



The Eagle

The monthly newsletter of **ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE**

June/July 2015

God Goes With You This Summer

By Bradley Pace

Each year, I like to remind you, the members of the St. John's community, that even if you are away for most of the summer, God goes with you. Not only that, but the needs of the world and the Church's mission go with you as well. You can find God anywhere, and you can find opportunities to serve God anywhere. That means that you and I can be the Church wherever we go. The Church is much bigger than the four walls of our building. The bonds of our affection, our fellowship and community, continue as we leave our worship services. God's grace stays with us as we drive home in our cars. Christ is Lord and Savior whether you are in church or walking down the street, at work or on vacation. The Holy Spirit goes with you at camp, on vacation, on research trips, and everywhere in between. Keep that in mind. And remember that the people you see and the places you go are also sacred because God is in them as well. Even if you are away, look to serve God. Continue to be the Church wherever you find yourself this summer. May you know God's presence in your work, in your rest, and in your play. May you have a happy, safe, relaxing summer. And may you look to serve God wherever you go.

A Special Thanks

By Bradley Pace and Hilary Cooke

Thanks again to all of those who make our Godly Play program a success: Joanna Benskin, Andrew Bigelow, Greg Buzzard, Hilary Cooke, Katie Elder, Gayle Ennis, Cyrus Hulen, Heidi Kauffman, Sarah Kurtz, George Moore, Nate Mosier, Ariel Murawski, Jessica Murawski, Ray Polstra, Doug Powell, Lydia Shook, and Jeff Stroud.

Thanks also to the wonderfully energetic group who work with St. John's youth group: Joanna Benskin, Hilary Cooke, Brian Koczan, Bradley Pace, Tim Smith, and Shelby Vance.

Thanks to Sally Byrn, who prepares the kids' activity bags for Sunday morning.

And last, but certainly not least, thanks to all those who offered their support for adult education at St. John's: Mary Campbell, Courtenay Murakowski, Don Nead, Amy Paget, Barbara Penney, Jack Sullivan, and all the leaders of the Tuesday Night Bible Study.

Coming Up This Summer!

Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for these upcoming events.

Worship in the Street

On July 5 at 10 a.m., St. John's will join with members from Brown Street Methodist, First Baptist, First Christian, and Trinity Methodist for Worship in the Street. Last year, hundreds of folks joined in a wonderful, celebratory service. Come and let us join our sisters and brothers in worship! Please note: there will be an additional service of Holy Communion that Sunday at St. John's at the regular time of 9 a.m.

Parish Picnic

The parish picnic will be on August 9 at 10:30 a.m. at Happy Hollow Park. There will be sign-up sheets in St. John's Commons in mid-July. There will also be a 9 a.m. service at the church that day.



David awaits news of the battle between his armies and the armies of his son Absalom. From the Morgan Bible, c. 1240.

From the Rector

By Bradley Pace

Samuel said to Saul, “You have done foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the Lord your God, which he commanded you. The Lord would have established your kingdom over Israel for ever, but now your kingdom will not continue; the Lord has sought out a man after his own heart; and the Lord has appointed him to be ruler over his people, because you have not kept what the Lord commanded you.”
-1 Samuel 13:13-14

I don’t normally announce my sermon topics ahead of time, but here goes. Beginning June 6, we will begin reading from the David cycle in 1 and 2 Samuel and in the book of 1 Kings. This is an epic tale that has all the drama, intrigue, violence, betrayal, and sex of a summer blockbuster. There are the stories many of us remember, such as the battle between David and Goliath and the scandalous affair of David and Bathsheba. There is the miraculous birth of the judge Samuel and his mother’s beautiful hymn to God that prefigures the Magnificat of Mary. There is God’s somber warning to the people of Israel that a king would lead them into servitude. There is Saul’s accession to the throne, his botched attempt at genocide, and David’s guerilla warfare against him. There are David’s many victories—some virtuous, some scandalous. There is the rebellion of David’s son Absalom, David’s victory, his death, and the rise of King Solomon. There is, at the height of Israel’s power, wealth, and influence, the fulfillment of God’s original warning. There are tangled webs and dirty tricks and assassinations. And at the center, there is this man

David, a man after God’s own heart. It’s such a great story.

This is your brief trailer of coming attractions. I can’t speak for Bob or Hilary, but I will spend much of my summer preaching on this epic story. Read along and keep up with the whole story (there are far too many details to cover in a series of sermons). If you read the passages that the lectionary skips, you’ll read about the golden vermin and tumors that the Philistines send to the Israelites, about Uzzah the man who was struck dead by God for trying to catch the Ark of the Covenant, about David’s victory over the giants of old, and about so much more.

