



# THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



March 2016

## Rector's Rambling

How are you doing with your Lenten disciplines as we speed towards Easter: Are you more in touch with your own realities and issues? Have you seen some small successes in overcoming temptation? Is the Holy Spirit modifying any of your outlooks and attitudes? And most importantly, are you more regularly aware of God's presence in your life? To quote a very imprecise and inaccurate theological phrase, "Are you closer to God?"

Over the last three or four days, I've been re-reading Jeremiah. It is a troubling book because it is so personal. There are far too many passages where if I substitute my own name, or those of our parish or denomination, or country for those of Zedekiah, or Jehoiakim, or Jerusalem, or Judah; the details of the prophesy are a bit too transferable for comfort. May our Lenten disciplines help us all to see our own needs and shortcomings, and may God give us strength and courage to know and to do his will.

I would be lax in my duties as a priest if I did not comment on the content and tone of politics in our country. The hatred, innuendo, conspiracy, mongering, vicious ad hominem attacks, vulgarity, and willingness to pass on gossip and unsubstantiated data are of the anti-christ. I pray that we as the people of God might avoid the temptation to participate in inappropriate humor and all the rest of what is going on in the press, in social media, and elsewhere. It is not worthy of a free people, and it is not worthy of a Christian. Rather let us check our facts and debate rationally the issues we face. It is possible to disagree diametrically and still respect each other. All perspectives and all sides seem to be participating in this ungodly behavior, and so let us start by looking into our own hearts and to our own behavior instead of concentrating on the issues others may have.

Finally, I am compelled that even in Lent, I really should end on a positive note. Lately, I've been enjoying the photographic entries for *Field Sports* magazine annual photo competition on facebook. There are enough wonderful pictures of dogs, and horses, and tweedy shoots, and jumping fish, and vintage Land Rovers to keep even me happy. The entries I view help me to see the beauty in the world around me, and to focus on things that are positive and decent. Might we all find something that comes into our life regularly which will help us to "re-boot" to those things which are virtuous, and good, and true, and beautiful. If you don't know where to look, and if pheasants are spaniels are not your favorite things, might I suggest friending our own Diane Saum Downard on facebook. Her photos at Diane's Photo Blog at "Hocking Hills, Logan Ohio" are wonderful reminders of the Glory of God all around us.

Faithfully,

Bill+



## February 28 is Young Life Lancaster Sunday at St. John's

Sunday February 28 is Young Life Lancaster Sunday at St. John's. Guest preacher at both services will be Young Life Lancaster Area Director Kelsey Bohl. She will describe the work of young Life Lancaster as well as the organization's spiritual and financial needs. Kelsey will be accompanied by her husband, Josh, who is a Young Life Lancaster volunteer leader, and by LHS students who participate in the Young Life Lancaster program. Kelsey and Josh will be available to talk with individual St. John's members between the two services.

Young Life is an Interdenominational Christian ministry whose mission is introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them have a relationship with Him. Young Life has no formal affiliation with any church, but encourages kids to be connected to the Body of Christ by being an active member of a local congregation. St. John's supports Young Life Lancaster financially through its mission giving program, as do several St. John's parishioners individually.

### Mission Trip Update

We are currently planning to be in St. Vincent from 29 or 30 June—6 or 7 July (depending on flight connections.) We are engaged in fund raising for both the costs of mission and for transportation. A donor has provided a challenge grant which will match any gifts up to \$1,000 for travel expenses and up to another \$1,000 for building materials. Please consider a gift to cement the bonds of love with Fr. Marcelle and the good people of St. John's Owia. Our mission will help them to upgrade their church building, and to provide women's health information for the people of the Grenadines.

### Vestry Highlights

- 1) We reviewed the previously received quotes on properly fixing the front steps and are investigating how to accomplish the project. The initial quotes were for \$46,000, but the actual cost will most likely be higher than that. We will be looking into grant opportunities and a capital campaign to raise the money for this.
- 2) The Vestry meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the undercroft. These are open meetings and you are invited to attend if you wish. You can also express your concerns to any Vestry member, who are listed on the last page of the Eagle and Lamb.

### Holy Week Services—March 20-27

March 20 - Palm Sunday - 8 and 10:30 Blessing of Palms and Holy Communion

Monday - Evensong at 7 pm.

Wednesday - Bible Study at 10:30, Holy Communion 1928 at noon

Maundy Thursday - 7 pm Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday - 12 noon Liturgy, 1 pm - Stations of the Cross

March 27 - Easter - 8 and 10:30 - Holy Communion

Be sure to invite a friend!



