



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD
Chevy Chase-Bethesda

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Volume 29 Number 32

April 27, 2014

www.stjohnsnorwood.org

Sunday, April 27: Combined Service schedule and Annual Parish Meeting

Please Note Special Times:

Worship Services – 8 AM, 10 AM, and 5 PM

Annual Parish Meeting – 10:45 – 12 noon

Church School – 11 AM – 12 noon

Outreach Sunday (4/27)

This month, Outreach Sunday supports Bethesda Cares. Bethesda Cares is a community outreach program for the unsheltered, and for those in homes who are at risk of losing them. It seeks to place people in permanent housing; to ease life on the street during that process; and to prevent low-income tenants in crisis from eviction and possible homelessness.

For the homeless, Bethesda Cares serves hot meals, provides clothing, and enables people to speak with a psychiatrist. It offers a space for people sit, have shower or a cup of coffee and read a newspaper without being told to “move along,”

Bethesda Cares also provides short-term assistance in the form of grants sent directly to landlords or utilities. This safety net can mean the difference between staying housed or living on the street.

Loose plate offerings on April 27 will be donated to Bethesda Cares. Checks should be written to St. John's, with “Outreach – Bethesda Cares” on the memo line.

Langdon Healy

RECTOR'S CORNER

The **Annual Parish Meeting** takes place this Sunday, April 27, following our 10 AM Combined Service. This year, we've attempted to give the meeting a slight makeover, in that the majority of it will take place in the Parish Hall over a light lunch. We hope to convene the meeting and cast the first ballot at the conclusion of the 10 AM service in the main sanctuary, after which the Church School will commence while the rest of the congregation joins us for lunch in the Parish Hall for the remainder of our meeting.

We look forward to seeing you!

Church School

We will have Church School on Sunday, April 27, from 11 AM-12 Noon, at the same time as the all-parish meeting, and following the 10 AM combined service.

We will have church school throughout May, and on the first Sunday in June, at the regular time, 10 AM.

Nancy Derr, Church School Director

Building Community at the Crossroads of Faith and Life

Our members represent a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds, nationalities, family configurations, sexual orientations, abilities, and religious traditions. Indeed, chances are that there's someone like you at St. John's. We are single, married, partnered, divorced, widowed, remarried, gay and lesbian, with and without children, empty nesters, old and young, and differently-abled; you name it - we are here.

Youth Group Flower Sale to benefit CAMP JOY

The teens at St. John's are fundraising for their annual Camp Joy work week this July. Proceeds raised will go toward the cost of building materials that the kids will buy for the Camp Joy activity this coming July. Our goal is to raise above \$1500.

The youth will take orders and payments for plants from tables in the West Avenue lobby on April 27. The the plants will be delivered on Saturday, May 10 – in time for Mother's Day.

It would be great if we could meet this goal by buying flowers for our mothers!

Kevin Kehus

NPF Grant Applications (due 4/27)

The Norwood Parish Fund (NPF) is St. John's endowment fund. The NPF Board will accept applications for grants through April 27, 2014. Grants are available to organizations or individuals for the purposes of:

- St. John's capital needs
- Outreach ministries
- Seed money for new ministries and special one-time projects

Information on NPF is now on the St. John's web site—including the application form. You'll find us under Get Involved. We welcome virtual visitors to learn about the Fund, see our good works, or apply for grants during open season.

Questions? Please contact Carolyn Schugar (301-946-5607 or frank.schugar[AT]comcast.net), or ask any board member: Jay Everhart, Harry Storm, Ellen Miles, Greg Murdock, or the Junior Warden or the Rector. Applications are available in the Church Office or electronically at <http://stjohnsnorwood.org/norwood-parish-fund/>. Please return forms to the NPF mailbox in the Church Office or by email to Carolyn Schugar.

Men's Book Club (5/14)

In *The Internal Enemy: Slavery and War in Virginia, 1772-1832*, Alan Taylor presents a searing analysis of the relationship between slave and master. By the turn of the 19th century, the stirring calls for equality that stoked the war of independence have faded in the face of a deepening dependence on slave labor in Virginia. When the War of 1812 brings British frigates to the Chesapeake Bay and slaves begin to escape by the hundreds to aid the British, fears of a slave insurrection and economic collapse reach a fever pitch with immense consequences for all involved including the ties between Virginia and the weak national republic. It is a captivating and troubling time that the Men's Book Club will discuss on Wednesday, May 14. We meet at Bob Dupont's home beginning at 7:30.

Earle O'Donnell

Vestry Highlights

At its April 15, 2014, meeting, the Vestry:

- Approved Communications Committee policies for posting content on St. John's Facebook page and a form for all groups at St. John's to use to coordinate publicity for their events.
- Designated the \$17,000 contribution made by the Op Shop in March to use by the Outreach Committee.
- Agreed to join the Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce.
- Applauded David Perkins' 20 years of service as chair of the Memorials Committee, as he prepares to relinquish that position to Richard Saltsman.
- Discussed and approved a Communications Committee plan to test a new electronic version of Crossroads during the remainder of 2014, with the support of selected parishioners skilled in online publishing.

**The Vision Thing:
Notes, Thoughts, and Updates
from the St. John's Vision Team**

During Lent, more than 120 St John's parishioners gathered together in one of more than a dozen circle gatherings. We met in the morning, afternoon and evening. We met on weekends and weekdays. We gathered in homes, at church and yes, even a local pub. Thank you for giving of your time and sharing your thoughts and experiences.

