



THE CHRONICLE

Mankato, Minnesota

October 2010

Paul's Ponderings

This Month's Happenings

This past August, while I was still in Texas with my family, I received an invitation from Bishop Brian to participate in a new clergy program in the diocese. Called *Resurgent Church*, this program gathers clergy from various parts of the diocese to come together once per month for study, prayer, and formal conversation around energizing congregations for ministry. Seeing as I was deeply involved in family matters at the time, I postponed my response to the bishop. Actually, I was grateful for the time to reflect on how my involvement in this initiative would effect our ministry here at St. John's. Also, since I am quite involved in another national congregational development program—though not so much in recent years—I was hesitant to add yet another program to my schedule.

After some thought, prayer, and consultation with colleagues in the church, I decided to take the bishop up on his offer. I will be joining ten clergy colleagues from the diocese in these monthly day-long gatherings for the next year.

I rather come at this with a bit of fear and trepidation. Many questions are buzzing around in my head, some of which are personal:

Oct. 3	Outreach Mtg., noon
Oct. 3	Blessing of the Pets, 2 pm
Oct. 6	ECW Mtg. Luncheon, 11:30 am
Oct. 9	Men's Group, 8 am, Best Western
Oct. 9	Visit of the Bishop, 11 am-3 pm
Oct. 16	Food for Friends
Oct. 18	MAFTTI Fundraiser Dinner, 6 pm
Oct. 19	St. Julian's Guild, 7 pm
Oct. 21-	ECW Rummage Sale
Oct. 26	Vestry mtg, noon
Oct. 28	Altar Guild 9 am
Oct. 29-30	Annual Convention, Duluth

More Inside...

- What can I possibly add to conversations about strengthening congregations when I am in a room with colleagues who are serving very large parishes?
- Am I able to withstand the scrutiny of others as we share our ideas with one another?
- Am I willing to learn from others?
- Am I willing to have others learn from me?

Other questions have to do with us here at St. John's:

(Continued from page 1)

- Is there a project or initiative here in Mankato that we can get behind as a faith community?
- Are we willing to share what God is calling us to do?
- Are we willing to hear what God is calling others to do?
- What new thing is happening here?

What old thing might we be asked to let go of?

In reality, these are the age old questions that all the people of God must face from time to time. Think of our own patron saint, John the Evangelist. In following Christ he had to rethink his Jewish roots and see the new thing that had come in Jesus, Messiah. He had to screw up the courage to lead a community which had been shunned by the religious establishment of the time and forge an identity centered on Jesus, the very Word of God come into the world.

It should give us all great comfort that we are not called to ministry on our own. As Jesus sent his disciples out two-by-two, so we are called into relationship one with another as God sends us into the world. None of us can go it alone. Perhaps *Resurgent Church* is what I need to remind me of this.

Thanks be to God!

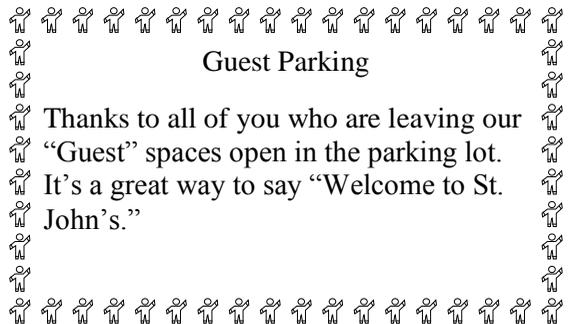


BIRTHDAYS:

- 10/6 Koltin Kolbinger
- 10/7 Tim Olson
- 10/9 Betsy Fowler
- 10/12 Cathy Colby
- 10/12 Ronan Corley
- 10/12 Don Duncanson
- 10/14 Lowell Hovren
- 10/14 Eric Westberg
- 10/17 Bill Gray
- 10/19 Reeve Cumming
- 10/29 Lydia Paul
- 10/30 Ginny McNear

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 10/22 Jan & Bill Mickelson



 Guest Parking

 Thanks to all of you who are leaving our

 “Guest” spaces open in the parking lot.

 It’s a great way to say “Welcome to St.

 John’s.”



TREASURER'S REPORT AUG. 31, 2010

Our total offerings to the General Fund for August were \$10,091, we transferred \$5,000 from the Capital Account and we received our quarterly distribution from the Pooled Investment Fund of \$1,994 giving us a total of \$17,085 to use toward covering the expenses of \$14,058. We also received \$430 in offerings to the Capital Account. The current balance in the Capital Account is \$22,653.

