



THE MESSENGER



Parish News of St. John's Episcopal Church, Saginaw, Michigan

Volume 29, Issue 8

September 2011

The Messenger is published monthly by St. John's Episcopal Church, 123 N. Michigan Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602. This publication is mailed to our parishioners at no cost to them.

WE HAVE A NEW RECTOR!



The Rev. Daniel Cannon

and his family will be officially welcomed to St. John's this month...

We Welcome Our New Rector

St. John's has a new Rector! Over the next few weeks we will be officially welcoming Father Daniel Cannon to St. John's. Father Daniel, his wife Chrissy and daughter Julia are currently residing in the Tawas area from which Father Daniel will be leaving his four year Priest-In-Charge assignment at Christ Church. Father Daniel is a Michigan native, originally from the Detroit area. He holds a BA degree from the University of



Michigan, and a Masters of Divinity from Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Wisconsin. Father Daniel sends the following greeting to his new family at St. John's:

Dear St. John's Church Family,

Chrissy, Julia and I are truly looking forward to getting to know you all and serving Christ with you in the coming years. The first thing that struck us about St. John's when we were interviewing was the kindness and enthusiasm of its members. We could tell that you all have something special in your love for God and for one another. We look forward to sharing that with the community and the world. Saint John's embodies some of very the best qualities of the Episcopal Church including care for the poor, rootedness in tradition and beautiful Christ-centered worship. I believe that the world is hungry for what this parish has to offer and I look forward to our journey together in serving God and our neighbor.

*Christ's Peace,
Father Daniel+*

We as well look forward to the journey and to beginning a new and vibrant life together. We can expect to meet Fr. Daniel and his family at our **Welcome Back Pot-luck (September 11th)** and he will **celebrate with us beginning September 18th**. We're in the middle of planning for a hearty welcome and smooth transition for Father Daniel and his family. More information to follow in the very near future!

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Nancy Birdsall
- 5 Angela Endean
- 7 Rosalind Berlin
- 8 Susan Daugherty
- 9 Helen Lockwood
- 9 Susan Ludwig
- 17 Todd Barshaw
- 19 Carl Lockwood
- 22 Mary Jo Scharffe
- 22 Sherrie Yeager
- 23 Pam Renna
- 23 Joan Wendland
- 24 Susie Emond
- 26 Michael Keenan
- 26 Leslie (Vlassis) Arnold
- 30 Barbara Ilkka

Happy Anniversary!

- 4 Mary Jo & Bill Scharffe
- 18 Violet & Robert Hines



Thank You

Thanks to **Pam Renna** and **Burriss Smith** for organizing the St. John's Golf Scramble!

Thank you to **Berney Jones, Al Vondrasek, Dave Humpert, Tom Donaghy,** and **Burriss Smith** for your help wiring our new sound system.

Thanks to **Sharon Voelker** for continuing to lead our Wednesday service of Morning Prayer.

Thank you **Keith Birdsall** for your continued efforts editing The Messenger!

Is there someone in our parish who has gone above and beyond? If you would like to offer thanks, please call the office at 793-9575.

Good Samaritans:

Aug. 21 - Sep. 3	Connie Grantham	695-2088
Sep. 4 - Sep. 17	Kim Burau	790-2063
Sep. 18 - Oct. 5	Diane Grigg	793-1669

Vestry Members:

Janet Cosenza	401-0853	janetcosenza@charter.net
Bill Frederick	781-0002	wfrederick@tm.net
Jane Girdham	790-8712	jgirdham@svsu.edu
Connie Grantham	695-2088	grantham@hotmail.com
Marcia Hoffman	793-8354	hoffman1982@sbcglobal.net
Sue Marquardt	790-0656	r-s-keyofc@sbcglobal.net
Duncan Redfield	799-7893	redsailor7@yahoo.com
Burriss Smith	792-4775	smithbr@chartermi.net
Dennis Thom	793-9562	dennisthom@sbcglobal.net



Kicking Off Program Year 2011-2012

All of us have gifts, ideas and time to be involved at St. John's. As we progress through our season of transition it's more important than ever for us to remember that church is more than a building. It's our shared lives that build the community which makes a difference. What will you do to renew or increase your involvement here at St. John's? Below are just *some* of the programs you can be a part of as described by those involved now!

Altar Guild

St. John's Altar Guild would love to include you as a member. The Altar Guild ministry is a quiet ministry. I like to think of my time caring and preparing the altar for celebration as setting a home table with all my finest for a special dinner with friends and family. Time spent setting up for weekly service or a special event allows me a perfect opportunity for meditation; a time to remember just how much I have for which to be thankful and how fortunate I am to be a member of such a wonderful church family. Anyone interested in learning more about St. John's Altar Guild is welcome to join us at one of our fellowship dinners (once a month) or simply contact one of our members. You will be under no obligation; this just might be the opportunity you've been looking for!

