



Saint Hugh of Lincoln

Episcopal Church

36W957 Highland Ave.
Elgin, Illinois 60123

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
Sue Diebold-Martin, Treasurer
Katie White, Vestry Clerk
Jeanne Rayner, Altar Guild

January Birthdays Happy Birthday!!

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Jeremy Reynolds | 1 - 2 |
| Marsha Markham | 1 - 6 |
| Victor Moeller | 1 - 7 |
| Larry Brook | 1 - 13 |
| Cindy Rauschenberger | 1 - 15 |
| Derek Rayner | 1 - 17 |
| Lance Puccio | 1 - 18 |
| Jason Woertendyke | 1 - 19 |
| Rita Padilla | 1 - 22 |
| Stephen Wendorf | 1 - 27 |

January Anniversaries Happy Anniversary!!!

Mike & Marion Phipps 1 - 23

Voice of the Swan

January 2016



The News Letter of St. Hugh of Lincoln Church

Volume 19
Number 1

Dear Friends,

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. (John 1:16) This was a line in this past Sunday's gospel and seems to be a good note to end the year past and to begin a new one on. As I look back on all that has been, grace abounds! We have **all** received "grace upon grace." As this year draws to a close I find myself especially grateful that my Dad survived a reoccurrence of his cancer and we were able to celebrate the 60th anniversary to his ordination to the priesthood. Thanks to you all for your prayers for him and for helping to make his day so special! Thanks to Karen Warner and my better half, Mike, for an outstanding soup and grilled cheese luncheon again! Even with the extra folks gathered to celebrate with my Dad there was plenty of food for all! We also were able to move into the Christmas season with joyful singing thanks to Margaret and Jim! Thanks to all who helped make this day with our Bishop Jeff Lee in attendance such a marvelous day! He posted a picture of us at our luncheon with this caption: "With God's joyful people at St. Hugh's in Elgin. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of Paul Kyger's ordination to the priesthood."

I loved his description of us and his visit! We are a joyful people! I feel so blessed to be serving among you! What a wonderful Advent season we had and what a joyful Christmas season we are having! Thanks for your donations for the Crisis Center and the Soup Kitchen attendees. Thanks to our wonderful altar guild at St. Hugh and to our moms for cleaning the pews, etc. and to Bert McConnell for cleaning all our brass!! The church looked outstanding! Thanks as well to Karen for all her coordinating service assistants and for the lovely bulletins, and thanks to Margaret and all our musicians for providing us with such excellent music!! Thanks to our acolytes and worship assistants for your help with these special services. I hope you're all enjoying the 12 days of Christmas!! I am so grateful for all the gifts folks share at St. Hugh and for the many behind the scenes servants who keep things running smoothly at St. Hugh! Blessings to you all! I am grateful for each one of of you!! It isn't hard to see how grace abounds when you're a part of St. Hugh!

As we begin the New Year, 2016, let's keep our eyes and hearts open to the many ways we are recipients of God's grace. Given the many blessings we have received, may we be quick to share our good fortune with others. We have two opportunities for giving this month with our regular gifts for the Crisis Center and also with gifts of more food for the MLK Day food drive which will help restock all the food pantries in the greater Elgin area. If you are in a position to need assistance yourself, please don't hesitate to ask me for help. I have a discretionary fund to be able to give assistance to folks when they are in need. I help plenty of strangers who come calling, but want to be sure our parish family is well cared for too!! Thanks to the R.E.L.I.C.S. for their recent donation to that fund, and to all those who give regularly to my discretionary fund. It is by your generosity that I am able to help those in need! In Deuteronomy 15:10 it says: *Give generously to them and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the LORD your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to.* We are blessed to be a blessing; we receive grace upon grace, so that we may extend God's grace to others. As we bid 2015 goodbye and ring in the New Year, may our hearts be filled with gratitude for the grace that got us through this year past and the grace that will continue to provide for us in the year ahead and all the days of our lives! I wish you a most happy and blessed New Year!

