

# THE EVANGELIST

NEWSLETTER FOR SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JUNE 2010

VOL. CVI, NO. 6

COME...

JOIN US IN WORSHIP

### Wednesday Service

12:00 Noon  
Holy Communion and Healing

### Sunday Services

8:00 a.m. Service:  
Holy Eucharist Rite I

10:00 a.m. Services:  
1st - First Sunday Worship  
2nd - Holy Eucharist Rite I  
3rd - Holy Eucharist Rite II  
4th - Choral Morning Prayer &  
Holy Eucharist  
5th - Holy Eucharist Rite II

### OFFICE HOURS

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



**Evangelist  
Deadline**

**July Issue / June 18  
August Issue / July 19**

All groups & individuals are  
ENCOURAGED to submit news and  
items of interest to the  
*The Evangelist*.

E-mail, mail, or bring your fully written  
and titled piece and/or photos to the  
church office on or before the deadline  
dates shown above. Thank you!  
Barb Schaer-Mady, Editor

**NOTE: Please use this email address  
for all parish office emails:  
church@stjohnsepicopal-stpaul.org**

**St. John the Evangelist  
Episcopal Church  
60 Kent St.**

**St. Paul, MN 55102  
651-228-1172**

**(fax) 651-228-1144**

**www.stjohnsepicopal-stpaul.org**

### FROM OUR INTERIM RECTOR

Email: nellgren@stjohnsepicopal-stpaul.org

Phone: 651-228-1172 ext. 11



Dear People of St. John's,

The beginning of summer marks a change of season in the church year. After celebrating the coming of the Holy Spirit into our midst at Pentecost and the mystery of our triune God on Trinity Sunday, we now settle into a time known as ordinary time.

Our faith is founded upon the experiences and expectations of ordinary people. Jesus' followers were not the politically powerful or the wielders of influence and ambition. After Jesus ascended into heaven they were hiding out in locked rooms for fear of the authorities. But after the Holy Spirit came, they became strong and fearless. They started causing all kinds of trouble: curing the lame, preaching long sermons, causing others to confront them and sometimes to arrest them. Authorities had to deal with the threat that these ordinary people now posed to the civilization of which they were so modest and minor a part.

If you read the first four chapters of the book of Acts you can follow the story. The disciples became transformed by the presence of the Spirit of God in their midst. That's where their boldness came from, that's where their power and courage and joy came from. Ordinary people were empowered to do extraordinary things, to take nothing and make something, to go from nobody to somebody.

New Spirit-filled life came to ordinary and perplexed people, who were much like ourselves. We also are afraid and lock ourselves away from the world sometimes. We know we can't change many things on our own. We know we need God's help. And so we ordinary people look for the Spirit to transform us and renew us so we become capable of extraordinary things.

This is the season for growing in the Spirit of God. It is a time for learning more about ourselves and what the Spirit is calling us to do next, especially in our search for a new rector. It is a time for making wise decisions and taking right actions for the common good both in our parish and in the larger world. We can give to the world the power and the love of Christ. We can live into the vision of God's kingdom here on earth. This is the vocation of ordinary people, and it happens to people just like ourselves.

Rejoice in the power of the Spirit,

## VESTRY MEMBERS

Jay Debertin, *Senior Warden*  
Libby Snelson, *Junior Warden*  
Mary-Louise Clary, *Young Adult Ministry*  
Rob Beattie, *Music*  
Fred Berndt, *Stewardship*  
Sue Cadwell, *Clerk of Vestry*  
Gary Gleason, *Spiritual Life*  
Pam Richards, *Children's Ministry*  
Lynn Hertz, *Adult Education*  
Jim Johnson, *Treasurer*  
Kirsten Loiseaux-Purcell, *Membership*  
Terri Fishel, *Communication*  
Diane Norman, *Fellowship*  
Don Postema, *Faith in Action*  
John Thompson, *Finance*  
Don Weinkauff, *Property*

## ADDITIONAL POSITIONS

Kent Furois, *Head Usher*  
Jill Thompson, *Lay Reader Coordinator*  
Paige Hagstrom, *Coffee Hour Coordinator*  
Margery Jeddelloh, *President, Women of St. John's*  
Dusty Mairs, *Parish Coordinator*  
Fred Myers, *Historian*  
Diane Power, *Altar Guild*  
George Power, *Columbarium*  
Kevin Shaw, *Homelessness Committee Chair*  
Artaria String Quartet, *Artists in Residence*

## CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Neysa Ellgren, *Interim Rector*  
The Rev. S. Grayson Clary, *Rector Emeritus*  
The Rev. Barbara Mraz, *Deacon*  
The Rev. Keely Franke, *Deacon in Transition*

