



# St. John's Episcopal Church

600 Ferry Street  
Lafayette, IN 47901-1142  
765-742-4079

[www.stjohns-laf.org](http://www.stjohns-laf.org)

Edward J. Tourangeau, Rector



## STRAWBERRY MADNESS

It's time again to plan for our annual "Strawberry" party. The St. John's family has a long tradition of joining together to provide strawberry shortcakes with all the trimmings to the Lafayette community at the Round the Fountain Art Fair on May 23. It is lots of fun and provides an opportunity for all of us to work together getting to know each other and the rest of the community.

As usual, the Music Committee is taking the lead in organizing this event. It takes lots of planning, coordination and time to accomplish this. There are many jobs and the more people we have, the easier the job. We need people to :

1. Bake the shortcakes at the church,
2. Cut the strawberries at the church,
3. Set up at the courthouse the day of,
4. "scoop, dip and plop" at the booth during the day,
5. Transport the perishables from the church to the booth during the day,
6. The big job - clean up afterwards.

As always, the proceeds will benefit needs at church. Half the monies will provide money for the Rector's Discretionary Fund for support of various scholarships and the other half will be used to enhance the Music programs. There will be volunteer sign-up sheets at the church starting May 3. Please put your name down in the place where you will have the most fun and give the most help.

### WE NEED YOU

The Music Committee,  
Michael Bennett and Marilyn Howland Ross



April 13, 2009

Dear St. John's Parishioner:

The Extraordinary Stewardship Effort (ESE) is now underway. This effort will address our deficit and prepare for the future of St. John's. The goal of this effort is to raise \$250,000.00; we are pleased to announce that we have lead gifts pledged in excess of \$90,000.00. The campaign is to further the following priorities:

1. ensure the complete funding of our operating budget at its present 2009 level;
2. cover the expense of a consultant to guide us through a period of self-study and discernment;
3. restore to pre-2009 levels items that have been trimmed from the 2009 budget, and;
4. restore depleted cash reserves.

This campaign is not intended to take the place of our annual giving for 2010, 2011 and 2012. We need your help above and beyond your already generous yearly pledge.

Enclosed is a pledge card for this Extraordinary Stewardship Effort. We encourage you to search your heart and pledge an amount which will help us accomplish the above four goals. Your pledge may be divided over the three years listed above.

You are invited to join us as we prepare for a time of discernment as we consider who God is calling us to be as a parish in the coming years. God continues to shower us with abundance. We can do no less than be careful and discerning stewards of His gifts.

Please return the pledge card as soon as possible, but no later than April 30<sup>th</sup> as we plan to finish this Extraordinary Stewardship Effort by mid-May. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of our request and your prompt return of the pledge card; mail it to the church office, place it in the offering plate or return it to one of us.

If you have questions, call E. Linda Jeffries at 477-1574, Heather Johnston Nicholson at 743-3501, Maggie McClure at 567-2512, or Barbara Powell at 474-6313.

Thank you for your prayers and consideration as we move forward.

Most Sincerely,

E. Linda Jeffries, Heather Johnston Nicholson,  
Maggie McClure, Barbara Powell  
For the Wardens and Vestry of St. John's

### **Habitat for Humanity**

The Lafayette branch of Habitat for Humanity will soon be organizing their 2009 build campaign. St. John's has an existing biennial commitment to support their efforts and this is our year. Many of you will remember participating physically and/or financially in 2007. Although specifics are not yet available, they will be in the near future.

As he did in 2008, Jim Marciniak will be riding in Habitat's Cover Indiana Bike Tour, which begins May 11 in Lafayette. The 350-mile ride concludes on May 17 in Indianapolis, with intermediate stops in Crawfordsville, Terre Haute, Linton, Bedford, Bloomington and Plainfield. Additional information regarding how you can support Jim's ride and St. John's commitment will be available in the Sunday bulletins of May 03 and May 10.

