

# CONNECTIONS

All Saints Episcopal Church Monthly Newsletter

## LENT 2022



Ash Wednesday  
Imposition of Ashes  
March 2, 6:30pm

## Wednesdays in Lent

Simple Soup Suppers: 6:00pm

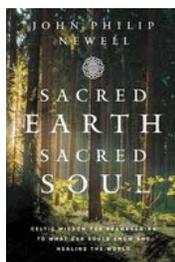
Book Study: 6:30

March 9, 16, 23, 30 & April 6



Please sign up on the posted sheet on the bulletin board or email the church if you are able to prepare a simple meal of soup and bread. Teams of two make it easy!

Peter Stebinger will lead our study of the book, Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul by John Philip Newell. We have reserved copies at Content Bookstore on Division St.; mention that you are from All Saints and receive a 10% discount. In addition, a couple of copies will be available from the church to borrow. Read more about the book study on page 3.



## What's inside?

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Church is open!  
We will record attendance  
and enjoy singing.

We ask everyone to mask as extra care  
for our youth. Service will continue to be  
available at 10:30am at  
allsaintsnorthfield.org

CONTACTS &  
OFFICE HOURS  
419 Washington Street  
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Office - 507-645-7417

Email:  
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Website:  
www.allsaintsnorthfield.org

In Case of Emergency  
Interim Priest Peter Stebinger  
can be reached at  
(203) 215-1156

The Church office is closed until further  
notice. Emails, voicemails, mail and  
finance are being monitored and  
addressed.

All Saints Episcopal Church is a parish in  
the Episcopal Church of Minnesota  
ECMN Offices :  
1101 W Broadway Avenue Minneapolis,  
MN 55411  
Website: www.episcopalmn.org  
Phone: 612-871-5311

All Saints welcomed Peter Stebinger on his first Sunday as he celebrated the Eucharist with us on February 13

# Welcome

**Interim Priest in charge  
Peter Stebinger**



I want to begin by saying how happy I am to be at All Saints, Northfield. All Saints is clearly a strong congregation that has done well under the leadership of the Reverend Gayle Marsh. With her retirement it is time to seek a new ordained person take the roll of priest-in-charge.

In this process there are two key roles. My role, as interim priest-in-charge, is to lead worship, provide pastoral care, and be responsible for making sure that All Saints continues to do well during this period of transition. I will be celebrating the Eucharist, working to provide adult education during Lent, visiting the sick and those in need, participating in Northfield area clergy gatherings, other duties as needed and making sure that All Saints remains connected to ECMN. My current plan is to be at All Saints every Sunday, and part of the day most Wednesday's. Because I live in Minneapolis and cannot be in Northfield every single day, I am happy to hear from people either via email or text message or phone call. My email is [peterstebinger@gmail.com](mailto:peterstebinger@gmail.com), my phone number 203-215-1156. While I will respond to an emergency as soon as I receive the message, routine matters may take a little time. And of course, your wardens, Mark and Pam know far more about what's going on at All Saints than I do. They should be approached if you have questions that you think they can answer.

I am happy to be a listening ear, to listen to any concerns you might have about the transition, the search process, ECMN, worship, politics, COVID or pretty much anything else. I enjoy coffee and will be happy to try to schedule coffee with you or with any member if you wish. As we are still transitioning out of covid I plan to continue to follow covid protocols in determining visits. We will just work out what works best as we work together. I expect to be here until the new priest arrives, or the end of this year, 2022, whichever comes first. I believe however, that this schedule gives All Saints plenty of time to find the next person before I leave.

The second part the major work for All Saints right now, will be done by the transition team / search committee. The process has two parts, first, developing a very good description of All Saints as it is now and the concerns of the members of the congregation going forward. The second part is finding the next Priest-in-charge/Rector. This search process is led by lay people who are members of All Saints, and I will have relatively little participation in it. You will find a list of the members of that team in another part of this newsletter. However, I am happy to hear any concerns you have about the process.

A quick bit of background about me. I moved to Minnesota from Connecticut in 2018 to be closer to grandchildren. I live in South Minneapolis, about 45 minutes away from All Saints in Northfield. I do not consider this an overly long drive. I have lived in the East for most of the past 40 years, but my mother grew up in rural North Dakota and I have many cousins there. That's enough for now, I look forward to our building relationship.

