



# THE SIGNPOST WEEKLY

December 21, 2014

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Miriam Acevedo, D.Min, M.Div., Vicar

Visit us at <http://www.saintes.org>

Calendar

Sunday, December 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- Eucharist Service, 8 and 10:15
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.
- Pageant rehearsal, 9:30 am
- Sunday School, 10 a.m.

Monday, December 22

- Yoga with Miriam, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, December 23

- Women's Bible Study, 10 a.m. with babysitting.
- Al-Anon, 5:30 p.m.
- Yoga with Miriam, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- Christmas Eve Family Service and Children's Pageant - 4:30 p.m.
- Christmas Eve, Holy Eucharist, 9 p.m.

Thursday, December 25 – Christmas Day

- Christmas Day, 9 a.m., Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 28

- Eucharist Service, 8 and 10:15
- Bible Study, 9 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

We light the last candle on our Advent wreath and our preparation for Christmas is almost finished. Sometimes called the Angel's Candle, we are reminded of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed Christ's arrival with "Behold. I bring unto you good tiding of great joy!" The Angel's candle is also purple, reminding us that it was a King's birth the angels were announcing.

**Remember the Point of the Season—love!**

When the commercialism of Christmas gets in the way, we need to go back to the point—God so loved us that he became flesh and lived among us and makes Himself known to us in the midst of our ordinary lives. Having said that let us also remember that Christmas is not a good time for many people who suffer from depression and other



*...and so as we celebrate Christmas to experience again the birth of Jesus Christ, hug your kids a little tighter, make those who are visiting feel a little more welcome, forgive those who have hurt you; be more gracious to one another. And afterwards, when all that's left of Christmas is the mound of ripped wrapping paper, live your life in the knowledge that God has held back nothing and given you the very treasures of heaven so that you may in turn give them away.*

*Merry Christmas!*

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illnesses and/or who have suffered a great loss in their lives. This suffering is real, yet God, through each of us, can fill deep wounds with love. So love freely as God loves freely and may the God of love shine on you this Christmas season.

Miriam

**A Heads Up—The Annual Meeting, January 18**

The Annual Meeting will be on January 18 with a snow date of January 25. As is our custom, we will have one service on that day at 10 am. New members of the Bishop's Committee, Delegates to Convention and Assessors will be voted in. A week before the meeting you will receive a PDF of the 2014 Annual Report via email. "Hard copies" of the report will also be available at church (for the three of you who don't have email.) Please save the date and join us for this important parish-wide event. Miriam

**From the Stewardship Ministry Team**

As of December 21, 2014, 66 pledges, from 61% of the parish have been received, as compared to last year's total of 82 "pledging units" from 80% of the parish. Currently \$141,114 in pledges have been received to support the 2015 budget. Our most heartfelt thanks to people who have already stepped forward with a pledge commitment. *The Stewardship Ministry Team.*

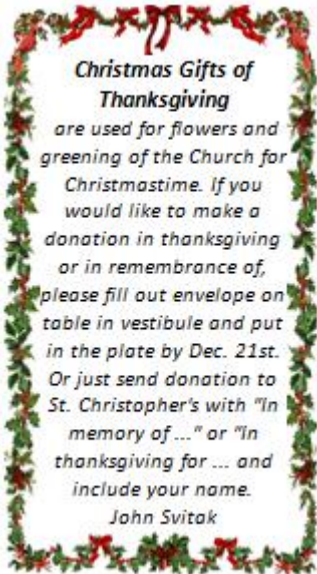
**Spiritual Direction Enrollment**

You are invited to consider signing up for Group Spiritual Direction. Some of those who have already participated tell me that the experience has been fulfilling indeed. The sessions last exactly one hour! Surely you have one hour for a rewarding experience that will open you up to how God is

working in your life. Please see [Miriam, Wayne Trombly, Barbara Hughes](#) or [Ken Swenson](#), with any questions.

