



# The Voice

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
ST PAUL MN  
PERMIT NO. 126

OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2175 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET • WHITE BEAR LAKE, MINNESOTA 55110

*Return Service Requested*

Telephone 651/429-5351  
Web Page [www.stjohnwilderness.org](http://www.stjohnwilderness.org)

**SUNDAY MORNING**  
8:00 am Holy Eucharist  
10:00 am Choral Eucharist

**WEDNESDAY EVENING**  
7:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Nursery Care available Sundays

**July**  
**2006**

Volume 48 • Issue 7

The "Voice" is published as a monthly newsletter of  
The Episcopal Church of St. John in the Wilderness

## PARISH STAFF

The Rev. Mark Wm. Kelm	Rector
The Rev. Joanie Delamater	Associate Priest
The Rev. Andrew Jensen	Assisting Priest
The Rev. Rick Todd	Deacon
The Rev. George Glander	Deacon Emeritus
Maureen Vruno	Parish Administrator
Alison Feigh	Youth & Children's Minister
Dr. David M. Gehrenbeck	Organist/Choirmaster
Jim Knauss	Sexton
Kelly Larson	Nursery Care
Lara Delamater	Nursery Care
Rona Johnson	Nursery Care

## VESTRY

Therese Branby	Warden
Chris Hawley	Warden
Margaret Thor	Treasurer
Christine Karp	Clerk of Vestry
Tim Hammond	2007
Peggy Holper	2007
Christine Karp	2007
Janet Kelber	2007
June Bennett	2008
Michael Carpenter	2008
Tom Long	2008
John Fennig	2009
Brent Torgerson	2009

People of the Parish

The Ministers



## THE EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM

If something should happen to you, would the church know how to get in contact with your family members? It has come to my attention that there are times when the church is called upon to make connections in the event of a medical emergency. To assist in this, we have created an emergency contact form that you may fill out so we might keep it on file here at St. John's should the need arise for us to assist you. Fill out as much of the form as you feel comfortable doing, and we will keep it on file. By preparing for a future event now, you will make it easier for your spiritual home to care for your loved ones. The Emergency Contact Form is located in the middle of this issue of the Voice and will also be made available on the parish website.



Clockwise from lower right:  
Baccalaureate Sunday celebrating our high school graduates, our Episcopal Church Women in the Parlor in front of the portrait of Lady Aubrey, the Fellowship group to The Da Vinci Code on the new accessible ramp from 1<sup>st</sup> St to the Clark Ave entrance to the church narthex, the Holy Baptism of Duc Tai Kurkoski (looking at the camera), the Commissioning of Lay Healers, and our clergy at the altar (also on Pentecost)



Wherever you are on your faith journey...St. John's welcomes you.

## ADULT EDUCATION AND FORMATION

### Living Faith. Exploring the Essentials of Christianity

In July, we complete our ten part video series *Living Faith*, covering the essentials of Christianity.

Each meeting consists of a 25 minute video with Anglican bishop and theologian Tom Wright, followed by discussion among ourselves. Bishop Wright taught New Testament studies at Oxford University, Cambridge University, McGill University and Regent College for 20 years. He has written over 30 books and has received both academic acclaim as well as praise for the transparency of his popular writings. *Christianity Today* named him as one of the top five theologians in the world.

Whether you are a newcomer to Christianity or a cradle Episcopalian, if you seek a renewed, deeper, or more mature understanding of the Christian faith, please join us Sundays in the Parlor from 9 to 9:50 am.

### God After Darwin

Modern science has revealed a profound evolutionary character of the universe – and of life itself – which has shaken many of the ideas of God some people acquired in Sunday School. The American philosopher and atheist Daniel Dennett has written that the message of Darwin's "dangerous idea" is that there is no divine influence in nature, that the universe "just is," without message or purpose.

People of faith have often responded to such assertions by denying evolution altogether, or by insisting that the complex molecular machinery of life is scientific proof of God's direct intervention ("intelligent design").

A third approach to the questions posed by evolution is to accept the science of what biologists tell us, and use it as fertile ground for mature reflections on the nature of the universe and God. In this series beginning July 23 from 9 to 9:50 am in the Parlor, we will explore this third approach using John Haught's book *God after Darwin*. Dr. Haught argues that evolution is a "gift to theology," revealing a vision of the universe as a still unfinished creation, and a Creator who is the cosmic source of possibility, value, novelty, information and beauty. Dr. Haught is Professor of Theology at Georgetown University and Director of the Georgetown Center for the Study of Science and Religion.

