you, too, for all of you who purchased a beautiful poinsettia and/or Christmas wreath. With those two fundraisers combined, the youth raised over \$5,000.

Pancake Dinner February 17

Our next fundraiser is the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and Mardi Gras celebration on Tuesday, February 17, 2015. This fundraiser, sponsored by the St. John's Men's Group, will be held in the Undercroft from 6:00-8:00 pm. Tickets will be available beginning on Sunday, January 27 during the coffee hour for \$5 per person, or \$20 per family of four or more. All proceeds will go toward the youth pilgrimage fund. Plan to attend for a great time!

Family Ministry: St John's Strategic Plan

One of the priorities in the strategic plan is to **Engage, educate, and foster a greater sense of community across generations and families by:**

- Creating a minimum of three new opportunities for parent/family formation that provide practical, theologically grounded resources
- Offering four intergenerational gatherings seasonally that are project-based

This past year, we've tried new things, like the Advent Wreath Workshop in November and Lessons and Carols in December. Intergenerational ministry isn't just about gatherings where different age groups do something together. It's bigger than that. Our goal is intentional interaction between generations that promotes faith and spiritual development of all ages. Thank you all for participating and sharing your faith with others. Please watch for details of more intergenerational events in 2015.

Youth Dinner Schedule: January 2015

7: Kevin and Michelle Wall
14: Dave Finkel
21: Peter and Jennifer Rosendale
28: Open



Musical Notes

from the
Organ Bench...



Artaria Concert January 30

Student quartets of the Artaria Chamber Music School, in residence at St. John's, will perform their Winter Concerts on Friday, January 30, here at St. John's. The performance begins at 7:00 pm, featuring chamber music of the Romantic era, and is followed by cookies and other tasty treats.

February 7, 2015 Piano Celebration

We will celebrate our new Steinway grand piano with a concert on Saturday evening, February 7, 2015. We invite members of St. John's, who have studied the piano to perform on this program. In addition we will have pianist OSIP NIKIFOROV performing one half of the concert. Osip graduated from Shattuck-St. Mary's School and is now studying on the graduate level at the University of Minnesota's Piano Department. He came from Russia in the Fall of 2010. Osip is the winner of the Music Teacher's National Association 2011 Competition in Piano. The Music Commission invites everyone to bring a dish to pass for a 6:00 p.m. Potluck Supper. The concert will follow at 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in playing, contact Jayson Engquist at 651-228-1172, x36 or Jayson.Engquist@stjohnsstpaul.org.



Do You Play The Recorder?

We would like to have a "consort" of recorders to play occasionally in worship (Christmas, Easter, etc.). If you play the recorder, please speak with Jayson Engquist at 651-228-1172, x36 or Jayson.Engquist@stjohnsstpaul.org.

Weekly Compline Services Begin

Through a most generous gift from John Graham, we will now be offering the service of Compline, weekly at 7:00 pm on Thursdays, beginning on January 8, 2015. The choir for each service will rotate between our own St. John's Lay Clerks, Lumina, Hymnos, and Mirandola Ensemble. Please let your friends and neighbors know about these beautiful services. Incense is used during the service. Light refreshments follow.

From time to time, we will offer a "musical meditation" that will follow the service (for about 20 minutes). Please contact Jayson Engquist or Compline Coordinator Craig Lemming (857-891-8780 or clemming@hotmail.com) if you would like to be considered to offer the musical meditation.

Composer In Residence 2014-2015

Our Composer in Residence program has begun. Composer Paul Rudoi is available for musical commissions. Paul will also be composing several new works for our church during the year as a gift to us. As you may know, Paul was one of our section leaders in the adult choir and is singing and touring with Cantus. He worships with us when he is in town. If you are interested in having a piece of liturgical music composed for one or all of St. John's choirs to honor a special event or person in your life, you may reach Paul at pauljohnrudoi@gmail.com or 603-355-7429.

Planning Ahead (Bean Memorial Evensongs with Concerts followed by receptions)

March 15, 2015 (4:00 p.m.): Evensong and Concert (Music Gardiner, Rudoi and Vierende)

May 17, 2015 (4:00 p.m.): Evensong and Concert (joint program with St. Clement's Choir singing Handel's *Dixit Dominus*)

Faith Formation

by Patrick Schmidt, Faith Formation co-chair

We are fortunate to have a great line-up of impressive guests for our series on Meeting Race and Inequality as Christians. Already we are realizing that there is an even more fundamental question: after we're done listening and learning, what is it we are going to do? The Formation Commission has begun asking ourselves how we can build on it, in ways that will require a wider conversation.

