

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

## Decorating for Easter

9-11:30 a.m. Saturday, March 31

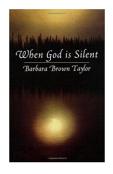
The flower guild would like to invite families and individuals to decorate a window in the church for Easter. You can be creative using flowers, greens and branches from your own gardens or yard or by purchasing these items. Vases and rocks will be in St. John's Commons after March 18 for you to use. You are welcome to put together your arrangement at home or at church on Saturday, March 31. We will put arrangements in the church by noon that day. After the Sunday Easter services, the arrangements will be taken to parishioners who are shut in or in extended care. Sign-up sheet will be in St. John's Commons. — Sue Bracey, galaxstar77@gmail.com

## Lenten Home Eucharists and Book Study March 6, 13 & 20

St. John's will be having potluck meals and home Eucharists on Tuesdays in March (6, 11 and 18) from 6-8 p.m. Signup sheet swill be in St. John's Commons. We will also be reading and discussing Barbara Brown Taylor's book When God is Silent.

For more information or to reserve a copy of the book, please contact the St. John's office at stjohns@stjohnslaf.org or (765) 742-4079.

— Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohnslaf.org



#### **Dates to Remember**

Palm Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. March 25 Maundy Thursday Service 6:30 p.m. March 29 **Good Friday Liturgy** noon March 30 Holy Saturday Prayers 10 a.m. March 31 (in the Chapel of the Resurrection) The Great Vigil of Easter 8 p.m. Saturday, March 31

Easter Sunday 8 a.m. & 10:15 a.m. April 1

#### From the Rector

I'm sure I've said this a million times, but in the Episcopal Church we consider ourselves a middle way between Protestantism and Catholicism. At our best we try to maintain the tension between an unbroken continuity with the early Church — the catholic or universal part of Christian tradition — and the important, even life-giving reforms of the Reformation. This tension is a fundamental part of how we Episcopalians see ourselves.

Of course, we see this tension in many parts of the Christian faith and life. For instance, it's a table *and* an altar. You share a meal at a table. You make sacrifices at an altar. At the Eucharist — Holy Communion — we are sharing a meal with Christ and with one another. At the same time, we are offering our own sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, laying our gifts — our very lives, in fact — on the altar. Some of us are ordained as priests and pastors. A priest is literally someone who mediates between God and humanity. Ordination is not unimportant, but it is also the case that all Christians are priests in this sense. Each one of us reflects God into the world. We call this the priesthood of all believers. And yet, at the same time, only Christ

is the true priest, our only worship a God who is three and worship Jesus Christ, our only Lord divine in one person. There are a

I mention all of this by way of Lenten journey. We begin Lent we focus on our mortality. We that one day we will return to story. Human beings are made adamah in the Hebrew. But we are breath, of God. Now there is a real animated by God's own spirit.



mediator and advocate. We yet one, trinity in unity. We and savior, who is human and great many both/ands in our faith.

pointing something about our with Ash Wednesday, a day when remember that we are dust and dust. Of course this isn't the whole from the dirt — we are אדמה or also filled with the רוּם or ruah, the tension for you. This crude matter

At the same time, our Lenten

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prayers and our hymns — if not

also sometimes the sermons — spend a fair amount of time reminding us that we are sinful. We can take this as far as we want, focusing on all the ways we have missed the mark or even going so far, as we say in one of our prayers, as to "acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness which we have most grievously committed against thy divine majesty." We are not, we say in yet another prayer, "worthy to gather up the crumbs beneath thy table." Psalm 51 says it best, though, asking God to "blot out my transgressions, wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sins."

But there's the tension. We are also "good". God said as much when he created human beings. We sometimes pray that through Christ "we have been made worthy to stand before" God. As Paul puts it, we are justified by grace through faith.

If we lose this tension, we may have lost the game. We must recognize our sins — our failing, our brokenness, our trespasses or debts, whatever we might call it — before we can repent and return to the Lord. We must recognize that there is a problem. But we must also remember that God loves us. We must remember that God holds us as the apple of his eye. We must remember that God comes to heal and to mend, to build up and to replenish. We must remember that God loved the world so much that he sent Jesus — his own Word made flesh — to show us the way to abundant life.

All of this puts me in mind of an old Jewish practice of carrying two scraps of paper in separate pockets. One scrap is supposed to read "I am but dust and ashes", recalling God's pronouncement to Adam in Genesis 3. The other scrap should read "the world was created for me", recalling a line from the Talmud, one of the great Jewish wisdom texts.