### The Adult Christian Formation Schedule

Sundays, 9 to 9:50 am, in the Parlor

**July 9** Living Faith #9. Growing In and Sharing Christ

**July 16** Living Faith #10. Living Christianity in the World

**July 23** God after Darwin #1

**July 30** God after Darwin #2

### Our Web Site and Committee

www.StJohnAdultEd.Org includes series information, our schedule, and downloadable prior presentation overheads or PowerPoint slides.

Comments, questions or suggestions? Interested in joining the Adult Education and Formation Committee? Please contact David Monyak: 651/481-8697, or d.monyak@comcast.net.

## PASSAGES

### BAPTISMS

Duc Tai Kurkoski 6/4/2006

### NEW TRANSFERS

Helen Halbert 6/7/2006

### MARRIAGES

Anne Gervais Rogers &  
Brad Michael Kurkoski 6/10/2006

### BURIALS

Barbara Kinsley Blien Rooney  
5/30/2006

Nancy Ottis Harris 6/3/2006  
Howard William "Bill" Harholdt  
6/15/2006

Nancy Warner Kammeier  
6/21/2006

Thank you to new member Helen  
Halbert for your 2006 pledge!

### SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

St. John in the Wilderness  
will offer Safe Church  
training on Saturday,  
August 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am-  
noon.

To register please contact  
Parish Administrator  
Maureen Vruno,  
wilderness2@stjohnwildern  
ess.org or 651/429-5351  
ext. 10, or Youth &  
Children's Minister Alison  
Feigh,  
alison@stjohnwilderness.or  
g or 651/429-5351 ext 12.

Your \$10 fee covers the  
cost of your background  
check and training  
materials.





## **Bible Readings**

July 2

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 8

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

2 Corinthians 8:1-9,13-15

Mark 5:22-24,35b-43

Psalm 112

July 9

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 9

Ezekiel 2:1-7

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Mark 6:1-6

Psalm 123

July 16

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 10

Amos 7:7-15

Ephesians 1:1-14

Mark 6:7-13

Psalm 85:7-13

July 23

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 11

Isaiah 57:14b-21

Ephesians 2:11-22

Mark 6:30-44

Psalm 22:22-30

July 30

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Proper 12

2 Kings 2:1-15

Ephesians 4:1-7,11-16

Mark 6:45-52

Psalm 114

## **VESTRY HILITES**

The Vestry met on June 13, 2006.

Sale of the Haynes' property in Mesa, AZ is complete.

Current property issues, including an outdoor storage shed, sound system for the church, cemetery survey work, and replacement windows for the parlor, were reviewed.

Amy Hawley of the Advisory Committee presented the completed strategic plan. The plan's goals, actions, and measurements in the areas of communication, newcomers and laity, space, and policies and procedures were discussed in detail.

The following motions were passed.

1. The Property Committee will pursue bids to replace windows in the Church Parlor. Costs are not to exceed \$5,000.
2. The Vestry accepts the Strategic Plan as presented by the Advisory Committee.

The Vestry meets next on July 11, 2006 in the Church Parlor.

## **FAMILIES INC. SUMMER PLAYDATES**

Do you and your children need something to do this summer? Join us on Thursdays at about 10 am with your own picnic lunch. Children of all ages are welcome!

July 6 Wedgewood Park, 211 Wedgewood Dr, Mahtomedi - North side of County Rd E, 1st street east of Century Ave / E County Line Rd

July 13 Memorial Beach Park, 4980 Lake Ave N, WBL - Meet at playground, then we'll cross the street to the beach.

July 20 Podvin Park, 1700 9<sup>th</sup> St, WBL (west of Hwy 61)

July 27 Memorial Beach Park

If it rains we'll meet in the church nursery. Call Beth with questions, 651/490-0477.

## **COLUMBARIUM UPDATE**

The Property Committee announces advance sales of niches in the St. John in the Wilderness columbarium to be located in the northeast corner (possibly) of our cemetery. Niches will hold up to 2 urns, depending on urn size. The cost of purchasing the right to burial in a niche is presently \$1,000, including the last name etched in the stone of the niche door, and opening and closing the niche once. To purchase a niche or sell back your current plot, or if you have questions regarding the columbarium, contact Chris Hawley at 651/466-0599 or [hawleyca@hotmail.com](mailto:hawleyca@hotmail.com).



