



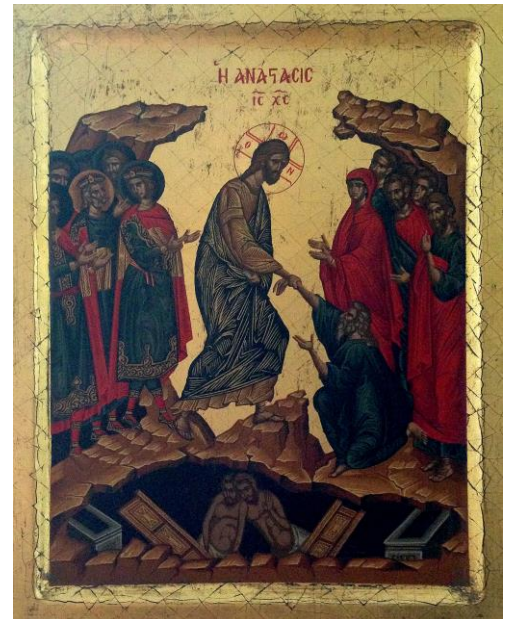
ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE

The Eagle

St. John's Episcopal Church • Lafayette, Ind. • April 2018

Holy Week and Easter

By the time you read this, we will be more than halfway through the season of Lent. Our Lenten journey will come to an end as we celebrate the great fasts and feasts of Holy Week and of Easter. These celebrations form the foundation of our Christian life and worship. At Easter, God's saving deeds in history come to a dramatic climax in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the resurrection of Jesus, the powers of hatred, of despair, of evil, the very powers of Hell itself, are defeated. God's reign is decisively established. But Maundy Thursday and Good Friday set the scene for the great Easter miracle. Without remembering those days, we are given a false Gospel — Good News without struggle, the empty tomb without the cross. We cannot come to the empty tomb without first hearing the new commandment of Maundy Thursday and the passion of Good Friday.



I invite and encourage you, sisters and brothers, to join with your Christian family here at St. John's and throughout the world and attend the three services that make up *the Triduum*: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Great Vigil of Easter. We will celebrate **Maundy Thursday on Thursday, March 29, at 6:30 p.m.** with the service of footwashing and Holy Eucharist. On **Good Friday, March 30, at noon**, we glory in the cross of Christ, the cross on which hung the world's salvation. The proper liturgy for **Holy Saturday, March 31**, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. in the Chapel of the Resurrection. That evening, at the Easter Vigil, we will hear "the record of God's saving deeds in history" and find ourselves confronted with the resurrection, the great Easter miracle. **The Easter Vigil** will begin in the Memorial Garden at **8 p.m.** with the lighting of the Paschal Candle. Each of these services will be held in St. John's Commons.

Our celebration continues on **Easter Sunday, April 1, at 11 a.m.** Because construction in the church will not be completed in time, **our Easter Sunday service will be held at First Baptist Church** (located at 411 N. Seventh St. in Lafayette, just around the corner from St. John's). Childcare will be available at First Baptist. The service will be followed by a festive reception in First Baptist's parish hall.

Come and hear Christ's command that we should love one another as he loved us. Come and hear the wondrous love poured out on the cross. Come and hear the record of God's saving deeds in history from the very beginning. Come and join in the alleluias as we rejoice in the Resurrection. For more information, contact the church office at (765) 742-4079. May God continue to bless you in your Lenten journey, and may God bring you with joy to the resurrection of his Christ. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

From the Rector

Each year when we get to Holy Week and Easter, I feel as if this is our one chance to do the season up right. We only get one shot. Everything has to be absolutely glorious and perfect.

So a few years ago, when I was sick during Holy Week and missed Easter services, I was really devastated. This year, when I finally came to terms with the fact that the construction wouldn't be finished in time, I was similarly put out. This is our one shot, and it just isn't going to fly. It won't be glorious. It won't be perfect. Oh, it will be *fine*, I'm sure. But Easter isn't supposed to be *fine*. It's supposed to be glorious. It's supposed to be perfect.

