

Advent & Christmas at the Cathedral

Season of Joy

From the Dean, p. 2

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From the Dean



I always find this time of year an exciting time in the life of the church. So much happens in these next three months, both in the calendar and in the way we celebrate these events and festivities. We begin with remembering all the saints and celebrating the communion of saints: those who have come before us, are here now, and will come after us. This remembering leads to giving thanks for all the blessings of our lives. While we continue to remain thankful, we move into a season of hope and expectation as we get ready to receive, once again, the Christ child into our hearts and lives. We remember, give thanks, anticipate, and celebrate with joy as the Word becomes flesh and comes down to live with us as God incarnate. From here we take that light that was born into the world and share it for all the world to see. All Saints', Thanksgiving, Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, all happening in this short time.

Season of Joy

While that might seem like a lot of celebrating, we have many other activities to squeeze between these major Feasts. You will see more information as you read this edition of *The Angelus*, but here are some highlights.

November: All Saints' Sunday, Hymn sing, Diocesan Convention, Kirkin', Choral Evensong, Thanksgiving Day service.

December: Nativity Puppets, Fr. James' first Sunday, Messiah Singalong, Lessons and Carols, City Come Again, Christmas. January: Twelfth Night Dinner, Special Reception with the Presiding Bishop, MLK Jr. service with the Presiding Bishop, Day of Racial Reconciliation, Diocesan Ordinations.

The Twelfth Night dinner will be a night for our Cathedral family to gather together to celebrate the end of the Christmas season and the coming of Epiphany. The MLK Jr. This is a busy time, but one full of love and gratitude as we move from remembering to giving thanks to waiting expectantly to receiving the light to sharing that light with all. May it be a season of joy for all of us.

service with the Presiding Bishop will be one you won't want to miss.

This is a busy time, but one full of love and gratitude as we move from remembering to giving thanks to waiting expectantly to receiving the light to sharing that light with all. May it be a season of joy for all of us.

—Andrew Keyse

Editor's Note



Gratitude

As someone who has recently suffered a close personal loss, I want to take this opportunity to remind everyone of how short life really is. With the holidays approaching, it is my sincere hope that you will all cherish your loved ones and not take for granted their presence in your life. I have been blessed with friends and family who have gone above and beyond to let me know that I am not alone. I'm not sure what I would have done during this difficult time without that love and support. So please, take a moment and let your loved ones know exactly how much they mean to you. A gesture of gratitude is never wasted.

The Angelus Issue 4, 2023

The magazine of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral is published quarterly as a service to all parishioners, clergy, staff and friends of the Cathedral.

Dean The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse

Deacon The Rev. Barbara Wegener

Cathedral Administrator Julie Toma

Editor/Communications Coordinator Melissa Kilpatrick

Contributors

Terri Curran Lissa Hoeprich Jeff Johnson Andrew Keyse Candy McDowell Paul Meier Clare Stern-Burbano Julie Toma Barbara Wegener James Yazell

Letters to the Editor

Please address all correspondence to:

Melissa Kilpatrick communications@kccathedral.org 816.214.9944

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On the cover: The Nativity Puppets

<u>снтс Youth/Children</u>



"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and counsel one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God." (Colossians 3:16)

This last season of life in the Children, Youth and College Ministry areas has been such a joy.

We welcomed back our children and youth for Formation and Youth Group, and we sent our college kids their new swag from the Diocesan office. Our ministries for our young people here at Grace and Holy Trinity are a special one. These young people have the light of Christ burning incredibly bright in them. They are mindful of each other's needs, and most of all, they pray for one another in times of joy and distress. This is one of the best parts of witnessing and teaching the faith to young people. When you see young people, even as young as our children in Cathedral Kids, engage in compassion, kindness and neighborliness to one another on the regular and know it is because they know the love of the Triune God and love of neighbor, there is nothing better. As we read in Colossians, we are instructed to "let the word of Christ dwell in [us] richly, to teach and guide another." These young people are doing just that. They are truly walking the Way of Love and it is beautiful to witness and what better thing to experience as we get closer to the Advent Season.