The Formation Commission has been discussing another series for the Spring of 2015, but we are still in the early stages of that planning. First up in the New Year, after the completion of our current series on race and inequality, will be a return to the Restoration Project series--opportunities to study, learn, and reflect more deeply on our lives individually and as a congregation.

Meeting Race and Inequality as Christians Sunday Forum Series

As crises and tragedies centered in ethnicity and race continue around the world, we are confronted with how to faithfully respond as Christians. What resources does our tradition provide as we challenge structures and heal the brokenness of our divided world? **Join us Sundays at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room.** Youth and adults are welcome.



January 4 – *A Different Vision of Christ: Being Hmong, Christian, and Immigrant in America*

Many of us at St. John's are familiar with the story of how Holy Apostles and St. John's churches have come together over the years as companion parishes. Few of us know the individual stories of immigrants and refugees from Laos, Vietnam, and Thailand, and first and second generation families in the States, and their struggle to claim Christian identity, preserve cultural boundaries, and survive in a rapidly changing world. Come hear from Holy Apostles and how as a Christian community they are meeting race and inequality and reaching out beyond their walls.

Trent Tucker speaking on empowering youth to make positive choices at the December 14 Sunday Forum.



January 18 – *Redeeming a Prison Society: A Liturgical and Sacramental Response to Mass Incarceration*

Amy Levad is assistant professor of moral theology at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. She has an extensive background in criminology and a Ph.D. in social ethics from Emory University. Amy writes "Mass incarceration has created a crisis ... that hits minority and economically-disadvantaged communities hard. Yet few Americans are aware of the threats to justice caused by locking up more than 2 million of our neighbors in prisons and jails." This session will explore the causes and effects of mass incarceration and alternatives to jails and prisons. The sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation will ground a moral vision for how Christians can contribute to a movement for justice to redeem our prison society.



January 25 – *The Table Where All Are Welcome: A Conversation with the "Food Truck Pastor"*

Margaret Kelly is not your typical Lutheran Pastor. Director and pastor of Shobi's Table, a food truck ministry that feeds hungry residents of eastside neighborhoods in Saint Paul, Margaret is also known to take church to the very same people she is feeding. As she told PBS' Religion and Ethics Newsweekly recently, "People are hungry and I'm not trying to hold people hostage with the Bible ... God speaks for God's self and I am simply here to share that message." Like the Episcopal Church, the ELCA in which Kelly is a pastor is relatively racially homogenous. Yet the people her ministry serves are racially and culturally diverse.



Bible Study

This group meets on Wednesdays at 11:00 am in the Library.

Participants discuss the lessons for the coming Sunday. This is a great opportunity for community building. For more information, contact Diane Elliott, 804-874-9502.



St. John's Men's Retreat at St. John's Benedictine Abbey

Have you ever wanted to deepen and enrich your prayer life through a period of prayer, meditation, and reflection? The St. John's Men's Group is holding its first annual retreat on January 29 - February 1, 2015 at the Episcopal House of Prayer on the grounds of St. John's Benedictine Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota. We are fortunate to have the Rev. Ernie Ashcroft, the rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Woodbury, as our retreat facilitator.

The cost depends on how many people sign up (the fee for the entire group's use of the House of Prayer is \$300, which will be divided equally among the attendees). Meals are provided for the weekend and will be an additional \$70-80 per person.

The House of Prayer's website is ehouseofprayer.org, while Rev. Ashcroft's biographical information can be found at christchurch-woodbury.org/staff.

Please contact John Docherty by email at johnfdocherty@gmail.com or by phone at 651-222-5431 to get more information or to reserve a spot.



House Groups

House groups are a place to share our lives and journey together. They are gatherings of 8-12 members who meet regularly for friendship, spiritual support, and building deeper relationships. Some rotate meetings among the members' houses; some meet elsewhere. Some groups gather to study or have a common interest or focus. Most groups meet monthly. All groups build community around our shared life of faith.

