



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD
Chevy Chase-Bethesda

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

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May 25, 2014
www.stjohnsnorwood.org

Children's Chapel

As the church school year draws to a close, I'm reflecting on my first year as Children's Chapel Minister at Saint John's. In my early months leading the Children's Chapel service, Saturdays were anxiety-filled. I longed to bring meaningful spiritual experience into the lives of our children. Good intentions of care and concern, once turned inward, cast a shadow of self-doubt on my preparations. Are these offerings "enough"? Am I enough?

The miracle is that the very lessons I prepared for children's chapel, lessons about gratitude and generosity, service and compassion, called me out of my ego-fueled apprehension into a place of quiet confidence. The names and faces which overwhelmed me in September are now a familiar joy. The minutes of Children's Chapel which stretched on in the tomb of my worry now overflow with wonder and expectancy.

In this place of grace, I am inspired by the possibilities for Saint John's Children's Chapel. In her book, *Children's Spirituality: What It Is and Why It Matters*, Dr. Rebecca Nye suggests six guideposts which provide a strong spiritual foundation for children. An anagram of SPIRIT describes these pillars: Space, Process, Imagination, Relationship, Intimacy, and Trust. The first of these, Space, calls us to create a physical environment for children's worship that nurtures closeness and security while providing for separateness and individual thought.

Children's Chapel, *continued on next page*

RECTOR'S CORNER

The Youth Appreciation Dinner this past Sunday was another beautiful testament to one of the strongest aspects of St. John's: our kids. At one point in the evening, as I watched our young choirs perform, and the numerous young people receiving tokens of appreciation for the various ministries in which they are involved - ministries that we couldn't do without them! - I had deep sense of appreciation for those individuals who have been so faithful in nurturing our Children and young people at St. John's. Although I can't possibly begin to name each person, I would like to say a big thank you to Nancy Derr and the Church School Teachers for their commitment to our children's growth and maturity in wisdom and community, to Anne Timpane for nurturing in them the love of music and equipping them with musical skills, to Christine Curto for her devotion and mentorship of our young Acolytes in the art of liturgy, to our Youth Group leaders Cynthia Grimes and Rick Bradley for creating a safe, accessible, and socially-conscious environment for our teenagers, to Greg Murdock and the Welcome Teams for nurturing a love for hospitality among our kids and their families, to Pamela Terry and the Children's Chapel volunteers for instilling in our children the heart of worship, and to Nancy Sawyer and Maria Ostland for caring for our youngest in the nursery on Sunday mornings. We are indeed blessed to be surrounded by so much life and vitality!

My Favorite Quote of the Week

Every expression of anger is the tragic expression of an unmet need.

- Marshall Rosenberg

Children's Chapel, *continued from p. 1*

Thanks to the foresight of my predecessor, the Children's Chapel program is the beneficiary of a grant from the Norwood Parish Fund to redesign the space in which we worship. These funds will be used to transform the stage of Hines Hall into a devoted space for the children of Saint John's. The dedication of this space will take place on Sunday, August 31. Truly, I can't think of a better way to celebrate my first year of service at Saint John's. By God's grace, the best is yet to come!

Pamela Terry

Passages

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." 1 Cor. 12:26

Please contact the Office if you have a birth, baptism, wedding, death, or other passage to share with the Parish.

Adult Forum (5/25) What's in Your Water?

In partnership with the *New York Times*, parishioner Jane Houlihan's research group found that the 39-year-old federal law regulating tap water safety is so out of date that the water Americans drink can pose what scientists say are serious health risks — and still be legal.

In the past year at St. John's, our members have waded in the Jordan, skimmed across the Sea of Galilee, prayed on Iceland's Olfusa River, filled our baptismal font, and sipped from our drinking fountains. We have connected to waters that are pristine and polluted, abundant and scarce.

Learn what's in your water, what's happening to the planet's water, and what you can do about it. Learn also how faith communities across the world are helping. Jane is a water quality expert and former senior vice president for research at Environmental Working Group in Washington DC.

Jane Houlihan

Men's Chill Grill Is Back (5/25)

Due to popular demand, we'll be kicking off the summer with our fourth Men's Chill Grill on Sunday, May 25. It's becoming quite a tradition here on the St. John's blacktop. Gentlemen, please bring your beverage of choice. We'll start at 6 PM and have hamburgers, chicken, and all the fixings. Suggested donation, \$5.

