



Saint John's Spirit

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

August 2009

Editor: Cindy Turner
newsletter@stjohnscville.org

www.stjohnscville.org

From the Rector

Meaning and Ministry: Ways to Draw Deeper Meaning from Our Worship

"Worth-ship" – honoring the value of someone or something, "worth-ship" describes what the Church does when it gathers as a community to pray, to sing, to hear the word of God, take Holy Communion, and to work together to share the Good News of Christ with the world and each other. Sometimes worship takes place on Holy Ground in a sanctuary set aside for the primary purpose of honoring the value of God in our lives; while at other times, we honor the value of God and worship through projects that reach out to meet the needs of others through activities that help those with special needs: the poor, the elderly, youth at risk, and abused animals, just to name a few. These are acts of worship too, undertaken to thank God for his valuing of us enough to send his Son to save us from our sins.

When God sent Jesus, God did something more than provide us with hope for forgiveness through Christ's death, and something more wonderful than a resurrection to provide us with the hope of eternal life. God came into the world and lived in the world through Jesus to provide us with a new way to live NOW! Jesus came to teach us about what God values most through Jesus' words and life.

Worship would become a way to encounter God in Christ so that our whole lives might be transformed into living out God's values in the world today. In other words, eternal life could already begin, as our ego-centered selves would begin to die and be replaced by Christ's Holy Spirit living in us and empowering us to be "little Christs" – Christians. Worship, particularly corporate worship, provides a significant vehicle to help us remember why God is so important in our lives; worship has the power to give tremendous meaning for our lives as we hear God calling us to follow Christ into living out "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven", and worship gives us an opportunity to practice "thy will be done" in what is hopefully, a loving spiritual community, which embodies the radical love of Christ.

I would like to offer two specific opportunities which can help us practice 1) the valuing of God's importance, and 2) a chance to practice living out Jesus' radical hospitality in our own Church Family. Taking advantage of both will make worship and the presence of God more meaningful than we possibly imagine.

Let's actually begin with 2). Over the last few months, it has come to my attention that 7 people in our church (these are the ones I know of) have difficulty participating fully in Communion because of the type of wine we serve. Tawny Port, is a fortified wine with a powerful fragrance and a great deal of tannin. To some these fumes and/or the tannins can prove toxic due to allergies, susceptibility to migraines, or other issues. We, as a Church and as individuals, have an opportunity to practice Christ's value of radical hospitality by finding a new white wine or light sherry that will allow these members to take the Cup during communion. We could choose to say that the majority of people like the Tawny Port, and we are sorry that a few of you can't participate as fully as you like. This is not a mere question about what type of wine to use. The more important issue at hand is one of worth-ship. How will we as a church respond to this need based the values that God embodied in Jesus Christ? What would Jesus do? When I try to discern how to respond to various concerns that crop up, I always look to the Bible and to the life of Christ and what come across as his values. Jesus did not say to his disciples, "By your perfect worship, or by your right doctrine, or by the type of wine you use in Communion – all people will know that you are MY disciples." Jesus DID say, "By the quality of your LOVE all people will know that you are MY disciples." So I think we should ask ourselves what is the Christ-loving response to this need. The answer is to find a different kind of wine or a light sherry that requires no refrigeration, one that has no tannins in it, and is both tasty, and low on fragrance. I have asked Betty and John Culley to begin searching for such wine. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to contact the church. If you are troubled by this decision or have any other input you wish to offer, please feel free to talk with me after I return from vacation

From the Rector (Con'd)

Now, let us look at item 1). Take amore active role in helping lead/facilitate Services of Worship and encourage others to do the same, especially as families, as couples, or as groups of friends. Nothing can make worship quite so meaningful as participating in bringing worship to life through helping prepare for, leading in, or by providing the hospitality of greeting, or by providing the refreshments for Sunday fellowship together after worship. Yes, each of these things take time and practice but the rewards far outweigh the sacrifices. Allow me to offer some simple examples.

