



Saint John's Spirit

St. John's Episcopal Church • Crawfordsville, Indiana
The Rev. Todd Kleffman, Rector (765) 362-2331

May 2009

www.stjohnscville.org

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From the Rector

Pentecost: Respiration Not Perspiration

The Church celebrates Pentecost as the day when the Holy Spirit of God fell upon the first Christians fifty days after Easter. Fire fell from heaven. Divine winds swirled around the disciples. Confidence in Christ replaced fear, and the Apostles boldly proclaimed the Good News of Jesus with eloquent words and remarkable deeds of power, demonstrating Christ's presence to be a living, burning engine within them. Hundreds were drawn to the love and hope promised by these followers of Jesus. This is how Luke reports the story in the book of Acts. It is a formidable story, which challenges the Church in every age to leap boldly into the life of mission, to roll up its collective sleeves and respond to God's presence with action, action, action! You might call this "The Perspiration Theology" of Pentecost – a theology which may seem too much for quieter Christians who lack the certitude and dynamism so characteristic in the Pentecost of Acts.

Fortunately, the Bible balances the account in Acts chapter 2 with a much more quiet account of 'Pentecost' in the Twentieth Chapter of John. The risen Christ appears in John 20 and gently breathes the Holy Spirit into the Apostles - no fire, no speaking in tongues, no wind, no miracles or sermons, or multitudes begging to be baptized – just the breath of God transferred from Jesus to the Church. You might call this "The Respiration Theology" of Pentecost. Neither one is THE correct model story for how the Church should let itself be moved by the Spirit of God. Instead, these different accounts serve to balance each other and the notions of how Christians might share the Good News of God in Christ with others. Some Christians will be called to perspiration, to very visible, "in-the-world's-face" kinds of acts of faith, and this type of witness will draw some people to Christ. However, those of us given to quieter, simpler – almost shy sorts of living and sharing our faith – should not feel guilty. Our type of witness will draw others to Christ also. We are simply practicing a Christianity of Respiration, not one of Perspiration.

Remember, don't keep the faith; give it away.

Father Todd ☩

Things to look forward to in May and June:

- On Saturday May 2, Canon Bruce Gray will conduct the second and final portion of Shepherd Training.
- Pentecost will be celebrated on May 31. **Everyone should wear Red** to make the occasion more festive. Baptism will be conducted at the 10:30 service.
- We will Commission Shepherds at both services on Pentecost as well. In June Shepherds will begin calling and getting acquainted with members of their 'flocks'.
- On June 14 one 10:30 a.m. service will be held. Breakfast On The Shore will be celebrated at Larry Baumgardner's Farm on Walnut Creek. We will reflect on the Lessons of the Loaves and Fishes and baptize someone as well. Fresh fish will be breaded, fried, and served with other goodies provided by the parish.
- During May all Committees should be meeting and developing ideas for the 2009-2010 year. On June 7 Canon for Christian Formation, Deb Kissinger will meet with Vestry and Committee Chairs to develop a cohesive calendar for the upcoming year.
- Be on the lookout for Roving Books. Pastoral Care will be sending some encouraging books on a route through the congregation. The first book so designated is God Is In the Tough Stuff recommended by the late Kent Meyer. Upon receiving such a book, parishioners should sign and date it. Once finished, readers are to pass the book on to someone else who will also sign and date it. In time each book will contain a record of its ministry in St. John's.
- Abby Twarek hopes to carry out mission work in China. Barbara Penney is working with Abby to prepare a fund-raising presentation on Missions in China. Ms. Penney served for ten years as a teacher/missionary in China.

Christian Education

Sunday School "Who News"

Sunday School is coming to an end for the year. The last day will be May 23. We will be going green with God. Respecting God's earth is our focus this month. We will work to clean up around our church, celebrate Jesus with wind chimes and, of course, honor our mothers and mother nature.

With Joy,
Hannah and Kathy

Adult Christian Education

On Sunday, May 17th between the services, starting at 9:15 a.m., Kathy Copas from the Diocesan office will talk about how to be an "inviting church" -- whether we are greeters on Sunday, coffee hour hosts or individuals representing St. John's in the community. Kathy will share her ideas about what we can do to make visitors feel welcomed as they visit, explore and discern whether they would like to join us and our church family. This discussion is for all of us as we increase our awareness and learn how we all play a part in welcoming our guests and newest members!

Shepherding Ministry

Saturday, May 2 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Candidates for this ministry who have been contacted by Father Todd will have their second training session in Whitlock Hall. Anyone who was unable to attend the first session should plan on attending. A light lunch will be provided.

Shepherding committee CHANGE IN MEETING DATE

The committee will meet in two weeks, at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 5, in the church library.

Parish Life/Newcomers

St. John's Potluck Progressive Block Party, Saturday, May 9 on West Main St.

* Hosts are Ashbaughs [417], Bartons [505], Hildebrands [412] and Lohorns [410].

