

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30
FOLLOWING 10:15 SERVICE

Christian Formation @ 9 AM

Holy Eucharist, Rite II @ 10:15 AM
followed by Annual Meeting

All-Parish Potluck

Men's Bake-Off

The Annual Meeting of the parish is scheduled for the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany, January 30. **There is one service only**, at 10:15 a.m., with Christian Formation as usual at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be convened immediately after the liturgy, in the nave. At its conclusion, all are invited to a potluck in the undercroft as we celebrate our life together as a faith community. Of course, we finish with the popular Men's Bake-Off. (See page 3 for more information.)

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Our Schedule

Sundays

Holy Eucharist, Rite I
8:00 a.m.

Christian Formation
9:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
10:15 a.m.

3rd Sundays of the Month

Healing & Anointing
at both services

Intergenerational Formation
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

**Working together
to answer God's call
by serving one another
and our neighbors.**



St. Giles Episcopal Church

3025 Walters Ave.
Northbrook, IL 60062
Phone: 847-272-6622
Fax: 847-272-7664
www.saint-giles.org

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Vestry

Bill Perley, Warden
Ellie Bonebrake
Cindy Conrad
Colette Dim
John Hanzel
Curt Jones
Donna McCluskey
Bob Schultz
Nancy Stoddard
Linda Williams
Tracey Solano, Clerk
Gloriann Harris, Treasurer
Ned Libby, Bookkeeper
Tom Page
Parish Chancellor

Staff

The Rev. Cynthia J. Hallas
Rector
847-714-0154
rector@saint-giles.org
The Rev. Belinda Chandler
Deacon
The Rev. Lee Gaede
Deacon
Jim Brown
Director of Music
Esther Freilich
Parish Administrator
admin@saint-giles.org

Rector's Reflection ~ Momentum

It's that time again – time for the fabled “New Year's Resolutions.” We've all made them. Chances are, most of us have broken more of them than we have kept. That's human nature. No matter how firmly we begin, when the stuff of real life intrudes on our post-holiday intentions, it's all too easy to slip back into our old routines. Tough to keep that momentum going, especially without some encouragement and accountability.

I've been noticing some new momentum here at St. Giles: people stepping into new roles, offering their help at different tasks, volunteering (or at least agreeing when asked!) to take on new responsibilities. So let's capitalize on this momentum; let's keep it going, and see where it takes us. Some specifics —

Communications: It's become clear that we need to have an attractive, up-to-date Web site, one that can be maintained by a professional designer but updated by church staff when necessary. It's not news to anyone that, more and more, seekers and potential visitors are looking to the Internet rather than the Yellow Pages, the telephone, or print media to get information about churches. And speaking of online resources, did you know that St. Giles has a Facebook page? If you use that social networking site, find us; and when you do, don't forget to click the “Like” button – and invite your friends!

Fellowship and community building: In a parish this size it's easy to assume that “we all know each other,” but that isn't necessarily true. And we can always know one another better. Hopefully, as we do so, we will become more open toward knowing others. I plan to hold a series of “house Eucharists” over the first half of this year: small groups of people coming together in the homes of parishioners for a simple communion service and scripture study. I will be approaching some of you about hosting these, but if you'd like to volunteer in the meantime, please contact me.

Renewed understanding of the meaning of liturgy: Worship of God is the single most important thing that we do, but have you ever considered how it is that our particular liturgical tradition in the Episcopal Church shapes the integrity of our lives? Using as our guide the book *Liturgical Life Principles*, by the Very Rev. Ian Markham, we will use our Second Sunday format as a series of instructed Eucharists, each month focusing on a specific portion of the liturgy.

“Holy Visioning:” In my sermon on December 5, I suggested that rather than using business language (like the term “Strategic Planning”) when we speak of sculpting our future, the term “Holy Visioning” might be more appropriate. We will begin this process early in February, basing our discussion on several criteria, chiefly the Baptismal Covenant and the recently completed Ministry Narratives.

In that same sermon, I spoke honestly about the challenges that face us, both from without (the paradigm shifts in culture and society that no longer allow for the preeminence of Christianity) and from within (basically, places where our corporate assumptions about ourselves are not valid). And I also spoke of the opportunities for radical realignment afforded us by these challenges, a new way of “being” the church. And I asked if you were with me. Most of you said “Yes!”— quite resoundingly. So together, onward we go!

Cynthia+



January Birthdays/Anniversaries

Birthdays:

- 8 Jon Hallas
- 9 Aubrey Hall
- 10 Polly Hastings
- 15 Ed Archibald
- 16 Mike Piskel
- 18 Brad Howard
Fannie Nelson
- 19 Betty Jean Weidaw
- 26 Pam Zadigian

Anniversaries:

- 7 Jim Kraus & Pam Groover
- 17 John & Elizabeth Hanzel
- 29 Chuck & Millie Kolar

If we don't have your family's birthday & anniversary information on file, we can't list it here! If you just aren't sure whether or not we have it, don't be shy! Send us an email (admin@saint-giles.org) or call 847-272-6622.

