



St. John's Prologue

"In the beginning was the Word..."

St. John's Episcopal Church
Williamstown, Massachusetts

January-February 2018

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RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

Dearest St. John's Family,

Thank you for your faithful prayers, support, and patience as the Search Process evolved. Our prayers have been answered! The Vestry's unanimous call to an outstanding candidate has been accepted and the paperwork is complete. The name of our new Rector will be announced in both services on Sunday, January 21st, and a letter will be sent to the parish with the details of this joyful announcement. Give thanks to our loving God for all our gifts.

In Faith, Your Wardens
Claudia Ellet and Margot Sanger

124th ANNUAL MEETING of ST. JOHN'S PARISH

Sunday, February 11th (snow date – February 18th)

After the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Lower Room

Light Lunch

Election of Vestry and Parish Officers

Financial Report, Outreach Update, and Clergy Transition Q&A

*Those who write reports for the Annual Report Packet,
please send to Madeline via e-mail no later than Friday, January 26th.*

SHROVE TUESDAY SUPPER AND FUN

GATHERING FOR ALL AGES

**Tuesday, February 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
in the Lower Room**

Please bring family and friends to enjoy Cajun Music while you eat homemade pancakes (regular or gluten-free) with maple syrup, yummy toppings, sausage, and applesauce.

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes

7:15 a.m.

12:15 p.m. (with music)

7:15 p.m. (with music)

**5:15 p.m. – Service for All Ages
(especially accessible to children, teens, & families)**

See following page for more information

GO GREEN!

The Prologue is now available on the St. John's website (www.saintjohnswilliamstown.org) as "Monthly Newsletter under "News and Events.".

If you would like to receive the Prologue by email each month and are happy to dispense with the "hard copy," please let Madeline know at saintjohns@roadrunner.com. Of course, we will continue to send the printed Prologue to those who prefer to receive it by "snail mail."



FROM OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTERS

Godly Play and Lift Every Voice: Since Christmas the children have experienced the stories of Holy Baptism, The Second Creation: The Falling Apart, and Jonah. In February they'll be learning about the nature of parables and hearing parables themselves. As Holy Week approaches, our multi-week story will be The Faces of Jesus, which details the events of Jesus' life from birth through the crucifixion and resurrection.

Lift Every Voice continues to be a wonderful way to start each Sunday with singing. Since Christmas, the children have learned the Sanctus, the spoken responses during the Great Thanksgiving, and hymns such as We Have Overcome and Siyahamba (We Are Marching in the Light of God.) We are often a small group and would welcome more participation from parishioners of all ages, but being few in number hasn't prevented LEV from feeling faith-filled and fabulous!

Godly Play will not meet on March 4th nor on Palm Sunday or Easter morning, all full-community Sundays. However, Lift Every Voice DOES meet on full-community Sundays, so please come join in!

Prayer Cubes: These are fabric-covered foam cubes, about 4" per side, with clear windows that hold cards with table graces on them, some sung, some spoken. These can be rolled at each meal to choose which prayer to say or sing. Right now there are 18 table graces (3 sets of cards) available. In the future, there will be cards for morning prayers, evening prayers, and other important prayers. If you'd like a prayer cube, let Erin or Sloane know by phone through the church office or by email at youthministry@roadrunner.com.

Ash Wednesday for All, Especially Children and Teens: On Ash Wednesday, February 14 at 5:15 p.m., there will be an Ash Wednesday Service for all ages that seeks to be especially accessible to children, teenagers, and their families. We hope you'll come! Keep an eye on your bulletin or call the church office to learn the location of the service closer to the date.

- Sloane Torres and Erin Keiser-Clark

FROM THE COORDINATOR OF SPECIAL EVENTS

On **Sunday, January 21st at 3:00 p.m.**, St. John's will welcome **pianist Andrew King** (Mary King's son) for a program of music by Beethoven, Chopin, and Barber. An increasingly established pianist in the greater Hartford area, Andrew was winning regional competitions by the age of 17 and has since competed internationally. He earned a BA in Music from Bowdoin College and a MM in Piano Performance from the Hartt School. After having served on the faculty of the Hartt School Community Division for many years, Mr. King now devotes his energies to performing, teaching privately at his home studio in Bloomfield, and working towards certification as an Instructor of the Taubman Approach with the Golandsky Institute, based in New York City. For more information, please visit www.andrewkingpianist.com.

