



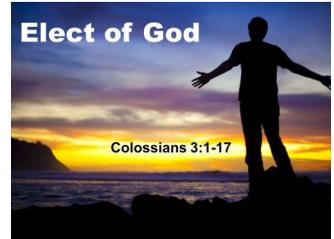
# The Torchbearer

## There's a Place for you at the Table

*A publication by, for and about the people of St. Aidan's Episcopal Church*

### The Elect

On Tuesday, November 8, Americans will chose a new President, and to say that this election has caused anxiety and disharmony is probably the understatement of the decade. Through an extended primary season and a seemingly interminable general election campaign, voters have been exposed to acrimony, calumny, and recriminations on an un-



precedented

scale. People in the Kansas City area get a double dose of contested battles as our community straddles a state border: we are inundated with ceaseless commercials castigating candidates in Missouri for whom we never could (and we probably never would) vote.

It is apparent that such extreme partisanship can infect and poison every aspect of life: communal, social, and even familial. However, the one area where the strife and discord of partisan politics should never pose any such danger is the Church. We have already had our election. At our baptisms, worship gatherings, and ministries to the community we have elected Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

This is important to remember: commentators and commercials warn us that if a certain candidate is elected it will be a disaster of Biblical proportions ("human sacrifice, cats and dogs living together, mass hysteria!" – Ghostbusters).

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For followers of Jesus, it simply ain't so. Our hope is not hostage to the vagaries of political expediency. Our joy is not found in the elation of election returns. Our firm foundation is found in the life and work – specifically, the death and resurrection – of Jesus of Nazareth.

We vowed to follow him at our Baptism. Many of us affirmed that vow at our Confirmations. We proclaim our allegiance whenever we have the opportunity to reaffirm our Baptismal vows. And whenever we extend a helping hand in the name of Jesus, or pray for someone, or seek wisdom and God's guidance through reading the Scriptures, we assert that our Lord and Savior is not an impressive and credentialed candidate for public office, but a humble carpenter from a backwaters village in Nazareth.

My wish for you this election season is that you conscientiously exercise your franchise and vote for the candidates of your choice. My hope is that you enjoy the election night results. But my prayer is that whatever happens, your eyes remain firmly fixed on the one who lived and died for us, who assured us that we are always on solid ground trusting first and last in the goodness and mercy of God.

Fr. Shawn +



## CAKEWALK

### **Briarwood Elementary School Cake Walk**

We are contributing baked items (cookies, brownies, more cookies, and especially chocolate chip cookies) packaged in small quantities (three to four in a package) for Briarwood Elementary, our school partner, for their fall festival to raise funds for their fifth grade class. **Please bring items by the church the week of November 7, and Briarwood will pick them up on Thursday, Nov. 10.** Please see Kathy Mencer (913 592-5413) for more information. Thank you and God bless you.

## We Believe

From the days of the first followers of Jesus, through more than twenty centuries of calm and turmoil, the Christian faith has endured as a faith rooted in tradition. When Paul recounts the story of the Last Supper to the new Christians in Corinth, he writes that he hands on (*traditio* in Latin, from which we get the word “tradition”) to them what he had received. Each new generation receives the tenets of the faith from the previous generation, and each generation hands on those tenets to the next generation.

Fortunately, each generation does not have to cull through Scriptures to plumb the essentials of the Christian faith, but receives them in the form of Creeds. A Creed is a succinct statement of the principles of a faith: hammered out by the Church through Councils, it parses the beliefs of followers of Jesus to their essentials.

The Episcopal Church proclaims the Nicene Creed during Holy Eucharist (BCP pp. 326 and 358), and incorporates the Apostles Creed into the Baptismal Covenant (BCP p. 304). Even though the Creed represents the fundamentals of the Christian faith, I suspect that many people might coast through its proclamation during worship, sensing it as a bridge between the Sermon and the Prayers of the People. I confess that I have done so more than once.

