

# THE EAGLE'S QUILL

## ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2008



“. . . THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES; THEY WILL RUN AND NOT GROW WEARY, THEY WILL WALK AND NOT BE FAINT.” *ISAIAH 40:31*

### ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MARLIN, TEXAS

514 CARTER STREET

MARLIN, TX 76661

(254) 803-3800

[stjohnepiscopal514@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stjohnepiscopal514@sbcglobal.net)

[www.stjohnsmarlin.org](http://www.stjohnsmarlin.org)

*We are a church community rooted in Anglican traditions and committed to sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faith, prayer, compassion, and encouragement.*

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** Sunday services are held at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 21, 3:50 p.m. – Rehearsal with all choirs for Lessons and Carols

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Wednesday prayer and healing services are held at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24, 5:50 p.m. – Full and final Christmas Eve rehearsal. ***Be sure to bring your bells!***

### DECEMBER CHOIR REHEARSALS

Sunday, December 14, 12:30 p.m. – Christmas Eve Rehearsal with vocalist; Eleanor Grant directing

Saturday, December 20, 10:00 a.m. – Full rehearsal for Christmas Eve. This rehearsal should last 1-2 hours.

Saturday, December 20, 11:30 a.m. – Lessons and Carols rehearsal with all choirs.

### ADVENT

November 30 – The Candle of Hope

December 7 – The Candle of Peace

December 14 – The Candle of Love

December 21 – The Candle of Joy

December 24 – The Birth of Christ

### **YOU'RE INVITED TO AN EVENING OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

Lessons and Carols will be held on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. This year the First United Methodist

Church, First Presbyterian Church and First Baptist Church will join us in celebration. We will have a time of fellowship with cookies, hot cocoa, cider and coffee after the service. Please join us, and bring friends and family members in this joyous celebration of Lessons and Carols.

## **YOU'RE INVITED TO CELEBRATE IN THE NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOR**

St. John's Christmas Eve Services will be held on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. There will be wonderful music, talented musicians, the children of Faith, Hope and Charity will sing a couple of carols, and we will worship, celebrate and remember the birth of Jesus. After the service, we will have a time of fellowship with cookies, hot cocoa, cider and coffee, and a special visitor will be here for the children. Bring your family and friends and join us in this holy celebration. ***Be sure to bring your bells to accompany some of the carols!***

## **ST. JOHN'S CHRISTMAS WISH LIST**

St. John's has on its Christmas Wish List for this year an All-in-One Printer/Copier/Fax that can print in black and white and in color.

## **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

### **CURSILLO**

If you are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend, please contact either Polly Geake (584-4464) or Kyla Smith (584-2461). Applications to attend Cursillo can be obtained on the Diocesan Cursillo website at [www.texascurso.org](http://www.texascurso.org).

#### 2009 CURSILLO WEEKENDS

#223 February 19-22

#224 June 18-21

#225 August 27-30

# 226 November 5-8 (campsite)

### **ULTREYA**

Ultreya meets at 4:00 p.m. on the following Sundays:

January 11 – St. John's, Marlin

February 8 – St. Paul's, Waco

March 8 – To be announced

April 19 – St. Christopher's, Killeen

May 17 – St. John's, Marlin

June 14 – To be announced

July 12 – All Saints, Cameron

August 9 – To be announced

September 13 – St. Christopher's, Killeen

October 11 – St. Paul's, Waco

November 15 – St. John's, Marlin

### **DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

Daughters of the King meet every third Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. This month's meeting will be held on December 21<sup>st</sup>.

There will be a Quiet Day "Making Your Church a House of Healing" held on December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit, Waco. The Quiet Day is being sponsored by the Bishop's Chapter of the Daughters of the King. Lunch will be provided. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Jan Duello at 254-420-3429 or [JMDuello@hotmail.com](mailto:JMDuello@hotmail.com).

### **ECW**

ECW will meet on Sunday, December 7, at 11:00 a.m.

The ECW Fall Festival was a great success. We have received several compliments on the enchilada casseroles and baked goods. Thank you to all who participated!

The silent auction was also a huge success, and the winner of the beautiful Strawberry Fields dishes was Sue Visser.

