



# The Eagle

April 2010

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## Easter Reflection By Ed Tourangeau

You may know the legend of the dogwood tree.

It is said that at the time of Jesus the strongest and tallest tree in Israel was the dogwood. Even more so than the stately oak, the dogwood tree was valued and cultivated for its strength and the size of its timbers, and was especially popular with the cruel Romans for its utility in crucifixion. One day a legionnaire requested a particularly strong cross to be made for the crucifixion of the King of the Jews. And so it was done.

Jesus, as he hung upon the cross especially made for him and sensing the shame of the noble tree because of the use to which it was put, in his gentle pity for all sorrow and suffering promised the tree that “Never again shall the dogwood grow strong and large enough to be used for a cross; henceforth it shall be slender and bent and twisted and its blossoms shall be in the form of a cross, and in each petal shall be a nail print and at the center of the blossom a crown of thorns.” And so it was.

Well, it’s a legend, and I don’t know its source. I first heard a version of this legend many years ago in a Milwaukee nursing home from an elderly lady who thought I was a nice “young Reverend with a pretty name.” I remember that

lady and her legend of the dogwood this time of year because soon the dogwoods will be with us in all their glory.

Every year in the early weeks after Easter diocesan clergy gather at Waycross for the spring clergy conference. At the risk of being critical, there have been years when the best part of the conference was the drive through the Brown



County woods and the views of the flowering dogwoods and other trees on the forest margins. And if the clergy conference and the dogwood blooms don’t coincide, at some point in the spring a pink dogwood off the corner of a screened-in porch on Doe Path Lane will renew in Patty and me the conviction that paying Bennett’s to plant that tree right there was worth every penny.

Most strikingly will the dogwood’s presence be known in our own parish

Memorial Garden, where I have the privilege of worshipping at least twice weekly. As I worship I and those with me have a special view of our two pink dogwoods as they gloriously proclaim not only the beauty of God’s creation but also the emergence of life out of winter’s death.

So for me the dogwood is a reminder not of the crucifixion but of the Resurrection – God’s gift of life victorious over death and made real in the raising of Jesus – in all its manifestations. In the almost childlike memory and conviction of an elderly woman. In the certainty (conveyed in invented legends) that God favors beauty and compassion over ugliness and cruel death. In seeing the purpose of God in the most natural of things, such as the shape of a flower petal. In the faint clouds of white or pink that hover against the bareness of

forest branches (especially when the program bombed!). In the enjoyment of our own hard work, decisions and investments. In the regular sharing of prayer and praise, joined to that offered by God’s people everywhere. In our gathering on the edge of a Garden where the ashes of the dead lie in wait for that time when it is promised that we will see one another again.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! What, for you, is a sign of that?

## World Labyrinth Day

By Amy Paget

Celebrate *World Labyrinth Day* on Saturday, May 1 with a flexibly scheduled day of labyrinth walking and other activities at St. John's. This Quiet Day event starts at 10 am and concludes at 3 pm. Visitors are encouraged to join us at any time. The celebration of World Labyrinth Day at St. John's is the second in a series of 2010 "quiet day" opportunities open to the public to provide reflection opportunities in our busy lives.

Sponsored by The Labyrinth Society ([www.labyrinthsociety.org](http://www.labyrinthsociety.org)) *World Labyrinth Day* is intended as a day that brings people from all over the planet together in celebration of the labyrinth as a symbol, a tool, a passion or a practice. As part of this celebration you are invited to "Walk as One at 1" to effect a rolling wave of labyrinth walking as the earth turns.

Walk our outdoor labyrinth located in the Memorial Garden designed by Rob Sovinski, ASLA, Professor and Program Chair of Landscape Architecture at Purdue University. A graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Design, he is a fellow parishioner.

Sovinski notes "The labyrinth garden at St. John's was designed in tandem with a significant building addition to the church. Two existing structures on opposite sides of the courtyard were connected by a new architectural element that included a chapel configured in a truncated octagonal floor plan.

