



A publication of St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church

Cross Currents

Worship: Sunday at 8:00 and 9:45 am

January 2019 Edition

In January (at our Annual Meeting Jan. 27), we say good bye to our Sr. Warden for the past year, Julia MacLachlan. She has been a wonderful servant, and am extremely kind and gifted leader. We have been so blessed to have her. In honor of her, I share this poem with you.

*And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."*

And he replied:

*"Go out into the darkness and
put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way."*

*So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.*

The above is a preamble to a famous poem by British poet Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957 from the poem "God knows.") See page 3 for more about this poem.

John+



2019 Annual Meeting

including Budget Presentation

Sunday, January 27, 2019

Following the 9:45 a.m. service

Potluck to follow

We're asking families with last names:

A-M to bring salad or dessert;

N-Z to bring a main course



There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hall.

Hope to see you then!

Building a People who Love, Learn & Serve in Christ's Name!

FROM THE SENIOR WARDEN'S DESK

By the time you read this all the excitement of Christmas will be over – I hope it was an enjoyable and meaningful time for you all. 2019 is now bearing down on us, with all the pressure to make resolutions to be **healthier, more organized, more devout, better versions of ourselves** (I'm sure you can all guess why being more organized is always on my list!). The New Year is a useful prompt, but we should try to be realistic about what we can achieve to avoid disappointment and disillusionment!

For this newsletter I'm going to take a page from the playbook of the plant manager at the Rossford glass float line, who terms every quality problem "an opportunity", and offer a couple of opportunities here. One is to make a donation in memory of a loved one for the purchase of one (or more) Bibles for the library. These would be used for the Maundy Thursday vigil, Compline, youth group use and other Bible studies. An insert would be placed in the bible with information about the donor and the honouree. A donation of \$20 would pay for an NIV bible (12 requested) and \$40 an NSRV version (2 requested). At least one of each would be large print.

Also, we are looking for attendees for 2019 Winter Convocation. This event is held at the Kalahari Resort & Convention Center in Sandusky and begins at 7 pm on Friday, February 1, continuing until 3 pm on Saturday, Feb. 2 and is a wonderful weekend of spiritual renewal and uplift – no meetings, committees, or issues! This year they are putting together a pick-up choir, and workshops include 'Exploring Lay Leadership', 'Youth Ministry in Smaller Churches', 'Playing with the Psalms', 'Singable Hymns', and more! Deadline for early-bird registration is January 9, so if you're interested or would like more information, please reach out to Julia Burtscher ASAP! The cost is \$29 per adult if we register by January 9th; if 6 or more go from the Parish, we get half the total cost rebated.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the outgoing Vestry members this year – Steve Wipfli, Jill Porter, Mike Jewell and Nate Keiper. Their skills, advice and commitment have been invaluable and they have given generously of their time and talents. At the Annual Meeting on January 27th we will welcome a new Vestry class, as well as handing over Senior Warden duties to David O'Connell who will be greatly assisted by new Junior Warden, Julia Burtscher. The December Vestry meeting discussions were full of exciting ideas for 2019 – there is much we can do even as we continue our search for a full-time rector. I would like to conclude by saying I have been blessed to have Father John Hagan as our long term supply priest for my entire tenure as Senior Warden – I couldn't have managed without him.

—Julia MacLachlan



"GOD KNOWS"

The Gate of the Year: A Message to a Troubled Nation
by Shari Abbott, Reasons for Hope* Jesus | Dec 27, 2017

In December 1939, Great Britain was at war. The Third Reich of Nazi Germany had ruled in Germany since Hitler took over in 1933. Germany had become a fascist totalitarian state and the Hitler regime had spread terror across Europe. In September 1939, Great Britain had entered the Second World War. And in three months, the nation was gripped in the clutches of fear. With every air-raid siren that pierced the ears of the English people, anxiety increased and fear overwhelmed them. Uncertainty for the New Year reigned in the hearts and minds of Great Britain's citizens.

In December 1939, King George VI was England's reigning monarch. As was the custom, the king addressed the nation on a BBC radio broadcast on Christmas Day, and, in the uncertain last days of 1939, the king spoke words of peace to calm his nation. He reminded them of the only true King, the One who can provide true peace and real rest in such troubled times. As King George concluded his message of encouragement, he read the preamble of a poem that had been brought to his attention by his young daughter, Princess Elizabeth.

