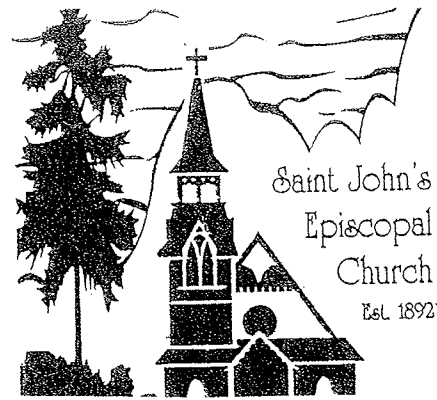


January 19, 2011

Dear People of God at St. John's,

This Episcopaper comes to you just before our 2011 Annual meeting, January 23.



Recycle Sunday!! Jan 23 Please see notice in Newsletter~ Environmental Geek

One Service: Jan. 23, 9:15 a.m.

First of all, we will all celebrate the Eucharist at one service this coming Sunday, Jan 23, at 9:15am. In this way we make outward and visible the meaning of Communion: one Body in Christ. A good preparation for meeting together to care for the program and fabric of our community.

Wine into Water, Jan. 29 6:30

A reminder of our fund-raising effort to bring a well to a Central American community. We have gotten a good way toward our goal of \$5,000. The last stretch can be hardest! Come to the Parish Hall on Saturday, Jan. 29 (Tickets \$20.00) for wine-tasting, lots of other beverages, and food. It's another St. John's social event, but one in which our care for each other bears fruits in care for some far away.

Bible Study Sunday Afternoons

Beginning January 30 there will four weeks of Bible study at 4 p.m. Pastor Tom Rohde and I will lead the discussions.

Other highlights inside:

- Youth Ministry news
- Churchwomen news: The December Tea
- Environmental Geek & Recycle Sunday

Upcoming events:

Rotary Crab Feed, February 5 at 4 & 6 PM

"Eat Local; Spend Less; Enjoy More" February 26
Community-wide presentation on food, health and Stewardship

"Mardi gras" Sunday March 6

Ash Wednesday, March 9

Sunday Lenten Program March 13 - April 6

"Share, Save, Spend "
Family Financial Education

The Episcopaper - January 2011

St. John's Episcopal Church

913 2nd St. Snohomish, WA 360/568-4622



It's Your Vestry: Watch Them Work

One of the things the things the vestry does is hear or read reports from various groups within St. John's. At the January meeting the vestry heard from the Creation Stewards (Nancy McConnell), the treasurer (Candace McKenna), the rector (Fr. Mark), the senior warden (Dottie Nelson), the junior warden (Jud Chapin).

The vestry passed a motion to become an "Earth Ministry Greening Congregation." This is a partnership with Earth Ministry and a flexible strategy for engaging faith communities in efforts to care for creation. The program will support St. John's as we envision and celebrate the "greening" of aspects of church life.

The treasurer updated the vestry on the financial situation. St. John's ended the year with a deficit of \$4,663 mostly due to a drop in investment income. Expenses were well in line with the budget.

The vestry also discussed financial reports to be given at the Annual Meeting. Eric Fritch will talk about the Endowment Fund; Candace will talk about St. John's history of pledging over the past five years and Fr. Mark will discuss the status of the discretionary fund. Gerry Vandenberg will present the 2011 Budget.

Fr. Mark gave his monthly report and discussed upcoming events including a 4-week Bible series. Pastor Tom Rohde of Good Shepherd Lutheran and Fr. Mark will begin the series on Sunday, Jan. 30.

The senior warden talked about the College of Congregational Development experience. The next Congregational Development meeting will be April 29 and 30. Dottie thanked the outgoing members of the vestry including Gerry Vandenberg, Sally Wesley, Bill Walker, and Marsha Russell. Kyle Anthony moved to South Carolina this fall.

The junior warden reported that the new refrigerator is in place in the kitchen. The old one broke and had to be replaced. The Community Kitchen Board will pay two-thirds of the \$2,900 cost of the new unit while St. John's will pay one-third of the cost out of the church Community Kitchen budget.

The vestry is beginning to look at wear and tear on our buildings and various physical plant needs.

Vestry members also began planning a coffee hour sign-up assignment sheet with two- or three-person teams to get to know each other better while putting on coffee hour. The thought is to involve everyone in fellowship and to have a schedule done ahead of time so that people can trade dates with others if they need to.

Annual Meeting, One Service Set for Jan. 23

There will be one service at 9:15 a.m., Sunday Jan. 23 due to the annual meeting right after the service. New vestry members will be elected and the meeting is a chance for the whole parish to come together to look at the "state of the parish" in terms of finances, outreach, adult education, physical plants, Episcopal Church Women activities and issues around our buildings. Be there or be square!

