



# The Voice

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OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

*Return Service Requested*

[www.stjohnwilderness.org](http://www.stjohnwilderness.org)

651/429-5351

**SUNDAYS EXCEPT EASTER**

7:30, 9 & 10:30 am,

Nursery Care at 9 & 10:30 am

Sunday School & Adult Formation 10 am

**WEDNESDAY EVENING**

7 pm Holy Eucharist



*Gathering in Love to Serve*

**PARISH STAFF**

The Rev. Mark Wm. Kelm	Rector
The Rev. Joanie Delamater	Associate Priest
The Rev. Marilyn Baldwin	Associate Priest
The Rev. Rick Todd	Deacon
The Rev. Debra Welch	Deacon
Maureen Vruno	Parish Administrator
Sheila Foster	Youth & Children's Minister
Dr. David M. Gehrenbeck	Organist/Choirmaster
Helen Gehrenbeck	Youth Choir Director
Bob Cessna	Sexton
Lorna Cessna	Nursery Care
Cheryl Sticha	Nursery Care
Kate Vincent	Kids Hope

**VESTRY**

Ken Paddock	Warden
Janet Kelber	Warden
Steve Johnson	Treasurer
Becky Monson	Clerk of Vestry
John Fennig	2009
Brent Torgerson	2009
Rich Hovland	2010
John Kobinski	2010
Tim Schmuck	2010
Krista Sullivan	2010
Chantell Knauss	2011
Bob Peck	2011
Terry Rooney	2011

People of the Parish The Ministers

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



Some time back Beth's cousin went to a Women of Faith Conference where Christian singer Nichole Nordeman performed. She felt there was real power in the lyrics so she sent Nichole's *Brave* CD to us. A certain song on that album really caught my attention, and I feel that it is so appropriate to our spiritual life as we move ever closer to the cross of Good Friday and the empty tomb of Easter. Please take a moment to read over the lyrics from the intriguing song, **What If**, by Nichole Nordeman, *For a friend who thinks this Jesus stuff is nuts*.

What if you're right?  
And he was just another nice guy  
What if you're right?  
What if it's true?  
They say the cross will only make a fool of you  
And what if it's true?  
What if he takes his place in history  
With all the prophets and the kings  
Who taught us love and came in peace  
But then the story ends  
What then?  
But what if you're wrong?  
What if there's more?  
What if there's hope you never dreamed of hoping for?  
What if you jump?  
And just close your eyes?  
What if the arms that catch you, catch you by surprise?  
What if He's more than enough?  
What if it's love?  
What if you dig  
Way down deeper than your simple-minded friends  
What if you dig?  
What if you find  
A thousand more unanswered questions down inside  
That's all you find?  
What if you pick apart the logic  
And begin to poke the holes  
What if the crown of thorns is no more  
Than folklore that must be told and retold?  
You've been running as fast as you can  
You've been looking for a place you can land for so long  
But what if you're wrong?

Song Title: WHAT IF, Writer Credits: Nichole Nordeman  
Copyright: © 2005 Birdwing Music / Birdboy Songs  
(admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing c/o Music Services).  
All Rights Reserved. Used By Permission.

Standing over the grave of our loved ones, the priest recites the words of the committal from our burial office: *Then, while earth is cast on upon the coffin, the Celebrant says these words*

In sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ, we commend to Almighty God our *brother N.*, and we commit *his* body to the ground;\* earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. The Lord bless *him* and keep *him*, the Lord make his face to shine upon *him* and be gracious to *him*, the Lord lift up his countenance upon *him* and give *him* peace. *Amen.*

Each time I officiate at a graveside I am reminded by the words of the Book of Common Prayer and Holy Scripture that death does not have the final say. The God who gave us life at birth will give us new life in Christ at our death. The resurrection of Jesus is not a fairy tale that needs a bunny to give it some depth or power. It is the greatest mystery this world has ever encountered. Each of us must not only look at the grave and decide for ourselves, but we must at some point go down into the dust. It is at this point that we as Christians say, "All of us go down to the dust; yet even at the grave we make our song: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

**Wednesdays March 5 & 12** ((Nursery Care 5:45-7:30 pm)  
5:30-6:15 pm Lenten Soup Supper in Parish Hall  
6:00-7:00 pm Adult Formation & Meditation Class Offerings and Youth Choir  
6:15-7:00 pm Confirmation in Youth Office  
7:00-7:30 pm Healing Service and Eucharist  
7:00-8:00 pm Junior High Youth Group, begin by going to healing service together  
7:15 -9:00 pm Chancel & Easter Choir

