

THE EVANGELIST

Newsletter for
Saint John the Evangelist
Episcopal Church



February 2015

Church of the Open Door Since 1881

Vol. CXI, No. 2

You're Invited to a Celebration of Our Steinway Piano

Saturday, February 7

Free admission - all are welcome

6:00 p.m. - Potluck supper in the Fireside Room (salads and side dishes encouraged; cookies will be provided)

7:00 p.m. - Performance in the sanctuary

The first part will consist of performances by parishioners playing works of Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin and others.

After a short interval, our featured guest artist Osip Nikiforov will perform this program:

Beethoven: Sonata #28 in A Major, Op. 101

Mompou: Trois Variations

Scriabin: Sonata #1 in F Minor, Op. 6

The piano was originally owned by a retired professor of piano at MacPhail Center who is a neighbor of Phillip Baird, one of our vergers and choir members. Phillip helped make the connection that brought the piano to St. John's.

Robert (Bob) Horn purchased the piano last year and donated it as a memorial to his late wife, Mary Ann (1939-1990).

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Featured Guest Artist

Osip Nikiforov was born in Siberia, Russia to a family of musicians. He began studying piano with his father at age seven.

In 2008, at the age of fourteen, Osip shared Third Prize in the First International e-Piano Junior Competition in Minnesota. He was the First Prize winner of the

Music Teachers National Association Competition, Senior Division in 2011 and the Second Prize winner in the Young Artist Division in 2014. In that same year, He was awarded First Prize in the Schubert Club National Piano Competition in St. Paul.

Osip has resided in the U.S. since 2010. He graduated from Shattuck-St. Mary's School in Faribault, Minnesota and is now attending the University of



Minnesota, where he studies piano with Alexander Braginsky. He has also appeared on the web pages of Minnesota Public Radio, the Minneapolis Star Tribune, and the University of Minnesota. Playing clarinet is his favorite hobby.

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

(Classrooms)

11:15 Coffee Hour

(Gathering Space)



March Issue

February 11 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

Back cover photo by Flickr:placbo

From the Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson

Dear Friends in Christ,

I love how airports and air travel have a way of opening people up to share with strangers from some of the deeper and more intimate parts of their lives. I have been amazed already by the stories of those I've met on this long journey to Uganda. As I write this in the coffee shop at the airport in Nairobi (Layover #3) I have been recounting in my mind the several individuals with whom I have crossed paths—and I haven't yet set foot in Uganda, let alone Kayoro.

There was the social worker, a man just a few years younger than me, whom I sat next to between Chicago and Amsterdam. He was on his way to Nigeria for the first time in over a decade for the occasion of his sister's wedding. He was an Episcopalian, as it turned out, and I was moved by his calm familiarity with faith. He had an ease and an authenticity in his demeanor as he talked about what the church has meant to his family and how his faith in God has shaped his life. We talked about what it means to go home and how hard it is to leave family behind. We spoke of our children, and he shared his joy of being able to be with his extended family for this wonderful occasion.

There was the KLM flight attendant from the Netherlands who chatted with us during our 2 hours on the tarmac in the snow. She is a lapsed Catholic who had been feeling a strong urge to deepen her spiritual life. She had just attended, for the first time in decades, a formal service of worship at a community spirituality group. The experience had been complex and, in the end, dissatisfying. Again, her calm familiarity with the language of spirituality—her ability to articulate to two strangers without strain or pretense, her own faith journey, divergent from my own as one could be—was both appealing and comforting. We spoke of religious experience and our frustrations in faith.

Then there was the soldier in civilian clothes from Bucharest, a United Nations military observer. He was on his way back to Southern Sudan where UN work has gone from observation to direct engagement with the several warring factions. Our paths crossed first at the gate in Amsterdam when we both discovered we'd been bumped from our flight. He joined me for a cup of coffee as we waited in Nairobi (where we were bumped from yet a second flight) and told me, without much prompting, about the strains of serving two tours in Afghanistan and another in Sudan. He was just redeploying after less than a year home. He spoke of his exhaustion and his desire to be done with war, of the stress his family, particularly his young son, bears with each day he is on the road and in harms way. I couldn't help but be stirred by his honesty, candor, and vulnerability with me, a perfect stranger.

There were the two young American women who had started a non-profit that works in several countries teaching skills in water purification and water bottle making as a micro-enterprise. There was a clear Evangelical edge to their story as they described how God had called them to this work



of bringing water to the poor and those in need. Yet, despite the noticeable theological differences I could detect (or infer), their story of personal calling and the tenacity to create something new and useful in the world of relief work was, frankly, humbling and inspiring.

