

THE HERALD

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November 2014



St. John's Lutheran Church **5 Clifford Street, Charleston SC 29401**

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"Do You Have A Harness?"

Our youth group met this past week and went to the high ropes course located off of Folly Road. Once we had all arrived, we checked in and were handed a harness and a helmet, and we went outside to meet our instructor for the afternoon. The first thing he had us do was step into our safety harness, tighten all the straps, double check it for proper fit, and then put on a safety helmet. Several of our youth had been on a high ropes course before, so this part of the instruction went smoothly for all of us. He then showed us how to connect the clips to the safety lines and move from one high rope obstacle to the next. This was a most important lesson, as we quickly realized that once clipped into the course, we were safely connected until the moment we came down off the towers, touched the ground, and were disconnected from the course and its cables.

The high ropes course was great fun, but it was even more fun to see our youth overcoming the course obstacles. For some it seemed as if this was as easy as walking across the street. For others it was a learning process as they did something entirely new and overcame their worries. As I watched them navigating around the obstacles, connected to the safety line, I couldn't help but think about what lessons of life and faith they might be learning. After a little more than an hour and a half of moving around the course, they were all down on the ground and we were preparing to leave. Gathered together, I proposed a question for them to consider: "Did you learn anything about your faith and God today?" Difficult question, right? I suppose it was, but it seemed obvious to me as I had watched our young people safely hooked up to the ropes as they criss-crossed the course. No immediate answer was offered, so I offered one. While on the course, safely hooked to the safety lines, even if they stumbled or slipped or fell, that harness was their life-line and it kept them safe. In the same way, we who believe in a good and gracious God who created, redeemed and sustains us, are connected to him through the gift he has given us of his son and our faith. We go through all the obstacles of life knowing that we are ultimately safely harnessed to God through the power of the Holy Spirit. When we stumble, slip, or even fall, it is because of and through our faith that we can be confident we are safely connected to the life-line that God provides.

You and I are connected with God, not by a harness but by our faith. And it is that faith that helps us survive and overcome all the obstacles we encounter in this life. When we find ourselves facing those aspects of life that we find difficult, remember we are 'harnessed' so that we can overcome them and move on to the next moment, the next hour, the next day, and the next adventure and phase of life without fear. Perhaps our youth's adventure on the high ropes course can remind us of the importance to remain connected to God as we go through life. So make certain you're strapped in with God as you go out into the world today.

Yours In Christ,
Pastor Butler +

Lee-Freyschmidt Circle

The Lee-Freyschmidt Circle will meet at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 12th, at the home of Sara Jane Foltz (3555 Seaview Drive, Seabrook Island).

Tovey Circle

The Tovey Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on November 13th, at the home of Lynn Haltiwanger (3094 Penny Lane, Johns Island).



The Ladies Sewing Society



Sunday, November 9 , 2014

3:45 p.m.

(Fellowship Hall)

We warmly welcome guests

All ladies of St. John's are invited to join us for our meeting at 3:45 p.m. on November 9th. Diane Bean will present the program and provide the refreshments.

Items for Sale

On Sunday, November 9th and 16th, **The Ladies Sewing Society** will be offering for sale our traditional LSS items: St. John's note cards, prints, plates and cookbooks. In addition, we are selling a very limited number of hand stitched items. Please visit our table on the portico following the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services on November 9th and 16th. The proceeds from these sales will help fund LSS Grants for seminary students at the Lutheran Theological Seminary.

Lutheran Men

The Lutheran Men will meet on Thursday evening, November 13, beginning at 6:15 p.m. with a social, supper at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting following. At this month's meeting we will pack the Charleston Port and Seafarers Society "Christmas at Sea" boxes and then wrap them. All Lutheran Men are invited to join us as we help prepare these boxes to welcome seafarers from around the world to our port during the Christmas season.

Committee Meetings

November 3	Finance Committee Meeting	5:00 p.m.
November 10	Social Ministry Committee Meeting	6:00 p.m.
November 10	Worship and Music Committee Meeting	6:30 p.m.
November 17	Evangelism Committee Meeting	5:00 p.m.
November 20	Vestry Officers' Meeting	5:45 p.m.
November 20	Vestry Meeting	6:30 p.m.



