



THE CHRONICLE

Mankato, Minnesota

November 2011

Paul's Ponderings

Monthly Happenings

Tell the Israelites to take for me an offering; from all whose hearts prompt them to give, you shall receive the offering for me.

...thus God instructed Moses as he was preparing to build the Ark of the Covenant and the Tabernacle as Israel sojourned in the wilderness. (Ex. 25. 2)

We at St. John's are in the beginning stages of our annual stewardship campaign, so I thought these verses from scripture might be of meaning to us. They seem especially appropriate, given our sojournings in this life.

Can you imagine being in the desert, complaining about the lack of good food and water, tired from traveling around in circles for so long, and angry with the one who was in charge? The people of Israel were in just such a predicament when Moses climbed Mt. Sinai to receive the commandments from God. For quite some time they had followed Moses around the desert, far from the place they called home and eager to settle in the land that God had promised to them.

Then Moses comes down and tells them to give the best of what they have to offer so he could construct a special place within which the people could worship God: a mov-

Nov. 2	ECW Luncheon, noon, WOW! Zone
Nov 3-5	ECW Rummage Sale
Nov 6	Outreach Mtg., noon
Nov. 12	Men's Group, 8 am
Nov. 13	Fair Trade Holiday Bazaar, 8:45-1 pm
Nov 14	St. John's Men's Night Out, 6:30—8:30 pm, WOW! Zone
Nov. 15	St. Julian's Mtg. 7 pm
Nov. 17	Altar Guild Mtg., 9 am
Nov. 17	Good Thunder Reading Series, 3 pm & 7:30 pm, MSU Student Union
Nov. 23	Community Thanksgiving Worship, 7 pm, Grace Lutheran
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Service, 9 am
Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Meal, 11 am—1 pm First Presbyterian
Nov. 27	Vestry Meeting, noon

More inside ...

able temple adorned with all manner of finery - gold, silver, bronze, and cloth made of the best materials - to be built in the middle of a hot, dry, dirty desert. I can imagine the complaining that went on then!

And yet the people came through with more than enough materials. Their devotion to God filled them with a sense of belonging, in a land they could not call home. Their offer to God was in response to the loving care God had shown

them since leaving Egypt.

Are we different from them? I don't think so. We too are wandering in this land—spiritually and emotionally, if not physically. Our sojourn in this life is a “wandering in the wilderness,” searching for God, searching for meaning, searching for hope. We complain about life in much the same way as the People of Israel did so many years ago. And we know of the abundant mercy of a God who cares for us and provides us with all that we need.

The fact is, though, that we are also living in a time in which many of us are concerned about the economy. Will I still have my job a year from now? Will I have to look for another job just to make ends meet? Costs keep going up: will my retirement savings be enough to keep up? How am I going to pay off all my bills? Can I afford health insurance this year? Our predicament is certainly not the same as those wanderers of six millennia ago, surely. And yet, in many ways it is. Uncertainty is the common denominator. Like the Israelites, we cannot be sure what tomorrow will bring. It could be more of the same. It could be far worse.

But there is yet something else we share with those ancestors of ours in the faith: And that is a

faith grounded in the One who abundantly provides. Our hope and our trust is that, as God helped the faithful of Israel, so too shall God help those who call upon the Holy One.

Should our response to God be any different from theirs? I trust not. And though we may not be charged with the building of a temple [our immediate ancestors in the faith at St. John's have done that for us] we are charged with being the people God in Christ has called us to be in this place, Mankato.

May each of us discern what our hearts are prompting us to return to the Lord in thanksgiving for all God has done.

Thanks be to God!