* Sign-up sheet available in Whitlock Hall lobby - please indicate the dish you will provide to share and the number in your party -- guests are welcome.

* Parking: available on the street - north side only.

* Provided at each venue: plates, table service, glasses, ice, non-alcoholic beverages and good cheer.

* Each Family should deliver your dish to share to the house hosting that dish before going to Barton's.

Schedule:

* 6:00 PM -- Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at Bartons - You supply your own adult beverage of choice.

* 7:00 PM -- Progress two houses east to Ashbaughs for salads.

* 7:30 PM -- Progress across the street to Hildebrands for entrees

* As you finish dinner, meander into Lohorn's backyard, next to Hildebrand's, for desert and continued lively conversation.

Outreach

The Outreach Committee is spearheading the second major project of this year. Funds are being collected to support the Youth Service Bureau as it works to meet the needs of many children in Montgomery County. Members are asked to take a look at the blessings that have come to into their lives with the children in their own families. The tally box in the April newsletter will help to guide us as we tithe as a response to these blessings. There are additional ways to creatively plan your giving.

A check for \$1,834.03 was sent to the diocesan office for the Sudan Project and \$630 has been collected so far for the 2nd quarter project for the Youth Service Bureau. St John's continues to reach out to serve others in so many ways.

Abby Twarek will be heading to China to teach English in mid August. The Outreach committee has agreed to be support Abbey both emotionally and prayerfully and encourages her church family to do the same. She will be working to raise the necessary funds to make this mission a reality.

The rector's emergency cell phone number is 376-2314.

Getting to Know...

Getting to know: Don and Char Hester, who were married in 1984, and just recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. Don is a farmer and life long resident of Montgomery County, while Char moved here from North Judson, IN in 1972. She has a daughter, Melissa Jablonski, living in Lafayette and a son, Jason Rush, here in Crawfordsville.

Don has been active in this community on several different levels, having been a member of the Jaycees for 10 years, a County Commissioner for 4 years, and has served for 20yrs with the Montgomery Soil & Water Conservation District. His goal has been to leave this earth in better shape. Don has had his private pilot's license since he was 18, and also enjoys riding his Honda Goldwing motorcycle.

Basketry is one of Char's passions, and her occupation as well. Her studio, Nantucket Elegance Basketry, is located at her home where she weaves, teaches and sells Historical Nantucket Baskets. Scrapbooking, doll collecting and gardening are other hobbies she enjoys. Currently she is president of the Crawfordsville Flower Lovers Club.

They both enjoy traveling, their most recent trip being to Bali, Indonesia and Singapore.

Char and Don will be confirmed into the Episcopal Church soon and are looking forward to continuing to worship at St. John's and to get to know more of the church family.

In Other News

Pledge and Directory Info

Just a reminder - you can pick up your first quarter pledge report and new parish directory from the basket on the buffet in the lobby of Whitlock Hall.

Prayer Books & Hymnals

The vestry has purchased needed Prayer Books, Hymnals, and Wonder Love & Praise books at the cost of about \$15 each. It was suggested at our last meeting that parishioners be given the opportunity to donate a book/or books in memory of a loved one. Book plates will be applied to the books naming the donor and the person they wish to remember. Should you wish to make a contribution, forms are available to fill out and attach with your check made out to the church.

If you have any questions please contact Carole Meyer.

Strawberry Festival at the Cathedral

St. John's has been invited to help at the Cathedral's Strawberry Festival which takes place outdoors on the circle in Indy June 11th. We will be paid \$25 for each person who works a four hour shift that day. What a great opportunity to help their project and our church as well!

I have requested that our group work the 11 AM to 3 PM shift, but have not received confirmation on that yet, but know that it won't be earlier than 11. Teens 16 & up are welcome to work as well. The deadline for signing up is JUNE 1, but I would appreciate a call or email from anyone who thinks they might be interested, so we have an idea of how many folks might volunteer. Carole Meyer



Directory Updates

Chris & Raquel Johnson - Chris' cell phone is 918-1321 and home is 364-1595. His email is chrisj@jmw-ins.com

Claude & Linda Johnson - Claude's email is claudio.johnson@montgomeryco.net

Chas Cooksey & Robbie Little Robbie's email is robbie1979x@yahoo.com

Update on David Johnson in Iraq

David's assignment in Iraq has changed as well as his address. His new address is

CPL David Johnson
HHC Co QRF Plt 228 Inf
FOB Kalsu
APO AE 09312

The QRF in his address comes from his assignment to the Brigade quick reaction force. This assignment he is part of the element which reacts to ambushes and other attacks on any of the other Brigade forces. Basically he is called out to help protect and extract any of the other units which are attacked or ambushed. This assignment is very exciting to David but a little harrowing for family and friends.