This fall, Youth are invited to come for a time of faith and fellowship at the Diocesan Convention Youth Presence:

Anticipatory Hope

Lock-In. November 10-11. Youth will be able to lead Morning Prayer for the convention attendees and serve in other leadership roles during the Opening Eucharist if they are interested. Additionally, the Sunday after Thanksgiving (Nov. 26) we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday with a combined Children and Youth Banquet Breakfast Feast during Formation Hour. The Feast of

Christ the King while instituted by the Roman Catholic Church, has made its way into the Anglican and Lutheran calendars. This day is a reminder and celebration for all Christians that we serve one Lord, Jesus Christ who is Lord of all, Lord of all creation. The Feast of Christ the King Sunday is the final Sunday of the liturgical year, and the following Sunday starts a new liturgical year, we call this Sunday Advent I.

During the season of Advent, we will also have some exciting activities for Children and Youth. We will have the Nativity Puppets return to the Cathedral and at the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service, we will have the Children's Pick-Up Pageant. Many of our youth will be taking leadership roles in this service, such as being readers and acolytes, while our children will



highlight the joy of the Christ child coming into the world by acting out the Nativity passage from the Gospel of Luke. Following the 5 p.m. service, we will have an Advent Party in Haden Hall with a hot chocolate and cookie bar and some other festive things!

'Tis the season for fall leaves, fellowship and more than anything else, an anticipatory hope for the One who breaks into the world and brings unending light and love.

There will be no Youth Group, Nov. 12, Nov. 26, and Dec. 17–Jan 7. There will be no Children or Youth Formation or Cathedral Kids during the 8 a.m., Dec. 24 service (no Nursery will be available). There wil be no Formation Dec. 31 (no Nursery will be available) and Jan. 7 (Nursery will be available).

Women's Bible Study

Common Ground Tuesdays 12:30–1:30 p.m. • Via Zoom

The Women's Bible Study group (WBS) meets on ZoomTuesdays at 12:30 p.m. for an hour or so. We use various study series that lead us into discussions which are lively, thought-provoking, and often irreverent. We'd love to have you join us whether or not you have the book.

Currently WBS is reading *Common Ground*, by Amberly Neese. We're looking at Old and New Testament stories to examine how



the Scriptures point us to peace and reconciliation in all our relationships, reassuring us that it is possible to find common ground with everyone despite our differences.

Books and e-books can be purchased at **Amazon**, **Cokesbury** and other book sellers.

Beginning November 28 we'll begin our Advent study, Angels of Christmas: Hearing God's Voice in Advent, by Susan Robb.

It explores the four angelic visits surrounding the birth of Jesus with

The Angels of Christmas

Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. We'll explore the visits and examine the history of the angel Gabriel—and other angels—in the Old Testament. The study uses these four angelic appearances to discuss God's presence in history and our lives today.

Books and e-books can be purchased at **Amazon**, **Cokesbury** and other booksellers.

Join Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 810 8837 7522 Passcode: 746100

For more information contact **Lissa Hoeprich**.

—Lissa Hoeprich

Lectionary Bible Study

Lectionary Bible Study Tuesdays 6:45 p.m. • Via Zoom

The Lectionnaires meet online via Zoom every Tuesday evening from 6:45 to 8 p.m. This is a group of 15 or so people who enjoy a back-andforth discussion about scripture. In the last two years we have convened around the lectionary schedule and in doing so, have developed friendships with not only our fellow Lectionnaires but I daresay with the subjects themselves: Jesus, Moses, Abraham, David, Paul and Peter. Each week another layer is applied, another reference, a deeper feeling, and sometimes a revelation. Join us by emailing the Cathedral office or reaching out to **Jeff Johnson**.



—Jeff Johnson

Deacon's Update



Although you wouldn't know it by the temperatures outside, we are now fully into an exciting fall season at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral. I am sure that Advent and the beginning of the new calendar year will be just as exciting. Most all of the programs and events paused under Covid are back, including our willingness to become more involved in our congregation and community, through our gifts of time and talent. In addition to serving at the Cathedral, many parishioners volunteer within the community, at Saint Luke's or KU Med, lending their voices to volunteer community choirs, and working to feed the hungry through food rescue and assisting in preparing meals at NourishKC.

I was honored this past June by being elected to serve on the Board of Directors for NourishKC. While I am still learning, I am continuously amazed at what the program has accomplished thanks to those who give of their time, picking up food from grocery stores and restaurants, preparing meals and serving them every day. Our own Carol Whitehead recently received the LAVA award for Volunteer of the Year 2023 at NourishKC.