**Palm Sunday March 16** 7:30, 9:00, & 10:30 am (Nursery Care)

**March 17** 7:00 pm Holy Monday Eucharist  
**March 18** 7:00 pm Holy Tuesday Eucharist  
**March 19** 4:00-7:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)  
7:00 pm Holy Wednesday Eucharist (Nursery)  
**March 20** 6:00 pm All Parish Potluck (Nursery Care)  
7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy (Nursery)  
8:30 pm Vigil & Sr. High Youth Group Overnight  
**March 21** 9:00 am Morning Prayer  
10:00 am Family-friendly Stations of the Cross  
Noon Good Friday Liturgy  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
**March 22** 5:00 pm Easter Vigil with Baptisms (Nursery Care)  
Bring a small bell to ring in this child-friendly service followed by supper and Easter egg hunt  
**March 23** 8:00 & 10:00 am Easter Day Eucharist (Nursery)

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

## ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MARCH *All Are Welcome!*

### Sunday Mornings, 10 am in the Parlor

- March 2: We invite all guests of the February 24 Dr. Janis Amatuzio presentation to join us for a discussion, and to share their insights. Rev. Joanie leads this conversation.
- March 9: Brian Rusche, Director of the Minnesota Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, updates us on how we as citizens can affect legislation for those in need.

**Sundays at Noon in the Parlor:** Are you new here, or do you just have questions about why the Episcopal Church does things the way we do? *Anglican 101* just may help! Bring your questions to an informal presentation and discussion. (March 2 – April 13; no class on Easter.) Sign up in the Parish Hall, or call Rev. Marilyn, 651/429-5351 ext. 16.

### Wednesday Evenings

**5:30 pm** Light Supper in the Parish Hall

**6 pm** During Lent we offer options:

- *Lenten Journey to Christ*, an intergenerational presentation and discussion based on personal experiences of our own members.
- *Individual Spiritual Disciplines* led by Dianne Del Giorno and others in a limited group setting.
- A special presentation, *Christ in the Passover*, will be offered on March 19 by a member of Jews for Jesus.

### PALM SUNDAY

On March 16, you can learn & share the ritual of weaving palm rosettes. Join the BeFriends & Healing Team in the Parish Hall after 10:30 worship as we weave palms together. Woven palms may be taken home or left for BeFriends & clergy to share with others.

### EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to contribute toward Easter flowers in remembrance of a loved one or in thanksgiving for special blessings, please complete a flower form and your \$35.<sup>00</sup> check made payable to St. John's Altar Guild. Leave them in the Altar Guild mail slot. The deadline for Easter flowers is Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. Please call Barb Van Steen, 651/484-1614, with any questions.

### CALLING ALL COOKS

This year we will put on a dinner of Greek & Russian ethnic foods served after the Easter Eve Service. It is a lot of fun but also a lot of work. Given enough people to serve on the committees makes it reasonable.

Again we will roast lamb on the spit. Other foods served include Pascha (makes cheese cake look like diet food), Kylitch (silo-style Easter bread) & piroy (sheet cakes with a variety of fillings), and a large assortment of salads & ethnic specialty foods. Clearly, there will be no shortage of food

For more information please contact George Gorbatenko, 651/653-4699 or [gorby@ece.umn.edu](mailto:gorby@ece.umn.edu). There will be several committees. As the time draws near, there will be sign-up sheets posted for the various shifts.

George Gorbatenko

## P A S S A G E S

### NEW TRANSFERS

Barbara Barrows Maloney	1/24/2008
Janette A. Buckbee	2/4/2008

*Thank you Janette for your pledge to the 2008 General Fund!*

### GEHRENBECK RETIREMENT DINNER

Helen & David will retire from St. John's staff on July 1. We would like everyone to save Wednesday, June 18 for a retirement dinner at St. John's. Details will appear in future Voice issues, and all parishioners will receive an invitation in May.

Please mark your calendars now, and plan to join us as we honor the Gehrenbecks' many years of service to our music programs.

### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 9!

### WELCOMING AND EVANGELISM NEWS *Shhh!*

*We're soft-pedaling the "E" word!*

**Calling all artists!** We're looking for a St. John's church logo, one that can be used on welcoming information, signs, banners, & other church publications. We'd like to motivate some friendly competition to find something to inspire us, as well as those who might visit. Please submit your ideas to the Welcoming Committee, either in the mail slot, or speak with Randy Johnson, Chair, 651/484-9215. Top entries will be recommended to the Vestry for approval.

## Technology Upgrade

St John's is in the process of upgrading its technology. Six new computers have been acquired and set up in the offices of Administration, the three Reverends, Youth & Children, and Music Ministry. The computers are networked, enabling staff to easily share electronic forms, documents, and the office printer/scanner. All six computers have the most recent version of Microsoft Office, internet access, are protected with a software security suite, and are backed up daily across the network. When complete, there will also be church email. Watch future publications for each staff position's email address. Special thanks is due to Brent Torgerson and Dr. John Fennig for their contributions in purchasing and consultation. Installation and configuration services are being provided by Celia Wirth of Celia Wirth & Associates, 612-408-9437, [celia.wirth@cwirth.com](mailto:celia.wirth@cwirth.com).