## LENTEN WEDNESDAY BOOK STUDY

Submitted by Peter Stebinger

Lenten study at All Saints will be returning the Wednesday after Ash Wednesday.

We will be studying John Philip Newell's new book: Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Celtic wisdom for Reawakening to what our souls know and healing the world.

Celtic spirituality has always been much more positive towards humans and their relationship with the world than traditional Calvinistic theology. This book looks at 9 key figures who take a more "Celtic" approach to our relationship with God, one another, and creation.

Each chapter emphasizes an aspect of sacredness. Soul, song, the Earth, matter, compassion, the journey. All are connected to important spiritual leaders such as Pelagius, St. Brigid, John Muir, Teilard de Chardin, to name a few.

During Lent we will discuss two people a week. Our study will be preceded by a simple soup and bread supper. Supper will be at 6 p.m. And Lenten study will run from approximately 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.. We will conclude with brief evening prayers and all should be headed home well before 8. Come and see. I don't expect any of us will agree with everything we read, but it should make for a lively discussion.

## MARCH

2	Ash Wednesday- 6:30pm
9	Outreach Meeting- 8:30am
	Lenten Supper, Book Study- 6:00pm
13	Vestry, noon
	Daylight Saving Time- change your clocks!
16	Lenten Supper, Book Study- 6:00pm
23	Lenten Supper, Book Study- 6:00pm
30	Lenten Supper, Book Study- 6:00pm



## We are one church in 104 locations

Bound together by our commitment to follow the Way of Jesus, joining God in God's project to heal the whole world with love.

## Our Priorities

At ECMN convention in September of 2020, Bishop Loya introduced four priorities that will shape our life together. Explore them below and at <https://episcopalmn.org/> for more information.

**Discipleship**

Daily practices that help us follow Jesus as our whole way of life.

**Faithful Innovation**

Joining the Spirit in new ways to proclaim and live out the gospel.

**Justice**

Becoming the Beloved Community.

**Congregational Vitality**

Thriving faith communities of all sizes in all places.



## Episcopal Humor!

Following is an excerpt from an essay by Garrison Keillor, a home-grown humorist who attends St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church in St. Paul, Minnesota. Enjoy!!

**Garrison Keillor's essay on being Episcopalian**

We make fun of Episcopalians for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their lack of speed and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese.

But nobody sings like us.

If you were to ask an audience in Des Moines, a relatively Episcopalianless place, to sing along on the chorus of "Michael Row the Boat Ashore," they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Episcopalians, they'd smile and row that boat ashore and up on the beach! ....And down the road!

**Sr. Warden**  
**Mark Heiman**



One of the interesting things about having new clergy leadership at church is that it helps us to see ourselves through fresh eyes, to appreciate the things that we don't necessarily realize make us special. In the several weeks since Peter Stebinger joined us as our Interim Priest, I've enjoyed watching him begin to discover some of the things that make us All Saints. For instance, funerals – we'd all prefer not to have them, but when they happen, we all know what to do. Peter was pleased and relieved to watch our fine-tuned process smooth the way as he faced a funeral in the second week of his time with us. Or our music: "Many churches say they sing a lot of different music," he commented after seeing the list of more than 400 different hymns we've sung in the past six years, "but here it's actually true." Or the way we chant our Psalm every week – something that's rarely done elsewhere. I'm sure there will be more discoveries for him in the months ahead (if he forgives me for quoting him in the newsletter).

That kind of looking at ourselves with fresh eyes is also part of the process that we as a community will be going through over the next few months, as we work toward finding someone to serve with us on a long-term basis. We've just launched a parish survey, the Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) from Holy Cow! Consulting. Our responses to the survey will allow the consultants to provide us with a deep, unbiased analysis of our strengths and weaknesses, our expectations and aspirations. The Clergy Search Team (see their article elsewhere in this issue) will be using that information and data gathered from parish discussions and other sources to develop a profile that can tell our story to prospective candidates. To do that well, they'll need to work hard to step back and see our parish with fresh eyes, as someone new to the community would. I hope you'll support them by taking your survey and participating in other opportunities for reflection they may offer. And maybe take this transition time to step back a little yourself and appreciate all of the things that make All Saints the amazing place it is.

