



The Eagle

March 2014

WANTED: Coffee Hosts

By Lloyd Brewer

St. John's has a wonderful history of hospitality and our after-service coffee hour for many does last an hour. It's a lovely opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet and greet new ones. Several people have said they aren't sure what is required or they are intimidated by some of the generous spreads. So here's what I hope is a helpful explanation:

1. There is a sheet to sign up for early or late service coffee hosts, and it is great to share the work with others. Find a friend and sign up together or just sign up where you see only one other person has volunteered. Contact them if possible (call the office for contact information) and let them know you will be on their team. Volunteering even once a year is gratefully accepted.
2. The church buys a few donuts every week and the hosts bring extra food if they wish – anything from pretzels, fruit, cheese and crackers to any of the snacks you may have seen offered. It is NOT required that you bring lunch!! This is as simple or fancy as you personally enjoy doing. Slipping out right after communion usually gives you enough time to get food on the table.
3. Within a few weeks I will have a folder in the kitchen with a list of what the hosts should do, such as where to find the tablecloths, cups, etc (how to make the coffee is already posted and the early hosts usually make enough for the whole morning). I would appreciate feedback/suggestions on these instructions – before or after I get them printed – what do you need to know?
4. You have probably noticed the great idea by moms, now implemented. Kids have a play area right in the meeting area – and we put snacks back there for them to enjoy while they play safely and give their parents a chance for relaxed conversations.
5. The youth of the church get kudos for foraging in the kitchen and putting out snacks recently when no one was signed up. Give them a BIG thanks! Help on cleanup is always welcomed by hosts or the vestry person who has to cleanup if no one is hosting. If you don't host a coffee hour, try to pitch in on cleanup on a Sunday when you don't have a tight schedule.
6. **NEW IDEA TO TRY:** Beginning in March we will try a new plan. The first and third Sundays of each month (barring special services such as Easter) we will buy extra donuts and ask the hosts to simply serve those as the only snack. If you don't have the time to deal with bringing extra snacks, just pick one of those Sundays to take a much appreciated turn at hosting by putting things out and cleaning things up.

I hope you enjoy the social side of our church family as much as I do. Thanks for your enthusiastic participation in both hosting and attending this part of our community's life. Lloyd Brewer phone 765-497-3669 or e-mail LloydBB@comccast.net

From the Rector

By Bradley Pace

The vestry met recently in retreat and appointed or elected new officers for the coming year. I have appointed Lloyd Brewer to serve as St. John's Senior Warden. Heather Johnston Nicholson was elected Junior Warden, Jim Hess has agreed to continue serving as the treasurer (he was elected last summer), and Annie Schreiber was elected to continue as the vestry clerk. In addition, Rachel Shook has been appointed as the chair of the finance committee. Lloyd, Heather, and Rachel make up the Executive Committee. Together, they help plan vestry meetings and generally serve as advisors to me on all matters relating to the parish. I am so glad to work with each of these folks as officers of St. John's Church and to have them as colleagues in ministry.

At the retreat, we spent some time discussing what vestry service is really about. We began with some things vestry service is not really about. First of all, it's not really about the money. Of course money is an important part of vestry service, since the way the vestry deals with money reflects what their service really is about. Serving on vestry is not about the rules. Of course the rules (the Canons, the by-laws, the policies, etc.) are an important part of vestry service since how we follow the rules reflect on what it really is about. Serving on the vestry is also not about leadership, stewardship, outreach, welcoming and evangelism, about the clergy, or about our own personal desires or agendas. Again, each of these is an important aspect of vestry service, since they reflect what vestry service really is about. But none of them quite captures the whole.

Vestry service is almost really about the church's mission and ministry (and the capital-C Church's mission and ministry). Are we living out our mission? Do our ministries live out the Church's calling? Are we baptizing new people into the faith and confirming people into a mature relationship with Christ and His Church? As individuals, are we gathering together regularly for worship, prayer, education, and fellowship? As a parish, are we intentional about conducting outreach, about spiritual development, about formation and education? Are we serious about stewardship—not just raising money for the congregation's budget, but caring for our community, for the environment, and for all of creation? Vestry service is almost really about these things—that is, about **worshipping, sharing, and making Christ known**.

