

Christ Church Chronicle

Produced by the congregation of Christ Church Episcopal in Sheridan, MT

January 10, 2019

Baptisms Galore!

Janis Hansen



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Some great blessings came to Christ Church this December, five Holy Baptisms! Four on the 23rd and one on Christmas Eve.

God's love flows toward us, and at Baptism goes over us, in the water of Baptism. We come from a tradition, the Hebrews, who valued water, they knew that life existed because of it, and that God gives both water and life. In the case of all our December baptisms, some water from the Jordan River was added to the Montana water. Jesus declared himself "the living water," always nurturing and sustaining us. The initiation rite of water connects us to the world, to its bounty, to our dependence on water, creation and God.

The boys had an activity book for preparation: "Water of Baptism, Water for Life," which provided questions and discussions like how many times do they use water daily, and "Water Facts," like 1 billion people in the world do not have access to safe water, and 3/4 of the earth's surface is cover with water. We honored the ancient traditions of water, with a look at environmental issues associated with water.

On the 23rd of December, we baptized Alex, Eirik, James Reedy and their cousin Brooks Hansen-Janiga. We added some "snow," melted, of course, from Big Sky, where the four cousins had been skiing! The service concluded with "African Noel," complete with drumming by the newly baptized and others!

Eve Romkema was baptized on Christmas Eve, December 24th. Both "Eve's" were celebrated that evening with drumming by young folks and old!

These are joyous moments in the life of Christ Church. Thanks be to God!

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sandra Baril

The annual congregational meeting will begin after the service on January 27th with a potluck meal. Please bring a dish to share. As always, the annual meeting is essential to having a successful year. Your attendance and participation are so important; please make plans now to attend. There will be a review of 2018, an update on the Bishop search, the 2019 budget will be presented, and there will be opportunities for everyone to ask questions and share ideas for the future of Christ Church.

As always, an important part of the meeting will be the election of new Vestry members and our two congregational representatives to the Montana Diocesan Convention, which will be held this year in Bozeman, July 26 – 28.

It may be that a Vestry or Convention delegate position won't work for you this year, if not, there are many other ways to contribute to the life of this community. Help is always needed and welcome in a variety of ways. This is just a short list of ways members can contribute:

Altar Guild	Newsletter
Music	Facebook
Lector	Website
Acolyte	Coffee Hour
Chalice Bearer	Wood Bank
Home Communion	Community Activities
Home Visits	Game Night
Scheduling	Senior Meals

Think and pray about how you are being called to be a vital part of the future of a growing Christ Church.

January Birthdays

Mary McLaurin . . . January 25

Photos - Greening of the Church



Isaac of Nineveh



Isaac of Nineveh (c. 613 – c. 700) also remembered as **Saint Isaac the Syrian**, was a 7th-century Church of the East Syrian Christian bishop and theologian best remembered for his written works on Christian asceticism.

Isaac is remembered for his spiritual homilies on the inner life, which have a human breadth and theological depth that transcends the Christianity of the Church to which he belonged. They survive in Syriac manuscripts and in later Greek, Arabic, and Georgian translations.

Isaac consciously avoided writing on topics that were disputed or discussed in the contemporary theological debates. This gives Isaac a certain ecumenical potential and is probably the reason that he has come to be venerated and appreciated among many different Christian traditions.

Isaac stands in the tradition of the eastern mystical saints and placed a considerable emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit.

Coming Events

January 25 –Family Game Night. Join us for Pizza at 5:30 pm on Friday, followed by a time to enjoy some board or card games. Learn a new game or bring a game and teach us! Bring friends!

January 27 – Annual Parish Meeting. Immediately following services. Great food, fellowship, a review of the past year's accomplishments, election of new Vestry members, and plans for the future of Christ Church. Don't miss it!

Photos - Baptisms





Christ Church Episcopal

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INVITE people into our midst
INCLUDE people in the life of the church
INFORM people about past events that shape our present,
and current events that shape our future
PROCLAIM the gospel in thought, word and deed
REJOICE in a new life found in Christ Jesus.

Mission Statement

To be formed as the body of Christ, seeking to love and serve one another and those in need.

Vision Statement

To be Christ's continued presence in the Ruby Valley by welcoming those who seek Christ, offering varied forms of services, reflecting our diversity while maintaining our Episcopal identity.

Service Leaders for January and February

Upcoming Service Leaders for January/February

13 Jan: Rev Janis Hansen (Eucharist)
20 Jan: Rev Janis Hansen (Eucharist)
27 Jan: Rev Janis Hansen (Eucharist)
3 Feb: Don Snyder (Morning Prayer)
10 Feb: Rev Janis Hansen (Eucharist)

Upcoming Lectors for January/February

13 Jan: Laura Cooper
20 Jan: JJ Snyder
27 Jan: Adam Romkema
3 Feb: Laura Cooper
10 Feb: David Hansen