## STAFF

Lizza Berry, *Youth & Children Choirs Director*  
James Frazier, *Director of Music & Organist*  
Kate Graber, *Handbell Choir Director*  
Jean Hansen, *Youth and Family Minister*  
Ellen Harrington, *Children's Minister*  
Curt Gagner, *Building Supervisor*  
John Oldfield, *Office of the Asst. Treasurer*  
Chris Henry, *Building Assistant*  
Barb Schaer-Mady, *Office Administrator*

## A GIFT OF THE SABBATH

- by Ben Clary, A Member of St. John's

In the last weeks of my senior year at college I was given a wonderful gift when my religious studies professor, Miriam, who is Jewish, invited me to share the Sabbath with her, her husband, and several fellow seniors. I had never given much thought to the spiritual significance of the Sabbath since it seemed to be just another day of the week; church occupied several hours in the morning but the rest of the day was spent furiously finishing homework or completing all those lingering projects and chores from the previous week. It was in celebrating the Jewish Sabbath that I came to see the great spiritual benefit of consecrating a space in time in which to celebrate God's creation.



Abraham Heschel writes of the Sabbath, "In the tempestuous ocean of time and toil there are islands of stillness where man may enter a harbor and reclaim his dignity. The island is the seventh day, the Sabbath, a day of detachment from things, instruments and practical affairs as well as of attachment to the spirit," (The Sabbath 29). As I walked to Miriam's house that Friday evening I was wrestling with my anxiety about my upcoming graduation and about school work that still needed to be completed. These anxieties and thoughts overwhelmed me to such a degree that I was inattentive to the beauty of the rural Ohio landscape that flanked the road to Miriam's house. My inattentiveness, however, dissipated as we began the Sabbath and I found that the rituals of the Sabbath carved out a moment in time that was truly sovereign and detached from the labor that accompanies so many of our days.

Shortly after my fellow classmates and I arrived at Miriam's house and as the sun began to set we moved out to the porch where we sat down over a loaf of home-made Challah bread (which, if I remember correctly, signifies the Manna that God provided the Israelites during their time in the wilderness). Upon sitting down one of my classmates said the prayer blessing the Sabbath in melodious Hebrew and I was asked to break off pieces of bread for everyone. This marked the threshold of several hours during which time we enjoyed simply being with each other free from the white-noise of all of our various electronic media (televisions, computers, cell phones, radios). In many ways I felt as if I was seeing the world for the very first time. I was able to approach nature and my fellow human beings from a standpoint of appreciation for the simple fact of their being. I will always remember this moment in time with fondness since the "island" of quietude and repose that accompanied that Sabbath presented such a stark contrast to the chaotic last few weeks of college. In our hectic lives that are so easily absorbed in anxiety and minutiae we would do well to take heed of the spiritual significance the Sabbath holds in the Judaic tradition.



**Altar Flowers Given to the  
Glory of God in Memory of:**

**June 6 – The 2nd Sunday after  
Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

Dr. Charles E. and Esther E. Smith

Charles E. III and Ingrid O. Smith

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

OPEN

**June 13 – The 3rd Sun. after  
Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

Raymond and Florence Merrill

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

Neilson Seabury, William Nesbitt,

Jerome Buser

**June 20 – The 4th Sun. after  
Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

Mr. and Mrs. Truman Ask

Charles and Elizabeth Jackson

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

OPEN

**June 27 – The 5th Sunday after  
Pentecost**

**Main Altar**

Frank Bacon Sears

Sarah Patterson Spence

**Little Sanctuary Altar**

Stuart M. Baker

**ALTAR FLOWERS 2010:**

The memorial flowers on the Main and Little Sanctuary altars are given by parishioners on a perpetual calendar basis. For next year, 2010, there are a few Sundays available for donors to sign up to give the flowers for either of our altars. The cost is \$35 for the Main Altar and \$15 for the Little Sanctuary altar. If you are interested please contact **Dusty Mairs** or **Barb** in the office to find out the available dates for each altar.

## A RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

The **Discovery Team** is now beginning its work to describe and dream about St. John's. This team will be surveying and talking with members of our church over the next few months and, with the help of our search consultant, will create a Parish Profile. This Profile will describe where St. John's has been, where it is, and where it hopes to be and will be used by a potential Rector Candidate to help discern whether he or she feels called to apply. The goal is that this Discovery work will be completed in August. When the Discovery work is completed, we will begin the actual Search. We are grateful that the Team members have volunteered their time to lead this work. We are also grateful for all those who volunteered to be on the Discovery Team. There are many more steps to the process and we will need volunteers for these steps as well. We are still expecting that this entire Discovery and Search process will take between 12-18 months. The Discover Team members are:

Gabrielle Lawrence – Co-chair

Rex Haberman – Co-chair

Kent Furois

Joan Potter

Ella Slade

Dick Lyman

Laura Kochevar

Christine Garner

Cammie Beattie

Paige Hagstrom

Andrew Krall

Diane Norman

Becky Garthofer

Cameron Gemlo

If you have any questions or comments, please contact either of the co-chairs: Gabrielle Lawrence at [gablawrence@comcast.net](mailto:gablawrence@comcast.net) or Rex Haberman at [rshaberman@comcast.net](mailto:rshaberman@comcast.net).

