

THE EVANGELIST

February 2024



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Connect with Us:

4200 So. Atlanta Place
Tulsa, OK 74105
sjtulsa.org
(918) 742-7381
Facebook - @sjtulsa
Instagram - @sjtulsa
Twitter - @sjtulsa
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Episcopal Church, Tulsa



GREETINGS, FRIENDS!

I pray you've fared well in our recent cold snap! Despite the major discomfort of the cold, not to mention the disruption winter weather can so often bring, I, for one, took at least one of our recent snow days to appreciate the chance to slow down. I still had important things to do that day. The most pressing was attendance at the first session of my January class. Just days before the first class period, we learned that the class had to shift into a remote setting as my professor had injured his back and could not travel to Wisconsin for class. Preferring the relative mildness of the Tulsa cold to the insult to human thriving that is a Wisconsin January, I changed my trip and set up a study nook in the back room of Saint John's House.



The Rev. David Bumsted, Rector

What followed was a week of long Zoom calls studying the thought of Maximus the Confessor, a seventh-century Byzantine monk and theologian. When I finally emerged from the week of class, Beka wondered what my greatest takeaway was. As I write this a week on, I'm still working on a more complete answer. But in the moment, I told her that in reading the philosophical, liturgical, and spiritual dimensions of Maximus' writings, everywhere we turned we found Christ the Lord. I found that so much of what we were reading seemed like long meditations on some of my favorite verses of the letter to Colossians, especially Col 1:14-23. Limited space sadly keeps me from reprinting this beautiful Scripture in its fullness, but essentially, it reads as a hymn to the preeminent Christ and his creative and redemptive roles for us and for our salvation.

The overall point that Paul points to in Colossians, and I think Maximus would agree, is that the amazing, powerful, beyond all-knowing, and universe-creating God has come to know and love us in Jesus the Incarnate Word. What a wonderful thing to reflect on this Epiphany season! Jesus has come that we might love, worship, and serve him and that his love would be made manifest through us, dear friends.

So, as we head into February, with the Feast of the Presentation at the beginning and Ash Wednesday at the month's midpoint, I pray that we would yet find Jesus at every turn. As the collect from the Second Sunday of Epiphany exhorts us, may Christ be known, worshiped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth, and indeed in the lives of the saints here at Saint John's!

Remembering Jesus,

JUNIOR WARDEN'S NEWS

Greetings Friends!

Winter is definitely here, as the recent bout of icy weather and unseasonable cold temperatures reminded us. I hope by the time this letter finds you, our weather situation will have significantly improved.

The icy and cold weather did have some minor effects on our building and grounds. Our maintenance team spent a good deal of time clearing ice and snow off the walkways and parking lots to allow for safe travel around the grounds. Snow melt was used where possible to help with this. Inside, our water system had only one minor issue that was resolved. We also had one of our older heaters in the Fox Library fail, which has now been fixed.

After removing our oak tree late last year, we discovered an electrical box for powering the lights buried

Junior Warden's News Continued

near the labyrinth that needed to be relocated. That has now been accomplished, and our labyrinth's outdoor lighting is back on during the evenings.

Looking forward to the warmer weather, our Gardens and Grounds team will focus on removing the declining hedges north of the building heading to the playground. These hedges are in a poor state, and we will focus on their removal in the upcoming months. As always, contact Mike Reif or myself if you are interested in helping with ground maintenance projects.

On the Transfigure project, we are close to completing our drawing package for construction. Meetings between our architect and ministry leaders have progressed, and our layouts for the basement, kitchen, and flower room have been set. Our architects are putting together the final drawing package that should be completed in February. Once we have a completed drawings package, we will gather quotes from at least three contractors who can perform a project of this size and scope. We anticipate quotes being back from our potential contractors in March, with a selection of one of them in April. Then, the fun of demolition and construction will begin. This is a very exciting time, and I'm so thankful for the generosity of our parish in supporting this major upgrade of our physical plant.

I look forward to speaking further with you about all of the good work our B&G team is doing and on our Transfigure project during our annual meeting in February.

All the Best, *Marc McCaw*

TREASURES REPORT

Operating Revenue and Expense thru December Combined:

Total income of \$1,469,852 is <\$196,419> under budget for the year to date.

Total pledges are under budget for the year by <\$6,085>. Contributions and plate of \$190,025 are <\$41,975> under budget for the year to date. Miscellaneous Income of \$268,210 (which includes transfers from our Investment Account) is <\$148,358> under budget.

Expenses of \$1,479,683 are \$198,885 under budget for the year to date.

Net Loss is <\$9,830> vs. budgeted Net Loss of <\$12,297>. *Bill Chevaillier*

MUSIC NEWS

Music at Midday returns!

