



# The Eagle's Voice

The Newsletter of St. John's Church, Cohoes, NY

Volume 18 Issue 4

December 2014

## Merry Christmas

Jesus Christ is coming to town. I was listening to the Christmas song about Santa coming to town and couldn't help substituting the one whose coming means so much more. Christians wait for Jesus. He is the Gift, freely given, who has come and who is returning.

Advent, which means "coming," began November 30 and ends December 25, Christmas Day. During this time, Christians celebrate Christ's having come while looking forward to his return. And as sinners we try to be nice. We remember that God does see us when we are sleeping and when we are awake. God does know when we sin and when we repent. That he sees us when we are crying and suffering and confused and weary. He cares and gives grace and mercy and strength. During this time of Advent, we wait. We wait and watch for our King to come in majesty and glory.

While we wait we carry out the Church's Great Commission: feed the hungry, clothe the naked, visit the sick and the dying and the imprisoned. We also use the time to do some deep thinking about the hope found in the little baby born of Mary, born to set us free. Christians have been left in charge until Jesus returns. As



part of the Body of Christ, we at St. John's are doing our part. We are raising money for the Heifer Project to help a poor family in another country. We are collecting food for the hungry and homeless in this area. As a congregation and as individuals we minister to those in need and we pray. And we wait. We wait for our Lord to return and make crooked things straight; wrong things right; dark things light.

This Advent, take time to be still, to reflect on the hope found in Jesus. Travel with Mary and Joseph as they make their way towards Bethlehem. Listen for the angels. Follow for the star. Make room in your heart for the Savior.

Mother Gerry +

## Annual Meeting

**The Annual meeting of  
St. John's Church will  
be held Sunday,  
December 14, 2014  
immediately following  
the 9:30 Service**

### Agenda

**Annual Meeting**

**Rector's Report**

**Senior Warden Report**

#### Finance

2014-Budget Comparison  
11/30/14 Balance Sheet  
Preliminary 2015 Budget

#### Buildings & Grounds

Building Update

Old Business

New Business

Election of Senior Warden

& 3 Vestry Members

We will have a pot luck breakfast at the meeting. Please join us!

### Heifer Project

We will be participating in the Heifer Project this Christmas. Pick up an envelope in back of church and make a donation toward the purchase of a sheep for a family in a third world country.

Don't forget to bring in a can good for our food pantry drive.

### Christmas Memorials

Please remember that you can honor a loved one or memorialize a relative with a donation to the Christmas Flowers Memorial. Please send your envelope back by December 20th to be included in the list of flower memorials.

Christmas flowers will be on the altar at the Christmas Eve service.



### Christmas Schedule

#### Advent IV

December 20, 2014  
9:30 AM

followed by hanging of the greens

#### Christmas Eve

December 24, 2014

**6:45 PM - Carol Sing**

**7:00 PM - Candlelight service**

Merry Christmas!

### St. John's Church

2015 Pledge

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wk/Mo/Yr

Building Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per: \_\_\_\_\_  
Wk/Mo/Yr