



The Eagle

June/July 2010

Farewell to a Friend

By Hilary E. Cooke

One of the most challenging parts of life in ministry is learning to say goodbye. It is with sadness that St. John's, and the Youth Group in particular, bid farewell to Zach Brooks this summer. Zach has been a faithful leader of our youth group throughout the past four years. His diligent service and cheerful attitude have been invaluable as we have sought to build and strengthen our Youth Group. Over the last four years Zach has spent countless hours with the youth at St. John's—teaching and leading our Sunday programs here in the church, driving to and chaperoning diocesan overnights at Waycross, and providing important oversight on our mission trip to Chicago. I believe the entire youth group (leaders included) would agree that Zach's sense of humor and steady commitment will be greatly missed.

It is a bittersweet departure though, as Zach leaves us to begin graduate studies in Boston. He has been accepted to Boston College and will be enrolled in a Master of Theological Studies program. I thank you, Zach, for your hard work and presence among us, and wish you well in your future endeavors. Please come back and visit us!

Opportunities for Ministry

By Heidi Kauffman

- We still need Godly Play teachers! Please prayerfully consider this. We need you!
 - We need a group of people willing to take care of the children's bags. This task can be done between the services on Sunday morning or during the week when the church is open. The idea is to get several people and set up a rotating schedule for them so no one person is doing it all the time.
 - Can anyone build a small simple altar and/or shelves for our Godly Play rooms?
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Godly Play Schedule

By Heidi Kauffman

- The church picnic at Happy Hollow will be June 6. After June 6 we will have one service at 9 am until August 22.
- Godly Play will begin again August 22. This is also when we will go back to having two services.
- There will be no Godly Play classes September 5, November 28, December 26, or January 2.

EWM/ECW News By Charlene Watson

When one sees ECW or hears ECW, “women in the kitchen” come to mind for many persons. Today women are of service to the church in so many more ways. As Mary Jane Watson used to say, “I have done everything in this church except preach.” Women in the Episcopal Church today preach, serve as administrators, directors, coordinators, teachers, serve on vestry, sing, serve at the altar, and so forth. Wanting to project this new image for women, the Diocese of Indianapolis has gathered all the ministries of women under the umbrella of Episcopal Women’s Ministries (EWM). An article appeared in the November 2009 issue of *The Eagle* explaining these decisions.

Dorothy Jones, Kaye Kleine-Ahlbrandt, and Charlene Watson attended a meeting of the EWM Council in Indianapolis on May 8, 2010. At this meeting the Mission Statement, Goals/Purposes, and Strategies of EWM were scrutinized and more efficiently stated. Also discussed were an update on the Endowment Fund merger, a report on CPC, an update on the UTO grants, a presentation about the EWM web page, and a report on the Chapter News of DOK (Daughters of the King).

We then turned our attention to upcoming events being planned for all women in the Diocese of Indianapolis. So, PLEASE “save the dates” for these exciting events:

1. Fall Retreat, “Passion, Gifts, and Call...God’s Design for YOU” – Waycross Conference Center, September 24-26, 2010.
2. Spring Luncheon – March 2011 – developing (Charlene Watson and Lisa Matucheski from Indianapolis are co-chairing)
3. Province V Annual Gathering, “Lifting Our Voices in Prayer, Love & Service” – Columbus, Ohio, May13-15, 2011.

Flyers should be coming out soon to register for the Fall Retreat. You can also go online to the Diocese of Indianapolis webpage. At the bottom is an icon for EWM which will bring you up-to-date news. Look for them also on the credenza in the Commons Room in the near future.

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments you would like to share, please speak to Kaye, Dorothy, or Charlene. Please get involved and support.

Opportunity for Lifelong Learning By Heidi Kauffman

- The St John’s Lending Library is here! Look for the cart in the Commons.
- If you want to donate books please give them to Heidi Kauffman to catalog first.
- There are books for children and adults.
- One book per person.
- You are responsible to check out your book and check it in when you return it.
- Use one of the sheets on the clipboards to check your book out/in.
- When the book is returned you are welcome to check out another one.
- Parents please assist children in checking the books in and out.

United Thank Offering By Mary Lou Davis

We have many twists and turns in our life; they can help shape us into deeper faith and service. As we give daily thanks to God for the challenges of life, may we be aware of our opportunities for growth and service.

UTO encourages us as individuals and families to give daily thanks as we pray and share our gifts of thanks giving in our Blue Boxes. Do you have a box? They are available on the credenza outside the kitchen. Please help yourself. Our next St. John’s UTO Ingathering will be November 14, 2010.

The May Ingathering to support UTO grants totaled \$465.60 as of May 17. Teresa in the office expected more gifts to be turned in this week.

Have a wonderful summer full of fun and challenge.

