

# THE EVANGELIST



**MAGAZINE FOR SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
*CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR SINCE 1881*  
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## **We encourage your contributions!**

You are always welcome to submit reflections, articles, and photos. Send them to [communications@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:communications@stjohnsstpaul.org) before next issue’s deadline of: **Tuesday, December 12**. Thank you!

## ON THE COVER:



Many beloved companion animals were celebrated and remembered at our annual Blessing of the Animals service in the Holly Garden.

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# FROM THE REVEREND JERED WEBER-JOHNSON

At a forum led by our Stewardship Committee this fall, the question of “what is enough” came up in different ways. In particular, it arose as

speakers talked about what money means to them spiritually, how they make decisions about giving, and how money and faith intersect.

A large part of our conversation centered on the sentiment that money first supplies our everyday needs, that we need “enough” to take care of our families and ourselves, to cover our medical bills and keep a roof overhead, and food on the table. But the notion of “enough” also widened as we wondered whether it included comfort and joy:

*Do we need enough money not just to survive but also to thrive?*

*Is it our right to expect our own thriving before we consider the needs of others beyond our family, our immediate community, our neighbors?*

Lingering on the edges of this wondering were questions about class and race and who has the ability (never mind the right) or the bandwidth to muse about the difference between surviving or thriving, the degrees of “enough” that we aspire to. In our conversation, one of our members stood and asked, perhaps, if our questions about money and what constitutes “enough” are not just tied to these categories of surviving and thriving, of class and income, but at root, whether these were also questions of self-worth.

## What are you or I worth?

Surely we’d all like to believe that each person is literally priceless, that each of us is equally and yet infinitely more valuable than can ever be assessed or determined. Yet, to stretch the scope of imagining to those limits can almost diminish our ability to grasp our worth. What’s more, imbued on each of us by upbringing, by trauma, by happenstance or tragedy, are the impressions left by others assessments – the worth assigned to us by no fault of our own, by others beyond our control, because of our looks, our gender, our abilities, or the color of our skin. How often do we accept uncritically or unwittingly the value assigned to us by others? How often do our own minds betray us by accepting a worth that is anything less than infinite?

## How much is “enough”?

Call to mind the powerful man who strives daily to accrue even more power, influence, and control, because he cannot accept that his worth is not dictated by these things. He will behave in ever more monstrous ways, because his “enough” is always going to elude him. But the question of “how much is enough?” is not just for those among us who act first out of that shadow self that cannot be satisfied. It is relevant to each of us individually and the communities to which we belong.

Even churches must grapple with what their “enough” is, and with the God-given and faithful truth that each of us, no matter what, is worth more than the stars and the moon, more than the wealth of nations, more than the largest bank account we can imagine. We may *believe* this, but will we *behave* in such a way that our actions point to this belief??