I love the idea behind this practice because I need both pieces of paper. Some days, when things are going well, I can feel pretty full of myself. Look at all I have accomplished. Look at how well things are going. It is helpful to have that reminder—that little piece of paper in my pocket—that "I am but dust and ashes". Other days, I look at the paperwork and the bills piling up on my desk, and I can't help but imagine that I am a fraud just waiting to be exposed. My so-called accomplishments are just smoke and mirrors. So, I need that other scrap of paper to remind me that I was created in the image of God, that I am loved beyond all measure and deserving.

If you are like me, you need both pieces of paper. If you are like me you sometimes need to be reminded that you are dust, that you are sinful, that you are frail and broken. But if you are like me, you also need to be reminded that you are God's beloved child, that God is always ready to do more for you than you can ask or imagine.

And by the way, some of us need one piece more than the other, at least some of the time. Some of us may get so bogged down in the past, so beaten down by the weight of our sin, so tired of being oppressed or abused, or so tired of pain and disappointment, that we only ever imagine that we are unworthy, that we are victims of a cruel world or sinners in the hands of an angry God. Perhaps you may want to hold on to that one piece of paper awhile—the world was created for you, you are God's beloved child. Some of us may go the opposite route. We may be so full of ourselves, so self-centered, so oblivious to the needs of others that we would do well to remember our mortality and to remember that God demands justice, mercy, and humility. But we should not let go of the tension. We should keep both pieces of paper in our pockets.

This Lent, sisters and brothers, spend time remembering who you are and what you are. You are "dust and ashes" and "the world was created for you." Keep hold of that tension. Hold on to both pieces of paper. Walk humbly with God, that is, the very God who loves you. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org* 

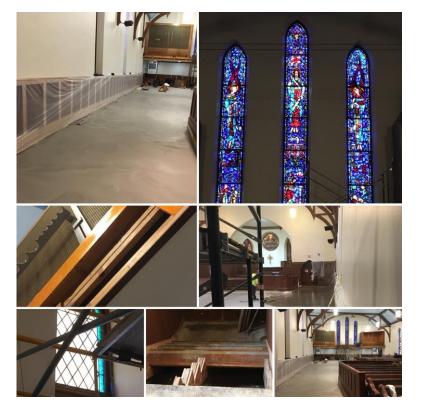


### The Renovation Continues

The renovation work in the church continues, and we will continue worshiping in St. John's Commons until that work is complete. We are hoping to be back in the church for worship by Palm Sunday, March 25.

Since last month's issue of *The Eagle*, the contractors have started rebuilding. Much of the new paneling/wainscoting has been installed. They have also framed the stairs in the bell tower. The most noticeable improvement is that all of the plaster has been repaired on the north and south walls, in the bell tower and the east vestibule. The bell tower looks particularly different without all the damage. The hearing loop has been installed in the nave as well. This involved cutting a small grove in the existing terrazzo flooring and laying a small copper wire. When everything is complete, the hearing loop will allow anyone with the relevant hearing aid technology (technology that is becoming more and more standard) to tie directly into the sound system.

The contractors did discover one significant issue. Unsurprisingly, 1850s engineering does not match today's code. As the techs were preparing to install the new floor, they discovered that the floor joists under the church are spaced too far apart. While this probably isn't dangerous (there is a large brick wall running the length of the church for support), it does mean that the church floor sinks about two inches whenever it's full of people. The result is that any new flooring would likely break. In order to address this problem, engineers have created a plan to shore up the floor in the basement/undercroft. This should take care of any safety concerns and bring the building up to code. (Interesting side note, the contractors discovered a complete copy of *The Church Times* from 1875 while they were digging around in the undercroft.)



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@stjohnslaf.org

Work continues at St John's. Services in the church should resume by Palm Sunday, March 25.

## Construction thoughts...

In the fall of 2010, I began the practicum part of my degree in Psychotherapy. After two years of purely academic work, I would now be taking my seat as therapist-in-training in the therapy room. I was keenly aware of the sacred responsibility I was taking on, and not just a little anxious about this new role. This was also the time that Ed Tourangeau announced his retirement. Ed was an excellent colleague and a mentor to me, and my grief at his departure was not insignificant. Additionally, Greg and I decided this would be the best time to have our hardwood floors refinished. This project meant that all of our first floor furniture had to be moved onto the back porch. Two weeks into this Bermuda triangle, I turned to one of my classmates and wondered aloud why I had ever thought this was the right time to have the floors redone. After all, I was already processing A LOT of emotions; why did I think throwing the chaos of construction into the mix was a good idea? It certainly wasn't an easy emotional time, and I had to constantly remind myself not only to breathe, but to give myself (and my family) a little extra grace.