"The octagonal shape of the chapel and its general proportions led to the octagonal shape of the labyrinth. The overall arrangement of the garden took its cue from the great gothic cathedrals of Europe and is based on a suggested cruciform. The vertical axis of the cross runs from the octagonal baptismal font to the altar in the new chapel. The minor axis crosses the major axis at the precise center of the labyrinth. This gesture links the spiritual purpose of the labyrinth garden to that of the chapel. St. John's octagonal labyrinth reflects the labyrinth in the nave of the Cathedral of Amiens, and to a lesser degree, the Cathedral at Reims."

In addition, we are placing a canvas labyrinth indoors for walking and meditation, whatever the weather. John Ridder of PAXworks Inc. in Indianapolis designs these hand-drawn and hand-painted labyrinths adapting custom Chartres versions.

Labyrinths are found in many cultures dating back as much as 3,500 years. Unlike a maze, the labyrinth is unicursal, having a single path leading to the center with no loops, cul-de-sacs or forks. They all share the basic features of an entrance or mouth, a single circuitous path and a center or goal.

A 30-minute film, **Rediscovering the Labyrinth**, will be shown throughout the day. It tells the stories of real people whose lives have changed by walking the labyrinth. Join Lauren Artress, author of **Walking a Sacred Path**, as she presents this documentary that has won awards at international and national festivals along with an Emmy nomination for direction.

Other activities will be located throughout the church buildings and will include meditation space in the chapel and the opportunity to try finger and sand labyrinth activities. Questions? Contact Heidi Kauffman at the church.

## Community Lunch

By Nolie Parnell and Dan Hogan

On Valentine's Day, members of St. John's provided a hot lunch for approximately 65 downtown residents. The lunch included jambalaya, green beans, corn bread and cupcakes for dessert. Lydia, Harry, and Frances Shook with Riley and Keenan Hogan served the guests while their parents supervised. Dorothy Jones also volunteered and performed multiple tasks from organizing the children, putting together the eating utensils, and serving the jambalaya to the guests. The food was delicious and no one (including the volunteers from St. John's) went home hungry! Thanks to Dorothy Jones and the Shooks for their time and service to an overlooked group of people in downtown Lafayette. All the guests were extremely grateful.

The next Community Lunch opportunity is Sunday, April 11. Please mark your calendar and let us know if you are interested in volunteering. We usually walk over to Trinity Methodist Church at 11:30 am. Lunch is served a few minutes after noon and we are usually done with all our responsibilities around 1pm. If you are not available on Sunday but would still like to help, there is also an opportunity to bake desserts and to help cook on Saturday.

## Ladies' Potluck Lunch By Cresta Cates

The ladies of St. John's will meet Saturday, April 17 from 2-4 pm in the Commons for some food and fellowship. Bring your favorite food/dish to share and bring a friend. Childcare will be available. Come share in some delicious food to feed our bodies and conversation and friendship to feed our spirits.

## Transforming Through EFM

By Tracey Gage



About three years ago during Lent I was at a place in my life where I was searching. I participated in the quiet day, read “Eat, Pray, Love” and “The New Earth,” practiced yoga, found myself praying, meditating and pondering life. We were empty nesters; I had just started working part-time and felt a void in my life. I had heard a little about EFM in prior years and knew Maggie McClure was one of the mentors, but wasn’t sure if I could commit to such a lengthy program. I stayed after church

one Sunday and spoke with Maggie regarding what this EFM was all about. She gave me a brief summary of the course and told me to pray about it, which is what I did. After much prayer and discussion with my husband John, I came to the conclusion that this may be exactly what I have been searching for.

I enrolled in Education for Ministry to start in August of 2008. I was scared about this new endeavor, but felt assured that I was listening to and following through with the messages I was receiving through my prayers. The purpose of this course is to learn to become effective ministers. As Christians we are all ministers through our Baptism, not just those who are ordained. The seminar is held on Monday evenings from 7:00-9:30 during the school year. It is a four year course, obligating one year at a time. Each year consists of home study, participating in the weekly seminars, reviewing the common lessons (year a – developing your faith, year b – focusing on tradition and beliefs, years c- our faith in the world, and year d – the moral and ethical life: responding to our call), discussion, and theological reflections. We are encouraged to act upon our reflections throughout the week.

I must admit that I hadn’t been a student in 20+ years and was intimidated by learning and by my lack of knowledge of the Bible, history and theology. I found it challenging at times and had to learn to discipline myself for regular studies and reflection. Listening to the group members speak of what they learned and received through their lessons contributes to my training more than I could have imagined. I continue to receive love, support and encouragement from the seminar members and mentors.

