

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH



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The annual Episcopal Parish Picnic, shared in by both St. John's and Good Shepherd, will be June 1 this year. Time is 10:15, place is Happy Hollow Park, shelter #1, rain or shine. We will provide burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments, drinks and paperware. Please bring a dish: chips, salad, dessert, fruit, etc. to share. There will be an 8:00 am Eucharist at St. John's, but we will celebrate the 10:15 Eucharist at the park, and the picnic meal will follow. It's a great time for kids to enjoy the park, and the two congregations to share their common life. Volunteers to help set up, cook, or clean up should contact Nancy Bowker at 447-2566 or <njbowker@yahoo.com>.

As is our custom we will take the annual Episcopalians of Tippecanoe County photo at this picnic, so be sure to wear bright colors.

Beginning with Sunday June 8 and continuing through Sunday August 10 we will move to our summer Sunday service schedule of one combined service at 9:00 am. There will be nursery care for this service.

A View from the Big Pew

Dear Friends,

The norm of the Holy Eucharist as the principal act of worship on Sunday (BCP p. 13) was established. With the advent of the current revision of our Prayer Book in 1979.

Prior to this there were many places in the church where the norm was the celebration of the Holy Eucharist on certain Sundays of the month (like the 2nd and 4th or the 1st, 3rd and 5th) and the service of Morning Prayer with Sermon and Hymns on alternate Sundays. Or even the Holy Eucharist at the early service and Morning Prayer at the later service every Sunday except one Sunday a month. Indeed I remember when I came to St. John's in 1991 there were still some folks here who hoped I would return to the earlier practice – how much “earlier” they didn't always say – of Morning Prayer as the principal service on Sundays (at least those Sundays when *they* were in attendance!).

I certainly agree with the principal established over the years that the Holy Eucharist is the principal service of worship on the Lord's Day. I am aware of no priest who does not.

There is certain nostalgia or sense of value lost for many who remember the days of “Solemn High” Morning Prayer when a vested choir sang canticles and chanted psalms. The rector solemnly entered the pulpit to preach while the lights in the nave were dimmed so that he (always a “he” in those days) was more dramatically illuminated. Then the ushers – sometimes wearing boutonnieres – took up the money offering and presented it to the priest who raised it high before an empty altar while everyone sang “Praise God from whom all blessings flow” (this moment was secretly known in the church music trade as “the march of dimes”). That sentiment has some truth to it; something was lost.

Moreover, in fairness and without the edgy humor, there were many times and places when faithful and committed lay persons would lead Morning Prayer in the absence of a priest. There were many times and places when worship was accompanied with no pretense about formality for the sake of formality, but rather expressed simply the holiness of simplicity and honest worship of Almighty God. There were many times and places when local faith communities were formed and sustained through this form of worship with all of its sincerity and beauty. I mean those times and places no disrespect. Persons who knew that side of Morning Prayer worship may also experience a sense of loss with the advent of Holy Communion every Sunday.

If you consider that the primary exposure to Holy Scripture for many Episcopalians today – and in those days – came through what we read in worship and recite in the texts of the Prayer Book, then something was lost. The Order for Morning Prayer (and Evening Prayer) was built almost entirely from the words of Holy Scripture. The entire order of worship made extensive use of psalms, poetic scripture texts, and readings. We chant, sing, read and/or hear these texts much less frequently these days, unless we read Morning or Evening Prayer as a part of our personal devotion and rule of life.

At a recent meeting the Worship Committee was discussing the fact that we use so little of the Prayer Book. A quick glance at the books in our pews will show soil on those pages comprising the Service for Holy Communion, but the rest of the book is almost pristine. What a loss that is, when you consider the collected piety, wisdom and tradition they contain. “How,” some members wondered, “can we enjoy some of this neglected treasure?”

We decided to employ the Order for Morning Prayer in some of the combinations that the Prayer Book permits, and in so doing treat ourselves to these treasures, both new and old. We will

do this in the month of June, on the last four Sundays of the month. Our services will be combined, so everyone will be in the same boat with the same level of strangeness or reverie.

Here's the plan: On Sunday June 8th our worship will be Morning Prayer, with canticles, psalms and hymns and sermon. *We will not celebrate the Holy Eucharist this day*, so as to give ourselves a sampling of what at least 50% of the Episcopal Church experienced many Sundays of the year before 1979. (Maybe we can even pop for boutonnieres for the ushers.) As carefully as we can we will try to make this sound, look and feel like it would have in the "good old days" (or "bad old days" depending on your point of view). So be prepared for more kneeling, for a shorter service and a longer sermon and for the "march of dimes." Parents, prepare your children for the fact that there will not be what one young member of the parish called "the bread thing" on this day. Folks attending this service can be assured of being the first ones to brunch, wherever you enjoy it!

On the remaining Sundays of June we will exercise the Prayer Book options on pages 36 and 142. This means we will celebrate Holy Eucharist on these Sundays (the "bread thing" will return). In place of the customary order of service before the Exchange of Peace, we will insert the Morning Prayer service, using canticles in place of psalms and so forth.

