

THE EAGLE'S QUILL

ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009



"... 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

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

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18, KJV

The days are shorter as we move towards the winter solstice, traditionally December 21st, the shortest day of the year. Nature seems to slow down and move toward a period of rest. Leaves and fall colors are everywhere, the air is crisper, and we are affected by the changing seasons. Recently our cat bounded joyfully into the house seemingly energized by the chill in the air. He bounded from chair to chair and out the door again, up and down a tree and back inside. It was playful and fun, and I wondered if everyone feels peppier in the first chilly weather. I do, if I can stay ahead of the allergies!

What a gift from God the changing seasons are! They mark our time on earth and carry memories of years past. And we celebrate.

On Sunday, November 22nd, we will have a special service in the Celtic tradition which will focus on thanksgiving. There will be a reading (yes, it is a good one) to replace the sermon that day, and we will focus on remembering to "give thanks in all things." Giving thanks is the basis of Christian spirituality—it is the place to start, always.

Sunday, November 29th, is the first Sunday of Advent, and we will renew the tradition of lighting the Advent candles. Sunday December 13th will include liturgical dance, as Jo Bonds brings her traveling dance troupe

from Fort Worth to perform to old English carols. On December 20th, Lessons and Carols will occur in the early evening, after the Christmas party we host for the children of Faith Hope and Charity. Thank you Pat Smith and Kyla Smith for your work on this wonderful event. The time for the party and Lessons and Carols service, as well as for the Christmas Eve service will be announced.

Thank you for all you do for St. John's Church. We are fortunate to have such a wonderful congregation and beautiful church, rich in history. We have so much for which to give thanks together! Judy+

SUNDAY SERVICES 9:30 a.m.

ULTREYA

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

November 15 – **St. John's, Marlin**

December – To be announced

CURSILLO

Polly Gaeke and Kyla Smith are our Cursillo coordinators and would love to talk with you about it. If you are interested in attending a Cursillo weekend, please contact either Polly or Kyla (584-4464 or 721-7409). Applications to attend Cursillo can be obtained on the Diocesan Cursillo website at www.texascursillo.org.

DOK

Daughters of the King will meet on the second Sunday of the month. The DOK is an Order open to women of the Episcopal Church and denominations in communion with the Episcopal Church. Prospective members take classes concerning prayer and spiritual growth and then may join by taking the vows of the Order. The mission of the Order is prayer for the work and members of the church. If you are interested in joining *The Order of the Daughters of the King*, contact Desiree Smith.

KAIROS

The KAIROS ministry will meet here on November 21st and December 30th through January 10th. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please take a flyer from the round table and fill out the registration form.

WHO WE ARE by Andrew Smith

(Information obtained from "The Liturgy Explained" by Thomas Howard)

The Cross is carried in procession in the liturgy. If we agree on the legitimacy of visible symbols as bearing significance such as wedding rings for marriage and birthday cakes for birthdays, then the obvious symbol for Christians is the Cross. The Cross represents the focal point in the Gospel and the principle by which we are to live. By bowing as the Cross passes, we are not worshipping it, we are acknowledging our obedience and understanding of what the Cross stands for.

CHURCH OFFICE DESK

St. John's is staying on track thanks to the volunteer work that continuously keeps us afloat. Thank you! There are some areas that need attention so that we all stay on the same page. Please leave the mail in the bin in the hallway and Andrea will collect it during her office hours. Also, if you put something on Andrea's desk, please put it where it belongs--there are boxes which are well marked. If you take something from her desk, please be sure and put it back from whence it came. Thank you again for all you do.

OUTREACH:

Food for November and December

Please bring macaroni and cheese, rice, beans, pasta, spaghetti sauce, Ramen noodles, fruit cups, pudding cups, and canned goods for our food outreach ministry to the Samaritan House. In December the food will go to Faith, Hope and Charity.

EVENTS AND INFORMATION: THE LITTLE CHURCH CLUB

The Little Church Club will be meeting at Camp Allen Sunday, November 15th through Monday the 16th at 4 pm.

Kyla Smith is working with the list of gifts. Thank you both for helping in this important outreach.

LESSONS AND CAROLS and FAITH HOPE AND CHARITY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Lessons and Carols on Sunday December 20th will follow the Christmas party for Shirley's kids (Faith Hope and Charity). We will take names as we did last year and provide Christmas gifts for the children. Last year was the first year we undertook this project. You will remember their wonderful thank you notes. The time for both events to be announced. Pat Smith is planning the party and

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

November 22nd, we will have a special Thanksgiving service!

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

On Sunday, November 29th we will be renewing the tradition of the lighting of the advent candles.

DANCE TROUPE FROM FT. WORTH

Sunday, December 13th, Jo Bonds is bringing her dance troupe to perform liturgical dance to the music of old English carols.