## **CHURCH KITCHEN CLEANING**

The Episcopal Church Women will clean the church kitchen the 1<sup>st</sup> week of July. Outdated & unlabeled food items will be removed. Dishes left in the kitchen will be donated for the Fall Rummage Sale. Church kitchen utensils are not for personal use; please return any "borrowed" items. Please claim dishes &/or food items as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation. Call Beverly Boyle, 651/429-6769, with your questions.



## ST. JOHN'S PARISHIONERS HELP OUT ON THE GULF COAST

In the past four months, two groups from St. John in the Wilderness have traveled to Gulf Coast Mississippi to help with Hurricane Katrina relief. Recovery is slow in the storm-ravaged area and parishioners have been able to help many Mississippi residents continue to improve their situations after the devastation that occurred in August 2005.

In late February, a group of eight arrived at Camp Coast Care in Long Beach to assist with various tasks needed to help return the area to normalcy. Although the clothing and food distribution tents had been closed just prior to their arrival, the group pitched in to help in the medical tent, with cooking and serving food to the other volunteers, and working in the community to rebuild homes. Medical professionals, Rich Hovland and Bonnie Johns (of Phoenix, AZ) helped at mobile clinics though out the community, while Nancy Jagusch and her friend, Barb Foley (of White Bear Township) assisted in the medical tent on site. Colleen Johnson setup case files and interviewed people. Tim Schmuck ran the kitchen while Lowell Johnson and Sue Schmuck joined work crews in the community.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, a group of five left from the St. John's parking lot for a marathon drive to Ocean Springs, MS to roof the home of Adam and Catherine Gautier. The Gautiers have spent innumerable hours helping others in their community and had not yet repaired their own damage. Upon hearing their story, St. John's Outreach Committee decided to send a group to help. George Gorbatenko, Bryan DeSmet, Linda Monyak, Ken Paddock, and Sue Schmuck braved the rain, wind, and near



50-degree weather (during which they reattached the roof rack several times) to drive 20 hours to the Coast.

Joining the group in Ocean Springs were Nick Schmuck, Brian McCann, Mike DiAngelo, Missy and Jimmy Landrum, and Michael Harnois. The labor was intensive, but Mother Nature cooperated with clear skies, balmy winds, and modest 80-degree days. In 2 ½ days, the group removed old shingles and sheathing, reapplied the plywood decking, and shingled the house. Besides the hard work, the group enjoyed a crayfish boil at the Gautiers' and Cajun cooking at a favorite local restaurant.

For a group that collectively had very little roofing experience, the overall project turned out very well. The Gautiers are forever grateful to St. John's for its help before the next hurricane season begins in earnest, and the roofers have yet another skill to add to their résumés before they begin work on Habitat for Humanity Homes in the fall.

