

St. John's Church

The Parish Chronicle

Sunday, September 5, 2021

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

AUTUMN EAGLE EDITION

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Rector's Rambling

With autumn upon us we are ready to begin our programming year.

September gets us up and going with the return of a full choir.

We will begin Sunday School on September 12, as well as begin having nursery care during the 10:00 AM service. These things have been on hiatus since March of 2020, nearly 18 months ago. It will be wonderful, God willing, to start to get back to "normal" again with our worship and education for the children.

Other things that will be coming up to speed again include in-person gatherings of the Daughters of the King and Daughters of the British Empire. A luncheon to bid farewell to David Schafer, who is moving to the Midland area, is scheduled for September 19, and The St. Catherine's Guild of the Episcopal Church Women will be hosting a Trash to Treasure sale September 25 and 26.

October brings us Homecoming Sunday on October 10, the beginning of the Alpha Course on October 12, and the Food Drive for Crossroads.



Before we know it we will be into November which brings us All Saints and All Souls, the Fall Ingathering

for Malawi, and the return of the Thanksgiving Day Parade with the Front Door Canteen and the Pancake Breakfast in the undercroft. Information on all these activities, and more, are found in this newsletter.

A positive thing that has happened during all the Corona virus restrictions has been the expansion of broadcasting of our worship, and our daily Morning Meditation series. In fact, on September 9, we will publish our 500th consecutive Morning Meditation. Most days it receives about 100 views across the various platforms. Sunday Services, Weekday Mass, and Evening Prayer also have anywhere from 50 to 500 views either live or on replay. We receive e-mails and phone calls from around the United States, Canada, and England thanking us for these video offerings. The St. John's YouTube channel itself now has over 2.5 million video views.

A negative thing that has happened during this Coronatide has been that many people have not returned back to public worship at St. John's. Some of that is because of the availability of the video worship. But that is a poor substitute for being present, in person, to worship with others and to receive Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament.

But sadder still is that many have gotten "out of the habit" of attending Church. I am afraid that the devil has used the best of intentions to keep each other healthy, and has turned it into fear, to keep people away from receiving the Bread of Life and participating as a member of The Church. This absence can damage one's faith in Christ.

I hope to see you in Church.



The Alpha Course @ St. John's

Tuesdays
beginning October 12
6:30 PM

For 10 weeks we will gather for dinner, a video teaching, and a discussion in order to find, restore, or reaffirm our Faith. It is hoped that all members of St. John's will take the Alpha Course, which will be offered three times this academic year.

Sign up TODAY to join us. Email rector@stjohnsdetroit.org or fill out the form in the weekly Order of Service. This is a FREE COURSE and is open to parishioners and family/friends. Invite someone to join you for The Alpha Course!

Senior Warden's Corner

~ *Peter Grim*

By now, most everyone has likely heard Dave Schafer is moving to the Midland area to be closer to his daughter and her family. While we all celebrate Dave's opportunity to be near family and enjoy all of the wonderful experiences that come with being close, we will miss all that David brought to St. John's.

David has been a member of St. Johns for more than 50 years and has served our congregation in many roles – as Vestryman, Treasurer, Senior Warden, Lay Reader, Eucharistic Minister, and parish liaison for the recent renovation project of the Ministry Center and undercroft. I have been honored to have been able to serve with David on two vestries. David is very quick to help others and came to be one of the most ready resources on church history and procedures. I thank him for all of his help and endless hours sorting through annual budgets, monthly financial reports, and supporting critical initiatives such as the current agreement between St. John's and Olympia. I will miss his attention to detail, his professional discipline, and his friendly helping hand. It will be difficult to find another soul so dedicated and committed to

St. John's as David, but we have already started searching for other parishioners to backfill his many roles.

We will be celebrating David's long membership and many contributions to St. John's on **September 19 after the 10:00 service**. We hope and pray, as we do for every Sunday, that all of our fellow parishioners, friends and visitors will join us that Sunday to wish David well in his new home!

Note to David: Midland isn't all that far away. We hope you'll return when you can, and will welcome an occasional visit from your friends at St. Johns!



Daughters of the King



St. Margaret's Chapter is planning to resume our meetings at the church, with second Saturday fall dates of September 11, October 9, and November 13, at 10:00 AM. We also plan to host our Annual Advent Tea on Saturday, December 4 (1:00–3:00 PM).

We welcome and invite interested women of the parish to join us, and encourage all women to attend the Advent Tea, where we will prepare our hearts and spirits for the coming of Christ, celebrated at Christmas.

