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St. James Weekly for Nov. 28 - Dec. 6

434 N. 8th St., Manitowoc WI 54220 920-684-8256 (*church office*)

The Rev. Diane M. Murray, Rector 920-860-5152 (*cell*)

Office Hours by Appointment

Sunday 11/29

1st Sunday of Advent

8:45AM Synoptic Gospel Study

9:00AM Kinderchurch

10:00AM Worship

Greeters/Ushers: 4th Sunday
Team

Acolyte: Geri Walker

Eucharistic Ministers: Sudi
Johnson, Sharon Meany

Readers: Len Coombs, Jane
Robinson

Prayers: Peggy Turnbull

11:15AM Fellowship - Pot Luck

Monday 11/30

Tuesday 12/1

3:00pm Homework Club

5:00PM Healing & Worship in
Chapel

Wednesday 12/2

5:00pm Choir

6:00pm Grief Support Group

Thursday 12/3

3:00 PM Homework Club

7:00PM PFLAG

Friday 12/4

6:30AM Morning Prayer

11:00am St. Faith's Guild
luncheon

Saturday 12/5

9:00am Episcopal 101

Sunday 12/6

2nd Sunday of Advent

8:45AM Synoptic Gospel Study

9:00 Kinderchurch

10:00AM Worship

Advent Devotions Are Available

Advent begins Sunday, Nov. 29 and continues until Christmas Eve. This year we have available an Advent devotional from the Living Compass ministry entitled "Practicing Patience With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind". Devotionals are located at the back of the church and are offered at no cost.

Gift Tree for Homework Club and KAN

Our Homework Club holiday party is Thursday, December 17. The party will include a visit from Santa, and he will distribute gifts donated by members of St. James for each of the children who attend Homework Club.

A Christmas tree will be set up in the back of the church sanctuary on the first Sunday of Advent and you can help out by selecting a child's name-tag from the tree, and signing out the child's name on the clipboard next to the tree. Then purchase a gift for that child and return the gift to church no later than Sunday, December 13. Gifts should have a value of no more than \$20. The tag will include the child's name and age - ask Mary Burckle, Liz Gordon, or Anne Schuette if you need any suggestions for a gift. All members of St. James are invited to attend the party on December 17, starting at 3:30PM.

During Advent there will also be cards on the tree to use for donations to project KAN -- which will go towards providing school supplies to Manitowoc county children. You can make a donation by writing a check to St. James, with KAN in the memo line, and then honor someone with that gift using the card. Thank you so much for your help and generosity!

Finding Our Way Through Grief - Wed. Dec 2-30 6PM

St. James will be offering a grief support group. The group is

Greeters/Ushers: 1st Sunday
Team

Crucifer: Geri Walker

Eucharistic Ministers: Richard
Hall & Lary Jean Reckelberg

Readers: Dianne Wilson &
Eleanor Agnew

Prayers: Glenn Davidowich
11:15AM Fellowship - Saints
Team

11:30AM Rule of Life- Part 1

Milestones

December Anniversaries

Dec 13 Randy & Cindy Hronek

December Birthdays

Dec 2 Todd Reckelberg

Dec 4 Chris Couris

Dec 5 William Schultz

Dec 11 Geri Walker

Dec 14 Grace Valli

Dec 15 Kelly Handl-Schultz

Dec 20 Nancy Sim

Dec 24 Mary Flint

Dec 25 Sharon Meany

Dec 27 Pat Byrd

Is your date missing? Please
tell Amma Diane

Quick Links...

- [E-Mail St James](#)
- [E-mail Pastor Diane](#)
- [Our Website](#)
- [Diocese of Fond du Lac website](#)
- [The Episcopal Church website](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Shop at Office Max?
Use the Max Perks
#331931799 and help buy
school supplies for the *KAN
Cool for School* program

**To submit info for the weekly
announcements, please
contact Amma Diane Murray
BEFORE 3PM on Thursday
dianemarie.murray@gmail.com
920-860-5152**

for people who would like some help in sorting through the many emotions and feelings we often find ourselves trying to sort through after the loss of a loved one or close friend. The group is not limited to members of the St. James congregation, so if you are reading this and someone you know comes to mind, please pass this information along. The gathering is being scheduled for five sessions, but can be extended based on feedback from the participants.

Amma Diane Murray will facilitate the group. A variety of materials may be used, among them will be "Living Well In The Midst of Grief and Loss" from the Living Compass Faith and Wellness Ministry and "the Painting Table: A Journal of Loss and Joy" by Roger Hutchison.

