



The Fabric of St. John's



June 2011

Pastor's Corner

(Submitted by Revd. Mary Delaney)

June is the sixth month of the year and we look forward to summer, these first six months of 2011 have flown by. We had the privilege of receiving new members into our church family and the joy of hearing the voices of children in our midst. Now that the summer is fast approaching and the graduation and wedding season is here, we all will be traveling here and there seeing family and friends, going on long anticipated vacations, or family re-unions etc. How do you use all that time you spend in the car?

I find that a good time for prayer; a time for God and I to talk things over, evalu-

ate what we have done so far and what we need to do in the future; or some days just acknowledging God's presence within and resting in that presence. This practice is certainly safer than the hunt for a radio station while driving, or talking on the cell phone. Keep this in the back of your mind the next time you start off on a trip, I think you may find a greater depth in your faith and a simple peace may envelop you.

God's Blessings,
Mary+



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Reminders:

- Memorial for Vern Andrews June 11.
- Wear Red on June 12 for Pentecost Sunday
- Sunday Sundaes June 19.
- Camp Chickagami is coming up in July
- Rev. Mary on vacation for July.



From a recent Morning Sun's "Today in History"

Submitted by—Barbara Gladding

May 10, 1911

The Ladies Guild of the St. John's Church in Alma was preparing for its annual sale of embroidered muslin underwear.

God Said No!

Submitted by Wendy Brown

God Said NO!!

I hope that you can get the effects on your computers! The words are great, but the movements of the faces add a lot...

I asked God to take away my habit.

God said, No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up..

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole.

God said, No. His spirit is whole, his body is only temporary.

I asked God to grant me patience.

God said, No. Patience is a byproduct of tribulations; it isn't granted, it is learned.

I asked God to give me happiness..

God said, No. I give you blessings; happiness is up to you.

I asked God to spare me pain.

God said, No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.

I asked God to make my spirit grow.

God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.

I asked God for all things that I might enjoy life.

God said, No. I will give you life, so that you may enjoy all things.

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me.

God said... Ahhhh, finally you have the idea.

May God Bless You.

'To the world you might be one person,
But to one person you just might be the world'

'May the Lord Bless you and keep you,
May the Lord Make his face shine upon you,
And give you Peace.....Forever'

'Good friends are like stars...
You don't always see them, But you know they are always there.



Notes from the Sr. Warden

Submitted by Jake Hamilton

The Vestry voted to have the maple leaf ash (box elders) and one spruce tree removed by Medco tree service. They will fell the trees and chip up the residue. The chips will be left in the north parking lot for us to use for landscaping purposes. Jay Atchinson will take the firewood.

In other action, it was voted to remove the pulpit and the permanent baptismal font. Jake will organize a work session to accomplish this. The purpose is to open up space to facilitate foot traffic and future needs.

Lastly, a "Block Party" was tentatively set to be held in conjunction with our potluck in September. This would be on the 11th (because of Labor Day) and be a welcome back from summer activities. Our church neighbors would be invited to join us and get acquainted. **Your input is needed** on this idea. Please contact any member of the vestry and/or leave a note in my mailbox.

IS CAMP CHICK ON YOUR JULY CALENDAR?

Submitted by Shirley Hamilton

Camp dates for Camp Chickagami on Lake Esau (pronounced Ee-saw), located 25 miles north of Alpena, are as follows:

SENIOR CAMP: (AGES 12-17) Sunday, July 17-Saturday, July 23

JUNIOR CAMP: (AGES 8-12) and COUNSELOR –IN-TRAINING PROGRAM (ages 16 and up): Sunday, July 24-Saturday, July 30.

Camp scholarship applications are available at the diocesan level. If interested, call our church office to speak to Rev. Mary at 463-1070. There is information on line at www.campchickagami.org.





Introducing the Lovejoy Family

Submitted by Jen Lovejoy

Eric, Emilie, Rachael and I (Jen) live in St. Louis and have been attending St. John's-Alma since Shrove Tuesday when the girls and I came to eat pancakes. We've been at most Sunday services since then, as well as Sunday school and Gospel discussions. Eric has been to a couple of services, when his health allows. We like it here and feel very welcomed.

