Christmas Pageant
Dear Friends in Christ,

This month the Episcopal Church (TEC) and the Anglican Communion were once again in the news when a gathering of the Primates, (bishops with oversight in various provinces and regions of the church) issued a joint statement that seemed to inhibit or limit the scope of the Episcopal Church’s involvement in the wider Communion. The reality of what happened at the gathering of primates is far more nuanced and complex than any one headline or news source would care to cover or explain. Most coverage has been sensational, and the larger implications have been left relatively unexplored, leaving the average Episcopalian wondering if she is still, indeed, Anglican or relegated to “second class” in the wider Communion. Reactions within our church have ranged from disappointment and grief to anger and even pride. All of these responses are understandable when considering the information we’ve been given.

There are several good responses to the communique that I would commend to you to help make sense of exactly what it means (the short answer is that not much of substance has changed that would impact TEC or our inherent “Anglican-ness”).

Andrew McGowan of Berkley Divinity School at Yale writes eloquently about Anglican polity and what authority the Primates actually have, and how this informal gathering holds less authority than their tone might imply. You can read him at: [http://tinyurl.com/gl2bcnw](http://tinyurl.com/gl2bcnw)

Our diocesan bishop, Brian Prior focused on how cultural difference in the church is akin to the diverse values of each family in a neighborhood and invited us to pray for our neighbors just as we pray for those in our “own house”. You can read his thoughts at: [http://tinyurl.com/gqdh4gp](http://tinyurl.com/gqdh4gp)

Prominent writer and thinker on global Anglicanism and mission, Jesse Zink had some excellent words helping frame the Primate’s gathering before it happened and his context is still useful in understanding the communique. You can follow him at: [http://tinyurl.com/jmd47kx](http://tinyurl.com/jmd47kx)

Of course, our ever eloquent Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry’s response helps frame this occurrence in words we can all aspire to embrace. He says, “the truth is, it may be part of our vocation to help the Communion and to help many others to grow in a direction where we can realize and live the love that God has for all of us, and we can one day be a Church and a Communion where all of God’s children are fully welcomed”. You can read or watch his response at: [http://tinyurl.com/hxy88bo](http://tinyurl.com/hxy88bo)

In the end no matter the outcome or future, as +Brian our bishop noted in his response, our call is to “walk together” in relationship, to strive to be, as Kate’s letter points out, reconciled with our brothers and sisters across theological, political, and cultural divides. This might be easier said than done, but our faith empowers us to do even greater things than these. I hope you’ll read along and if you’re still wondering about it all, give me a call, I’d love to discuss.

I’ll see you in church.

Faithfully,

Jered +
From the Reverend Kate Bradtmiller

Dear People of God,

So begins the Invitation to the Observance of a Holy Lent extended to us on Ash Wednesday: Dear people of God. The salutation is a direct reminder of who we are; we are God’s people, no matter how separated from God and one another we feel, no matter how much we grieve or rejoice, no matter how we have sinned. The invitation explains, in a liturgical context, what Lent means to the church. Lent is the season in which we “the whole congregation” prepare to be reconciled. Some of us prepare for baptism and welcome; the opportunity for baptism at the Easter Vigil draws new people into our communion with Christ. All of us are asked to consider the ways in which we have been separated from communion with one another, and what we might do to return.

We live in a culture where we are told we deserve everything material, and that material wealth will satisfy our deepest need. That same culture paints Lent as a convenient time to give up chocolate and lose a few pounds. There’s nothing wrong with a little self-denial; we’re invited to it as part of our practice. What we sometimes forget is the purpose of that practice. The church asks us to join one another in “prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and...reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.” These acts help us create the space in our lives to see clearly those places where our relationship, with God and one another, is broken. Once seen, they cannot be unseen, and we are drawn to repentance and reconciliation. The repairing of relationship as a Christian practice is the opposite of material wealth. Lent invites us to consider our path toward a wealth of the spirit: who needs a sincere apology from you to deepen your communion with them? From whom do you need forgiveness; what do you have to forgive?

When we reconcile ourselves within our whole congregation, whether the congregation of Saint John’s or our neighborhood or our families, we draw upon the courage of Christ within us to have difficult, worthwhile conversation and healing. This is the invitation extended in Lent: prepare to be reconciled.

I would be honored to hear your stories of reconciliation. We learn from one another's experience. What would it mean if the whole world were reconciled?

