



ST. JOHN'S NORWOOD
Chevy Chase-Bethesda

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

Volume 29 Number 44

September 7, 2014

www.stjohnsnorwood.org

Welcome to Church School

We start church school on September 14. Going to church school on Sunday is really about taking a day off, about helping your children to keep one of the Ten Commandments. Why do we resist doing what might seem to be easy? One reason we resist taking a day off may be that when we slow down, we start to feel. Some of what we feel are our own wounds and worries. It can be easier to always work, or to always stay distracted, and to never take a real break. We can launch into this style early in life.

At church school what we want to offer is a chance to experience another dimension – even a few moments of the invisible life, the spiritual dimension, in which we may feel a sacred moment, a sense of giving and receiving. The children and teens are with volunteers who are showing them warmth and generosity, as they come together to create a community. The teachers want to foster a spirit of freedom and honesty, of being transparent to others. Gradually the group learns to trust one another.

The classroom can be a place where a child or teen can feel an opening to a greater dimension, simply by listening to others, by playing and making things in a peaceful environment, and by feeling the reassurance of being part of the world here at St. John's.

First, of course, you must find your classroom! All of the children from three year olds through the second graders are on the upstairs hall, which you access past the office. I'm delighted to introduce this year's teachers! We have Pam Kempf and Susan Little once again as teachers for the youngest class; the pre-K will be led by Leslie Kass and Judy Pendergrass, with Aimee Aronson helping out when she can.

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Rector's Corner

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; God's mercies never come to an end; They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness! Lam. 3:22-23

We have so much to celebrate this coming Sunday in which we begin yet another exciting program year together. We're all back after our summer schedules, activities, and travels; our wonderful choirs and acolytes are back in action, we welcome back our music director, Anne Timpane, from her sabbatical, and we celebrate all the new beginnings that are taking place in our lives. Be sure to join us for one of our worship services this Sunday at 8, 10, and 5, and don't forget that we have a big party planned following the 10 am combined service, so bring your appetite!

As we step into the regular rhythms of yet another program year, I want to invite us to meditate on a beautiful and hopeful verse from Isaiah that upholds a timeless truth about God's ongoing activity in our lives and our world:

Behold, I am doing a new thing, says The Lord; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

Sari+



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.

Music Notes

One of the most inspiring acts of corporate worship is the singing of a choir of children. At St. John's, the work of our children's choirs is significant and important. They listen, sing, and pray as full partners in and leaders of the worshipping community.

Primary Choir is for children in Kindergarten through second grade. Rehearsals are in the Choir Room on Tuesday afternoons, 4-4:45 PM.

Children's Choir is designed as the next step for boys and girls in grades three and above. Rehearsals are on Tuesday afternoons, 5-5:45 PM.

Alleluia Choir is for those in grades three and above, plus adults who enjoy singing as part of a multi-age ensemble. The Alleluia Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings, 7 -8 PM.

I encourage you to speak with your child about giving of their time and talent by singing in one of our choirs. No experience is necessary, only a willingness to listen and learn.

Anne Timpane

Wednesday Bible Study

Looking for fun, interactive spiritual growth? Join us in the Lounge on Wednesdays beginning September 10, 10:30AM-11:30AM, for Bible Study. Come regularly or drop in anytime for lively discussion, no preparation required. We are now in transition of leadership as Sarah embarks on her new journey. However, we look forward to group discussions as we excitedly await new direction.