There was the recently married young priest and his wife, from San Francisco, a newly ordained leader of the breakaway Episcopal Churches, on sabbatical from their church plant. They were searching out how they would be able to serve together in ministry (she a clinical psychologist, and he in the church) and keep a healthy marriage.

Each story had a compelling piece. Each life was seeking and serving in ways that challenged me to think more intentionally about my own life and ministry. In the church, we call this kind of sharing “witness,” because in this way we bear witness to the presence of the Incarnate God in one another and in ourselves and we are challenged to live more fully and authentically with one another. Whether it is in St. Paul or Sudan, Uganda or Uptown, our stories need to be shared and our lives poured out to one another. In that way, we will see more clearly the immense beauty and breadth that is the Body we’ve been called to be a part of.

In this new year, I wonder what stories you’ve been holding back; what stories of humble service and spiritual seeking have been compelling to you; what stories have, perhaps, challenged you to live more into your baptismal promises to “seek and serve Christ” in all persons.

I’d love to hear your stories.

See you in church...on the 1st of February for Annual Meeting and more!

Faithfully,

From the Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

Dear friends in Christ,

This morning, I read a wonderful reflection by the Rev. Lauren Stanley, who is Priest-in-Charge on the Rosebud Reservation in southern South Dakota. My sponsoring congregation for ordination, Church of Jesus, Rosebud, is one of the chapels she serves. Lauren wrote about death and dying on the Rosebud Reservation, and she said, “We do death well.”



She was absolutely right. As a seminarian on Cheyenne River, many miles north of Rosebud, and later a hospital chaplain with a significant Native American population, I experienced this gift myself. In a population where the mortality rate is significantly higher (and the age at death younger) than the wider United States, death becomes a necessarily central event.

People do not deny it; they gather at the bedside of their loved ones, and share all the sorrow and joy that they can. They talk, sing, mourn, and laugh. Food is important; music is important; stories of whom and how the dying person loved are important. Struggle and hardship are not denied, but neither is hope for God’s ultimate healing of body, mind, and spirit. And God is there, with the gathered.

Soon it will be Ash Wednesday, when we face our mortality as we mark our foreheads with ashes and hear, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” Lent is a time when we contemplate just how complicated it is to be a beloved child of God in a broken world. We may think of our own deaths, or those of family and friends. We might also think of the little deaths in our lives—the losses from old habits, anger, transition, or decisions we have made.

All deaths, literal and figurative, bring with them serious emotion. Often with death we can feel stuck in sadness, anger, and hopelessness. Only through expression—crying, laughing, sharing— and time to process our experiences do we become free to move.

One of my favorite prayers for the dead includes the phrase “death is only a horizon, and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.”

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Stories, Dogs, and Dreams

by Barbara Mraz

The Sunday he was welcomed as a new member at St John's, Steve Sims went to the kitchen department at Target and bought a sieve. He wanted to memorialize the event for himself and decided that a sieve was the right symbol of his religious journey. He had kept the important parts of his Roman Catholicism and allowed the rest to drain away. What remained was the Episcopal Church he had come to know and love.

Two years earlier, on the first Sunday in Advent, and as a life-long Roman Catholic, Steve decided that he would do some church shopping. It was a fluke, he said, that he ended up at St. John's. After that first Sunday, he never left.

"Before the service, I was sitting in the typical visitor's perch – the back pew -- and someone from the choir came up and greeted me and told me about the place. "We're thinkers here," he said. "Good preaching is really important to us. So is music."

Preaching is important to Steve, too. Frequently, he will use sermons from St. John's with his staff at Fairview Hospice where he is the manager of Hospice Services. He may also send them out to Roman Catholic friends ("Some nuns I know really liked the one on the *Magnificat*, even the funny part about Mary.")

In February, Steve will co-chair Project Home, along with Don and Holly Weinkauf. He has a long history of service, including working with Hearts to Homes here at St. John's.

Raised in Lacrosse, Wisconsin, he spent the years from age 18 to 40 living in community and working first as a member of the Brothers of St. Pius X until he transferred to the Christian Brothers, a teaching order in the Roman Church. He taught English and



Science at various Catholic schools, and eventually served as principal of De La Salle High School in Minneapolis, a school run by the Brothers. After three years there, he enrolled in Clinical Pastoral Education at Fairview Hospital and after 14 months became a hospital chaplain and left the Order. It was time for a change.

At Fairview, he supervises twelve people including four chaplains and two bereavement counselors. Right now 250 people in the Metro area are under the care of the Fairview Hospice program, including some in the pediatric care division, serving children ranging in age from a few weeks old to their late

teens. Supportive care is offered to their families as well.