You can preview and prepare for these changes if you'd like. The Order for Morning Prayer can be found on pp 37-60 (Rite I) and 75-102 (Rite II) and the canticles that would take the place of psalms and come between the readings are on pp 47-53 and 85-95.

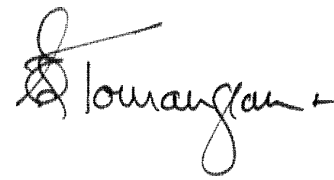
To make the point that Christian liturgy continues to develop and seek expression, and to remember that our liturgy has not only a past but a future, we will be sure to include canticles now under optional use in our church and not found in the current revision of the Prayer Book. You can preview some of these as well: Wisdom 10:15-19, 20b-21; Ecclesiasticus 51:13-16, 20b-22; I Samuel 2:1-8; Isaiah 35:1-7, 10; Isaiah 66:10-14; Lamentations 1:12, 16; 3:19, 22-24, 26; Ezekiel 36:24-28; Hosea 6:1-3; Jonah 2:2-7, 9; Judith 16:13-16; Ephesians 1:3-10; Philippians 2:6-11; I Peter 1:3-4, 18-21; I John 4:7-11; Revelation 21:22-26, 22:1-4; Revelation 22:12-17. In addition the new list of canticles includes readings from St. Anselm of Canterbury and St. Julian of Norwich.

Our hope is that you can receive and share in this with good humor. For some of you this may bring back memories of what worship used to be like. For others it may recall some of the "worship wars" fought in certain locales around the time of Prayer Book revision. For others who know only Eucharistic worship this may seem pointless, although I hope not.

The blessing of summer worship, though, during these few weeks of the year when we aren't rushing about to engage in other "programs," is that we can indulge in activities like this, just for the fun of it, knowing that soon enough (or perhaps too soon) June will end and we turn to other texts of worship to experience those as well.

In keeping with the fun of it (and perhaps for extra credit, if there is such a thing) and to get into the period and mood of the good old days a bit more, gentlemen could wear jacket and tie, ladies could wear hats and gloves, and we could turn the air conditioning off!

I hope to see you in June, in the air conditioned comfort of our nave!



The next Property Committee Meeting is Saturday, June 7. The meeting starts at 9:00 a.m. with a monthly update followed by various work projects. Please contact Tony Bailey 463-7263 if you have any questions.



Photos from last month's work day



UTO

Our Spring Ingathering at St. John's was on May 4, 2008. As of May 15, 2008 the total given to support UTO grants to meet the needs of others is \$812.37.

GIVE THANKS for God's love and care, support in times of stress and trouble, thanksgiving for adequate food to eat, housing, clothing, opportunities for learning, sharing with family, friends, our community of neighbors near and far!

Get your UTO Blue Box if you don't have one. They are on the chest of drawers outside the kitchen.

Wishing you a meaningful summer of work and rest

Yours in Christ,

Mary Louise Davis

Strawberry Shortcake Still Successful

We would like to thank everyone who contributed time and talent to this year's strawberry shortcake booth. This could be in the form of baking, slicing, serving, eating, transporting, etc. The initial count has indicated a net profit of approximately \$2260.00, which is a record profit after having researched three previous years' income. One-half of the official total will be designated each for the music program and scholarships for our diocesan camp, Waycross.

Michael Bennett
Debra Murawski

Next *EAGLE* deadline
July 21, 2008



Thanks to all who have committed to host coffee hours over the next few months. It would seem we have hosts for all Sunday services through Mid-July. The success of this part of our fellowship depends on individuals, partnerships and families taking on just such a responsibility as this.

**Three Cups of Tea:
One Man's Mission to Promote Peace . . . One School at a Time
@ St. John's Book Discussion WEDNESDAY June 18th @ 7:00 pm**

“Greg Mortenson’s dangerous and difficult quest to build schools in the wildest parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan is not only a thrilling read, it’s proof that one ordinary person, with the right combination of character and determination, really can change the world.”

–Tom Brokaw

Here’s a teaser from *Publisher’s Weekly*, to entice you to read the book and join the discussion... “Some failures lead to phenomenal successes, and this American nurse’s unsuccessful attempt to climb K2, the world’s second tallest mountain, is one of them. Dangerously ill when he finished his climb in 1993, Mortenson was sheltered for seven weeks by the small Pakistani village of Korphe; in return, he promised to build the impoverished town’s first school, a project that grew into the Central Asia Institute, which has since constructed more than 50 schools across rural Pakistan and Afghanistan. Coauthor Relin recounts Mortenson’s efforts in fascinating detail, presenting compelling portraits of the village elders, con artists, philanthropists, mujahideen, Taliban officials, ambitious school girls and upright Muslims Mortenson met along the way. Captivating and suspenseful, with engrossing accounts of both hostilities and unlikely friendships, this book will win many readers’ hearts. (Mar.)” Learn more about Mortenson’s current efforts by visiting <http://www.ikat.org/>.

