



The Eagle

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

January 2016

Making Christ known at
ST. JOHN'S LAFAYETTE

The Big Questions: The Episcopal Church and Anglican Christianity by Bradley Pace

Why do we bow then and there? Are we high church or low church, and what's the difference? What's a "rector?" What's all the fuss about Bishops anyway, and why does our rector get so nervous around them? How did this worldwide expression of following Christ from Lambeth Palace to Bor in South Sudan to Lafayette, Indiana develop and become what it is today? In short, what does it mean to be an Episcopalian or Anglican Christian?



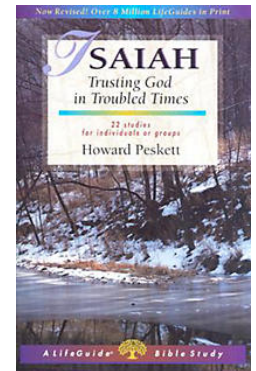
In January, the Big Questions Classes will take up the Episcopal Church and Anglican Christianity. **Classes will meet for five sessions on Tuesday nights from 6:00-8:00 p.m. beginning January 12.** Dinner and childcare will be provided. A free-will offering for dinner will be taken up.

In mid-February, the Big Questions class will take up Discipleship. Look for more information to come.

For more information, contact Bradley Pace at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org or by calling the church office at 765.742.4079.

The Adult Bible Study Group is Changing Nights and Time! by Randy Brist

On January 11, 2016, the Tuesday night Adult Bible Study group will become **the Monday night Adult Bible Study group**. Our start time will also change from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with sessions remaining at one hour. Our content will NOT change, and in our new "semester" on Monday nights, we will continue our study of Isaiah with the LifeGuide Bible Study booklet *Isaiah: Trusting God in Troubled Times*. For more information, contact Randy Brist at rjbriest@mac.com or 765.474.2835.



ABS is a low-key group of folks reading and discussing the Bible and how it relates to our lives today. We'd love to see some new faces on Monday nights at 7 p.m. in the Bishop's Parlor for the Adult Bible Study group.

Holiday Office Hours

Please note that the St. John's office will be closed from Friday, Dec. 25 through Friday, January 1.

Rector's Message

by Bradley Pace

I sent a message to the parish via email right before Thanksgiving. But since many of you don't receive or read the emails, I thought I would add it to the January *Eagle* as a Thanksgiving for the year that's past. What follows is a slightly edited version of that original message.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Dear sisters and brothers,

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the New Year, I wanted to tell you how grateful I am for the ministry we share at St. John's. I even want to name a few names....

I am thankful for all those who help make our worship each week possible as well as those who make a beautiful offering of music. I am thankful for all the acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, readers, ushers, and greeters, especially those folks who entered these ministries over the past year. I am thankful for the altar guild and their persistence and dedication. I am thankful for our amazing choir and especially to Stephanie Amador Tribbett, Katy Illingworth, Michael Johnson, Rachel Ravellette, Catherine Sandage, and Kristen Strandberg who joined the choir this fall, to Daniel Bayless who drives down from South Bend most weeks, and to all of you who have been committed to our music ministry over the years.

I am thankful for those of you who share God's love and your lives with our wider community through the St. John's/LUM Food Pantry, through our prayer shawl ministry, through our Eucharistic visitors, through making turkeys for the Community meal, and so many other ways. I am thankful for the nine twelve-step groups who meet here each week. I am thankful for Maggie McClure and Angela Mosier for their tireless work to make Jubilee Christmas such a wonderful program. I am thankful for those of you who came to host, to wrap presents, and to assist in big ways and small. I am thankful for those of you who support this ministry by donating. This year, we hosted 38 families with 100 children. I am thankful that you are so willing to open this church and your hearts to folks at Christmas time and throughout the year.