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**Jr. Warden**  
**Pam Middleton**

I don't have much to report this month, as we await spring. Of course, even as the days get longer, we know that we will have more snow. Our snow removal team has done a fantastic job keeping our sidewalks and entryways clear and safe. So, again, I want to thank Marshall, Joe, Robb, Tom, Mark, John, Richard and Kate (and perhaps others that chip in that I am not aware of!) for their steadiness through a long season.

The other item of note is that the locking mechanism on the front doors to the church has been fixed by our friends at River City Builders. They will return in the warmer weather to make some adjustments to the threshold to make the doors open a bit more easily. Finally, Mark and I are figuring out our next steps to begin the renovations of the exterior walls of the historic church building. Stay tuned!



## CLERGY SEARCH TEAM NEWS

Submitted by Rhonda Rowe

As we begin our search for a new priest, we have established a committee to help with the process. The committee held their first meeting via Zoom on Monday, February 21st. Mark met with us to give us direction on our task and to answer our questions. The Search Committee will report back to the Vestry, who will, with the parish members input, make the decisions. He also introduced the parish survey that we are asking all members to participate in as we begin our search. Following are the committee members:

- Laura Kay Allen
- Betsy Brandt
- Fr Tom Campbell
- Richard Collman
- Joan Ennis
- Kate Ford
- Carla Hansen
- Rhonda Rowe
- Bonnie Sherman

It was decided this newly formed committee will be called the Clergy Search Team. Some housekeeping duties were taken care of; specifically, Laura Kay and Rhonda will Co-Chair the team and Richard and Carla will share the clerk duties.

We encourage you to share your thoughts and questions with the members. The decisions will impact each of us and we want to make certain all voices are heard. The Vestry and Clergy Search Team will be coming to the entire parish different times throughout this process to get feedback and share news.

Watch for our news in the bulletins and newsletters.



### PIPE ORGAN DISCOVERY DAY

Sat., March 5, 9 AM - 3 PM



Calling all youth (middle school through high school) with keyboard experience to come and try several pipe organs in St. Paul soon. St. Clement's Episcopal and St. Paul's United Church of Christ will host a day to try the pipe organ with your own fingers and feet. Event is free, but registration is **REQUIRED** at [TCAGO.org](http://TCAGO.org) or [philasgian@gmail.com](mailto:philasgian@gmail.com)

COVID safety protocols and precautions will be observed. Great music, learn how the organ works, free pizza lunch included. Contact Richard Collman, 507-645-1357 if you wish to have a ride.

## It is March again—time to help restock Minnesota's Food Shelves!

The Northfield Community Action Center (CAC) food shelf needs and deserves our support. Another year has passed in which many members of our community are struggling with reduced income on top of increasing inflation, isolation, and health problems. Putting healthy food on the table is key to the health and resiliency of individuals, families, and entire communities. That is what our food shelf and CAC are dedicated to, and they help make it happen everyday. So should we! Let's support them again as we always have.

### Some updated food facts about MN are:

- a. Food insecurity in Minnesota is estimated to have increased about 15% in 2021.
- b. 9% of Minnesotans and 11% of Minnesota children are living below the poverty level.

Supporting our food shelf is more than just charity. Human health---or disease---is largely the result of diet and lifestyle. And ignorance of what a healthy diet is has become an unwanted legacy of the late 20th century. Too many people in the modern world think that energy drinks, Happy Meals, and processed foods are ok, even normal. In contrast, food shelves are well-suited both to help fill a low-income family's grocery bag and to also show what real food is. Slow food made at home is not only more nutritious, it is also more likely to draw family members together for conversation and healthy interaction. Healthier people have been shown to be more productive, learn faster, adapt better, be more creative, and be more resilient. Our entire community benefits when solid nutrition and family togetherness are invested in.



The largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the **Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign** brings together community organizations, businesses, and faith communities each year to help re-stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide during the month of March. This year's campaign runs from February 28th to April 10th.

The best way for us to support the food shelf is by donating cash (\$\$\$), because cash gives food shelves increased purchasing power through state food banks and wholesale programs. If, however, you wish to purchase specific items to donate to the food shelf, their current top needs this year are:

corn flour/masa harina  
dry black or pinto beans  
canned meats, especially chicken  
seasonings, salt, pepper



baby foods or formula  
canned chili peppers  
canned corn or beets

chicken noodle, tomato soup, or cream soups

The food collection basket will be just outside the front (pulpit) entrance to the sanctuary. To make a monetary donation, please write a check to All Saints with "Food Shelf" clearly noted on the memo line. Mail it to the church office or place it in the offering plate, preferably before the end of March. I am setting our goal at \$1000 again for this year. We can do it! Thank you, everyone!

