




 SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Praying, Working, Growing, Dancing, In Christ
 PO Box 1119
 Mankato, MN 56002

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
 Corner of Broad and Warren Streets, Mankato, Minnesota

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday, 10 AM—1 PM
 Wednesday, 10 AM—4 PM

Office Phone: 507.388.1969

Rector Study: 507.388.5150

Rector Cell Phone: 612.695.4431

The Reverend Paul Rider, Rector: paulplus@hickorytech.net

Office e-mail: stjohns@hickorytech.net

Web Site: www.stjohnsmankato.com



Articles for *The Chronicle* may be submitted to Betty Winkworth by the 20th of the month. E-mail her at jbwink@charter.net or send articles to 907 Baker Avenue,



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The Chronicle

Mankato, Minnesota

February 2010

Paul's Ponderings

This Month's Happenings

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live in unity" Psalm 133

I've always loved this beautiful—and short—psalm. The author may have had something else in mind when this was written some 2500 years ago, but I like to think of these words as setting just the right tone for what it means to live in community with others.

As we have prepared to host a reception to honor Bishop Jelinek for his years of service to the people of Minnesota, many people from our parish came together for some early "spring cleaning." It was wonderful to see so many folks—young and old—cleaning and making our building ready to receive Episcopalians from throughout southern Minnesota. And this is certainly not the first time I've witnessed this kind of church-community spirit. Here is but a short list of the ways our parish family has shown our "living in unity":

- Collecting money for earthquake relief in Haiti (we collected over \$500 in just one Sunday)
- The Men's Group Christmas Party for children from CADA House

Feb 3	ECW, Northwoods at noon
Feb 7	St. John's Outreach Meeting
Feb 13	Men's Group, 8 am
Feb 13	Consecration of Bishop Prior, Minneapolis, 11 am.
Feb 16	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5-7
Feb 16	Say Good-Bye to Hallelujah, 5:30 pm
Feb 16	St Julian's Guild, Church library, 7 pm
Feb 17	Ash Wednesday services, noon & 7
Feb 25	Altar Guild, 9 am

More Inside...

- Our continuing support of ECHO Food shelf
- Preparing and serving Thanksgiving Dinner
- Participating in Food for Friends
- Gifts to local and international charities by our ECW and St. Julian's Guild
- The work of our Mission & Outreach and Millennium Development Goals Teams

(Continued from page 1)

- Visitations by parishioners to the sick and lonely

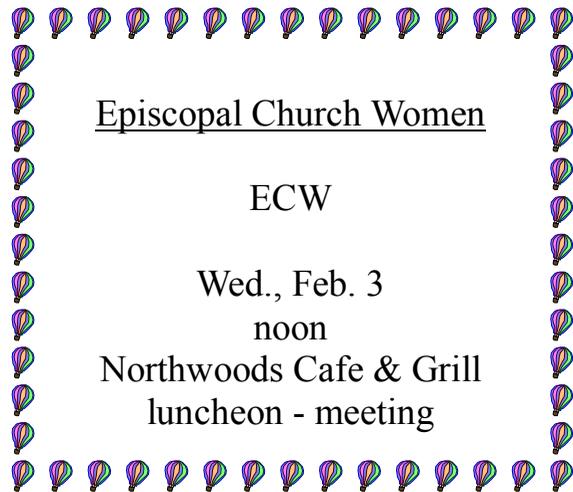
Sure, you can say that these are all the things that church communities are supposed to do. That's true. But these are some of the ways we live in unity—not just within our parish family, but with those who are not a part of our immediate community. Engaging in these ministries, as the hands of Christ in the world, is but one of the ways we show our unity as people of God.

There's a special promise of God which is mentioned at the end of Psalm 133: "For there God has promised a blessing, life that never ends." God promises eternal life to the people of God who live in unity. And this is not some hope of individual immortality being spoken of, for the notion of a personal, individual salvation is foreign to the Hebrew scriptures. The psalmist is saying that it is the community—those who live in unity as God's people—which is given life without end. The people of God who live in unity now, will continue in that unity for all eternity. What a thought! And what a tremendous gift!

Thanks be to God!