I am a cradle Episcopalian, daughter of a Methodist father and Presbyterian mother, who, when they moved to the small town of Newberry in the UP, made friends with the son of the Episcopal Church rector and his wife and began attending church there. The congregation I grew up in was small and close-knit, much like the one here. I have very fond memories of growing up in that atmosphere, and didn't take long to find the Episcopal church close to CMU's campus when I began my freshman year there. I went on and off during school and became comfortable there. Eric and I did our pre-marriage counseling with then rector Gordon Weller, and Rachael was baptized there. I became a part of the church school and served first on an interim leadership team appointed by the bishop while we were without a rector, transitioning to vestry member and clerk for 3 years.

We recently decided Mt. Pleasant was too far to go on Sunday mornings and visited the Alma church. Upon deciding to stay, I happily joined the ECW, enjoyed hosting a table at the Spring Tea, and attended the women's spirituality meetings Thursday mornings for a few weeks, until I was hired as the receptionist at Lodewyk, Nesen & McKim

Agency. I miss the meetings, but I love my job and am able to catch up with the ladies on Sundays. When I have spare time, I love to read, crochet and knit. I have planned and will soon plant a rather ambitious garden. I am leader of Rachael's Girl Scout troop as well.

Eric spent his childhood and the beginning of high school in Holt, Mi, near Lansing. When his family moved to St. Louis for part of his freshman year, his parents began attending Peace Lutheran Church in Alma. He attended with them occasionally and began to attend St. John's-Mt. Pleasant with me when we were engaged. Since then, he has come to church occasionally with our family as first work, then his health, have allowed. Eric has severe osteoarthritis and dysplasia in both hips and is also diabetic, both conditions creating symptoms that make it difficult for him to get out sometimes. Prior to his disabilities, he worked primarily in the lawn care and landscaping industry. His knowledge and expertise have been great for outside our home, and having spent the last 20-plus years helping with things around his parent's 140+-year-old Victorian home has made him pretty handy when things go wrong inside, too. He also has done a lot of the work needed on the vehicles we have owned. He loves fishing whenever he can.

Emilie is just finishing 8th grade and will be (gulp) a freshman next year at St. Louis High School. She has signed up for 4 years of Spanish along with her required classes and hopes to be able to join the volleyball team next year. She has always been an avid reader, loves animals - especially monkeys - and one of her future aspirations is to be

come a veterinarian. We knew she was ambitious when, just before she turned two, she climbed out of her crib in our bedroom in the cabin we were sharing with my parents on vacation, opened the door, and came out into the living room. "I out climbed!" she proudly proclaimed. She hasn't stopped moving ahead since, and we are very proud of the beautiful young woman she has become.

Rachael started out life by giving us a scare; she wasn't breathing when she was born and was taken directly to NICU at Sparrow Hospital. She was there for a week before they determined that all was well, her blood sugar levels steadied, and we could bring her home. She delighted us all by continuing to be a healthy baby and has been amazing us ever since. She's had the normal childhood colds and ear infections, but never any signs of her rocky entry into the world. She was obviously left-handed as soon as she started feeding herself, has always LOVED broccoli, and is the only kid I know who doesn't like watermelon! She has a mind of her own, and it's very sharp. She is very active as well, participating in three years so far of the Girls on the Run program, two seasons of soccer, and is looking forward to more in 6th grade. Rachael just turned 11 and will be going to Middle School (another gulp) next year. We are certain she will continue to excel and make us proud.

Thank you, the fabric of St. John's, for weaving us so easily and thoroughly into your lives. We are truly blessed to be here.

JOIN THE JUNE ACTIVITIES!!

Submitted by Shirley Hamilton

In addition to the usual 1st Sunday Potluck, there are three more events taking place at St. John's-Alma in June.

A Memorial Service for Vern Andrews will be held on Saturday, June 11, at 11 a.m., at our church. ECW will be providing a luncheon following the service. Anyone

interested in helping, please call Vickie Bethka, 463-5953.

On Father's Day, June 19, we celebrate the men of St. John's with our annual "Sunday, Sundae, Sunday". Bring your father or son to coffee hour for an ice cream sundae, with choice of toppings, or celebrate your own fatherhood!

The annual church picnic will be at church again this year, Sunday, June 26, after the

service. Burgers and hot dogs on the grill will be provided. Just bring a potluck dish to share, your table service, and your favorite beverage. Maybe the weather will allow us to eat under our maple trees!



