

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

- Voting Results from the General Assembly
 - 2019 Budget passed
 - Iconography Project passed
 - Security System passed
- Parish Council Nominations accepted through December 7th
 - Please contact Nia Choles to nominate yourself or others

NOTICE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Voting 2019 Parish Council
Sunday, December 9th

Immediately following Church services in
conjunction with the St. Nicholas Dinner

December 2018
Newsletter



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2019 Office Hours

Fr. Michael's new office hours will be:

Wednesdays 9:00 am - 12 noon at the Church

Fr. Michael can be reached to make an appointment outside of Office Hours at 608-244-1001 or frmichael@agocwi.org

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Georgiana Wilton, Parish Council President georgiana.wilton@gmail.com

Parish Council Officers: Tom Cameron, Vice President; Bruce Hansen, Secretary, Niko Papadopoulos & Scott Storck, Treasurers. **Members:** Petros Anagnostopoulos, Christy Chappell Belkin, Conn Choles, Dori Hosek, Georgia Marsh, Mike Smith, Nick Topitzes. **Alternates:** Carol Griskavich, Jane Schirmer.



Most of you know Fr. Michael and I participated in the Metropolis' Strategic Planning Retreat in Chicago in early November. This dynamic, dedicated group was comprised of participants from all states in the Metropolis and other Orthodox communities in our region. The retreat was rejuvenating, grueling, invigorating, frustrating, enlightening, challenging and exhausting. In a good way. Really.

This was just the first step in a year-long process that will result in a Metropolis-level strategic plan to be unveiled at the 2019 Clergy-Laity Congress in September in Minneapolis.

Priorities were identified and individual task forces were formed to develop strategic goals and objectives. While this next phase has begun, there is still ample opportunity to participate in the process and have YOUR voice heard. I encourage you all to view the dedicated website and submit your name to participate in one of the task forces.

<http://chicago.goarch.org/news/2018/11/19/metropolis-completes-first-phase-of-strategic-planning-initiative>

Check in periodically to see the progress we're making—and see how YOU can join and be part of the change.

Questions? Ask me or Fr. Michael—we'd love to talk to you about what we're learning and what we're trying to accomplish.

As always...my email is active and my phone is on!
Georgiana

PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS

Patti Cameron, President pcameron@tds.net 608-219-1659

Baklava Plus Fundraiser Debriefing Wednesday, Dec 5th at 5:30 Church Hall

Thank you to everyone who made this year's Baklava Plus Fundraiser a huge success! We netted almost as much as last year. Please come to church as we share and discuss ideas to improve this amazing event that is appreciated by many Madison residents and numerous former customers.

National Obligations:

- UNICEF: \$100
- General Medical Fund: \$100

Donations/Assistance:

- St. Cosmas & Damianos Tray for Ecumenical Patriarchate: \$230 + \$100 = \$330.

Coffee Hour Update:

- Please remember to put a plate together for Father to bless (& eat) and take to the ushers during liturgy
- Remember to turn off coffee machine, dishwasher (and ovens if they are used)
- ***No more paper or disposable tableware!*** Along with the ceramic mugs, we purchased 120 white melamine plastic plates. They will be used for coffee hour along with the stainless forks and spoons that were stored in the basement. They are now stored in the cabinets under the coffee hour counter in the church hall. And all are able to be washed in our new dishwasher!

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, Dec 2nd During Coffee Hour: Trades of Hope Jewelry Sale, a Philoptochos Fundraiser

Wednesday, Dec 5th 5:30 pm Baklava Plus Debriefing Meeting at church. All women are welcome!

Saturday, Jan 12th 9:30 church hall: Philoptochos Meeting and cooking demos

Sunday, Jan 27th St. Basil's Dinner

Tuesday, Jan 29th Grace Episcopal Meal: Contact Ilektra, 608-358-2060 if you are able to help.

River Pantry

Nancy Briamis, nbriamis@gmail.com

Your generous gift of \$30 goes a long way to provide a complete holiday meal for a family of up to 8 people. Your gift provides local families with the option of a turkey, ham or chicken, alongside all the fixings they choose. Help us reach our goal of giving out 2,000 holiday meals. See website: info@riverfoodpantry.org.

GRACE EPISCOPAL HOMELESS SHELTER

David Giffey, barnowl1941@gmail.com

Assumption volunteers prepared meal and served it to nearly 100 homeless people at the Porchlight Homeless Shelter on Tuesday, October 30. Since then, the number of homeless people at the shelter in Grace Episcopal Church has risen to nearly 140 each day...due to the cold weather. This was reported by Porchlight Inc. executive director Karla Thennes on November 15 (Thanksgiving week).

Volunteers preparing the meal in the church kitchen October 30, were Ilektra Kolokouri, Lena Giakoumopoulos, Nadya Nahirniak-Hansen and her daughter Kalyna, and Tonia Botsakis. Working as servers at the homeless shelter were Mike Smith, Chris Schmidt, Peter Cameron and David Giffey.

