

Eagle Wings

DECEMBER 2012



ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VERSAILLES, KENTUCKY www.stjohnsky.com



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

DEADLINE for Eagle Wings
January 2013 Issue
(distributed by January 1)
December 15, 2012

Submission of articles by email to
eaglewings@stjohnsky.com

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
email to eaglewings@stjohnsky.com.

There are several ways to receive
Eagle Wings. A full-color edition is
available on our web site and via
email (email Kathy Sparrow at
info@stjohnsky.com to add your
name to the list). You may also pick
up a printed copy in Hosea Hall.
Printed copies are full-color on the
outside pages only.

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.

***Celebrate the Birth of the
Christ Child
at St. Johns!***

**Advent IV—Sunday, December 23rd
8 AM Holy Eucharist
in St. Mary's Chapel
10 AM Nativity Pageant and
Holy Eucharist**

**Christmas Eve:
11 PM: Festival Holy Eucharist
From 10:30 to 11:00
as the worshippers arrive there will be
festive music performed by St. John's
Choir and Instrumentalists.
The Reverend Dr. Philip C. Linder,
Celebrant and Preacher**

**Please bring your family, friends, and
loved ones to celebrate Christmas.**

Worship Schedule

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Chapel)
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Church)
11:00 Sunday School

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer (Chapel)
5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist & Unction (Chapel)

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTOR



Through the Season of Advent

Growing up on Long Island, it was always the lighting of the Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center in New York City that signaled to me that Christmas was close at hand. Of course, as a child I did not have a theological grasp on the meaning of the liturgical season of Advent. Yet, I believe that in a number of ways I was still going through the days of Advent in a meaningful way.

The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *Adventus*, which means coming, the coming of Jesus Christ. My mother would always mark the season in our home with an Advent calendar from Germany. Each day of December a new door would be opened to reveal a symbol that pointed to the final door opened on December 24th which displayed the Christ Child in the manger.

Henri Nouwen in a prayer for Advent wrote: *Listen O Lord, to my prayers. Listen to my desire to be with you, to dwell*

in your house, and let my whole being be filled with your presence. Sometimes this season is so busy, so filled with activities and things to get done, that we push this prayer aside. Might you go this year through Advent with this prayer at the center of your very being? And if this prayer is to be lived, then you will find yourself at St. John's each of the Sundays of Advent dwelling in God's house and asking Jesus to fill your life. Christ invites you in Advent to dwell with him. Will you accept this invitation?

Advent calls each of us to live the truth of the Incarnation—that the Son of God, Jesus Christ, was born through Mary to be both fully God and fully human to save the world. Unfortunately, often we live in ways that are counter to the truth of the Incarnation. You see, the Incarnation has brought Jesus Christ into our very bodies and the body of the community of faith that we call Church. When we live in relation to the Gospel as simply a wonderful set of ideas, or separate from worship in the community of faith, we deny the Incarnation. Advent reminds and calls us to live in the body, our own and St. John's, acknowledging that Jesus is incarnate in both.

The only way that we can get to what awaits is to go through the present. Go through Advent in a way that brings you to Christmas like never before. Advent is about our hope of the coming of Jesus Christ into our lives!

God's blessings in this holy season,

Father Philip+

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN

In a recent AARP publication, data depicting the average yearly percentage of veterans who volunteered in each state were listed for the period 2008-2010. Much to my surprise, Kentucky was dead last at 17.4%. Only two other states, Arkansas and Nevada, both of which weighed in at 19.5%, were below 20%. By contrast the seven states contiguous to our Commonwealth ranged from 22.0% (West Virginia) to 34.3% (Virginia). The top three states, Minnesota, Nebraska and Utah, were all in the 35%+ range, doubling our own rate of participation. Although still predominately of male gender, military veterans – because they constitute a substantial cross section of our population – should be a reasonably accurate representation of the populous. Why we are as low in volunteerism is not at all clear. Is it because we are a relatively poor state? The rates of participation in other economically deprived states – West Virginia, Mississippi (28.4%) and Alabama ((22.6%) – would support that rationale to only a very modest degree.