I want to express my sincerest thanks to all the people of St. John's for their generous gift at Christmas. During these past seven years as your pastor and priest, it has been my privilege and joy to serve you all and I count my blessings for this opportunity. May God continue to bless and strengthen each of you in the coming year! Joy!



Episcopal Church Women

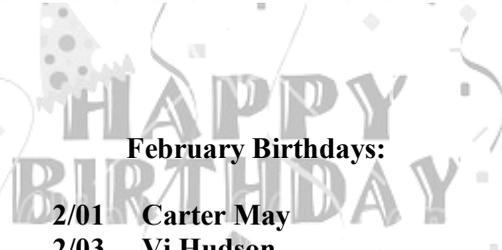
ECW

Wed., Feb. 3

noon

Northwoods Cafe & Grill

luncheon - meeting



February Birthdays:

- 2/01 **Carter May**
- 2/03 **Vi Hudson**
- 2/05 **Olivia Duncanson**
- 2/18 **Mark Manderfeld**
- 2/26 **Jim Pengra**
- 2/28 **Paul Manderfeld**

Lay Ministry Schedule

	8:00 AM SERVICE	10:30 AM SERVICE
February 7 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Pam Oster, Jaci Lageson Steve Deeren Wegman	Mary Yurek, Candace Black Audrey Splinter, Ray Splinter Nickie VanStelten, Karl Mundell G. Hudson
February 14 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Leslie Peterson, Cathie Neitge Steve Deeren Duncanson	Joe & Barb Hogan Candace Black, Ginny McNear Joan Hertel, Gerry Schneck C. Colby/L. Peterson
February 21 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Jaci Lageson, Bobbie Seberson Steve Deeren	Elsie Olson, Ginny McNear Bill Gray, Andrew Westberg Karl Mundell, Nickie VanStelten, P./ J. Johnson
February 28 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Cathie Neitge, Pam Oster Steve Deeren	Leslie Peterson, Candace Black Meg Stump, John Paul Joan Hertel, Nickie VanStelten M. Kearney/A. Smith

As always, if you are unavailable on your scheduled date, please make your own substitutions and inform the Church Office at stjohns@hickorytech.net no later than the Wednesday prior. That way we can be sure to include the right list of servers in our Weekly Evangelist and we can send the service reminder to the right person! Thanks!



Altar Guild in February

- 8 a.m. Judy Anderson
- 10:30 a.m. Elaine Larson, Ann McGuire
- Monthly meeting Thursday, 2/25/10 at 9 a.m.
- Thank you for your Altar Guild service.

Vestry Approves Slate of Officers for Annual Meeting

In a record 30 minute meeting, the Vestry approved a slate of candidates for office for the upcoming annual meeting and approved final revisions of the 2010 church budget.

Jaci Lageson and Jerry Stump were nominated for another year as Warden and Jr. Warden respectively. Mike Kearney and Candace Black were nominated to fill vestry vacancies. Other nominations will come from the floor. There was a brief discussion of the challenge to get people who are willing to accept positions on the vestry.

Final revisions to the 2010 budget were approved. There were revisions to several expense items to reflect more accurate costs including a lost request for \$1500 from the MDG committee. With fewer pledging units, a substantial deficit may recur.



Lent begins

Shrove Tuesday: The Pancake Fest

Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shricing, when the faithful confessed their sins to the local priest and received forgiveness before the Lenten season began.

As far back as 1000 AD, "to shrive" meant to hear confessions. (Trivia note: the term survives today in the expression "short shrift" or giving little attention to anyone's explanations or excuses).

Historically, Shrove Tuesday marked the beginning of the 40-day Lenten fasting period when the faithful were forbidden by the church to consume meat, butter, eggs or milk. However, if a family had a store of these foods they all would go bad by the time the fast ended on Easter Sunday. What to do?

Solution: use up the milk, butter and eggs no later than Shrove Tuesday. And so, with the addition of a little flour, the solution quickly presented itself in... pancakes. And lots of 'em.

Today, the Shrove Tuesday pancake tradition lives on throughout Western Europe, the United States, Canada and Australia, but is most associated with the UK where it is simply known as Pancake Day with a traditional recipe, although these can be as varied in the UK as there are British households.