Hospice care treats the whole person, body, mind and spirit. Included in this are options for counseling, spiritual care, music and massage therapy, aromatherapy, pet therapy and healing touch. Sometimes the chaplain staff will do memorial services and funerals.

"Dream therapy" has been one of the most interesting explorations Steve has encountered while working with Fairview Hospice bereavement program. He believes that dreams are a gift from God and can be used to understand the inmost mind. From a skilled therapist he works with, he has learned the theory that once you unravel the major symbol in a dream, you will never have that dream again! *

Steve calls on some patients himself; "I really like listening to people's stories about their grief. Attentive listening is perhaps one of the most healing things I can do for someone as they heal." Bereavement support is provided to patients and family members from the first day of admission and continues for thirteen months after the patient has died.

Some of his most profound experiences have not only been with hospice patients but with his dogs. When his Chocolate Lab, Lexi, died, Steve remembers, “Talk about grief! I know a lot about grief but when it happened to me it was as if I knew nothing about it at all. I didn’t get another dog right away because I thought I could never go through that again.”

But last November, Burt, a five-month-old rescued Lab-Golden mix took up residence in Steve’s home.

Steve and Burt spend as much time outdoors as possible, walking, camping, gardening. Steve also enjoys travel, music and photography. His nature photographs were used as the basis for the 2015 Fairview Hospital calendar.

And – ask Steve about his experiences with “signs” he and others have received from those who died. It’s fascinating!

* Did you know? *The sewing machine was invented in 1845 as the result of a dream that its inventor Elias Howe had of being attacked by cannibals. He noticed that at the head of each of their spears was a small hole through the shaft. The up-and-down motion remained with him when he woke. The idea of passing the thread through the needle close to the point, not at the other end, was a major innovation in making mechanical sewing possible.*

Usher Training

Several individuals have expressed interest in joining this ministry, and we are delighted to be able to welcome new members. We will hold training on Sunday, February 8 at 11:45 am in the Church to help everyone understand and become comfortable with usher duties. Please join us if you are interested in becoming an usher, if you are simply curious about the ministry, or if you would like a refresher on how to carry out usher responsibilities.

Hymn Board

Due to safety and liability concerns for staff, the Hymn Board is being left intentionally unfilled for a trial period. Please see our bulletins, which include full references for all our readings, hymns, and prayer book pages. Contact Jered Weber-Johnson, at 651-228-1172 x11 with questions or concerns.

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*

Lent Programming



This I Believe is an international project engaging people in writing, sharing, and discussing the core values and beliefs that guide their daily lives.

Here at Saint John's, you are invited to reflect on your faith and core values during Lent using the *This I Believe* series in two ways—through the Lenten read and in crafting your own *This I Believe* essay during our evening Lenten program.

Copies of *This I Believe: The Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men and Women*, edited by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman will be available **for all who wish to read along during Lent**. The book includes both essays from the 1950s series and the present-day revival.

On Wednesday evenings beginning February 25, join us from 6:00-7:30 pm in the Fireside Room as we reflect on some of the *This I Believe* archive and engage in exercises to help us distill our own faith and core beliefs into a format that finishes the statement, "This I believe..." Get to know your fellow parishioners better and deepen your faith.

"*This I Believe* is based a popular 1950s radio series of the same name hosted by acclaimed journalist Edward R. Murrow. Each day, Americans gathered by their radios to hear compelling essays from the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt, Jackie Robinson, Helen Keller, and Harry Truman, as well as corporate leaders, cab drivers, scientists, and housewives—anyone willing to distill into a few minutes the guiding principles by which they lived.

"Since 2005, the revival of *This I Believe* has featured essays by prominent Americans such as Colin Powell, Gloria Steinem, Bill Gates, Robert Fulghum, and Yo-Yo Ma, as well as those of everyday citizens, including students, artists, scientists, writers, politicians, and

even an astronaut.

"As a forum for starting thoughtful discourse, the *This I Believe* essay-writing exercise has been used in coffee houses, adult literacy programs, writer's groups, hospices, hospitals, diversity training, houses of worship, retirement homes, and prisons. Libraries, colleges, newspapers, and public radio stations have been inspired to create their own local versions of our series. And teachers and students across the world have widely embraced *This I Believe* as a personal essay writing assignment." (from *This I Believe*)

Please contact the Rev. Kate Bradtmiller at 651-228-1172 x18 or kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org with questions.