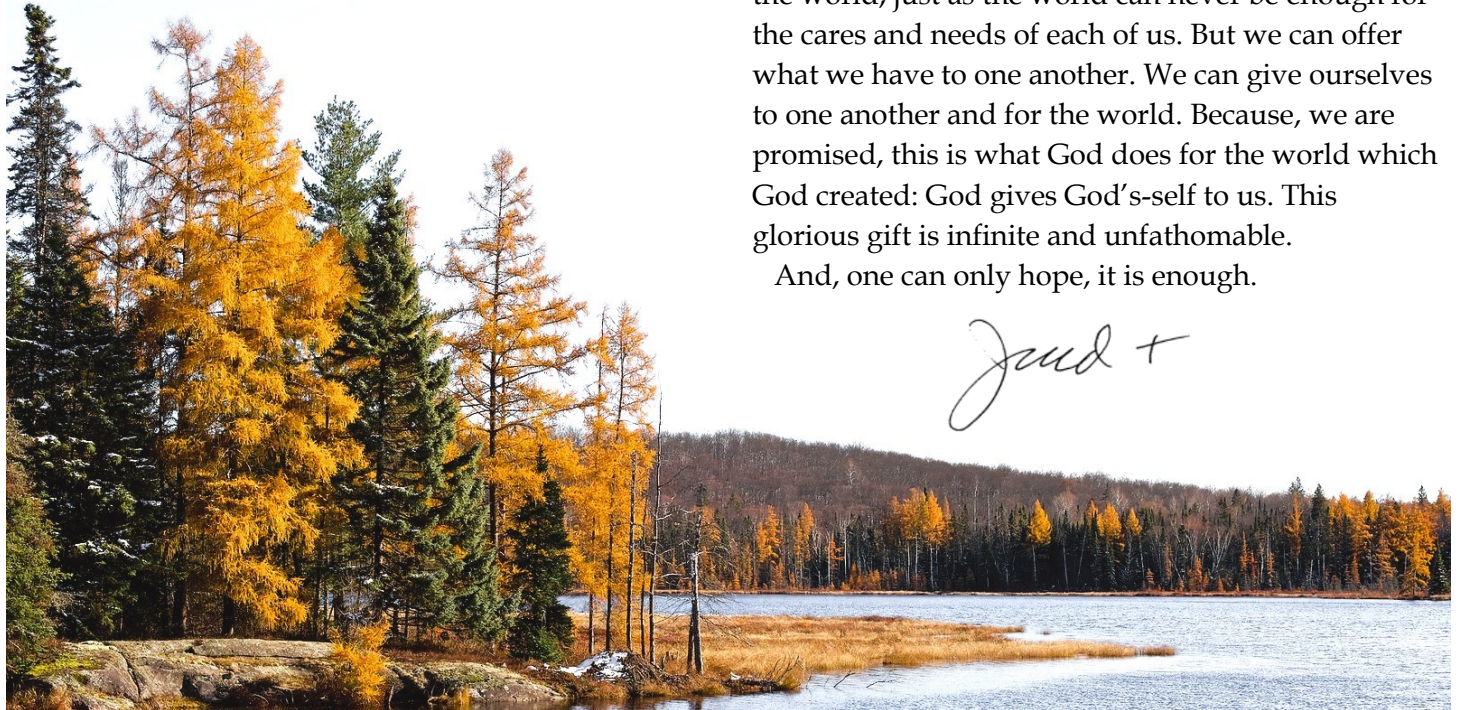
Jesus, addressing the crowds who followed him, told them “consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of



ECMN Canon for Vitality & Innovation Blair Pogue led a powerful Faith Forum on stewardship as a critical spiritual practice that brings us closer to God. (If you’re reading this issue in digital format, click the video at left to watch the recording and [click here](#) for handout with spiritual practice ideas.)

these." Perhaps Jesus would say it differently here in Minnesota. "I tell you, if you want gold, go and find a tamarack, sit at its roots in the fall, and it will blaze forth with more gold than you could ever ask or imagine."

Unfortunately, spiritual platitudes, no matter how lovely, will not be sufficient to answer the question of "how much is enough?" just as no amount of money will answer it either. As one of the speakers in our forum pointed out, no amount of gold is adequate for the incurable diagnosis, the death of a child, the failure of a marriage. No dollar amount can fix grief or assuage real pain.



As Marilynne Robinson writes in her achingly beautiful novel *Gilead*:

“ There are two occasions when the sacred beauty of Creation becomes dazzlingly apparent, and they occur together. One is when we feel our mortal insufficiency to the world, and the other is when we feel the world's mortal insufficiency to us.

Until we understand that we belong to one another, our sense of "enough" will be woefully inadequate. We can never be enough for the cares and needs of the world, just as the world can never be enough for the cares and needs of each of us. But we can offer what we have to one another. We can give ourselves to one another and for the world. Because, we are promised, this is what God does for the world which God created: God gives God's-self to us. This glorious gift is infinite and unfathomable.

And, one can only hope, it is enough.

