

# Youth & Children's Voice

## **Epiphany Play, 7 pm Wednesday, January 4**

If you missed the Christmas Play & Tableau, there's still another opportunity to participate in the Christmas Story. We'll reenact the visit of the Magi at the Stable. Join us for the 5:30 Fellowship Dinner & Kings Cake. This is an opportunity for all to complete the story of Christ's Birth.

## **Bigger & Better Youth Event (Grades 4-12)**

### **10 am Epiphany I, Sunday, January 8**

Our young people will set out from the Parish Hall on foot in groups with a beginning item and engage people to trade for a bigger & better one. Parishioner Randy Johnson participated as a youth in an activity like this and ended up with a car. Anything is possible. It's much more about the process than the end product. We need adults to chaperone each group and judges to determine the best over-all Item, Story, & Evangelism. Contact: Sheila Foster.

## **Sunday School & Youth Activities Back in Session January 8**

Programs for all ages resume on January 8. Godly Play will meet in the Gathering Room for an engaging story, and the youth will participate in the Bigger & Better challenge. If you've been away due to sports or family activities, please know that you are welcome & wanted here on Sunday mornings. Sometimes it's difficult to get back in the habit of the Sunday morning routine when you've been out of the loop on other activities and feel it's been so long that you can't walk through the door. But please do walk through the door. You are needed here for the rest of the community to feel complete. We want you here!

## **Sr. High Youth (Grades 8-12)**

### **Muffin Baking Overnight**

### **Saturday-Sunday, January 14-15**

Do you know the Muffin Man? We'll gather in the church kitchen at 7 pm to bake muffins for St. John's Annual Parish Meeting. All participants please sign-up and

complete a special events overnight form at the Activity Center near the elevator outside the Parish Hall. Please eat dinner before you come; however, pizza will be available throughout the evening while we bake muffins. Contact Sheila Foster for more information or if you are an adult able to volunteer. We need a minimum of 4 adults for the overnight.

## **Intergenerational Adopt a Platoon Event Sunday, January 22**

This all-parish valentine-making activity in the Parish Hall will follow all liturgies. We encourage everyone of all ages to help. The more people we have creating valentines, the more we'll be able to send. We will share a Godly Play story at 10 am for parents & children downstairs in the Gathering Room then move upstairs to create valentines.

## **COFTA & the Canticle Ensemble 6 & 6:45 pm on Wednesdays**

We still have room for new members in our COFTA Gospel Drama Group & the Canticle vocal ensemble. If you feel that something is missing in your life perhaps it is the arts. Contact Sheila Foster or Matt Anderson about how your gifts can be welcomed into the community.

## **Summer Opportunities**

As you start to plan your summer calendar please remember to add the following events:

### **Vacation Bible School (age 3 - grade 5)**

#### **10 am – 12:30 pm Monday-Friday,**

**June 18-22**, a weeklong opportunity for children to engage in the Christian Story and community-building through crafts, music, stories, and other creative play & faith-filled activities.

**Youth Mission, Grades 8-12** (Spring 2012 grades) **July 21-29, 2012**: youth & adult leaders will head to New Orleans, LA, with a stop or two along the way. Please watch for postings of upcoming planning meetings. Our Youth Planning Leaders are Emily DeSmet & Michael Marier.

**Episcopal Youth Music Camp Grades 3-12** (Fall 2012 grades) **August 5-11**, an overnight camp at Camp Heartland, Willow River, MN. Youth from all over the Episcopal Church in MN participate in the week. For information & photos visit [www.episcopal-youth-music.org](http://www.episcopal-youth-music.org).

**Don't forget these dates:**

## **January**

- 1 **No Sunday School or youth programs**
- 4 COFTA drama at 7 pm Epiphany Worship
- 8 10 am The Bigger & Better Treasure Hunt for youth
- 14 7 pm Sr. High Youth Muffin-making Overnight
- 15 9 am All youth attend St. John's Annual Parish Meeting
- 22 Adopt a Platoon Valentine-making for the Troops

## **February**

- 5 9 am 8th grade Rite of Affirmation
- 11 1 pm Mardi Gras planning until 5 pm
- 15 5 pm Mardi Gras celebration
- 24 Great North Teens Encounter Christ planning overnight

## **March**

- 3 Episcopal Youth Music Festival
- 23 Great North Teens Encounter Christ weekend

## **April**

- 4 4 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation available until 7 pm
- 5 Maundy Thursday Overnight
- 6 Good Friday Stations of the Cross
- 7 Easter Vigil worship, meal & egg hunt
- 8 9 am Easter drama rehearsal  
10 am Easter Day worship
- 14 1 pm Feed My Starving Children in Eagan until 5 pm

## **May**

- 1 EYMC Early Bird Deadline
- 3 7 pm National Day of Prayer
- 20 9 am Baccalaureate Worship  
10 am Faith Formation Celebration