

Dates to remember

October Food - Snacks

October 3 – 9-4 - Rummage Sale

October 4 – 9-12 - Rummage Sale

October 5 – 2pm - Blessing of Animals St Andrew's

October 5 – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

October 7 – 7pm – Combined Choir Rehearsal st Andrew's

October 8 – 6:30pm Vestry

October 14 – 7pm – Combined Choir Rehearsal st Andrew's

October 16 – Applefest setup

October 19 – 12-4 - Applefest

October 21 – 7pm – Combined Choir Rehearsal st Andrew's

October 25 –pm – Halloween Party, Lyon's, Daniels Rd

October 28 – 7pm – Combined Choir Rehearsal st Andrew's

October 29 – 7pm "Last Wednesday" Study Group

November Food – Non-Perishables for Holiday meal

November 2 – 4pm - Choral Festival Emmanuel Methodist Church, Lockport

November 4 – 4pm - Election Day Chicken 'n Biscuit

November 8 – St Andrew's Bazaar

November 11 – Christmas Shoebox Project

November 12 - **Pious Press Deadline**

November 12 – 6:30pm Vestry

November 23 – 7pm - Wilson Community Thanksgiving Service @ Exley Methodist

November 26 – 7pm "Last Wednesdays" Study Group

November 27 – 10am – Thanksgiving Eucharist

December 7 – Annual Meeting

Your Priest's Perspective

*O glistening starlight, / O royal bride-elect,
resplendent, O sparkling / gem: you are robed
like a noble lady / without spot or wrinkle.*

*Companion of angels, / fellow citizen with saints—
flee, flee the ancient destroyer's cave and come—
come into the palace of the King.*

- Hildegard of Bingen

Hildegard of Bingen was a twelfth-century mystic who wrote this poem for the occasion of the dedication of a church. While the image of the church as the royal bride of Christ has a long tradition, it does not quite fit our modern, plainer sense of the church. We are more modest in our sense of ourselves, more attentive to our service than to our beauty, more resolved to remain simple than to indulge in fantasies of grandeur.

However, Hildegard's exuberant and lavish imagery reminds us that we are called to a lofty and cosmic purpose. Her poem reminds us that being the Body of Christ is an awesome thing, a calling that should more often fill us with wonder. It reminds us that we might ask not "How will we survive in hard economic times?" but rather "How can we grow into the amazing gift of faith that we have been given?" How can we, with humility and grace, become a "sparkling gem" that brings light and beauty to our community? How can we authentically act like a "companion of angels, / fellow citizen with saints"?

Hildegard is, of course, not describing physical and material ornaments. The beauty of St. John's is not merely our elegant sanctuary or our light and roomy new schoolrooms & office. Our "jewels" are our open hearts, our children, and our love for one another. Nevertheless, our humility is false if it limits us, and if it becomes a reason to submit to our fears.

St. John's is very strong, but we need to renew our commitment and sense of purpose. We are currently running a small deficit for 2008, and like all households we face rising costs in the coming year. Some people are being hit by the current downturn more than others, and it's important for some of us to give a bit more to support those who have to cut back.

We also need to think prayerfully about sharing leadership: Perhaps you have a gift for helping with Sunday School, or for serving on Vestry or as Warden, or for helping to organize one of our parish events. The strength and beauty of St. John's will flourish if we grow away from having a small number of people take responsibility for most of the "nuts and bolts" work that needs to be done.

God has blessed St. John's from our beginnings. We sometimes take those blessings of leadership, creativity, and friendship for granted, or forget about them. Let us celebrate with gratitude the grace that has brought us together in this place, and let us renew our commitment to be the glorious and wondrous Body of Christ.

Judith+

Sunday School

After many years of faithful service, Beth Pyskaty has decided not to continue as Superintendent of Sunday School. I hope this will just be a sabbatical, but Beth's decision does call our attention to the fact that for a long time very few of our adults have taken an active role in teaching our children. This is an opportunity for us to think together about what our priorities are for our children and what our vision is for their spiritual well-being. The smiles on their faces and the light in their eyes show that our children know that they are loved, unconditionally, and they know instinctively that this church is "home" in a profound and joyful sense. But *all* of us need to share in their formation; *all* of us need to give our time and thought to how they can grow in faith; *all* of us need to be able to talk with them about the questions and mysteries that keep our own faith alive; and *all* of us need to listen to their musings and insights.

At the request of our teachers, we will be using a new curriculum this year: the elementary school children will be learning stories from the Hebrew Scripture, beginning with the story of creation; the middle school children will be exploring questions of faith that begin in Scripture and are expressed in our prayer and Anglican traditions. Children will also have the opportunity to take part in a Christmas pageant with children at St. Andrew's, if they wish. We will have the pageant at St. John's on one Sunday in December, and at St. Andrew's on another Sunday.

