

NEWSLETTER



Episcopal Parish of Ames

November 2016

MANAGEMENT OF TIME

For the past couple of months this letter has dealt with the management (stewardship) of our ecology and accumulated assets. This month I would encourage each of us to look at the way we manage our time. Each and every week we are blessed with God's gift of 168 hours --- over ten thousand minutes. We make the decision about how we will spend that time each week. We decide how many hours to sleep, work, and do household chores. We make decisions about the use of our leisure time including exercise, the use of electronics, reading, and just about every imaginable use of our gift of time.

People frequently say that they do not have time for prayer, or reading an article or book to deepen their faith. They think they are too busy to go to church on a Sunday or attend a midweek service. Could this really be the case or are they just making excuses? Most of us find the time to do the things that we really want to do. I love to eat so I spend time cooking and going to the grocery store. The dishwasher cuts down on my clean-up chores, but if I stop to calculate the time spent preparing food and eating, I am sure it is several hours per week. Laundry does not take nearly the time it used to because of washers and dryers. Many other household chores have become easier or quicker with the advent of modern technology.

What about the time we spend in front of a television, computer, tablet, or on our phone? My smart phone takes much more time out of my day than my flip phone did, and several times more than I used to spend on my rotary dial phone. Looking at other people around me tells me that I am not alone in this use of time.

So I encourage you to be more aware of the gift of time and how you spend it. What do we owe back to God in thanksgiving for the time that we have? I would say minimum would be time for prayer and worship, but also time to serve others. Helping others in need, reaching out to those less fortunate or lonely, finding some way to give back some of our time to others as an action of thanksgiving is not only appropriate. It is part of our faith journey, part of our stewardship-management of a very important gift that has been given to us by God.

Faithfully,
Al

EPISCOPAL PARISH OF AMES

Parish Office

St. John's by the Campus
Episcopal Parish and Student Center
2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, IA 50014

Clergy

The Reverend Canon Alexander A. Aiton, Jr.,
Rector
The Reverend Donald R. Payer, Deacon
Emeritus

Parish Assistants

Jeannie Garcia, Secretary
David Moore, Chaplain
Dr. Miriam Zach, Music Director/Organist
Amy Mellies, Director of Christian Formation
Wendy Ware, Organist
Jane Galyon, Newsletter Editor

How to Communicate

St. John's Office: (515) 292-6655
St. John's e-mail: church@stjohns-ames.org
St. John's fax: (515) 292-1941
Fr. Aiton: fralaiton@stjohns-ames.org
Amy Mellies amymellies@stjohns-ames.org
Dr. Miriam Zach: miriamzach@gmail.com
St. John's Website: www.stjohns-ames.org
Diocese of Iowa: www.iowaepiscopal.org

Vestry, 2016

Senior Warden: George Smith
Junior Warden: Stacy Joiner
Scott Saienga – Treasurer
Clerk: Gloria Starns
Nicola Bowler Chuck Deppe
Michael Howell Jeremy Long
Maddy Losby Jim Murdock

Newsletter, November 2016, Vol 22, Num 10

This publication, Newsletter, is published monthly except July by the Episcopal Parish of Ames, a non-profit organization, 2338 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50014. Comments or inquiries may be sent to the church office. The **deadline for the next Newsletter is Monday, November 28**. Submit articles to Jeannie at St. John's or via email to church@stjohns-ames.org and jgalyon@iastate.edu

November Coffee Hour

November 6

8 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
10 a.m. Daughters of the King

November 13

8 & 10 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

November 20

8 & 10 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

November 27

8 & 10 a.m. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

November Lectionary

November 6th - All Saint's Day

The First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 2:7-11

The Psalm: Psalm 149

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:11-23

The Gospel: Luke 6:20-31

November 13

The First Lesson: Isaiah 65:17-25

The Psalm: Canticle 9

The Second Lesson: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

The Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

November 20

The First Lesson: Jeremiah 23:1-6

The Psalm: Canticle 4

The Second Lesson: Colossians 1:11-20

The Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

November 27

The First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

The Psalm: Psalm 122

The Second Lesson: Romans 13:11-14

The Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

Experiencing the Joy of Generosity

This month we will begin a three-week stewardship emphasis titled *Experiencing the Joy of Generosity*. We believe this program will be a blessing to those who already are experiencing the joy of being generous with the gifts God has given to them, and we hope and pray that this effort will help many more experience the joy that comes from giving faithfully and generously.

When we give to God through giving to our church and others, we experience one of the true

joys of being Christians. Jesus said, *“It is more blessed to give than to receive”* (Acts 20:35). God does not need our gifts, but asks us to give them. God accepts and uses them and gives us joy in sharing them. As we respond to God’s love for us by giving back to God part of what God has given to us, we are given even more. Although we do not give so that we will receive God’s blessings, scripture promises us that, when we give faithfully and willingly, we will receive an abundance of spiritual blessings and, for some, material blessings as well.

