

What's on at St. John's

Thursday, September 22, 2016

This Sunday, September 25th

German Eucharist at 9:30 am
English Eucharist at 11:00 am
Sunday School at 11:00 am

Sunday, October 2nd

Service of the Word at 11:00 am
The Pastor will be at the Family Retreat

St. John's Happenings

Here is a list of the September & October happenings.

Thursday, September 22nd

7 pm Infusion Baroque Quartet

Friday, September 23rd

5 pm Hall decorating for Oktoberfest

Saturday, September 24th

6 pm Oktoberfest

Tuesday, September 27th

6 pm Prayer Group

Wednesday, September 28th

9 am Golden Agers

Tuesday, October 4th

9:30 am Ladies Aid Meeting

Thursday, October 6th

9 am Church decorating for Thanksgiving

Wednesday, October 12th

9 am Golden Agers

Friday, October 21st

8 pm Electro-acoustic Vespers

Wednesday, October 26th

9 am Golden Agers

Friday, October 28th

9 am Lieblingers Gemeinsamer Tag

Saturday, October 29th

6 pm Sandwich Ministry

Sunday, October 30th

12:30 pm Reformation Luncheon

St. John's Church

A glimpse into our
past...



NOTE:

Translations prepared in 2000 by Gisele Steinle. Interesting extracts selected by Katherine Hedrich are featured below:

1861

February

- Trustees: Gas stove purchased for \$60; Dr. Schilling's concert in January netted \$155.40 income, further reducing the debt.
- Council: This year, confirmation to be celebrated at Pentecost (Pfungsten) and not at Easter so that Mr. Lomer can be present during his children's confirmation. He will be in Germany at Easter.
- The School Board requests new textbooks for religion - Mr. Lomer will buy them in Germany.

March - Annual Meeting

- The census forms were completed and submitted. Organist (Mr. Jung) to be remunerated with \$1 per Sunday and Holiday.
- Pastor's Report: 16 births, 3 deaths, 12 weddings and 2 confirmations.

May

- Pastor Werner requested new Eucharist dishes (chalice, plate). His request was granted, but the purchase was postponed to the Fall. The church will begin recording the number of people receiving communion

September

- The church was able to pay off more debts. The ladies will do more fundraising. A recent immigrant from Hitzing, Germany will play the organ free of charge. Mr. Jung to be replaced. Mr. Gabler is moving away and an election for a Secretary to the Church Board must be held; 2 candidates are being considered.

October

- Mr. Kratsch was elected Secretary; Simon will be the new organist and his salary to be discussed.

December

- Simon will play organ for \$1 per Sunday, morning and evening service. He was asked to form a choir.

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Notices, Announcements

- We are looking for volunteers to help decorate the Parish Hall for Oktoberfest. If you are available tomorrow at 5 pm, please join in the fun!
- You can pre-order the Electroacoustic Vespers CD for \$15 by calling the Church Office at 514-844-6297, by emailing Secretary@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org or by speaking with Joel Peters.
- Joel Peters, Music Director and Organist is looking for choristers to sing for the Electro-acoustic Vespers program on Friday, October 21st. Please contact Joel at Music@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org to let him know that you would like to join him in this amazing musical adventure.

Oktoberfest 2016

September 24th at 6 pm

Beer-Sausage-Dance!

*Buy your tickets in advance
and save \$5*

Adult ticket: \$30 at the door
*- includes first mug of premium beer and sausage
w/sauerkraut plate*

Student / Youth tickets: \$10
Children: Free

Prayer Group

The Prayer Group is starting again and Vincent Lauzon will lead it. The thing is, he may have prayed, but he never co-ordinated a "prayer group." He'll need your help.

Beginning again in September, the group will meet in the church at St. John's every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month, beginning September 27th at 6:30 pm. We will begin to collect prayer intentions again this week.

If you'd like more information, or want to participate, email Vincent at prayer@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org.

It would be especially good if you can e-mail Vincent and indicate your interest.

Outdoor Activities

A few people have expressed an interest in joining together for outdoor activities: Walks/Hikes, perhaps fishing, swimming (alright! not outdoors!), other sports. All ages. Some physical activity.

If you are interested, Vasya Yordanova is willing to co-ordinate. Contact her either at church (best after the German service) or by e-mail at stjohns@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org and the message will be passed along to her.

Food Bank

The Food Bank is open from 10 am to 12 pm on

Tuesday, September 27
Friday, September 30

Tuesday, October 18
Friday, October 21
Tuesday, October 25
Friday, October 28

The Food Bank ministry relies on volunteers to pack the bags of food to be given out, hand out the food bags during the Food Bank days/hours and occasionally provide transportation to the volunteer responsible for replenishing Food Bank stock. If you are able to volunteer some time to this ministry, please contact the Church Office at 514-844-6297 or email the Secretary@SaintJohnsLutheranMontreal.org.

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Sandwich Ministry

October 29
November 26
December 17

This Summer, our parishioner Vasya Yordanova agreed to coordinate the Sandwich Ministry. Thanks to the previous coordinator, Ewald Stranzl, Vasya has been an active participant of this ministry and is dedicated to the service it provides to the homeless in downtown Montreal.

Sandwich Ministry nights are normally on the last Saturday of the month, with occasional exceptions (see dates above). Volunteers meet in the kitchen at 6 p.m. to prepare the sandwiches and hot coffee, and then the group heads out.

We usually walk down Parc Avenue, along St. Catherine street, and often down to the Place Ville Marie Metro. Usually, everyone returns to the church around 9 p.m. to put the supplies away, so that they are ready for the next month.

Cans of tuna or flaked ham are always welcome donations, as are jars of mayonnaise or a box of sandwich bags. Cash donations received from passers-by while we are out, are used by the Sandwich Ministry to purchase supplies.

Personal Reflections on the Sandwich Ministry

Societies in which the very poor and the homeless do not exist are possible, but our emphasis on maximising profit or convenience causes many to not keep up and/or "fall between the cracks."

We have the Sandwich Ministry because our attitude towards the homeless reflects who we are. It defines us, not them. Our effort is an expression of our faith. Many things we do, routine to our society, could easily be classified as "grasping." As evidence to this orientation, for the first time in human history, the World Health Organization identified 2013 as a year in which more people died from eating too much than from hunger. Yet, we find hungry people on our streets, people that "fall between the cracks". These are the people the Sandwich Ministry aims to serve

It is painful to be blessed for giving a sandwich and hot coffee to a person who should not be where they are, especially in our affluent society. In the conversations the Sandwich Ministry team has with the homeless, we have realised that being hungry and on the street is not the worst of it, rather the absence of love and caring which the homeless experience hurts more. They are most thankful for our attention, our noticing.

Over the past year, several times as we are providing our service, strangers on their way to a Saturday night downtown, stop and say to the team "You're to be admired! Can I participate?" and they offer us a donation (sometimes one-dollar coins and sometimes a \$20 bill). Personally, I have an enormous respect and admiration for those who have taken the time and joined the Sandwich Ministry. Most sincerely: Thank you!

Vasya Yordanova