2015 Missional Innovative Partnership Grant Recipients

The Episcopal Church in Minnesota has announced the 2015 recipients of grants for Missional Innovative Partnerships that are firmly rooted in God's desire to reconcile the world, that address community needs, and that invite others into community. Two of the recipients are:

Holy Apostles for Neighbor Helping Neighbor: "The Hmong community has walked the same path as the Karen and learned much. Now, we will share that experience and knowledge with compassion and understanding. We will strive to meet the basic needs of the families for health, food, clothing, and furniture, plus aid them in the skills and knowledge that will help their families grow and prosper."

St. Clement's partnering with St. John the Evangelist for Rhythms of Grace Worship Service: "A monthly service called Rhythms of Grace [will have] a collective hope to build a bridge through liturgy with children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), Asperger syndrome, or sensory processing challenges. This work will take the churches into exploratory relationships with various advocacy, educational, and service organizations that are already in partnership with members of this underserved community."

Annual Meeting & Vestry

In the Episcopal Church, parish leadership is shared between the lay board (the vestry) and the ordained clergy. Vestries are charged with managing the parish's fiduciary responsibilities and the church's physical property. They are also called to the work of leadership. This is 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.

At St. John's, vestry members are elected to a three year term at the annual meeting. Our Annual Meeting is February 1 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.

We invite you to attend the Annual Meeting and vote for our vestry. 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.

Vestry Candidates

Kevin Wall: SJE has had a great impact on my life and has been a continued source of support for my family and me for many years. We have greatly benefited from the rich worship experience, friendships, and the supportive programs, such as the nursery and Godly Play. I have been involved with various activities at SJE such as being a part of the usher team, assisting as parent volunteer for Godly play and the children's choir, and more recently as a member of the Music Director search committee. I am grateful for my role as the St. John's "resident drummer" and feel blessed to help support the music ministry in this way. I want to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to continue my at large membership on the Vestry at SJE. My first year as an at large member has provided me a solid foundation as it relates to the general work of the vestry and the important role it plays in the support and development of the various ministries here at SJE. I feel fortunate to have been part of the development of the Strategic Plan, and look forward to playing a role in it's implementation, particularly as it relates to area of music and worship. I thank you all for your support.

John MacBain: I started worshipping at St. John's 3 years ago and joined in May, 2012. I have supported the Music Ministry by providing violin music for worship and by serving on the Music Commission. I have also participated in a small group, the Men's Breakfast, compline, and many of the educational opportunities at St. John's. While I was an ELCA / LCA Lutheran much of my life, we sought out the Episcopal Church in Carmel, Indiana in 2008 prior to our move to Minnesota in 2011. It was grandchildren that motivated our move north and we have never looked back. I hold degrees from Case Institute of Technology (physics and mathematics), Purdue University (M.S. and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics), and the University of Dayton (MSEE). I am now retired, but worked in geophysical exploration research for two oil companies, led automotive engineering research teams for both GM and Delphi Automotive, and more recently ended five years of consulting on computer synthesis of future hybrid aircraft design. I look forward to the opportunity to serve the St. John's community where I trust some of my experience will be an asset.

Nancy Wellington: I came to St. John's in 2006, when my husband David and I were living in western Wisconsin and he had a Wednesday evening class. I asked Jim Frazier if I could please sing with the choir "just for this evensong." Thanks to the music, the people, the preaching, and the sense of mission, we're still here, and we retired to St. Paul last summer. I've been a church musician since the age of ten. I majored in church music at Gustavus Adolphus College and have served Lutheran, Methodist, Roman Catholic, and Episcopal parishes in Korea, Minnesota and Wisconsin. While at St. John the Baptist - Linden Hills, I worked closely with Barbara Mraz and also served on the diocesan Liturgical Commission. I'm delighted to have the opportunity to help support our excellent music program and all the ministries of our parish.

Judy Stack-Nelson: *bio will be available at the Annual Meeting*

Christmas at St. John's

An Advent Journey of Joy

by Nancy Wellington

Advent: the journey toward Christmas, toward Incarnation, toward God With Us: nice words, nice idea, okay ... but this year, Sarah Stengle organized an Advent exhibit, inviting us to contribute pieces that have been part of our own spiritual journeys. To my surprise, I found I had something to bring, and I wondered if perhaps a spiritual journey really was part of my experience. This small response was setting me off on an Advent like no other I had known: who knew?

When we lived in western Wisconsin, extra church events and the musical performances of the Twin Cities were only special treats. But last June we retired in St. Paul. Now I could, for the first time ever, go to everything that time and energy allowed. I immersed myself in musical and other offerings, eventually attending twenty events. What started with a few planned tickets became one anticipation after another: what will be the next delight? What is being placed in

front of me that I never knew was there? Which offerings take place all year and will be part of this new life?