# St John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church-July 2006

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Every Sunday</b> 8 am Eucharist (no hymn singing) 10 am Choral Eucharist (with hymn singing) Nursery care available	<b>Every Monday</b> 8 pm Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>Every Tuesday</b> 9 am Tuesday Morning Originals Watercolor Painting Group (Parish Hall), except not on Independence Day 6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 494	<b>Every Wednesday</b> 2:00 pm Staff Meeting <b>7:00 pm Holy Eucharist</b>	<b>Every Thursday</b> 10 am Families Inc. at a local park (see article for addresses), or in the Nursery in the event of rain Noon Small Voice bulletin insert deadline		<b>1</b> 10:30 am Manitou Days Pet Parade and St. Francis Blessing on the church lawn until noon All are welcome!
<b>2 4 Pentecost</b> See Every Sunday above	<b>3</b> See Every Monday above Maureen out of office 4 pm Executive Committee Meeting until 5:30 pm	<b>4</b> See Every Tuesday above Independence Day, Office Closed No Tuesday Morning Originals this week	<b>5</b> See Every Wednesday above 9 am Church Kitchen Cleaning 7:30 pm Healing Ministry (Parlor) until 8:30 pm	<b>6</b> See Every Thursday above 9 am Episcopal Church Women Board Meeting 10 am Families Inc. at Wedgewood Park	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9 5 Pentecost</b> See Every Sunday above	<b>10</b> See Every Monday above 4 pm Dick Schradle Memorial Service	<b>11</b> See Every Tuesday above 7 pm Vestry Meeting (Parlor) until 8:30 pm	<b>12</b> See Every Wednesday above 3:30 pm St. Andrew's Village Communion	<b>13</b> See Every Thursday above 9:30 am Episcopal Church Women Board Meeting 10 am Families Inc. at Memorial Beach Park	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 6 Pentecost</b> See Every Sunday above	<b>17</b> See Every Monday above	<b>18</b> See Every Tuesday above	<b>19</b> See Every Wednesday above 11:30 am Retired Men's Group Lunch (Key's, downtown WBL)	<b>20</b> See Every Thursday above 10 am Families Inc. at Podvin Park Noon Small Voice bulletin insert deadline for next 2 Sundays	<b>21</b> 4 pm Keiko Snell Wedding Rehearsal	<b>22</b> 4 pm Keiko Snell Wedding
<b>23 7 Pentecost</b> 10 am Mission Trip Participant Commissioning 11:10 am Liturgy & Music Committee Meeting (Fireplace Room) <b>30 8 Pentecost</b> NYC Youth Mission Trip Week	<b>24</b> See Every Monday above NYC Youth Mission Trip Week Maureen Out of Office <b>31</b> Return from NYC Mission Trip 4 pm Executive Committee Meeting until 5:30 pm	<b>25</b> NYC Youth Mission Trip Week Maureen Out of Office 1:30 pm Memorials & Gifts Committee Meeting (Parlor) 6:30 pm Welcoming & Evangelism Committee Meeting (Caribou Coffee, Hwy 96 & Centerville Rd) All are welcome!	<b>26</b> NYC Youth Mission Trip Week Maureen Out of Office 1 pm Joint Warden Meeting	<b>27</b> See Every Thursday above NYC Youth Mission Trip Week Maureen Out of Office Diocesan Council (Faribault) 10 am Families Inc. at Memorial Beach Park	<b>28</b> NYC Youth Mission Trip Week Maureen Out of Office 5 pm Will Rogers, Jr Wedding Rehearsal	<b>29</b> NYC Youth Mission Trip Week 11:30 am Out to Lunch (Parish Hall) 3 pm Will Rogers, Jr Wedding

**St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church**

2175 1<sup>st</sup> St

White Bear Lake MN 55110

(651) 429-5351

We seek, with God's help, to provide a spiritual home for children, youth and adults  
as they travel on their journey of faith through the wilderness of human experience.

**Emergency Contact Form**

The clergy are dedicated to and pledge confidentiality for the storage and use of the information you provide on this form.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACT(S)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers:

Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, name of person who has your medical power of attorney:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

**PHYSICIAN(S)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**ALLERGIES TO FOODS OR MEDICATIONS:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Where do you keep a list of your current medications and dosages?

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (please ✓ or circle appropriate response):

Do you have a living will or Medical Power of Attorney? \_\_\_\_\_Y\_\_\_\_\_N

If Yes, where is it located?

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you an organ donor?

\_\_\_\_\_Y\_\_\_\_\_N

Do you have a signed authorization for organ donation? \_\_\_\_\_Y\_\_\_\_\_N

If Yes, where is it located?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a will? \_\_\_\_\_Y\_\_\_\_\_N

If Yes, where is it located?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have written funeral arrangements anywhere? \_\_\_\_\_Y\_\_\_\_\_N

If Yes, where are they located?

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you prefer: \_\_\_\_\_burial? \_\_\_\_\_cremation?

Funeral Home Preference:

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a gravesite? \_\_\_\_\_Y\_\_\_\_\_N

If yes, where is it located?

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Clergy:

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Music:

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Readings:

\_\_\_\_\_

Pall Bearers:

\_\_\_\_\_

Readers:

\_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Flowers:

\_\_\_\_\_

Donations “in lieu” of flowers should go to:

\_\_\_\_\_

Friends or Neighbors to be notified:

\_\_\_\_\_

I have provided the above information and give permission for its use in case of necessity.