Princess Elizabeth was only thirteen years old in 1939. The poem that she brought to her father's attention was written by British poet Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957). Published in 1908 and titled *God Knows*, the poem was part of a collection of poems in a book titled *The Desert*. Years later, this poem gained popularity with a new title, *The Gate of the Year*, taken from the poem's first line.

Upon the death of King George (1952), Princess Elizabeth became the Queen of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Remembering the poem, her father had read so many years before, she had the words engraved upon brass plaques and attached to the gates of the King George VI Memorial Chapel at Windsor Castle. Interred at this chapel are the bodies of King George VI, his wife Queen Elizabeth (The Queen Mother), and the ashes of their second daughter Princess Margaret. When The Queen Mother died in 2002, the reigning Queen Elizabeth had *The Gate of the Year* read at her funeral. The words are also inscribed in a window at the Queen's Chapel of the Savoy....

The words of this poem were a message of assurance to a nation at war. They were words of comfort in the loss of loved ones, and words of hope for war to end....



THE GATE OF THE YEAR

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread
safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and
put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light
and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the
Hand of God, trod gladly into
the night.

And He led me towards the
hills and the breaking of day in
the lone East.

So heart be still:

What need our little life
Our human life to know,
If God hath comprehension?

In all the dizzy strife
Of things both high and low,
God hideth His intention.
God knows. His will is best.

The stretch of years
Which wind ahead, so dim
To our imperfect vision,
Are clear to God. Our fears
Are premature; In Him,
All time hath full provision.

Then rest: until
God moves to lift the veil
From our impatient eyes,
When, as the sweeter features
Of Life's stern face we hail,
Fair beyond all surmise
God's thought around His
creatures
Our mind shall fill.



JOIN US SUNDAY'S IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOLLOWING THE 9:45 AM SERVICE.

Grab a cup of coffee, and enjoy stimulating programs and discussion! Each program ends between 11:45-11:50 am.

- January 6 Our Parsonage: Where do we go from here? The Finance Committee of the Vestry has assembled an analysis of the issues related to maintaining St. Michael's parsonage. They will present this information and seek your feedback and concerns.
- January 13 Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall
- January 20 Joe Gerhardinger presents on "Joseph Campbell and Myth"
- January 27 Annual Meeting *(See front page for details!)*

CHURCH-WIDE BIBLE READING INITIATIVE BEGINS JANUARY 7TH!



WHAT IS THE GOOD BOOK CLUB?

The Good Book Club is an invitation to all Episcopalians to join in reading Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans during Epiphany 2019. Episcopalians will start reading Romans on January 7, 2019 and read a section every day (except Sundays) through the Epiphany season. The Good Book Club offers an opportunity to dive deeply into scripture and create a **daily practice of engagement with God's Word**. In surveys taken before and after the first Good Book Club project in 2018 (reading the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts), participants reported growth in their understanding of scripture and a deepening of their prayer life. Perhaps most significantly, the percentage of people who reported reading the Bible on a daily basis increased to 73 percent at the end of the first Good Book Club reading, from 45 percent when it began.

WHY ROMANS?

After diving deep into the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts during the Good Book Club in 2018, we will delve into the Letter to the Romans, written by the Apostle Paul in 56-57 CE. **Romans shares Paul's attempt** to explain how this new expression of faith is rooted in Judaism but is available to all of humanity. As Paul writes to the new community of Christians in Rome, he explores the concepts of salvation, the power of **God, and grace**. **Many biblical scholars consider Romans to be Paul's most important theological treatise**. While Romans is not always easy reading, this sixth book of the New Testament articulates what it means to be a disciple of Christ and how that translates into daily life—lessons to inform and inspire followers of Christ from the beginning to the 21st century.

VISIT <http://www.goodbookclub.org/readings/> TO FIND THE READINGS FOR EACH DAY!

