



The Missioner

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

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January 2014

Holiday Greetings and Wishes,

As you read this letter, I hope you are resting and have fully experienced the joys of the season. Maybe you are taking a break from watching the vast array of football games or holiday programming. As I am sure you are aware, this is the time when the media looks over the past year and selects the best the stories of the last twelve months... the most newsworthy.

St. John's can look back on the year having experienced the full spectrum of emotions. We have certainly had our highs and lows. But that in itself is not necessarily newsworthy. In every experience it seems to me, the character and fiber of our church rose to the surface and supported the efforts of our ministries or embraced and loved those who lived through illness, hardship, or the loss of loved ones. Many have been especially touched by the outpouring of support provided by our church family during difficult times. We are truly blessed to have such nurturing and concern surrounding this place. This may not be headline material either, but I would suggest that those of us who were touched during this past twelve months by the special people in this place would consider this a highlight and a welcomed memory to cherish.

On the other hand we have seen how well St. John's can celebrate and participate. Our concert series, the rummage sales, coffee hours, ladies night out, a visit from Abe Lincoln, serving at Morning Star Mission, etc. are all examples (there are certainly others) of times to have fun and enjoy each other's company... engage. We have enjoyed our work in the church while we plan our various events and activities; i.e. our formation program, our parish retreat, Thrive, Kringle Sales, etc. Whether it is work or play we have been more engaged and we are making a difference in people's lives.

It is pretty clear that the people of St. John's have a special spirit. This spirit was relied on to carry us through 2013 in both our joys and our sorrows. This same spirit will move us to grow in 2014 and beyond. God's favor and ever-present graces have clearly been felt by each member's action during the past year.

As we approach Epiphany like the three Kings many years ago, we have the opportunity to manifest and reveal the presence of Christ's divinity (King of Kings) in our life at St. John's. The three Kings (wise men) brought "gold" fit for a King, "frankincense" to worship in the temple, and "myrrh" a salve or ointment used to soothe irritations. Each of us has the opportunity to bring our gifts to manifest Christ's presence and divinity. And we can bring our special gifts to share with others, as part of our individual faith journeys. By acting on our core values, and sharing our gifts we begin to affect (in a very special way) our community and those with whom we live.

May God continue to bless each of you in a special way!

Bob Meehan, Senior Warden

VICAR'S MESSAGE

“Wherever you go, that’s where you are...”

Perhaps it wasn’t the first time I’d heard the above quote, but it was certainly the most memorable. It was actually the first time I had ever seen the movie *Buckaroo Banzai* (a classic of modern cinema), and this quote struck me as both inane, but also true in some ways. Wherever you go, that’s where you are...

It could be that I read into things more than is there, but as I have been thinking over the past year, and looking forward to this new one; it occurs to me that the directions we’ve taken as a congregation—the choices we’ve made—have led us to where we are now. And, even in the midst of all of the grief that we’ve faced together over this past year—I believe we are on the threshold of an amazing year, full of possibilities.

Now, I don’t want to sound like I’m writing a speech for a high school graduation, but the truth is that over the past year we’ve been through a lot. We’ve all done our best to make the right choices, even the tough ones, in favor of laying the ground work for a healthier, more vital church. So, when I look ahead to this year, I have little doubt that our work will bear fruit. And I think this has everything to do with where we’ve chosen to go, so that where we are and hope to be will be a place of health and vitality.

However, as we do look to the next year, and all of its possibilities—we can’t forget that where we hope to be can only happen if we’re willing to all take our share in the life of this church. It’s my belief that the reason we’ve seen the successes that we have in the past year is because more people have stepped-up; people have taken responsibility for the life of this congregation—and I think we can all agree that we’re the better for it.

So, it’s my prayer that in the coming year we will pray, discern and live into a fuller life of ministry and work together. Thank you for all of your prayers and commitment, and know already that I am grateful for your continuing faithfulness in our work together.

In Christ
Fr. Matt Humm+

VESTRY NEWS

At the December 11, 2013 meeting, the Vestry...

Accepted the reports presented.

Heard...