The Rev'd Paul G. Rider, Rector
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Check out my blog at
<http://www.thesmilingheretic.com>

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- 11/03 - Jaci Lageson
- 11/07 - Jerry Wegman
- 11/09 - Brennen Canavin
- 11/09 - Cullen Canavin
- 11/13 - Jane Kearney
- 11/16 - Michael Manderfeld
- 11/18 - Jan Rozeboom
- 11/21 - Gerald Veaux
- 11/22 - Jerry Stump
- 11/23 - Verona (Ronnie) Burton
- 11/24 - Elaine Larson
- 11/27 - Judy Anderson
- 11/27 - Ann McGuire

RECEIVED 10-08-2011

A warm “welcome!” to Karl Mundell,
Margo Druschel and Steve Druschel

Stewardship Tidbit:

God's concern is not ownership (what we have) but stewardship (what we do with what we have).

TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2011

Total offerings for September were \$8,812; total expenses for the month were \$12,730. The balance of the Capital Investment account as of September 30th was \$11,503 and the balance of the Property Escrow account on that date was \$18,365. We will receive the 3rd quarter report from the Pooled Investment Fund in October.

The Finance committee has begun work on the 2012 Operating Budget. Anyone who wants to request funds for his or her organization to use in 2012 should pick up a Budget Request Form on the table in the narthex and turn it into the office by Sunday, November 6th. You should have received your offering statements for the first nine months of the year by now..any questions or concerns should be addressed to me. Thank you all for keeping your pledges current.

Respectfully submitted,
 Nickie VanStelten, Treasurer

St. John's Men's Night Out on Monday, November 14, 2011, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at WOW! Zone. Watch for flyers at church. Invitations will also be sent by mail. All men are welcome. Evening activities compliments of the St. John's Men's Group. R.S.V.P. to Jerry Wegman at 380-4908 or Mike Kolbinger at 380-3252.

Shout Outs!

Have you spotted the new addition to the Vestry Room at St. John's? Thanks to anonymous donors we have an attractive wooden conference table for our large meetings--which means the pieced burgundy tablecloth that slid willfully over and around the four old tables is now available. Many thanks!



Changing light bulbs in St. John's main sanctuary is not a job for the faint hearted. Our thanks go out to Jerry Stump and Gerry Schneck and a new ladder for the installation of new CFL bulbs over all of the pews.

With a little luck and lots of water we now have new grass coming up in the labyrinth area. Our sincere appreciation to Mike, Rochelle, Mary and Candace for keeping the faith and the watering schedule.

In actual weight, Joe and Marje Britton deserve a ton of thanks. They read that we were looking for a big rock and they offered not one but three from their Janesville property before moving to Northfield. One is placed in front of our parking lot retaining wall and another outside of Fr. Paul's office window. The third will be engraved to welcome people to our labyrinth garden. Many thanks to the Brittons and to Mike Kolbinger and his team of skillful movers, Jerry Wegman and Oscar Kolbinger. Not an easy job.

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.

All Saints' Sunday

As a way of honoring and remembering those who have gone before us in the faith, we are inviting you to take a moment and write down the names of loved ones and former parishioners who have died. You may place these names in the basket located at the back of the church. On Sunday, 6 November, All Saints' Sunday, we will read these names aloud as part of our Prayers of the People.

Community Thanksgiving Worship

The annual Mankato Community Thanksgiving Worship Service will be held on Wednesday, 23 November, at 7.00pm. Our host church this year is Grace Lutheran. This yearly event is an opportunity for people of different faith communities to gather as one voice to offer thanks and praise for God's blessing. Each church is asked to bring four or five dozen cookies or bars to be served following the service. If you would like to help with this, a sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

Thanksgiving Service and Dinner

A great way to start out your Thanksgiving Day is to join us for worship at 9am. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated in a small, intimate gathering of family and friends and is a wonderful way to acknowledge the gratitude in our hearts for all that God has provided. Another great way to give thanks to God is by helping those who have nowhere to go to celebrate the day. St. John's is once again helping out with the Thanksgiving meal which will be served on Thanksgiving Day from 11.00am–1.00pm at First Presbyterian Church. Each year we have had a great turnout from St. John's folks and we know this year will be just as great! We are inviting folks to sign up for one of three shifts to help

one of the crews. Shifts are 10.30–11.30; 11.30–12.30; 12.30–1.30. Just add your name to the list which is located on the entryway "Notice Wall". This is a wonderful opportunity to give back to your community and help

Fair Trade Fundraiser Thank-you!

