



# Eagle Wings

DECEMBER, 2011



**ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
VERSAILLES, KENTUCKY [www.stjohnsky.com](http://www.stjohnsky.com)



St. John's Episcopal Church  
210 North Main Street  
Versailles, KY 40383  
(859) 873-3481  
[www.StJohnsKy.com](http://www.StJohnsKy.com)

**DEADLINE for Eagle Wings**  
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Submission of articles by email to  
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Submission of artwork or photos in  
digital format on flash drive in Eagle  
Wings box in church office, envel-  
opes on church office door or by  
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email (email Kathy Sparrow at  
[info@stjohnsky.com](mailto:info@stjohnsky.com) to add your  
name to the list). You may also pick  
up a printed copy in Hosea Hall.  
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Articles, news or photos for *Woodford  
Sun* or *The Advocate* should be placed  
in the Eagle Wings mailbox in the  
church office and marked News for  
*Woodford Sun* and *The Advocate*.  
If you have any questions, please  
contact Sara Hellard.



## Regular Schedule

### Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Church)

10:00 a.m. Breakfast

(Hosea Hall)

11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Church)

### Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel)

5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)

## FROM THE RECTOR

The season of thanks seems to have quickly come upon us this year. Each year as a people and nation we pause on this particular day to give thanks for the blessings of our lives. And yet, the thought of giving thanks in any given year may be challenged by the difficult times that come at us in this life; financial difficulties, illness, a broken relationship, or even the death of a loved one. Yet even in these times there are moments of grace and new insights into what really matters for which to be thankful.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century promises to be an age of unprecedented advances in science and technology. Most of us that are baby boomers already cannot believe the advancements we have seen in our lifetimes. Yet my experience has been that the greater the advancements and possibilities for communication, the less we seem to meaningfully communicate with each other and fully experience the world around us. The experience of dying, one's own or that of a loved one's, has a way of bringing us back to what really matters, where we notice, meaningfully communicate, and maybe even begin to understand how to live in a spirit of thankfulness.

Just five years ago my mother was close to her death at this time, following a two-year battle with cancer. On one of my weekly trips to visit my mother in Hilton Head, South Carolina, she asked if I would brew a fresh pot of coffee. My father is of the "freeze dried" coffee generation, and never learned how to make real coffee until now. My mother was looking forward to this treat. Mom was just beginning home hospice, and as she slowly walked from her bedroom to the dining room table, she said with what



seemed to be a sense of joy in her voice, "Ah, the coffee smells so good." The three of us sat and had good conversation, even laughed a few times, and then my mother looked me in the eyes and thanked me for the coffee—a simple gesture that was deeply imbedded with meaning.

This was now the second time I had to say goodbye to my mother with the real possibility that we might not see each other again in this life. This time was no easier than the first, as my mother said, "No tears." Of course they were running down both our cheeks as I hugged her frail body. Yet something was different this time, and it had to do with thanksgiving.

Without the word ever spoken, I suddenly realized that we had been experiencing our "Thanksgiving" for several weeks now. My mother had accepted her death with exceptional grace and courage. She had taught us how to be thankful for the life that she had, and we had together; both which God had given. And through my mother's battle with cancer, I learned how to more fully notice all that is around me for which I am thankful. This is something we should

intuitively know, and yet most of us go through life as if it is a dress rehearsal. Very few people seem to live in a spirit of thanksgiving, but instead choose to live in a place of criticism, and a general attitude of, "what have you done for me lately?"

This Thanksgiving in addition to giving thanks at the table, imagine with me the possibility of intentionally deciding to live each day with a thankful spirit. Thankfulness as a way of life forces us to focus upon that which really matters. Certainly it shouldn't take our dying or the death of a loved one to come to this understanding; however it seems more often than not it does.

So I am thankful, especially thankful this Thanksgiving that you have called me to be your priest and rector at St. John's Episcopal Church. As the familiar hymn goes: *Now thank we all our God...* for each other...even for the smell of fresh brewed coffee...even for the tears.

