



A PERSONAL INVITATION FROM YOUR CLERGY

This is a personal invitation to you and your family and friends *to make September 7th at 10:30am a MUST for coming to church.* Our special service will mark the beginning of our Fall program and the launching of the new Sunday School and Youth program. There will also be the commissioning for all those involved in leadership roles and the different ministries that make St John's the special and unique parish it is. If you have been away for the summer, are wanting a Church family to belong to or have not been to Church for a while or are a regular worshipper will you make a commitment to God and the parish to make THIS Fall the one when all want to make belonging and participating in the life of a lively Christian community a priority. Will you make regular worship, Christian All age education and fellowship a priority in your list of priorities? God has made us a priority by sending Jesus and we are surely called to do the same.

The spring saw the parish wrestling with what sort of parish it wanted to be and the result was for one of openness, inclusiv-

ity, participation and welcome. During the summer worship has been lovely with a gentle, kind and warm spirit in our midst with a lot of laughter and sense of fun. Much has been happening behind the scenes too with outpourings of volunteering and your Churchwardens, Vestry, Parish Staff and Clergy servicing committees and getting lots done in a spirit of common purpose for the good and continuing growth of the parish in numbers and depth of spirit and spirituality. The Fall will mark us being launched onto the next stage of parish history. Come and share and be part of a Church going through renewal and reshaping as we seek to be an Episcopal Parish Church for now and the future building on the heritage and history of the past. History is being made at St John's, a living and lively history and legacy. "God's not dead, very much alive" says a children's chorus and St John's is not dead indeed the opposite, very much alive!

I love movies and one of my favorite actors is Meryl Streep. Whether it is in "The Devil wears Prada" or "Mamma Mia" I am amazed how she has the ability of becom-

ing who she is acting! I cannot help but think of the call to all of us to be like Jesus as that lovely hymn says "I want to walk as a child of the light, I want to be like Jesus". God does not ask us to stop being ourselves as God loves us for who we are in all our diversity, difference and uniqueness. What we are asked is to model our lives, our attitudes and spirit on His. You know that in the Church a priest signs "+" after the name and a bishop signs "+" before their name. This Fall will you think of your name and add "+" Jesus to your name and thinking. What a combination you and the good Lord!

See you on September the 7th and whenever at all possible and let's start as we mean to go on heeding the words of scripture and the baptismal covenant of the Episcopal Church "do not neglect to meet together". Our faith, worshipping community and spirituality are truly the best resources available to us for life. God invites us, your clergy invite you let's have a great year!

The Rev. Simon Foster &
The Rev. Michael Sniffen

A LETTER FROM YOUR CHURCH WARDENS

Dear Fellow Parishoners - Welcome Back!

What has happened to long hot lazy summers? It seems only the hot remains otherwise for most of us they're busy and way too short! Lord willing we have squeezed in some fun, some sun, and some time for relaxation along the way.

There has been much to do at St. John's of Lattingtown and much has been accomplished although much more lies ahead. Simon has been typically immersed in the many facets of his work for St. John's and our community giving regular services, bible study classes, nurture group, joyous weddings, holy baptisms, caring funerals, visits to the sick, counsel to those in need, meetings with new members, talks to the community at Hutton House and much one-on-one pastoral and spiritual counseling as well as meetings with Vestry members among various and sundry administrative tasks and duties. And Michael, after upgrading the Sunday School program and conducting many services and affairs himself, spent time at the Lambeth Conference in England serving the church and rep-

resenting St. John's in a full schedule of responsibilities.

The Vestry has had meetings in June and July including "open" sessions which included parish members expressing and discussing their views and making suggestions. New committee heads and members have been appointed and begun their work. The Committee List is attached.

A conference phone and upgrade to the system was donated and has improved communication capabilities by telephone and email.

Three Vestry members have attended a racial awareness program at the Mercer School in Garden City.

The Sunday School has added a widely recognized and highly regarded "Godly Play" curriculum. Several new Sunday School teachers have volunteered and are ready to provide their enthusiasm in an uplifting and interesting spiritual learning experience. We look forward to an increase in attendance of your children aged 4 to 12 in Pre-K through 6th Grade classrooms. Of course, Mrs. Spink oversees the youngest children in Nursery

up to Pre-K. Furthermore, for older children, there are numerous opportunities for youth to participate in ministries and confirmation class.

The Stewardship Committee has met to review contribution levels to St. John's in 2008. More information will be forthcoming, but everyone's involvement is needed in providing financial support for our church and its mission.

Preparations are underway for the church fair chaired by Helen Bonebrake who can use all of our volunteerism and attendance.

In recent months many new members have joined St. John's and attendance has been very high for the season of travel and vacation.

All are welcomed back to St. John's for the end of the summer and beginning of the fall. If you have been away from St. John's over the summer or for a period of time, whatever the reason, we look forward to welcoming you back. May our worship together be through the open doors of St. John's of Lattingtown.

Sincerely, Wardens:

Tom Gimbel

Anne Glenn



St. John's of Lattingtown

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clergy

The Rev. Simon Foster, Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Michael Sniffen, Assistant Priest

If you would like to talk to the clergy about anything, need priestly ministry or would like to receive Holy Communion at home or in hospital due to sickness, please call to make an appointment.



Churchwardens: Tom Gimbel and Anne Glenn
Treasurer & Finance: Jim Large
Clerk: Frank Polk
Altar Guild: Kathy Brewer (Chair)
Altar Flowers: Nancy Taylor
Advertising: Victoria Crosby
By Laws: Carlyle Dunaway (Chair), JoAnn Browne, Tom Gimbel, Anne Glenn
Buildings & Grounds: JoAnn Browne (Chair), Rudy Weber
Coffee Hour: Janet Wildermuth
Convention: Danny Davison, Anne Glenn, ALT: Frank Polk, Nancy Polk
Facilities: John Vessalico (Chair)
Fair: Helen Bonebrake
Finance: Jim Large, Larry Glenn
Greeters: TBD
Interfaith: Simon +, Michael+, Nancy Polk
Investments: Danny Davison (Chair), Larry Glenn, Peter Marshall, Tom Gimbel
Library: Lil Gillies
Memorial Garden: Larry Ward (Chair), Dawn Stiegelbauer
Music: Eric Milnes, JoAnn Browne, Peter Marshall, Victoria Crosby
New Members: Carlyle Dunaway, Victoria Crosby
Outreach: Edie Haack (Chair)
Parish Care: Janet Willis
Performance Management Committee: Tom Gimbel (Chair), Nicole Engels
Personnel: Nancy Polk (Chair), Carlyle Dunaway

Publicity and Communication: Victoria Crosby (Chair), Edie Haack

Sewing Circle: Cora Michalis

Standing Committee: Simon+, Michael+, Tom Gimbel, Anne Glenn, Jim Large

Stewardship: Danny Davison (Chair), Jim Large, Larry Ward & Anne Glenn - with all vestry members

Godly Play/Sunday School/ Youth: Michael+ (Chair), Nicole Engels, Liza Picoli, Corrie Decker, Johanna Canonica, and others

Ushers: Frank Polk

NEXT VESTRY MEETING: SEPT. 7TH AT 11:30 A.M.



DONATIONS SATURDAY MORNINGS UNTIL 9/13!

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