Faithfully yours,
Kate

St. John’s Clergy, Staff, and Volunteers

Clergy
The Reverend Jered Weber-Johnson, Rector
The Reverend Kate Bradtmiller, Associate Rector
The Reverend Margaret Thor, Deacon

Staff
Sarah Dull, Parish Administrator
Jayson, Director of Music and Organist
Jean Hansen, Children, Youth, and Family Minister
Ivan Holguin, Building Assistant
Heather Hunt, Children & Youth Choirs Director
Tracy Johnson, Nursery Coordinator
The Reverend Craig Lemming, Compline Coordinator
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

Vestry Members
Bob Baumann, Clerk of Vestry
Jay Clark, At Large
Marilyn Conklin, Junior Warden
Mary Ellen Elliot, At Large
Tom Evans, At Large
Vern Kassekert, Fellowship
John MacBain, Property
Peter Rosendale, At Large
Rick Rinkoff, Treasurer
Lea Anne Schmidt, New Member/Welcome
Judy Stack-Nelson, Formation
Kevin Wall, At Large
Diane Wallace-Reid, At Large
Holly Weinkauf, At Large
Nancy Wellington, Music
Jerry Woelfel, Senior Warden

Volunteer Positions
Artaria String Quartet, Artists in Residence
Phillip Baird, Verger
Alden Drew, Historian/Archivist
Paige Hagstrom, Coffee Hour Coordinator
Paul Hanson, Music Librarian
Jim Johnson, Planned Gift Chair
Joan Potter, Liturgical and Lay Reader Coordinator
Diane Power, Altar Guild Coordinator
George Power, Columbarium Coordinator
Jill Thompson, Music Vestment Coordinator
Reflections by Gary Gleason; edited by Barbara Mraz

Editor’s note: As I interviewed Gary Gleason last month, I realized that this was more than a profile of a parishioner. It was a thoughtful reflection on what “church” means, so I changed the format to be Gary’s words here while the italicized segments are not.

Last month’s article ended as Gary approached James Jelinek and suggested that he work for him. Suggestion taken! Gary began working for the newly-consecrated bishop in 1992 and remained there as “Canon to the Ordinary” (his official title) throughout Jelinek’s sixteen-year Episcopate.

CANON TO THE ORDINARY

“Two of the high points of my tenure were creating a professional staff dedicated to what we do together as opposed to what we do as individuals, and proposing Minneapolis/Minnesota to the General Convention and preparing that for over three years (General Convention was held in Minneapolis in 2003).

“There were also challenges. One was realizing that there is an underside to the Church; learning that there is such a strong sense of competition among clergy.

“It also became clear to me how important it is for people who work in the church to also have a life outside of the church that feeds them and sustains them.”

“Working with church leadership, lay and ordained, often it seemed that when I arrived on the scene, there was a problem or issue that needed to be dealt with. It is always easy to outline what we don’t want, what we don’t like, what we aren’t happy about. The question often got right down to ‘what are you willing to do?’ Sometimes the answer was ‘nothing’ and we had to work on finding a different solution.

“Successful churches never toss away a Sunday, especially in today’s complicated world. Each week is important whether it’s Advent, Easter or July...and a focus on preaching is critical to a successful church. It’s also the thing that gets shortchanged when clergy schedules get to be overwhelming with pastoral and other demanding issues. Show me a church where the preaching is inspired, thought out, written, and delivered with enthusiasm week after week, and I’ll show you a healthy church. Not to diminish the liturgy, Communion, etc., but those parts of Sunday morning are already set forth and need far less in preparation time than a sermon.

“The major way the Church has changed since I left in 2008 is that there is a new bishop! And each bishop gets to be the bishop the way she or he wants to be the bishop..... Bishop Jelinek used to remind his staff that he was the person elected to serve in that leadership role for that time: ‘There were seven before me and there will, God willing, be seven times seven to follow me.’

THE WHIPPLE CROSS

The Whipple Cross is an award implemented by Bishop Robert Anderson in the mid 1980s. The cross, worn by Bishop Whipple, was duplicated in sterling silver using a wax mold process and presented to someone who had done outstanding service to the Diocese of Minnesota. On it is inscribed “Crux, Lux and Dox,” translated Cross, Light and Leadership.

