



# The Good News

October 2011



St. Anne's Episcopal Church

De Pere, WI

www.stannes.us

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## Jesus is Our Giving Tree

*In his modern day parable entitled The Giving Tree; Shel Silverstein shared his understanding of God. The parable begins with a tree who loved a little boy very much. Through the years the two shared much time together as the little boy would gather up the leaves and play with them, or climb up in her branches to play and eat apples, or simply lay down in her shade and rest in the cool of the day – the two were so happy. Eventually, the little boy grew up and spent more time away from the tree. As a teenager, the boy needed money and the tree offered up her apples for the boy to sell, and the tree was again happy. After a period of time the boy returns as a young man and the tree is so excited because of his visit. The young man, however, is not so happy because he needs a house. The tree offers up her branches for the young man to take and make his house -- again. the tree is very happy. Finally the parable ends with the tree offering its trunk and stump to the man.*

*And the tree was happy.*

*In this parable, we can see that the tree surrenders everything to help the boy through life. It is good for us to note that the tree was happy as she gave to the boy. However, it is equally good for us to note that the boy had to keep returning to the tree throughout life to have his needs met.*

*Everything that he needed came from the tree, and the tree freely gave its very best to the boy as a gift.*

*And in giving, the giver was happy.*

*....Continued on Page 2*

If you would like to be added to our email list... please send us your request to [stannesoffice@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stannesoffice@sbcglobal.net)

Clearly, Jesus is our "Giving Tree". He offered His life, his passion, and his death for our salvation. As the Apostle John notes in his gospel "For God so loved the world that he gave..." And He continues to give His love, His healing, His wholeness, and His Holy Spirit to us every day.

Everything we need comes from God for He is the author of our salvation; He created everything in the beginning. In the words of the psalmist, "The earth is the Lord's and everything in the world, and all who live in it." Giving is God's nature because love is God's nature.

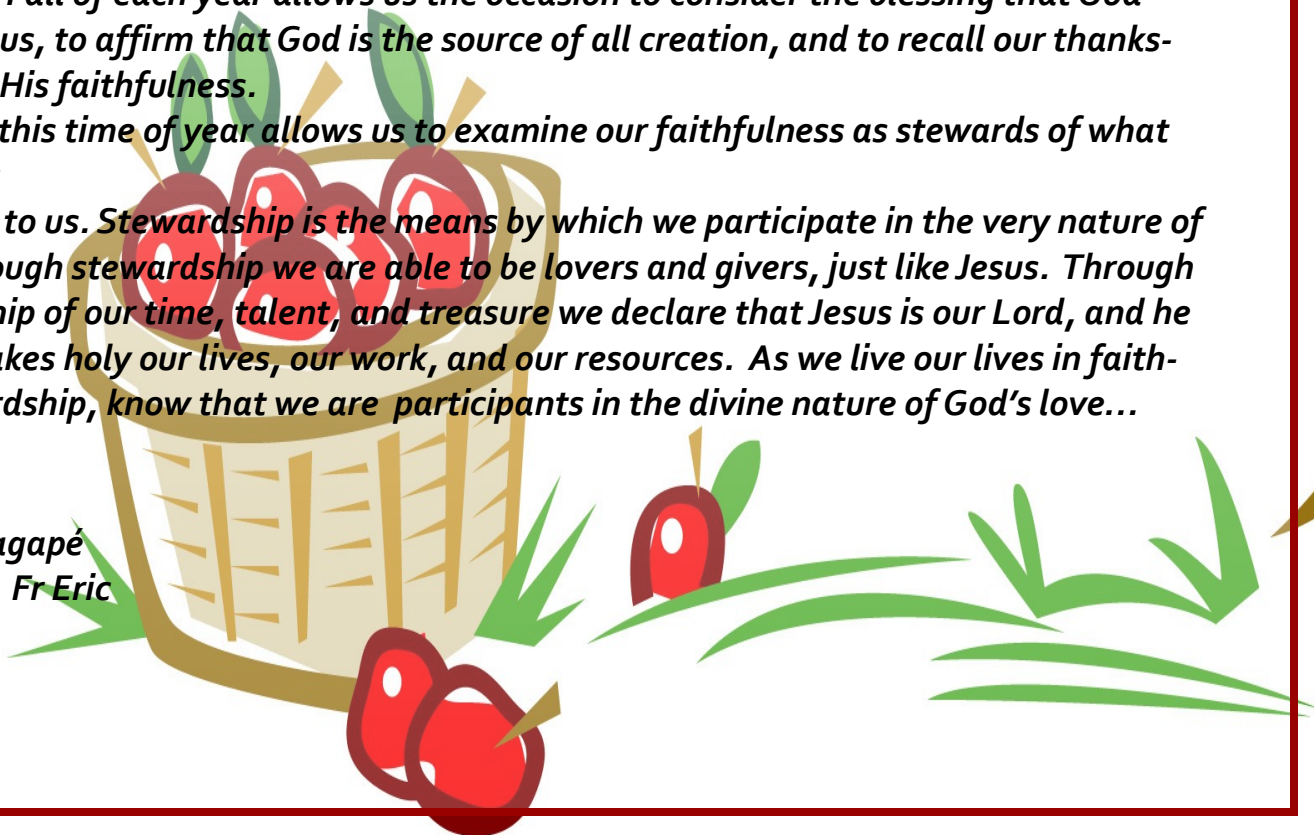
One man shared his definition of love with me; "Love is the action of giving your best to another". I like that definition, because it describes the very nature of God, the actions of Christ, and the moving of the Holy Spirit. From the creation in Genesis to the new creation in Revelation, from the sacrifice in the Garden of Eden to the sacrifice in Gethsemane, from the resurrection of Christ to our resurrection in the waters of baptism, we find over and over again that God is a loving God, and God is a giving God, that's His nature.