In France, (as well as in the US - or more famously - in New Orleans) it's known as *Fat Tuesday* which kicks off the Mardi Gras festival with wild celebrations just before the austere Lenten season.

Source: <http://www.chiff.com/a/shrove-tuesday.htm>



St. John's Men's Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Bring your family and come join the men of St. John's Episcopal Church for a Fat Tuesday pancake feed to prepare for Lent.

What: All you can eat pancake supper

Where: St. John's Episcopal Church, Broad and Warren Streets

When: Tuesday, Feb. 16th, 5:00 to 7:00 PM

How Much: \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 3-12



SHROVE TUESDAY

There's More!

During our Pancake Supper there will also be a short children-led service to "Say Good-bye to Hallelujah." Join us for this service in the Sanctuary at 5:30pm, February 16, 2010.

And More!

St. Julian's Guild will have its February meeting after the Pancake Supper in St. John's Library at 7:00 pm with Nickie VanStelten as hostess. So join us on the 16th for a full slate of events!



A warm welcome to Maxwell and Lincoln Olson baptized January 10th, shown here with Mom, Melissa Hagggar-Olson and Dad, Tim Olson. The twins were not too sure about the whole process but enjoyed lots of attention from brother Charlie, Fr. Paul, aunts, uncles, godparents and their eager St. John's family.



Ash Wednesday worship will be at noon and 7pm., February 17th.



St. John's Outreach Committee

Matthew 25:35 "...for I was hungry and you gave me food, was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me."
40 "...Truly I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me."

The Outreach Committee met after the 10:30 service on Sunday, January 3, 2010. A thank you note was received from Open Door Clinic for our donation to them in October. Thanks for 59 pounds of supplies was received from ECHO. A collection box for personal care items to be used by all ages, infants to seniors, will be placed in the parish hall and sent to ECHO for distribution because of their enormous increase in need.

After consideration of many requests for donations, it was decided that our very cold weather had caused a large monetary output for families in need of household heating fuel and that the committee should donate the following:

\$200 HeatShare (Salvation Army)

At the next meeting primary consideration will be given to the enormous needs of the earthquake victims in Haiti.

The Outreach Committee meets on the first Sunday of each month after the 10:30 service. All members of St. John's are welcome to become part of this group.



Look for Habitat's Recycling Bin

Habitat for Humanity will be positioning a recycling shed for aluminum cans in the St. John's parking lot for the month of February. Any cans we can collect will benefit Habitat and the work they do for our community. So, hang on to your cans!



TREASURER'S REPORT

December 2009

Total offerings for the month were \$21,931 and we transferred \$5,000 from the Capital Account to the General Fund Account. Our expenses for Dec. were \$16,888 leaving us a carryover of \$10,043. The balance in the Capital Account stands at \$33,551. We received \$200 in offering to this account and spent \$686 out of the account for the annual elevator inspection and tune-up. We will have the detailed financial report with the new proposed budget at the Annual Meeting on Jan. 31 during the 10:30 service.

Respectfully submitted,

Nickie VanStelten

Taking Orders Through Jan. 31st!

At St. John's we've talked about enslaved children in The Ivory Coast harvesting cocoa pods that supply 43% of the chocolate in the world. If you're looking for a way to give a few chocolates for Valentine's Day without the images of these children flashing before your eyes, we can help. We've located something we can order that is Fair Trade chocolate and affordable.

They are smaller, attractive boxes of 23 chocolate hearts that are foil wrapped. They're from Divine Chocolate, the first farmer-owned chocolate company in the world--and yes, they are divine!



We will be taking orders through Sunday, January 31st, and promise to get them to you before Valentine's Day. You may call Betty Winkworth at 387-7170 or place your check (**\$6 per box covers shipping, too**) and completed order form (choosing dark or milk chocolate) in the display box you'll find in the Parish Hall. Thanks for your support! St. John's MDG/Fair Trade Team.