I am thankful for a dozen baptisms already this year. Believe it or not, we will celebrate a thirteenth baptism on the 1st Sunday of Christmas. I am thankful for all

those who volunteer to teach Godly Play and the parents who make sure the kids get here each week to hear the stories of God and God's people. I am thankful for the folks who attend the Big Questions classes and who so graciously allow me to run late almost every week. I am thankful for the adult Bible study, EfM alumni, and book group for so many offering opportunities for stimulating conversation and Christian formation. I am thankful for Amy Paget and Courtenay Murakowski and for the Quiet Days they organize—moments of peace and reflection in the midst of our hectic lives. I am thankful for Tim Smith and Joanna Benskin for their work with the youth, and thanks to the youth who make it all so much fun.

I am thankful for all those who help in so many other ways around the church, in the community, and beyond. I am thankful for my amazing staff. I love working with each of them: Michael Bennett for his tireless work and talent; Hilary Cooke for her counsel and friendship; Bob L'Homme for his wisdom; Steve Starks for his compassion; and Teresa Lohrman for her hard work, patience (she has SOOOO much patience), and her commitment to St. John's. I am thankful for Lloyd Brewer for being such a great Rector's Warden this year and for Sally Byrn who's filling in. I am thankful for Heather Johnston Nicholson and her reliability and commitment as Junior Warden. I am thankful for the rest of the vestry for their leadership and collegiality. I am thankful for Cale Bigelow, Randy Brist, Sharon Evander, and Amy Van Epps who have committed to join the vestry in 2016. I am thankful for all those who work behind the scenes: our treasurer Jim Hess, the property committee, the counters and all the financial secretaries, the finance committee, the stewardship committee, and the investment committee. I am thankful for Cyrus Hulen, George Moore, Jessie Murawski, Charlene Watson, and those others who work in the diocese and in the wider Church.

I am thankful for CJ, Cyrus, Ezra, Graham, Hilary, Isaac, Isaiah, Jessie, Judah, Katie, Miriam, Sarah, Susan, Teddy, Tommy, and all the rest who went to Waycross Camp. I am *beyond* thankful that I had an opportunity to serve as a chaplain this summer. I had such a great time.

I am thankful for Steve Byrn's work in Tanzania, for Nolie Parnell's work at Lafayette Urban Ministry, for Heidi Kauffman's work with the YWCA, for Bob Harrington's work at the Salvation Army. I am thankful for all the students whose work now may one day change the world. I am thankful for all the professors and teachers who are training future leaders, doctors, scholars, etc.

I am thankful for the life of Ann Powell.

I am thankful for cancer remission, for successful heart surgeries, for new knees, for new hips, and for new babies.

I am thankful for the promises made by Joanna and Brian, Kyle and Stephanie, and Aaron and Heather.

I am thankful for Ashley, Bridgette, Cyrus, Jon, Kyle, and Stephanie and for their commitments to the Church through Confirmation and Reception.

I am thankful for Nick, Cecilia, and Theodora (and now Matthias); Patti and Denny Mellor; Judy and Marc Loudon; and others who prayed and broke bread with us before moving to new communities.

I am so grateful for all of you (the named and the unnamed). I am so grateful for this community, for your reverence and care of holy things, for your compassion, for your intelligence and creativity. I am so blessed to be here in ministry with you. Thank you.

And thanks be to God who is the source of these blessings and so many more besides. May God continue to bless each of us and may God continue to bless St. John's. Know that you are in my prayers, both personally and in our ministry together. I remain,

Faithfully yours,

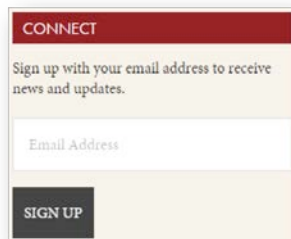


Bradley+

Make Sure You Get Our Messages by Bradley Pace

If you haven't been receiving email updates from St. John's, you may not be on our mailing list. Go to www.stjohns-laf.org, look in the bottom, right-hand corner of the homepage under "Connect," and join our e-newsletter mailing list. If you have signed up, but still aren't receiving messages, check your spam folder. If you use GMAIL, for instance, check to make sure the messages don't go to your "social folder." Either way, sign up to make sure you hear about all the news at St. John's. For more information, contact Bradley Pace at bradleypace@gmail.com or call the church office at 765.742.4079.