So what is vestry service really about? It is really, fundamentally, absolutely about God. It is God—the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of all things—who brings us together and sets us apart. When vestry members forget that God is what it is really about, a vestry can become just another not-for-profit board. But we are called for a specific purpose—a purpose ultimately grounded in God's call to us to be a holy people, a set-apart people. After all, we **Worship** God, we **Share** our lives and the blessings that God has given us, and we **Make Christ Known** because in Jesus Christ we find the fullest expression of who God is and what God is doing in the world. We read in the first letter of Peter that, *Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever.* (1 Peter 4:10-11)

Vestry service involves bringing our gifts of financial resources and management, leadership, stewardship, outreach, and more to the service of the Church. But all of that service is ultimately for the glory of God.

Inquirer's Class Begins Sunday, March 2nd

St. John's will host an Inquirer's class for any new members, adults seeking confirmation, or anyone interested in learning more about Anglican/Episcopalian Christianity.

The full schedule has not been determined yet, but most meetings will be held on Sunday after the 10:15 service (beginning 15 minutes or so after the service). A light lunch will usually be served as well. We will also hold a Saturday retreat that will include a tour of St. John's and an "instructed Eucharist" (i.e., a service of Holy Communion where the details are explained). Anyone is welcome to join the class.

For more information, please contact Bradley at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org or call the church office at 742.4079.

If you've read this far and wonder, how is vestry service different from anyone else's calling to worship, share, and make Christ known, then well done. In some ways it isn't. Each of us is called to various forms of service. That comes with our baptism and the promises we make (or the promises made on our behalf) there. But service on St. John's Vestry means being leaders in these commitments. Service on St. John's Vestry means being an example of living out the church's missions and ministry.

And I am proud to serve with this vestry. You have elected a wonderful group of people and you should feel confident that they are working hard and are committed to a bright future for the parish. More to the point, I believe they understand what it is really about. As we move forward in the year, we are creating a vestry covenant that puts in writing our commitments to one another and to St. John's Church. We ground every meeting in prayer and in sharing our own lives with one another. And together, we do the work of discerning and pursuing St. John's mission. It isn't always flashy work. Sometimes we spend as much time worrying about furnaces and purchase orders as we do the more "religious" aspects of parish leadership. But in everything we do, we strive to keep the church's mission and purpose in the forefront.

I ask that each of you keep the vestry and clergy in your prayers as we do this work. When the time comes, I encourage you to consider this noble extension of your Christian calling. It's important, rewarding work.

March Book Discussion

By Mary Campbell

If you have read *The Kite Runner*, *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, or both, by Khaled Hosseini – what will you think of his newest book, *And the Mountains Echoed*? I have not yet read either of his first two, so I cannot compare them. But I think *And the Mountains Echoed*, published in 2013, is pretty terrific! Let's get together and share our reactions, thoughts, and insights.

Some folks have said the structure of the book can be distracting. The chapters change back and forth between dates ("Fall 1952," "Spring 1949," "February 1974") and their focus on particular characters. I rather liked this and thought it enriched my reading – I felt like I was a real participant in the drama – putting it all together, filling in the back stories, learning of new perspectives on the same choice and action. At the end, it all came together. It was like finishing the last section in a tapestry or needlework – the finished product just shimmers! I'm reading the book again in preparation for our March 26 meeting, and it is even richer – because I know something of what will be happening, how the actions and choices all played out.

This is a popular book this season. Both the Downtown TCPL and Purdue's Books and Coffee are discussing *And the Mountains Echoed* – on February 20 at 10:00 a.m. (TCPL) and at Stewart Center on February 27 at 4:00 p.m. (Purdue).

Please join the discussion at St. John's on March 26 at 6:30 in the Commons. Call Mary Campbell at 426-5541 if you have questions or want help arranging transportation.

Quiet Day Reminder

By Amy Paget

Saturday March 8, 2014, 10 am – 2 pm. Don't forget to join us for a Lenten quiet day opportunity of common practice. We will begin with worship in the Chapel followed by an introduction to Christian Meditation. Hilary Cooke, our Associate Rector, will introduce us to the work of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Next, Courtenay Murakowski will introduce us to prayer walking, the practice of praying on location. Weather and health permitting, we will pray around the St. John's neighborhood; if not, we will prayer walk around our church. Following our walk, we will enjoy fellowship with a light lunch. You may bring a dish, or not! After lunch, Amy Paget will introduce Metta (Loving Kindness) Meditation, a Buddhist practice focused on the golden rule and the entreaty to "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Pray | Worship | Serve this Lent with the St. John's Youth

By Bradley Pace

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5th. Lent is a time of special devotion for Christians as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter. In the Ancient Christianity, this was a time when those people who were about to become Christians through baptism, prepared by special fasting, prayer, and instruction.