-Jimmy Bergin



FROM THE INTERIM ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR

Many individuals have contributed to make my introduction to St. John's enjoyable, energizing and educational. Transitions are almost always difficult, but Will, Celia, and Ellen's musical leadership between Bob's departure and my arrival, and their counsel since, have smoothed the way. The choir has taught me a great deal about how music is offered here. They have demonstrated great forbearance and patience in adjusting to my idiosyncrasies and trying new things both musical and logistical. To prepare choral music (much of it brand new to them) for the shortest possible Advent (the fourth Sunday sharing December 24th with Christmas Eve) is a tall order. They topped this off by singing on the Sunday after Christmas (not usually done at St. John's) and offering expanded choral music for our celebration of Epiphany on January 7th. I am very grateful for their inspirational dedication, skill, and good humor. For the remainder of January and most of February, our musical schedule will be more relaxed—an excellent time to give choir membership a try if you are so inclined.

During Advent and Christmastide several instrumentalists generously graced our liturgies with their playing. Carl Jenkins played the oboe on Advent Sunday, December 3rd. Mariko Bolton (flute), Caleb Low (cello), and Oscar Low (violin) played at the 4 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, and Bart Saxbe played the ukelele at the 9 p.m. liturgy. Jimmy Bergin played the violin on January 7th. Collaborating with each of these fine instrumentalists was a real joy. Their musical sensitivity and spontaneity was stimulating. Hopefully, we will hear more from each of them and others as well.

St. John's new ensemble of young choristers, which began meeting in September, had a very busy Advent, growing together musically while getting ready to sing at the 4 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. At the service, in addition to

participating in all the congregational singing, the choristers movingly sang three carols from Poland, France, and Germany. Several young members of St. John's joined them for "Infant Holy." The choristers have come a long way musically since their first meeting in September. Their hard work and faithfulness is much appreciated, as is the absolutely essential support of their parents and families. Bob Hansler's departure has presented challenges. Thankfully, Will Kirby's abiding musical presence and the stellar supervision and assistance of Libby and Jim Wade, Mary Pierson, Margot Sanger, Michele Ridgeway, Claudia Ellet, Alison Kolesar, Celia Twomey, and Sloane Torres before, during and after rehearsals, including engaging, creative after-rehearsal projects, have provided stability and continuity, helping enormously to smooth the way through the transition. When the choristers reconvene on January 11th, we will re-engage with the "Voice for Life" workbooks as well as begin preparing to participate in the worship service on Sunday, January 28th, at 10 a.m. We are eager to increase the membership in our Choristers program. Please spread the word. Information is available from Mark Johnson (401-330-6787 or mjvoice@yahoo.com).

Each Sunday at 10:40, "Lift Every Voice" takes place in the Lower Room, led by Jimmy Bergin, Mary Pierson, and Sloane Torres. It is designed to enable young people and adults to make their most confident, joyful noise to the Lord. A friend of mine attended a session while visiting for the service. She described her "Lift Every Voice" experience as "educational and delightful—a great idea, excellently implemented." If I were free, I'd give it a try! I am very grateful for the welcome, assistance, and guidance I have received from the staff, the musicians, and many parishioners at St John's since I began serving 6 weeks ago. It is a privilege to be part of this community of faith. If you have comments or ideas about how the music contributes to the services and parish life or how it might contribute more effectively, please let me know. Your input will help determine how things musically evolve in the near future.

- Mark Johnson

VESPERS – Third Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.

A Vesper service of quiet prayer and contemplation is offered on the third Thursdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the church. We will not have this service in February. Please attend Ash Wednesday services on February 14th instead. Third Thursday Vespers will be on March 15th (honoring St. Patrick), April 19th (honoring Emily Cooper), and May 17th (honoring Martyrs of the Sudan).

