



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



December 2015

Rector's Rambling

Hark! the herald angels sing. Glory to the newborn King.”

Christmas is upon us again. The lights, the concerts, the get-togethers of family and friends, and all of the traditions of the season combine to underline the importance of the day. And what a day it is. “For unto us a child is born” and “he shall save his people from their sins.” That is good news. On Christmas we who bear the cross of Jesus celebrate God’s love, which gives us the opportunity to be restored to friendship with God.

Every one of us has at one time or another acted selfishly and thoughtlessly. In fact, even the best of us have on occasion succumbed to a mean spiritedness which has led us to not consider the needs of others. In our own imaginations and actions, we have gone our own ways and lived with the consequences of acting as if we were gods. It may have seemed sensible for a while, and even pleasing. But in the long run, it didn’t work out so well.

But God kept on loving us. And in “the fullness of time,” “Love came down at Christmas.” God himself took human form. He endured all of life’s realities and difficulties, showed us how to live, showed us what God is like, and then...~well, that is another story for Easter. Let’s just say he made a way for us to be restored to God’s fellowship, to successfully deal with the consequences of our past choices and experiences, and to find healing and peace and wisdom.

Christmas is the time we celebrate this good news. And what a celebration it is! I urge you to enjoy the season this year. Hear the music, thrill to the dance, marvel at the decorations, and savor the food. Jesus is born! God has come down to us. Our sins are put away, and we are transformed from what we were into the very friends of God.

Come and celebrate this wonderful day with us at St. John’s. On Christmas Eve we will gather at 4 and 10:30. On Christmas day we begin at 11. Bring a friend, or two, or three. This is a day for rejoicing, because God has welcomed us back into is family.

Bill+



Vestry Highlights

- 1) Stewardship pledges so far amount to around \$86,000, about \$20,000 less than last year. However, many who turned in pledges last year have not turned in pledges for this year yet. If you have not turned in a pledge for this year, please do so soon. Pledges are a very important element in setting the budget for the coming year.
- 2) We withdrew a little over \$20,000 from our Edward Jones Mutual Funds to cover the budget deficit so far this year. We have experienced some gains in our investments, but not enough to cover our withdrawal. Our Edward Jones Mutual Funds are \$15,379 less than the Funds were in December, 2014.
- 3) The next Vestry Meeting is Thursday, Dec. 17, at 7:00 PM. Vestry Meetings are open meetings; you are welcome to attend.

Absalom Jones Day Celebration

St. Philip Episcopal Church is celebrating Absalom Jones Day 2016 on Saturday, February 6, 2016. Absalom Jones was the first African American ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church of the United States, in 1804. Registration is 9:30 AM. Symposium and Workshops with lunch are 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The Festive Eucharist begins at 3:30 PM with Presiding Bishop Curry as the preacher, with a reception following in St. Philip's Parish Hall. If you wish to attend, please RSVP by January 15, 2016, by email to nannette@pobox.com or by phone to St. Philip Episcopal Church at 614-253-2771. The address of St. Philip Episcopal Church is 166 Woodland Avenue, Columbus, OH 43203. Mark Conrad will be attending; if you would like to ride with him, please contact him at mconrad92@gmail.com or 740-243-4933.

Pledge Cards & Volunteer Forms

Please return your completed volunteer forms and pledge cards as soon as possible 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.

Bob Wright Honored

Bob Wright has been honored with a picture and article in the Life and Arts section of the *Columbus Dispatch* on November 16, 2015. The article is posted on the bulletin board in the reception area and you may also view it at:

http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/life_and_entertainment/2015/11/16/quiet-passion.html

Which Spirit?

The spirit of Christmas needs to be superseded by the Spirit of Christ. The spirit of Christmas is annual; the Spirit of Christ is eternal. The spirit of Christmas is sentimental; the Spirit of Christ is supernatural. The spirit of Christmas is a human product; the Spirit of Christ is a divine person. That makes all the difference in the world.

Stuart Briscoe in Meet Him at the Manger

Birthdays

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

Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Mike 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)
- 30 Kathy Heim (60)
Katie Kittle (79)
Fran Utley (17)
- 31 Rebecca Pursley (78)



Rosalind M. Hodge
November 25, 1925—November 10, 2015

“Give to the departed eternal rest.
 Let Light perpetual shine on her.”

Our sympathy to Dianna Turpin on the death of her brother William Douglas Turpin October 11, 2015, in Detroit.

Altar Guild Reminder

The Altar Guild will decorate for Advent on Saturday, November 28 at 10 a.m. Decorating for Christmas will be on Sunday, December 20th after the 10:30 service. Please plan to attend because many hands are needed.

