



ST. JOHN'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
LAFAYETTE

The Eagle

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



The Feast of All Saints

Sunday, Nov. 7 | 9 a.m. over Zoom; 10:30 a.m. service

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Give us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living, that we may come to those ineffable joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

On **Sunday, Nov. 7**, we will observe the Feast of All Saints. At both services that day, we will dedicate special time to remember those saints of St. John's who have died since last year. There will also be time for each of us to remember the saints who have been the chosen vessels of God's grace in our own lives. Please join with the whole church as we remember the saints of God who have come before and welcome new saints into the Body of Christ. If you would like to add names to the Necrology — the list of names to be remembered on All Saints Day — please go to stjohns-laf.org/necrology or call the church office at 765-742-4079. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Holy Baptism

For anyone considering baptism, or for parents considering having their children baptized, the next baptismal feast is the Feast of All Saints on **Sunday, Nov. 7**. For more information, please contact Bradley.

From the Rector

Recently, at the Memorial Service for Molly DePue, we read a portion of Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, a passage often read at weddings. Paul writes to the church in Corinth:

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing. Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. (1 Corinthians 13: 1-8, 13)

As I said there, this is good advice for a couple in love with one another. But Paul was writing to the Christian community, telling them that Jesus had shown the way

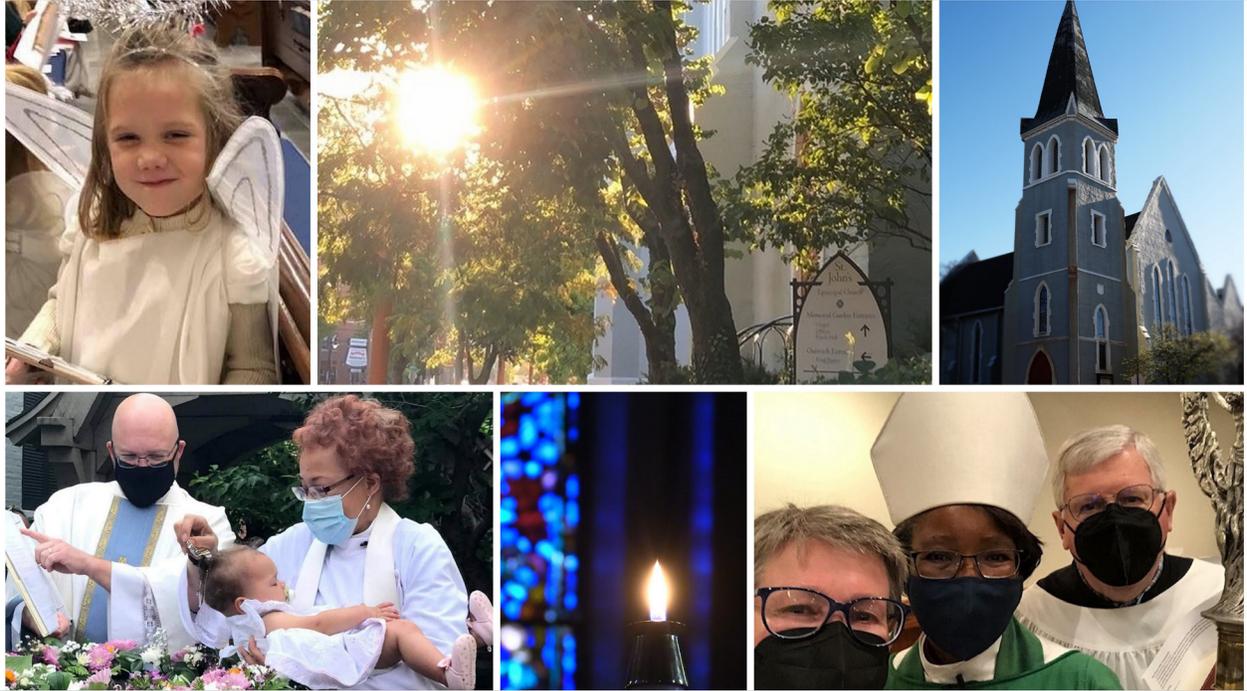
to live in true community. Together, Jesus has shown us how we might rejoice with one another, grieve with one another, support and encourage one another, carry one another's burdens. We can have sorts of amazing things in life, Paul reminds us, we can do all sorts of amazing things, be all sorts of amazing things. But without the self-giving love he describes — self-giving love modelled and exemplified in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus — we really have nothing, do nothing, become like nothing. On the other hand, if we have love, we are knit into one body. Our love for God and one another can bear and believe and hope and endure. Through our love, God's love is reflected into the world and, in our community, God's love is reflected back to us. This love doesn't make the world easy, but it does make the world a place of mutual joy, peace, and consolation even in the midst of death.

