

# *THE EVANGELIST*



MAGAZINE FOR SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017 CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR SINCE 1881 VOL. CXIII, NO. 5

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## ON THE COVER:



June 29 marked the end of Compline services until fall, as well as the Rev. Craig Lemming celebrating his first Eucharist as a priest. After the service, parishioners enjoyed the warm summer evening and ate together at an ice cream social.

### PHOTO CREDITS IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 2: Kim Hairston/*Baltimore Sun*; *The Nation*  
Page 4: flickr.com/photos/kwseah/13351996355  
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## STAY CONNECTED

Don't miss out on any of our news and events!

- Sign up for our weekly e-newsletter at [tinyurl.com/SJEnewsletter](http://tinyurl.com/SJEnewsletter)
- See our calendar and subscribe to site updates at [stjohnsstpaul.org](http://stjohnsstpaul.org)
- Like our Facebook page at [tinyurl.com/sjefb](http://tinyurl.com/sjefb)
- Read the bulletin insert each week at the 8am & 10am services

## NEXT DEADLINE

for November/December Issue:

**October 11**

Everyone is *encouraged* to submit articles and reflections. Bring your article and/or photos to the church office or email to [church@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:church@stjohnsstpaul.org) *before* the deadline shown. Thank you!

## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Clergy

The Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson, *Rector*

The Rev. Kate Bradtmiller, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Margaret Thor, *Deacon*

### Staff

Sarah Dull, *Parish Administrator*

Jayson R. Engquist, *Director of Music/Organist*

Michelle Christofore, *Building Assistant*

Terry Farrell, *Building Assistant*

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

Jane Johnson, *Office of the Treasurer*

Tracy Johnson, *Nursery Coordinator*

Scott Jungbauer, *Building Manager*

The Rev. Barbara Mraz, *Writer in Residence*

Lea Anne Schmidt, *Coordinator of Growth & New Member Engagement*

Ellie Watkins, *Communications Assistant*

### Vestry Members

Bob Baumann, *Clerk of Vestry*

Jay Clark, *At Large*

Marilyn Conklin, *Junior Warden*

Josh Colton, *At Large*

Tom Evans, *At Large*

Alice Johnson, *At Large*

John MacBain, *Property*

Dusty Mairs, *At Large*

Chris Matter, *Faith in Action*

Brad Parsons, *At Large*

Rick Rinkoff, *Treasurer*

Peter Rosendale, *At Large*

Judy Stack, *Formation*

Diane Wallace-Reid, *Pastoral Care*

Nancy Wellington, *Music*

Jerry Woelfel, *Senior Warden*

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## FROM THE REVEREND JERED WEBER-JOHNSON

Dear friends in Christ,

If you visit the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture, you'll no doubt be caught by the statue of Thomas Jefferson in front of a large wall containing excerpts of his words from the Declaration of Independence. The words are larger than life, going from floor to ceiling, emphasizing some of the highest ideals that have shaped this nation. Between Jefferson and his words there is a stack of bricks engraved with the names of some of the 600 slaves Jefferson owned in his lifetime. The message is clear: the dark stain of slavery and the white supremacist ideology that produced it have stood as a barrier to this nation realizing the freedoms it purports to be founded upon. This country has intermittently wrestled with that dark history. We've fought wars over slavery and shed blood in the streets protesting Jim Crow segregation. Yet as a people, we have not fully and completely atoned for the sins of racism, bigotry, and white supremacy that stand at our country's foundation. White supremacy has been called America's "original sin." As the events of Charlottesville so clearly point out, this "sin" continues to rear its ugly head in the United States even in 2017.

While many in this country shake their heads in disbelief that the scourges of white supremacy and racism linger even in this era, Christians should be free of this surprise. As a colleague wrote recently for *The Living Church*, "[t]he gospel of Jesus Christ promises no progress. The gospel promises trouble in this world." If we believe trouble—sin and evil—are constants, we also believe that God's love, grace, and salvation are constants. We believe that it is ultimately these things that overcome sin. That means we must be careful not to get caught in the trap of thinking that overcoming white supremacy is simply a matter of pragmatic politics in action—that certain policies, tearing down monuments, denouncing hate speech, and enforcing politically correct mores and cultural norms will somehow solve racism and white supremacy. Certainly these things are vital pieces of the solution. But if we believe white supremacy is sin, we must also be willing to acknowledge that like all sin, it can easily retreat into the shadows, hide underground, and camouflage itself in respectability.