Kim Gorman

Daytime EFM

Education for Ministry is a comprehensive Sewanee program that includes Hebrew Scriptures (OT), Christian Scriptures (NT), Church History, and Theology & Liturgics. In addition to the regular evening EFM class at St. John's Norwood Parish, a new class is being formed for Daytime EFM, to meet on Tuesdays 11:00 am to 1:00 pm over lunch in the Lounge. Up to eight spaces are open for beginning students or transfers, and very limited scholarship funds may be available if needed. For details and a registration packet, contact pbleicher@aol.com or katyod@verizon.net

Middle Eastern Lunch and Guest Speaker

Sept. 21 at 12:15

One of the highlights of the the Pilgrimage to Israel/Palestine last spring was attending a service at the Cathedral in Jerusalem where some of us met volunteers who worked in the World Council of Church's **Ecumenical Accompaniment Program with Palestine/Israel**. We have invited one of the volunteers (who lives in the USA) to join us and share her experiences. She will be with us on Sunday, September 21 and will speak after the 11:15 service at a catered Middle Eastern Lunch One of the Pilgrims has contacted Lebanese Taverna and has generously offered to provide the meal.

Our speaker, Lynn Coulthard, was part of the Jerusalem Team which monitored the Old City especially the religious sites, monitored the Qalandia checkpoint, provided emotional support to families whose homes had been demolished by the Israeli Army, stood with Women in Black, provided a peaceful presence at the Sheik Jarrah demonstration on Fridays, and worked to build relationships with women's groups in the Old City and Silwan. She also did a placement visit to Bethlehem where she helped to monitor Checkpoint 300, the main checkpoint between Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

Volunteers in this program (known as EA's) also work with both Palestinian and Israeli peace groups in the region as the Occupation has a negative impact on everyone. As a returning EA, she is committed to sharing the story of the Palestinian people living under the illegal occupation of the West Bank, and the Program's mission to work for an end to the occupation through non-violent means.

We hope many of you can join us for this unique opportunity. All are invited, but please note that if you plan to join us for lunch, please RSVP (deadline COB on September 17) to Clara Lovett ([301-654-2629](tel:301-654-2629)) or by e-mail to Clara0804@gmail.com.

Carolyn Peirce

Sunday, September 14

Worship Service schedule changes to

8 am, 9 am, 11:15 and 5 pm

Education for All at 10am

Church School - ages 3 years through high school

Adult Forum in the Parish Hall

Bible Study in the Library

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 celebrate with

Margaret Brewer
on the occasion of her 100th birthday
Tony & Molly Tuesca
on the July 21 birth of Maren Judith
Toni Hartman & Keith Magnus
on the August 19 birth of granddaughter
Clara Louise

We join in mourning the deaths of ...

David Nelson* (husband of Katherine)
John Rich, former parishioner

Stephen Ministry at St. John’s

Celebrating 25 Years of Care-Giving and Receiving

In 1990, the Stephen Ministry program of compassionate care began with the training of one clergy and one lay leader at St. John’s. Since then, more than 30 parishioners have been trained for leadership and ministry service to the parish.

This year (2014-2015) we hope to recruit even more Stephen Ministers and Leaders to celebrate our silver anniversary and continue to provide (at least) 25 more years of loving care to those who need a confidential, highly trained, compassionate friend to listen and walk with them through the “changes and chances of this life.”

Everyone needs a compassionate caring relationship when times are tough. Stephen Ministers are the “AFTER” people. After the initial crisis of a loss, significant life change, or problem...After the initial outpouring of cards and concerns...After no one brings a casserole to your door anymore...your Stephen Minister is there for you.

Over the next few months we’ll be sharing more with you about this ministry and how you might benefit and/or participate in it. For additional information: Pick up a brochure in the West Avenue Lobby or Healing Prayer space; see our bulletin board in the church office wing of the West Avenue Lobby; google www.stephenministries.org; or contact Stephen Leaders—Penny Winder, John Mertens, Toni Hartman.

Church School (continued from page 1)

The kindergarten teachers are Lizzie Glidden-Boyle and Amy Bulman. The first graders have Fritz Kass, David McMahon, and Becky Berman for their teachers; and the oldest class, the second grade, have Emily Ball and Walter and Cassie Carr both teaching and directing the pageant, when that time of year rolls round.

