

Voice of the Swan Newsletter

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The Holy Eucharist

Sunday: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Tuesday: 7:00 AM

The Staff

Reverend Marion Phipps, Rector
Dr. Margaret Brady, Director of Music
Dan Dolney, Senior Warden
Craig Skeppstrom, Junior Warden
Karen Warner, Administrative Assistant
Ed Jamrog, Treasurer
Katie White, Vestry Clerk
Jeanne Rayner, Altar Guild

**December Birthdays
Happy Birthday!!**

Shirley Rauschenberger	12 - 1
Fay Kitchin	12 - 2
Jeremiah Reynolds	12 - 8
Jocelyn Manderico	12-13
Joey Manderico	12-14
Catherine Rayner	12 - 14
Brooke Transue	12 - 14
Nigel Mills	12 - 15
Heather Woertendyke	12 - 19
Ele Proctor	12 - 21
John Adams	12 - 22
Molly Woertendyke	12-26
Jayden Rowe	12-27
Ingeborg Johnson	12 - 30

***December Anniversary
Happy Anniversary!!!***

<i>Keith & Cindy Rauschenberger</i>	<i>12 - 12</i>
<i>Larry & Jewell Graves</i>	<i>12 - 15</i>
<i>Don & Jane Watson</i>	<i>12 - 21</i>
<i>Bert & Denise McConnell</i>	<i>12 - 21</i>
<i>Victor & Pat Moeller</i>	<i>12 - 21</i>

Voice of the Swan



December 2014

The News Letter of St. Hugh of Lincoln Church

**Volume 17
Number 12**

Dear Friends,

"Out of the fullness of His grace He has blessed us all, giving us one blessing after another." John 1:16 It was wonderful to gather as a community for our Thanksgiving brunch this past Sunday! Special thanks to Peola Allyene-Mills for coordinating and for all who helped set up, cook, clean up, and for those who shared the things they were grateful for to help Peola create beautiful table decorations. If you sent in some blessings that didn't get noted, Peola is making some more as she ran out of paper. We had lots of blessings noted which is a good thing! God is good, all the time! As always, when we gather for a meal I sit back and listen to the "happy hum" of those engaged in food and fellowship. As we approach Thanksgiving, I am especially grateful for each one of you!

As the church year draws to a close and a new one begins I look forward to the season of Advent and the joyful anticipation of celebrating Jesus's incarnation. If you didn't have a chance yet, please remember to pick up a couple Advent devotionals, one from Living Compass and another with the writings of C.S. Lewis along with an advent Calendar with suggested scripture readings for each day. We also ordered devotionals for the children.

I'm hoping in the midst of this busy season, you will set aside time and space to reflect on what C.S. Lewis calls "The Grand Miracle." Greater love has no one than this that they lay down their life for a friend and while we are preparing to celebrate the fact that Jesus was born this season, He came that He might offer His life for each one of us. May we grasp anew the wonder of the Incarnation and God's amazing love for us. I pray that you have a blessed and Holy season.

Beginning This Sunday, November 30th, we will be utilizing the Advent materials for Rector's class. We meet at 9:00AM on Sunday between services and we always have good conversations reflecting on God's word and what it means in our own lives. There is always room for more people in the class! Maybe God is prompting you to go a little deeper with your faith or you'd like to get to know some folks on a different level. We generally meet in Weidrich Hall and we'd be happy to see the class expand!

We are also joint hosting an Advent retreat day with the folks at Church of the Redeemer on Saturday December 6th to be held from 8:30-3:00 at Church of the Redeemer. Please sign up if you'd like to join us. The cost of the retreat is free, but if you'd like to have us order lunch for you, the cost is \$10. There are sign up sheets on the bulletin board on the way into the church sanctuary. As you race around shopping and getting ready for Christmas, you may want to consider giving yourself the gift of peace and quiet for a few hours to reflect and prepare space within yourself to receive God's light and love in new and meaningful ways. However you choose to spend your season of Advent, I pray that you are enriched and touched by God's wondrous gift of Love! Peace, joy, and blessings to you!