On September 13, 2023 Nourish served the highest number of meals ever, 1058 meals. This shows there continues to be great need in Kansas

Pray for an End to Hunger

City; and while we are fortunate to have numerous food pantries and grocery organizations, being able to receive a freshly prepared hot meal is a great blessing for many.

NourishKC was recently awarded \$120,000 from the Stephen and Alexandra Cohen Foundation to help purchase a new box truck. Although funding is greatly needed, the backbone of the NourishKC organization is its volunteers. At our last meeting we were discussing how volunteerism goes down as the weather gets colder, and the particularly urgent need on days when the streets are dangerous. NourishKC does not close on bad weather days.

So, in addition to my reaching out for volunteers to serve at the Cathedral, you will also hear me sharing dates of critical need at NourishKC. Please ask me any questions you may have as we pray for an end to hunger.

—Deacon Barbara



Carol Whitehead, accepting the LAVA Award for Volunteer of the Year 2023 at NourishKC

Welcome, James and Kelsey!

I am excited to announce the addition of the Rev. W. James Yazell (pronounced yay'-zel) as Associate Priest! Fr. James will begin in the office the week after Thanksgiving and his first Sunday with us will be December 3, with a welcome reception during coffee hour. Fr. James and his wife, Kelsey, will be moving here from Shreveport, Louisiana, where James has been the rector of St. James Episcopal Church. This is a homecoming for them as they both grew up in Lee's Summit. James attended UMKC and the School of Theology in Sewanee where he was sponsored by St. Paul's, Lee's Summit. I am excited to welcome them both and look forward to sharing in ministry with James.



—Dean Andy



All things work together for good for those who love God

Sunday, November 12

Please join us for lunch at 11:45 a.m. in Founders' Hall to celebrate our spiritual lives together as we each continue our journey of stewardship discernment.

Sunday, December 3

We bless pledges during all three services.

What do we want for Grace and Holy Trinity in 2024? We want to work together for the good of all and go beyond our expectations for something better. We want to **Expect the Unexpected**! If we ask for what is expected, that's what we'll get; but, when we ask for the unexpected, we'll get so much more.

When you pledge to the work and ministry of the Cathedral, you are putting your faith and trust in all of us to expect the unexpected, so that what we get/give/ share/learn is so much more than we could have ever imagined. Thank you for that trust.



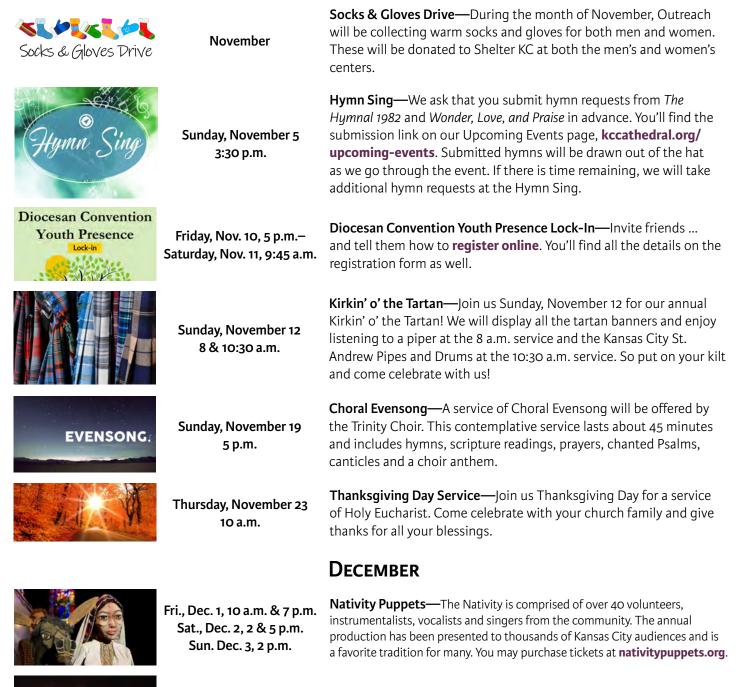
You may make your financial commitment by mailing your pledge card to the Cathedral, putting it into the offering or by making your pledge online using the QR code.

Questions about pledging? Use the QR code to see our Pledging FAQ.

