



THE MESSENGER



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

Volume 30, Issue 8

August 2012

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Director of Music, Kevin Simons, with several parish musicians travel to Sewanee, TN for the oldest Episcopal Church music conference in America!
Pictured LTR: Kyle Allen, Emerald Joiner, Rachel Deshone, Huw Lewis, Mary Lou Nowicki, Kevin Simons. Not Pictured: Jeremiah Kraniak

Being Part of a Larger Community

"The Butterfly Effect," "ripples in a pond," "no man is an island." These catchy clichés are all trying to express the same conventional wisdom that we are not alone. It's true. We are not alone and our actions are far reaching. I suspect the reason for so many of these sayings is because, with a little luck, we all come to this realization in our own time. When you realize that you are part of something bigger, you want to affirm that fact over and over again.

This edition of "The Messenger" discusses much about the larger community of St. John's. Articles include General Convention, the Sewanee Music Conference, 100th Birthdays and more. Our community spans distance and time while touching our members, friends, neighbors and those we will never meet.

Your St. John's community wants to accompany you as you explore what it means to be connected to each other and the larger church. It will be a different experience for each of us, but hopefully, as we learn and grow, we will want to affirm our place in it over and over again.

Amy Simons,
Communications Coordinator



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From Saginaw to Tennessee St. John's students travel far

2 Women, 100 Years

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Happy Birthday!

2 Carl McLaughlin
 2 Tom Lynes
 6 Gino Garza
 7 Dan Hoffman
 8 Jeremy Jones
 8 Rose Marie Smith
 9 Lori Baillargeon
 10 Mark Cittel
 10 Connie Clements
 12 Dan Cramer
 14 Rod Remer
 15 Linda Buzon
 16 Jim Braun
 16 Valerie Gilchrist
 18 Thomas Renna
 19 Emma Barshaw
 22 Josie Keenan
 23 Rosemary Butterfield
 23 Sue Luxton
 23 Mary Jane Spalding
 24 Marsha Braun
 24 Kim Burau
 24 Josephine Lee
 24 Matthew Reardon
 24 Clara Vlassis
 25 Rea Corcoran
 25 Susan Marquardt
 27 Ray Ilkka
 28 Paul Schaub
 30 Phyllis Richardson
 31 Robert Hines

Happy Anniversary!

6 Chrissy & Daniel Cannon
 6 Susan & Richard Marquardt
 14 Tim & Judi Braun
 15 Mary & Herb, Jr. Spence
 18 Amy & Kevin Simons
 21 Katie & Mark Wilson
 24 Diane & Ted Grigg
 25 Dorothy & Ivor Henry
 26 Betsy & Bruce Trogan
 29 Sandy & Duncan Redfield

Thank You

Thank you to **Kathy TenWold & Ellen Redfield** for all of your efforts applying for grants to support our Lunch Bag Outreach program.

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:

Jul 22 - Aug. 4	Tom Donaghy	395-3588
Aug. 5 - Aug. 18	Sharon Kaylor	781-1138
Aug. 19 - Sep. 1	Connie Grantham	695-2088

Vestry Members:

Keith Birdsall	652-6768	quilter37@charter.net
Drew Christiansen	392-0109	drewchristiansen78@gmail.com
Jane Girdham	790-8712	kgirdham@svsu.edu
Connie Grantham	695-2088	grantham@hotmail.com
Marcia Hoffman	793-8354	hoffman1982@sbcglobal.net
Mark Mahlberg	793-0801	mark-mahlberg@yahoo.com
Sue Marquardt	790-0656	r-s-keyofc@sbcglobal.net
Duncan Redfield	799-7893	redsailor7@yahoo.com
Dennis Thom	793-9562	dennisthom@sbcglobal.net

General Convention - An Example of the Anglican Way

Over the past few weeks you have likely heard or seen bits of the Episcopal General Convention in the news. This gathering, which happens annually, is where the business of the Episcopal Church takes place on a national level. And, like most meetings where hard decisions need to be made, there has been a good deal of conflict. With all of the emotions surrounding the decisions of General Convention, I would like to reflect on the Anglican (Episcopal) way which pervades it all.