The next opportunity for church volunteers to work at the homeless shelter is Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Our thanks go to the faithful volunteers and everyone who helps make life less difficult for homeless people in Wisconsin.

CHURCH WEBSITE

Lainey Skoumbouris, laney0220@yahoo.com

The church website is set-up for private login to access the monthly newsletters and are meant for Church members only, not the public. Church members can read the newsletter on the website, but you must create an account before you can view it. Log onto the website and click on "Newsletter" on the side-bar <http://www.agocwi.org/registration-required/>, or "login" on the main menu <http://www.agocwi.org/login/>; it will direct you to sign up. If you need help, have questions or something isn't working in the registration contact me.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jenny Josheff, Director, agocssdirector@gmail.com, Fr. Michael, Spiritual Advisor, frmichael@agocwi.org

The Sunday School teachers would like to remind parents that the last Sunday for Sunday School in December will be Sunday, December 16th. Sunday School will be on "feast leave" Sundays, December 23rd and December 30th. We encourage all families to attend Epiphany services together on Sunday, January 6th. Classes will officially resume on January 13th.

GREEK SCHOOL

Ilektra Kolokouri, ilektra.kol@gmail.com

I hope you all had a nice Thanksgiving. Looking ahead, we would like to invite you all to the greek school Christmas celebration being held on December 16th. We look forward to having you enjoy some Greek Christmas songs, carols and poems.

I hope you will all have a beautiful blessed Christmas holiday.

ST. NICHOLAS DINNER

Please join us Sunday, December 9th immediately following Services for
the annual St. Nicholas Dinner!

This free Lenten dinner is hosted by the Parish Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Interdisciplinary Trauma Symposium:
Saturday, December 15, 8:30 – 4:30
UW-Milwaukee Alumni Fireside Lounge**

There are Continuing Education Hours for Social Workers, Licensed Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists. The cost is \$40 for community members, \$20 for non-UWM students, and \$10 for UWM students. There are scholarships available.

Question? Contact Maria Schirmer

J and M Home Helpers

AGOC's handymen, John and Mike, will do minor home repairs and maintenance for \$25/hour, with the money for their work being donated to the church.



Call Mike at (608) 516-9188 and John at (608) 575-1014 today!

SACRAMENTS DURING NOVEMBER 2018

Weddings: **0** Chrismations: **1** Baptisms: **1** Funerals: **1**

Chrismations:

David Castillo was chrismated into the Orthodox Faith on Saturday, November 10, 2018. His parents are David and Leticia Castillo. His sponsors are Saed and Seham Akkawi.

Baptisms:

Liam (Nectarios) Castillo was baptized on Saturday, November 10, 2018. His parents are David and Leticia Castillo. His sponsors are Saed and Seham Akkawi.

Funerals:

Munir W. Hanna, age 77, passed away on Sunday, November 11, 2018 at Mecey Hospital in Janesville, WI. His funeral took place on Saturday, November 17, 2018 and his burial took place at Milton Lawns Memorial Park in Janesville.

December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 25 13th Sunday of Luke St. Catherine the Martyr Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	November 26	November 27	November 28 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	November 29	November 30 St. Andrew the First Called Apostle Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	1 <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>
2 14th Sunday of Luke Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am <i>Trades of Hope Jewelry Sale</i>	3	4	5 Baklava Plus Debriefing Meeting 5:30 pm Choir Practice 7:00 pm	6 St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	7	8
9 10th Sunday of Luke Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am St. Nicholas Dinner Parish Council Elections	10	11 Parish Council Meeting 7:00 pm	12 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	13	14	15 <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>
16 11th Sunday of Luke Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	17	18	19 Choir Practice 7:00 pm	20	21	22
23 Sunday before the Nativity Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am No Sunday School	24 NATIVITY EVE Vespersal Divine Liturgy of the Nativity 6:00 pm	25 HOLY NATIVITY Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am	26	27 St. Steven the Martyr	28	29 <i>Russian Orthodox Divine Liturgy 9:00 am</i>
30 Sunday after the Nativity Orthros 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am No Sunday School	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE Great Vespers of the Feast of St. Basil 6:00 pm	January 1 St. Basil the Great / Circumcision of Our Lord Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	7			

December 2018 – January 2019 Liturgies and Services

December 2

14th Sunday of Luke

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17
Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

Prosforo: Korinna H

Coffee Hour: (Group 11) Kerry M,
Barb K, Dori H

December 6

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Epistle: Hebrews 13:17-21
Gospel: Luke 6:17-23

Prosforo: Korinna H

December 9

10th Sunday of Luke

****St. Nicholas Dinner****

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Galatians 4:22-27
Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Prosforo: Kathy F

Coffee Hour: St. Nicholas Dinner -
Special Group – General Assembly

December 16

11th Sunday of Luke

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Colossians 3:4-11
Gospel: Luke 14:16-24

Prosforo: Nia C

Coffee Hour: (Group 12) Maria H,
Draga G, Gabriela C

December 23

Sunday before the Nativity

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40
Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25

Prosforo: Jane S

Coffee Hour: Christmas – Special
Group

December 24

Eve of the Nativity

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
the Great - 6:00 pm

December 24, con't.