You can also sign-up to follow St. John's on social media. Look for @stjohnslaf on Twitter and Instagram.



Dates to Remember

Sunday, January 3, 2nd Sunday after Christmas

8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Monday, January 11

Annual Meeting reports due

Wednesday, January 13

12:10 p.m. 2nd Wednesday Concert
with Matthew Finger, percussionist

Saturday, January 23

Interfaith Prayer Service, time TBD

Sunday, January 31

9:00 a.m. The 2016 Annual Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, Ash Wednesday

12:00 (noon) Traditional Service

5:30 p.m. Service for Children & Youth (dinner included)

7:00 p.m. Traditional Service with choir

Book Group by Mary Campbell

Each year, we try to balance our book selections between fiction and non-fiction. It's non-fiction this January: *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking*, by Susan Cain (2012). Introversion (I) and Extroversion (E) are normal patterns of human behavior, usually thought of as end points on a continuum. I think Cain does a masterful job of describing these patterns of behavior, looking at the history in the 20th century that has made E the ideal, exploring contemporary research into what might underlie this continuum, and looking at cultural impacts on both I and E. She writes clearly, and no one needs to worry about being expected to read tables of statistical analyses (there aren't any).

I will bring some additional information about ways I and E play out in our lives. Have no fears—this meeting is neither group therapy nor encounter group! No tests or questionnaires, no expectations to self-disclose unless you want to. My hope is that we will share our comments on the book and supplemental material and come away more informed about this aspect of being human.

Just for fun if we have time: In November, we shared some of our favorite mystery writers. What about their sleuths? Where might you place your favorite detectives on the I-E continuum, and why? How does this help or hinder their sleuthing abilities?

We will meet on Wed., January 27, at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons. Please enter through the garden door. For questions, call Mary Campbell at 426-5541.

Book Review

by Courtenay Murakowski

Thoughtful Christians often ask how a loving God can condone the pervasive violence documented in the Bible, violence which, in many cases, is purported to be actually directed by God. With this initial question, EFM graduates met weekly, using John Dominic Crossan's book, *How to Read the Bible & Still be a Christian*, as a springboard for discussion.

Crossan suggests Christians re-frame our interpretation of Biblical violence in light of the time period and cultural matrix in which the events occurred and in which they were recorded. Providing highlights of his exhaustive research—particularly on the historical life of Jesus—Crossan chooses four illustrative Biblical narratives from both Old and New Testaments to support his assertion that God has always offered the radical message of redemptive love and distributive justice, but in each instance human cultural influence has subverted the original message, twisting it into one of ultimate wrath and retributive justice. Knowing this, we can rest assured that the loving God we follow as Christians does not, in fact, condone violence between humans and does not intend to use violence to achieve universal justice.

Crossan's linguistic analysis contained some inaccuracies that contributed to contorted logic, and left some of us frustrated and not completely convinced by his presentation of the premise. Nevertheless, the group enjoyed deep, rich discussion on the subject and all came away from the experience with new insights on reading the Bible with historical context in mind.

Jubilee Christmas

by Maggie McClure and Angela Mosier

December 12 was a truly magical day. St. John's and Chapel of the Good Shepherd helped bring Christmas to 38 families. The generosity of our congregations makes this day possible and so special. Our guests were asked the question, "What does this Jubilee Christmas mean to you and your family?" And we think their words best express the meaning of this day.

"We have had a lot of financial setbacks this year. This ensures the children's smiling faces Christmas morning."

"Jubilee is such a blessing to my family. Thank you so much."

"Being this a very rough time, this is just amazing for me...as a parent."

"Everything. This was truly a blessing. Thank you."

And in the words of the Jubilee Coordinators—you are the best—THANK YOU.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Prayer Service

by Bradley Pace

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is celebrated world-wide every



January. During

this week many churches join together for a common Prayer Service to celebrate the unity of all Christians. In 2016, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is the week of January 18-24. The Greater Lafayette prayer service will take place on Tuesday, January 19 at **First Christian Church, 329 N. 6th St., Lafayette, at 7 p.m.**

For more information, contact Bradley Pace at bradleypace@gmail.com or call the church office at 765.742.4079.