This form is kept confidentially on file by St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to  
The Rev. Mark W. Kelm (marked “Confidential”)  
St. John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church  
2175 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110



# St John's Lay Liturgical Ministry-July 2006

LAY READER	LECTOR	LEMS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	GREETERS	HEALERS	ALTAR GUILD	VERGER
2		We 5, 7 pm Joe Afryl						
8 am Bob Peck	8 am David Gadbois	8 am Jane Kyle Mary Whitney	10 am H. Schneider M. Moertel S. Moertel A. Whillock S. Todd W. Todd B. Boyle	8 am Ken Whitney Gene Napiwoski		8 am Cathryn Bashore		Chris Hawley
10 am Joe Afryl	10 am Sherri Afryl	10 am Pris Campbell Greg Schmit		10 am Mark Hosfield Watkinses Johnsons	10 am Sally Holtz	10 am Sherri Afryl		
9		We 12, 7 pm Bob Peck						
8 am June Bennett	8 am Marge Polanek	8 am Ed Chilton Judy Kroesch		8 am Brunners Domins Cossalters		8 am Cathryn Bashore		Jason Knauss
10 am Lee Wilson	10 am Jim Delamater	10 am Susie Mahoney Margaret Thor	10 am L. Warchol L. Karp B. Long L. McCarthy L. DuFresne	10 am Jim Hartmeister Mike Gerlach Susanne Smith	10 am Gayle Kasmani	10 am Dianne DelGiorno		
16		We 19, 7 pm June Bennett		8 am Bryan DeSmet Canterburys Branbys				
8 am Judy Kroesch	8 am John Fennig	8 am Mary Whitney Jane Kyle				8 am Colleen Johnson		John Brunner
10 am Ken Paddock	10 am John Fennig	10 am June Bennett Lee Wilson	10 am C. Thor P. Thor E. Marier M. Marier W. Long	10 am Jim Hartmeister Lauren Warchol Ann Watson Libby Mahoney Ellen Anthony	10 am Kobinski Family	10 am Colleen Johnson		
23		We 26, 7 pm Judy Kroesch						
8 am Judy Kroesch	8 am Sherri Afryl	8 am June Bennett Joe Afryl	10 am T. Young S. Warchol E. Moertel N. Karp E. Karp S. Bartley	8 am DeSmets		8 am Sherri Afryl		Jason Knauss
10 am Janet Waller	10 am Dorothy Haas	10 am Ken Paddock Susie Mahoney		10 am Linda Carpenter Jim Marier Pickeringes Tom Medd	10 am Long Family	10 am Dianne DelGiorno		
30								
8 am June Bennett	8 am Marge Polanek	8 am Pris Campbell Barbara Van Steen	10 am H. Schneider M. Moertel S. Moertel A. Whillock S. Todd W. Todd B. Boyle	8 am Ken Whitney Gene Napiwoski		8 am Colleen Johnson		Chris Hawley
10 am Margaret Thor	10 am Jill Todd	10 am Ed Chilton Judy Kroesch		10 am Mark Hosfield Watkinses Johnsons	10 am Max Stevenson	10 am Cathryn Bashore		

## MINUTES OF THE MAY 17 MINISTRY FORUM

Present: June Bennett, Liturgy & Music; Christine Karp, Children's Ministry; Pat Pickering, ECW; George Gorbatenko, Outreach & Social Justice; Sally Holtz, Welcoming & Evangelism

June opened the meeting with a prayer.

George noted The Easter Vigil dinner was fun, offering fellowship with lots of good involvement. About \$150 was made over expenses.

June reminded that each committee/group must submit budget requests by August 15. A purpose must be stated for each requested amount, and committees will be accountable for how budgets are spent.

Ministry Forum meeting attendance by a representative of every parish committee/group is encouraged. Ministry Forum provides the opportunity to communicate information among committees and the Vestry.

George hopes that Outreach will expand next year – possibly building a dormitory in Uganda for Bishop George Sinabulya's ministry for women. The Bishop's very informative May 16 presentation was not well attended.

Six St. John's members connected with 6 others for the Ocean Springs, Mississippi mission trip. They replaced the entire roof of a Hurricane Katrina damaged home. They worked well together, and all are grateful for the opportunity. The volunteers provided tools and labor. The Outreach Committee's sale of wooden crosses provided \$385. ECW may contribute toward this mission effort. The group rented a van to travel together, and pictures are available on St. John's website, [www.stjohnwilderness.org](http://www.stjohnwilderness.org).

Christine reported the last Sunday School session of this program year is Sunday, May 21. About 38 children are in the program this year. First graders will receive Bibles from graduating Seniors during the 9 am Eucharist. A Bible camp is planned for the last week of June around the theme, "Jonah's Journey." Volunteers are being recruited.

Pat noted the ECW will meet May 18 to review grant requests. The Spring Rummage Sale made about \$1,800 profit.