Music at Midday returns on February 21! Free recitals will be offered on Wednesdays at 12 noon through March. Lunch information will be announced soon. Musicians in February include:

February 21

Nicole Keller, organ (Associate Professor of Organ, University of Michigan)

February 28

David Carter, clarinet (Principal Clarinet, Tulsa Symphony Orchestra)

Stuart Deaver, piano (Piano Coordinator, University of Tulsa)

Joseph Annett



The Street: Parker Ramsay, harp

Friday, February 23 at 7 p.m.

The Street - Music by Nico Muhly and Poetry by Alice Goodman
Meditations on the Stations of the Cross
with Jason Heilman, narrator

Admission is free and open to the public.



CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY NEWS

Parent Meeting February 11 - Dear families at Saint John's Episcopal Church, we are hosting a parent meeting after the 10 am Sunday Service on February 11. We will review our Children's Chapel, Nursery, Kids' Night, Youth Group, and Choristers during this meeting, as well as big calendar events. Childcare will be available, so please let me know if you will make it to this. We look forward to seeing you and discussing the exciting things that will happen with our youth and family programs in 2024!

Nursery - As some of you know, we have changed rooms for the nursery! Our nursery is located in Fox Library. Kids 0 - PreK are welcome to stay there during the 10 a.m. service. The nursery opens at 9 a.m. and is open until the end of service.

Children's Chapel - Children's Chapel meets on Sundays at 10 a.m. Parents are welcome to drop off children - PreK through fifth - in Powell Hall before heading in for worship. The children will be led to the Nave to join their families for Communion during the time of the Peace blessing.



Kids' Night - Kids' Night is back on Wednesdays from 6-7:30 pm! During this time, kids will have dinner, Bible study, and play games. This group is for kids in PreK through fifth and meets in Powell Hall. This month, we will enter the Passion narrative in the Gospel of John.

Youth Group - We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break! Now that it is the New Year, we are also resuming our normal schedule. We meet every Wednesday from 6-7:30 pm. This includes dinner, Bible study, and some games. This month, we are entering the Passion narrative in the Gospel of John. This group is for teenagers in sixth grade and up and meets in the Youth Room! If you have questions about our teen ministry programs, please email Josh at jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org.



Acolytes - Are you or your children interested in helping out during the Sunday services? Then join the Acolytes! Our Acolytes are a group of children, teens, and adults who help in multiple roles throughout the service. Acolytes are allowed to start as early as eight years old! If you are interested, speak to Josh for more information.

Josh Corsaro

Choristers - Our Choristers did a great job during the Christmas Eve service, and we are so proud of them! Now, as we move toward Lent and Easter, the Choristers will prepare songs for Easter. They are so excited to show you what they have learned!

Zach Malavolti



ADULT FORMATION AND ACTIVITIES

Wednesday Evening Bible Study - We would like to extend a warm invitation to join Fr. David as he goes through the book of Acts. This book in our Bible from St. Luke shows the beginning of our church and even serves us today as a reminder of why we do what we do. This Bible Study meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm, so come on and join!

Sunday Morning Formation - Our Sunday morning formation is at 9 am in the Common Room. Currently, Dr. William Lyons is resuming his class on the Old Testament. Come and join us!

Dead Theologians' Society - Our Dead Theologians' Society group meets in two sections, alternating Wednesday mornings at 9:15 am and, on the following week, Thursday evenings at 6:15 pm. We have just started reading St. Augustine's Enchiridion on Faith, Hope, and Love, and now is a great time to join us. If you wish to join, please reach out to Zach Malavolti.

Iron Gate - A volunteer crew from our church serves at Iron Gate on the first Saturday of each month. This is a feeding ministry in downtown Tulsa for our neighbors who are experiencing food and housing insecurity. Our team meets at Iron Gate at 8:30 a.m. and serves until 10:30 a.m. We hope to see you on the first Saturday in March. If you want to sign up to be a part of this, email me at jcorsaro@sjtulsa.org.

Young Adult's Brunch - We plan to mix things up in 2024! Stay tuned for more information. *Josh Corsaro*

DIACONAL ORDINATION

Diaconal Ordination of Carson Seabourn Webb was on Thursday, December 21st at 6:30 pm, at St. Paul's Cathedral, 127 NW 7th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73102. Congratulations, Deacon Carson; we are so grateful to have you here with us at Saint John's.



GETTING TO KNOW RUSKIN BELL

Q: What is your job title and what would you say are the topline topics that you work on/main services you provide on the second floor? I'm an Associate for Youth and Family Ministries, and I help prepare lessons and activities for the Youth and Kids programs in addition to helping with the audio/visual systems.