The third grade is in a room across from the nursery, and the straightest line to it, if you are in the Nave, is to use the stairs by the Wisconsin Avenue entrance. Those teachers are Amy Jackson, Edward Harrison, and Wendie Marsh. Next door to them is the combination of sixth and seventh grades, taught by Elly Sullivan, Lee Walsh, and Langdon Healy. A few more steps will take you into Hines Hall, and to your left is the doorway to the J2A room, now equipped with AC. Stefanie Rardin and Rick Bradley are the teachers of these 10th and 11th graders.

Down the corridor past the choir room we come to the Youth Room, where the 8th and 9th graders have their class, with Greg Baer & Shirley Sagawa and Sarah & Jason Flohre.

Three more classes to go – the best way to get to either the fourth or fifth grades is to use the stairway past the office, and to head downstairs. Immediately to your right is the fourth grade classroom, with teachers Mike Primich and Kate Tapley; head straight for the fifth grade, on your left, with teachers Kathy Kemper-Dean and Wendy Vicente.

The twelfth grade is up in the pilgrimage room, directly up the middle set of stairs, or at “2R” on the elevator. Tim Dobbyn is leading off the class; Amy Bulman and Bob Uhar are sure to make appearances too. Nike Refshauge is getting all our supplies in order.

You can see your teachers at an introduction at the 9 am service on September 14, right before class – they’ll help you find your rooms, and also you can check the maps of the building on the bulletin board in the West Avenue lobby.

How lucky we are to have each other to get to know. Only two Sundays ago we had twelve newcomers, the offspring from five families, interested in coming to join us. I know they will find a warm welcome. I look forward to beginning another season!

Nancy Derr, church school director

SAINT JOHN'S AT THE CROSSROADS

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Calendar

Sunday September 7, 2014

Renewal Sunday

- 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 Barbecue Lunch
Bible Study – Library
- 5:00 pm Come as You Are Eucharist – Nave

Monday – Thursday, September 8 - 11, 2014

Parish Office Hours 9 am – 2 pm

Monday September 8, 2014

- 7:30 pm Property Committee – Parish Hall
- 7:30 pm Adult Forum Committee – Library
- 7:30 pm Women's Book Group [offsite]

Tuesday September 9, 2014

- 1:30 pm Church Staff – Rector's Office
- 4:00 pm Primary Choir – Choir Room
- 5:00 pm Children's Choir – Choir Room
- 6:00 pm Rector & Wardens - Lounge
- 7:00 pm Alleluia Choir – Choir Room
- 7:30 pm Finance Committee – Lounge

Wednesday September 10, 2014

- 10:30 am Bible Study - Lounge
- 12:00 pm Holy Eucharist and Healing – Chapel
- 6:30 pm EfM - Lounge
- 7:30 pm Adjacent Property Committee
– Library
- 7:30 pm Men's Book Group [offsite]

Thursday September 11, 2014

- 6:00 pm Norwood Ringers – Choir Room
- 7:00 pm Stephen Ministers – Library
- 7:30 pm Stephen Ministers - Lounge
- 7:30 pm St. John's Choir – Choir Room

Friday September 12, 2014

Parish Office Closed

Saturday September 13, 2014

- 9:00 am Vestry Budget Work Day – 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 issue of *Crossroads* will be dated September 14, 2014,

Final article drafts must be submitted to the Parish Office by the *Sunday* prior to publication. One may e-mail articles to newsletter@stjohnsnorwood.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.

New Service Times begin Sunday September 14!

Sunday September 14, 2014

- 8:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon
St. Mary's Chapel
- 9:00-12:00 Parish Library Open
- 9:00 am Children's Chapel – Hines Hall
- 9:00 am Holy Eucharist with sermon and music
- Nave
- 10:00 am Church School – classrooms
Adult Forum – Parish Hall
"Bethesda Downtown Plan" presented
by the Adjacent Property Committee
Bible Study – Library
- 11:15 am Holy Eucharist with sermon and music
- Nave
- 5:00 pm Come as You Are Eucharist – Nave
- 5:30 pm Youth Group – Youth Room
- 6:00 pm Adoption Ministry - Lounge