



The Eagle

May 2010

E.F.H.N. = the Episcopal Fund for Human Need E.F.H.N. Sunday is May 23 By Ed Tourangeau

From time to time I hear the inquiry, “Why are we always being asked to give our money to some need half-way around the world?”

It’s a fair question, especially in a time when there is so much need close to home.

Of course the answer is that need knows no geographical boundaries, we are our brother’s keeper, and “for as much as you did it unto one of the least of these my children, you did it unto me.”

But even then, there is plenty of need close to home. That’s why we have E.F.H.N.

The Episcopal Fund for Human Need (E.F.H.N.) is an opportunity for us to give of our financial substance without having to ask the question, “Where is this going?” because gifts to E.F.H.N. stay right here in the Diocese of Indianapolis, administered by volunteers from within our own congregations.

That’s right. The money is collected from within our diocese and stays in our diocese. Some of it goes to Lafayette Urban Ministry for example, and has for years. Some is shared with agencies in Montgomery County. Or Putnam

County. That’s Crawfordsville, and Greencastle. E.F.H.N. funds stay at home.

The Episcopal Fund for Human Need (EFHN) is a lifeline across this diocese for human needs emergencies through church and community-based relief organizations. EFHN funds provide food, medicine, transportation, and emergency shelter for those who would otherwise fall through the cracks.

Our diocese designates Pentecost Sunday (May 23 this year) as E.F.H.N. Sunday. An offering is taken that day and forwarded to the diocesan office. If each household in our diocese gave \$15 on that day, the diocese would have \$100,000 to use for relief of human need, right here within our own boundaries. And it wouldn’t be distributed only in the major cities, but instead in all the counties and towns where we have congregations.

That’s a witness to our neighbors who benefit from medical clinics we help to sponsor in rural counties, or from flood relief we can deliver to Bartholomew County or Brown County.

This year on Pentecost Sunday there will be several baptisms at St. John’s, and so we will renew again that baptismal

vow to “*strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.*”

E.F.H.N. provides a concrete way to do that. E.F.H.N. helps with the things that contribute to justice, peace, and human dignity by providing food, clothing, shelter, hope, connection, transportation, medicine and many other kinds of relief where it is needed as only local folks might know it is needed.

For those of you who wonder why we’re always being asked to give money to far-away causes, here’s your chance to give and see your gift work at home. Look for the envelope on the 23rd, and use it.



Outreach Discernment Taskforce

By Maggie McClure

In response to Mike Scime's report on Outreach as discussed at the last Annual Meeting, the Vestry voted to form a task force that would

- determine the intent of the congregation regarding the scope of outreach ministries, including all of our current ministries as well as possible new ministries that might arise in response to community needs;
- identify specific ways to improve parish supports for outreach ministries, including the quantity and quality of volunteer participation, forms of collaborations with other organizations, and the pros and cons of establishing a standing committee on outreach ministries; and
- recommend key elements of a parish mission statement on outreach ministries that provides a coherent framework for and guidance to current and future outreach practices.

I was asked and have accepted the role of convener of this task force. The Executive Committee envisions the task force to be comprised of 5-7 members plus the chair. The task force will work no more than a year to discern and formulate recommendations to the vestry regarding St. John's outreach ministries.

The task at hand is challenging and will require careful and prayerful deliberations. It is designed to be supportive of and to inform the larger self-evaluation the congregation agreed to in concert with the Extraordinary Stewardship Effort. To be sure, the task force will not make decisions or provide guidance regarding current outreach efforts. The immediate issues facing the Food Pantry will be addressed separately. However, all parish Outreach Ministries will be guided by the recommendations the task force offers. In the end, the Food Pantry along with all of our Outreach Ministries will fall under an outreach umbrella that embraces the mission statement for outreach ministry

The task force is in the beginning stages of being assembled. Please pray for the task force and, if invited to participate, prayerfully consider this important step in St. John's outreach ministry.

Food Pantry Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

By Ken Paar

Forty-seven of the Food Pantry's volunteer corps gathered for an Appreciation Luncheon on April 21. A special recognition award was given to Jane Venable, our long-time Volunteer Coordinator. Jane Thompson and Judy Carlson also were recognized for being the most active volunteers. A series of comedic readings were provided by Linda Jeffries and Marylin Howland Ross for the entertainment of the volunteers.



St. John's Book Group

By Mary Campbell

A few of our favorite books!

The May book discussion meeting is an invitation to share your favorite book – or two or three! Bring a copy of the book with you if possible, and tell us something about the book and why it appeals to you so much. We will go around the group so that everyone has at least one turn, and then double back it there is still time.

