



The Eagle

March 2010

Easter Meditations

By Ed Tourangeau

The Worship Committee invites you to share your reflections on Easter and the Resurrection.

We did this last year during Lent, and everyone who took part thought it was well worth the effort. Many others who did not prepare a reflection very much appreciated the thoughts and sharings of their sister and brother parishioners.

So this year we are inviting you to do the same thing for the 50 days of Easter. Start thinking along these lines:

- What does Resurrection mean to you?
- Is there a particular Easter hymn that speaks to you? Why?
- How about a passage of scripture? Or a prayer? Again, why?
- Is there a visual representation of Easter and Resurrection that particularly speaks to you?
- Have you an experience of resurrection or new life that you would be willing to share with us?

As last year, we hope to receive one meditation for each weekday and Sunday of the Easter Season – 50 in all for the Easter season. We will assemble them and produce a booklet for members of the parish to use each day during the Easter season.

Don't worry – this is not a test in orthodox theology! It is an exploration of the many ways that God touches us to give new life, hope, joy, renewal, transformation, forgiveness, healing and more. Consider that what you have to share may be exactly what someone else needs to read in order to bring the Good News of God's reconciling love into their lives. Don't be shy!

The deadline for submissions is Sunday, March 14. We request a limit of 400 words, so each entry will fit on one page of our booklet. We will have a sign-up sheet in the Commons so everyone can see who else is involved. If at all possible we ask that submittals be in MSWord format, and sent to Linda Jeffries at lindajeffries43@yahoo.com. If you can't submit electronically, clear handwritten copy will do and may be placed in Linda's mailbox (in the vestry section) on the rectory porch.

How has the Easter promise of new life touched you?

I Wonder What You Think God Is Like

By Solly Cates

I think God likes a purple or green dress.
I think she likes a yellow or black shirt.

I think she is like a human or a boy- I don't know which one. She likes all the colors for her house and she likes a rainbow. She likes the future. She likes the babies in the future and my brother Lyle.

She keeps us staying safe when nobody is in the room. She is always in your room when you hear nobody. She gets anxious when people say bad words. I know she doesn't like us to say hating words.

She likes flowers when people don't pull them out of the ground and they don't go dead.

She takes care of people when they're awake. She takes care of them when they are sick. I think she likes mermaids. She takes care of people when they're in the hospital.

God is everywhere. Remember?

St. John's Book Group By Amy Paget

On Wednesday, March 24 at 7:00 pm, the St. John's Book Discussion Group features *Outliers: The Story of Success* by Malcolm Gladwell.

According to Amazon's Mari Malcolm, "Malcolm Gladwell poses a provocative question in *Outliers*: why do some people succeed, living remarkably productive lives, while so many more never reach their potential? Challenging our cherished belief of the "self-made man," he makes the democratic assertion that superstars don't arise out of nowhere, propelled by genius and talent: "they are invariably the beneficiaries of hidden advantages and extraordinary opportunities and cultural legacies that allow them to learn and work hard and make sense of the world in ways others cannot." Examining the lives of outliers from Mozart to Bill Gates, he builds a convincing case for how successful people rise on a tide of advantages, "some deserved, some not, some earned, some just plain lucky."

Outliers can be enjoyed for its bits of trivia, like why most pro hockey players were born in January, how many hours of practice it takes to master a skill, why the descendents of Jewish immigrant garment workers became the most powerful lawyers in New York, how a pilots' culture impacts their crash record, how a centuries-old culture of rice farming helps Asian kids master math. But there's more to it than that. Throughout all of these examples—and in more that delve into the social benefits of lighter skin color, and the reasons for school achievement gaps—Gladwell invites conversations about the complex ways privilege manifests in our culture. He leaves us pondering the gifts of our own history, and how the world could benefit if more of our kids were granted the opportunities to fulfill their remarkable potential."

Parishioner Jack Albright will lead this discussion.

April is National Poetry Month so our April 28th session will feature that genre.

