



THE MESSENGER



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

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KICK-OFF SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 9TH

We All Have a Place at St. John's

September begins our family's second year together with all of you here at St. John's. Over this past year we have shared our joys and sorrows and come through it all with a stronger bond of community. This testifies to the presence of Christ guiding us and helping us as we seek to bless and serve the world in His name. One of the things that has impressed me at St. John's is how there is a place for everyone here. Whether volunteering to hand out lunch bag meals each week to our community, helping to prepare for and serving in the Sunday worship, tending the church gardens, preparing parish dinners, visiting the sick and housebound, or serving on the leadership board (the vestry), the people of St. John's have many opportunities to take a vital and active role in the life of this parish.

This fall we want to highlight the ministries that make our experience at St. John's so rewarding and talk about some of the new ministries and activities that we are starting. One of the new groups we are starting this fall is our Prayer Book and Bible Study, for new and old members alike.

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How can you feed 50 people for \$75? Lunch Bag Outreach!

New Study Group:

The Book of Common Prayer

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Nancy Birdsall
- 1 Claire Simons
- 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 Arnold
- 30 Barbara Ilkka

Happy Anniversary!

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

Thank You

Thank you to **Pat Lynes, Sue Marquardt, Kathie Smith** and **Nancy Kraus** for helping in the office while our staff took some vacation time this summer!

Thank you **Sue Marquardt** for your help organizing the Kick-Off Sunday parish potluck.

Thanks to **Marcia Hoffman, Sonni Magyar** and **Jane Vondrasek** for volunteering in the nursery last month!

Thanks to **Keith Birdsall** for your continued assistance with editing "The Messenger."

Thank you **Sue Ludwig** for your efforts organizing the choir library.

Thanks to **Sue Brigham** for your faithful help folding the Sunday bulletins each week!

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:		
Sep. 2 - Sep. 15	Janet Cosenza	401-0853
Sep. 16 - Sep. 29	Kim Burau	790-2063
Sep. 30 - Oct. 13	Kathie & Burris Smith	792-4775

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

[... "We All Have a Place at St. John's" continued]

This group will meet on Tuesdays at 4pm at St. John's and seeks to connect our Bible readings with our Episcopal prayer tradition from the Book of Common Prayer. To enrich and inspire our faith, we will also be starting our C.S. Lewis book groups in 2013. Another ministry that continues at St. John's is our "Get Out and Volunteer Saturday" the fourth Saturday of each month. We look to continue to bring volunteers from St. John's to help with various community outreach programs including the neighborhood food distribution at the Old Town Christian Outreach Center. They truly appreciate our help and support. And finally this year, we hope to build on the success of our Youth Sundays by reconvening the Acolytes Guild for our parish young people. Our Youth will have the opportunity to serve as acolytes on other than Youth Sunday and earn their Acolyte Crosses as well as having a fun outing together. St. John's is our local expression of the Family of God and we want everyone to have a place here as we seek to be faithful to our calling in Christ.



Fr. Daniel with daughter, Julia

Kick Off Sunday!

Kick Off Sunday is **September 9th** following the 10:30 service! Be there for the start of a great new program year! There will be a parish potluck, volunteer information and a chance to meet the Sunday School & Nursery Staff! This is a great way for a fresh start at St. John's, a way to meet your fellow parishioners, catch up with friends and find your place in the community.



Kick Off Sunday 2011!

Parish Potluck:

Last names beginning with **A-S** please bring a **hot side or salad**. Last names beginning with **T-Z** please share one of your **favorite desserts!** If you are joining us for the first time, *please be our guest!*

Getting Involved: Finding What's Right for You!

Let's be honest. The word volunteer carries with it many connotations. Most of us hear the word and instantly think of swinging a hammer on a hot rooftop or sitting at a bake sale table making small talk with someone we'll never see again. Many of us have volunteered by coming to the aid of a cause that's short on elbow grease and then going on our way. But volunteering at St. John's is different. **At St. John's you're not temporary; you're part of a community.** Volunteering means getting involved, building relationships and lifting your community.

What can you do this year to be involved at St. John's? Below are some volunteer opportunities organized in ways that may help you get the most out of what you choose. We'll have more detailed information on Kick Off Sunday or you can contact Amy Simons in the parish office at any time!