St John's was well-represented at the Fabulous Fair Trade Musical Fundraiser on Monday, October 17th. The evening was full of music, food, fair trade beverages, education and fun. Thanks again to Jim McGuire for being one of 3 excellent musical groups to provide entertainment for the cause.

AND!



On Monday, Oct. 24, Mankato City Council unanimously declared Mankato to be a Fair Trade Town--the first in Minnesota and the 25th in the nation!

Fair Trade Holiday Bazaar

Yes! Joyce Bucklin will be back November 13, with her array of Fair Trade gifts from the 10,000 Villages Store in Mountain Lake, Minnesota. She comes with a great selection of jewelry, toys, musical instruments, baskets, ornaments, scarves, purses, food and much more from Fair Trade artisans and farmers around the world.

The sale in our Parish Hall will run from 8:45am until 1:00pm the Sunday of the 13th. So bring your checkbook, your shopping list and the knowledge that your purchase will make a world of difference to people working hard to pull themselves from poverty.

Guest Parking

You may have noticed that small parking sign near the handicapped parking area on the south side of our parking lot. It says “Guests of St. John’s.” We encourage you to leave this parking space open on Sunday mornings so that our guests — persons who may be joining us in worship for the first time — may park here. Oftentimes we have guests who arrive a bit later than others and it would be nice for them to have a parking spot close to the church. This is one more way that we can show a spirit of hospitality to those who are new to us!

ECW

Herberger's Community Days

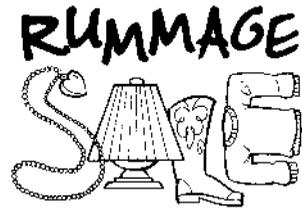
Nov. 11 & 12

ECW is selling \$5 coupon booklets,
and your entire donation goes to
support their ministries.

Thank you

Stewardship Tidbit:

Did you know that if every pledger in St. John’s gave up just one latte a week and added the saved money to their pledge, we’d add over \$12,000 to our annual collections? [Plus we’d all be a bit healthier!]



ECW

Rummage Sale

Nov. 3, 4 & 5.

Please bring your gently used items to church during office hours, or you can **drop your donations at the door**

Wed., Nov. 2, at 5 - 6:30 pm,

and your rummage will be carried in by our volunteers.

~ ~ ~

cold weather clothing, coats,
boots, adult clothing,
children's clothing, toys,
Dvds, shoes, books,
and household items.

~Thank you ~

SET UP

Wed., 11/2 5 - 6:30 pm

Thurs., 11/3 9 - noon

SALE

Thurs., 11/3 5 - 7 pm

Fri., 11/4 10 - 2 pm

Sat. 11/5 sack sale
9 - noon

Food for Friends—October 29th

A Sincere “thank-you” to all those who helped with Food for Friends on October 29th! The Splinters and the VanSteltens.

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, October 9th. The meeting was opened with prayer.

In October, we discussed the annual "Mitten Tree." A source at Kennedy Elementary reported to Ginny that the one-size-fits-all stretchy gloves are not thick enough to keep a child's hands warm while they play outside or walk home. It was suggested that we mention that warm, thick mittens would be ideal for young children.

We received thank you letters from Franklin Elementary School, Feeding America, Map International, Episcopal Relief & Development, and CARE. Once again the committee searched through the pile of requests for financial help. This month we decided to help UNICEF, Food for the Poor, World Vision, and The Reach.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

UNICEF's programs emphasize developing community-level services to promote the health and well-being of children. Most of UNICEF's work is in the field, with staff in over 190 countries and territories. It distributes such essential items as vaccines, antiretroviral medicines for children and mothers with HIV, nutritional supplements, emergency shelters, educational supplies, and more. Their agenda is to increase the organization's focus on the Millennium Development

Goals. The letter we received noted that our contributions would be doubled. We sent a donation of \$50, which doubled makes a total contribution of \$100.

