



The Eagle

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

June/July 2016



St. John's Honors Hilary Cooke on the 10th Anniversary of Her Ordination

by Bradley Pace

On May 1, St. John's celebrated the 10th Anniversary of Hilary Cooke's ordination to the priesthood. Hilary began her work at St. John's (initially sharing her time with Good Shepherd in West Lafayette) in the fall of 2005. In May of 2006, she was ordained to the priesthood by the Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely, Bishop of Vermont, on behalf of Bishop Waynick. Isaac Buzzard-Cooke was also baptized at that service.



It goes without saying (but cannot be said often enough) that Hilary's ministry at St. John's has been a true blessing to so many.

Thank you Hilary for blessing us with your ministry and serving God with us!!!

The Cover Indiana Bike Ride

Thanks to Hilary Cooke, Stephanie Amador Tribbett, and Amy Van Epps for their ride in the Cover Indiana Bike Ride in support of Habitat for Humanity. You can support Habitat for Humanity by making a donation. Donations can be put in the collection plate (memo line: Habitat for Humanity) or through PayPal on the church website (www.stjohns-laf.org). Please designate "Cover Indiana" or "Habitat for Humanity" when you donate.



Message from the Rector

by Bradley Pace

Our Celebration and Visioning event on Sunday, April 17 was a smashing success. What made it such a success—aside from Ross’s BBQ, of course—was the enthusiasm with which so many people joined in the conversation. This month’s *Eagle* includes a report from the Steering Committee charged to oversee the details of our visioning process (page 4). I commend that report to you. I wanted to make a brief comment on a couple of things I noticed.

First, as the rector of St. John’s, I am so heartened to see that St. John’s is a happy church. In a time when churches are anxious or mired in conflict (or both), the people and leadership of St. John’s seem to be on the same page. I don’t think this is a matter of avoiding the important issues, either. I simply think St. John’s is in a very healthy place. We are looking to the future with hope, anticipation, and excitement. Sure, parking is a problem. But if that’s our biggest concern, we are in great shape.

The other thing I noticed came largely from conversations with the youth group. The congregation at large focused on things like music, liturgy, heritage, inclusivity, and the welcome that they find at St. John’s. The members of the youth group mentioned some of those same things. In fact, they seem to love the fact that St. John’s is a church community where they feel encouraged to engage in the community, to ask questions, and to serve. They also love St. John’s history and heritage. But where the congregation at large focused on the virtues of a welcoming church, the youth focused on the church as a missionary venture. To put it another way, the congregation at large talked about St. John’s as if it were home, while the youth talked about St. John’s as if it were base. The congregation at large focused on St. John’s as a destination, while the youth talked about St. John’s as a community that sends us out. They mentioned several specifics—they talked about marketing the Episcopal Church more and about mobile food pantries, for instance—all of which were intended to get the community out of the building and out to where people are.

Now, on the one hand, I don’t want to make too much of this. The youth group conversation was a pretty small group, and I’m filtering what they said through my own theological lenses. But, this is still a fascinating thing. And it’s something we have to keep in mind. The Church is always a gathered and scattered community. Jesus brought his followers together, and then he sent them out. As our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry is fond of saying, the Jesus Movement started when Jesus



told the disciples “Go!” The details of exactly what this means for us as a local church need to be worked out. But as a community, we will be seriously missing the mark if we don’t keep this in mind. We are called to gather together. But we are called to go out. Being a welcoming and inclusive church is a great thing. As your rector, I am proud that we are both. And yet, we cannot simply sit here hoping people show up. We cannot simply say, “We’re here when you need us.” Instead, we have to go out and reach people where they are.

All-in-all, I was pleased by the results of our congregation. Again, please read the report from the Steering Committee. The notes from the table conversations will be posted in St. John’s Commons soon. Please have a look at those as well. And, if you would be interested in talking further with me or with a member of the Steering Committee, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Thank you again for all you do and all you are as the Body of Christ. May God continue to bless us and our ministry together.

Next Deadline for *The Eagle*

The August *Eagle* deadline will be **Monday, July 18**. Please e-mail submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org.