This Lent, the St. John's | Youth leaders are encouraging the youth to take the Restoration Project challenge to Pray | Worship | Serve. That's:

- 20 – Pray twenty minutes a day.
- 1 – Worship one hour a week.
- 4 – Serve four hours a month.



Go to www.prayworshipserve.com to see a short video about the Lenten Challenge. According to the Restoration Project's Website:

There is a hunger in the lives of many people, both in and out of church communities, to be in deeper relationship with God. This is precisely what is promised by Jesus and Christianity. Jesus is the way to come to know God personally, intimately and reliably, like a loving parent...like a father or mother. Pray | Worship | Serve represents the three practices that are the foundation for a disciples' Rhythm of Life. These disciplines will not only satisfy one's desire to serve and please God, but are in fact the very means by which we come to know and love God better.

20+1+4 = three ancient practices, commended to all by Holy Scripture and perfected by countless years of human experience. If you want to know God better and be a more faithful disciple, please join us and others around the country in this work. We are The Restoration Project: a movement dedicated to nurturing disciples of Jesus. This is an invitation to spiritual depth.

Parents, please help your children honor these commitments and deepen their spiritual life this Lent. You may also want to join them in the challenge.

For more information, visit www.prayworshipserve.com or email Bradley Pace at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org or Hilary Cooke at hilary@stjohns-laf.org.

Youth Group Events

March 2 – Pancake Supper 5-7pm

March 16 – Game Night 6-8pm

April 13 – 6-8pm

April 27 – 6-8pm

Next Eagle Deadline

The deadline for submissions to the April Eagle will be Monday, March 17. Email to eagle@stjohns-laf.org (preferred) or place items in *The Eagle* mailbox on the porch.

20s & 30s Events

March 14th (pi day!) – Movie night at the Brist's house (1016 Brick-N-Wood Dr., Lafayette 47909); "hosted" by the 20s/30s group

March 23rd – Lunch at Sunrise diner following the 10:15 service

DATE STILL TBD – Movie night at the Elder-Pace house (456 Goose Creek Way, West Lafayette 47906); "hosted" by the 20s/30s group

Celebrate the Resurrection with drinks after the Easter Vigil Service

April 26th – Canoeing/kayaking; more details to come

May 16th – End-of -the- [school] Year Party with birthday cake for the many May birthdays

Home Eucharists and Practical Christianity

By Bradley Pace

The St. John's clergy will be leading small groups this Lent for Home Eucharists on Wednesday evenings beginning March 12th. The Home Eucharists are great ways to gather in a family's home to "continue in the apostles teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers." Each week, we will begin with a shortened Eucharist and reflect on the meditations in Jane Shaw's book *Practical Christianity* (the book is available for order at most booksellers; however, preparation is not required). Everyone is welcome at these family-style gatherings. For the meal, please bring something to contribute.

If you are able to host a gathering (in your home or at the church in St. John's Commons), see the sign-up sheets in the Commons available by Sunday, February 23rd. Responsibilities of the host: (1) supply a small table for an altar, a small portion of bread and some wine (or make arrangements with the clergy), a plate, a wine glass and napkin for communion; (2) if you wish, the church can provide plastic ware, plates, cups, and napkins (pick up what you need from the church the Sunday before); (3) the host should provide the drinks; (4) get directions to your home to Teresa by Tuesday evening of the week before you are the host so that they can be printed in the bulletin.

Responsibilities of the guest: (1) bring a dish to share; (2) sign up on the days you plan to attend to give our hosts an approximate idea of how many will be attending; (3) plan to leave at 8:00 pm or before out of respect for our host. For more information, contact the church office at 765.742.4079 or email Bradley Pace at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org.

Unsung Heroes at St. John's

by Bradley Pace

Let's face it, there are a lot of heroes at *St. John's | Lafayette*. But some of these heroes get very little notoriety because their work goes on behind the scenes.

I wanted to give a special thanks to several people this month. First off, thanks to Annie Schreiber who was recently elected by the vestry to serve as clerk. Annie has served as clerk for five years, and she often provides the vestry's institutional memory. Thanks also to Jim Hess who serves as the church's treasurer. Jim does loads of financial paperwork. Along with our Parish Administrator Teresa Lohrman, Jim makes sure the bills get paid on time.