### **KAIROS**

The Kairos team will be at St. John's from December 31 thru January 4. This is a beautiful and tough ministry that responds to the call to take the message of hope into prisons. Please keep them in your prayers. ". . . I was in prison, and you visited me." *Matthew 25:36*

### **OUTREACH**

#### **FOOD FOR DECEMBER**

Please bring macaroni and cheese, rice, beans, pasta, spaghetti sauce, and canned goods for our food outreach ministry to Faith, Hope & Charity. *"For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat . . ."* Matthew 25:35

### **FAITH, HOPE & CHARITY**

If you have not already "adopted" one of the children from Faith, Hope & Charity for Christmas, please do so. There are cards in the Parish Hall with the name, age, gender and two toys that they would like to receive. There is also a catalog from Family Dollar with the cards. This is the catalog the children used to make their wish lists. Please wrap your gifts and put your child's name on the tag. The gifts will be handed out by "Santa" on Christmas Eve following the service. These children have so little positive influence at home, and Faith, Hope & Charity provides tutoring, a hot meal and Christian guidance and education.

To everyone who brought food for the Thanksgiving Food Baskets, thank you!

### **ANGEL FOOD MINISTRIES**

Angel Food Ministries provides healthy, nutritionally balanced food to feed a family of four each month. The cost for the Regular Box is \$30.00, and the cost for the Senior/Convenience Box is \$28.00. Orders may be paid for by Food Stamps or cash. There are no qualification requirements to participate in Angel Food Ministries. The deadline to order through Angel Food Ministries is December 5, 2008. Orders may be placed at the Salvation Army. Pick up will be December 20, 2008 between 11:30-12:30 at Zion Hill Baptist Church.

The December Menu is posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

### **ALTERNATIVE GIVING MARKET**

What do you get for the person who "has everything?" There is a display located in the Parish Hall which offers you an opportunity to give a gift that will delight the Christ Child. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

### **EVENTS AND INFORMATION:**

## **Church History/Archives Project to Start**

We will be compiling photographs, articles, etc., for a Church History/Archives Project. We will meet on each Wednesday in December from 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm to work on the church archives scrapbook. If you have any pictures you would like to add to the albums, please label with names and year if possible. Also, if you have any interesting stories that relate to a particular photo, please share those. Join us on Wednesday afternoons and share a cup of hot tea or coffee as we preserve St. John's history.

## **2009 Parish Directory**

An update of the Parish Directory is in process. A draft will be placed in the Parish Hall by mid-December. Please make any necessary correction or addition. If your email address has changed, is incorrect or is not listed, please make the necessary correction or addition.

Please also check your address and telephone number (home and cell). Please note any corrections, and please let us know if you do not wish your work number or your cell phone number listed in the directory.

We want to improve our communication by making certain that those who do not have email receive information about church activities, emergencies and special parish messages and needs.

We don't want anyone to feel left out or ignored. Let us know if you aren't "kept in the loop."

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** 25<sup>th</sup> of each month

**1Prayer Requests:** 1Gary Evans, Alice Ferda, Horace Goodrich, Candace Hill, Alice Madsen, Ronnie Oltorf, Steve Price, Te Andria Mason, Connie McLelland, Merrit Schumann, Charissa Goodrich, Mel Rodgers, Carl and Kay Evans, Nina Leeth, Betty Maxey, Willie Null, Paula Wade (Polly Gaeke's daughter), H.T. Torgerson, Tommy and Betty Goodrich, Dr. Harold and Margaret Clifton, Mena Nichols, Mary Winters, Marilee Painter, Dick Lewis, Louis Polchinski, Willie Bates, Jack Wagner, Loretta Bird, Joyce Voelter, Felma Branch, Dolores Grant, Mike Nehring, Billie Maxwell, Primitiva

Pecina, Betty Margoitta, Shirley King's sister, Robbiette White, Carla Collier, Joe Trice, Rev. David Kirkaldy, Samantha G. Tatum, Priscilla Feuerbacher, Anne Burrough, Helen Marsh, Adele Darrington, Rev. Jimmy Phillips, Nancy and Jim Davis, Dr. Charlie Wegman, Roberta McDaniel, Johnny and Jackie Brueggeman, Sandy Kleckner, Helen Erskine, Carolyn Wells, Billie Moore, Donna Bryant, Geneva Hughes, Charlise Brown, Mary, Joy, Lester and Matt, Mike Tobias, Bridgette Hollingsworth, Vestal Cook, Teddy Peterson, Theresa and Brian Bailey, Betty Ramey, Bonnie Crothers, Dana Jones, Pattie Pletzke, Amy Huffman and Dwayne Thompson, Eldrige Norman, Doris and Wendell Scruggs.

