



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE

The *Eagle*

St. John's Episcopal Church | Lafayette, Ind. | February 2021

Congratulations to Rebekah Sims & Andrea Arsene



On Saturday, Jan. 9, Bishop Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows ordained Rebekah Sims to the Sacred Order of Deacons and Andrea Arsene to the Sacred Order of Priests at St. John's. Congratulations and blessings on their future ministries.

If you missed the service, you can watch it online at <https://vimeo.com/496928600/c7956cd2d5>.

Andrea's vestments were a gift from the people of St. John's in thanksgiving for her ordination and her ministry with us. Rebekah and Bishop Jennifer are wearing new vestments that were a gift to St. John's (including the stole, which was a gift for Rebekah) given to the glory of God and in memory of Albie Burke. The cross design comes from the Memorial Garden cross.

Morning Prayer and Annual Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 7

**Following the 10:15 a.m. service
via Zoom**

The St. John's Annual Meeting will be **Sunday, Feb. 7, after the 10:15 a.m. service.** Among other things, we will elect new Vestry members and pass the parish budget. There will also be a special presentation of Eagle Awards. Please make plans to attend. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Deaths

Marie C. Henderson

December 29, 2020

Wife of David Henderson

Daughter of James and Carolyn Roth

From the Rector

The season after Epiphany is one of two “green and growing” seasons in the Church year, also known as “Ordinary Time.” It is a time when the Church gathers around God’s mission in the world and strives to be the tangible sign and means of God’s love. As always, that means we have work to do as the Church, as the body of Christ. But the greening and the growing is not up to us. God’s love and the reconciliation and grace that flow out of it are God’s gift. As Paul tells the early Christian community in Corinth, their growth comes from God — “Neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth” (1 Corinthians 3.7). Our growth as Christians, our growth as disciples of Jesus, and whatever growth we might foster in the community around us depend on God making that growth a reality, on God’s Spirit working in and through us. This means that we have work to do, but it reminds us, too, that we must put our trust in God, on God’s never-failing love, on God’s promises.

In his beautiful little book *Tokens of Trust*, Rowan Williams reminds us that the belief we claim in the ancient creeds of the Church is “the discovery of what Abraham and Moses discovered, a God who never runs out of love and liberty ... God is to be trusted as we would trust a loving parent, whose commitment to us is inexhaustible, whose purposes for us are unfailingly generous; someone whose life is the source of our life, and who guarantees that there is always a home for us.” Believing in God, having faith, means trusting that God hears our prayers even if we don’t find exactly what we want or see the growth we hope for. Believing in God, having faith, means trusting that God knows our hopes and dreams, that he shares in our joys and in our frustrations, that he is with us through thick and thin. Believing in God means trusting that God will bless the work of our lives, that God will provide the growth.

To be sure, this “Ordinary Time” is anything but. And that means we may be called to extraordinary acts of love, courage, and trust as followers of Jesus. We may need to love those we find difficult to love in the name of reconciliation and repair. We may need to strive for justice in new and creative ways. And we may need to lean on God and one another more and more. We can do all of this knowing that God is faithful and true. As we continue in this “green and growing” time, in this extraordinary “Ordinary Time”, may you trust that God’s blessing is with you. And may you be a sign of God’s love and the means by which God blesses our community and the world. — *Bradley Pace*, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org

Thank You!

One day, when I was about 8 or 9 years old, I was playing near the stop sign on Fifth Street in Riverton, NJ. All of a sudden, I spun around, raced up the steps to our home, burst through the front door and called, "Mommy, I'm supposed to be a nun!" My dear hard-working mother took one look at me and said, "Honey, nuns are Catholic and Italian, and we are neither. Now go back outside and play."

And that's what I did. But I knew I would serve God as a vocation. I loved the freedom of serving God as a layperson, even challenging a seminary professor that a church document was faulty because laity were nearly non-existent when they should have been primary. I also loved being a deacon. It was filled with studying scripture and observing the world through the primary lens of who is not seen, not heard, and not cared for. Then on Saturday, Jan. 9, I was finally ordained a priest, the vocation to which I believe I am so called. And I also love being a priest!