Respectfully submitted,

Nickie VanStelten, Treasurer

The first ever edition of the Mankato Riverside Regional Pet Shelter 2011 calendar is now available. **100%** of the proceeds from the sale of this calendar will go directly to the benefit of the shelter, helping with costs and improving the lives of all its residents. All of the cats and dogs featured in the calendar have resided at the shelter, or still do.

For the cost of \$1.00 per month – total purchase price of the calendar \$12.00 – your days can be kept in order and the tell-tale pictures and history of 12 precious shelter residents will be brought into view.

There is a limited number of these well-done calendars available so please order now by emailing Jerry Wegman at jmwegman@hickorytech.net or calling him at 507-345-8089 and leaving your name and number.

Many thanks in advance from Jerry and the critters and crew at RRPS. Your purchase is tax deductible.



FOOD FOR FRIENDS

Our semi-annual Food for Friends weekend will be Saturday, October 16. Watch for the sign-up sheets or speak to Audrey Splinter or Nickie VanStelten to volunteer either food, cash for supplies or your time serving at the luncheon.

Thanks in advance for all your generous donations.



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."

St. John's Outreach Committee met Sunday, September 5. The meeting was opened with prayer.

MAP International (Medical Assistance Programs). Because of the Asian Pacific disasters and the earthquake in Haiti MAP saved countless lives and then ran into a budget shortfall that threatened shipments of essential medicines. We donated \$200 toward their vital medicines program.

Feeding America. Feeding America is annually providing food to 37 million Americans, including 14 million children, an increase of 46 percent over 2006. Thirty-six percent of the households served have at least one person working and more than one-third of client households report having to choose between food and other basic necessities, such as rent, utilities and medical care. Our donation of \$50 is doubled with the Kraft Foods Foundation matching grant. This means for every dollar we donate, Feeding America receives \$28 of groceries.

Thank You Everyone for the School Supplies! The supplies were delivered to the Salvation Army, Kennedy Elementary School, and Rosa Parks Elementary school. Each box delivered was enthusiastically received. It is so rewarding to make a difference in our community.

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

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

St. John's ECW will host

REGION 4 ECW

OCTOBER 6

11:30

worship~luncheon~program~meeting

"And God Created Laughter"

Edna Thayer

RSVP

Mary 344-1816

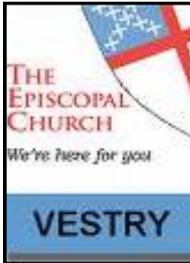
Ann moljam@hickorytech.net

Property Escrow Fund Grows and Vestry Continues Projects.

Meeting in short session before the annual vestry picnic on August 29th which had been postponed earlier, the vestry approved payment for the new carpet and a city paving assessment.

They heard reports on completion of the carpet replacement and retaining wall and resolved to send out a reminder of the need to continue building the property escrow fund.

The Property at \$31,975 but about \$12,000 project bills not repairs are paid. That church in-contacted about age assessment with roof repairs. Roof repairs remain to be done pending receipt of more and more detailed bids.



Escrow fund was should drop to after pending including roof They also heard surance had been some hail dam- in connection

The vestry also discussed some possible landscape improvements around the labyrinth and seeking a grant from the E.I. Lily Foundation to help facilitate Fr. Paul's deferred sabbatical.

Calendar events include the Bishop's Regional listening session to be held at St. John's on Sat., October 9th, from 11 AM-3 PM with a communications workshop by Wendy Johnson to follow.

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

What an exciting time of change we have shared over the last few months! With your financial help, and prayers, we were able to tear down the old mural wall and replace it with the beautiful matching blocks that partially surround our parking lot. (And by the way, if any of you are missing

the mural, there is a section that was saved, by our own Betty Winkworth and Barbara Partridge, and is now residing near the labyrinth.)

Secondly, we were able to replace the carpet in the aisles and up on the dais. I hope that you are all pleased with the results.

