



THE CHRONICLE

Mankato, Minnesota

September 2011

Paul's Ponderings

Monthly Happenings

I was reading an article in a diocesan newspaper recently about a congregation which had recently undergone a great struggle. In the article, reference was made to the priest and his ministry, his parish, his people, his challenge, etc. Everything was about him. God was mentioned a few times, but most of the story referred to that congregation as if it were the sole possession of the priest. It's too bad I threw the newspaper in the recycling bin because I'd like to take it out and count how many times the word "his" was used!

You can probably guess that this sort of possessiveness of ministry is one of my pet peeves. How I bristle every time I hear a pastor make use of the possessive case when talking about the work in which they are engaged: *My* ministry; *My* congregation; *My* people. It makes *my* stomach churn!

Now this may seem like a trifling thing to most of you, and perhaps it is to a degree, but I think there is a real danger in speaking of the ministry to which all of us are called as if we have some kind of personal ownership of it. We risk forgetting that ministry is a gift of God to *all people* not just those who have special titles. We don't own the ministry we

- Sept . 4 Outreach Mtg., noon
- Sept . 7 ECW Luncheon, noon
- Sept . 9 ECW Region IV Fall Luncheon, Fairmont
- Sept .10 Men's Group, 8 am
- Sept. 10 Green Team, 9 am
- Sept. 10 Mankato PrideFest Parade, 11:30 am
- Sept. 11 Commemorative Service, Potluck
- Sept. 18 Return to Two Services, 8 & 10:30 am,
Sunday School classes resume
- Sept. 18 Membership & Ministry Mtg., noon
- Sept. 20 St. Julian's Mtg. 7 pm
- Sept. 24 Breakfast in a Bag, 9 am, Salvation Army
- Sept. 25 Vestry, noon
- Sept. 29 Altar Guild Mtg., 9 am
- Oct. 8 Confirmation/Reception Service,
Talent Show & Local Harvest Potluck

More inside ...

do. We are stewards of the gifts we have been entrusted to use for the building up, not of our own personal realms, but of the reign of God. Speaking of this in such a personal, possessive way brings the further risk that we can begin to think that only we are responsible for this ministry and not God who works through us. And it can lead to anger and resentment of others who may not share this ministry with us.

But, much as this way of thinking and talking may irk me, I know all too well that I can fall into the same trap of possessiveness myself. So I need those gentle reminders from others that *we* are in this together.

One such reminder comes each time I leave on holiday for a few weeks. We are indeed blessed at St. John's to have so many people who engage in the work God has entrusted to us. When I am away, the ministry continues: the hungry are fed, the sick and lonely are visited, the bereaved comforted, and the joyful are encouraged. As we prepare for sabbatical time next year, it is good to know that everyone shares in doing God's work in this place.

I believe this is a good thing to remember as we begin another academic year and as summer-dormant ministries at St. John's go into full gear. The ministry in which we are engaged here at St. John's is not the personal possession of any one of us. It is the ministry of God. And we are privileged to share in it.

Thanks be to God!



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Check out my blog at

<http://www.thesmilingheretic.com>



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 9/4 Missy Manderfeld
- 9/7 Alice Hadley
- 9/13 Jill Fischer
- 9/14 Robert (Rob) Minzel
- 9/14 Brad Reeves
- 9/15 Sue Kolbinger
- 9/15 Lynn Keller
- 9/15 Paul Rozeboom
- 9/17 Joe Britton
- 9/22 Renn Corley
- 9/24 Mary Yurek
- 9/25 Lincoln Olson
- 9/25 Maxwell Olson
- 9/25 Holley Reeves
- 9/30 Malia Jones

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- 9/1 Chris and Jolly Corley
- 9/4 Gary and Helen Hudson
- 9/4 Barb and Richard Junker
- 9/8 Rick Robbins and Candace Black
- 9/13 Ray and Audrey Splinter
- 9/17 Paul and Jan Rozeboom
- 9/25 Nancy Zwickey and Bill Steil

New to St. John's? Are you new to St. John's and want to find out more about us? Have you been with us for some time and want to become a member? Are you a longtime member and want to renew your commitment to ministry? Well, have we got an offer for you!