Thank you to Jerlyn Carney for being our volunteer Office Administrator monitoring supplies.

Prayers of the People

Several members have reflected on the fact that we have lost track of many of those we name in the Prayers of the People each week. The list has become quite long, but we have no record of who requested that names be placed on our list, or of how they are doing. We should continue to pray for our friends and neighbors as long as they wish, for through our prayers they become members of our extended parish family; however, those prayers and the relationships they express, lose meaning if we do not keep careful records.

Jean Reid will take charge of our Prayer List beginning in November. On All Saints' Sunday—November 2nd—we will begin a new list of names. You will find Prayer Request Cards by the Visitors' Book. You are asked to fill them out with your name & phone number as well as the name of the person to be added to the list. The request date will be added and those names which are not renewed by you will be removed after 4 weeks. Please fill out a card and give it to Jean or place in the Collection. She will give the names to Pastor Judith to be included in the bulletin, and she will check with you every month to see if you want to continue to have that person's name on our list. You may also contact Pastor Judith by email and she will share your information with Jean. (judithmarylee@gmail.com)

Applefest is a'Comin'

One of the highlights of the year for me is working as a St. John's team for our Applefest. We each have seemed to fall into our own niche as to what we enjoy doing or do best. Gloria and I have been doing our booklet since the inception of Applefest and I have taken on the basket auction part with everyone's help. Marcia has the bake table as her domain and Lois and Jerilyn have the dining room organized. Cheri takes care of advertising the event and the kitchen runs smoothly with Sharon at the helm. I think we all have fun in the end, doing our particular thing. Some may feel at a loss as to what exactly needs doing but trust me, this only works because we all pitch in together as the family of St. John's.

Should you feel at a loss as to what to do, please read on and I will give you a few hints how you too can contribute to our chief money maker of the year. If you want a job to do on Oct 19th, please tell Sharon Rhodes that you are willing and available. She will have a place for you. Do you want to bake something? Talk to Marcia for a wide range of ideas for the bake table. Still need to feel you are contributing? How about making a basket for the auction? Better yet, how about getting some gift cards from various sources, gift certificates from places you frequent. You might be surprised how many places will donate if you tell them why or what for.

If you would like, I would also take cash donations to put towards making a basket for you if you would like. Now...do you still need ideas? Here are some basket ideas I have collected along with many baskets so you need not purchase baskets at this point. St. John's seems to do a pretty good job of recycling baskets as my "project room" is full of them. Just give me a call and I will help you assemble and wrap them too.

Now for the ideas: Baby Basket with items for a new infant or mom, Travel basket with ideas for comfort away from home like a small flashlight, travel size bottles, a carry-all etc, Armchair Travel experience with a good travel book, fancy chocolates, DVD of an exotic place, A specific food basket like Popcorn, Spaghetti, Soup etc., Cleaning Basket (the holidays are coming!) or a Busy Box for kids with crayons, art materials, Play-doh, games, puzzles... You get the idea. Be creative, unique if you want but have fun doing it.

That's the point of all the work, fuss and bother that we go through. In the end, we are all tired but can say to each other, "Well, done! Good and faithful servant."

Lois Carter

MDG Choral Festival - Let Our Voices Be Heard: A Gathering of Song co-sponsored by St. Andrew's & St. John's under the direction of Joe Breczka, Jr. on **All Saints Sunday, November 2nd, at 4 p.m. at Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Lockport.** Please let Judith+ know if you will be available to help with refreshments, ushering, or in any other way on November 2nd. Rehearsals will be on the **Tuesdays in October, 7-8:15 p.m.** and open to everyone,

Altar Schedule

DATE	DAY	TIME	SERVICE	COLOR	MEMBER
October 5	21 st Sunday after Pentecost	8:30am	Eucharist	Green	M. Sabey
October 9	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	M. Sabey
October 12	22 nd Sunday after Pentecost	8:30am	Eucharist	Green	L. Bateman
October 16	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	L. Bateman
October 19	23 rd Sunday after Pentecost	8:30am	Eucharist	Green	A. Carter
October 23	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	A. Carter
October 26	24 th Sunday after Pentecost	8:30am	Eucharist	Green	G. Freischlag
October 30	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	G. Freischlag
November 2	All Saints' Sunday	8:30am	Eucharist	White	M. High
November 6	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	M. High
November 9	26 th Sunday after Pentecost	8:30am	Eucharist	Green	J. Reid
November 13	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	J. Reid
November 16	27 th Sunday after Pentecost	8:30am	Eucharist	Green	M. Sabey
November 20	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Green	M. Sabey
November 23	Christ the King	8:30am	Eucharist	White	L. Bateman
November 27	Thanksgiving Day		Eucharist	White	L. Bateman
November 30	1 st Sunday of Advent	8:30am	Eucharist	Purple	A. Carter
December 4	Annointing & Bible Study	11:00am	Eucharist	Purple	A. Carter

What Does Stewardship Mean to You?

