

January Newsletter



Photos from Advent and Christmas

January Newsletter

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Advent activities



Christmas activities



From Our Rector

We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

1Thessalonians 1:3

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good; God's love endures forever. 1Chronicles 16:34

Beloved St. John's community,

On January 5, we celebrate the Epiphany—the light of Christ which is perceived by the unlikely people (magi from the East, shepherds) in the unlikely places (nature, the fields at night), and which allows us to recognize the presence and action of God which is always all around us, but is often hidden from our awareness. One way to turn toward the light of Christ is the practice of gratitude. And so I want to thank you for the work God is doing in and through you as a community.

There is much that goes on behind the scenes. I knew this would be true, as I became your Rector—but just like having a child, nothing can really prepare you for the reality of parenting or the reality of tending a church until it actually happens! I can't thank you all enough for the countless ways you have contributed to the wellbeing of St. John's and to me this past year. Specifically:

Kathy Schweikart and Allen Gooch, your wardens, have truly gone above and beyond the call of duty in every possible way. In addition to the usual vestry duties, they have subbed in the nursery and in children's chapel, shoveled snow, come to the church in the middle of the night to respond to fire alarms, conducted focus groups, gotten up on the roof to pour boiling water on ice dams, and cleaned out the boiler room (I'm not making this up). They've done all this with humor, grace, and selflessness. I can't imagine anyone more generous, wise, and helpful.

John Bellaimey, Heidi Joos, Patricia Benson, Rex McKee, and Bob Harvey. Your associate

and emeritus clergy selflessly contribute as preachers (and are not paid for this), as counselors to me in various pastoral and personnel issues, in children's chapel, in the missional leadership cohort, in adult forums, in liturgy planning, and in myriad other ways. John Bellaimey did not hesitate to take on the significant role of leading the confirmation group in November when we had a need. We are blessed with their wisdom, patience, and deep love.

Rachel Svihel, Chad and Wendy Smith, Jenny Lindberg, and Greg Moulton. We have fantastic staff. Rachel does double her job description with cheer and skill; Chad and Wendy lead music / children's music, tending and growing the Wednesday night community with care and giftedness, and maintaining the community's connection with God through superb musical offerings of incredibly wide range.

..... and time would fail me to mention the countless others. Carol Jarvis cleans out closets and figures out how to use decades-old supplies without wasting a thing. Mary Corlett selflessly organizes hospitality and gardening on a shoestring budget. Lisa Beaupre and Ivy Booth manage the altar guild cadre of faithful introverts who so beautifully appoint our liturgical spaces. John Corlett has just stepped down as buildings & grounds chair, and continues to lead Urban Homeworks, the Guatemala trip and fundraiser, the Thanksgiving baskets, and Shrove Tuesday cooking (among other things). Andy Vaaler, Doug Mensing, and Linnea Somner contribute their musical gifts at the 9:00 service. There is a legion of lectors, intercessors, and acolytes skillfully supported by Stephen Koelmel, Sherri Holtke and Courtney Hammond. JoAnn Blatchley and Caron Stebinger support First Nations Kitchen volunteering. Barb Risken, who has selflessly and faithfully led our third-Monday "Lunch Bunch" for years. Brigitte Parenteau, Mark Lindberg, and Martha Faust lead our Justice & Service and Centennial Fund ministries. And don't even get me started



about Michael Morrow, Kate McKinnon, and Mike & Stacy Walters, who between them in the last 18 months have been Treasurer, vestry / wardens, pilgrimage chaperones, Sunday School teachers, legal consultant to St. John's, 9:00am singers, lectors, thurifers, acolytes, Greet & Connect chair, Welcoming Team, and more. Jane Gilgun, Jenny Lindberg, Don & Joanie Hawkinson, and others are faithful cooks for the Wednesday night community. There is a legion of volunteers for our children & youth program, another 20 or so people, who deserve our rich thanks and blessing.

You get the idea. I'm sure I've left someone significant out. Do you realize what incredible people surround you? Do you realize how

wonderful each of you is? Do you realize that even if you never volunteer at St. John's, your mere presence here, participating, praying, engaging, learning, practicing the Way of Love with us, enriches us beyond measure?