This is the true, life-giving power of Christian community. I am grateful for each of you and for the many ways you bear and believe and hope and endure. May we continue to share in the love of God, reflecting it into the world to and for one another. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Hunger Hike Update

Many thanks to all who supported the 2021 Hunger Hike to combat food insecurity in our community. St. John's members participated in the 3k walk on Sunday, Sept. 19. As of early October, St. John's has raised \$2,959.64 (exceeding our goal of \$2,000) in support of feeding ministries in our community. Thanks to everyone who participated and/or donated. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

The 2022 Annual Giving Campaign



What has been life-giving for you recently? Where have you found peace and energy? Have you found life in community, from family or friends, through play or deep conversations, from good food, from worship, from music, from singing, by offering hospitality, by serving others, in prayer? These and other things give us life and help us reconnect with God the source of life.

St. John's has been a source of life for many of us. We have found inspiration, peace and energy in our beautiful worship, hospitality, service to those in need, beautiful music, the care we offer one another, the way we share the good news of Jesus Christ and our stewardship of sacred space. Since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, we continue to find new ways to stay connected with God and with one another. It hasn't always been easy. But there have been many life-giving moments — the quiet beauty of the Christmas concert and the chaotic fun of the Epiphany pageant, sharing food at Family Promise or Fowler Apartments, ordinations and baptisms, funerals where we grieve and celebrate those we love, welcoming new members into the community, picnics with the kids and families at Happy Hollow, and more. We hope that the St. John's community has been a source of life, inspiration, peace and energy to you over the past year.

The **2022 Annual Giving Campaign** is now underway. We invite you to join us in making a pledge. Together, we will turn our generosity into life-giving worship; ministries that share God's love and our lives in Greater Lafayette, the Diocese of Indianapolis and beyond; and community that makes Christ known in word and action.

If you have any questions about this year's annual giving campaign, we invite you to contact a member of the Stewardship Committee. We would love to tell you how we find this church community to be life-giving and invite you to make a financial pledge to St. John's. We thank you in advance and thank God for all the ways you contribute to our common life. You can also find more information at www.stjohns-laf.org/giving. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org on behalf of the Stewardship Committee*

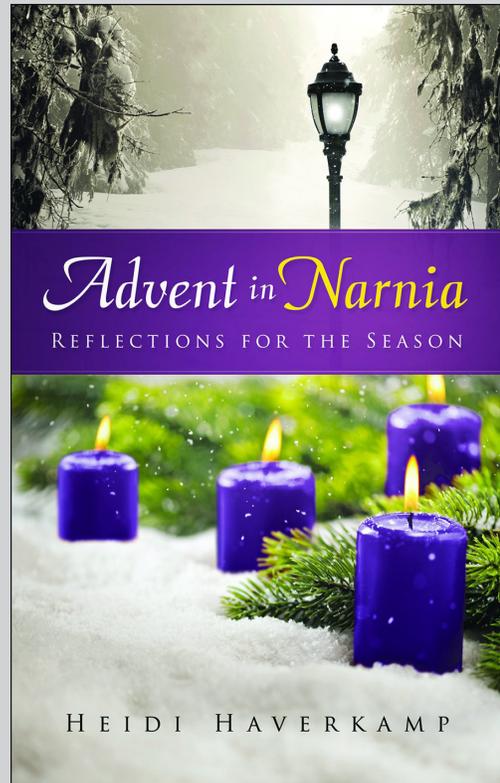
Advent in Narnia with the Rev. Heidi Haverkamp

Sunday, Dec. 12, at St. John's

Join the Rev. Heidi Haverkamp for a discussion of her book *Advent in Narnia*, **Sunday, Dec. 12 after the 10:30 a.m. service.** Heidi will preach (both on Zoom and in person) and the lead Adult Formation that Sunday.