Seeing someone's face light up when they hear you read from the bible something that touches a heart or soaking up the meaning of a Biblical text because you have rehearsed it for Sunday are only two of the ways in which serving as a Lector makes worship more meaningful. Speaking directly to God on behalf of the Church and those for whom we pray is an awesome , wonderful privilege for LEMs (Lay Eucharistic Ministers), and I can't begin to tell you, if you haven't served Communion before, how moving it is to share the Real Presence of Christ with a friend when you offer them "the Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation". Crucifers have the joy of truly embodying Jesus' call for all of us to "take up the cross and follow me." Sometimes acolytes or crucifers report feeling a divine power moving among the congregation when they signal the start of worship by bringing in the "Light of Christ". Greeters will likely be the first contact for a guest that might become St. John's newest member. In fact, the greeter's hospitality and support may well help a person make the decision to return to St. John's The Altar Guild, Counters, and Coffee Hour Hosts generally work behind the scenes, great spots for shy people, but each of these has hidden rewards as well. The joy of seeing people's generosity on a given Sunday, the delight at seeing an Altar prepared or the meditative possibilities provided by preparing "Holy things for Holy People", or the joy of seeing people enjoying just being with one another while sipping the coffee that you just brewed are just a few of the rewards for those who wish to share in leading/facilitating worship and fellowship.

August will serve as Worship Prep month. Starting August 9, those who wish to participate in one or more "Prep. Sessions" for our Worship Ministries should plan to attend them.

- August 9: LEMs and Lectors (Father Todd) Meet in the Sanctuary.
- August 16.: Offering Counters (Will Turner) Meet in the Church Office.
- August 23: Acolytes & Crucifers (John Culley) Meet in the Sanctuary
Altar Guild (Betty Culley) Meet in the Sacristy
- August 30: Greeters (Newcomers' Committee) Meet in the Sanctuary
Coffee Hour Hosts (Saints' Martha and Andrew Guild) Meet in kitchen.

Individuals who can not attend a particular training session are encouraged to schedule tutoring sessions with the Trainers/Facilitators for that particular Sunday Ministry.

*Fr. Todd will be on vacation
through August 2nd.*

Children's Ministries

Hannah and I are glad to report that the Nursery is completely redecorated--we hope you love it as much as we loved doing it. Terry Lawrence did the art work and Carol Meyer gave us a beautiful quilt. The celebration for the new room will be a baby shower. We would like "gifts" of baby wipes, sanitary wipes, a new changing pad (plastic) and disposable covers for the changing pads, also we need sheets for the "pack and play". We have bought two rockers for the room and if you would like to help with that purchase it would be a great gift. The gifts can be dropped by the Nursery in August.

Kathy Gary

Outreach

Our Outreach for August will be a continuation of collection funds which St. John's will donate to Habitat for Humanity and the Family Crisis Shelter. There are little houses situated in the pews available for you to drop your loose change into for Habitat for Humanity. Please take another look at the tally box to help you give to these worthwhile projects as a response to the way God has blessed you in your life. Be sure to mark an envelope or your check to show that you have designated it for Outreach. Also in August, we will be collecting cleaning supplies, over the counter medications, disposable diapers and paper products which we will take to the Family Crisis Shelter. So dig out those Big Red Bags, and fill them with bargains for these local families in transition. Looking ahead, We will be collecting Undies and Outies in September. Thank you for all that you do to help make the lives of those less fortunate just a little brighter.