Have you ever wondered why you are left with such a joyful feeling when you are able to help a person in need? The answer to that question may be rooted in us as Christians who are being recreated in the image of God. To be made in God’s image means we are made to be like God whose nature is to give. Giving helps us feel fulfilled as we reflect God’s nature. Our Creator empowers us to give joyfully to our church and others. With this attitude of joyful gratitude, God keeps us close.

Our pursuit for fulfillment and joy culminates in the discovery that we receive these things when we respond in generosity.

We ask that pledge cards be returned during worship on November 20 to celebrate as a community God’s many gifts to us and our return of a portion to God.

Deepening Faith

Deepening Faith will meet only once in November, on the second **Thursday, Nov. 10, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in the parlor. All are welcome. In our meetings we have some discussion time, some time for silent prayer, and some time for prayerful reading of scripture (lectio divina). Since a lot happens in November, but we only have one meeting, our topics may be drawn in part from Thanksgiving and Advent (which starts on Nov. 27). Watch the yellow page of the Sunday bulletins to see the Deepening Faith schedule for December. We will either have two meetings (first and third

Thursdays, Dec. 1 and 15) or just one (second Thursday, Dec. 8).

Altar Guild

We will have a clean, polish, dust day on **November 10 at 9 a.m.** to have everything on the Altar looking great for the upcoming holiday season. Please let Marti know if you can participate that day; regrets not necessary. We will finish up by 11 a.m.

Marti Elzer

The 164th Diocesan Convention

St. John’s was well represented at the 2016 Diocesan Convention. Attending in one role or another were David and Rev. Mary Jane Oakland, Fr. Al, Nicola Bowler and two of her daughters, Jim Murdock, Chris Moon, the Mellies family including the kids, Dorothy Yoerger, and Ed Gillott.

Of special note was the installation of Fr. Al as Canon of Trinity Cathedral (Davenport) in recognition of 25 years of service as rector of St. Johns. In other news, our rising star Amy Mellies was elected as an At-Large Delegate to the Diocesan Board of Directors in a unanimous vote! Congratulations to Fr. Al and Amy!

Ed Gillott

Food at First

St. John’s serves the Food at First Community Meal on the fourth Saturday of each month. On Saturday, October 22 we had a crew of 6 and served 33 guests. Thanks to Beverly Baustian, Jim Murdock, Helen McRoberts, Leigh Ann Long, and head chef Michael Howell.

The Rev. Canon Alexander A. Aiton

WHEREAS, Alexander A. Aiton was born in New Jersey of immigrant parents and ventured to the Midwest for one year of seminary study at Seabury-Western before returning to the East Coast and completing his theological studies at General Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, upon ordination to the priesthood, he served several churches in the Diocese of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, he began his journey edging westward by serving on the Staff of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania as development and stewardship officer, and was accorded the designation as honorary canon of The Cathedral of St. Stephen, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, he was called to be the third rector of St. John's by the Campus in Ames, IA; and

WHEREAS, he has spent 25 years in distinguished parish leadership, service to the community of Ames, and to the Diocese of Iowa in the areas of Stewardship, Commission on Ministry, and the Standing Committee serving as its president;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this 164th Convention of the Diocese of Iowa give thanks to God for his continuing faithful ministry among us and acclaims with joy his installation as honorary canon of Trinity Cathedral, Davenport on October 28, 2016

Wow - the holidays are upon us already! Our next dates will be **November 26 and December 24**. Please check your calendars and bring the family to help serve a meal at the First Christian Church! We begin meal prep at 10 a.m. and serve the meal from 11:30 to 12:15. We usually finish cleanup by 2 p.m. Our students will be out of town, so your help is needed! There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall.

Food at First will also be serving a community meal on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas

Day. More information on these events will follow later. For more information contact Ed Gillott or Jeannie in the parish office.

St. John's Building and Grounds.

We have a lot of work to do on the grounds this fall, and we need your help! Please join us on **Saturday November 12 from 8 to 12**. For more information, contact Ed Gillott or George Smith.

Book Club

We will be discussing chapters 11-20 of "Eve" on **Wednesday, November 2nd at 6 p.m.** If you have any questions, contact Amy Mellies.

Readers for the 10 a.m. Service

We need volunteers to sign up to read for the service. A signup sheet is on the table in the Parish Hall.

Monday Daisies

We need volunteers to take flowers to shut ins or to people who are in need of encouragement. A new chart for signups is on the bulletin board by the water fountain.



2016 CROP Walk

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the CROP walk this year. It was another spectacular fall day. Our walkers include Ed Gillott and Snicker, David Moore, Fr. Al, Leigh Ann and Nora Long, and Dave and Rev. Mary Jane Oakland. I will report the final tally once I get the results. Martin Coria, Regional Coordinator, will give a presentation titled "The Work of Church World Service in Latin America and the Caribbean" on November 3 at 7 p.m. at the Calvary Methodist Church. Mr. Coria works with partners to end hunger and poverty and promote peace and justice. Their work is

supported by both Church World Service and the Foods Resource Bank. This special program is free and open to the public. Calvary UMC is located at 1403 24th St. in Ames.