Transformations in my prayer life, home life, work life, and church life are ongoing and evident. I am reminded that disciple is the root word of discipline. The overwhelming peace that I have found with regular Bible reading and study along with reading the Daily Office has proven to me that I can have discipline in my life.

I was looking forward to having a “ministry” after retiring and thought that EFM would be a good start to my discernment. Now I am faced with a decision as to whether or not to return to the workforce. I am confident that I am being guided by God and the Holy Spirit. In completing this course, I will have more insight into what God’s will for me is.

In conclusion, I would like to invite anyone interested in EFM to talk to Maggie McClure or Heidi Kaufman and to prayerfully consider this course.

*Oh God, all knowing, loving and merciful, I pray that you touch the hearts of those persons searching for a ministry and deeper relationship with You, so that they may come forward to take the Education for Ministry course to transform their lives, and enhance their discipleship. Amen*

## Education for Ministry

By Maggie McClure

Ministry is not reserved for the ordained only. All lay persons are called to ministry and EFM, Educating for Ministry, is an educational program designed to assist lay people discern their ministry. The program is administered through The School of Theology at Sewanee, University of the South and involves studying scripture, church history, and current times.

EFM is a four year program. It sounds daunting to consider that kind of commitment. However, we encourage every participant to commit to one year at a time. During our seminars, we discuss our readings, we pray, and we reflect. It is through our reflections and conversations that we encounter our positions on topics and gain insight on our faith and interactions with the world. Please read the article written by Tracey Gage regarding her EFM experience. I also call your attention to the e-spirituality column prepared by Amy Paget. Amy began this column in response to her EFM experience.

We are recruiting for the 2010-2011 session. Applications need to be submitted to Sewanee and materials ordered by mid-June. There is a fee of \$340 to enroll. Financial assistance is available through the diocese to cover half the cost. If you are interested in participating and the \$170 is still a hardship, please speak with Fr. Ed. You can find more information about EFM at <http://www.sewanee.edu/EFM/index.htm>.

EFM is a journey. If you are interested in joining those on the path and are willing to make a commitment to being part of this community, talk with Heidi Kaufmann or Maggie McClure.

### Next Eagle Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the May *Eagle* will be Monday, April 19. Email to [eagle@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:eagle@stjohns-laf.org) or place items in *The Eagle* mailbox on the porch.

## e-spirituality By Amy Paget

e-spirituality is a spot where St. John's parishioners share the online resources that they have discovered that aid in their understanding of their faith. As we enter the 50 days of Easter, here are some online resources to accompany your journey through Easter.

<http://www.crivoice.org/cyeaster.html> **The CRI Voice Institute** has a good summary of Easter traditions and the Easter readings. **The Voice** is maintained by Dennis R. Bratcher, who serves as Webmaster and General Editor and the Executive Director.

<http://www.worship.ca/easter.html> **Lift up Your Hearts. Lent, Holy Week, Easter.** The folks at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada have put together this amazingly extensive page of links. The sites cross denominational and national boundaries, and while a few links are broken, it's possible to seek materials out through the annotations.

<http://anglicanonline.org/special/lent.html> **Anglicans Online, Lent and Easter Resources.** The venerable Anglican online site with over 30,000 links!

<http://extension-horticulture.tamu.edu/plantanswers/publications/lily/lily.html>  
And finally, no discussion of Easter would be complete without information on the **Easter Lilly**.

Happy Easter!

*Have you found an online site that's contributed to your journey in faith? Email Amy at [pagets@gmail.com](mailto:pagets@gmail.com) and watch for it to appear here in the upcoming months.*

## United Thank Offering By Mary Louise Davis

Our Spring Ingathering for UTO (The United Thank Offering) will be held Sunday, May 9 at both services.

Information on UTO grants, blue boxes, and other important information about UTO can be found on the table outside the kitchen in the parish hall. Please help yourself!