*Jud +*

## COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

By Ellie Watkins

It's practically a cliché by now to point out how "Christmas creep" pushes the holiday earlier and earlier each year—I feel like I might as well be starting off this article by asking, "What's the deal with airplane food?"—but there's a meaningful reason to notice this and take a stand against it, beyond the annoyance of seeing premature holiday displays in stores or losing Whamageddon before it technically even starts. (That's a game played mostly on social media, where you try to make it past December 24 without hearing Wham!'s 1984 song "Last Christmas" — a testament to how inescapable Christmas music gets in the month of December!)

What we risk losing to "Christmas creep" is Advent: a time both of looking forward and staying present; of waiting patiently and hoping unfailingly, two things that I am especially bad at. Fortunately, our traditions provide much guidance. Every year as the liturgical cycle turns and begins again, our liturgy and music take us under their wing, with Scripture, wreaths, candles, and Advent hymns.

The hymns may get shortest shrift, jostling against the creep of secular *and* sacred Christmas carols. Yet their music, their reflection of Scripture, and their power to bring a group together in harmony are some of the best spiritual guides of all.

*(continued on page 10)*



# A COMMON SENSE OF PURPOSE

By Holly Weinkauf, Senior Warden of the Vestry

We've entered that time of the year where your St. John's Vestry is very focused on looking forward. These are the months where we recruit and nominate new vestry members and we craft our budget for the upcoming calendar year. As our parish joins together to commit our resources during Pledge season, this is a great time to let you know more about how our Vestry is looking forward.

## Tell me again...what is the Vestry?

But before I start down that path, some of you may be first asking: what exactly *is* the Vestry? The Vestry is the committee of laypeople (meaning, people who are not clergy) who provide leadership for the parish – similar to a board in a non-profit organization.

The Vestry is a collective body that, at its best, is grounded in and motivated by God's love. In partnership with our rector, we work together to discern what the community of St. John's is called to do. We help articulate the priorities of St. John's members. We help steward our resources and finances to ensure that St. John's continues to be a healthy and vital faith community.

Currently, our Vestry is made up of 14 voting members, including a Junior and Senior Warden, whose roles are similar to a president and vice-president of a board. There are also three non-voting members: a treasurer, a clerk and our rector.

Each year, new members from the parish are elected to serve. Vestry members are chosen from all corners of our St. John's community!

If you would like to learn more about vestry or are interested in serving as a member, please reach out to me at [betterwein@gmail.com](mailto:betterwein@gmail.com).

## Internal Work and Inner Change

While our meetings often consist of many practical and logistical conversations, this year we've been more intentional in taking time for us as individuals to do our own internal work so that we are in a better place to do our collective, community work.

Last April, the Vestry went on its first overnight retreat in many years. This was not a working or priority-setting retreat but a spiritual retreat. Talk to any Vestry member who attended, and I'm sure they will tell you it was a highlight of their Vestry service experience. Members came away feeling that they had nourished themselves and that they had collectively experienced a common sense of connection, joy and purpose.

Another way we've been doing our internal work is that for most of 2023, we've started our meetings with conversations around Dr. Catherine Meeks' book *The Night is Long but the Light comes in the Morning*. In her book, just as she did when she preached at St John's in early October, Dr. Meeks reminds us that to go forward we have to be grounded in *Inner Change* in order to be sustained in

our outward actions to promote God's love, healing and justice in our world.

### Interconnection and Thriving Together

At recent meetings, we've taken time to reflect on what we each are most grateful for and proud of at St John's (the list is long!) and we've had conversations imagining a future SJE with the things we'd like to see.

Three things emerged as a focus (which also, not surprisingly, echo the Diocesan priorities of Discipleship, Justice, Vitality, and Innovation):

1. Find more innovative ways to foster connection and build community, both inside our building and outside our walls.
2. Support vitality in our Children, Youth, & Families Ministry program.
3. Continue our work on racial healing and encouraging diversity in all its forms.

We know that 2024, compared to our previous few years, will be different in exciting ways! During the first two years of the pandemic, the Vestry and St John's staff were very focused on finding ways to be together while we were physically apart. This past year has been a year of remembering how to be together in person and finding steadiness in that. Now, as we start our new program year, there is renewed energy! Looking ahead to 2024, we are ready to be thriving together!