Advent & Christmas at the Cathedral

Advent and Christmas at the Cathedral is filled with amazing events and services. Please take a look and mark your calendars! As always, you can find more information on our website, **kccathedral.org**.

NOVEMBER



Sunday, December 3

11:45 a.m.

Advent Workshop—Join us after the 10:30 service for fun, fellowship, and an Advent-themed craft.





Sunday, December 24 8 a.m.

Advent 4—There will be one service only on the morning of December 24 at 8 a.m.



Christmas Services

Sunday, December 24, 5 p.m. Christmas Eve (with Nativity Pageant)

Join us Christmas Eve at 5 p.m. and watch the Cathedral kids present the Nativity Pageant. Bishop Diane will be with us.

Sunday, December 24, 10 p.m. Christmas Eve

Come celebrate the birth of Christ with us. Traditional, familiar carols and service music will be featured.

Monday, December 25, 10 a.m. Christmas Day

Greet the Incarnate Lord on Christmas morning with a celebration of Holy Eucharist with carols and organ music.

снтс Outrea<u>ch</u>



Continuing to Be A SERVANT CHURCH IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

As we get closer to the holidays and our lives become increasingly busier, it is easy to forget the real meaning of the season. As we count our blessings, let us not forget those who are in need and how the little things that we do can make a big difference is someone's life.

During the month of November, Outreach will be collecting warm socks and gloves for both men and women. These will be donated to Shelter KC at both the men's and women's centers.

This year Outreach will be assembling treat bags for foster children through the Crittenton Children's Center for their holiday party. We will also be providing a holiday pizza party and treat bags for the Children in the Residential Center. Outreach plans to provide family bags for the BackSnack children to supplement meals over the holiday break. During the Women of Grace Christmas Luncheon on December 9, we will be assembling all these treat bags. More details to follow. The Free Store which provides winter clothes to those less fortunate will be Saturday, January 13. This is a collaboration between Saint Andrews, Saint Augustine, Saint Paul's and the Cathedral, with folks from Saint Andrews coordinating the effort. The Cathedral has been asked to sponsor the luncheon and donate 100 pairs of winter boots. The location of the Free Store will be St. James UMC and this year there will also be several onsite services available for those in attendance. There is a need for 80–85 volunteers for each of the two shifts: 10:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 12:15-2 p.m. Opportunities include registration, serving lunch, personal shoppers and clean-up. There will be a Free Store Collection Box for new winter clothing (no used clothes) as the date gets closer.

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more." ~H. Jackson Brown Jr.

Please contact Terri, **tcurra2@yahoo. com**, with any questions about these outreach activities.

—Terri Curran



Birthday Gift Cards for Foster Children

Help a child in the foster care system by donating \$25 for a birthday gift card. These gift cards are given to children who do not receive any other gifts to celebrate their birthdays. In the past we have donated 40 gift cards each year, but with the growing number of children in the system, 40 gift cards are not enough anymore. Please consider this very special ministry of making children feel special on their birthdays. To contribute please mail your donation to the office or give online.



Cathedral members attended the HappyBottoms Diaper Bowl III fundraiser September 11. The evening consisted of a silent and live auction, live music, games, food and drink and more.





<u>снтс Music</u>





Sunday, November 5 • 3:30 p.m. Hymn Sing

Join us to sing favorite hymns in the nave. We ask that you submit hymn requests from *The Hymnal 1982* and *Wonder, Love, and Praise* in advance. The link for hymn submission can be found on our website at **kccathedral. org/upcoming-events**. Submitted hymns will be drawn out of the hat as we go through the event. If there is time remaining, we will take additional hymn requests at the Hymn Sing. This event is free.



Sunday, November 12 • 8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Kirkin' o' the Tartan

Join us for our annual celebration of Kirkin' o' the Tartan! We will display all the tartan banners and enjoy listening to a piper at the 8 a.m. service and the Kansas City St. Andrew Pipes and Drums at the 10:30 a.m. service. So put on your kilt and come celebrate with us! This event is free.

Upcoming Music Events



Sunday, November 19 • 5 p.m. Choral Evensong

A service of Choral Evensong will be offered by the Trinity Choir. This contemplative service lasts about 45 minutes and includes hymns, scripture readings, prayers, chanted Psalms, canticles and a choir anthem. With its origins in Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's Book of Common Prayer (1549), Evensong is one of the most uniquely Anglican liturgies and is sung in cathedrals and parishes throughout the world. This event is free.