From Bishop Jelinek’s presentation to Gary: “This afternoon I shall be giving Canon Gary Gleason the Whipple Cross ... the highest honor of the Diocese of Minnesota. I have given it to a few rare individuals who have unquestionably benefited the diocese by their faith, their witness, their commitment and their love.

Locally, in his home parish of All Saints’ Church, Northfield, Gary has been a vestry member and senior warden, and who knows what else. I believe the only thing he did not chair was the committee that met every Advent to decide whether the table candles for the next Epiphany dinner should be red or green. I am not entirely sure which he found more daunting, the magnitude of the decision or the passion of the proponents!

During the first couple of years, Gary, by his constant questioning as to my thinking about why I wanted to do something and what I hoped might happen in a given
situation, helped me to become clear on my vision and my role. These fifteen years together have been one of the longest partnerships between bishop and canon to the ordinary that The Episcopal Church has known. It has been a pleasure and a blessing to serve as a partner with you in this ministry.”

COMING TO ST. JOHN’S

Gary remembers his introduction to St. John’s before and after his work at the Diocese:

“When I was a freshman at Hamline University, one day I saw a notice on the bulletin board in the Student Center saying that SJE was seeking a college student to be youth leader for junior high kids. I applied and was hired by Fr. Grayson Clary’s assistant. I met with the youth regularly, usually on Sunday afternoons, and I slept in the undercroft on the floor more than a few times during overnight retreats. The main task was to keep the boys from the girls, and the locked doors of the era were legendary but not impervious!

“(Previous rector) Frank Wilson was a pastor to me before I became a member of SJE. As president of the Diocesan Council, he and I worked together for several years, preparing for meetings and implementing decisions after the meetings. We both began our ministries about the same time, when Bishop Jelinek arrived in Minnesota. Frank’s parishes were communities clearly led by a priest in prayer and worship. No other person I know [except for my late father] did such remarkable work in thanking people for whatever it was they did for him, for the parish, for the community and beyond.

“The time came for me to find a new parish in 2006. I knew SJE was the place for me because every prior visit was one where people greeted me warmly, called me by name, said they were glad to have me at SJE and invited me to come back. When I’m in town, I still see people every week who are glad to see me, and I, them. We are mutually interested in one another and we join together in prayer and worship as community. That’s a big part of what makes the drive from Minneapolis each week worth it.

RECOVERY

Besides church, another community sustains Gary:

“I am a member of a 12-step program and have been in recovery for 24 years. My life revolves around recovery. Here I have met the people I always wanted to know. Those of us in recovery have a clear path set before us--staying away from the first drink, working with and being of service to others, and staying connected through regular meetings and fellowship opportunities. This is a spiritual journey and one that the Episcopal Church enhances for me greatly. I like the way my life is going today and I’m not willing to give that up to go back to the way it used to be.”

Lent Madness 2016

The good folks at Forward Movement Publications pose a challenging question for the Lenten season: Who will wear this year's Golden Halo? Lent Madness, created by the Rev. Tim Schenk, provides an entertaining and informative way of learning about the Church’s celebrated holy women and men.

Based on the NCAA March Madness basketball tournament format, 32 saints are placed in single elimination brackets. According to the Lent Madness website: Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saints. 16 saints make it to the Saintly Sixteen; eight make it to the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo. Past winners have included St Francis Of Assisi (2015), Frances Perkins (2013), and C S Lewis (2011).

Lent Madness has been featured on NPR. Former Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori has been both a participant and a celebrity blogger.

As Oscar Wilde said, "Every saint has a past, every sinner has a future.” Sign up for Lent Madness, delve into the lives of the saints, and vote for your favorites.

For further information about Lent Madness and to sign up, please visit lentmadness.org.
The Cross in Art and Visual Culture

The cross is the central symbol of the Christian faith, representing both suffering and salvation, sacrifice and forgiveness, redemption and hope. Throughout the ages it has been the focus of Christian art and architecture, worn as jewelry, and cherished as an object of personal devotion. Beginning in Lent and throughout the Easter season, St John’s gallery will feature an exhibit of crosses and cross artwork. To complement the opening of the exhibit on March 13, the Sunday Forum will feature a presentation on the cross in art and visual culture. There will also be a cross-making workshop following worship that day.

