



The Eagle's Nest

St. John's Episcopal Church January 2018

Padre's Pen

With the Christmas (shopping) season behind us we tend to take a thankful breather at this time of year while the retailers are already telling us about cupid and Valentine's Day. Philosophically, we review the intentions that we may have for "New Year's Resolutions".

What might you formulate for a New Year's resolution for St John's? Is there something that you would like to see us implement? Is there something that you would like to volunteer for? Is there something that you think may have "run its course"? What does St. John's mean to you? What words, or word pictures, come to mind when you think of St. John's?

This past couple of weeks the Finance Committee and the Vestry have been looking at the available funds and balanced them against the projected expenses of our Church for this next year. We are facing our largest projected deficit in recent years. That will be a presentation and discussion for our Annual meeting on January 21st. (Don't forget to mark your calendar for January 21st!)

At our annual meeting we will look at opportunities to get involved with ministry activities and several education opportunities. Our Friday Bible Study can always use a few new faces, Chris Dodson has been challenging the adult class with Luther's look at Galatians. Our Lenten Series will explore "Last Things".

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Upcoming Events

January 21 - Annual Meeting
9 AM Eucharist followed by
breakfast and meeting
January 25 - Chris Gregory's
Ordination, 6:30 PM

*See Mark Your Calendars (p. 2) and News Flash
and Updates (p. 4) for more details*

Diocese of Springfield

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Daniel H. Martins

Staff

Rector: Rev. Richard Swan
rector@saintjohnsdecatur.org

Deacon: Rev. Donald Coventry
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Secretary: Mrs. LaVetta Williams
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Finance Director: Tom Ames

Treasurer: John Byler

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There are opportunities to serve as an Usher, or Greeter, or Lector, we can use more help with our monthly visit to Good Samaritan Inn or with other outreach opportunities. With a newly ordained Deacon in our midst, I envision more outreach and Pastoral care actions. Please be thinking and praying about how you might help with the work of St John's this coming year.

We are first and foremost a Eucharistic Community, but (as with any family) there are many opportunities for the work that needs to be done.

Have a Blessed and Happy New Year!

In Christ's love,
Fr. Swan

Outreach

If you have a need for us to cook for you, please let Marv know so we can activate a site for you. Also if you would like to be added to the list of those who cook, please let me (Marv) know.

Dove is sponsoring a meeting on January 10th at the Homeward Bound facility on Clay Street next to St. James Catholic Church for the annual counting of the homeless in Macon County. Please pray about helping. Please see Chris Gregory for details.

NOTE: We are still gathering food items on Sunday for NE Community Fund. Please remember to bring an item with you. It is so easy if you just throw an extra item in your cart when shopping for yourself. Items most needed are: peanut butter, cereal, canned meats, canned "meals", cereal, rice, beans.

Mark Your Calendars

There is a calendar of events listed on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall for the month. The sign-up sheet for flowers and the Sanctuary Candle is on the bulletin Board outside the Nave in the Cloister.

Annual Meeting – January 21st, 2018 – Eucharist at 9:00 AM with breakfast and meeting to follow

Chris Gregory's Ordination – January 25th, 2018, 6:30p

Bishop's annual visit – February 4th, 2018

Serving Opportunities

Any interested youth or adult over the age of ten interested in becoming an Acolyte, please contact James Keith or Father Swan.

Peripatetic Parishioners

Father Swan and Marv attended Guardian Angels Church in Cincinnati, Ohio on November 26th while spending Thanksgiving with family

Mission Leadership Team

Hye-Seung Byler
Stephen Chadwick
Dee Coventry
Betsy Curlin
Jane Gucker- Senior Warden
Dick McCullough
JoAnna McCullough - Clerk of the Leadership Team
Jim Peoples - Junior Warden
Kathy Phillips
Melissa Rhodes

Favorite Recipe Corner

Featuring cold weather comfort food:

Arline's Famous Pot Roast

Cut a 1 to 1.5-pound chuck roast into chunks. Sprinkle with salt, pepper and garlic. Add 1 can of onion soup and 1 can of beer. Add carrots and potatoes. Cook in a covered baking dish for 3 hours at 325 degrees or in a crock pot on high for 4 hours or until the beef is tender.