In addition, I want to thank Paul Lawson and Ray Polstra. Paul recently came in and replaced the element for the water heater that supplies the kitchen with hot water. If you have ever tried to wash dishes in cold water (as, the youth group did after the Super Bowl game), you'll know what a help that was. As a part of his role on the Properties Committee, Ray Polstra does a regular check of the St. John's campus. He makes sure that all sorts of details are looked after (checking to see if the gutter heaters are working, replacing light bulbs, etc.). It's a huge help!

Thanks so much to these unsung heroes for making St. John's a great place to do ministry. If you know of someone who ought to be recognized, please let me know. Call the church office at 742.4079 or email me at bradleypace@stjohns-laf.org.

Circular Logic

By Hilary Cooke

It's not too late to participate in the Circular Logic Marathon as part of the relay team from St. John's! The race is Saturday, March 29th beginning at 9am. The race is 26.2 miles but there is great flexibility in the distances each team member runs, so please join us. (And if you don't want to run or walk, come on over to Cumberland Park and cheer for the participants). The goal here is not about speed, but rather coming together to join in the fun so walkers are welcome! Please contact Hilary at hilary@stjohns-laf.org or 742-4079 X3.

December Financial Report

By George Moore

A.	INCOME	Current Month	Total 2013	% of Budget
1.	Pledge Income	\$ 54,721.00	\$313,261.46	103.22%
2.	Operating Income	\$ 18,082.32	\$ 56,474.73	149.98%
3.	Non-Operating Income	\$ 916.67	\$ 11,000.04	33.67%
4.	Transfer Income	\$	\$ 32,452.00	62.41%
	TOTAL INCOME	\$ 73,719.99	\$413,188.23	97.67%
B.	EXPENSES			
1.	Outreach	\$ 5,316.24	\$ 59,131.17	73.19%
2.	Program	\$ 2,993.54	\$ 20,156.59	89.47%
3.	Administration	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,470.82	52.53%
4.	Personnel	\$ 15,322.58	\$ 207,691.67	93.25%
5.	Office	\$ 3,213.14	\$ 25,543.22	103.54%
6.	Property	\$ 8,375.35	\$ 70,132.04	100.87%
7.	Miscellaneous (Non-Budget)	\$ 0.00	\$ 374.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 35,220.85	\$ 384,499.51	90.89%
	Net Income (Loss)	\$ 38,499.14	\$ 28,688.72	

Notes:
^a This is a summary report of the operating income and expenses for the indicated reporting period. Detailed description of these items are available for review from members of the Finance Committee.

Mardi Gras / Shrove Sunday

That's right. This year, St. John's will celebrate Mardi Gras/Shrove Tuesday on **Sunday, March 2nd from 5-7 p.m.** with a blow-out party, a jazz band, make-your-own floats, and lots of PANCAKES.

Tickets are available at the door for \$5 apiece, \$13 for families of 3 or more. Kids under 5 eat free. For more information, call the St. John's office at 742.4079



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday services at St. John's will be held on **Wednesday, March 5th** at 12 (noon), 5:30 p.m., and 7:00 p.m. The 12 (noon) service will be a joint service with members of Trinity UMC. The 5:30 p.m. service will focus on teaching the traditions and meaning of Ash Wednesday to children and youth (including the imposition of ashes, Holy Eucharist, and a light dinner). The 7:00 p.m. service will be a traditional liturgy with the St. John's choir.

March Lunchtime Concert

by Michael Bennett

The largest ensemble for this year's lunchtime concert series is performing on March 12. The Jefferson High School Varsity Singers will be performing their winter competition set, along with a few favorites from their past performances. Works include Eric Whitacre's "Lux Aurumque," Moses Hogan's "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" and more. I look forward to seeing you there!



St. John's Episcopal Church

*Sunday, March 9, 2014
5:00 p.m.*

Choral Evensong for Lent

St. John's Choir

*Michael Bennett, director
G. Marc Loudon, organist*

Music by Tallis, Mendelssohn, Smith & Friedell

Offering to benefit Food Finders

A reception follows in the Parish Hall



St. John's Episcopal Church 600 Ferry Street Lafayette, Indiana 47901

St. John's Episcopal Church

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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

Building Use Coordinator

Bill McInerney

Eagle Editor

Alissa Goudswaard

St. John's/LUM Food Pantry Director

Steve Starks

St. John's/LUM Food Pantry

CoDirector

Gayle Ennis

Vestry

Lloyd Brewer, Sr. *Warden*

Heather Johnston Nicholson, Jr.

Warden

Ann Schreiber, *Clerk*

Jim Hess, *Treasurer*

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