CENTERING PRAYER GROUP – Fourth Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

This ancient prayer practice is sometimes referred to as "prayer of the heart" or "prayer of loving attentiveness." Winter/Spring monthly gatherings are on Thursdays, January 25th, February 22nd, March 22nd, April 26th, and May 24th, in the church. Come join us for an hour of quiet and reflection, as we support each other in silent prayer.

- Mary Pierson and Libby Wade

COFFEE CONVERSATIONS WINTER SESSION – Sunday, January 21st – 11:30 a.m.

James is rarely read in church. Martin Luther thought it shouldn't be in the Bible at all. Yet, in 5 short chapters, James lays out a simple manual of conduct for those who wish to call themselves Christian. He answers compelling questions like, "What does it really mean to be 'religious?'" or "What is 'the way' required of those who follow Jesus?" This series began on January 14th. On Sunday, January 21st, we will discuss Chapters 3-5 of the Letter James at 11:30 a.m. in the library. All you need is a Bible.

- Sam Coughlin

FAITH AND FILM SERIES – Fridays, January 12th – February 9th, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

This series meets in the library at St. John's for a sandwich supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by viewing a movie that will help us explore the theme of faith. The film begins at 6:15 p.m. and lasts about two hours. Feel free to bring a chair cushion. A detailed description of each of the films may be found in the Welcome Center in the church. Reservations aren't required, but are helpful for those who wish to eat supper, so please call Madeline in the church office each week to let us know you are coming. If you have questions, leave a message for Drew Gibson at 458-2510.

- January 12 – *Of Gods and Men*
- January 19 – *Life for Life (The Story of Maximilian Kolbe)*
- January 26 – Discussion of the first two films with film clips
- February 2 – *The Apostle*
- February 9 – TBD. Depending on the interests of the group, this will be a discussion of all three films and our insights into faith or a showing of the documentary, *The Life of Mother Teresa*.

STEWARDSHIP 2018: IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

First, we give heartfelt thanks to all who have turned in a 2018 pledge to St. John's. Your names are listed below. A pledge to St. John's is a commitment to give back to God some of what He has provided to us. Our church commits to give away 10% of the pledged income each year. The Outreach Budget provides financial gifts to those in need locally, nationally, and internationally.

Sadly, we have not met our goals for 2018. After letters, postcards, e-mails, and phone calls, we have not heard from a number of our parishioners. If we do not meet the goal of \$270,000, we will have to make cuts in both the Operating Budget and the Outreach Budget. If you have not pledged this year but plan to give any amount to St. John's, please give us an estimate of what you will give. Loose offerings in the plates do not count in the budgeting plans and are often designated for special emergency outreach funds.

As of January 11th, 2018, we have received 107 pledges for a total of \$259,401. To meet our budgeting goals, we need to have an additional \$10,599 in pledges. If you are not listed below, please prayerfully consider your commitment to God for 2018. If you do not have your pledge card, please contact Mary Lovvorn at zrobi@hotmail.com or 458-8360 with your amount, and she will fill in a card for you. Thank you.

- Mary Lovvorn

Susan Adler
Judith Alden
Elaine Anderson
David & Mary Kate Barnes
Ellen Beebe
James Bergin & Debbie Monahan
Steve & Polly Birrell
Charlie & Judy Blaisdell
Dick & Jeanne Blake
Ildi Bodor
Roger & Julia Bolton
Charles Bonenti & Stephanie Johnson
Edward Briggs
Madeline Burdick
Carol Burgess
Dan Campbell & Lisa Bernard
David & Wende Carver
Darlene Church & Mike Luczynski
Janice Cook
Dave & Sam Coughlin
Tom & Melissa Cragg
David Cupery
Hugh & Marisa Daley
Rev. Gary & Jean Dickson
Gigi Douglas
Rev. Bruce & Ruth Duncan
Van & Claudia Ellet
Sarah Foehl
Jim & Judy Gibbons
Wendy Gibbons
Drew Gibson
Dianne Glick
Laurie Glover
Pim & Pandy Goodbody
Paul & Brianna Heggeseth
Ghetta Hirsch
Dave & Wendy Horton
Betsy Howcroft
Dorothy Howcroft