Do you own a cross or piece of artwork related to the cross that you would like to include in the exhibit? Or would you like to make a cross for the exhibit? We are looking for crosses of various sizes, materials (paper, wood, glass, metal, plastic), styles (e.g., modern, ornate, rustic, medieval) and functions (liturgical, devotional, decorative). We are also seeking artwork related to the cross, such as paintings, photographs, sculpture, cards, paper-cuttings, clothing, or bead work. If, because of its value, you would prefer to provide a photograph of your cross or piece of artwork, that is also possible. But in any case, if you contribute a cross for the exhibit, please write a paragraph or two about it and what it means to you. Pieces for the exhibit can be dropped off at church the week of March 6-11 and will be on display from March 13 through May 8.

In the coming weeks, keep your eye on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space for further information. If you have questions or have a cross you would like to include in the exhibit, please contact Sarah Stengle at stenglesarah@centurylink.net or Holly Stoerker hstoerker@comcast.net.

Valet Parking

The Men’s Group is offering valet parking starting at 9 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.

Help Prepare the Evangelist

Are you looking for an opportunity to help spread the good news of all that is happening at St. John’s and would appreciate a couple of hours of fellowship with other parishioners?

We would love you to join us in the Fireside Room any time between 9 am and 12 pm. Call Sarah at 651-228-1172x10 for more information.

The next preparation day is Monday, February 22.

Ash Wednesday Services

We will mark the beginning of Lent on Wednesday, February 10 with two services with imposition of ashes. The first service is at 12 noon and the second is at 7 pm.
Do I Hear Bells at Holy Eucharist at Saint John’s?

The following is a post from Phillip Baird, Senior Verger at St. John’s on the use and history behind Sanctus Bells in our community and beyond.

On occasion, Sanctus Bells have been used for special additional Festal Eucharists at St. John’s and will be used again at the upcoming Ash Wednesday Eucharists. Is this something new?

Not really. The practice of using bells in worship goes back to the ancient Jewish Temple on the vestments of Aaron. In Christian practice, the use of bells began in the fifth century with the summoning of monks to prayer. The Venerable Bede (English saint of the eighth century) is credited with the introduction of bell ringing at Requiem Masses. By the ninth century, use of bells large and small had spread over the realm.

We are reminded in Psalm 98:4: “Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, break forth into joyous song and sing praises.” Our clamorous ringing of bells by one and all at the Easter Vigil at St. John’s is a testament to our joy of the risen Christ in proclaiming through the singing of the Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) our proclamation to offer ourselves as a living member of the Eucharistic community.

On a smaller scale, bell usage in the liturgy is contained at three or four points in the Eucharistic Prayer:
1. Sung or said Sanctus and the consecration at the “epiclesis” when the priest prays for the Holy Spirit to bless, sanctify, and consecrate the elements of bread and wine. (Real Presence)
2. Bells are rung a second time as the priest elevates and presents the Body of Christ.
3. The bells are rung a third time at the elevation of the chalice. The phrase “Do This in Remembrance of Me” is the phrase to ring bells. A fourth time may have bells rung at the Lord’s Prayer.

Some may think bell ringing is a distraction. However, the purpose of Sanctus bells is not just to “wake up” the congregation at the point of consecration, but to lead us in prayerful attention and thanksgiving.

Wells Foundation Announces $10,000 Grant to Circle of the Beloved-Episcopal Service Corps

From Inez Bergquist (St. Mark’s Cathedral and Wells Foundation) and The Rev. Lisa Wiens Heinsohn (St. Mark’s Cathedral):

The Wells Foundation of Minneapolis approved a $10,000 grant to Circle of the Beloved-Episcopal Service Corps, a national organization that has authorized 32 local sites for mission and ministry. In 2013, a small group of Episcopalians—lay and ordained—began exploring the possibility of creating an Episcopal Service Corps site in Minneapolis. Circle of the Beloved, the program name given to the Minneapolis site, was authorized in October 2015 for a September 2016 launch by the national Episcopal Service Corps organization.

The particular mission of Circle of the Beloved is to create communities where service deepens into kinship and transformation within the neighborhoods served. At the first residence in North Minneapolis, which will open in fall 2016, the Circle will recruit local young adult leaders from “first job” locations for a year of prayer, community, and service with the Circle—bridging that “first job” experience with practices that lead to vocation. The Wells Foundation grant of $10,000 will allow Circle of the Beloved’s Program Director, The Rev. Craig Lemming, to launch the Circle successfully. St. John’s congratulates Craig on his accomplishments and this new ministry!