Throughout the Discovery and Search processes, as well as at other times, St. John's does communicate by e-mail. If the church does not have your preferred e-mail address, please call the church office at 651.228.1172.

Jay Debertin

Libby Snelson

### NEW LOOK FOR ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE AND A NEW URL ON JUNE 1

The St. John website is getting a new look and a new address beginning June 1. The new site will not go live before June 1, and a notice will be posted on the old site when we do go live. The new URL will be [www.stjohnsstpaul.org](http://www.stjohnsstpaul.org). Email addresses for the church staff will also change to the new shorter version. Visitors to the old site will be redirected to the new URL for at least six months. Over the course of the summer, we will continue to add content, so please tell us if you want more information about your project, event, or organization. We also are continuing to look for photos or videos to enhance the website. If you have digital photos and/or videos that you would like to share, please contact Terri Fishel, [tafishel@visi.com](mailto:tafishel@visi.com).



## June Birthdays

- 3 Linda Zelig  
Addison Redman
- 5 Mary Johnson  
John Morley  
Rachel Hartnett
- 6 Ben Turton  
Jamie Wood
- 7 Roger Nelson
- 8 Charles Vaughan
- 9 Betty Myers  
Benoni Grimes
- 10 Donald Husband  
Phyllis Goff
- 11 Rachel Kimball  
Sue MacIntosh  
Edward Pfeiffer
- 12 Justin Gourlie  
Richard Neuner  
Babbie Pierson  
Hannah Ross
- 13 Craig Lindeke  
Shirley Michienzi  
Delilah Page
- 14 Peter Lund
- 15 George Mairs  
Robert McDuff
- 16 Miles Bowman
- 17 Clifford Brown
- 18 Ed Cook
- 19 Bill Sherfey
- 20 Lara Strom  
Charles Foote
- 22 Theodore O'Brien
- 23 Pash Clamons  
Eva Gemlo  
Laura Kinkead  
Jeff Olsen
- 24 Brandon Wiethorn
- 26 Sharon Kleckner
- 27 Zachary Brooks  
Caroline Jaffray
- 29 Whit Morley  
John Kinkead  
Sandy Stratton-Rusch
- 30 Cindy Bachman  
Kailey Everhart  
Peter Fish  
Dean Ramos

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- by Ellen Harrington, Director of  
Children's Ministry



Our community memory of the gifts of the Holy Spirit has just been

celebrated. Pentecost is last among the three great Christian mysteries. It leaves the inevitable question about these gifts of the spirit - wisdom - understanding - counsel - strength - knowledge - joy - awe - apparently when the disciples received them they became so filled with love that they began telling about Jesus and showing how they, in their own way, intended to 'put on the mind of Jesus.'

Recently, I heard Cynthia Bourgeault talk. In her book, *The Wisdom Jesus* she says, "Jesus had nothing to do with the temple hierarchy in Jerusalem, and he kept a respectful distance from most ritual observances...rather, he stayed close to the perennial ground of wisdom: the transformation of human consciousness." How, after I get up each morning, do I put on the mind of Jesus? How do I go about the business of transforming my consciousness?

My experience tells me that it begins with an acknowledgment of the reality of the Divine at work in the universe, followed by a willingness to engage with a spiritual practice of my own, like Daily Office, or Centering Prayer or some type of meditation...and this is done along with regular talks with a soul friend who listens to my encounters with the Holy and my questions. It's a bit like having a gift wrapped in many layers of interesting paper. Spiritual practices help me peel away each layer to a yet more interesting one beneath. In this process, all the many things I 'know' start to become things that I 'feel.' Reflection turns knowledge into wisdom.

The community supports me so that the responsibility of an ethical, moral existence does not weigh with impossible heaviness on my shoulders. This harkens back to being most conscious in the moment. Then, where I go in the next moments is fine. Moments link together - I feel the peacefulness of need met, mine and others; I feel solace from what is around me, though sometimes I feel dissatisfied; I do my best to want what I have and not wish for a different life. I trust in the presence of the Invisible Infinite and work to keep my ego's urgency in the back seat.

And as I am fond of saying - children do what we do - rather than what we say - our own demonstration of doing what Jesus would do - our acts of sacrificial giving, of sharing our abundance and our witness to each other of our experience - represent the Pentecost story. Children take home the idea that our gifts don't stay in the Godly Play room...they are with us wherever we go...God's gifts are with us always, in every time and every place.

