



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



December 2013

Rector's Rambling

The passing of Thanksgiving and the coming of Advent calls us to prepare our hearts for the birth of Baby Jesus, who is the Christ, our King and our Lord. He is the agent of creation, and in him we live and move and have our being. He brings us salvation and peace with the Father, and offers us that transformation which puts away our guilt and shame. He fulfills the prophecies and makes it possible for us to receive the gift of the Holy Ghost, and to live with the very power of God as we seek to follow him in humility and obedience every day of our lives. Beneath the beauty of this holy season lies the foundational truth that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us. The truth of Christmas is an historical truth, not an allegory or a profound work of fiction. It is reality! "So God loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whoso believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." There are those who would downplay the centrality of this truth, and what a sad thing it is that they replace the truth of God's deliverance with traditions of warmth and beauty and peaceful sentiments, for without the reality of the living Christ, all of our beautiful traditions are merely distractions and half truths which delude us into sentimentality and self-satisfaction.

In this wondrous season of the year, I pray from the bottom of my heart that we might embrace the reality that God the Only Begotten, the second person of the Holy and Glorious Trinity, did indeed come into the world physically and in fulfillment of the prophecies in order to accomplish the Father's will in this wonderful world he created to his own glory. Like the wise men before us, might we seek him who came to save us from the ravages of sin. Like Blessed Mary the God Bearer, might we offer ourselves unconditionally in the service of her Son.

Like Blessed Joseph, might we commit ourselves to nurture and serve the Holy Child and his Mother, who is perhaps the embodiment of our common humanity. And like the shepherds, might we kneel in wonder before the mercies of God usward, for indeed his provision for all our needs is sure, and his love for us is everlasting. Through Christ our Saviour. AMEN.

Bill+

EFM Scholarship matching challenge.

A generous donor has agreed to match all donations made toward Education for Ministry Scholarships up to \$700. The establishment of this scholarship fund with an initial amount of \$1400 would ensure the health of the program for 2014-15 and would establish a precedent which would hopefully guarantee the existence of EFM at St. John's for years to come. If you would like to be a part of this opportunity, please make your checks payable to St. John's Church and note EFM Scholarship Matching Grants on the check. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this ministry. If you have questions, please see Kathy Heim, our EFM Mentor, or Father Bill.

Christmas Blessings



Vestry Highlights

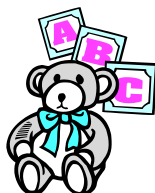
- * Committee has been formed to investigate flooring for the undercroft.
- * Garden benches have been donated and are installed.
- * 2012 audit recommendations are being implemented, fully utilizing technology in bookkeeping and reporting.
- * A new web site for the church is being considered.

Nominating Committee

Outgoing Vestry members Kathy Heim, Carol Baily, and Charlie Voss, along with Junior Warden Mark Perrine will be looking for new members for the term 2014-2017. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact one of the above.

Exciting Nursery News

The nursery will be open for both services on Sunday, December 1st. Plans are to have the nursery available on the first Sunday of each month.



Christmas Service Schedule—Dec. 24th

- 4:00 pm Holy Eucharist (no pageant)
- 10:30 pm Choral Presentation
- 11:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day

11:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Hospice Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer for Hospice, please see Mary Oehler or Anna Adkins.

House for Rent—Diana Turpin could use our help in renting her mother's remodeled, three bedroom house. Please call her if you know anyone who might be interested.

Candlelight Tour of Historic Churches Saturday, December 14, 6 p.m.

The Fairfield Heritage Association in cooperation with downtown Lancaster churches will present its 35th annual Candlelight Tour, "Sing We Now of Christmas," Saturday, December 14, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. This community celebration is a guided walking tour of eight beautiful historic churches on candlelit paths in downtown Lancaster.

Wear comfortable shoes, dress warmly, and bring a flashlight. (A van will be provided for those who have walking difficulties.)