Jim & Joan Hunter
John Hyde
Steve & Sally Hyde
Carl & Jane Jenkins
Curt Johnson
Young Ja Yoon Kim
Mary King
Jim & Alison Kolesar
Ann Kremers
John & Judy Ladd
Mary Ann Lambert
Robin Lenz
Dave & Polly Macpherson
Leslie Orton-Mahar
Jim Mahon & Paula Consolini
Dave & Rosemary Mangun
Jamie & Wendy Martin
Sarah McFarland
Ed & Sherry McGowan
Tim & Amy McKenna
Phil & Kathy McKnight
Sigrid McWilliams
Carla Meehan & Jack Cook
Beth Michaels
Eleanor Montgomery
Peter & Rachaele Morin
Tom & Elaine Neely
Tom & Josephine Nicholson
Sarah Nix
Rosalie Noyes
Bob & Tina Nurmi
Rev. Charles O'Brien
Scott & Kathy Park
Roberta Patten
Enrique & Marcela Peacock
Ed Pelz
Carol Perkins
Vincent & Leah Pesce
Pat Picard

Mary Pierson
Bob & Lucie Polk
John & Kathy Pritchard
Dorothy Reinke
Michelle Ridgeway
Jean Russell-Morris
Bart Saxbe
Margot Sanger
Gay Scarborough
Sandy Schryver
Jan Schutzman
Rich Shotwell & Mary Lovvorn
John & Wendy Skavlem
Eugenia Smith
Paula Stambaugh
The Torres Family
Celia Twomey
Michael Twomey
Rev. Libby & Jim Wade
Bob Ware
Jeff & Laura Weimer
Alleson White
Rev. Steve & Andrea White
Amanda Wilcox & Chris Lovell
Laura Williams
Richard & Elizabeth Williams
Katey Winant
Bud Wobus
Bill & Adrienne Wootters



OPEN DATES FOR ALTAR FLOWERS

January 28th

February 4th, 11th, & 25th

The cost for two vases is \$35. If you would like to provide flowers in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving, call Madeline in the parish office (458-8144) or e-mail her at saintjohns@roadrunner.com.

OPEN DATES FOR COFFEE HOUR

February 18th

March 4th & 25th

Contact Claudia Ellet (703-408-8473 or claudiaellet@msn.com) if you would like to help with this wonderful tradition of fellowship and hospitality after the 10 a.m. worship service on Sundays.

WILLIAMS STUDENTS POINT THE WAY TO IDEAS FOR OUTREACH: FORUM ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, 11:30 A.M., at St. John's

Working more closely with Williams students has often been mentioned as a desirable goal for many of St. John's ministries, including outreach. Therefore, the Outreach Team has asked Paula Consolini, Director of the Center for Learning in Action at Williams, to provide a brief overview of Williams students' community activities in our region. Brainstorming with forum attendees will then explore ways in which St. John's parishioners might engage in similar activities and/or collaborate more with students. We want your ideas, so join us for this discussion, which is scheduled for Sunday, February 4th after the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

-Van Ellet

OUTREACH: THE IMPORTANCE OF PARISH ENGAGEMENT

The Outreach Committee has almost completed its initial discussions about "Rethinking Outreach" at St. John's. By the time this article reaches you, the foundation for the new approach, as reflected in a revised Mission Statement, along with new Goals and Functions for the Outreach Committee, should be nearing final form. The new approach, which includes a grant application process, is scheduled to be reviewed by the vestry at its February meeting.

Establishing priorities as to how our annual outreach resources will be allocated in 2018 will be our next challenge. We expect clear priorities will help us improve the impact of our resources, limit the number of organizations we fund, and enable us to build more meaningful relationships with organizations of particular interest to parishioners. Currently, St. John's has been donating about \$27,000 a year through outreach to about 40 organizations. In 2017, about half of our funds went to 24 local/regional organizations. However, no stated priorities guided how the money was spent, though certain issues (e.g., food insecurity) surfaced as prominent areas we supported. The Outreach Committee would like priorities to reflect the needs of the surrounding community, as well as the major interests of parishioners.