At the opening of the gatherings, we referenced a quote from Parker Palmer's book, *Let Your Life Speak*:

The deepest vocational question is not "What ought I to do with my life?" It is the more elemental and demanding "Who am I? What is my nature?"

We then used that to set the stage for a discussion about the nature and essence of St. John's. We asked you what experiences stand out to you that exemplify when St. John's was at its best as a church? Mr. Parker in his writing goes on to say that learning to let his life speak means "Living the life that wants to live in me." The Vision Team with your valuable input is seeking to find the life that God wants to live at St. John's. We are so grateful we get to share this journey together.

Over the next few months, the vision committee will be assembling and analyzing the information collected from our gatherings. Stay tuned!



"Vestry," continued from p. 2

- Discussed how to use the Vestry Retreat weekend, May 2-4, to address topics of broad application at St. John's.
- Heard from Bill Fry, of the Adjacent Property Committee, that Montgomery County is entertaining proposals for the development of the entire block on which the church sits.
- After the meeting, the Vestry toasted outgoing members Jane Houlihan, Anne Lubenow, Tom St. Clair, and Anne Wake.

The next Vestry meeting will be at 8:00 PM on Tuesday, May 20, in the Lounge.

To see all Vestry documents and reports, go to:

<https://docs.google.com/folder/d/0BzfjbFerWsaTbVczb0VMQmFWQWc/edit?usp=sharing>

*Pat Cascio, Secretary of the Parish,
for the Rector and Wardens*

Did You Know?

Did you know that we had four, all-church opportunities this Lent to reflect on Jesus' journey to the tomb? The Passion narrative on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, the Stations of the Cross around the Nave, and the Stations highlighted on Holy Saturday's art tour. As the Israel/Palestine pilgrims walked the Stations of the Cross, questions arose about this tradition, also called the *Via Dolorosa* or Way of the Cross. The Stations are the numbered actions recounted in The Passion narrative and are re-traced for reflection and prayer. Around the world, different versions are followed, including the traditional, 8 Gospel-based stations; the 14 Gospel-based, "Scriptural Stations" introduced by Pope John Paul II; and the popular, 14 stations that the Episcopal Church also follows (where "numbers 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 13 are based on inferences from the Gospel account or from pious legend," *Book of Occasional Services*, 56ff).

For an interesting overview, see http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/christianity/history/passionofchrist_1.shtml.

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

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Calendar

Outreach Sunday, April 27, 2014

- Shepherd's Table Food Preparation - Kitchen
8:00 AM Simple, Spoken Holy Eucharist
- St. Mary's Chapel
9:00-1:00 Parish Library Open
10:00 AM Children's Chapel - Hines Hall
Combined Service, Holy Eucharist
- Nave
11:00 AM Annual Parish Meeting - Nave
Church School - Classrooms
4:45-6:30 Parish Library Open - Library
5:00 PM Come As You Are Holy Eucharist
- Nave
5:30 PM Youth Group - Youth Room

Monday, April 28, 2014

- 6:30 PM EfM - Lounge
7:30 PM Outreach Committee - Library

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

- 1:30 PM Church Staff - Rector's Office
4:00 PM Primary Choir - Choir Room
4:00-6:00 Parish Library Open - Library
5:00 PM Children's Choir - Choir Room
7:00 PM Alleluia Choir - Choir Room
7:30 PM Pastoral Care Advisory Committee
- Lounge

Wednesday, April 30, 2014

- 10:30 AM Bible Study - Lounge
12:00 PM Holy Eucharist and Healing - Chapel
1:00-4:00 Librarian Is In - Library
6:30 PM EfM - Lounge

Thursday, May 1, 2014

- 6:00 PM Norwood Ringers - Choir Room
7:30 PM St. John's Choir - Choir Room

Friday, May 2, 2014

Vestry Retreat (through Sunday;
offsite)

If you wish to be removed from the Saint John's mailing list, or no longer wish to receive the Saint John's at the Crossroads newsletter, please let the office know.

The next Crossroads will be dated **Sunday, 5/4**.

Note: The editor and church staff reserve the right to determine the content of Crossroads and edit for grammar or length requirements (article limit, 150 words).

Final article drafts must be submitted to the Parish Office by the *Sunday* prior to publication date (above). One may email articles to newsletter@stjohnsnorwood.org (with "Crossroads" in the subject line). Sending text in the body of the e-mail is preferred.

Saturday, May 3, 2014

- 11:00-3:00 Op Shop meeting & luncheon -
Lounge, Parish Hall

Sunday, May 4, 2014

- 8:00 AM Simple, Spoken Holy Eucharist
- St. Mary's Chapel
9:00 AM Children's Chapel - Hines Hall
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave
9:00-12:00 Librarian Is In - Library
9:00-1:00 Parish Library Open
10:00 AM Bible Study - Lounge
Parenting Forum - (informal
discussion)
Youth Group Bake Sale (proceeds
benefit Camp Joy) - West Avenue
Lobby
10:10 AM Adult Forum - Parish Hall
11:15 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave
12:15 PM Hospitality Hour - Lounge
4:45-6:30 Parish Library Open - Library
5:00 PM Come As You Are Holy Eucharist
- Nave
5:30 PM Youth Group - Youth Room