The following prayer is found in the UTO *Prayers* booklet:

*Dear God, in the stillness of this moment we come to Thee in gratitude. Our thanks for the beauties of Thy world: help us to enjoy and not destroy; for the abundance in this land of ours: help us to share it generously and with humility; for the diversity of peoples and cultures in Thy universe; help us to understand and appreciate, to tolerate and to learn from each other. Thanks for life itself: help us to live as Thou would want us to do in service to others. Above all, our thanks for the gift of Thy dear Son, our Saviour, in whose name we pray. Amen.*

## Easter Reflection By Linda Jeffries

We have a new kitten. He finds complete joy in battling a stray piece of paper, ambushing our staid five-year old mama cat, and galloping gleefully through the upstairs hallway. He also finds complete peace in sleeping on my lap and nuzzling my neck. He is safe, warm, and happy – and he knows it. His joy is physically apparent; his peace is easily and quickly attained. He acts on pure instinct and knows no other way of life. Nor does he need much of anything else. He knows we care for him. There are days when I'd give a lot to be as naïve as a kitten.

I would like to be secure enough to accept the joy, peace, and security freely offered by a gracious and loving God, knowing without any questions or doubts that God gave me these gifts as

part of the gift of life. My mind knows this intellectually; I have the knowledge of what our Lord's sacrifice bought for me – my life, in every aspect, for all eternity. I have never questioned my faith or my relationship with God. Living it, however, is another thing. My inner human tries to say that I'll never be good enough to accept those gifts without looking for the catch. I frequently feel as though I need to prove myself in some way, to be worthy. In my life of faith I struggle with being quiet and unassuming, accepting the totality of this life as it is gifted and not questioning God's motives in so gifting me.

And then Easter comes along again. And, once more I'm immersed in the reminder that His sacrifice of love and

defeat of death are not a one-time occurrence; this sacrifice happens every minute of every day of my life. It is His monumental gift to me. I am intended to find joy, peace, and security in my relationship with God and the daily life He has given me. I am asked to put away the doubts and questions and to just accept that which is given in love. No easy task for me.

But, each Easter I feel a few less doubts as to my worth and come a few steps closer to instinctively knowing that the gifts of joy, peace, and security are mine, without strings attached. Maybe someday, like my kitten, my inner human will be able to accept this gift in a naïve, gentle, and secure peacefulness. I am worthy. I always have been.

## St. John's Book Group Celebrates National Poetry Month

By Amy Paget

Join fellow St. John's parishioners when they explore poetry to celebrate National Poetry Month on Wednesday evening, April 28 at 7 pm in the Commons. Inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in 1996, ([www.poets.org](http://www.poets.org)), National Poetry Month is now held every April, when publishers, booksellers, literary organizations, libraries, schools and poets around the country band together to celebrate poetry and its vital place in American culture.

This year we will celebrate Indiana poets, following on the local appearance of Indiana's own poet laureate, Norbert Krapf. Get a jump start on St. John's discussion by planning to attend **Indiana in Words and Music at the Tippecanoe County Public Library on Saturday afternoon, April 10 at 2 pm**. Hear Indiana Poet Laureate Norbert Krapf, plus IU professor and jazz performer and producer Monika Herzig pay tribute to the southern Indiana hill country, the late Hampton sisters, and various Indiana Avenue jazz greats. Enjoy the poetry of Etheridge Knight. Humalong to the legendary music of Hoagy Carmichael (a short-term resident of Lafayette).

Bring your favorite Indiana poems to our book group session. We also plan to focus on Krapf's work, **Invisible Presence: a Walk through Indiana in Photographs and Poems**, a book jointly authored with award winning photographer, Daryl Jones. It will be evening celebrating all things Hoosier. Do come!

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## Easter Reflection

By Sally Byrn

Easter is what it's all about. Although I thoroughly enjoy Christmas, I had to give up trying to put tons of religious meaning into it or become Scrooge-like in the name of Christianity. Now I just freely celebrate and acknowledge that I need an emotional lift in December. But Easter – now Easter is the crucial event. Lots of people are born. No one else died for my sins and was raised from the dead for me.

I had the opportunity to attend the funeral of a Jewish friend's father. It was the most profoundly sad funeral I've ever been to. We are close friends with this person, so Steve and I went to the cemetery as well. The burial was even worse. The finality of the death was overwhelmingly absolute. As I walked away, Paul's words came to me: "Grieve but not as those who have no hope." (Loosely, 1 Thessalonians 4:13.) I realized there was no hope in the service or the words of that day. It was over; there was nothing more but loneliness for those who had loved him.