**Please pray also for these who serve in our Armed Forces:** Jordan Gorraiz, Lyle Holley, John W. Sadler, Nicholas Tobias, Matthew Pyland, Brandon Henderson, Jarrod Means, the 126<sup>th</sup> Forward Surgical Team.

#### **MEMORIALS:**

Anyone wishing to make a memorial should contact Jean Trice, chairperson in charge of memorials, 883-2611.

#### **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS:**

Don't forget to fill out your form for Christmas Poinsettias and turn it into the church office no later than December 17.

#### **DECEMBER ALTAR FLOWERS**

December 7 – Advent  
December 14 – Advent  
December 21 – Advent  
December 24 – Christmas Poinsettias  
December 28 – Christmas Poinsettias  
If you wish to request flowers for St. John's altar, contact Polly Gaeke, chairperson, phone number 584-4464.

#### **COFFEE HOSTESS**

December 7 – Jean Trice  
December 14 – Cathy Owen  
December 21 (morning service) – Sue Visser  
December 21 (Lessons & Carols) – Cookies and goodies – all 4 churches  
December 24 – Christmas cookies and goodies - ECW

December 28 – Libby Price and Pattie Bosnack

#### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES:**

December 1- Carol Crum  
December 4 – Megan Henderson  
December 22 – Mark Patterson  
December 22 – B.J. Cox  
December 23 – Natalie Forson  
December 26 – Sherri Patterson  
December 31 – Stefan Peterson  
“Grant, O Lord, that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord.” *Amen*

You are cordially invited to celebrate all parish December birthdays and anniversaries on Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. Please join us following the regular Sunday service for wonderful food and fun in the Parish Hall.

#### **St. John's Leadership**

**Rector:** The Rev. Judy Filer  
**Vestry:** Senior Warden, Mike Meyer  
Junior Warden, Mark Patterson  
Bill Forson  
Bobby Peterson  
Joe Owen  
Cathy Owen, Clerk and Treasurer, Ex-Officio  
**Newly Elected Vestry Members:** Louise Burton and Mary Smith  
**Minister of Music:** Sue Visser  
**Parish Administrator:** Cathy Owen  
**Altar Guild Chair:** Molly Walker  
**Altar Flowers Chair:** Polly Gaeke  
**Memorial Chair:** Jean Trice  
**ECW President:** Pattie Bosnack  
**Special Events:** Libby Price and Pattie Bosnack

#### **Cathy's Corner:**

The office will be closed December 25-January 2. If you need to get in touch with me, you can reach me at 252-0971. I hope that everyone has a blessed Christmas season.

Rev. Filer will be out of town Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>. We will have Morning Prayer that Sunday.

*Eleanor Roosevelt*  
*U.S. First Lady and humanitarian*

**Note new hours:** Rev. Filer will be in the office on the first, second and fourth Wednesdays this month from 12:00-6:00 and on the third Wednesday of this month from 2:00 p.m. through the Vestry meeting. You can also reach Judy at 254-776-4815 or 254-722-2013 or by email at [jwfiler@aol.com](mailto:jwfiler@aol.com).

## ***CHRISTMAS LIGHTS***

In the December 2008 issue of *Woman's Day*, there was an inspiring article concerning two churches – one Episcopal and one Methodist – who think of ways to serve their neighbors.

One church decided bold faith was required and set up an outreach program to assist those in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina – this despite the fact that their church building had been destroyed. Their rector called it “our experiment in sanctified lunacy” which continues today. They began operations on faith and very little money, but they became one of the city’s major relief centers.

