The Crier

July 2018 **Volume 68, Issue 7**

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

Service Times

Latino Service
Saturday 5:30 pm

English Service
Sunday 9:00 am

Adult Discussion
Sunday 10:20 am

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Much to celebrate...

We've had a good and busy winter/spring at St. Nick's. And let's be un-Minnesotan for a minute. Let's look at what you all have accomplished over these months! Give yourselves some credit...

You've kept Jesus at the center of things: in prayer, in worship and in daily life.

You've made great progress on the search for a new rector, have listened carefully, and articulated what is important for St. Nick's in your next leader.

You've made substantial progress on communication issues, readying St. Nick's for the 21st century. St. Nick's will have a brand new website up and running by mid-August, and these tools have all been enhanced (Twitter, FaceBook and the electronic sign out front which thousands of people pass by on Penn Avenue daily).

You've kept the building, labyrinth and yard in wonderful shape.

You've planted seedlings to grow by the front door, and you've planted seedlings of faith for the future in ways yet to unfold.

You've deepened your relationship with the Episcopal Church in Minnesota--and have had Bishop Prior, missioners Michael Pipkin and Karen Olson--out to visit. Many of you have taken a tour of the new ECMN offices in North Minneapolis. And you've got a new date (Sunday morning, January 6) for another visit with the Bishop here.

You have made beautiful new office space for Padre Neptali Rodriguez and the Rev. Matthew Johnson, honoring their ministry here.

You're taking time to understand how the endowment and operating reserve funds work, and how they might work in the future.

You are continuing that tradition of exceptional snacks at vestry meetings (I would say the best in ECMN).

Our English-speaking congregation continues its warm, welcoming and joyful presence in Richfield, active in outreach efforts and hospitality every Sunday.

As you know, St. Nick's is the only Episcopal faith community to host a Hispanic congregation on campus. And our Spanish congregation is growing by leaps and bounds with young families and children. That stability and hospitality has put St. Nick's in the draft ECMN 2018 budget for $15,000 of support.

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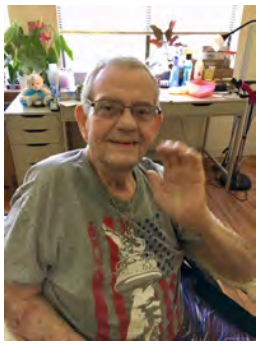
Mike Mudgett keeps busy creating....

Long-time member of St. Nick's and Korean war veteran Mike Mudgett might wonder what to do with his time as he contemplates life from his corner room at Martin Luther Senior Care Center in Bloomington. But not Mike. His love of painting and drawing shines forth, both on the walls outside his room and on his wide, sunlight-filled desk. Bright colors and intricate designs fill his designs and conversation flows freely. Mike is also a husband to Helen Mudgett, a salesman, poet, clown and father to five children, nine grandchildren, and eight great-grands. Go, Mike!



above: Gallery outside his room; right: current project

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And through the Pastoral Care committee, you have a new system of attending to those who are homebound yet want and deserve spiritual care.

Finances continue to be managed well, with a well-attended committee meeting monthly.

Music continues to be a strong asset, with St. Nick's enjoying old favorite hymns over the summer months.

Volunteers keep things running smoothly in the office, including the Sunday bulletin.

The Crier, your monthly newsletter, has been faithfully published on time each month—with an editor wintering in Florida and able to miraculously connect with computer & copy machine in Richfield!

The nursery has been emptied of hundreds of toys that were sent to the Island of Misfit Toys (or somewhere); and is once more a welcoming space.

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Ministers **All Parish Members**
Transition Priest
The Rev. Lindsay Freeman
Deacon **Matthew Johnson**
Senior Warden **Craig Kettleson**
Junior Warden **Betty Miller**
Director of Music **John Wall**
Crier Editor **Kathy Cummings**

Vestry Members

Karen Bessler **Ann Bottlene**
Vicky Condon **Tom McConnell**
Pat Dorsey Nanoff

Vestry Clerk **Gretchen Eichhorn**
Treasurer **Rich Makela**

Springs of Shalom Chapter of Daughters of the King (SOSDOK)

Meets at 10 a.m. on the 1st Monday of each month (except when it's a holiday, then meeting moves to the 2nd Monday)

NEXT MEETING
Monday, June 9
at 10:00

Join us!

