

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWS

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Honoring God in Creation

When we see the great abundance, diversity, and intricacy of God's creatures, we are awestruck by life on our planet. We are amazed by the God who has created all that is, and who is the engineer or crafter of the cosmos, designing and assembling all the details. But we also know from science that the details of organisms change through time according to their situations – that is, they evolve through adaptation and natural selection. Some people take this to mean that there is no role for God in the evolution of life on our planet, but they miss the point that it is through God's love and humility that the processes of nature operate, bringing growth and adaptive change. God's love grants creation the freedom to make and remake.

Scripture is clear that divine mercy is over all God's works. The material world is not something to be simply disregarded and destroyed as unimportant to God, whose love is unwavering. Just as we are called to consider the lost and the least among our human brothers and sisters, so we may say that we are called to consider the dignity of all God's creatures.

Science currently is working on several fronts to discover more about kinship. There are both genetic/hereditary and ecological relationships among earth's creatures. We share

much of our DNA with plants and animals we do not usually consider as having much in common with us, and the air we breathe requires the healthy function of organisms far less complex than we are.

Our understanding of God as One, yet three persons, is a divine picture of diversity in community. Each person of the Trinity, Father, Son, and Spirit, gives to and receives from the others, in a community of exchange we call love. What is true of God may then be seen to be true of the community of life which God has loved into being and sustains through love. While each creature has its dignity, in life and in death, in struggle and in beauty, all creatures in their diversity, including human beings, are held in community with one another.

There is no doubt that human beings have changed the earth's cycles, surface, and creatures by our activities. We have managed and bred for our use and enjoyment some plants and animals, and destroyed the habitats of others. We have extracted minerals, fossil fuels, and soils; and have been careless with our use of extracted water. We have preserved some biomes for their scenic beauty, but ignored the ecological services provided by others.

Scientists and activists may disagree about

St. John's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

308 MOUNTAIN VIEW

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what is the greatest threat to human survival on the planet. Should the scarcity of water for drinking and sanitation be our biggest concern, or the challenge to feed a hungry world in an ecologically sustainable way? And which of our

and Music for Honoring God in Creation to help bring this relationship with creation and our Creator to our liturgy.

On Sunday, September 11, please join us for an Appetizer Pot-Luck after our service. All are

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excesses put the whole planet in the greatest peril? Is it climate change or the loss of biodiversity that poses the greatest threat to the resilience of life on earth? Ecologists understand that while entry points for concern and action vary, all these issues are interrelated.

There have been and will continue to be unintended consequences for our environment due to our choices and behaviors, but study and prayer can help us to become more conscious of the human impact on our planet. As we consider the risen and ascended Christ drawing all things to their perfection in himself, indeed drawing the cosmos into the heart of God in that process the Eastern Church calls “deification,” we find reason for hope and an impetus for the renewing and reconciling of our relationships within the creation of which we are a part.

We will worship in the next six weeks with materials developed at the 78th General Convention by the Standing Committee on Liturgy

asked to bring their favorite appetizer to share as we welcome the Greater Yellowstone Coalition’s Wyoming Conservation Associate, Jenny Desarro. She works to protect public lands in Wyoming, focusing primarily on the Absaroka-Beartooth Front east of Yellowstone National Park. She brings a wealth of experience in outdoor and environmental education, bringing people together to create solutions. She is also an avid outdoors woman and naturalist.

The Greater Yellowstone Coalition was founded in 1983 on a simple premise: An ecosystem will remain healthy and wild only if it is kept whole. For more than 30 years, we have been a pioneer in defining and promoting the concept of ecosystem management. Our offices, strategically placed in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho, allow us to engage in a wide variety of efforts locally, regionally, and nationally to ensure Greater Yellowstone’s lands, waters, wildlife are protected now and well into the future.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

SEPTEMBER

5 Meaghan McKeen
6 Deb Koelling
7 Henry Tillotson
8 Diana Anderson
11 Cameron Barker
11 Shane Tillotson
18 Sue Woods
18 Nicole Goubeaux
26 Josey Nickles

OCTOBER

5 Genny Bettger
10 Tim & Wendy Glatzer
13 Bryce Bettger

ALTAR GUILD:

Sept. - DeWitt and McCauley

OCT 16 – POTLUCK – Spirituality of Work – Carol Bell

THRIFT SHOP CLEANING DAYS:

Sept, 7 and Sept. 26

UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

LECTOR TRAINING: Sunday, September 18 after our service

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

(LEM): Sunday, September 25 after our service

INTERCESSORS:

Saturday, October 1

Please stay tuned to the bulletins as these dates approach!