God's Spirit is present and active. God's Spirit is leading us to go deeper in the Way of Love together. There is an abundance of generosity among us, and we are growing. Thanks be to God, and to you.

With all my heart, faithfully,
[Lisa](#)



Special Meeting to elect ECMN Bishop Election Convention Alternates

The St. John's Vestry is formally inviting all St. John's parishioners to attend a special meeting on **Sunday, January 12th, 2020 at 10:10am in the Parish Hall.** During this meeting Sally Johnson and Kay Kramer, parishioners who are also St. John's delegates to the ECMN Bishop Election on January 25th, will describe the election process and share information about the candidates for Bishop. St. John's will also elect two alternates to our existing five delegates so that we have full representation at the Bishop election in the event any of the delegates cannot make it. **Please come to this very important adult forum and special meeting.** Thank you!



Brown Bag Eucharist

Tuesdays, 12:15pm in the Chapel

We offer a weekly Eucharist in which you are invited to bring your lunch - at 12:15pm every Tuesday in the Chapel. During this service, during the liturgy of the Word, we eat our lunches, have a lively conversation about scripture, offer our prayers verbally to God, and then continue with the liturgy of the table. We conclude by 12:50pm so people can get back to work.



Affordable Housing Workday

St. John's work crews work the second Saturday every month. Usually our job is to help 'turn over' apartments - interior painting and cleaning so a new family can move in. So, if you can paint, clean or do light repairs, we have a job for you. Our work days are from 8:30am to 3pm - the day starts with coffee, juice, and treats.

The work starts at 8:30am, ends around 3pm, with a break around noon for lunch. Lunch is made and delivered by the St. John's affordable housing lunch crew. New volunteers are always welcome.

Please contact [John Corlett](#) for site work.



Saturday,
January 11th,
8:30am

Conversations from the Heart

Saturday, January 11th, 12:30pm in the Library

In these fallow winter days, it is important to seek the wisdom of our own vast interior. This inspiring excerpt from *Anam Cara* by John O'Donohue, will be the jumping off point for our January Conversations from the Heart.

"Nothingness is the sister of possibility. It makes an urgent space for that which is new, surprising, and unexpected. When you feel nothingness and emptiness gnawing at your life, there is no need to despair. This is a call from your soul, awakening your life to new possibilities." Please join us, all are welcome! For questions, or if you would like more information, please feel free to contact [Nancy Herbst](#).



First Nations Kitchen

Sunday, January 12th, 1:30pm

1:30 to 3:00: Food prep--mostly cutting up veggies for soup and salad. (5 or 6 needed)

2:45 to 4:00: Bread run to New French Bakery, set up breads for donation on shelving. (2 needed with car)

4:00 to 5:30: Set tables in dining area; wash pots and pans. (2 or 3 needed)

5:15 to 6:30: Serving and cleaning, coffee person, dishwashing. (6 needed)

6:30 to 7:30: Cleanup: putting items away, cleaning tables, sweep and mop. (4 needed)

For more information, contact [JoAnn Blatchley](#) or 952-922-0308.

For more information about the ministry at All Saints' Indian Mission, check out their [website](#).



Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday



Sunday, January 19th, morning services

Join us on MLK Sunday, to remember and celebrate the life and contributions of MLK in prayer, song, and readings.

if you are interested in participating in MLK liturgy, contact [Rex McKee](#).

Lunch Bunch

Monday, January 20th, 12:00pm in the Parish Hall

Lunch Bunch is gathering for a potluck lunch followed by a guest speaker, the Rev. Julie Luna, from St. Nicholas Episcopal Church in Richfield, who was a member of the Bishop Search Committee. She will explain the process and answer questions about the experience of defining the qualities that the Episcopal Diocese in Minnesota was looking for in the candidates, with the final selection soon to follow. Please join us with a dish to share and learn about this process.



January Music News

Wednesday Children's Choir, Chime Choir, Choir Dinner resumes

January 8th

Children's Choirs sing & Chime Choir plays

10am Sunday, January 26th

Children's Choirs sing and Chime Choir plays during our single main music service at 10am - with special consideration for the Annual Meeting that follows the 10am service.



