

The Bells of St. Giles



St. Giles
Episcopal Church
Northbrook, Illinois

Volume 59 Issue 1
January 2013

Feast of the Epiphany – January 6

It's not often Epiphany falls on Sunday, but when it does we can conclude the Christmas season with great festivity! Epiphany is the original gift-giving holiday. In some cultures it is the day when presents are exchanged (rather than Christmas) in honor of those mysterious magi who came from the east with their gold, frankincense, and myrrh to visit the Christ child, the first gentiles to pay him homage and recognize his sovereignty. Contrary to the popular view that they were kings and that there were three of them, the second chapter of Matthew's gospel says only that they were "wise men;" scripture also does not give them names. They were likely astrologers, possibly Zoroastrians, who followed the placement and movement of stars and planets.

Parish Annual Meeting – January 27

The Annual Meeting will take place Sunday, January 27. We begin with formation at 9:00 a.m. (no 8:00 service that day), then continue with Eucharist at 10:15. The meeting will follow the liturgy in the nave. After, we adjourn to the undercroft for a potluck. Be with us as we tell the ongoing story of St. Giles, elect new Vestry members, and express our thanks to those whose terms of service have come to an end.

Music Notes

Many thanks to the St. Giles singers and instrumentalists who made the Advent and Christmas seasons so memorable! The choir sang splendidly for Advent Lessons & Carols. Also noteworthy were the musicians at the 4:30 Christmas Eve Eucharist – Tom McCluskey (guitar); Ngozi Okoli (clarinet); Chuck Kolar, Coleman Solano, Lizzie Williams (trumpets); Harrison Solano (trombone); Huw Williams (French horn); and Alex Williams (timpani). At 10:30 the choir sang "Christmas Cantata" by the French baroque composer, Marc-Antoine Charpentier, accompanied by two recorders.

Finally, be sure to save Sunday afternoon, February 10, for the Bach Organ Marathon!

— Jim Brown, Director of Music

Join the St. Giles Women's Book Club

We are changing our ways. What began as a book club gradually morphed into a women's night out. But we've decided to return to our literary roots by discussing a book of the month for the first part of our evening (45 minutes to an hour), and then relax, chat, and snack for the remainder of the evening. One woman each month will choose the book and lead the discussion. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Call me (847-970-9265) if you're interested in joining us. Everyone is welcome!

— Jan Hutchins-DeWitt

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Our Schedule

Sundays

Holy Eucharist — 8:00 AM
Christian Formation — 9 AM
Holy Eucharist — 10:15 AM

3rd Sundays of the Month

Healing & Anointing
at both services

Thursdays

Evening Prayer — 4:30 PM
(prayer room, ed. bldg.)



St. Giles Episcopal Church

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Office Hours

Monday: By appointment
Tues-Thurs: 9 AM - 2 PM
Friday: Office closed

Diocese of Chicago

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey D. Lee,
Bishop
The Rt. Rev. C. Christopher
Epting, Assisting Bishop

Vestry

George Miller,
Senior Warden
Linda Williams,
Junior Warden
Ellie Bonebrake
Jim Brooks
John Hanzel
Martha McGuire
Steve Maroulis
Pat Miller
Mike Piskel
Gloria Simon
Nancy Stoddard
Tracey Solano, Clerk
Gloriann Harris, Treasurer
Ned Libby, Bookkeeper
Tom Page, Parish
Chancellor

Staff

The Rev. Cynthia J. Hallas
Rector
The Rev. Lee Gaede, Deacon
The Rev. Belinda Chandler
Priest Associate
Jim Brown
Director of Music
Esther Freilich
Parish Administrator
admin@saint-giles.org

Rector's Reflection: A Holy Partnership

Hey, what's going on in your life?

I haven't seen you in ages — what's new?

How are you? I've been thinking about you and wondering how you're doing.

All these, or variations of them, are questions we might ask or be asked when we run into a friend or acquaintance. Of course, sometimes the encounter is too brief for a real exchange. But suppose a friend has asked you to lunch or coffee; or you and your household have been invited over for supper and conversation, just to catch up. What do you talk about? You might speak of work, the joys of retirement, the kids and grand-kids, that really fun vacation you just took, or your new hobby. Maybe you mention the play or movie you just saw, or the opera or concert you recently attended. More serious topics might include your own health or that of a family member, or financial concerns or job satisfaction. Our lives are multi-faceted, and any of those facets may be up for discussion. One of those facets is church.