Perhaps this summer will be a summer - as you find yourself laying, looking at the sun and cloud drift - to consider learning about one spiritual practice. What suits...hmmm?

I am available to put my Spiritual Director's hat on and listen if that seems interesting ...sort of like Lucy in the Peanuts cartoon...'two ears, no waiting!' Blessings to all as we move into summer - Ellen Harrington 651-699-4867 or [ellenrhar@yahoo.com](mailto:ellenrhar@yahoo.com)

## UPDATE US, PLEASE!

With the Discovery Process underway and the official Search process looming, communicating with all parishioners is critical. To save on mailing costs and paper, we are looking at ways to increase our communications via e-mail and the website. There are still many households we do not have an e-mail address for. You can help us out by:

1. Telling us if your household e-mail address has changed in the past year and you suspect we don't have it.
2. Providing us with an e-mail address if you have never done so before.
3. Checking your e-mail periodically for St. John's updates. Don't forget to check your e-mail junk mail folder as well!

**Note: If you do not have an e-mail address you will continue to receive communications by regular mail and you do not need to do anything!**

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## A NOTE ABOUT THE SUNDAY PRAYERS

During Easter season, we have been experimenting with a different form of the Prayers of the People ("We are an Easter people: Lord, hear our prayer.").

We have done this to emphasize the fact that, liturgically, Easter season extends several weeks beyond Easter Sunday – until Pentecost on May 23. The clergy welcome your feedback.

We will return to the traditional forms during the season of Pentecost.

## Project Kathleen

- by Mary Frances Palmer

This is a report on three events relating to the Project Kathleen Committee --one that is history and two that are ongoing.

At a recent meeting of similar committees from metro area churches that sponsor families on their way to financial independence, our St. John's representatives were reminded that it helps to get the moms together.

As a result, a gathering was arranged where both the current moms and the moms who have been helped previously shared the ups and downs of their experiences.

Project Kathleen is once again in an exciting matching grant situation. When we raise \$2000 by September we can support another family for a year; so, when you give at this time, the impact of your gift is doubled.

Finally, PK mentor Elizabeth Plummer says that her mentoring family is trying to supplement income by selling Avon products. If you are interested in a purchase, call Shelene, at 651-222-2256 or 651-528-2866 (cell).



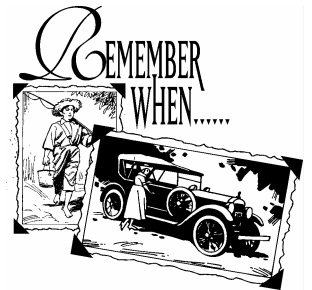
MISSION

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## 100 years ago - June 1910

### Church School Picnic

Those who go to the Sunday School picnic will take their lunch. The teachers will arrange with the scholars what they had best bring, so that each class may eat together. Perhaps some classes will want to join for lunch. This will be arranged by the teachers.



### Have you sent in your pledge card?

The following members of the parish have signed and returned the pledge cards..... *list of names followed.*

One pledge card has come in with neither name nor address. We shall be glad to learn to whom it belongs.

### Parish Notes – in the same issue!

Should any one desire a clergyman, telephone the Church. The Rector left last Wednesday night for Laramie, Wyoming.

## 75 years ago - June 1935

### Choir Camp – June 30 to July 13

Mr. Zache has room for about ten more boys in the camp. Rates for boys not in the Choir - \$14 per week, plus transportation. Camp List included clothes...handkerchiefs, woolen sweater, woolen blankets, safety pins and needle and thread, stamped envelopes and paper. Parents must not send or bring candy or sweets to the boys in camp. Fruit is permissible. Matters of Camp discipline are taken care of as they may come up.

# JUNE

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

### Monday:

6:00 pm Men's St. John's Alanon

### Tuesday:

8:30 am Big Net

10:00 am Staff meeting

6:30 pm Youth Basketball until 6-15

### Wednesday:

11:00 am Wed. Bible Study

Noon Communion Service

### Thursday:

4:00 pm Job Seekers Mtg.

6:00 pm Stories AA Group

6:30 pm Discovery Group

### Friday:

9:00 am Organ Practice

### Saturday:

### Sunday:

8 & 10 am Services

9:00 am Adult Ed. Open Discussion

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

(unless announced otherwise)

### 2nd Saturday:

9:00 am Men's Breakfast

### 3rd Monday:

4:30 pm Finance

6:00 pm Vestry

### 4th Monday:

6:00 pm Project Kathleen

### 2nd and 4th Tuesdays:

The Big Net Seminars

### Meeting date to be announced:

Spiritual Life

### Meetings Announced in Bulletin

10:00 am Meditation Group

### Quarterly Meetings (to be announced):

Faith in Action Next Mtg.:

Thurs., Aug. 19, 6:00 p.m.