Editor’s Note: This is my last issue as *Eagle* editor. In June, I will move to Hood River, Oregon to live near my daughter and her young family. I look forward to starting a new chapter in my life, but I regret leaving my St. John’s church family and the wonderful choir and music program. Should you travel to Portland, I hope you will contact me—located in the Columbia River Gorge, Hood River is a scenic one-hour drive east of PDX (Portland airport). I will miss you all terribly!

– Sally

A Visit with Our Companion Diocese

by Bradley Pace

This July, I will be travelling to Brasília, Brazil—the episcopal see of our companion Diocese—with the Global Missions Commission of the Diocese of Indianapolis. This is an exciting trip as I will have the opportunity to share in ministry with the people and clergy of that diocese. When I return, I will share more about the trip with you and with the Diocese as a whole. Please keep our sisters and brothers of the Church in Brasília in your prayers.



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 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 to 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 with them and in them, too. 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.

Jubilee Christmas

by Maggie McClure

Jubilee Christmas will occur on December 10, 2016. As you begin to make your summer plans, you might also want to consider making a donation for this year's celebration now. Cash donations need to be identified for Jubilee Christmas. Look for toy collection bins in The Commons during the month of June. And most importantly, reserve December 10 for Jubilee Christmas on your calendar. See Maggie McClure or Angela Mosier with questions.

Gardening Anyone?

by Heather Johnston Nicholson

Easter egg hunts to baptisms, burials to blessing the animals, St. John's garden is a center of our worship and fellowship. Teams of two or three tend the garden each week from spring through late October. For an hour or two, usually on Saturday morning, gardeners remove weeds (including the paper and plastic ones), transplant pachysandra into bare spots, sweep the paths, and make sure the irrigation system is doing its job. If you would be willing to be scheduled to garden four or five times this year, please join the St. John's garden ministry. By yourself or with a partner, please contact Heather Johnston Nicholson, 765-743-3501 or heatherjohnston.nicholson@gmail.com.

And thank you!

Many Thanks to Sally Goeke

by Bradley Pace

I want to thank Sally Goeke for all the ways she has served the St. John's community over the years. Sally has been a core member of St. John's choir for several years. She is also a member of St. John's Vestry and has been the editor of *the Eagle* since the beginning of 2015. More than that, she has been a friend and colleague in ministry to many of us at St. John's. We will miss her talents and her friendship. Sally will be moving to Hood River, Oregon to live near her daughter, grandson, and another grandchild who is on the way.

Please join me in thanking Sally and wishing her well in her move.

Reflections on Our Celebration of St. John's

April 17 was a truly joyous celebration in the life of St. John's. With out-of-this-world BBQ and stellar conversations, how could it not be! We don't know exactly how many individuals participated, but all available chairs and tables were in full use. The gathering attracted a wide range of parishioners and included some first-time visitors to our worship service.

The event was organized by a steering committee appointed earlier this year by the Vestry and our Rector to explore the possibility of a capital campaign focused on replacing the organ, restoration work in the church/nave, and new or expanded supports for outreach. The committee includes representatives of task forces that are considering possibilities in each of these three areas. Linda Buskirk of the Episcopal Church Foundation has been retained by the Vestry to work with the steering committee. The April 17 celebration and visioning process were part of the committee's efforts to communicate with the congregation about the blessings and future of our parish. The table conversations centered on the following questions:

- What do you treasure about St. John's?
- What was a time when you were particularly proud to be a member of St. John's? What made that possible?
- How does St. John's provide you with a special sense of meaning or purpose?
- When you think about the ministries of St. John's that are most important or meaningful to you, how does the location of the church affect those ministries?
- What role does St. John's play in our neighborhood or community? What role might God be calling us to?