In God's Love,

Marion+

Senior Warden Report

I LOVE THIS TIME OF YEAR! I know, I know. You must think I'm nuts. Even the weather is tolerable for me. Yes, it's difficult sometimes, but it all goes away the first time you see the kids enjoying themselves in the snow. I've also changed my attitude from stressing about shopping to making the true spirit of Christmas a priority in my mind. Once I did that, the rest became a joyful experience. But, that's just me.

Now, we transition from the hectic season of thankfulness to the hectic season of Christmas. Many, many thanks to Peola for coordinating a wonderful Thanksgiving Brunch. What a gift she brings to the St. Hugh family! Thanks to all who brought casseroles, salads, and desserts. Much gratitude also goes out to Mike Phipps who manned the kitchen. Great job, Mike!

Needless to say, December brings plenty of events for fellowship and "family time." December 7th you'll be able to drop the kids off at Church and do a little shopping unencumbered, shall we say. This is always a win-win situation....the kids love it too. On December 21st we'll be greening the Church and enjoying some soup and grilled cheese. Our Christmas services will be at 4pm and 8pm on Christmas Eve with carols beginning at 7:30pm. And, rounding it out, there will be a 10am service on Christmas Day. Always very beautiful and meaningful worship. If you are traveling during Christmas, please be safe and we'll see you when you return.

Whether you are staying close to home or traveling out of town during this holy and blessed season, remember why it is holy and blessed. Living the true meaning of this Christmas season will warm your heart, lift your soul, and lighten your shoulders from the stress that is self-inflicted. You end up seeing that the traffic isn't so bad, the lines at the stores aren't that long, and that soothing smile you give as you let someone go ahead of you could just possibly make a difference in that person's life. You never know. It's the little things and Christ came into this world as a little baby to save us. Embrace the season....honor His birth.

Dan Dolney, Senior Warden

We are continuing to support the Community Crisis' Food Pantry. Non-perishable donations can be brought on Sunday, December 7th to the services.

Save the date.... St. Hugh's Annual Parish Meeting is Sunday, January 18th after the 8AM service.

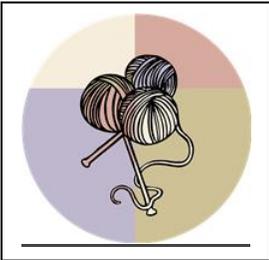
RELICS Annual Christmas Luncheon
Monday, December 1, 12:00 Noon
Wiedrich Hall

Join us for RELICS' Christmas luncheon as we make decisions about dispersing the funds we have raised this year through the craft sale, cookie dough sales and from our generous anonymous benefactor. We will also receive our cookie dough orders and organize them for pick up.



Cookie Dough Pick Up Reminder
Wednesday, December 1

Please pick up your cookie dough orders from noon– 6:00 PM on Monday, December 1, at St. Hugh. Contact Ele Proctor, 847-669-9222, if you need to make alternative arrangements.



The Shawl Ministry will be meeting at 10:30AM on Wednesday, December 1st prior to the RELICS meeting at Noon. All are welcome to join in and learn to knit.



Sign up for the Thursday, December 25th Soup Kitchen
at Church of the Redeemer 5 – 7PM
See the bulletin board.

Please donate to the Christmas Flower Fund by acknowledging someone special.
Please use the envelopes in the pews and designate as Christmas Flowers.



Dear Parish Family,

Mark your calendars: Sunday, December 21st... It's a St. Hugh Family Christmas!
After the 10:30AM service, we will be hanging the greens in the sanctuary, decorating our St. Hugh tree in the narthex, enjoying Christmas Carols and having a light lunch. Please join us!

