



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE

The Eagle

St. John's Episcopal Church • Lafayette, Ind. • September 2019

Save the Dates

Return to Regular Schedule

Sunday, Sept. 1

On Sunday, Sept. 1, St. John's will return to two services at 8 and 10:15 a.m.

The Drepung Gomang Tibetan monks in Lafayette

Sept. 3-15

The Drepung Gomang Tibetan monks will be in the Lafayette community from Sept. 3 through the 15. The monks will construct a sand mandala at Pao Hall on Purdue's campus the week of Sept. 8. Other events are being planned, including events at St. John's. Look for more information to come.

Changing the Systems 101: Ending Hunger

Sunday, Sept. 8

Bread for the World, Indy Hunger Network and Women4Change Indiana are joining forces to present this class at St. John's on changing the systems that impact hunger. See more information below.

Hunger Hike

Sunday, Sept. 22

St. John's will once again take part in the Hunger Hike to help support Food Finders Food Bank and Lafayette Urban Ministry. This year, we're inviting EVERYONE to participate. See more information below.

Hilary Cooke's last Sunday at St. John's

Sunday, Sept. 29

Hilary's last Sunday with us as our Associate Rector will be Sunday, Sept. 29. If you would like to contribute to a gift in her honor, please make a donation to St. John's "for Hilary."

Choral Evensong & Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct. 6

Join the choir at 5 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 7, for a choral evensong and blessing of the animals for the Feast of St. Francis. Worshipers and animals alike will be welcome in the church for this beautiful service. All are welcome!

From the Rector

I often hear the complaint that the Church should avoid politics and stick to the Gospel (or some variant of that complaint). I'm sometimes tempted to agree with that sentiment, but in the end, I think it's wrongheaded. Sometimes, to be sure, when people say the Church should avoid politics, they mean the Church should avoid talking about politics with which they disagree. Also, we have come to confuse politics — the way we order society, the priorities we share, our vision of the common good — with partisan politics. If that's what is meant by the claim that the Church shouldn't be political, then I mostly agree. Political parties are too often concerned with their own institutional power rather than that shared vision of the common good.

But while I agree that the Church should not be partisan (and not only because it might affect our tax status), I also think it is clear that the Church cannot avoid being political. Think for a second about Scripture; it is overtly political. The Passover story is all about national liberation from a tyrant and his oppressive policies. Virtually all of the prophets criticized the ruling elites and the people who supported them for their treatment of the poor and their entangling alliances with foreign nations. In the New Testament, Jesus was asked about paying taxes to Caesar, referred to Herod as a "jackal," healed a man possessed by a "legion" (the name for a Roman military division), and was crucified by the state as a "king." Both Paul and the writer of Revelation offer biting critiques of the Roman Empire — *the ruling* political institution of their day. The early Christian claim that "Jesus is Lord" is both a theological claim and an overtly political one. If these don't *sound* political, that's because we've become too accustomed to separating the political and the spiritual in a way foreign to the ancient writers of Scripture.

The fact is, most of what we do is political whether we realize it or not. Sharing communion together is a political act. Offering a bag of groceries is a form of solidarity with the poor. Some of the other work we get into from time to time may seem more obviously political — anti-racism work, the gay pride parade and OutFest, letter writing campaigns advocating for funding to address food insecurity, rallies to defend our immigrant sisters and brothers from inhumane treatment. But we must ask ourselves: How can we proclaim the Gospel — how can we share the good news of God's love — without responding when people are hungry, imprisoned unjustly, denied basic human dignity and so on? How can we live out our baptismal covenant — how can we seek and serve Christ in all persons — without being political?

There is no real way to be true to the Gospel — true to the claims of Jesus' Lordship, to the claims that all people are created in the image of God and deserving of God's love and our compassion — without critiquing particular leaders, particular parties, or particular policies. How could we not? If we believe that every person is a child of God created in God's image, for instance, how can we not criticize President Trump for his acerbic language aimed at immigrants or people of color? (I commend the recent statement, "Have We No Decency?", by the Bishop of Washington and the Dean and Canon theologian of the National Cathedral to you.) While the Church should avoid being partisan, this is a difficult line to walk. It is especially difficult since certain policies and personalities are linked to certain parties. And yet, personalities and parties should not keep us from fulfilling our baptismal vows.