Sin and evil are slippery. My friend, the Reverend Steven Paulikas, writing in *The New York Times* in response to the events in Charlottesville, pointed out that philosopher Paul Ricoeur believed that evil was not a "thing" as much as a concept. He writes, "This fact alone complicates

arguments for the destruction of evil: how do you obliterate something that has no substance?" In this way, he continues, it isn't whether we can rightly *name* evil so much as appropriately *respond* to it. Paulikas points out "the tragedy of evil is not the act committed, but the experience of the victim. Separating evil perpetrated from evil suffered shifts the concern from what or who is evil to the best possible action in the face of it, which according to [Ricoeur] is 'not a solution, but a response.'"

If we can't necessarily destroy evil, our attempts to destroy it will ultimately lead us to violence against the people we believe to be evil and not the idea itself. It is much more expedient to kill people than it is to destroy a concept (think of the so-called "War on Terror"). In order to break the cycle of deepening violence and destruction, we must find ways to respond to the evil of white supremacy that are appropriate and peaceable. For Christians, the clearest response is found in the Cross, the lynching tree of Roman state power. Jesus allows himself to suffer the ultimate shame and humiliation, forever and always identifying with victims with the ones who have suffered at the hands of evil.

As Christians, all our cues on how to respond to evil come from Jesus. We respond as people, relationally, non-violently, with *grace* and *generosity* as our watchwords and reconciliation as our mission. We must do our utmost to be the Church, the body of Christ. We must pray together, and listen to the stories of our forebears in faith, and learn to tell our own stories in light of the great narrative of God's justice and salvation. We must break bread together in simple acts of hospitality and certainly around the altar. We must learn what it means to confess our complicity in the sins of the world before we can become agents of reconciliation. We must understand how Jesus was and is sanctuary to us before we can extend sanctuary to immigrants and refugees. We must sit together in grief and stand together against evil in the world.

This issue of the Evangelist contains stories of ways St. John's is tackling and addressing the sins of racism and white supremacy. It also contains stories of ways we are eating together, sharing our stories, and listening deeply. These things are integral to one another. I invite you to read with an eye toward where you are being called to join in that work—**Eat together**. Share stories. Listen deeply. Change the world. Repeat.

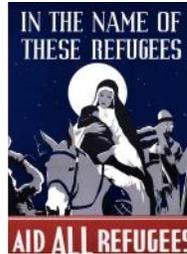
See you in worship!

Faithfully,

# SANCTUARY SUPPORTING CHURCH

Recent national events have focused direct attention on refugees and immigrants. They live in a growing climate of intolerance and fear. They are increasingly being singled out as the dangerous “other,” subjected to hate crimes and violations of their constitutional and civil rights.

Our faith compels us to speak out and stand with the “alien” (Lev 19:33-34). Present U.S. immigration policy demands we bear witness. Our faith further compels us to pursue justice, champion the cause of the oppressed (Isa 1:17) and offer these neighbors refuge (Mt 25:37-38).



At the national church level, our Presiding Bishop, House of Bishops, and Executive Council, as well as many Episcopal organizations have all taken firm and resolute stands to reaffirm our concern for and solidarity with our immigrant neighbors and to oppose measures aimed

against them, simply by virtue of their immigrant status. Our own bishop has echoed this firm stand. Likewise, the clergy and vestry of St. John’s have been involved in a conversation along with synagogues, churches, and mosques in our city, state, and country, about how our faith relates to the issues of immigration.

With these circumstances in mind, the vestry of St. John’s voted in January to join a growing network of “sanctuary congregations” in very real and practical support of immigrants in crisis due to their immigration status. Presently we are participating as a “Sanctuary Supporting” church. This means that we will visibly and vocally support those congregations who are providing sanctuary, by offering our time, energy, money, and other necessary resources to assist sanctuary churches as needed. We will be calling upon our congregation for your contributions as needed in the near future.

## NOW YOU ARE THE BODY OF CHRIST

When Eucharistic visitors brought communion to Helen Smith at Sunrise Care in Roseville, she recited just two parts of the service: the Lord’s Prayer and the Collect for Saint John’s. Being part of our community was deeply important to Helen; she might not remember her visitors’ names or the day of the week, but she prayed easily, “So build us up in the knowledge and love of Him that we may welcome all people into this community of faith, and show forth our service to You in our service to others.”

The pastoral care that we give and receive is an essential part of building up the members of the body of Christ. Paul offers this clear vision for the interdependence of the Christian community: *As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you, nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.... If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.* (1 Corinthians 12:20-21, 26-27)

Being present to one another, in suffering and joy, is the essence of pastoral care. In being present—listening to another’s experience without judgment; offering compassion, companionship, and prayer—we are built up in the knowledge and love of God

The privilege of caring for our congregation is not limited to our clergy. Our pastoral care team includes our lay pastoral care givers, Eucharistic visitors, and each of our parishioners.

When you listen to someone else’s story at coffee hour, compare experiences in caring for your family and friends,

or help another parishioner, old or young, at the communion rail, you are providing a pastoral, caring presence. You are building up the body of Christ. An open heart is the only prerequisite.