George reported the Social Justice Committee's current focus is affordable housing, and they have embraced Habitat for Humanity. About 35 people have expressed interest in Habitat for Humanity. A Fall project is planned with Our Savior's Lutheran Church and Ascension (in Stillwater) and St. John's. A kick-off with Habitat organization leader and a recipient was Monday, May 22 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Each Habitat project requires one week commitment of work and \$6,000. The Fall week will be underwritten by Ascension and Our Savior's churches. St. John's ought to fund the Spring project, with money possibly raised by holding a dinner.

Sally reported that Welcoming & Evangelism hosted a newcomers' luncheon and church tour. It was not as well attended as previous luncheons, but another is planned for Fall. Umbrellas were purchased for greeters (or others) to assist people to and from cars on rainy days. Welcome bags are available to give to visitors. St. John's will have a Marketfest booth again this year. Volunteers are needed Thursday evenings to distribute fans, bracelets, and brochures. W&E is considering bringing a Dixieland band to St. John's for a concert offered to the community. The cost is \$1,250.

The deadline to submit Voice articles is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month preceding issue. The Ministry Forum meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday monthly at 7:30 pm (except there is no meeting this July).

## YOUTH & CHILDREN

Summer is in full swing with Vacation Bible School in June, the New York City mission trip in July, and Episcopal Youth Music Camp in August. Here is where the children and youth programming has been, and how members can get involved to keep our programs strong.

I just completed the 1<sup>st</sup> school year serving as both youth *and* children's minister. I've been on St. John's staff nearly 5 years, but it was only last fall that the position went full time with children's programming responsibilities and overseeing the nursery. I hope as our children and youth get involved in Families Inc. events, youth groups, Sunday morning education hour, camps, retreats, nursery care, and Vacation Bible School, that they learn more about the unconditional love God has for each of them in the context of our community who allow them to dream, wonder, and ask questions in a safe space.

Having a group of Sunday morning teachers, led by Christine Karp, willing to ease me into my new role planning curriculum and overseeing their capable work in the education wing was wonderful. Thank you to Barb Van Steen who is stepping down after 25 years as a Sunday school teacher. Kelly Larson, Lara Delamater, and Rona Johnson have done wonderful work in the nursery to maintain a safe and fun place for our smallest members to explore. Beth Hyduke-Kelm has been very creative with the Families Inc. schedule, with a variety of activities for parents with young children to spend time with other families in the church. Parents and volunteers in the youth program and ministry committee, chaired formerly by Deb Schmit and now by Bob Peck, have been instrumental in retaining the quality of experiences we offer St. John's youth.

## YOUTH & CHILDREN

Our school year was full of moments when the children and youth experienced God's love in the context of a loving community. The Children's Sabbath, Baccalaureate, Rite of Affirmation, and Maundy Thursday liturgies allowed them to participate in corporate worship in a personal way. We had plenty of parish support as 17 of our members participated in the Northern Teens Encounter Christ weekend in Duluth. We honored 10 of our youth and their Confirmation mentors with a banquet celebrating the end of one journey and the beginning of their adulthood in the church. Following the Easter vigil Senior High put on an Easter Egg hunt for the children. Over 30 children and youth took part in our annual Advent play, both "on stage" and behind-the-scenes. Junior High continued their ministry to our college students, hand-making Valentine's Day and Halloween cards to decorate dorm rooms the world over. We made our 5<sup>th</sup> annual work trip to Camp Heartland. Four chaperones and 22 high schoolers, a record number, were involved in the Maundy Thursday all night vigil. These programs are led by the Holy Spirit, but rely on the hands and hearts of St. John's parishioners. To become involved, please set up a meeting with me about how we could use your gifts. All volunteers with children and youth complete Safe Church training (the next one at St. John's is on 8/26) and a background check. Ninety-three St. John's members completed the Safe Church training since 2004, which is a wonderful testament to the value we place on our children's safety. Thank you to all of St. John's members who have given time, resources, and prayers to the youth and children in our community. We have come a long way in the last 5 years; I pray we continue to thrive.