Join Paul+ on **18 September 2011** in the Vestry [downstairs classroom] after 1030am worship for an informal conversation about membership and ministry in the Episcopal Church.



Shout Outs!

Big THANKS go out to Jan, Joan, Jaci, Judy, Jerry, Phil, Marilla, Winnie, and everyone else who stepped up to the plate in Paul+'s absence to ensure a smooth operation. Nicely done!

Another thanks to Nickie and the Finance Committee for their conscientious coverage during Bill Gray's absence.

A belated thank-you to Mike Kolbinger for his hard work and follow through on another Twin's game bus trip. It was a great event.

Congratulations to Margo Druschel on her new job. She is returning to higher education in the Disability Support Office at Gustavus Adolphus College. She's also hoping to continue with her downhill skiing program through Commu-Recra-



Support Office at Adolphus College. She's also hoping to continue with her downhill skiing program through Community Education and Recra-

Lolly Foy's talents and recent Master's degree will be put to good use with her new teaching position in the Department of Theater and Dance at Winona State University. To quote Lolly, "I am a professor!"

Gerry Schneck is enjoying his retirement from Minnesota State University Mankato. After travels, volunteering and painting, he can often be found in his new location at Barnes and Noble's Cafe. Congratulations, Gerry!

If you get a new job or retire or cross a milestone at school or work, let us know. We'd like to share the good news!

E-mail Betty Winkworth at jbwink@charter.net, or call 387-7170.

TREASURER'S REPORT JULY 2011

Our offerings to the General Fund totaled \$12,398 this month and I transferred \$3,000 from the Capital Investment Fund in July to help cover our expenses of \$20, 274. The balance in the Capital Investment Fund is \$ 14,401. We have now received \$98,313 in total income to the General Fund this year (not including the transfers of \$13,500 from the Capital Investment Fund) and we had budgeted \$98,848 to be received through the end of July.

We are running a deficit of \$16,218 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$11,220. The transfers have helped cover this deficit so far, but we will be depleting the Capital Investment Fund soon at the rate we are using it. We also received \$225 in offerings to the Property Escrow Account and the balance of that investment account now sits at \$17,848. We have received the final check from our insurance company for the roof repair and the roofing company has been paid.

Respectfully submitted,
Nickie VanStelten, Treasurer



A Show of Support

We are drawing very close to the day when we can call Mankato the first Fair Trade Town in Minnesota! And as the first Fair Trade church in Mankato we can show our support by signing petitions to present to our city councils. The petitions support campaign to North Man- (there) a Fair Trade en- hances the liveli- hood opportunities of producer and artisan commu- nities in the developing world and is integral to a sustainable global marketplace.”



The read “Yes, I sup- MAFTTI in their make Mankato (or kato, if you live Trade Town.” It “I believe that Fair hances the liveli- hood opportunities of producer and artisan commu- nities in the developing world and is integral to a sustainable global marketplace.”

You will find clipboards with the petitions at our Fair Trade Store table in the Parish Hall. Please add your signature and become a part of this historic event. If you have any questions, or would like a petition to circulate you can talk to Margo Druschel, 507-720-0768, or Betty Winkworth, 507-387-7170.



Look for this Label!

WHAT IS ‘FAIR TRADE’ AND WHY SHOULD I CARE?

Mankato Area Fair Trade Town Initiative

8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15

MANKATO FAMILY YMCA

The Fair Trade movement enables our every- day purchasing to improve the lives of farmers and artisans in the developing world. But how exactly does it work?

Please join us on September 15 for a colorful and engaging talk with members of the Man- kato Area Fair Trade Town Initiative (MAFTTI).

Fair trade products such as coffee, chocolate, jewelry and household gifts will be on dis- play. Admission is free and open to the public.