Thank You By Hilary E. Cooke

I wish to publicly thank the following people for serving as mentors to the youth group this year: Karen Atallah, Jason Boley, Greg Buzzard, Tracey Gage, Bruce Johnson, Greg McClure, Sven Schreiber, Charlie Shook, Amy Van Epps, and Pam Walters. Thanks also to Randy Brist and Andrew Ball for their willingness to offer themselves for this important ministry.

Next Eagle Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the August *Eagle* will be Monday, July 19. Email to eagle@stjohns-laf.org or place items in *The Eagle* mailbox on the porch.

Marciniak and Habitat WIN!

By Ken Paar



On May 16, Jim Marciniak and the rest of the riders rolled into the National Institute for Fitness and Sport having traveled 361 miles in the Cover Indiana Bike Tour. While there were no prizes for finishing order, anyone finishing the tour is a winner. The big winner is Habitat for Humanity as all riders raised a minimum of \$350. Thanks to the generosity of St. John's parishioners and others in the community, Jim received pledges for many times the minimum amount. All money pledged to support Jim is credited on St. John's behalf at Habitat and will become a portion of the donation we make when St. John's next participates in a build, which will be in 2011. Many thanks also for your prayers as Jim and his bike finished without any incident.



A Summer Parable for Church Members

By Linda Jeffries

Now it came to pass as summer drew nigh that Mr. Church Member lifted up his eyes unto the hills and said: "Lo, the hot days cometh, and even now are at hand. Come, let us go into the heights, where cool breezes refresh and glorious scenes await us!"

"Thou speaketh wisely," quoted Mrs. Church Member. "Yet three, yea, four things must we do before we go."

"Three things I can think of, but not four," responded Mr. Church Member. "We must arrange for our flowers to be cared for, our lawn cut and watered, and the mail forwarded, but the fourth eludeth my mind."

"The fourth is like unto the first three, yet most important of all," said Mrs. Church Member. "Thou shalt dig down into thy purse and pay the church pledge, that the good name of the church may be preserved and that it may be well with thee, for verily I say unto thee, thou hast more money now than thou wilt have when thou dost return."

And it came to pass that Mr. Church Member paid his pledge for the summer, and the Treasurer rejoiced greatly, saying: "Of a truth, there are those who care the Lord's work, even in the summer months." And it was so.

(Just a reminder from the Finance/Stewardship Committees – please don't forget St. John's when you vacation this summer. Our doors will always remain open and we need your regular pledge payments.. Thank you.)

Letters of Thanks

By Cresta Cates

St. John's has received two letters of thanks from organizations to which we have made donations over the past several months.

The first letter came from the Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes thanking St. John's for our donation of 15 School Kits and 1 AIDS Kit and Material Resources. As many will remember, these kits were assembled during our intergenerational All Saint's Day Festival from items donated beforehand by parishioners.

The second letter is from Family Promise of Greater Lafayette, Inc. thanking St. John's for donating the \$803 collected at our Evensong to their work helping homeless families in the Lafayette area reach their goals and self-sufficiency.

More information on the work of the Mennonite Central Committee Great Lakes and Family Promise of Greater Lafayette, Inc. can be found online at www.mcc.org/greatlakes and www.fpglinc.org.

St. John's Spring Work Day By Tony Bailey and Barbara Powell



Gardeners came out in full force to weed, clean and mulch the garden beds on Saturday, April 24, 2010 for the St. John's Clean Up Day. Thanks to: Nancy Brandt, Lloyd Brewer, Georgia Brist, Tracey Gage, Kristine Holtvedt, Shirley Marciniak, Gaye Matthews, Doug and Barbara Powell, Bob Slagel and Larry Hicks who brought a truckload of mulch.

Work projects accomplished during the Work Day included: replaced light ballast in kitchen; replaced burned out light bulbs in Outreach and Food Pantry and cleaned plastic coverings; put away salt and snow shovels; vacuumed fan coils on refrigerator and freezer; cleaned out alley grate; many windows cleaned; installed sprinkler head protector in closet; inspected and repairs made to church pews and kneelers; re-glued baseboard carpet strips at numerous locations; installed pencil sharpeners in classrooms; tightened Common's table legs; cleaned bird nest from Kitchen exhaust fan and cleared cobwebs. Next year we will work on solving world peace :) Thanks to: John Lindenlaub, Joe Venable, Ray Polstra, Paul Lawson, Sven Schreiber, Bob Slagel, Jason Boley, Heather Johnston Nicholson, Patrick Schexnailder, Zach Brooks, Chris Lacey, Jim Marciniak, Kelley and Tony Bailey

Many thanks to all of these people (and anyone we might have missed) for sharing their time and talents at this year's Spring Clean-up Day.