On December 14, 2014, we will hold one service at 10:00 am. Following this service, the Annual Congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary to approve the 2015 Mission Budget, elect officers of the congregation, elect Vestry members, and ratify the nomination of one trustee to the Endowment Committee. Immediately following the meeting, the Children's Christmas Program and pot luck lunch will be held in the Social Hall. Bring a dish large enough to share!

We look forward to sharing this special event with all members of the congregation.

Little Luther League

On November 9, 2014, at 1:30 pm, the Little Luther League will meet in the Social Hall to make blankets for the homeless. We also will have a Thanksgiving craft.



Kids' Club

On November 16, 2014, from 3 pm to 5 pm the Kids' Club will meet at All Saints Lutheran in Mount Pleasant (RSVP needed. Let Jennifer Gnann know at jgnann@stjohnscharleston.org by November 12). They will be participating in an Operation Christmas Child event. All Saints will be providing a snack. Please bring small children's items (must fit in a shoe box). See examples below. If church members would like to donate things for us to take to All Saints, please have them at St. John's by November 16 at the late service.



- **TOYS:** Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls, toy cars, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), etc.
- **SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- **NON-LIQUID HYGIENE ITEMS:** toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc.
- **ACCESSORIES:** t-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.
- **A PERSONAL NOTE:** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.



VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

On Thursday, October 9, 2014, the Vestry met to discuss and conduct the business of the church. The highlights of the Vestry Meeting follow.

- 1) The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer offered by Pastor Butler.
- 2) The September 2014 Minutes were approved as submitted.
- 3) The September Treasurer's Report was received as information.
- 4) Pastor Butler reported on the attendance average for the month of September was 139. Pastor then recommended for membership Joshua and Kate Lynn and Elaine Schirmer. Approved. Reported that we will have a Sunday School Teachers Appreciation moment on Sunday, December 14 during worship.
- 5) The Christian Education Committee requested that the Finance Committee consider increasing the Christian Education budget for 2015.
- 6) The Evangelism Committee reported a third AED/CPR certification class will be held on Wednesday, October 29. Also, the History brochure is ready to be copied and distributed.
- 7) The Finance Committee will present the proposed budget to the Vestry at the November meeting.
- 8) The Social Ministry Committee reported on the Supper Clubs program, a proposed Compassionate Meals program, the October Coat Drive and that there will be a Carolina vs Clemson food drive during November with collections going to Tricounty Family Ministries.
- 9) The Stewardship Committee is in full swing with the 2015 Stewardship Program.
- 10) The Worship and Music Committee reported that a Flower Workshop will be held on November 2.
- 11) The Vestry goals established as a result of the 2014 Retreat were revisited, and progress reports were provided by various Committee members.
- 12) The next Vestry Meeting will be held on Thursday, November 20, 2014.

New Tellers at St. John's

The Vestry is pleased to announce the appointment of four new Tellers tasked with confidentially recording the weekly offerings given by our congregation's members and guests. This responsibility has for years fallen to two very dedicated, long-term members of our congregation: Bob Adden and Louie Koester. Their back-up, Dick Fulmer, has been equally dedicated for many years as well.

Joining Bob and Louie will be two new teams: Tom Springer and Earl Dolven; and Hugh Tant and Henry Siegling. Each of these three teams will serve for one month each quarter on a rotating basis. This new rotation was recommended by our audit team during their last audit.

Please thank these six men for their commitment to St. John's and the hours they spend each week performing these duties on behalf of our church.

All Saints Sunday

This year we will observe All Saints Sunday on November 2 at both worship services. As a part of the Prayers of the Church, we will recall and lift up to God the names and lives of those persons from our congregation, as well as others, who have joined the Church Triumphant since last year's All Saints Sunday. Those people being remembered this year are: Donald E. Andersen, Tasha Anderson, Anne Lockwood Breazealle, Martha Ann Burdette, Carolyn Burgstiner, Ruth Butler, Jim Call, Nancy Conway, Lena Doscher, Joseph Erdmann, Sylvia Enos, Frances Fields, George Finkelstein, Captain Kenneth Goodman, Chief Reuben Greenberg, Reeves Gresette, Erma Grooms, Roger Hawkins, Joyce Hein, Warren Hilton, Jr., Robbie Hollings, Jr., Linda Jenkins, Mary Johnson, Hugh Jordan, Helen Kendra, Emma Kinzy, Kathy Kudgus, Y3-Thomas Lemacks, T.J. Lund, Chuck Lyons, Dorothy Lyons, Eleanor Luden, Sgt. Harold Mahoney, Dorothy Martin, Frances Myers, Shawn Myers, Dick Pate, Ernest Roble, Jerry Rodgers, Randy Seabury, Robert Schrimmer, Jr., Michel Shahid, Kim Skidmore, Bill Varner, Connie Wells, Yancey Wise.