The opening service will begin at 6:00 PM at the First United Methodist Church and the First Presbyterian Church. The color of the ticket you purchase will indicate where you begin the tour. No matter where you begin, you will tour every church.

Pre-sale tickets are available from Nov. 1 - Dec. 13. Adult tickets are \$9.00 and children under 12, \$3.00. Tickets may be purchased at The Georgian Museum, The Sherman House Museum, Fairfield National Bank Main Office and FNB locations in Kroger East, on Memorial Drive and in Meijer. Other ticket sites are Carnival Foods, Farmer's Country Store, Shaw's Restaurant & Inn, as well as First Presbyterian and First United Methodist Churches. On the day of the tour, tickets will be \$10.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12. Also, on the day of the tour tickets will be sold at the Sherman House Museum from 12:00 - 5 p.m. and Georgian Museum from 1-5 p.m. Tours of these museums are included in the ticket price. Tickets may be purchased one-half hour before the tour at the First Presbyterian and First United Methodist Churches.

Birthdays

- 1 Bruce Beebe
- 3 Audrey Berry
Nickie Leckrone
- 5 Katie Kittle
- 6 Ralph Kittle
- 7 Paul Heim
Sandie York
- 11 Nathan Campbell
- 12 Chris Hurdley
- 13 Jessie Smith
- 18 Don Eager
- 20 Billie Pursley
- 21 Barbara Mohler
- 25 Milt Taylor
- 26 Ruth Whiley
- 27 Ethan Canby
Carol Uhl
- 28 Charles King
- 30 Tom Hammer
David Walker
- 31 Alanna Hurdley

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Michael and Barbara Parker (79)
- 12 Doug and Kirsten Carr (98)
- 28 Lloyd and Katie Kittle (02)

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 4 Mike Parker (41)
- 7 Libby Garbrandt (08)
- 8 Kim Carter (68)
- 13 David Berner (53)
- 22 Sarah Perlow (57)
Mary Shook (74)
Jack Warnett (71)
- 23 Steve Wood (69)
- 24 Patrick Angle (91)
- 29 Carol Bailly (46)
- 30 Kathy Heim (60)
Katie Kittle (79)
Frances Utley (17)
- 31 Rebecca Pursley (78)

Congratulations!

To Stuart and Emily Perlow on the birth of their son Graham Lawrence Perlow on November 7, 2013 in Worcester, MA. Graham's grandparents are Sarah and Jeff Perlow.

To Kenton Harris and Jennifer Will who were married on October 26th in Milwaukee, WI. Kenton is the son of Robin and Marty Harris.

To Jenna Snyder who was crowned queen of the thirteen and up division of the My Royal Crown Pageant at the Moose Lodge in Lancaster on November 2, 2013. Jenna was also selected for the Organization of American Kodaly Educators National Conference Choir in Atlanta in March, 2014.

To Paul and Kathy Heim on the birth of their granddaughters Elinor Bell Hudson and Joanna Katrina Hudson on November 7, 2013. Many thanks also to those who prayed for Paul's daughter Katie who had life-threatening complications following delivery. The twins are healthy and Katie is recovering nicely.

We celebrate the baptisms of Elijah Burton (2 yrs.), Pierce Andrew and Weston Ward (7months), children of Blake and Drew Allvine, on September 29th. Wanita Burton is the proud grandmother.



Fellowship Breakfast

Please join your parish family for breakfast on Sunday, December 1st after the 8 AM Eucharist.

Wednesday Luncheon

The next Parish Health Ministries luncheon will be after the Wednesday noon Eucharist on December 18th.

Hospice Cookie Walk



The Cookie Walk for Hospice will be December 7th in the undercroft from 8am until noon. If you would like to contribute cookies, you may drop them off Thursday, December 5th from 6pm until 9pm or on Friday from 9am until 5pm. You may also bring them in early on Saturday. If you have questions, please call Mark Perrine at 654-2551.