All genres are welcome – fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays, mystery, sci-fi, graphic, manga – whatever has made its mark on you!

If you wish, bring along a paragraph describing the book, and I will compile all of this into an annotated bibliography of recommended readings. This will be the group's gift to the congregation for summer reading.

We meet in the Commons at 7:00 p.m. and try to end by 8:00 p.m.

We break for the summer and will resume in August with Mark Twain.

Next Eagle Deadline

The deadline for submissions for the June *Eagle* will be Monday, June 21. Email to eagle@stjohns-laf.org or place items in *The Eagle* mailbox on the porch.

Please note that there will be no *Eagle* for the month of July, so any events taking place in July that you wish to have publicized on these pages need to be submitted for inclusion in the June *Eagle*. We will resume printing with the August edition.

The Episcopal Church Welcomes You By Priscilla Bain

It is difficult to think back to those days when I was not involved in the Episcopal church at St. John's. That involvement goes back to the spring of 1983 when Bob and I became members of St. John's. I give credit to Dennis Shaw, the Anglican Priest at St. Peter's, Nancy Tobias, and the Goonewardenes who encouraged us not to wait any longer.

The Bain family: Bob, myself, our daughters, Nancy (age 13) and Laura (age 10) were on sabbatical in Addingham, West Yorkshire, England in 1975. Before our first Sunday in Addingham, Bob suggested we attend the local Parish Church.

At that time, St. Peter's was meeting temporarily in the Roman Catholic Church while their 11th century church was being renovated. We would walk, each Sunday, down a path past a stream, greeting ducks along the way. Even when we moved to the renovated St. Peter's, we would greet ducks, or be chased by them, on our way up to the church. Needless to say this experience began a long love affair with The Church, Anglican/Episcopal. Not just because of the ducks, but also because of the warmth and the spirituality of the church.

We had communion every Sunday which was a new experience for Bob and me, and a very meaningful one. I grew up in the Presbyterian tradition; Bob, an American Baptist. To walk up to the altar, kneel, and participate in the Eucharist was a profound experience for me and provided a fuller meaning of the

Eucharist. I was humbled each time I made the decision to go to the altar. This is much different from little cups and hard "pillows" being passed down the pews.



My eyes were always glued to the altar during the Eucharist; I was fascinated by the rituals which transpired in the preparation. Dennis was amazed that I was aware of what was going on, and I questioned him often on the meaning of what he was doing. He was not used to that. It was meant to be. I still am glued to the altar during this most important preparation. The Mystery is ever present.

The liturgy, the music, the rhythm, and the hymns spoke to us strongly. We grew those months in our spirituality and faith. Our daughters were acolytes on occasion, as were Bob and I. We rang the bells and involved ourselves in the Parish life. We were accepted even if we did talk funny. (In fact, Bob played

Peter in the Passion Play that Easter, and when one of the crowd said to him: "I can tell you are not from around here by your accent," the congregation cracked up. So went the play.) Dennis, the priest, became a strong friend to whom we could turn to learn more about our faith and the Church. What we became started with Dennis and St. Peter's of Addingham.

We came home and went back to our church, but realized in time that this was not where our spirit and our faith journey belonged. With encouragement from the above friends and Dennis at St. Peter's, we joined St. John's. I have never felt so much at home with my beliefs and the Church as I do now. I do not have the answers to what I believe, and probably never will, but that is the gift of being at St. John's and being an Episcopalian. Once a week the chaos of my life is put in order.

The acceptance of all peoples regardless of their beliefs or lifestyles is important to me as an Episcopalian at St. John's. My involvement for many years with our food pantry was a blessing to me, and it was also important that my church encouraged this outreach to the community.

A footnote: When I married Bob, he claimed to be Agnostic. It wasn't until St. Peter's and St. John's that his faith in the Church and in God became strong to his end.

Thank you, all of you, who continually pushed us, and now me, in this journey.

Cover Indiana Bike Tour

By Ken Paar

At annual report time, Jim Marciniak was still pondering participation in Habitat for Humanity's annual Cover Indiana Bike Tour. After a rather lengthy period of discernment, Jim has decided once again to pedal the 350 mile tour. As in 2009, the tour departs from Lafayette just after Mother's Day and stops in Crawfordsville, Terre Haute, Linton, Bedford, Bloomington and Plainfield before concluding in Indianapolis on May 16.

The purpose of the ride is to raise awareness and money to build homes for more Lafayette families. Each rider is asked to raise \$350. Tax deductible donations in support of Jim's efforts are credited to St John's and used when we participate in a Habitat build project. Currently, St. John's is scheduled to participate again in 2011.