In the wide Anglican tradition, we have many symbols of sound and smell to enhance our worship. We choose carefully how and when such symbols are used. Within our wonderful Anglican tradition, we may pray and receive the body and blood of Christ in the most simple and unadorned ritual in complete silence. We may also celebrate the same ritual with shouts of joy and employ all our senses.
Faith in Action

Project Home at St. John’s in February

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: two evening volunteers from 5:30 - 8:30pm and two overnight volunteers from 8:30 pm - 7:30am.

Sign up at: www.tinyurl.com/proj16. Holly, Don, Margaret and Steve will also help people sign up on Sundays. To learn more about this important ministry, please contact:

- Holly and Don Weinkauf  at 651-724-5200/ betterwein@gmail.com
- Steve Sims  at 952-484-9292/ swiss7615@msn.com
- The Rev. Margaret Thor at 651-631-8308/ margaretcthor@gmail.com

2017 Trip to Kayoro

A trip to visit the people of Kayoro, Uganda and the St. John’s clinic is being planned for January 2017. For more information contact Lea Anne Schmidt 612-385-6379 or LeaAnne.Schmidt@gmail.com.

H2H (Hearts-to-Homes) Chili Bowl

Here’s the final Winning Recipe from the Chili Cook off last month: Jennifer Kinkead’s  white chili recipe!

- 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.

Wanted: Donations of Vitamins

The Kayoro Committee is seeking donations of prenatal vitamins and infant vitamins to send over to the Kayoro Clinic in March. They can be dropped off in the basket in the back of the church. When purchasing the vitamins to donate, please double-check that their expiration date is in 2017 or later.

2017 Trip to Kayoro

A trip to visit the people of Kayoro, Uganda and the St. John’s clinic is being planned for January 2017. For more information contact Lea Anne Schmidt 612-385-6379 or LeaAnne.Schmidt@gmail.com.

Faith in Action Meeting - Thursday, February 18 at 5:30 pm in the Library. To learn more, contact Rev. Kate at kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org.

Hearts to Homes Meeting - Thursday, February 25 at 6:30 pm in the Library. To learn more, contact Patty Byrne Pfalz at 651-224-7784.
Bread Bags from Uganda

St. John's bread ministry is one of the ways we reach out to first time visitors on Sunday morning. Newcomers frequently comment on how touched they were to have a loaf of bread delivered to their home with the following note:

*We were delighted that you chose to worship with us at St. John's recently. We pray that you were fed spiritually, that this bread will feed you physically, and that you will come again.*

While the bread we delivered to visitors in the past was wrapped in a paper bag, it is now being offered in a cloth bag made of fabric from Uganda. In this way, St. John's welcome ministry now also serves to introduce visitors to one of our Faith-in-Action ministries. Not only is the bread a gesture of hospitality, it also serves as witness to the ways in which our lives at St. John's are interwoven with the people of Uganda. And in the process, in at least one small way, we are helping support a family in Uganda.

St. John's bread bags are being made by a seamstress in Uganda named Anyango Pamela, whom we pay for her work. Pamela sells tablecloths, curtains, handbags, and other items she sews. Her husband runs a produce shop. They live in the Bison Slums of Tororo, Uganda, where they are raising their four children and serving as guardian of another child who lost both her parents.

How to Donate to Hallie Q. Brown

If you have household items that you would have given to the Huge Sale in the past, our partners at Hallie Q. Brown Community Center would love to have them for their Clothing Closet. This program administers a broad range of emergency, referral, and other support services, with the goal of assisting families in achieving self-sufficiency and self-empowerment.

To donate, simply pull up in front of the building and go inside. The office is right in the foyer. If you have a lot of items, they have carts available to make hauling easier. You'll get a donation slip for tax purposes, too.