**With great thanks and my prayers,**

**Father Philip+**



### **Children's Christmas Choir**

Sunday, November 27 through Sunday, December 18 the **Weaving God's Promises (3rd-5th) and Middle School classes are going to combine during the Sunday school hour for a Christmas Choir.** Holly Coffey (11:15 Choir Director) is going to teach us some new music for the Christmas Eve pageant. The Godly Play (preK – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) and High School classes will meet as usual.

The Weaving and Middle Schoolers will **head upstairs at 10:00 (or right after the 9:00 service) and practice until 10:30.** Even if the children will not be there Christmas Eve we still want them to join us for fun and fellowship and to learn some new music. If you have any questions see Julie Ross or Holly Coffey.

### **Advent-Christmas Open House at the Linder's**

Members of St. John's are invited for an Advent-Christmas Open House Sunday, December 18 from 2 to 4 PM at the Linder's Farm  
475 Arrowhead Springs Lane,  
Versailles

## The View from the Bench by Stephen Leist



Christmas is so full of unique memories. When I was 6 years old, we learned of a present that we would not actually be getting until late in the winter. Actually, it was my sister's but in many ways the present was for the entire family. This was our dachshund, a standard black and tan that we would name "Schatzi." My sister and I could hardly wait for the day we could drive from our home in Greenville SC down to Newberry to bring our new dog back home. It was like an extended Christmas in that although we knew before December 25 what was coming, the expectation and excitement lasted all the way to the end of February. Schatzi went with us on almost all of our vacations. She particularly enjoyed our day trips up to the mountains after church on Sunday, when she could jump around in the water of Carrick's Creek at Table Rock State Park. She also loved to run up and down the beach at Isle of Palms and chase the waves in and out. Schatzi was a devoted family pet for 14 years, and she figured prominently in every holiday. Now with a new dachshund, Otto, in my home, many of these memories come back. Otto is not only a family pet, but he is also the choir

mascot at St. John's. By his fairly regular attendance at rehearsal, his contribution is the love he brings and receives. However, my attempts to teach him to "sing" have not been successful. I have even tried playing YouTube videos with dachshunds singing along to a recording of their owner's favorite tune. Otto bolts to the computer at the sound, but only cocks his head to one side and stares with a confused expression.

This is a mix of what Christmas represents to me: excitement and expectation, a gift that keeps on giving year round, and unconditional love. This is what God has given us and our liturgical calendar reminds us of that each year. Each successive Advent Sunday tells us that Christ is coming, and soon. We know what the gift is, but we can hardly wait for it to finally arrive. The gift of God is Jesus, who redeems us and loves us all, unconditionally, and we celebrate this through special music unique to the season, which we sing with gusto to the best of or regardless of our ability, such is our joy. While I look back on many Christmases with such wonderful memories, there are still equally wonderful ones to come. Best Wishes to all in our parish family this holiday season in which we experience once again the message of divine love.