The ultimate goals of "Rethinking Outreach" are designed to:

- Help parishioners gain a better understanding of which organizations we fund and why
- Enhance our individual and collective faith, as well as our understanding of the mission of the church
- Build a program that helps to make parishioners more aware of, and engaged in, our outreach efforts
- Establish a better relationship with the organizations we fund and the people they serve
- Integrate outreach/mission more into our worship on a regular basis.

The key ingredient to achieving these goals will, of course, be parishioner involvement. As we all realize all too well, we live in a time of discord and disarray—a time when the church is needed more than ever to respond to the many unmet needs in our community and the world around us. Maybe now is the right time for many of us to "rethink" our own service priorities, both individually and collectively. Hopefully, we can move closer to Christ and who Christ expects us to be.

So, with the new approach taking shape, think about ways **you** might like to get involved in how this parish chooses to serve others in the coming year(s)! What issues (e.g., helping immigrants re-settle, helping troubled juveniles), and related organizations are of interest to you? How would you like this parish to help them? Or, are you interested in a short-term mission trip, whether near or far? How about serving as a liaison to one of the organizations we fund? The possibilities and opportunities to touch the lives of others are endless.

We need your ideas and your participation to create this new outreach effort and make it work. You will be hearing more details of our planning efforts in the months ahead. However, we ask you to contact the Rev. Libby Wade (libby_wade@roadrunner.com) or Van Ellet (vellet1@roadrunner.com) for more information or to share ideas you may have about outreach or how you might get involved.

-Van Ellet

TWO BERKSHIRE INTERFAITH ORGANIZING (BIO) EVENTS

Interested in learning more about BIO and helping to shape its agenda? If so, consider attending either or both of these events. **BIO's Annual Convention is Sunday, January 28th from 4 to 6 p.m. at Congregation Kneset Israel** in Pittsfield. We'll hear personal stories from campaigns targeting food insecurity, transportation, and immigrant support; vote in officers of the organization; and launch BIO's biennial Listening Campaign—events large and small held across the county at which participants share stories of the struggles that they or those they know face. One **open conversation** is scheduled for **February 20th at 7 p.m. at a North County location to be determined.**

If you might be interested in the work of BIO or in attending either of these events, you can contact Jim Kolesar after a Sunday service or at jkolesar@williams.edu or 281-0477.

OPIOID CRISIS TRAINING EVENT

An Opioid Crisis Information and Narcan Training Workshop will be held at St. John's on **Sunday, February 25th, after the 10.00 service.** Donna Barton, a recently retired neuroscientist on the outreach committee of Christ Church Cathedral in Springfield, will lead the session. Donna has led workshops and training sessions in our Diocese for congregations and clergy to bring the crisis of addiction out of the shadows and into the light of Christ. More information about Donna's work can be found in the January *Abundant Life* magazine published by the Diocese. The goal of the workshop in February is to learn to recognize the symptoms of overdose and to give church members the tools to be of service in an emergency. Please invite anyone you know who might be impacted by opioid addiction to this important first session of awareness and training.

-Margot Sanger

BERKSHIRE FOOD PROJECT

The Berkshire Food Project needs volunteers! Food preparation, serving, and cleanup, weekdays from 9:00 to 1:30 (days other than Wednesday above all). You don't need to come for a whole shift. Call Kim McMann at 664-7378 and let her know when you could stop by to learn the ropes. For more information, see Jim Mahon or call him at 413-884-5694.

OUTREACH TIDBITS

- When Paula Consolini brought to the congregation an urgent need on an Advent Sunday, St. John's responded that day with \$611 to purchase coats for the Berkshire Community Action Coalition (BCAC) Elf Project.
- When Judy Ladd suggested we collect diapers and baby food under our Christmas Tree during Advent and Christmas seasons, you brought these gifts in abundance. They have been delivered to Friendship Center Food Pantry, which says their need is greater than ever.
- A scarf purchase/donation project initiated by Margot Sanger resulted in \$144 being raised for the Berkshire Immigrant Center and 12 scarves donated to the Friendship Center. St. John's Outreach Fund provided an additional \$144 in matching funds for this December project.