We'll be making grilled cheese sandwiches and warming up some soup. If you'd like to bring Christmas Cookies to share, that would be great. We need to know how many to plan for, so please RSVP with your family and count ASAP. Either respond to this e-mail or sign up on Sunday at church.

We'll be packing up the donated personal sized toiletries from the Wiedrich Hall Giving Tree that day too to give to the Soup Kitchen participants on the 25th. Hope to see you then~

Blessings,
Marion+

St. Hugh's Christmas Service times

4PM Family Christmas Eve Service

7:30PM Carols

8PM Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day 10AM



The 2015 Sunday Flower calendar is up on the bulletin board.
The flowers each Sunday are \$30.

Current & New Lectors, Intercessors, Chalice Bearers:

Please join us for a quick refresher course on Dec. 14th. We will meet in the church during coffee hour. Among other things, we will review announcing the lessons and psalms, leading the prayers of the people, and the finer points of administering the chalice. If you need to be trained in any of these ministries, we welcome you to attend as well. Promise not to keep you long. Hope to see you there.

Marty Owens

Notice of Annual Membership Meeting of St. Hugh of Lincoln Episcopal Church Parish

Please be advised that the Annual Membership Meeting of the St. Hugh of Lincoln Episcopal Church Parish shall be held on Sunday, January 12, 2014. The Annual Meeting will be held in Wiedrich Hall, and will be preceded by a potluck luncheon. The luncheon will begin immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

The Order of Business for the Meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Minutes of the Preceding Meeting
3. Presentation of 2015 Budget
4. Reports of Officers
5. Reports of Nominating Committee and Election of New Vestry Members
6. Reports of Committees
7. Vestry Election Results
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Adjournment

The business of this Parish is managed by the Vestry, consisting of twelve members. At the Annual Meeting, four members' terms shall end, and four new members shall be elected. Members of the Vestry must:

- Worship at St. Hugh at least seven months of the year:
- Be communicant members of this Parish
- Be sixteen years of age or over
- Be duly enrolled as such in the Register of our Parish
- Be regular in their attendance at our services
- Make stated contributions of record to the parish's general support.

For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 847-695-7695.

*The Altar Guild will be cleaning and polishing for the Christmas Season on
Saturday, December 20th beginning at 9:30AM.
Everyone is welcome to join in this special project.
Please contact Jeanne Rayner if questions 847-695-1369*

From the St. Hugh Music Director

December Choir Rehearsals
Wednesday 7PM: Dec 3, 10, 17

Dear St Hugh Family: We are all looking forward to beautiful celebrations for the Advent Season, Christmas Eve and the Christmas season. I am so blessed to work with the St Hugh Choir, the St Hugh Band and especially our children. This season is a wonderful time to share your talents and joys in our services. Would you like to sing? Would you like your young children to sing or your visiting family to sing or play? I would love to work with them. Let me know what you might be interested in and we can include you in Advent or Christmas Eve or Christmas season services. Thanks for everything and thanks be to God.

We are collecting for the giving tree in Wiedrich Hall, starting Sunday, November 30.

We are collecting trial sized personal care items such as soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorants, lotions, etc. Please bring them in, we'll bag them up as a set to give to the Community Crisis Center in December, after Sunday, the 21st and the Soup Kitchen on Christmas Day. As you are shopping or are staying at a hotel that provides these items, please consider donating to the cause.



Parent's Christmas Shopping Day Out

Plan to leave the kids here at St. Hugh in good hands while you shop.

Sunday, December 7th Noon til 4PM

ADVENT RETREAT

Everyone is invited to a Advent Retreat on **December 6th, 8:30AM to 3PM** at The Church of the Redeemer, 40 Center Street in Elgin. There will be sessions led by priests and lay leadership from St. Hugh of Lincoln and the Church of the Redeemer.

We will share a meal together and at 2PM, we will celebrate the Eucharist.

Everyone is welcome; please invite your family, friends and neighbors!