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY –

Monday, September 19, 6:30pm. Save the date and stay tuned for further information in the bulletin.

The website for St. John’s Episcopal Church is

WWW.POWELLEPISCOPAL.COM

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The church receives a small commission, which goes toward the upkeep of the website. Thanks!

Intercultural program and two of the artists whose work is in the exhibit.

The BRIDGE exhibition opened in Paris in February, 2015 as part of the United Nations World Interfaith Harmony Week. From there it went to Cairo, Egypt, London, Barcelona and the Metz Cathedral in France. In the United States, these pictures were hung in New York

City at St. Paul's Chapel which borders Ground Zero, and in Chicago, Seattle, and Spokane before coming to Wyoming. The Foundation for the Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming is sponsoring this event. The intercultural program at Northwest College has assisted with arrangements.

A film series designed to facilitate community understanding of "otherness in the Big Horn Basin" begins on Wednesday evening, September 7th and continues each Wednesday through September 28th. All films begin at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 7: "Queens and Cowboys: A straight Year on the Gay Rodeo". Film screening with NWC Gay-Straight Alliance Club @ NWC Intercultural House—565 College Drive; Sept. 14: "Blue Like Me." Film screening with

Jewish Indian artist, Siona Benjamin @ Cody Theater—1171 Sheridan Ave.; Sept. 21: "Smoke Signals ." Film screening with Wind River Native Advocacy Center Director, Jason Baldes @ NWC Intercultural House—565 College Drive; Sept. 28: "Snow Falling on Cedars" Film screening with NWC anthropology instructor, Aura Newlin @Cody Theater—1171 Sheridan Ave. Admission is free to all events.

A BOOK STUDY of No god but God—the Origins, Evolution and Future of Islam by Reza Aslan will be led by University of Wyoming History professor, Marianne Kamp, on Thursday, Sept. 8 @ 1:00 p.m. in the Cody Library (1500 Heart Mountain St.) and in the Powell Library @ 6:30 p.m. Limited copies of the book are available at each library.

A MUSICAL PROGRAM "Sufi Songs of Love" with Amir Vahab & Ensemble will be presented on September 27th in the R. A. Nelson Performing Arts Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. (Northwest College)

Invite a friend and/or neighbor to walk with you to the BRIDGE. It might be one of the most transforming walks you've ever taken.

More information is available at <http://www.nwc.edu/international>

FOUNDATION FOR THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WYOMING

"How will what we do here today affect or involve people living in poverty?"

The Foundation Board voted unanimously to initiate immediately a grants program for all 48 Episcopal parishes in Wyoming. A \$5,000 grant will be awarded to St. John's once we submit a letter that explains how and for what purpose the congregation will distribute such a grant into our community. Members of St. John's Outreach Committee, which includes Genny Bettger, Deb Bush, Angela Tillotson, and Carra Wetzel will draw up a letter/request for these funds to help our neighbors in need in our community.

POWELL VALLEY LOAVES & FISHES

The summer months have been busy. In June 92 families and 380 people were served and in July 96 families and 361 people. The numbers are strong and steady. We have consistently needed to purchase food to replenish the shelves. We thank you for your continued support and volunteerism. It takes a village to feed the hungry in our community.

THE REV. MEGAN NICKLES (754-4218) is available at any time. Please call to make an appointment or for any other emergency.

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a unique four-year distance learning certificate program in theological education based upon small-group study and practice. Since its founding in 1975, this international program has assisted more than 80,000 participants in discovering and nurturing their call to Christian service. EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together.

The focus of this year's EfM program is "Living Into the Journey with God." Megan Nickles and Charlotte Patrick are co-mentoring this group, composed of Deb Bush, Tim Glatzer and Tim Seeley in Year 1; Brandi Wright in Year 2; Genny Bettger and Susan McEvoy in Year 3; Laurel McKeen and Charlotte Patrick in Year 4.

We would also like to joyously lift up in prayer and song the graduates from the previous EfM cohort. Diana Anderson, Megan Nickles, Jane Woods and Sue Woods completed their EfM training in May of 2015.

