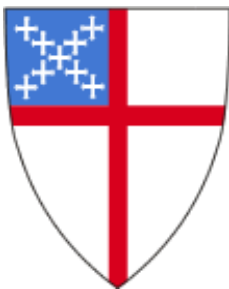


The Fabric of St. John's



Parish News of
St. John's Episcopal Church
Alma, Michigan

October Newsletter



Pastor's Corner

In The Episcopal Church we have a book called "The Book of Occasional Services". In this book is a "Litany for the Mission of the Church." We will pray this litany for church mission each Sunday until Christmas. Although we are not missionaries to foreign lands, we are apostles to those in our own communities. After all, Jesus "sent" us to preach, teach and baptize because all of us participate in his priesthood by virtue of our baptism.

How do we preach? We preach by every word we speak and by our every action. May your mission in these final months of this year be blessed.

Mary+

October 2010

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:00am BibleStudy SundaySchool 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am H.E& Sermon Potluck	4	5	6	7 8:30am-Spirtual Growth Group	8 National Children's Day	9 2:00 – 4:00 pm Tie Blanket Workshop
10 9:00am BibleStudy SundaySchool 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am H.E& Sermon Vestry	11 Columbus Day	12	13	14 8:30am-Spirtual Growth Group	15	16
17 9:00am BibleStudy SundaySchool 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am H.E& Sermon ECW	18	19	20	21 8:30am-Spirtual Growth Group	22	23
24 9:00am BibleStudy SundaySchool 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am H.E& Sermon DOK	25	26	27	28 8:30am-Spirtual Growth Group	29	30
31 9:00am BibleStudy SundaySchool 9:15am Choir Practice 10:00am H.E& Sermon - morning prayer						

Daughters of the King Prayer

(Submitted by B. Anderson)

Lord,
I am but one, but I am one.
I cannot do everything, but I can do something.
What I can do, I ought to do.
What I ought to do, by the grace of God I will do.
Lord, What will you have me do?

This is the motto of the Daughters of the King Order, but it has the potential of a prayer for all Christians. Often we feel insignificant and helpless, but we need to remember that God made us all unique and has a specific life plan for each of us. Thinking that we can't do everything can be overwhelming, but realizing we can do something is liberating. Understanding or seeing something we can do should inspire us to make the attempt, and by the grace of God we will usually succeed. The hard part is stepping out in faith and saying "Lord, what will you have me do?", then letting Him take your hand and lead you forward. Over and over God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things; He just needs willing people to step out in faith.

Blanket Workshop

(Submitted by B. Anderson)

The next Blanket Workshop will be Saturday, October 9th, from 2-4 pm in the church Parish Hall. No sewing skills are required, all are welcome, just bring a pair of scissors if you have them. Many hands make the work go quickly.

We always appreciate fleece donations. We use one piece of print fleece, and one piece of co-ordinating plain color fleece for each blanket. We make two sizes; med. and large. The med. size takes two pieces of fleece 1 1/2 yard each color, and the large takes two pieces of fleece 2 yards each. If you cannot donate two pieces of fleece for a whole blanket, you can donate single pieces and we will try to co-ordinate what is

donated. Or if you would rather, you may donate the money for fleece and we will make the purchase for you. You don't have to buy fleece to help put the blankets together at the workshops. Donating your time to this ministry is a blessing, to us and to those who receive the blankets.

Member of the Month Feature

(Submitted by A. Holtz)

Gerald "Jake" Hamilton found St. John's during the summer of 1992. Jake had just started a new job and was living alone in Ithaca, while Shirley sold their home in Petoskey. As they had attended the Episcopal Church in Petoskey, he decided to try out our church, which he found in the yellow pages. Both Jake and Shirley love to travel and have been blessed to have seen 49 of the 50 states - only Alaska is left to visit. Jake also enjoys golf, fishing, hunting, grandchild spoiling, antique tractors, good music, MSU sports, reading and visiting friends.