It's easy to get to Hallie Q. Brown from St. John's! Simply drive north on Kent St until the road comes to an end at the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center (which is in the same building as the Martin Luther King Center).
Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Learning in Lent

The season of Lent is a perfect time for everyone to take on the challenge of learning a prayer or Bible verse by heart. Remember that the primary locus for Christian faith formation is the home. Children learn by watching, participating, and following their parents’ lead. Here are some suggestions:

**A Prayer of Self-Dedication:** Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and they use us, we pray, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. *Book of Common Prayer* p. 832

**A Prayer for Lent:** God of all mercy, you love all that you have made. You forgive the sins of all who are truly sorry. Create and make in us clean hearts, that we, humbly confessing our sins and knowing our brokenness, may receive your forgiveness and blessing; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen. *Written by Anne E. Kitch*

**Bible Verses**

**In Time of Temptation:** And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it. *1 Corinthians 10:13 (NIV)*

**Courage and Strength:** I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go. *Joshua 1:9 (NRSV)*

**Forgiveness of Sins:** For as the heavens are high above the earth, so is his mercy great upon those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed sins from us. *Psalm 103:11-12 (BCP Psalter)*

**Trust in God:** I can do all things through him who strengthens me! *Philippians 4:13 (ESV)*

**Christian Witness:** Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5:16 (NRSV)*

---

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner!**

Mark the beginning of Lent with a pancake dinner! Join us on Tuesday, February 9, 5:30-8pm for pancakes, sausages, berries and juice in the Undercroft. Suggested donation: $5 person; $15 per family. This event supports the J2A youth pilgrimage to Nova Scotia.

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. “Shrove” comes from the verb “to shrive” (to confess and receive absolution).

**Faithful Parenting**

Faithful Parenting meets on **Sunday, February 7** at 9 am in the Green Room. Join us for conversation, support, and best practices in Christian parenting. Treats provided. Bring your beverage of choice, and get to know your St. John’s faith family.

Childcare for children ages 5 and under is available in the Nursery at 8:45am. For children older than 5, Children’s Choir begins at 9am in the choir room. For more information contact Jean Hansen, 952-201-0424.
Music

Adult Choir Concert at the Saint Paul Cathedral

On February 5 at 7:30 pm, our Adult Choir will join several other choirs in a special concert at the Saint Paul Cathedral on Selby Ave. The featured work is the Mass by Charles Marie Widor. The cathedral has incredible acoustics and recently restored pipe organs. Jayson R. Engquist will be playing the front choir organ.

Mary’s Lament: Christ Crucified

Saturday, February 20 at 7 pm the crucifixion narrative, through the eyes of Jesus’ mother, Mary, in poems, songs, hymns and narration. Joan Potter, director, has selected narrations and special music to be presented in this moving evening. Solo works of Samuel Barber (Crucifixion and St. Ita’s Prayer) and Carlisle Floyd (The Pilgrimage) will be sung by Krista Palmquist, mezzo-soprano. Several works from Pergolesi’s Stabat Mater will be sung by sopranos, Emily Greenleaf and Shanta Hejmadi. Our adult choir will be performing works by Morton Lauridsen (Sure On This Shining Night), Handel’s “Behold, the Lamb of God” (Messiah) and Widor’s Mass (Kyrie and Agnus Dei). This will be a memorable evening you will want to attend.

Thank You

We thank all the musicians who performed in the January concert celebrating our newly-regulated Steinway grand piano. Our featured performer was pianist Osip Nikiforov. Additional musicians included oboist Tim Shows, violinist John MacBain, violist Joe Peterson and pianists Nancy Wellington and Jayson Engquist. We thank Bob Horn for donating this beautiful instrument. This piano adds so much to our worship services and concerts throughout the year. Watch for next year’s piano celebration!

Planning Ahead

March 6: 4 pm Evensong with works of Kenneth Leighton (Magnificat, Nunc dimittis and his Responses & Suffrages), James Ray (Sure on This Shining Night), and Samuel Walton (Set Me as a Seal).

March 19: MPR’S Annual Bach Bash in the afternoon, featuring organists from around the Twin Cities and host J. Michael Barone.

Notes on Notes!

Compline

Compline is held every Thursday at 7pm. It is a short service of ancient prayers, psalms, chanting, and mystery. Incense will be present at this service, as well as the Holy Spirit. All are welcome.

Featured Musicians:
February 4: Lumina
February 11: St. John’s Lay Clerks’ Ensemble
February 18: Lumina
February 25: St. John’s Lay Clerks’ Ensemble

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.

Give Your Child a Voice!

by Heather Hunt, Children’s and Youth Choirs Director

The Children and Youth Choirs are accepting new members! Children (grades K-6) and Youth (grades 7-12) are a special ministry at St. John’s and they participate in worship monthly.