In God's Love,

Marion+

Senior Warden Report

2016 is upon us with December 2015 still very clear in the rear view mirror. December was quite a month for the St Hugh family. We teamed up with the Church of the Redeemer for the Advent Retreat on Saturday the 6th of December. Once again, parishioners from our two Churches came together to kick off Advent in a very spiritual way to prepare for Jesus' birth. The Parent's Day Out on the 13th was a success once again. Marion, Mike, and Katie White gave the parents an afternoon of Christmas shopping without the little ones. The kids loved it and, I know, the parents did as well.

December 20th was a very important day. First, and foremost, Bishop Jeff Lee visited St. Hugh which also included a Confirmation and Receiving some members of our Parish into the Episcopal Church. A visit from Bishop Lee is always inspiring. Secondly, Bishop Lee was here to help us celebrate the 60th anniversary of Rev. Paul Kyger Jr's Ordination to the priesthood. As we all know, Rev. Kyger is Marion's Dad and what could be better than to be able to celebrate this occasion at St. Hugh with members of family and many friends in attendance. We thank God for keeping Marion's Dad healthy enough to fly up from Florida for such a special and blessed occasion.

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services were beautiful as always. With Marion's inspirational words along with the beautiful music from Margaret and the choir, I think we all walked away feeling especially blessed.

We can look back on 2015 and find so many things for which to be thankful. We included many more people at The Lord's Table in 2015. The increased participation in many of the ministries is such a blessing. The thing that stands out most for me is seeing the children, not only more children, but seeing them participate in the services. It warms the heart to see them be torchbearers once again. I predict, before long we'll see them as acolytes, too.

We will continue to move forward in 2016. Not only MOVE forward, but LOOK forward to another wonderful and blessed year at St Hugh. I love this place and I hear you say the same. More than that, you can SEE the love that this parish brings out in everyone. I don't see that changing. May the Lord continue to bless us and be with us in the year to come.

Dan Dolney, Senior Warden

Save the date...

January 13th Annual Committee Reports are due
January 31st Annual Parish Meeting and Brunch **9AM**
January 26th February Newsletter articles are due

Please advise the office of the current College Students that should be on the prayer list.

Please add names to the prayer list for the bulletin, we'll start fresh for 2016. Please note if they should be on the weekly list (short term) or on the perpetual (long term) list.

FLOWERS

Please remember to sign up to remember someone or a special occasion on the Flower list in the narthex. The cost per Sunday is \$30. Envelopes are available near the list. Please drop the completed envelope in the offertory plate or the mailbox on the office door

Walk a Mile in My Shoes

Saturday, February 13th: Walk a Mile in My Shoes. Join us to raise hope and funding for the Elgin Wayside Center serving the homeless in the Elgin area. The walk begins at the Evangelical Covenant Church, 1565 Larkin Avenue (next to Larkin High School). Registration starts at 8:30 am in the church, and the walk begins at 9am. We walk to the Wayside Center, 1732 Berkeley Street, which is just south of Route 20 and a couple of blocks west of McLean.

You do not have to do fundraising for this walk, but the Wayside Center would like a donation. You can register the day of the event, or go to <http://www.elgin.walk-a-mile-wcm.org/> to sign up.

<http://www.elgin.walk-a-mile-wcm.org/>

At our December meeting we were thrilled to be able to donate \$7000 to various charities. That makes a total of \$8450 for the year. Our largest gift was \$3500 to Magdalene House Chicago in memory of Shirley Rauschenberger. Part of that was \$1700 in memorial money that Shirley had designated for RELICS.

We are grateful to our St. Hugh family for so faithfully supporting our various fund raising endeavors.

There will be no January meeting.

RELICS 2015 Annual Report

A yard sale, bake sale, cookie dough sale and crafts sales comprised RELICS' fundraising efforts this year. Thanks to the unwavering support of our St. Hugh family, we were able to raise enough money to be able to give away \$8,450 this year, as itemized below.