As we have been raised to new life in Christ through the waters of baptism, we became brand new creations, participants in God's divine nature reclaiming the likeness of God...to love and to give. Truly we have been created anew in both His image and likeness. It is part of our new nature to love one another, as participants in the divine nature we are to be givers.

The Fall of each year allows us the occasion to consider the blessing that God has given us, to affirm that God is the source of all creation, and to recall our thanksgiving for His faithfulness.

Likewise, this time of year allows us to examine our faithfulness as stewards of what Christ has entrusted to us. Stewardship is the means by which we participate in the very nature of God. Through stewardship we are able to be lovers and givers, just like Jesus. Through stewardship of our time, talent, and treasure we declare that Jesus is our Lord, and he in turn makes holy our lives, our work, and our resources. As we live our lives in faithful stewardship, know that we are participants in the divine nature of God's love...

En agapé  
Fr Eric



## Secret Saints

One definition of integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is looking. That is also a good definition for the lifestyle of the saints of God.

Secret Saints is a new addition to our monthly newsletter. In this column, we will recognize the action of an anonymous parishioner because of something they did during the course of the month that no one would really know about...but unknowingly someone did happen to see it take place.

I like to believe that God smiles when we do the right thing, even when we think no one is watching...  
except of course for God.

If you witness the action of a Secret Saint, please forward the account to Bobbie or Fr Eric and you may see it in the next edition of the Good News!



### St. Anne's Secret Saint

I was in my office in the middle of the afternoon when I overheard a member of the parish ask our Office Angel for a broom. The parishioner explained that they noticed that there was a broken bottle in the parking lot and they wanted to clean it up...God smiled today!

Hello All,

It seems there was this farmer. He loved being a farmer. He especially got great pleasure from taking care of his animals. He made sure their stalls and pens were clean. He fed and watered them each day. He had the vet make routine stops to ensure their good health. He even went so far as to install heaters in the barn to make them as comfortable as he could.

The farmer's efforts didn't go unnoticed by these critters. So they had a meeting late one night and asked each other what they could do for the farmer to say thanks and help return the favor to the farmer. Well, the cow said she could give him some of her milk for his morning coffee. The chicken said she's be glad to give some of her eggs each day for the farmer's breakfast. That seemed well and good, but there was



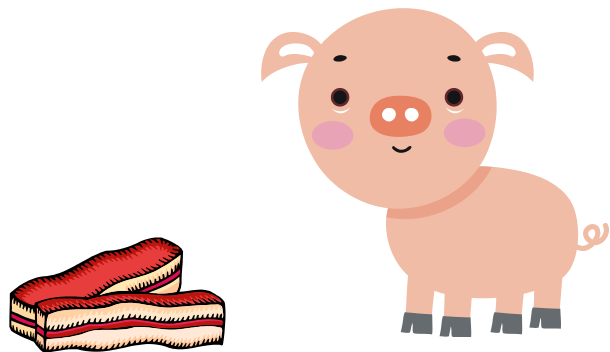
something missing. Finally, the pig stepped forward and said that he would make the ultimate sacrifice to give the farmer some bacon to go with his eggs. And so it was.