Our Eucharistic visitors, prayer chain members, and lay pastoral care givers have special training in this ministry. They participate in the Community of Hope International curriculum and join the St. John’s Circle of Care. Their education includes theology of pastoral care, relationship dynamics, awareness of boundaries, deep listening, and the development of a regular prayer practice. The Circle of Care members visit other parishioners, provide pastoral care to incarcerated adults, participate in our Faith in Action efforts with an attitude towards building a ministry of presence, and commit to praying with our parish family.

Eucharistic visitors carry the sacrament from our Sunday worship to parishioners who, by reason of illness or infirmity, cannot attend church. They extend our part of the body of Christ by their sharing of communion.

Prayer chain members receive prayer requests from parishioners for themselves, their family, and friends. Their discipline of regular prayer and meditation bolsters our spiritual companionship of one another.

There are many members, yet one body. Please share your stories about the ways you give and receive pastoral care here at St. John’s. Don’t hesitate to reach out if you would like a visit, home communion, or prayers. Contact Kate Bradtmiller, our pastoral care coordinator, at [kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org) or 651-228-1172 x18.



**Excerpts from social media posts by Jered Weber-Johnson & Lea Anne Schmidt**

**Saturday:** The first baby delivered in the newly blessed maternity ward was born today—the same day it opened!

**Sunday:** We hiked to the top of “the Rock” before the sun was high in the sky and celebrated Eucharist 900 feet above the town of Tororo. Then we made our way down to the Anglican church behind the clinic. We were not expected, but the lay reader adapted to the *muzungu* and welcomed us into the whole service. Our group was conscripted into assisting in the baptisms and we bid on the offering (as is the custom) leaving with bananas, corn, and a live chicken. In the afternoon we visited the Asignet community. We were greeted with singing, dancing, and so much love. A wonderful meal, prepared by the community, was shared along with smiles, laughs, and gratitude from all. It was a full day. It was a blessed day.

**Monday:** We assisted the clinic today in presenting a seminar on reproductive health and helped distribute dozens of Days For Girls reusable pads and other hygiene products. These packages were received with great enthusiasm. In Uganda, girls often lack access to costly disposable pads and tampons. Periods are often a cause for shame and result in girls skipping school and losing up to a week each month. They fall behind their male counterparts in studies and lose opportunities for advancement. The Days



for Girls kits represented real liberation. We had powerful conversations with staff members and youth about reproductive health, respectful relationships, and everything in between.

**Tuesday:** We’ve been asking the question each night, “Where was God today?” Today we participated in a Community Outreach from the St. John’s Kayoro Health Centre to the wider catchment area. We helped with paperwork and community health education while over a hundred people (elders, men, women, and children) were immunized for Hepatitis B, tested for diabetes, and given basic medicines. I continue to be amazed by the strategic thinking and wisdom of the staff, just as I am amazed by the vulnerability and trust shown by those who seek out the care of the clinic. We are truly privileged to stand at the edge and witness the closing of the distance between the human and the divine.

**Wednesday:** Today brought us to the homes of several host families, each a sponsored household through Give Us Wings’ Family-to-Family program. We ate and we laughed: in the kitchen, in the yard, around the table. It was one of the most profound spiritual experiences of my life. At lunch we feasted. And, when I thought it was getting close to bedtime, we slaughtered a chicken and feasted again.

I am daily getting new insight into what it means to see bread broken and wine poured out and to hear the words: “Do this in remembrance of me.”

# SARAH: “NO LAUGHING MATTER”

Sharing our stories is an essential part of the Christian faith and life. The narratives of our faith, Biblical and contemporary, communal and individual, are one route by which we learn what it means to use our gifts and live our lives in Christ’s service. Biblical figures and saints spark our imagination, inspire us, and shape our callings by their example. Consider the story of Sarah, courageous wife of Abraham, jealously protective mother of Isaac, matriarch of what would grow into the tribes of Israel.

*The setting is the wild lands between the Persian Gulf and Mediterranean Sea about 1900 BC-1860 B/C.*

Like the desert winds, the months and years blended into one another. There was no son born to me. Life went on the same, day after day after day. So it was almost with welcome relief one afternoon, some twenty-five years into our long desert trek, that three men approached us, seeming to turn up right up out of the desert sands.

In those days, visitors meant one thing—you stopped what you were doing and gave them the best of what you had. Once they entered your tent, you protected them with your life.

Abraham ran as fast as his old legs could carry him, and selected a fine young calf for dinner. While the servants grilled it, I lingered behind the tent wall where the men talked.

It wasn’t really eavesdropping, because they were right on the other side—well, perhaps it was a little. Maybe a lot.