Over the last six weeks the construction at St. John's has thrown off our usual worship patterns a bit – sometimes more than a bit. We have created a cozy and intimate worship space in the commons, but it does feel different. The first week I led worship, I forgot to put candles on the altar. (While there are some who might say the service isn't "valid" without candles, I can assure you God was worshiped and all were fed with the body and blood of Jesus ③). Without the pews, seating feels different — the front seats are really right up in the front! On the other hand, the children have set up camp in the comfy chairs in the back and seem quite content with the arrangement. All this is to say, we know how hard it might feel to have things a bit mixed up right now, and we thank you all for your patience. I know I am grateful for the many ways you all have offered grace to us and each other as we make our way through this time of dislocation, and who knows? Perhaps by the time you read this Eagle newsletter we'll already be making plans for moving back into the sanctuary. — *Hilary Cooke, hilary@stjohns-laf.org* 

### **Outreach Discernment Study**

In 2016, a steering committee was formed to explore the feasibility of conducting a capital campaign. The steering committee focused on three distinct goals for which funds were to be raised. These included replacing the organ, renovating our worship space and supporting current and new outreach programs. As you know, the outreach goal was dropped from the Our Faith Our Future campaign because we needed to evaluate our current outreach efforts before investing capital toward renovating the ground floor space.

On behalf of the vestry and clergy, an Outreach Discernment Team has been assembled to pursue how God is calling St. John's to respond to the needs of the Greater Lafayette area and beyond. We are now in the early stages of this evaluation. We have distributed a survey designed to gauge St. John's members' interests and involvement in current outreach efforts and thoughts about directions for future outreach. The analyzed and published results will be available to the congregation when complete.

The Outreach Discernment Team is also engaging with fellow parishioners to gain deeper insights into the work St. John's members believe God is leading us. We will continue to communicate with the congregation with transparency about this discernment process and the results. If at any time you have questions or concerns about the process, please connect with Maggie McClure, Rachel Ravellette, or Rebekah Sims.

Our goal is to provide a report to the vestry in mid-spring that describes the results of this time of discernment and proposes directions for future outreach at St. John's. Because outreach efforts are a key part of fulfilling our call as a Christian community, we are eager to hear your voice and we deeply value the input of all members. — Maggie McClure, magamcclure@gmail.com

#### **Prayer for Outreach Discernment**

Wise and loving God who sought out those living on the margins; bring us into the light of your presence; focus our hearts on your love and lead us in discernment of your will, that we may stretch out our arms to share your love with our neighbors, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### 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 began 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* 

## **Baptism and Confirmation**

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. Baptism is particularly appropriate on certain celebrations and feasts days including at the Easter Vigil (March 31<sup>st</sup>), on Pentecost Sunday (May 20<sup>th</sup>), on All Saints Sunday (November 4<sup>th</sup>), and on the Baptism of Our Lord (January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019). If you are interested in being baptized or having your child baptized, please contact the church office at 765.742.4079. — *Bradley Pace*, *bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org* 

## Lenten Quiet Day & Prayer Journaling @ St. John's 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, March 17

Courtenay Murakowski and Amy Paget invite you to join them as they journey through Lent beginning with Morning Prayer at 10 a.m. followed by opportunities to explore a variety of contemplative practices at various stations. Or simply bring your own Lenten practice to study and share. Our come-and-go session starts at 10 a.m. and ends at 4 p.m. Lunch and supplies will be provided. Share what's working in your prayer journal, start a new one, learn a new practice. A suggested freewill offering of \$5 will fund food and supplies. — Amy Paget, pagets@gmail.com



## March Book Group

The American Spirit: Who We Are and What We Stand For by David McCullough 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 22

Our selection this month is *The American Spirit: Who We Are and What We Stand For*, published in 2017. The author, David McCullough, is a journalist turned historian who has written prolifically about the United States, its leaders, and its people. He has won many awards, including Pulitzer prizes for his books *Truman* (1993) and *John Adams* (2001).

This is a short book, consisting of 15 short speeches he gave at events such as college graduations from 1989 through 2016. In his introduction, he describes the purpose of this volume as follows:

[I] hope that what I have had to say will help remind us, in this time of uncertainty and contention, of just who we are and what we stand for, of the high aspirations that inspired our founders, of our enduring values, and the importance of history as an aid to navigation in such troubled, uncertain times.

What do you think of McCullough's choices of shared values? What in the collection of addresses resonated with you and what did not?