NUTS & BOLTS

COMPLINE SERVICE EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

Please join us for prayer on Wednesday evenings from 7—8pm. We often use the Night Prayer service from the New Zealand Book of Common Prayer. All are welcome. This is a midweek opportunity to share thanksgivings and petitions. If you have questions, contact David or Diane Braun at (419) 344-2524 or Scott or Susan Hendricks at (419) 882-2978.



ALTAR FLOWERS

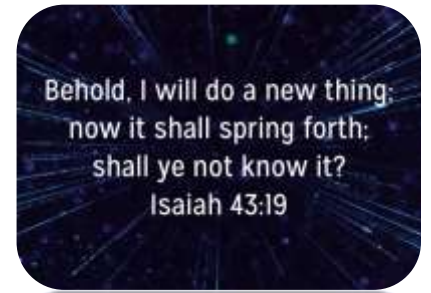
The 2019 Altar Flower chart is posted on the hall bulletin board. If you wish to provide flowers for the altar on a Sunday in memory of a loved one, please sign up. The church office makes the weekly arrangements with the florist, and the florist will direct bill the donor for \$100. A memorial note will appear in that Sunday's bulletin.



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Once I stopped believing in Santa Claus, I began to find New Year's Eve just as exciting as Christmas. The One who makes all things new is with us as we begin 2019. What new things do you believe God is going to do with you and through you this year? Prayer, practice, and planning are 3 ways for us to be ready for something new. Maybe you can begin attending Wednesday evening compline. Perhaps joining choir by attending Thursday night rehearsals are what you need to be ready. Lastly, enhancing your daily faith rituals and practices are what you need to do to be ready. Open your heart and be ready for your "something new" in 2019.

God bless - Imani



YOUTH GAME NIGHT RETURNS!

We're going to begin having game nights again! Giant Jenga, Romans and Christians, Giant Yardzee, we'll have loads of fun! Please email imani@lovelearnserv.org with game suggestions and possible dates.



WINTER CONVOCATION

Come to Winter Convocation
and bring your teen!

On February 1st and 2nd, the Diocese of Ohio will convene for Winter Convocation. The Diocesan Youth ministry staff has separate events planned for youth in grades 6-12, including time at Kalahari water park! Please come and grow your faith, be renewed spiritually and leave your teen in my capable hands.

I t will be great, I promise.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Marion Boyer | 20 Daniel Cobau |
| 2 Kaed Egan | 21 Cindy Tuttle
George Estes |
| 4 Ruth Ann Sailstad
Geoffrey Graham | 22 Barbara Bailey
Patty Wise
Alexandra Boesel |
| 11 Christopher DeRosa | |
| 14 Letty Haigh
Jordan Porter | 23 James DeRosa |
| 18 Jack McBride | 24 Craig Hatfield
Andrew Fruth |
| | 30 Hannah Jewell |



January birthday and anniversary blessings will be on January 13.

— OFFICE NOTES —

Church office hours:

Monday–Tuesday from 9 am to 2 pm.
Wednesday– Friday from 9 am to 4 pm.

February Newsletter: *Articles due Jan 17.*

Please check in at the office when entering the building. It is helpful for the staff to know who is coming and going — so we do not lock anyone in or set the alarm on them.

Please schedule meetings at the church through the church office. All meetings should be written on the church office calendar. Just send us an email or call!

Updated Parish Directories are always available. Contact the office to request one.

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...

Homebound: Betsy Bailey, Isabelle Carter, Carolyn Cousino, Kay Marion, Al Reiser, and Jo Youngen.

Parishioners: Alma, Dick Aldinger, Dan, Jack Christopher, Susan Gilbert, Grace, Elmer and Letty Haigh, Carol and Dennis Kanfield, Gayle Kurrelmeier, Jackie Moore, Marion Boyer, Marilyn Palermo, Jean Schaefer, John Shelly, and Lillian Spaulding.

*Family & Friends: Leland Ames, Colleen, Didi Beckham, Eldaray, Evelyn, Lee Gable, Art Gorajewski, Joan, Karen, Leah, Leonard, Peter, Sandra, Santee, and Gloria Weller.

For those in harm's way: Jake, Michael, Ian Reinheimer, John P. Smith and Scott Sykes.