### **Flamingo Fun**

As some of you may be aware, the St. John's Youth Group has three new members—all of the pink plastic type! Three flamingoes, (Miss Pink, Matt and Chucky), have been visiting parishioners houses, trying to get to know everyone in the parish. Those members the flamingoes visit have been making financial contributions to help the

flamingoes with the cost of their travel. As of the beginning of April nearly \$700 has been raised. A big thank you to all who have participated! If the flamingoes have not yet made it to your house and you would like to have a visit, it's not too late—they've decided to make the greater Lafayette area their home and will be around for a while.

Thanks, also, to all who helped make the parish spaghetti dinner a big success. The Youth Group members are ready to head to Chicago in May and continue to hone their serving skills!



### **Requiem Eucharist for The Rev. Robert Leve**

Fr. Leve served St. John's originally as Assisting Priest, and then during a rector-transition period as Priest in Charge, from 1988 through 1990. He did so faithfully and for a time longer than his original commitment.

A Requiem Eucharist is planned for noon on Saturday May 16, 2009 at the Church of the Atonement, 5749 N. Kenmore, Chicago, IL (phone 773-271-2727).

### **PRAYER SHAWLS**

We are starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. John's. Over the centuries, shawls have come to symbolize shelter, peace and spiritual sustenance. The ministry's message of caring is simple and enduring, and we plan to give our shawls to those needing comfort. You may knit or crochet and help will be available for beginners. For knitting, bring needles size 11, 12 or 13 and 4 skeins of a soft yarn like Lion Brand Homespun. For crocheting, bring size K needle and more yarn – 5 or 6 skeins. We will meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at 12:30pm in the Bishop's Parlor and our first meeting is on May 4. We welcome all who are interested in this ministry.

Caryl Matthews  
Jo Roberts



# UTO

Our St. John's Spring Ingathering of offerings for UTO will be May 10, 2009 at both services. UTO is a personal and family devotional program of our Episcopal Church. It is the sum of our daily thanks for the blessings of our everyday lives – there are SO many things for which to be thankful. Although founded by women in 1889 to support women missionaries, the UTO has become a world wide effort to meet compelling human needs, to expand the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church – for men, women and children.

In 2008 there were 70 domestic grants awarded, 17 international grants and 4 companion diocese grants awarded. Columbus, IN received grant monies to purchase 2 refrigerators and one large freezer for a newly purchased and renovated facility for a food pantry. The Diocese of Northern Indiana received grant money to provide a summer camp experience for 30 children of incarcerated parents. Plymouth, IN was awarded a grant to equip and publicize a start-up café, which will provide low cost meals and job opportunities to the poor.

Check out the 2008 Grants List booklet on tables in the Commons and near the UTO displayed in the hallway. Please take a booklet with you if you wish to have a personal copy. The United Thank Offering is a way for each person to experience tangible thanks to God. United with prayers and offerings of other Episcopalians its ministry reaches around the world.

Yours in Christ,  
Mary Louise Davis

## ***St. John's/LUM Food Pantry***

In mid-March, the Food Pantry received a brand new 23cubic foot commercial freezer and a like sized commercial refrigerator. Both of these units were provided by a grant from Kraft Foods through their Community Nutrition Program. Receipt of these units replaces an aging residential refrigerator-freezer; increasing our freezer capacity by 30% and refrigerator capacity by more than 80%.

Food Finders Food Bank coordinated the effort to secure the grant and then arranged for purchase and delivery of the units for our Food Pantry and others in their service area. Without their efforts, this significant upgrade would not have been possible.

The Food Pantry recently lost one of its volunteers of many years. Dr. Robert Britt has retired from his FP duties at the age of 90. He worked at the distribution window for many years and, most recently, was picking up day old bakery products from the west side Payless on Sunday morning. We will miss Bob's dedicated service. As a result of his retirement, the Food Pantry is looking for a volunteer to assume this responsibility on his/her way to St. John's each Sunday. Anyone who can take up this slack can call Jane Vanable at 463-6158 or Jackie Paar at 538-2337 for further details.

