



# THE EAGLE AND THE SWORD

A Newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, Keokuk, IA &  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Warsaw, IL



January/February 2012

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## St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Larry A. Snyder, SSC,

Priest in Residence

Tatyana Hetzer, Organist

Jay Roth, Sexton

Mary Lynne Arms, Music Director

Nancy Gaunt, Altar Guild Director

Joan Logan, ECW

## St. John's Vestry

Suzanne Messer, Sr. Warden

William Vorhies, Jr. Warden

Janet Fife-LaFrenz, Clerk

John Clark Felicia Daniel

Jackie Flockhart Ken Marang

Meg Oliver-Mills Christine Roost

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Janet Nicholas, Organist

Francis Leffler, Altar Guild Director

## St. Paul's Bishop's Committee

Todd Prunty, Sr Warden

Beverly Reidner, Jr Warden

Sue Braeden, Treasurer

Val Fink, Clerk

Jennie Peterson Gary Treach

## A Message from Fr. Larry

My dear friends,

With the start of a new calendar year we are afforded a sense of a new beginning. The same is also true of the liturgical year during which the Church provides us with substantial guidance to help us sense and move through a new spiritual beginning.

During the first half of the Liturgical Year, we study the life of Christ.

**Advent** helps us prepare for both the Incarnation of the Christ Child and for his Second Coming. The **Christmas** season of twelve days helps us celebrate the gift of the Christ Child. **Epiphany** season presents to us different events in which the Christ manifested forth his glory, beginning with the arrival of the Wise Men. **Lent**, beginning with Ash Wednesday, is a time of penance by which we more closely join ourselves to Jesus. With Palm Sunday we enter into **Holy Week**, during which we relive the Passion of the Christ, especially on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. **Easter** season allows us to again celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, and his appearances to his Disciples, leading us to the Ascension and Pentecost.

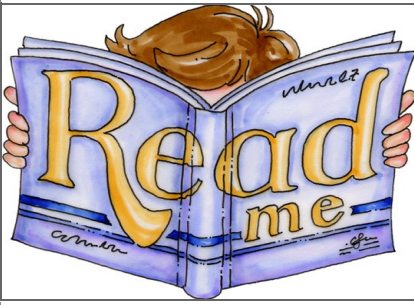
During the second half of the Liturgical Year, we study Jesus' teachings and their application to our lives. This is known as the **Season after Pentecost** - the longest season of the year - and the last Sunday of this season is known as the Feast of Christ the King, when we proclaim Jesus as the Lord of our lives.

In the midst of the Liturgical Year there are other feasts and events that have a set date, such as the days we remember specific saints, the Transfiguration, or Thanksgiving Day. These set for us examples of life and reasons for gratitude to God.

So throughout the year we follow the life of Christ, so that (with God's help) we might sense God's love for us and try to emulate him; we study his teachings, so that we may apply them to our lives; and, follow the lives of the saints so that we may see how they followed the example of Christ. If we use the Liturgical Calendar as a guide in our spiritual journey, we will not only pass through another year, we may join ourselves closer to Jesus, and with him "grow in wisdom, and stature and in favor with God and man."

Yours in Christ,

Larry ✠



The dates have been set for the **annual parish meetings** of both congregations. St. John's will be held following the 9 am service on Sunday, February 12. To allow Fr. Larry to attend, St. Paul's will have Morning Prayer that day. St. Paul's meeting will be held the following week on February 19 following the 10:30 am service. If you are interested in serving on the Vestry at St. John's or the Bishop's Committee at St. Paul's, please see Fr. Larry or the Wardens at each church. Refreshments will be served at each meeting.



Fr. Kamm will once again be our guest celebrant and preacher. Sunday, **January 29**, Fr. Kamm will substitute for Fr. Larry while he and Karen are in Pennsylvania. There will be **ONE service** that Sunday—10 am at St. John's. Please come out and support Fr. Kamm!



Part of the preparation for the Medical Mission of 2012 will be gathering to finish the **dresses** and pack them for shipping. Two workshops have been scheduled—**January 12 and 13 from 10 am to 3 pm** at St. John's. There are many tasks to be completed; and, there is a job for everyone. Come when you can; leave when you must!



**Ash Wednesday** services will be held on Wednesday, February 22—12:15 pm at St. Paul's and 7 pm at St. John's. Both will include the Holy Eucharist and the Imposition of Ashes. There will be no adult study that evening. The joint youth group at 3:30 pm that day will be centered around the practices of Ash Wednesday. All are welcome!



Our third annual **"Christmas for Keokuk"** was another wonderful musical program showcasing the amazingly talented local musicians. A special thank you to Mary Lynne Arms and Tatyana Hetzer for their direction and organization of this event. Three local agencies helping the needy during the Christmas season—God's Way Christina Center in Keokuk, The Salvation Army in Keokuk and Friendship Baskets in Warsaw—each received \$239 from the freewill offering! Each year we have increased attendance and offering with over 250 people enjoying the concert in 2011! Looking forward to another great concert in 2012!



The **mitten tree** at St. John's has about 3 dozen hats, scarves and pairs of mittens on it ready to go to the local schools. If you have not donated yet, please do so ASAP so we can keep little hands warm during the cold winter weather!



48 filled **Christmas stockings** were delivered to God's Way Christian Center in time for their distribution to needy families in the area. Sister Sylvia was "thrilled" to have such generous gifts for the children. Thank you to all who filled the stockings!