Alison Feigh

## VESTRY GOALS FOR 2006 PROGRESS REPORT

The Vestry is committed to providing leadership and support for our parish through work focused in the areas of finance and property. It is not possible to measure our success without setting reasonable goals to guide our progress. While additional goals may be added to this work plan during this Vestry term or revised due to a need to rethink priorities, the Vestry has approved the following goals for 2006:

1. The Advisory Committee to the Vestry has been charged with development of a focused strategic plan for 2006-2007 to support our primary ministries and provide infrastructure for the Church. The Vestry has final approval over any recommendations made by the committee and responsibility to support and implement resulting plans. A final report is due in May when additional goals will need to be developed related to implementation. *Final recommendation will be made to the Vestry June 13.*
2. Assess need for additional clergy staff; analyze costs and recommend availability of funds for this purpose. *Funding available 3/14 - assessment in progress.*
3. Work with the Stewardship Committee to design suitable fund raising strategies to support the work of the Church. *Committee formed; Pledge Sunday scheduled in September.*
4. Establish a policy and procedure for the rental of Church space to outside groups. *First draft reviewed 4/11.*
5. Complete of the sale of the Haynes property and determine use of funds moving forward. *Closing on property scheduled in June; discussion on fund use—Finance Committee.*
6. Oversee installation of air conditioning units prior to the beginning of the cooling season in May 2006 as approved in 2005. *Completed in May.*
7. Ensure installation of the Church Security System approved in 2005. *Completed in March.*
8. Complete installation of a Columbarium approved in 2005, establish policies and procedures as necessary for operation of the Cemetery and affirm prices for the purchase of plots/units. *Policies & Procedures approved; seeking survey company to complete work so columbarium can be built.*
9. Approve bids for the purchase of grounds maintenance service as recommended by the Property Committee. *Completed in May.*

Follow our progress on the bulletin board inside the entrance from the parking lot, in the VOICE or on the website. Questions, concerns or compliments can be addressed to Therese Branby, Senior Warden at 641/ 653-3601 or Email: [tcranby@msn.com](mailto:tcranby@msn.com). The Vestry is committed to open dialogue and communication with the membership of St. John's.



## July Birthdays

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 1  | June Bennett          |
| 3  | Helen Jagger          |
| 3  | Jennifer Kobinski     |
| 3  | Jeanne Thoenke        |
| 3  | Henriette Zierdt      |
| 4  | Gayle Kasmani         |
| 4  | Megan Titcomb         |
| 4  | Barbara Youngblood    |
| 5  | Benjamin Harding      |
| 6  | Mary Wright Fennig    |
| 6  | Sean Wright Fennig    |
| 7  | Barbara Van Steen     |
| 8  | Dorothe Eimon         |
| 10 | George Hough III      |
| 10 | Nick Schmuck          |
| 10 | Krista Sullivan       |
| 10 | Kenneth Whitney       |
| 10 | Andrew WoiWor         |
| 11 | Shirley Reed          |
| 11 | Marc Senjem           |
| 12 | Gene McAlister        |
| 13 | Christian O'Brien     |
| 15 | Randall Ban           |
| 16 | Lisa McBride          |
| 16 | Vimala Paulus         |
| 17 | Jacob Korth           |
| 17 | Joan Norton           |
| 17 | Lee Wilson            |
| 19 | Leah Ban              |
| 22 | Emily Brunner         |
| 22 | Amy Hawley            |
| 23 | Harold Murphy         |
| 23 | Amy Okaya             |
| 24 | Lois Anderson         |
| 25 | Geraldine Letourneau  |
| 29 | Paula Beckley-Gildner |
| 29 | Brian James           |
| 29 | Ed Linehan            |
| 30 | Zachary Ban           |
| 30 | Nathan Karp           |
| 30 | Richard Larson        |
| 31 | Javelle Eick          |
| 31 | Christopher Hawley    |

*If you have a birthday this month but are not listed above, please e-mail or telephone the Parish Administrator at the church office. Records are not always complete.*

*Thank you.*

## St. John in the Wilderness Student of the Month

**Name** Ashley Delamater  
**High School Grade** Junior  
**School/Community Activities** speech, school musicals and plays, GSA, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, ECS: Ready For Success, school choirs

**Church Activities** TEC, youth group

**Favorite Song** Hey, Hey by Dispatch

**Proudest Moment**

becoming a godmother

**Collections** pieces from different religions, inspiration quotes

**Favorite St. John's**

**Memory** playing the music for Good Friday services and this past Christmas lock-in

**Favorite Movie** Ocean's 11

**Last good book you've**

**read** And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie

**Best advice you've been given** "Never let anybody tell you that you are anything less than wonderful."

**Where you hope to be in 10 years** in residency at a hospital in Minnesota or near the college I decide to attend

**If you could have dinner with any person, whom would you choose?** The Dalai Lama

**How can church become more youth**

**friendly?** Perhaps have an unorthodox church service every once in a while with contemporary music, structure and prayers. I know that for many youth it is difficult to sit through a church service. This could help show the youth that church is not about the structure of a service and particular prayers and songs said and sung

within, but it is about being in community.

