



The Eagle

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

August 2016

2016 HOLY MOLY! Vacation Bible School **Unexpected Grace: The Story of Paul** **5-8 p.m. Aug. 2-4**

Vacation Bible School at St. John's will run Tuesday-Thursday, Aug. 2-4, 5-8 p.m. Each evening will include a game, dinner, a Bible lesson, craft time and worship. Please register at www.stjohns-laf.org/vbs/ so we can plan enough food, materials and staff. There is no cost for this year's Vacation Bible School. For more information, please contact the church, stjohns@stjohns-laf.org or (765) 742-4079.



Bible Studies



Adult Bible Studies: Monday evenings and Tuesday mornings

The **Monday evening Adult Bible Study** returns at **6 p.m. Sept. 12**. Each week, the discussion centers on a particular Biblical text and guidebook. Beginning this fall, the group will continue their discussion of the miracles of Jesus.

Beginning Sept. 13, Hilary and Bradley will host a new Tuesday morning Bible Study from 10-11 a.m. This Bible Study will focus on topics of group interest and center on discussion of the chosen texts.

Both Bible Studies meet in St. John's Commons and are open to anyone including members of other churches or folks unaffiliated with any church. For questions about the Monday evening Bible Study, please contact Randy Brist at rjbrist@gmail.com. For questions about the Tuesday morning Bible Study, please contact Bradley Pace at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org or Hilary Cooke at hilary@stjohns-laf.org.

Message from the Rector

This summer, we returned to using some of the liturgical texts from *Enriching Our Worship*, a supplement to the *Book of Common Prayer* created by the Episcopal Church in the 1990s. I am quite fond of some parts of EOW, and I find some of it quite irritating. I find the confession quite meaningful (when, for instance, we confess those things we have done, those things we have left undone, and those things done on our behalf). I also find the prayer after communion to be quite beautiful (the prayer beginning “God of abundance”). I’ll leave you to guess which parts I find irritating.

This year, for the first time, we’ve been using the EOW version of the Nicene Creed. In truth, it is only slightly different from the version in the Prayer Book. Most of the differences (the differences that trip me up) are linguistic changes that try to improve the cadence of the Creed as it is said aloud in worship.

The reason I chose to use this version of the Creed is rather simple: its expansive language. The Prayer Book version of the Creed says that Jesus Christ came down from heaven “he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.” The EOW version of the Creed expresses the same conviction saying that the Son of God became “truly human.” The expansive language is important because it makes it clear that Jesus became a human being — one of us — to save us. While historically, “man” has been used to indicate all human beings, that usage has also served to keep women from being fully included in the life of the Church and in the story of salvation. The Bible itself frequently leaves female characters unnamed and on the margins of the story’s main action.

But the fundamental importance of the incarnation is that Jesus Christ became “truly human.” His maleness is not what saves us. Rather it is his humanity. His maleness is not what allows him to understand and identify with human suffering. Rather it is his humanity. In fact, his humanity allows him to be truly female as well as truly male. This is important, as the early Church theologian Gregory of Nazianus argued in another context, because “whatever is not assumed is not healed,” is not saved. If what is important about Jesus is his being male (“made man”), if Jesus came down “for us men and our salvation” as the traditional Prayer Book language has it, it might leave some of us to wonder what is important about Jesus and even *who* is important in the story of salvation.

It is my intention to continue using this version of the Nicene Creed beyond this summer (at least at the Rite II 10:15 a.m. service). As Episcopalians like to say, our “prayer shapes our believing.” How we pray — our words, our posture, etc. — matters because it affects and influences what we believe as Christians. To my mind, the Gospel is good news for each of us and so “there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus” (Galatians 3.28). Our language should reflect this great and wondrous truth. — *Bradley Pace*, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org



Waycross Camp

Again this year, I had the opportunity to be the chaplain at Ready, Set, Camp at Waycross. Thank you so much for the time away. I was glad to support our Diocesan ministries there. I was also proud to see some of our youth and young adults who as counselors — in particular **Cyrus Hulen** and **Teddy Sovinski**. Their leadership and witness give the younger kids someone to look up to. The fact is, God’s presence is palpable at Waycross, and the time our kids spend there is an invaluable foundation for their faith.

If your kids have never been to Waycross Camp, I urge you to consider taking them next summer. But there are loads of other programs for youth, young adults, families, and more throughout the year. Go to www.waycrosscenter.org and look for more information in *The Eagle*. — *Bradley Pace*, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org



August Book Group: *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry*

The Book Group kicks off the 2016-17 season in August with *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin (2014). It is a book about books, bookselling, a bookseller and about short stories — so how can we lose?