Don’t miss a single moment of this exciting story. See you in church.

Bradley+

Greeter Ministry

By Hilary Cooke

We’re still working out some of the details of implementing our greeter ministry at St. John’s, and we hope to hold a greeter training toward the end of the summer. For now, if you have attended a meeting about greeter ministry, you have been listed as a greeter in our scheduling software. This does not mean you must serve as a greeter; we just needed a place to start for this summer. If you have been added to the list and do not wish to serve in this role, just let me know. It is perfectly fine to join in the conversations about greeter ministry without committing to serving as a greeter. Look for details to come for the “official” training.

Episcopal Women's Ministries

By Charlene Watson

Women of St. John's – do you have on your calendar the dates of September 25-27, 2015 set aside for the EWM Fall Retreat at Waycross? The Rev. Jean Denton will be the speaker with the theme “Growing Wise – exploring our spirituality as we age.” Registration forms with more information will be coming out this summer, but please put these dates on your calendar. Questions? You may contact Charlene Watson (765-474-9101 or cel.watson@comcast.net) or Amy Paget (742-4239 or pagets@gmail.com).

In April 2015 Lisa Matucheski, Bev Ruebeck, and Charlene Watson represented EWM of the Diocese of Indianapolis at the 2015 ECW Province V Annual Meeting in Perrysburg/Toledo, Ohio. Nominees for several ECW Provincial Offices were elected by acclamation and installed. Lisa Matucheski from our diocese was installed as Secretary. On Friday evening T.K. Barger, an ordained Unitarian Universalist minister from the local community, spoke on “Media, Religion, and Story” and on Saturday, during lunch, Dr. Celia Williamson, the Director for the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute at the University of Toledo, spoke on “Human Trafficking: Prayer and Much More.” In the afternoon there were options for workshops. Lastly, for those interested in the TREC (The Reimagining of the Episcopal Church), this report has been posted on the national church's website.

Several women will serve as delegates from our diocese at the ECW Triennial Meeting which will be in conjunction with the General Convention of the Episcopal Church at Salt Lake City at the end of June 2015. These women include Ann Durkos, Janet Higbie, Lisa Matucheski, and Charlene Watson. Bev Ruebeck will also be attending and will receive the Distinguished Woman Award from our Diocese. Please keep these women, the Triennial Meeting, and the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in your thoughts and prayers as a new Presiding Bishop is elected, concerns are discussed, decisions are made, and for the safety and health of the attendees. Thank you.

Cover Indiana

Thank you, thank you, thank you! Many thanks to everyone who kept the Cover Indiana Bike Tour in your prayers—all riders returned home safe and sound. Many thanks as well for your financial support—at last count we had raised more than \$3500.

General Convention

By Hilary Cooke

On June 21 I leave for Salt Lake City to work at the triennial General Convention of The Episcopal Church. This will be my sixth General Convention serving as the Assistant Legislative Secretary for the House of Bishops' secretariat. This convention brings some changes—this will be our first “paperless” convention (I'm not sure we will ever be completely paperless, but we certainly will be drastically reducing the paper this time), and, the secretariats for the Bishops, Deputies, and the General Convention Office will all be combined in one place. While there are many resolutions heading to the floor for the Houses for discussion, the Bishops will also be selecting of our next Presiding Bishop, so things should be exciting!

Why I'm In It

By Michael Bennett

Lately, I've been talking a lot about our organ – with the clergy, the organ task force, the vestry, in *The Eagle*, and casually in conversation with interested parishioners (Lord knows Purdue football is no longer a pleasant topic at coffee hour). We've talked about everything including: history, problems, sound, financial ramifications, and aesthetic. There appears to be much interest in these topics, especially the inner workings of this complex machinery. For that, I am grateful to be surrounded by a community of interested (thankfully, many engineering-driven) people who want to make sure St. John's “does the right thing.”

Like many professional organists, I know very little about organ construction and design. There are many people in our parish that would be able to have a more intelligent conversation with an organ builder than I would! I'm in it for the music. I'm in it for the sound. I'm in it for the beauty. I'm not in it for the console woodworking, the fascination with the differences between metal and wooden flutes, or the amperage required to power a blower motor. I'm in it for J.S. Bach and all of the composers who write beautiful music. I'm in it for when a magnificent sound accompanies hundreds of voices singing God's praises.

While many of my organist colleagues are excited about the nuts and bolts, I'm more excited about the results: the overwhelming full organ that makes you stand at attention or the barely audible softness that allows us to encounter the peace of God. These are what drew me to studying the organ and inspire me week after week, year after year.