Of course it's true, the Church (the whole Church, the Episcopal Church, or St. John's and its leaders) will not always choose the right side of a particular issue. Each of us would do well to be thoughtful, careful and humble. And each of us must follow the dictates of our conscience, a conscience formed by our relationships with God and one another.

We live in divisive times. Now more than ever, Christian community can be a sacrament — a sign of God's grace and the means of that same grace — in the world. As baptized Christians, we are called to proclaim the good news of God's love. I believe that that good news will sometimes require us to hold our political leaders to account, to demand that they change course, and to advocate for those in need. To do anything less would be to shirk our Christian duty. — *Bradley+, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Fond Farewell to the Rev. Dr. Hilary Cooke

As many of you know, the Rev. Peter Bunder retired a few weeks ago as the Chaplain at Good Shepherd and Purdue University. The hope has been that whoever followed Peter would strengthen our bonds of affection and help us do even better ministry together in Greater Lafayette. Recently, the Bishop appointed the Rev. Dr. Hilary Cooke to be the new chaplain, and she has accepted.

In the normal run of things, it is unusual for an Associate Priest to stay at one church as long as Hilary has been at St. John's. Because of that long relationship, and because of her wonderful presence here, her leave-taking comes as bittersweet news. Without question, we have been blessed by her ministry. But her appointment is good news for Hilary and her family, good news for the people of Good Shepherd and the Purdue community, and good news for us here at St. John's. It is good news because it was an inspired choice on the Bishop's part; it is what God is calling us to do. I am sure you will join me in wishing Hilary and her family well and supporting her in this new ministry. I look forward to what God and our church communities can do together to share God's love in Greater Lafayette and beyond.

We will have time to honor Hilary and her family and to thank her for her ministry with us. Hilary's last Sunday at St. John's will be Sunday, Sept. 29. If you would like to contribute to a gift in her honor, please make a donation to St. John's "for Hilary." I will be in touch about additional plans for her leave-taking soon. In the meantime, please keep her, her family and the people of Good Shepherd in your prayers.

While we obviously cannot replace Hilary's presence at St. John's, the other staff and leadership are capable and ready to continue strengthening and expanding our ministries together. The Diocese is already prepared to help St. John's identify an interim associate while we discern the future of our ministries. We will keep you informed of any staff changes.

As always, thank you for your ministry at St. John's. May God continue to bless us and our work together.

Bradley+, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org

A Blessing for the beginning of a new school year

On Sunday, Aug. 11, we offered the following prayer for students, teachers and school staff as they began the new school year:

God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers. Today we give you thanks for these your children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May their backpacks be a sign to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School. May they be guided by your love. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us. Amen.

We wish each of you a wonderful year of learning and teaching. If you didn't get a backpack blessing tag, please contact the church office and we'll make sure you get one. – *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Godly Play Resumes Sept. 8

Our Christian formation for children age 3 through fifth grade, Godly Play, will resume on Sunday, Sept. 8, on the top level of the church (Floor 2 if you're taking the elevator). Godly Play is a Montessori-based curriculum that encourages children to engage the foundational stories of our faith through play. We ask that parents help their children settle into the church space and lead them directly to their classroom door by 9:15 a.m.

For the fall semester, Godly Play will meet 9:15-10 a.m. on Sundays from Sept. 8 through Dec. 15 (excluding Dec. 1, the Sunday following Thanksgiving).

If you have any questions or would like to get involved with Godly Play, please contact Hilary at hilary@stjohns-laf.org.

Middle School Christian Formation

Our Middle School Christian formation will resume on Sunday, Sept. 8, in the Youth Lounge at 9:15 a.m. We will continue our practice of using curriculum that explores questions about faith, the bible, theology, and our church traditions. If you have any questions or would like to get involved with the Middle School class, please contact Hilary at hilary@stjohns-laf.org.

Youth Group Fall dates

As of the writing of this article Youth Group plans are still indefinite, but please hold these dates and more details will follow soon!

Sept. 8

Sept. 22 – We will join the whole parish in participating in the Hunger Hike, beginning with lunch following the 10:15 a.m. service and ending at 3 p.m.