Some events were planned well ahead, others noticed at the last minute. Some were freely offered, others sent me to my savings account. Places and audiences ranged from very small to very large; some were elegant, others more ordinary - one, even a bit scruffy. Some events were like coming home, others took me into new worlds. For most, I was part of the audience; in a few, I took part. In all, other people shared their gifts, and I was delighted, enriched, uplifted. God With Us!

Without knowing, I had stepped into an Advent journey of joy.



Faith in Action

Shelter

by Barbara Mraz

***"A single death is a tragedy; a million deaths is a statistic."* — Joseph Stalin**

A teddy bear on a hastily-made bed waits for its tiny owner to reappear in the evening.

A child's color-crayon drawing of a pink and green house with a tulip-filled garden appears on a cardboard divider surrounding two cots. The drawing is labeled "I Live Here."

A young, pregnant woman is driven to United Hospital in the evening and returns the next morning with her new baby, hours old, bundled in a donated blanket.

These are three things I have personally witnessed at Project Home, the effort of the Council of Churches to provide 40 beds each night for overflow guests from area shelters. According to the Wilder Foundation, 3500 people in Minnesota are homeless each night. Half of them are under five. The numbers grow in cold weather.

The month of February is our turn to provide shelter and friendship in our gym.

It is our duty.

It is our privilege.

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.

A sign up link is on the church website at stjohnsstpaul.org/faith-in-action/project-home. To learn more, 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.

Kayoro Mission Trip



For lots of photos and stories from St. John's trip to Clinic Kayoro in Uganda, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/St-John-the-Evangelist-Episcopal-Church or check out traveler Shirley Sailors's blog at newsfromshirley.blogspot.com.

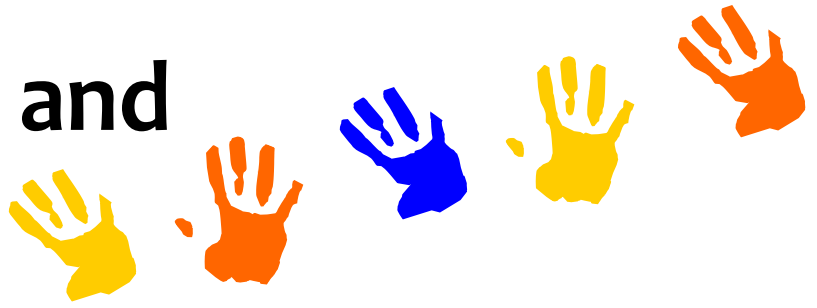
Hearts to Homes Meeting - Thursday, February 26 at 6:30 pm in the Library. To learn more, contact Patty Byrne Pfalz at 651-224-7784.

Faith in Action Meeting - Thursday, March 19 at 5:30 pm in the Gathering Space. To learn more, contact Colleen Swope at ccswope50@gmail.com.

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.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry



Activities for Living Into Lent

- **Remove something** from your calendar and spend that time with your family.
- **Blessing:** parents, bless your children by making the sign of the cross on their forehead before they go to bed at night or when they leave for school each day.
- **Give up** “whining,” arguing,” “not listening,” or “bothering people who are on the phone.”
- **Stress the importance** of quiet time and prayer time. Have a quiet time each week (or each day) – no TV, iPods, music, or cell phones.
- **Choose a positive action** for each day of Lent.
- **Pretzels** had their origin in early Christian Lenten practices because fat, eggs, and milk were forbidden during Lent, a special bread was made with dough consisting of only flour, salt, and water. These little breads were shaped in the form of arms crossed in prayer. Choose one night in Lent to make pretzels. Find a recipe on the Internet.
- **Write a letter or call** someone who is lonely or shut-in.
- **Make a Prayer Chain:** List 40 intentions or people on 40 slips of paper. Link them together into a chain. Rip one off each morning of Lent and pray for that need.
- **Plant Something:** Plant flowers, a plant or Easter grass, take care of it and watch it grow. Talk about new life and rising from the grave.
- **Read the Story of the Last Supper:** read it straight from Scripture or find a kid’s version. Either way, prepare a nice meal for dinner, and read and discuss the story while you eat.



Shrove Tuesday

Traditionally, Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday) was the day all households were to use up all milk, eggs and fat to prepare for the strict fasting of Lent. These ingredients were made into pancakes, a meal which came to symbolize preparation for the discipline of Lent, from the English tradition. “Shrove” comes from the verb “to shrive” (to confess and receive absolution) prior to the start of the Lenten season. Other names for this day include *Carnival* (farewell to meat) and *Mardi Gras* (Fat Tuesday of the French tradition).