Ladies' Potluck Lunch By Cresta Cates

To shake off the winter blahs, the ladies of St. John's will meet Saturday, March 13 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.

Mom's Morning Out By Angela Mosier

The next Mom's Morning Out is March 12 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.

March Lunchtime Concert By Michael Bennett

The monthly lunchtime concert for March offers an instrument family not yet heard on the series. Given that the brass family has not yet been represented, the time of hearing the trumpet has arrived. Logansport native Bruce Knepper, who is Asst. Director of Bands at Lafayette Jefferson High School, will perform classical and jazz selections at the March 10 concert. Knepper studied at Valparaiso University and Indiana University, and has a diverse background as a performer and educator. You won't want to miss it!

Calling All Gardeners! By Barbara Powell

With the arrival of March, we begin to look forward to the arrival of spring and gardening. With that in mind, it is time to begin organizing the Garden Club for this spring and summer.

First, a thank you to last year's Garden Club members: Pat Annis, Georgia Brist, Nancy and George Dandrow, Tracey Gage, Kristine Holtvedt, Dorothy Jones, Gaye Matthews, Doug Powell, Jo Roberts, Marilyn Howland Ross, and Barbara Powell. And to Bob Slagel who provides valuable help with the gardens and Shirley Marciniak who served as substitute.

The gardening year begins with a clean up and mulching of the flowerbeds in conjunction with the **Spring Clean Up Day at St. John's**. The date for this event is yet to be determined. Then we work in groups of two with a group working each weekend from the first of May through the end of September. We weed the beds, clean up any trash that has accumulated and water when needed. We work in the Memorial Garden outside of the chapel, in the beds to the east of the Rectory, and in the beds on Sixth Street.

With a team working each weekend, the gardens can be kept looking nice without any one person having to devote many hours to the task. The gardens are a lovely place to be on a warm summer day, working and remembering those who have gone before and are resting in the holy ground of the Memorial Garden.

Please contact Barbara Powell at 474-6313 or powellbl@purdue.edu if you are interested in joining our devoted group of gardeners.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes you

By Amy Van Epps

In thinking about how to address the request to write about “why I am here,” and being given that latitude to make this about the Episcopal church as a whole, St. John’s in particular or where I am in my spiritual journey, I have come to realize there are two primary themes in my journey.

The first theme probably will not surprise many of you, it’s music. Starting from the time I was left to make my own decisions regarding church choice and attendance, which began when I was 13 and my parents divorced, the music offered at a church and my ability to participate in the music program have been a strong determining factor in my choice of church home. The other primary theme is the freedom, and even encouragement, to investigate my own beliefs without being forced into a ‘party line’ for a given denomination.

I can thank my family for early encouragement in my musical interests and representing a thoughtful participation in religion, and while it has not been a conscious decision in many cases, I have always found myself in places which feed both sides of my religious life. The clearly conscious part of the decision in changing churches has always revolved around music for me.

When I entered high school, and was thus eligible for the adult choir in my home church, I immediately took the opportunity and began my life as a member of the choir, an identity which has stayed with me through many

different churches. Over the years, through college, graduate school and job changes, I have participated in Methodist, United Church of Christ, Lutheran, Presbyterian and Episcopal church choirs. I ended up in the Episcopal Church, not through a job change or location move, but through a monetary and musical opportunity in the capital district of New York. I had been attending and singing with a Presbyterian church in Albany, when one of the Episcopal churches in Troy



approached me with the opportunity to be the alto section leader in their choir, which was a paid position. Since I was not in a paid position in Albany, the commute would be much shorter, and I was living on a very tight budget, I took the opportunity to learn about the Episcopal Church through participation with the choir. While my experience in

New York lead me to visit St. John’s upon moving to Lafayette, I spent a large amount of time visiting churches in town before making any decisions. As I look back on this I realize part of the reason I did not make a quick decision was due to a time of musical leadership change at St. John’s. I had found a comfort with the Episcopal Church during my time in New York which drew me back once the music at St. John’s was more settled.

