



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



February 2015

Rector's Rambling Developing a Proper Attitude for Lent

The New Year has come in with a vengeance. Cold, ice, and snow seem to be the norm. I had hoped to get Oscar out for a few more duck and goose hunts, but the water has been far too cold for my furry friend. Princess has been in her stall far more than she likes, and the chickens tend to stay on their roost most of the day, just a few inches from the brooder lamp I have installed for them. We are in the grip of winter!

But inside, things have already begun to thaw. Herbs and lettuces are sprouted in the seed propagation trays, and within a month will be ready for transplanting into the greenhouse. By the time Lent begins, their places under the bright lights will have been taken by tomatoes and pepper plants. Even in the depths of winter, the new life of spring, and the hope of Easter, are just around the corner. The days get longer every week now, and before long the chirp of replacement chicks and ducklings will bring cheer to the barn.

Sometimes, events in the world around us can seem like a long winter with no end in sight, but yesterday I ran across a video which brought me great hope in the immediate wake of the tragic terrorist strikes in Paris. Anglican TV interviewed a Christian Priest who has been working in Northern Iraq, and he had very encouraging things to say about what is happening in the broader world of evangelism and Christian understanding. His approach was very refreshing in an era where so many people seem to adopt hardened positions and live their lives in fear, or dominated by a need to control everyone around them. The entire interview can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yk-kGHYizEQ>, and I commend it to you. I can't vouch for the absolute accuracy of everything which is said, but I can certainly appreciate the spirit of a ministry which shows respect for those who differ, which honestly seeks to evaluate and understand the complexity of the situation, and which holds to the received Christian teachings about the importance of evangelism and the unique work of Jesus in history.

All of this brings me to the beginning of Lent. Our disciplines for the season will begin with the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, February 18th, at Noon and 7PM. I would urge you to abstain at least from red meat, sweets, and alcohol on that day, and come to one of the services to offer yourself to God in a time of preparation. On Sunday the 22nd we will pray the Great Litany in both services, and that day at 4 the St. John's Choir will offer Solemn Choral Evensong. Services of Holy Communion throughout Lent will be Wednesdays at Noon and Sundays at 8 and 10:30. Special Lenten Educational and Devotional Programs with simple meals provided will be held each Sunday at 5PM. I encourage everyone to consider abstaining from red meat, sweets, and alcohol on Wednesdays and Fridays during Lent. Shorten or eliminate your lunch meal on those days and spend the time you gain in prayer for your own reformation and for needs in the world around you. Take any money you save by your disciplines and give it to support some work of mercy done in the Name of Jesus Christ. As we participate in these historic disciplines of the Church, God will meet us and draw us ever closer to himself, and he will work through us to transform the world in which we live.

May our Lord grant to us all a blessed Lent, and fill our hearts with joyous anticipation of a wondrous Easter. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Bill+

Vestry Highlights

- The year end financial statement indicated that the combined general fund and rental fund performed \$2,000 better than budget.
- Outgoing Vestry members Susie Cork, Wendy Garbrandt, and Michael Parker were thanked for their three years of service.
- The Stewardship report indicated that our pledges for 2015 should be approximately the same as those from 2014.
- We need to pray for Lisa Rosser as she accepts a new assignment in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- The Vestry approved the 2015 budget.

Good Samaritans Needed

Fairfield Medical Center has over 40 different volunteer opportunities. With the upcoming completion of our construction project, we will have a growing need for volunteers, including volunteers for our brand new gift shop. In addition to the intrinsic reward, volunteers receive a variety of benefits, such as recognition dinners, free meals, and the opportunity to use our cardiac-rehab gym for \$65 per year. It also provides a wonderful social opportunity to meet and interact with many different people. Most of our volunteers serve a 4-hour shift each week, but many still take numerous trips or fly south for the winter! We would love to have you as part of our team! Volunteer applications can be obtained at www.fmchealth.org or at the north or south information desk. Questions? Contact Heidi Reed at 740.687.8109 or heidire@fmchealth.org



The Sisters Cafe

Lent, that most blessed of times, is rapidly approaching. **STOSPAS Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancakes and Sausage** will be served on Sunday, February 15 at 9 AM. This breakfast kicks off St. John's traditional Lenten events which include the Lenten series—a series of presentations and discussions. The Lenten series will begin on Sunday, February 22nd. The details on the Lenten events will be presented in the weekly bulletin and on posters around the church in the next few weeks.

