



THE MESSENGER



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

Volume 28, Issue 6

June 2010

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.

Hail and Farewells

The Army has a tradition of gatherings called "Hail and Farewells", acknowledging the personnel changes that happen fairly regularly. This past Pentecost was one such gathering. Fortunately ours don't happen as regularly. We are welcoming our friends from Calvary. We look forward to sharing their ministries and ours.

We are also saying farewell to the Elins. It's been said "the job of a parent is to provide roots and wings." That could also be the job description for a rector in today's church. It is what Darren has given us at St. John's. Bishop Ousley acknowledged this at a recent Vestry meeting when he noted that we have become much less clergy dependent. In the Vision process we spent a year looking at who we are to-day as St. John's, and where we want to go. Our roots.

In addition to spiritual leadership, Darren has provided financial leadership so we can work toward eliminating our budget deficit. In the process, sometimes even gaining fellowship opportunities while saving money -- like blue jean Sundays, potlucks and even the fellowship in the kitchen doing dishes. We have learned not only how to do more with less, but have fun along the way. As our Vision became clearer, we gained the faith in God and ourselves to launch an ambitious capital campaign and accessibility project. These are our wings, lifting us to new places while we remain centered in Old Saginaw City.

We have appreciated your many gifts, Darren, including your chanting the liturgy. Sarah, yours has been a quiet presence, but a beautiful addition to our services with your violin. It's been fun to watch Elizabeth and Nicholas grow from toddlers to delightful children. You have all been a very special part of St. John's family. Now we give you our thanks, and wish you Godspeed.

Ellen Redfield,
Past Senior Warden



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2010!

Heritage High School
Sarah Hoffman

Nouvel Catholic Central High School
Tyler Rump

Saginaw Valley State University
Tami Snyder, BA
Caleb Knutson, BA

Central Michigan University
Alexandra Vlassis

University of Missouri
Liz Braun, BA & BJ



Thank you Choir!

Another choir season has ended, and I'd like to thank all of the singers who volunteer so much time to keep the choir running smoothly and sounding so terrific! Our singers log in over 3,000 hours of volunteer time each year, which is nothing short of astounding!

In addition to singing, several of our choir members help out behind the scenes. Susan Ludwig maintains our folders, robes and library and Ellen Redfield and Susan and Richard Marquardt take care of the choir notebooks. This is a lot of work, and it is much appreciated! Thank you to all!



Soli Deo Gloria,
Kevin Simons

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Jeff Endean
- 2 Mia Coulouris
- 3 Ida Smith
- 4 Lynda Glenn
- 5 Janis Rump
- 7 Charlotte Jacqmain
- 8 Bryan Butterfield
- 11 Joshua Daugherty
- 16 Steven Jacqmain
- 18 Richard Mott
- 19 Mary Ellen Whitney
- 19 Lou Smith
- 20 Ned Wetmore
- 23 Alyse Strahm
- 24 Betty Donaghy
- 25 Thomas Blackney
- 26 Paulette Stuart
- 27 Nicholas Elin

Happy Anniversary

- 3 Connie & Tom Grantham
- 3 Kathie & Burris Smith
- 8 Sherrie & Randy Yeager
- 9 Myrna & Jeff Endean
- 13 Jane & Al Vondrasek
- 23 Eleanor & Carl McLaughlin
- 27 Sarah & Darren Elin

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped with Emily Morris' memorial service including but not limited to: **Sharon Kaylor, Nancy Kraus, Ruth Samra, Joan Wendland, Melanie Hollman, Nancy Birdsall & Sue Luxton.**

Thank you **Sue Luxton, Jan Young, Sue Marquardt, Sharon Kaylor, Ida Smith, Barb Ilkka, Kim Burau, Betty Donaghy, Ellen Redfield, and Sallie Swanson,** for all of your efforts of hospitality for Tom Estes' funeral.