This could help show them that this community will support and help them as they journey their path of faith.



**Thank you** to everyone who helped with Jonah's Journey, our Vacation Bible School program. Storytellers, decorators, lunch providers, craft specialists, discussion leaders, and assistants came together and provided an exceptional learning experience for the children of St. John in the Wilderness. We greatly appreciate your participation.

It's not too early to start thinking about the upcoming school year. If you enjoy working with children, have a knack with crafts, can carry a tune, or love to tell stories, we can use you! Our children will benefit from your willingness to share your faith and talents. We especially need strong male role models to get involved in Children's Ministry. Please prayerfully consider if this could be a fit for you.

Please contact Alison Feigh (651/429-5351 ext. 12) or Christine Karp (651/653-6369 or [allthekarps@msn.com](mailto:allthekarps@msn.com)) to learn more.



# The Youth Voice

## Twins Game

A group of Junior and Senior High youth are going to the Twins game on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> after the 10 am Eucharist. We will meet in the entry way and head off to the game together. If you did not sign up by the June 25<sup>th</sup> deadline, talk to Alison about getting on the waiting list.

## Episcopal Youth Music Camp

Camp is held at Camp Heartland from August 13-19. Camp is open to youth going into third through tenth grades. We have a good group going from St. John's, and it's looking to be an amazing summer. The camper list is full for this summer. If you aren't registered but want to go, call Alison ASAP, 651/429-5351 ext. 12, to get on the waiting list. The final deadline to sign up for camp is July 7<sup>th</sup>, and we'll inform those on the waiting list before July 7<sup>th</sup> if we can get you in.

A big thank you goes to St. John's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and individual parishioners who donated scholarship money for our youth and children to attend camp. We really appreciate it.

## Market Fest

The youth will run the church Market Fest booth on Thursday, July 13<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 pm. If you want to work the booth while taking in the fest, talk to Alison. We have been doing this for years, and it has always been a fun evening.

## New York City Mission Trip

On July 24<sup>th</sup>, 16 youth parishioners & 5 adult chaperones will fly to New York City for a mission trip through the 31<sup>st</sup>. We'll volunteer at Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen, The John Huess House for the Homeless, St. Luke's in the Fields ministry to people living with AIDS/HIV, St. Thomas Episcopal Soup kitchen, and other project sites. We plan to attend various Episcopal church services, tour St. Paul's Chapel which was First Aid headquarters after 9/11, and take some "down time" to tour the city.

Our mission trip theme is James 1:22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says." We'll have Christian Education each evening to explore what it means to "Do" Christianity. Our youth will have daily experience of what it means to live out the Baptismal Covenant. Chaperone Rich Oswald will create an online group diary on which we will take turns reporting. We'll link it to the church website before we go.

The youth have worked on various individual and small group fund raising projects to help cover costs of food, airfare, and big city daily living. The ECW was kind enough to give a grant covering part of the transportation costs to and from the airport. We are beyond blessed that St. Vincent Ferrer, a Roman Catholic parish in

Brooklyn, has agreed to host our large group in their rectory for free. Our last big expense is a metro pass for each participant. If you would like to donate \$24 to cover the cost of a week's subway rides for one group member, we would greatly appreciate it.

Most importantly, we request members of the parish to hold us up in your prayers. It's sure to be a culture shock for some, and there will be plenty to learn from the people who surround us.

We will be commissioned at the 10 am Eucharist on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, the day before we leave. Please take time each day to say a prayer for our group. It could be a wonderful way to teach even the smallest children about praying for others. Our group consists of Ellen, Spencer, Ashley, Ann, Peter, Libby, Marcella, Maggie, Sam, Anne, Rona, Will, Amy, Lauren, Caryn, and Emy. Our adult chaperones are Jeanie, Molly, Rich, Bob, and Alison. Fr. Mark will fly out to work with us for a good portion of the trip.

St. John's youth have an amazing work ethic and have accomplished amazing feats on previous trips. Has anyone ever seen a group of high schoolers lift massive logs? I have no doubt that they will represent St. John in the Wilderness in a positive way. We thank you in advance for your prayers and support. May we come back renewed about living out in our actions the love that we are called to share with the world.