Thank you, St. John's, for your responsiveness and creativity!

WINDOW WORK

Sharp eyes may have noticed the ventilator panel at the base of the "Young Jesus in the Temple" window on the west side of the sanctuary is back in place. It was out several months, being taken apart, cleaned, and the lead strips between its glass sections replaced. The work was done by Serpentino Stained & Leaded Glass in Needham, which we've retained for the ongoing care of our precious stained-glass windows. Cost was \$7,450.

This window is a product of Tiffany Studios, most likely painted by chief window designer Frederick Wilson (1858-1932). It was given in 1900 by Helen Danforth Geer in memory of her son, Olin White Geer, who died at age 18 in 1884. Originally placed in the chancel above the altar, it was moved to its present location in 1936.

- Charles Bonenti, Properties Chair

BEMENT/WATERFIELD EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

These modest scholarships from the Diocese of Western Massachusetts are intended to help young people pursue their educational goals after secondary school. Applicants must be active members of a parish or mission in our diocese and have the endorsement of their parish clergy. Grants are awarded on the basis of the applicant's journey in faith, participation in their parish, academic dedication, and financial needs. **Application deadline is March 1st.** For an application form, go to www.diocesewma.org and click on Parish & Clergy Resources Tab then Grant Opportunities.

THE FEAST CONTINUES...

The Feast is an inclusive community of college students from many traditions and backgrounds who are drawn together by a welcoming spirit of radical hospitality and a desire to explore the Christian story and their own spiritual journeys through interweaving faith, justice, and service. Spiritual support, growth in faith, and courage in action are among the benefits of being part of this student group. St. John's has been the host location for many years. Williams Chaplain Rick Spalding retired in December, but The Feast continues at St. John's on Sunday evenings under the capable leadership of Caroline Hung '19, who attends St. John's and is one of our lectors. If you would like to cook supper occasionally for the Williams College students at The Feast, please contact Caroline via e-mail at ch10@williams.edu. Attendance is usually 15-20. Caroline and the other students will be grateful!

FROM THE INTERIM RECTOR

First of all, I want to say THANK YOU to all who attended services and activities during Advent and Christmas. Each of the first three Sundays in Advent and the first Sunday in January had larger attendance than the previous year. The total attendance for the four services on December 24/25 was 408, 27% higher than last year and setting a record for at least the last six years! Each service had its own distinct integrity and beauty, made possible by many people including (but not limited to) altar guild, adult choir, children's chorus, readers, eucharistic ministers, ushers, and the inimitable staff. There were sweet, poignant, humorous, and powerful moments throughout. Under Sloane and Erin's leadership, we tried something new as an outreach to the community with Las Posadas, which was such a fun event. Michele Ridgeway and I led a mini-retreat that was well-received. Many people from age 2 to 90+ added color to the Advent posters, which turned out to be both fun and meditative. The 50+ people who braved the bitter cold on January 7 were enlightened and amused by the historical storytelling and lunch planned and led by Jim Kolesar and the Parish Life Committee. In the midst of it all, we welcomed our Interim Choir Director/Organist Mark Johnson, and the Outreach Committee continued to work on its re-visioning process under Van Ellet's capable leadership. It has been my privilege to go through two Advent and Christmas seasons at St. John's, and I will greatly miss the spirit, vigor, and creativity of this community.

The Gospel Lesson for the Feast of the Epiphany tells the story of the visit of the magi to the baby Jesus. There is a line at the end of the story telling us that after the visit "they left for their own country by another road." While on the one hand, I know they did this to avoid risking further contact with King Herod, there is

another less literal sense in which I can say, "Well, of course, they left by another road, for their experience of being in the presence of Jesus changed them forever." As the news of the calling of a new rector for St. John's has been unfolding behind the scenes for the last month, I've kept returning in my prayer time to that image of going home by another road and feeling a certain kinship with those magi. Serving as interim rector of St. John's for the last 15 months has changed me (for the good, I hope). When I leave here shortly after Easter to return to my life in Lee, I may literally still travel down the same highway through Lanesborough and Pittsfield; but, metaphorically and spiritually, I will be leaving by another road! There will be time to say proper goodbyes in the spring, but please know that I will be eternally grateful for the opportunity to come alongside you and work and learn and pray with you through this transition time. Blessings, Libby+

ST. JOHN'S PERSONALS

Nathan Foucher, son of Spencer & Michaela (Lane) Foucher, was baptized here on December 17th. He is the grandson of Rosemary Lane.