## NOT GOING ON THE ROAD THIS SUMMER?

Take a test drive with the altar guild. Church goes on and members of the **altar guild** will be working Saturday and Sunday mornings. Consider working with us some weekend this summer to see what we do. Contact Diane Power at 651-222-1031 or dianepower@comcast.net to find a Saturday or Sunday that will work for you.

## St. John's 2010 June Calendar

<b>Wed., June 2</b>	3:00 pm	Region 7 Clergy
<b>Sun., June 6</b>	<b>First Sun. Eucharist -The 2nd Sun. After Pentecost</b> <i>The Rev. Dr. Neysa Ellgren celebrates and preaches.</i>	
<b>Tues., June 8</b>	7:00 pm	The Big Net Seminar
<b>Sat., June 12</b>	9:00 am	Men's Breakfast
<b>Sun., June 13</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite I: The 3rd Sun. After Pentecost</b> <i>The Rev. Dr. Neysa Ellgren celebrates. The Rev. Barbara Mraz preaches.</i>	
<b>Fri., June 18</b>	Holy Apostles Lock-in	
<b>Sun., June 20</b>	<b>Holy Eucharist Rite II: The 4th Sun. after Pentecost</b> <i>The Rev. Dr. Neysa Ellgren celebrates and preaches.</i>	
<b>Mon., June 21</b>	4:30 pm	Finance Committee Mtg.
	6:00 pm	Vestry Mtg. & Dinner
<b>Tues., June 22</b>	7:00 pm	Women's Summer Reading Group
	7:00 pm	The Big Net Seminar
<b>Sun., June 27</b>	<b>Choral Morning Prayer &amp; Holy Eucharist</b> <i>The Rev. Dr. Neysa Ellgren celebrates and preaches</i>	
<b>Mon., June 28</b>	6:00 pm	Project Kathleen

## THOUGHTS OF A VETERAN ON MEMORIAL DAY

- by Sona Plummer, A Member of St. John's

My name is Christopher Plummer and I will celebrate my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May. The name I was given and the fact that I was born on Memorial Day are very symbolic of what I believe.

Though I graduated in 1984 as a flyer from Pensacola, Florida (a U.S. Naval Air Station), I went on to become an officer on the naval ship, the USS St. Louis, located in Japan at that time.

In 1987, our ship was sent to the Persian Gulf where I was exposed to a poison called "Sarin." It can cause erosions of the myelin sheath covering the body's nerves. It took many years to make this discovery.

The hope is to find a way to repair the damage. Possible new studies about repairing myelin damage using my own stem cells is a hope. Possibly other new ideas or ways to heal exist. I would appreciate any new ideas that could be used to help me recover.

On Memorial Day we honor the dead and show appreciation for the military and others watching over our country. There are many like Chris who "live in the twilight zone." They have an important story to tell and did serve their country.

*A Note from the Rev. Barbara Mraz: We pray for Christopher each week in the weekly prayer intentions of our Sunday services.*





This is my favorite statement linking past and present and future. It is from the novel *How Green Was My Valley*, by Richard Llewellyn. It's about a family of coal miners in Wales in the late 1800's:

*"I saw behind me those who had gone, and before me, those who are to come. I looked back and saw my father and his father, and all our fathers, and in front to see my son, and his sons and the sons upon sons behind. And their eyes were my eyes.*

*As they felt, so I had felt, and were to feel, as then, so now, as tomorrow and forever.*

*Then I was not afraid, for I was in a long line that had no beginning and no end, and the hand of his father grasped my father's hand, and his hand was in my hand, and my unborn son took my right hand, and his hand was a in my hand, and my unborn hand took my right hand, and all up and down the line that stretched from Time That Was, to Time That Is, and is not yet, raised their hands to show the link, and we found that we were one, born of Woman, Son of Man had in the Image fashioned in the Womb by the Will of God, the Eternal Father.*

*I was of them, they were of me and in me, and I in all of them."*

(cited in my "Tuesday Letter" for April 17. Don't get the "Tuesday Letters"? Call the church office.)