Food for the Poor (FFP). Food for the Poor provides, as its main objective, nourishment to needy people in the Caribbean and Latin America. In 2008, 97.7% of all donations to FFP went directly to programs that help the poor. The organization erects homes for homeless families, supplies medicine and health care in hospitals and clinics, subsidizes orphanages, teaches children and adults by providing knowledge and training for careers. At this time, any donation to them would be multiplied NINETEEN times! Our donation of \$100, multiplied by 19 becomes a total contribution of \$1,900.



World Vision. The focus of the World Vision (WV) organization is divided into five major areas: emergency relief, education, health care, economic development, and promotion of justice. With support from World Vision, it claims communities transform themselves by carrying out their own development projects in health care, agriculture production, water projects, education, micro-enterprise development, advocacy and other community programs. The correspondence we received stated that all donations would be multiplied ELEVEN times. Our donation of \$50 multiplied by 11 becomes a total contribution of \$550.

The Reach. Located here in Mankato, The

(Continued on page 7)

Reach is a street outreach program operated by Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota for young people up to the age of 21 who are couch hopping, homeless, have run away, or who may be a step away from being homeless or without a place to stay. In an effort to help our local community, we donated \$50.

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

Stewardship Tidbit:

The Sunday School teacher: "Do you know where little boys go if they don't put their money in the collection plate?"

"Yes ma'am," a boy blurted out. "They go to the movies."

Minutes of St. John's Vestry Meeting 10/23/11 Vestry Accepts Diocesan Technology Offer

The Vestry revisited a technology offer from the Diocese to install a flat screen TV and laptop combination system so that the local congregation can tune into programs from other congregations and maybe originate content in the future. The offer was accepted contingent on the Diocese's offer to help defray the \$1500 package cost.

In other business, the Vestry decided to host a dinner after the Advent Festival, discussed the plight of homeless people who fall through the cracks of the social services network, set a December 31st deadline to clear out surplus furniture and goods, and did some brainstorming to begin focusing the planning for Fr. Paul's spring sabbatical leave.



Our own Candace Black, Richard Robbins, and Roger Sheffer will be the featured writers on Thursday, November 17, on the MSU campus. At 3:00 pm in the CSU Ostrander Auditorium, they will lead a discussion on the craft of writing. At 7:30 pm in CSU Room 253 they will read from their work. Their books will be sold after each event.

Both events are free and open to the public. An interview with the writers, part of the "Authors in Transit" series on public-radio station KMSU 89.7 FM, will air on Thursday, November 17, at 1:00 pm, and on Friday, November 18, at 11:00 am.



Remember ECHO

For the low, low price of \$18 you can finance a Thanksgiving dinner basket for a local family. To contribute please send donations to ECHO at P.O. Box 3212, Man-kato OR drop them off at 1014 South Front Street.

They will also be needing many volunteers to help with basket pick-ups Nov. 14-18. If you would like to help, please call Monica Oberle at 345-8321 to schedule a time.

Wishing you the Best!

There are two different St. John's couples being married in November--quite wisely in warmer locations.



Early in the month Mark Manderfeld and Randi Kimura will be married on Maui in Hawaii surrounded by 35 friends and family members. Randi comes from the Seattle area and Mark is the son of Missy and the late Pete Manderfeld.



John Weber and Lauren Mikeal Parsons will be married in Texas later in the month of November. Until then they will be squeezing in work, graduate studies, performances and directing a young St. John's troupe in a Fair Trade play.

