



THE CATHEDRAL CHIMES

The Monthly Newsletter of the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist

Advent & Christmas at St. John's Cathedral

Sunday, November 27—*First Sunday of Advent*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **8am & 10:30am**; and Saturday November 26 at **5:30pm**
- ◆ *Lights of Love* Inter-Generational Advent Event at **noon** in the Great Hall

Sunday, December 4—*Second Sunday of Advent*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **8am & 10:30am**; and Saturday December 3 at **5:30pm**

Saturday, December 10

- ◆ Pageant Rehearsal at **10am**

Sunday, December 11—*Third Sunday of Advent*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **8am & 10:30am**; and Saturday December 10 at **5:30pm**
- ◆ Christmas Pageant during the **10:30am** Worship Service

Friday, December 16

- ◆ Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols at **7pm**

Sunday, December 18—*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **8am & 10:30am**; and Saturday December 17 at **5:30pm**

Saturday, December 24—*Christmas Eve*

- ◆ **Family Christmas Eucharist** at **4pm** (incense-free)
Carillon Christmas Music at 3pm and after the service
Christmas Harp Music begins at 3:30pm
- ◆ **Festival Christmas Eucharist** at **10:30pm**
Carillon Christmas Music at 9:15pm and after the service
Vivaldi's "Gloria" begins at 9:45pm

Sunday, December 25—*Christmas Day*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **10am**
Carillon Christmas Music at 9:25am and after the service

Saturday, December 31—*New Year's Eve*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **10:30pm**

Sunday, January 1—*New Year's Day*

- ◆ Holy Eucharist at **10am**



From the Dean

December is the month we prepare for two holidays. One of them is Christmas. Though it maintains vague ties to a religious celebration, Christmas is not really about religion. Judging by the advertising for Christmas, it is a celebration of family, and the happiness family is supposed to bring. But really, it is about spending. We prepare for it by spending large amounts of money on presents, parties, airline tickets, food, decorations and various other items. Celebrating Christmas in this country has become so important that preparing for it has made December the single most important month for large numbers of retail businesses, many of whom depend upon the sales generated by this preparation for their survival.

The other event is the birth of Jesus. Preparation for the birth of Jesus is done by taking stock of ourselves and the extent to which we have, and have not, noticed the life of God working in our lives. We prepare for it by reminding ourselves that no matter how things look from time to time, the purpose of our lives is found in who we truly love, as well as in who truly loves us. We prepare for the birth of Jesus, in other words, by opening ourselves ever more fully to the unconditional love of God made known in that baby, and by becoming just a bit more transformed by that love than we were before.

The dilemma we have created for ourselves over the years is that although both events happen on the same day, it seems that we prepare for them in entirely differ-

ent and incompatible ways. It is hard, for example, to imagine preparing for the birth of Jesus in the middle of a shopping mall on Black Friday. This dilemma is usually resolved either by becoming jaded and cynical about Christmas, or by overlooking the birth of Jesus almost altogether. Both ways of resolving this dilemma are understandable, but I want to suggest not resolving the dilemma at all, and instead using the dilemma for an exercise in self-awareness.

Because both events have generosity as a theme, it might be helpful to do a little observational experiment on yourself. If you discover that you are being more generous this December because you know you have to be generous, or perhaps because you want to be seen as generous, then it is likely that you are more influenced by preparing for Christmas, regardless of what you are actually doing. If you discover that you are being more generous because you are grateful for the generosity that has been shown to you, and you need to respond, then it is likely that you have been more influenced by preparing for the birth of Jesus. In this test your actions are not as important as your motivations. You can appear to be sucked into the vortex of materialistic America, but if your motivation is genuine gratitude, you are preparing for Jesus. You can be at home reading quietly, but if your interior conversation is about what you should be doing, or simply disgust with how ridiculous it all is, then you are preparing for, or protesting against, Christmas. The not-quite-coincidence of these two events gives us all a great oppor-

Chapter Nominations

We are now accepting nominations for the Chapter, with election at the January 29, 2017 Annual Meeting.

Nomination forms are at the Cathedral office. Eligibility criteria: must be a member of the Cathedral, age 16 or older; and must be a contributor of record.

Nomination forms *must* be received in the office by December 11.