I heard my name. Like a spider building a web unseen, I leaned closer.

“We will return in a year,” one said, “and then Sarah will have a son.”

A son! I looked down at myself, at my ninety-year old body with shame....I laughed until my body shook....

In another year, the most wonderful thing happened, just like the men had said. I gave birth to a son, finally my own true son. There I was, ninety-years-old and a new mother. We named the boy ‘Isaac,’ which means laughter. And then we knew that our visitors weren’t men but angels. No wonder they had seemed to materialize right out of the sand....

Sarah’s humanness, her faith and her flaws, invite us into reflection on our own gifts and life. This year in our 9am Faith Formation Hour for youth and adults, we will be sharing our stories, exploring our own narratives in light of the narrative of our church.



With motherhood can come burdens: jealousy and possessiveness. One day when I saw Ishmael playing with Isaac—well, teasing Isaac, I thought—I exploded. No more. After waiting almost one hundred years for a son, I would not have this older one, Hagar’s son—Abraham’s firstborn\*—lord over mine and be the heir to God’s promise!

Who knows? Had she been kinder to me, things might have turned out differently. After talking with Abraham, I saw that he sent them, both Hagar and Ishmael, out into the desert. I assumed God would watch over them. All I knew is that I could not look at that woman and her son in my household any longer. ...

Sometimes you have to trust that God will use even our bad sides to achieve His ends. It tugs at my heart.

*\*Ishmael is the son of Abraham and Hagar, Sarah’s maid. Sarah sent Abraham to her when she thought she could never conceive a child.*

Excerpted from *The Scarlet Cord: Conversations with God’s Chosen Women* by Lindsey Hardin Freeman and Karen Canton, O Books, 2010. Reprinted with permission of the author (who is a priest in our diocese).

Join us for the matriarchs, starting with Sarah on Sunday, September 10. Stay to consider your own spiritual gifts and other stories of our Christian faith. Each week, we’ll present a short lecture, followed by discussion, inquiry, and illumination. Come to share your stories.

# “TO WRESTLE WITH THESE FEARS”

## DIALOGUES ABOUT RACE RELATIONS

Summers at St. John’s bring the yearly “Back Porch” series: gatherings hosted by clergy designed to draw us into closeness and connection through listening, sharing, and discussion.

In June 2017, we decided to confront some of the most divisive issues that we face, and asked the question, “Can we talk about the ‘Hot Topics’ of our day with substance and meaning and depth, without devolving into shouting and anger?” Over the course of three Wednesday evenings, we shared the hospitality of three different back porches (Jered & Erin Weber-Johnson’s, Barbara Mraz’s, and Josh & Tisha Colton’s) as we talked about race and privilege. We used the Building Bridges curriculum developed by the Kaleidoscope Institute. It relies on a set of carefully followed group norms to preserve respect and openness throughout.

The model, combined with the size of the group, ended up having both pluses and minuses for our discussions. Josh Colton reflected, “I had hoped for a more in-depth discussion, and the formality of the process inhibited that. But at the same time, the formality ensured that everyone was given an equal chance to speak. If there had not been the rigid formality I suspect a few members, likely men, would have dominated the conversation. Instead, I heard from people who I normally would not and I really appreciated hearing their quiet voices but powerful messages.” He added, “I was part of the problem in that I only attended the last one. Because of me they had to go through the whole introductory process which is a bit tedious and time consuming.”

Keith Davis agreed that the format was a good starting place but also limiting given the time constraints. He said:

“A fortunate commonality among all the attendees was that we were there willing to learn both from and about one another. The unfortunate commonality was that we, me included, were not willing to delve into what I called The Stinky Cheese. The Stinky Cheese refers to getting into what makes us uncomfortable, what makes us afraid to deal openly and honestly with issues of race/culture. In order for us as a community to really progress on these issues, we really need to wrestle, get bloodied by, and conquer these fears.

“I felt God’s presence—my mental image of God was that of Rodin’s sculpture The Thinker, thinking, ‘How do I steer this conversation towards The Stinky Cheese?’

“Approaching these difficult issues in directed conversation is a good first step. Talking about them



openly, honestly, and continually follows. Then comes converting theory into practice, being both People Of The Word and People Of The Verb. This, I feel, is when our faith will be challenged. Whether faith deepens or not depends on how we live what we learn.

“I applaud our clergy for tackling such a challenging topic. I’d like to see St. John’s move boldly forward by continuing this dialogue over the course of the year. We really didn’t get into the honest, volatile, emotion-wrenching, incendiary dialogue regarding issues of race, race politics, and social bias. We have some momentum, images, and issues facing us on a daily basis. Let’s take advantage of what we’ve begun.”