Kathie Smith



Building & Grounds Committee

It is the responsibility of the Building & Grounds Committee to identify and follow up on items in need of repair or improvement. **We contact suppliers or contractors, request estimates and purchase the materials needed for the particular task at hand.** If you have skills or an interest in helping to improve our building, you would be happily welcomed as a part of this ministry team.

Berney Jones



Sunday School

St. John's is offering a special Children's Service that parallels our 10:30 service. Here, the children hear a special "Sermon for Kids" and participate in a short activity. It's a time to ask questions and learn to share their faith in a way that is easy and natural. If you or your children would like to participate in this special Children's Service please join us in the Garden Chapel prior to the 10:30 service. Because St. John's is a "Safe Church" we require two adults to be present when working with our youth.

Could you volunteer?



Choir

Do you sing in the shower? Sing-along with the radio in the car? **If you enjoy singing, come join us in the choir. No experience necessary.** Each rehearsal is a learning experience. We rehearse two evenings a month and every Sunday morning before the 10:30 service. Learn a little, laugh a lot, and make a joyful noise to the Lord with St. John's choir!

Ellen Redfield



Good Samaritans

If your looking to answer a calling to care for fellow parishioners then the Good Samaritan Ministry is calling you. The Good Samaritan program consists of volunteering for two weeks to **help out a parishioner in need.** The following are just a few examples of the program:

- Picking up groceries
- Taking to doctor appointments
- Visiting someone in the hospital
- Taking flowers to someone recovering at home
- delivering a prepared meal

If you think this is a good fit for you and would fulfill your calling, please contact Janis Rump.

Janis Rump



Lunch Bag Outreach

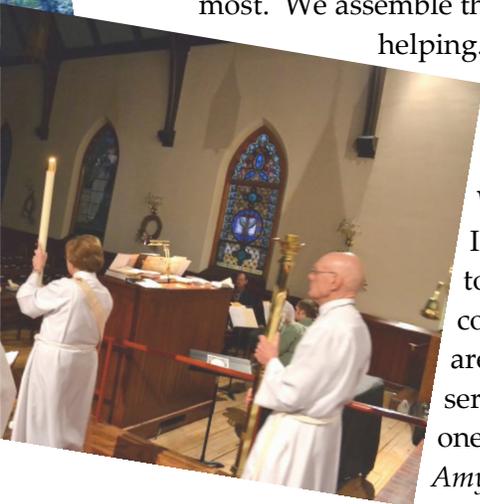
Are you the type of person who likes to see immediate results? Do you like "jumping right in" or "getting your hands dirty?" Well, you won't get your hands *dirty*, but your hands will be *busy* when you volunteer for our Lunch Bag Outreach Program.

Monday through Thursday between 9am and Noon our volunteers distribute between 25 and 50 sack lunches directly to the people who need them most. We assemble the bags, man the door and get face to face with exactly the people we're helping. Most members volunteer for one day a week, but some are every other week or as substitutes. If you don't want to wait to see the "fruits of your labor" then don't wait to get involved with Lunch Bag Outreach.

Worship Leader

If Sunday morning is where you get your kicks there are all sorts of ways to participate in the worship service. Lectors (readers), LEMs (help with communion), Acolytes (carry the cross and more), Greeters, and Ushers are all needed each week to help make the service go. I find the weeks I serve as a LEM really special. Being able to offer communion to my loved ones is unlike any thing else.

Amy Simons



Warden's Report

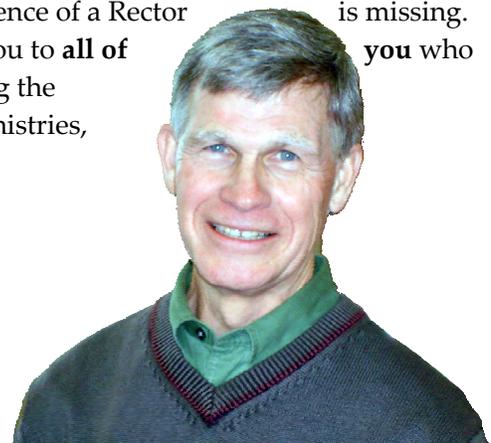
It is a wonderful feeling to welcome The Rev. Daniel Cannon, his wife Chrissy, and daughter Julia to our St. John's family! Be sure to circle two important dates your calendars. On **Sunday, September 11**, Father Daniel and family will join us for the **Kick-Off Sunday Potluck**. We think it a good thing that Daniel will have a chance to meet and greet all of us in this more informal setting before his **first official Sunday** as Rector on **September 18**. The timing is perfect to start off the new program year and the next chapter in the long history of St. John's Episcopal Church in Saginaw. By the way – several of you have asked how Father Daniel would like to be addressed. In his own words, *“As for what to call me, I will usually refer to myself as Father Daniel so people will know what formal title I prefer (as opposed to Rev. or Pastor), but I am also fine with people referring to me as Daniel.”*

When we began the search process nearly 15 months ago, we knew it would take the time. There is no more important task for the church and church leadership than calling the next Rector. Along the way we've learned much about ourselves as a parish and our aspirations and dreams for the future of our church and community.