"Finding Our Way Through Grief" will begin on Wed. Dec. 2 and continue through Dec. 30, intentionally being scheduled through the holiday season. The group will meet at St. James Episcopal Church, from 6:00pm - approximately 7:00pm in one of the lower level rooms. Transportation can be arranged for those requesting it. Confidentiality regarding what may be shared among participants will be maintained. There is no cost to participate.

Episcopal 101 Class Saturday, Dec. 5, 9AM-Noon

All are invited to join us for Episcopal 101 Class. This three-hour class is both an introductory course for newer member and guests and a refresher course for long-time members. We'll look at Christianity, Anglicanism, The Episcopal Church, and our local congregation. The class will include a mix of presentation, discussion, videos, and printed materials. All needed materials will be provided, and there is no cost. All are welcome to attend! We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall on the lower level of the church.

Outline of the Episcopal 101 Class:

1. Welcome, introductions, and opening prayer
2. History (Anglicanism, one of the major branches of Christianity; how The Episcopal Church formed before, during, and after the Revolutionary War; the Diocese of Fond du Lac forming in the missionary frontier of Wisconsin; and St. James Episcopal Church, the oldest continual faith body in Manitowoc County.
3. Basics of Church Polity/Governance (how the Anglican Communion, The Episcopal Church, the Diocese of Fond du Lac, and our local church are inter-connected; how we connect to other denominations and religions; and the ways decisions are made.

4. What we Believe (topics including human nature, God, sin and redemption, the church, ministry, sacraments, the Christian hope, and much more).
5. St. James Episcopal Church (about our church, our people, and our ministries; how to become a member--or not; how to get involved, and more)
6. Close with Prayer.

Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church so we can make enough materials for all participants (or you can reply to this email). Talk to Amma Diane or Tony Karl if you would like more information.

Fond du Lac Rule of Life - Dec 6 & 13, 11:30 - 1:30

The Bishop, as part of his presentation at the 141st Diocese of Fond du lac Convention held this weekend, offered us a Rule of Life that we may follow as a way to become more open to living into God's mercy and delight. Copies of this Rule are available in the info area at the back of the church. Bishop Matt's hope is that we learn to "lighten up and get serious" about being people of God.

On December 6 & 13 from 11:30AM - 1:30PM Amy, Healey, Sudi Johnson, Dianne Wilson and Amma Diane present a short course explaining the 5 aspects of this rule: Worship in Community, Prayer, Fasting, Sabbath & Examination. A simple lunch will be served.

St. James Book Group Meeting - Pot Luck on Wednesday, December 16

The St. James Book Group will end the year with a pot-luck on Wednesday, December 16 at 6PM in the Fellowship Hall at St. James. Anyone who likes books and reading is invited to attend to share some Christmas cheer and vote for the books we'd like to read together in 2016. Some of our members have already submitted suggestions and Amy Healey is in charge of compiling the selections. We plan to vote for our favorites at the December meeting. If you would like to suggest a book for the coming year please email Amy at aah@alumni.northwestern.edu or call Anne Schuette (242-2819.)

Our January Book Group selection is *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt and copies are already available. Please sign out your copy from the box in the lower level cloakroom. We will be discussing this book on Wednesday, January 13, at 7PM.

Nominations for Vestry, Endowment Trustee & Diocesan Convention Delegates & Alternates

The nomination committee for the placement of names for

openings for next year's Vestry and Endowment Trustees includes: Richard Hall (Sr. Warden) chair of this committee, Dianne Wilson (Jr. Warden), Andrew Hooker & Sally Hunner (Vestry whose terms end), and Donna Franz (from the congregation). Anyone can nominate someone provided the nominee meets the qualifications. Nomination forms and instructions are available at the Info area at the back of the sanctuary. People remaining on the Vestry include: Skip Cole, Tammy McVeigh, and Murray Sim. Dan Hornung and Mark Hunner remain as Endowment Trustees, Joanna Sanchez's Endowment Trustee term ends.

Visual Arts Board--"Art Among Us"

The Visual Arts Board, located in the front foyer, presents and celebrates the seasons and lessons of the church in art. Individuals are invited to feature their creative gifts of the Holy Spirit in a variety of media (paintings, crafts, photography, etc.) to share with our community.