In your prayers you are asked to remember...

Jill Aicher
Rose Ekegren
Jacob Fraser
Ken Cummings
Len Freeman
Maggie Ingalls
Tom & Katie LaFrance
Mike & Helen Mudgett
Cummings' friend, Deb Carlson
Mary Patterson's friend, Jo Morrill
Bob Aicher's nephew, Howie Schumacher
Vicky Condon's daughter, Joley Blesenser; son, Michael Condon & nephew, Chris Powers
Sunny Slocum's friend, Howard Kramer
Betty Miller's mother, Mary Shaffer
Keira Stevens' sister-in-law, Erin Stevens
Mary Patterson's family member, Hannah Willson
Maxine Parsons' granddaughter, Mikki
Immigrant children who have been separated from parents
The St. Nicholas Search Committee and the priest who is meant to come to us
Respect for the dignity of every human life
The men & women of our armed

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You've had the plant sale, the recycle sale, the pirate-themed auction, earned some important money, and are still standing.

We still have work to do and I look forward to it. And I also remain grateful to your previous rector, the Rev. Tom Eklo. Without his efforts and those people whom we love but see no longer, this faith community would be much less.

St. Nick's stands on the brink of some exciting times to come. May God's blessings continue!

In Christ,
Lindsay+
The Rev. Lindsay Hardin Freeman
Transition Priest

News from

Episcopal Church in Minnesota

"'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Matthew 22:37-39

Last week I had the blessing of spending time in the mountains outside Asheville, North Carolina, with a whole host of young people. It was a wonderful gathering filled with worship, spirit-filled music, and lots of fun as well as deep and compelling conversation.

The theme for this year's program, based on the Great Commandment quoted above, was, "You Shall Love."

Through songs and skits, youth shared personal stories, had discussions, and participated in hands-on activities that focused on love of self.

Loving God with all your heart, soul and mind is at the center of our faith. Love of neighbor is at the heart of our calling. And those of us who have chosen to follow in the Way of Jesus do our darndest to embrace this Great Commandment.

Love of self, on the other hand, is more challenging for many of us, particularly for young people.

Anxiety, depression, self-harm and suicide rates are absolutely astronomical among the young people of our country. While many of us found our teen years very challenging, it seems nowhere as acute as what many youth experience today.

Because of this, I am committed to taking advantage of every opportunity I have with young people to instill in them that they are beloved, uniquely created children of God. And that God's dream for them is to live into the fullness of who God has created them to be. Love of self is, in fact, central to our faith.

Blessings,

+Brian

******This version is a guide. For the "official calendar" see the calendar pad located in the church office.******

St. Nicholas, Christian Holidays — Jul 2018 (Central Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9am - Holy	2	3 6:30pm - TOPS 7pm - AA	4 9:30am - G.B.	5	6	7 5:30pm - Spani
8 9am - Holy 6:30pm - NWG	9 10am - SOSDO	10 9:30am - NWG 6:30pm - TOPS 7pm - AA	11 9:30am - G.B.	12	13 9:30am - NWG	14 5:30pm - Spani
15 Crier deadline 9am - Holy	16	17 6:30pm - TOPS 7pm - AA	18 9:30am - G.B.	19 6:30pm - NWG 7pm - Vestry	20	21 5:30pm - Spani
22 9am - Holy	23	24 6:30pm - TOPS 7pm - AA	25 9:30am - G.B.	26	27	28 5:30pm - Spani
29 VEAP School 9am - Holy	30	31 6:30pm - TOPS 7pm - AA	1 9:30am - G.B.	2	3	4 5:30pm - Spani

Vestry Minutes

June 21, 2018

Present: Matthew Johnson, Craig Kettleson, Betty Miller, Gretchen Eichhorn, Ann Bottolene, Tom McConnell and Sue Newman.

Absent: Matthew Johnson and Neptali Rodriguez.

Rich Makela and Sharon Mills also joined us.

Lindsay opened the meeting with two prayers.

Craig provided the devotion from Our Daily Bread.