- o A review of the finance report (printed elsewhere in the newsletter) for November. The deficit now appears to be approximately \$18,000-20,000. We are in relatively good shape.
- o A budget for 2014 will be very similar to 2013.
- o Fr. Matt’s report on worship, pastoral, formation, and stewardship.
- o Home Communion seem to be working out well.
- o That a health ministry survey will be included in the Christmas mailing.

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- o Kringle sales brought in a profit of \$900.
 - o The second concert free will offering was \$140 for the Fallen Heroes..
 - o About rectory repairs.
- Two attended an introductory meeting to organize a men's prayer group 'The Brotherhood of St. Andrew.'
- Took action ...

To approve a clergy compensation package for Fr. Matt.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the vestry is scheduled for January 15, 2014 beginning at 7:00 with liturgy.

St. John the Evangelist Receipts and Disbursements November 2013

Activity for the Month

St. John's **Total Expense** exceeded **Total Income** ("Net Ordinary Income") by \$4,982.60 (deficit) or approximately \$3,500 greater than the forecast ("Revenue and Expenses for Month – Actual Versus Budget").

Total Income (\$17,057.00) was approximately \$300 more than forecast. The only significant variance was Youth Group Income (Kringle Sales).

Total Expense (\$18, 503.52) for the month was approximately \$4,700 greater than forecast (primarily due to paying off Larsen's Bakery for Kringles). "General Operations" was approximately \$1000 more than forecast.

Year to Date Activity

For the eleven months ended November 30, "**Total Expense**" (\$166,203.27) exceeded "**Total Income**" (\$149,259.63) by \$16,943.64 ("Net Ordinary Income" (**DEFICIT**)). This is approximately \$8000 less than forecast.

Total Income (\$149,259) is approximately \$10,000 in excess of forecast. This large positive budget variance is due primarily to receipt of a Memorial bequests of approximately \$2,600 and "Giver of Record" receipts approximately \$6,800 in excess of forecast. Pledge Income is approximately \$4400 under forecast for the year to date. Rental Income was forecast to be negligible for year; however, actual rental income is \$1,345 for the period.

Total Expense (\$166,203) is approximately \$2000 more than forecast. This includes \$8,150 for "Building and Restoration" expense. Thus, Total Expense before capital expenditures is \$158,053 and adjusted "Net Ordinary Income" (**DEFICIT**) *before capital expenditures* is a loss of **\$8,794** versus the forecasted deficit of \$24,613.

The major positive expense variance is "General Operations" \$8,100 under budget.

Thus, although current cash flow deficit for the year to date is substantially less than forecast, the majority of the variance is due to increased "Giver of Record" income reduced personnel costs due primarily to the secretarial vacancy and delay and/or reductions in anticipated disbursements for repairs and maintenance. Also, the Annual Rector Housing Allowance for 2013 (\$2,000 total) will be funded by the end of the year. Budgeted gifts to seminaries and continuing education are items yet to be funded.

Banking Account Activity

The First Midwest Bank Operating Account balance as of the end of the month was \$897.33.

No transfers from other funds were made during the month.

VESTRY - CON'T

REQUEST FOR ANNUAL REPORTS

All reports for the annual meeting should be turned in or be submitted no later than January 17, 2014. **Our annual meeting will be: Sunday, February 9, 2014, immediately following the 10:30 service.** We need the reports early enough so that we have the information ready for this meeting. Please make every effort to submit your report as soon as possible.

Those reports needed include:

Report on Attendance	Altar Guild Report	Treasurer Report
Senior Warden Report	Membership Report	Director of Music Report
Physical Operations Report	Worship Statistics	ECW-UTO-CPC Reports
Hospitality Report	Daughters of the King	Christian Education Report
Youth Group	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Usher's Report
Outreach Ministry	Pastor's Report	Centering Prayer
Others		

These reports can be submitted electronically or paper copy. You can submit reports to the church email account, office@stjohns-lockport-il.org, Bob Meehan at meehan201@comcast.net or to Susie Meehan at sjfmeehan@yahoo.com. I appreciate the leaders of each of these important ministries timely attention to this request. Any questions please contact me, Bob Meehan (cell-815-228-4098 or at home – 815-524-3396).

Please remember that the purpose of submitting reports is to summarize the year's activities and help to make the annual meeting efficient. Thank you!

PARISH LIFE

Calling all Cookie Bakers! Watch for details for our **upcoming Valentine Cookie Sale, on February 9th** (same day as Annual Meeting).