Baptism and Confirmation

by Bradley Pace

Baptism is the sacrament by which a person is welcomed into the household of God. In water and in the anointing of the Holy Spirit, a person is sealed by the Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever. Confirmation is the sacramental rite by which a person personally acknowledges before the Bishop a mature, considered faith. As the sign of the Church's unity, the Bishop lays hands on the confirmand and receives their profession of faith.

Baptism is particularly appropriate on the feasts of the Baptism of Our Lord (January 10), at the Easter Vigil (March 26), on Pentecost (May 15), and on All Saints Sunday (which is November 6). Confirmation and reception will take place at Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 5. An additional service of Confirmation may be scheduled, but that is still to be determined.

If you are interested in being baptized or having your child baptized or if you are interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church, please contact Bradley Pace at bradleypace@gmail.com or call the church office at 765.742.4079.

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions to the February issue of *The Eagle* will be Monday, January 18. Please e-mail submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org.



**Celebrate Mardi Gras
on Sunday...
Super Bowl Sunday**

Sunday, February 7th
5:00-7:00 p.m.

Never fear. We know there's a game on.

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS · BUILD-A-FLOAT
MARDI GRAS PARADE · LIVE JAZZ BAND
LOADS OF PANCAKES
MAYBE A FOOTBALL GAME?

\$5 FOR ADULTS · \$13 FOR FAMILIES OF 3
OR MORE
KIDS UNDER 5 EAT FREE

ALL ARE WELCOME!!!

For more information, contact Bradley Pace at
bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org or call the church
office at 765.742.4079.

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

A. INCOME		Current Month	Total 2015	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1	Pledge Income	\$ 26,723.00	\$ 270,232.94	\$ 366,789.00	73.7%
2	Operating Income	\$ 5,245.43	\$ 32,690.98	\$ 39,973.00	81.8%
3	Non-Operating Income	\$ 2,815.33	\$ 27,407.67	\$ 37,000.00	74.1%
4	Transfer Income	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 51,000.00	117.6%
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 44,783.76	\$ 390,331.59	\$ 494,762.00	78.9%
B. EXPENSES					
1	Outreach	\$8,212.63	\$81,353.55	\$ 95,758.00	85.0%
2	Program	\$3,705.37	\$20,187.52	\$ 29,550.00	68.3%
3	Administration	\$324.13	\$1,184.65	\$ 3,700.00	32.0%
4	Personnel	\$23,025.54	\$200,654.34	\$ 237,657.78	84.4%
5	Office	\$1,468.65	\$16,469.71	\$ 26,470.00	62.2%
6	Property	\$8,229.72	\$101,701.03	\$ 101,626.22	100.1%
7	Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)	\$0.00	\$ 75.00	\$ -	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 44,966.04	\$ 421,625.80	\$ 494,762.00	85.2%
Net Income (loss)		\$ (182.28)	\$ (31,294.21)	\$ -	

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Group and Confirmation Meetings

The **Youth Group** will meet from **6-8 p.m. on Sundays January 10 and 24**. January 10 will be the annual 12th night party! The **Youth Confirmation** class will meet from **6-8 p.m. on Sundays January 17 and 31**.

Reminder: Multi Faith Prayer Service for Racial and Global Reconciliation

Please plan to join in a multi faith prayer service hosted by St. John's on **Saturday, January 23, 2016, at 4 p.m.** Several congregations throughout Lafayette and West Lafayette will be participating in this event, when we will raise our common voice of desire for peace and reconciliation among all humanity. For more information, contact Courtenay Murakowski at murakowski@aol.com.

Calling All Ushers

Anyone currently serving as an usher and anyone who would wish to be an usher is invited to attend an Usher training on **Saturday, January 30, at 10 a.m.** Questions? Contact Hilary: hilary@stjohns-laf.org.

Lenten Formation Opportunities

- **Forgiveness: Is it the hardest choice?** – Sundays between services
- **Home Eucharist, dinner, and study** – Wednesday nights
- **The Restoration Project** – Pray, Worship, & Serve

Coming soon – A Survey on Outreach – please complete and submit when available.