Anglicanism has often been criticized by other Christian groups for the diversity of opinions and beliefs that it allows to coexist under the same roof--liberal and conservative, evangelical and catholic, traditional and modern. "Who are those Anglicans anyway?" many people ask. "What do they stand for?"

Anglicanism was forged in an age of religious conflict that make our current theological debates seem like a walk in the park. In a time when Catholics and Protestants in England were in turn being imprisoned or burned at the stake for their convictions, the Anglican compromise was forged. Religion in England would be **based around the core elements of Christianity** as perceived by the Church in England. This core deposit of faith, neither wholly Protestant nor Roman Catholic, was what C.S. Lewis later called "Mere Christianity," the original "Non-denominational" Christian faith. This faith was expressed in the Book of Common Prayer. By gathering around this common ground of Christian faith, members of the Anglican Church were free hold to their differences of conviction and biblical interpretation without warfare or bloody conflict. People were allowed to grow together, to challenge one another, all the while remaining in the same Church and serving Christ together. This leads us to a good rule of Anglicanism for us to remember today in our church debates:



The Anglican way doesn't ask you to apologize for who you are or to compromise your convictions, but you can't ask others to do so either.

No matter whether you support or disapprove of the actions of General Convention 2012, there is a place for you to be a Christian at St. John's, a Christian of deep conviction and faith. At St. John's we continue, as always, our mission of loving God and our neighbors as the body of Christ.

Fr. Daniel Cannon

Our Musicians Return from Tennessee

For the past 13 years (4 years before I came to St. John's) I have been a part of the **Sewanee Church Music** conference at the University of the South in Tennessee. The conference just concluded its 62nd year, making it the oldest conference for Episcopal musicians. For the past several years, with the support of St. John's, I have been fortunate to bring some of our choral scholars to the conference as well. This year, I was joined by two of our scholars, **Emerald Joiner** and **Jeremiah Kraniak**, as well as a member of our choir, **Kyle Allen**.

During the week, musicians gather from all over the country to learn more about how to **serve the church through music**. The conferees form a choir for the week and we work with the finest clinicians from both sides of the pond in preparing for a service of choral Evensong as well as a Sunday morning Eucharist. Within these rehearsals, we get to see how these fine musicians actually work, rather than just hearing about it in a workshop. In addition, we have daily Eucharist's which are wonderful opportunities to sing less familiar hymns and service music.

Of course, my favorite part of the week is probably the food! And boy, do we eat! It is such fun to get to see some of our scholars try grits for the first time!



Several Michigan Conferees have their photo taken with conference clinician, Huw Lewis.

The conference is a wonderful way to connect our parish to the larger church. At meals and social times, we get to hear about parishes and musical practices from around the country. This is the most valuable part of the week and conferees stay in communication with each other throughout the year by email and Facebook. Many return year after year because it is a chance to renew old acquaintances and make new friends within the church.

Thank you to St. John's for your continuing support of the conference.

Faithfully,
Kevin Simons

(Kevin was elected to the board of directors for the Sewanee Music Conference in 2011. He looks forward to helping shape and promote the event so that it continues to educate and inspire Episcopal musicians for years to come.)



A view of sanctuary at All Saints' in Sewanee, TN

Celebrating 100 Years of Witness

Being part of a larger community doesn't simply expand in one dimension, from person to person as we see them today, but can also reach through time. St. John's is blessed to have two parishioners who are celebrating birthdays of 100 years or more! The wisdom and collective history of these two women offer our community the insight of over a century of witness!

100 Years Young

One hundred years old, but look how young she looks. This picture was just taken on July 22, 2012, about one month before what will be **Rosemary Butterfield's** 100th birthday. That morning, when we arrived at her apartment building to pick her up for church, she wasn't waiting for us and she didn't answer when I rang her apartment on the security system. Where was she? Coming up the driveway from taking a walk while she had been waiting for us! She was using her walker, but nevertheless it was amazing in my eyes! It is wonderful to see Rosemary so full of life!



