



# THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



November 2015

## Rector's Rambling

Thanksgiving is just around the corner. It is very easy to list the things for which I am thankful. The general thanksgiving found on page 58 of the *Book of Common Prayer* falls easily from my lips because I do believe it with all my heart. But as I read the second half of that wonderful prayer, I am often led to pause and more thoughtfully read it again. "And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies, that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful; and that we show forth thy praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to thy service, and by walking before thee in holiness and righteousness all our days. . ." Words are cheap, and in this culture they mean little. But to give ourselves to God's service, and to walk before him in holiness and righteousness~now that is proof that we are truly thankful. As the old timers used to say, "the proof is in the pudding."

Giving ourselves over to God's service is a relatively simple thing. Look around the church and see what needs done. As you look, remember that the thing which bothers or upsets you is probably the way it is because no one has made the commitment to take the issue in hand. Look also at the things you think you might like to do. Then look at the things your gut tells you that you ought to do, but really don't want to do. After you have made your list, sleep on it and pray over it for a few days. I dare say the Holy Spirit will let you know which of the things on your list he would have you to do. Then fill out a volunteer slip and drop it into the alms basin (that is our fancy Anglican name for the collection plate.) We will put you in touch with the right person to make your calling a reality. Entering God's service really is that easy.

Walking before him in holiness and righteousness is a good bit harder, because it is not just about doing, but about being as well. When God's mercy and grace saves us, we are said to be positionally holy. That is, because of our proximity to Jesus, God declares us to be set apart for his own work, and sees the perfection of Jesus in us instead of our own shortcomings. We are seen by God to be both holy (set apart for his service) and righteous (ethically aligned with his will) because Jesus presents those who repent and believe as such. But there is another side to holiness and righteousness. It is measured in our behavior and our attitudes. Are they in keeping with God's will as revealed in his own character? Do they parallel the example of Jesus? Are they in line with the clear teachings of the Bible? (And whatever some folks might say, the Bible is pretty clear about the important things.

When we believe what the Bible tells us about Jesus, God accepts us as his own dear children. When we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive those sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. And, he sends the Holy Ghost into our lives to give us wisdom to know what he wants us to do, and strength to accomplish the same. To cooperate with this work is the proof that we are truly thankful.

I hope and pray that during our current stewardship drive, and as we approach Thanksgiving, God will find ample evidence that we are truly thankful. If we are, I am, confident that he will meet all of our needs. The ministries to which he calls us will be fully staffed by volunteers who love the things they do. Plenty of money will be donated for us to pay all of our bills, to put money back for a rainy day, and to allow us to give generously to the proclamation of God's good news and to the relief of

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human suffering around the world. Our loving heavenly Father has declared us to be holy and righteous because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. Now let us demonstrate to all the world the reality of our faith as we fulfill the expectations of that holiness and righteousness by acts of humility, obedience, and mercy. In this way, we will give ourselves to his service, and prove that thankfulness to which we are called. In the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. AMEN. Bill+

### Vestry Highlights

- 1)The Diocesan Convention is November 13 and 14. Our delegation this year is Father Bill Pursley, Deacon Nick England, Kathy Heim, Mark and Jeanie Conrad.
- 2) St. John's will not be on the Candlelight Tour this year. The event organizers rotate through different churches each year; this is our year to be rotated out. We will be rotated in again in the future.
- 3)So far this year, we have had to sell a little over \$21,000 of our investments in order to meet the actual budget expenses.
- 4)The next Vestry meeting is Thursday, Nov. 19, at 7:00 PM. Vestry meetings are open meetings; you are welcome to attend.

### My Friends in Christ,

Recently during the announcements, I expressed my desire to hear from you and asked what you saw as your vision for our future here at St. John's in order to expand the kingdom of God not only in our church home, but also beyond as well. I have been delighted with your response so far but I would like to hear from many more of you. Please feel free to converse with me at any of the services, coffee hour or at your convenience. If you would like to simply call me, dial 740-974-8593. I am excited to hear all of your thoughts and am eager to start our work together to further the Gospel of Christ in every imaginable way. I'm thankful for the many gifts of service that our Lord has given to you all and I ask you to prayerfully consider the best ways that you can utilize your talents. Again, I thank you and wait to hear from you.