After seven years of attending this book group, I have learned that every reader has a different take on a book. So by now, I am cautious about what I write in these *Eagle* articles — I don't want to assume anything. But I think it is fair to tell you my reaction to the book and to quote a balanced review.

I loved the book! I was a little put off at first by the short story reviews by A.J. Fikry that precede each section. Due to unhappy experiences with Ruby Ruth Smith, my 12th-grade English teacher, I am very unread in general fiction. I feared the book would reinforce Ms. Smith's opinion that I could never grasp literature. But as *The Storied Life* continued, I realized A.J. Fikry's reviews had a unique function in the book, so I stopped fussing.

From *The Washington Post*: The book “zips by, paced by a few unexpected turns and complications, and any potholes in the plot are quickly smoothed over. Here and there, one's suspension of disbelief is tested ... A few genuinely grim moments ... are leavened by the animating spirit behind the whole, a light tone marked by earnestness, a straightforward approach to love and joy, and a felicitous charm.”

Please join us: **Wednesday, Aug. 24, 6:30 p.m. in the Commons.** (Enter through the garden door.)
— *Mary Campbell, (765) 426-5541*

Next Deadline for *The Eagle*

The August *Eagle* deadline will be **Monday, Aug. 15.**
Please e-mail submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org.

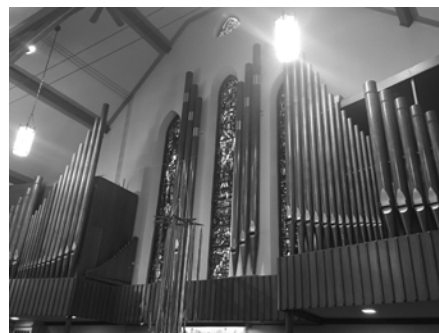
Organ Task Force Update

In August 2014, an organ task force was created to assess the history and present state of St. John's 1966 pipe organ. The task force has stated that in order to continue our tradition of beautiful liturgy and music, careful assessment of options for our instrument's future must be pursued.

For nearly two years we have studied various options, weighing the positive and negative consequences of each. In the first phase of our work (August 2014-October 2015), we explored three major possibilities: 1) renovation by the firm that built the organ, 2) purchasing a used organ in storage from a local church, and 3) purchasing a digital organ and combining it with our current pipe work (creating a hybrid). Of these three options, the committee considered only one to be viable. As steps were taken to explore further, this seemingly viable possibility was no longer an option.

Therefore, in October 2015, the Vestry authorized us to seek three proposals to replace our instrument. Firms made multiple visits in January and February to visit St. John's, meet with us and study our organ. Proposals were received and studied in early spring. After the first round of consideration, we engaged two of the firms directly, requesting some tonal and aesthetic revisions. Visits were made to hear their instruments in Louisville, Ky.; Chicago; and southern Indiana. We exhausted all facets of these proposals, taking into account the tonal specification (number of stops/pipes), casework/façade design, cost, sound, references by other churches, and stewardship by using some of our existing pipes in the new organ. At the end of June, the task force met and agreed on a proposal to recommend to the Vestry in August.

I'd like to personally thank the members of the task force: **Jim Bodenmiller, Steve Brewer, Marc Loudon, Caryl Matthews, Bradley Pace, Ray Polstra and Dennis Sorge** for their wisdom, diligence and support. Stay tuned ... — *Michael Bennett, michael@stjohns-laf.org*



Becoming Scent Aware

As a teenage acolyte I recall a large sign that hung over the closet in which our vestments were stored. It read, "Please refrain from wearing scented perfumes; the varied fragrances combine to create an unheavenly aroma!" A few years later I recall feeling saddened that my friend's mother would not be able to attend the Christmas Eve worship because the incense we used would cause her to have an asthma attack. Another parishioner asked choir members also to refrain from wearing scented products as they caused him to have migraines.

As the years have progressed, I have become more and more aware of how a seemingly minor thing like wearing hair spray can cause severe medical concerns for others. As these scent sensitivities have become more apparent in our culture (note how many hospitals and doctor's offices have become scent-free zones), churches have also begun to respond to this growing concern.

We at St. John's would like to create a worship space that is safe for all our members and visitors who are scent sensitive. You can help us in our goal of being open and accommodating to all who wish to worship with us by being scent aware.

As we strive to be a scent sensitive community, we ask that members of and visitors to St. John's be mindful that the following items can be particularly problematic for those who are scent sensitive: perfume, cologne, after-shave, hair spray, scented lotions, fabric softeners and detergents.