Passages

Baptism, November 6: *Sky Justine Ellert*, born on June 24, 2007 in Spokane to Grant Matthew Ellert and Maranda Rae Martin Ellert. Her sponsors are Matthew Ellert and Shelly Ellert.

Moving? New phone number?

Let the office know:
rbanta@stjohns-cathedral.org

Pastoral Care

Do you have a pastoral care concern? Contact the clergy staff, 838-4277.

Advent Lessons & Carols Service

Friday, December 16 at 7 pm

with the Junior Choir, the Handbell Choir, and Cathedral Choirs
Donations gratefully accepted.

tunity to understand which of these two holidays we really are preparing for. This year, why not take advantage of the opportunity to find out?

Music at the Cathedral

By Tim Westerhaus
Music Director

*O day of peace that dimly shines
through all our hopes and prayers
and dreams,
guide us to justice, truth, and love,
delivered from our selfish schemes.*
-Carl P. Daw, Jr.

In these darkening days of Advent, we await in hope and search for light. In a time when division and hatred abound, this Advent-Christmastide season proclaims a message of peace and justice and offers us an opportunity to invite love into our hearts and communities. As the above hymn continues: "Then enemies shall learn to love, all creatures find their true accord; the hope of peace shall be fulfilled."

The music of Advent strikes a tone of patient hope: alongside "Comfort, comfort ye my people," we sing *Missa Emmanuel* sparsely accompanied by handbells for our Eucharistic Acclamations. As the season progresses, we shift to an ever more joyful hope ("People, look East"), and our anthems mirror this shift. On **December 4**, the Junior Choir sings "A song, a star, a sign," and the Handbell Choir plays "Savior of the nations, come." On **December 11**, we hear from Isaiah, "the desert shall rejoice and blossom," and the Cathedral Choir rejoices with Handel's "And the glory of the Lord" from *Messiah* and Paul Christian- sen's arrangement of the Southern folk hymn "My song in the night." On **December 18**, the choir sings a new arrangement of *Maria durch ein Dornwald ging* (Maria walks amid the thorns) by

German composer Ludwig Böhme with haunting melodies and hints of jazz harmonies.

The combined Cathedral music ensembles present a hopeful and peaceful **Advent Lessons and Carols Service** on **Friday, December 16** at 7pm. This service includes anthems by the Cathedral Choir, Junior Choir, and Handbell Choir as well as congregational carols. Alternating music with scripture, this recalls the path of salvation history from the Garden of Eden to the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary. Music includes Boris Ord's "Adam lay ybounden," famous for its frequent appearances in the Lessons & Carols of King's College, and Knut Nystedt's "Cry out and shout." During the busy holiday season, Lessons and Carols is an opportunity to pause together in peace; consider inviting a friend or stranger to join us.

Our **Christmas Eve** services feature special music that captures the joy and peace of the season. We welcome back our guest carillonneur, Jonathan Lehrer, from Vancouver, Canada, for preludes and postludes. The Junior Choir will lead music at the **4pm** service, joined by Spokane Symphony harpist Earecka Tregenza. The Cathedral Choir and Collegium Orchestra of strings, oboe, and trumpet lead music at the **10:30pm** service. We offer an extended prelude at 9:45pm with **Vivaldi's Gloria**, a festive composition from the Venetian Baroque, and follow with instrumental string music by Percy Grainger (The Sussex Mummers Christmas Carol) and Ralph Vaughan Wil-

liams (Fantasia on Greensleeves). Anthems include "I saw three ships" and Harold Darke's setting of "In the bleak midwinter," and carols abound, including the warm string setting of Night of Silence/Silent Night. Even at this darkest time of the year, we proclaim a message of joy and hope. As we sing in "Love came down at Christmas:"

*Love shall be our token; love
be yours and love be mine.*



Christmas Décor & Music

Help beautify the Cathedral during December! Special décor and Christmas Eve music are possible only through generous gifts from members and friends of the Cathedral. Please contribute now.

Make checks payable to "St. John's Cathedral" and mark them for either *Christmas Flowers* or *Christmas Music*. Checks marked for both flowers and music will go equally to both funds. Please note in whose honor the gift is given. After Christmas, *The Chimes* will publish a list of all those in whose honor Christmas decorations and music were given.