Please join us to share your thoughts and to listen to others. Enter through the garden door. — *Mary Campbell, (765) 426-5541, mlauracampbell@gmail.com* 

#### Lent Madness 2018: The Saintly Smackdown is Back!

Lent Madness allows participants to be inspired by the ways in which God has worked through the lives of saintly souls across generations and cultures. Throughout Lent, 32 saints will do battle to win the coveted Golden Halo. Based loosely on the NCAA basketball tournament of a similar name, this online devotion pits saints against one another in a bracket as voters choose their favorites throughout this penitential season.

Here's how to participate: on the weekdays of Lent, information is posted at <a href="http://www.lentmadness.org">http://www.lentmadness.org</a> about two different saints. Each pairing remains open for 24 hours as participants read about and then vote to determine which saint moves on to the next round. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Saintly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo.

The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as we offer quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

If you're looking for a Lenten discipline that is fun, educational, occasionally goofy, and always joyful, join the Lent Madness journey. Lent needn't be all doom and gloom. After all, what could be more joyful than a season specifically set aside to get closer to Jesus Christ? — Amy Paget, pagets@gmail.com

## A Message from Our New Food Pantry Co-Directors





Diana Smith and Katy Travis

We are excited to be the new Food Pantry Co-Directors for the St. Johns / LUM Food Pantry. We are blessed to be able to work with such a great ministry in a community that we both love. Please read a little bit more about each of us below and be sure to stop us to say "hi" if you see us around during your next volunteer shift. We look forward to meeting you and hearing what you love about serving the Lafayette community through this Food Pantry.

Thanks! Katy and Diana

#### **Diana Smith**

I was born and raised in Lafayette. I'm a mother of three children, ages from 11-15. I currently work for Food Finders Food Bank as the pantry volunteers manager. My father, who is now deceased, was a pastor for a nondenominational church for about 25 years. In my spare time I enjoy singing gospel music as well as attending church regularly. I enjoy outdoor activities like fishing, canoeing and going on adventures with my kids. It gives me so much joy to be a part of spreading God's love to our community. I will be overseeing the operations side of the food pantry. I will often be around during the open hours to keep an eye on our food stocks and order new food.

#### **Katy Travis**

I was born and raised in Michigan where I attended Rochester College and met my husband. Ten years ago we married and I moved to Lafayette to join him in his work as a minister with the Elmwood Church of Christ. I have three children ages 18 months, 4 and 6, whom you will probably see with me quite frequently as they love serving in the food pantry at out church and are excited to help out here at St. John's as well. Before my second child was born, I worked as the program director for the Drug-Free Coalition of Tippecanoe County. In my free time I enjoy reading, watching the Olympics (currently), hiking, cooking and golfing. I love being able to serve along others and bring the joy and light of Jesus to this community. I will be in charge of the volunteers for the food pantry and I will be present at most deliveries on Mondays and Wednesdays.

## Many Thanks to Donna Barker

Many thanks to Donna Barker our outgoing Food Pantry director. Donna did a great job getting things organized and streamlined in the pantry. Please join me in thanking Donna for her leadership, hard work and compassion for those in need. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org* 

#### **Youth Group Dates for March**

**March 11** 6-8 p.m.

Game Night at St. John's for all youth in grades 6-12

March 14 7-8:30 p.m.

Location TBD, Youth in grades 9-12.

March 25 6-8 p.m.

Regular Meeting at St. John's for all youth in grades 6-12.

#### Next Deadline for The Eagle

The deadline for submissions to the April Eagle is **Monday, March 12**. Send submissions to eagle@stjohns-laf.org

## Circular Logic Marathon Relay

#### Saturday, April 7

Reminder! This year's Circular Logic Marathon Relay is set for **Saturday, April 7, 2018**! If you are interested in participating as a member of one of St. John's **two** relay teams, please fill out the form found at: **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, 2018. — *Hilary Cooke, hilary@stjohns-laf.org, Rebekah Sims, resims@purdue.edu* 