Congratulations to Our Graduates

By Bradley Pace

Congratulations to those members and friends of St. John's who have recently graduated.

- Zachary Brooks, Certificate of Anglican Studies, Episcopal Divinity School
- Emily Flandermeyer, High School (granddaughter of Shirley and Jim Marciniak)
- Emily Howard Harmon, Pre-K
- Timothy Howard Harmon, Pre-K
- Kyle James Hess, Franklin Community High School (grandson of Barb and Jim Hess)
- Michael Lang, B.A. Philosophy, Purdue University
- Augustus "Gus" Matthews (grandson of Gaye Matthews)
- Ariel Jocelyn Murawski, Harrison High School
- McKaylee Slagel, McCutcheon High School (granddaughter of Helen and Bob Slagel)
- Jeffrey Stroud, McCutcheon High School
- Keila Natasha Watson Rawlinson, M.A. in Commercial and Resources Law, Western Australia University (daughter of Charlene and Ross Watson)

Congratulations to Our Confirmands and those Received into the Episcopal Church

By Bradley Pace

Congratulations to Ashley Beasley, Jonathan Beasley, Cyrus Hulen, Bridgette Kelleher, and Kyle Tribbett who were confirmed and Stephanie Amador who was received into the Episcopal Church at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis on Thursday, May 17.

Strengthen, O Lord, your servants with your Holy Spirit; empower them for your service; and sustain them all the days of their lives.

Amen.



Front Row: Ashley Beasley, Stephanie Amador, and Bridgette Kelleher
Back Row: Kyle Tribbett, Cyrus Hulen, and Jonathan Beasley

Thanks to Alice Goss

By Bradley Pace

I want to thank Alice Goss for her work as one of the co-editors of *The Eagle*. Along with Sally Goeke, Alice has been organizing and publishing *The Eagle*. Alice will soon relocate to Sun City West, Arizona. Along with her work on *The Eagle*, Alice also volunteered in the St. John's/LUM Food Pantry. Please join me in thanking Alice for her work and wishing her well in her move.

Next Eagle Deadline: The deadline for submissions to the August *Eagle* is **Monday, July 13**. Please email submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org by the deadline.



The 50th
Anniversary

of
Arliss and Linda Jeffries

please join us for an afternoon to celebrate

Sunday the 7th of June 2015 from 1-4

St Johns Episcopal Church 600 Ferry St. Lafayette, In

rsvp to Becky Yuill by May 31st at 765-412-4999

no gifts please



Vacation Bible School

Save the dates of **August 4, 5, & 6** for this year's Vacation Bible School! This year our VBS will be held Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 5-8 p.m. As we did last year, we will begin with games and dinner and then move into the program and end with worship (all are welcome to attend the worship). More details will follow by email as we work out the schedule. In the meantime, if you are interested in helping in some way, please speak with Bradley Pace or Hilary Cooke.

Book Review: Searching for Sunday

By Rachel Ravellette

In her latest book, *Searching for Sunday*, Christian blogger Rachel Held Evans uses the seven sacraments as a framework for sharing her own story of losing and then finding her place in the church. Through her blog and her first two books, Held Evans has developed a reputation for being a thoughtful and gracious writer about some of the stickiest, most hypocritical areas of church and Christianity, all while not shying away from letting her own acerbic cynicism and poignant criticisms stand out. *Searching for Sunday* further solidifies this reputation for sharp, clever writing while blending in lyrical and inviting prose that shines what can only be described as a holy light on the beauty and grace of each of the sacraments.

As a long-time reader of Rachel Held Evans' blog, rachelheldevans.com, and a fan of her first two books, I was eagerly anticipating the release of *Searching for Sunday*. (Seriously. I pre-ordered it for my Kindle in January, and it wasn't released until April. Like they were going to run out of digital copies...) I appreciate Held Evans' calm, measured, and challenging voice on all matters church-related, but another reason I was so looking forward to this book is that much of her story is so similar to my own. Held Evans grew up in a conservative evangelical church tradition. Rather than being a questioning critic of the Christian life as her church community presented it, she was a zealous champion of her faith, her youth group, and her church. She writes that she was determined to bring revival to her high school in her sleepy town that was situated right where the Bible Belt cinches across the belly of our nation. She never imagined that she might one day not feel like she belonged in those pews (nor, for that matter, not belong in the very front row of those pews).

In her post-college years, however, Held Evans found that the answers to hard questions that she had espoused her whole life started to sound hollow, thoughtless, and out of place in a world with real hurts and in a church culture that was a real mess. The more she saw American politics, exclusionary language and behavior, and materialistic tendencies blending in with messages of faith and hope, the less she saw Christ in her church experiences. The messages and places that once made up her greatest passion and filled her with life became life-taking and served only to feed her cynicism.

