



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



November 2017

Rector's Rambling

Last week's Epistle lesson from Philippians four has called me back again and again over the past few days. You probably remember the heart of it. "And now, my friends, all that is true, all that is noble, all that is just and pure, all that is loveable and attractive, whatever is excellent and admirable ~ fill your thoughts with these things." I find St. Paul's admonition in this passage to be very difficult to accomplish. The noise, dissention, and hatred that is all around us makes it hard to concentrate, and difficult to build and maintain the kinds of relationships to which God calls us Christians.

The more time I spend with this passage, the more I am persuaded that the key to my success is found in those verses which immediately precede and follow Sunday's lesson. Starting in verse 17 Paul says, "Join together, my friends, in following my example. You have us for a model; imitate those whose way of life conforms to it. As I have often told you, and now tell you with tears, there are many whose way of life makes them enemies of the cross of Christ. They are heading for destruction, they make appetite their god, they take pride in what should bring shame; their minds are set on earthly things. We, by contrast, are citizens of heaven, and from heaven we expect our deliverer to come, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transfigure our humble bodies, and give them a form like that of his own glorious body, by that power which enables him, to make all things subject to himself. This, my dear friends, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, this is what it means to stand firm in the Lord." And moving to verse 9, "Put into practice the lessons I taught you, the tradition I have passed on, all that you heard me say or saw me do; and the God of peace will be with you."

If my heart and mind come to reflect the tone and tenor of the twenty-four hour news cycle, or of the constant partisan bickering, or of the rodent style behavior of anonymous large groups of people, I cannot expect to find that blessing of peace which God offers me through St. Paul's blessing. If I fill my heart, and mind, and media with turmoil, conflict, self-righteous posturing, a sense of entitlement, the desire to coerce and control others, and a breathless sense of always being offended (for myself or for others), I have replaced truth, nobility, justice, purity, love, and beauty, excellence and that which is admirable ~ with another god, a god of this age.

I fear that many people of divers opinions in the modern west have adopted or lean toward adopting this old and yet new false god. I also believe the time has come for people of Christ to engage in "radical disengagement" from those tools so often employed by the enemy of our souls to enslave us and to draw us into hateful conflict with those we are called to understand and love. Jimmi Hendrix once shocked the proprieties of America by calling on God to damn those who brought the scourge of drugs upon us. Perhaps this was the same sense that St. Paul implies when he says, "and now I tell you with tears." I echo the depths of their intent as I offer the following suggestions:

1. If a TV show causes anger or proclaims as good that which God in Scripture bids us avoid, turn it off.

2. If facebook, twitter, or other social media lead you to post cynical, hateful, or judgmental things, stop using social media. If an online friend persists in posting things that make you cynical, hateful or judgmental, ask them to stop and unfriend them if they persist.

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- 3. If news sources constantly badger you to emotional instead of rational responses, find another news source. If they all lead you by emotion and to emotion, shut them all off. The loss of your soul is more important than the myth of being well-informed.
- 4. Don't hang out with people who wind you up.
- 5. Finally, "all that is true, all that is noble, all that is just and pure, all that is loveable and attractive, whatever is excellent and admirable ~ fill your thoughts with these things. AMEN.

Bill+

Christmas Eve Schedule Change

After many years of offering two services on Christmas Eve, St. John's will be reverting to a single service of Carols and Holy Communion at 8 p.m. Music will begin at 8 and a festive service of Holy Communion will follow at 8:30. We hope this earlier hour will serve our elders and younger families well. Plan to come and bring a friend. Those who desire an earlier service may wish to attend the festive Eucharist at St. Paul's, Logan at 5 p.m. There will be a read service of Morning Prayer Sunday morning the 24th at 9 a.m. and a quiet service of Holy Communion Christmas Day at 11:00 a.m .