It's definitely time to thank a large number of people for contributions above and beyond the call of duty. I cannot say enough about the commitment, expertise and joy that fellow Vestry members **Janet Cosenza, Bill Frederick, Jane Girdham, Connie Grantham, Marcia Hoffman, Sue Marquardt, Duncan Redfield** and **Dennis Thom** brought to the adventure. Add to that list four equally talented and committed folks – **Keith Birdsall, Barb Ilkka, Berney Jones, and Ellen Redfield** – and you have an extraordinary Search Committee. (Keith deserves special recognition for his ongoing roles in the process. As Senior Warden last year, his leadership in beginning the search process and at the same time keeping the church vital and healthy during the time of transition cannot be overstated. As Chair of the Search Committee after his Vestry term ended, his guidance and wisdom were critical to our success.) **Jerry Young** added his considerable expertise and understanding of things financial as we prepared the final agreements with Daniel. **Bill Scharffe**, as a member of Vestry when the process began, contributed early on in very significant ways. **Jan Young** and **Amy Simons** were indispensable all along the way – as they are every day in the life of the church. In all things liturgical, and of course musical, **Kevin Simons** has been the stalwart. **Al Gissendanner** is used to setting us straight regarding the physical operation of the church, but that role takes on even more meaning when the day-to-day presence of a Rector is missing. Finally, and most importantly, a large and heartfelt thank you to **all of you** who contributed your thoughts, ideas, talents and treasures along the way – whether in Cottage Meetings, outreach activities, ministries, worship services or the many other things that make our parish special. We know ourselves better; we know those around us better. We should be proud.

Faithfully,

Burris Smith



Kevin Simons is Elected to the Sewanee Board of Directors

Each summer our director of music, **Kevin Simons**, disappears for a few weeks to attend the Sewanee Church Music Conference in Sewanee, Tennessee. This year was no different as Kevin, **Jeremy Myers** (former *St. John's* choral scholar and current choirmaster at *St. John's* in *Mt. Pleasant*) and **Jeremiah Kraniak** (current *St. John's* choral scholar) made their way to "the Holy Mountain" to attend what is the oldest national conference for Anglican musicians in the United States. The conference is limited to 150 attendees who combine to make one choir for the duration of the conference. Rehearsals, seminars by visiting priests, organists or choirmasters and access to new music make for a complete curriculum while the entire experience climaxes in a profound Eucharist celebrated on the final Sunday.



This year, however, was a very special year for Kevin due to his unexpected nomination and election to the conference Board of Directors. Kevin describes the election in this way:

"Sewanee has been a large part of my formation as a church musician and I feel very strongly about its importance in the church. This last year was the 61st conference, and it is the only conference of its kind left in the Episcopal Church. I am deeply honored and humbled by this election, and want to thank you all for the support you have given me which has allowed my continued participation. I look forward to many more years of the Sewanee Church Music Conference!"

Congratulations Kevin, on this terrific honor! We know you will use this opportunity to share your own love and appreciation for church music with a new generation of Anglican musicians!

New Fellowship Opportunity! St. John's is in Stitches!



A group of like-minded crafters have decided the best way to finish our projects is to do them together! If you do needlepoint, cross stitch, crochet, knitting... whatever kind of stitching you do, you are always welcome to join us each **Thursday at 7:00pm**. If you just have a yearning to learn, turn up too! We usually meet at Jane Girdham's house, but to be sure either call Jane (790-8712) or look at the list in the Community Room for locations each week. We hope to see you there!

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Welcome Back Sunday!

Join us **Sunday, September 11th**, as we kick-off our the start of our 2011-2012 program year! Some of the festivities include:

- The return of the St. John's **Choir**
- The beginning of **Sunday School** (10:30am)
- **Parish Potluck** & Program "Job Fair" (11:30am)
- Introductions to our new rector the **Rev. Daniel Cannon** and his family.

Come and learn about all the wonderful ways St. John's will grow this year and how YOU can be involved! **Last names beginning A-S please bring a side or salad. Last names starting with T-Z please bring one of your families favorite desserts!**



ST. JOHN'S IS CALLED TO CARE, SHARE, WORSHIP, CELEBRATE, AND LOVE.