Rosemary became a member of St. John's in 1924. Although she left to attend St. Matthew's for a few years when it first opened, she has been back at St. John's since the mid-1950s when she, Edward, her husband of sixty years, and son Joel moved to Frankenmuth. They have both since passed away, but her two grandchildren, Bryan and Holly, and one great-grandchild remain a joyful part of her life.

In the days when most of the women of the church belonged to one guild or another— there were several here for many years—Rosemary was a member of the Christ Child Guild. For those who are too young to remember, the Guilds had many functions centered on hospitality, fellowship, fundraising, outreach and prayer. "Those were the good old days!" I remember them taking turns preparing, hosting and serving the many dinners we had when I was growing up here.

Her working years were spent at the Court House doing "office work" for the Roads Commission. Until a few years ago, Rosemary volunteered at the Good Neighbor Mission food program located at First Presbyterian Church. Now that she is truly retired and still living independently, she enjoys playing cards with some of the other tenants in her apartment building.

We get her to church as often as we can, but when that doesn't work she is happy to receive communion at home from one of our Eucharistic Visitors or Father Daniel. If at all possible, she will be in church on Sunday, August 26, just three days after her 100th birthday. Happy Birthday, Rosemary!

Submitted by: *Jan Young*

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The Lady in Purple

July 16, 2012, marked the 103rd birthday of **Dorothy Dill**. Dorothy was a life-long parishioner at Calvary Church. Unfortunately Dorothy was already homebound when Calvary merged with St. John's, so many of you never got to know this unique and devout lady. She was well known at Calvary for being "the lady in purple." Impeccably coiffed and dressed usually in purple, Dorothy was certainly a presence at our church. She always occupied the third pew on the left side of the church right in front of the pulpit. On the rare occasion when she was unable to come to church, the pew was empty indeed!

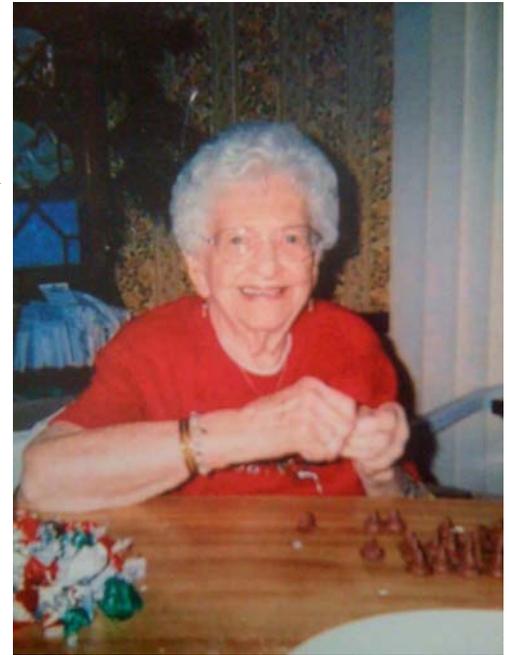
She served for many years on the Altar Guild and was a member of St. Helena's Women's Guild. She was always the first to volunteer for any of the church's events and projects. She could often be seen at the sink in the kitchen washing or drying dishes. She served as a "waitress" at our parish dinners, helped at rummage sales, ice cream socials and church receptions. You never had to ask Dorothy twice. She was right there ready to lend a helping hand. Well into her nineties, she even assisted in cleaning the church. I think that dusting the pews was her specialty! There was never an event at the church that Dorothy did not attend.

Several years ago she moved from her own apartment to her daughter's home. There she is cared for lovingly by her daughter, son-in-law and many devoted family members. We take her communion regularly from the St. John's altar and she is always glad to see us, greeting us with a smile and "Thank you so much for coming. I just love you so much."