Our **next medical mission** is scheduled for April 15 to 28. We are collecting hotel-size soaps and shampoos, reading glasses, and tooth brushes and toothpaste. Cash donations are always welcome!



The **ECW of St. John's** invites the women of both St. John's and St. Paul's to a meeting on Thursday, January 19 at 10 am. St. John's organist Tatyana Hetzer will give us a glimpse into her life in Siberia. Reports from the soup luncheon and UTO ingathering will be given. Light refreshments will be served.

## Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2012

**Ash Wednesday** occurs this year on February 22. To mark this First Day of Lent, the Ash Wednesday Liturgy will be celebrated at **St. Paul's at 12:15 pm** and at **St. John's at 7:00 pm**. This selection of times offers the option for our two congregations of a daylight service and one at our usual time on Wednesday evenings. Please feel free to attend either service as meets your needs.

Ash Wednesday is one of the two days of Fast and Abstinence set forth by the Church (the other being Good Friday), and all Fridays in Lent are days of Abstinence. Christ's faithful are obliged by the Lord's Command, each in his or her own way, to undertake that conversion of mind and heart called penance. In order that the faithful may join together in a common practice, some days of penance are prescribed. On these days the faithful in a special way devote themselves to prayer, engage in works of piety and charity, and deny themselves by fulfilling their obligations more faithfully and especially by observing the fast and abstinence the Church prescribes.

Abstinence means not eating meat, and the "modern" Fast means limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals each day. One is not bound to fast if health or the ability to work is affected.

The Season of Lent is a time of spiritual warfare, of fasting, penitence, and preparation for the Easter feast. Beginning in the tenth century, on Ash Wednesday - the first day of Lent - ashes were imposed upon penitent sinners in preparation for their restoration to full communion with the church. Since the eleventh century, ashes have been imposed upon all the faithful as a reminder that the wages of sin is death. As God said to Adam, "dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return..." (Genesis 3:19b) But as we are marked with ashes in the same manner we were signed with the Cross in our Baptism, we are also reminded that we only have life in Christ, the second Adam.

It is in this beginning of Lent, that the themes of our Lenten journey are set. This is a time of spiritual warfare for Satan seeks to separate us from the Holy and Triune God, as he sought to separate Jesus from the Father during the temptations in the wilderness. We must courageously and faithfully follow Jesus to renounce the world, the flesh and the devil. Using the spiritual tools of increased prayer, Bible reading, meditation, worship, acts of mercy and charity, and fasting and abstinence, we can grow closer to Christ in His passion and crucifixion, so that we may also share in the victory of His resurrection.

This takes conscious effort and determination. Therefore the Church sets this season as a guide, and encourages us to use our spiritual tools, following the example of Jesus and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, so that we may keep a holy Lent and be brought to a joyous Easter.



# January Milestones



## \* St. John's Birthdays \*

25 Bill Vorhies

Bob Fox

27 Jackie Flockhart

Sallie Fletcher

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## \* St. Paul's Birthdays \*

1 Avery Jean Garner

Jacob Michael Ragar

5 Jill Snyder

6 Courtney Yates

17 Kathryn Cale Buckner

21 Todd Prunty

29 Lynn Coburn

## \* St. Paul's Wedding Anniversaries \*

4 Gary and Wanda Treach

### St. John's January

#### Lay Ministry Schedule

Altar Guild: Group 2

Reader: Ken Messer

Chalice Bearer and Acolyte:

Meg Oliver-Mills

Ushers: Bill Vorhies and

Annabelle Lammering

### St. Paul's January Lay Ministry Schedule

	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Chalice Bearer
1	J. Nicholas	K. Bleuer	J. Nicholas
8	J. Peterson	K. Buckner	K. Bleuer
15	T. Prunty	R. Copeland	T. Prunty
22	V. Fink	W. Treach	V. Fink
29	Joint service at St. John's at 10 am		

### St. John's January Memorials

Kay Grice

John H. Oliver

Louise Templeton



### St. Paul's January Memorials

Paul Coffman

Richard Heisler

John Yates

## February Milestones



**\* St. John's Birthdays \***

- 1 Carolyn Oren
- 2 Barb Pezley
- 3 Russell Arms
- 18 Susie Messer  
Janet Jones

*O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants, as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**\* St. Paul's Birthdays \***

- 1 Jacaline Keinert Sowers
- 9 John Peterson
- 14 Mark Ruffcorn
- 20 Jordan Snyder
- 21 Jennifer Peterson

**\* St. Paul's Anniversaries \***

- Doug and Susan Glandon
- 10 Sydney and Jacaline Sowers
- 12 Todd and Kelly Prunty
- 25 CK and Pam Garner

**St. John's February**

**Lay Ministry Schedule**

Altar Guild: Group 3  
 Reader: Jackie Flockhart  
 Chalice Bearer and Acolyte:  
 Nick Daskalos  
 Ushers: Meg Oliver-Mills and  
 Laurie Mendenhall

**St. Paul's February Lay Ministry Schedule**

	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Chalice Bearer
5	J. Peterson	K. Buckner	K. Bleuer
12	T. Prunty	R. Copeland	T. Prunty
19	V. Fink	W. Treatch	V. Fink
26	J. Nicholas	K. Bleuer	J. Nicholas

**St. John's February Memorials**

- Jody Cameron
- Beth Younggren Glassman
- Elaine Joan Jensen Rovane
- Daisy Pearl Schlotter



**St. Paul's February Memorials**

Rodney Althide



The Eagle and The Sword

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