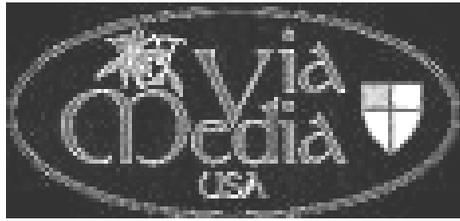
The Ten Commandments

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "*honor thy father and thy mother,*" she asked, "*Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?*"

Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "*Thou shall not kill.*"



Church Mice.



Were You the Kid That Got in Trouble in Sunday school for asking too many questions? Come join the rest of us. On Sunday mornings through May we will be hosting an exciting program called Via Media that promises to shine light on everything you have felt you have been left in the dark about.

Via Media is an educational tool meant to keep members of the Episcopal Church informed about their faith and give seekers the opportunity to learn about the Episcopal Church. With insightful videos featuring well-known theologians and open discussion, the Via Media approach is a unique way to get people passionate and excited about the Episcopal tradition. Join us each Sunday Morning at 9:30 in the Vestry room...and bring a friend.

Please Remember
ECHO Food Shelf

Yay, Lolly!!

Our own Lolly Foy has been named the top actor in the Region V Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship competition for her thesis role in "One Flea Spare" at MSU, Mankato. For Lolly it's been a long journey that started with her first paying theater job 30 years ago. She followed that with touring companies, work in children's theaters, 20 years in Renaissance Festivals and raising a family. She says, returning to college for her master's degree was her chance to redefine her direction and "push the re-set button." It was also our opportunity locally to enjoy an actor with real depth and range.

Winning in Region V provides her with scholarship money and qualifies her to compete (as one of 16 actors from across the nation) in the final competition at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. in March. Congratulations!



God willing and the people consenting,
The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori,
Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal
Church will Ordain and Consecrate as IX
Bishop of Minnesota
The Reverend Brian N. Prior

Saturday, February 13, 2010
11:00 in the morning
Minneapolis Convention Center
1301 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis

All are encouraged to participate in this joyous occasion. Light reception will follow. All details regarding the Consecration are at www.ixbishopconsecration.com.

Please Note: The Transition Committee of the Diocese of Minnesota is asking for contributions to purchase customary gifts of welcome and to congratulate our new Bishop-elect Prior. Donations from the clergy will be used to purchase a cope, mitre and stole and those from lay persons will be used for a chasuble, deacon's stole and dalmatic.

Checks should be made payable to "Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota" and mailed to the Episcopal Center, 1730 Clifton Place, Suite 201, Minneapolis, MN 55403, and noted as "Vestment Fund" on the memo line. Credit card gifts may be made by calling Helena Bedell at 800-596-3839. Any funds contributed beyond the cost of vestments will be transferred to the new Bishop's discretionary fund.

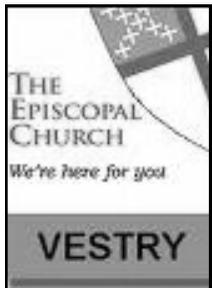
Vestry Meeting minutes of 12/28/2009

The December meeting of the Vestry was a regular session with the minutes and financial report being approved and various committees giving their reports.

The Finance Committee continues to work on the proposed budget for 2010. The committee is waiting for several expected pledges to be turned in before completing the income side of the budget. The expense side was approved as presented.

After discussion and evaluation, the Advent Festival dinner was deemed a success, exceeded the Vestry's expectations and the hope is to repeat it next year.

Father Paul reported the Advent season went very well. Due to the severe weather conditions and because the people scheduled to serve on Christmas Eve were unable to do so the Christmas Eve 10:30 p.m. worship service was postponed until the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday the 27th. The turnout was very disappointing. Finding better ways of communicating changes to the congregation in addition to TV and radio were discussed.



St. John's Farewell Celebration for Bishop Jelinek will be held on January 24th from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. A short planning session was scheduled for January 10th.

The Annual Meeting of St. John's Parish will be held during the 10:30 worship service on January 31st.

Help Those Affected by Haiti Earthquake

Episcopal Relief & Development is providing critical support in the aftermath of a 7.0-magnitude earthquake. Please pray for those impacted.