We are indeed going to take advantage of the momentum we’ve started and continue our discussions this fall. We invite you to join us—to bravely speak and even more bravely listen, to confront what it means to be united in Christ in such a divided world, and to wrestle with our fears so that we can truly challenge and deepen our faith.

Our “Building Bridges: Dialogue on Race Relations” series will be held Sundays from 11:30-2pm at St. John’s, facilitated by Kate Bradtmiller. Topics will be:

September 17: Lives Matter

October 1: Race and Privilege

October 15: Race and Children

October 29: Immigration

November 12: Stand Your Ground

We’ll continue using the Building Bridges process, with some fresh supplemental material. It’s an honest dialogue on challenging topics that can lead to reconciliation and transformation. Its authors call us to discern ways to respond to institutional inequality that can be impactful, gracious and long lasting in the midst of our polarized communities.

To give everyone a chance to speak, and to give the group time to delve deeply into the issues, the series will be capped at 12 participants and we ask you to commit to attending all 5 sessions. Contact Kate at 651-228-1172 x18 or [kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:kate.bradtmiller@stjohnsstpaul.org) to sign up.

# BUILDING US UP

By Scott Jungbauer

A church is not a building — a church is an assembly of people. But the building is pretty important, too; especially a historic and beautiful building like we have at St. John's.

This summer saw several major projects being completed. We installed a new controller for our HVAC system. The old one used software that many technicians no longer know how to service. The updated controller allows for offsite troubleshooting, saving on the cost of a technician having to come out to diagnose any problems. The heating and air conditioning can even be controlled from offsite using a phone app.

Our security system received a similar upgrade. The new system can be controlled from offsite and has the option to set up different areas of access for different groups. This helps us open our building to the community in a way that's more welcoming, more reliable, and more secure.

We've updated the fire alarm system as well. Prior to this summer, if a fire started when no one was in the building, there would be no automatic call for help. Now, two hard lines connect us with a monitoring service, so the fire department can be notified immediately in case of a fire.

To be good stewards of our budget and our Earth, we installed motion-sensor lights in the downstairs bathrooms to help save electricity, and also had an energy audit from Xcel with recommendations for efficiency updates.

Our building is an essential part of our life here at St. John's. As this new church year begins, we'll assemble between these walls to eat together, share stories, listen deeply, and change the world. And the building around us will be a little more updated, connected, secure, and sparkling while we do it.



*The building team: Terry Farrell, Scott Jungbauer, and Michelle Christofore*

We are finally back up to full maintenance staff. Earlier in the year, building assistants Ivan, Dunfa, and Kellan each decided it was time to move on. We're fortunate to have our new assistants, Terry and Michelle, joining us to help keep this building in tip-top shape.

Terry Farrell grew up on the east side of St. Paul. He lived in Lindstrom, MN for 15 years and recently moved back to West St. Paul. He has two children, Amanda and Dusty. He likes to spend time with his family, ride motorcycles, and fish.

Michelle Christofore works as a full-time toddler teacher at New Horizon Academy in St. Paul in addition to her job at St. John's. She's also a student at Century College. She loves working with kids, spending time with her friends and family, and being outside and going places she hasn't been before. This summer, she spent a lot of her free time camping and exploring our state parks. She says, "I am super grateful for the opportunity to work for St. John's. So far I've met lots of lovely people and refined my cleaning skills!"

Thank you to all our parishioners for making Terry and Michelle feel appreciated and welcome.

## WELCOME, NEW STAFF MEMBERS!



**Jacki Cook, Nursery Caregiver.**

"I grew up in Prior Lake, MN where my mother had an in-home daycare. During summer vacation I would help her with her preschool program. After high school I went to St. Olaf College in Northfield. I then worked in marketing communications for eight years. I loved the variety of work, clients and the creative outlet it provided. 2.5 years ago I left my full time job at a marketing agency to stay home with my newborn twin girls. It was quite an

adjustment but I have loved my time with my girls, Isabel and Carolyn.

"My family lives in south Minneapolis with our very old but lovable basset hound named Bingley. When I'm not spending time with family I really enjoy reading and trying to develop my limited gardening skills.

"I am thrilled to be part of St. John's. Thank you to everyone who has already welcomed me so warmly. I look forward to getting know those who I have not yet met!"