Therefore, since it is an integral part of our worship, and it is also an integral part of our faith, we are going to take a look at the contents of the Creed during the month of November through December 11 (on Sunday, December 18, we will have Lessons and Carols, and something happens on Sunday, December 25). To start our series, we will be looking at the centrality of belief in our lives. Here is a schedule of our topics:

**November 6: Belief**

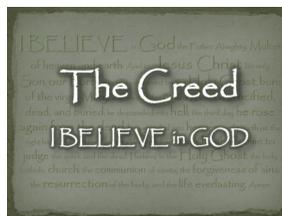
**November 13: God the Father**

**November 20: God the Son: Divinity**

**November 27: God the Son: Humanity**

**December 4: God the Holy Spirit**

**December 11: The Church**



I am looking forward to our examination and discussion of the foundational principles of the Christian faith, and I hope that you will be able to join me on Sunday mornings. Should you have any friends or neighbors who have only encountered Christians through media portrayals, this would be a great opportunity to introduce them to the Christian faith (and they can hang around for the good food and great fellowship after worship!). I pray that after we have taken this journey together, you will find new meaning and depth when you proclaim “We believe.”

## Creative Outreach *and* Daughters of the King Workshop November 12



You are invited to an Anglican Rosary Workshop sponsored by St. Bridget's Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King and Saint Aidan's Creative Outreach on Saturday, November 12, from 9 am to 1 pm. Do you have your own cross or beads that are heirlooms or special to you? If so, please bring them to create your own special rosary. However, we will also have crosses and beads for you to select from and use. Learn how to create rosaries and pray using the rosary.

Please share. Please invite family and friends to come with you. If you have any questions, please contact Marcia Streepy (913 660-5646) or Carolyn Sturgeon (913-499-9375).



### The Hospitality Committee announces a **MYSTERY DINNER** November 19

It's been many years since the parish enjoyed a night of fun, great food, and laughter at a Mystery Dinner. If you've never attended one of these, you're in for a real treat. If you have, don't reveal the mystery. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, Nov. 19. Happy ½ Hour begins at 5:30 p.m., with the dinner 6:00 p.m. in Sifers Hall. Before the holiday rush starts, come, relax, and enjoy yourself at St. Aidan's 3<sup>rd</sup> (but not annual) Mystery Dinner. Tickets are \$10.00 adult, \$5.00 children under 10, and will be sold at church on Oct. 30, Nov. 6, and Nov. 13. No tickets will be sold at the door. Invite your family and friends! Please see Janet Seifert for more information about a fun filled evening of fellowship and fine dining.



## **Annual Thanksgiving Worship Sunday November 20**

Saint Aidan's will celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 20, at 5 pm with the good people of Saint Mark's Lutheran Church, 21155 College Blvd., Olathe. The Episcopal Church of the United States is in communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and this is an opportunity to experience and demonstrate our shared mission and ministry. We will worship at Saint Mark's at 5 pm, and after worship will join them for their annual Thanksgiving potluck supper. Saint Mark's will provide the turkey, so please bring a side dish. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board above the drinking fountain in the entryway. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join you at this annual celebration of worship and fellowship.



## **Johnson County Community College Orchestra Concert Nov. 21**

Saint Aidan's will be the venue for a very special concert performance by the Johnson County Community College Orchestra on Monday, November 21, at 7:30 pm. The Orchestra, led by Dr. Mark Pretzel (beloved musician at Saint Aidan's), will feature Mozart's Symphony No 5 in G minor (K 183), and Bach's Violin Concerto in A minor with Lisa Jackson, soloist. There will also be a reception following the concert for the musicians and their guests. What better way to compose yourself before the frantic Holiday season commences than with an evening of great music? Please be sure to put the JCCC Orchestra Concert on Monday, November 21, at 7:30 pm on your calendar.



**OH BOY ...  
Christmas Cookies!**

These not just any Christmas Cookies! Plan now to join in on the fun and participate in the first ever Annual St Aidan's Christmas Cookie Exchange on **Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> starting at noon.**

Have you ever visited "That House", that house that had the HUGE plate of Holiday Sweets? That House that had a plate with a wide variety of cookies. From Fudge to Spritz cookies to Iced Sugar cookies to bars to ... well you know what I am talking about. Plan to participate in the exchange and you can amaze your friends, neighbors and family when they stop by for a holiday visit and you transform your home into "That House"!