When I was telling my dad about the construction setback, he pointed out that Easter comes each year. In fact, he said, if you look in the back of *the Book of Common Prayer*, it lists the dates for Easter until 2099. So we can be pretty sure that Holy Week and Easter will come again. In other words, we'll get another chance.

I know this is true. I know we will have an opportunity to celebrate Easter in 2019. I know that, God willing and the creek don't rise, we'll be able to celebrate Easter for many years to come. In fact, we'll be able to celebrate Easter next year in a beautifully remodeled church with a splendid new organ. That doesn't mean I'm not still a little disappointed. But it does help remind me that we don't just have one shot at getting everything right; we don't have just one shot at celebrating the risen Christ.

At the risk of sounding cliché or trite, there is something of the Easter message in that realization. On the one hand, we don't get only one shot. Indeed, the Gospel of Jesus Christ tells us that God does not abandon us whatever our mistakes and failings. God does not abandon us no matter how many times we miss the mark or fail to honor God. We may continue confessing our sins and continue bringing our gifts to the altar, continue singing the hymns, continue glorifying God. I don't mean to suggest that it's a sin to have the Good Friday service in St. John's Commons or to have our Easter Sunday service at First Baptist Church. So long as we worship "in Spirit and in Truth," God will be glorified. My point is the larger one, that God does not count our trespasses in the same way that we count them. Indeed, quite often, the things that worry us do not, in the end, worry God.

The other thing — what the Easter story really tells us — is that the life, death and resurrection of Jesus determine the ultimate trajectory of human history. In and through Jesus, God has fulfilled the ancient promises and brought the kingdom of God into this world. The new creation that was affected by those events is still being worked out in our day and in our time. God is still at work in the world, and the Church has a role to play in that work. Our celebration of Easter is important because it feeds us, energizes us, inspires us to that work. It is important because it glorifies God. But God's work in the world continues; our work in the world continues. Just like Easter, the Church's work of reconciliation, of doing justice, of loving mercy, of walking humbly with God will continue into next year and beyond. We will *need* to celebrate Easter again.

My sisters and brothers, may God bless you in this holy season. May God inspire you to the Church's work with Easter confidence. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Construction Update

Because of some structural problems with the floor, the church construction schedule was pushed back several weeks. Engineers developed a plan to support the floor more securely, and now technicians are working on leveling the floor and installing the new tiles. By the time you read this, that work should be well underway. Because the timeline has changed, the church will not be ready for Holy Week or Easter services this year. At this point, we are not sure when the church will finally be completed. This does give the contractors time and flexibility to finish the work correctly and thoroughly without rushing.

If you follow St. John's on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, you can see regular updates and photographs. If you would like to see the work for yourself, let me know. I would be happy to show you around. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

April Book Group: National Poetry Month

6 p.m. April 25, The Commons

April may be “the cruelest month,” but it’s also the month when the United States celebrates poetry in National Poetry Month. It has become a popular tradition in the St. John’s book group to dedicate our April meeting to poetry. We return to meeting on Wednesdays in April – our poetry meeting is **April 25 at 6:30** in the Commons. We always start by sharing any poetry that has meant a lot to us. This may be a new poem or an old favorite. Part of the pleasure is in sharing our favorite(s); another is listening to the poetry others share.

In addition to sharing poetry, we often have a theme to this meeting. This year, we are relying on Amy Paget’s work with the Greater Lafayette Immigrant Allies to guide us to works about the immigrant experience. If you would like to seek out the poetry of immigrants prior to the meeting, here are a few ways.

Local libraries will list titles under the subject, “immigrants-Poetry.” Online, try the following:

The Poetry Foundation, Poems on Immigration: bit.ly/2HfHOwo

The American Academy of Poets – Immigration Poems: www.poets.org

Poetry postcards from PBS: to.pbs.org/2oZJgLJ

Please join us for an interesting and enjoyable evening. Enter through the garden door. — *Mary Campbell, mlauracampbell@gmail.com, (765) 426-5541*

April Garden Committee Report

Garden clean-up 9 a.m. April 21

We have set the date of April 21 to be the spring clean-up of the grounds at the church. We will be meeting at 9 a.m. that morning to begin. I put in a call to Larry Hicks and he will be bringing us a wonderful load of mulch to be spread that morning. For anyone who has never done this but is interested, it is a wonderful fellowship time. This will set the grounds for the gardening committee to do weekly maintenance on Saturdays of each week.