The BRIDGE is coming to Powell

Beginning in September, select communities in Wyoming (Laramie, Lander, Rock Springs and POWELL) will host a traveling interfaith art exhibit called the BRIDGE. This exhibit showcases forty-seven artists of Arab, Persian and Jewish backgrounds whose artistic images focus on what they hold in common through their cultures and creeds which include Jewish, Christian and Muslim faiths. A theme of their artistic expressions explores what "bridges" us to each other.

The overall goal of the BRIDGE is to be a catalyst in the communities where the exhibit is shared for opening and sustaining dialog among people of diverse cultures and creeds in order to develop genuine understanding and build relationships between people who may currently feel marginalized or threatened. In many communities, the focus is on building better understanding between Christians and Muslims. A long-term goal for the Bridge is to stimulate creative and practical models of col-

laboration and co-existence so people of different faith and cultural traditions may live and work together respecting the other's way of expressing creed and culture within the community. A Lebanese artist and writer, Kahlil Gibran, profoundly bridged East and West by saying: "Your neighbor is your other self dwelling behind a wall. In understanding, all walls shall fall down."

The organizer of the Bridge exhibit is the Rev. Canon Paul-Gordon Chandler, who is serving an Episcopal church in Cairo, Egypt. Rev. Chandler will be a featured speaker at the Opening Reception for the exhibit on Saturday, September 10, 2016. The Opening Reception begins at 6:00 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres in the SinClair Gallery in the Orendorff Building on the Northwest College campus. At 6:30 p.m., Rev. Chandler will address the gathering. Other speakers include former Sen. Alan and Ann Simpson, NWC President Stefanie Hicswa, Amanda Enriquez, affiliated with the NWC

St. John's Schedule September 4 thru October 16

	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25	October 2	October 9	October 16
Day	Pentecost 16	Pentecost 17	Pentecost 18	Pentecost 19	Pentecost 20	Pentecost 21	Pentecost 22
Service	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
Time	10:30am	10:30am	10:30am	10:30am	10:30am	10:30am	10:30am
Greeters	Josephine DeWitt Elaine DeBuhr	Martha Moewes Walter Johnson	Deb Bush Ron Bush	Chester Bettger Genny Bettger	Jim McEvoy Dylan McEvoy	Josephine DeWitt Deb Chidsey	Angela Tillotson Shane Tillotson
Acolyte	Dylan McEvoy	Natalie Dillivan	Grant Dillivan	Dylan McEvoy	Natalie Dillivan	Grant Dillivan	Dylan McEvoy
Worship Leader	Diana Anderson	Charlotte Patrick	Kim Dillivan	Mary Dillivan	Diana Anderson	Laura Greathouse	Tim Seeley
Lectors	Katy Lytle Genny Bettger	Bill Hassler Mickey Waddell	Tim Glatzer Josephine DeWitt	Shane Tillotson Angela Tillotson	Scott Larsen Deb Bush	Justine Larsen Elaine DeBuhr	Jim McEvoy Genny Bettger
Presider	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Warren Murphy	Megan Nickles	Megan Nickles	Ron Lytle	Megan Nickles
Intercessor	Susan McEvoy	Katy Lytle	Tim Seeley	Carra Wetzel	Susan McEvoy	Jan Lenhard	Katy Lytle
Preacher	Megan Nickles	Tim Seeley	Warren Murphy	Diana Anderson	Charlotte Patrick	Mary Dillivan	Megan Nickles
Eucharistic Servers	Diana Anderson Genny Bettger	Charlotte Patrick Walter Johnson	Kim Dillivan Tim Seeley	Mary Dillivan Carra Wetzel	Shane Tillotson Angela Tillotson	Jan Lenhard Laura Greathouse	Genny Bettger Alethea Durney
Sound	Robert Rumbolz	Robert Rumbolz	Robert Rumbolz	Robert Rumbolz	Monte Nickles	Robert Rumbolz	Robert Rumbolz
Eucharistic Bread	Mary Dillivan	Laurel McKeen	Diana Anderson	Genny Bettger	Susan McEvoy	Mary Dillivan	Carra Wetzel
Coffee Host	Bettgers	Pot Luck	Nickles, Woods	Larsen Family	McEvoy Family	Josephine DeWitt	Pot Luck
Flowers	Josephine DeWitt	Josephine DeWitt	Carol McCauley	Carol McCauley	Diana Anderson	Diana Anderson	McEvoy Family

The website for St. John's Episcopal Church is

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