



ST. JOHN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
LAFAYETTE

# The Eagle

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

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## MARDI GRAS/ SHROVE SUNDAY

When Episcopalians get wild...  
they **EAT PANCAKES.**  
Come celebrate Shrove Tuesday  
**ON A SUNDAY**

Sunday, February 11th  
from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

There will be activities for kids, a Mardi Gras parade and live jazz band, and **LOADS OF PANCAKES!** Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$13 for families of 3 or more, and kids under 5 eat free.

All are welcome!!!

For more information, contact  
Bill McInerney at [billmcinerney45@gmail.com](mailto:billmcinerney45@gmail.com)  
or call the church office at 765.742.4079.

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## Worship this Winter at St. John's

The renovation work in the church continues. We will continue worshipping in St. John's Commons until the work is complete. The work will likely take about three months. We are hoping to be back in the church for worship by Palm Sunday (March 25). — *Bradley Pace*, [bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org)

### Dates to Remember

**Sunday, Feb. 4** St. John's Annual Meeting after the 10:15 a.m. service

**Sunday, Feb. 11** Mardi Gras Pancake Supper, 5-7 p.m.

**Wednesday, Feb. 14** Ash Wednesday, noon & 6 p.m.

## From the Rector

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In December I took some time to catch up on reading. I plowed through a stack of books that had been sitting on my desk for months (years?). I even went back and read a book I had been assigned in seminary but never actually read. One book was Barbara Brown Taylor's *When God is Silent*. In the book, Taylor argues that "silence has become God's last defense against our idolatry," against our saying all the wrong things about God, against our making God in our own image by our words. Despite the fact that there are so many words — so much media, so many ways to communicate, so much information — we actually live in a time of famine. "While the scholars of deconstructionism insist that even our best, most carefully chosen words are not sturdy enough to bear the truth," she says, "most preachers use words such as *God* or *faith* as if they were made out of steel instead of air." But preachers, like most everyone else it turns out, "rely on such language to pin down the flapping edges of the universe, even when it does not match up with all that we know to be true."

The famine is a result of several things. So much of the time, our words are meant to sell stuff — they are marketing tools used in the service of consumerism. It is not uncommon to find a subdivision here in Indiana called "Harbor View" (her example), when the nearest body of water is 40 miles away. Even in church we have the same problem. We market church activities, programs and campaigns. Our recent capital campaign, "Our Faith, Our Future" is a case in point. It was all done with the best of intentions, with the idea of capturing the spirit of our tradition and history and our hope for the future. But we're always being sold something, so it's easy to just let all of that wash over us, to ignore it, or even to let it increase our cynicism even about the best, most important things. In the midst of this proliferation of words (I can hear Dr. Seuss's Grinch shouting, "Oh the noise, noise, NOISE!!!), we actually hear very little. The weird thing is that some of us are even addicted to noise. I listen to podcasts and audiobooks constantly. I read while watching a movie. I'll have a game on the TV while I'm writing. Some of us are addicted to hearing ourselves talk. Here again, I am the chief sinner among us. In my home growing up, speaking was a competitive sport. My wife, Katie, reminds me that I shouldn't invite people to "book discussions" since my idea of "discussion" is me talking. You're welcome to jump in anytime I take a breath.

Taylor says that "Language itself is in crisis — the whole enterprise of trusting words to mean what they say, to serve as a medium of relationship and not of pretense or aggression." This is harsh stuff, because what many of us want is a word of love and honesty, truth and authenticity. We want a word of comfort and peace and joy. Even if we don't realize it, even if we wouldn't necessarily call it that, we want a word from God. "What we crave in this wilderness are fresh words from the mouth of God — not yesterday's manna, not tomorrow's, but just enough for today .... What wouldn't we give for one comforting word in the garden in the cool of the evening, or a commandment so audible it made people cover their heads?"

As we come to Lent, perhaps we can all find ways to give up some of the words, some of the noise. Perhaps then in the silence, we will hear a fresh word from God. Recently, I've started using a form of *lectio divina* (divine reading) where I read Scripture and sit in silence focusing on a word or phrase that stands out or "shimmers," thanking God for that word or phrase, and asking God what direction that word or phrase is giving me. It's not as if I always receive something earth-shattering or life-changing, but I do find that I am often pulled or pushed in some direction or other. In our Vestry meetings, we've started using a form of this a well. Again, we just listen to Scripture and spend our time meditating or praying on a word or phrase. There's no follow-up, there's no sharing of insights (and thus, for me, no need to grandstand or say something profound), there's just listening for the spirit of God to move in our hearts and in our midst. It hasn't produced any bolts from the blue (so far as I can tell), but it sets the tone for our meetings. Together we are listening for those few words that matter — words from God — not yesterday's manna, not tomorrow's, but just enough for today. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*



ASH  
WEDNESDAY  
at ST. JOHN'S, LAFAYETTE  
FEBRUARY 14TH

### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE:

@ 12:00 (noon) at Trinity UMC  
with the imposition of ashes.