Recently, Reverend Filer spoke to parishioners following the Sunday Service. She asked for our help in several areas. A summary of the areas and the people who signed up to help follows. The list is posted on the Bulletin Board and has additional information. If you wish to sign up to assist in an area, please sign the list on the Bulletin Board. Many hands make light work!

Inside Maintenance: Mark Patterson, Sue Patterson

Outside Maintenance: Mark Patterson, Sue Patterson, Dub Wagner

Office Work: Jean Trice, Mark & Sherri Patterson, Sue Patterson, Pattie Bosnack

Lay Reader/Ushering/Liturgy, Etc.: Jean Trice, Diana Miles, Margie Schumann, Polly Gaeke

Inreach: Diana Miles, Jean Trice

Outreach for new members: Mark & Sherri Patterson

Special Events: Andrew Smith, Mark & Sherri Patterson, Sam & Pattie Bosnack, Margie Schumann, Jean Trice, Diana Miles, Kyla Smith

Local Outreach (helping to coordinate efforts to carry out our mission in the community; i.e., Faith, Hope & Charity; Food Collection; Samaritan House, etc.): Mark & Sherri Patterson, Diana Miles Sam & Pattie Bosnack

HELP WANTED NOW: You don't have to wait to sign up to help. Please note the following ways you can help each time you are at the church:

Kitchen: Help keep our kitchen clean. If you have hostess duty, take the kitchen and Parish Hall trash to the trash bins outside the back door of the Parish Hall. If you are not able to take care of the trash, ask one of the men to help you.

Sam Bosnack takes the trash bins out to the curb for the Monday and Thursday Trash Pick up. He also brings the bins back after the trash is picked up.

Security: Sam Bosnack reports finding the back door and side door unlocked during the week. If you unlock a door, please make sure you lock the door when you leave.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: 25th of each month

MEMORIALS:

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

Those for Whom our Prayers are Requested:

Gary Evans, Alice Ferda, Horace Goodrich, Alice Madsen, Ronnie Oltorf, Steve Price, Mary Price, Nina Leeth, Betty Maxey, Willie Null, Paula Wade, Betty Goodrich, Dr. Harold and Margaret Clifton, Mena Nichols, Mary Winters, Louis Polchinski, Billie Maxwell, Helen Marsh, Sandy Kleckner, Geneva Hughes, Bonnie Crothers, Faye Lombardo, Wanda Cole, Norman Erskine, April Sammons, Sam Bosnack, Carl Evans, Jean Mathis, Sarah Goodrich, Tony Veracruz, Andrew Smith, Felma Branch, Trista Lathern, Ron Janes.

Please pray also for these who serve in our

Armed Forces: Lyle Holley, John W. Sadler, Nicholas Tobias, Matthew Pyland, Brandon Henderson, Jarrod Means, the 126th Forward Surgical Team, Connor Owen, Jordan Gorraiz, Jim Steidley, Raymond Ramirez, Jr., Nathan Johnston, Morgan Riley

Office Hours for November:

Thursdays and Fridays from 8-12.

FLOWERS

November 15 – Available
November 22 – Libby Price IMO David and Andy Pierce
November 29 – Advent
December 6 – Advent
December 13 – Advent
December 20 – Advent
December 24 – Christmas Poinsettias
December 25 – Christmas Poinsettias
December 27 – Poinsettias
If you would like to donate flowers, please contact Polly Gaeke at 254-584-4464.

COFFEE HOSTESS

November 15 – Cathy Estes
November 22 – Birthday Bash
November 29 – Diana Miles
December 6 – Sherri Patterson
December 13 – Antonette Peterson
December 20 – Marge Schumann

December 27 – Birthday Bash by Kyla Smith

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES:

November 15 – Joe Owen
November 15 – Andrew & Desiree Smith Anniv.
November 16 – David Burton
November 30 – Scott Swartz
December 1 – Carol Crum
December 4 – Xoe Bea Smith
December 4 – Megan Henderson
December 22 – Mark Patterson
December 22 – B.J. Cox
December 23 – Natalie Forson
December 26 – Sherri Patterson
December 29 – Tommy Smith
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*

St. John’s Leadership

Rector: The Rev. Judy Filer
Liturgist: Jean Trice
Vestry: Senior Warden, Mark Patterson
Junior Warden, Bill Forson
Church Ministries: Louise Burton
Clerk: Mary Smith
Minister of Music: Sue Patterson
Altar Guild Chair: Molly Walker
Altar Flowers Chair: Polly Gaeke
Memorial Chair: Jean Trice
ECW President: Pattie Bosnack

Judy Filer may be reached at 254-776-4815 or 254-722-2013 or by email at revjudy@live.com.