| | | |
|--|--------|------------|
| Episcopal Relief and Development - Nepal Earthquake Relief | May-15 | \$500.00 |
| Feed My Starving Children | Aug-15 | \$200.00 |
| Media Associates International (Larry Brook's Mission) | Oct-15 | \$500.00 |
| Community Crisis Center Toy Giveaway | Nov-15 | \$250.00 |
| Magdalene House Chicago | Dec-15 | \$3,500.00 |
| PADS of Elgin | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Northern Illinois Food Bank - Soup Kitchen | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Community Crisis Center | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Well Child Center | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Little Angels | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Taylor YWCA for at risk children | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Elgin Literacy Connection | Dec-15 | \$100.00 |
| Tuition for Manoucheca Sinrilus, a Haitian Nursing Student | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Jericho Ministry, Honduras | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| McGregors' Madagascar Mission | Dec-15 | \$300.00 |
| Marion's Discretionary Fund | Dec-15 | \$500.00 |
| Episcopal Church Women - Diocese of Chicago | Dec-15 | \$100.00 |
| Soup Kitchen Christmas Socks and Fruit | Dec-15 | \$100.00 |

We were especially excited to give to the Magdalene House Chicago matching fund drive to establish this new effort to assist victims of trafficking. We dedicated the donation to the memory of Shirley Rauschenberger, who had designated \$1700 of her memorial money to RELICS.

2015 was not all fundraising. We hosted a dinner for the women of St. Hugh in September, held several luncheons, and heard a variety of speakers. They included Marion on the topic of The Enneagram; Eric Nelson from Administer Justice on human trafficking; Laurie Dayon on Girls on the Run; and Jacki Bakker and Karen Hatton from Fox Valley River Initiative. We also spent several meetings viewing the documentary *A Path Appears* about human trafficking.

Again, we thank St. Hugh parishioners for generously supporting our fundraising efforts that have enabled us to donate over \$43,900 for outreach over the years.

Submitted by Linda Youngren

Illinois Military Family Relief Fund

Military Family Relief Fund - Thousands of members of the Illinois National Guard and reserves were called to active duty following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Your contribution will help guard members and reservists, and members of their families defray expenses that become difficult to afford when a wage-earner temporarily leaves civilian employment for active military duty. \$156.00 was sent to this organization from the Brats & Bingo night proceeds. This was an acknowledgement of Veteran's Day from St. Hugh.

December Outreach of Love from St. Hugh

A total of \$324.92 was raised for the Soup Kitchen for Church of the Redeemer and the chocolate bars and fruit for the bags that contained the donated socks and dental care goodie bags. Once the chocolate bars and fruit were purchased, the balance \$260.30 was sent to PADS of Elgin for the local homeless. Thank you for the generous donations of socks. The wonderful donations of personal sized toiletries were delivered to the Community Crisis Center.

Dates From the Music Department

January 6 7PM Choir Rehearsal

January 13 7PM NO CHOIR REHEARSAL

January 20 7PM Choir Rehearsal

January 27 7PM Choir Rehearsal

Dear St. Hugh Family:

Thanks to everyone for a beautiful Advent season, a 60th anniversary and visit from the Bishop and a joyful Christmastide! Thanks for all the time in rehearsals and at home, learning all the beautiful music and readings. We had 32 believers share their gifts on December 20th from ages 5 to 80 plus! Thanks to the choir, to the band, to the readers and to our children's choir, with special thanks to Catherine for leading the children.

I am especially thrilled with the growth and development of our children's ministries. We have amazing teachers and parents and they are inspiring our children to share their gifts in the worship arts and grow in worship leadership and participation. When the children sing with the adult choir, sing as a group or sing solos, they of course are adorable! But more important, we want them to grow in their vision of themselves as church leaders. I tell them, "you helped lead God's people in worship today." If you would like your child to participate in singing, speaking, signing or other worship arts, please let me know.

I attended a national workshop at the Diocese called "Dream Tank." Twenty music leaders were invited to "think outside the box" and share their music with each other. I will be bringing some of their music to you in the next few months. In November we sang the *Zimbabwe Alleluia* as the gradual hymn several times. In December, you may recall the choir singing *Go now in peace* at the end of services. Both songs came from "Dream Tank." In January, we will be singing a *Celtic Alleluia* as our gradual hymn. On January 10th, you will hear the choir begin with *Just A Closer Walk with Thee* and move into *Down By the Riverside*, with a New Orleans jazz feel. In February, we will feature an original composition by our own Dent Davidson *A Beautiful Thing*. At St. Hugh, we are ready to do new things!