Sincerely,  
Stephen Leist

# December SERVER SCHEDULE

	4-Dec-11	11-Dec-11	18-Dec-11	24-Dec-11	25-Dec-11
	Advent 2	Advent 3	Advent 4	Christmas Eve	Christmas
	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	5:00 p.m. Christmas Pag- eant	10:00 a.m. Combined vice
<b>Acolyte</b>	Becky Arthur	Vickie Duff	Ned Meekins		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Debby Edelen	Vickie Duff	Carol Watts		
	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.		
<b>Crucifer</b>	Emily Lawrence	Hannah Edelen	Anne Claire Gibson		
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Ashley Lawrence Leah Cardwell	Sophie Edelen Quinn Cardwell	Leah Cardwell Quinn Cardwell		
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ann Richmond	Linda Wardle	David Richmond		Ann Richm
<b>Chalice</b>	David Richmond	Connie Spencer	Becky Arthur	Katherine Harper	
<b>Lector</b>	Corbin Crutcher	Nancy Dawson	Laura Gibson		
<b>Gift Bear-ers</b>	Lawrence family	John & Teresa Range	Ed & Doris Ruggles		
<b>Ushers</b>	James & Ruby Snider	Ron Bruens Bob Johnson	Mike & Jo Gardone		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Debby Edelen	Vickie Duff	Carol Watts	Vickie Duff	Susan Care Betty Reh
<b>LEM</b>	Vickie Duff	Elaine Menges	Jo Wilhite		Mark Herb
<b>Breakfast</b>	Bruens/Vance	Berger/Rubio	Edelen/Mize		
	11:15 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	10:30 p.m. Carols 11:00 p.m. Holy	
<b>Crucifer</b>	Susan White	Laura Steen	Ben Harper	Eric Sandknop	
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Emma Berger Christina Slover	Caitlin Murphy Renee Murphy	Sophie Berger Ellie Clay	Emily Lawrence Ashley Lawrence	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ben Harper	Cindy Kinkead	Katherine Harper	Ned Meekins	
<b>Chalice</b>	Connie Spencer	Audrey Sandknop	Ann Miller	Gary Menges	
<b>Thurifer</b>				Ann Richmond	
<b>Lector</b>	Mary Jackson	Jay Box	Julie Ross	Sara Meekins	
<b>Gift Bear-ers</b>	Berger family	Skeeters family	Sandknop family	Steve & Carol Watts	
<b>Ushers</b>	Todd & Angel Cooper	Sarah Sandknop Eric Sandknop	Rick Keeling Tim Downey	Ron Mobley David Richmond Gay Darsie Ben Harper Katherine Harper	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Virginia Ballard	Ann Miller	Kay Mobley	Vickie Duff	
Wednesday	7-Dec-11	12/14/2011	21-Dec-11	28-Dec-11	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Vickie Duff	Ann Richmond 6	Ben Harper	Ned Meekins	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Vickie Duff	Vickie Duff	Vickie Duff	Vickie Duff	

# December 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7 9:00 choir	2 5:30 Girl Scouts	3 9-1 DOK Quiet Day
4 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Breakfast 11:15 Holy Eucharist	5 9:00 Hospice 6:45 EFM 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	6	7 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing 5:30 11:15 choir 6:30-8:30 Lutes/Lyres	8 7 9:00 choir	9	10
	Clothing Bank					
11 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Breakfast 11:15 Holy Eucharist	12 9:00 Hospice 6:45 EFM 7:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	13 6:15 Vestry	14 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing 5:30 11:15 choir 3-5 Reading Club	15 7 Blue Christmas	16	17
18 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Breakfast 11:15 Holy Eucharist	19 9:00 Hospice 6:45 EFM 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	20	21 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing 5:30 11:15 choir 6:30-8:30 Lutes/Lyres	22 7 9:00 choir	23 10-12 Pageant rehearsal	24 5 Pageant 10:30 Holy Eucharist
25 10:00 Holy Eucharist	26 9:00 Hospice 6:45 EFM 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	27	28 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing 5:30 11:15 choir	29 12 deadline for 2011 receipts 7 9:00 choir	30	31

## 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL USED TOYS & TOGS DRIVE for McCreary County Kids

**Deadline to collect items will be Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>.** Ages 6mths – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Please ONLY CLEAN gloves, hats, coats, and “winter” clothing, and toys and games with “no missing parts!”

It’s hard to believe John and I have been doing this for 11 years! some years it would not have been possible without the help of St.

John’s. Although John and I had to miss a few years because of illnesses and the deaths of our parents, I started in 1998. In 1999 our youth leaders at the time, Vern & Laura, starting taking the youth with us. But with all the changes in our church over the past several years the youth hasn’t gotten to go for awhile. This year I am so excited and pleased to announce that some of our youth will be joining us again and also helping with gift bags. I want to encourage anyone else who would like to go to please feel free to do so. I guarantee you will come home blessed and thankful you went. Those kids appreciate every thing we do. You would think they were getting new toys and clothes by the way they respond. Some people have donated new gloves, hats, and toys for the kids. That’s ok, too!