Submitted by Arline Causey

Chicken Divan

1.5 pounds of boneless skinless chicken breasts
 1 pound of fresh broccoli separated
 2 cans of Campbells cream of chicken soup
 (I never use any other brand for this dish)
 ½ C mayonnaise (light, olive oil, or full strength)
 2 T. lemon juice
 2 C. shredded cheddar cheese
 Italian seasoned bread crumbs
 (I like the Italian panko crumbs)
 2 C. cooked rice.

Pre-heat the oven to 350 degrees.

Cut the chicken breasts into 1" cubes and sauté until almost done, pre-cook the broccoli until it turns a bright green (not quite done). Combine the soup, mayonnaise and lemon juice in a bowl.

In a 9X 13 baking dish, spread the rice on the bottom, then the broccoli and then the chicken. Pour the soup mixture over the layers, sprinkle the cheese over the top and then the bread crumbs.

Bake 45 minutes or until bubbly, remove and let rest for 5 minutes. Serve with crusty bread and a salad.

Submitted by Marv Swan

Education Opportunities

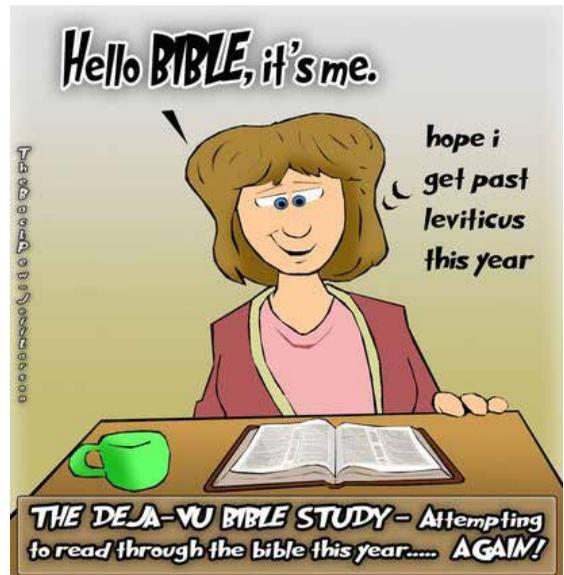
ADULT STUDY

Friday Bible Study continues at 10 AM on Friday in the Guild Room. They continue to study the book of Genesis.

Sunday Adult Study: For the second quarter of Sunday School, we are reading through Paul's letter to the Galatians together, but with a bit of a twist. We'll also be reading alongside Luther using his commentary on Galatians to add his voice - the good and the bad - to our own conversations.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Julie Keith is leading the youth class.



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News Flash & Updates

Note from Marv: Sorry this is late...December is a busy month and I can't seem to get my act together. The January newsletter for January 2019 should be on time since I will be retired.

God willing, we will have an Ordination here at St. John's on Thursday, January 25th at 6:30 PM. Chris Gregory will be ordained to the Diaconate. A reception will follow.

Kudos to all of the St. John's family worked hard and prayed hard in 2017! There are so many who work behind the scenes to see that things get done...trimming bushes and trees, planting flowers, changing light bulbs, preparing for funeral meals, coordinating fellowship activities, decorating the parish hall, polishing the things needed for Easter and Christmas, taking care of the fair linens for the Eucharist, providing flowers for the Altar, decorating the Church for Easter and Christmas, responding to the prayer request that Fr. sends out and for just being a wonderful Church family! I am happy and proud to be a part of this family.

Dove is sponsoring a meeting on January 10th at the Homeward Bound facility on Clay Street next to St. James Catholic Church for the annual counting of the homeless in Macon County. Please pray about helping. Please see Chris Gregory for details.