Children rehearse Sunday mornings at 9 AM then go to Godly Play at 9:45. Youth rehearse Wednesday evenings from 5:30 – 6:30 then go to Youth Group for an evening of food, fellowship, and fun! Youth also learn leadership skills as they mentor the children.

We welcome all levels of musicianship, from very beginners to accomplished performers. Soloists are showcased as appropriate. Everyone is welcome!

Music is carefully chosen to honor the Anglican Tradition while being enjoyable to sing. Jesus loves every voice! If children are not comfortable singing, we have rhythm instruments and other ways to participate.

I hope you will consider these opportunities. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. My email is HHuntenp@gmail.com.

Rise up singing!
ECMN School for Formation

If you have discerned a call to serve, or if you have a longing to deepen your understanding of God and of our tradition, then you can find in the School for Formation the preparation and the learning you need. All are welcome! Most courses take place online, but each course will meet for an in-person gathering at least once. To learn more about the School for Formation, including classes, fees, and opportunities, visit www.schoolforformation.org.

Beginning February 15:

Prayer Book III: Holy Week and the Liturgical Year

Why do Episcopalians follow a liturgical calendar? How do the liturgies in our Book of Common Prayer express the important themes of faith, and how can they be part of the church’s missional, outward focus? This course will offer an in-depth study of the rhythms and themes of the church year, with particular attention to the liturgies of Holy Week.

St. John’s Cafe

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

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

OWLs Luncheon and Noonday Prayers

If you identify as an OWL (older, wiser laity), the clergy and staff of St. John’s cordially invite you to join us on Wednesday, February 3 for noonday prayers in the Chapel at 12 noon followed by lunch in the Fireside Room.

The menu will be Jambalaya (featuring the traditional “Trinity” of onions, celery, and green peppers), New Orleans Salad, and Creole Cake. Our speaker this month is Dr. Richard Brynteson of Concordia College, presenting: “They like What? Understanding Generational Differences.”

Please RSVP to the church office, 651-228-1172, x10.

Safe Church Training

The adult portion of Safe Church Training (“Safeguarding God’s People”) will be offered on Saturday, February 6 from 9 am—noon.

The child portion (“Safeguarding God’s Children”) will be offered on Saturday, February 27 from 9am—noon.

A meal will be provided, so RSVP to the office at 651-228-1172, x10 or church@stjohnsstpaul.org. You can contact the church office to find out if you need to renew your training.

February Meetings


Men’s Group Gathering: Tuesday, February 9 at 7:30 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Josh Colton at 612-275-6004.

Men’s Breakfast: Saturday, February 13 at 9am in the Gym Kitchen. Contact Jim Johnson at 651-698-5655.

Vestry Meeting: Monday, February 15 at 6 pm in the Fireside Room. Contact Jerry Woelfel at 651-283-7798.

Down Syndrome Support Group: Tuesday, February 16 at 6pm in the Gathering Space. Contact Ellison Yahner at ellisonyanner@gmail.com.

Phillip Baird Becomes Fellow of the Vergers’ Guild

In October 2015 at Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis, MO, Phillip L. Baird received his certificate from the Vergers’ Guild of the Episcopal Church. It reads as follows: “The Board of Directors of the Vergers’ Guild of the Episcopal Church formally recognizes Phillip Lee Baird as a Fellow of the Guild having successfully completed training and examination as a Verger at St. John Evangelist Episcopal Church, St. Paul, in the Diocese of Minnesota.”

The process included a written examination covering the Canons of the Episcopal Church, A Priest’s Handbook, Dennis Michno, Commentary on the American Prayer Book, Marion J. Hatchett and other sources relative to the duties of a Fellow Verger, and additional assignments as prescribed by the rector.

Phillip began his duties as Verger and Thurifer of Compline three years ago. The most visual and ceremonial part is leading the processions at services. In ancient times when processions were led in the streets and lanes, the virge was used to clear the path for clergy and for folks to scurry to the side. This is hardly necessary in the aisle of St. John’s.

There are unseen duties of a parish Verger. Phillip, as Senior Verger, meets regularly with the rector for requested duties, sees that all things are in proper order for all services, attends weekly liturgy meetings, is a keeper of keys, secures the building when necessary, assists behind the altar rail, reader, and Altar Guild member.

Phillip serves primarily as Verger for the 8am Sunday Eucharist and shares duties with three other Vergers for the 10am Eucharist.