Save trees and reduce costs—subscribe to the emailed *Chimes*:
secretary@stjohns-cathedral.org

The deadline for the January *Chimes* is **Monday, January 2**:
secretary@stjohns-cathedral.org

Children and Youth

By Michelle Klippert
Children & Youth Coordinator

Sunday Morning Schedule

Every week:

9:15am • Nursery Care

9:45am • 7th-12th grade in Youth Room

10am • Family activities in Room 144

10:30am • Children's Church in Room 143

Children's Church

Children's Church meets every Sunday at 10:30am in the Godly Play class room. The room is located in the corridor to the south of the Great Hall. During the service the children participate in a service with a developmentally appropriate liturgy that includes the prayers of the people, a Godly play story, a confession, and songs. If you haven't been to Children's Church before, please feel welcome stop in and join us for our service. After the service ends, the children and their parents join the 10:30am service for the Eucharistic feast.

The Godly Play Schedule for the month of December is:

- Dec 4—Advent Lessons
- Dec 11—No Children's Church ~ The Christmas Pageant
- Dec 18—The Mystery of Christmas
- Dec 25—No Children's Church
- Jan 1—No Children's Church

Christmas Pageant

Everyone is invited to join in the annual Christmas Pageant during the 10:30am service on *December 11*. This always proves to be a very festive experience that brings the Cathedral community together. For the children it is a wonderful way to understand the Nativity story.



All who would like to participate are welcome to do so. The only rehearsal will be Saturday, *December 10*, at 10am. Everyone will meet in the Cathedral to start the

rehearsal. On the day of the pageant all participants need to arrive by 10am to put on their costumes and apply any makeup if needed.

Please remember to dress in the following way according to the role you choose:

- ◆ Angels: wear white tights or white socks. All undergarments should be white.
- ◆ Sheep: wear either black or white tights or socks. Pants, shirts and dresses should either be white or black.
- ◆ Donkeys: wear brown socks or tights, pants and dresses.
- ◆ Shepherds: wear brown, black or blue garments under their costume.

Everyone is asked to wear their socks without shoes unless you are a shepherd who has brought sandals. Thank you for your help with these guidelines!

White Gifts

White gifts are presented to the Christ child each year at the Christmas Pageant. This year our white gifts will support the annual Christmas Dinner and gift baskets at West Central Episcopal Mission's Dinner Table ministry.

Please purchase the following items for gifts. It is very important to purchase *new* items and to not give used things. Please make sure all items are wrapped in white tissue paper and labeled with the content on the bottom of the package:

- Warm hats for men, women and children
- warm gloves or mittens and scarves
- socks – lots of warm socks
- warm blankets and throws
- backpacks/daypacks
- small size toiletries for men and women
- some small gifts for children. These are not just for the kids who come to Dinner Table, but for our guests who have children, and for whom they need gifts.
- Homemade cookies – they love chocolate chip and don't care if they aren't Christmas cookies

Why are they called White Gifts? Each gift is wrapped in white paper to remind us that all gifts are valued by Christ, no matter how big or small, plain or fancy.



Did You Know?

By Nic Mather and Michelle Klippert

Our Annual Christmas Pageant originated by Bishop Cross in 1929 coinciding with the founding of the Cathedral. At some point, the pageant was actually stopped, in favor of celebrating the service in its traditional format. But, when The Rev. Mart Craft came to the Cathedral in 1964, many folks expressed a desire to see the pageant return. It did, and we have had a pageant every year since (making 53 in a row this year!). But that version from 1964 was not the version that would persist.

In 1966, due to preparations for the ordination of a new Bishop, a new, shorter pageant was created in order to insure the tradition of holding a pageant would continue. Then in 1971, Christian Education director Joanne Cresswell, together with Grace Asprey, created another new pageant, this time modeled after a famous and popular pageant of their time from St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York City. This pageant lasted for a number of years until Ms. Cresswell moved away. At that point, the pageant planning again fell to Rev. Craft who reverted back to the 1966 version.

That version was used, largely unaltered, throughout the rest of Rev. Craft's time at the Cathedral and continued into the tenure of our current Dean. The current Dean made minor changes to the readers of the pageant but it stayed mostly intact until a few years ago when a new pageant was introduced. This new pageant reflected a desire to more fully

engage the children and youth of the Cathedral in the pageant, making them the central storytellers (which is a throwback to more traditional pageants seen across the Church).

