





 SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST
 EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 Praying, Working, Growing, Dancing, In Christ
 PO Box 1119
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St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
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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,



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The Chronicle

Mankato, Minnesota

January 2010

Paul's Ponderings

As a new year begins, a new era is about to start for Minnesota Episcopalians. In February, The Rev'd Brian Prior will become the ninth bishop of our Diocese. More about that event will be forthcoming in next month's *Chronicle*, but first things first. We have to say our goodbyes to our current bishop, James Jelinek, who will be retiring upon the consecration of Bishop Prior.

Three sites in Minnesota have been chosen to host farewell parties for our outgoing bishop: St. Paul's, Brainerd, St. John's, St. Paul and St. John's, Mankato. That's right! Our congregation has been chosen as one of the host sites for a diocesan "Farewell to the Bishop."

Now, don't get too worried. There's really not a lot for us to do. The Bishop Transition Team is taking care of all the arrangements—food, decorations, entertainment, etc.—all we are doing is providing the venue. And what a great opportunity to welcome Minnesotans from throughout this part of the state to our church!

The celebration is scheduled for 24 January from 3pm to 6pm. You can find more information about the planning by visiting the diocesan

This Month's Happenings

| | |
|------------|---|
| Jan 3 | St. John's Outreach Meeting |
| Jan 6 | ECW, Northwoods at noon |
| Jan 9 | Men's Group, 8 am |
| Jan 13 | Fiber Friends, 8 pm, St John's Libr |
| Jan 19 | St Julian's Guild |
| Jan 24 | Retirement Celebration for Bishop Jelinek |
| Jan 27- 29 | Trinity Institute, Gustavus |
| Jan 28 | Altar Guild, 9 am |
| Jan 30 | Region Meeting, Morton |
| Jan 31 | Annual Meeting |

More Inside...

website: <http://www.episcopalmn.org>. Anyone wishing to leave a message of greeting and thanks to Bishop Jelinek are encouraged to send them to post@thanksbishop.posterous.com. A dedicated website has been set up just for that purpose.

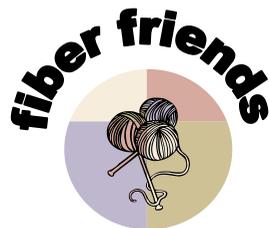
Now. What do we at St. John's need to do? Be hospitable and make our church sparkling clean! I invite you all to attend a brief reception-strategy meeting to be held after our 1030 worship on 10 January. At that time we will divvy up some responsibilities for preparing our Parish Hall and Sanctuary for receiving about

(Continued from page 1)

200 guests. We'll need to do a small bit of extra cleaning and straightening up the place—kind of like what you normally do when you are expecting guests at your home.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us. Several churches in southern Minnesota vied for the chance to host this event and St. John's was specifically requested by Bishop Jelinek. Let's make him—and our entire diocese—proud!

Thanks be to God!

Fiber Friends will be meeting next on Wednesday, Jan. 13, at 8:00 pm. Bring the needle or fiber work of your choosing and enjoy a relaxing hour or so with us in St. John's Library. Any questions?? Call Jolly Corley, 386-1602 or Betty Winkworth, 387-7170.

**Celebration of Ministry:
The Rt. Rev'd James L. Jelinek**

St. John's has been informed that we will serve as host for one of three diocesan-wide farewell celebrations for Bishop Jelinek prior to his retirement. The event will take place on 24 January p.m. We are indeed honored to serve in capacity as we welcome Episcopalians from throughout southern our diocese. The St. John's has been notified and any preparations we will need to make will go through them. If you are interested in helping make this a wonderful experience for our bishop, please talk to a vestry person or ministry team leader!



Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Meeting of St. John's Parish will be held on Sunday, January 31st during 10:30 worship. Included on the Agenda are the elections of new Vestry Members and Wardens as well as approval of the 2010 operating budget. A potluck dinner will follow. Reports from each parish committee and ministry team may be sent to the office at stjohns@hickorytech.net by Janu-

Lay Ministry Schedule

| | 8:00 AM SERVICE | 10:30 AM SERVICE |
|--|--|--|
| January 3 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts | Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Bobbie Seberson, Cathie Neitge Steve Deeren | Mary Yurek, Elsie Olson, Peter Poulos Meg Stump, John Paul Nickie VanStelten, Joan Hertel Stump |
| January 10 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts | Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Pam Oster, Jaci Lageson Steve Deeren | Peter Poulos, Joe & Barb Hogan Audrey Splinter, Ray Splinter Karl Mundell, Nickie VanStelten Canavin |
| January 17 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts | Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Leslie Peterson, Cathie Neitge Steve Deeren | Peter Poulos, Mary Yurek, L Peterson Candace Black, Andrew Westberg Joan Hertel, Ann Clark Hogan |
| January 24 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts | Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Jaci Lageson, Bobbie Seberson Steve Deeren | Peter Poulos, E Olson, Candace Black Bill Gray, Ginny McNear Karl Mundell, Nickie VanStelten Mickelson/McNear |
| January 31 Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts | Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Cathie Neitge, Pam Oster Steve Deeren | C Black, L Peterson, Peter Poulos, Meg Stump, John Paul Ann Clark, Joan Hertel Potluck/ Annual Meeting |

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 January

8 a.m. Jan Mickelson
10:30 a.m. Mary Babcock, Nicki VanStelten, Pat Johnson
Monthly meeting 1/28/10
Thank you for your Altar Guild service.

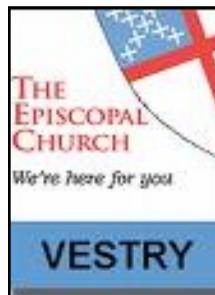
Vestry Meeting minutes of 11/22/2009

Vestry Serves Meal and Plans for Annual Meeting

Meeting in regular session, the Vestry planned a dinner following the annual "Advent Festival" and made ready for the upcoming annual meeting.

The vestry decided to continue pursuing ways it can minister the congregation by putting together a pot roast and roasted vegetables dinner to follow the "Lessons and Carols" event on December 13th. Rick Robbins pitched in with Mary Berner's help to head up preparation with the vestry pitching in to serve, provide desert, and do clean up.

Continuing issues facing the group include replacement of the hot water heaters, fixing the retaining wall, replacing aisle carpet, and putting together a budget in the face of falling capital fund reserves.

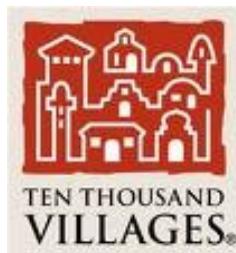


The men's group has stepped up to do the water heater project to install a more energy efficient heat pump unit, Tim Olson has made recommendations to the property committee on the retaining wall, the property committee is looking are some different options for replacing the aisle carpet to review with the liturgy team, and the finance committee is hammering out a budget for the coming year.

There was some discussion on following up with folks who have stop attending and a

Columbarium for ashes.

January and February calendars are full with a retirement reception for Bishop Jelinek on the 24th from 3-6 PM, region meeting in Morton on the 30th, annual meeting on the 31st, and consecration of the new Bishop on Feb. 13th.



10,000 Villages Fair Trade Bazaar

Many thanks to those of you who shopped at St. John's Fair Trade Bazaar on November 22—we raised \$1,100! Joyce Bucklin and her daughter Nadja from 10,000 Villages were pleased with the experience and we were able to purchase quality presents to support artisans from developing nations with a decent price for their products. And YES! We will do this again.

St. Julian's Guild

St. Julian's Guild next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at Meg and Jerry Stump's home, 610 N. Broad St., Mankato. You are welcome to email megstump@charter.net or phone 344-1894 to let Meg know you will be attending. Reminder: Broad St. is now a two-way street, a little easier to access. The Stump house is three blocks west of Madison. Come join us, you do not have to be a regular Julies' member to attend.

Trinity Institute on Building an Ethical Community: Theology & the Marketplace

Explore with a panel of leading theologians, including The Most Reverend Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, what religion and faith have to say about the ethics of responsible economic values.