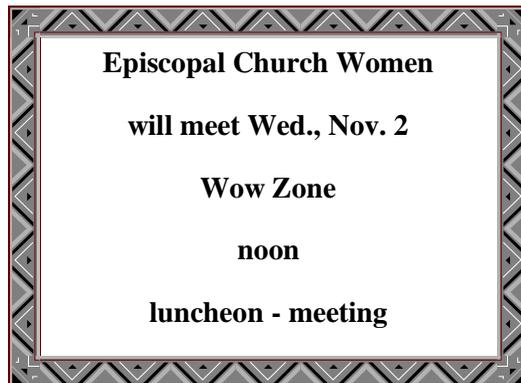
Warm congratulations from all of us at St. John's!

St. Julian's

St. Julian's Guild will next meet at the home of Betty Winkworth, 907 Baker Avenue, on Tuesday, Nov. 15. The meeting will begin at 7 pm and we want to encourage any of you who have been thinking about trying a new group to join us. All are

Alas—No Apple Pies

For the last 5 years St. Julian's Guild has been making fresh apple pies to sell to the community and our parishioners. Unfortunately, a number of factors have changed and we won't be able to continue producing our pies. Sorry! And thanks for your support and loyalty over the years.



Pecans

ECW will be selling pecans for your holiday baking, gift - giving, and snacking. Fewer cases have been ordered this year, so buy early and don't miss out on these outstanding pecans.

Recipes To Give Thanks



Baked Indian Pudding

From Ginny McNear

- 1 pint milk
- 1/4 cup cornmeal
- 1/3 molasses
- 1 egg - well beaten
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1/4 tsp cinnamon
- 1 TBLS butter
- 1/4 c up raisins

Combine butter, milk, salt and scald.

Slowly stir in the cornmeal and cook in a double boiler about 20 minutes until thickened.

Add egg, molasses, spices and raisins.

Bake in a moderate (350 degree) oven about 2 hours.

Serve hot or cold with cream or vanilla ice

Wojapi

From David Brave Heart

- 2 cups frozen berries, mashed
- 1 cup sugar
- 6 cups water
- 1/3 cup flour mixed with 1 cup water

Mix berries with water and boil for 20 minutes.

Add sugar, mix well until sugar is dissolved.

Mix flour and water until it is smooth with no lumps. Add flour and water mixture to berry mixture, stirring constantly.

Continue to stir and cook until thickened.

May be served warm or cool.

Fry Bread

From Sara Brave Heart

- 10 cups white flour
- 3 tsp salt
- 2 TBLS dry milk
- 2 packets or 4 tsp yeast
- 1 TBLS sugar
- Warm water
- Oil for frying and oiling hands

Mix flour, salt, dry milk, sugar and yeast thoroughly. Add warm water until it is a thin dough. Cover and let rise until double.

Heat at least 2 inches of oil in a skillet that will heat evenly. Cast iron works well. Heat oil until it is very hot but not smoking.

Oil your hands well and pinch off golf ball size balls of dough. Stretch and flatten dough, add a hole in the middle and slip into hot oil. Oil should be hot enough that the fry bread will immediately rise to the surface. Cook underside until light brown. Gently flip with fork. Do not flip again or the fry bread will be greasy. Remove when second side is golden brown. Lay on paper towels to drain.

You will need to wash your hands and reoil them between fry breads. I usually fit 4 fry breads in a large skillet.



Sunday School

This year we have our Sunday School curriculum through Sparks. All of the lesson materials, family resources, and

children's church bulletins are found on-line. The website is: <http://stjohnsmankato.sparkssundayschool.org>

Parents: Please register yourself and create a profile by going to the above web address and "Request an Account". Then add your spouse and children to your profile. After that is complete, I will place the children in the correct age group for school and if you have volunteered to teach, I will place you in the correct teaching group as well. I use this to help the teachers plan for how many children in class, communicate via email, and get a good head count for ordering materials.

Your child will be learning about the same gospel reading as the adults are hearing in church – just at their age level. Each week your child should go home with a leaflet showing what they learned that week with a memory verse. There is also a section for "Faith on the Go" for you to explore this week's gospel at home. Look on-line for a family page to talk more about the lesson.