One church adopted “radical servanthood,” the concept that helping those in need is the very heart of the Gospel. Their congregation has grown from 100 members to 4,500, and nearly everyone is involved in one or more areas of outreach which extends from their local area to Darfur.

There are copies of this article in the Parish Hall if you would like to read the entire article.

Does this bring to mind a recent sermon and three questions? What did God give you? What are you doing with those gifts? What could you or should you be doing?

Radical servanthood; bold faith – indeed!

## ***LEADERSHIP:***

I have a few ideas that I think are very useful to me. One is that you do whatever comes your way as well as you can, and another is that you think as little as possible about yourself and as much as possible about other people and about things that are interesting. The third is that you get more joy out of giving joy to others and should put a good deal of thought into the happiness that you are able to give.

**DECEMBER 12008**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12:00 Rev. Filer in office 4:00 pm Archives 5:00 pm Prayer & Healing Service	<b>4</b> 11:00 am Clericus St. Christopher's Killeen 5:00 pm 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs. Prayer	<b>5</b> Clergy Christmas Party Camp Allen	<b>6</b> 8:00 am Marlin Ministerial
<b>7</b> 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am HE I 2nd Sunday in Advent 11:00 am ECW meeting	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 12:00 Rev. Filer in office 4:00 Archives 5:00 pm Prayer & Healing Service	<b>11</b> 12:00 Coalition	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am HE I 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent 12:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 2:00 Rev. Filer in office 4:00 Archives 5:00 pm Prayer & Healing Service	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Choir Rehearsal
<b>21</b> 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am HE I 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent 11:00 am DOK meeting 3:50 pm Choir Rehearsal 5:00 pm Lessons & Carols	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:50 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Services, HE II	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Office Closed	<b>26</b> Office Closed	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 am Choir 9:30 am MP II St. John's Birthday Party!	<b>29</b> Office Closed	<b>30</b> Office Closed	<b>31</b> Office Closed 5:00 pm Prayer & Healing Service Kairos Team Week New Year's Eve			

## DECEMBER LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### **December 7, 2008:**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm: Mark Patterson  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Diana Miles  
Intercessor: Louise Burton  
Chalice: Diana Miles  
Crucifer: Dub Wagner  
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete  
Ushers: Bill Forson and Johnny Richardson  
Altar Guild: Louise Burton and Mary Smith  
Hostess: Jean Trice  
Flowers: Advent  
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson

### **December 14, 2008:**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm: Jean Trice  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Louise Burton  
Intercessor: Kyla Smith  
Chalice: Polly Gaeke  
Crucifer: Dub Wagner  
Acolyte: Joe Owen  
Ushers: Troy Henderson and Steve Price  
Altar Guild: Molly Walker and Pat Smith  
Hostess: Cathy Owen  
Flowers: Advent  
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson

### **December 21, 2008:**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm: Pam Williams  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Megan Henderson  
Intercessor: Bobby Peterson  
Chalice: Jean Trice  
Crucifer: Dub Wagner  
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete  
Ushers: Bill Forson and Johnny Richardson  
Altar Guild: Kate VandeVeegaete and Cathy Owen  
Hostess: Sue Visser  
Flowers: Advent  
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson

### **December 24, 2008:**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm: Kyla Smith  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: Polly Gaeke  
Intercessor: Mark Patterson  
Chalice: Louise Burton and Cathy Owen  
Crucifer: Dub Wagner  
Acolyte: Joe Owen  
Ushers: Mike Meyer and George Wilson  
Altar Guild: Kate VandeVeegaete and Cathy Owen  
Hostess: ECW  
Flowers: Christmas Poinsettias

### **December 28, 2008 – MP:**

#### **Leaders: Polly Gaeke and Megan Henderson**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson and Psalm: Diana Miles  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson: George Wilson  
3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson: Megan Henderson  
Crucifer: Dub Wagner  
Ushers: Bobby Peterson and Sam Bosnack  
Altar Guild: Molly Walker and Libby Price  
Hostess: Libby Price and Pattie Bosnack  
Flowers: Christmas Poinsettias  
Children's Ministry Workers: Shaina Henderson