Almighty God, whose people are knit together in one holy Church, the body of Christ our Lord: Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LBW, Prayer of the Day, All Saints' Day, p 36



THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Thanksgiving Service November 25th — 7:00 p.m.

Our Thanksgiving service will be held on Tuesday, November 25th, at 7:00 p.m. Following the service, we will enjoy a reception in the Parish Hall. This is a time to remember all the blessings in our lives and give thanks. Please plan on being with us for worship, music and fellowship.

2014 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

St. John's will hold a congregational meeting on December 14, 2014, immediately following our worship service. At this meeting we will vote to approve the 2015 Mission Budget, elect Vestry and Congregational Officers, and elect members to our Vestry, and ratify the nomination of one trustee to the Endowment Committee.

Please note:

We will have only one worship service on December 14th. The time for our worship service has been moved to 10:00 a.m. The Children's Christmas Program will be presented immediately following the Congregational Meeting, with a pot luck lunch taking place after the program.



Our Sympathy and Prayers are extended to:

The family of Eleanor Luden upon her death

The family of Ed Andersen upon his death

*May God's grace sustain them and comfort them
with the assurance of eternal life in Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Floral Workshop

The Worship & Music Committee is pleased to sponsor a floral design workshop on Sunday, November 2 at 3 p.m. Our guest designer, Justin Wham, will provide instructions on basic floral design. You will have the hands-on opportunity to hone your skills or spark your creativity for your own floral work of art for the upcoming holiday decorating at your home. The event will be limited to 10 participants, on a first respond basis. Please respond to Carole Jordan by email at info@stjohnscharleston.org to place your name on the list. No phone calls or notes please. The only cost is your willingness to assist with our sanctuary decorating for Christmas and/or Easter. Join the fun!

MUSIC NOTES

Greetings!

As some of you know, I recently began a two-year post as Dean of the Charleston chapter of the American Guild of Organists. If you're not familiar with the AGO, here is our mission statement:

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

Here in Charleston, we aim to provide programs to our local membership that enrich, educate and inspire. Last month in a program led by Dr. William Gudger, our members explored the Erben organ of the Huguenot Church and the Appleton organ at St. Phillip's Chapel. This month our membership will visit St. John's, as we host a program highlighting sacred choral music published since 2000. The St. John Chorale will assist, lending their voices to encourage the massed singing as we make our way through some great choral literature. If you'd like to learn more about our chapter of the AGO, please visit <http://www.agocharleston.org/>.

It was great to see many of you at our Joint Reformation Service on October 26. With a massed choir filling our balcony, the combined talents of three organists, trumpeter, handbell choir, and the Charlestons performing music as diverse as spirituals, Bach organ preludes, and 21st century arrangements, it was a wonderful service full of uplifting, joyful music. How marvelous it was to worship together in our beautiful church with so many of our fellow Lutherans!

I hope many of you will similarly make plans to join us for our Thanksgiving service on Tuesday, November 25. This is an inspiring service every year for us to come together as a congregation and give thanks for God's many blessings. The Chorale and Handbell Choir will give thanks through music as well. Hope to see you there!

In music,

Todd

Music Quotation of the Month: "Music can name the unnameable and communicate the unknowable." - Leonard Bernstein

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Thank You

Dear St. John's Family,
We want to thank you for all of your thoughts and prayers during Ed's illness. All of the food, flowers, cards, and visits have been a blessing to our family during these trying times. We truly appreciate what our brothers and sisters in Christ have done for us.
Sincerely,
The Andersen Family

Congregational Concerns and Prayers

We remember in our prayers: John Anderson, Bobby Babson, Dick Fulmer, Judy Greer, Nell Jones, Geneva Kahrs, Betty Lemacks, Ed Rugheimer, Margaret Stephens, Susan Spoon, Cele West, all those who are infirm and recovering from illnesses and our members who have experienced losses of loved ones.