The Chill Grill Squad

Music Notes

Our choir members, handbell ringers, and soloists have had a busy year. They performed extended preludes for all the Christmas Eve services, shared their annual Broadway & Chocolate program, rang as part of the Ocean City handbell festival, prepared special music for our Holy Week and Easter services, sang over 110 anthems, rang 20 different handbell pieces, and performed countless solos and instrumental offerings.

The choirs will take the summer off to refresh and relax while I am on a three-month sabbatical, but our 10 AM services will still be filled with a host of musical offerings from soloists and instrumentalists who will be performing throughout the summer.

Thanks for another great year!

Anne Timpane

Annual Parish Meeting Minutes Posted For Review

The draft minutes of the 2014 Annual Parish have been posted on the Vestry bulletin board and online at this address:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BzfjbFerWs_aTRG1jWUd0Vjk4eHc/edit?usp=sharing

This is your opportunity to submit corrections before the Vestry approves the minutes at its June 17 meeting. Please send any comments to Pat.Cascio[AT]gmail.com.

Pat Cascio, Secretary of the Parish

Our Diversity Statement + Outreach =

Consistent with our Diversity Statement, St. John's will again extend our welcome to the gay and lesbian community by participating in the 2014 DC Pride Day on Saturday, June 7! St. John's will be the only Episcopal Church in Montgomery County marching in the parade. If you are interested in helping to plan this creative outreach, participating in the parade, or just learning more, contact Vestry member, Kurt Ellison by e-mail to kurt.ellison[AT]runbox.com

Kurt Ellison

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.

Summer Newsletter Bi-Weekly Publication Schedule begins with our June 1 issue.

Summer Newsletter edition dates:

June 1, June 15, June 29,
July 13, July 27, Aug 10, Aug 24



Did You Know?

You've probably noticed that Clergy offer special and seasonal blessings to individuals and the congregation each week. But did you know that you're always welcome to ask for a personal Blessing - instead of or in addition to taking communion, anytime outside of communion, from clergy and others? Blessings, as Bishop Mariann recently quoted in her blog: "...draw a circle of light and love around someone to protect, heal, and strengthen." Learn more about Blessings in the Bishop's blog, http://www.edow.org/bishops_blog/2014/05/08/to-bless-and-be-blessed and in *An Episcopal Dictionary of the Church*, http://archive.episcopalchurch.org/109399_13856_ENG_HTML.htm.

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

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Calendar

Sunday, May 25, 2014

- 8:00 AM Shepherd's Table Food Preparation
Simple, Spoken Holy Eucharist - Chapel
9:00 AM Children's Chapel - Hines Hall
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave
9:00-1:00 Parish Library Open
10:00 AM Bible Study - Library
Church School - Classrooms
10:10 AM Adult Forum: *"What's in Your Water," led by Jane Houlihan, water quality scientist, and Anne Wake, Chesapeake Bay Master Gardener* - Parish Hall
11:15 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave
12:15 PM Hospitality Hour - Lounge
1:00 PM Felix Hora-hosted Bocce and BBQ - (offsite)
4:45-6:30 Parish Library Open - Library
5:00 PM Come As You Are Holy Eucharist - Nave
6:00 PM Men's Spring Chill Grill - Parish Hall

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, 6/1**.

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.

Monday, May 26, 2014

Parish Office Closed for Memorial Day

- 6:30 PM EfM - Lounge

Saturday, May 31, 2014

- 9:00 AM Rite 13 rehearsal - Nave, Parish Hall

Tuesday, May 27, 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 Communications Committee - Lounge

Sunday, June 1, 2014

- 8:00 AM Simple, Spoken Holy Eucharist - Chapel
9:00 AM Children's Chapel - Hines Hall
9:00 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave
9:00-1:00 Parish Library Open
10:00 AM Bible Study - Lounge
Church School - Classrooms
Lemonade on the Lawn
Youth Group Bake Sale (proceeds benefit Camp Joy) - West Avenue Lobby
10:10 AM Adult Forum: *"Caring for Creation: The Biblical Imperative and the Contemporary Challenge"* – Dr. William Blair, Professor of Physics and Astronomy - Parish Hall
11:15 AM Holy Eucharist - Nave
12:15 PM Hospitality Hour - Lounge
4:00 PM Volunteer Appreciation - Parish Hall
4:45-6:30 Parish Library Open - Library
5:00 PM Come As You Are Holy Eucharist - Nave

Wednesday, May 28, 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
7:30 PM Outreach Committee - Library

Thursday, May 29, 2014

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