Although the turns of my story have not been identical to Held Evans', her story arch of questioning, disenchantment, bitterness, and slow, deep healing and growth resonates strongly with me, and, based on

reaction to both her blog and *Searching for Sunday*, many people of my generation. While I anticipated feeling a deep sense of connection and familiarity with Rachel Held Evans' story in this book, I didn't anticipate the beauty in the prose and what that prose would mean to me. Held Evans is an excellent writer, but the way she wrote about church and about the sacraments in *Searching* made me feel like she was blowing dust off of a long-forgotten piece of art. She helped me to rediscover beauty and mystery in the simplest of elements of life together in Christ and, in some cases, unearthed a beauty I had never seen before.

Despite the sourness of her latter days in the church tradition of her youth, Held Evans writes of her upbringing with a measure of gratitude and grace that is often lacking when young-30-somethings write of their early years. This calm and thoughtful reflection adds a deeper level of sincerity to the hope with which her thoughtful journey through the sacraments and her story to this point ends. The result is a refreshing and honest book, one that I emphatically recommend.

As an added bonus, Rachel Held Evans' sister, singer/songwriter Amanda Opelt, has released a companion album of folk music for *Searching for Sunday*. The album, *Seven Songs*, also centers on the sacraments and is perfectly described by Held Evans as "haunting, beautiful, and lyrically profound." Much like *Searching for Sunday*, the message and music of *Seven Songs* has stayed with me in a powerful and refreshing way. The album is available on iTunes, Google Play, and Amazon and if you like music with roots in Americana and folk, I can't recommend it enough.

Strawberry Shortcake a Fattening Success!

By Michael Bennett

I am pleased to report a new record in funds raised at our parish strawberry shortcake booth at the May 23 "Round the Fountain Art Fair." In 2014, the booth set a record, raising a little over \$2,600. This year we raised just over \$3,000! We even faced a 50% increase in the price of strawberries over last year. Many helping hands made this possible, including bakers, strawberry cutters, and servers. Special thanks go to Aaron Michaux who supervised Thursday night and Saturday, and to the rest of the parish staff for an emergency baking session Thursday morning. Several people volunteered for multiple tasks throughout the weekend, which provided the necessary help. Thank you all!

FINANCE REPORT
OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES*
MONTH ENDING March 2015

A. INCOME

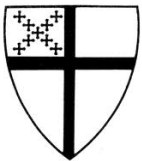
		Current Month	Total 2015	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1	Pledge Income	\$ 29,754.00	\$ 81,531.00	\$ 366,789.00	22.2%
2	Operating Income	\$ 3,479.25	\$ 7,457.85	\$ 39,973.00	18.7%
3	Non-Operating Income	\$ 2,743.33	\$ 9,282.36	\$ 37,000.00	25.1%
4	Transfer Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,000.00	0.0%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 35,976.58	\$ 98,271.21	\$ 494,762.00	19.9%

B. EXPENSES

1	Outreach	\$7,227.12	\$22,738.32	\$ 66,072.00	34.4%
2	Program	\$1,892.59	\$4,866.30	\$ 23,950.00	20.3%
3	Administration	\$0.00	\$455.51	\$ 3,900.00	11.7%
4	Personnel	\$18,087.42	\$58,071.54	\$ 225,306.94	25.8%
5	Office	\$2,610.73	\$6,120.08	\$ 26,520.00	23.1%
6	Property	\$5,689.54	\$20,440.50	\$ 80,555.36	25.4%
7	Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)		\$ -	\$ -	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 35,507.40	\$ 112,692.25	\$ 426,304.30	26.4%
	Net Income (loss)	\$ 469.18	\$ (14,421.04)	\$ 68,457.70	

Notes

* This is a summary report of the operating income and expenses for the indicated reporting periods. Detailed description of these items are available for review from members of the Finance Committee.



St. John's Episcopal Church

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Rector

The Rev. Dr. Bradley Pace

Associate Rector

The Rev. Dr. Hilary Cooke

Sunday Associate

The Very Rev. Robert L'Homme

Parish Administrator

Teresa Lohrman

Director of Music

Michael Bennett

St. John's/Lum Food Pantry

Steve Starks, Director

Gayle Ennis, Co-Director

Building Use Coordinator

Bill McInerney

Eagle Editors

Sally Goeke, Alice Goss

Vestry

Lloyd Brewer, Sr. Warden

Heather Johnston Nicholson, Jr. Warden

Ann Schreiber, Clerk

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