Tuesday, December 5 • 7:30 p.m. Concert of Advent and Christmas Music

The Trinity Choir travels to Lawrence to join with the University of Kansas Bales Chorale to present a program of Advent and Christmas music in the acoustically splendid Bales Recital Hall. This event is free.

Bales Recital Hall 1600 Stewart Drive Lawrence, Kansas 66045



Saturday, December 9 • 4 p.m. Messiah Singalong

Everyone is invited to join the chorus and sing for this presentation of Handel's most celebrated work. Bring your own score, or purchase one here, and join conductor Dr. Paul Meier, professional soloists, and members of the Kansas City Baroque Consortium in what is sure to be a memorable event. This event is free.



Sunday, December 10 • 5 p.m. Advent Lessons & Carols

The Cathedral will offer its seventh annual service of Advent Lessons and Carols. This service of Bible readings and music provides an opportunity for spiritual reflection and preparation as we anticipate the joy of Christmas and the hope of Christ's return. In the lessons, we begin with Adam and Eve, move through prophecies of the coming Messiah, and end with the Angel Gabriel visiting the Virgin Mary. The musical portions of the service are chosen to expand on the readings and on our

<u>снтс Music</u>

longing for Christ's return. The music will include Advent congregational carols, choral pieces, and organ voluntaries. This event is free.



Monday, December 11 • 11:30 a.m. William Jewell College presents *The City Come Again*

William Jewell College's gift to the city in words and music, features the college's Concert Choir, conductor Dr. Anthony Maglione, and organist Dr. Ann Marie Rigler. This event is free.



Sunday, December 17 • 2 p.m. The William Baker Singers presents Candlelight, Carols & Cathedral

The William Baker Festival Singers and guest choirs conducted by William Baker join with Canon Musician Emeritus John Schaefer to present this annual concert of beloved carols and traditional classics. Tickets may be purchased at the door or via the link on our website, **kccathedral.org/ musicevents**.



Sunday, January 21 • 5 p.m. Choral Evensong

A service of Choral Evensong will be offered by the Trinity Choir. This contemplative service lasts about 45 minutes and includes hymns, scripture readings, prayers, chanted Psalms, canticles and a choir anthem. With its origins in Archbishop Thomas Cranmer's Book of Common Prayer (1549), Evensong is one of the most uniquely Anglican liturgies and is sung in cathedrals and parishes throughout the world. This event is free.

—Dr. Paul Meier

Bishop Search Update

The Diocese of West Missouri has begun the search for our next bishop. The Bishop Search Committee will review our diocese's life and ministry, prepare a profile of the diocese and the characteristics being sought in a bishop, educate the diocesan family about a bishop's ministry and the election process, recruit and receive nominations, and present a slate of three to five candidates for bishop to the Standing Committee for election by the Diocesan Convention. We're grateful to announce the members of the Bishop Search Committee. They are:

Regina Berens, St. Mary Magdalene Church, Belton Hayley Cobb, Christ Church, Springfield Minda Cox, St. Alban's Church, Bolivar Curtis Hamilton, Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City Cosette Hardwick, Christ Church, St. Joseph The Rev. Rita Kendagor, St. Andrew's Church, Kansas City The Rev. Steven King, St. Paul's Church, Kansas City (Committee Chair)

Dr. Victor Matthews, St. John's Church, Springfield Amanda Perchall, Trinity Church, Lebanon The Rev. Isaac Petty, St. James Church, Springfield The Rev. Susan Roberts, St. Luke's Health System, Kansas City The Rev. Bock Slabach, St. Mary Magdalene Church, Belton The Rev. John Spicer, St. Andrew's Church, Kansas City The Rev. Kim Taube, Christ Church, Boonville

In addition, the Rev. Donna Stanford of St. Peter & All Saints' Church, Kansas City, will serve as Bishop Search Committee secretary. Visit the search website, **bishopsearch.diowestmo.org**, for more details.

Bishop Search Prayer

O Creator God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on us in the Diocese of West Missouri and guide us as we discern our call of a new bishop. O Jesus, be present in our discernment, and lead us to a shepherd who will invite us to live out the Gospel every day. O Holy Spirit, inspire us with your wisdom, and kindle our hearts with the fire of your love, that we may be renewed as we prepare to welcome the ministry of our next bishop. This we ask trusting in You. Amen.