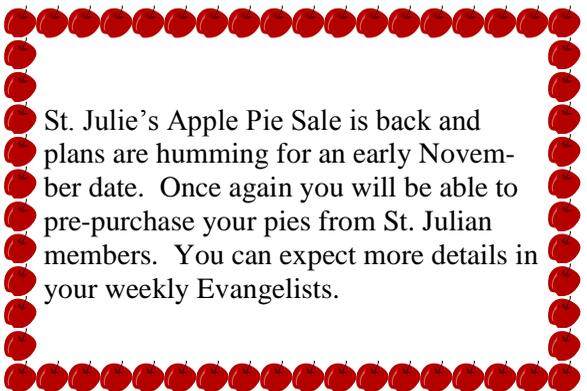
Moving along to the assessments, we had to pay for the repair to Warren and Broad Street—another mission accomplished.

Finally, the roof repair. Hopefully that will be taken care of in the next month and donations will continue for covering the cost. You can check our Building Fund progress each Sunday on the thermometer in the Narthex.

Thanks to the Men's Group and the ECW for their donations to help us reach these very important goals for the physical plant in which we all love to worship.

A final note of thanks to the parishioners who helped clean up after the successful potluck on Rally Sunday. We all enjoyed the fantastic food and fellowship.

Your Senior Warden, Jaci Lageson



St. Julie's Apple Pie Sale is back and plans are humming for an early November date. Once again you will be able to pre-purchase your pies from St. Julian members. You can expect more details in your weekly Evangelists.

Notes from the Junior Warden

Fall is fast upon us. Crab apples and walnuts are piling up in the parking lot after one round of clean up and lots of tree limb hauling from the aftermaths of storms. Windows and doors are in need of new weather-stripping. Boiler startup looms after two circulation pump rebuilds and clearing a stubborn obstructed boiler room floor drain. And "Adopt a Highway Clean Up" will have to be done again. The J.W. needs help.

Special thanks goes to Pat and Jordan for filling in for Judy while she is sick, to Jan Mickelson for orchestrating getting the organ moved during carpet replacement, and to Dale VanStelten for staying ahead of the summer mowing.

New energy saving exit lights with power failure backup have been installed to replace the old units that were getting hard to get parts for and door painting has begun. Materials are on hand for volunteers to work on doors at their convenience. See the J.W.

LET'S GO VIRAL!



St. John's first documentary film, "Wall Comes Down," is on YouTube!

See it at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/stjohnsmankato>. Send the link to all your friends and relations! Watch it several times a day! Soon we'll have it embedded in the Dancing page of our website, and we'll submit it to the Episcopal Church in Minnesota's e-newsletter. Thanks again to all who helped the wall fall down and didn't mind looking silly.

ST. JOHN'S FALL RUMMAGE SALE

Oct. 21 5 - 7, Oct. 22 9 - 3

Oct. 23 9 - 12

(Saturday sack sale)

SET UP

Oct. 20 5 - 7, Oct. 21 9 - 12

Please volunteer to help!

CLEAN UP

Oct. 23 @ noon

moljam@hickorytech.net

387-4396

The Bishop Is Coming!

Our new bishop, Brian N. Prior, will be visiting St. John's October 9th to get to know us and hear about our hopes for the faith communities of the Episcopal Church in Minnesota. Please take this special opportunity to join in the conversations on Saturday the 9th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Childcare will be available upon request and a lunch will be provided. We are asked to RSVP to the Rev. Dr. Anne Miner-Pearson by Thursday, Oct. 7, to give her an accurate count. Her phone is 612-870-3311 and her e-mail is anne.mp@episcopalmn.org.



School Sisters of Notre Dame

From the Center for Earth Spirituality and Rural Ministry

Please join us for our **5th Annual Earth Conference** with the theme

"Home-Land: New Lens for a New Moment on Earth."

It's a day to refocus our personal lens, to recommit to living sustainably with new ideas to fuel this work. You will be inspired. You will be encouraged. You will be emboldened. I hope you can join us!

There's an early bird discount for those who register by October 21. (You save \$10!)

Here are the highlights:

Date: Saturday, November 6th, 2010, 9am-3:30pm.