The Giving Tree (November 21 through December 12) will be our parishwide opportunity to share with our charity, Georgia Street Community, many gifts of blankets, clothing, toys, books, and other small items. Please think ahead of items you wish to give to those in need.

Daughters welcome the opportunity to be your prayer warriors. Prayer request forms are in the pews at church. Requests also may be submitted via e-mail at PrayerRequest@stjohnsdetroit.org. God hears and answers our prayers.

For information about Daughters, call Lena Nealley 248-644-8554, or speak with any member of the chapter (look for the silver cross and our smile).

Sunday School

It's September, and school bells are ringing! Our Sunday School at St. John's, Detroit, is ready for classes once again. On September 12, 2021, we will meet at 10:00 AM in the Children's Chapel, downstairs, for a time of worship, singing, Bible lesson, craft, and snack time. We will rejoin families upstairs for Communion. Children, ages 5–12, are welcome to come and join us!



This year, after our long pandemic break, we are looking for new volunteers for Sunday School. If you are interested in being a support person, you are invited (urged) to visit and share in this interesting and vital ministry of our parish. We NEED a little more help.

Our teaching program is Bible-based, with fall lessons on Old Testament stories, Advent/Christmas lessons in December, and New Testament stories from the Gospel of Luke from January through May.

Come one, come all!! We welcome visitors and new students.

Lena Nealley, Organizer (248-225-8554)

St. Catherine's Guild of the Episcopal Church Women

What a year this has been! Praying that we are finally turning a corner, and finding our way back to some sort of normalcy. The Guild hopes everyone had a wonderful summer and you are looking forward to all the events coming up at St. John's for the upcoming fall and winter. Our year kicked off with a School Supply Drive. Our heartfelt thanks to all of our parishioners who donated everything from pens and paper to backpacks and underwear. The outpouring of donations was stunning! St. John's parishioners are an awesome group of people! Thank you all so much for your support! The supplies were given to Crossroads for distribution to children in need.



St. Catherine's Guild and Daughters of the King (DOK) have many activities on the calendar (see below). Both organizations look forward to parishioner support!

September 23–24 – (10:00 AM) – Set up for Trash to Treasure Sale. All hands welcome!

September 25 (10:00 AM–3:00 PM) and September 26 (8:30 AM–Noon) – *Trash to Treasure Sale* – Something for everyone! Household items, small appliances, linens, jewelry, furniture, toys, games, puzzles. ***Open to the public, so please spread the word.***

Proceeds from this sale will go toward reupholstering the "faux leather" chairs in the undercroft.

October 1–31 – Canned Good Collection for Crossroads – Canned goods are collected all year long to help Crossroads assist people in need. The month of October is a month-long concentrated effort to collect canned goods and non-perishable food for Crossroads. "Buy one/get one" at the store? Consider donating the "get one" to the October collection.

Continued on next page

October 10 – Homecoming Sunday / Potluck Luncheon – Although this event is not sponsored by St. Catherine’s Guild, with your help, the luncheon will be very special for all of St. John’s parishioners and guests.

November 6 (Saturday 10:00 AM) – Pine Cone crafts.

November 14 – Fall Ingathering – supporting the Diocese of Northern Malawi. Offerings continue to provide materials needed for education of the children in the Diocese. Your generous offering on this day as well as loose offerings the 1st Sunday of each month are important to the support of the children within the Diocese of Northern Malawi.

November 21 – Thanksgiving Pie Sale – Sweet and savory pies will be ready for you to purchase to complete your Thanksgiving dinner!

November 21 – Gift Giving Tree (DOK) – Take a tag (or three) with gift ideas. All gifts collected will be donated to Georgia Street Community Collective.

November 25 – Thanksgiving Parade – Hot Chocolate / Donut sale – This is a very fun time at St. John’s. We open the front doors of the church at 7:30 AM to get ready for the parade, and begin selling hot chocolate, coffee, donuts and popcorn! This is a great, fun event for everyone involved! *Volunteers are always welcome!! Hope you can come!*

December 4 (Saturday, 1:00–3:00PM) (DOK) – Advent Tea

December 12 – Annual Cookie Walk – calling all cookie lover bakers and buyers! Mark your calendar for this yummy event!

December 12 – Gift Giving Tree (DOK) – Last day! All Christmas gifts need to be brought back to St. John’s by this date. All gifts received will be donated to Georgia Street.

December 18 – (Saturday) 10:00 AM – Pre-Greening of Church – In preparation for Christmas.

December 19 – Greening of the Church – Following the 10:00 AM service!