Call for Vestry Nominations 2023

We will elect four members of the congregation to the Vestry Class of 2027 at our Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

If you are interested in being nominated or have someone you would like to nominate, please contact Dean Keyse or one of the members of the Nominating Committee no later than Monday, January 8, 2024

Nominating Committee members: Blain Lagergren Matthias Nichols, Michael Thomas.

What Vestry Membership Entails

The Vestry of Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral functions much like the board of directors of any nonprofit. As the legal representatives and agents of the parish, our Vestry members are charged with specific responsibilities by the canons of the Episcopal Church. Together with the Dean, the Vestry is responsible for the temporal affairs of the Cathedral Parish which include finances, property management and human resources.

Beyond that, our Vestry discerns what God is calling our faith community to do and articulates a vision of the Cathedral's mission. Our mission and vision are the foundation for our decisions and actions.

All members of the Vestry must (1) be members of the Cathedral, (2) be

in good and regular standing, (3) financially contribute regularly to the support of the Cathedral for at least six months immediately prior to the meeting at which they are elected and (4) be conscientiously attached to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Church.

According to our bylaws, the Vestry "may designate one or more committees and each committee shall consist of at least two Vestry members, and such other persons as the Vestry shall appoint" Currently there are five Vestry committees: the Budget Committee, the Building and Grounds Committee, the Finance Committee, the Social Outreach Committee and the Stewardship Committee. Additionally, the Vestry will play a key role in determining how the 2024-2027 Strategic Plan will be implemented and in monitoring the process over the next three years.

Each year, at its Annual Meeting in January, the parish elects four of its

members to three-year terms on the Vestry. These four individuals serve along with eight continuing members of the Vestry.

Following the Annual Meeting, the Vestry elects the Junior Warden, Treasurer and Clerk. The Senior Warden and Chancellor are appointed by the Dean. The Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Clerk must be members of the Vestry. However, the Treasurer and Chancellor need not be members of the Vestry. Currently the Vestry meets at 5:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month. By Vestry Covenant, meetings are limited to two hours. From time to time the Vestry has additional meetings to discuss and act on specific items. A Vestry retreat is usually scheduled soon after the Annual Meeting.

If you want to know more about being a Vestry member, ask a current Vestry member.

—Senior Warden Candy McDowell

Annual Meeting 2024

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 28, 2024. There will be one service only at 10:30 a.m. with the meeting to follow. A special meeting of the Vestry will follow the Annual Meeting to elect officers and schedule the Vestry retreat.

Gifts for Flowers and Greens

Flowers and Greens will once again adorn the Cathedral as part of our celebrations. Your gift in memory of or in thanksgiving for a loved one helps provide festive decorations for Christmas Eve through The Feast of the Epiphany.

You can donate online from our **website** or mail your donation to the Cathedral office. For more information, contact Julie Toma, **jtoma@ kccathedral.org**.



Thanksgivings and Memorials Flowers and Greens

August 20

• in loving memory of my grandson Max—Carolyn McLeroy

Auguts 27

• in loving memory of Joanne Repass Jones—Janet Sweeting

September 3

- in loving memory of Ann and Marion—Ed Matheny
- in celebration for the births of Frederick Bennett Cowley and Jamie Golden Baker—Ken Stewart

September 10

 in loving memory of Ron McLeroy—Carolyn McLeroy

September 17

• in loving memory of Alan & Phyllis Ryder—the Ryder family

September 24

 in thanksgiving for Ric Sweeting—Janet & Devon Sweeting

October 1

- in thanksgiving for our anniversary—Ric & Janet Sweeting
- in thanksgiving for the wedding of Sophie Wetzler and Dante Pennipede

October 8

- in thanksgiving for the wedding of Clarke Mortensen and Dani Valencia Montoya
- in honor of Deacon Barabara's first year—her sons

October 29

in thanksgiving for my granddaughters, Grace Leonard and Maya McLeroy— Carolyn McLeroy



Thanksgiving Day Service Thursday, November 23 10 a.m.

Join us Thanksgiving Day for a service of Holy Eucharist. Come celebrate with your church family and give thanks for all your blessings.