Congratulations to Madeline Burdick whose first grandchild was born in early January. Ava Alexandra weighed in at 8 lbs. 10 oz. and was 20.5 inches long. Madeline "Meme" (mem-ay) is over the moon!

WE EXTEND CONDOLENCE

In the fall and early winter, we saw parish family and friends enter into everlasting life:

Walter England, longtime member of St. John's and member of the choir, died on September 24th in Florida.

Hilary Alden, daughter of Judith Alden and the late Winthrop Alden, died on October 14th.

Paul Foster, father of Darlene Church, died on October 20th.

Jeanette Carlson, Lucie Polk's mother, died on October 31st.

Bob Rothacker, husband of Ginger, died on November 4th at the age of 95.

The Rev. Neale Secor, Jonathan's father and frequent visitor to St. John's, died on November 14th.

Anna Malootian, Diana Elvin's mother, died on November 16th.

Ned Smith, Genie's son, died unexpectedly on December 2nd at U Mass Medical Center in Worcester.

Donald Kleiner, longtime member of St. John's, died December 16th

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord;
And let light perpetual shine upon them.*

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Mary Pierson
- 2 Suzanne Schryver, Amanda Wilcox,
Nicholas Lovell
- 4 Rich Shotwell, John Kolesar, Steven Kuster,
Sato Matsui, Phil McKnight,
Amy McKenna
- 5 John B. McCormick, Gail Burns
- 6 Galen Geislinger
- 7 Jacki Petrino, Charles Bonenti, Mary Lovvorn
- 8 James Hardman IV, Kristin Rehder
- 9 Tony Willette
- 10 Albino John Ajack Naphen (CDE '14-'15)
- 11 Keith Martel, Bud Wobus
- 13 Suzette Martel, Ruby Morin
- 14 Bob Nurmi
- 15 Justin Adkins
- 17 Andrew Lenhoff
- 18 Stefan Budrow
- 19 Edward Jones, Shannon Park
- 20 Peter Elvin, David Amuso
- 21 Diana Schryver
- 22 Christina Allen
- 24 Richard F. Daniels, Jr.
- 25 David Park, Christopher Bolton, Rick Spalding
- 26 Elizabeth Hart, Claire Morin
- 27 Marge Daniels
- 28 Amanda Durant, Ed Lawrence
- 29 Diane Tovani
- 30 Leigh Short, Killian LaFleur
- 31 Thomas Mikelson

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 13 Mitch & Allison Perry
- 14 Sloane & Gerry Torres
- 23 The Rev. John Denaro & Joel Van Liew

ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION:

- 5 The Rev. Peter T. Elvin (his 44th)
 - 9 The Rev. Libby Wade (her 19th)
- ## FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH
- 4 Peter Schryver
 - 7 David Towne, Jr., Melanie Murphy's brother
 - 16 Virginia Boivin, Joan Hunter's mother

FROM THE PARISH CALENDAR

This month:

- Piano concert, p. 2
- Centering Prayer, p. 3
- Faith & Film series, p. 3
- BIO events, p. 6

ONGOING:

Tuesdays

- 9:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist, church
- 3:45 p.m., Evening Prayer, Sweetbrook
(third Tuesday only)
- 7:30 p.m., AA, library

Wednesdays

- 9:30 a.m., Early Intervention Playgroup, sunroom
- 10:00 a.m., AA, upper room

Thursdays

- 1:00 p.m., Affin-KNIT-ty Group, library
- 3:30 p.m., Children's chorus rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m., AA, library
- 7:30 p.m., Choir rehearsal