We are trying to form a Lay Pastoral Care Committee. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Swan.

If anyone has any suggestions as to how we can have better communication as the events on

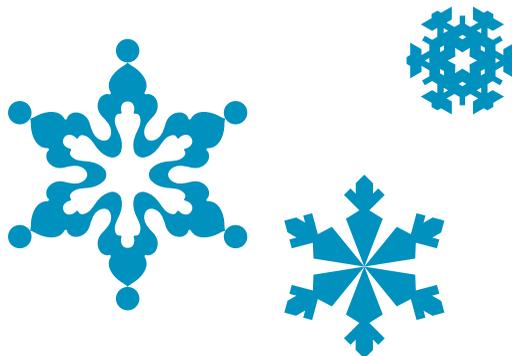
the schedule and the times, please let Father or Marv know.

Next Mission Leadership Team Meeting

The next MLT meeting will be Wednesday, January 17th following the 6:00 PM Eucharist.

Mission Leadership Team Meeting Highlights

Jane reported that we had two funerals in December and a decent turnout for Lessons and Carols. Jim was happy to report that there were not any major repairs and that he had received several complaints regarding the cleaning of the Church ie: the tile floors, the lights in the chapel and windows. The outgoing members of the MLT have been busy recruiting new members for 2018. We appointed the audit committee for the 2017 audit of the financials...Rod Carter, Dick McCullough and Gary Rhodes. We approved the budget for presentation at the annual meeting. Our annual Patronal Feast will be on Wednesday, December 27th following the 6:00 PM Eucharist. It's pot luck and Fr. Swan volunteered to make Italian beef for the main course.



Holy Days in January

Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm and Saturday at 7:30 am we meet for Eucharist. It is our custom to honor a memorable figure in the life of the Church down through the ages. For January, we will give thanks to God for these faithful servants:

Saints Days for January:

Wednesdays

January	3	Holy Name
	10	William Laud
	17	Antony
	24	Phillips Brooks
	31	Brigid

Saturdays

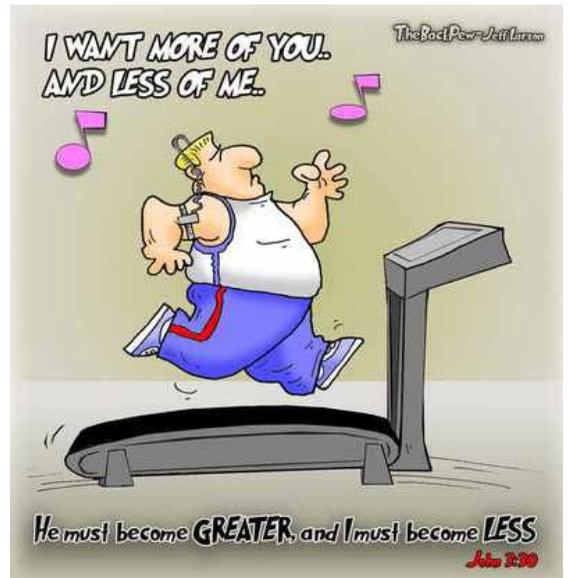
January	6	Epiphany of our Lord
	13	Hilary
	20	Confession of St. Peter
	27	Timothy and Titus



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Birthdays

- 4th- James Gahwiler
- 6th- Sarah Moore
- 11th- James Curlin
Natalie McCullough
- 12th- Charlie Dodson
Dizzerene Patton
Shawne Russell
- 13th- Rick McKenzie
- 15th- Allan Bell
- 18th- Carl Johnson
- 20th- Elizabeth Bennett
- 21st- Kenneth Hawley
- 27th- Clayton Barrows
- 31st- Bailey Barrows



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Photos



Chris and Donnie Gregory delivering Christmas baskets for Dove.



Photos



Christmas Eve at St. John's.

Therefore, if anyone is in
Christ, the new creation has
come: The old has gone,
the **NEW** is here.

2 Corinthians 5:17