Anyone interested in volunteering for either the spring clean-up day or being on the 2018 gardening committee please contact me by either email or phone. Anyone wanting to help would be greatly appreciated. I will provide lunch that day in the Commons. Thank you so much in advance. — *Carl Taylor, carl.taylor1957@gmail.com*



A Message from Bishop Jennifer Baskerville- Burrows

Dear Ones:

Two years ago, when I first introduced myself to you, I wrote about choosing the Episcopal Church as a young adult. “This church has taught me to live fearlessly, embraced by God’s love in Christ,” I said.

I made my choice nearly 30 years ago, but the experience of being a young adult faced with life’s big choices has been much on my mind in recent weeks. Like many of you, I have been watching with admiration the courageous leadership of young adults who are pushing us to contend with immigration reform and gun violence — two critical issues that divide us from one another.

On Monday, I joined with faith leaders from the Disciples of Christ for a meeting with Hodge Patel, U.S. Sen. Joe Donnelly’s state director. We talked about the young adults known as Dreamers — the more than 800,000 people who were brought to this country without documentation as children. The plight of Dreamers is increasingly uncertain, since the program that protects them from deportation is set to expire next week, but Congress has not yet acted to renew or replace it and related court cases could drag on for months or longer. In our meeting, I asked that Senator Donnelly explicitly denounce the xenophobic rhetoric that has characterized far too much of recent immigration debates and that he amplify the voices of people of faith who want immigration policy to recognize the dignity of our sisters and brothers who differ from us.

Our call to stand with Dreamers and advocate for their protection is, I believe, a call from God. When I held listening sessions around the diocese last summer and fall, I heard clearly that here in the Diocese of Indianapolis, we are longing to be a people of bold witness and radical welcome in our churches and communities. We hear this call in our holy scriptures, which tell us again and again that we are to stand on the side of the stranger and the outsider. “You shall not oppress a resident alien,” God tells us in Exodus 23. “You know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.”

Advocating for Dreamers is one way we can express our identity as people of bold witness and radical welcome, and I hope you will join me in letting your elected officials know that you want a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers. You can find more information and ways to contact your legislators [on the Episcopal Public Policy Network website](#). Standing with Dreamers is not only faithful, but good stewardship. According to the Center for American Progress, more than 15,000 Dreamers are eligible to work in Indiana, and over time, they would be expected to contribute more than \$172 million annually to our state’s gross domestic product.

Just as young Dreamers are pressing us to leave aside our fear of the stranger, the high school students who survived the Feb. 14 mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, are challenging our entire country to face, at last, the culture of gun violence that took the lives of more than 33,000 Americans just last year. I am proud to follow their lead, and plan to participate in the youth-led March for Our Lives in Indianapolis on March 24, and to celebrate and bless our young people who are planning to travel to Washington D.C. to be part of the March for Our Lives in the nation’s capital. You can find more information about how to join me in Indianapolis or the young people in D.C. on the diocesan website.

I am part of Bishops United Against Gun Violence, a coalition of more than 70 Episcopal bishops formed in the wake of the 2012 mass shootings at a Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wisc., and at Sandy Hook Elementary School

in Newtown, Conn. I wholeheartedly endorse our group's statement issued in the wake of the Parkland shooting, which said, "In the wake of this massacre, we believe God is calling us to understand that we must not simply identify the social and political impediments to ending these lethal spasms of violence in our country. We must reflect on and acknowledge our own complicity in the unjust systems that facilitate so many deaths, and, in accordance with the keeping of a holy Lent, repent and make reparations."