Oct. 6, Oct. 20

Nov. 3

Nov. 14-16 – Diocesan Convention with youth programming

Nov. 17

Nov. 22-24 – Fall Youth retreat at Waycross

Dec. 8 – Jubilee Christmas shopping

Dec. 15 – Christmas party/movie night/TBD

Sharing

Changing the Systems 101: Ending Hunger Sunday, Sept. 8, 1-5 p.m

Truly ending hunger means changing the systems that cause food insecurity, and hunger advocates can make a major difference by advocating for change in public policy. Bread for the World, Indy Hunger Network and Women4Change Indiana will present a course at St. John's exploring the key skills and best practices needed in changing systems and policy.

We will explore the root causes, prevalence and impact of hunger; the dramatic progress that has been made in ending hunger; the role of systems in hunger and poverty; and practical skills for changing these systems

Participants will have an opportunity to network with like-minded peers and put their new skills to work with support from experienced hunger advocates. For more information, contact Bradley Pace at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org or Becky Dick at beckydick.wl@gmail.com. Register at www.eventbrite.com/e/changing-the-systems-101-lafayette-tickets-65116803111 – *Bradley Pace,*



St. John's Sharing Ministries

Here's how you can contribute

Learn how to be an Advocate
for those suffering from food insecurity
on September 8th.

—
Donate to the
St. John's Hunger Hike Team
at www.firstgiving.com/team/393180
or at St. John's and walk with the team
on September 22nd.

—
Donate to the **Apostles' Build.**
Send checks to St. John's with
"Habitat for Humanity"
in the memo line and look for
opportunities to help with the build.

—
Look for more information about the
Sustaining Stories Cooperative
coming soon.

—
Look for information about
Anti-Racism work in the Greater
Lafayette area.

—
Look for more volunteer opportunities at
Family Promise and
Food Finders Food Bank.

Hunger Hike 3k Walk

Sunday, Sept. 22

Meet at St. John's for lunch and games at 1 p.m.

Hike begins at Riehle Plaza at 2 p.m.

St. John's will participate in the annual Hunger Hike. The Hunger Hike raises money for Food Finders Food Bank and Lafayette Urban Ministry to help address food insecurity in Greater Lafayette. **This year, the Advocacy Committee is encouraging every member of St. John's to participate.** After worship, grab lunch and come to the church at 1 p.m. for fellowship and games (drinks and snacks will be provided). We will walk down to Riehle Plaza for the 3k walk, which begins at 2 p.m.

You can also support our efforts by giving financially. In coming weeks, St. John's will be accepting contributions for our team. We will accept cash donations, checks (make checks out to "Hunger Hike") or donate online to our team page at www.firstgiving.com/team/393180. **Our goal this year is \$3,000.** Let's make it happen.

Thank you for your generosity and for all the ways you fight food insecurity in our community. – *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org and Hilary Cooke, hilary@stjohns-laf.org*



Habitat for Humanity Apostle's Build

This fall, St. John's is again joining with area churches to build a house as part of the Apostle's Build with Habitat for Humanity of Lafayette. **St. John's commitment includes a contribution of \$5,400 toward the build and a crew for some "sweat equity" at the building site.**

We are working to find available dates to help with the build. Look for more information and sign-up sheets in St. John's Commons. In the meantime, please consider a donation to St. John's contribution. **As of mid-August, we are \$4,400 away from our goal.**

If you have any questions or would like more information about the Apostles' Build, please contact St. John's Habitat liaisons Dee Kueberth at dkueberth.lafayette@gmail.com or Jack Kuerberth at jkueberth@gmail.com. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*



September Book Group: *The Odyssey* by Homer, translated by Emily Wilson

7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 26

St. John's Commons

In this new translation of *The Odyssey*, the first ever by a woman, Emily Wilson presents us with a readable, fast-moving version of Homer's epic poem. We follow Odysseus' adventures during his 10-year-journey home after the Trojan War, a journey takes him to the island of the witch Circe, the cave of the Cyclops, down into the Underworld, past the Sirens and through the dangerous channel between Scylla and Charybdis. All his men perish during the journey, but Odysseus finally reaches his home in Ithaca and reclaims both his estate and his wife.