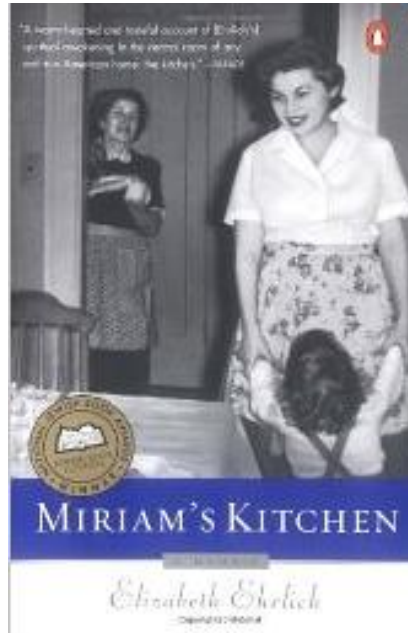
Barbara

## Women's Summer Reading Group

Tuesday evenings – June 22, July 6, July 20

7:00 Barbara's house 1666 Jefferson

### ***Miriam's Kitchen* by Elizabeth Ehrlich**



How do we practice a faith? What do we *do* that brings us in touch with our faith tradition? *Miriam's Kitchen* is a book about a modern Jewish woman who goes on a quest to answer this question. We can learn a lot from her story, and also use it as a vehicle to discern how we can link in more closely to our own faith tradition

Come to my home for three summer evening to discuss this wonderful book about faith, food, and heritage.

#### **Please call the office by June 7**

to let me know you're coming, and I will order books for you to purchase. We'll read and

discuss the book in sections; no big reading "assignments"!

*"Like many Jewish Americans, Elizabeth Ehrlich was ambivalent about her background. She identified with Jewish cultural attitudes, but not with the institutions; she had fond memories of her Jewish grandmothers, but she found their religious practices irrelevant to her life.*

*It wasn't until she entered the kitchen – and world—of her mother-in-law Miriam a Holocaust survivor, that Ehrlich began to understand the importance of preserving the traditions of the past. As Ehrlich looks on, Miriam methodically and lovingly prepares countless kosher meals while relating the often painful stories of her life in Poland and her immigration to America. These stories trigger a kind of religious awakening in Ehrlich, who moves tentatively toward reclaiming the heritage she rejected as a young woman."*

- New York Times book review

### **GOT IDEAS?**

... for adult education programming—Sundays or evening classes? We need to know what's on your mind, what you want to see and learn about...

Call or e-mail Lynn Hertz: [hertz@macalester.edu](mailto:hertz@macalester.edu)  
or the Rev. Barbara Mraz: [bmraz@stjohnsepiscopal-stpaul.org](mailto:bmraz@stjohnsepiscopal-stpaul.org)



## THE MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

All men are welcome!  
We invite you to join us on  
**Saturday, June 12, 9:00 a.m. in  
the Gym Kitchen.**

Be prepared for good food, good  
fellowship, and lively conversation.

Then, mark your calendars for  
these dates in **2010 to meet in  
the Gym kitchen!**

**July 10  
August 14**

## PRAYERFUL THANKS

*Thank you all who were joyful  
witnesses to  
Christ's presence within us by  
sharing your blessings.*

Thanks for your generosity to  
the **United Thank Offering**. It  
is really true that when all the  
monies are united they have the  
power to make meaningful  
awards toward advancing the  
mission of The Church.

If you have not had the  
opportunity to contribute you  
still can by writing a check  
payable to St. John the  
Evangelist and put **United  
Thank Offering** or **UTO** on the  
memo line. You can either place  
it in the alms basin, or mail to  
St. John the Evangelist, 60 Kent  
Street, St. Paul, 55102.

In this busy world it can be  
difficult to find quiet time, but  
do try to keep the habit of daily  
thanksgiving. Articles abound  
giving advice on the salubrious  
effects of pausing for  
contemplation.

With thanks,  
Phyllis Merrill, Coordinator



## Ready, Set, Build!

**Jimmy Carter Will Be Here in  
October, But You Can Join Us For  
This Summer's Twin Cities Habitat  
For Humanity Project in June**

St. John's is a member of **Faith Builders**, an interfaith coalition of  
St. Paul churches that was organized in the fall of 2002 to  
participate in the Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity Summer  
Workcamp program. Committed to putting their faith into action,  
the members of **Faith Builders** work to meet the need for  
affordable housing in St. Paul.

This year, the **2010 Workcamp** is the weeks of **June 21-July 2  
(Monday through Friday each week)**. Construction takes place  
from 8:30 to 4:00 each day. We'll be rehabilitating an existing  
house on St. Paul's East Side, at 875 Jessie Street. As we get  
closer to the date, we'll know exactly what stage of the  
construction we'll be involved in. This is an important way to save  
and upgrade existing housing stock and make it affordable for  
those with limited means. This will be the **8th** Twin Cities Habitat  
for Humanity project **Faith Builders** and St. John's volunteers  
have participated in!

