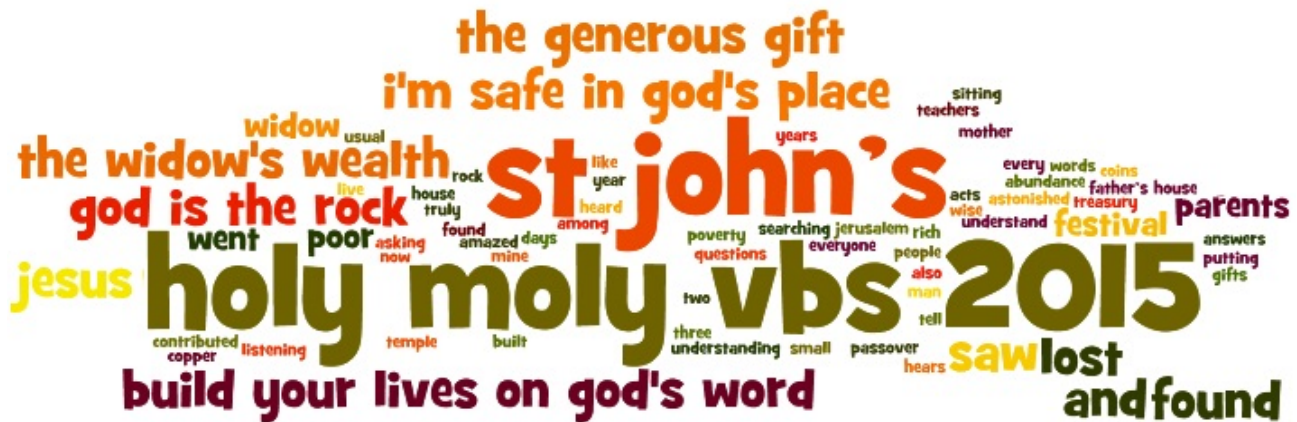


*The Eagle*

The monthly newsletter of **ST. JOHN'S** LAFAYETTE

## August 2015



## 2015 HOLY MOLY! Vacation Bible School



We are so excited about the upcoming Vacation Bible School at St. John's! The program will run **Tuesday-Thursday, August 4-6, from 5-8 p.m.** Each evening will include a game, dinner, a Bible lesson, craft time, and worship. Please register at [www.stjohns-laf.org/vbs/](http://www.stjohns-laf.org/vbs/), so we can plan enough food, materials, and staff. There is no cost for this year's Vacation Bible School!

On Thursday, August 6, we will hear the story of “The Widow’s Wealth,” and we would like families to provide at least one wrapped Christmas gift for our Jubilee Christmas ministry. Gifts will be presented during our closing worship that evening. For more information, please contact the church at [stjohns@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:stjohns@stjohns-laf.org) or 765-742-4079.

## Coming up!

Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for these upcoming happenings.

## OUTfest '15

OUTfest '15, Tippecanoe County's Pride Celebration, will take place **Saturday, August 1** from **4 p.m.-midnight** in downtown Lafayette. Good Shepherd and St. John's will have a joint booth, and we invite you all to join the celebration! Look for sign-up sheets in St. John's Commons or just swing by our booth that Saturday.

## Church Picnic at Happy Hollow Park

The St. John's Church Picnic will be take place **Sunday, August 9** at Happy Hollow Park. **Worship starts at 10:30 a.m.** Fried chicken, drinks, and paper products will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Please remember that Happy Hollow Road is under construction, so allow time to get there. There will also be a 9 a.m. service at St. John's that day.

## From the Rector

By Bradley Pace

I get to do a lot of things as rector of St. John's—leading worship and preaching, teaching, pastoral care, paperwork and administration, fundraising, the occasional maintenance project, community organizing, and so much more. But I rarely get to go creek hiking. I rarely get to play freeze tag until I'm almost sick and out



of breath. I rarely get to jump up and down during worship screaming “get them children out of the muddy, muddy!!!” I’ve never got to make a tie-dyed t-shirt.