### Budgeting the Necessary Resources

With all of that in mind, our vestry has started the process of crafting a budget for 2024, based on what leaders and staff know we need to continue to be a faith community that provides us all with the inner change and interconnection we need to thrive.

We need to take care of this beautiful historical building and continue offering worship services and formation opportunities that welcome, inspire, challenge and nourish all of us – the things that provide us with inner change. We need to support our staff who do so much to help us become the beloved community we want to be. After the toll of the pandemic, we know that we need to provide more support for our young people and their families. And we need to continue to take the joy and healing we all experience in our faith community to the world in need. All of this is so interconnected.

Our next meetings will be spent looking at the progress of our stewardship campaign and how we can work with your generosity in pledge dollars to create a 2024 budget that provides us the needed resources for inner change and interconnection, helping us all thrive together. It's always a challenging task, but this year in particular, I'm looking forward to it. My experience at St John's has been that it is always a place of great possibilities and great generosity.

## A CANOPY OF GOD'S LOVE

By Sarah Dull, Stewardship Co-Chair

Including faith formation in our shared work on the stewardship committee is deeply important to us. It helps us keep growing in our work and gain some inspiration.

This year we read and discussed chapter 9 from *Crisis and Care*, "Seeing Our Rooted Good". Emerging from a time of pandemic and crisis, authors Shannon Hopkins and Mark Sampson, invite readers to renew their imagination. Instead of asking "What do we do next?" as we look out on the landscape of faith and philanthropy, Hopkins and Sampson suggest that we ask, "*What do we see?*"

They suggest many people see disconnected

individual institutions and organizations in competition with each other for scarce resources and primarily concerned with their own survival. Then the authors challenge whether this perception is the only possible one.

Scientists once believed that trees in a forest *compete* for their environment's finite resources, but we now know that forests are networks that *communicate* with each other. Huge numbers of fungal roots connect the different trees; they send nitrogen, carbon, and phosphorus through their roots to trees in need and even make room for younger growing trees. Hopkins and Sampson conclude that resiliency and productivity are not

characteristics of an individual tree that grows successfully, but rather characteristics of the forest. It is the connections between trees that matter most.

And they ask again: *“How might we learn to see networks and not just individual organizations, to see collaboration as an essential characteristic of flourishing, to see interdependence as a quality of resiliency and not a weakness? How might institutions see ‘their’ resources as both something received from a network and also as a gift to that network?”* If we look at the landscape of faith and philanthropy with this renewed sight, *“we can see green shoots of hope all around.”*

This message struck deeply with members of the stewardship committee. As we really took a good look at what we see in St. John’s community, we saw more clearly than ever the vital networks and collaborations that sustain this loving and supportive faith family. We saw the connections with outside organizations that allow us to share the love we have found here with others in need of God’s healing and peace, like the forest roots that share nutrients with trees in need.

We wanted to hear your thoughts, so St. John’s Vitality Tree was born! At Gathering Sunday, we asked you to place notes on the tree: for the roots, the ways St. John’s nurtures you, and for the branches, the ways you take those blessings out into the world. And when the stewardship committee looked at the completed Vitality Tree, we knew that you see St. John’s the way we do!

On the roots, you wrote about the inspiring ministries and fellowship you are part of; the encouraging worship, affirmation and inclusivity you experience; the Eucharist; the challenging and topical sermons; the music; the welcoming children’s programming; the help you have received from other members; the awesome staff; the way St. John’s grounds you and reminds you of what’s important; and the prayers that nurture you and build you up in the knowledge and love of God.

What’s more, on the branches you wrote about putting your faith into action; reaching out to new people and those that appear to be alone; looking for ways to help; volunteering in the church and the community; treating others with kindness and compassion; connecting with Give Us Wings, Project Home, and Hallie Q Brown Community Center; cooking and serving; supporting and defending people’s rights; welcoming and supporting immigrants; cultivating community; and sharing your faith.