@ 6:00 P.M. at St. John's

This service is designed to explore the ancient Christian traditions of Ash Wednesday with people of all ages. The service will include the imposition of ashes and Holy Eucharist.

#### A Lenten Gift to You

This year, Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day are both on Wednesday, Feb. 14. St. John's will host an **evening service at 6 p.m.** that combines elements of our children and youth service and our traditional service.

Because it's Valentine's Day, anyone attending the service may utilize the nursery childcare after the service until 9 p.m. However, you must RSVP for the childcare. Contact the church office at (765) 742-4079 or [stjohns@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:stjohns@stjohns-laf.org) **no later than Friday, Feb. 9.** Space is limited.

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## The Rite of Reconciliation

*The Book of Common Prayer* reminds us that "The ministry of reconciliation, which has been committed by Christ to his Church, is exercised through the care each Christian has for others, through the common prayer of Christians assembled for public worship and through the priesthood of Christ and his ministers declaring absolution." The Rite of the Reconciliation of a Penitent (known as confession in some traditions) is available for all who desire it and is not restricted to any particular time or season. However, because the season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14, is a time specifically dedicated as a time of self-reflection and penitence, it is an especially appropriate time to seek reconciliation with God, one another and with ourselves. While the Anglican approach to the rite of reconciliation has always been "all may, some should, none must," it can be a powerful reminder that, despite our failings, we are forgiven and loved by God. If you would like to receive the sacrament of reconciliation, please contact the church at (765) 742-4079 and ask to speak with a member of the clergy. — *Bradley Pace*, [bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org)

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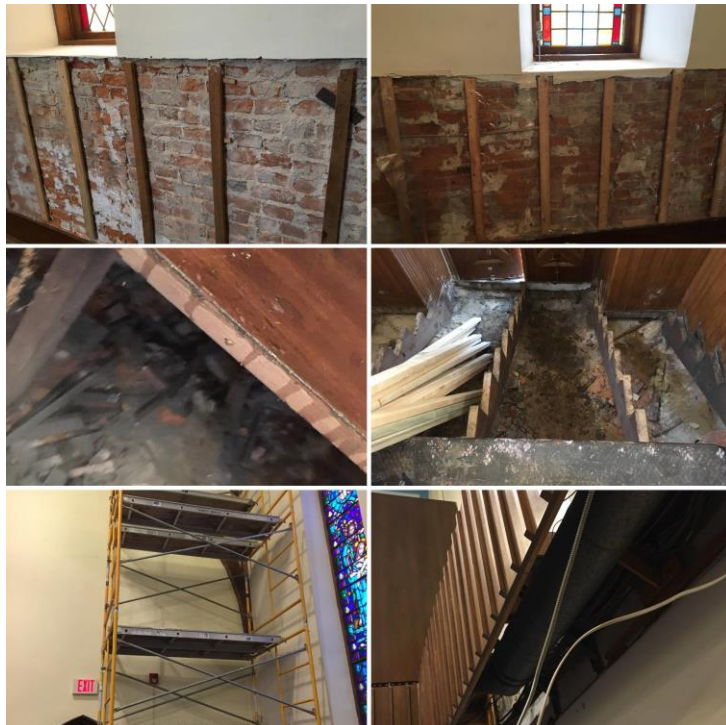
## Circular Logic Marathon Relay

### Saturday, April 7

This year's Circular Logic Marathon Relay is set for Saturday, April 7, 2018! Relay teams start running at 9 a.m., and this year we have registered to have not **one**, but **two** teams! The plan is to have one team for people interested in walking/jogging one or two-mile stretches, and one for runners interested in three or more miles. Rebekah Sims has created a web form to help us in planning the schedule for the day, so if you are interested in participating please fill out the form found at: [goo.gl/E3nnU4](http://goo.gl/E3nnU4). If you have questions or need help with the link, please contact Rebekah or Hilary and we will send you the link to the form. The deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 25. — *Hilary Cooke*, [hilary@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:hilary@stjohns-laf.org), *Rebekah Sims*, [resims@purdue.edu](mailto:resims@purdue.edu)

