



The Missioner

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
Washington & 11th Streets, Lockport, IL 60441
815-834-1168 www.stjohns-lockport-il.org

Volume 22, Number 12

December 2015

It's sometimes tough to come down from all of the energy of Advent and Christmas. The days that follow Christmas seem to have a lull, but also a strange magic about them. I'm not simply talking about the enjoyment of new things—certainly that is pretty nice. However, I do think that there is something even deeper about our experience with Christmas that lingers in our hearts for a while after. Perhaps there is something about all of the intention and waiting in the anticipation before Christmas that lends us some different perspective in the longer term. Whatever it is, it is captivating and invigorating.

My guess is that this is why we need a whole season for Christmas, and a season for Epiphany, as well. We need some time to come down, and figure out what it all means. Because however it is that the Holy Spirit has chosen to move within us; we know that it must be for a wider purpose than just tickling our feel-goods.

This, I think speaks to the responsibility of spiritual experience—and more importantly to being part of the Church. What we find, if we open ourselves up to spiritual experience, is that what we thought was only for ourselves is actually the seed of something for the whole community—even the world. It might be anything **from having some revelation about the mysteries of God, to something as simple as learning to love one's family and friends in a much more meaningful way.** Either way, these gifts are to be shared for the good of all people. The tricky part is figuring out how best to share such things. Of course, this takes discernment.

But the good news is that because we are given a community of faith, we are given people who can help us **to discern how best to share what we are given. And if we can commit to be part of one another's lives** through service, prayer and worship—we find that our experiences and the use of our gifts can be discerned with people who have become trusted friends. As it turns out, when we understand our experiences with God, and our gifts as not for ourselves only; we see that they naturally draw us ever closer to community **(which is pretty cool, actually).** And once again we find God's call to community and (dare I say it) evangelism renewed as our lives and stories are invigorated by experiencing God.

So, as we move through the short season of Christmas, and look toward Epiphany—it is important that we not forget the love, light and warmth of Christmas. If anything, the season of Epiphany is a time in which we are to take the wonderful mysteries of Christ that we experience, and allow them to shine that they can be shared. We must allow it to manifest in good works and devotion. And above all, we must allow it to continually transform our hearts and minds so that as we experience a deepening relationship with God, the love that we find there can be incarnated to the world around us

Peace,

Fr. Matt Humm+

Bishop's Committee News

*In order to expedite this newsletter issue, the
Bishop's Committee News for November 2015
will be forth coming under separate cover.*

~ Parish Office

Next Bishop's Committee Meeting is Wednesday, December 16 @ 6:30 PM.



Time

Talent

Treasure

St. John - 2016 Stewardship

Thanks to all for supporting the mission and ministries at St. Johns and returning your **2016 Stewardship of "Time, Talent & Treasure" Cards**. Cards can still be put in the offering plate or mailed to the church office until the end of year.

Contact: Clark Davis.

2016 St. John Church Directory...please take a moment and review / edit your contact information located in the red binder at back of church.

Look forward to distributing an up-to-date directory in the new year.

Thank you,
~ Parish Office



Worship & Formation

St. John The Evangelist Episcopal Church

All Are Welcome!

Christmas Eve: 4:30 PM Family Service & 11 PM Candlelight Service

10 AM Christmas Morning Service

10 AM New Year's Morning Service

** Assistance Requested: Please consider serving during one of the services listed.
Sign-up sheet at the back of the church. Thank You! **



CHURCH SCHOOL

Schedule this Month: December 13 & December 27

Time: during 10:30 AM Sunday Service

Ages: 3—11

Where: In Parish Hall

Contact: Ellen Hill

St. John's is invited to know your Muslim neighbors at the Open Mosque Day

Sat, Dec 5 from 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM.

Held at [Masjid Al-Jumu'ah Mosque](#) at 351 Veterans Parkway, Bolingbrook.

Event to offer tour, presentations, prayer observance, discussion and Q&A opportunity.

Sign-up sheet at back of church. Contact: Charity Humm



Wednesday Evening Eucharist Service & Formation

December Schedule: 2nd, 9th & 30th

Time: 7 PM

Contact: Fr. Matt Humm

All are invited to join Centering Prayer at 8:00 AM
each Saturday morning in the church. (Resumes Dec 5, after Thanksgiving break.)

Contact: Charity Humm



MIQRA (meek • rah)

Weekend retreat that focuses on the Bible and allows teens to discover
what's in it, why we should care, and how to read it.

When: January 16-18, 2016

Who: Youth in Grades 6-12

Priority Deadline: Early January 2016 (price increases by \$10 after date)

Where: [Grace Episcopal Church, Oak Park](#)

Registration Fee: \$65

Registration: [Online Registration](#) open!

December Lectionary

Date	1st Lesson	Psalm	2nd Lesson	Gospel
December 6	Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi 3:1-4	Canticle 4 or 16	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
December 13	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Canticle 9	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
December 20	Micah 5:2-5a	Canticle 3 or 15 or Psalm 80:1-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)
December 27	Isaiah 61:10-62:3	Psalm 147 or 147:13-21	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7	John 1:1-18

Parish Life

Note of Gratitude for continued service to the mission here at St. John's...

- Lillian Hensley, Jan McElheny, Kim McElheny and Tom Pouk for their efforts in organizing and selling Kringles for the St. John's Youth Group fundraiser.
- Those that continue to sweep, dust and clean around the church. Thank you!



Greening of the Church & Potluck
Sunday, November 29th after
the 10:30 AM Service.