Of course, this is an ongoing process of welcoming and hospitality. We continue to seek ways to welcome and engage all people as we live out our baptismal covenant to respect the dignity of every human being. —
Hilary Cooke, hilary@stjohns-laf.org

Thank You

The family of Christian Thomas Burns appreciates your expressions of sympathy when we lost a son, brother and grandson. — *Mary Ann Burns*

Upcoming Godly Play training

A Godly Play training will be held Sept. 9-11 at Park Place Church of God in Anderson, Ind. The training begins with dinner on Friday and concludes at noon on Sunday. This training is for people interested in helping with Godly Play (children's formation program), but also for anyone interested in learning more about sharing the foundational stories of our faith. St. John's has funds to help pay for costs associated with training for anyone interested. — *Hilary Cooke, hilary@stjohns-laf.org*

Episcopal Women's Ministries Fall Retreat registration open

Women of St. John's: Have you registered for the EWM Fall Retreat at Waycross Retreat and Conference Center? Deadline for the Early Bird Special is Aug. 26. Come and join other women in our Diocese to experience "A Festival of Prayer Practices," led by The Rev. Dr. Hilary Cooke (from St. John's) and The Rev. Dr. Nancy Woodworth-Hill (from St. Paul's/ Jeffersonville). Exploration will include Christian meditation, labyrinth walking, prayer journaling, rosary making, music in prayer, and other prayer practices. What a way to grow in the Spirit, to meet other sisters also on this journey, to refresh and relax in quietness and beauty, and to enrich your prayer life.

Registration forms were emailed via the EWM database on June 24. Copies can also be found on the EWM sidebar in the Commons or contact me and I will e-mail you a registration form. The final date for registration is Sept. 14. Let's have a good representation from St. John's. — *Charlene Watson, cel.watson@comcast.net*

Why we pray for Brasilia: On my recent trip



Early in July, I flew to Brazil with Bishop Waynick and three other clergy from the Diocese of Indianapolis on behalf of the Diocese's Global Missions Commission. We were there to meet our sisters and brothers in the Diocese of Brasilia and learn more about their ministries.

After a few hours layover in Rio de Janeiro on Monday (we had the opportunity to visit the Cristo Rodentor statue), we made it to Brasilia. On Tuesday, we visited a school in Pedregal, a neighborhood in the city of Nova Gamos (about 30 minutes drive from Brasilia). The Central Social Anglicano serves about 90 students in an after-school program known as S.A.M.E. We met the kids in both the morning and afternoon classes and also some of their families who live in the neighborhood. That evening, Bishop Mauricio Andrade, our host and the Bishop of Brasilia, invited us to his home for dinner. The food and camaraderie were wonderful (and so was the caipirinha — a mix of Brazilian rum, lime and sugar — that Bishop Mauricio made for us).

On Wednesday, we visited the Anglican Cathedral in Brasilia. We spent the morning talking about the importance of our companion relationship. Those of us from the Diocese of Indianapolis shared our experience of the full inclusion of LGBTQ+ folks in the life of the Church. The Diocese of Brasilia is currently in the midst of conversations about same-sex marriage there.

We then visited a church and school in Filadelfia, where we met the school children and talked with the Rev. Guillermo Luz, the founder of Holy Spirit Church in Pedregal and of the new church in Filadelfia. He asked us to remember the church in Filadelfia in our prayers. We assured him we would.

On Thursday, our last full day in Brasilia, Bishop Mauricio gave us a tour of Brasilia that included the Catedral Nacional, the Presidential Palace, and many other government buildings and monuments. Brasilia was a planned city built in the 1960s.

Because of the architecture, it is a world heritage site. The entire city is shaped like a giant airplane. In the afternoon, we

went to the Anglican Cathedral, had lunch, and presented Bishop Mauricio with a check for \$13,000 in support of the S.A.M.E. after-school program in Pedregal. That evening, we visited Holy Trinity Parish in Paranoa (another of Brasilia's satellite cities) for a healing service.

The best part of the trip, without qualification, was getting to know our Anglican sisters and brothers there. We spent time getting to know each other, telling stories about our lives and our ministries. We shared photos of our families. We friended each other on Facebook. I spent a lot of time talking about American and Brazilian politics with our translator, Rodrigo. Our conversation about the churches' experiences without same-sex marriage and how we read and understand Scripture was incredibly powerful.

Now, when I pray for our companion Diocese of Brasilia and their Bishop Mauricio, I now have faces to go with the names. Now I'm praying for Mauricio and Rodrigo and Tatiana and Magda and Denilson and Sandra and Guillermo. Bishop Waynick confirmed that this was the point of the trip. We weren't there doing "mission work" in the stereotypical sense of going there to help "those people" do something they're already doing. We were there to build relationships, to put faces and names together. To put it in terms of the Gospel, we were there to expand our understanding of "neighbor." Now I know a little more about my neighbors in the Anglican Church in Brazil. There will be ample opportunity for you to learn more, too. And if you want to help me arrange another trip to go to Brasilia and meet people there, I'm all in. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Mark Your Calendars

Church Picnic at Prophetstown State Park

The St. John's Church Picnic is Sunday, Aug. 7, at Prophetstown State Park (5545 Swisher Road, West Lafayette and follow the signs). Worship starts at 10:30 a.m. Fried chicken, drinks and paper products will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share.

