

The Sentinel



The Priest's Ponderings

(Editor's Note: This poignant message was written shortly before Father Rob's death. We thought it was a fitting final message to the parish.)

November has many significant events on the official church calendar. We start with All Saints' Day, then conduct our Annual Stewardship Campaign, observe Thanksgiving at our Annual Parish Thanksgiving Feast, and close out the season of Pentecost with Christ the King Sunday on November 26th. (We also have another treat I shall mention at the close of this article, so keep reading!

What do all of these events have in common? Gratitude and celebration. God continually does great things for us, his children. Every Sunday is a wonderful participation in that truth.

All Saints' Day reminds us of our sainthood. We tend to be hesitant to accept our saintly status, but it's time to accept the truth. You are a saint! We also remember the saints who have gone before us. These may be folks who helped raise us in the faith or the "official" saints who have days named in their honor. Regardless, sainthood is a gift from God, and we give thanks for it and celebrate it!

Our Annual Stewardship Campaign and our observance of Thanksgiving are also times of celebration and gratitude. We contemplate the many spiritual, financial, and material gifts that have been so kindly and wonderfully given to us by God. We are not worthy of such benevolence, and we certainly have not earned it. God is good, and we respond by being faithful, thankful stewards of the bounty.

Another wonderful aspect of our identity is that we are inheritors of the Kingdom of God. Again, this is a gift. It came at great cost as Christ sacrificed himself for our place in that kingdom. One day we will be joined with our king in paradise forever! We contemplate such with humble thanks and joy!

Now comes the extra treat: Another opportunity of celebration and gratitude in November is the baptism of Clara McFarland on November 12th. She is the granddaughter of Tony and Mary Jane McFarland and the daughter of Matthew and Sarah McFarland. She is another gift from God in so many ways!

The days may be shorter, and the season may seem somber with the leaves falling in November. In the church.....and at St. James'.....it is a different world. It is time for gratitude and celebration! RSC+

Quote of the Month

"When we surrender every area of our lives-- including our finances--to God, then we are free to trust Him to meet our needs. But if we would rather hold tightly to those things that we possess, then we find ourselves in bondage to those very things" - Larry Burkett

The Saint of the Month

KING KAMEHAMEHA AND QUEEN EMMA OF HAWAII

(28 NOV 1864)

King Kamehameha IV and his wife Emma were Christian rulers who encouraged the building of Christian schools and hospitals, and who contributed greatly to the spread of Christianity among the Hawaiian people. The King was worried by the growth of American political influence, directly connected with the work of American missionaries, many of whom openly favored annexation of the islands by the United States. He accordingly invited the Church of England to send missionaries and to establish a presence in Hawaii. (While touring England as a prince, he had attended worship services, and had been favorably impressed.) But, although the King's support of the Church of England was perhaps politically motivated, his support of Christianity was not. He and his wife were earnest in their devotion to both the material and the spiritual welfare of their people. The King personally translated the Book of Common Prayer and much of the Hymnal into

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The Saint of the Month continued . . . Hawaiian. Their only son died in 1863, and the King died, apparently of grief, on 30 November 1864. The Queen devoted the remainder of her life to charitable endeavors (Queen's Hospital, the largest civilian hospital in Hawaii, is largely her doing). She died in 1885.

Lay Assignments for November

November 5th

Eucharistic Ministers: Jane Emery & David Gaines
Lector: Harry Spain
Crucifer: Ashleigh Smith
Ushers: Mike Deweese & Don Jones
Altar Guild: Karen Cate & Joan Wells
Coffee Hour: OPEN!

November 12th:

Eucharistic Ministers: Bruce Dobbs & Cindy Reese
Lector: Rob Knox
Crucifer: Ashleigh Smith
Ushers: Larry Emery & Rick Webb
Altar Guild: Mary Elizabeth Womack, Betty Odom, & Janet Deweese
Coffee Hour: The McFarlands

November 19th:

Eucharistic Ministers: Tony McFarland & David Gaines
Lector : Tony McFarland
Crucifer: Ashleigh Smith
Ushers: Joe Reese & George Brummett
Altar Guild: Sandra Womack & Susan Parker
Coffee Hour: Parish Thanksgiving Dinner

November 26th:

Eucharistic Ministers: Rick & Cindy Webb
Lector: David Gaines
Crucifer: Erick Cate
Ushers: Larry Emery & Rick Webb
Altar Guild: Terrie Croxall, Cindi Spain & Judy Stewart
Coffee Hour: Vestry Monthly Birthday Party

From the Loft

This month there is musical news for young and old! YOUTH

Since Christmas is right around the corner, the St. James youth are already beginning to think about their annual Christmas pageant. This year's presentation is called "Joseph and Mary" and features a conversation between the two as they journey to Bethlehem. It concludes with a lovely carol called "In a Stable". Both the script and the carol come from Puerto Rican folk songs.

All youth are invited to participate. Since all boys are "Joseph" and all girls are "Mary", there's no jockeying for roles! Practices are on Sunday mornings during their regular Sunday school time with Lisa Cate. The presentation will be the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

ADULT (HIGH SCHOOL AND UP) Have you noticed how small the adult choir has become? Having lost several members over the last year or so (O.C. Hays to greater glory, George Mickle to Clarksville, Jean Posey to Florida, Denise Kem to Texas), we seem to have become an ensemble. Can you help us begin rebuilding our numbers?

We practice on Sunday mornings at 9:30, but if that is a problem (for example, if you attend Father Courtney's class which meets at the same time) that's not a deal-breaker. Our choir is nothing if not flexible! Can't read music? News flash – most current choir members can't either! We have a great leader in Bob Weisen and he can teach a deaf and blind armadillo to sing the Doxology!!! (but please don't bring one to practice)

Last year we made the decision as a church to purchase a magnificent new organ. It is glorious and adds much beauty to our worship. We have a fine organist who plays our organ with great skill and artistry. But now we need voices to lend their strength to the ensemble as we grow our choir.