**Birthdays**

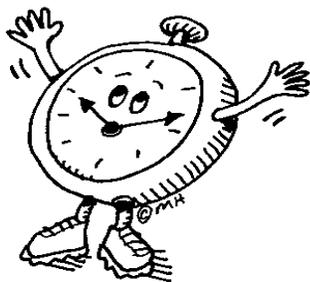
- 2 Chris Perrine
- 3 Amy Eyman  
Charlene Rowley  
Thurlow Weed
- 4 John Eyman
- 5 Cathy Forbes
- 12 Libby Garbrandt
- 13 Ann Rickson  
Katie Shook
- 20 Bobbie Beebe
- 23 William Eyman
- 26 Diana Turpin
- 28 Mike Whiley
- 29 Terry Scott  
Charlotte Tipton
- 31 Karen Warnock

**Wedding Anniversaries**

- 20 Doug and Nanci Allen (81)

**Baptismal Anniversaries**

- 1 Jessie Smith (38)
- 5 Carl Roshong (50)
- 15 Cheryl Berner (58)
- 23 Jim Hall (41)
- 25 Denise Denton (56)
- 31 Frankie Mathias (59)  
Ann Rickson (85)  
Milt Taylor (63)



**Daylight Savings Time—Spring forward on March 13th!**

**For those of you who receive the Eagle and Lamb by mail, please remit \$5.88 to the church office with your check marked E and L postage. Thank you.**

**Baptisms**

On March 6th Indra and Andrew Roshong, grandsons of Carl and the late Deanna Roshong, will be baptized at the 10:30 service. Come and support them as they begin their life in Christ.

**Parish Health Ministries Luncheon**

Wednesday, **March 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 after the 8:00 service on Sunday, March 6th.

**Altar Flowers Needed**

There are several Sundays available for parishioners to donate flowers for the altar. If you would like to do this, please contact Sally Stallsmith at 740-654-6592.

**Important Reminder for Altar Guild Members**

The Altar Guild will set up for Palm Sunday on Saturday, March 19th at 10 a.m.. On the following Saturday, March 26th, at 10 am, the Guild will decorate for Easter. Please plan to attend.

**Help Us with Safety!**

Please leave all doors which are not locked in the education wing open. If you see one closed, knock and look in the room. Small precautions help to keep our children safe. Thanks.

Members of St. John's have been extremely generous about giving to the Evangelism and Renewal Totes' Program. We thought you might be interested in knowing some of the statistics about the program and how much St. John's donations are appreciated.

### **Information about Fairfield County Juvenile Court's Family Court Program**

The Program is growing! We currently have eleven participants and a father will be starting the program soon. In total there are 20 children whose parents are participating in Family Court. Of these twenty children only 3 are in foster homes. The remaining 17 are in kinship/relative homes. There are numerous grandparents in Fairfield County who are caring for their grandchildren, not just for Family Court but for Child Protective Services in general!

I have six single women in the program who are or will be parenting their children single handedly. One mom has three children and another has four children. This is quite a job when you are trying to provide housing, shelter and basic needs for your family. In Fairfield County for 2014, it took an hourly wage of \$15.50 at forty hours a week to afford the fair market rent of \$806.00 a month for a two bedroom apartment. (Thus, 49% of renters could not afford a two bedroom apartment.)

Many of our families participate in income-based housing programs when possible. These programs typically have wait lists and housing is only available in certain sections of town. Because of these economic limitations, **my families are overjoyed to get their totes when they get housing. The supplies in the totes are not able to be purchased with food stamps and my families typically have minimum wage jobs. Because Child Protective Services and Metropolitan Housing do inspections on homes on a routine basis, my families need to keep their homes in a respectable condition, and the totes help ensure this is possible. The generosity of the St John's parishioners for the totes program has aided many families in need here in Fairfield County. We look forward to continuing this relationship.** Thanks again,

Jenny Saelens

### **Bulletin Bloopers**

\*\*Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

\*\*The Low Self-Esteem Support Group will meet Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. Please use the back door.

\*\*Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

\*\*For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

\*\*The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."