Many poignant stories and perspectives were shared during the discussions. Several themes were evident in our review of the notes from the conversations, which are summarized below in random order. St. John's

- is an inclusive community
- is welcoming
- cherishes music
- is multigenerational
- supports each other as a family and community
- possesses a rich heritage
- serves others
- has a traditional, meaningful worship style
- questions and seeks knowledge

The church's youth also engaged in a visioning exercise on April 17. They expressed views similar to those summarized above. They appreciate the acceptance offered by adults, our heritage, our support of each other, and the multigenerational makeup of the congregation. In fact, they desire more interaction with adults. They also desire more opportunities to serve and provide outreach. Their interests lie in going outside the walls of St. John's, which is a departure from usual approaches to outreach. (See also an article by Tim Smith on the youth group's discussion in the May 2016 *Eagle*.)

The April 17 discussions recognized the challenges of our downtown location, particularly the maintenance of a historic building and limited parking. Yet the conversations were clear: parishioners believe strongly that St. John's should continue as a downtown church. The conversations also were clear that music and beautiful worship are important to the congregation. We are confident that purchasing a new organ would be supported by the congregation to ensure our musical and worship heritage continues well into the future. In 2014, the Vestry appointed an organ task force to explore these possibilities. The task force is currently evaluating proposals from leading organ builders.

We also believe the congregation is supportive of necessary repairs and possible reconfigurations to our highly-valued building in order to maintain a vibrant downtown presence that is welcoming, inclusive, and accessible. The integrity of our building's architecture needs to be retained and renewed. A restoration task force has been considering possible options for improving accessibility and beautifying our worship space.

Serving our community surfaced frequently in the April 17 conversations. Our central downtown location lends itself to a number of different roles in a larger community. There are unmet needs in our neighborhood and community. Some critical questions need to be answered: Who are our neighbors? What are their needs? How can we meet those needs? How might we do this as a worshipping community? What might we learn from our neighbors that would help us be a more faithful church? There was a lot of energy for and pride in our current outreach ministries. But as the neighborhood changes and our role in the neighborhood evolves, we must discern what God is calling us to, examine these questions further, and, at the same time, evaluate and affirm our current outreach ministries.

We recommend the parish's leadership actively pursue the following:

1. determine a timeline and cost of purchasing a new organ, based on recommendations of the organ task force;
2. develop a plan, timeline, and cost for repairs and possible reconfigurations of building spaces;
3. formulate specific options to mitigate our parking challenges; and
4. discern how we can more actively participate in our neighborhood and serve our community.

Thank you for your enthusiastic response and continuing reflection.

The Steering Committee: *Randy Brist, Maggie McClure, Heather Johnston Nicholson, Bradley Pace, Doug Powell, Catherine Riehle, Charlie Shook (co-chair), Cynthia Stauffacher (co-chair), Ross Watson*

Death

James Edward "Ed" Osborne

May 6, 2016

Congratulations to our Graduates

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

- **Zach Brooks** (former St. John's parishioner and son-in-law of Alison Moss) will be ordained to the diaconate and will begin serving as the rector of Trinity Church, Jacksonville, IL.
- **Zane DeBeck** (grandson of Jac and Kathe Basden), B.S. in Engineering from Olivet Nazarene University.
- **Rachel Margaret Howland** (granddaughter of Marilyn Howland-Ross), Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.
- **Stephen Russell Howland** (grandson of Marilyn Howland-Ross), B.S. in Computer Science from the Missouri University of Science and Technology.
- **Cyrus Hulen**, West Lafayette High School. Cyrus plans to attend the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.
- **Mark Satta**, Ph.D. in Philosophy, Purdue University. Mark plans to attend Harvard Law School.
- **Anthony David Yuill** (son of Damon and Becky Yuill and grandson of Arliss and Linda Jeffries), Jefferson High School.



Bradley Pace, Jeffrey Ravellette, Paige Ravellette, and Rachel Ravellette at Christ Church Cathedral, Indianapolis

**Congratulations
to our
Confirmands**

Jeffrey Ravellette and **Rachel Ravellette** were confirmed on the Feast of the Ascension, Thursday, May 5 at Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis.

Defend, O Lord, your servants with your heavenly grace, that they may continue yours forever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more, until they come to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.



Save the Dates

Summer Worship

St. John's will switch to the summer worship schedule on Sunday, June 5. From June through August, there will be one service on Sunday morning at 9 a.m.