We are pleased to welcome a guest discussion facilitator for **Three Cups of Tea**. Hope Gulker is a Clinical Associate Professor at the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences at Purdue. She has taught children in Early Childhood and Early Childhood Special Education programs and has collaborated with Speech-Language Pathologists at the Birth to Three and Preschool Language Programs. She has worked in First Steps, Head Start and in program development through the ARC, and has special interests in inclusion, music, early literacy and exploring affective issues related to early childhood, children with special needs and family systems.

Hope is interested in social justice issues and in the peace movement. “As an educator and a social worker I believe it is important to reach out, in constructive ways, to families in remote regions of the world, where average people may lack tangible evidence that the we in the United States respect other cultures and religions, and that we are mindful of our responsibility to share our wealth and resources.”

During this session, we’ll also continue our review of titles suggested for next season.

The book club meets on the third Wednesday of selected months at 7pm in the Commons. Everyone is welcome. The group is on vacation until August 20th. Questions? Contact Amy Paget, pagets@gmail.com.

UPCOMING: **Wednesday August 20th, 2008**. Join our discussion of **The Time Machine**, by H. G. Wells. The Time Machine is Lafayette’s **One Great Read** selection. For further details visit www.facebook.com/pages/Lafayette-IN/One-Great-Read/25691965184.

Habitat for Humanity Cover Indiana Bike Tour 2008

Habitat for Humanity is an organization dedicated to providing decent and affordable housing to people in need. From May 11 - 17 eighty bikers participated in the fifth annual Habitat Bike Tour. Bikers rode seven days covering approximately 350 miles from Evansville to Indianapolis. Their goal was to spread awareness of Habitat's mission of ending poverty housing.

Because of this mission, the opportunity to enjoy Indiana's natural beauty, meet new people, and exercise, I registered to participate. I was concerned about the distance and my ability to finish the tour. However with the support of your prayers and donations I was determined to do my best and completed the tour averaging 55 miles each day.

The goal for each rider was to raise a minimum of \$350 for Habitat. Through the generosity of the St. John's Community and others, I have raised to date approximately \$1,500. Contributions are still being accepted. If interested, you may send a check made out to Habitat for Humanity Cover Indiana. On the memo line of your check enter St. John's Episcopal Church Lafayette. Please send the check to me at 2924 State Rd 26 West West Lafayette, IN 47906.

There will be another Habitat Tour in 2009! If you would like to know more about the tour, I would be happy to share my experience with you.

St. John's Moms

A new group for moms has begun at St. John's. We meet twice a month, once during the daytime and once in the evening. The purpose of the group is to provide support and fellowship time for the moms in the congregation. Childcare is provided in the nursery, so feel free to bring your kids. All moms and moms-to-be are welcome! We advertise our meeting times in the bulletin, but if you'd like to be on the email list, please contact Hilary: hilary@stjohns-laf.org. Our next meeting will be June 12th at 7pm.

June 22, will be our 50th wedding anniversary. Since this is on a Sunday, we would like to celebrate with our church family as our children host coffee hour that day. We invite you to join us as we remember that special occasion 50 years ago. There will also be an open house from 2:00 to 4:00 that afternoon here at St. Johns for other family and friends. We hope you will plan to be with us on this day.
Byron and Elaine Parvis



Work???

Looks like too much fun!!



for a work day

Join us next time!!



MY PAGE -JHH

Words of the month:

I ran into all but one in the crosswods puzzles I did this month.
Care to guess which one is the odd man out?

Zetetic – Seeking; proceeding by inquiry

Etiolate – To whiten by depriving of the sun’s rays

Onomasticon – A list or collection of proper names

Cupidity – Unlawful or unreasonable longings

Vastation – Purification by destruction of evil impulses

William Craigle's Dictionary of American English, 1940

Prayer-Bones – The knees.

John Farmer's Americanisms Old and New, 1953

Nomology – The science of law or laws

The next St John’s coordinated community luncheon at Trinity UMC is Sunday, Aug. 10. I thought it might be time to include something in the Eagle as people plan their summer activities; those looking for something to do in the community.

Timing: Sunday, 08/10, 11:00 - 1:30, roughly
Also someone for Saturday, 08/09, to help cook

Nursery News

The St. John’s nursery continues to be a bustling hub of childhood activity. We’re seeing regular attendance of 10 – 12 kids each week and sometimes more! Many of you know that we have been blessed with two wonderful sitters, Susan Chandler and Lara Brickey, who faithfully serve our community each Sunday and many times for other events. Lara has announced that she will be leaving her post at St. John’s at the end of this July. Angela and I ask you to join us in thanking Lara for her faithful service to St. John’s. We will certainly miss Lara but wish her well as she finishes up with school and moves on to great things!

Sincerely,
Annie Schreiber and Angela Mosier