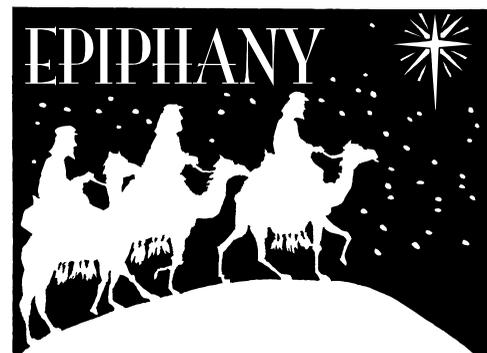
Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter will be hosting the full conference experience—

key-live via from York, discussion promote coverly dual munity action.



notes webcast New and dis-groups to the dis-of indi-and com-call to Our very

own rector, Paul Rider, will be a lead facilitator for this two and one half day conference. The event begins on the evening of Wednesday, January 27 and will conclude Friday afternoon on January 29th. Cost to attend is \$10.00. For more information and a registration form, please see Paul.



Greetings: To St. John's Episcopal Church Mankato, MN USA

From: Ann and Phil Clark in Australia



We wish you a happy 12 days of Christmas. Remember Epiphany is coming in early January. We truly miss St. John's. It is sobering and reflective to go to other Anglican churches. We have been to two country churches and the Sydney cathedral called St. Andrew's. The Australian church is very conservative. It really makes you appreciate our own US Episcopal Church and specifically Region IV and the spiritual leadership of Father Paul. We are truly blessed.

Australia is wonderful. So far the weather has been like a nice Minnesota summer. We are aware of things we take for granted at home. Water is an issue. You don't realize how God has Blessed Minnesota for rainfall and for potable water. Here you are always looking for rain and high humidity to lower the danger of forest fires and provide drinking water. Disposal of waste water is also an issue. Looking into the future I can see that Minnesota will eventually follow many of the practices that we do here in Kangaroo Valley.

Advent has been the best season. Three or four of us have been reading. Not all of the readers are Anglicans. That just makes it better. Ann brought an Advent wreath and candles. We have used it so much we had to buy extra candles. God is so good to us.



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, December 6, 2009. Thanks to those who decorated and filled the fifteen boxes for Operation Christmas Child. After final preparation for delivery by Joan Hertel and Ginny McNear, they were taken to the local collection point where they were sent out for distribution.

The Mitten Tree, our annual Christmas project directed toward helping the local community to dress warm, has been very successful. Thanks to all of you who were so generous.

The following charities received donations from St. John's:

- \$135 World Vision
- \$135 Reach Out for Warmth
- \$150 Theresa House

Information regarding these and other charities to whom St. John's donates may be found on display in the parish hall.

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.

Show and Tell

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object to share with the class that represented their religion.

The first student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is a Star of David."

The second student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm a Catholic and this is a Rosary." The third student got in up front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy. I am Methodist, and this is a casserole."



**TREASURER'S REPORT
NOVEMBER, 2009**

Our total offerings for the month of November were \$12,631. We transferred \$5000 from the Capital checking account into the General Fund, giving us a total of \$17,631 available for covering our expenses. These expenses totaled \$14,662 for the month. That left us with a carry over to December of \$2,969. We also received offerings for the Capital Account of \$700 and had no expenses (except the transfer) giving us a new total of \$39,017 in the Capital checking account. I will be mailing out the year end statements in mid January. If anyone has a question about their pledge balance before then, please give me a call...625-6236 weekdays or 278-3804 evenings.

Respectfully submitted, Nickie VanStelten



A Reminder from Earth Ministry

As you take down your Christmas lights and are deciding whether to keep or throw them, consider recycling to benefit MRCI. The big green bin will remain in our Parish Hall through Sunday, January 17, to collect your unwanted cords and lights. And many thanks to those of you have already filled one bin for recycling!

**Episcopal Church Women
ECW
Wed., Jan. 6
noon
Northwoods Cafe & Grill
luncheon - meeting**

Thank You to Our Vestry,
Choir and ECW for an
exceptional Advent Festival,
Meal and Tea!



January Birthdays:

- 1 - Mary Berner
- 6 - Linda Duckett
- 8 - The Rev'd Philip Clark
- 14 - Pam Bartholomew
- 22 - Bernie Lindberg
- 23 - Rochelle Wegman
- 26 - Nickie VanStelten
- 27 - Roberta Hovren
- 28 - Jim McGuire
- 31 - Jolly Corley

The Best Way To Pray

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby.

"Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