Our Loved Ones Away From Home

We have a prayer list of those members of St. John's and our extended family who are in the military and/or involved in this current military situation. When filling out your blue attendance card, please add the names to it and indicate "military," and we will include your loved ones on our prayer list. Presently included are: Derek Bean, Alex Bedenbaugh, Lt. Joseph Gibbons Clark, Mark Evans, Ryan Hanson, John Lesemann, and Christopher Osgood.



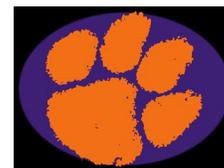
November 1	Judy Greer
November 2	Randy Lesemann
November 3	Dan Marchant, Jr.
November 4	Kyle Hill Sue Soderlund
November 5	Currie Marchant
November 6	Karen Osgood
November 10	Herman Albrecht
November 12	Deborah Bussey Becky Courtney Kathryn Tolley
November 13	Sharon Albrecht
November 14	Haze Marchant
November 15	Jessica Beecher
November 17	Sue Adden Anne Lake
November 18	Silvie Counts David Hoel Larry Kreyling Austin Reifowitz Billie Jean Roble
November 19	David Hansen Cameron Ortiz
November 20	Jackson Edwards
November 22	Wallis Cannon Miri Littlejohn
November 23	Bryan Counts Dorothy Flottman Frickie Martschink
November 24	Mike Joyner Sherrill Poulnot, Jr.
November 27	Chris Antley
November 28	Macie Hoffman
November 29	Lily Counts Kate Ortiz

Young Adults Couples & Singles

The Young Adults of St. John's will have a drop-in at the home of Angela Dalton (1945 Hubbel Drive, Mt. Pleasant) on Saturday, November 15, from 6 pm-9 pm. Everyone is asked to bring a bottle of wine and an appetizer. We hope to see you there!



FOOD DRIVE



The Social Committee is raising food for Tricounty Ministries by collecting canned food during the month of November in the Parish Hall. Show your team spirit by placing cans below your favorite "C" : Clemson or Carolina.

We will use these cans to form a tower.
The highest tower wins the 2014 bragging rights!

Memorial Gifts were given in loving memory of:

Ed Andersen

by

Glynnis and Tad Abraham and family, Ben and Marianne Albrecht, Margaret Ammons, Lynn and Diane Bean, Gerald and Ellen Boyles, Vernon and Brenda Brannen, Deborah Bussey, Pjyllis Calamas, Bobby and Betty Counts, Voight and Peggy Counts, Ellis and Linda Dowd, Wyman and Edna Earle Dowd, Glenn and Joy Fellers, Jeff and Jenny Fellers and family, Terry and Susan Fellers, Mark and Carole Jordan, Dan and Ilene Lackland, Frickie and Linda Martschink, Miles Martschink, Anne Poulnot, Capers and Sandra Poulnot, Barbara Siegling, Henry and Jane Siegling, Barbara Tamsberg, Jim and Kathryn Tolley

Ruth Butler

by

Elza Dennis, Joe and Martha Clark, John and Caroline Gamble,
Bessie Lesemann, Miles Martschink, Sr.

Lena Doscher

by

Miles Martschink, Sr.

Warren Hilton

by

Lynn and Diane Bean, Judy Burges, Joe and Martha Clark, Elza and Jennifer Dennis, John and Sara Jane Foltz, Mary Frederick, Bill and Thalia Gerard, Don and Lisa Kincaid, Dan and Ilene Lackland, Bessie Lesemann, Dan and Lynda Marchant, Miles Martschink, Sr., Anne Poulnot, Jon and Jane Scott, Hubert and Joye Shuler, Henry and Jane Siegling

Eleanor Luden

by

Deborah Bussey, Tommy and Sally Fulmer, Mark and Carole Jordan, Joel and Anne Lake, Frickie and Linda Martschink, Miles Martschink, John Momeier, Capers and Sandra Poulnot, Barbara Siegling, Henry and Jane Siegling, Barbara Tamsberg, Hugh and Chris Tant