## March 2016 Serving Schedule

| March 6            | 8:00 AM                     | 10:30 AM                                      | Readings                                         |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lay Readers</b> | Robin Harris                | Jim Hall & Shawn Dyer                         | Joshua 5:9-12                                    |
| <b>Acolytes</b>    |                             | William Eyman & Morgan Spires                 | Psalm 32                                         |
| <b>Lectors</b>     |                             | Charlie Voss & Sarah Perlow                   | 2 Corinthians 5:16-21                            |
| <b>Ushers</b>      | Mike Whiley & Steve Wood    | Tom & Karin Howard                            | Luke 15:1-3, 11-32                               |
| <b>Altar Guild</b> | Bobbi Beebe                 | Sarah Perlow, Mid Hall & Janet Kling          | Set-up:<br>Mid Hall, Diane Downard & Janet Kling |
| March 13           | 8:00 AM                     | 10:30 AM                                      | Readings                                         |
| <b>Lay Readers</b> | Tom & Jean Hammer           | Ivan Smith & Mark Conrad                      | Isaiah 43:16-21                                  |
| <b>Acolytes</b>    |                             | Hannah Hurdley & Libby Garbrandt              | Psalm 126                                        |
| <b>Lectors</b>     |                             | Holly Perry & Ann Rickson                     | Philippians 3:4-14                               |
| <b>Ushers</b>      | Shook Family                | Steve Messerly & Chris Hurdley                | John 12:1-8                                      |
| <b>Altar Guild</b> | Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl     | Jessie Smith, Mid Hall & Frankie Mathias      | Set-up:<br>Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl               |
| March 20           | 8:00 AM                     | 10:30 AM                                      | Readings                                         |
| <b>Lay Readers</b> | Jim Merton                  | Shawn Dyer & Ann Rickson                      | Isaiah 50:4-9                                    |
| <b>Acolytes</b>    |                             | Asher Carr & Joanna Carr                      | Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29                             |
| <b>Lectors</b>     |                             | Ivan Smith & Frankie Mathias                  | Philippians 2:5-11                               |
| <b>Ushers</b>      | Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley | Nickie Lecrone & Diane Downard                | Luke 19:28-40                                    |
| <b>Altar Guild</b> | Gitta Sadoni & Peggy Merton | Judie Miller, Mid Hall & Judi Berry           | Set-up:<br>Judie Miller, Judi Berry & Mid Hall   |
| March 27           | 8:00 AM                     | 10:30 AM                                      | Readings                                         |
| <b>Lay Readers</b> | Tom & Jean Hammer           | Ivan Smith & Frankie Mathias                  | Acts 10:34-43                                    |
| <b>Acolytes</b>    |                             | 1 <sup>st</sup> Crucifer – Morgan Spires      | Psalm 114                                        |
|                    |                             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Crucifer – Hannah Hurdley     |                                                  |
|                    |                             | Book Bearer – Nicole Sutter                   |                                                  |
|                    |                             | Torch Bearer – William Eyman                  |                                                  |
|                    |                             | Torch Bearer – Libby Garbrandt                |                                                  |
| <b>Lectors</b>     |                             | Ann Rickson & Caitlyn Hurdley                 | Romans 6:3-11                                    |
| <b>Ushers</b>      | Tim Hall & Steve Wood       | John Eyman & Chris Hurdley                    | Matthew 28:1-10                                  |
| <b>Altar Guild</b> | Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl     | Reda Kittle, Chris Hurdley & Sally Stallsmith | Set-up:<br>Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl               |

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

**Save the Date**

**Sunday, May 22nd**

**St. John's Parish Picnic**

**Watch for Details!**

# St. John's Episcopal Church

## March 2016

| Sunday                                                                                              | Monday                         | Tuesday                                                   | Wednesday                                                                   | Thursday                                                 | Friday                                                                      | Saturday                                               |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                     |                                | 1<br>4:45 Pizza &<br>God talk<br><br>8:00P AA<br>Meeting  | 2<br>10:30 Bible<br>Study<br>12:00 HC                                       | 3                                                        | 4                                                                           | 5                                                      |
| 6<br>8:00 HC<br>9:00 Fellowship<br>Breakfast<br>9:15 Choir Prac.<br>10:30 HC/SS                     | 7<br>7:00P Choral<br>Evensong  | 8<br>4:45 Pizza &<br>God talk<br><br>8:00P AA<br>Meeting  | 9<br>10:30 Bible<br>Study<br>12:00 HHC                                      | 10                                                       | 11                                                                          | 12<br>9:00 E & R<br>meeting in<br>the undercroft       |
| 13<br>8:00 HC<br>Coffee Hour<br>9:15 Choir Prac.<br>10:30 HC/SS<br><b>Daylight<br/>Savings Time</b> | 14<br>7:00P Choral<br>Evensong | 15<br>4:45 Pizza &<br>God talk<br><br>8:00P AA<br>Meeting | 16<br>10:30 Bible St.<br>12:00 HC<br>12:30 Health<br>Ministries<br>Luncheon | 17<br>1 PM Eagle and<br>Lamb deadline<br><br>7 PM Vestry | 18                                                                          | 19<br>10:00 - Altar<br>Guild set up for<br>Palm Sunday |
| 20<br>8:00 HC<br>Coffee Hour<br>9:15 Choir Prac.<br>10:30 HC/SS<br><b>Palm Sunday</b>               | 21<br>7:00P Choral<br>Evensong | 22<br>4:45 Pizza &<br>God talk<br><br>8:00P AA<br>Meeting | 23<br>10:30 Bible St.<br>12:00 HC                                           | 24<br>7:00P <b>Maundy<br/>Thursday<br/>Service</b>       | 25<br>12 noon -<br><b>Liturgy</b><br><b>1:00P Stations<br/>of the Cross</b> | 26<br>10:00—Altar<br>Guild set up<br>For Easter        |
| 27<br>9:00 HC<br>Coffee Hour<br>9:15 Choir Prac.<br>10:30 HC/SS<br><br><b>Easter</b>                | 29<br>7:00P Choral<br>Evensong | 29                                                        | 30                                                                          | 31                                                       |                                                                             |                                                        |

*He is  
Risen!*

**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: Dr. Doug Carr  
ORGANIST: Thurlow Weed  
ALTAR GUILD PRESIDENT:  
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) | 740-689-0023 |
| John Eyman (Junior Warden)  | 740-503-6817 |
| Doug Carr (18)              | 740-385-1356 |
| Catherine Dyer (19)         | 740-277-3830 |
| Michael Garbrandt (19)      | 740-409-4123 |
| Chris Hurdley (18)          | 740-654-7831 |
| Steve Messerly (17)         | 740-653-4427 |
| Mary Oehler(17)             | 740-689-1202 |

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