What do wonder and imagination have to do with faith in God? C. S. Lewis's novel *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* was written for children but is also a story for adults — about what it might look like if Christ appeared in a place “where it's winter, but never Christmas.” Join the conversation (and maybe even get some Turkish Delight).

You may purchase Heidi's book, *Advent in Narnia*, for \$10 on the day of the event or in advance at Amazon, Bookshop.com, Barnes & Noble, the Thoughtful Christian or ChristianBook.com. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*



All Saints Evensong

4:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7

All Saints Sunday is a special day in the liturgical year where we remember the saints who have gone before. Special prayers are said, candles are lit and special music is sung. That evening at 4:30 p.m., the choir will lead us in Choral Evensong: a service of prayers, canticles and hymns. It is a brief service but a rich part of the Anglican tradition. I hope you can attend as we remember all the saints. — *Michael Bennett, michael@stjohns-laf.org*

Special Thanks

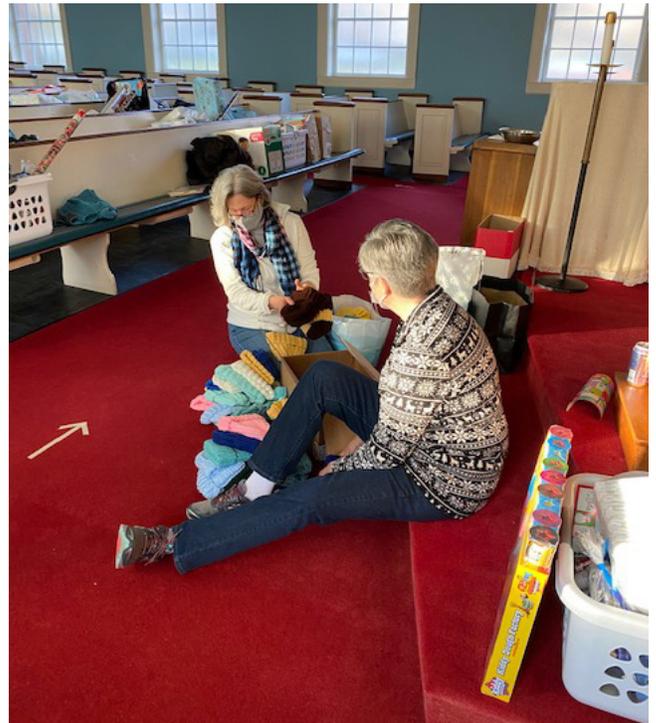
I would like to offer a special thanks to Randy Brist and Tom Melville. Over the past several months, Randy and Tom have helped the clergy find ways to share funeral services with family members spread across the country. They have offered advice on technology, have helped with set-up, and have been onsite to stream services. Please offer them your thanks. — *Bradley Pace, bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org*

Jubilee Christmas

Saturday, Dec. 11

Jubilee Christmas will be held this year on **Saturday, Dec. 11**. We will provide toys, gift cards, food cards and other items for 40-45 local families. Because of the uncertainty due to COVID, volunteers will be needed to shop for gifts in the weeks leading up to the event, donate wrapping paper, bows and tags, or load gifts and baskets into cars. Donations of cash will be used to pay for gift cards for the teens, Christmas dinner and for household products to fill laundry baskets.

The Sign Up Genius app will be used to coordinate volunteers. The family list will be provided to us by LUM (Lafayette Urban Ministry) during the first week of November. Please contact Maggie McClure (magamclure@gmail.com) for details.