## Young men of the parish enjoy some hoops during the Mardi Gras celebra-



## March Bible Readings

### 2 Fourth Sunday in Lent

1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Psalm 23  
Ephesians 5:8-14  
John 9:1-41

### 9 Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14  
Psalm 130  
Romans 8:6-11  
John 11:1-45

### 16 Sunday of the Passion:

**Palm Sunday**  
The Liturgy of the Palms  
Matthew 21:1-11  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
The Liturgy of the Word  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Matthew 26:14-27:66 or  
Matthew 27:11-54  
Psalm 31:9-16

### 17 Holy Monday

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Hebrews 9:11-15  
John 12:1-11  
Psalm 36:5-11

### 18 Holy Tuesday

Isaiah 49:1-7  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
John 12:20-36  
Psalm 71:1-14

### 19 Holy Wednesday

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Hebrews 12:1-3  
John 13:21-32  
Psalm 70

### 20 Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35  
Psalm 116:1, 10-17

### 21 Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
Hebrews 10:16-25 or  
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9  
John 18:1-19:42  
Psalm 22

### 22 The Great Vigil

At The Liturgy of the Word  
Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21  
At The Eucharist  
Romans 6:3-11  
Psalm 114  
Matthew 28:1-10

### 23 Easter Day

Acts 10:34-43  
or Jeremiah 31:1-6  
Colossians 3:1-4  
or Acts 10:34-43  
John 20:1-18  
or Matthew 28:1-10  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

### 30 Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32  
1 Peter 1:3-9  
John 20:19-31  
Psalm 16

*Underlined lessons  
are read by the Lector.*

# St John in the Wilderness Episcopal Church-March 2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>2</p> <p>10 am Sr. High Youth (St. Bernard's Room) 11:45 am Healing Team (St. Luke's Room) Noon Anglican 101 (Parlor) All are welcome! Liturgy &amp; Music Committee (Fireplace Room)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Noon Small Voice deadline 7 pm Outreach Committee Meeting (Parlor) All are welcome!</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9 am Tuesday Morning Originals Watercolor Painting Group (Parish Hall) 2:30 pm Holy Eucharist (Cerenity) 4:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting 6:30 pm Altar Guild (Parlor)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>See Every Wednesday below 6 pm Special Vestry (Parlor) Adult Education &amp; Confirmation (Parish Hall) Meditation (St. Luke's Room)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p><b>Daylight Saving Time</b> Crisis Nurseries Ingathering 10 am Brian Rusche, JRLC 11 am Children's Ministry (Parish Hall) 11:45 BeFriender s (Chancel) Noon Anglican 101 (Parlor) All are welcome!</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Noon Small Voice deadline</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9 am Tuesday Morning Originals Watercolor Painting Group (Parish Hall) 6:30 pm Welcoming Committee (Parlor) All are welcome!</p>	<p>12</p> <p>See Every Wednesday below 6 pm Adult Education &amp; Confirmation (Parish Hall) Meditation (St. Luke's Room) 7:30 pm Ministry Forum (Parlor) All are welcome! Agape meal planning (Kitchen)</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16 Palm Sunday</p> <p>11:30 Handbells (Sanctuary today) 11:45 Palm Weaving (Parish Hall) Noon Anglican 101 (Parlor) All are welcome! Vestry Meeting (St. Cecilia's Room)</p>	<p>17 Holy Week</p> <p>April Voice deadline Noon Small Voice deadline 7 pm Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>18 Holy Week</p> <p>9 am Tuesday Morning Originals Watercolor Painting Group (Parish Hall) 7 pm Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>19 Holy Week</p> <p>See Every Wednesday below 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (St. Andrew's Village) 11:30 am Retired Men's Group Lunch (Key's, downtown WBL) 4 pm Confession (Narthex) 6 pm Adult Education &amp; Confirmation (Parish Hall) 7:30 pm Grief Group (Parlor)</p>	<p>20 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>6 pm Potluck (Parish Hall) 7 pm Holy Eucharist Prayer Vigil Overnight (Garden of Repose, Narthex)</p>	<p>21 Good Friday</p> <p>9 am Morning Prayer 10 am Family-friendly Stations of the Cross Noon Good Friday Liturgy 7 pm Stations of the Cross</p>	<p>22 Easter Eve</p> <p>10 am Easter Choir rehearsal until noon 5 pm Easter Vigil Followed by Agape dinner &amp; Egg Hunt</p>
<p>23 Easter Day</p> <p>8 &amp; 10 am Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Noon Small Voice deadline</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9 am Tuesday Morning Originals Watercolor Painting Group (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>See Every Wednesday below No Choir practices this week 7:30 pm CanSurmount cancer support group (Parlor)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Team departs for Great Northern Teens Encounter Christ (Duluth)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Great Northern Teens Encounter Christ (Duluth)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Great Northern Teens Encounter Christ (Duluth) 11 am Out to Lunch</p>
<p>30</p> <p>Noon Anglican 101 (Parlor) All are welcome! Great Northern Teens Encounter Christ (Duluth)</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Noon Small Voice deadline</p>	<p>Every Tuesday</p> <p>9 am Tuesday Morning Originals Watercolor Painting Group (Parish Hall)</p>	<p>Every Wednesday</p> <p>1:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Light Supper 6:00 pm Nursery Care, Youth Choir, Confirmation &amp; Adult Ed. 7:00 pm Holy Eucharist 7:00 pm Jr. High Youth Group 7:15 pm Chancel Choir</p>			<p>Every Sunday</p> <p>Except Easter 7:30, 9 &amp; 10:30 am Eucharist 10 am Christian Education &amp; Sr. High Youth Group Nursery care available 9 &amp; 10:30 11:30 am Handbell Choir (St. Cecilia's Room)</p>

