



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD
Chevy Chase-Bethesda

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Volume 29 Number 42

August 10, 2014

www.stjohnsnorwood.org

Goodbye Celebration for Sarah Lapenta-H+ & Paul Hebblethwaite

Sunday

August 10

following the 10am service

in the Parish Hall

Join us as we send Sarah & Paul off in St. John's style with a celebration of their ministries among us!

Caring for Children

Children were of equal value to adults in the sight of Jesus: they were not persons-in-waiting, or future persons. Though they were vulnerable then as now, and lacking markers of social status then as now, Jesus loved them. He knew they were not means to an end, not makers of the family reputation. He knew they needed a lot of care and labor. To appreciate children as complex and passionate people, at tender ages, is to follow Jesus.

Children can be agents of mission in their worlds. If they can be bullies, they certainly can be the opposite, the seekers of justice and peace. Children awaken adults to the present. They live more in the present, and their questions are often soul-searching. "My dog is sick." "Will my dog be in Heaven?" Animals often bring up the deep questions, about death, loss, wounds, and healing. Praying together, asking for help, brings the same comfort from the community of the church school class we might feel at the Sunday morning service. Carrying and supporting children and teenagers is a crucially important reason to be a church community together. The Parish Library has many resources, too, for children's questions.

We'll start church school on September 14, following Renewal Sunday on September 7. Your child should receive a postcard from his or her teacher, if their name is in our database. All are welcome -- feel free to come at any time, and any frequency. Our classes begin with three year olds, and go up through the 12th graders. Children younger than three will find a caring environment in our nursery, with Maria and Nancy; when they turn three during the course of the year, they are welcome to join Pam and Susan's class.

Church school classes take place from 10 to 11 am, concurrent with adult education offerings. The bulletin board in the West Avenue lobby is one place you can find a map of the classrooms. You'll meet the teachers at the end of the service on September 14, and they also can help you to find your child's room. Please feel free to call me with any questions, at 301-654-3623, or email me at nderr@stjohnsnorwood.org, throughout the year. I look forward to another wonderful season.

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.

Change is Coming...Let's Make the Most of It!

Montgomery County planners are advancing the process and taking input for the first draft of the new, 20-year Bethesda Downtown Plan. Planners' initial recommendations that will shape the Plan will come out this fall, with a Staff Draft Plan this winter that will be subject to public hearings before the Planning Board and ultimately the County Council.

The Plan will impact our neighborhood in the long term, with innovative concepts now under discussion including an "Eastern Greenway" of publicly accessible park spaces and improved streetscapes along West Avenue, underground parking, and new zoning and other recommendations aimed at promoting environmental, social and commercial sustainability as properties are developed.

The implementation of the final Bethesda Downtown Plan will impact us in the medium term as well, as major construction and development proceed in the immediate vicinity over several years. The Adjacent Property Committee is engaging county planners, experts on church strategic planning and our neighbors to advance our major goals: preserving and enhancing accessibility to the church, including parking, as a religious center and important community resource; ensuring compatibility of neighborhood development with the church's character as a religious institution and contemplative space, with special attention to honoring our Memorial Garden; and preserving our ability to grow over the next 20 years, enhancing our facilities as needed to serve St. John's and the broader community, consistent with the conclusions of the visioning process.

We look forward to updating the St. John's community early this fall at a date to be determined soon and hearing your views on how to seize the opportunities presented by the challenging and exciting changes in the offing. In the meantime, find more information, follow developments and register your view about the importance of St. John's to the community at bethesdadowntownplan.org.

Bill Fry
Adjacent Property Committee

**Blessing
Of the
Backpacks**

**Sunday August 24
at the
10AM & 5PM services**

**Please bring
a few extra supplies
to donate to
Interfaith Works
for needy kids!**

Top 5 Items Needed
Backpacks (grades K-12)
Packages of Lined Filler Paper
Tab Dividers
2- Pocket Folders
Pencil Pouches

Other Items
1-Subject Notebooks
Composition Books
Erasers, Large Pink
Package of Big Markers
Pencil Boxes
Pens (Red and Black)
Scissors (Blunt Tip and Pointed Tip)
Boxes of Colored Pencils
Rulers

Passages

"If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it."

