



THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



February 2018

Rector's Rambling

The snow is falling gently today. Rebecca is working on dresses for the girls. The dogs are stretched out and contented. It is a good day for contemplative pursuits, and for writing. The trees outside our south and east windows form a ghostly grey tracery just visible through the falling snow. Ashley called to say "hello" and reported that the conversion of the old riding arena to a holding and breeding barn for dry cows and heifers seems to be paying off. Last night the dogs and I stayed up to perform our seasonal cleaning and maintenance on the muzzle-loaders, a small one for squirrel and a larger one with two barrels~one for upland game and another for deer.

Such days call me to consider the importance of contentment in the small repetitive things of life. The Bible tells us to work with our hands and be at peace with all men. It advises that we study to be quiet. Perhaps that is why Peter, in those difficult days of unknowing said to his mates, "Behold, I go a fishing." And perhaps it gives us an insight into why they answered, "We also will go with thee." Even that notorious rascal Voltaire, at the end of *Candide*, makes it clear that sometimes the best we can do is to "cultivate our garden."

It is my sincere prayer that you, my friends, will be able to find contentment and peace in the daily chores and situations which populate your life. We believe as Christians that Jesus is the Father's fullest revelation. We believe that through the blood of the everlasting covenant and in the power of the Holy Spirit, God's love abides in us, and produces in us that peace which passes all understanding. It ought not to be some elusive goal, but rather an ongoing state of heart and mind that is with us as we do the dishes, walk the dog, shovel the snow, or read a book. It is for the home and for the workplace~for the daily grind and for the once in a lifetime event, but we must consciously cultivate our awareness of its reality or our lives will be cluttered with all of those things which steal our peace and cause us to lose sight of our faith. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Bill+

PS. I'm pretty sure that by now, everyone knows Rebecca and I will be retiring at the end of May. For us it has been a good ride, and Fairfield and Hocking Counties will always be home. You have given us so much, and we will be grateful all our days. Our last service will be on May 27th, Trinity Sunday, and I hope you will be able to come. The details are yet to be worked out, but I know it will be a wonderful day.

Pastoral transitions involve long-standing professional courtesies which have proven over time to smooth the transition to a new pastoral relationship. They will be presented in fuller form and the process unfolds, but in a nutshell, the main items are:

1. Beginning June 1st, I will not be available for any pastoral functions, including baptisms, weddings, and funerals.
2. From that date, Rebecca and I will not attend worship or social functions of our St. John's family. The earliest we would return for a visit is after the new rector has been in place for at least a year.

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3. After Wednesday, January 17th, I will not be available to assist in the transitional process. That is the date of the Wardens' meeting with the Diocesan Canon for Ministry, and marks the date we formally begin considering the mechanics of the process. These are good and necessary practices which will help everyone to bond with the new rector, and help the work of God's kingdom to continue in this place.

Some have asked what we will do in retirement. Our time will be spent between Briarwood, our home here, and Ridgetop House, our farm in Wisconsin. We pray that by God's grace we might be a regular and positive influence in the lives of our grandchildren and a real help to our children.

Again, Rebecca and I thank you for being our friends. We look forward to growing in grace together and sharing God's love over these next few months, and then, to a blessed time of transition and peace.

Bill+

Parish Health Ministry Conference
Refresh Your Soul—2018
Positive Aging
Monday, March 12, 2018 — 9a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The conference this year features keynote speaker, Dr. Gary Chapman, Ph.D. Dr. Chapman is a best-selling author, inspirational speaker, marriage counselor, and a highly respected pastor. He is well known internationally for his bestselling book, *The Five Love Languages*, which has sold over 10 million copies and translated into 50 languages. He will describe how to deal effectively with our failures to support healthy relationships and positive aging through the five languages of apology. He will share how to discover our own apology language and that of others. We will learn what forgiveness does and does not do. Three other speakers will share their knowledge about positive aging.

The conference location is The Cintas Center at Xavier University, 1624 Herald Ave., Cincinnati. All registrations include continental breakfast, box lunch and event materials. The cost is \$59 or \$85 for those needing contact hours.

See the brochure on the reception room bulletin board for further information or contact Fr. Bill or Mary Oehler.

[FOCUS]
 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
 SIMPLE SOUP + SALAD

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
SUNDAYS, FEBRUARY - MARCH*
5:00 - 7:00 PM

I Am Loved: Walking in the Fullness of God's Love by Wendy Blight shares the unique insights and wisdom of the last disciple to walk with Jesus in a 5 week study of the book of 1 John.

Please join us for I Am Loved & Simple Soup + Salad as we gather to cultivate relationships, discover biblical and historical perspectives of 1 John, share practical applications to transform our attitudes and actions into reflections of God, and experience His love in a deep, personal way.