Candle Exchange on Dec 6 at
11:30 PM coffee hour.
Contact: Jan McElheny.



We know you have one, so don't be shy St. John's!



Ugly Christmas Sweater Party
for all ages on
Sat, Dec 19th at 6:30 PM.
Contact: Kim McElheny

2016 Altar Flower & Sanctuary Candle Sign-up
now available at back of church.



Christmas Flower Memorial / Thanksgiving
envelopes now available in pews and will be
collected now through Sun, Dec 20.
Thank you!

Outreach

Toys for Tots gift drive, for children up to age 12, to be collected
now through Sun, Dec 6. Items should be new and unwrapped.
Thank you! Contacts: Ruth Kozlowski & Judy Broud.



Invite family and friends to
Christmas Radio Theater!

December 1, 8, 15 & 22 with Christmas presentations from 6:30 PM—8 PM.

This outreach event is free and open to the public.
Sweet treats and beverages available for sale.

Contact: Kim McElheny



Lockport Food Pantry - December Schedule of Suggested Items for Donations

December 6: Pork & Beans / Any
kinds of beans

December 13: peanut butter & jelly

December 20: cereal / oatmeal

December 27: pancake mix

Thank You!



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December Birthdays

Alison Thompson	12/4
Barbara Conway	12/5
Curtin Barndollar	12/7
Judy Broud	12/12
Sue Drake	12/14
Pat Steiner	12/18
Joan Kingsbury	12/25
Richard Rodeghero	12/25
Dorothy Worst	12/26
Jan Lindstrand	12/28
Luella Quirk	12/29

December Anniversaries

Matthew & Charity Humm	12/15
Eric & Kathy Wilson	12/21

Those for whom prayers have been asked:
 Josh, Mark, Therese D. , David, Kelly & Family,
 Olivia, Anne P. and Daniel T.
 And all those with terminal illnesses,
 their families, and those
 caring for them.

*** Please contact the office if any of the above
 information changes.*

Website: www.stjohns-lockport-il.org Telephone: 815-834-1168
 Calendar: [Calendar - Google](#) E-mail: office@stjohns-lockport-il.org

December's - Humor & Smiles Corner

Reason #5: The seasons are color coded.
 Bungee Bynum
 Diocese of Lexington

Crew, Louie, [101 Reasons to be Episcopalian.](#)

Some Helpful Resources For Daily Prayer

For Daily Prayer	www.missionstclare.com
For Daily Reading	satucket.com/lectionary
Episcopal News	www.episcopalcafe.com/ http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens
Facebook	St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church -Lockport, IL
Diocesan Website	episcopalchicago.org
National Church	episcopalchurch.org
Parish Connections	stjohns-lockport-il.org
Twitter	@forwardinchrist

Important Dates to Remember

- December 1.....Christmas Radio Theater at 6:30 PM
- December 2.....Daughters of the King @ 10:30 AM
Prayer Shawl @ 11:30 AM, Eve Eucharist & Formation @ 7 PM
- December 5.....Centering Prayer @ 8 AM
Masjid Al-Juma'ah-Mosque Open Day @ 11:30 AM
- December 6.....Christmas Candle Exchange@11:30 AM
Toys for Tots—ingathering
- December 8.....Christmas Radio Theater @ 6:30 PM
- December 9.....Lockport Prayer Warriors @10:30 AM
Eve Eucharist & Formation at 7 PM
- December 12.....Centering Prayer @ 8AM
Morning Star Mission Meal Service @ 10:30 AM
- December 13.....Church School @ 10:30 AM
- December 15.....Christmas Radio Theater @ 6:30 PM
- December 16.....Daughters of the King @ 10:30 AM
Prayer Shawl @ 11:30 AM, Bishop's Committee Mtg @ 6:30 PM
- December 19.....Centering Prayer @ 8 AM
Ugly Christmas Sweater Party @ 6:30 PM
- December 20.....Christmas Flower Envelopes due
- December 22.....Christmas Radio Theater @ 6:30 PM
- December 24.....Christmas Eve Family Svc @ 4:30 PM
Christmas Eve Vigil Svc @ 11 PM
- December 25.....Christmas Day Svc @ 10 AM
- December 27.....Church School @ 10:30 AM
- December 30.....Eve Eucharist & Formation @ 7 PM

Staff

The Rev. R. Matthew Humm, *Priest*
 Kyndel Trejo, *Organist*
 Jill Crisman, *Church Secretary*
 Open *Sexton*
 Open, *Sr. Warden*
 Leona Davies, *Jr. Warden*
 Carolyn Hall, *Clerk*

Bishop Committee Members

Rob Brennan 16	Steve Masters 17
Lee Moarn 16	Tom Boyle 18
Art Pesavento 16	Scott Ruphard 18
Roberta Beaudoin 17	Wendy Stewart 18

Open, *Sacristan*
 Ellen Hill, *Christian Education*
 Open, *Ushers*
 Rob Brennan, *Marketing*
 Lee Moarn, RN,BSN,FCN, *Health Ministry*
 Wendy Stewart, *Daughters of the King*
 Lillian Hensley, *Hospitality*
 Julia Matile, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

SUNDAY

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist
Formation (2nd & 4th Sunday)

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist
7:00 PM Worship & Formation

Mission Statement of
St. John the Evangelist Church

"The mission of St. John the Evangelist Church is to incarnate our Baptismal Covenant as we worship and praise God through the Sacraments of the Church, proclaim the Gospel in word and action, promote Christian fellowship and spiritual growth, and encourage all members to live their **lives for the benefit of all God's people."**



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