Thought for the Month

Let us so live that when we come to die, even the undertaker will be sorry.
Mark Twain, quoted in "A Word a Day"

Front Steps Progress Report

The project to repair the front steps has been delayed because our plan of just repairing the ends of the steps encountered structural issues. We have had to return to the plan of replacing the full steps, which required contacting companies and getting new quotes. We are waiting for responses from the companies so that we can begin moving forward again

The Mountain Journey

The mountain journey is about becoming more aligned with God's presence and purposes in our lives. . .The goal is not the glamor of iridescent light, but Christ-shaped encounters with others. The journey is not about getting out of this world or out of ourselves into some more glamorous place—but about getting as deeply into this world as God, in Christ, has.
 Robert C. Morris, *Christianity Today*

Congratulations to our Confirmands

Megan Dickerson

Diane Maguire

Trevon Fout

Debby Rockwood

Travis Kling

Will Schultz

Birthdays

- 1 Lynn Stevenson
- 2 Max Wildermuth
- 6 Jennifer Williams
- 8 Steven Ball
- 10 Hannah Hurdley
Carl Roshong
- 11 Ainsley Fath
- 19 Savanah Crawford
Wendy Garbrandt
- 24 Michael Garbrandt
- 25 Kim Carter
Holly Coffill
- 28 Muriel Breining
- 29 Nick Powell
- 30 Jim Miller

Wedding Anniversaries

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

Baptismal Anniversaries

- 1 Asher Carr (01)
- 3 Morgan Spires (00)
- 6 Ashley Canter (83)
Linda Lindley (47)
Nancy Taylor (60)
- 7 Michael Garbrandt (08)
- 13 Thurlow Weed (78)
- 23 Cindy White (78)
- 25 Madeline Kittle (07)
Mark Perrine (66)

Parish Health Ministries Luncheon

The next Parish Health Luncheon will be on Wednesday, November 16th after the noon Eucharist. Please plan to come and enjoy the fellowship. If transportation is needed, please contact Fr. Bill or the church office. (740-653-3052)

November Fellowship Breakfast

The November Fellowship Breakfast will be on Sunday, the 5th after the 9 a.m. service.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention Needed

The annual Diocesan Convention is the legislative and policy-making body of the diocese, comprised of all canonically resident clergy and delegates from every parish and mission of the diocese. It is usually held at end of the second week of November. At our own annual parish meeting, we elect lay delegates for the convention. If you would be interested in serving as a lay delegate to the convention, please contact Mark Conrad at mconrad92@gmail.com or 740-243-4933 by November 12.

Hospice Cookie Walk

The Cookie Walk for Hospice will be Saturday, Dec. 2nd in the undercroft from 8 a.m. until noon.

If you would like to contribute cookies, you may drop them off Thursday, Nov. 30th 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 740-438-4817.



Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday, November 19th at St. John's. Our friends from St. Mark and Sixth Avenue United Methodist Church will be joining us. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the offering.



Dear Friends in Christ,

As we approach the beginning of Advent, our vestry and budget committee have been working hard to provide a plan which will enable our ministry in Lancaster and also guarantee responsible use of the resources God has entrusted to us. I am excited about the way our plans are coming together for 2018. I envision a unified congregation with growing friendships and purposeful outreach in the Name of Jesus. Our partnership with St. Paul's in Logan will continue to bring opportunities for common mission, shared fellowship, and wise employment of our available resources. A few basic reorganizations will, by God's grace, make us more connected to each other and stretch the gifts he has given us a bit further.

Now we are at that place in the planning process where we need the direct input of the people of God. It is time to prayerfully determine how much he would have each of us to pledge for 2018. Ideally, our individual and family pledges will reflect a combination of the time, talents, and financial resources with which God has blessed us. It takes all three of those things to fully staff and fund the work he calls us to do. May each of us see this pledge cycle as an opportunity to give sacrificially back to God for the sake of the world. Jesus gave his all for us, and now we have the opportunity to give a part of our blessings back to him.

I urge everyone to prayerfully consider what God is calling you to commit to his work this year. As a basic rule of thumb, the following guidelines may be helpful:

1. The Scriptures indicate that 10% of our income ought to be given to support the work of God in and out of his Church
2. Since the time of the Apostles, Christians have gathered weekly to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Weekly attendance at worship is a good measure of our observation of the scriptural admonition to "honor the Sabbath day."
3. The Bible tells us that we all have a function in the body of Christ. We need ushers, altar guild members, lectors, lay readers, vestry members, parish visitors, prayers, office volunteers, and choristers, and many other things. What talent or interest do you have that might make the church function more smoothly?