After receiving feedback and experimenting with a couple different iterations the past couple years, we feel that we now have a pageant that respects the original Craft 1966 pageant that many in the congregation grew to love and appreciate over many years, while also expanding the opportunities for involvement from our full community and enabling our children and youth to present to us the miraculous story of Jesus' birth. Many people have had a voice in this process and we want to thank you all, especially Tim Westershaus who was vital in the selection of hymns.

We know that this pageant meets Rev. Craft's standards of a "version that lies in the combination of the extensive use of Cathedral children and young people, yet in a form that suits the Gothic formality of the Cathedral environment."

We hope that this pageant, and whatever pageants may come to follow it, will as Rev. Craft once wrote, "continue to touch the hearts of children as well as the throngs of parents, grandparents, and other adults who continue to make the pageant their foretaste of the religious celebration of Christmas."

*History provided by The Rev. Mart Craft in a *Chimes* article dated December 16, 1992

Youth Group

The Youth Group meets each week downstairs in the Youth Room and Community Room. The Youth Group is for all young people in 7th-12th grades.

Friends are always welcome! We gather every Wednesday, 6pm-8pm, for dinner, games, fellowship, Christian Formation and spiritual reflection.

Throughout the season of Advent, the Youth Group will be working on service projects to donate to the West Central Episcopal Mission. The gifts made by the Youth Group will be given out at the annual Christmas dinner at the mission.

The Youth Group will meet on the following dates: November 30, December 7, and December 14.

Crosswalk Pies

On Thursday, December 22 the youth group will meet 9:30am-1:30pm to make pies for Crosswalk. The youth make pies each year for Crosswalk's Christmas dinner.



Crosswalk provides homeless youth with meals, shelter, and help to finish their education. Many of the youth who receive services from Crosswalk are homeless because they come from unsafe home environments.

The youth group has traditionally made the pies for Crosswalk's Christmas dinner. It is always a highlight of the year. Lunch will be provided for all those who come to help bake.

Dance & Potluck

Join us on *Friday, December 2*, for our regular monthly Contra Dance. The evening begins at 6:30pm with a potluck dinner followed by dancing, 7pm-8pm—all in the Great Hall. These dances are open to adults, children, families, and singles.

Live music is provided as our gifted leader Susan Davankovich calls the dances while also teaching everyone how to do them. Questions? Talk to Michelle Klipert, 838-4277.

St. John's Java

By *Evita Krislock*

Can't think of what to give that special someone for Christmas? Maybe you would like to say thanks for all you have done for us this year.



St. John's Java offers gift certificates or you can load a pre-paid card as a token of your appreciation. We also offer bags of coffee beans, one pound bag of whole beans are just \$12. Sample 3oz bags are \$4. Preorder your beans and we will have them set up and ready for you. If you have a special roast from Roast House that you enjoy we can special order it for you—same cost!

Our roaster lives into and supports organic Fair Trade businesses and they are the only award-winning roaster in the Inland Empire! Win, win.

Update on Nepal and the Stephen R Novak Foundation

By *Barbara Novak*

The Foundation has been in frequent communication with our partners/friends in Nepal over the past months since the earthquakes in April and May of 2015. The school we sponsor survived the quakes and served as shelter for many families for several months. For the school, things are back as close to normal as possible. The Foundation has sent close to \$20,000 in the past year to help with reconstruction, shelter, water, medicine, hygiene and shelter for the many children orphaned by the earthquakes. Thank you so much for all of your financial support to the Foundation and to me personally.

I will travel to Nepal with Nancy Spada who serves on the board of the Foundation and is involved in Fair Trade, on January 6, Epiphany. How fitting! We will be gone for 6 weeks returning on February 15. I ask for your prayers while we are gone but I also ask for your financial support. I will be wiring money to my busi-

ness partner, Tula Shakya, before we leave and once there, will be overseeing the distribution of that money through the many organizations we work with there: Tallu Nallu Primary School, the school we sponsor; Joy Foundation Nepal and Tilganga Eye Centre for free medical care, cataract surgery and eye care; Mountain People for reconstruction, water delivery systems, and aid to orphans.

