



# THE EAGLE & THE LAMB

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



March 2018

## Rector's Rambling

As Lent rolls on toward Holy Week and Easter, the Bible compels me to examine my own motives. Am I really seeking to cleanse my heart before God, or is my religion just a matter of going through the ceremonial motions. And as I move from the second chapter of Joel to Matthew six, the questions get even more disturbing. Do I “do religion” in order to make myself feel good about myself, and to gain the respect of others, or am I truly given over to God?

The keeping of “an holy and blessed Lent” cuts to the core of what makes me tick. It causes me to ask whether Ayn Rand and Friedrich Nietzsche, or even Sigmund Freud and Charles Darwin were really right about why I do the things I do. It embarrasses me to admit that there have been and sometimes are in my life times when the motives explored by the great secularist thinkers of our age are my own. But Lent gives me hope that there is another option, a better way. And so I pray with King David in Psalm 51, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence

And take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Give me the joy of your saving help again

And sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.”

Lent is that time of honest self-examination which enables me to sense my need of God in a more profound and personal way. It is also a time of hope, because as I acknowledge my own inability, God pours his grace into my life and I am able to see the evidence of that positive transformation the Bible promises to everyone who believes. As we understand ourselves more profoundly, we experience his grace more completely, and step by step our motives come to reflect the motives of Jesus.

May this be a holy time for all of us, and may our transformation be so profound and noticeable that everyone we meet will be drawn to Jesus.

Sincerely,  
Bill+

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*Please tear off and pray daily for our search for a new rector.*

*Deacon Nick*

Almighty God, look graciously on the people of St. John's.

Be with us and lead us as we seek the next rector for our church.

We ask your direction and guidance for those who shall choose our new spiritual leader, that we may receive an upright and faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries.

Grant us perception, faithfulness and joy, so that we may hear your voice in all our deliberations.

Grant us also the desire and the ability to truly hear each other and those who have entrusted us with this process.

Give us courage to respond and act as you lead us. Come Holy Spirit.

We pray this through Jesus Chris our Lord.

**“Coffee and Jesus”****April 15th****5:00 P.M.**

This is a presentation by Paul and Grace of Hemisphere Coffee Roasters. (the coffee St. John’s uses). The presentation is a time of education, information, and experience.

Paul and Grace will tell us how Hemisphere Coffee Roasters came to be and the Christian influence it has in many countries meeting needs of local communities, planting churches, and sharing the “Good News.”

Paul and Grace will inform us about various coffees—their characteristics and nuances, and will provide an informed tasting of 4 coffees.

Their story is heart-warming and inspiring.

**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 bestselling 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.

**Episcopal Night at the Symphony**

**March 23, 2018**

**Brahms “Requiem”**

Announcing the Third Annual Episcopal Night at the Symphony, Friday, March 23rd, 2018 at the Ohio Theater in Columbus - The Columbus Symphony Orchestra and Chorus performing the Brahms’ “Requiem.” This event, for Episcopalians in Central Ohio is once again being hosted by Fr. Bruce Smith of St. James, Columbus and Fr. Paul Williams of St. Andrew’s, Pickerington. Ticket prices for Orchestra Seating (we have reserved a block of seats) are \$45 per person and include food at the reception, 2 drink tickets (beer and wine are 2 tickets, non-alcoholic drinks are 1 ticket. Other alcoholic drinks are available for cash.) We expect both Rossen Milanov and Ronald Jenkins to join us before the concert. If you have questions, or would like to send in your reservation early, please contact Fr. Bruce Smith – the Royal Keeper of the Reservations at [revabs0630@gmail.com](mailto:revabs0630@gmail.com).

**Totes Project**

Watch for the next opportunity to help with this special ministry. The Giving Tree will be at the back of the sanctuary soon.

**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  
Phillip Waddell
- 18 Eve Fath
- 20 Bobbie Beebe
- 23 Will Eyman
- 26 Diana Turpin
- 28 Mike Whiley
- 29 Terry Scott  
Charlotte Tipton
- 31 Karen Warnock

**Joan Elizabeth Battles Wright**  
**March 17, 1927—January 20, 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, March 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)

**March Fellowship Breakfast**

Our March Fellowship breakfast will be on Sunday, the 4th after the 9a.m. service. Mark provides a wonderful breakfast so come and enjoy.

**Wedding Anniversaries**

- 20 Doug and Nanci Allen (81)

**Baptismal Anniversaries**

- 1 Jessie Smith (38)
- 5 Carl Roshong (50)
- 23 Jim Hall (41)
- 25 Denise Denton (56)
- 31 Frances Mathias (59)  
Ann Rickson (85)  
Milton Taylor (63)

**Jr. Warden Assistant Needed**

Our Jr. Warden, Travis Kling, could use some help. If you could assist by doing odd jobs in the church or commercial building, it would be greatly appreciated. If you have the gift of “handyman,” please call Travis at 217-493-9376.