## BUBBLE OFF CENTER

Whenever I hang a picture I get out my level and check to see if the bubble is on center. For me, Lent is like hanging a picture. I get a chance to review my life and the baggage that I have been carrying around. After all Lent is a time of penitence and reconciliation. But to do that thoroughly, I need a time of preparation and evaluation.

It is at this time that I pause and try and get answers to questions. Questions like: Is this burden/guilt that I am carrying around doing any good? Can I let it go and trust God to take it away? Without fail I realize that my burdens are doing no good and in fact are hurting no one but me. And also without fail, I know that I can lay those burdens down and trust God to lift them up and take them from me. But first I have to be willing to let go of them.

I had a friend talk to me about 'righteous' anger and how destructive she had learned it was for her. She also discovered the beauty in identifying it; being able to name it for what it was; and to release it. What a gift that awareness was to herself and to those around her.

This is a perfect time for each of us to identify, name, and release all the negative things we have been holding onto. Several years ago, I had a priest remind me that the Episcopal Church has a philosophy about confession. All can. Some should. None must.

During the season of Lent, St. John's offers the ministry of reconciliation (BCP, pages 446-452). Watch the bulletin for details. This service is between you and a priest and one excellent way to get your personal 'bubble on center' as you look toward the celebration of our Lord's resurrection.

*Deacon Debra*

## MEMORIAL & GIFT COMMITTEE UPDATE

Giving gifts to the church is a year round celebration & appreciation of our God given blessings. Gifts may be given anytime in memory of an event or loved one, in gratitude for a special blessing, or in thanks for our parish family and/or staff. If you hear of a need (i.e. furnaces that have recently broken down & may need replacement, as during our committee meeting when the Parlor temperature was 56F; nursery toys; church library books; program development money; Kid's Hope Program supplies; etc.) you may give a monetary gift at any time. Your name will be entered into our Memorial Book in the church nave, you will receive an acknowledgment from our committee, & your donation will appear on your contributor statement. Please include with your gift a note about the occasion for giving and/or name of event or individual.

To give stock shares, inform your brokerage firm, in writing, of your intention to transfer stock from your brokerage account into the church's receiving account. They will likely require notarized signatures of all account holders. Your written request may look as follows:

Dear (Your Brokerage Firm), Please consider this my written, signed and notarized request to DTC transfer the following:

1. Number of shares, 2. Name of company, 3. Stock symbol, 4. From: (your brokerage account # & account title), 5. To: National Investor Services Corp. Deliver to DTC Clearing 0188, Code 40 F.B.O. TD Ameritrade account name St. John in the Wilderness Church, account 885406394

It is *extremely* important you inform us of your stock transfer, so the Treasurer may sell the shares & request the funds from TD Ameritrade. Notify Maureen, 651/429-5351, ext. 10, or wilderness2@stjohnwilderness.org.

For those wishing to gift funds from The Vanguard Group: our receiving account is 88017030344.

## MUSIC MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Music Minister Search Committee has begun the task of seeking replacements for David & Helen Gehrenbeck, who will retire this summer. The committee, comprised of Bari Chilton, Nancy Jagusch, Stephanie Sulentic, Anne Herron, Amy Okaya, Lisa Brock, Bryan DeSmet, Ken Paddock, Dennis Thoemke, & Chris Johnson, have met twice thus far. With Fr. Mark's input, we have fine-tuned the job description for Music Minister, a position which will combine the tasks of Organist and Director of Youth & Adult Choirs. This job description will be posted on the church's website. The position will be advertised in the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Minneapolis Star Tribune, & on the website of the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Applications will be accepted through March 15, at which time we hope to have a number of interested candidates. Watch for future updates this Spring.



**BUD, KIM, REV.  
MARILYN &  
RANDY IN  
HAWAIIAN LEIS AT  
THE MARDI GRAS  
BEACH PARTY  
SATURDAY,  
FEBRUARY 2**

## JOINT RELIGIOUS LEGISLATIVE COALITION DAY ON THE HILL, MARCH 13<sup>TH</sup>

Again this year I plan to join the larger community of faith at the capitol for the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition's "Day on the Hill." This is Minnesota's interfaith lobby day for social justice.

The Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC), the St. Paul Area Council of Churches (SPACC), and other faith based advocacy groups are rallying around the Minnesota Without Poverty initiative that helped create & fund the Legislative Commission to End Poverty by 2020 at the Minnesota legislature last year.