We are going to focus on Books 1, 9-12, 16, 19 and 23, but I do hope you will be drawn into the poem and want to read more. Wilson has given us a volume with an amazing amount of supplementary material that can be helpful as we follow Odysseus' journey. The notes section at the back contains a summary of each book of *The Odyssey*. A useful glossary of proper names follows the notes.

In the words of Emily Wilson, "the poem is concerned, above all, with the duties and dangers involved in welcoming foreigners into one's home," surely a subject relevant to us today. Join us on Sept. 26 in the Commons for a lively discussion of this work. All are welcome.

Since *The Odyssey* is the "One Great Read" for 2019, there will also be activities at the local libraries and Purdue, starting with the kick-off event at the West Lafayette Library Sept. 5. — *Barbara Penney, barbara_penney@yahoo.com*

Waycross Scholarships

St. John's offers Waycross Scholarships to encourage families to participate more fully in the life of St. John's and to encourage participation in the wonderful formation opportunities at Waycross Camp & Conference Center.

Waycross is the Diocese of Indianapolis' Camp and Conference Center located in Brown County, Indiana. Summer camp at Waycross can be a life-changing experience that strengthens friendships, builds community and helps our younger members develop a life-long love of God.

Children and youth who participate at St. John's in at least 75 percent of Sunday School classes, participate in Sunday worship (by acolyting, reading, ushering, bearing oblations, etc.) and in other ways will be eligible for a significant grant to attend Waycross this summer. Children too young for camp will be eligible to receive a grant for the child's fee for Family Camp or Women's Week.

If you would like more information about a Waycross Scholarship, please talk to Bradley Pace. For more information about opportunities at Waycross, go to www.waycrossccc.org. – *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Call to Convention 2019

Nov. 15-16 in Bloomington

The Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis will hold its 182nd annual Convention at the Monroe Convention Center Nov. 15-16. Attending convention is a great way to learn about the wider Church, our mission and our ministries around Indiana. Watch for convention updates and volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office.

Children and Youth at Convention

A convention program for children and youth will be available in the Monroe Convention Center on Friday and Saturday during convention sessions. The program will be led by children's and youth ministry leaders from across the diocese. The cost is free for all children and youth, but registration is required. Children in preschool through fifth grade will participate in storytelling, games, arts and crafts, music and other activities. Youth in grades six-12 will have opportunities for fellowship, Christian formation and participation in convention activities.

Pre-Convention Social and Family Fun Night

Families are invited to a pre-convention pool party on Thursday, Nov. 14, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Courtyard Bloomington. Bring a swimsuit and a snack to share with others. Games and activities for those who would rather not swim will be available.

Registration Open for Two Waycross Young Adult Retreats

Retreats will take place Oct. 18-20 & Dec. 13-15

Registration is now open for two young adult retreats at Waycross this fall:

- **Daring Discipleship: Finding Your Way & Following Your Dreams** — Oct. 18-20 (for young adults ages 20-30)
- **Dismantling Racism** — Dec. 13-15 (for young adults ages 18-30)

Learn more and register online at waycrosscenter.campbrainregistration.com. For more information, contact Victoria Hoppes at victoria@waycrossccc.org.

Love for Waycross Event at St. Christopher's, Carmel

5-9 p.m. Oct. 26

Waycross will host a "Love for Waycross" event on Oct. 26 from 5 to 9 p.m. at St. Christopher's, Carmel. This a great opportunity for fellowship with those who love Waycross. Learn more and purchase tickets at waycrossccc.org/love4wx.

Jubilee Christmas: Fill the Baskets!

Here is your opportunity to help us get an early start on Jubilee Christmas, which is scheduled for **Dec. 14**. Throughout the month of September, laundry baskets will be placed in the Commons to collect the following items:

| | | |
|-------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Soft soap | Shampoo | Crayons |
| Bar soap | Crème Rinse | No. 2 pencils |
| Toothpaste | Dish detergent | Notebooks |
| Hand lotion | Tissue | Colored pencils |

Last year we filled four baskets; the challenge this year is to fill six baskets. We can do this!

It is also a good time to make your monetary donation. We need \$2,100 to reimburse LUM for gift cards, food vouchers and hams. Additional funds provide items such as the extras we give each family, necessary supplies and additional teen gift cards. Envelopes are available in the Commons.