NEXT St. John's Open Mic

7pm, January 31st

Now in it's EIGHTH Season - St. John's Open Mic is a performance/presentation community opportunity taking place in the Parish Hall and running for one very special hour. The program takes place on the final Friday of each month through May. All are welcome - on either side of the microphone. Join the fun! Childcare can be provided with advance notice. For more info and to get on the program, contact [Chad](#).

BIG Thanks & Gratitude goes to:

- Cellist **Greg Nelson** for his special musical contribution to our 9am and 11am Advent 1 services on Sunday, December 1st.
- Clarinetist **Shelagh MacLeod** for her special musical contribution to our 9am and 11am Advent 2 services on Sunday, December 8th.
- Cellist **Greg Neslon** for his special musical contribution to 4pm Service of Loss and Remembrance on Sunday, December 8th.
- Musicians **Wendy Smith, Doug Mensing, and Andy Vaaler** for their special musical contributions to our 9am and 11am Advent 3 services on Sunday, December 15th.
- The **Children's Choirs & Chime Choir** for their special musical contributions to our 9am and 11am Advent 3 services on Sunday, December 15th.
- Every single musician that participated in our 4pm Advent Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 15th, and especially tenor **Russ Stephens**, sopranos **Aliese Hoese** and **Julia Woodring**, **Wendy Smith, Doug Mensing, and Andy Vaaler**.
- Cellist **Hannah MacLeod** for her special musical contribution to our 9am and 11am Advent 4 services on Sunday, December 22nd.
- Every musician that participated in our 3pm Christmas Eve service on Tuesday, December 24th, and especially pianist **Marcus Jensen, Erik Jacobson, and the Christmas Combo!**
- Every single **Festival Chorister** for their special musical contributions to our 6pm and 11pm Christmas Eve services on Tuesday, December 24th, and especially sopranos **Aliese Hoese** and **Julia Woodring**, tenor **Eli Aaronson**, bass **Simon Hoehn**, and pianist/organist **Richard Long**.
- Soprano **Aliese Hoesel** and all Christmas Morning musicians for their special musical contributions to our 10am Christmas Day service on Wednesday, December 25th.
- **Wendy Smith, Jodi and Allie Bosacker** for their fine teaching & care-filled leadership of Wednesday evening Children's Choirs, Chime Choir, and Children's Activities through December.
- **Gerry Lukaska, Allen Gooch, Joan and Don Hawkinson, Lisa Wiens Heinsohn, Kathy Schweikart, Lynnell Mickelsen, and John Bellaimey** for their good work preparing Wednesday Choir dinners in December.
- St. John's **9am, 10am, & 11am Service Musicians** for their faithful service and participation - leading The People's Song on Sunday mornings throughout December!

For more on
Music at
St. John's,
contact:
[Chad Smith](#)



Music Highlight

Music Highlight: Anders Logan

Q: In what ways do you share your musical gifts at St. John's?

A: "I am in the Chime Choir. Also, I sing hymns when they're in the service!"

Q: What music do you listen to?

A: "Lots of different kinds: classical, Broadway, some pop music."

Q: Do you have a favorite musical artist, song or composition?

A: "I really enjoy the music of Imagine Dragons, and my favourite song is *Eye of the Tiger*."

Q: Is there any particular music or musician that has influenced you?

A: "My mom – she plays the viola with me occasionally, and she's in Chime Choir with me."

Q: What musical endeavors do you pursue outside of St. John's?

A: "I play the viola."

Q: If you could meet any musical person, past or present, who would it be?

A: "I'd want to meet the very first musician, a flute player from very ancient times. I'd want to ask, 'how did you come up with it? And do you know people have come up with hundreds of other instruments, since your little invention?'"

Q: What is something people might be surprised to know about you?

A: "I love baseball (that's not a surprise), and I take care of five turtles."



Seeking Knitters for Prayer Shawl Ministry

St. John's has a tradition of giving young people a prayer shawl at their Confirmation as a symbol of the love and support of the congregation as they move forward in their lives. Yarn and instructions are provided. Deadline for completion of the shawls is early April. If you are interested in participating in creating one of these shawls, please contact Lois Neve by text (612-306-1624), [email](#) (with subject of Prayer Shawl), or speak with her after the 9am service. She will be happy to answer any questions you have.