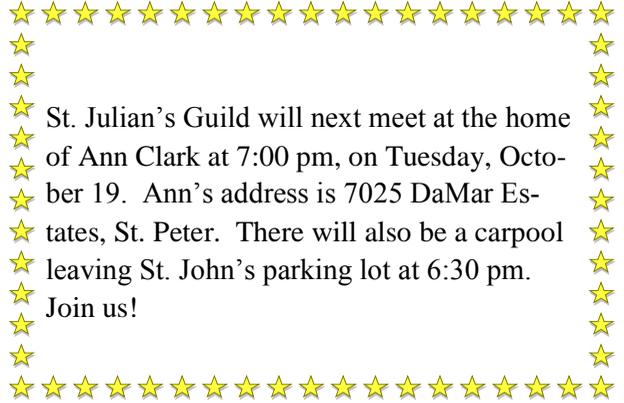
Where: SSND Provincial House Conference Center
170 Good Counsel Drive, Mankato

Fee: \$25 before October 21st, \$35 after that date (\$15 early bird fee for students). As always, this fee includes morning coffee and homemade muffins as well as a simple, local, sustainable lunch.

To register for the conference, contact Lisa Coons at 507-389-4272 or lcoons@ssndmankato.org

If you have questions or I can be helpful in any way, please feel free to be in touch!

Thanks, Lisa



St. Julian's Guild will next meet at the home of Ann Clark at 7:00 pm, on Tuesday, October 19. Ann's address is 7025 DaMar Estates, St. Peter. There will also be a carpool leaving St. John's parking lot at 6:30 pm. Join us!



Community Pet Blessing—3 October

It's that time of year again: Gotta get your pets blessed! Yes. Last year's celebration and blessing was such a purrfectly roaring success that we just had to do it all over again. In honor of St. Francis, the community will gather at the park next to Hubbard House at 2.00 PM on Sunday, 3 October. Pets from several Mankato congregations will participate with their human companions. So, leash up your four-or-two-legged, crawling, flying, hopping and creeping pets and come get them blessed. Bring your stuffed animals, too (the toy kind, not the trophy kind!) and join us for a howling good time!

October is Fair Trade Month

At St. John's our children in EpiscoPals will once again be giving Fair Trade chocolate and explanation cards at the homes where they trick-or-treat (A.K.A. Reverse Trick-or-Treating).

A big THANKS to them for spreading the word about child labor abuses in the chocolate industry.

AND... All of us at St. John's can help the cause of Fair Trade by bringing our grocery receipts to church. Simply place them in the box near the kitchen until the end of October.

At that time we will total the amount of money spent at each grocery location. By presenting these totals to grocery managers we can show them the purchasing power in our Fair Trade churches.

If you are a household that saves Hy-Vee receipts for a specific school just write the name of the school on your receipts and we will see that they get to the right school at the end of October.

You will also find on our Fair Trade table: 1. a handout listing the Fair Trade items available in Mankato and where you can find them. 2. small slips to leave with your grocers thanking them for carrying Fair Trade and suggestions for further items they could carry.

AND...A Fair Trade Store at St. John's!

We are now offering Fair Trade coffees and teas for purchase in the Parish Hall. Look for the display to the left of the kitchen window.

The Fellowship Blend regular and decaf ground coffee that we use at coffee hour will be avail-

able for \$6.50 for a one pound bag (a great buy!). A variety of Fair Trade teas will sell for \$3.00 a box.

If there is an interest in purchasing Fair Trade chocolate bars or cocoa we will offer those as well. Please contact Jan Mickelson, 387-7327, with any question or requests.

If you missed the Fair Trade float that was in North Mankato's Fun Days Parade, you're in luck. The float will be reassembled, complete with the dancing Carmen Miranda look-alike for MSU's Homecoming Parade, Oct. 9th.



FROM THE GREEN TEAM

Our appreciation to all of you who met your Earth Day pledges and those who walked, biked or car-pooled to church on Sept. 5th. We had 85% of our parishioners who attended that day wearing their "Go Green" award stickers. Way to go!

Keep in mind that St. John's Green Committee is starting a new season of activities and welcomes your ideas. If you'd like to participate or have suggestions, contact Betty Winkworth, 387-7170.

**Mankato Area Fair Trade Town Initiative
(MAFTTI)**



Annual Fundraiser Dinner

Monday, October 18, 6:00 p.m.

**Venue: First Congregational Church/UCC
150 Stadium Court, Mankato**

Tickets: \$20.00 from

**Betty Winkworth (387-7170), Paul Renshaw
(387-5329 or renshaw@hickorytech.net)**

or at the door

Please join us for a delicious Fair Trade Dinner and a rare chance to hear our prominent speaker, John de Graaf.

licity movement, which promotes and honors simple, just and sustainable ways of life for all.