Childcare is available for children registered by **November 30th**.

There is no cost for registration. If you would like to purchase a lunch from *In The Neighborhood*, the cost is \$10. There is no charge for children to attend.

If parents wish to purchase a lunch for their child, the cost is \$8. Otherwise, parents will bring food for their children. Please submit your registration form and lunch money to the church offices by **November 30th**. See you there!

REGISTRATION FORM

ADVENT RETREAT DECEMBER 6 2014 8:30AM-3PM

Church of the Redeemer, 40 Center Street, Elgin

Name _____

Phone _____ Email: _____

Are you bringing children?

Name(s) and Ages of Children: _____

There is no cost for the retreat. If adults wish to order lunch from "In the Neighborhood", the cost is \$10. If parents wish to purchase a lunch for their child, the cost is \$8.

Registration forms and payment are due at the church offices by November 30th.

Contact Church of the Redeemer at 847.742.2428

Contact St. Hugh of Lincoln at 847.695.7695

LUNCH ORDER: Circle Drink Selection and Sandwich Selection:

Coke, Diet Coke, Water

Good Shepherd, Judson, Highland, St. Ed's, St. Johns, Reverend

Good Shepherd: Tomato, mozzarella, pesto, house dressing and spices on sourdough bread

Judson: Roasted veggie mix, lettuce, tomato, and house dressing on whole wheat ciabatta

Highland: Turkey, dill havarti cheese, lettuce, tomato and dill mayo on wheat ciabatta

St. Ed's: Tuna, black olives, caramelized onions, lettuce, tomato, house dressing on multigrain

St. John's: Roast beef, caramelized onions, bleu cheese, horseradish and tomato on sourdough

Reverend: Ham, turkey, bacon, BBQ sauce, caramelized onions and jack cheese on sourdough

The Loving Memory Tree

This year the tree in the narthex will be decorated with white lights and white tags with ribbons. This is a tradition that St. Michael's in Barrington started. Beginning the evening of Sunday, December 11th at the 7PM Taize-Healing service, you are invited to write the name of a loved one who has passed away on one of the cards provided. The tree itself will go up on Sunday, December 21st.

By putting their names on the tree, we remind ourselves that our loved ones are not forgotten and that somehow that are with us in our Christmas worship. You are welcome to place as many tags on the tree as you would like. The names of beloved pets are also welcome. Messages of hope are also encouraged to be written. If you would like to place a small, ornament sized framed picture of your loved one that is welcomed too.

The hope is that this tree will serve as a source of comfort to all those who have recently lost a loved one, as well as to many people who still struggle at the holidays over the loss of someone who died some time ago.

The tree will stay up until after the celebration of Epiphany on January 6th. Thanks to St. Michael's for sharing this inspiration.

Notes from the Diocesan Convention submitted by Jane Watson

The Diocese of Chicago held its annual convention on November 21 and 22, 2014. It was the 177th convention and the theme was "Telling Our Stories." The event was to give congregations and individuals opportunities to share experiences and learn from other congregations around our dioceses. "The Diocese of Chicago devotes itself to three simple goals: Grow the Church. Form the Faithful. Change the World."

The keynote speaker was Sara Miles, the founder and director of The Food Pantry, and Director of Ministry at an Episcopal church in San Francisco. "She will join us to explore what happens when we tell our stories alongside scripture." Her speech described part of her ministry and told how people are not only hungry but hungry for God in their lives.

Marion, our priest, and lay delegates Dan Dolney, Marty Owens, and Jane Watson participated in a workshop titled "Glorifying Strangers." The speaker and individuals shared stories of greeting newcomers and being newcomers in a church setting. Katie White joined Marion, Dan and Jane on Saturday for more opportunities of sharing.

The highlight of the sharing was joining in singing and praising at the Eucharist on Saturday. The verses of a hymn with five verses each starting with love, peace, joy, grace, and Jesus sum up the convention.