How Welcoming Is Our Web Site? By Doug Powell

Most folks interested in our church probably have their first visit with St. John's via our Web site, not attendance at a worship service or other event. This pattern raises interesting questions: How engaging is our Web site? How well do we present the central points of our mission and ministries? How friendly is the site to those who may have limited knowledge of the Episcopal Church? Are there ways we can improve the ease of navigation?

You can help answer these questions by sharing your ideas from the perspective of an imagined visitor as well as your experiences with our Web site as a parishioner. Here's our web address: www.stjohns-laf.org

Please send your feedback to our general e-mail address: stjohns@stjohns-laf.org or talk with Doug Powell or any Vestry member. Thank you for taking a few moments to help strengthen an increasingly important communication resource.

Food Pantry Update By Ken Paar

The Food Pantry served 2,540 clients through the first four months of 2010 which is about 8.5% behind 2009 and just a little more than 2008. Fortunately, the average number of clients served per day has decreased from 42.8 to 39.1 somewhat easing the workload on the volunteers. Food expense is just a bit more at \$0.81/person than 0.79 last year despite much larger receipts of USDA commodities. We continue to have a need for cereal as Food Finders' supply of salvaged items has all but disappeared. Recent USDA receipts have put the Food Pantry in good shape for canned vegetables and fruits and dry beans and pasta.

Easter Reflection By Eileen Mallery

When I was a teenager, my Lutheran Pastor commented that it is not possible to experience the full joy of Easter Sunday if you're not here in church on Good Friday. Unless you go through dark times, you cannot fully appreciate the joy of good times. Ever since I was a young teenager, Good Friday has been the holiest day of the year for me, because it means God understands our pain.

We will all have "personal Good Fridays" and "personal Easters" throughout our lives — our sorrows and joys. The road we take to get to our "personal Easter" from our pain may be mostly in the form of waiting, praying, trusting, and resting in God's Holy Spirit of love. For example, the pain of the death of a loved one eases over a long time, even though it will always be there to some degree. Suffering has the potential to bring us closer to God as we rest in the Holy Spirit.

Healing from a medical disorder may require a lot of action and determined

persistence on our part: going to specialists, eventually receiving a surprising and unexpected diagnosis, followed by a long process of repeated attempts to find the right medications to control it.

When our victories come, we rejoice and give praise to God, trying at least temporarily to forget our other difficulties. But the reality is that you may have the knowledge that even though you've found medications that control your disorder fairly well, the disorder can have "a mind of its own" and can become worse for no apparent reason.

After that first Easter Sunday, the Apostles suffered much for the sake of the Kingdom of God throughout their lives. They prayed for strength and peace of mind to endure such times, and this is our role model. Going to heaven is our ultimate Easter, even if we don't experience a victory over our most

troublesome problems here on earth.

For meditation: Ephesians 6: 10 - 20, 23 - 24 and Sirach 51: 1 - 2:

I give you thanks, O God of my father;
I praise you, O God my savior! I will
make known your name, refuge of my
life; you have been my helper against
my adversaries. You have saved me
from death, and kept back my body from
the pit, From the clutches of the nether
world you have snatched my feet.

Editor's Note: This is the final Easter Reflection that was submitted for inclusion in the defunct Easter Meditation Booklet and for which the author gave their permission for the piece to be published in this alternate venue. My thanks to all who took the time to share of themselves and write these Easter Reflections. They have deepened my Easter experience, as I am sure they have the experiences of many others in our congregation.

April Financial Report By Linda Jeffries

OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES MONTH ENDING APRIL 30, 2010

A. RECEIPTS	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Total Year 2010</u>
1. Pledge Income	\$ 33,666.00	\$ 95,212.00
2. Non-Pledge Income	\$ 5,257.00	\$ 10,021.00
3. Transfer Income	\$ —	\$ 10,751.00
TOTAL INCOME		
	\$ 38,923.00	\$115,984.00
B. EXPENSES		
1. Outreach	\$ 3,909.00	\$ 15,672.00
2. Program	\$ 529.00	\$ 3,163.00
3. Administration	\$ —	\$ 980.00
4. Personnel	\$ 20,102.00	\$ 73,109.00
5. Office	\$ 675.00	\$ 5,344.00
6. Property	\$ 2,484.00	\$ 20,624.00
TOTAL EXPENSES		
	\$ 27,679.00	\$118,892.00
C. EXCESS OF RECEIPTS/EXPENSES		
	\$ +11,244.00	\$- 2,908.00

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).



**Congratulations to
Jason Boley,
Cody Neal and
Kendra Jo McPheeters
who were received into the
Episcopal Church on April
24 at St. Paul’s Church in
Columbus, Indiana.**

We celebrate the lives of:

Nate Wilson who died on May 5, 2010.

Uncle of Erik Hanson.

Shirlee Roosmalen who died May 10, 2010.

Mother of Kathie Basden,