There is still be room for you to join us working in **general  
construction** or on the **food crew**. Each day there is a work crew  
of 12-14 volunteers, and 3-4 volunteers preparing and serving  
snacks and lunch. All skill levels are welcome – you are provided  
with tools and friendly instructions, if you need them. You work  
with like-minded folk, people of faith from other local  
congregations, and you'll be addressing the need for affordable  
housing in a concrete way. For information on St. John's role in  
**Faith Builders** and to see if there is still room for you to  
volunteer, contact Don Postema, 651-483-3062,  
postema@comcast.net. You can sign up by phone or e-  
mail.

When you see the smiles on the faces of the new owners of  
the house at the dedication open house next fall, you'll  
know you shared in the work of faith building!



MISSION

## GRAND OLD DAY IS SUNDAY, JUNE 6!

We invite you to start your day with First Sunday Eucharist at St.  
John's on June 6. The Rev. Dr. Neysa Ellgren celebrates and the  
youth group is selling parking places in our lot after church. **If  
possible, the youth group requests that you look for a parking  
spot on the street that Sunday to free up spaces in the lot.**

**Driving Tips for Getting Around:** Traffic on Grand Old Day  
always causes a bit of confusion, but there are a few ways to get  
around the Grand Avenue road blocks. From the South you might  
take Ayd Mill Road. You could also come up through downtown  
St. Paul.

## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST SERVICE SCHEDULE – JUNE 2010

	READERS	ALTAR GUILD TEAMS	ACOLYTES	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR
<b>June 6 – The Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>					
8:00 am	Christine Garner	Rhonda Miller			
10:00 am	(A) Antay Bilgutay (B) Shirley Sailors	Ella Slade	Volunteers	Robbin Clamons Jay Debertin	Kevin Shaw
<b>June 13: Holy Eucharist Rite I – The Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>					
8:00 am	Alden Drew	Rhonda Miller			
10:00 am	(A) Sarah K. Smith (B) Eloise Teisberg	Diane Power	Volunteers	Dave Barrett Pat Brynteson	Ian Ball
<b>June 20: Holy Eucharist Rite II – The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b>					
8:00 am	Michael Garner	Rhonda Miller			
10:00 am	(A) Paige Hagstrom (B) Don Postema	Dusty Mairs	Volunteers	Dick Diedrich Ian Ball	Kathy Nadeau
<b>June 27: Choral Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist – The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>					
8:00 am	Craig Lindeke	Rhonda Miller			
10:00 am	(A) Cammie Beattie (B) Antay Bilgutay	Marge's Team	Volunteers	Kent and Karin Furois, Ethan and Wyatt	Patty Pfalz, Kat Bourque, Phyllis & Ray Frisby

Please read the above schedule carefully. Remember that you are responsible for finding your own replacement.

A busy month as viewed from my seat by the window of my simple home.

In response to our reply last month to correspondent Jose from Bemidji's comments on the Tea Party movement, an alert reader from the Boundary Waters Canoe Area kindly offers an alternate explanation which, all things considered, greatly simplifies the whole affair.

He notes that in 1865, Charles Lutwidge Dodgson, an Anglican cleric and mathematician who wrote as Lewis Carroll, celebrated the eccentric behavior of one of the most enigmatic characters in all of Victorian literature in *Alice in Wonderland*.

In remarkable detail, the Rev. D. described a festive gathering organized by none other than Mad Hatter, and attended, as well, by a distant cousin on my mother's side, the Cheshire Cat. Although the party was actually hosted at the home of the March Hare, that is really beside the point. It has come down to generations of readers, simply, as the Mad Hatter's Tea Party.

And here is where our correspondent really shines. He says that the present Tea Party members, so much in the news these days, initially considered naming themselves the Mad Hatters.

My theory is that it was my esteemed fellow Op-Ed columnist, the late William F. Buckley, Jr., who pointed out the problematic nature of their moniker; as a result the members are now claiming the unpleasantness in Boston Harbor as their inspiration rather than their earlier homage to Lewis Carroll's original tea party. So there you are.

Speaking of this month's mailbag, you can imagine my delight at receiving a kind, hand-written note from our new bishop, the Rt. Rev. Brian Prior. Thanking me for an earlier, trifling article of mine, he closed by saying:

"I so look forward to meeting you in person.

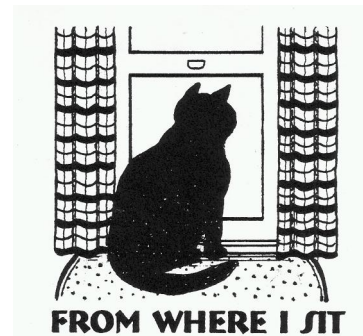
+ Blessings, Brian."

We will be penciling in a date when I return from the Regional Conference of the Episcopal Church Women later this month at the Corn Palace. More on this to come.

Warmest good wishes to you all.

Lulu Berg, Domestic Cat

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## ST JOHN'S NORTH GARDEN WILL BE DEVELOPED AS CHARLIE OLSEN'S EAGLE PROJECT!