For anyone who might be interested in going with us, we will be handing out toys on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00 P.M. at the Millcreek Methodist Church. (Snow Date - the next Sunday, 12/18). McCreary County is a 2 hour drive under normal conditions, so you will have to leave St. John’s by noon. We will begin with a small introduction of welcoming all the children, singing, & praising God, and then allow them to go through the toys systematically. Afterwards we serve a light lunch with sandwiches, chips, and dessert. If you aren’t able to go with us maybe you would like to bake cookies or brownies to help with lunch. We could also use crayons, and small coloring/activity books that you can purchase

## ANGEL TREE



Angel Tree names and wish lists are now available in Hosea Hall. Gifts will be delivered to the Foster Care office on the afternoon of December 7<sup>th</sup>. If you have not participated before, this is a ministry to children in foster care. An angel tree gift may be the only one they have on Christmas morning. It is a way to reach out and share from our comparative abundance the joy of Christmas.



at the Dollar Store 2 for \$1 to go in their gift bags. We should be finished by 4 - 4:30, and returning to Versailles between 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. Children must be accompanied by at least one parent/adult. For more information call Teresa Range at (859) 873-8600 or (859) 420-8123, or email [tlaine@windstream.net](mailto:tlaine@windstream.net). It really is more blessed to give than to receive. ☺ Peace to all this holiday season..



**Children's  
Christmas Eve Pageant**  
Calling all angels, shepherds,  
lambs, and kings!

We have parts for every age group. The only requirement is that they can walk down the aisle of the Church and **sort-of** sit or stand still for about a half-hour. Costumes are provided. There are parts for angels, shepherds, kings, lambs, prophets, an Innkeeper, an Emperor and more. If you have any questions see Emily Cardwell.

Rehearsal dates and times are:

- Sunday, December 4 **2:00-4:00 (parts will be given out)**
- Sunday, December 11 **2:00-4:00**
- Sunday, December 18 **2:00-4:00**
- Saturday, December 24 **4:00 Children arrive at Church to put on costumes**
- Saturday, December 24 **5:00 Children's Christmas Eve Service**

**KROGER CARDS**

Remember to reload your cards! If you don't have one see Gayle Box. The church gets a check each month as a donation from Kroger. It is 4% of your purchases and costs you nothing. It's free money for St. John's and is a great way to help the parish budget!

*A Service of Remembrance and Hope  
Our Candlelight  
Blue Christmas Service  
Thursday, December 15, 2011 at 7 p.m.*



The Pastoral Care Ministers and Fr. Linder invite you to share in a quiet, contemplative candlelight service of prayers, scripture and music. This is an opportunity to be in God's presence and celebrate the coming of the Christ Child in contemplation and solemnity.

In the midst of a season where joy and happiness abound, some find themselves feeling blue, sad and depressed. This service is a way to acknowledge and honor our feelings, our broken hearts. In these long days of winter, ***God's Word comes to shine in our darkness.*** Please join us in this service of quiet reflection, remembrance, comfort and hope.

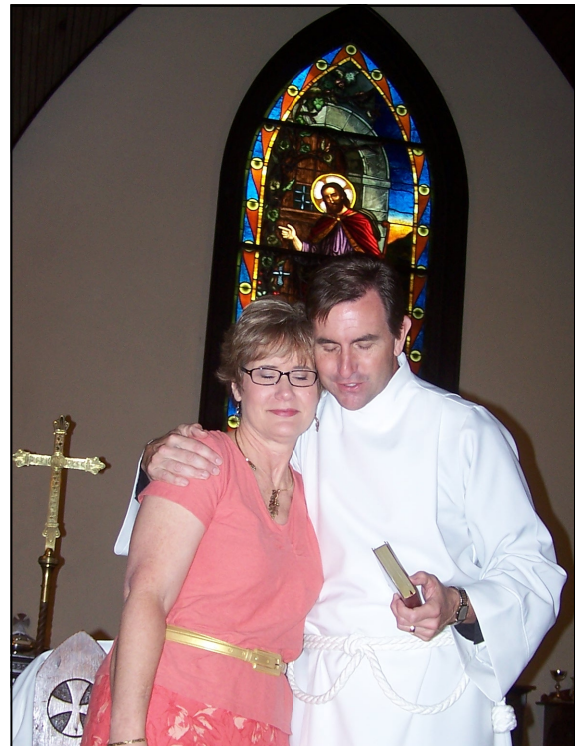
## ECW

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!!! to all the wonderful people who have helped with ECW projects in recent weeks; all the people who brought food and helped with the Darsie reception and to Nikki and her staff of volunteers who put in many hours of work to make the Christmas Bazaar a success. The soup and sandwiches were delicious. Doris and Corbin kept the kitchen running with the variety of soups and sandwiches so graciously provided by some dedicated members. Ann S. and Ned M. braved the cold wind and did a great job with the sidewalk sale. The cooperation of many people made for a successful bazaar.