The last time Father Daniel and I went to her home, Father Daniel anointed her with oil and performed the laying on of hands. It was a moving ceremony for this special lady. When we were getting ready to leave, she asked me for a kiss. I was happy to kiss her on the forehead. She replied: "Oh, thank you. I love kisses!" Well, when Father Daniel bent down to kiss her good-bye, he kissed her on the cheek. "Thank you so much," she whispered, "but I would like a kiss *on the lips!*" He gladly granted the favor. I suppose when you are 103 years old most requests are granted!

Dorothy Dill is indeed an exceptional lady. Please keep her in your prayers as she begins her 104th year of life as a devout follower of Jesus Christ.

Submitted by: *Pam Renna*



Expanding our Community through Fellowship and Outreach...

St. John's Golf Scramble - August 19 @ 3:00pm

Do you remember the fun we had last year at the Golf Scramble at the Sawmill Golf Course? Well, we are set to do it again! It is on **Sunday, August 19th** with tee times beginning at **3:00 p.m.** The price of \$15 a person includes: 9 holes of golf with cart and a free bucket of warm up balls to hit before your round. There will be a fellowship time after the golf when the prizes will be awarded. Watch for the signup sheet in the community room. We are looking forward to this great time together. Bring your friends! The more people we have, the better! If you have any questions, please contact Pam Renna (798-0229) or Burris Smith (792-4775). Please sign up in the Community Room or by calling the parish office.



Old Town Christian Outreach Volunteering

The fourth Saturday of each month, St. John's sends a group of volunteers to assist in the soup kitchen at the Old Town Christian Outreach Center. We meet at St. John's at 9:15am, then report to the Outreach Center and work until around 1:00pm. This is a huge help to the outreach center and we represent ourselves well in the community around us. There is no ongoing commitment; simply come when you can. Consider making it a family outing for those with older children!



Mittens & More

This is a reminder to all of those who knit and crochet (and may need a little extra time to complete our projects!). We will continue to make mittens, scarves and other items as a donation to the Children's Abuse and Neglect Council in November. Your prayers, love and extra care make all the difference to a scared child. Contact Mary Spence (792-0941) for more information, patterns, or materials.

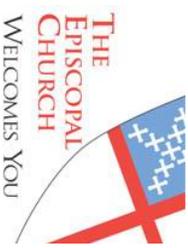


Looking for more ways to connect to your community?

Contact Amy Simons (amy@stjohns-saginaw.org) at the parish office to explore ways that you can become involved and make a lasting connection to your community here at St. John's!

ST. JOHNS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 123 N. MICHIGAN AVE.
 SAGINAW, MI 48602
www.stjohns-saginaw.org

AUGUST 2012



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 <i>The 10th Sunday of Pentecost</i> 8:00am – Holy Eucharist 9:30am – Pick-Up Choir 10:00am – Nursery 10:30am – Holy Eucharist 12:15pm – Holy Eucharist	6	7	8 1 Noon – Morning Prayer w/ Holy Communion 6:00pm – Altar Guild Dinner Meeting	9	10	11
12 <i>The 11th Sunday of Pentecost</i> 8:00am – Holy Eucharist 10:00am – Nursery 10:30am – Holy Eucharist 12:15pm – Holy Eucharist	13	14	15 Noon – Morning Prayer w/ Holy Communion	16	17	18
19 <i>The 12th Sunday of Pentecost</i> 8:00am – Holy Eucharist 10:00am – Nursery 10:30am – Holy Eucharist 12:15pm – Holy Eucharist 3:00pm – Golf Scramble	20	21	22 Noon – Morning Prayer w/ Holy Communion	23	24	25 9:15am – Old Town Christian Outreach Volunteer Day
26 <i>The 13th Sunday of Pentecost</i> Youth Sunday 8:00am – Holy Eucharist 9:30am – Pick-Up Choir 10:00am – Nursery 10:30am – Holy Eucharist 12:15pm – Holy Eucharist	27	28 7:00pm – Finance Committee Meeting	29 Noon – Morning Prayer w/ Holy Communion	30	31	

Care, Share, Worship, Celebrate, & Love