



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



January 2014

Rector's Rambling

It was dark last night when I arrived home from the church. There was enough light to give the snow whitened landscape an eerie look. As I proceeded to clear the walks and attend to my evening chores, I could hear the plaintive yip of the coyotes down at the base of the hill. Such evenings produce an almost Poe-like morbidity in my outlook. Over the years, I've learned not to waste such a moment, and so I settled in to watch Paul Almond's 1961 *Macbeth*, with Sean Connery as the ill-fated lead, and Zoe Caldwell as his evil, and yet all too familiar wife.

Macbeth always makes me think about the consequences of human decisions to sin by taking things into our own hands, instead of waiting to see the wondrous things that



God has in store for us. I suppose as partial definitions of sin go, that is as good as any, "to have it our way, without reference to the plan that God might have for our lives." The stark and grainy nature of Almond's black and white production forces the viewer to concentrate on the power of Shakespeare's language, and allows one to avoid the distractions of special effects, costume, or set. Perhaps that is the best way to approach sin and all of its attendant consequences. Directness and honesty keep us on task, and call us to realize that perhaps the greatest New Year's resolution of all is to see to the salvation of our own souls by allowing God's grace and mercy to break the power of sin in our lives.

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.

A New Year's Challenge

It is a mistake to be always turning back to recover the past. The law for Christian living is not backward, but forward; not for experiences that lie behind, but for doing the will of God, which is always ahead and beckoning us to follow. Leave the things that are behind, and reach forward to those that are before, for on each new height to which we attain, there are the appropriate joys that befit the new experience. Don't fret because life's joys are fled. There are more in front. Look up, press forward, the best is yet to be!

F.B. Meyer in Our Daily Walk

Annual Meeting

Our Annual Meeting will be held Sunday, January 26, 2014, in the undercroft. There will be ONE SERVICE of Holy Communion at 9 AM. Please plan to attend.

Birthdays

- 5 Sebastian Burton
- 7 Camille Martens
Neil Wright
- 9 Fr. Bill Pursley
- 10 Judie Miller
- 11 Dick Babcock
- 16 Caitlin Hurdley
- 17 Alan Palo
- 20 Josiah Xzavior Wilson
- 21 Jack Warnett
- 22 Cecilia Davidson
- 23 Bill Young
- 25 Sam Hurley
Zachary White

Wedding Anniversaries

- 9 Alan and Ruth Palo (71)

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Dick Babcock (53)
Charles Babcock (55)
John Babcock (62)
Muriel Breining (25)
Don Eager (47)
Doug Snyder (62)
Laura Wright (93)
- 4 Chris Hurdley (95)
Bob Wright (53)
- 8 Charlotte Tipton (34)
- 24 Camille Martens (54)
- 30 Carol Uhl (47)
- 31 Ora Miesse (31)

Billie Faye Baker Pursley
December 20, 1923—November 23, 2013

“Give to the departed eternal rest. May Light perpetual
 Shine upon her.”

Fellowship Breakfast

Please join your parish family for breakfast on Sunday, January 5th after the 8 AM Eucharist.

Wednesday Luncheon

The next Parish Health Ministries luncheon will be after the Wednesday noon Eucharist on January 22nd.

Confirmation or Reception

If you are interested in confirmation or reception, please contact Father Bill at 215-3900.

Annual Meeting Reports

Wardens and committee chairs need to have their reports to the church office by Thursday, January 9th and submitted electronically if possible.

Evangelism and Renewal

The Evangelism and Renewal Committee will meet on Saturday, January 11th to begin plans for Lent.

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.

Hospice Volunteers Needed

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

Thought for the Month

How wonderful is it that nobody need
 wait a single minute before starting to
 improve the world.

Anne Frank
 Leadership. *Used by permission.*

January 2014 Serving Schedule

January 5 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Doug Carr & Jim Hall	Jeremiah 31:7-14
Acolytes		Asher Carr & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm: 84
Lectors	Carl Roshong	Ivan Smith & Paul Heim	Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	William Eyman & John Eyman	Luke 2:41-52
Altar Guild	Bobbie Beebe	Sarah Perlow & Ann Canby	Set-up: Deanna Roshong
January 12 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Rhodes	Chuck Canter & Ivan Smith	Isaiah 42:1-9
Acolytes		Morgan Spires	Psalm: 29
Lectors		Kathy Heim & Sarah Perlow	Acts 10:34-43
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	Chris & Hannah Hurdley	Matthew 3:13-17
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Mid Hall & Judie Miller	Set-up: Anna Adkins & Judie Miller
January 19 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jean Hammer	Jim Hall & Ivan Smith	Isaiah 49:1-7
Acolytes		Katie Shook & Alex Shook	Psalm: 40:1-12
Lectors		Frankie Mathias & Charlie Voss	1 Corinthians 1:1-9
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Anna Adkins	Nickie Lekrone & Diane Downard	John 1:29-42
Altar Guild	Mid Hall	Barb Parker, Deanna Roshong & Kathy Canter	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
January 26 th	Annual Meeting Sunday	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers		Frankie Mathias & Robin Rhodes	Isaiah 9:1-4
Acolytes	One Service at 9:00	William Eyman & Libby Garbrandt	Psalm: 27:1, 5-13
Lectors		Mark & Jeanie Conrad	1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Ushers		Morgan Spires & Jennifer Matz	Matthew 4:12-23
Altar Guild		Sally Stallsmith, Chris Hurdley & Reda Kittle	Set-up: Mid Hall & Judie Miller

We're Coming Home

After a time of discernment and prayer, we have decided to end our missionary service in 2014. Both professional and personal considerations entered into the process and the decision.

After nearly 14 years here, we have arrived at a natural break point. The community health promoter development project ended a year ago after a formal "exit strategy." The health promoter groups have not received any direct support for two years, and are still going strong. They network with Dominican public health, other NGO's, local community organizations, and each other to plan and execute new health promotion interventions in their neighborhoods.

The essential personnel in the HIV/AIDS treatment unit are now solidly supported by the Dominican public health department. Anita's caring for patients in that unit is appreciated, but not essential at this point.

Other community health programs have accomplished their goals and are winding down.

Missionary transition from the field to "home" generally requires about six months, though of course the mental and cultural adjustment can take much longer. They say that transitioning back home is more difficult than the adjustment when arriving on the mission field. Well ... guess we are about to find out.

We will continue to need prayer and salary support through the first months of 2014.

Keep praying,
Anita & Michael Dohn

St. John's Episcopal Church

January 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:15P EFM	2	3	4
5 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult For. 10:30 HC	6 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	7 8:00P AA Meeting	8 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:15P EFM	9 Annual Reports due in the church office	10	11 9:00 E & R Meeting
12 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 HC 2:00 Lanfair	13 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	14 8:00P AA Meeting	15 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC Parish Health Luncheon 6:15P EFM	16 12P Eagle and Lamb Deadline 7:00P Vestry Meeting	17	18
19 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult For. Daughters of the King 10:30 HC	20 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	21 8:00 P AA Meeting	22 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:15P EFM	23	24	25
26 9:00 HC 10:00 Annual Meeting 2:00 Carriage Court	27 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	28 8:00P AA Meeting	29 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:15P EFM	30	31	

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

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