My faith and beliefs have largely developed out of lived experiences more than family expectations or outside pressures to conform. Despite having a father who is ordained, he was not active as a pastor during my childhood. Instead he was self-employed as a carpenter, and lived his faith in ways that I would not have been able to articulate as a child, but which I can see now. During my time in high school, my father became employed as a prison chaplain and conversations about religions of the world and broadly ecumenical experiences became part of my world. Experience in an ecumenical Thanksgiving day service which included all denominations of Protestants, Catholics, Jews, Muslims and even American Indians is an experience I will never forget. Participating with this diverse group, even just once a year, helped bring me to an understanding of how much the many religions of the world share and where common ground can be found. The essence of the Episcopal Church as a system of common worship not tied to agreed upon beliefs seems to embody the openness I have experience and long to maintain in my life.

I have been blessed with the ability to find church homes that have nurtured both my musical desires and my openness of belief and acceptance of all my religious views.

March Lenten Evensong

By Michael Bennett

On March 7, the Choirs will sing Choral Evensong at 5:00 pm as a benefit to Family Promise, a ministry which St. John’s supports. Music of Craig Phillips, David Mitchell, William Smith and Basil Harwood will be sung. We will be joined by a doctoral organ student from Indiana University who will play the service. A reception will follow.

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.

<http://www.practicingourfaith.org> Since January, an ever-changing group of St. John's parishioners have been exploring our faith through its *practices*, those time-honored activities that have shaped the Christian community over the centuries, yet are richly relevant to contemporary experience. These Christian practices are shared activities that address fundamental human needs and that, when woven together, form a way of life that is faithful and has integrity. The Valparaiso Project launched PracticingOurFaith.org as a way to extend the invitation offered in the 1997 book *Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People*. This web site's purpose is to develop resources to help contemporary people live the Christian faith with vitality and integrity in changing times. The Project is ecumenical in orientation and appreciative of the legacies of a range of Christian traditions.

http://www.taize.fr/en_rubrique8.html This is the English website for the Taize community celebrated world wide, but headquartered in France. St. John's has recently partnered with other local churches to host a monthly Taize service. Here's where you can learn more about Taize worship practices.

<http://www.edgeofenclosure.org> *The Edge of the Enclosure* offers a weekly "self-guided" retreat to prepare spiritually for Sunday's liturgy. The author and her husband live as resident companions of The Community of the Holy Spirit, <http://chssisters.org>, at their Melrose Convent in Brewster, New York. The sisters, a monastic community for women in the Episcopal Church, developed Bluestone Farm and Learning Center to strive for a life reflecting sustainable living, social justice, and spiritual fulfillment. Daily life involves organic farming, (maple sugaring, planting, tending, gathering and preserving food, raising chickens, ducks, and bees), as well as fellowship, "Eucharistic Living", service to others, and individual artistic pursuits. They chant the traditional monastic offices (Lauds, Noonday Prayers, Vespers, Compline), using inclusive language and an acknowledgment of how the "new cosmology" affects and informs our faith.

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

A Note of Thanks From Marylin Howland Ross

The people of St. John's are the most caring and loving people that I know. The whole time I was receiving chemo and ever since I have finished, I have been greeted by smiles, hugs, expressions of affection and statements that I have been in their prayers. Thank you all; I am now in the process of recovering from the side-effects and continue to need the support while I deal with (to me) the annoyances of parts of my system that do not seem to be "normal."

God bless you all.



Pancake Supper a Success By Greg McClure and Tracey Gage

About 120 people enjoyed pancakes and sausage at the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Feb. 16 in the St. John's Commons.

Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday, is the last day before the beginning of Lent and is traditionally celebrated with pancakes eaten with sweet toppings. The custom was originally started to use up luxury ingredients such as eggs and flour that might be given up during Lent.

Thank you to the many volunteers who helped make this year's event a success. It could not have happened without your hard work. We appreciate it!