Tai Chi Chih Beginner Class

The beginning of the year 2020 could be the perfect time to learn something new. Maybe you could consider taking a class in Tai Chi Chih.

Tai Chi Chih is a moving meditation that practices 19 moves and one pose. It is focused on developing circulation and balance of the body's intrinsic energy, the vital force of the body, known as the Chi. Certified teacher Laurie Jacobi will lead the class. Cost will be \$10 per session for 8 weeks.

Once you have finished the class, you can join the practice group that has been meeting at St. John's for 10 years. The date and time of the class will be determined by student availability.

The hope is to begin a class in February. If you are interested, please contact [Lori Gottschalk](#) or [Ray Anderson](#).



Thanks to Erik Jacobson, the St. John's Pilgrims will again be selling pulled pork, smoked ribs, and sides for your Super Bowl Party needs!

*Members of the Pilgrimage group will be in the Gathering Space between services on **January 19th and 26th.***

Last year we sold out quickly, so make sure you get your orders in soon!

Children, Youth & Families News

Sunday School

St. John's Sunday School will combine grades K-5 in the Chapel on **Sunday, January 5th**.

Regular Sunday School classes take place **Sundays, January 12th and January 19th**. Watch email for updates on any classroom location changes and new lesson topics.

Sunday, January 26th is the Annual Church Meeting. While there is no Sunday School, childcare will be available in the nursery for ages 0-10.

Youth Group (6th-7th Grade)

Sunday, January 19th is our Potluck from 6:00 to 8:00pm in the Parish Hall, so bring food to share. During our Potluck, we will play games and explore how our faith can impact life all week long.

Sunday, January 26th, we are planning on offsite event. Watch email for location, times, pricing and more details.

Pilgrimage (8th-9th Grade)

We have our Potluck on **January 12th** from 6:00-8:00pm in the Parish Hall. We will do some community building as well as revisit our values and goals for Pilgrimage and finalize our destination location.

During the month of January, we are doing Super Bowl Fundraising. We need Pilgrims to help 8:30am – 12:30pm on **Sundays, January 19th, January 26th, and February 2nd**.



Youth Dismantling Racism Retreat during Martin Luther King Weekend

Who: Students in Grades 8-12 (Pilgrims & Confirmation)

When: Sunday, January 19 to Monday, January 20

We will carpool from church at 1:00 p.m. and carpool back by 6:00 p.m.

Where: Camp Lebanon in Burtrum, MN

Retreat Theme & Sessions: Nobody wants to be seen as a racist, but often in our culture we don't talk about it much. When we don't exercise those muscles, we worry about how to talk about race without accidentally saying something offensive, insensitive or wrong that makes us seem racist. It's hard to feel confident that we're part of the solution. During this retreat we will learn and practice tools to use every day, alone and as a group. Let's build a community that values all members the way that God does!

During free time students can hang out indoors at the Lounge or in the Game Room with pool, foosball, carpet ball, ping-pong, etc., or explore the outdoors and ice-skate, play broom ball, go snow tubing, etc... **Registration coming soon.**

Confirmation (10th-11th Grade)

Friday and Saturday, January 10th and 11th: Peer Ministry Retreat at St. Mark's. Contact [John Bellaimy](#) for details. A relaxing, happy overnight!

Sunday, January 12th: Confirmation Class 10:00 - 11:30am.

Sunday, January 26th: Vertical Endeavors climbing fun. Time TBD.

For more on
Children, Youth, &
Families
at St. John's,
contact:
[Amy McGrew](#)

Update on Children and Youth Ministry

As we move on from Shane Sanders Marcus leaving his position as St. John's Minister of Children and Youth in November, lots has been happening to maintain our robust children and youth programming:

Interim leadership: Amy McGrew from InterServe Ministries is working half-time with us to support and administer all children & youth programming and volunteers; to establish systems that can support this work when a new Children and Youth Minister comes on board; and to contribute her expertise to our transition and search process.

