

The Center Offering Bible Sessions

The Center, 900 Whiting Drive in Yankton, hosts "Explore the Bible" sessions each Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. For more information, contact Kriss Thury at (605) 665-4685 or secretary@thecenteryankton.org/.

YCWU Hosting World Day Of Prayer

Yankton Church Women United are hosting the annual World Day of Prayer on Friday, March 7, at 2 p.m. in the Gathering Place at Avera Majestic Bluffs. The theme this year is "Streams in the Desert," written by the women of Egypt. The program will include music, a power point presentation and an interactive script. Everyone is welcome.

First St. John's Parish Fish Fry Set

FORDYCE, Neb. — The St. John's Parish Fish Fry will be held on the first Friday of Lent, March 7, at the St. John's Parish Center, Fordyce, Neb. The event runs from 5-9 p.m. The menu will include pollack, homemade potato salad and coleslaw, buns and beverages.

St. Rose Preschool Roundup March 10

CROFTON, Neb. — St. Rose School at Crofton is planning a Preschool roundup and open house for parents and potential new preschoolers at 7 p.m. Monday, March 10, at the St. Rose Preschool and Education Center. This roundup is for students not currently enrolled in preschool, but who are planning to enroll for the next school year. First Grade roundup and open house at St. Rose School is set for 7 p.m. Monday, March 17, at the First Grade classroom. Parents and potential first grade students are welcome to attend, tour the school and meet teachers and staff members. Both open houses will include activities, snacks and opportunities to ask questions. For more information, contact the school office at 402-388-4393.

'Teens Encounter Christ' Slated

SIOUX CITY, Iowa — Siouxland area teens will have the chance to experience a life changing weekend on Friday, March 21, through Sunday, March 23, facilitated at Morning-side Lutheran Church, 700 S. Martha St., Sioux City, Iowa. "Siouxland Teens Encounter Christ" will be sponsoring a non-denominational weekend where under adult supervision teens will be able to experience the love of Jesus Christ as teenage Christians, share the love of Jesus in ways that are deeply meaningful, real, personal, impacting, and fun. Teenage speakers telling their own stories connect with other teenagers and show how a relationship with Jesus Christ can radically improve our lives forever. Also, through other exciting activities the story and love of Jesus comes alive through the love of other Christian teens, prayer, and worship. Further information, applications, and contact information can be found at http://www.siouxlandtec.com/.

Episcopal Priests Rock The House

BY ANNYSA JOHNSON
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE — They call themselves the Rectors of Rock. The Fathers of Funk. The Collar Studs. It's all cheeky fun, but believe it or not, these four Episcopal priests live up to the billing. Fathers Drew Bunting, Andrew Jones, David Simmons and Don Fleischman are the fab four of Monstrance, a rock, blues and country band more interested in fun than fame, whose members lend their considerable talents to worthy causes throughout the Milwaukee diocese. "We're not in this to make money. We know we're never going on tour," said Drew Bunting, priest-in-charge at St. James Episcopal Church in Milwaukee, who sings lead vocals and plays bass in the band. "We just want to have a good time. We know we have these gifts and we want to use them in service of the greater good." The good fathers fired up the amps under the stained glass windows of Simmons' home church — St. Matthias in Waukesha, Wis. — for band practice on a recent Friday. There, they ripped through covers of Cheap Trick, Tom Petty, Bob Dylan and the Ramones, not to mention an ecclesiastic parody of the J. Geils Band's "Centerfold." "My blood runs cold, My liturgy has just been sold My angel wears a "maniple," goes the chorus. "Ritual Notes on her desk, she's chanting Benedictus Es Surplice trimmed in too much lace really caught my eye I was shakin' in my shoes — she's giving the K Street blues I caught a whiff of incense, When angel passed close by



MICHAEL SEARS/MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL/MCT Members of the band Monstrance rehearse at St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Waukesha, Wis., featuring the Rev. Drew Bunting, front left, the Rev. David Simmons, rear left, the Rev. Don Fleischman, rear right, and the Rev. Andrew Jones, front right.

The bishop's fancy crozier — Too magic to touch Too see her in that vimpia veil is really just too much "We take liberties," said Bunting, who is known to wear tuxedo tails and Converse hightops in concert and punctuates their finales with a Pete Townshend leap. And they do. Fleischman, who plays keyboard and acoustic guitar, adds accordion on Prince's "Purple Rain." "You haven't heard Blue Oyster Cult's 'Godzilla' until you've heard it sung in the original Latin," drummer Simmons boasts on the band's website monstrancerocks.com. But there is some serious skill here. Simmons, Jones and Fleischman all majored in music as undergraduates. And Bunting is a singer-songwriter who records professionally — mostly children's and folk music — on the side. Fleischman

played professionally in his earlier life. And Jones, who takes the solos on his Fender Strat, was a guitar technician for a while before seminary. He built one of the guitars he plays. The band traces its start to a hotel bar in Middleton, Wis., where the four were kicking back after a long day at the 2009 Diocesan convention. It didn't take long before they realized they had the makings of a rock band among them. They roped in another friend — the not-so-musically inclined Father Seth Dietrich of Christ Church Episcopal in Whitefish Bay, Wis., became manager, though the title elicits guffaws every time they say it — and they were on their way. They tossed around a few names, including DeKoven — for the 19th century Anglican priest and educator — before settling on Monstrance: a rit-

ual vessel for displaying the holy Eucharist. (Don't read too much into that, they say.) Asked what any of this has to do with religion, they are quick to throw out some of their favorite quotes: "John Calvin said, 'He who sings prays twice,'" Fleischmann said. To which the others added Bach's "All Music is holy," and Martin Luther's supposed "Why should the devil get all the good tunes?" "It lets people see us in a different way," Jones said. "And maybe that opens doors for people who would not talk to us otherwise." Bunting added, "A big part of what we're trying to do is to bring joy to an experience. When you're ordained, you bring all of your gifts to the service of the church, and that includes for us our musical ability and the ability to laugh at oneself. I think for me, I'm bringing both of those things to the band."

CHURCH SCHEDULES

Table with 10 columns: Abundant Life, Bible Church, Catholic, Lutheran, Lutheran, United Church, United Methodist, Non-Denominational, Presbyterian, Reformed, Seventh-Day, United Church, Evangelical. Each column lists church names, addresses, and service times.

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