I am pleased to announce that I have arranged for Brian Rusche, JRLC Director, to speak in the Parlor at 10:00 am on Sunday, March 9. I strongly encourage you to attend this, as you will find it informative and an inspiring example of how faith communities from around Minnesota can organize to answer God's call to help those in need. I have two objectives for this event. The first is simply to have our membership learn about these exciting initiatives and get questions answered and doubts settled such as, "Does this mean my taxes are going to go up?" or, "How can I become involved in supporting this work?". These are legitimate questions, and Mr. Rusche will be able to provide insight into these and many other types of questions. The second objective is to have members of our congregation place their names on a form in support of A Common Foundation: Shared Principles for Work on Overcoming Poverty. This document, drafted in 2004 by 35 Minnesota religious leaders, serves as the basis of A Minnesota Without Poverty initiative, and eventually helped create the Legislative Coalition to End Poverty by 2020. Our own Bishop Jelinek was involved in and supports this work. I want to send the form with our names on it to Senator Sandy Rummel & Representative Carol McFarlane so they know that there is support for the work of the Legislative Coalition to End Poverty by 2020, and that we think this work is necessary and vital.

This is the 3rd year I will have attended the Day on the Hill at the capitol. I would like to invite those who want to be a part of making changes in the larger "system" to join me so that poverty and the needs of the poor & disadvantaged are placed at the forefront of our elected officials' agenda.

By attending the JRLC presentation you can learn more about Day on the Hill and the Legislative Coalition to End Poverty in Minnesota by 2020. It is important for me to let you know that this is not about a particular piece of legislation. The Legislative Commission to End Poverty is a bold initiative that will set benchmarks and work on a broad array of legislative initiatives over the next few years to reduce and eliminate poverty in Minnesota. Please consider attending because poverty will eventually touch all of us; it's inevitable.

If you want to go to the capitol on March 13<sup>th</sup>, you can get information from JRLC, talk to Mr. Rusche and/or me, and learn how you can do this. If you feel that you are called to speak to your legislators regarding issues such as housing & safe neighborhoods, hunger, criminal justice, early child care & education, economic security, environmental stewardship, health care access, public assistance programs, and welfare-to-work programs, this is a wonderful opportunity for you.

Yours in Christ, Rev. Rick Todd

## DO YOU KNOW?

February 6, 1923 - The vestry extended a call to the Rev. John Temple of Montevideo to become the minister of St. John's Parish. Soon after he arrived, Rev. Temple started a weekly newsletter, SAINT JOHN'S MESSENGER. The first issue, Vol. 1, No. 1, was dated Friday, May 11, 1923. "Published every Friday at White Bear Lake, by the Parish of Saint John's Protestant Episcopal Church. Subscription, 50 cents a year, payable through the offertory or directly to the business office."

From this issue of SAINT JOHN'S MESSENGER - "This being Vol. 1, No. 1, a word by way of salutatory may not be out of place. That a parish paper performs a necessary and valuable function goes without saying. It is the channel by which parish activities may be better coordinated ----. It is the hope of the Messenger that it may do its part in building up and maintaining parish morale."

Also from this first issue - "RADIO - The young men of the Parish are making a fine radio set for installation in the Parish House. With such equipment the Parish House is sure to become the center of the social life of St. John's young people."