But I got to do all of that and more while serving as the chaplain during “Ready, Set,

Camp” at Waycross in late June. Waycross Camp, the Diocese of Indianapolis’ camp in Brown County, hosts campers throughout the summer along with loads of other programs throughout the year. “Ready, Set, Camp” is designed for the youngest campers, many of whom are trying camp for the first time or are too young to be completely without some parental connection while there. Our two older kids, Isaiah and Miriam, stayed at camp, while our youngest, Judah, was a day camper. Katie was attending Women’s Week at the Waycross Conference Center, so Judah stayed with her at night. Besides my family and me, several other folks from St. John’s were there as campers, as counselors, or at Women’s Week. Our Associate Rector Hilary was serving as one of the chaplains for Women’s Week.

To be honest, it was exhausting. I couldn’t wait to hit the sack each night. (Of course, I stayed in the “chaplain’s suite,” which had really good AC. The campers slept in the sweltering heat.) But it was that good kind of exhaustion. It was exhaustion born out of tremendous fun with great kids and great counselors. Each day, I led morning prayer at the chapel and took up with one of the groups to swim, play games, make crafts, and more. I also hung out with the CITs (Counselors in Training) during their breaks and took several hikes in the creek. I sat with kids during dinner and got to play “chug-a-lug” and sing “Announcement, Announcements”

almost every time one of the counselors stood up to say anything.

In the afternoons, I had “Serendipity Time” with one of the “Adventure Groups.” I took them creek hiking and told them bible stories that centered on water. For instance, I had the kids stand in the creek and stir up the water. As I told the story of creation—“When God began to create heaven and earth, and the earth then was welter and waste and darkness over the deep and God’s breath hovering over the waters...”—we watched as the water cleared and the creek was suddenly teeming with life. Here was the chaos and void coming to life—crawdads, water spiders, fish, tadpoles, and even a small water snake. And let me tell you, kids *love* catching crawdads (as do I, in fairness). We only came across one poisonous snake the whole week—a very small copperhead—but it was my son who found it. Always the priest’s kid. He was also the only kid who complained loudly about the “boring stories,” so there’s that. At least the other kids were polite.

Thank you so much for the time away. I was glad to support our Diocesan ministries there. I was also proud to see some of our youth and young adults serve as counselors or CITs—Cyrus Hulen, Jessie Murawski, and Teddy Sovinski were there this summer. Their leadership and witness give the younger kids someone to look up to.



The fact is, God’s presence is palpable at Waycross, and the time our kids spend there is an invaluable foundation for their faith.

If your kids have never been to Waycross Camp, I urge you to consider taking them

next summer. But there are loads of other programs for youth, young adults, families, and more throughout the year. Go to [www.waycrosscenter.org](http://www.waycrosscenter.org) and look for more information in *The Eagle*.





# Our Parish Pipe Organ: The Present

By Michael Bennett

For those unaware, in August 2014 a task force was created to assess the history and present state of St. John's pipe organ. The task force has stated that in order to continue our tradition of beautiful liturgy and music, careful assessment of options for our instrument's future must be pursued. I shared in the May issue of the *Eagle* a bit about our organ's history: when the first one was purchased, how our current one came to us, and so forth. In summary, our instrument was installed in 1966, with two enhancements (considered such at the time) occurring in 1986 and 1995. When the latter work was done in 1995, there were problems with the installation (including electrical "fire"), and small issues have persisted ever since.