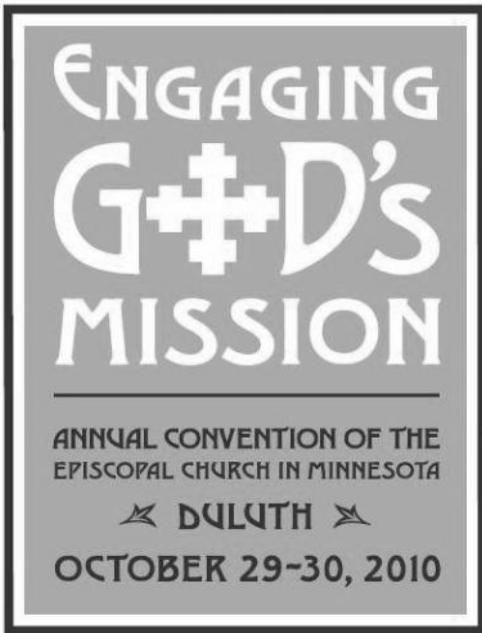
Mr. de Graaf is an award-winning documentary film-maker. His 2006 film "Buyer, Be Fair: the Promise of Product Certification" is one of more than 15 of his films to be shown primetime on PBS. Other popular PBS specials were "Running Out Of Time", an examination of overwork and time pressure in America, and "Affluenza", a humorous critique of American consumerism.

John de Graaf is the national coordinator of "Take Back Your Time Day," an annual event scheduled for October 24th, and a frequent speaker on issues of overwork and over-consumption in America.

He is also closely involved with the Simplicity Forum, a national think tank for the Voluntary Sim-



Guest Speaker, John de Graaf



Convention to welcome the Rev. Stephanie Spellers



Convention is pleased to welcome the Rev. Stephanie Spellers as the special guest speaker. Rev. Spellers and a host of experienced local leaders will guide us on a practical, inspiring journey that explores: Radical welcome and embracing the gifts of our postmodern, multicultural Anglican traditions that prepare us to be church in the 21st century.

We are asked to come with a team, ready to share our own wisdom, build relationships with other leaders and plan for the future; come with an open mind and heart, ready to envision the church we're becoming ... together.

Rev. Stephanie Spellers is an author, founding priest and lead organizer at The Crossing, an emergent Christian community rooted at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Boston (www.thecrossingboston.org).

An alumna of Harvard Divinity School and Episcopal Divinity School, Stephanie consults nationally and serves as co-chair for the Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Mission and Evangelism and as Consulting Editor for Emergent Resources at Church Publishing Inc. (www.churchpublishing.org).

In preparation for our Annual Diocesan Convention in October, delegates from throughout Region IV have met in Marshall for a pre-Convention Strategy Meeting. Our delegates are: Bill Gray, Meg Stump, and Ann Clark. Please contact any one of them for more information.



Support Their Important Work

Lay Ministry Schedule

	8:00 AM SERVICE	10:30 AM SERVICE
<u>October 03</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Pam Oster, Jaci Lageson Steve Deeren Britton/Cumming	Mary Yurek, Elsie Olson, Peter Poulos Audrey Splinter, Ray Splinter Joan Hertel, Gerry Schneck Corley
<u>October 10</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Bobbie Seberson, Cathie Neitge Steve Deeren Wegman	Peter Poulos, L Peterson, Jan Mickelson Candace Black, Andrew Westberg Pam Bartholomew, Nickie VanStelten VanStelten
<u>October 17</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Leslie Peterson, Pam Oster Steve Deeren Seberson	Peter Poulos, Elsie Olson, Ginny McNear Bill Gray, Meg Stump Gerry Schneck, Ann Clark Westberg
<u>October 24</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Bobbie Seberson, Jaci Lageson Steve Deeren	Peter Poulos, M Yurek, Candace Black Joan Hertel, John Paul Karl Mundell, Nickie VanStelten Winkworth
<u>October 31</u> Greeters Lectors (1,2) LEM Coffee Hour Hosts	Don Duncanson, Judy Anderson Cathie Neitge, Pam Oster Steve Deeren	L Peterson, Ginny McNear, Peter Poulos Audrey Splinter, Ginny McNear Joan Hertel, Pam Bartholomew Stump

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 October

8:00 a.m. Missy Manderfeld

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

Monthly meeting Thursday, 10/28/10 at 9 a.m.



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,