Why should we as parishioners at St. John's be concerned about this trend? Because two years ago when the Nominating Committee was examining what goals we needed to pursue a part of the search process, we determined that expanding our base of volunteers was absolutely paramount. The old adage that 90% of the work was being done by 10% of parishioners was widely recognized. Have we over-

come that problem yet? Certainly not, but we appear to be making substantial progress through increased participation among longer term parishioners and from the added participation of relative newcomers. Some remarkable examples of the latter assuming responsibilities are David Beshear who has contributed greatly to our grounds upkeep; David's sister Nancy Kweik who has made her presence felt in Reading Club and clothing bank; Stacey Oxlade who has joined the altar guild and routinely pitches in; Sue Churchill who has become a stalwart Reading Club supporter; Louise Jones who has been active with community dinners, clothing bank and brunch preparation; Tom Robbins who reconciles our books; Jane Hanson who has done everything from courtyard garden maintenance to pastoral care training to breakfast/brunch preparation; and Charlene Gonzalez who teaches Sunday School downstairs for the little folks.

Unlike serving as an acolyte or lector, these functions are largely low-profile, low-visibility jobs which constitute the heart of mission, outreach, and just plain keeping St. John's operating smoothly and efficiently. We are eternally grateful for the vitally important work that all of our volunteers do – as work and worship go hand in hand as part of our commitment to our Christian heritage and belief.

Ned Meekins
Senior Warden



The Daughters of the King

will hold its annual
Quiet Day
on December 8,
2012 at 9:00 a.m.
at the church.

The Reverend Nancy Farley will lead
devotions and meditations. Lunch at
12:00 p.m. will conclude our day.

Everyone is welcome to join us.
Come and bring a friend.

All Women of St. John's

Mark your calendars for Saturday,
December 1!

It's time
once again for our annual ECW
luncheon and ornament exchange!

This year we're serving up hearty
soups, so please bring a salad or
dessert to
share. And don't forget---Bring a
gaily wrapped ornament for the ex-
change!

Guests are always welcome!
Call Carole Mize for more info ----
859-873-9606 or 859-537-6207

DECEMBER SERVER SCHEDULE

	DEC. 02 2012	DEC. 09 2012	DEC. 16 2012	DEC. 23 2012	DEC. 30 2012
	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.	8:00 a.m.
Acolyte	ANN RICHMOND	BECKY ARTHUR	NED MEEKINS	VICKIE DUFF	BECKY ARTHUR
Altar Guild	DEBBY EDELEN	SUSAN & BETTY	KAY MOBLEY	VICKIE DUFF	DEBBY EDELEN
	10:00A.M.	10:00 A.M.	10:00A.M.	10:A.M.	10:A.M.
Crucifer	ANNE CLAIRE GIBSON	DAVID RICHMOND	ERIC SANDKNOP	HANNAH EDELEN	LAURA STEEN
Torch Bearers	EMMA&SOPHIE BERGER	LEAH&QUINN CARDWELL	MADDIE KUEBLER&SOPHIE EDELEN	CAITLIN & RENEE MURPHY	TRACEY & ELLIE CLAY
Acolyte	CINDY KINKEAD	ANN RICHMOND	NED MEEKINS	DAVID RICHMOND	KATHERINE HARPER
Chalice	CONNIE SPENCER	LAURA GIBSON	BEN HARPER	GARY MENGES	SUSAN WHITE
Lector	JULIE SKEETERS	EMILY CARDWELL	JAY BOX	SARAMEEKINS	VIRGINIA BALLARD
Gift Bearers	COOPER FAMILY	RANGE FAMILY	GARDONE FAMILY	CARDWELL FAMILY	MURPHY FAMILY
Ushers	BOB & WANDA JOHNSON	SARA&NED MEEKINS	RON & SHERYL BRUENS	MIKE&JO GARDONE	TODD & ANGEL COOPER
Altar Guild	VIRGINIA BALLARD	SARAH SANDKNOP	CHRISTINE & STACEY	VICKIE DUFF	VIRGINIA BALLARD
Brunch	HANSON	BRUENS	BERGER	SULLIVAN	LEFEVER
WEDNESDAY	DEC. 5 2012	DEC. 12 2012	DEC. 19 2012	DEC. 26 2012	
Acolyte	NED MEEKINS	DAVID RICHMOND	LINDA WARDLE	BEN HARPER	
Altar Guild	VICKIE DUFF	VICKIE DUFF	VICKIE DUFF	VICKIE DUFF	