Across our diocese, we have a wide variety of views about guns, gun ownership and gun public policy. But regardless of our relationship to guns, I pray that we can come together as advocates for sensible gun legislation like universal background checks, limits on high-capacity magazines, and renewing the assault weapons ban. These modest measures, which the overwhelming majority of American support, can protect both our Second Amendment rights and the lives of our children and families. I believe that the young people of Parkland, Florida are doing holy work when they demand that we overcome the divisions that have plagued the gun debate and left us unable to stand against the tide of violence that keeps us mired in fear and anger.

Gun violence and immigration policy are urgent issues today, but our call to be people of bold witness and radical welcome will, God willing, continue for many years. To help us in that faithful work, I have called the Rev. Deacon Fatima Yakubu-Madus to serve as part-time missionary for community engagement on my staff in collaboration with Christ Church Cathedral, where she will serve as deacon. You can [read more about her new role on the website](#). I look forward to working with Deacon Fatima and with many of you to continue exploring where God is calling us to serve and advocate in our communities, across Indiana, and in the wider world.

These are hard and fearful times for so many of us, and so many people in our communities. I pray that in these difficult times, we can answer God's call to stand at the crossroads with outstretched arms, welcoming the stranger, finding common ground with one another, and witnessing to the boundless love of God that leads us on.

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows
Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis

Vacation Bible School

5-8 p.m. June 4, 5 & 6

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

Upcoming Youth Group Dates

Sunday, April 8, 6-8 p.m.

Location TBD, all youth grades 6-12

Sunday, April 22, 6-8 p.m.

St John's, all youth grades 6-12

Wednesday, April 25, 7-8:30 p.m.

Starbucks on the Landing

Youth grades 9-12

Next Deadline for The Eagle

The deadline for the May Eagle is **Monday, April 9**. Send submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org.

Property Committee Minutes

The Property Committee had its monthly meeting at 9 a.m. March 3. We started by walking the church property, taking note of anything needing to be addressed.

- A diverter will be put on the downspout at the southwest corner of the church office. This will slow the water flow and direct it under the yew shrubs.
- We have continued the search for the east attic door, and it still has not been located. Anyone with the knowledge of the location is asked to pass that information to any property committee member.
- Replacement tile for those damaged in the nursery were located. Main Street Management will be reinstalling the tile.
- Wonderful reinforcement for the flooring has been installed.
- We are continuing to look into the screen in the nursery window. The use of air conditioning is one option. The only other option is to schedule replacement of the entire frame for the screen in that window.
- We have acknowledged a rattling the HVAC #9. None of us had a recommendation at this time.
- Weather stripping on the garden door is damaged and will be replaced.

A big thank you to:

- Ray Polstra replaced several burned-out light bulbs.
- Joe Venable obtained and administered paint in the main floor men's restroom.
- Heather Johnston-Nicholson is replacing the larger of the two ladders in the janitor's closet.

Thank you to Heather for the meeting minutes. — *Carl Taylor, Jr. Warden, carl.taylor1957@gmail.com*

Financial Report

FINANCE REPORT
OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSE*
As of February 28, 2018

A. INCOME		Current Month	Total 2018	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1	Pledge Income	\$37,072.00	\$59,902.00	\$374,472.00	16.0%
2	Operating Income	\$1,786.00	\$6,209.08	\$73,152.43	8.5%
3	Non-Operating Income	\$3,521.67	\$5,448.34	\$32,000.00	17.0%
4	Transfer Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	0.0%
TOTAL INCOME		\$42,379.67	\$71,559.42	\$519,624.43	13.8%
B. EXPENSES		Current Month	Total 2018	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1	Outreach	\$8,058.09	\$15,432.79	\$108,069.00	14.3%
2	Program	\$1,313.98	\$2,617.99	\$20,400.00	12.8%
3	Administration	\$243.08	\$243.08	\$2,500.00	9.7%
4	Personnel	\$20,924.83	\$40,630.27	\$247,319.48	16.4%
5	Office	\$1,518.90	\$3,443.41	\$27,395.00	12.6%
6	Property	\$5,689.56	\$13,169.72	\$113,940.95	11.6%
7	Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$37,748.44	\$75,537.26	\$519,624.43	14.5%
Net Income (Loss)		\$4,631.23	-\$3,977.84	\$0.00	