Submitted by Marshall Hansen



**Episco-Speak**  
**A Guide to the Language of Episcopalians**  
 Submitted by James Young

**You say you don't know your apse from your clerestory? Well, don't despair! Help is here. Each month I will attempt to dazzle you with my command of the vocabulary of Anglicans and Episcopalians. If there is some term or concept about which you want to learn more, I will also take requests. Please contact me!!**

**This month: Just how long is Lent?**

The number forty is, in our faith heritage, an auspicious number. The rain of the great flood fell on Noah's ark for forty days. The people of Israel sojourned in the desert for forty years before entering the Promised Land. Jesus fasted, prayed and was tempted in the wilderness for forty days.

Do you sense a theme here? Yes, Lent lasts for – if you guessed 40 days you are correct! BUT, have you ever tried to count the 40 days of Lent on the liturgical calendar? If you start on Ash Wednesday and go to Holy Saturday (Easter Eve) you get not forty but forty-six days. How can that be? All Sundays, even those in Lent, are considered little days of Resurrection. So if you subtract the six Sundays of Lent (Lent 1-5 & Palm Sunday) you get forty!

That is why, for example, when we have had coffee hour in pre-pandemic times, we might have tried to offer more modest ones on Sundays in Lent. They are still days of Resurrection and celebration – though quieter ones than usual when compared to the rest of the year. I hasten to add that we look forward to having coffee hour again sometime in the future!

**Next Month: Pascha/Paschal (No, not the French mathematician & philosopher!)  
 Stay tuned for another thrilling installment of Episco-Speak!**



## ACOLYTES

Thank you to our acolytes, Kalie, Oliver and Soren who have been faithfully serving since in person worship has resumed. We will celebrate your ministry with a party in late March (date to be determined)! We welcome other young people to join this ministry or to return as the COVID situation improves. Please speak with Pam, and we will arrange a training/refresher date!

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

New 2022 directories have been printed and can be picked up at the church. We do have one addition which was left out by mistake:

Robert Neuhaus  
 P.O. Box 41  
 Dundas, MN 55019  
 (507) 645-6254      Cell (507) 649-0698  
 robertneuhaus6@gmail.com

### All Saints Vestry and Committee Chairs

SR. WARDEN	Mark Heiman
JR. WARDEN	Pam Middleton
TREASURER	Larry Archbold
CLERK	Rhonda Rowe
AT LARGE	Bonnie Sherman
AT LARGE	Laura Kay Allen
AT LARGE	Vicki Harper
AT LARGE	Richard Collman
AT LARGE	Robb Campbell
INTERIM PRIEST	The Rev. Peter Stebinger
DEACON	The Rev. Cassandra Cook-Quarry
ECMN DELEGATES	Elizabeth Campbell
	Mark Heiman
ORGANIST-CHOIR DIR.	Katie Gunn
SEXTON	Dave McGuire
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Pam Middleton
YOUTH GROUP	Pam Middleton
CONFIRMATION	Rhonda Rowe
	Bob Rowe
ALTAR GUILD	Bonnie Sherman
CANTERBURY	Mark Heiman
CONNECTIONS TEAM	Pam Middleton
	Mary Jones
	Rhonda Rowe
HOSPITALITY	Pam Middleton
KITCHEN	Open
OUTREACH	Mary Jones
WEBSITE DESIGN	Mark Heiman

6	Deuteronomy 26:1-11 Romans 10:8b-13 Luke 4:1-13 Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16	<h2>March Readings</h2>
13	Genesis 15:1-12,17-18 Philippians 3:17-4:1 Luke 13:31-35 Psalm 27	
20	Exodus 3:1-15 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Luke 13:1-9 Psalm 63:1-8	
27	Joshua 5:9-12 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-31 Psalm 32	

### BIRTHDAYS

March	1	Ann Campbell
	4	Betsy Brandt
	8	Bob Will
	11	Carolyn Dilley
	13	Robert Neuhaus
	14	Greg Gudbjartsson
	16	Nica Ranzau
	19	Sunny Leonard
	24	Tom Campbell
	24	Sasha Sherman Garcia
	30	Cindy Johnson
	31	Linda Gleason

THE  
*Episcopal*  
CHURCH