Your support in the past has been very gratifying. Your year-end gift is tax deductible. I will be working with Bill Ellis, also a member of the Foundation Board, on making a presentation at the Adult Forum upon my return. I am looking forward to this trip with great anticipation. Thank you for all your support.

Cathedral on TV

St. John's will be featured on the KSPS program, Northwest Profiles! Check your local listings, but it looks like the Cathedral story will air on *Thursday, December 29* at 7pm. Thanks to Cathedral member Bill Fitzner for his work with this.

Looking ahead ...

Our annual Epiphany celebration will be on *Sunday, January 8*, following the 10:30pm service.

Sock It to Spokane

We invite you to donate socks for those in need. There are baskets in the Welcome Center and Cathedral in which to place your sock donations. A pair of new socks is a precious gift to someone living on the streets!



Christmas Outreach Opportunities

We are happy to offer opportunities for Cathedral members and friends to share the love of Christ this Christmas season with members of our community and beyond.

Tree of Sharing

The Tree is located in the Great Hall. Please take a gift tag from the tree, purchase the items on the tag and **return the gift with the tag** to the tree by **December 18**. *Please do not wrap the gifts.* The Outreach Committee will distribute the gifts the week before Christmas. Requests are from several organizations, including Cup of Cool Water, Crosswalk, Shalom Ministries, Family Promise Spokane, Nepal Ministries, the Spokane AIDS Network, and the school in Cazale, Haiti.

Examples of items needed: Gift Cards (Shopko, WalMart, Fred Meyer, Safeway) ... Backpacks ... Personal care items ...

Warm hats, gloves, socks, scarves, sweaters, blankets ... Art supplies, games ... Gas cards, STA Bus passes

Crosswalk, Cup of Cool Water, Shalom Ministries, and Family Promise Spokane

Donations of Christmas gifts (see Tree of Sharing tags) or financial donations help make Christmas special for the youth and adults who are served by these community organizations. Donations of items used by the organizations help them to continue their work and to minister to those who are in need.

Food Bank

Second Harvest Food Bank boxes are located outside the Great Hall. Please bring food that could provide families with a Christmas dinner. Suggestions: canned items such as yams, fruit, chicken, green beans, gravy or

packaged gravy mix, evaporated or condensed milk, cake and cookie mixes.

Spokane AIDS Network (SAN)

SAN would appreciate receiving men's and women's white crew socks (size 9-12) for Holiday Food Boxes to be distributed on December 22 to SAN's low-income clientele. Tags are on the Tree of Sharing.

Haiti Project / Nepal Ministries

Financial support for the school and feeding project in Cazale, Haiti, or for the work of the Stephen R. Novak Foundation in Nepal, would be wonderful Christmas gifts! Tags are on the Tree of Sharing, or you can write a check for any amount, payable to St. John's Cathedral, with *Haiti Project* or *Nepal Ministries* in the memo line, and put it in the offering plate or mail to the Cathedral, c/o Rosie Banta.

Important Information from the Finance Office

Just a reminder that you can use your Visa / MasterCard to make payments on your Cathedral pledge. Complete the information on the back of your pledge card before turning it in and you will be all set. If you have already turned in your pledge card (thanks) just give me a call (838-4277 ext 17) and I can get you set up. Cathedral Pledge years run from January thru December so if you authorized the Cathedral to use your Visa / MasterCard last year, those charges will end in December and you need to provide us with current Visa / MasterCard info.

Please remember to pick up your new **2017** pledge envelopes

from the table in the hallway leading into the Cathedral. They will be available by mid-December. Envelopes not picked up will need to be mailed. Also, please **DO NOT USE PREVIOUS YEAR'S PLEDGE ENVELOPES** for 2017. **Your number may not be the same and this could cause posting errors.** If you would like to use envelopes but they are not on the table, please call me (838-4277 ext 17) and I will get you a packet.

If you wish to pre-pay your 2017 pledge in 2016 please note in the memo line of your check that it is for 2017. Otherwise, any checks received in 2016 will

be posted toward your 2016 pledge.