That brings us to the present. With one exception, no major work has been done to our organ since 1995. (You might remember the six weeks during the summer of 2013 we were without it due to the original blower motor

failure and \$10,000 replacement.) In the past 20 years, electrical issues have continued to arise, ranging from ciphers (the continuous sounding of a pipe(s) even when a key is not depressed), temporary unavailability of certain stops (the trumpets, the flutes, etc.), and preset malfunction on the console (imagine hitting a car radio preset for WBAA "Morning Classics" and instead tuning into a country or rap station, which you may or may not be able to turn off). These issues arise at all times: in practice, at regular Sunday worship, funerals, and then some. This past Christmas Eve, you may have heard the *entire organ* cipher during the third stanza of "O Come, All Ye Faithful." It lasted for maybe two seconds, occurring during one of the loudest moments of congregation singing that night (perfect timing, albeit frustrating). Several years ago, a few hours before the funeral of a beloved parishioner, there was an electrical fire in the organ's relay system housed in the Ferry Street vestibule. For a time that morning, the organ was not playable. Thankfully the servicemen were able to get 30% of the instrument working for the funeral.



Like any piece of equipment, these issues do not include the normal wear and tear of keyboards, pedal board, console draw knobs, mechanical contacts, air supply, and so forth. A pipe organ is an incredibly complex piece of machinery. At present, the instrument is "hanging in there," possibly one or two catastrophes away from permanent failure. My hope is we avoid any more catastrophes and pursue a viable option for such. The future will tell.

# General Convention Thoughts

By Hilary Cooke

It was an honor for me to spend two weeks in Salt Lake City serving at the 78<sup>th</sup> General Convention of The Episcopal Church. It's always hard for me to leave my family for two weeks, and I thank them (and the good people of St. John's) for allowing me the space to do my small part to serve the wider church. It is the plan for me to offer some kind of adult forum about General Convention in the fall, but for now I will highlight just a few of the topics addressed.

As the media reported, the House of Bishops did elect The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry (Bishop of North Carolina) as the next Presiding Bishop. Bishop Curry will be consecrated at Washington National Cathedral on All Saints Day (November 1) this year. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has ably led our church over the last nine years, and we give thanks for her ministry and leadership. (Perhaps the best prayer I heard during the Convention was that Bishop Schori, an oceanographer, might have "joy as deep as the ocean's currents.") We also welcome Bishop Curry, an enthusiastic and charismatic preacher if ever I have heard one. If you've never heard him preach, look for one of his sermons online.

As the media also reported, the Convention passed two resolutions regarding marriage (and the marriage rites in our Book of Common Prayer). Now, I know there were rumors abounding about these resolutions; please know that there are copies online (I have hard copies), and the resolutions are not long. I encourage you to read them for yourself. However, in case there is any question, let me assure you that we did not throw out the marriage rite in the Book of Common Prayer. The resolutions allow for trial use of several liturgies—this simply means there are liturgical options. It is important to know that conversations about marriage and our marriage liturgy have been on-going in The Episcopal Church for longer than I've been alive. This is not a new conversation. And, I am proud to say that the conversations were undertaken with grace and respect. It was a beautiful model for a way a community can be united even if not all of the same mind.

A special legislative committee on drug and alcohol abuse presented several resolutions that were adopted by the Convention. The Convention updated its alcohol policy (which hadn't been changed since 1985, so it was about time) and encouraged all dioceses and

congregations to look over their own policies and consider adopting similar policies.

There were hours and hours of conversation about the structure of the church. I'll need some more time to look over the final version adopted by the convention, but the biggest change seemed to be a dramatic reduction in committees that act between conventions.

In addition to these lengthy conversations, the convention also discussed: the environment and ways we can address the problem of global warming; the possibility of divesting from Israel/Palestine; how to support Haitians living in the Dominican Republic who have been stripped of the citizenship; and ways to engage in reconciliation with those dioceses and clergy who left The Episcopal Church in the recent past and now wish to return.

This is, of course, the briefest of summaries. If you'd like to see the full text of any resolution, all the resolutions will be in their final form and posted on [generalconvention.org](http://generalconvention.org) by the beginning of August.

## Book Group

By Mary Campbell

Our 2015-2016 season starts off with a most improbable blockbuster—*The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown—which has been on the New York Times Nonfiction Best Seller List for over a year.