November/December 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
15 MPI 9:30 am Ulreya 4:00 pm LCC 4pm Camp Allen <i>Joe Owen B'Day</i> <i>Andrew & Desiree Smith's Anniv.</i>	16 <i>David Burton B'Day</i>	17	18 Rector In	19	20 Food Drive Marlin HEB 6 am – 8 pm	21 KAIROS 9 am – 4 pm
22 HEII 9:30 am Special Advent Service Vestry Meeting 11:AM	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29 HEI 9:30 am Lighting of Advent Candles	30 <i>Scott Swartz B'Day</i>	1 <i>Carol Crum B'Day</i>	2	3 1 st Thursday Prayer 5:15 Claricus @ Christ's Church in Temple	4 <i>Megan Henderson & Xoe Smith B'Day</i>	5 Marlin Ministerial Fellowship 8am KAIROS 9 am – 4 pm
6 MPI 9:30 am	7	8	9 Rector In Samaritan House 10 am – 12 pm	10	11	12
13 HEI 9:30 am Jo Bond's Dance Troupe Performing	14	15	16 Rector In	17	18	19
20 HEI 9:30 am Vestry at 11 DOK at 11 Lessons & Carols TBA	21	22 <i>Mark Patterson & B.J. Cox B'Day</i>	23 <i>Natalie Forson B'Day</i>	24 Christmas Eve HEII TBA	25 Christmas Day <i>Jesus' B'Day</i>	26 <i>Sherri Patterson B'Day</i>
27 HEII 9:30 am	28	29 <i>Tommy Smith B'Day</i>	30 KAIROS Week through January 10	31 <i>Stefan Peterson B'Day</i>		

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

November 15, 2009 – MP I: Polly Gaeke and Diana Miles

First Lesson and Psalm: Bobby Peterson
Second Lesson: Louise Burton
Third Lesson: Diana Miles
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Kate VandeVeegaete and Molly Walker
Ushers: Sam Bosnack and Bill Forson
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Cathy Estes
Flowers: Available
Vestry Representative: Louise Burton

November 22, 2009 – HEII: Rev. Judy Filer

First Lesson and Psalm: Jean Trice
Second Lesson: George Wilson
Chalice: Polly Gaeke
Intercessor: Jean Trice
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Libby Price and Molly Walker
Ushers: Steve Price and Mike Meyer
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Birthday Bash by Kyla Smith
Flowers: Libby Price IMO David and Andy Pierce
Vestry Representative: Mark Patterson

November 29, 2009 – HEII: Rev. Judy Filer

First Lesson and Psalm: Mark Patterson
Second Lesson: Diana Miles
Chalice: Kate VandeVeegaete
Intercessor: Mark Patterson
Acolyte: Sherri Patterson
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Louise Burton and Molly Walker
Ushers: George Wilson and Mike Ferda
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Diana Miles
Flowers: Advent
Vestry Representative: Bill Forson

December 6, 2009 – MP I: Louise Burton and Mark Patterson

First Lesson and Psalm: Bill Forson
Second Lesson: Polly Gaeke
Third Lesson: Mark Patterson
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Louise Burton and Mary Smith
Ushers: John Hall and Sam Bosnack
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Sherri Patterson
Flowers: Advent
Vestry Representative: Louise Burton

December 13, 2009 – HEI: Rev. Judy Filer

First Lesson and Psalm: Bobby Peterson
Second Lesson: Kyla Smith
Chalice: Louise Burton
Intercessor: Sherri Patterson
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Pat Smith and Molly Walker
Ushers: Bill Forson and Steve Price
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Antonette Peterson
Flowers: Advent
Vestry Representative: Mark Patterson

December 20, 2009 – HEI: Rev. Judy Filer

First Lesson and Psalm: Pat Smith
Second Lesson: George Wilson
Chalice: Jean Trice
Intercessor: Bill Forson
Acolyte: Sherri Patterson
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Kate VandeVeegaete and Molly Walker
Ushers: Mike Meyer and George Wilson
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Marge Schumann
Flowers: Advent
Vestry Representative: Bill Forson

December 24, 2009 – HEI: Rev. Judy Filer

First Lesson and Psalm: Mark Patterson
Second Lesson: Marge Schumann
Chalice: Diana Miles
Intercessor: Louise Burton
Acolyte: Kate VandeVeegaete
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Libby Price and Molly Walker
Ushers: Mike Ferda and John Hall
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Flowers: Christmas Poinsettias
Vestry Representative: Louise Burton

December 27, 2009 – HEI: Rev. Judy Filer

First Lesson and Psalm: Bill Forson
Second Lesson: Sherri Patterson
Chalice: Polly Gaeke
Intercessor: Bobby Peterson
Acolyte: Sherri Patterson
Crucifer: Dub Wagner
Altar Guild: Libby Price and Molly Walker
Ushers: Sam Bosnack and Bill Forson
Children's Ministry Worker: Desiree Smith
Hostess: Birthday Bash by Kyla Smith
Flowers: Christmas Poinsettias
Vestry Representative: Mark Patterson