By the time you read this you will have gotten a letter from me about Stewardship Sunday, otherwise known as Celebration Sunday, coming up at the end of this month. How will you respond to the love and care given to you here at St. Anne's. Like the cow and the chicken, will you get involved? Or, will you, like the pig, make a real commitment?

Take some time these next few weeks and think and pray about how you have been nurtured and blessed by St. Anne's. How will you respond?

Involvement or commitment?

John



Treasurer's Report as of August 31, 2011

Here is our end of summer report. We are at 95% of budget for contributions, and that is not too bad for this time of the year. We begin our fall season at 95% of total revenue against budget, and 96% of budgeted expenses for the eight months ended. The vestry has approved a draw from the endowment trust to meet our operating budget shortfall for the year of \$10,000. I expect to do that in late September or early October to meet our cash flow needs.

As you can see, we are keeping good control over our expenses, and if we could keep on budget for collections, all would be good. That will be a good goal for 2012 now that it is time to talk about all the facets of stewardship. Please feel free to talk to me after church any Sunday if you have questions about our finances.

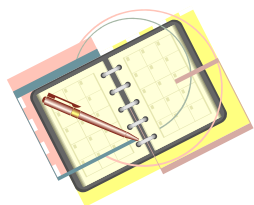
*John Eggers*  
Treasurer

	Actual	Budget	% of Budget
Revenue:			
Collections	\$190,615	\$200,299	95.17%
Other	<u>6,720</u>	<u>8,058</u>	83.40%
Total	197,335	208,357	94.71%
Expenses:			
Compensation	134,799	137,401	98.11%
Other	<u>70,893</u>	<u>77,302</u>	91.71%
Total	205,692	214,703	95.80%
Net	\$(8,357)	\$(6,346)	

## *From the Christian Education Coordinator.....*

Have you been around or near any of the Sunday School classrooms during Sunday School? They are off to a great start this school year. We have been blessed with great teachers as well as most students returning from last year and even some new students joining us.

We are using the David C. Cook and Living the Good News curriculums as we have in years past. We have revamped our Middle-High school class this year however. We are actually using movie clips for Sunday School. Yes, I did say movie clips! The class is shown a clip from a movie. After the clip is shown there is transitional discussion and then they break up into smaller groups to discuss. The curriculum (The Source for Youth Ministry) has questions and discussion topics picked out and also ties in bible verses. We are very excited to be using a curriculum that will be pleasing to the students and invite great discussions and teaching opportunities.



### **Dates to Mark on your Calendar**

No Sunday School October 30<sup>th</sup>

All-ages "Sunday School" on November 27<sup>th</sup>

ADVENT EVENT Wednesday November 30<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:00

No Sunday School December 25<sup>th</sup>

No Sunday School January 1<sup>st</sup>

## Outreach

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The Food Pantry is in need of volunteers. On October 22, Saturday is the Boy Scout Food Drive. Volunteers will be needed before, during and after the food drive, so please contact Mary Kay at 499-8591 or [mdodson@new.rr.com](mailto:mdodson@new.rr.com) if you can help in any way.

Jon Darling explained that EPH has 22 families on the waiting list in need of homes. EPH is in the process of purchasing one or two duplexes. Volunteers are needed for general home maintenance or repairs. Let Jon or Vic Van Gemert know if you can help in any way.

The 2012 budget was discussed in detail. The decision to financially support our St. Anne Missionaries and military families was widely favored by attending members.

Outreach is hosting Coffee Hour this month. Please come join us Sunday Mornings!

We also started planning a Blanket Sunday and UTO to be held this November, along with the Giving Tree for the holidays. Please watch for further details.



We moved our meetings to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday morning of the month. Our next meeting is October 16<sup>th</sup>, 9-9:50 in the church library.