December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing			1 ECW LUNCHEON
2 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist	3 9:00 Hospice 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	4	5 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing	6 7:00 Choir	7	8 ECW QUIET DAY
9 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist	10 9:00 Hospice 7:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	11 6:15 Vestry	12 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing	13 7:00 Choir	14	15
16 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist	17 9:00 Hospice 7:00 AA Women 7:00 Alanon 7:30 AA Men	18	19 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing	20 6:00 Blue Christmas 7:00 Choir	21	22
23/30 8:00 Holy Eucharist 10:00 Holy Eucharist	24 9:00 Hospice 10:30 Midnight Service	25	26 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Bible Study 5:30 Holy Eucharist & Healing	27	28	29

Advent-Christmas Open House at the Linders'

All St. John's worshippers are invited to our home on Sunday, December 16th from 3 to 6:00 PM for food, drink, fellowship, and sharing in the joy of this season!

Please bring a side dish or a dessert to share!

Directions to our farm at 475 Arrowhead Springs Lane, Versailles will be available in Hosea Hall.

Father Philip and Ellen

Budget for 2013

St. John's Finance Committee met recently and began preliminary work on a draft budget for the 2013 Mission and Ministry of the church. This proposal will be submitted to the Vestry for consideration at its December 11 meeting. If you lead a ministry at church or are responsible for disbursements from the operating budget, please send in your funding requests/information for 2013 by next Monday, December 5.

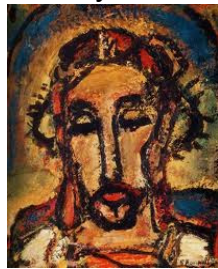
You may email them to Katherine Harper, Finance Chair at katherineharper@stjohnsky.com or Julie Skeeters, Treasurer at julieskeeters@stjohnsky.com or you may mail it to the church or deliver it to either lady's mailbox in the church office.

Pledges for 2013

If you have already sent in your pledge for 2013 – Thank you!! It has been recorded and will be confirmed and acknowledged in writing. If you have not yet sent in your pledge, now is the time. Pledges need to be received in the church office this week (last week of November) so that your financial commitment can be included as the Vestry prayerfully considers plans for 2013. Cards are available in Hosea Hall. You may also phone the church office. All pledges, regardless of size, are important and can be made weekly, monthly, quarterly, etc. These pledges determine, once we account for utilities, insurance, etc., what programs the church will be able to support in the coming year. Please reflect on this aspect of the life of our church and community, and your own spiritual life, with prayerful consideration.

*A note from the Pastoral Care
Ministry:*

After almost a year of training, St. John's has 6 new pastoral care ministers – Jane Vance, Ned Meekins, Jane Hanson, Ann Richmond, Sam Hawkins, and Emily Cardwell. Our training included workshops with Rev. Donna Barr on Listening, Prayer, and Feelings; numerous book studies on ministry to others; and workshops with Fr. Philip Linder on the theology of caring. Books read included *Let Your Life Speak* by Parker Palmer; *Fully Human, Fully Alive* by John Powell; *Christian Caregiving* by Kenneth Haugk, and *The Wounded Healer* by Henri Nouwen. Please ask us about our training and what we can do to serve you, our St. John's community.



