



Saint John's Spirit

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

December 2010

www.stjohnscville.org

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Rector's Article

O Come All Ye Faithful!"

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1. Come and Pray (Prepare for Christmas). Two ways to prepare for Christmas so that we can experience his presence more powerfully include: A. attending all the Advent services at St. John's and in our community at large such as *Lessons and Carols* and the performance of The *Messiah* at Wabash, and B. Daily praying and reflecting on the Sunday Collects for each week of Advent.

Nov. 28th – *Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; so that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Dec. 5th – *Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation; Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

Dec. 12th – *Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.*

Dec. 19th – *Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.*

- 2. Come and Grow (Adult Forum, Children's Christian Ed.).** Take advantage of the Christian Education time between services from 9:15-10:15 a.m. to make preparation for Christ to come more fully into our lives through discussion and listening to the thoughts of others and through activities.
- 3. Come to BOTH Christmas Eve Services (Experience Christ's presence in simplicity and in pageantry).** What?! Come to two services in one night? Yes. Come to the 5:30 Stable Service at Larry Baumgardner's barn and experience the cold, the discomfort of sitting on bales of straw or lawn chairs if you bring them, the sights and sounds of sheep and donkeys, the accompaniment of guitar to Christmas Carols, and the sense of poverty and vulnerability in which God's Son first entered our lives. Share the time of Communion with the God who went to the greatest possible lengths to show us that "God does know what it's like to live in a broken world". AND THEN, after taking a bit of rest, *O Come All Ye Faithful* to honor the One who, though born in a barn, and killed on a cross, and buried in a borrowed tomb, broke the power of death and sin by rising from the grave and now reigns as King of Kings. Worship him with all the honors due him and experience the true nature of Christ with choral music and singing at 9 p.m. At 9:30 p.m. the worship continues with a choral procession, followed by *the Youths' Procession of Banners*, which will become the key portion of the sermon, when each symbol on the banners will be explained and hung. Then celebrate Holy Communion in our famous circle around the altar followed by the lighting of candles and singing *Silent Night* to candle light.
- 4. Come and Share (Reports due for Annual Meeting).** If you have reports due for Annual Meeting, please get them to the Secretary's box or office by Jan. 7th.
- 5. Come to Annual Meeting and Potluck Brunch - Jan. 16 after one 9 a.m. Service. (Shape the Future of St. John's).**
- Nominations for Vestry:** Larry Baumgardner and the Vestry Nomination's Committee have put forward the following persons for election to the vestry, because in Larry's words, "These people represent and support the mission and vision of St. John's. They are well-qualified spiritually and experientially to help lead St. John's through this time of transition." They are Ed Fain, Mark Kussmaul, Jim Suren, and Randy Pickering. You will be asked to vote for three. Child care and children's activities will be available during the meeting.
- 6. Rector's schedule through December.** Father Todd will attend the Diocesan Clergy Retreat at Waycross from Dec. 5-8. He will also be taking off Sunday the 26th to be with his family. On that Sunday, both Services will be held: Consisting of Lessons and Carols, and concluding with the Prayers of the People led by members of the congregation. There will be no Communion.

Crawfordsville Community Chorus

The Crawfordsville Community Chorus is preparing for two performances in December. The first is the Christmas Festival of Music and Readings at Wabash College chapel on Wed Dec 8 at 8pm-beginning with musical ensembles at 7:30 The chorus will be singing with the college glee club. Then on Sun Dec 12 at 7pm the chorus will be performing Handel's Messiah with orchestra at the college chapel. Members of the audience will be invited to sing along if they wish. The community chorus is directed by Dr Richard Bowen of Wabash College and accompanist is Cheryl Everett. The chorus is made up of people from the community, surrounding area and Wabash College. St John's has a large representation of singers including Patience Barnes, Dan Booher, Bob Cooley, Sheila Evans, Sue and Ed Fain, Linda Vernon Goldman, Debbie Swanson and Jerilyn Yerkes.

Please plan to attend. It will be a wonderful beginning to your preparation for the coming Christmas season.

White Elephant Party

Sunday Dec.5th at 6:00pm
Hosted by Paul and Susie Moehling
At The Iron Gate

Bring a guest or friend with you,
and bring a dish, and I will too.
Don't forget to bring a gift,
not too heavy for some can't lift.
Make it funny, ugly, old or new,
just what you don't want back home with you.
Come one come all to The Iron Gate,
for food and fun so don't be late.

Annual Meeting

The 2011 Annual Meeting is on January 16th. We will have one service at 9:00 am, followed by a potluck brunch. Childcare will be provided. Annual meeting will follow after brunch.