Stewardship may mean the fund-raising drive for the new building project to one person. Another one may say it means the every-member canvass and pledge drive for next year's budget. Someone else might think of stewardship as setting aside a percentage of our income for the Sunday offering.

Stewardship is nothing less than the end result of having a relationship with Christ. Stewardship isn't meant to be a chore or a drudgery. It's meant to be a joy-filled response to our relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. So the next time, consult him in prayer; ask for his guidance. And thank him for the way he manifests himself in your life.

Thank you to the **Vestry**, led by Lois Carter and Jacquie Rodgers, for preparing brunch on Rally Day and for our Parish Meeting on September 21st.

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Thursday morning Holy Eucharist & Bible Study – **Join** us for **Holy Eucharist at 11 and Bible Study 11:30-12:30**. For the six Thursdays beginning on **October 2** we will do a Bible Study on the miracles of Jesus as described in the Gospel of John. Materials for the Bible study will be available in the church office.

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Future Pious Press issues will include a regular report from the Treasurer with Income, Expenses & Balance.

Lessons

Sunday	First Lesson	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
October 5 Pentecost 21	Isaiah 5:1-7	19	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46
October 12 Pentecost 22	Isaiah 25:1-9	23	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14
October 19 Pentecost 23	Isaiah 45:1-7	99	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-22
October 26 Pentecost 24	Deuteronomy 34:1-12	1	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46
November 2 All Saints	Revelation 7:9-17	34:1-10, 22	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12
November 9 Pentecost 26	Amos 5:18-24	78:1-7	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13
November 16 Pentecost 27	Judges 4:1-7	123	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30
November 16 Christ the King	Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24	100	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46
November 27 Thanksgiving	Deuteronomy 8:7-18	65	11 Corinthians 9:6-15	Luke 17:11-19
November 30 Advent 1	Isaiah 64:1-9	80:1-7, 16-18	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

Reader Schedule

Service Date	Lector	Prayers of the People	Lay Reader	Chalice	Crucifier	C 1 st Acolyte	2 nd Acolyte
October 5 Pentecost 21	Janet Hoffman	Sharon Rhodes	Jacquie Rodgers	Mike Kerwin	Nicholas Fallia	Matthew Pyskaty	Brian Kerwin
October 12 Pentecost 22	Robyn Krueger	Allison Carter	Sharon Rhodes	Gail Freischiag	Nicholas Fallia	Michael Pyskaty	
October 19 Pentecost 23	Sandy Beukama	Robyn Krueger	Janet Hoffman	Tom Sharpe	Josie Lyons	Kyle Lyons	
October 26 Pentecost 24	Tom Sharpe	Jacquie Rodgers	Allison Carter	Sharon Rhodes	John Carney, III	Jared Carney	
November 2 All Saints	Jacquie Rodgers	Sharon Rhodes	Tom Sharpe	Mike Kerwin	Nicholas Fallia	Brian Kerwin	Matthew Pyskaty
November 9 Pentecost 26	Allison Carter	Robyn Krueger	Keith Rhodes	Robin Schulmeister	Josie Lyons	Michael Pyskaty	Kyle Lyons
November 16 Pentecost 27	Janet Hoffman	Allison Carter	Jacquie Rodgers	Keith Rhodes	John Carney, III	Jared Carney	Brian Kerwin
November 23 Christ the King	Robyn Krueger	Jacquie Rodgers	Sharon Rhodes	Allison Carter	Nicholas Fallia	Matthew Pyskaty	Jared Carney
November 27 Thanksgiving			Service	St John's	10:00am		
November 30 Advent 1	Tom Sharpe	Sharon Rhodes	Janet Hoffman	Robin Schulmeister	John Carney, III	Michael Pyskaty	Kyle Lyons

If you are unable to fulfill your commitment, please find a replacement, or contact Pastor Leel Thank you!

The winner of the Dinner for 8 at the Van Horne Mansion hosted by Joanne Stanton was Father Jack Marshall of Christ Church and his family.

From the Bench Z y Z y Z

As we come upon the 7th anniversary of the attack on the World Trade Center in New York City it would seem appropriate to write about one of our “National Anthems” that draw us together at such a time with patriotic fervor. However, I found myself humming a tune; we sing occasionally, that seems to say what I would like to remember on this occasion. As a Christian, living in a country founded on Christian principles, I hope I will leave those I encounter with an understanding from where I derive my strength, my drive and yes, my love of this country. I do not live in a state of fear as I then think the battle is already lost for us. But rather I look ahead to the possibilities that God gives us every day to make this world a better place.