St. John's and the Diocese of Indianapolis followed the rubrics of The Episcopal Church and created a double ordination service that was unlike any other. The church was beautiful, the music ethereal and perfect. The flowers were exquisite, tucking in favorite colors and blossoms. The floor had just been mopped so we could prostrate before God without dirtying our white albs. The readings were clear and meaningful. The homily was personal and challenging. Members from St. John's, Good Shepherd, Trinity Fort Wayne, Purdue University and the Diocese, along with people from all over our state, our country and in the UK joined together in worship and prayer in person and through Vimeo and Facebook platforms.

It was by far one of the best days of my life! In the midst of a pandemic, deep grief, ongoing injustice and moments of terror, great love was shared, because love is still stronger than hate! That day demonstrated that hundreds of people will pray together for a common purpose and will set aside time to love God and each other even if we don't know each other or completely agree.

To everyone who contributed to make this Festival Day so special, THANK YOU. To be able to share the beauty of the people and buildings of St. John's is a great joy. Thank you for welcoming me into my new midwest family. Thank you for the gorgeous stole and chasuble. And I ask your prayers that I will serve faithfully and well as a priest.

I'm here if you would like a listening ear. Drop me a line or text, and we'll plan on having a cup of tea (or coffee) together. — *Andrea Arsene, andrea@stjohn-laf.org, 510-684-0178.*

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. 17, 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

A note from Gretchen Freese

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Thank you so much for your generosity toward my family this Christmas!

At the moment, we are in a holding pattern, as Germany is still in a strict lockdown through the end of January. I am operating with a “wait-and-see” attitude as I try to have enough done that we could leave when the opportunity arises.

We wish you blessings in this New Year and look forward to seeing you when we get back.

Your sister in Christ,
Gretchen Freese



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 Baskerville-Burrows

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Bradley Pace

Associate Rector

The Rev. Dr. Gretchen Freese

Curate

The Rev. Andrea Arsene

Parish Administrator

Teresa Lohrman

Director of Music

Michael Bennett

Building Use Coordinator

Bill McInerney

Treasurer

Bill McInerney

Assistant Treasurer

Jim Hess

Vestry

Greg McClure, *Senior Warden*
 Charlie Shook, *Junior Warden*
 Kathryn Nielsen, *Finance Chair*
 Vicki Bower, *Clerk*

Ashley Bigelow, Anna Burman,
 Gayle Ennis, Elaine Johnson,
 Mary Kay McCauley, Angela Mosier,
 Aaron Sims, Rebekah Sims

Eagle Editor

Cindy Gerlach

Deadline for the March Eagle is
Monday, Feb. 8. Submit items to
 eagle@stjohns-laf.org.

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Worshiping • Sharing • Making Christ Known

St. John's Financial Summary December 2020

INCOME

	Dec-20	Total 2020	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Pledge Income	\$40,553	\$346,575	\$376,080	92.2%
Operating Income	\$20,180	\$42,982	\$95,207	45.1%
Non-Operating Income	\$3,109	\$72,172	\$17,200	419.6%
Transfer Income	\$0	\$30,476	\$47,360	64.3%

TOTAL INCOME

\$63,842 \$492,205 \$535,847 91.9%

EXPENSES

	Dec-20	Total 2020	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Outreach	\$5,735	\$78,017	\$94,374	82.7%
Program	\$1,199	\$7,041	\$27,250	25.8%
Administration	\$0	\$923	\$4,400	21.0%
Personnel	\$28,706	\$270,520	\$267,017	101.3%
Office	\$1,026	\$20,795	\$25,800	80.6%
Property	\$10,473	\$111,455	\$117,006	95.3%

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$47,139 \$488,751 \$535,847 91.2%

Net Income (Loss)

\$16,703 \$3,454 \$0