Annual Parish Meeting

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 1st for our annual parish meeting. Remember that there is one service that Sunday at 9:00 followed by coffee and donuts and the annual meeting in the undercroft. The Vestry voted to present a by-law change at that meeting and parishioners recently received a letter explaining the proposed change.

Attention: Altar Guild Members

The Altar Guild will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 8th in the undercroft. Lenten and Easter plans will be discussed.

“Refresh Your Soul” Conference Keynote Speaker—Mitch Albom

The Parish Health Ministry “Refresh Your Soul 2015” keynote speaker will be Mitch Albom, internationally renowned and bestselling author, journalist, screenwriter, playwright, and radio and television broadcaster, who will share the priceless lessons learned from Morrie (*Tuesdays With Morrie*) during his battle with ALS.

The date is Saturday, February 28th from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Landmark Church, 1600 Glendale Milford Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45215.

To register, visit www.parishhealthministry.comRYS. The cost for early registration (by January 31st) is \$59.00.

Several people from St. John's usually attend these conferences, so carpooling may be arranged.

Lent

Birthdays

- 2 Elaine Warnett
- 3 Wanita Burton
Paul Frick
- 5 Ann Leonard
- 6 Garnet Nelson
- 9 Andrew Kittle
- 10 Tim Hall
Sally Stallsmith
- 11 Richard Davis
- 14 Lloyd Kittle
Betty Pugh
- 16 Madeline Kittle
- 18 Kirsten Carr
- 21 Carol Baily
Rebecca Pursley
- 24 Sarah Miller

Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 Danny and Julie Meenach (03)
- 14 Dick and Carol Baily (86)
- 15 Milt and Nancy Taylor (92)

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Wendy Garbrandt (80)
Robin Leonard (59)
Garnet Nelson (46)
- 3 Cecilia Davidson (57)
Charlene Rowley (57)
- 14 Sandie York (82)
- 17 Nancy Russell (57)

New Address

Carol and Dick Baily
8610 Flutteringleaf Trail #208
Odenton, MD 21113

Congratulations!!

Gage Wilson-Michael Hunt was baptized at St. John’s on January 11, 2015. Gage is the son of Steve and Selena Hunt.

Important Youth Announcement

Beginning February 1st, Pizza and God Talk will again be meeting at Nick’s Pizza on West Wheeling St. Meetings go from 5-6 for grades 4-8. Come and bring a friend!

Parish Health Ministries Luncheon Cancelled

Due to Lenten services and STOSPAS, the Parish Health Luncheon usually held on the third Wednesday, will be cancelled in February.

Evangelism and Renewal Comm. Needs YOU

The Evangelism and Renewal Committee is a small but dedicated committee at St. John’s that is best known for its work on the Lenten series and the Tote Project for the Fairfield Family Court. The committee is looking for some new volunteers. If you would like to join us or just would like some more information about the committee, please contact Frankie Mathias at 653-5559.

Save the Date—February 8th

At 4pm on February 8th, Caitlin Hurdley will be sharing her experiences with us on her time in China. Caitlin spent the last 5 months in Yangzhou, China, teaching English to elementary children. If you are interested in hearing about her time in China, her experiences teaching and living in a large, but relatively unknown city (at least to most westerners!) then please join Caitlin at 4 pm in the undercroft. Light refreshments will be served.

Social and Fellowship Committee Volunteers Needed

The Social and Fellowship Committee is looking for some additional volunteers to assist with our monthly breakfasts and with other occasional social events. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact Chris Hurdley @654-7831 or at chrishurdley@gmail.com.