Children's Chapel and Sunday School: Amy McGrew, along with a second volunteer adult, leads our Sunday morning Children's Chapel, a special worship experience designed especially for young children, during the 9am and 11am services. Amy is coming alongside to support and resource the dedicated volunteers who spend the Sunday education hour in our lower level; children from preschool to ninth grade have the opportunity to learn Christian beliefs and practices through stories, lessons and games.

Youth Group, Pilgrimage, and

Confirmation: Amy McGrew is collaborating with adult volunteers to lead Youth Group (6th - 7th grade) and Pilgrims (8th - 9th grade). The Rev. John Bellaimy, who is the Breck Upper School Chaplain is providing deep and energetic leadership for our current confirmation class, along with help from other adult volunteers.

Children's Choirs: Chad and Wendy Smith continue to provide music lessons, family connections and dinner to dozens of kids and parents on Wednesday nights. Not only is this fun for the kids, it builds bonds among the families and results in delightful music during Sunday services every month or two.

We are beginning the search process to identify a new Minister of Children and Youth. There will be four phases:

Research: Identify what we are looking for in this position by reviewing our history, engaging our members to learn their hopes, and aligning this information with our commitment to the healthy nurturing of children, personal and spiritual maturity, and helping children & youth experience Jesus' Way of Love. This process will be led by a Transition Task Force composed of a 6-8 person multi-generational team, facilitated by Amy McGrew and another InterServe Associate.

Define: Develop a job description, compensation parameters, search process, timeline and interview questions. Post the position. This process will be led by our Rector, Lisa Wiens Heinson, with assistance from vestry, Amy McGrew, and other relevant committees.

Search: Review the applications and select top candidates to interview. Conduct interviews. Identify a top candidate or candidates to recommend to Lisa. This process will be led by a Search Team which includes two members from the Transition Task Force, as well as other members of St. John's.

Hire and welcome: Lisa, in consultation with others, will select the next Minister for Children and Youth. Members and staff will be asked to help welcome the new staff member and help them transition into their new position.

While the hope is to have a new Minister of Children and Youth on board sometime this summer, the timeline is less important than finding the best candidate to meet our needs.

We will continue to provide updates as the process unfolds, via the newsletter, Sunday inserts, Thursday e-blasts and other opportunities. If you have any questions, please contact [Lisa](#).

TRUST - What is it?

We just participated in the TRUST Wreath of Love last month, but what **IS** TRUST? Good question, and being your new St. John's TRUST representative I can answer that. TRUST (stands for Toward Renewed Service and Unity Together) is a consortium of twenty south Minneapolis churches that was started in 1970 to help seniors and disabled residents of south Minneapolis. They have a number of programs that are federally funded and also some that need fundraising to keep them going. St John's joined in 1986.



You may be familiar with **Meals on Wheels**. This is a federally funded program that brings hot meals to seniors and others every week day. TRUST has a set area they deliver and the meals are cooked at a local nursing home and then picked up by volunteers that deliver them over the lunch hour. TRUST needs people to deliver meals – call 612.822.6040 to ask questions.

Another service is **Chore Works**. TRUST provides household chore and maintenance services to seniors living in south Minneapolis—helping them to continue living safely and independently in their own homes. **YOU CAN DO THIS, TOO!** Currently, TRUST is looking for workers—or volunteers—that can do any of the following jobs: lawn mowing, small repairs, and house cleaning. If you are interested, please call the TRUST Chore Program at 612-827-6150.



TRUSTY SALERS Estate Sales is another possibility for you to help benefit TRUST. All proceeds earned go to supporting the community! Sales are held almost every week and you can go to them. Please visit www.estatesales.net for dates and locations!

TRUST Grocery Route

TRUST takes people to the grocery store and they have openings for new clients. If you have a friend, neighbor, or family member who needs assistance getting groceries, please contact Will at TRUST, 612.827.6159.

TRUST BUILDERS Housing Initiative began in 2003 with a collaborative effort to engage TRUST churches working in the community building and repairing houses. They now work with Urban Homeworks to provide affordable housing. You don't have to be a carpenter, all levels of experience are needed. Email [John Corlett](mailto:John.Corlett@trust.org).