Why is it so improbable? First, because it is a meticulously researched and detailed book about 8-oar crew teams. Who would have thought such detail about rowing, about the building of the shells, the coaches with their quirky styles, and all the other personalities could be so fascinating and engaging? Second, the book is improbable because the story is so fantastic that as fiction it might be laughed at. But it is very real, and very inspiring.

Eight "boys" from very humble origins in Washington State go out for crew in 1933 in their freshman year at the University of Washington. They eventually take on their elite counterparts in the USA and finally at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. And they win. (This is not a spoiler—we readers are aware of the final win from the book's beginning.) The amazing part is how they managed to do it, and the difficult personal challenges they met and surmounted along the way.

We will discuss *The Boys in the Boat* on Wednesday, August 26, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the Commons. Please join in. Enter through the garden gate. Questions? Please call Mary Campbell at 426-5541.

## Update from the General Theological Seminary

Dear St. John's Community,

I am very happy to let you all know that I have completed my first year of seminary!

Thank you so much for your support and prayers along this journey—they have been invaluable during a difficult year. In my last note, I shared some details about the difficult situation on campus and the strife among faculty and administration. Four faculty members submitted resignations at the end of the school year, and some staff members are departing as well. The school is working hard to make sure we have sufficient faculty and staff for the next academic year, and while I regret the situation, I am cautiously optimistic.

I had a good spring semester, continuing work in Old and New Testament study from last semester, as well as an introduction to Christian spirituality, a couple of spiritual direction courses, a two-day workshop on new ministries, and a couple of eye-opening weekend classes on church finances. I became more involved in the GTS community as well, becoming a sacristan (the duties are similar to Altar Guild, but we make it extra fancy by wearing cassocks) and joining the GTS community choir under David Hurd's direction. I was half of the alto section, which was a bit of change from St. John's, but when we sang "Brother James' Air," I felt right at home.

My summer will be spent in a hospital: I have begun an 11-week program of Clinical Pastoral Education at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital's 168<sup>th</sup> Street campus, home of the Columbia University Medical Center and Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital. NYP is a "top-ten" hospital and is one of the largest in the country, with over 2,000 beds. CPE is a program designed to use a clinical method of real-life ministry experience to teach pastoral care. It is probably the first truly interfaith ministry experience I've had, and it promises to be a powerful and moving experience.

After a long and frustrating search, Josh landed a job as the middle school after-school director at a Catholic school on the Lower East Side. He is exploring options for something better suited to him, but having a job is a blessing.

We have continued to enjoy our exploration of the city. After receiving New York City IDs, Josh and I receive benefits (including, in some cases, free year-long



*Alissa (on the right) and a classmate preparing to serve as crucifers at the GTS May commencement.*

memberships) from a number of cultural institutions, which is great because we enjoy going to the many museums that are in our backyard—one weekend we went to two in one day! We also enjoy seeing shows, especially musicals. I like musicals, but Josh loves them—his goal is to visit every Broadway theatre before I graduate.

Again, thank you all for your support. It means so much to me to know I have a support network back "home" in Indiana.

Alissa Goudswaard Anderson

## Annual Hunger Hike

By Hilary Cooke

On Sunday, September 20, the St. John's youth group will once again participate in the Hunger Hike of Greater Lafayette. Each year the Hunger Hike raises money to support Lafayette Urban Ministry's Food Programs (including our own Food Pantry here at St. John's), Food Finders Food Bank, and St. Tom's Haiti Ministry. We hope to continue our efforts of the last ten years and continue to increase the funds we raise.

There are several ways to support us as we seek to raise money for the hungry in our community. Of course, we are always grateful for any financial support you would like to offer. You may give online at <https://www.firstgiving.com/team/299562>, you may find a member of the youth group and give them money directly, or you may put money in the offering plate with a note indicating that the money is for the Hunger Hike (checks may be made out to "Hunger Hike"). We would also be delighted to have company as we participate in the walk (or the 5k run on Saturday morning), so if you feel like joining us, put on your walking shoes! We also

would be glad for your spiritual support. Please keep us, but most of all those who will be served by the funds raised in the Hunger Hike, in your prayers.