Sunday, September 18

**Look for two services
8:00 and 10:30**

**The start of 9:30 adult class,
10:30 EpiscoPal Classes
for 3 yr. olds through 5th grade
and Nursery for 0-2 year olds**

In Our Prayers

Updates for Bill and Adam Gray's recovery can be found on their CaringBridge website at <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/billandadamgray>. Visit often to read the latest journal entries, visit the photo gallery, and to write a note in the guest book.

If you wish to contribute to the Grays' fund you may do so by putting a check into the offering plate. Simply make your check out to St. John's with a memo line mentioning the Gray's medical fund. Donations can also be sent directly to the financial account established for the Gray family at the Minnesota Valley Federal Credit Union.



9/11 Remembrance

This month our nation and the world will commemorate that horrific day ten years ago when terrorists launched attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Over three thousand persons lost their lives on 11 September, 2001 and countless other lives were changed forever. During our worship on that Sunday, St. John's will remember those events with a special litany and prayers.

This day will also mark the annual "kick-off" of our ministries and Sunday School programs and it is fitting so to do, for we recognize that, even in the midst of grieving great tragedy, we are called to move forward and embrace the life and ministry we have been given to do so that the Gospel message of peace and love be an ever-present reminder to us of God's reign of justice and mercy. As we mark these occasions and the end of summer, we will join for one final joint service of worship and share a potluck luncheon afterwards.

"The greatest memorial to those who died ten years ago will be a world more inclined toward peace." *(From the recent call for reflection by Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori.)*

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

St. John's ECW will meet

Wednesday, September 7

at the home of Jan Rozeboom

noon worship

potluck - meeting - fellowship

All women of St. John's are welcome!

Bring a dish to share and

a serving utensil.

RSVP

moljam@hickorytech.net

387-4396 (Ann)

St. John's Outreach Committee

Mission: To support Christ's mission in the local, national, and international communities.

Matthew 25:35-36, 40

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me....

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.

St. John's Outreach Committee met Sunday, August 7th. The meeting was opened with prayer.

In August, we discussed the terrible drought in

Africa, charities that multiply our donation, and the local community in need of rent and utility assistance. This led to our donation choices this month.

World Vision. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Kenya, 385,000 children as well as 90,000 pregnant and lactating women are affected by malnutrition in the north and north eastern drought affected districts. This means one in five children are exposed to mortality due to malnutrition as well as prevent-

able diseases such as malaria and stunted growth. Across the region, some 11.5 million people are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance. In Kenya, World Vision is delivering water and repairing water sources as well as supplying emergency food together with the World Food Program to more than 300,000 people. In Somalia (Puntland and Somaliland), World Vision is giving emergency food, water and running a food for work program helping more than 45,000. The Outreach Committee received a notice that all donations would be

multiplied eleven times. We sent them a donation of \$50 which multiplied by eleven makes our donation impact total \$550.

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD). ERD programs serve much of the southern half of the African continent by alleviating hunger and improving

the food supply, creating economic opportunities and strengthening communities, promoting health and fighting disease, responding to disasters and rebuilding communities. ERD works together with community organizations and residents to maximize resources and implement long-term strategies. A donation of \$100 was sent to ERD.

Salvation Army. To help our local community, we donated \$100 to the Salvation Army to support their emergency rent and utility program.



Outreach (continued from p. 6)

The committee also discussed how long we would collect school supplies, who would be willing to sort the supplies, where the school supplies would be delivered, and who would be willing to do the delivering. We made Mass on the Grass Sunday our last Sunday to collect the supplies.

The Outreach Committee contributes financially to charities on behalf of St. John's and we work on several projects each year. Collecting school supplies, items for the mitten tree, last year's Undie Sunday, Nets for Life, and in previous years we have collected for Heifer International to provide animals to those in poverty or sent shoe boxes of gifts to Operation Christmas Child, a program run by the non-profit program, Samaritan's Purse. With summer coming to a close and church returning to its normal 8:00am & 10:30am services, we extend an invitation to all who might be interested in joining this committee to come visit us or talk to some of our regular members: Bobbi Hovren, Ginny McNear, Elsie Olson, Ann Clark, Jordin Johnson, Pat Johnson, Mary Yurek, Bobbie Seberson, or Joan Hertel.