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

## September

- 2 Jill Thompson  
Libby Collins  
Sarah Garceau
- 4 Samuel Clary  
Henry Hennessy
- 5 Christa Rutherford
- 6 Rachel Clark
- 7 Brad Clary  
Cheryl McMahan
- 8 Paige Hagstrom  
Beverly Meloche  
Diane Norman  
Henry DeCoux
- 10 Eli Brown
- 11 Greta McCann
- 13 Wendy Olson  
Mary Ann Dailey
- 14 Ava Ebenhoch
- 15 Nola Leonard
- 16 Barbara Snowfield
- 17 Shirley Cooper
- 18 Chelsea Loch
- 19 Wade Scheel
- 20 Zach Sheffert
- 21 Michael Garceau  
Danielle Fairbault Parish
- 22 Devin Bruce  
Shirlee Gooch  
Lynn Hertz
- 23 Benjamin Clary  
David Wellington
- 24 Savannah Joyce  
Don Weinkauff  
Annika Johnson  
Fredrik Johnson

- 25 Jane Kipling  
Kevin Seitz
- 26 Gil Lautenslager
- 27 John Lawyer  
Eloise Morawiecki
- 28 Scott Sullivan  
Ian Andrews
- 29 Emma Grundhauser  
Paul Bradtmiller  
Ruth Bradtmiller  
Mary Gilbertson  
Eric Thor  
Tracy Johnson  
The Rev. Lyn Lawyer
- 30 Jack Sand

## October

- 1 Tessa Johnson
- 2 Caroline Lightner
- 5 James Harstad  
Jon Bailey-Zimmerman  
Tina Harstad
- 6 Rex. E. Haberman
- 7 Roxy Markie
- 7 Skyler Rosendale
- 8 Nora Howie  
Peter Thor
- 9 Jay Clark  
Tara Ebenhoch
- 10 Liz Collins  
Andrew Aldridge  
Julia Debertin  
J. Bradner Smith
- 13 Linda Stack-Nelson  
Scott Jungbauer
- 14 Terri Fishel
- 15 Beverly Finley  
Brandi Ryan  
David Watkins
- 16 Peter Sullivan  
Cecelia Wall  
Julia Garceau
- 19 Carly Loch  
Cordelia Watkins  
Calvin Watkins
- 20 Steve Sims  
Annette Swanson  
Josh Hogan

*Is your birthday missing or incorrect?  
Have your address or phone number changed?  
Log on to My St. John's  
([tinyurl.com/mysaintjohns](http://tinyurl.com/mysaintjohns))  
to update your records.*

- 21 Bradford Parsons  
Cooper Olson  
Laurie Arbes
- 22 Colin Parsons  
Meredith Tessier  
Stella McCann
- 23 Brittany Olson  
Judy Southwick
- 25 Jessica Berry  
Thomas Rinkoff  
Jane Johnson
- 27 Michaela Allen
- 28 Aidan Schmidt
- 29 Laura Nicholson  
Lee Larson
- 30 Maverick Tiller
- 31 Michael Kern

## HAPPY "BIRTH DAY" TO:

Gunnar Ward Johnson, born June 23 to nursery coordinator Tracy Johnson & her husband Wade. Gunnar joins his older siblings Sonya, Annika and Fredrik. Tracy reports, "We are all madly in love and just a tad tired."



**Kevin Shannon, Bass Lay Clerk:**

"I have extensive experience as a choral singer and soloist. I studied at St. Olaf College and sang in their world-renowned choir. I spend my full-time work life as a realtor in St. Paul. I have two adult children and two adult stepchildren, and recently married Susan Nygren (a lead soprano at a Lutheran church in Apple Valley). We live with two dogs and a cat in Eagan. I look forward to stepping into a leadership role in the St. John's choir!"



**Nicholas Swanson, Tenor Lay Clerk:**

"I'm a recent graduate of St. Olaf College. I studied vocal performance and enjoyed singing in multiple choral ensembles and playing flute in the band. I look forward to being a part of this community of faith."



**J.W. Keckley, Tenor Lay Clerk:**

"I have sung in the St. Olaf choir for three years. In the past year, I've had two compositions premiered by the St. Olaf Choir and the Manitou Singers. I also sing art song and opera, with recent roles including Alfred in *Die Fledermaus* and Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*. I look forward to joining all the St. John's singers!"



**Samantha Noonan, Soprano Lay Clerk:**

"I just graduated from St. Olaf College, and took part in the choir's 2017 tour to Japan and South Korea. I have performed many operatic roles. This year I'll be studying for my master's in vocal performance, singing in the VocalEssence Ensemble, and making myself at home in Minneapolis. I'm so excited to be with the St. John's Choir!"

# FEEDING OUR FAITH

Giving of oneself financially unlocks a part of our hearts where God can do incredible work, both in us and through us. As part of our baptismal covenant, we believe we are called to reconcile ourselves to one another and to God.

The Stewardship Committee at St. John's believes fundraising is not a means to an end. Rather, fundraising as ministry is a radical act; a process that can both draw the giver closer to God and repair an unjust world. It is a chance for each of us to draw closer to each other and God through the act of giving.