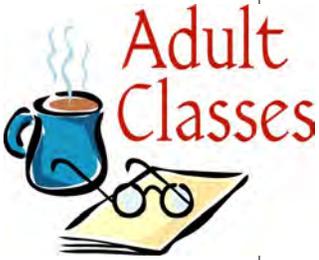
The Parish Nurse program works with individuals to bring together spiritual, emotional, and physical health to achieve wellness and manage illness through holistic care. The Parish Nurse will do home visits, educational presentations to TRUST churches, consultation with clergy, and organize annual flu shot clinics.

TRUST also has an ongoing Grief Support Group that will be starting up again this month (see flyer on TRUST Board outside the Parish Hall).

So this is what TRUST is all about, a really great non-profit that does so much for our neighbors. And this is why I give my support both financially and time, and you can too.

[Mary Corlett](#), St. John's Representative to TRUST

Adult Forums



Adult Classes

Centennial Fund Update:

St. John's generosity to neighbors in need

Sunday, January 5th

Centennial Fund Team

St. John's is very proud that we raised a "Centennial Fund" of \$200,000—a tithe of our now nearly completed Keeping Faith capital campaign—to donate to local organizations with whom we hoped to deepen relationships. The Centennial Fund team will offer a recap of their work in 2019, including details about the grantee recipients, the Youth-Led Initiative, and future prospects for funding. The report to the community will be followed by an open question and answer session. Please join us!

ECMN Bishop Election: The Candidates and the Process, and Special Meeting to Elect St. John's Alternates

Sunday, January 12th

Sally Johnson and Kay Kramer

Did you know that the Episcopal Church in Minnesota will elect its next Bishop on Saturday, January 25th? Come hear St. John's parishioners Sally Johnson and Kay Kramer share information about the Bishop candidates, the process, and how YOU can be more involved in this important part of our spiritual and ecclesial life. We will also hold a St. John's special meeting to elect two St. John's alternates who can attend and vote in the Bishop election if any of our five existing delegates cannot attend the election for any reason.

Martin Luther King Sunday: "Bless", the Way of Love, and Racial Reconciliation

Sunday, January 19th

Rex McKee and Rie Gilsdorf

Join us on Martin Luther King Sunday. During the Sunday morning services, we will remember and celebrate Dr. King's life and contributions in prayer, song, and readings. We will continue the day into our adult forum to reflect upon a few of the fundamental theological concepts that are important to us as participants in co-creating God's Beloved Community.

NO Adult Forum

Sunday, January 26th

Annual Meeting

Deacon's Reflections

Quote for reflection preparing for MLK remembrance....

The Inward Sea

*There is in every person an inward sea,
And in that sea there is an island
And on that island there is an altar
And standing guard before that altar is the
"angel with the flaming sword".
Nothing can get by that angel to be placed
upon that altar unless it has the mark of your
inner authority.
Nothing passes the "angel with the flaming
sword" to be placed upon your altar
unless it be a part of the "fluid area of your
consent."*

—Dr. Howard Thurman

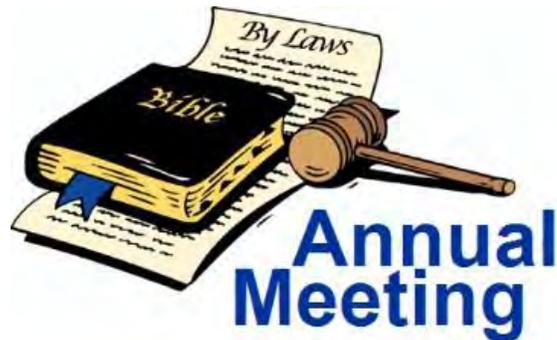
Are you interested in conversations with ICE detainees, providing friendship and letter writing? Check out the website conversationswithfriendsmn.org for more details. If you are interested in more conversation, training, and perhaps participating in the ministry contact me for more details. We will be scheduling an informational meeting in the near future.

[Rex McKee](#)

Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 26th, 11:00am

On this day we will have 8:00 and 10:00am services (no 9:00 or 11:00), and then will meet in the parish hall at 11:00 for our Annual Meeting, at which we will reflect spiritually about the previous year, elect new vestry members, review the budget for the coming year, and engage in joy and feasting as a community. There will be no Sunday school, but activities for young children will be provided in the chapel.



