

The Youth Voice

Vacation Bible School for All "Wade in the Water"



On a beautiful afternoon the young & not as young VBS participants traveled to White Bear Lake's West Beach to experience stories of New Life in Christ through the story of the Baptism of Jesus as told by Rev. Marilyn Baldwin. It was a moment in time when we had almost been transported back to the River Jordan. As we all sang "Wade in the Water," we entered the story and had the opportunity to pour water on each other's heads. The story was followed by having fun & just getting wet, and a BBQ feast provided by John & Jen Kobinski. We have planned to offer this type of VBS for All event again during July of 2009. St. John's will also offer a week long traditional children's VBS in June, 2009.

COFTA: "Celebrating Our Faith Through the Arts"

All 4th – 12th grade youth are invited & wanted to gather on Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:30 pm.

The COFTA season will begin on September 17th, with performances of a series of skits during the Wednesday evening Light Suppers. We will also develop some dramas for Sundays during the 9 am liturgy. Everyone has gifts & talents, known & unknown; discover yours, and how they can be utilized in worship, community building, & spiritual growth. Don't miss out on the opportunity to make new friends and share your creative side.

Even if drama is not your thing, many other gifts are needed to create drama. *We need you!* In November we will use this Wednesday evening time for the Christmas Play. All dates are listed on the church's Master Calendar on the desk near the mail slots.

Children & Youth Registration

September 7th is Rally Day, and the time to get reconnected with church & programs. St. John's offers many opportunities to be actively involved: Sunday School classes for children & youth, confirmation classes, special events & overnights, endless opportunities. The children & youth registration is not just for Sunday School; it is a vehicle for keeping you & your family informed, and about being involved with activities outside of worship. We are planning a 4th – 12th grade Worship Ministries Overnight for the Fall. This will be an opportunity for not only Acolytes, but Ushers/Greeters, and those wanting to be Lay Eucharistic Ministers & Lectors, to be trained for ministry. Please register your child(ren)/youth so we can keep them connected & involved. Church is worship, but it is also about building community & commitment amongst our children & youth. *Please help make this happen.* Look for the children & youth registration table.

Regional Confirmation

11 am November 8

Every year the Episcopal Diocese of MN offers two opportunities for confirmation: Fall & Spring. Fall confirmation is approaching quickly, and this may be your opportunity. If you have completed confirmation or Anglican 101 classes and want to be confirmed, please contact Rev. Mark Kelm or Rev. Marilyn Baldwin to let him or her know that you would like to have the sacrament of Confirmation. Another regional confirmation will be on May 9, 2009.

Upcoming Events

September

- 7 Children & Youth Registration
- 14 10 am 1st Year Confirmation Meeting
- 17 7:30 pm 2nd Year Confirmation Meeting
- 28 Commitment Sunday

October

- 5 9 am St. Francis Blessing of the Animals
- 11 11 am Intergenerational Hayride
- 17-19 Northern TEC (9th – 12th grade)
- 26 10 am Trick or Treat for the Food Shelf

November.

- 5 6 pm Christmas Play Meeting
- 8 11 am Regional Confirmation
- 12 6–7:30 pm Christmas Play Practices Begin
- 26 Thanksgiving Eve pot luck & service
- 29 9 am - Noon Advent Retreat (youth invited)
- 30 10 am Advent Inter-generational Event

December

- 6 10 am all parish Tree Decorating followed by caroling at Cerenity Nursing Home
- 6 5 pm Youth Advent Overnight (Cookie Baking & Delivery to the night shift) 4th – 12th grades
- 14 4 pm Lessons & Carols
- 17 6 pm Christmas Play Rehearsal, 7pm Worship & Play Performance
- 31 5:30 pm Pizza Party & 6 pm Caroling

Weekly Events beginning September 10th

Wednesdays 6 – 7:30 pm COFTA 4th– 2th grades

Sundays 10 am education for children, youth, adults, & 1st year confirmation