Christmas Meeting Saturday December 10 @ 10 AM

The next planned meeting will be a little less work and more fun. We will have a luncheon, exchange of Christmas ornaments followed by a business meeting. All women of the church are invited. Watch your email for further announcements concerning the plans, just mark your calendars and save the date.

Christine Brasseale, President



### Save the Date

Saturday, December 3, 9:00 a.m., is the annual Quiet Day sponsored by Daughters of the King. Father Linder will lead our devotions, followed by lunch. All women of the church and guests are invited. There is no charge.  
Betty Gill, President DOK

# St. John's Directory

Altar Flowers .....	Cindy Kinkead	Lay Eucharistic Ministry .....	Elaine Menges
Altar Guild .....	Vickie Duff	Music & Worship .....	Gayle Box
Associate Clergy .....	Fr. Jay Pierce	Needlepoint Kneeler Project .....	Maribell White
Associate Clergy.....	Fr. Colley Bell	Newcomers/Membership .....	Jane Vance
Buildings & Grounds .....	Tim Downey	Nominating Committee .....	Gayle Box
Capital Campaign .....	Ned Meekins	Organist/Choirmaster .....	Stephen Leist
Christmas Bazaar.....	Nikki Berger	Outreach .....	Cindy Sullivan
Clerk of the Vestry .....	Cindy Kinkead	Parish Email .....	Elaine Menges
Clothing Bank .....	Sara Meekins	Parish Life .....	Cindy Kinkead
Community Garden .....	Cindy Sullivan	Parish Secretary .....	Kathy Sparrow
Community Dinners.....	Cindy Sullivan	Pastoral Care Ministry .....	Sarah Sandknop
Compost/Recycling.....	Ned Meekins	Pianist/Choir director .....	Holly Coffey
Daughters of the King .....	Betty Gill	Reading Club.....	Julie Ross, Katherine Harper
Eagle Wings .....	Ann Richmond	Rector .....	The Rev. Dr. Philip Linder
Episcopal Church Women .....	Christine Brasseale	Sunday School .....	Julie Ross
Episcopal Youth .....	Diana Vetter	VBS .....	Emily Cardwell
Food Bank .....	Norma Downey	Vestry-Music & Worship .....	Gayle Box
Funerals .....	ECW	Vestry-Newcomers/Membership .....	Jane Vance
Garden .....	Jo Hughes	Vestry-Outreach .....	Cindy Sullivan
House Committee .....	Tim Downey	Vestry-Parish Life .....	Cindy Kinkead
Junior Warden .....	Tim Downey	Website & Facebook .....	Sarah Sandknop
Kitchen Committee .....	Cindy Kinkead	<i>Woodford Sun</i> contact .....	Sara Hellard
Kroger cards .....	Gayle Box		

<b>St John's Children's Ministry</b>		
<b>Sunday School Calendar</b>		
	<b>Godly Play</b>	<b>Weaving God's Promises &amp; Middle School</b>
<b>Nov 27</b>	The Promised Land	Christmas Choir practice
<b>Dec 4</b>	The Temple, House for God	Christmas Choir practice
<b>Dec 11</b>	Advent I, Advent II	Christmas Choir practice
<b>Dec 18</b>	Advent III and Advent IV and The Christ Child	Christmas Choir practice
<b>Dec 25</b>	No Sunday School	
<b>Jan 1</b>	No Sunday School	
<b>Jan 8</b>	Sunday School Begins	

Parish Directories are available in Hosea Hall. To update your information, contact Kathy Sparrow in the church office.



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