Checks can be made out to Habitat for Humanity for Cover Indiana with St. John's Episcopal Church noted on the memo line and mailed to Jim. As an alternate, checks can be made out to St. John's Church and Habitat for Humanity noted on the memo line and deposited in the collection plate.

If you can make it to Riehle Plaza on the morning of May 10 to wish Jim 'Happy Trails' and send him on his way, it would be appreciated. As this is a lengthy ride, prayers would also be appreciated. If you have any questions, please call Jim at 463-6229 or Ken Paar at 538-2337.

Education for Ministry

By Maggie McClure

Oh God of cleansing fire, we pray for resilience, faith, and trust, so that our obsessions don't consume us and we rest in your will. Amen.

This prayer ended a theological conversation our Education for Ministry (EfM) group had. Aren't you curious as to this prayer's origin? What were we discussing that influenced this prayer? Consider joining our EfM seminar. Those who participate find themselves on a spiritual journey. A spiritual journey is individual and self-reflective by nature. However, one is not alone when joining an EfM group. The tight knit community that makes EfM participants provides support and encouragement along the way. Through theological conversations, worship, and study, the process nurtures our lay ministry and spiritual growth. Interested? Speak with Heidi Kauffman, Maggie McClure, or any past or current participants.



Jay Mermoud performed a recital at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church at Capitol & Georgia Sts. in Indianapolis on March 31. The recital included works by Marcel Dupre, Leon Boellmann, Garth Edmundson, Paul Manz, George Thalben-Ball, and his own improvisation on *Herzliebster Jesu* (Ah, Holy Jesus)."

Easter Reflection

By Jack L. Albright

Much has been learned from former students. In particular Drs. Yon and Alice Lindborg, dairy farmers from Union Mills, Indiana persuaded me to read C.S. Lewis's *Mere Christianity*. This has been done several times for inspiration and clarity. Lewis arrived at being "A very ordinary layman of the Church of England" and offers no advice as to becoming an Anglican, a Methodist, a Presbyterian or a Roman Catholic. Furthermore, he makes little effort explaining Mary's virgin birth of Jesus Christ. To do so would take Lewis into highly controversial regions. This leap of faith has always bothered me even after learning as a graduate student at Washington State University about research results of parthenogenesis ("virgin birth") in turkeys.

Moving on to Easter, the words of C.S. Lewis (p. 56) have moved me to re-affirm being a Christian. "Either this man was and is the Son of God or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon, or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and god. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

Easter is a time to remind ourselves of renewal, rebirth, that Spring is either here or is coming and to rejoice. Hallelujah!



Do you like strawberries?

By Michael Bennett & Debra Murawski

If so, please help with 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 the last Saturday of May (29). It is much fun and provides an opportunity for getting to know each other and the rest of the community.

There are many tasks that ensure a complete success; the more people involved, the easier the task. Such tasks include baking the shortcakes, cutting the strawberries, setting up at the courthouse and serving at the booth and cleaning up afterwards.

As always, the proceeds will benefit needs at church. Half of the monies will provide Waycross scholarships for children at St. John’s and the other half will be used to further the music ministry (last year’s income paid for string musicians on Christmas Eve). There will be volunteer sign-up sheets at the church starting May 2. Please put your name down in the place where you will have the most fun and can give the most help. *See also the monthly calendar for dates and times.*

Parents’ Night Out

By Angela Mosier

Parents’ Night Out is May 8 from 5 to 8 pm. Supper and entertainment will be provided in the nursery for children, while parents enjoy a free night out. If you are interested in this ministry please let Angela Mosier know at ajmosier@comcast.net or 463-4391.

Mom’s Morning Out

By Angela Mosier

Mom’s Morning Out will be May 14 from 9 am to noon. . If you are interested in this ministry please let Angela Mosier know at ajmosier@comcast.net or 463-4391.

Easter Reflection

By Stuart D. Robertson

Shortly after coming to the Lafayette area in 1986 I was invited to teach Church history at Purdue. I was offered this sinecure because the graduate studies for my final degree focused on a first-century Jewish historian, whose writings were preserved by the early Christians. Thus, my studies of ancient Judaism led to the privilege of teaching undergraduates about Christianity.

Something I learned very early on was that Christians didn’t celebrate Easter right away after Jesus left them physically. In fact, I don’t know when something more than celebrating the First Day of the Week, the day of Jesus’ resurrection, got going as an annual event. I do know that once the celebration of Easter became part of the Church calendar, quarrels broke out in the two big sectors of the Church, the east and west, about when it should be celebrated.