Fridays

- Noon, AA, upper room
- 12:00 p.m., Bible Study, room 3

Sunday

- 7:00 p.m., AA, library

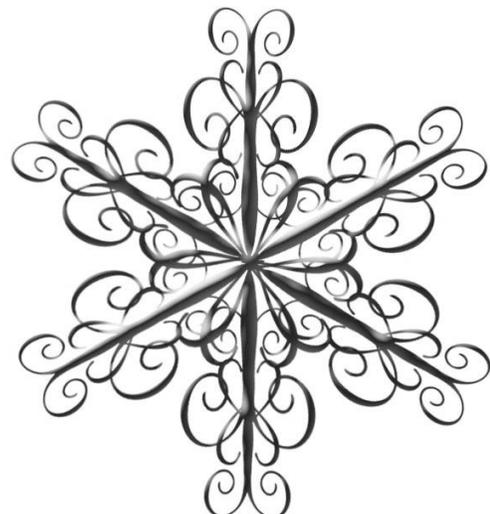
MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Sunday, January 21st

- 11:30 a.m., Home Delivered Meals
- 1:00 p.m., Friendship Knot Quilters, lower room

Thursday, January 25th

- 5:30 p.m., Centering Prayer, church



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 Charlie Blaisdell
- 3 Roberta Patten
- 4 Tom Neely, Molly Kerns
- 6 Elizabeth Martin
- 7 Elizabeth Ware Fippinger, Benjamin Sanger
- 8 Jid Sprague
- 10 Lili Peacock Chambers
- 13 Sam Tadros
- 14 Darlie Kerns, Cooper Bramble '20
- 15 Janet Hammill
- 16 Hollie Fisher
- 17 Kathryn Pritchard, Bennett Zimmerman ,
 Ingela Robinson, Aodhàn Murphy
- 18 Rachaele Morin, Sharon Manning,
 Charlie Toomajian, Edward Briggs
- 19 Adam Park, Peter Morin
- 20 Kimberley Kuster, Pat Picard
- 21 Guilford Spencer, Ellen Beebe, Rachel Anderson
- 22 Robert Glick, Paula Consolini, Elena Bolton
- 23 Lucelle Pardoe, Gerry Torres
- 25 Ildiko Bodor, Jonathan Secor, Sarah Sanford
- 26 Miranda Park, Rosalie Noyes

ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION:

- 4 The Rev. Susan Crampton (her 40th)

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF DEATH

- 5 The Rev. Douglas G. Burgoyne,
 former rector of this parish
 Mary Kelley, longtime member of St. John's
- 12 Russell Orton, Leslie Orton-Mahar's father
- 28 Phyllis Wiles

FROM THE PARISH CALENDAR

This month:

- ANNUAL MEETING, p. 1
- Shrove Tuesday gathering, p. 1
- Ash Wednesday services, p. 1
- Vespers, p. 3
- Centering Prayer, p. 3
- Faith & Film, p. 3
- Outreach Forum, p. 5
- Opioid Crisis Training, p. 6

ONGOING:

Tuesdays

- 9:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist, church
- 3:45 p.m., Evening Prayer, Sweetbrook
 (third Tuesday only)
- 7:30 p.m., AA, library

Wednesdays

- 9:30 a.m., Early Intervention Playgroup, sunroom
- 10:00 a.m., AA, upper room

Thursdays

- 1:00 p.m., Affin-KNIT-ty Group, library
- 3:30 p.m., Children's chorus rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m., AA, library
- 7:30 p.m., Choir rehearsal

Fridays

- Noon, AA, upper room
- 12:00 p.m., Bible Study, room 3

Sunday

- 7:00 p.m., AA, library

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

Thursday, February 1st & 15th

- 9:00 a.m., Cancer Support Group, upper room

Wednesday, February 14th

- 7:00 p.m., VESTRY, library

Sunday, February 18th

- 11:30 a.m., Home Delivered Meals
- 1:00 p.m., Friendship Knot Quilters, lower room

Thursday, February 22nd

- 5:30 p.m., Centering Prayer, church