The November theme has been: **"Our Pet Friends"** - past and present in our lives, in celebration of St. Francis's blessing of the animals. Amma Diane shares friends in her household this week.

The December theme is: "Angels Around Us" (as depicted in photos, paintings, drawings, or multi dimension items.)

For more info, talk to: Amma Diane, Liz Gordon, Sally Hunner, Sudi Johnson, Tony Karl, Chuck Wernecke, Dianne Wilson

St. James Prayers of the People

Let us each keep those in need in our prayers this week:

For healing, comfort and strength, we lift up . . .

Alison, Jim, Steve and Mary Beth, Susie & Dave, Mary, Barbara, Caroline(Tiger), Joe, Bill, Del, Pat, Matthew, Mary Anne, Becky, Dale, Dorothy, Steven, The family of Lynn Prucha, Clayton, Bethany, Mike & Laura, Duane, Al, Dale, Lisa, Andrew, Jerry, Wade, Pat, Judy, Matthew, Mary, Audrey, Karen, Bob, Robin, Rita, Randy, Connie, The Shaw family, The family of Ray Westerdahl, Peter Jenkyn, the Herndon triplets (born 3 months early) and their parents, the family of Emily Hronek, Bill

For guidance and discernment we lift up. . .

Bill, Tim, Kyle Kurschner and Zach Truett, Shane Rosenthal, Jordan Rosenthal and Brady, in the military, Kathy & Gary, Guy & Mary, Susan, Caleb

Additional prayers we offer include...

Peace in our world. . . The people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza and Sudan and missionary families. In the Diocesan cycle of prayer we pray for Those discerning a call to vocational ministry, especially ordained ministry. In the Anglican cycle of

prayer we pray for West Malaysia. The Bible Challenge Participants. The incarcerated in Wisconsin - especially those in solitary confinement. For people living with mental illness

We offer thanks for...

Diane our Rector, Richard & Dianne, our Wardens, our Vestry and other ministry leaders, staff, and every person in this congregation. Bishop Matthew Gunter, his wife Leslie and family. For our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and his wife Sharon.

We remember the departed...

Paul, Tom, Joe, Myrna, Janice, Bill, John, Dorothy, Isabel, Howard, Bob, Cindy, Stan, Dale, Paul, Ray, Ken, Emily

If you would like prayers to be offered as part of The Prayers of the People, please fill out the written Prayer Request Form and place it in the PRAYER BOX. All are located at the back of the church.

Prayers will remain on our active prayer list for one month and can be extended by filling out a new request form.

Thanks and praises to the Lord for answers are most welcome also!

Looking Ahead: December Calendar Dates

December can be a busy month so here are some dates you might want to have on your calendar:

December 2 Finding Our Way Through Grief begins

December 4 St. Faith Guild Holiday Luncheon 11AM

December 5 Episcopal 101 9AM

December 6 - 12 Hope House Week

December 6 & 13 Rule of Life

December 10 Zimmer Forum, Noon at Silver Lake College

December 12 Breakfasts: Men's 8AM; Women's 9AM

December 15 Madison School Winter Concert, 10AM/2PM

December 16 RUTH 8:30AM

December 16 Book Group Pot Luck, 6:00PM

December 17 Homework Club Party

December 21 - 23 Meals on Wheels

December 22 Help decorate the church for Christmas, 9AM

December 24 Christmas Eve 6:30PM Music 7PM Service

December 25 Christmas Day Service 9AM

For a full calendar visit our website

www.stjamesmanitowoc.com

Homework Club News

Our Homework Club partnership with Madison School is going strong this year with 18 students

registered for the first semester. Our Homework Club regular volunteers include Mary Burckle, Bob Feller, Liz Foster, Liz Gordon, Amy Healey, Sivu Kangayappan, Sue Kielberg, Amy O'Shea, Tom Peneski, Debbie Rhein and Anne Schuette. Thanks to all who have contributed snacks including Audrey Bean, Ron Hansen, Judy Lavicka, Lynn Rogers, Dianne Wilson, Liz Schrank and several anonymous donors. Thanks also to Murray Sim for supervising the students as they walk from school to church.

St. James members are welcome to come and check out Homework Club on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting just after 3:00PM in the Fellowship Hall. If you'd like a nice walk from St. James to Madison School and back, be at church by 2:45PM and you can accompany the students and experience exuberantness. If you'd like to listen to a first or second grader read out loud, or work through a pack of multiplication flash cards with a youthful mathematician then Homework Club is the place for you!