## Children's Formation

By Hilary Cooke

Our Christian formation for children aged 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Godly Play, resumes on Sunday, September 13, 2015. Godly Play meets on the top level (look for "floor 2" if you're taking the elevator) from 9:15-10:00 on Sunday mornings. We ask that, if you are able, you bring your children to their classrooms by 9:10 so that the story can begin promptly at 9:15. This year, because we have so many children in the older classroom (grades 2-5), the older classroom will be in the room across from the nursery, and the younger classroom will be on the 6<sup>th</sup> Street end of the hall (the rooms will be marked, so look for the signs).

If you're interested in knowing how you can be a part of this ministry (either as an adult teacher or to help your child get involved), please feel free to contact Hilary at [hilary@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:hilary@stjohns-laf.org).

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## Reminders

### Summer Worship

The Summer Worship Schedule began on Sunday, June 7 and continues through Sunday, August 30, with one service at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday. We will return to two services on Sunday, September 6. Parish offices will also close at noon on Fridays through August 28.

### Directory Update

Each month there are new faces worshipping at St. John's. In order to keep everyone connected, a directory update will be included in the September issue of *The Eagle*. In the meantime, please update your information (address, phone number, etc.) by going to [www.stjohns-laf.org/update-information/](http://www.stjohns-laf.org/update-information/) or by calling the church office at 765-742-4079.

### September Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submissions to the next issue of *The Eagle* will be Monday, August 10. Please e-mail submissions to [eagle@stjohns-laf.org](mailto:eagle@stjohns-laf.org).

### A Note of Thanks

*It is hard to find words to thank everyone in our St. John's family for all your warm wishes, cards, and attendance at our wedding anniversary celebration early in June. The depth of your love and caring for us was so apparent and so wonderfully received. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for everything you do to feed our souls and enrich our lives. You truly are a family of love and caring and we are blessed to know you all.*

*Most sincerely,  
Arliss and Linda Jeffries*

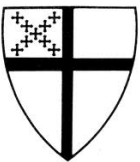
# Pardon Our Dust: On-going Work at St. John's

By Bradley Pace

This summer, there has been a lot of work going on at St. John's. The most obvious place is St. John's Commons. The Commons has been painted and filled with new chairs and will get new carpeting this month. In the meantime, most of the furniture and other items have been stored away for safekeeping. If you are missing something that you need or want returned to you, please contact the church office. In the meantime, please pardon the dust as we make St. John's Commons even more welcoming.

Other work has been done on the roof—the deteriorating stone caps and aluminum flashing on the north gable have been replaced. Work will also be done soon to repair water damage to exterior walls in the alleyway/interior walls in the food pantry. This work will require closing the food pantry for several days. We are, unfortunately, waiting for dry weather to begin this work.

Thanks to Sally Byrn, Linda Cooper, and Ray Polstra who served as the task force to redecorate St. John's Commons. Thanks to our Junior Warden Heather Johnston Nicholson, members of the property committee, our parish administrator Teresa Lohrman, and Main Street Management for making sure all of this work is done and done well. And a special thanks to Joe Vanable, who has spent countless hours over the years gluing and regluing the wooden chairs in St. John's Commons.



## St. John's Episcopal Church

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The Rev. Dr. Bradley Pace

### *Associate Rector*

The Rev. Dr. Hilary Cooke

### *Sunday Associate*

The Very Rev. Robert L'Homme

### *Parish Administrator*

Teresa Lohrman

### *Director of Music*

Michael Bennett

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

Steve Starks, Director

Gayle Ennis, Co-Director

### *Building Use Coordinator*

Bill McInerney

### *Eagle Editor*

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