I can just see Jesus sitting at the “right hand of the Father,” as we say in the creed, rejoicing to see how important it was to His followers to “get it right.” They were so in earnest about getting it right that they “got their dukes up” and eventually split and went their separate ways, once a few other reasons for mutual antagonism got well rooted in the Christian family potting soil. Meanwhile, there may have echoed in some Christians’ ears a few words from Jesus’ prayer to His heavenly Father that they heard periodically on the Lord’s Day, “That they may be one as we are one.”

I have noticed that the Episcopal Church, which has been my church home since May of 2007, does all the right stuff. Every Sunday we get it right. I hope this never changes. The Episcopal Church has preserved a liturgy that moves me aesthetically and devotionally.

I remember, too, that is not the purpose of worship. Worship is a gift I, with all others here, offer to God, as we were reminded recently in *The Eagle*. We all offer worship to God publicly so that I (and we all) may privately “work out my salvation with fear and trembling” the rest of the week, “Because,” as St. Paul wrote, “it is God that works in me to will and to do His good pleasure.” I am grateful for every reminder of this.



United Thank Offering By Mary Lou Davis

Our Spring Ingathering for the United Thank Offering will be held Sunday, May 9 at both services.

Your offerings of money in thanksgiving for daily blessings are distributed as grants to help causes chosen in both this country and overseas. Sixty-three grants were awarded in 2009; twenty-eight in the United States and thirty-five overseas. Projects supported addressed poverty of women and children, educational/innovative work, health projects both mental and physical, also renovation and construction projects needed to be done.

The current UTO Vision is to significantly impact the lives of women and children because of Christ's love. To achieve this vision, the UTO will particularly focus on projects that implement significant changes toward alleviating profound human suffering that the Millennium Development Goals address.

The Mission of UTO is to expand the Circle of Thankful People. To achieve this mission, UTO encourages daily prayers, offerings and awareness of God's blessings. Will you help expand the Circle of Thankful People by joining the circle?

Blue boxes and informational materials are available outside the kitchen at the UTO display. If you have any questions, call Mary Lou Davis at 497-1909.



March Financial Report By Linda Jeffries

OPERATING BUDGET INCOME AND EXPENSES MONTH ENDING MARCH 31, 2010

A. RECEIPTS	<u>Current Month</u>	<u>Total Year 2010</u>
1. Pledge Income	\$ 18,761.00	\$ 61,646.00
2. Non-Pledge Income	\$ 1,104.00	\$ 4,764.00
3. Transfer Income	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,751.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 29,865.00	\$ 77,161.00
B. EXPENSES		
1. Outreach	\$ 4,101.00	\$ 11,763.00
2. Program	\$ 2,030.00	\$ 2,634.00
3. Administration	\$ 681.00	\$ 980.00
4. Personnel	\$ 16,502.00	\$ 53,007.00
5. Office	\$ 2,064.00	\$ 4,460.00
6. Property	\$ 10,128.00	\$ 18,160.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 35,506.00	\$ 91,205.00
C. EXCESS OF RECEIPTS/EXPENSES		
	\$ - 5,642.00	\$ - 14,044.00

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 4/4/10 is \$24,803.80 (includes Martin prints income). Subtracting the \$10,000 transferred above, we currently have \$14,803.80.
- \$6,850.80 has been received since the reminder notes were sent out.
- Michael Martin print sales as of 4/4/10 stands at 66 prints sold for income of \$3,865.00.



On April 10, the Northwest Deanery Confirmation was held at St. John's.

Congratulations to Theodore Marlatt Sovinski, son of Rob Sovinski and Margot Marlatt, and Ariel Jocelyn Murawski, daughter of Matt and Debra Murawski, who were confirmed by Bishop Waynick on that day.



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
Pequita Behrnt

Building Use Coordinator
Caryl Matthews

Eagle Editor
Cresta Cates

Vestry
Doug Powell, *Sr. Warden*
Nate Mosier, *Jr. Warden*
Ann Schreiber, *Clerk*
Bob Stagel, *Treasurer*
Ginny Hull, *Asst. Treasurer*
Linda Jeffries, Dorothy Jones,
Maggie McClure, Debra Murawski,
Heather Johnston Nicholson,
Rachael Schexnaider, Kathy Johnson,
Bill Kealey, Dave Vorbeck

We celebrate the life of Sandra Turner who died on March 14, 2010.

Mother of Tammy Turner-Vorbeck.