Hello,

My name is Charlie Olsen and in addition to being a member of St. John's, I am a member of Boy Scout Troop 408 in Shoreview, MN. I enjoy scouting and have been a scout for well over half of my life. I currently have my Life Rank in Scouts and would like to be an Eagle Scout. About a year ago I started talking to Rev. Frank Wilson and Dusty Mairs about the possibility of doing an Eagle Project that would benefit our church. The project they identified and I have agreed to take on as my Eagle Project is the creation of a garden on the north side of the church, by the corner of Kent & Holly, the west half of what is known as the North Garden Project.

The North Garden Project has been a dream of gardeners at our church for many years. About 5 years ago, a detailed plan was developed and drawings were created and displayed in the undercroft. Various church committees have discussed development of the garden but the project remained on the planning list. Since the project was identified as my eagle project, I have worked closely with Julia Ferguson on developing a plan to create and plant the gardens in the west half of the north side of our church. The plan includes putting a garden on the church's north wall (between the Kent Street sidewalk and the cement walkway to the gym entrance) and putting in a roughly 15 foot diameter round garden area that consists of a center garden, a circular crushed limestone pathway and two outer edge gardens.

The project was just approved on May 13<sup>th</sup> by the Boy Scout District Council and tentative plans are to begin work on the garden in just over two weeks, starting on Memorial Day with major work completed on the project on June 5<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting.

In order to do this, I need your financial support. The cost of plants and materials needed for project is roughly \$1,000. Here is a partial list of items needed for the garden:

50 lbs soil & peat moss	8 - Hydrangeas 'Annabelle'
2 yards Mulch	12 - Boxwood 'Chicagoland Green'
1 yard of Crushed Limestone	45 - Vinka
1/3 yard Sand	36 - Begonias
Plastic Snap Edging	27 - Salvia
45 ft Landscaping Mesh	27 - Rudbeckia

Would you please consider providing financial support for my project? You are welcome to give a donation for a specific amount, or you are welcome to buy one or more of the items on the list. I will be in church with a detailed material list for my project. You are also welcome to donate plants and materials. Your donations will be used by me and my crew to purchase the supplies needed for the garden. Please consider making the donations by June 3<sup>rd</sup> so we have the funds available to purchase the supplies. IF you wish to donate money, checks are preferred. Please make out the check to St. John's the Evangelist and put a notation on the check that the donation is for the North Garden Project.

Thanks in advance for your support. I hope my project will provide our church with a lovely garden that will provide church members and our neighborhood with years of enjoyment!

### **Ushers Wanted!**

Would you like to meet new people, greet all your friends on Sunday, play an important part in church services, and be a member of an awesome team? If so, you may wish to become an Usher at St. John's! We are always on the lookout for new ushers. Interested and want to learn more? **Contact Kent Furois at 651-647-6466 or aronastreet@hotmail.com for more information. Have a great summer!**

# EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PARKING LOT!

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MARY GILBERTSON

*What follows is one of my favorite statements about gardening ....*

*- Barbara*

“My mother adorned with flowers whatever shabby house we were forced to live in. And not just your typical straggly country stand of zinnias either. She planted ambitious gardens – and still does – with over fifty different varieties of plants that bloom profusely from early March until late November. Before she left home for the fields, she watered her flowers, chopped up the grass, and laid out new beds. When she returned from the fields, she might divide clumps of bulbs, dig a cold pit, uproot and replant roses, or prune branches from her taller bushes or trees – until night came and it was too dark to see.

Whatever she planted grew as if by magic, and her fame as a grower of flowers spread over three counties. Because of her creativity with her flowers, even my memories of poverty are seen through a screen of blooms – sunflowers, petunias, roses, dahlias forsythias, spiriea, delphiniums, verbena... and on and on.

I notice it is only when my mother is working in her flowers that she is radiant, almost to the point of being invisible – except as Creator: hand and eye. She is involved in work her soul must have. Ordering the universe in the image of her personal conception of beauty.

Her face as she prepares the art that is her gift, is a legacy of respect she leaves to me, for all that illuminates and cherishes life. She has handed down respect for the possibilities – and the will to grasp them, Guided by my heritage of a love of beauty and a respect for strength – in search of my mother’s garden, I found my own.”

- From Alice Walker’s book, *In Search of Our Mothers’ Gardens*



Saint John the Evangelist  
Episcopal Church  
60 Kent Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55102

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*An Invitation From  
The Rev. Keely Franke*

You are all heartily welcomed and  
invited to share in these celebrations in July:

*Ordination to the Priesthood:*

*Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Cathedral*

*Ordination Party:*

*Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup> 6-10 p.m. at Como Park Pavilions*