Worship in the Street, Sunday, July 3

On Sunday, July 3 at 10 a.m., St. John's will join with members from other neighborhood churches for Worship in the Street. Last year, more than 200 people 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 at the regular time of 9 a.m. at St. John's that Sunday.

The St. John's Church Picnic, Sunday, August 7

The St. John's church picnic will be Sunday, August 7. This year's picnic will take place at Prophetstown State Park. Please look for more information to come.

Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. followed by the picnic. There will also be a 9 a.m. service at St. John's that day.

2016 Summer Camp Schedule

- Ready, Set, Camp! June 26-July 2nd
- Guitar Camp July 3-9th
- Adventure Camp July 3-9th
- Canoe Camp July 10-16th
- Leaders in the Community July 10-16th
- Adventure Camp July 17-23, 2016
- Hickory Hill Wilderness Camp July 17-July 23

Waycross Summer Camp
www.waycrosscenter.org/campinfo/
 Register now!

Vestry Meeting Summary — May 18, 2016

- The Vestry discussed the compiled findings of the April 17 celebration and conversations. Maggie McClure is writing an article for *The Eagle* that summarizes the process and the results.
- The organ task force is still collecting information from the three quotes in order to make a decision.
- The restoration task force will wait until an organ decision is made before moving forward.
- Fr. Bradley discussed the idea of the youth ministry at St. John's, noting while the conversations showed adults in the church talked about what was going on within the church walls, the members of the youth group talked about taking what was happening at church out to the community. He also discussed the importance hiring someone to take charge of the youth ministry that would allow both him and Hilary to concentrate on other things.
- Fr. Bradley suggested a parking task force be formed to investigate all possible options and will be asking for volunteers.
- The parish picnic has outgrown Happy Hollow park and will be moving to Prophetstown State Park on August 7. There is an \$8 entry fee per car that the church will pay. Those wishing to help out by paying themselves will also be encouraged. Fr. Bradley mentioned that there is lots more room and a great playground. Teresa has reserved the shelters for St. John's.
- The Vestry discussed the idea of a "reconstituted" finance committee that could better deal with budgetary planning. Heather Johnston-Nicholson submitted a draft document that will help guide the finance committee in this effort. The idea is for the committee to be proactive and less reactive. The Vestry approved this effort.
- The 12 x 16 Oriental rug that had been in the Bishop's Parlor and was removed will not be returned. Heather mentioned there is a reliable person who has agreed to sell the rug on consignment. Fr. Bradley suggested parishioners be offered the chance to purchase the rug. Heather said the appraisal value was \$2,000-\$3,000.



Vestry member Cale Bigelow Skyping into the Vestry meeting

FINANCE REPORT OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES* MONTH ENDING April 2016

A. INCOME

	Current Month	Total 2016	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1 Pledge Income	\$ 33,279.00	\$ 119,344.08	\$ 362,458.00	32.9%
2 Operating Income	\$ 3,906.20	\$ 20,070.03	\$ 46,383.17	43.3%
3 Non-Operating Income	\$ 1,735.00	\$ 7,335.00	\$ 37,000.00	19.8%
4 Transfer Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 64,000.00	0.0%
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 38,920.20	\$ 146,749.11	\$ 509,841.17	28.8%

B. EXPENSES

1 Outreach	\$8,710.59	\$33,217.25	\$ 99,820.00	33.3%
2 Program	\$1,881.79	\$7,427.17	\$ 27,300.00	27.2%
3 Administration	\$85.12	\$2,648.46	\$ 14,500.00	18.3%
4 Personnel	\$24,012.67	\$83,497.32	\$ 241,661.03	34.6%
5 Office	\$2,278.94	\$8,011.05	\$ 26,970.00	29.7%
6 Property	\$6,350.73	\$27,534.86	\$ 99,590.14	27.6%
7 Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)	\$0.00	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 43,319.84	\$ 162,336.11	\$ 509,841.17	31.8%
Net Income (loss)	\$ (4,399.64)	\$ (15,587.00)	\$ (0.00)	

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.