Eat Local, Spend Less, Enjoy More

St. John's is hosting two food workshops that are open to the community (including you and your friends) set for Saturday, Feb. 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Debra Daniels-Zeller, who has written a terrific cook book called "Local Vegetarian Cooking: Inspired Recipes Celebrating Northwest Farms," will talk about healthy cooking using local ingredients. Our own Nancy Vandenberg, R.D., M.S., who is on the Nutrition faculty at Everett Community College will present "Healthful Eating on a Budget."

Here's the kicker! Be one of the first 50 people to register (sign up sheet by kitchen) and your lunch of soup and bread, provided by Grilla Bites, will be complementary. Registration is required. Call the church office at 360.568.4622 or sign up at church. Chinook Farms will be there with information as well.

*The earth has yielded
its fruits
and our God
has blessed us*

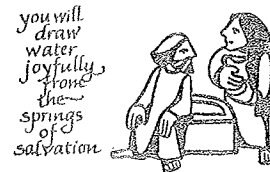
Weekend Retreat for Women

A women's retreat led by Connie Pynsky is set for March 4 through 6 at the Sequim Beach House. The costs will be: \$80.00 *lodging*, \$14.20 *R/T ferry* (\$7.10 *R/T senior fare*); \$24.30 *R/T ferry car + driver* (\$20.70 *R/T car + driver senior fare*) and variable cost for food. More details to follow.

Depart Edmonds Ferry Dock on 3/4/11 @ 4:45pm

Return Edmonds Ferry Dock on 3/6/11 @ 2:00pm or 3:00pm

Contact: Connie Pynsky @ 425-330-4095 for further info



Turn Wine Into Water On January 29

Mark your calendar and buy some tickets for the wine-tasting event set for 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 29. THERE IS CHILDCARE! Tickets are \$20.

Here's why it's important to reach that \$5,000 goal:

- 1 billion people worldwide lack access to safe drinking water
- 2.5 billion people worldwide lack even a simple toilet
- 5 million people, mostly children under the age of 5, die each year from water-related illnesses
- 200 million people, mostly women and girls, carry every drop of water their families use
- The world's poorest spend \$30 billion each year on the treatment of diseases caused by lack of access to water and toilets



Fill those jars with water

Everyone is welcome to come. If you don't enjoy wine tastings, come to socialize.

Also, please gather up those spare coins nesting in your dresser drawers, bedside tables and kitchen "whatnot" drawers and bring them to St. John's for the "Wine Into Water" Project.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters.
The voice of the Lord is mighty,
the voice of the Lord is majestic



Youth Group Meeting to be Scheduled

Fr. Mark will be sending letters to the families of our young people sketching briefly the history of youth group as he has known it at St. John's. He plans to invite interested parents to meet one Sunday after church for an hour to talk about needs. After this meeting there will be a meeting with all stakeholders including youth with the aim of revitalizing the program.

A New Year's Resolution for your Children's Future - The Environmental Geek

Are you thinking about your 2011 resolutions? It's not too late. Usually resolutions seem to be about personal improvement, but I have another idea—how about a resolution to take better care of the earth—this will benefit you, but really, it's mostly about taking care of the earth for our children and grandchildren. It's also biblical—check out Genesis and God's call for us to be stewards of creation.

A couple of years ago, I decided that I was going to make one permanent change every month to benefit the environment. I wanted a challenge, and I thought it would be, since I felt like I was already doing a lot—recycling, trying to save energy, yada, yada. Well, my first lesson was one in humility, because I found out that there were **plenty** of things that I wasn't doing. I had no problem at all finding a change for every month—and it's actually been a lot of fun.

I found that changes fell into three categories—those that were easy and/or saved money, those that cost money up-front but would save in the long-run (buying that water-saving washer fell into this category), and those that weren't difficult but did cost more (buying organic). So if you are just getting started, of course opt for the “easy or save money” category: These could include:

- Just a few ideas: Bring your own mug to the coffee stand—most places give you a credit.
- Stop throwing away food.
- Go to catalogchoice.org to get your name off catalog lists—or just call the company when you get unwanted ones—most places are very nice and it's easy to get off mailing lists.
- Have bills sent by email and pay online.
- Of course, recycle everything you can.
 - Plant a fruit tree, grow your own herbs, or put in a small garden bed.