## January Financial Report

# FINANCE REPORT OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSE\* As of January 31, 2018

A.	INCOME					
			Current Month	Total 2018	Annual Budget	% of Budget
	1	Pledge Income	\$22,740.00	\$22,740.00	\$374,472.00	6.1%
	2	Operating Income	\$4,173.08	\$4,173.08	\$73,152.43	5.7%
	3	Non-Operating Income	\$1,926.67	\$1,926.67	\$32,000.00	6.0%
	4	Transfer Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40,000.00	0.0%
		TOTAL INCOME	\$28,839.75	\$28,839.75	\$519,624.43	5.6%
В.	EXPENSES		Current Month	Total 2018	Annual Budget	% of Budget
	1	Outreach	\$7,374.70	\$7,374.70	\$108,069.00	6.8%
	2	Program	\$1,285.77	\$1,285.77	\$20,400.00	6.3%
	3	Administration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	0.0%
	4	Personnel	\$19,705.44	\$19,705.44	\$247,319.48	8.0%
	5	Office	\$1,824.70	\$1,824.70	\$27,395.00	6.7%
	6	Property	\$7,480.16	\$7,480.16	\$113,940.95	6.6%
	7	Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$37,670.77	\$37,670.77	\$519,624.43	7.2%
		Net Income (Loss)	-\$8,831.02	-\$8,831.02	\$0.00	

Notes

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.

## From the Vestry: Meeting Summaries

#### December 2017

- Bradley explained to the newly elected Vestry members how the warden appointments work and asked
  that the Vestry approve Carl Taylor as Junior Warden. The Vestry approval was unanimous. Bradley told the
  Vestry that he had asked Kathy Johnson to serve as the new Senior Warden for the remaining two years of
  her term.
- The final Capital campaign balance was announced at \$712,710. Bradley said work would begin on Dec. 26.
- Bradley asked members of the Vestry to assist with the "emptying out" of the church after the Christmas
  Day service and also to assist with arranging the Commons on Dec. 30 to be ready for the next Sunday
  service.
- Maggie McClure reported that St. John's served a total of 38 families at Jubilee Christmas, with 99 children and 17 teenagers. The goal for next year is to host 43 families.
- The 2018 budget was discussed, and Bradley noted that pledge amounts were down. There was discussion on how best to meet the deficit.
- Bradley said that the Annual Report booklet would be streamlined.
- The Vestry Retreat was announced for Feb. 16 and 17 at St. John's.
- Bradley announced the resignation of Food Pantry Director Donna Barker. There was discussion involving the process for hiring a new director
- There was discussion about repairing the stained-glass windows. A motion was made and passed to investigate the total cost of this project.

#### January 2018

- Attendance at Christmas services was down in 2017, probably because of the snow storm and generally bad weather.
- The Vestry made a quick tour of the church to see the construction progress
- Bradley made a motion to complete the work on an ADA-compliant door for the south garden entrance into the church.
- St. John's members will be invited to worship at Good Shepherd's in West Lafayette for two Sundays. The rest of the time worship will be in The Commons. Several parishioners have mentioned they enjoy the intimate space but realize this is only temporary.
- The Vestry approved the use of the endowment income to help balance the 2018 budget.
- Bradley reported that a family provided a pledge that was specifically offered to be used for either the
  capital campaign or the annual campaign if needed. There was general discussion about the budget and a
  motion was made to accept the budget, amended as necessary with the additional funds from the family
  and the endowment. The 2018 budget passed.
- The annual meeting will be held on Feb. 4 in The Commons. Due to the lack of space there will not be a brunch, but a continental breakfast prior to the meeting.
- The Vestry retreat will be held at St. John's on Friday, Feb. 16, from 7-9 p.m. and on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.
- Bradley reported on leads for the Food Pantry Director position. He emphasized that a new director would need to delegate more tasks and reduce the number of hours required for the director's position. More volunteers would be needed to make things run more smoothly.
- Teresa Lohrman reported that is has been difficult accessing money in the capital campaign fund due and suggested a checking account be created specifically for capital campaign funds. This would eliminate the need for transferring money between multiple accounts. A motion was made to have a separate account for the capital campaign funds that would require two signatures on the checks. The motion passed.

St. John's Episcopal Church 600 Ferry Street Lafayette IN 47901-1142

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#### St. John's Episcopal Church

600 Ferry Street Lafayette IN 47901-1142 (765) 742-4079 www.stjohns-laf.org

**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,

Diana Smith, Co-Director Katy Travis, Co-Director

**Building Use Coordinator** 

Bill McInerney

**Treasurer** 

Bill McInerney

**Assistant Treasurer** 

Jim Hess

Vestry

Kathy Johnson, Senior Warden Carl Taylor, Junior Warden Stephanie Amador Tribbett, Chair **Finance Committee** 

Annie Schreiber, Clerk

Cale Bigelow, Randy Brist, Gayle Ennis, Sharon Evander, Elaine Johnson, Maggie McClure, Angela Mosier, Catherine Sandhage,

Rebekah Sims

**Eagle Editor** Cindy Gerlach