



Saint John's Spirit

St. John's Episcopal Church + 212 S. Green St. + Crawfordsville, IN 47933
(765) 362-2331 + www.stjohnscville.org + stjohnscville@gmail.com

February 2012

We are who we are

INTERIM PRIEST'S ARTICLE

One of the interesting things about any body, individual or corporate, is that in a time of stress or transition it wants to revert to whatever it understands as its most comfortable and affirming state. In many instances that means digging down into some pretty basic self-understandings about identity and the values held dear. Often it involves attempts to recover or re-enact elements of the past that are neither as wonderful nor life-giving as our imaginations believe they will be. In spite of this, if we examine this desire carefully, we are able to identify some deeply held values around which a new future or new beginning can be built. Were we to fail to uncover these more foundational elements or to ignore them, any attempts at new beginnings would be futile.

I once served a congregation where I followed a Rector of twenty-five years. That alone presents challenges and landmines. "You're not doing it the way _____ did and that's all we've known," is a common cry. In preparing a parish profile and determining the directions they needed to travel into their future as well as the leadership qualities in a new Rector that would assist that journey, they were quite perceptive. They knew they would be better served by a less hierarchical, more collaborative style of leadership and a more collegial manner of planning and decision making. The Rector and style that had served them well wasn't what was needed if the congregation was to be more fully invested in its own life and move into a more creative and responsive future. As it turns out, I fit their parish and leadership profile quite well and was called. However, below the surface of what they knew they needed were some deeply foundational elements that I didn't, at that time, know how to uncover. One had to do with a hierarchical culture that resisted collaborative decision making. The other had to do with who 'really' made or guided decisions. I called them the 'owners' because of their influence—financial and persuasive—in the life of the congregation. What I was called to do and what I attempted was finally thwarted because it wasn't the way the culture prescribed and the decision-makers endorsed. After what turned out to be a long, long (5 ½ year) interim, we parted ways. However, as a result of some naming of issues and concerns in this earlier clash between perceived and assumed needs, the new Rector has had an easier time not falling into the fault lines of colliding expectations.

Having learned, the hard way, something about parish culture and decision-making, it is my hope that we can begin to examine those historical elements that are foundational in St. John's life with an eye toward securing an appropriate clerical leader. Affirming elements that support a creative future as a part of Christ's Body as well as naming those which could prove problematic going forward will be important as leaders, lay and clerical, help move the congregation into its new and faithful reality.

Of course, we are already engaged in the process of living into a new future, but we will engage the portion of that process that involves more of St. John's members on February 19th during Adult Forum. Come prepared on that and subsequent Sundays through Lent to enlist your memories, hopes, and dreams for St. John's. Expect to learn from others and teach newer members about parish lore and ways. Know that you will be providing the ingredients that will assist those who will secure and call the clerical leadership St. John's needs to move into its future. Fr. Dave Ferner +

ELECTION RESULTS

The results of the election at the Annual Meeting on January 29th are in! Our newly elected class of 2014 Vestry members are: Larry Bennett, Betty Culley, and Debbie Swanson. They join class of 2012 Vestry members Jane Gallagher, Chas Cooksey, and Paul Moehling and class of 2013 Vestry members Ed Fain, Randy Pickering, and Jim Suren. Convention delegates are Randy and Elaine Pickering with Ed and Sue Fain as alternates.

Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation: Who needs it?

In the Episcopal Church, *Holy Baptism* is full initiation by water and the Holy Spirit into Christ's Body, the Church. This means that if you have been baptized, you are a member of the Episcopal Church. If you are baptized at an early age, your parents took the baptismal vows on your behalf. As an adult, you have the opportunity to make public affirmation of your faith and to re-affirm the baptismal vows your parents took for you. This public affirmation of faith and re-affirmation of your baptismal vows is what we call *Confirmation*.

You may have been confirmed by a Bishop in another tradition and now seek *Reception* into the Episcopal faith tradition. You may have been baptized and confirmed at a fairly young age and believe it is time to *Reaffirm* your baptismal promises from a new place in your faith journey. Or, perhaps you just want a refresher of the Christian faith and our Episcopalian traditions.

If any of the above describes you, then we invite you to join us for preparation sessions beginning Sunday, February 19th from noon until 1:30pm. The classes will explore the Prayer Book, Scripture, church history, prayer, and take some of our cues from the interests of participants. Classes will run until the area-wide Confirmation takes place, likely sometime in mid-April to mid-May.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

FEBRUARY 22 AT 12:15 AND 6:30PM

ADULT FORUM

Spiritual autobiographical writing continues through February 12th during the Adult Forum hour, 9:15-10:15am on Sunday mornings. Beginning February 19th Fr. Dave will lead us through conversations about who we are as the body of Christ at St. John's and who we desire to be as we move forward into the future.

THANKS FROM LIBBY....

Libby Pinkerton thanks everyone for their prayers, phone calls, and cards. She's recovering well from the mastectomy and the good news is the cancer did not spread to the lymph nodes!