### ***My Care at the Tippecanoe County Work Release Facility***

For about thirteen years I have been going to the Tippecanoe County Correctional System Work Release Facility on Tuesday evenings to talk with and to lead a Bible study with the “participants.” The Work Release Facility stands at midpoint between jail and freedom. Participants who can find employment work in the community during working hours and stay at the Work Release Facility when not at work. They pay a weekly fee to stay there (\$98.00 presently) and, if they are there when meals are delivered from the county jail they may order meals for a nominal fee (\$1.25) each. Otherwise they must buy food from the vending machines. Some are able to buy something to eat going to and from work.

I began to feel a sense of responsibility to people that are incarcerated many years ago after mulling the famous parable of the sheep and goats in Matthew’s Gospel, chapter 25. There we read that, in effect, when we have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, visited the sick and imprisoned, etc., we have been caring for Jesus. We would often hear Mother Teresa say something like this as she cared for Calcutta’s poorest of the poor.

It seemed to me that one aspect of this parable that was hard to take to heart was visiting the imprisoned. I, like many, was afraid of those in jail, fearing they were all violent “criminals.” But it was not long before I found this caricature quite inaccurate. My impression has been that many crimes committed by the poor are the consequence of despair, often related to alcohol abuse and using drugs. A disproportionate number of those at the Work Release Facility are poor.

Going to the Work Release Facility has been one of the most satisfying forms of care I’ve offered in roughly four decades of ministry. Each time I go I’m aware that I’m in the face of immense human need. I try to sow seeds of hope. Sometimes it can seem pretty irrelevant to read and talk about Bible passages because we usually read through books of the Bible sequentially on Tuesday evenings. Some passages seem beside the point to hurting people’s lives. But we have found this the best way to proceed. I end each evening with prayer, praying by name for each person in the group, and for their children. For them to hear their names mentioned in prayer seems to be greatly encouraging to folk. Usually there is a resounding “Amen” at the end of my prayer. Lately we’ve been having from fifteen to eighteen people with us at this Bible study.

Fr. Ed proposed that I mention to you this care of folk at the Work Release Facility so that St. John’s Church can support this care with the prayers of its people. I began to do this while I was pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church many years ago. That congregation still supports this ministry. They have shared the financial burden of some folk that were incarcerated because they hadn’t the means to pay fees charged by the court. I’ve retired from the pastorate, and now worship at St. John’s. I’m glad to continue this ministry and welcome your prayers in its support.

Stuart Robertson



## REJOICE!

On Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, congregations from the Northwest Deanery gathered at the Chapel of the Good Shepherd in West Lafayette with Bishop Waynick for the Eastertide service of Holy Baptism, Confirmation, Reception and Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows.

Done during the Easter season, these services reinforce the connection between our life as baptized persons and the Resurrection Life we enter into at our baptism. Done on a larger geographic scale rather than merely within our local congregation, we reinforce the truth that the church is larger than our local experience and that our baptism (or confirmation or reaffirmation, or reception) joins us to a great company of people beyond our parish bounds.

At Good Shepherd these persons from St. John's made significant steps in their life of faith: **Douglas Baker** (attends the early service) was baptized. **Andrew Ball** (attends the later service), **Genevieve Jones** (attends both services as work allows), **Helen Slagel** (attends the early service) and **Jane Kepplinger** were received from other faith traditions. **Jon Walthour** (attends either service as his schedule allows) was unable to make it to Good Shepherd because of a scheduling conflict and so will be received at a similar service at Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Welcome these folks! Help and join with them as they move forward in their life of discipleship and service.



Men will see the son  
of man coming on a  
cloud with great  
power

The June issue of *The Eagle* will be my last as editor. Thanks to all of you for your participation over the years. Those of you that have interest in assuming this role should speak to Fr. Ed or Randy Brist.

Janet Huber

## You know that you are an Episcopalian ....

if you can rattle off such tongue twisters like: “. . . who made there by his one oblation of himself once offered a full and perfect sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the world” and “Wherefore, O, Lord and Heavenly Father, we thy people, do celebrate and make here, with these gifts which we offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make . . .” without missing a beat.

if you reach a point when you're not sure about anything theologically but you still feel completely at home at the altar rail and somehow know you're meeting God there, even though you can't begin to understand how