For those who died: Irv Fort, longtime Sexton

**Family and Friends remain on the prayer list for one month unless the Church Office is otherwise notified.*

KNIT AND PRAY SHAWL MINISTRY



The Knit and Pray Shawl Ministry would like to welcome any other knitters or crocheters out there! They meet the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Office Conference room. Join them January 8th. If you have any questions, contact Anne Morris, 419-277-6449 or librarianne@bex.net.



READINGS	DATE	SERVICE	ACOLYTES	ALTARGUILD	GREETERS	LECTORS & LEM	USHERS
The Epiphany	Sun. 1/6	8 a.m. HE		Nancy Lehmann		Julia MacLachlan	
Isaiah 60:1-6		9:45 a.m. HE	Will Gerhardinger	Jano Nolette	Pam Cousino	Al Stephens (L1)	Julie Graham
Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14			Walker Kight	Barb Malkoski	Brent Cousino	Joe Gerhardinger (L2)	Scott Hendricks
Ephesians 3:1-12			Nolan Walker			David Braun (P)	
Matthew 2:1-12						Mike Ward (TEM)	
	Wed. 1/9	4 p.m. Sunset		Edwina Ledgard			
1st Epiphany	Sun. 1/13	8 a.m. HE		Sue Merce		George Shirk	
Isaiah 43:1-7		9:45 a.m. HE	Charlotte DeRosa	Julia Burtscher	Edwina Ledgard	Penny Cobau-Smith (L1)	Edwina Ledgard
Acts 8:14-17			Sophie Jewell	Kay Gerhardinger	Charlotte Halloran	Nate Keiper (L2)	Nancy Lehmann
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22			Grace Waweru			Susan Hendricks (P)	
Psalms 29						Ricky Becker (TEM)	
2nd Epiphany	Sun. 1/20	8 a.m. MP		Julia MacLachlan		Vicki Creekmore	
Isaiah 62:1-5		9:45 a.m. MP	William Becker	Sara Roberts	Nancy Elzinga	Scott Hendricks (L1)	Henry Merce
1 Corinthians 12:1-11			Mitchell Gomulinski		Larry & Carol Nichols	Donna Wipfli (L2)	Mike Porter
John 2:1-11			John Kight			Lindsay Smith (P)	
Psalms 36:5-10							
3rd Epiphany	Sun. 1/27	No 8 am service					
Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10		9:45 a.m. HE	Sam Reszko	Terri Ward	Joan O'Connell	Will Gerhardinger (L1)	Kyle Randall
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	* Annual Meeting		Mikayla Gomulinski	Nancy Burton	Marilyn Palermo	Anne Morris (L2)	Jeff Smith
Luke 4:14-21			Emily Porter			Jeff Boyer (P)	
Psalms 19	Sunday					David Braun (TEM)	

JANUARY SERVICE SCHEDULE



St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church

4718 Brittany Road
Toledo, Ohio 43615-2314

Phone: (419) 531-1616 Fax: (419) 531-9332

E-mail: office@lovelearnserv.org

Visit us on the web: www.lovelearnserv.org

Church Office Hours

Monday–Tuesday, 9 am to 2 pm

Wednesday–Friday, 9 am to 4 pm

*Closed for Lunch from 12-12:30pm

THE VESTRY

Julia MacLachlan, *Senior Warden*

David O'Connell, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2019

Mike Jewell
Nate Keiper
Julia MacLachlan
Jill Porter
Steve Wipfli

Class of 2020

Jaymie Fontana
Julie Hagenbuch
David O'Connell
Jeff Smith

Class of 2021

David Braun
Julia Burtcher
James Carlisle
Barb Malkoski
Mary Gerhardinger (Youth)

PARISH STAFF

Imani Driskell – Director of Children's, Youth and Family Ministry
Rebecca Park – Organist
Justin Bays — Interim Director of Music
Michelle Knecht & Kim Schrinel – Administrative Assistants
Diane Reeves & Lisa Watson – Sextons
Gretchen Rohm – Financial Administrator

PARISH LEADERSHIP

The Rev. John Hagan– Clergy
Julia MacLachlan – Senior Warden
David O'Connell – Junior Warden
John Graham – Treasurer
Nate Keiper – Clerk