To connect with an existing group or learn about forming a group, contact Kate at 651-228-1172 x18 or kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org.



St. John's Cafe

Come for the coffee,
stay for the good news!
Join us **Sundays at 9:00am**
in the Meditation Room
as we discuss the lectionary
gospel in the context of the
week's news. All are welcome!

Contact Kate for more info
at 651-228-1172 x18 or
kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org.



Next Baptism Sunday January 11

If you are interested in getting baptized or having a child baptized, please contact Jered Weber-Johnson at 651-228-1172, x11. The next baptism day after January 11 will happen on Saturday, April 4, at the Vigil of Easter.





Community Life

Spiritual Art Exhibit

Sarah Stengle first got the idea to organize an art exhibit at St. John's from a conversation with Helen Boyer. She wasn't surprised when her call for submissions produced a large response quickly. "And everything just fit in the allotted space, as if it were meant to be." What did surprise her was the variety of writing that accompanied the submissions. "My favorite part is the personal narratives."

When Joan Potter saw the call, she first thought she had nothing to submit. "I was in the mindset of more religious iconography, which is not very much my milieu." But she spent a couple weeks considering, and her eye kept going to one piece: a found-object box. "It represents such powerful spiritual meaning to me," Joan explains. "The box reminds me of what matters, of that very personal, very profound moment on Andean mountainside." Sharing her piece publicly is "rather unnerving." "I feel vulnerable, but it also felt profound. After all, as we are vulnerable, we most often are honest with one another, opening the opportunity for the intimate-sacred."

When Holly Stoerker heard about the exhibit, on the other hand, she didn't have trouble coming up with a piece. In fact, she had so many ideas, she wasn't sure how she was going to narrow it down. "So I took a walk around my house, surveying the possibilities. ... I decided not to bring pieces that were somehow 'removed' from the artist's own hand, i.e. prints or reproductions of original pieces, even though I love them and they speak directly to the theme." Holly also feels that sharing her entries with her "fellow Christian pilgrims" at St. John's is a revealing act. "Because I am a new member, I was cognizant of the fact that the pieces I chose to contribute would likely be one of the first glimpses many at church have into who I am and what shapes my faith, in addition to what appeals to my artistic senses."

Both parishioners have greatly enjoyed viewing the entire collection. Holly says, "I absolutely LOVE the fact that such an exhibit was pulled together during the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany season. It speaks to the role of visual art in our individual spiritual lives,

as well as the life of the congregation as a whole." Joan says, "I love it! It reveals members of the Saint John's community in lovely, intimate ways. There is a kind of child-like innocence about each story and submission. And that is both good and real. Certainly a gift in this season of gifting."

For Sarah, it was a very positive experience, and she hopes to find ways to keep the conversation about art and devotion going, despite her busy upcoming travel schedule in 2015. "I am grateful to Helen Boyer for suggesting it, and to Dusty Mairs, and the building committee for being supportive from the very beginning."

The exhibit will continue to hang in the Gallery (the hallway outside the Fireside Room) until January 31.

If you have ideas for other exhibits at St. John's, please contact Dusty Mairs.

Valet Parking

The Men's Group is offering valet parking starting at 9:00 am each Sunday. Avoid walking on the icy sidewalks from the parking lot if you are concerned about slips or falls. Just pull up to the door and someone will park your car for you.



January Meetings

Prayer Shawl Gathering: Wednesday, January 7 at 9:30 am in the Undercroft. Contact Anneke Krall at 651-690-0579.

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

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

Down Syndrome Group: Tuesday, January 20 at 6:00 pm in the Undercroft and Nursery. Contact Lindsay Radford, LRadford@kstp.com

Happy Birthday to...