All donations received in July, August, and September: will be divided up between the Family Crisis Shelter and Habitat for Humanity. Acknowledge your blessing of a comfortable home in one of the following ways each month:

Number of rooms in your house: _____ Example 7	Multiply it by your \$ amount. ____ X ____ = 7 X \$10.00 = \$70	Make your check to St. John's Outreach Project.
Figure your monthly utility bills. Example: Gas +Elec. + Water =\$140	Figure 10 % of that amount. .10 X \$140=\$14	Multiply that amount times three. \$14.00 X 3 =\$42.00
Enter the square footage of your home: _____ Example: 1800	Figure 1 % of that number .01 X ____ = ____ .01 X 1800 =18	Multiply that total by a dollar amount. That is your giving for the month. 18 X \$1.00 = \$18.00

Illness and Death Notifications and Prayer Requests

Members of St. John's are asked to notify Fr. Todd of important events in their lives, particularly an illness or death in the family, so that he may respond to their needs in a timely manner as well as rally other parish resources as may be appropriate. The best way to assure that he receives timely and accurate information is by a phone call to the office, 362-2331, leaving verbal details with the Secretary, or on the recorder if no one is in the office to personally take the message. In an emergency situation, Fr. Todd may also be reached on his cell phone, 765-376-2314. Email IS NOT the best way to notify Fr. Todd or the Church office. It is also important to inform Fr. Todd whether the information is confidential or if it may be released to the Parish Family. If the information is to be released, our policy is to advise the individual's Shepherd as well as make it available on the Google Email list and in the Sunday pew bulletin.

Prayer Requests may be called in to the church office or presented on a form available on the buffet in the Whitlock Hall Lobby.

Treasures & Trivia

Friday August 14th 8-6
Saturday August 15th 8-3

We are still in need of donations and volunteers for the Treasures & Trivia sale.

Merchandise: Donations may be dropped off at the church. If you need help getting your donation(s) to the church, you may contact Chas Cooksey or Larry Baumgardner.

Volunteers: We need 4 or 5 volunteers each day of the week of August 10 for set up. Volunteers will need to arrive at the church by 9:00 a.m. We also need 10 volunteers on August 14 and 15, to arrive at 7:30 a.m. The sale begins at 8:00 a.m. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex next to Whitlock Hall for those interested. Any help received is help greatly appreciated. Even if you help for just a half an hour. Thank You,

St Martha and St Andrews Guild

Family Camp Reservations Due By August 22

Our **35th annual** St. John's Family Camp Weekend at the Diocese of Indianapolis Waycross Camp and Conference Center in Brown County is scheduled for Sept. 11, 12 and 13. The Hildebrands and the Lohorns are coordinating this year's event. We have 20 reservations as of July 25 and can accommodate many more children and adults in the Cabins, the Main House/Sleeping Wing or the Conference Center. The weekend is a casual one and is purposely loosely structured to allow you to relax, read, hike, interact, snooze, or play games with the children, all at your own pace. The only scheduled events are breakfast, lunch, dinner, the Saturday afternoon softball game [St. John's rules] and the Saturday night bonfire and communion service. You may plan to arrive either Friday afternoon before dinner or Saturday morning before lunch as you schedule permits.

If you have never attended a Family Camp Weekend and want more information before responding, please call Sam or Susie at 362-8656 or Mike or Peggy at 326-0810.

Rates for St. John's adults as well as your adult guests are:

\$40/ night at the cabins

\$69/ night at the Main House/Sleeping Wing

\$85/ night (double occupancy rate) at the Conference Center

\$115/ night for a single room at the Conference Center

All St. John's children are paid for by the Family Fund. Guests of your children are welcome, but the host family is responsible for their expenses which are:

\$35/ night for 13-17 year olds

\$25/ night for 8-12 year olds

\$15/ night for 3-7 year olds

Celebrating Fern Wharton Brill

Fern Wharton Brill was St. John's Director of Christian Education, Historian, choir member and Altar Guild member. A native of Cherryvale, Kansas, Fern had lived in Missouri, Tennessee, South Dakota, New Mexico, Colorado, California and Florida before moving to Crawfordsville. She always loved a good party. St. John's began celebrating her birthday, July 24, every year with a potluck dinner. She called her party "the annual celebration of her 75th birthday." At her last birthday party, we celebrated her 99th birthday (her 25th annual 75th birthday). She published *The Story of St. John's and Its People* in 1987. Fern's 106th birthday was celebrated on July 26th.