Anglican Airlines Announcement

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Some time ago I was conversing with friends about airline safety announcements and somehow the conversation got on to how we conduct ourselves in worship. Inspiration struck and I wrote the following satirical version of the pre-flight announcement given on airlines. If you haven't flown much, this won't make much sense. The Eagle Editor encouraged me to submit this and I offer it here as a light-hearted reflection upon the order and civility we seek in our corporate worship. We can poke a little fun at ourselves occasionally now can't we? Enjoy! (Please note the work is copyrighted and may not be reprinted without permission from the author.)

“Good morning and welcome to the Episcopal Church travelling non-stop from this fragile earth our island home to eternal salvation. At this time we'd like to welcome our Platinum Pledge Card contributors to the front of the church for priority seating, fresh bread, and fortified wine. If you'd like more information about our Platinum Pledge Card Program, please see any member of the Stewardship Committee. Please take notice of our bulletin in the entry way featuring fine gifts, opportunities for involvement, planned giving, volunteerism, occasional misspellings, pleas for money, and several convoluted announcements. Feel free to take our bulletin with you with our complements. As we prepare for church please make sure your kneelers are in their full, upright and locked positions and any carry-in brunch items are stowed in the kitchen or under the pew in front of you. Be careful when opening your mind as items may have shifted during church. At this time all electronic devices including cell phones, pagers, watch alarms, small children and hearing aids must be turned off. Headphones for the hearing impaired may be purchased for five dollars each.

Please direct your attention to the ushers in the center aisle for important information about our nave and service. There are two books in the pew rack in front of you that illustrate the essential elements of our worship. Please remove the books from the rack and follow along as though you were interested. Anglican Communion regulations require compliance with this information as well as all altar party instructions, lector readings, and musical cues. If you are seated in the center aisle, you may be required to assist the altar party in the event of an ecclesiastical emergency. If you are unable or unwilling to do so please see and usher and ask to be reseated.

As you take your seat, please button your yap by inserting your tongue behind your teeth and pulling your lips firmly across them. To open your yap, relax your lips and let your tongue move about freely. It is Episcopal Church policy that you keep your lips fastened at all times while seated in this service. During our service the celebrant or lector may remove the lips fastened restriction, at which time you are free to respond appropriately. This nave has three exits, one in the front for socialites and two in the rear for people with lunch reservations at The Ritz. Locate the nearest exit keeping in mind what lies beyond it may be beneath you. In the event of a fire, the Altar Guild may sacrifice you in favor of saving the fine silver and linens. Please follow the lighted acolyte candles to safety in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Our service is civilized. In the event of a sudden loss of civility or spontaneous prophecy, the sacristy compartment will open and the altar guild will brandish weapons. Remain seated and quiet, then

pull a guild member firmly toward you. Though civility is flowing the guild member may not inflate. Attend to your own needs before assisting others.

In the event of a sermon tanking, your pew cushion may be used as a self-torture device. Upon leaving your seat, remove the pew cushion, place your arms through the straps, and pummel your head mercilessly into the center.

This is a high church service. Incense is permitted in the nave and lavatories. Anglican Communion regulations prohibit tampering with, disabling, or destroying service integrity under the penalty of canon law.

Once we've reached the sacramental portion of our worship service our clergy and Lay Eucharistic Ministers will be coming to the altar rail with our in-church bread and wine service with your choice of red or blush; wafers or bread. Coffee is available after the service and cocktails are \$5 each with proceeds going to the choir party fund. The candles will now be lit, the prelude begun and crossword puzzles distributed. If there's anything we can do to make your worship more enjoyable, please let us know and as always thank you for worshipping in the Episcopal Church.”

Next Eagle Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the April *Eagle* will be Monday, March 15.

Email to eagle@stjohns-laf.org or place items in *The Eagle* mailbox on the porch.