Hospice Cookie Walk

The Cookie Walk for Hospice will be Saturday, Dec. 5th in the undercroft from 8 a.m. until noon. If you would like to contribute cookies, you may drop them off Thursday, Dec. 3rd from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. or on Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. You may also bring them in early on Saturday. If you have questions, please call Mark Perrine at 740-654-2551.

Parish Health Ministries Luncheon

Wednesday, December 16th is the date of the next Parish Health luncheon. Join us in the undercroft after the noon Eucharist.

Fellowship Breakfast

Please join your parish family for breakfast on Sunday, December 6th after the 8 a.m. Eucharist.

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.

December 2015 Serving Schedule

December 6	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Harris	Jim Hall & Doug Carr	Baruch 5:19
Acolytes		William Eyman & Libby Garbrandt	Canticle 4
Lectors		Charlie Voss & Sarah Perlow	Philippians 1:3-11
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Steve Wood	Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard	Luke 3:1-6
Altar Guild	Bobbi Beebe	Sarah Perlow, & Chris Hurdley	Set-up: Deanna Roshong & Judi Berry
December 13	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Ivan Smith & Mark Conrad	Zephaniah 3:14-20
Acolytes		Joanna Carr & Morgan Spires	Canticle 9
Lectors		Holly Perry & Kathie Heim	Philippians 4:4-7
Ushers	Shook Family	Steve Messerly & Chris Hurdley	Luke 3:7-18
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Jessie Smith, Mid Hall & Judie Miller	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
December 20	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Doug Carr & Frankie Mathias	Micah 5:2-5a
Acolytes		Nicole Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Canticle 3
Lectors		Mark Conrad & Jeanie Conrad	Hebrews 10:5-10
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	William Eyman & John Eyman	Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)
Altar Guild	Gitta Sadoni & Peggy Merton	Judie Miller & Mid Hall	Set-up: Deanna Roshong & Judi Berry
December 24	**4:00 PM	**10:30 PM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Doug Carr & Mark Conrad	Isaiah 9:2-7
Acolytes	Asher Carr & Joanna Carr	1 st Crucifer: William Eyman 2 nd Crucifer: Nicole Sutter Book Bearer: Hanna Hurdley Torch Bearer: Libby Garbrandt Torch Bearer: Morgan Spires	Psalm 96
Lectors		Ivan Smith & Caitlyn Hurdley	Titus 2:11-14
Ushers	Steve Wood & Carol Uhl	Tom & Karin Howard	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)
Altar Guild	Bobbi Beebe	Chris Hurdley & Judie Miller	Set-up: December 20 All Altar Guild Members
December 27	8:00 AM	10:30 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Jim Merton	Ivan Smith & Ann Rickson	Exodus 33:18-23
Acolytes		Asher Carr & Joanna Carr	Psalm 92
Lectors		Caitlyn Hurdley & Sarah Perlow	I John 1:1-9
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Carol Uhl	Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard	John 21:19b-24
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Chris Hurdley, Sally Stallsmith & Reda Kittle	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl

****NOTE: IF ANY ACOLYTE CANNOT SERVE AS SCHEDULED FOR CHRISTMAS, PLEASE INFORM JIM HALL IMMEDIATELY.**



Joy to the World!

St. John's Episcopal Church

December 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 4:45 Pizza & God talk 8:00P AA Meeting	2 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	3	4	5 8-12 Hospice Cookie Walk
6 8:00 HC 9:00 Fellowship; Breakfast 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HCSS	7 7:00P Choral Evensong	8 4:45 Pizza & God talk 8:00P AA Meeting	9 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	10	11	12
13 8:00 HC Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC .	14 7:00P Choral Evensong	15 4:45 Pizza & God talk 8:00P AA Meeting	16 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 12:30 Parish Health Lunch.	17 1 PM Eagle and Lamb deadline 7 PM Vestry	18	19
20 8:00 HC Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC/SS Altar Guild Decorating	21 7:00P Choral Evensong	22 4:45 Pizza & God talk 8:00P AA Meeting	23 10:30 Bible St. 12:00 HC	24 4:00P Holy Eucharist 10:30 Choral Music and Holy Eucharist	25 11:00A Holy Eucharist	26
27 8:00 HC Coffee Hour 9:15 Choir Prac. 10:30 HC	28 7:00P Choral Evensong	29 8:00P AA Meeting	30	31		

Christmas Blessings

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

134 North Broad Street
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH STAFF

PRESIDING BISHOP: The Most Rev'd Michael B. Curry
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 Mr. Nick England
CHOIRMASTER: Kathy Heim
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed
ALTAR GUILD PRESIDENT: Deanna Roshong
FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Janet Kling
FINANCIAL CONSULTANT: Lowell Stallsmith
TREASURER: Robin Harris
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