Look up hymn #628 in our hymnal. It is a short 3 stanza hymn I like to use as a sequence hymn before hearing the Gospel. In music terms I would call it a centering hymn that makes us aware or brings our attention to the Gospel message; to learn, live and teach the message of Christ to any and all we meet.

“Help us, O Lord, to Learn” is a hymn recently written (1959) by William Walkins Reid, Jr. He was born in New York City and educated at Oberlin College and Yale Divinity School. During World War II, he was in the Army Medical Corps and spent 8 months as a German prisoner of war. After the war he pastored Churches in both North Dakota and Pennsylvania where in 1978 he was appointed District Superintendent for Wilkes-Barre in the United Methodist Church.

As an active member of the Hymn Society in the U.S. and Canada, he wrote this hymn for the 35th anniversary of the International Journal of Religious Education. Of over 400 texts of hymns submitted dealing with Christian Education only 15 were published. Since then it has appeared in a number of hymnals.

The tune it is linked with, is a 19th Century one, written by a prolific British composer, William Henry Monk who also arranged the wonderful harmonies of some of our most beloved hymns such as “Forty Days and Forty Nights”, “O God our Help in Ages Past”, “All Glory Laud and Honor” and “The Head that Once was Crowned with Thorns”.

So as the strains of God Bless America fill our ears at this time, may we remember our call is to reach out, to learn, to live and to teach others about Christ.

Keep Singing! Lois

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk Oct 5th

Nothing can describe the camaraderie of walking with those who share a passion for defeating breast cancer. But Making Strides is more than a walk. It's also an opportunity to honor breast cancer survivors, remember those who have lost their fight, and educate women about breast cancer prevention and early detection.

If you wish to donate to American Cancer Society, please give your contribution to Donna and Norm Kopeck. This will be our 18th year of walking and we would love to have you join us.

***Blessing of the Animals* at St. Andrew's on Sunday, October 5, at 2pm.** All pets, including stuffed animals, are welcome to this brief and moving service of prayer and song. Invite your friends to bring their pets as well!

Greetings from Seminary!

I'm just getting into the swing of things here at General Seminary; so far so good! There is a tremendous amount of reading required, and most students expect they will not complete it all; luckily I'm not behind yet. The professors are wonderful, the services at our Chapel of the Good Shepherd are many, with Eucharist, Morning Prayer and Evensong daily, sometimes Rite I, sometimes sung; sometimes incense. In days of yore the students wore cassocks not only to every chapel service, but to every class as well. We are spared that but are left to juggle an alarming number of books in the pew—the BCP, Hymnal 1982, Lift Every Voice and Sing, Wonder, Love, and Praise, the Anglican Chant Psalter, a Lutheran book or two; and because that's not enough, the seminary has its own giant service book for those times when you need even more service music choices!

I've had little chance to get about in the city, although there is a trip to see the Egyptian and Ancient Near East exhibits at the Brooklyn Museum in my future, courtesy of a required assignment for my Old Testament class. We are also asked to go visit a different church every week, and get an idea of what kind of place we would like to work at next year during our field placement. I've been to Holy Apostles, where half the faculty go on Sunday and whose organist is our professor of church music; St. Peter's, with a very small congregation in a very large beautiful landmark church; and next time downtown to St. Mary's in Harlem—I'm told it's VERY different; but no one can quite say why. I guess I'll have to be there.

I worked in Holy Apostles' Soup Kitchen on Labor Day, where 1260 meals were served in just under 3 hours. The dining area is in the nave of the church—all the pews have been removed and it is amazing to see what is essentially the Lord's Supper served in worship space.

I've got the best work-study job on campus—editor of the weekly newsletter (well, less like editor and more like data entry drone); the main advantage is I get to be the first to see next week's lunch menu. I have the power to exclude the vegetarian entrées from the newsletter if I so choose—what preparation for leadership!

I'm so grateful that I had the chance to work with you all and Judith before I came to seminary—not only has that opportunity provided me with great experience, but I've gained so many friends because of it! Once again, I thank you all for your letters, prayers and support.

Blessings and Peace,
Claudia Koczka
General Theological Seminary
175 Ninth Ave, Box 119
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At:

The Crowne Plaza Niagara Falls
300 Third Street
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Date:

Friday, November 7, 2008

Time:

Preview: 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Auction: 8:00 p.m.

Admission:

\$20.00 per person \$30.00 per couple

Tickets & Information Call:

Lynne (716) 285-3403 Ext. 2225

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Thank you to Gloria Bryant for volunteering to be Clerk of the Vestry.