**Our St. John's Pastoral Care
Ministry Mission Statement**

We strive to answer our call to minister to each other with humility, gentleness and patience, hearing one another in love, being present to one another through God's grace. We hope always to speak the truth in love, grow always into the body of Christ, nurturing each other according to our calling as Christians.

Love in Christ,
Sarah Sandknop
433-9337

“Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” Galatians 6:2

*A Service of
Remembrance and Hope
Our Candlelight Blue
Christmas Service
Thursday, December 20,
2012 at 6 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. This service is a way to acknowledge and honor our feelings, our broken hearts and memories of our loved ones. 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.

♪ NOTES FROM BILL ♪

“Advent and Christmastide”

The winter chill is in the air. Folks are already decorating for the Christmas season. This is indeed a special, beloved season for children and adults alike. In the church, we view Advent as the beginning of our church year.

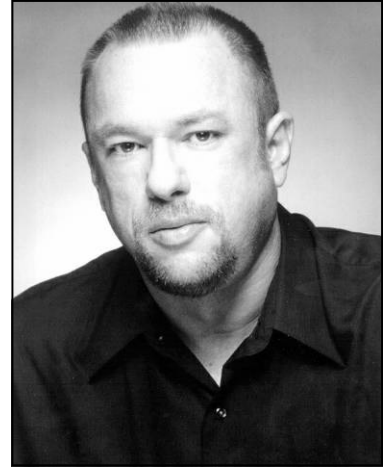
As such, our music should reflect the Advent theme of “looking for the coming of Christ,” while Christmastide should be a time of both joyful musical celebration of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, that greatest of Jewish Rabbis, and reflective music including lullabies for the child Jesus.

I am very happy to be celebrating these two seasons with my brothers and sisters of the faith at St. John’s Church. Plans are already in the works for the music of Advent and Christmas Eve, and frankly, I am excited about the possibilities. Our Parish Choir is definitely up to the task of sharing the beautiful and timely music of these two seasons of the church year with you.

Please come and enjoy the inspiring worship and timely music of these two seasons at St. John’s. May you be truly blessed by the words and notes that we sing together in praise to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Soli Deo Gloria;

William Webber (Bill)
Organist/Choirmaster, St. John’s
Church



William Webber

Hailing from Cynthiana, Kentucky, William Webber (Bill) holds a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Northern Kentucky University, where he studied voice with Gail Sheard of the German Opera. He also holds a Master of Theological Studies in Church Music from Drew University Theological School, and a post-master’s degree, the STM, also from Drew Theological School. While at Drew, Mr. Webber studied hymnology and liturgical musicology with Robin Leaver, a world renowned authority on hymns and Anglican music, and early music (medieval and renaissance) with Anne Yardley of Columbia University. At Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, Mr. Webber studied American church music with Steve Pilkington and handbells with Cathy Ebling-Thorne and Donald Allured.

Bill has served three Episcopal

Churches as organist/choirmaster during his ministry in music, including an internship at The Episcopal Cathedral of the Holy Trinity and St. Philip in Newark, New Jersey. He has also served twelve other denominations from Florida to New York during his 35-year church music career, including 16 years in a large Jewish synagogue. He comes to St. John's from First Christian Church in Danville, Kentucky, where he has been the Organist/Director of Music for three years. While at his post at First Christian, he directed the chancel choir, the children's choir, the four-octave Grace Notes handbell choir, and the congregation's praise band, Worship Light.

In addition to the usual credentials, Bill has also worked 'on the road' as a keyboardist and singer with touring rock bands in the 1980s, and as the organist and soloist for evangelist Ford Philpot in the 1970s.



MANY THANKS
to
Betty Gill

**for so ably serving the parish
as our interim organist since
mid
August!**





Return Service Requested

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
210 NORTH MAIN STREET
VERSAILLES, KY 40383

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit 31
Versailles, Ky 40383