THIS STUDY WILL HELP YOU:

- Develop a more intimate understanding of God's love
- Identify and discern God's truth from false teaching
- Boldly and confidently walk as a woman loved by God

* February 4, 11, 18; March 4 & TBD

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
Caio Dyer
- 21 Rebecca Pursley
- 24 Sarah Miller

Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 Danny and Julie Meenach (03)
- 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)
- 8 Steven Ball (82)
- 14 Sandie York (82)
- 17 Nancy Russell (57)

Sarah E. “Sally” Wildermuth
July 23, 1931—January 5, 2018


“Give to the departed eternal rest. May Light perpetual shine upon her.”

Parish Health Ministries Luncheon~3rd Wednesday

The next Parish Health Luncheon will be on Wednesday, February 21st 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)

February Fellowship Breakfast Cancelled

Since our Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancakes and Sausage will be on Sunday, February 11th, the Fellowship Breakfast (which would fall on Sunday, February 4) will be cancelled.



S.T.O.S.P.A.S.
(Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancakes and Sausage)

Plan to join your parish family for pancakes and sausage on February 11th as we celebrate Shrove Tuesday on Sunday. There will be lots of food and fellowship as we prepare for Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Help is always needed for this event, so if you could set up, serve, or clean up, please let Mark Perrine know.

Lenten Speaker



The Very Rev'd Henry L (Laurie) Thompson has served God faithfully over the years, most recently as the Dean and President of Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge Pennsylvania. He is recognized as a leader in worldwide Anglicanism. He will be traveling to St. John's and St. Paul's on February 25th to preach in both churches and to speak to us about “Transitions” at our 5PM Lenten program. Plan to join us for a wonderful day with Dean Thompson and with our Lord! We will share a simple supper at 5:00. More details will follow.

A selection of his sermons and lectures are available online at:
 <<http://www.tsm.edu/team/the-rev-dr-henry-l-thompson-iii-laurie/>>

St. John's Episcopal Church

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour 5:00P Women's Bible Study	5 7:00P Choral Evensong	6 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	7 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	8	9	10
11 9:00 HC 10:00 STOSPAS 5:00P Women's Bible Study	12 7:00P Choral Evensong	13 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	14 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 and 7 pm Imposition of Ashes	15 1:00 Eagle and Lamb deadline	16	17
18 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour 5:00P Women's Bible Study	19 7:00P Choral Evensong	20 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	21 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 12:30 Parish Health Lunch.	22	23	24
25 9:00 Morn. Pr. 10:00 Coffee Hour 5:00P Lenten Guest speaker	26 7:00P Choral Evensong	27 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	28 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC			

Have a Blessed Lent

February 2018 Serving Schedule

February 4	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Ivan Smith & Holly Coffill	Isaiah 40:21-31
Acolytes	Asher Carr & Hannah Hurdley	Psalms 147:1-21
Lectors	Sarah Perlow & Charlie Voss	I Corinthians 9:16-23
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	Mark 1:29-39
Altar Guild	Sarah Perlow & Sally Stallsmith	Set-up: Mid Hall & Janet Kling
February 11	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	II Kings 2:1-12
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Libby Garbrandt	Psalms 50:1-6
Lectors	LM Sheffield & Joan Ream	II Corinthians 4:3-6
Ushers	Steve Wood & Robin Leonard	Mark 9:2-9
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
February 18	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom Hammer & Jim Merton	Genesis 9:8-17
Acolytes	Asher & Joanna Carr	Psalms 25:1-9
Lectors	Ivan Smith & Frankie Mathias	I Peter 3:18-22
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Tim Hall	Mark 1:9-15
Altar Guild	Peggy Merton & Gita Sadoni	Set-up: Mid Hall & Peggy Merton
February 25	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Harris & Frankie Mathias	Genesis 17:1-16
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalms 22:22-30
Lectors	L M Sheffield & Caitlin Hurdley	Romans 4:13-25
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Steve Wood	Mark 8:31-38
Altar Guild	Bobbi Beebe & Frankie Mathias	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).**

LAY READERS	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	LECTORS	USHERS
Holly Coffill 740-652-9124	Bobbi 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
Tom & Jean Hammer 740-687-6134	Jean Hammer 740-687-6134	Hannah Hurdley 740-654-7831	Caitlin Hurdley 740-243-0295	Mike Whiley 740-654-4306
Robin Harris 740-215-2311	Janet Kling 217-201-0111	Nicole Sutter 740-652-9124	Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Steve Wood 740-653-7435
Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559	Frankie Mathias 740-653-5559		Sarah Perlow 740-654-4459	
Jim Merton 740-974-4838	Peg Merton 740-974-7137		Joan Ream 740-687-4554	
Ivan Smith 740-503-8880	Sarah Perlow 740-654-4459		L.M. Sheffield 440-653-1865	
	Gita Sadoni 740-653-8999		Ivan Smith 740-654-3859	
	Sally Stallsmith 740-654-6592		Charlie Voss 740-654-4225	
	Carol Uhl 740-569-6190			

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