



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



May 2014

Rector's Rambling

The garden got off to a rough start this year. Extreme cold in February forced me to make a decision between leaving cabbage and broccoli seedlings in a high humidity environment or in greenhouse cloche where it might be a bit cold. I made the wrong choice and lost them all. And then came the great pepper and tomato debacle. They were doing so well until I inattentively added some mislabeled soil enhancements which burned them to small brown sticks overnight. So far, the third time has been charmed, but only by transplanting everything into clay pots, spreading burlap every night, and moving things in and out of the greenhouse a lot. But I do love the springtime in Ohio.

Gardening from seed in region five is a lot like trying to be a good Christian. I use the term "good Christian" advisedly. Being baptized makes me a Christian. If I get confirmed and receive Holy Communion three times each year, I am a communicant in good standing. Those are both pretty easy. But being a "good Christian" as the term is generally understood means 1) making a serious effort to attend regularly on Word and Sacrament; 2) to give of time, talent, and available finances regularly, systematically, and sacrificially; 3) to read, mark, and inwardly digest the Bible as the rule and guide of our faith (that is, to do what it says to do with the attitude it commands and to not do the things it prohibits!); and perhaps hardest of all, 4) it means committing to be a part of a community of faith (a church) where I don't always agree with everyone and where there are a few people who really annoy me. In short, being a "good Christian" involves striving to be like Jesus while living in a very real and imperfect world.

Sometimes when I try to live my faith, I make bad decisions (like rotting a few plants in a hothouse or freezing them in an insufficiently heated greenhouse.) Sometimes, I don't focus on the task at hand, and I burn up a flat or two of seedlings. That is especially bad when my actions are claimed by someone as a reason for leaving the church. But like all of you, I keep working at it, and I do learn something from many of my mistakes. Hopefully, at my funeral (or 90th birthday party!) someone will say, "You know, Bill always had a nice garden; but he also had a great Christian witness. On a good day I saw Jesus in him." But developing the sort of constancy which leads to such comments is the work of a lifetime. Sometimes it seems like each step forward is followed by two steps back. But the risen Jesus Christ is faithful. In the Bible and by the Holy Spirit's witness, he encourages us when we are doing well and convicts us when we are wrong. He helps us to practice living together in Heaven while we are doing the work of his Church here on Earth. Hopefully, as the old wedding prayer says, we will "so live together in this life that in the world to come we will have life everlasting." Then the beauty of our parish church and the garden which surrounds it will truly be a reflection of our individual character and of our lives together, and they all will call us and our neighbors to find the beauty and joy of heaven in the here and now.

It is hard work to build such a life, or a church. Sometimes we all fall short of the ideal. But with Christ as our inspiration and support, and with each other's longsuffering, understanding and cooperation, I'm sure we have a good chance of a very successful harvest.



Pax,

Bill+

**Fairfield County National Day of Prayer
2014 Events Schedule**

Saturday, April 26th—8:30 am

Prayer Breakfast

St. John's Episcopal Church
Pastor Scott Gibson, Speaker

Sunday, April 27th—2:00 pm

Opening Youth Event

Lancaster's Zane Square

Tuesday, April 29th-1:45-5:30

St. John's Bible Reading

Lancaster's Zane Square Bandstand

**Thursday, May 1st—5:30 pm, Music
6:00 pm, Event**

Family Prayer Night

Lancaster's Zane Square
Pastor Scott Gibson, Speaker

Spring Clean-up Day—May 17th

Our yearly sprucing up/cleaning at St. John's will be Saturday, May 17th from 9—noon. John Eyman, our Junior Warden, will have various jobs around the church that will need attention.

Possible jobs include:

Leaf removal from various areas around both the church and the commercial building

Washing ground floor windows

Cutting and removing ivy from south wall of the commercial building

Painting front doors of the commercial building

Cleaning and organizing storage closets in the undercroft lounge area

Installing air conditioners in the four apartments

Repairing tables in the undercroft



If you can help, please contact John Eyman at wilsonave@columbus.rr.com or 740-503-6817 or Tom Hammer at thammer1@columbus.rr.com or 740-503-5575.

Please mark the date, wear your cleaning duds, bring your tools and plan to help keep St. John's the beautiful church that it is.

Birthdays

- 2 Gitta Sadoni
Milton Taylor
- 3 John Furlow
Ivan Smith
- 5 Jeane Mast
Julie Meenach
- 7 Emily Campbell
- 8 Ruth Palo
- 10 Zoe Leonard
Tristan Pursley
- 13 Valerie Bockman
Megan Bockman
- 17 Jennifer Matz
- 20 Kathy Heim
Alma Priddy
- 23 Brianne Davidson
Susan Snyder
- 26 Bryce Burton
- 29 Julia Taylor

Wedding Anniversaries

- 11 Andy and Cindy White (02)
- 14 Marty and Robin Harris (82)

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Alma Priddy (40)
- 5 Jean Hammer (42)
Zoe Leonard (96)
- 6 Matthew Canter (01)
John Eyman (62)
- 7 Sebastian Burton (00)
- 11 Chad Shook (08)
- 15 Richard Davis (11)
- 16 Anna Burton (04)
- 23 Gary Rowley (48)
- 26 Bryce Burton (74)
- 28 Caroline Rockwood (22)
- 29 Tristan Pursley (88)
- 30 Elizabeth Baker (10)
Edward Baker (10)
Brian Davidson (54)

Confirmation or Reception

Anyone desiring Confirmation, Reception or Reaffirmation, please contact Fr. Bill. A regional service will be held in Zanesville on May 31st.

Parish Health Luncheon

The next Parish Health Luncheon will be Wednesday, May 21st after the noon Eucharist.