Well, those are all easy things, but it's also easy to procrastinate—that's why I had to set a “one-a-month” goal. I ended up making changes that I had thought about for a long time—but now I had a deadline as the end of each month loomed. Not to mention an article to write. Hope you have fun with this too, and please send me your ideas—I'm on Year 3 now and I may be getting desperate.

The Environmental Geek

Recycle at St. John's & Dutch Hill

Got old magazines? Electric Chargers? Household Batteries? These are just a few of the items you can bring to church Sunday, Jan. 23 for the Creation Steward's recycle event. You can also bring old cartridges for youth activities, gently used books for Ghana, old and damaged American flags, small appliances and CFLs.

Also, Dutch Hill Elementary School is having Recycle Day on Saturday, Jan. 22. **You can BRING ANYTHING with a cord or anything that is metal!**

Another Successful Holiday Tea

Our Holiday Tea seemed the best ever – good weather, the largest crowd, the happiest attendees, etc. Our wonderful Chair, Pat Chapin, did her usual great job in coordinating all of the activities and served as the perfect hostess as well, while Helen Tygret was in charge of all of the food purchase and preparation and bringing it all together generally.

Despite the challenge of the refrigerator calling it quits, our very efficient kitchen team, led by Tom and Debbie Schelfhout, somehow carried on with lots of ice chests and none of our diners knew the difference. I can't name all of the kitchen helpers but they did a wonderful job.

Freda Solie, Barbara Miars and Mary Lee Tucker conducted a very successful Parson's Pantry. The backdrop for the Parson's Pantry was again provided by our resident artist, Connie Pynsky.

The little girl scouts took wonderful care of the diners while the Children's Choir, led by Mary Nilsen, entertained them. Thanks go to our Music Director, Andrey Spichak and Organist, Jim Van Horn, who joined members of the Senior Choir in providing beautiful Christmas Music.

All this occurred in a beautifully decorated Church Hall. Anne Voss provided all of the handmade decorations.

I can't name all of the participants because I would surely miss someone. Janet Skidmore again designed the beautiful circulars and tickets. The best part was the cooperation of the members of the parish in providing the wonderful homemade items for the Parson's Pantry. Another great plus was the support of the public. I was fortunate in saying goodbye as each one left and many asked what day the tea would be held next year and said they would put it on their calendars. Everyone seemed in a true holiday spirit and some remarked that they had been to several of our teas before and that this was the best one yet.

For your information, our income for the tea was \$1,616.80 and our expenses were \$559.80. (The expenses included the purchase of much needed spoons for \$268.63, which will be used for other programs as well). Our profit of \$1,057.00 will allow us to reward our hardworking church employees with small Christmas bonuses and contribute \$100 to the giving tree and leave a small balance for such immediate church and/or outreach needs that may occur during the next year.

Again, thank you all for a job well done. As our Treasurer, Nancy McConnell said, making a \$1,000. Profit for an event that we don't think of as a fundraiser, but more as a getting together and starting the holidays off on a positive note is great. Have wonderful holidays and a blessed new year.

Georgia Machotka

ECW



FEBRUARY 2011

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		<i>Brigid, Abbess of Kildare, 523</i>	1 PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE 7:30pm Al-Anon	2 10:00am Eucharist & Bible Study 4:30pm Community Kitchen	3 <i>Cornelius the Centurion Japan, 1597</i>	4 <i>The Martyrs of Japan, 1597</i> 8:30am Women's Study 9:00am Outreach Committee
The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:45am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Sunday School	7 4:30pm Community Kitchen	8	9 10am ECW meeting 7:30pm Al-Anon	10 10:00am Eucharist & Bible Study 4:30pm Community Kitchen	11	12 8:30am Women's Study 9:30 Adult Education Committee
The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany 8 & 9:45am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Sunday School 11:00 am Mardi Gras	<i>Cyril & Methodius, 9th C.</i> 4:30pm Comm. Kit. 7:00pm Endowment Committee	15 Cub Scout Banquet, 5pm	16 7:30pm Al-Anon	<i>Janani Luwum, 1977 Japan, 1597</i> & Bible Study 4:30pm Community Kitchen	18 <i>Martin Luther, 1546</i>	19 8:30am Women's Study
Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:45am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Sunday School	21 4:30pm Comm. Kit. 7:00pm Vestry	22	<i>Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr, 156</i> 7:30pm Al-Anon	23 SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE 10:00am Eucharist & Bible Study 4:30pm Community Kitchen	25	26 8:30am Women's Study 9:30am-1pm Eating Better Workshop
The Eighth Sunday after the Epiphany 8:00am Holy Eucharist 9:45am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Sunday School	28 4:30pm Community Kitchen		LENT BEGINS MARCH 9			