Decorating the Easter Cross



From Carolyn Perkins

In these challenging times, I turn more than ever to the ancient wisdom tradition practiced by the magi. This art has developed over the last four thousand years and continues today to incorporate the psychology of Carl Gustav Jung and the expertise of practitioners who continually research and develop its usefulness. Because astrology originated at a time when psychology and spirituality were not separate enterprises, and humankind did not consider itself so much outside of nature it now does, the mindset feels strange to us initially. However, upon reflection one understands that astrological thought may hold keys to healing our souls of the estrangement we feel, both from Nature and God.

For anyone unfamiliar with the current state of astrology, reading some of the articles and getting a generic analysis of your birth (natal) chart at www.astro.com -- a website developed by English and Swiss Jungian analysts -- will prove a true revelation. Also, The Fated Sky: Astrology in History by Columbia University PhD Benson Bobrick provides an unprejudiced examination of the practice of astrology over the last several millennia.

I do not come to astrology in a state of naiveté about psychology or spirituality. I hold a BA from University of California, Berkeley, and MA from Arizona State University. After being married to a Berkeley psychology PhD for 20 years, I earned a MA in Counseling Psychology from the University of San Francisco (Jesuit). In addition, I have read the works of Carl Jung for the last forty years, studied Christian mysticism intensely in my late thirties and attended the Graduate Theological Union (Episcopal) in Berkeley as a postulant until I realized that my inquiring mind wouldn't tolerate the limits of a conventional seminary education. Thus, I have and continue to put astrology to the most rigorous scientific, spiritual and psychological tests and still find that it has much to offer souls seeking to understand their own nature and discern their life's true purpose.

My purpose in writing here is to offer my services without charge to the congregation of souls who have welcomed me to Crawfordsville since I moved here two years ago. I know nothing more true than our calling to be of service, and to offer our gifts back to the Divine that lives in our fellow souls. Thus, it seems fitting that I offer all my past education, discernment and counseling skills to any among our congregation who would brave the stigma convention places on astrology and receive the gift of the stars. Birth charts offer a map for individuals in quest of self-knowledge, couples seeking to understand their conflicts, and groups looking for productive ways of working together. (For those of you who have already paid me for astrological analyses, I would like to offer a free session.) CLASSES: For those who would like to learn astrology, I would gladly offer a class as I have taught astrology at all levels and love to share its wisdom.

Please feel free to call me with *absolutely any questions* you may have.

Carolyn

Carolyn Perkins, MA; wiskeywoman@yahoo.com; 362-1014

"And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars." Luke 21:25

Ever wonder what those seven yellow orbs in the sky are on each side of the stained glass window over the altar in our church? I'll write some of my thoughts about these symbols in next month's newsletter.

Calendar

May 2 Shepherd Training
 May 9 Parish Life/Newcomers Committees "Block Party"
 May 31 Pentecost Celebration

June 14 Breakfast on the Shore 10:30am only service at Larry Baumgardner's farm.

Ongoing Events

EFM - Tuesday nights, 7pm
 Wednesday 30-Minute Eucharist from 6pm-6:30pm
 Wednesday Night Live - Wednesday nights, 6:30pm

Sunday Servers

Service	Lector	LEM	Crucifer/ Acolyte(s)	Coffee Hour	Greeters	Altar Guild	Offering Tally
5/3 8am	Mike Scime	Mike Scime	Joe and Ben Green				
5/3 10:30	Jim Gary	Adrienne Ashbaugh & Vern Easterling	Sam Hildebrand/ Libby Pinkerton & Alex Pearson		Susan and Brian Albrecht	Cyndy Fields, Bethany Fields, & Adrienne Ashbaugh	Ellen Ball & Barb Easterling
5/10 8am	Diane Ault	Larry Baumgardner	Teresa Anderson				
5/10 10:30	Joe O'Rourke	Robert Cooley & Sally Lawrence	Adam Braisch/ Charles Cooksey & Derek Long		Frank and Carole Escamilla	Carole Meyer & Jane Gallagher	Susie Hildebrand & John Roberts
5/17 8am	Jim Suren	Vern Easterling	Kitty Haffner				
5/17 10:30	Bev O'Rourke	Jane Gallagher & Kim Roberts	Bill Patterson/ Ben & Joe Green		Claude and Linda Johnson	Kim Roberts, C J Charles & Chas Cooksey	Tom Twarek & Nancy Bennett
5/24 8am	Kitty Haffner	Elaine Pickering	Teresa Anderson				
5/24 10:30	Judy Wynne	John & Betty Culley	Mike Lohorn/ Peggy Lohorn & Paul Moehling		Nancy and Larry Bennett	Betty Culley, Meegan Reidy & Larry Baumgardner	Vern Easterling & John Culley
5/31 8am	Judy Wynne	Vern Easterling	Diane Ault				
5/31 10:30	Sam Hildebrand	Paul Ludwig & Larry Baumgardner	Steve Charles/ Libby Pinkerton & Alex Pearson		Adrienne and Bill Ashbaugh	Pru Phillips, Ann O'Dell & Sheila Evans	Susan Albrecht & Ellen Ball

The next Newsletter submissions are due by Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m. May 20.

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