Please note the gate fee at Prophetstown State Park is \$8 per vehicle. You may use your Indiana State Park gate pass, pay \$8, or just say that you are with the St. John's Picnic and the church will cover the tab. For more information and for additional directions, visit www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2971.htm. There will also be a 9 a.m. service at St. John's that day.

End of Summer Schedule On Sunday, Sept. 4, St. John's will return to our regular schedule of two services: 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

OUTfest '16

OUTfest, Tippecanoe County's Pride Celebration, will take place Saturday, Sept. 17 around Fifth and Main Streets in downtown Lafayette. OUTfest is a celebration to increase public awareness of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Ally (LGBTQA) community and to celebrate diversity among family, friends and straight allies.

Again this year, Good Shepherd and St. John's will have a joint booth, and we invite you all to join the celebration. Look for sign-up sheets in St. John's Commons or just swing by our booth that Saturday.

Vestry Meeting Summary June 15, 2016

- The organ task force met in July to make a final recommendation. They've narrowed the choice down to two companies.
 - Bradley met with Main Street Management to discuss repair/restore of some of the ongoing physical issues with the church. Bids will be secured for roof repair, and moisture problems in the bell tower will be examined. Bradley met with a representative of Miller Flooring to get some estimates on new flooring in our worship space. He also mentioned he had someone look into getting the pews restored and refinished; it would be cost prohibitive given their size and the scope of the job.
 - Bradley discussed upcoming changes in Christian Ed. for children, with the creation of a middle school class that would run concurrent with Godly Play. He also mentioned a possible youth group reorganization, with both high school and middle school.
 - The St. John's Food Pantry is looking at ways to streamline the food delivery process and the choices people make to more efficiently use volunteers' time and effort.
 - Mary Lou Donuts will no longer be offering a delivery service for donuts as of July 1. Father Bradley said he would be speaking with some folks to see how best to deal with this situation.
 - Bradley announced that Cindy Gerlach will be the new editor of *The Eagle*.
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More food, more dignity

Throughout my time here at the St John's/LUM Food Pantry this has been my personal motto — our mantra if you will — More Food, More Dignity.

All changes, decisions and actions have been guided by this

principal: *How can we provide more food to the food deprived and how can we provide it in a way that honors their dignity.*

We have proof that there are still many homes in Tippecanoe County that do not have enough food to sufficiently feed everyone. The result is that children go hungry at times, causing improper brain development, impeding social skills due to always being hungry, and forcing kids to scrounge for food to feed themselves. And as we know, in summertime most of that food is the kind that can be bought at Village Pantry.

Research shows that Tippecanoe County is still short 5 million pounds of food per year to sufficiently feed the number of people in our county. Yes, you read that right: 5 million pounds. Per year. In our county alone.

Feeding America is a not-for-profit national organization that provides surplus food to Food Banks all over the country, including Food Finders Food Bank. Through its “Map the Meal Gap” research, Feeding America projects that Tippecanoe County is still 5 million pounds shy of having enough food to sufficiently give out so that all those in the county who experience food insufficiency would be fully fed. Five million pounds. You can see this research at www.mapthemealgap.org and compare Tippecanoe County to the other counties in Indiana or, through their interactive map, to any county in America.

With the opening of the new the Food Finders Pantry at 1204 Greenbush, this need will go a long way toward being met. The Food Finders Pantry will be open five days a week (including Saturdays) from 1-7 p.m. It is a wonderful site, and I encourage you to stop by and visit.

Now that the new Food Finders Pantry is open, I am going to recommend to the Food Pantry Advisory Council (at LUM) and the St. John's Vestry that we makes some changes to the pantry schedule in order to stretch our food supply and ease the burden on our volunteer base. The Food Finders Pantry selected its hours so that it would not interfere with many of the other local Food Pantries nearby, yet would be open in the evening hours when few pantries are open and more people have time to shop after work. Their new schedule will allow us some flexibility in our pantry operations.

You will notice that we call it “shopping” even though the food is free. That is because we believe in the dignity of those who come to the pantry. We are not “giving” people free food; we are “offering” them food that they can select for themselves according to their needs. There is an important difference.

All of this may require a new way of thinking for many of us now that the Food Finders Pantry is finally open. Please pray for us as we struggle to understand the new face of hunger and as we reconfigure our space to accommodate the changing demographics of those in our community who are food insecure. — *Steve Starks, Director, St. John's/LUM Food Pantry, foodpantry@stjohns-laf.org*