This year's Stewardship Committee is committed to a year-round stewardship model which will include one designated month for the annual appeal, a robust number of volunteers, formational activities designed to explore our relationships to our money and spiritual gifting, and opportunities for greater connection to one another throughout the year. As we look to "Feed Our Faith" through greater connection, we'd like to introduce you to members of our ministry:



**Erin Weber-Johnson**

"I've been a volunteer on the Stewardship Committee since 2013 and am thrilled to serve for one year as Co-Chair. For over a decade I have worked in the Episcopal Church—most of that in the area of stewardship and church development at the Episcopal Church Foundation where I get to speak and teach on these subjects nationally. One of my favorite memories at St. John's was watching my sons at Eucharist as they eagerly 'fed their own faith' by seeking a larger piece of Jesus bread."



**Sarah Dull**

"I have been St. John's Parish Administrator since June 2012 and will be this year's Stewardship Co-chair. To me stewardship is the original commandment; God gave everything to the first man and woman along with the responsibility to care for his creation(s). This is at the heart of my relationship with God; I feel close to God when I acknowledge the gifts all around me and when I am careful to tend them and put them to good use, as I feel guided through prayer and discernment. Nothing feeds my faith better than doing good works—possibly my Methodist upbringing! I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of and care for the parish of St. John's."

**Brad Clary**

"St. John's has been my spiritual home since 1964. It



has been a great one. I hope through our stewardship that we continue to make it our individual and collective spiritual homes for years to come."



**Lynn Hertz**

"I've been a member at St. John's since 2006 and have been fed and encouraged in so many ways. Stewardship lets me offer my money and time in gratitude for what I've received. I love that each of us brings our separate gifts and together we support St. John's and God's work in the world."



**Ernie Ashcroft**

"I am a retired Episcopal Priest who joined St. John's two years ago. For many years I have had a deep interest in stewardship in the local church. Throughout our marriage Bette and I have practiced tithing and our spirits have been nourished and our lives enriched through this discipline."



**Shelley Andrew**

"My husband VJ and I joined St. John's in 2016. I work at the Minnesota Twins in their IT department. For me, stewardship is about giving—giving monetarily but more importantly, giving time and talents in service. 1 Peter 4:10—'Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others.'"



**Jay Debertin**

Jay and his wife Becky have been members of St. John's for well over a decade. He has served the parish in a number of capacities: Senior Warden, Personnel Committee, and previous stewardship campaigns. We're grateful for his help this year to liaise with planned giving and the wider stewardship of the parish. In his free time, Jay is the CEO of locally based CHS, Inc.



**Laura Dale Bischof**

Laura Dale is an active member and volunteer at St. John's. She was confirmed by our bishop this year alongside her daughters Inge and Thea. She also successfully co-chaired this year's Cabaret fundraiser. She's traveling through Europe during the month of August—we're excited to have her on the committee when she returns!

# SERVICE SCHEDULES

## ALTAR GUILD:

*Diane Power, Altar Guild Coordinator  
([powerdianep@gmail.com](mailto:powerdianep@gmail.com))*

- Sept 3: Terri Fishel's team
- Sept 10: Diane Power's team
- Sept 17: Dusty Mairs's team
- Sept 24: Heather Joyce's team

*Schedule updates posted at*

[www.stjohnsstpaul.org/  
worship-music/altar-guild](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/altar-guild)

## VERGERS:

*Joan Potter, Liturgical & Lay Reader  
Coordinator ([jepotter60@gmail.com](mailto:jepotter60@gmail.com))*

- Sept 3: Keith Davis
- Sept 10: Carole Selin
- Sept 17: Bill Sherfey
- Sept 24: Eli Weinkauff
- Oct 1: Keith Davis
- Oct 8: Carole Selin
- Oct 15: Bill Sherfey
- Oct 22: Eli Weinkauff
- Oct 29: Keith Davis

*Schedule updates posted at*

[www.stjohnsstpaul.org/  
worship-music/vergers](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/vergers)

## COFFEE HOUR

*Paige Hagstrom, Coffee Hour Coordinator  
([gphagstrom@gmail.com](mailto:gphagstrom@gmail.com))*

- Sept 3: Garden Circle (Julia Ferguson)
- Sept 10: Gathering Sunday
- Sept 17: Colleen & Charles Swope
- Sept 24: Sally Sand
- Oct 1: open, volunteer needed
- Oct 8: Carole Selin
- Oct 15: Barb Lindeke
- Oct 22: Ian & Liz Dobson
- Oct 29: open, volunteer needed

*Schedule updates posted at*

[www.stjohnsstpaul.org/  
community-life/coffee-hour](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/community-life/coffee-hour)