Sermon preached by the Rt. Rev. David C. Bane, Jr. at the Funeral for Stephen Brewer Saturday, Sept. 26, 2021

My friends, we have lost a dear friend and a true gentleman, and I mean “gentle man” in every sense of that word. And while we have lost this very special gentleman, heaven has gained a saint. Now, don’t get me wrong. Saints are not perfect people, of course, as Steve would be the first to tell us. No, saints are those special people God sprinkles over the earth to show the rest of us how we are supposed to live our lives, especially in the way we treat other people, and most especially when life is tough. Steve Brewer did that. I can honestly say that I have never known a more caring, gentle, optimistic, grace-filled, loving person than our dear friend Steve, “Luigi” to his adoring wife, Lloyd. Of course, we have all known for quite some time that this day was coming, but oh, how we hoped that somehow it would not. When I officiated at their joyful marriage almost 20 years ago, none of us could have foreseen what lay ahead. But, I guess that kind of defines life, doesn’t it?

I know of two very important and obvious reasons why God put these two people together. First, he wanted to give us an example. Steve and Lloyd demonstrated to the rest of us what those marriage vows are all about, you know, the ones we say in church, and then many of us pretty much forget about. “For better, for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, till death do us part.” I know of no couple who lived out those vows more faithfully, every minute of every day than Steve and Lloyd Brewer. Of course that does not mean that they never had disagreements, but whenever they did, they were always contained within these vows they had made. The second reason God put them together is that God knew something that the rest of us did not yet know, and that was that Steve was going to need an angel in his life, and boy, did he ever get one.

I honestly do not know how Steve handled, with such grace and dignity, all that was happening to him, through no fault of his own, and for no good reason. I told him a couple of weeks before he died, “Steve, I don’t know if you feel like it, but you are one tough SOB. In typical Steve fashion, he said, “Dave, I feel honored that you would say that to me.” I am sure that many of us have had various experiences in hospitals and in other medical settings. In those situations, it is pretty human for us to get frustrated and upset at times, perhaps even taking it out a bit on the doctors and nurses caring for us. Guess who never gave in to that tendency? Lloyd has reported that Steve just never demonstrated anger at the people caring for him, and there were probably some who would have deserved it. He

thanked them for trying to help him, no matter how tough it was at the moment. When I think of that, I just shake my head in admiration. And through it all, he never stopped telling Lloyd how much he loved her. What a powerful example of how our Lord calls us to live. How we will miss him.

Let me share with you an indication of what a perfect match this marriage was. As many of you are aware, Lloyd is my sister. Over the years, our family became aware of the many incredible gifts the Lord had bestowed on her. However, those gifts did not include speed. Our brother Toby and I often teased her about how long it took her to do things, or how often she was a little bit late to things. A number of years ago, we were all together in a family gathering with Alice and me at the Bishop’s residence in Norfolk, Va. Since it is on the Lafayette River, we all agreed that a boat ride was a great idea. The next morning the appointed time came, and, just a wee little bit later, Lloyd emerged from the house. No Steve. We all got into the boat and waited, and we waited, and finally he appeared on the dock..... in his bathrobe flapping in the breeze! I remember saying to Lloyd, “Good Lord! You have married someone who makes you look like a speed demon! A perfect match!” There is no denying that, to be kind, Steve was quite deliberate, and tended to take his time with various tasks and projects. At times, it could begin to drive people a bit crazy, but it was almost impossible to get very upset with him as he was so sincere and so doggone sweet about it. There was so much going on in that very active brain of his that it was hard for the rest of him to keep up! Actually, when I picture Steve being shown around heaven, I can imagine Jesus looking back and smiling and saying, “Come on, Steve, let’s pick it up a bit!”

Steve was a very intelligent and a curious man. And, as is often the case, sometimes our greatest gift can also occasionally be a liability. We have all heard the old saying about asking some people what time it is, and they will tell you how to make a watch. You know where this is going, don’t you? Well, our dear Steve would tell you how it was made, where it was made, when it was made, and why it was made in the first place. Sometimes we would be sitting around talking or watching TV, and unfortunately, some unsuspecting soul would raise a question. Of course, you can guess what happened. That immediately drove Steve deep into his iPhone and before long we all knew way more than we needed or wanted to know about the subject. And once again, no one ever minded, or got upset,

because it was so endearing to watch how focused he was on whatever it was. I know we will miss that.