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2014 Altar Flower & Sanctuary Candle Sign-up Calendars are available at the back of the sanctuary. Suggested donations for the Sanctuary Candle is \$10 and Altar Flowers is \$25.00. Be sure to note on the memo section of your check or envelope the offering of thanksgiving or memorial and name(s) to be published for that given week. (Note: The calendar will show "gray weeks" where altar flowers will not be provided due to specific liturgical practices or altar decorations planned. However, we will be happy to note that week your thanksgiving/memorial and purchase the actual altar flowers for an upcoming week.)

~

You've Got Mail! Please note that your respective 2013 Financial Gift Statements and 2014 January Missioner Newsletter are at the back of the church for pick-up. Thank You!

OUTREACH

Mark Your Calendar—February 1st Feed My Starving Children

Feed My Starving Children is a Christian nonprofit hunger relief organization dedicated to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. Feed My Starving Children provides a world-class volunteer opportunity for students, parents, families, businesses, and churches. During a packing session, you will be engaged in high-energy, tangible service to the neediest children and families on the planet.



OUTREACH - CON'T

Ways to Get Involved

1. Participate in packing meals.
2. Sponsor the event through cash donations

We have slots available for packers. The event is scheduled for 2- 4 pm on February 1st, and we will be carpooling from the church promptly at 12:45pm. The sign up sheet is in the parish hall on the outreach bulletin board. In addition to packing meals, we are hoping to bring a group donation to go towards the food materials we are packing. If each participant can bring a \$20 donation to the event, then we will be able to give Feed My Starving Children a generous donation towards the food materials. To aid in raising these funds, participants can seek out sponsors to contribute towards the \$20 donation. Sponsorship materials are available on the back altar. Any cash donations given will go towards sponsoring families who are participating in this event. All moneys dropped in the offering plate need to be designated by writing FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN on the memo line and should be turned in by January 26th. Your contributions are tax deductible. **After the event, we will gather in the parish hall for food and fellowship.**

Contact Ruth Kozlowski, Judy Broud, Charity Humm or Lee Moarn for more information

TOYS FOR TOTS

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

THANK YOU to everyone who made our first Toys for Tots event so successful!

We assisted the Methodist Church next door by providing gifts for 13 to 17 year old children as well as 11 volunteers to help with the gift distribution and wrapping of presents on December 14. The first parent lined up at 4:30am. It touched my heart to see the amazed looks on the faces of the parents, as they entered the hall to pick the gifts for their children. There were tears of joy and hugs all around.

Can't wait for next year!



JANUARY LECTONARY

Date	1st Lesson	Psalm	2nd Lesson	Gospel
January 5	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Psalm 84 or 84:1-8	Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a	Matthew 2:13-15,19-23 Or Luke 2:41-52 Or Matthew 2:1-12
January 12	Isaiah 42:1-9	Psalm 29	Acts 10:34-43	Matthew 3:13-17
January 19	Isaiah 49:1-7	Psalm 40:1-12	1 Corinthians 1:1-9	John 1:29-42
January 26	Isaiah 9:1-4	Psalm 27:1, 5-13	1 Corinthians 1:10-18	Matthew 4:12-23

FROM THE DIOCESE

New Beginnings #30

Friday-Sunday, January 24-26

New Beginnings is a weekend retreat for Junior High Youth focusing on the 2 greatest commandments: loving God with all of our heart, mind, and strength, and loving our neighbors as ourselves. The event is a unique experience designed specifically to respond to the needs and concerns of Junior High Youth. The retreat is led by a team of youth and adults from around the diocese.

[Online registration](#) is open through January 17 for New Beginnings #30. Don't miss this great event for Jr. High students in grades 6-8, focusing on love of God, neighbor, and self. [Find out more and sign up today.](#)

Save the Date for *Come Children Sing!*

Saturday, February 1st

[Emmanuel Church, La Grange](#), [Grace Church, Oak Park](#) and the [Episcopal Diocese of Chicago](#) invite young singers to *Come Children Sing!*, an all-day festival of song on Saturday, February 1 from 10 am to 3 pm at Grace Church in Oak Park. The day concludes with a 2 pm Festival Evensong led by Bishop Lee.