Thanks to all who made our May Parish Potluck and Farewell party such a day to remember including but not limited to: **Sue & Jack Luxton, Jan & Jerry Young, John Young, Berney & Barb Jones, Jane & Al Vondrasek, Sharon Kaylor, Ida Smith, Lou Smith, Ruth Samra, Nancy & Keith Birdsall, Ellen Redfield, Marsha & Sara Hoffman, Melanie Hollman, Kathryn Rose, Tom Donaghy, Kevin Simons, & Herb Spence.**

Thank you **John & Barb Roberts, Pat Lynes, Bill Frederick, & Sue Brigham** for your on going efforts helping prepare The Messenger each month!

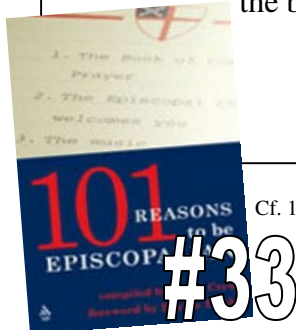
Is there someone in our parish who has gone above and beyond? If you would like to offer thanks, please call the office at 793-9575.

Good Samaritans:

May 30 - June 12	Sperry Garber	790 - 4940
June 13 - June 26	Sue Marquardt	790 - 0656
June 27 - July 10	Janet Cosenza	907 - 1630

Episcopalians try to love with the heart of Christ, think with the mind of Christ, and act as if we were the body of Christ.

*Prof. Willis H. A. Moore
Diocese of Hawaii*



Cf. 101 Reasons to be Episcopalian, compiled by Louie Crew. © 2003 by Louie Crew/Morehouse ISDN 0-8192-1925-8 ePublishing.

Habitat for Humanity is June 18th.



Each June for the past five years, we have helped to make a difference by taking part with Habitat for Humanity’s Blitz Builds and Neighborhood Revitalization Projects. Although some of the circumstances have changed, this year is no exception. We invite you and your family to come have fun and make a difference as we help others to make a lasting difference for families in our greater community.

This year we’ll be partnering with the Lake Huron Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and our local Habitat chapter as they assist once again in house building and neighborhood revitalization. **We have been asked to help provide support to this great effort by sponsoring a day of meals for the troupe of about 25 people on June 18th.** Being part of the support team means that there are opportunities for everyone, no matter what your age to be involved and help make a difference.

Want to be a part of the Habitat Team? Stop by the outreach board in the Community Room and sign up to:

- Help prepare / serve meals (there is a lunch and a dinner shift)
- Bake Cookies
- Donate

More information will be forthcoming, and you can contact Jerry Young at 989-790-9295 who will help coordinate this great project to sign-up and join this great team!

Lawn Chair Film Festival

Each Sunday evening starting in June one of our Summers feature films will be showing on the corner of Ames and North Hamilton!

All you need is a chair, a snack, and a friend to enjoy the show! Take this chance to be part of something good in Old Town Saginaw. This is a great place to worship and play!



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You are Making Our Future Accessible!

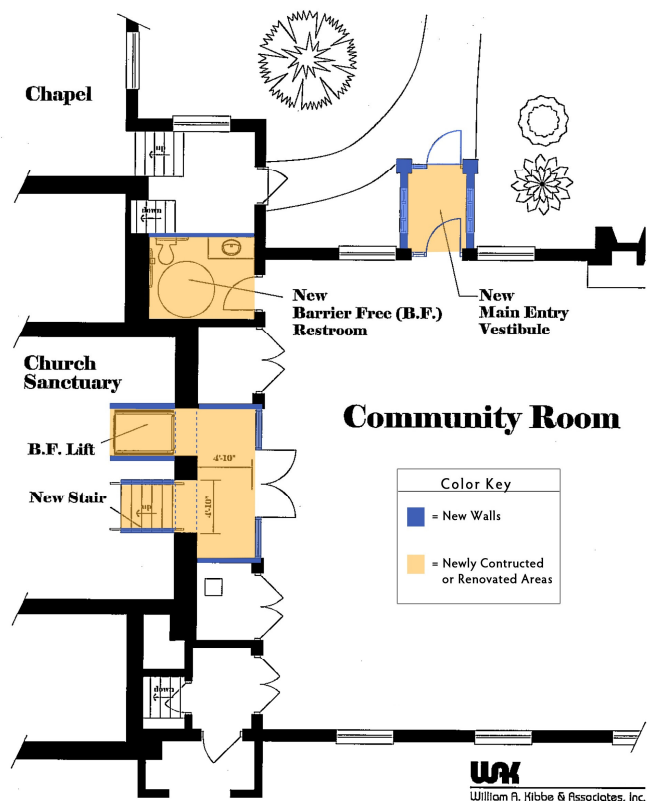
Congratulations! Pat yourself on the back! We can proudly report that **65 of 95** St. John's households have pledged a total of over \$130,000. These along with several foundational gifts bring our vision into a reality of meeting our goal of \$150,000! **Because of this, our Vestry voted to proceed with the project with ground-breaking to begin on August 18th.** You can still be a part of this momentous day in the life and ministry of St. John's by prayerfully considering how you can help make a difference and pledge! You can even contribute via our secure website at <http://www.stjohns-saginaw.org/accessibility.html>.