Lectionary Readings

January 2 - 2 Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 84:1-8
Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a
Matthew 2:1-12

January 9 - 1 Epiphany:

The Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 16 - 2 Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-12
I Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 23 - 3 Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 5-13
I Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

January 30 - 4 Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
I Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Men's Bake-Off Returns

For the past few years, I have been amazed at the symmetry found in the month of January. Take, for instance, how January begins and ends. It begins with Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar (the Three Kings) arriving with gifts for baby Jesus. It ends with the Muffin Man, the Pillsbury Doughboy, and the Gingerbread Man bringing gifts for those attending the Parish Annual Meeting. The Wise Men of the East followed the bright light and arrived on camels. The men of the parish follow the bright lines in the cookbook and arrive in Fords. Peace came upon the desert land; everyone is always able to land a piece of dessert. Amazing!

The third annual St. Giles Men's Bake-Off is rapidly approaching. All the men in the parish are encouraged to enter their finest sweet creations. This year the only restriction is that it needs to be a dessert. No longer is it necessary to have the recipe come from the St. Giles cookbook ... because, after all, we only have 200 left.

Happy New Year! Happy Baking!

— Dan Jariabka

Treasurer's Report

Pledge and other income for the month of November was \$12,646.77. Total expenses for the month were \$18,014.50 resulting in a deficit of \$5,367.73 for the month and a year-to-date deficit as of November 30, 2010, of \$6,188.25.

— Gloriann Harris, Treasurer

Year-End Contribution Statements Available

Fourth-quarter contribution statements for the year 2010 are available. Look for yours via email, if that's how you receive your statements, or as a paper copy in the narthex. Any contributions made to St. Giles and postmarked by or received in the office by December 31, 2010, should have been attributed to you. Please call or email the office with any questions regarding your statement.



Presiding Bishop Asks for ‘Season of Prayer’ for the Sudan

(News report from the Diocese of Chicago) Earlier this fall, Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori called on Episcopalians to a Season of Prayer for Sudan beginning in Advent and extending through Epiphany. On January 9, 2011, the people of Southern Sudan will vote on whether or not to form a separate nation. This vote was a condition of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, yet the government in the North is mobilizing its forces in anticipation of a vote for separation, and some violence has already broken out. Chicago’s companion diocese, the Diocese of Renk, is in the Upper Nile district, and its area forms a peninsula in the northern territory controlled by the government in Khartoum. This geography and the routing of the nation’s major north-south highway through the heart of Renk puts the Diocese of Renk in a vulnerable situation. If the vote is for independence, the northern government is expected to evict thousands of southern Sudanese refugees from the Khartoum area, which means Renk could be facing a major humanitarian crisis. More information is available at <http://episcopalchurch.org/sudan>. Prayer vigils and services will be held at several parishes throughout the diocese. For details on this, please visit www.episcopalchicago.org. St. Giles will offer special prayers at our liturgies on January 2 and January 9.

Plan B for Women ... and other Additions to the Library

Eleven new volumes have arrived at St. Bede’s library, that collection of books clustered on the west wall (and part of the north wall) of the undercroft. St. Bede, its patron saint, invites you to look them over. The books are from the libraries of Betty Jean Weidaw and Anne Downey. Neatly arranged in call-number order, they are:

- *The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language*, edited by Eugene H. Peterson (call number 220.5/PET). The title is self-explanatory; it makes the Bible easier to read, although – caution – the language may be too contemporary for some traditionalists.
- *Soul Moments: Times When Heaven Touches Earth*, by Isabel Anders (242/ANDE). The author describes the many everyday ways that the sacred and secular overlap in daily life.
- *The Only Necessary Thing: Living a Prayerful Life*, by Henri J. M. Nouwen (248.3/NOU). This is a series of thoughts on prayers and praying taken from the more than 40 books written by Nouwen, who is considered one of the great spiritual writers of modern times.
- *God Always Has a Plan B for Women*, by Sara Hupp (248.4/HUP) is a book of meditations, stories, and Biblical quotations on a wide variety of subjects. Some of the chapter titles are “Feeling Out of Control? God’s in Control;” “Nobody’s Perfect (Whew!);” and “Stressed Spelled Backwards Is “Desserts!”
- *Finding My Way Home: Pathways to Life and the Spirit*, by Henri J. M. Nouwen (248.4/NOUW) tells how we can journey in a Christian way through our life’s experiences, good and bad.
- *Glimpses of Heaven: True Stories of Hope and Peace at the End of Life’s Journey*, by Trudy Harris (248.8/HAR). The author, a former hospice nurse, examines the stories of terminally ill people and provides a reassuring picture of life’s end.
- *On Our Way Home: Courage and Faith for the Final Journey*, by Robert M. Herhold (248.8/HER). A Christian look at aging (the author describes himself as “an eighty-year-old geezer”), loss, dying, and death.
- *The Cloister Walk*, by Kathleen Norris (255/NOR). A Protestant woman is introduced to monasticism in a book that is part memoir and part meditation.
- *Always Open: Being an Anglican Today*, by Richard Giles (283/GIL) provides an introduction to Anglican beliefs and practices, explaining the essentials of the Anglican approach to such areas as authority, the Bible, social and moral questions, and dialogue with people of other faiths.
- *Present Moment, Wonderful Moment: Mindfulness Verses for Daily Living*, by Thich Nhat Hanh (294.3/NHA). This is a book of Buddhist meditations by a Vietnamese Buddhist monk. He provides verses for starting the day, eating, and for daily activities (including Turning on the Computer, Cleaning the Bathroom, and Watering the Garden).
- *Messenger: The Legacy of Mattie J. T. Stepanek and Heartsongs*, by Jeni Stepanek (920/STE). Mattie, who died at the age of 14 from a rare form of muscular dystrophy, became author of best-selling books of poetry and a book of peace essays. This is his story as written by his mother.

The books can be found on St. Bede’s desk, which juts out from the west wall of the undercroft.

— Doug Downey, St. Bede’s Assistant



ST. GILES EPISCOPAL CHURCH ~ JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 2 Christmas 8 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9 AM, Formation 10:15 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite II	3	4 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting, 7:30 PM	5 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM	6 The Epiphany Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM	7 Office Closed	8 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 3 PM Overeaters Anonymous 10:30 AM - 11:45
9 1 Epiphany: The Baptism of Our Lord 8 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9 AM, Second Sunday Breakfast 10:15 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite II	10	11 Cathedral Shelter Pick-Up Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM	12 Extraordinary Kids, 9:15-11:45 & 12:45-2:45 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM	13 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM	14 Office Closed	15 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 3 PM Overeaters Anonymous 10:30 AM - 1 PM
16 2 Epiphany Healing/Anointing at both services 8 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9 AM, Formation 10:15 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite II 5:30 - 7 PM, Intergenerational Formation	17 Office Closed — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	18 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM Vestry Meeting, 7:30 PM	19 Extraordinary Kids, 9:15-11:45 & 12:45-2:45 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM	20 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM	21 Office Closed	22 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 3 PM Overeaters Anonymous 10:30 AM - 11:45
23 3 Epiphany 8 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9 AM, Formation 10:15 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite II	24	25 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM	26 Extraordinary Kids, 9:15-11:45 & 12:45-2:45 Campanella Choir, 6 - 8:00 PM	27 Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 PM	28 Office Closed	29 Campanella Choir 9 AM - 3 PM Overeaters Anonymous 10:30 AM - 1 PM
30 4 Epiphany Parish Annual Meeting & Potluck Lunch 9 AM, Formation 10:15 AM, Holy Eucharist, Rite II One Service Only	31	SAVE THE DATE! Evening of March 1, 2011 Ordination of Belinda Chandler to the Sacred Order of Priests More information to follow.				



St. Giles Church
3025 Walters Avenue
Northbrook, IL 60062-4399

Look for us on Facebook!

Time-Sensitive Material
Mailed no later than: 1-6-11

Adult Formation to Explore “The Liturgical Year”

Not long ago* I wrote a short article in *The Bells* about a book I read, *The Liturgical Year*, by Joan Chittister. It is a book that I highly recommended reading, particularly if you are interested in how following the liturgical calendar can help meld your life with the life of Christ. Since the article came out, a couple of people in the congregation have expressed an interest in reading the book as a group and discussing it.

I'm hoping you will join me and others as we explore this wonderful book during the season of Epiphany. We will meet during adult formation time on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. You will need to purchase a copy of the book. You can get it fairly quickly by ordering it on line through www.amazon.com.

Listed below are the dates we will meet, along with the chapters we will review:

- January 16, Chapters 1 - 4
- January 23, Chapters 5 - 8
- January 30, Chapters 9 - 14
- February 6, Chapters 15 - 19
- February 20, Chapters 20 - 26
- February 27, Chapters 27 - 33

I hope you find this schedule helpful in your preparation for our discussions.

— Belinda Chandler

* Please see the November issue of *The Bells* for Belinda's review of *The Liturgical Year* and for pertinent excerpts from the book.