If you would like to make a donation for the relief efforts there, please go to the website for Episcopal Relief and Development <<http://www.er-d.org/>>. Our plate offering January 17 will go to those efforts.



Pray for the people of Haiti.

Blessings, Paul+

From Our Senior Warden...

This week the news out of Haiti has been tragic. The country was devastated by an earthquake and continues to be plagued by after shocks. Many countries, aid groups and individuals were so moved by the catastrophe, they tried to rise to the challenge of helping the survivors. Due to the conditions left by the quake, many of the relief efforts have been stymied. When something of this magnitude happens, even in a place far away, many of us feel so helpless. Many question God's allowing this to happen. It's at times like this that we need to remain steadfast in our faith. Knowing God is a loving God, and has prepared a place for all of his children should comfort us. Personally, I have been praying for the people of Haiti this week, and I hope you have joined me. I feel

privileged to belong to the wonderful faith community of St. Johns, where I always know there are people who will listen and comfort me in any situation. Please continue to pray for the people, who although their lives have been shattered, continue to sing to God.

Yours in Christ
Jaci Lageson, Senior Warden

The Diocese of Haiti is the largest diocese in the Episcopal Church. The following report is from one of the priests there.

January 13, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ:

We have devastating news to share with you from Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake yesterday. According to reports I have received here in Les Cayes, the damage in Port au Prince and areas around it is terrible.

There is no Cathedral. The entire Holy Trinity complex is gone. The convent for the Sisters of St. Margaret is gone. The Bishop's house is gone. College St. Pierre is gone. The apartment for College St. Pierre is still standing. Bishop no longer has a house in which to live.

- In Trouin, four people were killed during a service.
- In Grand Colline, the church is gone; one part of St Martin of Tours is gone.
- In St. Etienne Buteau the church, the rectory and the school are gone.
- In Les Cayes, BTI (Bishop Tharp Institute) is OK, but some people were injured trying to get out of the buildings during the quake. The rectory in Les Cayes is in very bad condition.

The Rev. Kesner Ajax



As for **Haiti Outreach, Inc.** that St. John's worked with and contributed to last year, we have received these updates on their work after the earthquake:

Haiti Outreach Update: Wed, Jan. 14th

The location of Haiti Outreach in the northern Central Plateau of Haiti has allowed us to avoid the destruction and devastation that has occurred in Port-au-Prince. We are very fortunate that, to our knowledge, no one has been hurt in the Pignon area and no damage has occurred to our buildings or equipment. But we are all heart-broken and extremely sad for the unbelievable death and destruction that has occurred in and around the capital city. We are committed to do everything possible to help the people there to survive and rebuild their city.

Haiti Outreach Update, Thurs, Jan. 21st

Haiti Outreach Board member Jim Kirzeder landed in the Dominican Republic on Sunday, January 17th and traveled to Haiti Outreach's headquarters in Pignon. Jim indicates that things are far worse than he imagined and so many rural towns have been severely damaged as well. No help has come to any of them. People are very, very desperate. He and Country Director Neil Van Dine were making a trip to Port-au-Prince on Monday, to attend a big water meeting, taking along a trauma surgeon that came in on the same flight with

Jim...They helped get water and electric going in the general hospital in Port au Prince. Then went off to Gonaives to look at the irrigation wells we have been asked to fix by IOM

Neil Van Dine reports that Haiti Outreach is using our Guest House to provide housing to people transiting through Pignon at no cost. Folks are trapped without any money or ways to get at their funds. Relief teams will also be able to be housed there.

Our water truck, used for rotary well drilling, (has been) bringing clean water from any source we can find to the thousands of people in need. We have also hired another truck to do the same thing...Just to explain how complicated this can be, finding diesel fuel for these trucks is a monumental problem there right now, requiring us to initially get the fuel from the Dominican Republic.

We have been contacted by many people who are asking how they can help. **Until we know more, we highly recommend that people donate money designated for earthquake relief and repair (you may visit www.HaitiOutreach.org to donate).** In the coming days and weeks, as the situation becomes clearer and the avenues to bring assistance open up, we will use these funds in the best way possible to assist the people suffering from this catastrophe.

Gratefully and in great haste,
Dale Snyder, Executive Director