In last month's Eagle and Lamb, Cathy Forbes shared her Emmaus Walk. This month we are publishing the history of this Christian experience.

The Emmaus Movement in the United Methodist Church has its ancestry in the Roman Catholic Cursillo. In Spanish, "Cursillo" is a very common word, derived from 'Curso,' which means "little course," something that is done in a few days rather than in weeks or months. The term Cursillo connotes the idea of intensity, of doing a great deal in very little time. The Walk to Emmaus is an adaptation of the Roman Catholic Cursillo (pronounced cur-SEE-o) Movement, which originated in Spain in 1949. Cursillo de Cristianidad means "little course in Christianity." The original Cursillo leaders designed the program to empower persons to transform their living and working environments into Christian environment

Cursillo began on the island of Majorca, some 170 miles southwest of the mainland of Spain, sometime in the late 1940's. During the period of 1936-1939, Spain had been involved in a bitter Civil War, followed by the World War II years of unsettled conditions. The desire for Church renewal and inspiration for the life of the Apostolate grew out of these nine years of much stress within the country. Throughout Spain, and in the twenty Republics of Latin America, the "Young Men's Branch of the Catholic Action," similar to the Episcopal Youth Organization, Catholic Youth Organization, and the United Methodist Youth Fellowship, planned a pilgrimage to the Shrine of St. James de Corn postela at Santiago Spain. To prepare for this, the Catholic Action leaders on Majorca formed Leader's Schools in which they gave short courses to prepare for this pilgrimage.

The leaders of the Catholic Action group called the courses Cursillos, in part because this term is not essentially a religious one, and in Spain and Majorca there was a strong laity, of militant independence almost to the point of being anti-clerical. Therefore, these courses were designed not to be overly "pious."

As the leaders of these early Cursillos refined their courses, which were designed for small groups, they found that they were attracting young men who were not active in Catholic Action, and had no desire to be. They wanted to be part of the Cursillo and pilgrimage. The early Cursillos were 6-7 days long and were held during special occasions (festivals or Saint Weeks), but gradually they were shortened to 3-4 days. The talks were "Youth of Catholic Action," "The Leaders Profile," and included clerical talks like "The Church" and "The Mystical Body of Christ." In time, these Cursillos evolved into Cursillos de Cristiandad-short courses in Christianity, somewhat as they are today.

Cursillo could not be contained and it continued to flourish. A National Secretariat was formed and received Papal approval in 1963. The movement grew to a shared clerical and lay directed movement, which essentially it is today. In 1956, Cursillo was brought to the United States by two Spanish Air Cadets who were studying at Lackland Air Force Base at San Antonio, Texas. The format of the three days and the talks were translated into English in Texas in the late 1950's and early '60's. During the 1960s and 1970s, the Episcopalians and Lutherans, along with several nondenominational groups, such as Tres Dias, began to offer Cursillo. In 1978, The Upper Room of the General Board of Discipleship adapted the program for a primarily Protestant audience and began to offer it under the name The Upper Room Cursillo. The Roman Catholic English Cursillos started the Cursillo with their brothers and sisters in Christ-Episcopal, Lutheran, and with the United Methodist Church in Peoria, Illinois, and Nashville, Tennessee. The United Methodist Church began its expression of Cursillo in about 1977 and called it The Upper Room Cursillo.

This came about after several members of the staff of The Upper Room in Nashville attended a Lutheran Cursillo in Miami, Florida, and it was decided to actively consider this spiritual formation ministry for the United Methodist Church. At the same time, Rev. Robert R. Wood was serving a United Methodist Church in Peoria, Illinois, where he had been involved in the Roman Catholic Cursillo. This was a strong ecumenical Cursillo, and Bob served on several teams. (To date, he estimates that about 500 members of this church have attended Cursillo and Emmaus weekends.) The decision was made to develop a United Methodist model at Peoria, where Bob would be the Spiritual Director for the first weekends. After the first two model weekends in April and May, 1977, he was invited to join the national staff and work in its final development.