I am reminded that God's mercies are new every day and that I can enjoy those mercies because of Easter and all Jesus did for me. *Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who rose victoriously from the dead, and comforts us with the blessed hope of everlasting life. For to your faithful people, O Lord, life is changed, not ended; and when our mortal body lies in death, there is prepared for us a dwelling place eternal in the heavens.* (The Book of Common Prayer p. 382)

## Easter Reflection

By Kathleen V. Williams

What a perfect season is spring, for Easter. (I may as well mention my miraculous – as in God-graced – remission from catastrophic illness and get it over with. I was totally without hope and thought that God could no more be interested in me. How wrong I was to think God could be so small. This was some years ago now...).

Every day I awake to a new miracle, every day is a re-birth. And this may sound like one of those "testimonies," but, ah well, Christ has been reborn in me. Rather, I have been re-born in Christ. Little 'ole me. "I walk in beauty like the night..." "...my cup overfloweth..." I am totally in love! I sometimes feel as if I had levitated. (It's a little embarrassing.)

Easter was always so sun-filled and optimistic as memories from my youth traipse by. After Easter Sunday service, out in the rectory garden the lilies-of-the-valley cocked their sturdy little white caps towards the heaven and – all's right with the world. Well, now, ho-ho- there are some who say I'm a wee bit out of touch with what's really going on. Yes, I spend time singing and dancing around my little river cottage (yet another of God's gifts) and believing, having faith that God loves me and that I, in gratitude, should try to present a most positive attitude.

Easter should remind us, of course, of Christ's sacrifice for us and that life is continually reborn, renewed, to be made of good use. God makes it so, wants this for us. We should do all we can, suing God for His kind assistance, so that His vision for us of success can be ours. Good neighbors and peace and love for all (no exceptions).

Surely Goodness and Mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the House of the Lord forever!

## Lunchtime Concert By Michael Bennett

The final lunchtime concert of this program year is April 14 and offers a temporary respite from your income tax filing preparations. Local pianist Mary Heller will play a concert of music by Beethoven and Chopin, including his Barcarolle, Op. 60. Mary is a former faculty member of Depauw University and has performed with the Lafayette Symphony Orchestra on several occasions. You won't want to miss the last concert of this season!

## Jubilee Christmas By Maggie McClure

It may only be spring but we are beginning to think Christmas, Jubilee Christmas to be specific. As you know, in 2009 St. John's hosted 38 families with 106 kids. This represents the most we have provided for ever. The need for assistance at Christmas time is expected to be just as great. If you have a few hours now and through out the fall and are interested in making this event a success, your help is sure needed. Please join us in the Bishop's Parlor on Weds. April 7, 7:00-8:00 as we begin organizing for December 12

## Spring Work Day By Tony Bailey

The Spring Work Day will be held on a Saturday in May starting at 9:00 am and ending at noon. We will be doing fix its, gardening, cleaning and other maintenance projects - ALL skill levels welcome- come help maintain our Church home! The mulch will also be delivered for the Gardens. You don't need to stay the whole time - stop in as your schedule allows. Watch for the date in future Bulletins and sign-up sheets in the Commons for more details. We'll have donuts and drinks and probably lunch. Please contact Tony Bailey (463-7263 or tkbailey@earthlink.net) if you want to volunteer and / or know of projects that need attention. Hope to see you there!

## Mom's Morning Out By Angela Mosier

The next Mom's Morning Out is April 9 from 9:00 am to noon. Please contact Angela Mosier at 765-463-4391 or ajmosier@comcast.net if you are interested in using this ministry.