Your Friend in Christ,  
Deacon Nick

### Pledge Cards & Volunteer Forms

Please return your completed volunteer forms and pledge cards by Sunday, November 15th to assist the Vestry with planning for 2016.

**The tote project**, organized by the Evangelism and Renewal Committee, provides basic household cleaning supplies to graduates of the Drug Court program coordinated by Jennie Saelens. These graduates, most of whom are women, have lost everything and are starting over. The totes give them the basic supplies to set up their households, and the recipients are always very excited and very grateful. In addition to these totes, if you have any good, gently used household items, such as sheets, pillowcases, towels, plates, etc., you can bring them to church, and we can have them distributed to the graduates of the program.



**Father Bill blessing Dewey on October 4th**

**Birthdays**

- 1 Lynn Stevenson
- 2 Max Wildermuth
- 6 Jennifer Williams
- 10 Hannah Hurdley  
Carl Roshong
- 12 Bob Wright
- 19 Savannah Crawford  
Wendy Garbrandt
- 24 Michael Garbrandt
- 25 Kim Carter  
Holly Perry
- 28 Muriel Breining
- 30 Jim Miller

**Wedding Anniversaries**

- 4 Paul and Kathy Heim (06)
- 26 Deacon Don and Linda Eager(97)  
Harold and Carol Uhl (66)

**Baptismal Anniversaries**

- 1 Asher Carr (01)
- 3 Morgan Spires (00)
- 6 Linda Lindley (47)  
Nancy Taylor (60)
- 7 Michael Garbrandt (08)
- 13 Thurlow Weed (66)
- 23 Cindy White (78)
- 25 Madeline Kittle (07 )  
Mark Perrine (66)  
Deanna Roshong (51)
- 27 Walker Kittle (05)  
Lynn Stevenson (42)

**Altar Guild Meeting**

The Altar Guild will meet Sunday, Nov. 8th in the library to plan for Advent and Christmas. Please plan to attend.

**Our sympathy to** Carl and Deanna Roshong on the death of Carl’s mother, Helen Zimmerman, on September 28, 2015, in Dover Delaware.

**Born to Meredith (Stevenson) and Austin Fath, Eve Adlai Fath** on March 18, 2015. Baby Eve was baptized at St. John’s Episcopal Church on Saturday, October 10 and wore the baptism gown her mother, grandmother (Lynn Stevenson) and great-great grandmother had worn. The gown is 99 years old. It was made by Minnie Patterson for her only granddaughter, Margaret in 1916. Meredith, Austin and their four children live in Falls Church, Virginia. Meredith still maintains her membership at St. John’s but attends the Episcopal Church in Falls Church.

**Congratulations to Paul and Kathy Heim** on your transfer back to Huntsville and your family. We love you and will miss you. We appreciate the gift of God you are, and wish you his very best.

**Sunday School for 2nd Grade and Under**

Sunday School for 2nd grade and under is on the first and third Sundays during the first half of the 10:30 service. Beginning in January, we plan to offer Sunday School every week.

**Parish Health Ministries Luncheon**

Wednesday, November 18th is the date of the next Parish Health luncheon. Join us in the undercroft after the noon Eucharist.

**Remember to put your prayer requests** in the alms basin each week. They will be prayed for in the Monday, Evensong at 7:00 p.m.

**Young people 10 and above**—Join Fr. Bill at Nick’s Pizza every Tuesday at 4:45 for pizza and God Talk.

**Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service**

- Where: Sixth Avenue United Methodist Church
- When: Tuesday, November 24th at 7 p.m.
- Who: The good people of St. John’s, St. Mark’s, Sixth Ave. United Methodist and our friends.
- What: Worship, sing, and bring a gift of non-perishable foodstuffs to help our neighbors in need.