Here's how it works... Show up at the church at noon with 4 dozen of your favorite cookies. Something drool worthy for everyone to... well, drool over. Just make one kind, but be sure that there are 48 of them. We will take the Church's kickback of 1 dozen and offer them to the congregation on Sunday morning (the 4<sup>th</sup>). BUT THE REST... the other 36, you will leave for the other participants to exchange. Come with 4 dozen of a single type of cookie and leave with 3 dozen of a variety. Enough to transform yourself into "THAT HOUSE"!

So, mark your calendar, shop now for bulk sugar and decorations, bake to impress and plan now to be a part of the first ever Annual St Aidan's Christmas Cookie Exchange!

See you in Church!

Dave Scott



## Angel Tree Holiday Outreach

Children often feel lonely and abandoned when their mom or dad goes away to prison. But Prison Fellowship's Angel Tree program is there to help. Church volunteers around the country provide local children with the Gospel message and Christmas gifts on behalf of their incarcerated parent. These children also receive a special message from their mom or dad, reminding them of their love. Through Angel Tree, churches are coming alongside families of the incarcerated at Christmastime, and all year long, to provide support while their loved ones are away.

This Holiday Season, Saint Aidan's is sponsoring six children whose lives have been altered by having a parent in prison. Whether they have lost their mother or their father, these children feel the absence especially at Christmas. There will be a special Christmas tree placed in the garden in the nave with six special Angel Tree tags hanging from it; Angel Tree strongly recommends that each child on the tree receive a *minimum* of one gift valued at approximately \$15 to \$25. Of course, there can be more than one gift per child. The wrapped gifts will then be placed back under the Christmas tree in the garden, and will be delivered to the children before Christmas.

Angel Tree is a special opportunity to remember and bless children who are often the victims of circumstances far beyond their control and even their understanding. Angel Tree is also an opportunity for Saint Aidan's to recall how blessed it has been by God, and to seek to share our blessing. I pray that you consider participating in the Angel Tree program this Christmas season. Please see Marcia Streepy for more information.



## Nursery Attendant/Children's Chapel Director Position

Our dedicated Nursery Attendant/Children's Chapel Director Maggie Hutchinson is leaving for school intern assignments in January, so her position will be open and available starting on Sunday, January 1, 2017. There is more information about the position available on the bulletin board above the drinking fountain in the entryway, and additional flyers can be obtained in the office. Please spread the word about this opportunity to serve a great group of young people and help form the next generation of Christians.

And please take a moment to thank Maggie Hutchinson for all of her dedication and hard work – she has been a true blessing to all of us!! If you have any questions or would like more information, please see either Father Shawn or Treasurer Tim Tatlock.

### Collecting Toiletries for Bessie's House

Bessie's House is a loving, Christ-like response to the spiritual, economic, and social poverty across the city of Kansas City, Missouri. We are collecting toiletry items – new toothbrushes, small tubes of toothpaste, shampoo and conditioners, deodorants, and small bars of soap – for Bessie's House. Please put them in the basket in the entryway next to the water fountain. We have already sent one basketful of items to Bessie's House, and hope to see many more! Thank you and God bless you.



### Food Pantry at St. Paul's in Kansas City, Ks: Matching Contributions



Please join Don Seifert (913 208-7393) *et al.* who travel to the Food Pantry at St. Paul's in Kansas City, Kansas on Wednesday mornings. You can also make a financial contribution to the work of the Pantry. Through the end of the calendar year a generous anonymous donor is matching all contributions made to the pantry up to \$5000. When you make your generous contribution, please write a check to St. Aidan's and note "St. Paul's Food Pantry" on the memo line. Remember, a thoughtful Christmas gift is a donation to the pantry in someone special's name. Thanks!!