**Digital Photographs Needed**

We are going to be updating our website and would like to include some photographs (new and old) depicting events at St. John’s (picnics, swim parties, skating, Christenings, marriages, blessing of the animals, etc.). If you have photographs that you would be willing to share, please send them to our senior warden at (roblnrd@aol.com).

**Precinct Election Officials Needed**

The Fairfield County Board of Election is searching for people willing to serve their community as precinct election officials for the May 8 election. All applicants must be registered voters, 18 years old and have their own transportation. Hours are 5:00 am—8:30 p.m. Pay includes \$121.68 for election day and \$10 per hour for mandatory in-house training. Paid training sessions are scheduled for various times in April.

Call Pam or Roxanne at 740-652-7000 for more information.

Senior Wardens Wafflings – February 2018

Firstly, I would like to extend a big thank you to Mark Conrad for his excellent service as the Senior Warden for the past three years. He certainly has left a big pair of shoes for me to fill. I would also like to thank you all for having faith in me to be your new Senior Warden, my commitment to you is very simple, I will do the best job I can to serve you and God. Please feel free to talk to me directly with any issues, comments or ideas you may have.

As I outlined at our recent annual parish meeting, the Vestry is going to be very busy this year, I have established 3 initiatives to be driven by the Vestry:

Appointment of a Transition Priest

The Diocesan Transition Minister is Cannon Lynn Carter-Edmands, she will be working very closely with the Vestry to help us find a transition Priest, then to help us find and appoint a full time Priest.

The transition and full time Priests will be the selection of St Johns along with St Paul's (Logan), the appointment of the Priests will need to be sanctioned by the Bishop.

The Wardens had an initial meeting with Canon Lynn in January and the full Vestry met with her in February.

Canon Lynn has laid out the general timeline for the appointment of a transition Priest and identified the steps needed to be taken by the Vestry.

The Vestry is at full speed with this process and is currently reviewing the Congregation Assessment Tools (CAT), that may be used to perform a Parish self analysis (with input from the congregation). This analysis will be used to identify critical success factors, and qualities required for both the transition and full time Priests.

The Vestry is committed to total transparency throughout this delicate and sensitive process. Progress at critical stages will be communicated via announcements at the Sunday church services, e-mails and in the Eagle & Lamb.

Vestry meetings are open, you are welcome to attend.

Long Term Parish Financial Stability

The Vestry will be establishing a committee to develop a strategy for the long term financial stability of the Parish, taking into consideration the ever increasing average age of the congregation, and the effects it may have in the future.

The initial step will be to establish the scope and objectives of the committee. Then to identify the correct people to represent a good cross section of our congregation to serve on the committee. If anyone is interested in serving on this committee, please let me know.

B.I.P. Initiative (Bums In Pews)

As previously mentioned, with our increasing average congregation age and lower attendance numbers, the Vestry will be creatively looking at ways to increase and maintain the congregation attendance numbers.

Deacon Nick and I have already met and have a number of ideas to promote St. Johns within the community. I am sure there are many more ideas to come from the Vestry and congregation members. I challenge you all to get your thinking caps on, and give your ideas to a Vestry member or myself, better still come along to the Vestry meetings and share your ideas with us.

Next Vestry meeting is March 11<sup>th</sup> (after coffee hour), I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,  
Robin Leonard

*St. John's has supported Young Life since its inception in Lancaster. The following may answer questions regarding the organization.*

### YOUNG LIFE LANCASTER

Young Life is a 77-year-old, worldwide, interdenominational ministry whose mission is introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith. Young life is neither a church nor a substitute for church and is not affiliated with any denomination.

Young Life Lancaster (YLL) has been active since 2012. Under the guidance of Area Director Kelsey Bohl, thoroughly trained YLL volunteer leaders get to know kids by attending virtually every school extracurricular activity. By spending this time on kids' turf leaders *earn the right to be heard*. Once they have done so, they introduce kids to the Gospel and to Jesus Christ himself.

Club, which is an *event*, *not* an organization, is held Monday evenings during the school year at the Hanger on the grounds of Fairfield Christian Church. The Hanger – that's *Hanger*, as in "hanging out" - is made available to YLL at no cost. Often dubbed "controlled chaos," Club is characterized by lots of wholesome, goofy kid stuff, skits and plenty of *loud* music, followed, without fail, by a serious Bible message presented by one of the leaders. All high-school-age kids are invited and encouraged to participate in Club, as they are in all YLL activities.