Q: Tell us about your family. My family is from the Oklahoma and Texas areas going back to about the Land Rush.

Q: What is your favorite pastime activity? I love to paint and read.

Q: What are you most excited about? I was blessed to have been supported and mentored by Christian leaders in my church community as a child and as a young man, and the positive impact they had on my personal and spiritual development cannot be overstated. I look forward to being able to follow their example.

Q: If there were three words you would use to describe this church community, what would they be? Positive, growing, & dedicated

Q: We heard you are pursuing your Bachelor's Degree, so tell us what you are pursuing and why. I am studying Mechanical Engineering because ever since I can recall, I have been fascinated by "how things work", so being able to study that and make a career out of it is a dream. Additionally, the kind of work Mechanical Engineers get to do is the kind of work that makes a difference, whether in energy or manufacturing, or any other industry.

Q: What is your favorite Scripture? 1 Timothy 4:12 – This scripture was always an inspiration to me as a young man. Now that I'm older, it's both a reminder to strive towards "...speech...conduct...love...faith and...purity" and a reminder that I am still young in wisdom if not in age.

Q: What is your favorite video game? Minecraft, I grew up playing it and it holds a special place in my heart.

Q: What is your favorite movie? This is tough. As far as a serious movie goes, Interstellar takes the cake. The soundtrack, lighting, pacing, and sleek sci-fi is just so great. I also love comedies, so I must mention Daddy's Home 2 with Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg.

Q: Any books you are currently reading? I have a bad habit of reading a fiction book, a non-fiction book, and an audiobook simultaneously. Right now, I am reading Shadow of the Gods by John Gwynne, The Chrysanthemum and the Sword by Ruth Benedict, and Plague War by Guy Haley, respectively.

Q: Tell us a little bit about your Christian background. I grew up Methodist, effectively left the church as a young teen (interspersed with brief stints in nondenominational churches), then joined the Antiochian Orthodox Church in the middle of high school, where I have remained.

Q: What has been your favorite college course? My favorite course has been Mechanical Engineering Graphics. It was a course on SolidWorks taught by a former machine shop manager. We got the opportunity to make lots of components and parts in an environment very similar to industry.



The Daily Office

You are invited to join us every weekday
at 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. as we pray.

HOSPITALITY NEWS

Thank you to all who participated and provided Sunday snacks each Sunday in December 2023 and January 2024. We have enjoyed a beautiful Christmas season and warm fellowship through January.

We are always adding enthusiastic members to our hospitality team. If anyone is interested, please get in touch with Kathleen Moss at kathleen.moss@me.com or call or text 918-633-8881.

If you would like to work with a hospitality team once in a while by providing cookies, casseroles, and fruit, or have any ideas for Sunday snacks, please contact Kathleen Moss at the email and number above.

Kathleen Moss

SUNDAY KIDS TABLE

Kid's table during Sunday snacks

Whitney Moss and Torrey Ross have done an outstanding job of presenting a kids' table once a month after the 10:00 am service. Parents, they welcome your ideas and creativity and help bring fellowship and fun to our very popular kids' table. Text Whitney Moss at 918-812-8437 and Torrey Ross at 405-550-8439.

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

December was a busy month for DOK: (1) On Dec 3, we hosted the Sunday brunch for the church. Unfortunately, we miscalculated the amount of food needed and ran short. DOK has since learned that the average Sunday brunch attendance is 120 persons, and there may be more people on BIG Sundays, such as the first Sunday in Advent. This headcount will be considered in our future planning.

Our Dec 7 meeting was lightly attended due to the illness of several members. The Clergy- Staff luncheon on Dec.19 was a great success. We decorated the Common Room and used The Olive Garden for catering. There was plenty of food, and everyone had a good time.

Looking forward to Lent, we will plan for a Soup Supper during Lent and our next Sunday Brunch on Apr 7.

DOK has been actively involved in Outreach. DOK contributed food for Thanksgiving dinners; bought hygiene supplies and clothing for Tulsa School girls; contributed toys for Emergency Infant Services and assisted with a giving tree for children facing no Christmas; and bought warm coats for Tulsa Elementary School boys and girls. Outreach is an integral part of DOK's mission.

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Please watch the Sunday Bulletin for news of an all-members meeting in February. Remember to work on the Safeguarding God's People computer program to qualify for the Bishop's approval and license.

Sharon Bell



December 5th DOK hospitality team brunch.

ST. BARBARA'S GUILD

St. Barbara's Guild is a group of women dedicated to the study of the Bible, service projects, fellowship and support of each other and St. John's Episcopal Church.

Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM in the Common Room. Bring a sack lunch and your Bible. Beverages of water and coffee are provided.

We would love for you to join us at our meeting on February 15th at 11:00 am in the Common Room. We hope to see you there!

If you need more information or have questions:
Contact: Kathleen Moss - 918-633-8881

Kathleen Moss



GIVE FROM THE HEART.

OUTREACH NEWS

January 2024, The Outreach Committee is having a coat drive for Patrick Henry Elementary School. With frigid weather here, warm coats or other outerwear are needed. Many stores have winter clothing on sale now. The deadline was January 31. Any coats collected this week will be delivered for immediate use. If there are enough coats, Eliot Elementary will also share in your generosity.

In February, there will be a clothing drive for the Day Center. Warm men's clothing will be collected in the Common Room.

As always, your donations for those less fortunate is very appreciated.

Janice Ingle



PRAYERS & SQUARES NEWS

The Prayers and Squares quilters took a break in December to enjoy some fellowship, a meal, and a field trip to the Tulsa Sewing Machine Museum. Here are some pictures from our day. We met at Charleston's for a tasty lunch and then traveled up Peoria to the Museum, where we were greeted by WK Binger, the curator who gave us a private tour.

Weather permitting, this winter, we will meet once a month in the Common Room to continue our ministry of making quilts to fulfill your special requests. Please watch your bulletins for the exact dates of our meetings as we are also continuing our move from the basement to prepare for the transformation and must share the Common Room with other groups who use it regularly.

Blessings for a New Year of peace and healing provided by the fabrics that we piece together and your prayers of comfort and hope for those in need.

Peggy Landrum



NEED A PRAYER QUILT?
CONTACT PEGGY LANDRUM AT
LANDRUM.PEGGY@YAHOO.COM

Milestones

Birthdays

- 1 Hugh Barber
Larry Mancini
- 2 Chris Barber
Chuck Blue
Tom Frisch
- 5 Bob Baker
- 10 Annie Clark
- 11 Jessica Stowell
- 14 Ann Butler
Richard Harris
- 15 Nathan Breaux
Heather Graves
Sally Jones
Logan Osburn
- 16 Bill Boston
- 17 Alec Moss
Michael Smith
- 19 Mary Dotson
Mark Lyons
- 20 Pet Merifield
- 21 Beth Dunkin
Chuck Steil
- 22 Allison Cotton
- 23 Jim Hardwick
Betsy Tidwell
- 24 Zac Cox
Beverly Staedke
- 25 Harrison Graves
Todd Waldeck
- 27 Stephanie Jackson
Beth Latham
- 28 Duncan Gravis
Tom Schroedter

Passings

12/30 Mary Byers

Let all
that you
do be
done
in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



Chili
COOK-OFF

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9
5:30 TO 7:30 P.M

The Annual Troop 153/Venture Crew Scout Chili Cook-Off will be in the Common Room!

SCOUT SUNDAY

Troop 153 celebrates Scout Sunday on Sunday, February 4. Tickets for the Chili Cook-Off will be available from the Scouts in the Common Room between services.

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE FROM THE SCOUTS

BSA TROOP 153 NEWS

Winter brings new challenges and new opportunities for Troop 153. Last month, 28 scouts and leaders enjoyed one of our favorite "camp-in" spots, the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, KS. The group toured this fantastic space museum and earned Aviation and Astronomy merit badges.

The troop opened the Christmas season with a pancake party and gift exchange and started off the New Year with pizza, board games and a movie. Fun and friendship is a key element to the success of any troop.

Over Christmas break 18 scouts attended winter camp at Mabee Scout Reservation in Locust Grove. They worked on merit badges, built campfires and friendships, and drank a lot of hot cocoa. Thank you to the adult leaders who volunteered their break to spend time with our scouts.

We are so grateful for our St. John's family and were happy to assist with decorating for Christmas as well as serving at the Brotherhood Dessert and Brotherhood Breakfast events. Thank you for supporting our efforts to build community and raise up strong men of character to be leaders for the future.

Finally, congratulations to Waite Culver and Alex Philp, our newest Troop 153 Eagle Scouts! We finished strong in 2023 with 6 Eagle Scouts for the year! We look forward to another great year of learning, growing, serving, leading, and fun for all our scouts.

Carolyn Davis



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SAINT JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MUSIC AT MIDDAY
SEASON 10 RETURNS
ON FEBRUARY 21, 2024



Bible Class
EVERY WEDNESDAY FROM 11-12
UPSTAIRS IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM
WITH BETH DUNKIN



Shrove Tuesday
PANCAKE SUPPER!
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH, 2024



Book & Gift Store
SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Hours
11 AM - 12:30 PM