



Bicentennial Book Update: This much-anticipated book has left the printing plant and is on its way to the states. We expect the books to reach Los Angeles December 2. We are still anticipating delivery to you near the end of the first week of December. This important and entertaining book, celebrating Fort Smith's bicentennial, is gorgeous.

An advance copy was sent to Mayor Sanders, and he says, "The bicentennial commemorative book is terrific. It truly shows the depth and breadth of our city and people.

Happy Thanksgiving!

"Blessing Bell" Tree: 2 BELLS REMAINING ... Call the office if you will take one of them!!

Christmas outreach to Howard Elementary & Boy's Shelter. Pick up bell, wrap gifts, and **return by Dec. 10**. Youth will wrap if needed. FOUR picked up without signing form... please call the office 782-9912 or Jeannie McCabe if you picked up one of these:

GREEN BELLS/ Howard Elementary

1. F5-FB1 - River G (boy)
2. F5-5G2 - Lola G (girl)
3. F5- 5B3 Lexus G (girl)

RED BELL

4. Brent W. Age 11 / Boys Shelter RED Bell

Cards for Others: Please bring your unwanted all occasion cards so that our new coordinator - Mrs. Barbara Burgess can get the cards to the proper places in time for the holidays. See the basket in front of the Skinner building reception desk, or the basket in the Parish hallway.

Girls Night Out: Full of turkey and all the trimmings? Come join this group of ladies for a change of menu on **Tuesday, November 28th**, at **Sam's Southern Eatery – Seafood Restaurant**, 9709 Rogers Avenue, starting at 6:00 pm. Very good catfish and jumbo shrimp are just two entrees that can be found on their menu. You will be contacted for reservations. Fun and fellowship are always part of this ecumenical group.

Altar Guild Clean-Up: Our annual Altar Guild Cleanup will be **Saturday, Dec. 2nd at 9:00am** in the Parish Hall Kitchen. Please make every effort to attend. For more information contact Lee Vlademar at 782-2820 or any other AG member.

Advent Lessons & Carols: It's coming – **December 3**. See our poster on our website at www.stjohn

Laymen's League: The Laymen's Steak Fry will be held on **Friday, December 8 at 6:00 pm** in the Parish Hall. The menu is steak, potatoes, a vegetable and a dessert. See you then.

Remember to sign up to host Saints' Alive for 2018: There is a new signup sheet on the bulletin board. The host provides the place, dishes, silverware, ice and an entrée, with everyone bringing a dish and beverage of choice. The host chooses what weekend and what day to have it that month and the time. Please call Karen Rouse at 479-763-1050 if you have any questions.

Saints Alive: Holiday fun is in the air! Come join in the celebration on **Friday, December 15th**, at **5:30 pm in St. John's Parish Hall.** Bring your favorite "pot luck" dish and beverages of your choice. This would not be a Saints Alive December party without playing Silly Santa! If you would like to participate in this traditional event, please bring a "white elephant" or even a nice gift. Hope to see you there!



Poinsettias for Christmas: If you would like to contribute toward the Christmas Flowers, complete a form from the Sunday bulletin or Holy Babble the and leave it along with your check (marked "Christmas Flowers") in the church office or place it in the alms basin on Sunday. Deadline for turning in your information is **Sunday, December 17.**

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: December 17, 10:30 Service: *A "Beastly" Christmas* adapted from play by John. O. Eby.

Dec. 10 – after 10:30 Service/Chambers Hall: Roles and Costumes assigned

Dec. 16 (Sat.) - 10:00-12:00 Dress Rehearsal

Dec. 17 – 9:45 Dressed and Ready for Pageant in Parish Hall

Did you know? You can make a secure donation to St. John's using your PayPal account or your Debit Card. Just click the link to go to our website <http://stjohnfs.org/giving/> it's that easy!



CONNECTIONS GROUPS: For Service, Social, or Study opportunities: Online Sign Up- www.stjohnfs.org Home Page. Or Forms are on the Hallway Bulletin Board.

- **Rector's Classes** – Story of the Church in America. *Wednesdays at 5:00pm* in the Skinner Building and *Sundays at 9:15am* in Chambers Hall.
- **"First and Third Thursdays" Bible Study:** *Thursday, Dec. 7 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.* you are invited to be a part of a new Bible study group that is forming at St. John's. Bring your lunch and we will provide the drinks. The study will begin in Genesis and work through the Story of the Old Testament. Contact Emily Zeigler 462-2366 or Father Mike 221-4030.
- **Casserole of Life:** *8:30am, Dec. 8*, Parish Hall Kitchen – prepares hot meal for Next Step Homeless Services clients. Serve meal at 11:30. Contacts are Mariko Clifton (479) 461-9417, Betsy or Jeff Champlin (479) 353-1316.

- **Enneagram:** Meet 5:30pm-6:45pm, 2nd & 4th Monday, next meeting Dec. 11 in the Youth Room/Skinner Building. Group meets 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month.

YOUTH:

STARFISH– 6th-12th grades: 2017-18: Hope & Worship Meet: 2nd & 4th Sundays; 12:00-2:00 pm with lunch provided.

- **Dec. 1** (Friday) 6:00 pm. STARFISH Dinner and attending Shabbat of Jewish Community. RSVP to Jeannie. Must give number, as we are invited to their meal. Friends welcome to join us. *Optional: Return to church for Lock In.... youth will decide.*
- **Dec. 10, 16, 17 – Christmas Pageant**
- **Dec. 10** – Shop for Blessing Bells

Dolphins – (3rd-5th grades) – Pageant preparation – Dec. 10, 16, 17.

Girls Scouts: Next meeting, *Dec. 4*. Meetings are first and third Mondays from 5-7 at St John's in the classrooms by the nursery (church side of campus). Everyone please bring a snack, its potluck! As always, guests are always welcome. Leader: Natalie King-Hyman.

WORSHIP MINISTERS – Advent 1, Sunday, Dec. 03, 2017

8:00 service:

Usher: Rick Hayes.

Lay Ministers: *1st Lesson*, Lindsey Fielder; *Psalm & 2nd Lesson*, Cindy Cole; *Prayers*, Becky Ibison; *Chalice*, Stan Vlademar & Cindy Cole.

Altar Guild: Muggy Murray.

Hospitality: Becky Ibison.

Announcements: John Cross.

10:30 service:

Ushers: Jeff Pryor & Steve Kilpatrick.

Lay Ministers: *1st Lesson*, Pat Klahr; *Psalm /2nd Lesson*, Dennis Goff; *Prayers (Special)* Lori Burton; *Chalice*, Steve Irby & Stan Vlademar.

Acolytes: *Server*, Wolfie Werthmuller; *Asst. Server*, Maggie Werthmuller; *Crucifer*, Garroway Nance; *Clergy Crucifer*, Thomas Burton; *Torches*, Kyle Burton & Raquel Nash; *Parent helper*, Jody Grimm.

Children's Chapel: Jeannie McCabe.

Altar Guild: Everyone works for Advent & Christmas.

Hospitality: Karen Orite.

Announcements: Steve Irby.