It is hard to quantify the impact you are all having in this community, neighborhood, and around the world, but *it is happening*. St. John’s is stewarding the resources gifted to us to foster and nourish genuine disciples willing to follow Jesus’ way of love in the world. As stewardship co-chair Alice Johnson said, **“Vitality happens when all of us share our resources to connect, grow and spread a canopy of God’s love.”**



# BLOOMS IN THE WILDNERNESS

By the Rev. Jered Weber-Johnson

St. John's Episcopal Church cares about the environment. That's why we have a Creation Care Team. Founded over six years ago, the team has grown both in numbers and in action on behalf of the environment. Some of the group's projects include: a recycling program that involved getting signage and new bins for the whole church; a native plants garden featuring sustainable flowers from our local ecosystem; a new bike rack just this year; creation care liturgies; and so much more.

The group's new project is a rich and exciting one. The Creation Care Team, St. John's clergy, and the Liturgy Committee will partner over the next year in learning more about liturgy and its potential to inspire us into action in response to the unfolding global climate crisis.

The Creation Care team submitted an application to the Associated Parishes for Liturgy and Mission ([APLM](#)) to participate in a year-long project creating liturgy that responds directly to the Climate Crisis. You can read more about the project [here](#). Only six faith communities from across North America were accepted, and St. John's was one of them!

This summer, Creation Care Team members Dan Vogel and the Rev. Cynthia Bronson Sweigert attended APLM's conference to learn about how to bring creation care themes more directly into the heart of our life as a worshipping community.

I sat down with Cynthia and Dan to ask them about what inspires them, what they're learning, and what their hopes are over the next year and beyond.

**Jered:** *So, tell me what brought you to this work? Why did you say yes to being one of the leaders connected to this initiative?*

**Cynthia:** First and foremost, my love of liturgy. I believe that liturgy can be powerful for relaying an important message. We have done previous creation liturgies at St. John's, and I was pleased to learn about a group (the APLM) that was helping congregations like ours go beyond that and bring creation into our liturgy in a more permanent way, all year, in every season, and in every element. Every



Dan Vogel at the APLM conference (at right) and meeting at the pollinator garden in the parking lot with other members of the Creation Care Team (above; he's the one with the bike)



liturgy has the hope that we might leave thinking about ways we can bring in the kingdom.

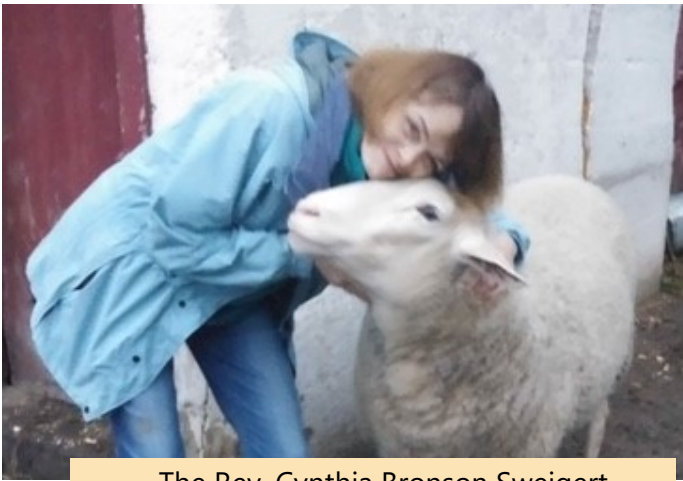
**Dan:** I said "yes" mostly out of ignorance. [laughs] I didn't know much about liturgy and assumed I knew enough and I figured that I'd learn. There's a poem which to paraphrase says, if you are unsure of flying, be like a bird...jump out of the nest and you'll learn on the way down.