The Vestry read the Secretary's Report. Tom made a motion to approve the Report, Pat seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

"Sharon provided us with a report on the progress of the Search Committee."

Rich presented the Treasurer's Report. As far as fund-raising income was concerned, the total reflected the money that had been collected from the Flower Sale; however, it does not show the payment to Gertens for the flowers we ordered. Plate offerings decreased in April probably as the result of having to close the church during the weekend of the mid-April blizzard. Utility expenses are higher because of the length of the winter cold well into April. This should work itself out over the course of the year. The rector expense now included increasing Lindsay's hours and pay to three-quarters time effective April 15.

As far as the Balance Sheet was concerned, the Spanish Program Reserve has a negative balance. Rich assured us that there was an adequate amount of cash to cover the deficit. The cash has not been assigned to the Spanish Program Reserve.

There is some question about who approves the expenditure of earnings from the Endowment Fund. Ann told us the Vestry is charged with approving these expenditures, and the Endowment Committee has the responsibility to decide how to invest the Endowment funds.

Betty made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Karen seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Betty updated us on the Pastoral Care Group which is now a Committee. They will meet on May 24.

Rich and Pat discussed our website and domain, and the process of setting up e-mail addresses necessary for the people communicating from the church.

Sharon provided us with a report on the progress of the Search Committee. They are following the diocesan outline and are halfway through the suggested steps. Rich finished the first draft of a document describing Saint Nicholas.

Sharon then went on to update us on the Communications group which also includes Dick Kohout, Kathy Cummings and Rich. There are three website designers interested in meeting with us about our site. The major focus is to tear it down and start over.

Rich stressed the importance of maintaining the website. Sharon told us we need to have photos for the website.

Tom reported on Usable Spaces. The office for both Neptali and Matthew is almost complete.

Karen then brought up the advisability of locking the rooms, especially the nursery, because of liability issues. We discussed our concerns about supervision of children during the Saturday evening service.

Karen provided us with details about the Flower Sale. We are selling leftover plants at the Recycle Sale. She is also working on outlines for what needs to be done for funeral receptions.

During Lindsay's time she informed us that the Reverend Canon Michael Pipkin will officiate on June 10 as well as meet with us after the service. She will be away for three Sundays in June. Reverend Jeannie Delamater will be here for two of those Sundays and Reverend Paul Shaffer for the third.

Lindsay told us that communications at Saint Nicholas are being enhanced in several ways, as part of the work the Communications Committee is doing and that she is doing as well. Saint Nicholas now has an ongoing and dynamic presence on Facebook and Twitter. Tom is programming the electronic sign with a variety of messages, and we have used sponsored advertising on Facebook over the Lenten season to promote both English and Spanish services. Facebook statistics say that some 8,000 people were reached through a $50 dollar investment.

"...communications ...are being enhanced in several ways..."

She reviewed the confirmation service at Saint Mark's Cathedral last month.

Lindsay went on to emphasize that some of the finest people in her ordained ministry were sitting around our Vestry table.

Convention will be held in Mankato this year on September 14 and 15. We need two delegates and one alternate. Pat volunteered to be one of the delegates.

Pat made a motion to raise Neptali's salary by $200 per month, Gretchen seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

We ended the meeting with a discussion of a joint meeting of the Vestry, the Finance Committee, and the Endowment Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Volunteers Enlisted to
Assist People

Meeting Basic Needs.
Building Stronger Communities.

VEAP Block Party

August 5 @ 4:00 pm—7:00 pm

Join us at our third annual VEAP Block Party! Every summer, we clear out our parking lot for an afternoon of live music, food trucks, ice cream, craft beer, and tons of fun games and activities for all. Our free-to-attend block party is part of our mission to strengthen our local community—we invite VEAP clients, donors, volunteers, staff, local businesses and all of our neighbors to bask in the summer sun and have a good time together.

Vendors and Entertainment

Live Music: Yam Haus
Brewer: Wooden Hill Brewing Company
Food Trucks: Bark and the Bite, WholeSum Kitchen

St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

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saint-nicks.org

& Facebook

We are a welcoming community, energized by the Spirit, and empowered to do God's work in the world