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## Dozen Denominations Dinner at UWGB Mauthe Center

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This past spring St. Anne's was represented by Pete Tooley and John Eggers at the Dozen Denominations Dinner (3D) at the Mauthe Ecumenical Center at UWGB. We cooked some leg of lamb and were part of five different churches to bring something to the event. Next spring they will be doing this again, hoping to get the 12 denominations involved as the name suggests. We have been contacted to see if we might be interested again, and we have said yes. We need ideas as to what to bring, a main dish, side dish, or dessert this time. We also need some people to get involved in the preparation and serving of the dish to as many as 70 attendees. This will happen next March or April, so we have time, but we wanted to get the idea out there. Please contact John Eggers if you have ideas about what we might bring and if you want to get involved.

### *From the Youth Group Coordinator.....*

GBAY is here at St. Anne's! If you haven't already heard the Youth Group of St. Anne's officially has a name...GBAY, Green Bay Area Youth. We have our very own facebook page up and running, so please go to our page and click the LIKE button to keep up on all of the updates and information available!



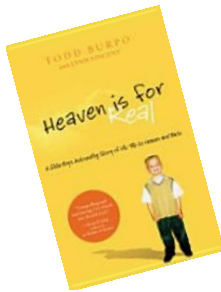
One highlight we had in the month of September was a night of "spiritual drumming." Our own Deacon Dale Hutjens brought in a special guest, Keith McGillivray who taught us the basics of drumming in a community setting. No experience was necessary and we **ALL** (yes leaders too) got to play an instrument. We were amazing-we ROCKED Miller Hall! Thank you once again Deacon Dale and Keith for an all around great night.

Reminders & Upcoming Events: These events are also posted on our facebook page Green Bay Area Youth (GBAY)

- \* **Diocesan Fall Lock-In @ Camp Lakotah –November 4 @ 7:00 p.m. to November 6 @ 1:00 p.m.**
- **Power of One –November 5 @ 1:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.**
- If you are interested in attending one of these events you **must sign-up** either on-line for the Fall lock-In @ [www.styg.com](http://www.styg.com) or see Julie Dashnier for details. There are costs associated with both of these events. If this is a concern, please contact me for information.

Autumn Blessings,

Julie Dashnier



## Women's Book Discussion

Mark your calendars for Tuesday October 25th at 7pm in Miller Hall. We will be meeting to discuss the book "Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo.

Copies of this book are readily available at local libraries and merchants. Grab a copy, start reading, and note ideas you would like to share. We're looking forward to sharing.

Let us know if child care or a ride is a concern for you. Sign up sheet is available. See Emily Hamilton with questions.

## We Want You!!!

The Women's Ministry Committee is now accepting new members. Our committee plans events for the women of St. Anne's. We typically have 4 meetings between September and May and host approximately 5 events. Our goal is to strengthen our relationships with other women and encourage each other as we follow Jesus. We also have a lot of fun while doing it. If you are interested in joining us, please let one of us know.

If you are not able to serve on the committee at this time but would like to support the ministry, consider making a monetary donation. Donations may be dropped off in the church office. Please specify Women's Ministry for the donation. Thank you .

Join us for a  
**Cursillo Ultreya**

Sunday, October 16th at St. John's in Wausau.  
Fellowship at 2 pm. Ultreya at 3pm. Bring a friend and dish to pass!



Also.... There is a  
**Cursillo Ultreya & 30th Anniversary Celebration**

at St. Paul's in Plymouth  
Saturday, November 30th

Eucharist is at 4 pm, Dinner is at 6 pm (\$15 per person) with a Silent Auction and Presentation between the hours of 5-7:30 pm.  
If you are interested in going, please contact Barb Drewry-Zimmerman at 920-946-5096 or 920-893-5189.

Check out [diofdl.org](http://diofdl.org) for more information about Cursillo  
or contact Rachel Annis at 429-2764

Hello again!

September has been a wonderful month filled with outreach opportunities and a lot of blessings. Just last week we were invited to an event held by the United Way and all our kids came home with brand new pairs of Tom's Shoes! (Toms is a shoe company that gives away a pair of shoes for every pair sold, it's pretty cool).

Haeyoung and I are doing well even though it's just the two of us. We've made some adaptations to the schedule and given the older kids more responsibility in order to keep our sanity. The kids like that we are trusting them to do more and have been acting well. Continue to pray for them, because we want them to keep moving forward and taking on more responsibility!