## The Renovation Begins

Renovation work began in the church the day after Christmas. Thanks to all those who helped move furniture and other things out on Christmas Day. By the time you receive this copy of *the Eagle*, more work should be underway. As of now, several projects have been started and a few completed. For instance, the 1838 bell in the St. John's bell tower now has an external striker making it MUCH easier to ring. We will now be able to use it more frequently as a call to worship and in other ways. The old paneling has been removed, revealing the original bead board underneath. The bell tower stairs have been removed, giving us a glimpse of space that hadn't been opened up since the church was built. The contractors are reframing the stairs and making them more useable. Pictures are being posted to the St. John's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, and new pictures will be in subsequent issues of *The Eagle*. Quimby Organ Company is also hard at work building our new organ. You can read about the organ at <https://quimbypipeorgans.com/in-progress/new/st-john-s-episcopal-church-2>. Thanks again to all those whose generosity made our ongoing renovation possible. – *Bradley Pace*,



## February Book Group

**6:30 p.m. THURSDAY, Feb. 22, The Commons**

We read all kinds of books in the St. John's Book Group — on the premise that “Invariably, the books address what it means to be human in our world, a world we understand to encompass peoples of every society, social status, ethnicity and geographic locale. It is our hope that, through our reading and discussion, we will grow in our affirmation of the basic dignity of all humanity” (from our mission statement).

This month we are reading books with explicitly Christian themes. The first is a novella published in 1940 in Iceland, *The Good Shepherd* by Gunnar Gunnarsson. A farm hand sets off with his dog and ram on the first Sunday in Advent to climb into the mountains on their annual pilgrimage to bring home lost sheep. The book is very short but quite evocative of the landscape, the weather and the people. It is out of print in English, but contact me at (765) 426-5541, as there are a few copies floating around. Or try Amazon or Alibris for very cheap copies.

The second book is a memoir by Rifqa Bary, *Hiding in the Light: Why I Risked Everything to Leave Islam and Follow Jesus* (2015). On the one hand, it is a straightforward (but dramatic) story of a Muslim teen's conversion to Christianity. On the other hand, I think it raises lots of interesting questions.

What are your reactions to these books? Please join us on Feb. 22 at 6:30 p.m. (We are meeting on Thursday instead of Wednesday to avoid any conflicts with Lenten activities.) — *Mary Campbell, mlauracampbell@gmail.com*

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## Episcopal Church Women (ECW)/Episcopal Women's Ministries (EWM)

*“Almighty God, we pray that You will bless our work in mission and ministry in the world. Help us to pray fervently, labor diligently and give liberally to make known the power of your love given through your son Jesus Christ. Let us not forget the lessons from the past nor fear the challenges of the future. Anoint us with your grace and shine in our hearts as we reflect your light throughout the world. Amen.”* — Episcopal Church Women's Prayer

Church Women United (CWU), founded in 1941, is a racially, culturally, theologically inclusive ecumenical women's movement, celebrating unity in diversity and working for a world of peace and justice. The Tippecanoe County Church Women United invites all churches in Tippecanoe County to participate in this mission. Naomi Prince has stepped forward and will be the liaison between St. John's Episcopal Church and the Tippecanoe County CWU movement. Please support and lift Naomi in prayer as she serves the church. More information can be found about CWU at [www.churchwomen.org](http://www.churchwomen.org).

**Put these IMPORTANT 2018 dates on your calendar!** EWM Spring Luncheon will be April 28 at Columbus, Ind., and the EWM Fall Retreat will be Sept. 28-30 at Waycross. Look for the EWM Newsletter for further information. Is your name and email address included in the EWM database? Are you getting EWM news via the internet? If not, please e-mail Charlene Watson your name and e-mail address so you will be included. Thank you. — *Charlene Watson, cel.watson@comcast.net, (765) 474-9101*

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## Fragrances in church

Worshipping in the Commons brings the benefit of intimacy; however, the small space means not just emotional closeness, but also physical closeness. For the next few months as we worship in the Commons, please be mindful that strong fragrances can cause health concerns for those around you, ranging from mild to quite serious physical reactions. If you have questions or concerns, please let me know. — *Hilary Cooke, hilary@stjohns-laf.org*