In the beginning, it was prayerfully hoped that The Upper Room Cursillo could be a part of the regular Cursillo movement, and a general agreement was worked out whereby the United Methodists could use the term Cursillo and be a part of the Cursillo family. During two years of this relationship, the United Methodist movement grew along ecumenical lines. However, in 1981, by mutual agreement between the National Secretariat of the Roman Catholic Cursillo Movement and The Upper Room, the Emmaus Movement was given its name. In 1981, The Upper Room made further adaptations and changed the name of the program to The Upper Room Walk to Emmaus. Thus began the life of The Upper Room Emmaus Movement in equipping knowledgeable church leaders with a vital piety.

By 1984 The Upper Room Emmaus Movement had established communities in forty four-four "free-world" communities and in nine correctional institutions. On several occasions, Emmaus communities have cooperated with Kairos, a prison Cursillo-type ministry. It is estimated that approximately 20,000 persons had attended a Walk to Emmaus weekend by 1984.

In the fall of 1984, the Walk to Emmaus was taken to Australia and shared with leaders of the Uniting Church and thus became an international movement. The Upper Room also developed a youth expression of Emmaus called Chrysalis during that same year.

The Upper Room philosophically is committed to ecumenical efforts. Therefore, although Emmaus is under the jurisdiction of the United Methodist Church, it is supported and attended by persons of all denominations. The over-all content and techniques are the same as those in the Cursillo communities, and Roman Catholic, Episcopal, and Lutheran churches have continued their strong and loving support.

The Emmaus Movement is lodged in The Upper Room, a section of the Board of Discipleship in the United Methodist Church headquarters in Nashville. The Board of Discipleship is responsible for enabling programming in the local church. The Upper Room is responsible for the spiritual rife of local congregations, and therefore, it is natural for it to be responsible for Emmaus.

There is an Advisory Committee composed of one clergy and one lay person from each area in which the Emmaus Movement is active. Annual meetings are held the third week of July at Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, concurrent with the Prayer and Bible Conference sponsored by The Upper Room. This is a time for spiritual renewal, workshops, and consideration of matters of common interest.

The goal of Emmaus, like Cursillo, is to make Christian communities possible in neighborhoods, churches, work situations, and all other places where people live the greater part of their lives. It attempts to make it possible for anyone to live a Christian life in a natural way. It attempts to put a renewed meaning and add a boldness to the most important proclamation that anyone ever will make –“ I am a Christian!”