**Jered:** *Yes, I recall that after the initial meeting with the APLM folks, you said it was a bit daunting to be thrown in with a bunch of clergy and professional liturgists, professors of worship and music, and be expected to keep up. I was humbled by your "yes" to this project in spite of that first shock. You really did take the leap!*

**Jered:** *Tell me about how these things – the work of liturgy and the call to be defenders of the environment – intersect with your life of faith as you've experienced it?*

**Dan:** As I grow older, the way I see God intersects more and more with the natural world. When you are a kid, you might be awed by the architecture of churches and rituals and inspired by the beauty of stained glass and eloquent prayers. But, as I age, I find that I am more inclined to connect with God when I'm in nature. This sense of communing with God in nature makes me want to protect it all the





The Rev. Cynthia Bronson Sweigert  
at SoulSpace Farm Sanctuary

more, and I suppose it makes me want to bring that care back into church, to find ways for others to also care more deeply.

**Cynthia:** For the longest time it seemed to me that my love of animals, my veganism, were an outlier at church; like those values didn't fit with everything else we did at church. But, then I realized that those things were at the heart of my faith. My care for animals, the ethical choices I make, how I treat everything in my world, is directly as a result of the faith I hold, what I believe about a creating God, and the value of that creation for me and for others.

I think things can come together in very bizarre ways. For some reason several years ago, I was just thinking about and asking myself, "What for me is my fundamental theological principle?" What spoke to my heart then, and what feels true still, was that realization of how the care of animals intersects with my faith. This insight led me to want to expand circles of compassion, finding ways that those circles can connect and link. I started going out to the SoulSpace Farm Sanctuary, a place that has become so important to me. It was there that I got a glimpse of the "peaceable kingdom."

One of the hardest things about being vegan is just the pain of realizing that so few people care about animal suffering, and that it is just not on their radar, and not being able to understand that. Being at SoulSpace has helped me bring together my experiences as a priest and pastor for people, and how that ministry intersects with other circles, ones that include lambs and horses and birds. I think all circles of compassion can expand to be more caring, and ultimately can include the whole world; insects

and plants and even the water and air. My journey into the animal world has helped break this all open for me. Each of us start at a certain point and are led into something else, and this was my path.

**Jered:** *Are there pieces of scripture, hymns, or elements from worship that already sustain you as someone trying to protect the environment?*

**Dan:** When you read the New Testament, you see that Jesus went into the wilderness and that's where he communed with God. Sure, he went to the Temple too. But it doesn't seem to me that is where he connected with God. And, as I said earlier I find God in nature, and I also love worship. So, I want to bring those two things together.

**Jered:** *You're a regular at Morning Prayer, are you not? That's daily worship all week between Sundays.*

**Dan:** Yes, and I usually stumble across things that inspire my love of nature when I am saying the Psalms. There are so many that talk about the beauty of the created order. I love when we say Cantic 12, *A Song of Creation*. The canticle centers on nature, not on us. It has three movements, and it isn't until the third that we finally hear about humans. That is significant and reminds me that God didn't make all of creation and place us outside or on top of it, but made us last and put us in it!

**Cynthia:** So many passages in Isaiah and in other prophetic lessons talk about transformation and use natural themes and use the metaphor of blooms springing up in the wilderness, in the desert. Lately I've been thinking about Gaza and the war, and these passages have come back to me. To be reminded of blooms in the wilderness, of new life and beauty coming from a place of seeming desolation, is important and so life-giving.

**Jered:** *Is there a learning from the project so far that really helped you think differently about worship? Is there something you hope we will learn or grow into at St. John's as a result of this project with APLM?*

**Dan:** When we went to the conference, the liturgists who were leading broke down worship into its five key elements. We're familiar with "words" and "music"; those two are easy to identify. They also reminded us of "place." For instance, yes, we are in the church. But "place" can also refer to the natural world around the physical church. Our recent Creation Care service in October brought

nature into our place: Liz and Cynthia decorated our space with flowers, plants, fruits and vegetables, and we even heard birdsong.

Then there's "movement." How we move is an important element of every worship service: processions, standing, kneeling, coming forward for communion, and more.

And then there are "objects." We don't often think about the vessels, chalices, plates, and the like as part of worship! When we did a service at the conference on the beach, the folks in charge of objects wondered how they could find an altar in that space with minimal time. Ultimately, they created it themselves, holding the vessels and the books, letting their bodies become the altar. And at Communion they transformed into the chalice bearers. It was moving.