## OUR MARDI GRAS DJ



# St John's Lay Liturgical Ministry-March 2008

LAY READER	LECTOR	LEM	ACOLYTES	HEALER	USHERS	GREETER(S)	ALTAR GUILD	VERGER
2		Wed 5, 7 pm Joe Afryl					Sally Holtz Keiko Farrar Peggy Holper Barb Merrill	Dennis Thoemke
7:30 Bob Peck	7:30 Alice Fagley 9:00 Will Long	7:30 June Bennett 9:00 Chilltons	9:00 E. Mahoney Moertels	9:00 Sherri & Amy	7:30 Ken Whitney 9:00 Cossalters	9:00 Holtzes		
10:30 Jim Petersen	10:30 Pat Petersen	10:30 Judy Kroesch	10:30 L. McCarthy	10:30 Cathryn & Krissa	10:30 Johnsons	10:30 Krista Sullivan		
9		Wed 12, 7 pm June Bennett					Pris Campbell Sally Holtz Meg Thorson Janet Waller	Margaret Thor
7:30 Joe Afryl	7:30 Sherri Afryl 9:00 Peter Thor	7:30 Pris Campbell 9:00 Linda Monyak Janet Waller	9:00 Thors J. Markoe	9:00 Dianne & Mary	7:30 Ken Whitney 9:00 Canterburys	9:00 Anne Herron		
10:30 Bob Peck	10:30 Wendy Muscanto	10:30 Greg Schmit	10:30 L. Defense S. Bartley S. Sears	10:30 Cathryn & Krissa	10:30 Jim Hartmeister Mike Gerlach	10:30 Anne Herron		
16							Pat Pickering Pat Gagin Joann Smith Deb Schmit Mary Whitney	John Brunner
7:30 June Bennett	7:30 David Gadbois 9:00 Louise Harding	7:30 Mary Whitney 9:00 Chilltons	9:00 Longs Whillocks	9:00 Dianne & Mary	7:30 Ken Whitney 9:00 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders	9:00 Kobinskis		
10:30 Judy Kroesch	10:30 Helen Kissel	10:30 Lee Wilson	10:30 K. Paddock Mariers	10:30 Sherri & Amy	10:30 Mark Hosfield Jim Marier	10:30 Longs		
Holy Week Lay Reader Lector LEM Healers Greeters	Monday Joe Afryl Sherri Afryl Pris Campbell Cathryn & Krissa	Tuesday Ken Paddock Lisa Brock Janet Waller Sherri & Amy	Wednesday June Bennett Maureen Vruno Linda Monyak Cathryn & Krissa	Thursday Bob Peck David Gadbois Mary Whiney Sherri & Amy	Friday Noon Ken Paddock Allan Fagley Judy Kroesch Dianne & Mary	Vigil 5 pm Chris Johnson Laurel Stiebler Judy Kroesch Dianne & Mary Holtzes	Pat Pickering Pat Gagin Joann Smith Deb Schmit Mary Whitney	
23 Easter							June Hochbrunn Cyndi Domin Gayle Kasmani Barb VanSteen	Bryan DeSmet
8:00 June Bennett	8:00 Alice Fagley	8:00 Pris Campbell Mary Whitney	8:00 T. Young Karps	8:00 Cathryn & Krissa	8:00 Ken Whitney, Linda Carpenter Domins	8:00 DeSmets		
10:00 Jim Petersen	10:00 Randy Johnson	10:00 Janet Waller Barb VanSteen	10:00 Todds	10:00 Sherri & Amy	10:00 DeSmets	10:00 Anne Herron		
30		4/2, 7 pm Pris Campbell					Alice McClaren Pris Campbell Lynn Gadbois Anne Johnson	Chris Hawley
7:30 Joe Afryl	7:30 Allan Fagley 9:00 Larry Mahoney	7:30 Mary Whitney 9:00 Susie Mahoney Barb VanSteen	9:00 L. Warchol	9:00 Dianne	7:30 Ken Whitney 9:00 DeSmets	9:00 Kobinskis		
10:30 Jim Petersen	10:30 Pat Petersen	10:30 Bob Peck	10:30 Todds P. Schneider	10:30 Dianne	10:30 Pickerings Linda Carpenter	10:30 Holtzes		

**Ushers Note** Linda Carpenter has taken over usher-scheduling duties. If you have a scheduling conflict, please contact Linda, lthompson@kennedy-graven.com, or 651/773-5548. Linda will do her best to work out conflicts, but those brought to her attention at least three weeks in advance have the best chance of rescheduling. Thank you Chris Hawley for all of the hard work with the ushers over the past several months!

## AGAPE DINNER

"Christos Voskreci" (Christ has risen)!

### Background

The Easter celebration is the most important religious holiday, and the elaborate meals that celebrated the rising of Christ in the Eastern Orthodox Faith were without peer. While the religious faithful started their 40 day fast (posst), the women would begin the preparation in the kitchen. The molds for the paska and the forms (coffee cans) for the Kylitch (kooleach: an Easter bread resembling a silo) were retrieved. I recall wandering in my grandmother's kitchen and being assigned 100 whips of thick dough. As a starving college student, returning home at Easter was always memorable. When Mary & I moved to Rochester, MN about 40 years ago, we first joined a Greek Church. We grew very close to the Greeks. Like the Russians, the Greeks do Easter in a big way. They seemed to take fasting more seriously, which made the church-sponsored lamb dinner served immediately after the midnight service taste all the better. Back then, Rochester, like San Francisco, was very orthodox. The whole service was in ecclesiastical Greek, which is OK unless you have 4 kids who (not speaking Greek or Russian for that matter) began to question the relevance of going to church. We switched to Calvary Episcopal which not only did the Lord's Prayer in English, but everything else as well. Longing for that spiritually lofty feeling, we started this tradition at Calvary. Taking what I recalled from San Francisco along with Greek additions (notably roasted Lamb), we put on a freewill-offering church dinner after the Saturday candle lit mass. Friends & guests were welcome (no charge). It was not only a fun way to celebrate Easter, but served as outreach as well. When we moved to the Twin Cities, we continued the tradition at Ascension in Stillwater. With St. John's as our new family, we would like again to share this wonderful Easter tradition.

### Committees

Based on past dinners, we had 3 committees: Decoration, Cooking, & Clean-up. A sign-up sheet was posted several weeks before to allow anyone who wanted to participate to do so. Basically, the only rules were to not take ourselves too seriously, and have fun.