Pancake Dinner

Mark the beginning of Lent with a pancake dinner! Join us on Tuesday, February 17, 5:30-7:30pm for pancakes, sausages, berries and juice in the Gathering Space. Suggested donation: \$5 person; \$20 maximum per family. This event supports the J2A youth pilgrimage.



Pancake races at last year’s Shrove Tuesday dinner

Wednesday Dinners

February 4: Conklin Family
February 11: Scheel Family
February 18: Ash Wednesday – No Dinner
February 25: Open (no one has signed up for dinner)



Musical Notes

from the
Organ Bench...



Piano Celebration

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In the first half of the program, we will hear performers known to the parish, including Bob Baumann, Jayson Engquist, Sharon Kleckner, John MacBain, and Nancy Wellington.

In the second half, we will hear Osip Nikiforov, a U of M student from Russia who graduated from Shattuck-St. Mary's. He has already won numerous international and local awards. He visits his homeland regularly to perform both solo recitals and with national orchestras, including a recent performance of Prokofiev's Concerto #2. In the United States, Osip performed Beethoven's Concerto #3 with the Minnesota Orchestra. Parishioner Dick Lyman is acquainted with Osip and has been instrumental in bringing him here to perform for this special celebration.

Osip will perform three very different works.

He will open with Sonata #28 in A Major, opus 101, by Beethoven, written in 1816 at age 48, shortly before he started work on his Ninth Symphony. At this point he was totally deaf. In this work, he departs from the straightforward structures of the Classical style and makes use of complex forms and harmonies, leading many scholars to consider it the first Romantic composition. Some subtitle this sonata "Immortal Beloved," as Beethoven addressed the unknown recipient of a love letter that was never sent.

A more impressionist style is heard in "Three Variations" by Federico Mompou (mum-pow), who was born in Barcelona in 1893 and lived in Paris or Barcelona, where he died in 1987. He was very shy and introspective; three times he fled from war. Describing his music, Mompou said, "It's all so free." It has also been called "music of evaporation". He had great affection for the piano and was a master of tonal color. His favorite composers were "almost all, with the exception of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven;" the

Russian composer Scriabin was a particular favorite.

And it is with Scriabin's Piano Sonata No. 1 in F Minor that Osip will close the program. Scriabin composed this work in 1892, shortly after he had damaged his right hand so severely by over-practice that his doctor said he would never play again. This sonata, "a cry against God, against fate," has been described as dark, passionate and melancholy.

Osip will also have an encore prepared: bring lots of applause!



Compline Every Thursday at 7:00 pm

A most generous gift from John Graham provided the seed money to begin offering Compline as a weekly service. The choir for each service will rotate between our own St. John's Lay Clerks, Lumina, Hymnos, and Mirandola Ensemble. Incense is used during the service. Light refreshments follow.

To sustain it on an ongoing basis, the fund will need your continued financial support. If you would like to make a donation to the John Graham Compline Fund for the future sustainability of this service, checks can be made to St. John's with the word "Compline" in the memo line.

Upcoming Bean Memorial Evensongs

These beautiful services with Concerts are held at 4:00 p.m. and followed by a festive reception.

March 15: the Music of Gardiner, Rudioi and Vierende

May 17: joint program with St. Clement's Choir singing Handel's *Dixit Dominus*

Faith Formation

Sunday Forum

"The Basics" is an eight-week faith formation series on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am in the Fireside Room. They 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. 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.

They are offered for all parishioners and especially those looking to refresh one's knowledge on the basic categories of Christian faith. Attendance of The Basics is a requirement for anyone preparing to mark a significant transition in the church, such as baptism of a child or as an adult, confirmation of an adult, reception, reaffirmation of baptism, marriage, or joining St. John's as a new member.

February 1: no Sunday Forum

February 8: "Fireside Chat with the Rector" for discussion and feedback on our Advent and Christmas programming. Talk about what worked well and the activities you enjoyed, and share other things you would like to see next year.

February 15 & 22: Basic Christianity tells the whole story of our faith from the beginning of time until the end. It aims to provide the narrative framework we all need for a lifetime of growing in faith.

St. Mark's Midweek Morning Meditation

St. John's parishioner Keith Davis is an At Large member of the Spiritual Life Committee at St Mark's Cathedral, a resource for spiritual opportunities within and beyond the St Mark's community. The group offers weekly inspirational messages via email. The St. Mark's Midweek Morning Meditation arrives in email boxes on Wednesday mornings. These messages, generated from diverse cultural and spiritual sources, may help provide a moment of calm reflection in hectic lives. Sign up for these reflections at the cathedral website, ourcathedral.org. Click "Subscribe to Email News" in the Related News section on the right side of the page.

