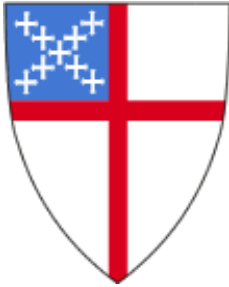


The Fabric of St. John's



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



December 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+

The Plaid Door

(Submitted by M. Trimmer)

Friday, December 10 is Come Home To Alma For The Holidays. The Plaid Door will be open until 9:00 p.m. Our choir will be singing Christmas carols and we will give away bags of Christmas cookies to all our customers. We need lots of cookies so please bake your favorite recipe and get them to the church or Plaid Door by Wednesday, December 8th. The give away bags will be assembled at 7:00 p.m. December 8th in the church kitchen. Thank You

Notes from the Senior Warden:

(Submitted by J. Hamilton)

Please watch your mailbox at Church or at home for a letter and a time/talent sheet regarding stewardship for 2011. The theme is – “Do what you can, be it a little or a lot.” Return your pledge and time/talent sheet by Dec. 5. Thanks in advance.

I’m also getting interest in having our Men’s Spiritual Growth Group meet on a Sunday after Church instead of a Saturday morning. The idea is to coincide with a date when the

ladies are meeting. I was going to try it in December, but with the Christmas holidays looming, it seems like a January meeting would be a better time. I’ll get something in the January newsletter about it

The new flat roof on the north side is complete with the exception of the metal trim on the edges. Now we need to get the ceiling tiles replaced in the nursery and sacristy. We’ll use some of the old tile (that are still good) to replace stained ones in the offices, hallway, classroom, kitchen and parish hall. If the weather cooperates, we’ll have a “Leaf and Tile Day” on Dec. 11 to blow the leaves off the lawn and install new ceiling tiles. I heard pizza would be furnished for lunch that day! Again, watch for details in the Sunday bulletin.

Blessings to all,

Message from ECW

(Submitted by L. Mitchell)

December-Adopt a Family for Christmas: The Christmas gift ornaments for our families in need are on the Christmas tree in the Narthex. Each ornament is either for a child or senior citizen.

A purchased gift should be in Christmas wrappings and the ornament describing the gift should be firmly attached to the outside of the gift. Food items [unwrapped] and gift card with envelope will be collected in a separate box [Food items will be stored in the church freezer]. Please place your gifts on the table next to the office no later than Sunday December 12th.

December Birthdays

December 3	Jake Hamilton
December 4	Basil Anderson
December 12	Beth Davison
December 13	Barb Gladding
December 14	Ray Anspach
December 19	Frances Parcher
December 20	Royce Clark
December 26	Vlesta Alexander

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

Bill Harris	(Member)
Clarice White	(Cousin, B.Gladding)
John Giles	(Member)
Bob Trimmer	(Brother, T. Trimmer)
Pedini Family	(J&K Crispin)
Royce & Trudi Clarke	(Members)
Tom Trimmer	(Member)

Serving in the Military:

Billy Robertson
(Nephew of C. Eckhoff)

Catherine McDonald
(Daughter of C&L Zilch)

Christopher Ferris
(Relative of B. Gladding)

Joe Ebnit
(Nephew of C&S Grover)

Kara Miller
Relatives of B. Gladding

Krista Miller
Relatives of B. Gladding

Michael Harper
(Nephew of M. Trimmer)

Robert Dill
(Son of Mary Dill)

Tony Dill
(Great-Nephew of J. & S. Hamilton)

Wesley White
(Nephew of M. Trimmer)



The Sympathy of the congregation is extended to...The family of **Rex Eugene Ballard** at his death in November (Father of Douglas Ballard).

Saginaw Valley Convocation Meeting

Submitted by Shirley Hamilton

Monday, Nov. 15, 7pm, St Alban's Episcopal-Bay City. Barb Gladding and Shirley Hamilton representing St. John's-Alma.

Election of officers for Saginaw Valley Convocation resulted in election of present officers for two more years each: Charles Leibrand, Pres; Eric Blackhurst, V.P.; Gary Fox, Treas. A secretary for the convocation is needed. The Very Rev. Robert Skirving serves as Dean of the Convocation.

The following Grant Requests were acted upon:

The Ezekiel Project: Three representatives of this organization, which is part of the internat'l "Gamaliel". Foundation network of congregation based community-organizing projects" and is "comprised of various congregations in the Saginaw metropolitan area" presented explanation of its past accomplishments and goals for 2011. Their request for \$10,000 was approved on the condition

that Ezekiel gives any Saginaw Con-convocation congregation free membership in 2011 which desires it.

St. John's-Saginaw:\$2,750 approved for use in continuing their 4 day/week free Bag Lunch Program.

Camp Chick: \$1,200 for the scholarship fund and \$2,000 for improvements needed to pass inspection were approved.

St Paul's-Gladwin: Approved \$2,000 for start-up of new "Undies Sunday" outreach project. Underwear for children ages 4 to 9 years in needful families will be distributed from the church three times a year.

Other approved expenditures were as follows: \$20,000 for the Mission Program Contingency Fund of the Diocese of Eastern MI to fund evangelism, education, stewardship, and outreach projects (including assistance of parishes with short term clergy vacancies). \$5,000.00 to the Diocese of Eastern MI for the Diocesan Challenge Appeal for Haiti.

Last call for Haiti: Please remember to make out your check for \$33.33, payable to: St. John's Church, on the memo line of the check write, Haiti.

The next meeting will be held on January 17, 2011.

Daughters of the King

Submitted by Beverly Anderson

There will be no meeting in December due to the holidays. Our next meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2011. Happy Holiday Season!

Perishable Food for Salvation Army

December 12 bags of potatoes
December 19 bags of apples
and/or oranges. Put all donations in blue tubs by the altar.



Contributions expressing gratitude, remembrance, or celebration may be made designated to the Flower Fund. Please complete and return form attached to the church office by December 19th. Make checks payable to St. John's Episcopal

Church., on memo line write Flower Fund.

Poinsettia

The Flower Fund will arrange for several large poinsettia plants to be placed at the altar. Contributions to the Flower Fund in any amount will be gratefully received and noted in the church Bulletin. Please indicate whether given in memory of, in celebration of, or with gratitude for, in the form attached.

Episcopal Church Women

Submitted by Angie Ballard

No meetings will be held in December or January. Next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 20, 2011.



December 2010

St. John's Episcopal Church
550 N. Luce Road
P.O. Box 605
Alma, MI 48801-0605

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Sunday Eucharist: 11:00 a.m.
Christian Education (all ages): 10:00
a.m.

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