Every year we elect new members to the vestry - our church's governing body or board of directors - to replace members' whose terms are expiring. Serving on vestry is an important way to give back to our community by providing leadership after engaging in other aspects of St. John's community life.

The following members are leaving the vestry in January, having completed their service: Senior Warden Kathy Schweikart, Jay Hornbacher, Nigel Mendez, Laura Walvoord.

The vestry nominations slate (all positions are uncontested):

- Senior Warden: Allen Gooch
- Junior Warden (2-year term; becomes Senior Warden in January 2021): Stacy Walters
- 3 vestry members (3-year terms that end January 2023): Craig Franke, Sarah Parker, and Jennifer Stanerson
- 1 vestry member (unexpired 2-year term that ends January 2022): Rachel Harrison

All members of St. John's are eligible to vote at our January 26th annual meeting, where this election will be held. Please join us in thanking both incoming and outgoing vestry members for their service to St John's.

See bios for our incoming vestry members on the next 2 pages.

Annual Meeting Election Bios



Allen Gooch, Sr. Warden

My wife, Mary Dow Ryerse, and I joined St. John's in the early 1990s. We raised our son, Davis, here and will always be grateful for the youth program and dedicated leaders who have served over the years. Mary Dow is a

life-long Episcopalian; I joined the Episcopal Church in the 1980s.

At St. John's, I have been a Sunday School teacher, vestry clerk, and junior warden and have taken part in other activities such as serving on building

renovation committees. I'm currently on the Vestry and Earth Matters Committee. I'm a former newspaper editor and textbook copyeditor.



Stacy Walters, Jr. Warden

My daughter, Nicole, discovered St. John's in 2004 while in graduate school. When my husband, Mike, and I moved to Minneapolis in 2007, we already had a church home "warmed up" for us! Over the past 12 years, I have served on both Welcome Committees

for Susan and Lisa's search, I worked with Mary Miller on the 2012 pictorial church directory, taught Sunday School, and co-led the Greet and Connect committee. Mike and I have volunteered for Habitat, Our Savior's Shelter and a few Urban Homeworks days. I am a

pediatrician at Park Nicollet Clinic in St. Louis Park and also mother to son, John, who was married at St. John's in July, 2011. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve on the Vestry.



Craig Franke, Vestry

My wife, Deb, our daughter Mikayla and I joined St. John's 12 years ago. We had been going to Plymouth Congregational Church for many years but after adopting Mikayla, we started looking for a church that was more family oriented. After visiting numerous churches, we found ourselves at St. John's one Sunday and knew it was the place for us. The people were

welcoming and the worship experience inspiring. Deb and I are owners of a branding agency located in the North Loop area of Minneapolis. We have been in business for 26 years and are still loving the work we do. Outside of work, I enjoy being with family and friends, traveling, biking, dining out and watching movies. We have become more involved at St. John's

in recent years and are enjoying seeing our daughter, Mikayla, active in the Pilgrimage Group. Deb taught Sunday School for a number of years, and I have been serving on the St. John's Brew Crew, helping make sure all cups are full at Sunday morning coffee hour. I am looking forward to deepening my connection with St. John's by serving on the Vestry.

Rachel Harrison, Vestry

I joined St John's in 2005 shortly after moving here with my husband David Pharris, and our daughter Georgia. Before moving here we lived in Florida, and before that I lived in San Francisco, New York, and South Carolina, where I was raised an Episcopalian. St. John's was the first place

where I really felt at home here in Minnesota, and it has been deeply meaningful to me to see my daughter, now 19, grow up in such a thoughtful, loving, and inclusive community. Previously, I served on the vestry from 2009-2012, have participated in liturgy planning, and have just finished teaching Godly Play

after a ten-year run. You may recognize me from such places as: the basement. I have an acupuncture practice in St. Paul, and in my free time I enjoy knitting, reading, and hiking. I'm honored to be asked to be on the vestry, and hope to serve you well.