As always, thank you for your support. — *The Jubilee Christmas Coordinators, Maggie McClure, Angela Mosier, MaryKay McCauley, Georgia Brist, Katie Elder*

From the Vestry

A summary of the August Vestry meeting will be in the October edition of *The Eagle*.

Next Deadline for The Eagle

The deadline for the December Eagle is **Monday, Oct. 14**.
Send submissions to
eagle@stjohns-laf.org.

June and July Financial Reports

St. John's Financial Summary January through June 2019

| INCOME | | Jun-19 | Total 2019 | Annual Budget | % of Budget |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Pledge Income | \$32,761.00 | \$185,092.00 | \$382,611.00 | 48.4% |
| 2 | Operating Income | \$4,773.00 | \$23,784.00 | \$79,725.87 | 29.8% |
| 3 | Non-Operating Income | \$12.00 | \$6,433.00 | \$8,000.00 | 80.4% |
| 4 | Transfer Income | \$7,500.00 | \$7,500.00 | \$40,000.00 | 18.8% |
| TOTAL INCOME | | \$45,046.00 | \$222,809.00 | \$510,336.87 | 43.7% |
| EXPENSES | | Jun-19 | Total 2019 | Annual Budget | % of Budget |
| 1 | Outreach | \$6,213.00 | \$46,634.00 | \$85,362.70 | 54.6% |
| 2 | Program | \$741.00 | \$14,208.00 | \$25,000.00 | 56.8% |
| 3 | Administration | \$0.00 | \$450.00 | \$2,500.00 | 18.0% |
| 4 | Personnel | \$21,858.00 | \$126,344.00 | \$254,401.49 | 49.7% |
| 5 | Office | \$1,395.00 | \$10,205.00 | \$27,395.00 | 37.3% |
| 6 | Property | \$8,393.00 | \$48,826.00 | \$115,677.68 | 42.2% |
| 7 | Miscellaneous (Non-Budget) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | N/A |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$38,600.00 | \$246,667.00 | \$510,336.87 | 48.3% |
| Net Income (Loss) | | \$6,446.00 | -\$23,858.00 | \$0.00 | N/A |

Notes:

Detailed description of these items are available for review from members of the Finance Committee.

St. John's Financial Summary January through July 2019

| INCOME | | Jul-19 | Total 2019 | Annual Budget | % of Budget |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 | Pledge Income | \$26,659.00 | \$211,751.00 | \$382,611.00 | 55.3% |
| 2 | Operating Income | \$851.00 | \$24,634.00 | \$79,725.87 | 30.9% |
| 3 | Non-Operating Income | \$0.00 | \$6,433.00 | \$8,000.00 | 80.4% |
| 4 | Transfer Income | \$0.00 | \$7,500.00 | \$40,000.00 | 18.8% |
| TOTAL INCOME | | \$27,510.00 | \$250,318.00 | \$510,336.87 | 49.0% |
| EXPENSES | | Jul-19 | Total 2019 | Annual Budget | % of Budget |
| 1 | Outreach | \$5,798.00 | \$52,432.00 | \$85,362.70 | 61.4% |
| 2 | Program | \$1,174.00 | \$15,382.00 | \$25,000.00 | 61.5% |
| 3 | Administration | \$0.00 | \$450.00 | \$2,500.00 | 18.0% |
| 4 | Personnel | \$20,630.00 | \$146,974.00 | \$254,401.49 | 57.8% |
| 5 | Office | \$1,876.00 | \$12,080.00 | \$27,395.00 | 44.1% |
| 6 | Property | \$6,910.00 | \$55,736.00 | \$115,677.68 | 48.2% |
| 7 | Miscellaneous (Non-Budget) | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | N/A |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | | \$36,388.00 | \$283,054.00 | \$510,336.87 | 55.5% |
| Net Income (Loss) | | -\$8,878.00 | -\$32,736.00 | \$0.00 | N/A |

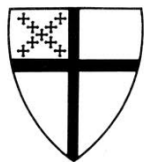
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St. John's Episcopal Church

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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

Sharing Ministries Assistant

Katy Travis

Building Use Coordinator

Bill McInerney

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Bill McInerney

Assistant Treasurer

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