February 2015 Serving Schedule

February 1 st		9:00 AM (1 service)	Readings
Lay Readers		Jim Hall & Mark Conrad	Deuteronomy 18:1-13
Acolytes		William Eyman & Libby Garbrandt	Psalm: 111
Lectors		Jean Conrad & Paul Heim	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Ushers		Tom Howard & Karen Howard	Mark 1:21-28
Altar Guild		Bobbie Beebe, Sarah Perlow & Frankie Mathias	Set-up: Deanna Roshong
February 8 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Rhodes	Ivan Smith & Ann Rickson	Isaiah 40:21-31
Acolytes		Morgan Spires & Joanna Carr	Psalm: 147:1-12, 21c
Lectors		Kathy Heim & Frankie Mathias	1 Corinthians 9:16-23
Ushers	Anna Adkins & Carol Uhl	Holly Perry & Nicole Sutter	Mark 1:29-39
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Jessie Smith, Mid Hall & Judie Miller	Set-up: Anna Adkins & Judie Miller
February 15 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jean Hammer	Frankie Mathias & Doug Carr	2 Kings 2:1-12
Acolytes		Hannah Hurdley & Nicole Sutter	Psalm: 50:1-6
Lectors		Holly Perry & Ann Rickson	2 Corinthians 4:3-6
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard	Mark 9:2-9
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Barb Parker & Deanna Roshong	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
February 22 th	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom Hammer	Ivan Smith & Mark Conrad	Genesis 9:8-17
Acolytes		William Eyman & Asher Carr	Psalm: 25:1-9
Lectors		Charlie Voss & Sara Perlow	1 Peter 3:18-22
Ushers	Alex Shook & Katie Shook	Chris Hurdley & Steve Messerly	Mark 1:9-15
Altar Guild	Gitta Sadoni & Anna Adkins	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.

St. John's Children's Church Schedule—February

Sunday, February 1: What does Jesus want us to do? Be like him.

Sunday, February 15: STOSPAS/ Jesus feeds 5000.

Thanksgiving!!!! Schools in Liberia will re-open on February 2nd, following the ebola epidemic. There were no fatalities among the students or families at the school we support through Partners in Mission With Liberia. Continue to pray for the rebuilding which is ongoing in all of the impacted regions.

Fairfield County Court Tote Project

The Evangelism and Renewal Committee will again be soliciting donations for the Tote project. As you may recall, St. John's has been collecting a variety of items for young parents, usually single mothers who have regained custody of their children or are in recovery and making successful progress toward living on their own. We will be asking for cleaning, laundry, and personal hygiene items. Thank you for your past support.

St. John's Episcopal Church

February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 HC Annual Meeting	2 7:45 Warming Station 4:45 Youth pizza & catechism 7:00P Choral Evensong	3 8:00P AA Meeting	4 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	5	6	7
8 8:00 HC 9:00 Altar Guild 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC 4:00—Caitlyn Hurdley pres.	9 7:45 Warming Station 4:45 Youth pizza & catechism 7:00P Choral Evensong	10 8:00P AA Meeting	11 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	12	13	14
15 8:00 HC 9:00 STOSPAS 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC	16 7:45 Warming Station 4:45 Youth pizza & catechism 7:00P Choral Evensong	17 8:00P AA Meeting	18 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 and 7:00P Imposition of Ashes Ash Wednesday	19 1 PM Eagle and Lamb Deadline 7:00P Vestry Meeting	20	21
22 8:00 HC 9:10 Adult For. 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC 4:00 Choral Evensong	23 7:45 Warming Station 4:45 Youth pizza & catechism 7:00P Choral Evensong	24 8:00P AA Meeting	25 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	26	27	28

Ash Wednesday Services will be February 18th at noon and 7 pm.

Solemn Choral Evensong for the First Sunday of Lent will be at 4 pm on Feb. 22nd.

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: Janet Kling
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
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