Please remember to write on your check what it is for so that it can be posted correctly. If you are having your pledge paid online thru your bank please make the check payable to the fund you wish it applied to i.e. "St Johns Cathedral Pledge" for your regular pledge or "St Johns Haiti Project" for your Haiti pledge etc. If you have any questions please feel free to call me before December 20th, as I will be out of the office after that.

Thanks

Rosie Banta, Finance Secretary
rbanta@stjohns-cathedral.org
509-838-4277 ext 17

thank you

By Peggy Johnson
WCEM Team Member

We give you heartfelt thanks for your support of the Empty Bowls Fundraiser and of your ongoing support for the West Central Episcopal Mission (WCEM). We will be able to continue providing nourishing warm and friendly meals at our Wednesday sit down dinner, where we meet our neighbors as neighbors and not as customers.

We wanted to give you the results of all the hard work and participation that went into the Empty Bowls Event.

\$11,041 was raised directly in cash. In addition, about \$500/month in pledges was raised for the ongoing support of WCEM.

As WCEM Program Director Karen Schomburg mentioned, the cost of keeping the dinner program running—including heat, lights, maintenance and minimal staff hours—is about \$2,000/month. The cash raised of \$11,041 and the monthly pledges take us about 75% of the way there. We could get all the way there with fifty \$10/month pledges or one hundred \$5/month pledges.

And it's easy to do, even for a person who is computer shy like me! Just go to the WCEM website: westcentralmission.org.

Dean Search

By Robert Stevens

The Cathedral Chapter has begun the necessary, but bitter-sweet, task of “searching” for the next Dean of St. John’s.

A Dean Search Committee, not to exceed 11 members, has been authorized and the Senior Warden was asked to recommend a chair. The Senior Warden recommended that Chapter confirm Eric Baldwin and Karen Martin as co-chairs of the Committee.

Mr. Baldwin is the Dean of Student Well-Being and Healthy Living at Gonzaga University. He has previously led a search committee and he brings great organizational skill, sensitivity and understanding to the process.

Karen Martin is the Treasurer of the Cathedral Corporation and a very active and valued member of the Altar Guild. Karen grew up in this parish and, like Mr. Baldwin, brings well-developed organizational skills, a deep love of the Cathedral, and historical perspective to the Committee.

The Chapter appointed the Reverend Deacon Barbara Novak to serve as the non-stipendiary clergy representative. Deacon Novak was the first woman to be ordained at St. John’s Cathedral and

Hit the “give” tab. Hit “Donate” button, which brings you to a secure site. Select “recurring donation” button, fill in your information and submit the completed form. That’s all there is to it!

And thanks again for your continuing support!

has served here faithfully, and in the greater community, for many years.

The remaining eight Committee seats will be filled from the congregation at large. After a demographic study and parish survey parishioners interested in serving on the Committee will be invited make that interest known.

The work of the Committee will begin in earnest at the first of the year. Bishop Waggoner has said that it is entirely appropriate, and actually quite beneficial to a parish, to conduct a search whilst the incumbent is still in the role.

Chapter will endeavor to keep the search process as transparent as possible, the congregation actively involved, and will regularly communicate with the parish.

Above all, pray for the Committee members, our Dean and Mrs. Ellis, and, yes, the as-yet-unknown man or woman who will join us a little way down the road.

*The clergy and staff
of St. John’s Cathedral
wish you a blessed
Advent and a joyous
Christmas.*

*May this holy season
fill you with hope, love,
joy, and peace.*

Random Acts of Kindness

By Becky Brown

What do you think of when you hear about this concept? Perhaps you think of buying coffee for someone behind you, or buying groceries for the family behind you in line, or maybe it's remembering to carry warm pieces of clothing and Life Pax* in your car in case you find someone in need.

This year, the Stewardship team has chosen the theme of GIFT; Growing In Faith Together, as the concept driving our campaign. This concept is particularly apropos as the Cathedral, Diocese and country will experience changes in leadership. Change is hard, scary and inevitable. The beautiful thing for us at St. John's is that we have a foundation in faith to help us navigate the changes. We can choose to come together to make a difference here in our Cathedral, our city and our Diocese. We can choose to be willing to grow together. We can choose to give to

St. John's.

Our Cathedral is not only a marvelous work of architecture but a place of worship, a place to celebrate, a place to mourn and a seat for many community events. Many times, we as a parish have tried to nail down exactly how many outreaches we provide, how many people and organizations we have helped. We have never been able to come to a clear answer. How wonderful is that!