We are praying about this matter daily. If you cannot join us in the loft, please join us in our prayers for choir growth. JANE EMERY

Bruce's Recipe of the Month Taco Spaghetti

- 8 oz spaghetti
- 1 1/4 pound ground beef
- 1 package taco seasoning
- 2/3 cup water
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can Rotel diced tomatoes with green chilies, untrained
- 1 8 oz Velveeta cheese, cubed

Preheat oven to 3:50. Lightly spray a 9 x 9 pan with cooking spray. Set aside.

Cook pasta according to directions. Drain, Set aside.

In large skillet cook ground beef over medium high heat until no longer pink. Drain fat. Return meat to skillet. Add taco seasoning and water. Stir to combine. Cook for 5 minutes.

Stir in soup, Velveeta and Rotel. Reduce heat to low and cook until the cheese melts, stirring constantly. Stir in cooked spaghetti and pour into prepared dish. Top with cheddar cheese. Bake for 30 minutes or until heated through.

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Vestry Highlights

The Vestry did not meet in October as things are running smoothly, and there was no urgent business. We shall convene in November for our final meeting of the year to discuss the budget, new members to be elected in January, and building matters.

Parish Financial Highlights

October's financial statement was being prepared at the press time of the November Sentinel. Watch the bulletin for details, and don't forget to turn in your 2018 pledge cards in November!

October Outreach News

Our November collection for Room in the Inn is men's white socks & hooded sweatshirts (L to 4XL). Drop off is in the Outreach Box by the piano in the nave. Our thanks to all for their continued generosity!

Youth Ministry

We have two programs for the youth of the parish.

Teenagers and Middle Schoolers enjoy a personal chit-chat session with Father Courtney each month. Like with our Lord, you never know when he will show up!

Sunday School in November THE WISE KING

November 5, Solomon Becomes King -November 12, Solomon's Wisdom Proverbs - November 19, Solomon Builds the Temple -November 26, Solomon Dedicates the Temple

Taekwondo News – (Our Taekwondo Style's Philosophy)

The purpose of Choong Sil Kwan Taekwondo is to develop an individual's mental and physical well-being through a highly stylized and deliberate method of rigorous martial arts training. The result of this training is the empowering sense of self-worth, and the ability to control one's physical state and personal destiny. The student is guided into four stages of philosophical development: 1. Imagination, 2. Inspiration, 3. Actualization and, 4. Realization. We will look at each stage over the next 4 months.

Stewardship!

Yep, it is that time of the year again -- Time to think of our blessings and how we respond to them. Also, we consider the financial needs of our parish.

1. November 19th: Kickoff with Tony McFarland Presentation. Mailings sent week prior.
2. November 19th: Annual Parish Thanksgiving Potluck

Membership Quiz

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Whose terms expire on our Vestry in January? | David Gaines, Joe Reese, and Harry Spain |
| 2. Who is a retired firefighter? | Steve Womack |
| 3. Who rents cars and vans? | Lisa Cate |
| 4. Who are our current high school seniors? | Alex Magnis and Lauren Coppersmith |

November Birthdays

Andrew Jones	11/7
Sandra Womack	11/8
Richard Odom	11/11
Emery Anne Lane	11/11
Lisa Reese	11/11
Jerry Reese	11/11
Sarah Mace	11/12
Alex Magnis	11/17
Denise Kem	11/17
Daniel Pace	11/17
Mary M. Webb	11/18
Luke Emery	11/19
Frances Arnold	11/20
Joel Sinha	11/22
Rob Courtney	11/22
Madeline Guthrie	11/27
Cindi Spain	11/28

*If we have failed
to include your birthday
this month, please let us know.
Our list is continually evolving ☺*

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Contact Us

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Weekly Schedule

Saturday

Priest in Office - 2:30 PM to 5:00 PM
Holy Eucharist - 3:00 PM

Sunday

Holy Eucharist - 8:00 AM
Choir Practice - 9:30 AM - except 26th
Adult Sunday School - on hold due to
special events 12th, 19th & 26th
Choral Holy Eucharist - 10:30 AM
Sunday School (ages 5-12) - 10:30 AM

Monday & Thursday

Community Taekwondo - 5:00 PM

News from the Diocese of Tennessee

Clergy Transitions

The Rev. James K. Polk Van Zandt has announced his retirement after having served as Rector of St. Paul's, Murfreesboro for the past nine years. His last Sunday will be November 19, 2017.

The Rev. Jacob Bottom has been called as Priest-in-Charge of Church of Our Savior, Gallatin. Rev. Bottom has most recently served as Assistant Rector at St. David of Wales Church, Denton, Texas. His first day at Our Savior will be October 29, 2017.

The Rev. Kira Schlesinger has announced that she will resign from her position as Priest-in-Charge at Church of the Epiphany, Lebanon, on December 31, 2017.

The Rev. Sammy Wood has been called as the Rector of St. Bartholomew's, Nashville. Sammy has most recently served as Associate Rector at Church of the Advent, Boston. He will begin work at St. Bartholomew's in mid-November. Welcome to Tennessee!

St. James the Less Episcopal Church

411 West Due West Avenue
Madison, TN 37115

EVENTS

November 5th:

Time Change - Daylight Saving
Time Ends

Tuesday, November 14th:

Vestry Meeting at 6:30 pm

Sunday, November 19th:

Annual Parish Thanksgiving
Potluck

Wednesday, November 22nd:

December Sentinel Article
Deadline