

CHURCHYARD NEWS

“Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, And I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28



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Beloved in the Lord,

As I write this brief article, it is New Year's Day, the eighth day of Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Name, and the Day of the Rose Bowl. By the time the next newsletter is published, it will be the Third Sunday in Lent. Time, that precious commodity of which there is never enough, seems to fly past our capacity to keep up, and there is always a tendency (at least on my part) not to look in any direction except the one where we chase

fleeting time.

Yet the message of the turn of the year, as well as that of Lent to some extent, is that we need to slow down, look quietly and carefully around us, and be sure the path of our earthly pilgrimage is pointing in the direction we know it ought to be. For the catholic Christian, this is described as self-examination and Rule of Life – looking at ourselves and our missteps honestly (the self-examination) and charting a course of prayer, devotion, and reaching out to those in any need (the Rule of Life).

I want to share some words from the 100th

Archbishop of Canterbury, writing to his clergy one New Year's Day. His audience was the ordained, but the suggestions he makes apply, I believe, to all. Bishop Michael writes:

1. Five Helps for the New Year: (edited slightly for brevity) Thank God. Often and always. Thankfulness is a soil in which pride does not easily grow.
2. Take care about the confession of your sins. As time passes the habit of being critical of people and things grows more than each of us realize...
3. Be ready to accept the things that

humble us.

4. Do not worry about status. There is only one status that our Lord bids us be concerned with, and that is our proximity to Him.
5. Use your sense of humor. Laugh at things, laugh at the absurdities of life, laugh at yourself.

Good advice for the start of 2018 or any other year of Grace

Fr. Jim+

EPH & Barnabas House Update

We delivered 2 birthday cakes in November. It was the dad’s birthday and the one year old little boy. Thank you to Nikki O’Donnell for furnishing the cakes!

Deacon Nancy & Paul

Deacon Nancy and Paul received many blessings. They celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary, Paul’s birthday and Deacon Nancy’s Ordination anniversary. Congratulations Paul & Nancy!



Women’s Ministry

*Mission: To meet in fellowship and love.
To help others and support our church*

The Women’s Ministry met November 3rd. They discussed the upcoming Fish Bakes and Salad Luncheon. Joan Johnston is looking into the entertainment and hope we here more by January. The Women’s Ministry along with a parishioner will provide a holiday meal for a family. The Women’s Ministry gave Christmas Outreach to the following organizations or Funds: St. Paul’s Discretionary Fund, Freedom House, House of Hope, St. John’s Homeless Shelter and the Giving Tree. They voted to make a donation of \$100.00 towards the Refrigerator Fund. Marlene stated that we have made almost \$700.00 from the Kwik Trip Gift cards since we started. Our next meeting is January 7th. We invite and encourage ALL women to attend.

Marie Schiltz-Secretary

Purple Angel Training

The Purple Angel training has been postponed until spring. The date will be announced later.

Important Dates:

- We have many important Sunday dates coming up for the months of January and February. It is truly important to attend as many of these upcoming dates as possible. There are many opportunities for your participation.
- Sunday, January 7- (3) brief question mini discussions in small groups
- Sunday, January 14- (3) brief question mini discussions in small groups
- Sunday, January 21-Bishop’s Visitation
- Sunday, January 28-Annual Meeting and Potluck
- Sunday, February 4-“Parish Life Workshop” For congregation, 2 hours
- Sunday, February 11- (3) brief question mini discussions in small groups
- Sunday, February 18- (3) brief question mini discussions in small groups
- Sunday, February 25-“ Goal’s Workshop For congregation, 2 hours

Calendar:
Jan & Feb
2018

Birthdays:

Jan 21: Karen Daniels
 Jan 31: Connie Valentine
 Jan 31: Ken Kurtenacker

 Feb 2: Alicia Hoffman
 Feb 8: Blake Schiltz
 Feb 21: Brian O'Donnell

Jan:

Wed. Jan. 3-Memory Café - 1:00-3:00pm

 Sun. Jan. 7-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am
 Women's Ministry Meeting following service

 Sun. Jan. 14-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

 Tues. Jan. 16-Vestry Meeting - 5:00pm

 Sun. Jan. 21-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am
 Bishop's Annual Visitation

 Sun. Jan. 28-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am
 Annual Meeting followed by Potluck

Feb:

Sun. Feb. 4-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am
 "Parish Life Workshop" following service

 Wed. Feb. 7-Memory Café - 1:00-3:00pm

 Sun. Feb. 11-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

 Wed. Feb. 14-Ash Wednesday - 5:00pm

 Fri. Feb. 16-Fish Bake-4:30-6:30pm

 Sun. Feb. 18-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am

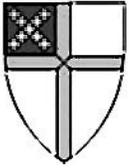
 Tues. Feb. 20-Vestry Meeting-5:00pm

 Fri. Feb. 23-Deadline for "Churchyard News" articles

 Sun. Feb. 25-Sunday Service/Sunday School-9:00am
 "Goals Workshop" following service

Anniversaries:

Jan 23: Jerry & Jean McNamara



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Vestry Meeting Summary - December 19th

- Pat Hagerty has fulfilled her 2 year term as a Vestry member. The vestry has appointed Renee DeBroux to be on the vestry during the transition period.
- Our Fish Bake dates have been set: They will be Feb. 16th, Mar. 2nd and Mar. 16th with the possibilities of doing a few more after that. We will see how the first ones go.
- The workshop for Transition went well. We will have a lot to do in the months coming up. It is important for all parishioners to participate in upcoming events. We will establish a calendar for everyone.
- The Vestry went through a very rough draft of the 2018 Budget and made a few changes. Some numbers are still out and will continue to work on this.
- The Bishop will make his annual visitation to St. Paul's on January 21st.
- The Annual meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 28th along with a potluck lunch.
- The Vestry will research some ideas as what to do for a Lenten program.