Advent is here once again, the time we remember God's gift to us. I invite you to prayerfully consider your pledge for the coming year. Further, I invite you to adopt a new tradition that you and your family can start; random acts of kindness! You don't have to spend money to do this. I find so much joy in watching my children offer kindnesses in the form of pictures taped all over the house, picking flowers and handing them out, wanting to participate in Tom's Turkey Drive, playing side

by side with the children from Family Promise and asking me later if they have found a house to keep their toys in. You could lend a hand to someone who needs help loading/unloading a cart. Smile at the parent with the child having a fit. Be patient in long lines. Bring cookies to someone. Offer to make a meal for someone who might need it. Take a breath when someone's driving is less than stellar. If you have the means, buy a coffee for someone! Leave a generous tip. If you see someone needing help with groceries, offer to help.

Find creative ways you can practice random acts of kindness every day. I believe that by offering small acts of kindness, we do create a ripple effect. In a world where you can be anything, be kind.

*Life Pax are small packets of food items assembled by the youth and are available for purchase in the Cathedral bookstore.

Telephone Woes

We apologize to everyone who has had a difficult time calling us recently. The Cathedral phone system went out a couple of weeks ago. It is now mostly back, so we can receive and make phone calls. Thank you for your patience!



From the Curate

By the Rev. Nic Mather

Evangelism DOES Matter

I recently had an opportunity to attend a conference called: Evangelism Matters, co-sponsored by the Presiding Bishop's office and Forward Movement (producers of the Forward Day-by-Day devotionals, among other things). Hosted at Church of the Transfiguration in Dallas, Texas, over 400 lay and clergy from across the country came together to hear, discuss, and take back with us, the Good News that is evangelism in the Episcopal Church.

I was struck once again with the (to me) old adage that Episcopal Evangelism is not an oxymoron. I was struck by it this weekend, because even though it was on marketing materials being passed out, for the first time, to me at least, it felt like the Episcopal Church is finally moving forward from this designation. Of course saying Episcopal Evangelism is not an oxymoron, because it is something that our churches and communities are actively engaged in (whether they know it or not!). This isn't to say that many churches aren't still doing little to no active intentional evangelism, but we acknowledge that fact, and we are working together to change that reality.

We have a unique opportunity here at this Cathedral to really embrace evangelism and make it a hallmark of our communal ministry. People come to this place on a weekly basis because they are drawn here by the architecture, by the music, by the preaching, by the liturgy, and we need to begin

engaging with them, welcoming and connecting them to the larger Cathedral that exists beyond the confines of the Sunday service. And, as followers of Christ, who have been gifted with such a house of worship, we should feel obligated to draw these people further into our community and our shared experience as the congregation of the Cathedral.

This may seem intimidating to some, and I completely understand. Evangelism seems to be something that is much easier said amongst friends and trusted people than it is to actually do the work. But, you already know how to do this. You already know how to be a great evangelist. You already know how to talk about your faith, about your church, about your community. It's simply that, for a lot of us, we just don't know that we know. And in our not knowing, we shy away and stay content to let others who are "more gifted" or "extroverted" take on the task.

No more! Moving forward we will *all* (introvert, extrovert, new member, life-long member, youth, adult) be evangelists of the Good News of Christ. And, we will learn how to do this work together. I am not asking you to go out unprepared. I will help you unlock what you already know and give you the tools you need to share that truth that is already inside you.

We are currently in the process of developing evangelism training, or more accurately—evangelism unlocking—for the near future. Keep your eyes and ears open for announcements of when these will be offered.

Bookstore News

By Karen Byrne, Volunteer Manager

Advent will be upon us as you read this December newsletter. The Bookstore has candles, and calendars for the season. We also have Ordo calendars for 2017 so that you, too, will know which saint's day is on your birthday or any other day! We have a lovely new shipment of Anglican rosaries, with free prayer booklets made by St. John's very own youth group. Come browse our wares, for stocking stuffers, lovely ornaments, cards, books mugs, and other mementos of this lovely Cathedral. See you soon!