Epistle: Hebrews 1:1-12
Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

Prosforo: Jane S

December 25

Feast of the Holy Nativity

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Prosforo: Ilektra A

Coffee Hour: Christmas

December 30

Sunday after the Nativity

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19
Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Prosforo: Ilektra A

Coffee Hour: New Year – Special
Group

December 31

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Great Vespers of the Feast of St.
Basil - 6:00 pm

January 1

Circumcision of Our Lord / St. Basil the Great

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Epistle: Colossians 2:8-12
Gospel: Luke 2:20-21, 40-52

Prosforo:

January 5

Eve of Theophany

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am
*Followed immediately by The Great
Blessing of the Waters*

Epistle: 1 Timothy 3:13-16; 4:1-5
Gospel: Matthew 3:1-6

Prosforo:

January 6

Theophany

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am
*Followed immediately by The Great
Blessing of the Waters*

January 6, con't.

Theophany

Epistle: Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7
Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17

Prosforo:

Coffee Hour: (Group 13) Nancy G,
Christy C-B, Marinela M

January 7

St. John the Baptist

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Epistle: Acts 19:1-8
Gospel: John 1:29-34

Prosforo:

January 13

Sunday After Theophany

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

Prosforo:

Coffee Hour: (Group 1) Sue S,
Katerina P, Seham A

January 17

St. Anthony the Great

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Epistle: Hebrews 13:17-21
Gospel: Luke 6:17-23

Prosforo:

January 18

Sts. Athanasios and Cyril, Patriarch of Alexandria

Divine Liturgy 9:00 am

Epistle: Hebrews 13:7-16
Gospel: Matthew 5:14-19

Prosforo:

January 20

12th Sunday of Luke - Ten Lepers

Orthros 9:00 am
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:6-15
Gospel: Luke 17:12-19

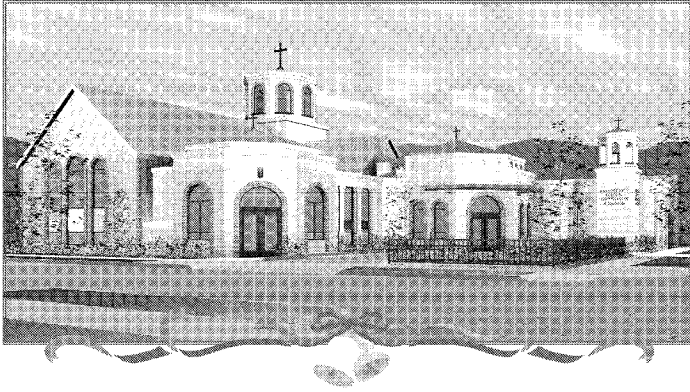
Prosforo:

Coffee Hour: (Group 2) Eleni P,
Korinna H, Jenny G

January 27

15th Sunday of Luke - Zacchaeus

****Vasalopita Dinner****



2018 ASSUMPTION CHRISTMAS CARD



Family or Parishioner name: (as you would like it to appear of the card)



Address:



Donation:

The money raised will go to the East Madison Community Center



\$10.00 _____

\$25.00 _____

\$50.00 _____

\$75.00 _____

Other: _____

Please include your check made out to the "Assumption Greek Orthodox Church" and return it to the church office no later than Sunday, December 9, 2018. Make sure to specify "Christmas Card" on the check (on the memo line). Thank You!



Welcome to the East Madison Community Center!

For 50 years, EMCC has provided a safe place for families in the Truax neighborhood to gather, learn and support one another. We are devoted to helping residents achieve their goals, gain skills and strengthen the community through education, employment, fitness and socialization.

The Spark of an Idea

EMCC was formed in 1966 out of a community need to help expand activities for area youth and adults. The Center began in humble quarters in a small apartment, initially providing youth with structured activities and adults with a neighborhood-based meeting facility.

Our mission

The East Madison Community Center has been established to promote educational, recreational, and community activities for all citizens in its service area. EMCC strives to enhance the opportunities of as many individuals and groups as possible, with the assistance of public and private funds, and with the support of paid and volunteer staff.

Today, we are a thriving multi-service center providing social, educational, recreational, and cultural programming. With a small paid staff and 250 volunteers, the Center plays a crucial role in helping residents connect with resources necessary to enhance the quality of life for individuals and the community as a whole.

Join us in our mission to enhance opportunities and better lives right here on Madison's Eastside!



East Madison Community Center

8 Straubel Court
Madison, WI 53704
(608) 249-0861

<https://eastmadisoncc.org>