Thank You!

A HUGE thank you to all who participated, donated or cooked for our workday with Habitat for Humanity! Many hands did many great things: to our fabulous workers and for ALL the work you got done - Ben and Joe Green, Mike Scime, Herm Haffner, Sam Smith, Kevin Osborn, Bud Arnold, Jim Smith and Mike Reidy. To our chefs: Chas Cooksey, Judy Spencer, Carole Meyer, Elaine Pickering, Meegan Reidy, Barb Easterling, Jerilyn Yerkes, Helen Hutson, Jane Gallagher, Sheila Evans and Nancy Bennett. And to our financiers: Cindy and Jerry Smith, Sam and Susie Hildebrand, Mary Angela and Bob Cooley, Peggy and Mike Lohorn, Sara and Arthur Lawrence (26 families participated)! The regular Habitat workers were overwhelmed and thrilled with the "might" of that little church on Green Street!! Our church family continues to impress and amaze me! Thank you so much for all you do!



Sunday Servers

Service	Lector	LEM	Crucifer/ Acolyte(s)	Coffee Hour	Greeters	Altar Guild	Offering Tally
8/2 8am	Judy Wynne	Meribeth Kussmaul	Diane Ault				
8/2 10:30	Joe O'Rourke	Vern Easterling & Bob Cooley	Sam Hildebrand/ Libby Pinkerton & Alex Pearson		Robbie Little & Chas Cooksey	Carole Meyer & Jane Gallagher	Vern Easterling & John Culley
8/9 8am	Diane Ault	Vern Easterling	Joe & Ben Green				
8/9 10:30	John Culley	Betty Culley & Paul Ludwig	Mike Lohorn / Peggy Lohorn & Charles Cooksey		Sara & Arthur Lawrence	Kim Roberts, CJ Charles & Charles Cooksey	Nancy Bennett & Ellen Ball
8/16 8am	Jim Suren	Elaine Pickering	Teresa Anderson				
8/16 10:30	Barb Easterling	Kim Roberts & Sara Lawrence	Chris Redmaster/ Erin & Anna Redmaster		Cindy Smith & Marikay Stultz	Betty Culley, Meegan Reidy, Larry Baumgardner	John Roberts & Susie Hildebrand
8/23 8am	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Kitty Haffner				
8/23 10:30	Kristen Albrecht	Jane Gallagher & Meribeth Kussmaul	Steve Charles/ John & Linda Hanebuth		Ann & Alex Lebedeff	Ann O'Dell, Shelia Evans	John Culley & Tom Twarek
8/30 8am	Mark Kussmaul	Meribeth Kussmaul	Hanna Anderson				
8/30 10:30	Alex Lebedeff	Larry Baumgard ner & Marc Hudson	Sam Hildebrand/ Charles Cooksey & Paul Moehling		Mark & Meribeth Kussmaul	Jerilyn Yerkes and Terry Lawrence	Susan Albrecht & Cindy Smith



Those persons volunteering to give flowers for the next month are

August 2 Kitty and Herm Haffner
 August 9 Ro and Dave Gillooly
 August 16 Rev. Todd Kleffman and Mike Scime
 August 23 Judy Wynne
 August 30 Carole Meyer



Calendar

August 9:	Training for LEMs and Lectors
August 14 & 15	Treasures & Trivia Sale
August 16:	Training for Offering Counters
August 23:	Training for Acolytes & Crucifers and Altar Guild
August 30:	Training for Greeters and Coffee Hour Hosts
September 11-13	Family Camp Weekend at Waycross
September 20	Christian Education Rally Day - Beginning of Sunday School
<i>Ongoing Events</i>	
EFM - Tuesday nights, 7pm	
Wednesday 30-Minute Eucharist from 6pm-6:30pm	

The next Newsletter submissions are due by Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m. August 26.

St. John's Episcopal Church
212 South Green Street
P. O. Box 445
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Return Service Requested

Dated Material — please deliver by—July 30