



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE

The *Eagle*

St. John's Episcopal Church | Lafayette, Ind. | March 2020

Thank You for Your Ministry

At the Annual Meeting on Sunday, Feb. 2, St. John's gave Eagle Awards to Hilary Cooke and Annie Schreiber. Before her move to serve as the Chaplain at Good Shepherd in West Lafayette, Hilary served as the Associate Rector of St. John's for nearly 15 years. She was an incredible pastoral presence, and our ministry is greater because of her time here with us. Annie Schreiber has served as the clerk of the St. John's Vestry for nearly 13 years. She has been an invaluable source of parish history during meetings (as well as taking care of the somewhat thankless task of taking minutes).

I also want to thank Dick Barman. Up until the end of last year, Dick has been responsible for making the communion bread we use every Sunday at St. John's. For health reasons, Dick is no longer able to make the bread, but we are so grateful for his many years of service to our community and to our worship.

Many thanks to Hilary, Annie, and Dick for all the ways they have contributed to the life of our church community.
– Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohnslaf.org

Pub Theology during Lent

Pub Theology is an opportunity to get together and discuss issues in the context of our Christian faith and life. This Lent, we will gather to discuss the book *Why We're Polarized* by Ezra Klein. We will gather **7-9 p.m. Fridays, March 13, 20 and 27** at the Sixth Street Dive Bar, 827 N. Sixth St., Lafayette, for conversation.

Klein's book attempts to make sense of our current political divisions by looking at the psychology of identity and especially political identity. There is no need to read the book. We will begin with a summary of a key idea from the book. – Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohnslaf.org

The Speakers' Bureau at St. John's: Help empower vulnerable in our community

This leadership program focuses on helping clients of Food Finders tell their story, learn communication skills, develop resiliency and advocate for themselves and others experiencing poverty. A group of facilitators from St. John's, Food Finders, Purdue University and elsewhere will lead identified clients to tell their own story of experiencing poverty, especially food insecurity. Course sessions will cover story-telling, public speaking, advocacy and media use. Participants and facilitators will focus on developing intentional community within the group that will hopefully continue beyond the course. The goal of the Speaker's Bureau is to help empower leaders within the community — leaders who can advocate for organizations in our community and, more importantly, for vulnerable members of our community.

St. John's will be hosting the Speakers' Bureau on Wednesday nights beginning in March. Dinner and childcare will be provided for those in the class and facilitators. Class members will also be given gas cards and other incentives to attend.

Some of this project is being funded by a grant from Christ Church Cathedral. However, donations for gas cards and other incentives are necessary. St. John's members can help by making donations for the Speakers' Bureau or by providing dinner (the cost of which will be covered). Volunteers are welcome; contact Bradley. – Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohnslaf.org

Stuart Robertson on the Apostles' Creed

This Lenten season, Stuart Robertson will be leading a series of classes on the Apostles' Creed on Sunday mornings. Beginning **Sunday, March 1**, Stuart will lead reflections based on his book, *I Believe in God*. Copies of the book will be available to purchase ahead of time for \$15. — *Bradley Pace, bradley-pace@stjohns-laf.org*

March Book Group 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 25

The Rise and Fall of the Dinosaurs: A New History of Their Lost World by Steve Brusatte

The author, himself a paleontologist, draws on his own fieldwork and that of others to weave a history of the dinosaurs and their extinction that reads like a who-done-it. What scientists have learned about dinosaurs in the last 30 years is fascinating in itself; also of interest is the insight into how the scientific community works together and builds on previous discoveries to arrive at new ideas and new interpretations of old data. — *Barbara Penney, barbara_penney@yahoo.com*

Deaths

Priscilla Bain
Feb. 6, 2020

Thank You

A big thank you to all who made the 50th anniversary of the priesthood such a joy. George Moore, Kristine Holtvedt and Marylin and Jim Howland-Ross for hosting the festive reception. Thank you, Bradley, for all you did to make the day so special and to him and the vestry for giving such a generous gift to the Order of the Holy Cross, of which I've been an associate for 60 years. Thank you so much! P.S. Carol, Thank you! — *The Very Rev. Robert L'Homme*

Choral Evensong

5 p.m. Sunday, March 1

On the first Sunday in Lent there will be a service of Choral Evensong: an opportunity to hear the word of God in a service of music and prayer. Evensong is a service unique to our Anglican tradition, so I hope you will be able to attend and begin the holy season of Lent in this way. There will be music by Vaughan Williams, Phillips and Tompkins.

Lunchtime Concert

12:10 p.m. Wednesday, March 11

Featuring Lucas Fletcher, a doctoral student at Indiana University. He is also the assistant organist at Trinity Episcopal Church, Indianapolis. He will be performing music by Bach and Schumann. Lunch (\$5 suggested donation) and fellowship follow in the commons. — *Michael Bennett, michael@stjohns-laf.org*

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 (also 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, February 26 — 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 and ask to speak with a member of the clergy. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohnslaf.org*

Family Promise Week

Many thanks to the super volunteers who spent a few hours or provided a meal for the residents at the Family Promise center during our week. Love of neighbor is lived out in such sharing of time and talent. Your kindness is so appreciated!

The purpose of Family Promise of Greater Lafayette is to provide shelter, food, transportation and case management to families with minor children who qualify for the program. Families stay at the center for an average of 30-45 days. The sounds of children playing and smells of meals prepared fill the center. It is clean and well managed by a few full-time staff.

Our job as volunteers for St. John’s week is to assist by being at the center when the full-time staff is not and as the families go about their personal business. We also assist by providing dinner three times during the week.

Please let me know if you are interested in knowing more or are interested in helping during our next week, June 8-14. — *Becky Dick, beckydick.wl@gmail.com*

Christian Initiation: Baptism, the Catechumenate & Confirmation

Baptism is the sacrament of initiation into the Church and Christian community. For parents considering having their children baptized, the next baptismal feast is the Easter Vigil, 8 p.m. Saturday, April 11. Sundays in Easter Season or the Feast of Pentecost on May 31 are also available.

The catechumenate is an ancient Christian practice of formation in the Christian understanding of God, human relationships and the meaning of life for adults leading to baptism. While we have always had times of formation for those preparing for baptism at St. John’s, the catechumenate provides a public, liturgical and formation process within the Christian community that connects in a profound way to the personal process of entering into the life of the Church. Traditionally, the catechumenate takes place during Lent, culminating with baptism at the Easter Vigil. This year at St. John’s, we will follow this tradition, including several weeks of formation during the Easter Sunday.

Confirmation is the sacrament of initiation into the communion of the Episcopal Church and the community of St. John’s. For those considering adult confirmation, a similar process is being planned to begin in Lent, with classes during the Easter season. The All-Diocesan Confirmation service will be held on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 21, at Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis. Youth confirmation will begin with an informational meeting at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 2, at St. John’s.

If you are interested in baptism, the catechumenate or confirmation, please contact the church and ask to speak with a member of the clergy. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohnslaf.org*



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Deadline for the April Eagle is
Monday, March 9. Submit items to
eagle@stjohns-laf.org.

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March Youth Group

- **Friday, March 6-Sunday, March 8** Diocesan Spring Retreat at Waycross Camp & Conference Center for youth in grades 6-12. Grow in faith through large and small group sessions, games, worship, workshops and more! More information at indydio.org/ministries/youth/.
- **Sunday, March 15, 12:30-2:30 p.m.** Lunch, Study & Worship at Good Shepherd, West Lafayette
- **Sunday, March 29, 12:30-2:30 p.m.** Lunch, Study & Worship at St. John's, Lafayette