1 Cor. 12:26

We join in mourning the deaths of...

Edward Carter (friend of Anne Wake)

John Oliver "Ollie" Tetloff (friend of Sooz Mitchell)

We welcome our brother in Christ, Jim Jeng, baptized at the 5pm service on August 10

We pray for Sarah Lapenta-H+ & Paul Hebblethwaite as they move to Colorado

Please contact the Office if you have a celebration, thanksgiving, sorrow, or other news to share with the Parish.

Psalm 105:1-5, 45b

Give thanks to the LORD and call upon his Name; *
make known his deeds among the peoples.

Sing to him, sing praises to him, *
and speak of all his marvelous works.

Glory in his holy Name; *
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Search for the LORD and his strength; *
continually seek his face.

Remember the marvels he has done, *
his wonders and the judgments of his mouth,
Hallelujah!



Caring well for one another through our clergy transition

To assist Sari+ through our Assistant clergy transition, Penny Winder (Stephen Minister Leader) and Anne Derse (Vestry liaison for Pastoral Care) will serve as interim Pastoral Care Coordinators. If you or someone you know would appreciate any form of pastoral care during this time (prayers, connections to other pastoral ministries, visits, etc.), please call Penny, Anne, Sari+, or the church office. Penny may be reached at [301-938-1193](tel:301-938-1193) or winderph@verizon.net and Anne at [301-401-5717](tel:301-401-5717) and derseae@hotmail.com.

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Saint John's at the Crossroads (USPS 756-490) is published weekly (except biweekly June—August) by Saint John's Episcopal Church, Norwood Parish, 6701 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase MD 20815-5351; telephone 301/654-7767; fax 301/654-8830; e-mail *office @ stjohsnorwood.org*. Periodicals postage paid at Bethesda, MD 20814. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS, St. John's Church, 6701 Wisconsin Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-5351.

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Calendar

Sunday August 10, 2014

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon
St. Mary's Chapel
9:00-12:00 Parish Library Open
10:00 am Children's Chapel – Hines Hall
10:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon and music
- Nave
11:00 am Goodbye Reception for Sarah + & Paul
- Parish Hall
Bible Study – Library
5:00 pm Come as You Are Eucharist – Nave
6:00 pm Men's Chill Grill - canceled

Monday -Friday August 11 - 15, 2014

- Parish Office Hours 9 am – 1 pm
7:30 pm Property Committee – canceled
7:30 pm Sunday Forum Committee - Library
Tuesday August 12, 2014
1:30 pm Church Staff – Rector's Office
7:30 pm Stewardship Committee – Library
7:30 pm Finance Committee - Lounge

Wednesday August 13, 2014

- 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist and Healing – Chapel
6:30 pm Centering Prayer – Chapel

Thursday August 14, 2014

- 7:00 pm Stephen Ministers – Library
7:30 pm Stephen Ministers - Lounge

Sunday August 17, 2014

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon
St. Mary's Chapel
9:00-12:00 Parish Library Open
10:00 am Children's Chapel – Hines Hall
10:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon and music
- Nave
11:00 am Lemonade on the Lawn – Tower Lawn
Bible Study – Library
5:00 pm Come as You Are Eucharist – Nave

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 issue of *Crossroads* will be dated August 24, 2014, Final article drafts must be submitted to the Parish Office by the *Sunday* prior to publication. One may e-mail articles to newsletter@stjohsnorwood.org (with "Crossroads" in the subject line). Sending text in the body of the e-mail is preferred.

Note: The editor and church staff reserve the right to determine the content of *Crossroads* and edit for grammar or length requirements.

Still Time for Summer "Centering"

Please join us for Centering Prayer, a time of quiet reflection, sponsored by SPP (Spiritual Practices and Programs) from 6:30-7 PM on a few more WED evenings, in the Chapel. Guidance is available if you are new to this spiritual practice.....all are welcome. Continues through August 20.

Get Crossroads by Email: If you would like to receive our newsletter, *St. John's at the Crossroads*, via email in place of the traditional paper copy, simply provide your email address in the space provided, and return this form to the church office.

Yes! Please send me the church newsletter via email. **My name:** _____

My email: (please PRINT clearly) _____

You may also email your request to: newsletter@stjohsnorwood.org