Wednesday evenings throughout the year are the nights designated for Campaigners, a Bible study held at the home of a parent of one of the participating kids or of some other adult volunteer. Campaigners is for kids who want to deepen and strengthen their relationship with the Lord, in an environment in which they can comfortably raise questions and have them addressed candidly and thoroughly. A core function of Campaigners is to help students see *all* the kids in their school through the eyes of Jesus.

There are numerous other YLL events throughout the year, including Campaigner Weekend, Fall Weekend and summer Young Life Camp, which is commonly billed as "the best week of kids' lives." Club takes place every evening at every Young Life Camp throughout the world, and toward the end of the week many kids claim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior!

You can learn more and get a better sense of the character of Young Life by googling an easily accessible, 8 minutes and 20 second Internet video entitled "In the World of Kids."

For essential financial support, YLL depends upon local churches, commercial and professional organizations and families and individuals. Working through its Mission Committee, St. John's contributes to YLL, as do several St. John's members. Should you wish to contribute, you can do so via computer by going to [giving.younglife.org](http://giving.younglife.org). Our Area # is OH178. Alternatively, you can mail a check, payable to "Young Life," to: Young Life Lancaster, P O Box 1418, Lancaster, OH 43130.

Want to explore other ways you can become a partner in the YLL ministry? Call Ivan Smith, YLL Committee Chairman, at 740 503 8880.

# St. John's Episcopal Church

## March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Fellowship Breakfast 5:00P Women's Bible Study	<b>5</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>6</b> 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	<b>7</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hr <b>Daylight Savings Time</b> 5:00P Women's Bible Study	<b>12</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>13</b> 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	<b>14</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	<b>15</b> 1:00 Eagle and Lamb deadline	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour  5:00P Women's Bible Study	<b>19</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>20</b> 8:00P AA Meeting 3:15 Pizza and God Talk	<b>21</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC 12:30 Parish Health Lunch.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> 9:00 HC 10:00 Coffee Hour  <b>Palm Sunday</b>	<b>26</b> 7:00P Choral Evensong	<b>27</b> 8:00P AA Meeting	<b>28</b> 10:30 Bible Study 12:00 HC	<b>29</b> 7 p.m. HC <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>30</b> Noon <b>GoodFriday</b> Liturgy 1 pm Stations of the Cross	<b>31</b>

## March 2018 Serving Schedule

March 4	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Ivan Smith & Holly Coffill	Exodus 20:1-17
Acolytes	Libby Garbrandt & Joanna Carr	Psalm 19
Lectors	Sarah Perlow & Charlie Voss	I Corinthians 1:18-25
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Mike Whiley	John 2:13-22
Altar Guild	Sarah Perlow & Frankie Mathias	Set-up: Mid Hall & Janet Kling
March 11	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom & Jean Hammer	Numbers 21:4-9
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 107:17-22
Lectors	Frankie Mathias & Joan Ream	Ephesians 2:1-10
Ushers	Steve Wood & Robin Leonard	John 3:14-21
Altar Guild	Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl	Set-up: Jean Hammer & Carol Uhl
March 18	9:00 AM	Readings
Lay Readers	Tom Hammer & Jim Merton	Jeremiah 31:31-34
Acolytes	Asher & Joanna Carr	Psalm 51:1-13
Lectors	Ivan Smith & Frankie Mathias	Hebrews 5:5-10
Ushers	Robin Leonard & Tim Hall	John 12:20-33
Altar Guild	Peggy Merton & Gita Sadoni	Set-up: Mid Hall & Peggy Merton
March 25	9:00 AM PALM SUNDAY	Readings
Lay Readers	Robin Harris & Frankie Mathias	Isaiah 50:4-9
Acolytes	Nikki Sutter & Hannah Hurdley	Psalm 118:19-29
Lectors	Jim Merton & Caitlin Hurdley	Philippians 2:5-11
Ushers	Mike Whiley & Steve Wood	Mark 11:1-11
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).**

<b>LAY READERS</b>	<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	<b>ACOLYTES</b>	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>USHERS</b>
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
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 740-243-8809		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  
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**

Robin Leonard (Senior Warden)	740-687-5621
Travis Kling (Junior Warden)	217-493-9376
Steve Ball (20)	740-654-7875
Don Barker (21)	813-843-0343
Holly Coffill (21)	740-652-9124
Caitlin Hurdley (19)	740-243-0295
Michael Garbrandt (19)	740-409-4123
Carol Uhl (20)	740-569-6190
Hannah Hurdley	740-243-0751
Nicole Sutter	740-652-9124

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