The Outreach committee meets the first Sunday of each month at noon. Participation in this committee is open to all members of St. John's. Join us in caring for the needs of others.

ST. JULIAN'S GUILD

This year St. Julian's Guild will celebrate its 26th year of service to St. John's Church and to our community. Through the years, we have supported projects to enhance our physical space at the church, organized events to bring us closer together as a church family and assisted various organizations serving the Mankato area.

All women of St. John's are warmly invited to attend our 2011/2012 organizational meeting at Barbara Partridge's house at 911 Baker Avenue in Mankato at 7:00 p.m. on September 20th. Please call Barbara at (507) 625-8536 or email her at partridges@charter.net to let her know you'll be coming. Join us for some social time, a work meeting, and of course-dessert!





PRIDEFEST ACTIVITIES

Mankato Pride Parade begins at 11:30 am. on Saturday, September 10. We will meet at the Blue Earth County Library parking lot at about 11:10. The parade route goes down Riverfront Drive and ends at the festival grounds at Riverfront Park, Mankato. We have a truck with a flatbed that will be available for signs, decoration and rides. The PrideFest project for this year is Peace flags and St. John's will be attending the parade and festival with (peace) flags flying.

PrideFest will be held at Riverfront Park and runs from noon to 5 pm. There will be a sign-up sheet to help "man" the booth, everyone is invited to stop by.

Also, anyone who wants, can bring a t-shirt (I suggest a bright or light color so that the imprint will show up) on Sunday, Sept. 4 and get it stamped with peace designs using special fabric paint. People can also choose to take a peace flag design on pastel fabric, (just like the peace flags) to use as an applique on t-shirt or sweat-shirt. If you're planning on an applique, you might want to use a darker color for contrast. For anyone who is going to be away for Labor Day weekend, feel free to email to megstump@charter.net and we can make arrangements to get an imprint or applique to you. If you are considering being with us at the

St. John's booth, the peace flag imprints will give a great identifying/unifying look.

REST IN PEACE

Rollie Meyer who had a longtime history at St. John's died Monday, Aug. 22nd at the age of 94. His service of burial will be held at 11:00 am, Sept. 8th, with a 10:00 am visitation before the service. A lunch at the church will follow and burial will be at Glenwood Cemetery at 1:00 pm.

The Chronicle On-Line

A reminder— the Chronicle can be accessed on-line in an easy to read format through St. John's website. Simply go to www.stjohnsmankato.com and click on "Newsletter."

If you would like to save paper and postage by not receiving a mailed version of the Chronicle let us know in the office by e-mailing stjohns@hickorytech.net. A brief e-mail will notify you each month on the day that the Chronicle is posted to the website.

There will be a new series of training sessions in the near future for Lectors and Greeters. We are looking for new folks as a few people have left this ministry. Let Paul+ know if you would like to participate.



The Bishop is Coming! The Bishop is Coming!

Bishop Brian Prior will be in Mankato on 8 October, 2011 as part of his visit to congregations in southwest Minnesota. This will be the first time Bishop Prior will be with us and we will celebrate the occasion with a **Confirmation/Reception Service** in the afternoon, followed by a potluck dinner (see the accompanying article) and a **Talent Show**. We're not going to get too fancy with the talent show part, but we are asking that if you have a talent you'd like to share: singing, dancing, comedy, plate spinning—*Anything at all*—let us know! There will be more information about this in coming weeks.

We are hoping that many people from throughout our region will be with us to give Bishop Prior a warm welcome!



Local Harvest Potluck

On Oct. 8, we'd like to add a new dimension to the ever-popular Parish Hall potluck. We are asking potluckers to bring dishes made with some local ingredients—those they grew themselves or bought from local sources (within 50 miles, or so). We will all enjoy the freshness of local products, support our local producers and save a lot of energy not buying the oranges from Chile or the

celery from California. Admittedly, for an Oct. 8 potluck that may mean that we harvest or purchase early and freeze some ingredients, or get very creative with apples and squash. But we invite you to give it a try.