**All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine
own have we given Thee.**

**Thank you for sharing God's blessings and
supporting the mission and ministry of St. John's
Episcopal Church.**



*Thanks to the following members and families who have already made a financial commitment to
St. John's mission and ministry for 2016. Names included as of December 15th.*

*If you or your family's name should be included and is not, please contact the church office at 765.742.4079 or
stjohns@stjohns-laf.org.*

Jon & Betty Amy
Pat Annis
Karen Atallah
Tony & Kelley Bailey
Thomas & Sally Bane
Priscilla Bain
John & Liz Barrett
Dick Barman
Patty Barrett
Jac & Kathie Basden
Daniel Bayless
John & Pequita Behrndt
Joanna Benskin & Brian Koczan
Cale & Ashley Bigelow
Roger & Deb Blake
Jim & Sandy Bodenmiller
Barbara Bower
Nancy Bowker
Sue Bracey
Jane and Don Brand
Karl & Nancy Brandt
Steve & Lloyd Brewer
Randy & Georgia Brist
Tom Brush & Whitney Walton
Mary Ann Burns
Greg Buzzard & Hilary Cooke
Mary Alice Byrn
Steve & Sally Byrn
Mary Campbell & Joe Jackson
Peter & Linda Cooper
Shirley Curry
George & Nancy Dandrow
Mary Lou Davis
April Delancy
Dennis & Kristin Dell
Brien & Becky Dick
Donald & Heather Drinkwater
Sue Eichhorn
Gayle Ennis
Sharon Evander
Jessie Farrington
Katie Field

Dotty Gist
Sally Goeke
Hilary & Rosemarie Goonewardene
Faye Groves
Bob Harrington
Sally Hastings
Ed & Carol Helgerman
Jim & Barbara Hess
Susan Hockings & Joe Kappock
Dan Hogan & Nolie Parnell
Kristine Holtvedt
Marylin & James Howland-Ross
Peter & Jenny Hulen
Ginny Hull
Linda & Arliss Jeffries
Bruce & Kathy Johnson
Dorothy Jones
Heidi Kauffman
Bill & Kristine Kealey
Kaye Kleine-Ahlbrandt
John & Dorinda Kueberth
Robert Kurtz
Robert & Carol L'Homme
Paul & Peggy Lawson
John & Deb Lindenlaub
Greg & Maggie McClure
Bill & Olynn McInerney
Katie McMillin
Jim & Shirley Marciniak
Jacqueline Marina & Franklin Mason
Michael Martin
Neil & Katie Mascarenhas
Caryl Matthews & Don Nead
Gaye Matthews
Roy & Fran Meeks
Sylvia Miessler
George Moore
Nate & Angela Mosier
Alison Moss
Courtenay & Dave Murakowski
Matt & Debra Murawski

Heather Johnston Nicholson & Cliff
Kiefer
Kenneth & Jackie Paar
Bradley Pace & Katie Elder
Ted & Amy Paget
Barbara Penney
Don Pilcher & Linda Meyer
Raymond Polstra
Doug & Barbara Powell
Marcia Powell
Jeffrey & Rachel Ravellette
Jean Redd
Matt & Catherine Riehle
Paul & Jo Roberts
Stuart Robertson
Jim & Carolyn Roth
Ken & Catherine Sandhage
Giff & Mary Scarlett
Robert Schoenhals
Sven & Annie Schreiber
Charlie Shook
Wes Shook
Steve & Rachel Shook
Bob & Helen Slagel
Kathy Smith
Peggy Smith
Tim Smith
Dennis & Adelia Sorge
Rob Sovinski & Margot Marlatt
Cynthia Stauffacher
Carl Taylor & Michael Benner
Josh Thomas
Jane Thompson
Ned & Amanda Tomlinson
Kyle & Stephanie Amador Tribbett
Amy Van Epps
Betsy Venable
Joseph & Jane Venable
Ross & Charlene Watson
Mary Weeks
Courtenay & Tim Wells