## USHERS:

*John MacBain, Head Usher ([jamacbain@gmail.com](mailto:jamacbain@gmail.com))*

- Sept 3: Cammie Beattie, Christine Knutson, Jeff & Peggy Olsen
- Sept 10: Bob Baumann, Mary & Peter Gilbertson, Rick Moore
- Sept 17: Julia Ferguson & Rick Rinkoff, George Kinkead, Barbara Lindeke
- Sept 24: Alden Drew & Mimie Pollard, Gary & Paige Hagstrom
- Oct 1: Lynn Hertz, Don Husband, Shirley Sailors, Sally Sand
- Oct 8: Patty Byrne Pfalz, Marvin Cadwell, Rick Moore, Diane Power
- Oct 15: Bob Baumann, Cammie Beattie, Jeff & Peggy Olsen
- Oct 22: Mary & Peter Gilbertson, Gary & Paige Hagstrom
- Oct 29: Barbara Lindeke, John MacBain, Jennifer Frost-Rosendale & Peter Rosendale

*Schedule updates posted at [www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/ushers](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/ushers)*

## GREETERS:

*Jeff Olsen, Head Greeter ([jolsen4338@gmail.com](mailto:jolsen4338@gmail.com))*

- Sept 3: Bob Baumann, Sally Sand, Judy Southwick
- Sept 10: Don Weinkauff, Jerry Woelfel & Becky Garthofner
- Sept 17: Jennifer Kinkead, Gabrielle Lawrence & Don Postema
- Sept 24: Lea Anne Schmidt, Diane Wallace-Reid, Judy Stack
- Oct 1: Bob Baumann, Cindy Bertheau, Barbara Lindeke
- Oct 8: Jeff & Peggy Olsen, Judy Southwick
- Oct 15: Jennifer Frost-Rosendale & Peter Rosendale, Sally Sand
- Oct 22: Jennifer Kinkead, Jerry Woelfel & Becky Garthofner
- Oct 29: Gabrielle Lawrence & Don Postema, Don Weinkauff

*Schedule updates posted at [www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/greeters](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/greeters)*

## READERS:

*Joan Potter, Liturgical & Lay Reader Coordinator ([jepotter60@gmail.com](mailto:jepotter60@gmail.com))*

- Sept 3: 8am Craig Lindeke; 10am Mark McInroy, Paige Hagstrom
- Sept 10: 8am Joan McCanna; 10am Cammie Beattie, Sarah Lightner
- Sept 17: 8am Jay Debertin; 10am Don Postema, Judy Southwick
- Sept 24: 8am Brad McCanna; 10am Chris Matter, Jeff Olsen
- Oct 1: 8am Craig Lindeke; 10am Shirley Sailors, Alden Drew
- Oct 8: 8am Joan McCanna; 10am Janet Diehl, Gary Gleason
- Oct 15: 8am Jay Debertin; 10am John Graham, Carole Selin
- Oct 22: 8am Brad McCanna; 10am Jill Thompson, Chris Howie
- Oct 29: 8am Alden Drew; 10am Diane Wallace-Reid, Terry Dinovo

*Schedule updates posted at [www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/lay-readers](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/lay-readers)*

## ACOLYTES:

*Ellie Watkins, Acolyte Coordinator ([elizabeth.watkins@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:elizabeth.watkins@stjohnsstpaul.org))*

- Sept 3: Will Rinkoff
- Sept 10: Matt Brooks, Maren Johnson, Tessa Johnson
- Sept 17: Charlie Docherty, Will Rinkoff, Roan Weinkauff
- Sept 24: Maren Johnson, Tessa Johnson, Linnea Krall, Sabine Krall
- Oct 1: Thea Bischof, Madeline Jacobs, Elliot Wall
- Oct 8: Matt Brooks, Maren Johnson, Tessa Johnson
- Oct 15: Charlie Docherty, Will Rinkoff, Roan Weinkauff
- Oct 22: Thea Bischof, Matt Brooks, Elliot Wall
- Oct 29: Madeline Jacobs, Linnea Krall, Sabine Krall

*Schedule updates posted at [www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/acolytes](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org/worship-music/acolytes)*



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# *THE EVANGELIST*

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2017



We gathered at Lake Phalen with Holy Apostles for our annual parish picnic and baptisms. We ate together at the Eucharist and then ate together again at a cookout, sharing everything from burgers and watermelon to Hmong noodle dishes and egg rolls. Our loose offering collected at the service went to our joint Fields to Families ministry.

We have the great fortune of partnering with a very generous donor who supplies a \$1,500 matching grant for a weekly truck delivery of fresh produce from our Farmers' Market to our local Hallie Q. Brown food shelf.

We still need funds to meet our side of the matching grant. Send your check to the church office, marked "Fields to Families." Or give in the cash box at the market every Sunday (as shown at right, with friendly market host Lydia taking donations.)