In and Around Mankato:

If you don't have a garden (or your neighbor isn't leaving his extra produce at your back door), here are some sources for local produce:

1. Producers at our Mankato Farmers' Market sell fruits, vegetables, eggs and meats produced within a 40 mile radius. It is open every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, as well as, Saturday mornings through October.



2. The St. Peter Co-op prides itself in the number of local foods it carries and labels them with an "L" inside a green circle



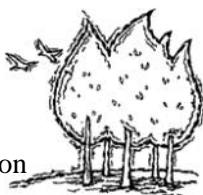
3. You can also look for the "locally produced" signs at Hy-Vee and Cub Foods.



Green Book Club!

From Lisa Coons

We're kicking off the new season with the hot-off-the-press book



Walk Out, Walk On: A Learning Journey into Communities Daring to Live the Future Now by Margaret Wheatley and Deborah Frieze

Katie Boone and Lisa Coons will be co-hosting a discussion on this new book described as "exuberant and galvanizing. Warning: Some might even be moved to action."

Thursday, September 22, 6pm at the Center for Earth Spirituality and Rural Ministry Resource Library, Good Counsel . RSVP appreciated to Lisa Coons, 507-389-4272, lcoons@ssndmankato.org

Region IV Episcopal Church Women

SEPTEMBER 9

St. Martin's ~ Fairmont

11:00 Welcome & Registration

11:30 Service of Holy Communion

12:00 Lunch in the Guild Hall followed by business meeting and program

We will carpool from St. John's.

RSVP

joanelle@hickorytech.net

388-3080 Joan

Green Bits

Our thanks to Don Gordon's Aug. 24, 2011, newspaper column for the following information:

Mowing 101

Individuals or government groups that mow by blowing grass into (the) public roadway are doing something that is not only unsightly, but environmentally irresponsible. Two weeks ago, a Free Press editorial urged city dwellers to stop this practice. Blowing grass into roadways may seem innocuous, but roadways are a direct conduit to the Minnesota River. That grass laden with fertilizer and often pesticides makes its way to the Gulf of Mexico where it contributes to the hypoxic (dead) zones, which occur yearly. ..

Farmers have received the most blame for this hypoxic zone, but it is time for homeowners to share responsibility. Individual homeowners need to be made aware that this practice needs to be curbed ASAP (no pun intended)."

Lay Ministry Schedule

9:30 AM SERVICE

<p><u>September 4</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts</p>	<p>Mary Yurek, Jan Mickelson, Peter Poulos Candace Black, Bobbie Seberson Stephen Deeren, Joan Hertel Canavins</p>
<p><u>September 11</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts</p>	<p>Judy Anderson, Peter Poulos, Leslie Peterson Audrey Splinter, Ray Splinter Pam Bartholomew, Nickie VanStelten Potluck</p>

	8:00 AM SERVICE	10:30 AM SERVICE
<p><u>September 18</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts</p>	<p>Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Leslie Peterson, Cathie Neitge Stephen Deeren Anderson, Hadley</p>	<p>Peter Poulos, Pat Johnson, G McNear John Paul, Meg Stump Gerry Schneck, Ann Clark Corley</p>
<p><u>September 25</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts</p>	<p>Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Bobbie Seberson, Jaci Lageson Stephen Deeren</p>	<p>Peter Poulos, M Yurek, Jordin Johnson Ginny McNear, Andrew Westberg Karl Mundell, Nickie VanStelten Hogan</p>

Attention Greeters: Please plan on arriving at church no later than 30 minutes prior to worship. Thanks!

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 September

8:00 a.m. Jan Mickelson
 10:30 a.m. Elaine Larson, Nickie VanStelten
 Monthly meeting Thursday, 9/29/11 at 9 a.m.
 Thank you for your Altar Guild service.



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

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Wednesday, 10 AM—4 PM

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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,