When you do, you've made possible:

- indoor access between our Worship Space and Community Room
- barrier-free restroom
- larger lift for assisting a standard wheelchair
- new and inviting main entrance.

It is because of the commitment we share and the pledge you have offered that our vision of being a welcoming church for all is becoming a reality. It is incredible that so many people have come to celebrate what we are doing. Clearly, the Accessibility Project will serve the needs of our community for generations to come!

Remember this is our vision and together we can make our future accessible for all!





JAKE'S OLD CITY GRILL

Steak ♦ Seafood ♦ Spirits

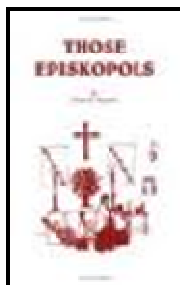
100 SOUTH HAMILTON ♦ OLD SAGINAW CITY, MI 48602 ♦ 989-79-STEAK

www.jakesforsteaks.com

Summer Reading with an Anglican Twist:

For those of you looking for your next “good read” here is a collection of summer reading with an Anglican twist. A mix of the racy, reflective, and reference there is something for everyone to enjoy!

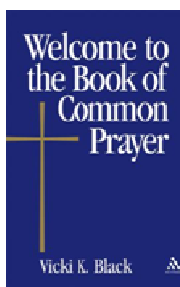
Reference:



Those Episkopols

By Dennis R. Maynard

A parish priest with thirty-six years of experience in ministry deals with questions he has been asked by inquirers over the years. In this book, he responds to such questions as: Why do Episcopalians read their prayers? Does God like all that ritual? Are Episcopalians just a lot of do-gooders? Why do Episcopalians reject Biblical Fundamentalism? Are there any Episcopalians in Heaven? and others. *Review by Amazon.com*



Welcome To The Book Of Common Prayer

By Vicki K. Black

In this guide for newcomers as well as lifelong Episcopalians, author Vicki Black helps readers navigate the currents of Anglican liturgy and discover its richness and beauty. As we use the Book of Common Prayer, Black says, "we discover we are not alone, and this liturgical current of worship, prayer, and praise will indeed take us where we want to go-union with the God we seek to love." Welcome to the Book of Common Prayer shows readers everything from where to find the Sunday collect to how to pray the Daily Office. But it's more than a how-to. It offers history and background that help make the prayer book a more meaningful part of the worship life of individuals and congregations. With thoughtful reflection questions, this is a perfect volume for parish study groups. *Review by Amazon.com*

Reflective:

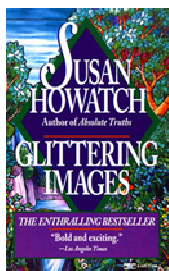


The Poems of Rowan Williams

By Rowan Williams, March 2004

Long admired as a compassionate churchman and a superb scholar, Rowan Williams is also a poet of resounding voice and feeling. His earthy, poetic meditations are for everyone, religious and nonreligious alike. Archbishop Williams speaks from the crucible of faith, yet his words emerge from the universal experience of life. "I dislike the idea of being a religious poet," he says. "I would prefer to be a poet for whom religious things matter intensely." The Poems of Rowan Williams gathers all of the poems from the Archbishop's two previous collections, *After Silent Centuries* (1994) and *Remembering Jerusalem* (2001), and includes some more recent ones as well. *Copyright 2010: <http://www.secaucus.org/oursaviour/fiction.html>*