Yoga in the Cathedral

Join instructor Lisa Silvestri Wehr for a one-hour yoga class in the Cathedral at 3pm, usually on the fourth Sunday of each month:

- **December 18**
- **January 22**
- **February 26**
- **March 26**
- **April 23**



For all experience levels; bring a mat if you have one.



Commonplace—St. John's Young Adult Ministry—meets on **December 11** for Pub Theology, 6pm, their regular 2nd Sunday of each month gathering at the Park Inn.

Questions? Talk to Nic Mather.

Follow us online at: facebook.com/commonplacespokane

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1 style="font-family: cursive; color: green;">December</h1>				1 8a Movement 5:30p Handbells 7p Choir	2 6:30p Dance & Potluck 6:30p Al Anon	3 5:30p Worship
4 8a Worship 9:15a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship & Children's Church 3p Appreciation	5 4:45p Jr Choir 6p Youth Sym	6 7a Brotherhood 9:15a Staff 12p St Nicholas 5:30p Prayer 6p Scouts	7 10a Worship 10:45a Bible Study 6p Youth Group	8 5p Property 5:30p Handbells 7p Choir	9 6:30p Young Eagles 6:30p Al Anon	10 9a DAR 10a Pageant Rehearsal 12p Integrity 5:30p Worship
11 8a Worship 9:15a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship with Pageant 12p Altar Guild 6p Commonplace	12 1:30p Service League 4:45p Jr Choir 6p Youth Sym	13 9:15a Staff 12p Brotherhood 4:30p Finance 4:30p Conn Conc 5:30p Prayer 6p Scouts 6:30p Chapter	14 10a Worship 10a Clericus 10:45a Bible Study 6p Youth Group	15 5:30p Handbells 7p Choir 7p Book Club	16 6:30p Al Anon 7p Lessons & Carols	17 5:30p Worship
18 8a Worship 9:15a Adult Forum 10:30a Worship & Children's Church 3p Yoga <i>Family Promise</i>	19 9:30a Rehearsal 4:45p Jr Choir 5:30p St Monica 6p Youth Sym <i>Family Promise</i>	20 7a Brotherhood 9:15a Staff 5:30p Prayer 7:30p Clarion Brass <i>Family Promise</i>	21 10a Worship 10:45a Bible Study 5p Rehearsal <i>Family Promise</i>	22 9:30a Pie Baking 5:30p Handbells 7p Choir <i>Family Promise</i>	23 6:30p Al Anon <i>Family Promise</i> <i>Cathedral Offices Close at Noon</i>	24 4p Worship 10:30p Worship <i>Family Promise</i> <i>Christmas Eve</i>
25 10a Worship <i>Merry Christmas!</i>	26 <i>Cathedral & Offices Closed</i>	27 <i>Cathedral & Offices Closed</i>	28 10a Worship 10:45a Bible Study	29	30 6:30p Al Anon	31 10:30p Worship <i>New Year's Eve</i>
1 10a Worship <i>Happy New Year!</i>						

St John's Java: Sunday • Tuesday & Wednesday, 9a-12p
Bookstore: Sunday • Tuesday & Wednesday & Friday, 11a-2p
Tours: Sunday • Friday (1st & 3rd) & Saturday, 11a-2p
The Windfall: 1024 S. Perry • Tuesday-Friday, 12:30p-5:30p & Saturday, 12p-5p

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*Our Mission: To be a Christian community that invites people into a life where
through liturgy, outreach, hospitality and education
we all discover what it means to be beloved children of God*



New Year's Eve

Please join us for a New Year's Eve Eucharist at 10:30pm on **Saturday, December 31**. A social time will follow in the Guild Rooms.

Holiday Office Hours

The Cathedral Finance Office will be closed Tuesday, Dec 20 through Monday, Jan 2.

The Welcome Center and Offices will be closed from noon on Friday, Dec 23 through Tuesday, Dec 27; and on Monday, Jan 2.

Worship Services

Sunday

8am Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:15am Adult Forum
10:30am Holy Eucharist Rite II
& Children's Church

Wednesday

10am Holy Eucharist Rite II

Saturday

5:30pm Holy Eucharist Rite II

Christmas Eve at 4pm & 10:30pm
Christmas Day at 10am
New Year's Eve at 10:30pm
New Year's Day at 10am