Breaking liturgy down into those five essential pieces is a whole new way for me to look at worship. My hope is that others can begin to look at it in this

new way and think how each element can crack open new ways of being in the world.

**Cynthia:** My hope is that more St. John's members might become more thoughtful and more aware of liturgy as a whole, and see how we create moments of uplift and inspiration through our common prayer. I am hopeful that we might also bring a creation lens not just to liturgy, but to formation, pastoral care, and other committees, broadening the creation emphasis beyond this project and the Creation Care Team, and spreading it to more of us at St. John's.

This project brings both liturgy and creation care to the fore; perhaps they will cross-pollinate.

**Jered:** *That is beautiful. Thank you both for your leadership. I am so excited to see where St. John's goes with this year of focus on Creation and even more so, where the Spirit might be calling us in years ahead!*

## COME THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS *(continued)*

Coming up in December, St. John's faith formation will include two "Hymn Sing and Study" opportunities. The Sunday Morning study will take place from 9-9:50am in the Fireside Room on December 3, 10, and 17. The Wednesday Evening study will take place from 6:30-8pm in the Fireside Room on December 6, 13, and 20. At both offerings, we'll gather and sing through Sunday's hymns. Then we'll learn about the history and texts of the hymns, and study how their poetry relates to Sunday's Scriptures.

Bill Sherfey, who will be hosting the December 3 forum with his husband Bob Baumann, said he's looking forward to it because, "Of all the wonderful hymns in the 1982 Hymnal and in other sources we use in our worship at SJE many of our favorites happen to be Advent hymns. It's the tug of memory. Both of us in our past have spent a lot of time as organists and singers. These hymns are divorced from commercialism. These hymns are a respite from the popular version of Christmas which surrounds us."

Jered and Erin Weber-Johnson, who will be hosting on December 17, expressed a similar excitement based on a love of music in general. "Our family

loves to sing. Of course around the holidays, singing is a bit more expected. There are songs in the supermarket, special radio stations dedicated to 'holiday music,' and some of us even go caroling.

"But unlike Christmas Carols, Advent hymns point to the themes of expectation, preparation, and repentance. More than anything, we like the themes of Advent about how the one we are waiting for, Jesus, will upend the power structures of the world, bringing us closer to the vision God has for a world healed, safe, and at peace."

Is there a particular hymn that the hosts are looking forward to singing and talking about? For Bill and Bob, "It's hard to pick just one! The plainchant connection is dear to Bob's heart so he is especially drawn to 'Creator of the Stars of Night.' I have always loved 'Lo he Comes in Clouds Descending.' I get chills just thinking about it."

For Erin and Jered, it's "On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry." "It has a wonderful energy that seems to push us toward the joy we are awaiting; a prophetic promise of healing for the sick, release for sinners and those held down under the oppressive powers of this world, the coming of Jesus to restore 'Earth's loveliness once more.'"

## JOIN THE WORSHIP TEAM!

Help make Sunday mornings happen! Contact the addresses listed below to volunteer or learn more.

### Altar Guild:

jered.weberjohnson@stjohnsstpaul.org

**Coffee Hour:** [www.tinyurl.com/SJEcoffeesignup](http://www.tinyurl.com/SJEcoffeesignup)

### Eucharistic Ministers:

craig.lemming@stjohnsstpaul.org

**Media Team:** [media@stjohnsstpaul.org](mailto:media@stjohnsstpaul.org)

**Readers & Vergers:** [rlinehan@gmail.com](mailto:rlinehan@gmail.com)

**Ushers:** [jolsen4338@gmail.com](mailto:jolsen4338@gmail.com)

## MAKE YOUR COMMITMENT NOW

The ministries of St. John's are only made possible by you – our current members and supporters. When you prayerfully commit now to how much you intend to give in 2024, the Vestry can better determine the final budget for the coming year.