Sarah Parker, Vestry

In 1985, my daughter and I came to St John's to look for a church to attend. We were swept up in the warm embrace of Carolyn and Arch Crandall and never felt the need to look elsewhere. My husband (Bob Seavey) and I were married here in 1987 and our two daughters, Claire

and Erica, were baptized here. Over the years, I have participated in choir, taught Sunday School, acted as treasurer, worked on the gardens, participated in Habitat and Urban homework activities and have gone to Guatemala twice. I even sewed a few Christmas pageant costumes

and Haiti bags. I am retired from Emerson Automation Solutions where I was an application and product manager for Rosemount products. I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve on the vestry.



Jennifer Stanerson, Vestry

I have been attending St. John's since 2004. My husband Ben & I have two children, Erik (10) & Bjorn (7) who are both involved with Sunday School. Erik also plays in the chime choir & we attend weekly choir dinners as a family.

While at St John's, I have served on the Welcome Committee for Susan's send off & Lisa's welcome. Ben & I have also volunteered with Urban Homeworks. I am currently a critical care RN at Abbott Northwestern. Outside of work & kids activities, I enjoy trail running & being involved

with the trail running community as a volunteer at several local races. I am excited to have the opportunity to serve on the vestry.





Calendar of Events

Jan 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 NEW YEAR'S DAY <i>Office closed</i>	2 1:00pm Alive & Aware	3	4
5 8:00, 9:00, 11:00am Holy Eucharist 10:10am Educ. Hour 7:00pm Cont. Prayer	6	7 10:30am Staff Mtg 11:00am Tai Chi Chih 12.15pm Brown Bag Eucharist 5:45pm Chair Yoga 7:30pm Polaris/Alanon	8 11:00am Yoga 12:00pm Spirit Group 5:15pm Choir Dinner 6:00pm Children Choirs 7:00pm Chime Choir 7:00pm Liturgy Planning	9 1:00pm Alive & Aware 6:30pm Finance Mtg	10	11 8:30am Afford. Housing workday 12:30pm Conv. from the Heart
12 8:00, 9:00, 11:00am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Confirm Grp 10:10am Educ. Hour 11:00am Cent. Fund Mtg 1:30pm FNK 6:00pm Pilgrim Grp 7:00pm Cont. Prayer	13	14 10:30am Staff Mtg 11:00am Tai Chi Chih 12.15pm Brown Bag Eucharist 5:45pm Chair Yoga 7:30pm Polaris/Alanon	15 11:00am Yoga 12:00pm Spirit Group 5:15pm Choir Dinner 6:00pm Children Choirs 7:00pm Chime Choir 7:00pm Liturgy Planning	16 1:00pm Alive & Aware	17 <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	18
19 8:00, 9:00, 11:00am Holy Eucharist 10:10am Educ. Hour 1:00pm Youth Retreat: Dismantling Racism 6:00pm Youth Grp 7:00pm Cont. Prayer 7:00pm Book Grp	20 MLK DAY <i>Office closed</i> 12:00pm Lunch Bunch 6:00pm Youth return from Retreat: Dismantling Racism	21 10:30am Staff Mtg 11:00am Tai Chi Chih 12.15pm Brown Bag Eucharist 5:45pm Chair Yoga 7:00pm Vestry Mtg 7:30pm Polaris/Alanon	22 11:00am Yoga 12:00pm Spirit Group 5:15pm Choir Dinner 6:00pm Children Choirs 7:00pm Chime Choir	23 1:00pm Alive & Aware	24	25 9:00am Election of ECMN Bishop at St. Mark's Cathedral 9:30am Justice & Service Mtg
26 8:00 and 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:00am ANNUAL MEETING TBD Youth Grp 7:00pm Cont. Prayer	27 7:00pm LHHSG	28 10:30am Staff Mtg 11:00am Tai Chi Chih 12.15pm Brown Bag Eucharist 5:45pm Chair Yoga 7:30pm Polaris/Alanon	29 11:00am Yoga 12:00pm Spirit Group 5:15pm Choir Dinner 6:00pm Children Choirs 7:00pm Chime Choir	30 1:00pm Alive & Aware	31 7:00pm Open Mic	