Phillip says “I will still be the same chap with those round English specs, white bands and black cap. I love to greet one and all in the narthex in the ‘Church of the Open Door’.”
Happy Birthday to...

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

*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:

February 7:
Main Altar: Janet O. & George E. Potter, Jr.
Small Altar: Jennie & Alfred Merrill

February 14:
Small Altar: Rita & George Richcreek

February 21:
Main Altar: Mary W. & Paul K. Pinkerton
Small Altar: Frederick Wigginton

February 28:
Main Altar: Theodore & Genevieve Pilacinski, Marlene Woelfel
Small Altar: Elizabeth & Frank Ward

Altar Flowers 2016
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.

Altar Guild Teams

February 7: Heather Joyce, Pam Strom, Kathy Brown,
   Sue Cadwell, Shirlee Gooch, Sue MacIntosh
February 14: Pat Brynstoneson, Caroline Krall, Nan
   Lightner, Phyllis Merrill, Elaine Sutton, Jill Thompson
February 21: Diane Power, Paige Hagstrom, Sarah K.
   Smith, Sabine Krall, Ginny Schaus, Terri Fischel
February 28: Dusty Mairs, Shirley Cooper, Phyllis
   Frisby, Patty Bryne Pfalz, Phillip Baird, Bill Sherfy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>READERS</th>
<th>USHERS</th>
<th>GREETERS</th>
<th>COFFEE HOUR</th>
<th>ACOLYTES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 7 — The Last Sunday after the Epiphany</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Joan McCanna</td>
<td>Terri Fishel George Kinkead</td>
<td>Cammie Beattie Ella Slade</td>
<td>Godly Play</td>
<td>Madeline Weinkauf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mason Kinkead Diane Power</td>
<td>Don Weinkauf</td>
<td></td>
<td>Eli Weinkauf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Will Rinkoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A—Keith Davis B—Camille Scheel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thea Bishof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 14 — The First Sunday in Lent</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Craig Lindeke</td>
<td>Marvin Cadwell Alex Joyce Sally</td>
<td>Vern Kassekert Colleen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Helen Baxter Roan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sand</td>
<td>Swope Jerry Woelfel</td>
<td></td>
<td>Weinkauf Charlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Olson Chris Olson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Aidan Schmidt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A—Jeff Olsen B—Judy Southwick</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 21 — The Second Sunday in Lent</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>David Aylesworth</td>
<td>Patty Byrne Pfalz Jay Debertin</td>
<td>Phyllis Frisby Jeff Olsen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Matt Brooks Charlie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Gilbertson Peter Gilbertson</td>
<td>Peggy Olsen</td>
<td></td>
<td>Docherty Sabine Krall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Linnea Krall Elliot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A—Cammie Beattie B—Troy Stack-Nelson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February 28 — The Third Sunday in Lent</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Brad McCanna</td>
<td>Cammie Beattie Don Husband</td>
<td>Suzanne McInroy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tim Krall Caroline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jennifer Rosendale Peter</td>
<td>Lea Anne Schmidt</td>
<td></td>
<td>Krall Tessa Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rosendale</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maren Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>A—John Graham B—Joan Potter</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thank You Letters**

Thank you so much for your recent donation and continued support for Neighborhood House. Your generosity allows us to continue the programs and services that help families on their journey to a stable, rewarding life. I am always so inspired by how committed the people who come to Neighborhood House are to improving their lives and the lives of their family. Your support is making a difference every day.

Thank you again,
Karla Healey

Thank you once again for letting us use your gym space for our holiday party. The Saint John’s party has become such a special part of our history.

I ran into a Close to Home graduate a few weeks ago, who is now 25. He asked if we still do the Saint John’s holiday party. He told me that around the holidays he often thinks of the lights, big tree and all the people who came to the party. He said to him it was the event of the year. Thank you for helping to create such wonderful memories.

Sincerely,

Close to Home
Easter Memorial Flowers

You are invited to share in the cost of decorating the church for Easter. Please make your check out to “St. John the Evangelist Church” and mark “Easter Flowers” in the memo space. Then place your donation in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. If you would like to make your gift as a memorial to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletin, please include this information, clearly printed, with your contribution.

(Please Print Clearly)

In loving memory of: ____________________________________________________________

Donation given by: _____________________________________________________________

Check enclosed for $ __________________________________________________________

Memorials must be received in the office by Thursday, March 17 to be included in the Easter Sunday bulletins. Thank you!