Do you ever talk about church?

By that I don't mean the *Have-you-been-saved?-guilt-trip-fear-of-hell* conversation that some other branches of Christianity might go for. (We are Episcopalians, after all.) Nor do I mean the *Episcopal-church-is-going-to-hell-in-a-handbasket-remember-the-good-old-days-I-don't-understand-what's-wrong-with-us* conversation, though I expect that is still heard on occasion. (We are Episcopalians, after all.) Rather, I mean sharing news about our faith community in the same way we would share news about family, job, hobbies, entertainment, travel, etc. For example:

Hey, what's going on in your life? “Well, last month I helped my church distribute 40 tons of frozen chicken to those in need.”

I haven't seen you in ages — what's new? “I've been enjoying getting to know some new members at our church.”

How are you? I've been thinking about you and wondering how you're doing. “I've just discovered the spiritual joy and contentment of walking the new labyrinth at St. Giles. I'd like to show it to you sometime.”

You know — conversations like that. Conversations that let your friends in on the fact that God is at work in the Episcopal Church in Northbrook.

This month we kick off the second, non-monetary part of our stewardship campaign; the part that historically has been called “time and talent.” But this year, rather than focusing on what each person does within the parish, the focus is on “joining God in the world.” How do you take the good news outside the four walls of St. Giles? How do the interactions you have with coworkers, fellow students, neighbors, and strangers you encounter reflect your commitment to “seeking and serving Christ in all persons”? We often underestimate the ministry that flows from our so-called secular vocations and activities, yet these are where our faith meets the world's great need. God is out there already, waiting for us to engage in that “holy partnership” to which we are called as Christians in the world. A simple conversation, in which we make it clear that our faith in Christ and our relationship with our faith community are at the forefront of our lives, might be just the thing that gets us started.

The stewardship team, under the leadership of Mike Piskel, will have more to share in the weeks ahead. Stay tuned!

Cynthia +



January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 8 Jon Hallas
- 15 Ed Archibald
- 16 Mike Piskel
- 18 Brad Howard
- 19 Betty Jean Weidaw
- 26 Pam Zadigian

Anniversaries:

- 17 John & Elizabeth Hanzel
- 29 Chuck & Millie Kolar

January Lectionary Readings

January 6 – Feast of the Epiphany

- Isaiah 60:1-6
- Psalm 72:1-7,10-14
- Ephesians 3:1-12
- Matthew 2:1-12

January 13 – 1 Epiphany

- Isaiah 43:1-7
- Psalm 29
- Acts 8:14-17
- Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 20 – 2 Epiphany

- Isaiah 62:1-5
- Psalm 36:5-10
- 1 Corinthians 12:1-11
- John 2:1-11

January 27 – 3 Epiphany

- Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10
- Psalm 19
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a
- Luke 4:14-21

November Treasurer's Report

Total revenues for the month of Nov. were \$13,779.77. Total expenses for the month were \$18,358.23 resulting in a deficit of \$4,578.46 for the month and a surplus of \$8,967.80 for the year. A complete financial report for the year through October 2012 can be found in the narthex.

— Gloriann Harris, Treasurer

Film Night, St. Luke's, Evanston

Save the date, Friday, January 4, at 7:30 for *Little Town of Bethlehem*, the inspiring true story of three men in a (Holy) land gripped by fear, hatred, and division. Expected to be enemies, they instead use nonviolence to find solutions to the conflict. Invite your friends; popcorn and sodas for sale, and a discussion follows the film. See the poster in the narthex or visit <http://littletownofbethlehem.org>.