Christmas Services

There will be one service at 7 p.m. on Christmas Eve and one service on Christmas Day at 11 a.m.

Christian Formation Focus

Sunday School Classes

4yo - 4th grade will be in Godly Play

5th-8th will be known as #JesusSquad

9th - 12th will be in The Den.

Godly Play will be meeting on November 6, 13 and 20.

#JesusSquad and The Den will meet on November 13 and 20.

Concession Stand Help

Mark **November 19** on your calendar. St. John's will be running a concession stand at Jack Trice Stadium for the ISU vs Texas Tech football game. If you are 16+ please sign up to help as the money will go towards the youth funds and college student funds.

Mark Your Calendar for these Upcoming

Youth Events:

November 6 - Sunday school classes for Godly Play - No EYC

November 13 - Sunday school classes for all - EYC at Tropical Smoothie 6 p.m.

November 20 - Sunday school classes for all - No EYC

November 27 - No Sunday school - No EYC

October Vestry Minutes

October 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Present: Father Al Aiton, Rector

George Smith, Sr. Warden

Chuck Deppe, Michael Howell, Jeremy Long,

Maddy Losby, Jim Murdock, Gloria Starns,

Amy Mellies (Director, Christian Formation),

David Moore (Chaplin)

Absent: Stacy Joiner, Jr. Warden, Scott Saienga (Treasurer), Nicola Bowler

Mary Etheridge: Mary briefed the Vestry on the blanket project for families of police officers and fireman that have been killed. A prayer shawl ministry has grown from this ministry. Mary provided some patterns for prayer shawls; these shawls are meant for people who need them; they are not to be sold for presents.

Campus Ministry: A *cook-in* will be held in the Church on Sunday, October 23. The College Youth will be helping the youth group with the concession stands at Jack Trice Stadium; **25 volunteers are needed to help with the concessions.** Michael Howell solicited help from the College youth to help with Food at First.

Youth Ministry: Amy provided a report to the Vestry and has asked for help with concessions on November 19th at Jack Trice. November 27th, the Greening Event will be held accompanied by a potluck.

Jim Murdock announced Deeping Faith events during November and December along with a possible event related to Advent.

Music Ministry: December 11th, Lessons and Carols at the 10:00 service.

Treasurer's Report: Oversight of bills and review of the budget are the principle responsibilities of the Treasurer.

Motion to ask Bob Joy to help with an audit: Michael Howell made the motion, Chuck Deppe seconded the motion

Vestry unanimously approved

Budget: The Parish will be asked to increase the Diocesan share by 10% over the amount pledged last year.

Revised finance structure: A Finance Committee which will include both a Budget Committee and an Endowment Committee. The budget should be ready for review by the Treasurer in November

The significance of sustaining the long term maintenance fund and the interest it collects was discussed; several ministries have been supported with the interest from the account.

Motion to approve area of consent: Jeremy Long made a motion to approve, Michael Howell seconded the motion. Alcohol request for June 5th and 6th (Music Teacher's Association)
Vestry unanimously approved

Property:

Ed Gillot provided the Vestry a summary of expenses that are likely to occur over the span of the next 8 years; anticipated expenses include carpet replacement, structural repairs, roof replacement, heating and air conditioning units, and exterior painting. Given the current balance of the long term maintenance fund and estimated expenses, the Parish would fall approximately \$80,000 short of covering anticipated expenses.

Carpeting: Thursday, October 20, areas will be measured. Entrance way, gathering area and steps estimate by Urban Flooring and Design: \$8,877.60. Carpet tiles, instead of carpet, would increase the cost by \$3850.00.

Stewardship:

Upcoming Events:

- October 23 Vestry Meet and Greet following 10:00 service
- November 19 Jack Trice Stadium, concessions
- November 27 Greening of the Church, potluck
- December 11 Lessons and Carols, 10:00 service

Other Business: None to report

Closing Prayer, Father Al

Adjournment: 8:36 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:
Gloria Starns, Clerk of the Vestry*



Greening of the Church

November 27th at
5pm

Join us for Great Food, Wine,
Music, Crafts and
Decorations!

Potluck style dinner and crafts for all ages. We will be decorating in the sanctuary and in the parish hall. Come and enjoy a fun evening! Potluck signup is in the parish hall.

Contact Amy Mellies regarding questions

November Events 2016

November 2 (Wednesday)

Soup Lunch 12:30 p.m. after Holy Eucharist

November 6 (Sunday)

Emergency Residence Project Offering - both services

Daughters of the King Rededication (10 a.m. service)

Daughters of the King - coffee hour after 10:00 service

November 10 (Thursday)

Exploring Faith 7:00 p.m.

November 13 (Sunday)

Potluck after 10:00 a.m. service

November 17 (Tuesday)

Vestry Meeting 7:00 p.m.

November 20 (Sunday)

Daughters of the King Meeting

November 24 & 25 (Thursday & Friday)

Thanksgiving Offices Closed

November 26 (Saturday)

Food at First 10:30 a.m.

November 27 (Sunday)

Greening Event - Potluck 5:00 p.m.