Children (of all ages) may also choose to have a children's bulletin each week that gives the children some more activities based on that week's lesson. These bulletins can be found in the narthex with the greeters before church. There are bulletins for "Pre-readers" (preschool through kindergarten) and "Readers" (1st grade and up). In addition there are blue children's kits at the back of church that have a writing tablet, crayons and a pencil for them to use during the service.

Leader/Teachers: First of all I want to thank each and every one of you for volunteering. It is a testament to all of us that we have grown our children's program here at St. John's. We are trying the on-line curriculum for the first time here, and I have received a lot of encouraging feedback.

The most common question I get is about the schedule. It is posted in each Sunday School room, on-line at the Sparks website, in the weekly Evangelist, and here in the chronicle. Unfortunately, the computer can't differentiate who is teaching which week so you will get an email from Sparks each week whether you are teaching or not.

So, please refer to the posted schedule to determine if you teach that week. If you are unable to teach on your week, please call your partner first to let them know. If you need a substitute, please try to trade with another teacher—no luck? Please call me at 344.0643. Once an exchange has been made, please make the change on the schedule in the room and call me to update the on-line schedule.

I will be posting a sign-up sheet for teachers to choose which weeks they would like to teach. Please sign-up for as much or as little time as you are able.

Each week, please talk with your teaching partner to coordinate supplies and who will print off which section of the lesson. At church we have the "magic closet" at the end of the hallway (near the 3rd-5th grade room). It holds glue, markers, crayons, scissors, felt, tissue paper, paint (watercolor and tempera), tape, pencils, etc. Plain paper and construction paper is in the 3rd-5th grade room cupboard. Leaflets, bibles and snacks are in each room. Thanks again for sharing in the children's ministry!

Lisa Westberg, 344-0643

Westberg@hickorytech.net

November Leader's Schedule with Grade Levels

Nov 4 - Pre K: M. Stump/S. May; K-2: S. Braveheart/R. Lybeck; 3-5: K. Cvancara/R. Wegman

Nov 13 – Pre K: P. Mackie; K-2: M. Druschel/M. Stump; 3-5: A. Mackie/S. Braveheart

Nov 20 – Pre-K: J. Means/M. Stump; K-2: J. Corley/R. Wegman; 3-5: J. Fischer/B. Winkworth

Nov 27 – Pre-K: L. Westberg/P. Mackie; K-2: J. Corley/D. Cvancara; 3-5: A. Mackie/A. Splinter

Lay Ministry Schedule

	8:00 AM SERVICE	10:30 AM SERVICE
<u>November 6</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Leslie Peterson, Jaci Lageson Stephen Deeren	Pat Johnson, Ginny McNear, Peter Poulos Audrey Splinter, Ray Splinter Joan Hertel, Pam Bartholomew McGuire
<u>November 13</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Bobbie Seberson, Cathie Neitge Stephen Deeren	Peter Poulos, Jordin Johnson, Jan Mickelson Candace Black Gerry Schneck, Nickie VanStelten Paul/Fischer
<u>November 20</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Jaci Lageson, Bobbie Seberson Stephen Deeren	Peter Poulos, Leslie Peterson, Joe Hogan Andrew Westberg, Meg Stump Gerry Schneck, Joan Hertel Schultz/Clements
<u>November 27</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Cathie Neitge, Leslie Peterson Stephen Deeren Anderson	Peter Poulos, Mary Yurek, Ginny McNear John Paul, Ginny McNear Karl Mundell, Nickie VanStelten Robbins/Black

Please do note that we are meeting in the Parish Library five minutes prior to each service of worship for a gathering prayer.

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 November

8:00 a.m. Missy Manderfeld

10:30 a.m. Elsie Olson, Nickie VanStelten

Monthly meeting Thursday, 11/17/11 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

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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,