OUTREACH



The St. John's Outreach Committee thanks you for the many ways you supported our committee as we strived to make the world a little better for many people in 2010. You have touched many lives.

ST. MARTHA'S AND ANDREW GUILD:

Needs members-why?

We all work to maintain ST. JOHN'S. If your skills run to the hospitality and stewardship of property, join us. Call Elaine 362-8163 or Church Office 362-2331.

Parents Day Out:

Parents Day Out, December 4th, 9 am to 5 p m in Whitlock Hall. The youth group providing care, games, crafts, meal, snacks with help from reliable adults. Call Elaine or Parish Office so we can provide adequate supplies for the day.

Let us remember the meaning of Christmas:

Celebrate this Christmas
The birth of God's Holy Son
Give praise and thanks
For all that God has done
The miracles at this time

Are all too often hard to see
All of our time is spent
Buying presents for under the tree
Don't forget the reason
Behind this glorious day
Was a babe born in a manger
On that blessed Christmas Day
His life was laid down for us
Christ, he gave us his all
To suffer our sins for us
In hopes that no one would fall
Our sins have been forgiven
All that's asked is we believe
There are no words to express
The love he has for us
Remember how he suffered
Before he died on the cross
Worship him this Christmas
Fall on bended knee
Lift your voices singing praises
Let him be all you need
Though presents and decorations
Are a lot of fun
Give thanks to God this Christmas
He gave the most precious gift to us,
The life of his only Son

Christmas Eve Services

The Barn Service will be held at the home of Larry & Sandy Baumgardner, on December 24th at 5:30pm. The address of the farm is 8092 E. Us 136, New Ross.

The Candle Mass Service will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church Friday December 24th at 9:00.

Christmas Day Quiet Mass

At. St. John's 9:30am-10:30am

Attention all women of St. John's and their guests. SAVE THE DATE!!!

When: 5 March 2011, 11:30 am

Where: Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis

What: ECW Luncheon; cost - \$10.00; childcare available

Speakers: Hilary Cooke and Susanne McConville

Topic: West Meets East: Spirituality, Yoga, Centering Prayer

Brochures with registration forms will be available January 2011. More questions? Contact Lisa Matucheski (317-293-9324, jmatuche@sbcglobal.net) or Charlene Watson (765-474-9101, cel.watson@comcast.net). Also check the Indianapolis Diocese website for more information – www.indydio.org – and look under the Episcopal Church Women's icon. Remember - **SAVE THE DATE!!**

Up Coming Events

Men's Epiphany Coffee, January 5th in Whitlock Hall, more info to follow. For information, phone Elaine Pickering

Ladies' Epiphany Tea, January 6th in Whitlock Hall, more information to follow. Ring Elaine at 362-8163 for info and recipes.

Liturgical Committee meets Tuesday, December 14 at 5:30.

Servers Schedule

| Service | 12/5 8am | 12/5 10:30am | 12/12 8am | 12/12 10:30am | 12/19 8am | 12/19 10:30am | 12/26 8am | 12/26 10:30am |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Lector | Jim Suren | Susan Albrecht | Mark Kusssmaul | Helen Hudson | Judy Wynne | Barbara Penney | Adrienne Ashbaugh | Joe O'Rourke |
| LEM | Jim Suren | Larry Baumgardner | Meribeth Kusssmaul | John Culley | Mike Scime | Marc Hudson | Adrienne Ashbaugh | Jane Gallagher |
| Crucifer /Acolyte | Joe Green | Chas Cooksey/ Kristen Albrecht | Ben Green | Paul Moehling/ Elaine Pickering | Teresa Anderson | Robbie Little/ Bill Patterson | Steve Charles | Mike Lohorn/ Peggy Lohorn |
| Greeters | | Alex & Ann Lebedeff | | Vern & Barb Easterling | | Chris & Raquel Johnson | | Chris & Sharon Redmaster |
| Alter Guild | | Jerilyn & Terry | | Sheila & Jane | | Carole & Chas | | CJ & Charles |
| Offering Tally | | Ed Fain & John Culley | | Barb Easterling & John Culley | | Tom Twarek/ John Roberts | | Cindy Smith & Jim Smith |

Calendar

Ongoing Events

Wednesday 30-Minute Eucharist from 6pm-6:30pm

Thursday Choir Practice 7pm

Liturgical Meeting Dec 14th at 5:30 pm

The next Newsletter submissions are due by Wednesday evening, 6:00 p.m. December 22

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

Return Service Requested

Dated Material — please deliver by—December 22