December 2013 Serving Schedule

December 1 st	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Rhodes	Chuck Canter & Frankie Mathias	Isaiah 2:1-5
Acolytes		William Eyman & Libby Garbrandt	Psalms: 122
Lectors	Carl Roshong	Kathy Heim & Ivan Smith	Romans 13:11-14
Ushers	Tim Hall & Mike Whiley	Christine Hurdley & Nick England	Matthew 24:36-44
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Mid Hall, Frankie Mathias & Judie Miller	Set-up: All Altar Guild Members
December 8 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Ivan Smith & Jim Hall	Isaiah 11:1-10
Acolytes		Katie Shook & Alex Shook	Psalms: 72:1-7, 18-19
Lectors		Frankie Mathias & Paul Heim	Romans 15:4-13
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	John Eyman & William Eyman	Matthew 3:1-12
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Sarah Perlow & Anne Canby	Set-up: Anna Adkins & Judie Miller
December 15 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Rhodes	Chuck Canter & Frankie Mathias	Isaiah 35:1-10
Acolytes		Morgan Spires & Libby Garbrandt	Psalms: 146-4-9
Lectors		Sarah Perlow & Diana Turpin	James 5:7-10
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	Nickie Lekrone & Diane Downard	Matthew 11:2-11
Altar Guild	Bobbie Beebe	Barb Parker, Deanna Roshong & Kathy Canter	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
December 22 nd	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Doug Carr & Jim Hall	Isaiah 7:10-16
Acolytes		Hannah Hurdley & Asher Carr	Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18
Lectors		Charlie Voss & Nick England	Romans 1:1-7
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	John Eyman & William Eyman	Matthew 1:18-25
Altar Guild	Peggy Merton & Gitta Sadoni	Sally Stallsmith, Chris Hurdley & Reda Kittle	Set-up: Mid Hall & Judie Miller
Christmas Eve	4:00 PM	11:00 PM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Rhodes & Jim Merton	Ivan Smith & Nick England	
Acolytes	Morgan Spires Libby Garbrandt	1 st Crucifer: Alex Shook 2 nd Crucifer: Asher Carr Torch Bearer: Hannah Hurdley Torch Bearer: Katie Shook Book Bearer: William Eyman	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)
Lectors	Robin Rhodes & Paul Heim	Sarah Perlow & Frankie Mathias	
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	Christine Hurdley & John Eyman	
Altar Guild	Judie Miller & Carol Uhl	Mid Hall & Christine Hurdley	Set-up: All Altar Guild Members
December 29 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Jim Hall &	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Acolytes		Katie Shook & Alex Shook	Psalms 147
Lectors		Richard Bailey & Kathy Heim	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	Morgan Spires & Jennifer Matz	John 1:1-18
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Mid Hall, Judie Miller & Frankie Mathias	Set-up: Deanna Roshong

November 30th we will be decorating for Advent. All Altar Guild members should be at the church to help at 10 AM.
December 23rd we will be decorating for Christmas. All Altar Guild members should be at the church to help after the 10:30 Service.

St. John's Episcopal Church

December 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:00 HC 9:00 Fellowship Breakfast 10:30 HC	2 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	3 8:00P AA Meeting	4 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:15P EFM	5	6	7 8-12A Hospice Cookie Walk 
8 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult For. 10:30 HC 2:00P Lanfair 5-7P Parish Potluck	9 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	10 8:00P AA Meeting	11 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:15P EFM	12	13	14
15 8:00 HC 9:00 Daughters of the King Adult Forum 10:30 HC	16 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	17 8:00P AA Meeting	18 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC Parish Health Luncheon 6:15P EFM	19 12P Eagle and Lamb Deadline 7:00P Vestry Meeting	20	21
22 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 HC 2:00 Carriage Ct	23 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	24 4:00P Holy Eucharist 10:30 Choral Music 11:00P Holy Eucharist	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29 8:00 HC 10:30 HC	30 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	31 8:00P AA Mtg.				

Merry Christmas

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

134 North Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH STAFF

PRESIDING BISHOP: The Most Rev'd Katharine Jefferts Schori
BISHOP OF DIOCESE OF SO. OHIO: The Rt. Rev'd Thomas E. Breidenthal
RECTOR: The Rev'd Mr. G. William Pursley
CHOIRMASTER: Kathy Heim
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed
ALTAR GUILD PRESIDENT: Deanna Roshong
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Schyler Crawford
TREASURER: Lowell Stallsmith
VERGER: Jim Hall
MISTRESS of ACOLYTES: Jennifer Matz
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Jean Hammer

Parish Office (740) 653-3052
Rector (740) 654-5274 (home)
(740) 215-3900 (cell)

For daily & Sunday readings & Fr. Pursley's
sermons, visit St. John's website
www.stjohnlancaster.org

Members of Vestry

Tom Hammer (Senior Warden)	687-6134
Mark Perrine (Junior Warden)	654-2551
Carol Baily (14)	654-3242
Susie Cork (15)	974-8026
Nancy Engeman (16)	215-6601
Wendy Garbrandt (15)	653-9639
Tim Hall (16)	654-5795
Kathy Heim (14)	205-3397
Ray Hollaway (16)	205-2339
Michael Parker (15)	969-4829
Charlie Voss (14)	654-4225