

at 6:00 and dinner at 7:00) until Saturday, December 29 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Matthew's Church 20 Union St., Hallowell, Maine. We'll enjoy eating, praying, talking, laughing, and exploring ideas together. Do you have ideas for the retreat? Wanna cook a meal? To register or to volunteer or if you have questions: call/e-mail Kristen Wagner - kristenmaewagner@gmail.com, 207-240-9151 (if you need childcare for the evening portion, please let us know ASAP!). Please bring: \$10 donation, sleeping bag and mattress, Bible if you have one, registration form (high-schoolers need parental permission, even if you are 18). Sponsored by Young Adult Ministries, Episcopal Diocese of Maine & St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (The Rev. Calvin Sanborn, Rector).

U2charist on Saturday, January 19, 5:00 p.m. Celebrate MLK weekend with a U2charist at St. George's. Potluck afterward. Come and celebrate this wonderful service!

Schedule for St. George's This Week

Sunday:	9:00 a.m. - Children's Christmas Pageant (postponed from 12/16) 5:00 p.m. - Evening Prayer
Monday:	5:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Family Eucharist 7:30 p.m. - Christmas Eve Evening Eucharist 11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve "Midnight" Eucharist
Tuesday:	10:00 a.m. - Christmas Day Eucharist
Thursday:	10:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist with optional healing 7:00 p.m. - Parish Choir rehearsal

Serving the Southern Maine Seacoast Region

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The Rev. Paige M. Blair, *Rector*; The Rev. Steven Godfrey, *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Sudie Blanchard, *Deacon*; The Rev. Aaron Perkins, *Deacon*

Kathy Fink, *Music Director/Organist*; Lorrie Whittaker, *Parish Administrator*



Dragon News
Weekly Notices
Week of December 23, 2007

EVENTS, DATES & ACTIVITIES

The Godly Play and Godly Time story for December 23: No church school on December 23.

The Jesus Kids! (Church School for 9- to 11-year-old kids). On December 23: No church school on December 23.

BeadforLife is here again—all day on December 23! These wonderful pieces of jewelry are also pieces of hope for the Ugandan women who help support their families and entire communities through this work. Do some Christmas shopping and help others at the same time. FMI on the work BeadforLife does, go to www.beadforlife.com.

Weekly offering envelopes for 2008 are now in the parish hall. If you requested weekly offering envelopes on your pledge card, you will find a packet with your household name on it. Please pick up your envelopes ASAP—it saves the church postage if we don't have to mail them. If you had not originally requested them, you can still get them—just contact the parish administrator, 363-7376.

Advent & Christmas Season 2007 Special Services & Events.

Christmas Eve: Family Eucharist at 5:00 p.m.; Evening Eucharist with choir at 7:30 p.m.; Midnight Eucharist at 11:00 p.m. with congregational carol-singing.

Christmas Day: Holy Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, January 6, 7:00 p.m.: An Evening of Music and Fellowship

Special Christmas Offering. Among the blessings of the Advent and Christmas seasons is the obvious opportunity to share our blessings with others. One way we do that is through the special Christmas offering. You will find small envelopes for this purpose in the pews between December 9 and December 30 (*not to be confused with the Christmas flower offering envelopes, which will also be in the pews!*) For 2007, your Vestry has voted that the

special Christmas offering be split between the Diocese of Haiti and St. George's 2008 Mission Trip to New Orleans.

Carla's Quilt. Since Carla's quilt didn't get the minimum bid at the auction in November, she has donated it for a raffle to help the New Orleans Mission Trip. Tickets are **\$5.00** each and **only 60** will be sold. Tickets went on sale December 9. Marcia Williams will have the quilt on display in the church and will sell tickets after the 7:45 service, before and after the 9:00 service and before the 11:00 service. If the 60 tickets have not yet been sold, they will be available for sale at other church activities, such as the Children's Pageant and Lessons & Carols on December 16, as well as the Evening of Music & Fellowship on January 6. Once the 60 tickets are sold, the winner will be drawn, so get your ticket as soon as possible!