Jakes "best" Sunday is the church filled with lively music from the organ and piano, everyone singing and participating in the consecration of the liturgical elements, a concise sermon, followed by a relaxing coffee hour. Jakes favorite part of Sunday Service is taking communion.

ECW Highlights

(Submitted by Shirley Hamilton)

St. John's - Alma Episcopal Church Women last met on Sunday September 26. Since the church newsletter deadline had already passed, there is no report for that meeting. All women are invited to attend the October 17 meeting during coffee hour to finalize plans for Thanksgiving, Adopted Families, Christmas and Epiphany.

October Birthdays

October 6 - Jennifer Davison
October 7 - Erin Harrier
October 15 - Revd. Mary Delaney
October 28 - Beverly Anderson

Please Keep These People in Your Prayers for Healing and Guidance:

Arlene Miller (Friend B. Gladding)
Don Dancer (Friend J. Crispin)
Genevieve Gibbs (Former Member)
Hoffman Family (Friends of S. Young)
John Lyons (Son-in-Law of S. Grover)
McKenzie Rose Stothers (Friend of A. Holtz)
Nick Harrier (Son of E. Harrier)
Royce Clarke (Member)
Stuart Alexander (Relative of V. Alexander)

Serving in the Military:

Billy Robertson (Nephew of C. Eckhoff)
Catherine McDonald (Daughter of C. & L. Zilch)
Michael Harper (Nephew of M. Trimmer)
Tony Dill (Great-Nephew of J. & S. Hamilton)
Wesley White (Nephew of M. Trimmer)

UTO Reminder – don't forget to add coins to your United Thank Offering box when you have something to be thankful for – and we all know God gives us gifts every day. ☺

A Bit of Humor:

Top 10 Reasons to be Episcopalian – according to Robin Williams

10. No snake handling.
9. You can believe in dinosaurs.
8. Male and female. God created them; male and female we ordain them.
7. You don't have to check your brains at the door.
6. Pew aerobics.
5. Church year is color coded.
4. Free wine on Sunday.
3. All of the pageantry, none of the guilt.
2. You don't have to know how to swim to get baptized.
1. No matter what you believe, there's bound to be at least one other Episcopalian who agrees with you.

HopeWell Ranch

(From their facebook Page)

HopeWell Ranch serves its participants, ages 5 to adults, by pairing an individual with a caring staff member and an equine counselor so their time is just their own. We feel that this fosters greater trust as well as allowing an individualized approach to each person's needs. As the participant gains confidence and ability, the person is advanced through our program as they are able. This allows them the ability to learn the fundamentals of riding and horsemanship.

HopeWell Ranch serves the entire family. Many siblings have joined our program and parents receive support through the addition of a parents supporting parents group that meets monthly to discuss pertinent topics unique to their family's situation.

HopeWell Ranch is a place of healing, where participants can feel love and acceptance no matter what their ability. Using our wonderful equine and the many other animals we have, we believe we can help a child or an adult to find peace and hope for their future, perhaps for the very first time. Miracles happen daily as these amazing creations of God can pierce the most hardened of hearts and allow freedom to flow.

Volunteer opportunities are plentiful at HopeWell Ranch. With an ever expanding group of participants, we rely heavily on the kindness and involvement of volunteers. We have opportunities for people to work with our equine, children, our smaller animals, vegetables, flowers, herb gardens, maintenance, painting, orchard work, construction of buildings, and multitude of other projects that are always happening.

HopeWell Ranch

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Sunday Eucharist: 10:00 a.m.
Christian Education (all ages): 9:00 a.m.

October 2010

St. John's is a Church of the Episcopal
Diocese of Eastern Michigan

The Rt. Rev. S. Todd Ousley, Bishop
The Rev. Dr. Mary Delaney, Rector
Nora Kowitz, Secretary
Bob Crist, Organist
Basil Anderson, Sexton

VESTRY

Jake Hamilton (Senior Warden), Kenalee
Atchinson and Nancy Mills (Junior
Wardens) Doug Ballard (Treasurer), Chris
Berry (Secretary), Bev Anderson, Alex
Radzibon, and Kay Wohlfeill