Fellowship Breakfast

Please join your parish family for breakfast on Sunday, May 4th after the 8 AM Eucharist.

ArtWalk 2014—July 18th

The ArtWalk is just around the corner. St. John's will again be participating. It's time for you artists to start thinking if you would like to participate and what you would like to show.



If you have any questions, please contact Mark Perrine at 654-2551. more information to follow later.

Attention, Parents of High School or College Graduating Seniors

We would like to publish your sons and daughters high school or college activities, honors, awards, etc. in the June "Eagle and Lamb." Please submit your article electronically if possible, to thammer1@columbus.rr.com by May 15th, so that it can be shared with your parish family.



May 2014 Serving Schedule

May 4 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jean Hammer	Jim Hall & Caitlin Hurdley	Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Acolytes		Alex Shook & Katie Shook	Psalm: 116:1-3, 10-17
Lectors	Carl Roshong	Ceclia Davidson & Ann Rickson	1 Peter 1:17-23
Ushers	Steve Woods & Tim Hall	Tom Howard & Karen Howard	Luke 24:13-35
Altar Guild	Bobbie Beebe	Sarah Perlow & Frankie Mathias	Set-up: Deanna Roshong
May 11 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Rhodes	Frankie Mathias & Mark Conrad	Acts 2:42-47
Acolytes		Libby Garbrandt & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm: 23
Lectors		Caitlin Hurdley & Charlie Voss	1 Peter 2:19-25
Ushers	Alex Shook & Katie Shook	Nicole Sutter & Holly Perry	John 10:1-10
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Jessie Smith, Mid Hall & Judie Miller	Set-up: Anna Adkins & Judie Miller
May 18 th		7:00 PM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom Hammer	Ivan Smith & Doug Carr	Acts 7:55-60
Acolytes		Joanna Carr & Morgan Spires	Psalm: 31:1-5, 15-16
Lectors		Paul Heim & Holly Perry	1 Peter 2:2-10
Ushers	Tierney Carter & Kim Carter	Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard	John 14:1-14
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer	Barb Parker, Deanna Roshong & Kathy Canter	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
May 25 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jean Hammer	Jim Hall & Ann Rickson	Acts 17:22-31
Acolytes		Nicole Sutter & William Eyman	Psalm: 14:15-21
Lectors		Mark Conrad & Jeanie Conrad	1 Peter 3:13-22
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	Steve Messerly & Chris Hurdley	John 14:15-21
Altar Guild	Gitta Sadoni & Peggy Merton	Sally Stallsmith, Chris Hurdley & Reda Kittle	Set-up: Mid Hall & Judie Miller

If you cannot serve as scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement.

For Mother's Day — Keeping in Touch

My mother, like many of her generation, was the letter writer of our family. When she became a missionary, back in the 1930's she kept in touch with her family and friends by writing to them. Her sisters got a letter every week; other friends, every month. She knew that sustaining a relationship takes work.

Unfortunately, I'm not as good at maintaining friendships as she was. When I get busy, I let things slide. And then, one day, I discover that friends have become strangers.

My best friend in high school built boats and repaired cars with me. He helped me discover abilities that might otherwise have stayed hidden. I don't even know his address now.

Another friend and I worked together daily. We often found ourselves on opposite sides of the union/management abyss but in the evenings, we could still gather in each other's apartment around an enormous steaming pot of chili. The last time we met-at an airport-we didn't know what to talk about.

For friendships to survive, you have to keep in touch: meet regularly, do things together, share your dreams and hopes, your joys and your anguish, as well as your activities. You plan together, trust each other, take risks together.

You can't keep up a friendship when you lose touch. We all know that. Yet, for some reason we expect our friendship with God to continue despite neglect.

Too often, I'm afraid, our relationship-my relationship-with God bears all the marks of a slowly dying friendship. We only think about God occasionally. We don't sense God being constantly present with us. Prayer becomes, too often, a perfunctory repeating of familiar formulas. If a friendship is worth having, it's worth working at, including a friendship with God.

-Jim Taylor

St. John's Episcopal Church

May 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 8:00 HC 9:00 Fellowship Breakfast 10:30 HC	5 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	6 8:00P AA Meeting	7 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	8	9	10 9:00 E & R Meeting
11 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult For. 10:30 HC 2:00P Lanfair Mother's Day	12 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	13 8:00P AA Meeting	14 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	15 1 PM Eagle and Lamb Deadline 7:00P Vestry Meeting	16	17 9:00 Spring Clean-up
18 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 HC	19 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service	20 8:00P AA Meeting	21 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC Parish Health Luncheon 6:00P EFM	22	23	24
25 8:00 HC 9:00 Adult Forum 10:30 HC	26 5:00P Pizza and God Talk 7:00P Evening Prayer Service Memorial Day	27 8:00P AA Meeting	28 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 6:00P EFM	29	30	31

Memorial Day



Current and historical issues of *The Eagle & The Lamb*, dating back to April 2011, may be accessed at:
www.stjohnlanaster.org

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
DEACON: The Rev'd Donald B. Eager
CHOIRMASTER: Kathy Heim
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed
ALTAR GUILD PRESIDENT: Deanna Roshong
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Schyler Crawford
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT: Lowell Stallsmith
TREASURER: Amy Eyman
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)

Members of Vestry

Tom Hammer (Senior Warden)	687-6134
John Eyman (Junior Warden)	503-6817
Mark Conrad (17)	689-0023
Susie Cork (15)	974-8026
Nancy Engeman (16)	215-6601
Wendy Garbrandt (15)	407-7255
Tim Hall (16)	654-5795
Paul Heim (17)	205-3397
Ray Hollaway (16)	205-2339
Mary Oehler (17)	689-1202
Michael Parker (15)	969-4829

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