Cards for soldiers? Wait and read on... We have found out that cards and packages sent to Walter Reed Hospital will NOT be accepted unless they are address to a specific soldier, not just to "a recovering soldier" or some similar designation. This is a security measure to prevent harmful things being sent through the mail to our soldiers. You might, instead, make a donaton to one of the many nonprofit organizations dedicated to helping our troops and their families—go to www.americasupportsyou.mil. Also see www.usocares.org/, or www4.army.mil/ocpa/tooursoldiers/ or www.redcross.org

Christmas Day buffet at York Hospital, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Buffet is free, but seating may be limited, so please call Leisa at 351-3596 to reserve your seat. Limited transportation is available at no charge for those guests who need a lift to and from the hospital. YH will also deliver a Christmas meal to guests who are unable to come to the buffet at the hospital. Call Leisa to make arrangements, 351-3596.

An Evening of Music and Fellowship, January 6, 7:00 p.m. Live musical acts will be interspersed with the singing of Christmas hymns and songs by the audience. Use the ballot in this week's bulletin to vote for five hymns AND five secular songs for this event. Can you sing or play an instrument? We'd love to have you participate in the even! See Kathy Fink on Sundays, or contact her at pianotch@aol.com.

Divorce/Separation Support Group Forming. A number of families at St. George's are currently living with separation, divorce and "mixed" families, and with the many spiritual, practical and emotional issues that arise from these difficult events. Many of them do not realize that there are a lot of others in basically the same boat! In the Episcopal Church we recognize that separation and divorce are sometimes necessary and that remarriage can and

should happen healthfully and we seek to find ways to support one another on these difficult journeys. We are hoping to form a support group for adults wrestling with these issues and who have worked through them in the past, to provide a safe place to share how living with separation or divorce or in a nontraditional family affects spiritual life for adults, youth and children, and to support one another in facing new challenges. The group will ideally meet once a month, the 4th Wednesday of each month, beginning on January 23, 6:30-8:00 pm. This will be a spiritual and practical support group, not a therapy group, although the group might be able to help individuals connect with therapy resources if needed. Steve+ will facilitate the group, with support from a parishioner who both has experience with divorce, remarriage and mixing families and is a professional psychologist, and can help us stay focused on the spiritual and practical. If you are interested in being part of this group, please let Steve+ know at 363-7376 (voicemail box 5) or sgodfrey@stgeorgesyorkharbor.org.

Advent Candles Dedication. The Advent candles in the nave were given in memory of Kenneth Burke by his wife, Sylvia, and their family.

Annual Meeting to review Year 2007 will take place on Sunday, January 13, at noon. This is your chance to vote for church officers and see how the church is run. Everyone is encouraged to come and participate.

Lifeline Screening will again be at St. George's on Monday, January 28, 8:30 to 5:00. Stroke/Carotid Artery screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm screening and Peripheral Arterial Disease screening are offered. You can buy 1 or more tests, or get all three as a package (which includes free osteoporosis screening). You MUST pre-register by calling 800-324-1851. Pick up a bright pink flyer in the parish hall. Attention! Lifeline has given St. George's a complimentary certificate for a carotid artery screening, valued at \$45. This will be given to the first person who calls the parish administrator to request it (363-7376, speak to Lorrie or leave her the message that you want the certificate). You must still pre-register and must bring the certificate with you on the day.

Know of a good electrician? John Cashman, our Building and Grounds chair, is looking for the name and phone number for a good, reliable electrician. Please contact John if you know of one, 363-5619.

Annual Young Adult Gathering – Diocese of Maine. All college students, high school seniors and young adults are invited by Diocesan Young Adult Ministries and St. Matthew's to time in community, Friday, December 28 (come to help cook at 5:00 or for hors d'oevres

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