We need your participation to discern and accomplish the things to which God is calling us. Please help us by completing a pledge card and returning it to the church office or in the alms basin by December 10th of this year. May God bless you as you consider his call in your life, and in the life of our church.

Sincerely,

Bill+

St. John's Episcopal Church

November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	2	3	4
5 9:00 HC 10:00 Fellowship Breakfast Daylight Savings Time Ends	6 7:00P Choral Evensong	7 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	8 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	9	10	11
12 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour	13 7:00P Choral Evensong	14 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	15 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 12:30 Parish Health Lunch.	16 1:00 Eagle and Lamb deadline	17	18
19 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour 7:00 P Ecumenical Thanks. Service	20 7:00P Choral Evensong	21 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	22 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	23 Thanksgiving	24	25
26 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour	27 7:00P Choral Evensong	28 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God talk	29 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	30		



November 2017 Serving Schedule

November 5	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Shawn Dyer & Holly Coffill	Joshua 3:7-17
Acolytes	Asher Carr & Libby Garbrandt	Psalm 107:33-43
Lectors	Sarah Perlow & Charlie Voss	I Thessalonians 2:9-13
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	Matthew 23:1-12
Altar Guild	Sarah Perlow & Sally Stallsmith	Set-up: Mid Hall & Janet Kling
November 12	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Mark Conrad & Ivan Smith	Joshua 24:14-25
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 78:1-7
Lectors	Ann Rickson & Joan Ream	I Thessalonians 4:13-18
Ushers	SteveWood & Steve Messerly	Matthew 25:1-13
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
November 19	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Judges 4:1-7
Acolytes	Asher & Joanna Carr	Psalm 123
Lectors	Mark Conrad & Caitlin Hurdley	I Thessalonians 5:1-11
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Tim Hall	Matthew 25:14-30
Altar Guild	Peggy Merton & Gita Sadoni	Set-up: Mid Hall & Peggy Merton
November 26	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Harris & Ann Rickson	Ezekiel 34:11-24
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 100
Lectors	Ivan Smith & Holly Coffill	Ephesians 1:15-23
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Tim Hall	Matthew 25:31-46
Altar Guild	Bobbi Beebe & Janet Kling	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl

****If you are unable to serve, please arrange for a replacement from the list below. If you cannot find one, please let Fr. Pursley know by Saturday evening (740-215-3900).**

<u>LAY READERS</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>
Holly Coffill 740-652-9124	Bobbie Beebe 614-837-0838	Asher & Joanna Carr 740-385-1356	Holly Coffill 740-652-9124	Tim Hall 740-654-5795
Mark Conrad 740-243-4933	Mid Hall 740-654-5819	Libby Garbrandt 740-653-9639	Mark Conrad 740-243-4933	Robin Leonard 740-808-4814
Shawn Dyer 740-277-3830	Jean Hammer 740-687-6134	Hannah Hurdley 740-654-7831	Caitlyn Hurdley 740-243-0295	Steve Messerly 740-653-4427
Tom & Jean Hammer 740-687-6134	Janet Kling 217-201-0111	Nicole Sutter 740-652-9124	Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Mike Whiley 740-654-4306
Robin Harris 740-215-2311	Peg Merton 740-974-7137		Sarah Perlow 740-654-4459	Steve Wood 740-653-7435
Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Sarah Perlow 740-654-4459		Joan Ream 740-687-4554	
Jim Merton 740-974-4838	Gita Sadoni 740-653-8999		L.M. Sheffield 440-653-1865	
Ann Rickson 740-422-9034	Sally Stallsmith 740-654-6592		Ivan Smith 740-654-3859	
Ivan Smith 740-503-8880	Carol Uhl 740-569-6190		Charlie Voss 740-654-4225	

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: Caitlin Hurdley
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)	740-243-4933
Travis Kling (Junior Warden)	217-493-9376
Steve Ball (20)	740-654-7875
Doug Carr (18)	740-385-1356
Holly Coffill (18)	740-652-9124
Caitlin Hurdley	740-243-0295
Michael Garbrandt (19)	740-409-4123
Robin Leonard (20)	740-687-5621
James Sutter (18)	740-652-9124

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