Deaths

We celebrate the lives of those who have died:

Robert L. Britt
January 9, 2010

Janet Hensley
January 19, 2010

Thomas E. Wang
February 10, 2010

Ralph Bryan Henson
February 11, 2010

Wilford (Bill) Morris
February 14, 2010

SeDell Hanson,
(Grandmother of Erik Hanson)
February 14, 2010

Margaret Hutton,
(Aunt of Hilary Cook)
February 18, 2010

Godly Play Needs You By Heidi Kauffman

Do you want to learn more about the biblical story so you can share it with others? To support our deepening children's formation program? To develop community in a small group of adults? To ensure we don't lose what we've worked hard to attain?

Talk with our Godly Play teachers and substitutes. They will tell you that doing Godly Play has deepened their own faith. Godly Play is not just for little kids. Godly Play teachers all over the world do it because it is so personally enriching. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity. We really need you! Join us at one of our monthly Study Group meetings and we can tell you more, or talk with Heidi K., Leah, Nate, Cresta, Debbie, Gayle, or Heidi O.

Easter Egg Hunt

By Annie Schreiber and Angela Mosier

Easter is on April 4 this year! Following the 10:15 am service we will have an Easter egg hunt as in years past. We need help from our youth group members with organizing, so please contact Angela Mosier at ajmosier@comcast.net or Annie Schreiber at annieschreiber81@gmail.com if you are interested. Parents please make sure your children bring their Easter baskets with them. After the service, children age 3 and under should gather by the Bishop's Parlor to begin the hunt. Older children will conduct their search in the garden (weather permitting). There will be no candy or other treats inside the individual eggs. Instead, children can turn in the collected eggs for prize bags at the conclusion of the hunt.

January Financial Report

By Linda Jeffries

OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2010

A. RECEIPTS	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Total Year 2010</u>
1. Pledge Income	\$ 23,745.00	\$ 23,745.00
2. Non-Pledge Income	\$ 1,176.00	\$ 1,176.00
3. Transfer Income	\$ 751.00	\$ 751.00
4. ESE Income	\$ 550.00	\$ 550.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 26,222.00	\$ 26,222.00
B. EXPENSES		
1. Outreach	\$ 3,678.00	\$ 3,678.00
2. Program	\$ 664.00	\$ 664.00
3. Administration	\$ 299.00	\$ 299.00
4. Personnel	\$ 15,794.00	\$ 15,794.00
5. Office	\$ 1,257.00	\$ 1,257.00
6. Property	\$ 5,329.00	\$ 5,329.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 27,021.00	\$ 27,021.00
C. EXCESS OF RECEIPTS/EXPENSES		
	\$ -799.00	\$ -799.00

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).
- Income for ESE is now itemized in the income section above.
- 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 endowment/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).

Cooking With The Wounded

By Katy Gunderson

I was contacted by a woman who wanted to send desserts to her brother and sister in law in Iraq about six months ago. I tried to find a way to do this but with the distance and security I could not figure a way that we could keep the desserts safe. A few months after I had to side line the project I found an article in



our local paper about a man named Blake Powers who was traveling to Germany to cook a steak dinner for the troops at Landstuhl. On a whim I contacted him and he was in my bakery the next day. The marriage of Cooking with the Wounded and The Yellow Bowl Bakery or Bakers without Borders, as we have been lovingly nicknamed, was solidified on a trip to Walter Reed Army Medical Hospital in DC. Here the bakery made southern style desserts to complement a BBQ prepared by Military blogger "Concrete Bob". We fed over 200 wounded Military men, women, and their families at Mologne House. Blake has been kind enough to adopt me as a permanent part of the program. The ultimate goal for the program is to help

those leaving military service, most especially the wounded, who are interested in a career in the food and beverage industry get the knowledge and training they need. It is also hoped that teams of chefs can be sent to Afghanistan, Iraq, and other locations to cook for the troops there. More information can be found at www.prweb.com/releases/2010/01/prweb3437904.htm



St. John's Episcopal Church

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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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*Almighty God,
in your providence you chose
your servant Patrick to be the
apostle of the Irish people,
to bring those who were
wandering in darkness and
error to the true light and
knowledge of you:
Grant us so to walk in that
light that we may come at last
to the light of everlasting life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit, one God,
for ever and ever.
Amen.*