PARISH REGISTER

Confirmed (12/9): Ngozi Jessica Okoli, Sophia Sullivan Piskel, Harrison Patrick Solano, Alexander Owen Williams, Elizabeth Grace Williams

Received (12/9): Linda Lou Collins, Thomas Charles Collins

Funeral: (12/20): Scott Thomas Collins

From the Jr. Warden

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God through him. (Colossians 3:12-17, RSV)

This passage was written by the Apostle Paul when he was in prison to the church in the small town of Colossae. It is his vision of a fully alive Christian community. He sets the bar high, and we are right to take his admonitions as a goal. But I also think that we are experiencing at St. Giles a community that is already participating in this vision. I am aware more and more of the love, compassion, kindness, and gratitude we share. We take reading the Scriptures and meditating on them seriously. We recognize the integrity of honestly addressing our own weaknesses and forgiving others theirs. We want to bring God into our daily lives in our words and actions. And we do love to sing! We are, of course, beginners; we can list all too easily the places where we slip and our flat-out failures. But we do have the intention to try again and to move forward, all the while sharing our burdens and celebrating our joys. It is good to be beginners; we are learning and growing together as we work toward following Christ's way of justice and peace, love and hope.

— Linda Williams



ST. GILES EPISCOPAL CHURCH • JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Campanella Choir uses the church on Sundays from 2:30 - 8:00 PM</i></p>		<p>1 Office Closed — New Year's Day</p>	<p>2 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:30 PM Nominating Committee Mtg., 7:30 PM</p>	<p>3 Yoga, 8:30 AM Evening Prayer, 4:30 (Prayer Room) Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM</p>	<p>4 Office Closed Bible Study 9:30 AM</p>	<p>5 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 4 PM Overeaters Anonymous 11 AM – 12:15 PM</p>
<p>6 The Epiphany 8:00 & 10:15 AM — Holy Eucharist 9 AM: Formation</p>	<p>7 Office Hours by Appointment Yoga, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>8 Yoga, 9:00 AM Campanella Choir, 5 - 8 PM Women's Book Club, 7:30 - 9 PM</p>	<p>9 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:30 PM</p>	<p>10 Yoga, 8:30 AM Evening Prayer, 4:30 (Prayer Room) Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM</p>	<p>11 Office Closed Bible Study 9:30 AM</p>	<p>12 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 4 PM OA 11 AM – 12:15 PM Campanella Choir Concert 6 PM</p>
<p>13 1 Epiphany Second Sunday 8:00 & 10:15 AM — Holy Eucharist 9 AM: Breakfast</p>	<p>14 Office Hours by Appointment Yoga, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>15 February Bells submissions due Yoga, 9:00 AM Campanella Choir, 5 - 8 PM Vestry Meeting, 7:30 PM</p>	<p>16 Extraordinary Kids, 9:15-11:15 AM Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:30 PM</p>	<p>17 Yoga, 8:30 AM EKids, 12:45-2:45 Evening Prayer, 4:30 (Prayer Room) Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM Cathedral Shelter Pick Up</p>	<p>18 Office Closed Bible Study 9:30 AM</p>	<p>19 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 4 PM Overeaters Anonymous 11 AM – 12:15 PM</p>
<p>20 2 Epiphany Healing/Anointing 8:00 & 10:15 AM — Holy Eucharist 9 AM: Formation</p>	<p>21 Office Closed — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Yoga, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>22 Yoga, 9:00 AM Campanella Choir, 5 - 8 PM</p>	<p>23 Extraordinary Kids, 9:15-11:15 AM Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:30 PM</p>	<p>24 Yoga, 8:30 AM EKids, 12:45-2:45 Evening Prayer, 4:30 (Prayer Room) Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM</p>	<p>25 Office Closed Bible Study 9:30 AM</p>	<p>26 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 4 PM Overeaters Anonymous 11 AM – 12:15 PM Stitches & Sack Lunches, 12:30-3</p>
<p>27 3 Epiphany 9 AM: Formation 10:15 AM — Holy Eucharist All-Parish Annual Meeting One Service Only</p>	<p>28 Office Hours by Appointment Yoga, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>29 Yoga, 9:00 AM Campanella Choir, 5 - 8 PM</p>	<p>30 Extraordinary Kids, 9:15-11:15 AM Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:30 PM</p>	<p>31 Yoga, 8:30 AM EKids, 12:45-2:45 Evening Prayer, 4:30 (Prayer Room) Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM</p>		