Fiction:



Glittering Images
By Susan Howatch, 1995

A controversial speech on divorce reform in the House of Lords by the outspoken Bishop of Starbridge provokes the Archbishop of Canterbury to dispatch his protege, Charles Ashworth, Doctor of Divinity, to look for any skeletons in the Bishop's closet or in his bed that the gutter press could use to smear the Bishop and, by extension, the Church. Ashworth, a debonair widower, is immediately attracted to Lyle Christie, paid companion to Carrie Jardine, the Bishop's wife. There's no doubt that sex and religion can make exciting bedfellows; add mysteries within mysteries, scenes of charismatic spiritual healing and a deft creation of a middle-class milieu that disappeared with WW II, and you have an engrossing novel that challenges the reader's sense of the fine points of morality. Howatch succeeds in making the subtle and complex theological points of a spiritual transformation both credible and exciting in a narrative whose dramatic tension never abates. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc.



The Alto Wore Tweed
by Mark Schweizer, 2002

St. Germaine is a quiet little town in the mountains of North Carolina. Quiet until full-time police detective, part-time Episcopal choirmaster and aspiring whodunit novelist Hayden Konig begins his opus amidst murder and hilarious mayhem at St. Barnabas Church. Copyright 2010: <http://www.secaucus.org/oursaviour/fiction.html>

Volunteerism: Privilege or Responsibility

As a member of the St. John's Community, we are fortunate to possess a multitude of varied opportunities in which to volunteer, to participate. These opportunities to "Care, Share..." include but are not limited to: altar guild, choir, worship leaders, outreach ministries, and greeters/hosts. Equally satisfying are those less formal opportunities: providing transportation to and from church for someone in need, visiting those unable to attend services, calling those who recently have missed services as well as extending a friendly hand to our visitors.

By volunteering we are offering of ourselves; this very action is an immeasurable source of satisfaction and accomplishment. We can only imagine how meaningful such offers may be to the recipients! Volunteerism usually includes some degree of responsibility. If we have offered our participation, we are obligated; in those rare instances we cannot assist, we would identify a substitute and notify the church office in a timely fashion.

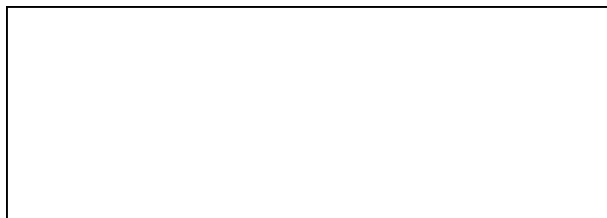
Is it a privilege or a responsibility to volunteer? I believe it is both. Furthermore, I'm aware that the continued success of St. John's depends greatly on our maintaining, if not increasing, our level of volunteerism. Help us to live into our mission to "Care, Share, Worship, Celebrate, and Love."

Keith H. Birdsall,
Senior Warden



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Hey, we're on TV!

Thanks to everyone who showed up early to help share what makes St. John's one of TV5's "Cool Churches."

If you missed us on TV or were at church and didn't see the final product, go to our home page and click the "We're on TV" link to view the video! www.stjohns-saginaw.org



Did your pledge go on vacation?

From now on, when we forget our check-books, miss a Sunday while on vacation, or want to donate to a special cause your gift to St. John's is only a few clicks away.

Visit the *Support Us* page on our parish website and you can donate with your credit card. St. John's is PayPal verified which means that any credit card transaction you process via our website is safe and secure.

By clicking on a "Donate" button from the *Support Us* page you will be taken to PayPal where you can enter your information, gift amount, and a memo regarding the purpose of your gift. *Yes, it's that easy!*