### Decoration

Tables had cloths and were set with silverware. Daffodils were a popular flower choice (not only did Christ rise, but Spring was around the corner). Wine glasses were on the table as well. Plates were at the buffet.

### Clean-up

Hopefully, 3 or 4 couples would sign up for cleaning. Invariably, their role would turn out to be coordinating the walk-in help, of which, thankfully, we had plenty.

### Cooking

Tasks were divided into preparation, assembly, & service. We had 3, 3-4 hour shifts. We started about 8 am & served around 8 pm, with time out for communion. The priest had special blessings for the various foods.

Specific tasks were done at home beforehand: making paska (makes cheese cake look like diet food), baking kylitch (Easter bread), & preparing pirogy pastry dough (sheet cake size; meat, cabbage, or fish filled). Fr. Nick at Calvary scrounged wine from the local merchant. I placed a food order with the local Market early in the week and picked it up on Friday. Kitchen tools, aprons, & large plastic ice cream pails to store foods in process, were brought from home.

Culminating Easter in this fashion punctuates the Christian Experience. The food is wall-to-wall, largely ethnic, served buffet style, & displayed in a very celebratory fashion. In short, it's a fun & memorable experience. It's also an excellent opportunity to share our faith with people who perhaps need a gentle nudge. As to fasting, the Orthodox have so many rules that it kind of takes the fun out of it. We ended up making our own rules, since it is a personal commitment anyway. We try to abstain from meat that week, which works for us. We invite all Interested parties to participate. Details will appear in Small Voice bulletin inserts. For now, put Easter Eve (Saturday, March 22) on your calendar for an event to remember. "Voistenuh Voskreci" (Indeed he has risen).

George Gorbatenko: 651/653-4699 (w), 651/653-7759 (h), gorby@ece.umn.edu

### SEEKING BANNER DESIGNERS

St. John's Memorial & Gift Committee has been given a gift to create a banner for St. John's to carry at Diocesan events, and special events here & elsewhere. The banner shall represent St. John's. We need a colorful design; the actual banner will be professionally made. *The Memorial & Gift Committee will choose the final design.* We hope for many submissions from our artists. Please call Judy Kroesch, 651/429-0291.

### SEEKING OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9 am - 2 pm, & Wednesdays, noon - 6 pm. Responsibilities include but are not limited to answering phone calls, greeting visitors, signing for deliveries, making photocopies, folding bulletins & inserts, preparing mailings, light office cleaning, etc. If you are interested please contact me via email: hawleyca@hotmail.com, or call 651/466-0599, with your preferred day(s) & hours.

### ED, BOB & LORNA ENJOY MARDI GRAS





### March Birthdays

- 1 Jeff Halbert
- 1 Jennifer Lief
- 2 Samuel Todd
- 3 Margaret Thor
- 3 Kevin Todd-Peterson
- 4 Allan Fagley
- 5 Jessica Thoemke
- 6 Louis Karp
- 6 Margaret Thorson
- 9 Cheyenne Griffith
- 10 Aidan Huspek
- 10 Cheryl Roden
- 13 Elizabeth Moertel
- 13 Robert Zierdt
- 14 Rachel Monyak
- 15 Susan Schmuck
- 17 Joan Delamater
- 18 Barbara Merrill
- 18 J. Dixon Tews
- 20 Stephen Anthony
- 20 Fosten Boyle
- 21 Timothy Cossalter
- 21 Bonnie Peterson
- 22 Marcella Kobinski
- 22 Collin Lief
- 22 Kathryn Smith
- 23 Karen Herrera
- 24 Andrews Allen
- 24 Janet Herron
- 24 Debra Schmit
- 25 Cathryn Bashore
- 27 Tyler Canterbury
- 28 Margaret Holper
- 28 Stacy Reichert
- 29 Desneiges Pool
- 31 Tiffany Canterbury
- 31 John Johnson
- 31 Hannah Smith

*If you have a birthday this month but are not listed, please e-mail wilderness2@stjohnwilderness.org, or leave a message at 651/429-5351 ext. 10. Records are not always complete.*

*Thank you.*

### Care Packs for Kids

We are planning an ingathering of items to support the Children's Home Society Crisis Nurseries. This organization works to provide loving care to children whose parents are in crisis. They also provide support, counseling & referrals to parents to help solve underlying problems.

**On Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup>,** please bring gifts to the altar for a special blessing:

- Spring/Summer outfits  
(matching top & pants/shorts)
- Disposable medical gloves
- Diapers (*size 4, 5, & 6 only*)
- Socks
- Training pants (*5 layer*)
- Underwear (*size 4-5 only*)
- Household cleaners
- Sponges
- Children's toothpaste
- Dreft laundry soap

### Children's Ministries

At 10 am on Good Friday we will offer an interactive series of Stations of the Cross for young children & their families that will lead us through the Good Friday Story and prepare us for the Easter Story.

Actors & Readers of all ages are needed for the Easter Vigil & Easter Day Services. Please see the Youth Voice for details.