## February Financial Report By Linda Jeffries

### OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2010

<b>A. RECEIPTS</b>	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Total Year 2010</u>
1. Pledge Income	\$ 20,925.00	\$ 44,670.00
2. Non-Pledge Income	\$ 935.00	\$ 2,211.00
3. Transfer Income	\$	\$ 751.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 21,860.00</b>	<b>\$ 47,532.00</b>
<b>B. EXPENSES</b>		
1. Outreach	\$ 3,909.00	\$ 7,587.00
2. Program	\$ 147.00	\$ 811.00
3. Administration	\$ 299.00	
4. Personnel	\$ 20,513.00	\$ 36,307.00
5. Office	\$ 1,326.00	\$ 3,583.00
6. Property	\$ 2,704.00	\$ 8,033.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 28,599.00</b>	<b>\$ 55,662.00</b>
<b>C. EXCESS OF RECEIPTS/EXPENSES</b>		
	\$ -8,231.00	

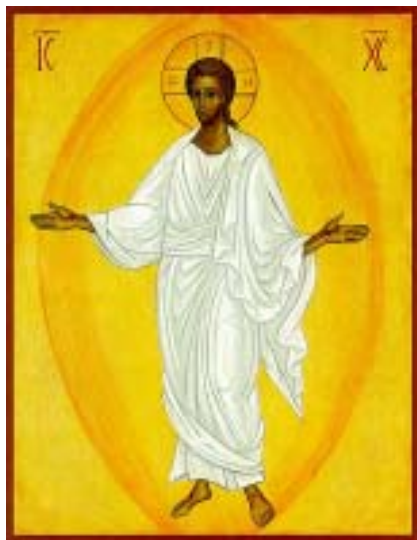
A few notes:

- For 2010, 2011, and 2012 any shortfall (up to \$35,000/yr.) will be met by income from the Extraordinary Stewardship Effort (ESE).
- This is a summary report of operating income and expenses. Details are available for review from any member of the Finance Committee or the parish office. Parish funds such as investment funds, or pass-through receipts not directed toward regular parish operations are not included in the above report. They are available for review through the parish office or any member of the Investment Committee.
- All the above figures are compiled from a "draft" report submitted to the Finance Committee. The final figures are available in the parish office. The "draft" is necessary due to the timing of the receipt of bank records each month (not received in time for Vestry reports).

### ESE UPDATE

- Income for ESE has been removed from the reported figures above. It will be recorded as it is spent, not as received.
- Total funds received as of 3/12/10 are \$17,953.00.
- Twenty reminder letters were mailed on 3/13/10 (there were 42 original letters; almost half have already paid their 2010 pledge. Several of the reminders went to large donors.
- Michael Martin print sales as of 3/12/10 stands at 66 prints sold for income of \$3,865.00.

## An Easter Reflection By Arliss Jeffries



Easter has always been a time of reflection for me. The winter months are passing into spring. Nature is beginning to awaken again. For us, too, there is an awakening, a sense of renewal. We survey our world, making lists of chores to accomplish; winter clothes are put away; the lawn mower is cleaned and re-fueled. Inspections are made of the property. It is a time to review ourselves as well. For each of us, Easter is not just the celebration of the Resurrection; it is the time of our personal resurrection. It is a time to re-examine who we are, who we have been, and what we want to become. For we are works in progress.

In my years of studying the Bible, I have come to the conclusion that Jesus was a work in progress as well. Just as we are affected by those who enter our lives, by the good and bad things that happen, so, too, Jesus could not have helped being affected. And yet, his sacrifice and his truths have altered all who believe. His disciples disappointed and betrayed him; his anger at the money changers at the temple in Jerusalem; his own doubts that night in the Garden at Gethsemane; his cursing of a tree that bore no fruit; his disappointment with his own people; all are reflections of his progression toward the ultimate end and the Resurrection we glorify and praise.

In this season of re-birth and resurrection, amid the rituals and trappings of our faith, consider who you are, who you have been, and who you want to become.



### St. John's Episcopal Church

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*Rector*  
The Reverend Ed Tourangeau

*Youth and Young Adult Ministries*  
The Reverend Hilary Cooke

*Sunday Associate*  
The Very Reverend Robert L'Homme

*Parish Administrator*  
Teresa Lohrman

*Director of Music*  
Michael Bennett

*Religious Education Coordinator*  
Heidi Kauffman

*Parish Health Ministries*  
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Linda Jeffries, Dorothy Jones,  
Maggie McClure, Debra Murawski,  
Heather Johnston Nicholson,  
Rachael Schexnaider, Kathy Johnson,  
Bill Kealey, Dave Vorbeck

***He is not here;  
he has risen,  
just as he said.***

Matthew 28:6