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.



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.





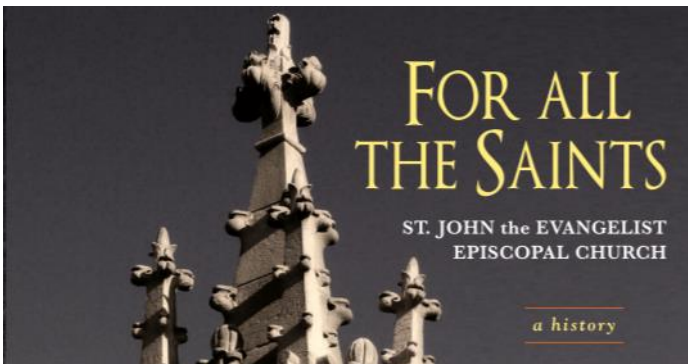
Community Life

For All The Saints Available in February

The eagerly awaited illustrated history of St. Johns, *For All The Saints*, will be available for pickup or delivery to you in mid-February.

A full announcement and an order form should have arrived in the mail. 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, also. (Books can be shipped for a small charge if you'd like copies for friends and family.)

We think everyone connected to St. John's in any way will find this book an enjoyable read and a pleasure to look at, with hundreds of pictures of all the saints who have made St. John's what it is over the years.



February Meetings

Prayer Shawl Gathering: Wednesday, February 4 at 9:30 am in the Undercroft. Contact Anneke Krall at 651-690-0579.

Men's Gathering: Tuesday, February 10 at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Josh Colton at 612-275-6004.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, February 14 at 9:00 am in the Gym Kitchen. Contact Jim Johnson at 651-698-5655.

Vestry Meeting: Monday, February 16 at 6:00 pm in the Fireside Room. RSVP to the church office at 651-228-1172, x10

Down Syndrome Group: Tuesday, February 17 at 6:00 pm in the Undercroft and Nursery. Contact Lindsay Radford, LRadford@kstp.com

From the Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

continued from page 3

So often, in loss, we see only a wall before us. The prayer continues, "Lift us up, O God, that we may see clearly."

God's promise to us is that God is always there, whether we are stuck or on the move, in sorrow and in joy. In this Lenten season, we are invited to meet God in our hardships and challenges, to examine the stuck places in our lives, the losses, the deaths, and give them into the healing light of an ever-present God.

Faithfully yours,
Kate

Valet Parking

The Men's Group offers 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.



Safe Church Training

In order to be a leader in the Episcopal church, you are required to complete Safe Church training, which needs to be renewed every five years. You can contact the church office at 651-228-1172, x10 or church@stjohnsstpaul.org to find out if you are required to have or renew the training.

The adult portion of Safe Church training will be offered at St. John's 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. Please RSVP to the office.

The children's portion of Safe Church Training will be offered at St. John's on Saturday, February 21 from 9:00 am—noon, on Sunday, February 22 from noon—3:00 pm, and on Monday, February 23 from 6:00—9:00 pm. A meal will be provided. Please RSVP to the office by February 13.

Happy Birthday to...

February *

1	Pat Schaffner	8	Patricia Myers Cody Juneau	20	Anne Debertin Keegan Gourlie
2	Luke Hansen Peter Wood	9	Eloise Teisberg George Kinhead	22	Greg Schaffner Caroline Pedersen Colleen Swope Elizabeth Biorn Ethan Hellekson Christine Peterson
3	Faith Westerhaus Gretchen August Elizabeth Plummer	12	Jennifer Frost Rosendale	25	Liam Ebenhoch
5	Patty Byrne Pfalz Sarah Clements Victor Brasch	13	Clif Spainhower	27	Lucy Grundhauser Roseanne Kassekert Don Postema
6	Sarah K. Smith Samuel Andrews	14	Becky Garthofner	28	Annabella Ruby Powers
7	Barbara Karkie	15	Nina Georgeson		
		17	Dean Henderson Sam Tessier		
		18	Sally Allen		
		19	Julia Lightner Nicholas Jurayj		

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

February 1—The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Main Altar & Small Altar: Audrey & Roger Olsen

February 8—The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Main Altar: Janet O. & George E. Potter, Jr.