**Paint & Pinot**



**St. Aidan's Children  
Singing "Zacchaeus"**

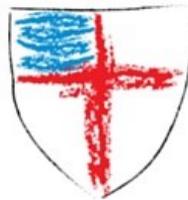


**Parking Lot  
Maintenance**



# YOUTHTIDE

November 11-13



## YouthTide!

YouthTide is where we learn more about the entire Episcopal Church Calendar. Come ADVENTure with us through **all** the seasons of the Episcopal church year! One weekend filled with Advent Wreaths, Gingerbread Nativities, King's Cake, Spiritual Gifts, Silent Prayer, The Last Supper, an Easter Egg Hunt, and so much more! Christian poets say that the liturgical year is a wedding ring we wear to remember our covenant with the Christlike God.

From Advent and the preparation for Christ's coming to Christmas and Epiphany, a journey through Lent, and the celebration of Easter, we will spend time experiencing silence, serving God, singing, worshiping, eating LOTS of yummy meals and hanging out with your diocesan youth friends!

We'll also spend a little bit of time looking at other Christian denominations and World Religions and how they compare to Episcopalians.

**When:** November 11-13, 2016

**Where:** St. Andrew's, Emporia

**Who:** Youth currently in grades 6-12

**Fee:** \$65

**Registration forms:** <https://edok.formstack.com/forms/youthtide16>

### Questions?

Contact Diocesan Youth Missioner, Karen Schlabach, [kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org](mailto:kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org).



## ROTA

NOVEMBER ROTA	Nov. 6	Nov. 13	Nov. 20	Nov. 27
Chalice Bearers	Carolyn Sturgeon Mike Belt	Jane Bush Ben Strain	Roger Ewing Paul Reed	Sarah Smith Don Seifert
Lector 1	Mark Sappenfield	Clarice Ewing	Neil Powers	Martha Berton
Lector 2	Barb Chlumsky	Gwen Jones Starmer	Karon Wintrode	Neil Powers
Intercessors	Clarice Ewing	Chris Burbach	Carolyn Sturgeon	Barb Belt
Ushers	Paul & Jill Reed	Kathie Kleeman Jackie Scott	Don & Janet Seifert	George Dunmore Sandy Conrad
LEV	Tim Tatlock	Tom Mencer	Jan Frye-Gable	Karon Wintrode
Counters	Kathie Kleeman Kurt Gordon	Jan Frye-Gable Don Seifert	Barb Belt Nikki Crowell	Jackie Scott Tom Mencer
Altar Guild	Emily Frye Clarice Ewing	Carrie Wintrode Nikki Crowell	Jan Frye-Gable Kathie Kleeman	Karon Wintrode
Church Basement "Ladies"	Janet Seifert	Michele Greene	Darlene Kincaid	Dave Scott



### Birthdays

- 1 Cole Spriggs
- 3 Laura Burbach
- 4 Becky Poe
- 7 Zeb Lynn
- 9 Don Seifert
- 10 Samantha Zamarripa
- 14 Tim Tatlock
- 17 Leo Lynn
- 18 Barb Belt
- 20 Kurt Gordon
- 24 Martha Berton
- 24 Margaret Dierolf
- 24 Ethan Jayaram
- 28 Landon Jayaram
- 29 Angie Bjorgo

### Anniversaries

- 08 Robert & Kathleen McGowan
- 14 Douglas & Tiffany Mays



### 2016 VESTRY MEMBERS

- Sr. Warden:*  
Kathie Kleeman
- Jr. Warden:*  
Kurt Gordon
- Treasurer:*  
Tim Tatlock
- Asst. Treasurer:*  
Roger Ewing
- Clerk:*  
Carolyn Sturgeon
- Rob Coultis
- Jackie Scott
- Ruth Henderson
- Nikki Crowell
- Barb Belt
- Michele Greene



### WORSHIP TIMES

#### Sunday

9 am  
Adult Forum  
Sunday School

10 am  
Holy Eucharist  
Children's Church & Nursery

#### Saturday

5 pm  
Holy Eucharist



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