I want to say a word about the support Steve and Lloyd have received from this community. It has been remarkable, faithful, inspirational and never wavering. I have not ever encountered such an incredibly difficult situation that went on for so long during which so many people never stopped caring. You reached out and loved Steve and Lloyd in so many ways, with prayers, phone calls, cards, visits, meals and just plain thoughtfulness. The Church is supposed to be the community that loves unconditionally in the name of Jesus Christ, and you all, the clergy and laity of St. John's, have truly been Jesus to them, and you still are. And I want to add that the remarkable Brewer family has been a source of inspiration for all of us as well. They have loved Steve without hesitation and without limit, and they have taken Lloyd into their family and hearts from the day Steve and Lloyd were married on this very spot. He was beyond excited about his role as a grandfather and was thrilled that No. 4 was on the way. Somehow, I just know that he will find a way to be a part of their lives. He loved each and every one of his family so very much and their care was a constant source of strength for him to the very last day.

When Steve was asked what Gospel passage he would select for this service, in characteristic Steve fashion he said, "How about the Sixth Chapter of Matthew?" Well, that is a great suggestion except for the fact that it contains enough sermon material that we would be here for a week! So, I think he would give us permission to select the section that most represents how we knew this man. I know we all heard them a little while ago, but I'd like to read those last nine verses again, and I bet we have all heard them many times.

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—

you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:25-34)

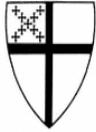
"Do not worry about your life?" Is Jesus serious? What percentage of our days is spent worrying, and fretting, and being anxious about things we cannot control in the first place? Can you think of anyone you know who had more to worry about than Steve did? For years, he and Lloyd faced an almost overwhelming array of tests and treatments. Results, of course, were all over the place — some hopeful, some depressing and some downright devastating. He never blamed God or felt sorry for himself and kept his faith

in the Lord to the very end of his earthly life. Contrast Steve's approach toward God with that of Job in the Old Testament. Job railed against God and swore that he did not deserve the horrible things happening to him. He demanded answers and behaved as if he believed that Almighty God owed him an explanation. If we are honest with ourselves, I suspect that most of us have a little Job within us. I have said for many years that we human beings cannot put God and "why" in the same sentence, and expect anything worthwhile to happen, but we do it all of the time anyway, don't we? Steve did not do that.

How in the world was Steve able to resist that temptation? I think it goes back to that "saint thing."

So, what do we people of faith do at a time like this? Well, we cry, and we laugh. Although I think we know better, we ask "why?" anyway without really expecting an answer. We remember, and we anticipate. We keep the wonderful memories in our hearts, but we do not let the past ruin today, and we put our hope in the future. Sometimes we blame God and get mad at him, and that is OK because God can handle that. After we vent for a while, we thank God for the gift of the one we have lost. Steve Brewer truly was a gift to all of us, and we could do a lot worse than trying to follow his example of grace, and gentleness, and compassion, and faith. We can almost hear Jesus saying to Steve, "well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Master." Yes, my friends, we have lost a wonderful gentleman, and heaven has gained a saint. And I think if we listen carefully, we just might be able to hear Steve's beloved trombone accompanying those heavenly harps. Amen.

Sometimes we blame God and get mad at him, and that is OK because God can handle that. After we vent for a while, we thank God for the gift of the one we have lost.



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Eagle Editor

Cindy Gerlach

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

St. John's Financial Summary September 2021

INCOME

	Sep-21	Total 2021	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Pledge Income	\$57,789	\$303,105	\$391,080	77.5%
Operating Income	\$6,358	\$51,413	\$91,101	56.4%
Non-Operating Income	\$4,101	\$30,132	\$51,270	58.8%
Transfer Income	\$0	\$8,500	\$0	

TOTAL INCOME

\$68,248 \$393,150 \$533,451 73.7%

EXPENSES

	Sep-21	Total 2021	Annual Budget	% of Budget
Outreach	\$6,786	\$59,404	\$91,998	64.6%
Program	\$860	\$6,732	\$13,650	49.3%
Administration	\$0	\$868	\$4,400	19.7%
Personnel	\$26,094	\$222,453	\$312,519	71.2%
Office	\$1,724	\$12,344	\$23,950	51.5%
Property	\$8,209	\$70,609	\$86,935	81.2%

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$43,673 \$372,410 \$533,451 69.8%

Net Income (Loss)

\$24,575 \$20,740 \$0

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