November 2015 Serving Schedule

November 1	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Harris	Mark Conrad & Ivan Smith	Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9
Acolytes		Morgan Spires & Libby Garbrandt	Psalm 24
Lectors		Caitlyn Hurdley & Sarah Perlow	Revelation 21:1-6
Ushers	Tim Hall & Steve Wood	Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard	John 11:32-44
Altar Guild	Bobbi Beebe	Sarah Perlow, Peggy Merton	Set-up: Deanna Roshong
November 8	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Mark Conrad & Doug Carr	Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17
Acolytes		Joanna Carr & William Eyman	Psalm 127
Lectors		Mark Conrad & Jeanie Conrad	Hebrews 9:24-28
Ushers	Shook Family	Steve Messerly & Chris Hurdley	Mark 12:38-44
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Jessie Smith, Mid Hall & Judie Miller	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
November 15	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Jim Hall & Ivan Smith	Daniel 12:1-3
Acolytes		Nicole Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 16
Lectors		Holly Perry & Kathy Heim	Hebrews 10:11-25
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	William Eyman & John Eyman	Mark 13:1-8
Altar Guild	Gitta Sadoni & Peggy Merton	Barb Parker & Judie Miller	Set-up: Deanna Roshong
November 22	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Doug Carr & Mark Conrad	2 Samuel 23:1-7
Acolytes		Joanna Carr & Asher Carr	Psalm 93
Lectors		Ivan Smith & Charlie Voss	Revelation 1:4-8
Ushers	Steve Wood & Tim Hall	Tom & Karin Howard	John 18:33-37
Altar Guild	Bobbi Beebe	Chris Hurdley, Sally Stallsmith & Reda Kittle	Set-up: Diane Downard, Mid Hall & Judie Miller
November 29	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Jim Hall & Ivan Smith	Jeremiah 33:14-16
Acolytes		Nicole Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 25:1-9
Lectors		Caitlyn Hurdley & Sarah Perlow	I Thessalonians 3:9-13
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Carol Uhl	Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard	Luke 21:25-36
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Sarah Perlow & Peggy Merton	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl

Rescheduled Euchre Tournament



The rescheduled Euchre Tournament will be at 6 p.m. on Saturday, October 31st in the undercroft. There will be sign up sheets at the back of the church for all those interested. The tournament will be limited to those 15 and over.



# St. John's Episcopal Church

## November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:00 HC 9:00 Fellowship Breakfast 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC/SS	<b>2</b> 7:00 P Choral Evensong	<b>3</b> 4:45 Pizza & God talk  8:00P AA Meeting	<b>4</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:00 HC 9:00 Altar Guild Meeting Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC	<b>9</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>10</b> 4:45 Pizza & God talk  8:00P AA Meeting	<b>11</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Diocesan Convention	<b>14</b> Diocesan Convention
<b>15</b> 8:00 HC Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC/SS	<b>16</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>17</b> 4:45 Pizza & God talk  8:00P AA Meeting	<b>18</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 12:30 Parish Health Lunch.	<b>19</b> 1 PM Eagle and Lamb deadline  7 PM Vestry	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:00 HC Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC	<b>23</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>24</b> 4:45 Pizza & God talk 7:00P Ecumenical Thanks. Ser. 8:00 AA Mtg.	<b>25</b> 10:30 Bible St. 12:00 HC	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8:00 HC Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC	<b>30</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong					



**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: Nick England  
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**

Mark Conrad (Senior Warden)	689-0023
John Eyman (Junior Warden)	503-6817
Doug Carr (18)	740-385-1356
Nancy Engeman (16)	215-6601
Tim Hall (16)	654-5795
Paul Heim (17)	205-3397
Chris Hurdley (18)	654-7831
Mary Oehler(17)	689-1202

For daily & Sunday readings & Fr. Pursley's  
sermons, visit St. John's website  
[www.stjohnlancaster.org](http://www.stjohnlancaster.org)