June 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Sunday Line-ups

5th Seventh Sunday of Easter
 9:00am Adult Gospel discussion
 10:00am Holy Eucharist
 11:00am Pot Luck

11th 11:00am Memorial for Vernon Andrews
 12:00pm Luncheon

12th Pentecost Sunday – Please wear Red!
 9:00 am Gospel discussion
 10:00am Holy Eucharist
 11:30am Vestry Meeting

19th Trinity Sunday
 Father's Day: Sunday Sundaes
 9:00am Adult Gospel discussion
 10:00am Morning Prayer

26th Second Sunday after Pentecost
 Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday
 9:00am Adult Gospel discussion
 10am Holy Eucharist
 11:00am Church Picnic

Other Events

June 19—Father's Day—
 June 22—Vestry Meeting:
 June 26—Church Picnic in the yard! We will grill burgers and hot dogs and eat outside weather permitting. Watch the Sunday bulletin for details.
 July—No potluck in July due to the holiday and vacations. Also Rev. Mary will be on vacation this month.

Birthdays

June 3—Michael Bethka
 June 4—Karl Wakeman
 June 6—Kay Crispin
 June 17—Karen Mitchell
 June 22—Irvin Alexander



Vestry 2011

The Reverend Mary Delaney

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Doug Ballard
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Members:

Beverly Anderson (2009-2012)
Wendy Brown (2011-2014)
Doug Ballard (2010-2013)
Erin Harrier (2011-2013)
Bob Mitchell (2011-2014)
Kay Wohlfeill (2010-2013)

Prayer List

Keeps those listed in your prayers this week

For those in need of healing and/or guidance

Aaron Crispin—Son of Jerry Crispin
Clarice White—Cousin of B. Gladding
Connor Dechman—Great-Grandson of Estella Ruskowski
Erin Dechman—Granddaughter of Estella Ruskowski
Evelyn I. LeBaron—Grandmother of T. McHone
George Ruskowski—Son of Estella Ruskowski
Harold & Cyndi Park—Former Members
Harlow & Phyl Thum—Friends of S. Grover
Jaden Dechman—Great-Grandson of Estella Ruskowski
Jerry & Kay Crispin—Members
John Criswell—Former Member
Lee Beard—Brother-in-Law of B. Gladding
Mary Hamilton—Friend of Estella Ruskowski
Pat Andrews—Member
Phil Warsop—Member/Music Director
Rachelle Smith—Daughter-in-law of Loreen Smith
Ron Clark—Son of Royce & Trudi Clark
Shawn Austin—Friend of Bill Harris
Tom Trimmer—Member

For those who are serving in the Military

Billy Robertson—Nephew of C. Eckhoff
Catherine (Zilch) McDonald—Daughter of C. & L. Zilch
Christopher Ferris—Relative of B. Gladding
Joe Ebnit—Nephew of C. & S. Grover
Kara Miller—Relative of B. Gladding
Krista Miller—Relative of B. Gladding
Michael Harper—Nephew of M. Trimmer
Steven McLane—Friend T. McHone
Tony Dill—Great-Nephew of J. & S. Hamilton
Wesley White—Nephew of M. Trimmer

For those who have died.

Rex Eugene Ballard—Father of Doug Ballard—11/12/10
Robert Trimmer—Brother of Tom Trimmer—12/08/10
Garth Francis Hamilton—Father of Jake Hamilton—12/24/10
Ronald Anderson—Brother of Basil Anderson—01/22/11
Richard "Dwight" Gay—Brother-in-law of Evelyn Gay—03/3/11
Clarence W. Moss, Jr.—Member—03/6/11
Dean Whitman—Cousin of Vlesta Alexander—03/7/11
Terry McKay—Brother-in-law of Sue Young—03/11/11
Joseph Hoffman—Uncle of Wendy Brown—03/24/11
Jean Wohlfeill—Stepmother of Kay Wohlfeill—03/30/11
Vernon Andrews—Member—04/14/11
Louis Richards—Friend of Jerry Crispin—05/4/11



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

June 2011

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 At-
chinson and Nancy Mills (Junior Wardens)
Doug Ballard (Treasurer), Barb Gladding
(Clerk), Kay Wohlfeill, Bev Anderson,
Wendy Brown, Erin Harrier, and Bob
Mitchell