(Continued in next column)

December 19 – January 23, 2022 – Warm, Fuzzy Tree – Collecting new warm hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, jackets.

Ongoing service projects: Canned goods for Crossroads – Remember “*A can a week to feed God’s sheep*”. **Travel size toiletries** – Collected for distribution to several community organizations. Collection bins are in the ministry center. Donations are welcome all year long!

St. Catherine’s Guild supports Crossroads, The Salvation Army, and Mariners Inn throughout the year. Your continued support of our activities is greatly appreciated!

Coffee Hour

Thank you to everyone who stepped up to volunteer to host Coffee Hour during the summer months! Your support made Coffee Hour a very nice social gathering.

The Sign-Up Sheet for September–December can be found on the serving table in the undercroft. There are no longer assigned teams for Coffee Hour Hosts. Please check your schedule and sign up for all Sundays on which you can help. Coffee is easy to make, and individually wrapped sweet treats and chips are in the pantry. Cleanup is easy-peasy! Thanking you in advance for your help!

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is looking for any ladies who would be interested in helping out once a month on Sunday. This is a wonderful devotion and spiritually rewarding! If you feel you might like to help please contact Sarah Babcock.

Beginning September 12

Sunday Evening Prayer 5:30 PM

*Starting time moved back 30 minutes
because of Detroit Tigers and Detroit
Lions game traffic patterns*

HERE'S A NEW AND EXCITING OPPORTUNITY!

Help Support the Educational Expenses of Seminarian Cameron Walker

Please prayerfully consider making donations OVER AND BEYOND your regular pledge to help pay for the educational expenses of Cameron Walker, who is studying at the Nashotah House Seminary to become a Priest in the Episcopal Church.

The parish has pledged some support over this and the next two years, but INDIVIDUAL support from you, the parishioners of St. John's is needed to complete the funding.

Suggestion: Add \$10 to your pledge check once a month, and put a note on the envelope or the check that says "\$10 Seminary". Or send a separate check to the Church office with "Seminary" on the memo line.



Your "seminary" donations will help ensure that there are well-trained priests serving our Church in the future!

A DAILY PRAYER FOR St. John's Church

Bless, O Lord, this parish, and grant that Thy Name may be worshipped here in truth and purity, to all generations. Give Thy grace and wisdom to our Clergy, that they may exercise holy discipline, and be themselves patterns of holiness, simplicity, and self-denial. Bless all who worship here; take from us all pride, vanity and self-conceit, and give to us true humility and self-abasement. Enlighten our minds, subdue our wills, purify our hearts, and so penetrate us with Thy Spirit, and fill us with Thy love that we may go forth animated with earnest zeal for Thy glory; and may Thy living Word so dwell within our hearts that we may speak with that resistless energy of love which shall melt the hearts of sinners to the love of Thee. Open, O Lord, the hearts and hands of Thy people, that we may be ready to give and glad to distribute to our necessities. Bless the founders and benefactors of this parish, and recompense them with the riches of Thine everlasting kingdom, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

All Souls Day November 2

10:00 AM
Requiem Mass
Historic Elmwood Cemetery



12:15 PM
Requiem Mass
St. John's Chapel

Be sure to submit the names of departed loved ones, with your offering, in the All Souls Envelope in the Sunday Order of Service.

Weekday Worship

In addition to gathering on Sunday for worship, there are opportunities to do so during the week as well!

Holy Communion

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
12:15 PM

Thursday
9:00 AM until October 1,
then 10:30 AM for the winter

Evening Prayer

Monday through Thursday
5:00 PM

*Attend in person,
or on-line at*

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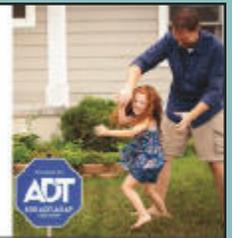
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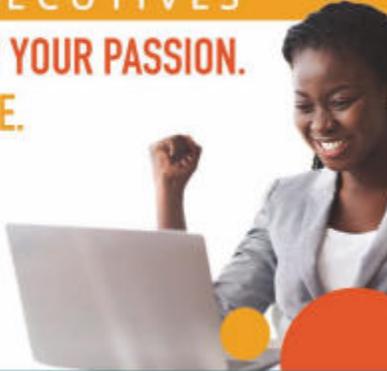
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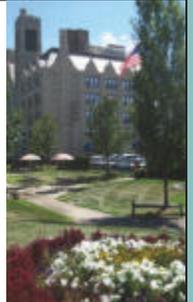
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