January *

1	Patrick Giese		Charlotte Rose Peterson	21	Stephen Brown
2	Olivia Bloomquist	12	Vivian Scheel		Cormac Graupman
	Thomas Giambetti		Josh Colton		Ashlyn Andrews
	Peggy Lemmon		Julia Ferguson	23	Kat Zerebiec
	Margaret Monette		Joan McCanna		Beth Bowman
3	Juliana Berg	13	Dick Slade		Katherine Meyer
4	Daniel Brian Ropal		Barbara Mraz	24	Nancy Wellington
5	Keith Davis	14	Megan Richards	25	Lauren Westerhaus
	Ella Ebenhoch	15	Judy Stack-Nelson	27	Colleen Wheeler
	Payton Kinhead		Mary Ann Mason	29	Marilyn Conklin
6	Michael Richards	16	Kim Olson		Marty Brown, Jr.
7	Anne Hodgson		Ann Booth		Kennedy Albrecht
	Bob Horn		Marge Jeddeloh		Gretchen August
	Dorothy Thompson	17	Perrin Lilly		Elizabeth Plummer
8	Joe Johnson	18	Terry Williams	30	Alexander Ramos
9	Anne Elsinger		Dusty Mairs		Jonas Brown
10	Pat Brynteson	19	Sandra Francis		
	George Power		Elliott Allen		
11	Dorothy Ek		Ray Frisby		
	Shirley Jeddeloh Berg		Mary Soie Haberman		
			Shirley Sailors		

*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 4—The Second Sunday of Christmas

Main Altar: Newton B. & Sarah S. Frost, Robin & Marguerite Baker Frost, David R. & Elizabeth Frost

Small Altar: Ruth & Ralph Brooks

January 11—The First Sunday after the Epiphany

Main Altar: Dorothy B. & Adrian Drew

Small Altar: Virginia Lauren

January 18—The Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Main Altar: Phyllis & Edward C. Brown

Small Altar: Debbie Pilacinski, Tom Woelfel, Bert Smith

January 25—The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Main Altar: Nathaniel P. & Theodosia Langford, Nathaniel P. & Mildred Milton Langford, Joseph & Louise Milton, Ted Lottsfeldt

Small Altar: Phyllis & Allen Acosta



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 January 2015 Service Schedule

Time	READERS	USHERS	GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR	ACOLYTES
January 4, 2015—The Second Sunday of Christmas					
8:00 am	Craig Lindeke	Bob Baumann Mary Gilbertson Peter Gilbertson	Libby Snelson Colleen Swope Jerry Woelfel	Godly Play families	Johannah Frisby Thea Bishof Logan Finkel Will Rinkoff
10:00 am	A–Chris Howie B–Bob Linehan				
January 11, 2015—The First Sunday after the Epiphany					
8:00 am	Joan McCanna	Kathleen Hanson Lynn Hertz Don Husband Barbara Lindeke	Phyllis Goff Vern Kassekert Barbara Lindeke	Pat Brynteson	Madeline Weinkauf Matt Brooks Tessa Johnson Helen Baxter
10:00 am	A–Judy Southwick B–Don Postema				
January 18, 2015—The Second Sunday after the Epiphany					
8:00 am	David Aylesworth	Cammie Beattie Shirley Sailors Don Weinkauf Holly Weinkauf	Cammie Beattie Phyllis Frisby Judy Southwick	Shirley Sailors	Eli Weinkauf Rachel Clark Aidan Schmidt Ailsa Schmidt
10:00 am	A–John Graham B–Alden Drew				
January 25, 2015—The Third Sunday after the Epiphany					
8:00 am	Brad McCanna	Pat Brynteson Terri Fishel Jennifer Rosendale Peter Rosendale	Gabrielle Lawrence Suzanne McInroy Don Postema	OPEN	Tim Krall Caroline Krall Linnea Krall Sabine Krall
10:00 am	A–Joan Potter B–Rick Rinkoff				

ALTAR GUILD TEAMS

January 4: Pam Strom, Kathy Brown, Sue Cadwell, Shirlee Gooch, Sue MacIntosh

January 11: Pat Brynteson, Caroline Krall, Nan Lightner, Phyllis Merrill, Elaine Sutton, Jill Thompson

January 18: Diane Power, Paige Hagstrom, Heather Joyce, Sarah K. Smith, Sabine Krall

January 25: Dusty Mairs, Susan Aylesworth, Phillip Baird, Shirley Cooper, Phyllis Frisby, Patty Byrne Pfalz

We commend to God those who have died recently, and we hold in our prayers those who grieve.

We extend our sympathies to the families of Gail Strom, Steve Van Dam, and Evan Karges.

May light perpetual shine upon Gail, Steve, and Evan, and may they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.



Saint John the Evangelist
Episcopal Church
60 Kent Street
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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