### Bishop Rob's Next Visit, February 22

Our Bishop will visit us on February 22, 2015. In reality, we don't have much time to plan for this during this Christmas season, but once January comes I'll be in full planning mode. I need to hear from you if you need to be Confirmed or Received into the Episcopal Church. If you are not sure what this means please let me know. Miriam



**The Outreach Committee met last Sunday** and voted to make donations to support the work of the following: \$450 to ERD's (Episcopal Relief and Development) "[Gifts for Life](#)" program, specifically for the Donkey, Plow & Cart; \$200 to the [Sonshine Soup Kitchen](#) in Derry; \$200 to [Family Promise of Greater Rockingham County](#) in Derry. In addition, it was voted to set aside \$400 to

host the church website, and to cover the nominal fees associated with the new portal which will accept online donations, pledge payments, event registration, and even the sale of tickets. [Karen Groves](#)

### Musician Search

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church is seeking a dynamic Church Musician whose passion is to help people encounter and express their faith through music in weekly worship. We desire to cultivate an integrated worship experience on Sunday mornings with a balance of upbeat and inspiring worship music that includes traditional hymns and contemporary influences such as Integrity, Chris Tomlin, etc.). The Church Musician will be responsible for assisting in the planning and leading of Sunday morning worship, leading the volunteer Choir and the younger children in age appropriate songs. We have an organ and a new Kawai piano. He/She must be flexible, sensitive to the spiritual aspects of music, and able to work with non-professional singers and other parish instrumentalists. This is a salaried, permanent part-

time position. Send resume and cover letter to the [Rev. Miriam Acevedo](#) at [macevedo2@comcast.net](mailto:macevedo2@comcast.net) or visit the [church website](#), [www.saintcs.org](http://www.saintcs.org)

**Giving Tree Gifts for our Adopted Family at the Food Pantry** Thank you all for participating. The gifts along with a special (and bountiful) holiday food supply, was distributed last Thursday at the food pantry. *Outreach Committee*

### Can You See Yourself Sitting In This Chair? Clerk of the Bishop's Committee?

"In a nutshell," says Lyn Rockwell, who has been Clerk for five (5) years, "You are a member of the Executive Committee, and attend their meetings: a member of the Bishop's Committee, and prepare and distribute meeting notices, including the agenda, plus any relevant documents, meeting minutes and committee reports as requested by the Vicar or Senior Warden." She concluded by saying, "You don't have to have a Degree in Rocket Science to be Clerk. In fact, it's a very interesting position ... sort of like being a fly on the wall." Any men interested, for a change? Contact [Dave Cosio](#), [Christine Collins](#), or [Miriam](#).



**Prayers of the People.** Please pray for **Arthur Mueller, Matty O'Leary; Greta and Jim; Nancy Hollinrake**; for **Linda**, who has been diagnosed with cancer; for **Ryan**; for Corinne Dodge's friend, **Mariellen**; for **William Friel**; for **Carol Sienkiewicz**; for Jeff and Katie Waymouth's daughter, **Ginny** and family; for **Jacqueline Parent**, for strength and peace; for Jean Porter's grand-nephew **Tyler**, for **Cheri** and her husband **Walt**, friends of Jennifer and Robert Aiken; for **Rosalie Papoutsy**; for Natalie Gallo's brother, **Lorin Bielski**; for Mark and Ingrid Chapman's son **Eric** who with God's grace is in safe hands.

**Serving in the Military:** Please pray for **Michael Carr**; for Del Dooling's cousins, **Daniel Canfield, Matthew and Sandra Maloy**, for **Paul Gagne**; and for "Green Beret" **Sgt. Devin Carr**.

Parish Cycle of Prayer: **Jean, Heather and Elizabeth Sanders; Jane, Lily and Andrew Roth; Bob and Cynthia Salois; Lyn Rockwell.**

### Attendance

Thursday, Eucharist and Bible Study, 12/11, 6  
Sunday, 12/14, 8 a.m., 34; 10:15 a.m., 73