### To make your commitment:

- Visit [www.tinyurl.com/SJEpledge2024](http://www.tinyurl.com/SJEpledge2024)
- Use your phone camera to take a picture of the QR code at right
- Place your completed commitment card in the offering basket



## REGULAR WEEKLY WORSHIP

**Sundays: 8am** Rite I Eucharist in the Church;

**10am** Rite II Hybrid Eucharist in the Church and on YouTube at [www.tinyurl.com/youtubeSJE](http://www.tinyurl.com/youtubeSJE)

The 4th Sunday of each month is a Racial Reconciliation Eucharist.

**Monday-Saturday: 8am** Morning Prayer at [www.facebook.com/MorningPrayerSJE](http://www.facebook.com/MorningPrayerSJE)

followed by Coffee Hour on Zoom.

**Thursdays: 7pm** Compline (Night Prayer) in the Church and on YouTube at [www.tinyurl.com/youtubeSJE](http://www.tinyurl.com/youtubeSJE).

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

### NOVEMBER

- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Jamie Bents        | 18 Heather Hunt          |
| 2 Kevin Wall         | Jonas Brezny             |
| Kyle Playford        | 19 Michelle Wall         |
| 3 Jeff Chen          | Brian Merchant           |
| Russell Madsen       | 20 Diane Borreson        |
| 4 Lynette O'Pray     | Louie Bents              |
| 8 Stephen Spencer    | Charlie Bents            |
| 10 Christine Gregory | 21 David Whitman         |
| Michael Peterson     | Margaret Russ            |
| 12 Phil Nichols      | 22 Bundy Trinz           |
| Leah Shepard-Carey   | Eleanore Berger-Thompson |
| 13 Aimee Baxter      | 25 Nan Lightner          |
| 14 Elizabeth Lindeke | 26 Karen Chatt           |
| Emily Solid          | 27 Kathryn Allen         |
| Sarah Hennessy       | Lea Anne Schmidt         |
| 15 John Graham       | 28 Karen Stuhlfeier      |
| Michael McNally      | 29 Sarah Johnson         |
| Edward Rutledge      | James Ryan               |
| 16 Roger Wilson      | 30 Chris Vinsonhaler     |
| Jerry Woelfel        | Sandy Resch              |
|                      | Sarah Dull               |

### DECEMBER

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Edward Davis        | 15 John Thompson       |
| 2 Connor Parish       | Brett Berry            |
| 3 Ingrid Birkeland    | Caleb Olson            |
| 4 Charlotte Watkins   | 16 Alden Drew          |
| 5 Johanna Merkl       | 18 Virginia Wilson     |
| 8 Beth Rhodes         | Vijay Andrew           |
| Caroline Church       | 20 Crosby Sommers      |
| 10 Cindy Bertheau     | Thomas Hogan           |
| Tom Murakami          | 22 Elizabeth Watkins   |
| 11 Benjamin Carey     | 26 Holly Weinkauf      |
| 13 Phyllis Frisby     | 28 Catherine Nicholson |
| 14 Alison Young Rasch | Gregory Torrence       |
| Mike Bents            | Cathy Grundhauser      |
|                       | 29 Karen Mosso         |
|                       | Katie Madsen           |
|                       | 30 Laura Kochevar      |
|                       | Thomas Baxter          |

*Have your address or phone number changed?*

*Is your birthday missing or incorrect?*

*Log on to My St. John's at*

[www.tinyurl.com/SJEportal](http://www.tinyurl.com/SJEportal) to update your records.



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[stjohnsstpaul.org](http://stjohnsstpaul.org)

*Join us for Holy Eucharist at 8:00 & 10:00 am Sundays*

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## *THE EVANGELIST*

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

St. John's was well-represented at Hallie Q. Brown Community Center's annual "Night at the Q" Gala! Thank you to Patty Byrne Pfalz (right), St. John's representative on HQB's Board of Directors, and Jan Frankman, also an HQB Director.

The Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf has seen such an increase in demand, from hunger needs not only across our neighborhood but as far north as Coon Rapids and as far south as Rochester. There is so much demand that they have had to turn people away, something which they otherwise would strive never to do, no matter if the person lives in the neighborhood or not.

They are truly a beacon of our community, and we are blessed to be in partnership with them.