A Children's Egg Hunt will follow the Easter Vigil on Saturday, March 22. During the Agape meal the children will be invited to listen to a story and join us in an indoor egg hunt. Invite a friend; all are welcome!

Please note that Learning Time will not be held on Easter Day, Sunday, March 23.

The Children's Ministry committee will meet next on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 11 am in the Parish Hall.



### 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Bazaar

This year the Episcopal Church Women will host the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Bazaar, Friday-Sunday, November 7-9. Many years have passed, and many societal changes have taken place since the 1<sup>st</sup> Bazaar. While we earn approximately \$4,000 from the Bazaar, income is down from years past. We have fewer bakery donations, and craft donations are *way* down from 5 - 10 years ago. The Episcopal Church Women have discussed the possibility of ending annual bazaars with this, our 55th edition; however, no final decision has yet been made.

This year's featured Bazaar project is Mink Teddy Bears, but we need donation of at least 2 mink coats to make about 16 Teddy Bears. Please call Bev Boyle, 651/429-6769, if you might donate a coat.

It's not too early to consider what you could make and donate to the Bazaar!



# The Youth Voice

## Who am I?

This is a question that is ever present in my life. Even when I think I have it all figured out, I find myself back to the beginning trying to answer the question, "Who am I?" During Lent we will have followed a path of questions like this one on our Lenten Journey to Christ. Other topics have been Community and Sacred Scripture. Upcoming will be Metanoia March 5<sup>th</sup>, and the Easter Mystery March 12<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will make time on these Wednesday evenings at 6 pm to take part in these round table discussions with youth & adults who will lead us into Holy Week, and perhaps even answer that question... "Who am I?"

## Maunder Thursday Prayer Vigil Overnight

The Overnight will begin with an all parish potluck dinner at 6 pm, followed by a 7 pm service which All overnight participants are required to attend. This will not be your typical overnight. Youth 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade will be in charge of every hour throughout the night. We are inviting other youth groups to participate with us. There will be other prayerful activities that will take place during the night, and we will end the overnight at the conclusion of the Good Friday Noon service.

## Youth Mission Trip, Chicago, June 22 – 28

The youth (8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade) and parents met to discuss two possible mission locations, and it was decided that Chicago will be our destination. There will be ongoing planning meetings for the mission trip on Sunday mornings at 10 am in St. Bernard's room upstairs on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of the month. All are welcome to help in the planning of this important ministry. We will need to secure our number of participants by the middle of March for planning purposes. Commitment forms will be available on the youth board in the Parish Hall or by contacting Sheila Foster. Everyone who would like to participate on the mission trip will need to fill out a form and return it by March 16<sup>th</sup>.

## Teens Encounter Christ Retreat Weekends

The Northern Teens Encounter Christ Weekend is planned for March 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Duluth. Please watch your mail & e-mail for more information. TEC candidate forms will be posted on the youth board in the Parish Hall. Forms must be signed by a member of our clergy, so please plan ahead. St. Paul TEC information will be posted when it arrives. Youth in 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades are encouraged to attend a TEC weekend. Retreat Weekends help youth go farther with their faith, and create an environment that helps youth share their faith with the St. John's community.

## Actors Needed

The wonderful thing about worship is that it is filled with so many wonderful stories. During the Easter Vigil service at 5 pm Saturday, March 22, and during the Easter Day service at 10 am Sunday, March 23, we'll have the opportunity to tell stories. We would like to do this with drama. If you or your family members would like to participate in either service, please contact Sheila Foster or sign up in the Parish Hall. There are roles for readers, roles for those who would like to dress up, & roles for those who like to make noise. We'll tell the Creation story at the Easter Vigil, with readers and noise makers, and through drama and storytelling we'll tell the story of Israel's deliverance at the Red Sea. On Easter morning we'll tell the Gospel story

Matthew 28:1-10 through a tableau. There is an opportunity for everyone.

## Jr. High Youth Group 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Meetings

During Lent the Jr. High Youth Wednesday night meetings (with Sheila Foster & Max Stevenson) begin with participating in the 7 pm Eucharist. Following at 7:30, we will have topical conversations around "What makes us different? What makes us Christian?" Jr. High Youth also meet on Sunday Mornings at 10 am in St. Angelico's Room with Kathryn Schneider and Kelly DeSmet.

## Sr. High Youth Group 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Meetings

Sr. High youth meet in St. Bernard's Room, but when the group has been smaller they have met in the Youth Office at 10 am Sunday mornings. The 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays are being used for mission trip planning, and the other Sundays are being planned and led by the youth with either games or topical conversations. There will be no meetings on Sundays March 16 or 23.

## Why Worship?

Has anyone ever asked you, "Why do you go to Church?" or, "Why don't you go to Church?" It's a common question in my world. I could say, "It's something I've always done." Even when I was in college I went to church. That's the time when they say most young people stop going to church. I'm finding more and more of the young people I know that have been very active worship participants in their high school years tend to seek out a worship community even when they head off to college. Hmm. I wonder