### Upcoming Youth Group Dates

**Feb. 11** Pancake supper and Mardi Gras parade

**Feb. 25** 6-8 p.m. in the Commons, grades 6-12

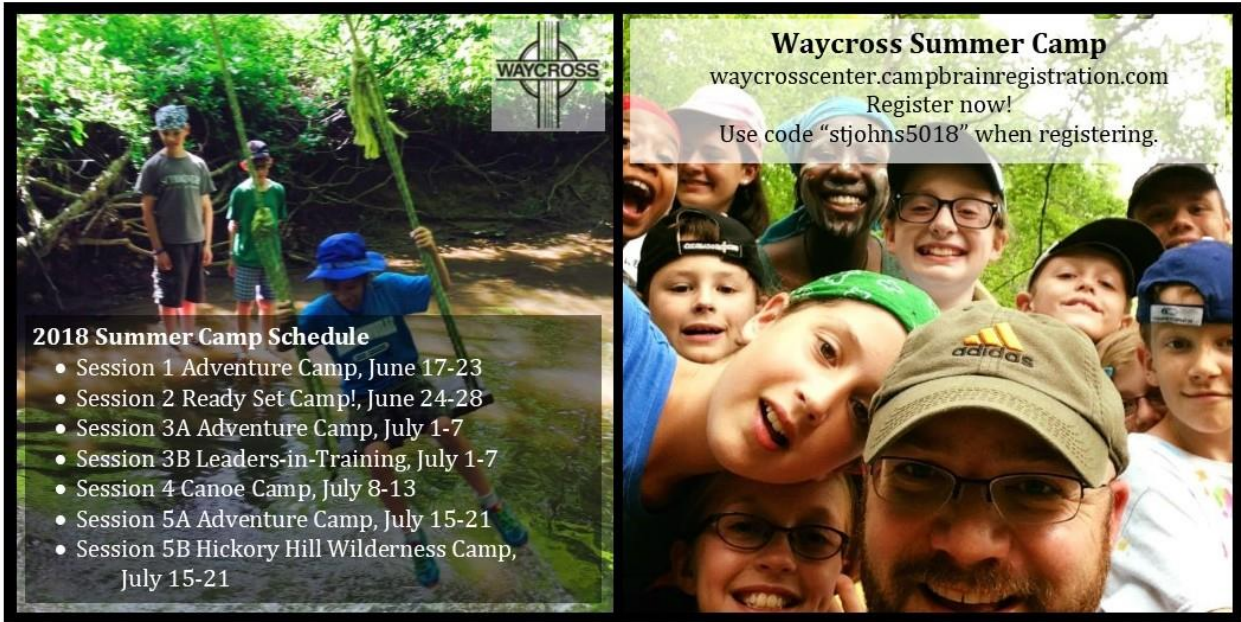
**Feb. 28** 7-8:30 p.m., location TBD, grades 9-12

### Next Deadline for The Eagle

The deadline for the March Eagle is **Monday, Feb. 12**. Send submissions to [eagle@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:eagle@stjohns-laf.org).

- Please send submissions as an attachment to an e-mail.
- In the file name, please include a brief title/descriptor of the article (more than just “March Eagle”).

Thank you! — *Editor*



## January Financial Report

**FINANCE REPORT**  
**OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSE\***  
 As of November 30, 2017

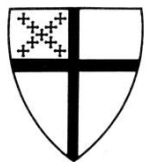
A. INCOME		Current Month	Total 2017	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1	Pledge Income	\$52,136.44	\$368,376.09	\$367,853.00	100.1%
2	Operating Income	\$12,821.93	\$51,270.13	\$56,636.01	90.5%
3	Non-Operating Income	\$2,621.67	\$50,939.68	\$54,500.00	93.5%
4	Transfer Income	\$0.00	\$47,025.42	\$56,262.42	83.6%
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$67,580.04</b>	<b>\$517,611.32</b>	<b>\$535,251.43</b>	<b>96.7%</b>
B. EXPENSES		Current Month	Total 2017	Annual Budget	% of Budget
1	Outreach	\$7,733.00	\$98,680.70	\$101,522.00	97.2%
2	Program	\$2,777.74	\$21,006.93	\$24,500.00	85.7%
3	Administration	\$7,250.00	\$45,802.33	\$45,950.00	99.7%
4	Personnel	\$20,053.50	\$243,112.42	\$246,208.48	98.7%
5	Office	\$690.81	\$27,137.55	\$27,195.00	99.8%
6	Property	\$30,021.36	\$105,408.65	\$89,875.95	117.3%
7	Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)		\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>\$68,526.41</b>	<b>\$541,148.58</b>	<b>\$535,251.43</b>	<b>101.1%</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>		<b>-\$946.37</b>	<b>-\$23,537.26</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	

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  
600 Ferry Street  
Lafayette IN 47901-1142

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**Bishop of Indianapolis**

The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows

**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,**

Donna Barker, Director  
Gayle Ennis, Co-Director

**Building Use Coordinator**

Bill McInerney

**Treasurer**

Bill McInerney

**Assistant Treasurer**

Jim Hess

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Carl Taylor, Junior Warden  
Stephanie Amador Tribbett, Chair  
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Annie Schreiber, Clerk

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Maggie McClure, Catherine  
Sandhage, Tim Smith

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