When do I have time?			
On Sundays: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeter/Usher • Reader • Serve in the Altar Party • Coffee Hour Host • Sunday School Aid 	During the Week: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Bag Outreach • Office Help • Good Samaritan • Alter Flower Delivery 	Special Ministries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir • Altar Guild • Building & Grounds 	As Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery Substitute • Grant Writing • Gardening • Lunch Bag Shopping • Soup Kitchen • Photography

What am I good at?			
Working with people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greeter/Usher • Coffee Hour Host • Sunday School Aid • Good Samaritan 	Working alone: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunch Bag Outreach • Office Help • Alter Flower Delivery • Grant Writing 	Small Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choir • Altar Guild • Building & Grounds 	Organizing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Baskets • Lunch Bag Outreach

The St. John's Lunch Bag Program Needs You!

One of the things that amazed me this summer was how many families I saw show up at our door for lunches. Mothers and fathers with four or five kids in tow, coming to get a peanut butter sandwich, crackers and juice from St. John's lunch bag program. This ministry is one of the few lunch programs on the west side of Saginaw and as such, it fills a critical gap so that families in need have a place to go throughout the week. It blesses me to see the people of St. John's so supportive of this ministry both by volunteering and by donating to help keep it going. Our rummage sale and donations from church members were able to raise \$1,400 for this important outreach. But what is becoming more and more difficult is meeting the increased need while at the same time we are losing \$4,000 in grants next year. This summer the heavy demand has increased the daily cost to run the program from an average of \$50 to over \$88 on most days. At this rate it looks like the program could run out of funds by November and next year's funding is in jeopardy due to the loss of the source of grant money. We share this information knowing that this ministry is important to the people of St. John's and inviting directed gifts which will go 100% to support this outreach. Our hope is that each person at St. John's could fund one or two days worth of lunches either by donating money or buying the items from Sam's Club and donating them to the church. In this way I believe that we will be able to continue to meet the needs of the hungry families in our neighborhood.

Fr. Daniel +



Jerry Young helps shop and unload supplies for our Lunch Bag Outreach Program.

Meet the Nursery Staff

St. John's wants to offer our young families the tools they need for worship including a trained and staffed nursery! Nursery is a place where our pre-school age children can nap, play and engage with each other in a safe place, just for them! Parents are encouraged to get to know the staff and participate in their children's nursery experience.



Allison Martuch

Allison Martuch - This is Allison's second season on the St. John's nursery staff. She lives in Saginaw and is currently studying at Delta College. Her educational goal is to study law at the University of Michigan. She enjoys her time in the nursery at St. John's and hopes to broaden her skill and experience caring for young children.



Karli Jenkins

Karli Jenkins - Karli Jenkins is a theater major at Saginaw Valley State University. She recently was on staff at the Minneapolis Children's Theater's summer camp program and is looking forward to getting to know our nursery kids. This will be her first season at St. John's.



Lexee Longwell

Lexee Longwell - Lexee is also a theater major at Saginaw Valley State University. She is a certified baby-sitter and has worked as a nanny for several summers. This will also be her first season at St. John's.

The nursery staff at St. John's have all been "Safe Church" trained and are given opportunities for CPR and First Aid certifications throughout the year. These programs ensure that all of our children are given the best possible care while at St. John's. Show your support and get to know our staff!

New Study: The Book of Common Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer binds us together as Episcopalians. It contains our liturgy, our history and outlines rites of our Christian lives such as baptism, confirmation, marriage, burial and more! Whether you've been a member from the cradle or you've only recently started to explore our Episcopal heritage, everyone can benefit from studying the Book of Common Prayer.

When: Tuesdays at 4:00pm

Where: Guild Room

Topics: **Week 1:** 9/4/12 Introduction to Common Prayer
Week 2: 9/11/12 Daily Prayer: Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer
Week 3: 9/18/12 Baptism - Renouncing Satan and our Covenant with Christ
Week 4: 9/25/12 Baptism - The Waters of Rebirth and the Oil of Christ
Week 5: 10/2/12 Holy Eucharist: Rite I the Reformation Service
Week 6: 10/9/12 **No Bible Study this week (Fr. Daniel vacation)**
Week 7: 10/16/12 Holy Eucharist: Rite II the New (Ancient) Service
Week 8: 10/23/12 The Rite of Confirmation
Week 9: 10/30/12 Marriage and the Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child
Week 10: 11/6/12 Reconciliation, Ministration to the Sick, & Time of Death
Week 11: 11/13/12 Burial of the Dead
Week 12: 11/20/12 **No Bible Study this week (Fr. Daniel vacation)**
Week 13: 11/27/12 Ordinations: Bishop, Priest and Deacon
Week 14: 12/4/12 Prayers and the Catechism
Week 15: 12/11/12 Concluding Commentary - Last Bible Study of 2012