The event is free and all children from the diocese are welcome, even if your parish does not have a children's choir program. Look for more details and registration information soon.



Men's Pre-Lenten Retreat

Friday-Saturday, February 7-8

The eleventh [Men's Pre-Lenten Retreat](#), open to all men of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago, will be held from Friday, February 7 from 5:30 pm to Saturday, February 8 at 4 pm at the historic [DeKoven Center](#) in Racine, WI.

The theme is "A Man for All Seasons," and the retreat will be led by the [Rev. Jay Risk](#), Director of the [Bishop Anderson Chaplaincy Ministries](#). In 2013, men from more than 12 parishes participated, joining together in fellowship and discussing issues relevant to our lives.



Space is limited, and early registration is encouraged. For more information or to register, please contact Dr. Robert Schenck by [email](#) or phone (312.371.1535). A detailed flyer can be found [here](#).

Some Helpful Resources For Daily Prayer

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



Birthdays

- 1 Elsie Edburg
- 4 Danielle Williams
- 5 Tristan Humm
- 7 Sandra Kelly
- 16 Pam Carter
- 17 Pat Perrier
- 18 Ashley Lindstrand
- 21 Kim Brennan
- 23 Travis Falls
- 24 Jackie Williams
- 25 Pat Darin
- 28 Hannah Hill
- 29 Mary Alyce Polich

Anniversaries

- 13 Thomas & Konstantina Gogerty
- 24 Kenneth Porter & Catherine Baker
- 25 Thomas & Susan Drake



Website: www.stjohns-lockport-il.org
 Contact us: 815-834-1168
office@stjohns-lockport-il.org

Those for whom prayers have been asked:

Alice A.; Karen A. ; Barbara; Bernadette; Ella B.; Tessa C.; Sandra C.;
 Connie; Dana; Deb D.; Katie D.; Robert D.; Tracy D.; Dina; Elizabeth;
 Carroll F.; Dorothy F.; Kathy F.; Denise G; Evelyn G.; Michael Thomas G.;
 Barbara H.; Jerry H; Jack & Donna; Neil H; Robert H.; William H.; Bob K.;
 Delores K; Lee; Evonne L.; Denise M.; Mike M; Nick; Nathan; M.
 Naughton; Cassidy N.; Pam; Anna P.; Clara P.; Tom P.; Amalia R.;
 Annette R; Brian R.; Hank R.; John R.; Gay S.; Vicki S.; Linda T.; Tom;
 Bob W.; Joe W.; Katrina W.; Jim Z.

And all those with terminal illnesses, their families, and those caring for them.

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

Important Dates to Remember

January 1.....Eucharist
 January 4.....Centering Prayer
 January 8.....Diocesan Congregation’s Committee
 January 11.....Centering Prayer
 January 11.....Morning Star Mission
 January 15.....DOK
 January 15.....Vestry Meeting
 January 16.....Woman’s Club Hall Rental
 January 17.....2013 Annual Reports Due
 January 18.....Centering Prayer
 January 19.....Church School
 January 25.....Centering Prayer

Staff

The Rev. R. Matthew Humm, *Priest*
 Thomas J. Secor, *Director of Music*
 Jill Crisman, *Church Secretary*
 Bruce Ray, *Sexton*
 Robert Meehan, *Sr. Warden*
 John Schwab, *Jr. Warden*
 Susan Meehan, *Clerk*

Vestry Members

Dorothy Cirrencione, *Sacristan*

Judy Broud 15	Chris Hill 15
Rob Brennan 16	Steve Masters 14
Leona Davies 15	Lee Moarn 16

Todd Sheetz, *Director Christian Education*
 Bruce Ray, *Ushers*
 Judy Broud, *Outreach*
 Rob Brennan, *Marketing*
 Lee Moarn, RN,BSN,FCN, *Health Ministry*
 Wendy Stewart, *Daughters of the King*
 Lillian Hensley, *Hospitality*
 Judy Matile, *Prayer Shawl Ministry*

SUNDAY

8:00 AM. Holy Eucharist
9:15 AM Formation
(1st & 3rd Sunday)
10:30 AM Holy Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

9:30 AM Holy Eucharist
7:00 PM Holy Eucharist

**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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