Thank you for your prayers, God is definitely listening!

Much love,

Katie



*\*\*Check out Katie's newsletter in Miller Hall or online.\*\**

***Stay in Touch!***

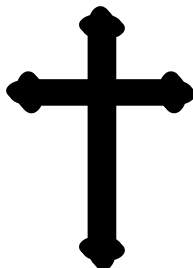
***Check out my blog: [icouldneverwalkalone.blogspot.com](http://icouldneverwalkalone.blogspot.com)***

***Email: [katie.hutjens@gmail.com](mailto:katie.hutjens@gmail.com)***



If you or a loved one is in need of prayer, please contact the church office so that we may add your concern to the Parish Prayer list for intercession. Individuals will be prayed for and remain on the intercession list for two weeks. After two weeks we ask you to renew your prayer request. For special consideration, please contact Fr. Eric. Remember to keep us up to date on any changes during the two week prayer window.

If you or a loved one are admitted to the hospital, please contact the office so Pastoral Care may be provided.



# Diocesan Convention

## Please Pray!

If you haven't begun keeping the Diocesan Convention in your daily prayers, please start today.

### **Prayer for Revival**

*O God, You have called the people of the Diocese of Fond du Lac, to be the body of Christ in this place, and witnesses of your presence in the world. Fill us with your Holy Spirit. Send down the fire of your love upon us, that we might draw others to you, as you have sent us to do. Anoint us with a deep compassion for those who do not know your love. Send revival on your church in this place, that all may come to know Jesus as their Savior and Lord, in whose name we pray. AMEN*

### **For the Diocese**

*O God, by your grace you have called us in this Diocese to a goodly fellowship of faith. Bless our Bishop, and other clergy, and all our people. Grant that your word may be truly preached and truly heard, your Sacraments faithfully administered and faithfully received. By your Spirit, fashion our lives according to the example of your Son, and grant that we may show the power of your love to all among whom we live; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN*

### **For a Church Convention**

*Almighty and ever living God, Source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel at this 137th Annual Convention for the renewal and mission of your church in this diocese. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN*

### **Prayer of Discernment**

*Almighty God, pour down your Spirit upon your people in the Dioceses of Eau Claire and Fond du Lac, and grant us such wisdom as we may need, to know your will as we discern our respective futures. Give us this wisdom so that we may faithfully and most effectively advance your mission in our communities through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Seeking Nominees

A number of positions are elected by the Convention, but for elections to happen, nominees are needed! Regardless of the decision regarding the formation of a new diocese, positions still need to be elected. These include

- Chancellor of the Diocese
- Secretary of the Diocese / Secretary Of The Convention
- Treasurer of the Diocese
- Executive Council Member
- Standing Committee Member
- Trustees Member
- Disciplinary Board of Review Member
- General Convention 2012 Alternates

Do you know someone willing and able to serve at the diocesan level? Have you thought about serving?



## St. Anne's Calendar

October 6	SPIRET 10-Noon
October 9	Services 8 & 10 AM 9 am Sunday School & 9:15 AM Adult Forum
October 12	Healing Eucharist 9 AM Food Pantry 10– Noon Youth Group 6pm-Nooma Mary Choir 5:30 , Bells 6 PM, Choir 7 PM
October 13	SPIRET 10-Noon Prayer Shawl 5:30 PM
October 16	8 & 10 AM Services 9 AM Sunday School & 9:15 AM Adult Forum Outreach Team Meeting 9 AM
October 18	Vestry Meeting 7PM
October 19	Healing Eucharist 9 AM Food Pantry 10– Noon Youth Group 6pm-Outreach Encompass Mary Choir 5:30 , Bells 6 PM, Choir 7 PM
October 20	Journeyman 6:30 AM SPIRET 10-Noon
October 22	Diocesan Convention Boy Scout Food Drive 9 Am-2 PM
October 23	Services 8 & 10 AM 9 am Sunday School & 9:15 AM Adult Forum Parish Life Team Meeting 11:15 AM
October 26	Healing Eucharist 9 AM Food Pantry 10– Noon Youth Group 6pm,-Game Night Mary Choir 5:30 , Bells 6 PM, Choir 7 PM
October 27	SPIRET 10-Noon Prayer Shawl 5:30 PM
October 30	9Am Service