Small Altar: Jennie & Alfred Merrill

February 15—The Last Sunday after Epiphany

Main Altar: John Snowfield

Small Altar: Rita & George Richcreek

February 22—The First Sunday in Lent

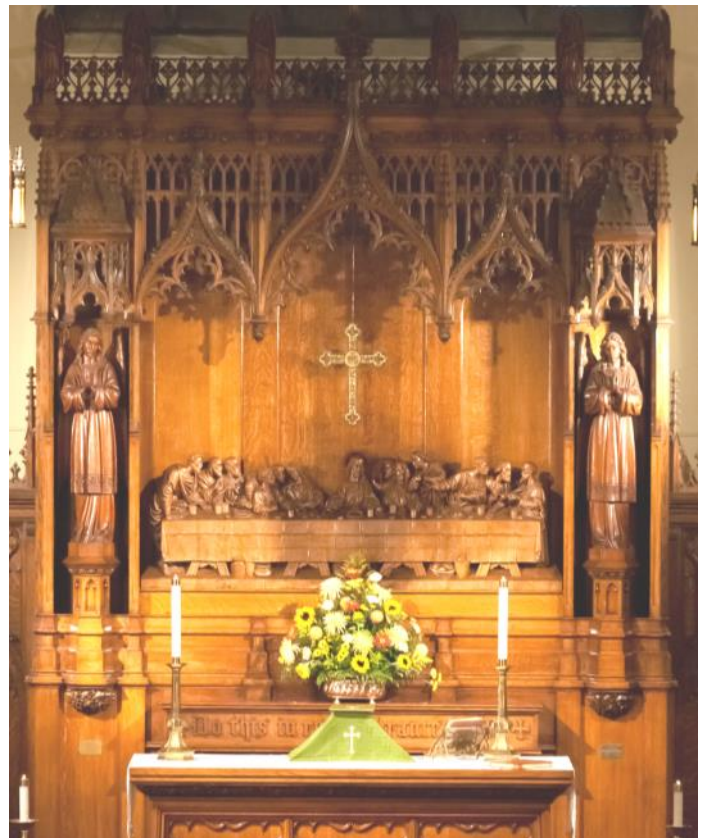
Main Altar: Mary W. & Paul K. Pinkerton

Small Altar: Frederick Wigginton

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

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 February 2015 Service Schedule

Time	READERS	USHERS	GREETERS	COFFEE HOUR	ACOLYTES
February 1—The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany					
8:00 am	Craig Lindeke	Patty Byrne Pfalz Marvin Cadwell Alex Joyce John MacBain	Cammie Beattie Jeff Olsen Peggy Olsen	Annual Meeting	Eli Weinkauf Johannah Frisby Eliot Wall Will Rinkoff
10:00 am	A-Terry Dinovo B-Jill Thompson				
February 8—The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany					
8:00 am	Joan McCanna	Julia Ferguson Gary Hagstrom Paige Hagstrom Rick Rinkoff	Phyllis Goff Kathleen Hanson Lea Anne Schmidt	Shirley Sailors	Helen Baxter Tessa Johnson Maren Johnson Roan Weinkauf Vivian Krall
10:00 am	A-Shirley Sailors B-Keith Davis				
February 15—The Last Sunday after Epiphany					
8:00 am	David Aylesworth	Cammie Beattie Alden Drew Mimie Pollard Diane Power	Phyllis Frisby Vern Kassekert Colleen Swope	Colleen Swope	Matt Brooks Madeline Weinkauf Thea Bishof Aidan Schmidt Charlie Docherty
10:00 am	A-Diane Wallace-Reid B- Mark McInroy				
February 22—The First Sunday in Lent					
8:00 am	Brad McCanna	Bob Baumann George Kinkead Mason Kinkead Barbara Lindeke	Jennifer Kinkead Don Weinkauf Jerry Woelfel	Laura O'Brien Smith	Tim Krall Caroline Krall Linnea Krall Sabine Krall
10:00 am	A-Bob Horn B-Paige Hagstrom				

ALTAR GUILD TEAMS

February 1: Pam Strom, Kathy Brown, Sue Cadwell, Shirlee Gooch, Sue MacIntosh

February 8: Pat Brynteson, Caroline Krall, Nan Lightner, Phyllis Merrill, Elaine Sutton, Jill Thompson

February 15: Diane Power, Paige Hagstrom, Heather Joyce, Sarah K. Smith, Sabine Krall

February 22: Dusty Mairs, Susan Aylesworth, Phillip Baird, Shirley Cooper, Phyllis Frisby, Patty Byrne Pfalz

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

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Please Rush - Dated Material

Pancake Dinner

THE EVANGELIST
FEBRUARY 2015

See
pg. 10
for
details!

Shrove Tuesday Feb 17 5:30pm