Church Office Hours

Monday 9am – noon

Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 8:30am – 3:30pm

(765) 362-2331

Father Dave is available on Wednesdays from 9:30am until 5:00pm as well as on Sundays by appointment. Contact him either by phone at (317) 736-7889 (home) or (317) 690-2799 (cell) or by email at drferner47@gmail.com to schedule an appointment.

We thank Dylan Thomas for his service as office volunteer and wish him well in his studies at Ivy Tech. We welcome Adrienne Ashbaugh as our new office volunteer on Monday mornings.

NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT APPRECIATED FOR

Linda Johnson who has been home bound with a serious illness for several months. Notes may be sent to her at: 215 Vermont, Crawfordsville, IN 47933.

Belated thanks to those who participated in the 2011 Montgomery County **CROP Walk**. St. John's contributed over \$500 to the \$11,171.75 raised. Twenty-five percent of the total will be returned to the FISH program here in Crawfordsville.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Sunday School for ages 3 through 5th grade meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15am-10:15am and child care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is available from 9am-11:30am. Teachers Dylan Thomas and Jane Gallagher are pleased to announce the addition of Abby Twarek to the Children's Christian Education staff. If anyone above grade five is interested in having a class, please contact Jane at 362-2085 or ljgallagher@accelplus.net or Dylan at 918-5101 or theoakdoor@live.com.

Tips to Make Your Laundry Green

FACT: If every U.S. household used the most-efficient washers, it could save the equivalent of up to 40 million barrels of oil a year!

Laundry is no one's favorite chore, but there's no reason to add injury to insult by polluting in the process. There are environmental considerations on Wash Day, including the energy used to wash, dry, and iron clothes, and the products used to make clothes come out whiter, brighter, and smelling like a sunny day in May. Here are some tips to consider:

- **Warm up to cooler water.** Using hot water for both washing and rinsing uses three and a half times more energy than washing in warm water and rinsing in cold.
- **Get efficient.** The newest, most-efficient washers use four times less energy than the least-efficient machines, and save up to \$70 a year in energy costs.
- **Don't overheat.** Lowering your water heater's temperature to 120 will suffice for most household needs and cut energy costs.
- **Get loaded.** It takes less energy to do one big load than two smaller ones. But don't overload the machine or nothing will get clean.
- **Go with the flow.** Check your dryer's outside vent. Make sure it is clean and closes properly, or it could allow cold air into your house.
- **Hang it up.** Reduce the need for ironing by taking clothes out of the dryer slightly damp and hanging them up. That can save energy - including yours.

(As found at: <http://www.earthshare.org/2008/09/turn-your-whole.html>)

DEADLINE for submission of Newsletter articles for March is Monday, February 20. Please email articles to the church at stjohnsville@gmail.com or contact the church office at 362-2331.

Seeking Newsletter Editor: Do you have computer skills and enjoy writing/editing? We're looking for an editor (or editors) for the newsletter. Putting the newsletter together is a great creative outlet! Please contact the church office if you are interested.

The purpose of the **Montgomery County Women's Lenten Breakfasts** is to bring sisters together in a serious spiritual setting, providing a time for examining our hearts through repentance and remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection. Breakfast is served at 8:00am followed by program from 8:30-9:45am. Child care is provided.

Feb 25 First Church of the Nazarene (213 W. Wabash)

Guest: Pastor Mark Roberts

March 3

Mace Methodist (5581 US136E)

Guest: Jody Burks

March 10

Parkersburg Christian (83 W 1150S)

Guest: Donna Orwig

March 17

Crossroads Community (117 E St. Rd 234 @ US 231S); Guest: Duane Carey

March 24

Christ Lutheran (300 W South Blvd.)

Guest: Pastor Seth Stultz

**March 31*

St. John's Episcopal (212 S. Green St.)

Guest: Pastor Marilyn Couger

April 7

Women are invited to join the Men's Lenten Breakfast beginning at 7:30am at St. Bernard's.

**St. John volunteers are needed March 31st to set up, cook breakfast, serve and clean up. Please contact Elaine Pickering at elainepickering@yahoo.com or 362-8163 or Susan Albrecht at 361-0036 or susiequisie23@sbcglobal.net.*

LOOKING AHEAD....

The 2012 Episcopal Church Women's Conference is being held in South Bend April 27-28. The theme is Interdependence Days – Sisters in Spirit Moving Toward Mission. For more information, contact Christina_nevill@hotmail.com or (219) 309-5635 or the church office.

Planning for the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church in the US, meeting in Indianapolis at Victory Field July 2-12, 2012, is gearing up. Please prayerfully consider how you may be able to serve. Go to www.generalconvention.org and follow the links to register as a volunteer. Kim Smith is the contact at the Diocese and she may be reached at smith@indyio.org or 800-669-5786 or 317-926-5454.

SUNDAY SERVERS: February 2012

Date/ Time	Lector	Lay Eucharistic Minister(s)	Crucifer/ Acolyte(s)	Greeters	Altar Guild	Offering Tally	Altar Flowers
Feb. 5th 8:00am	Kitty Haffner	Jim Suren	Cyndy Fields		Sheila Evans Jane Gallagher	Tom Twarek Nancy Bennett	Sam & Susie Hildebrand
Feb. 5th 10:30am	Helen Hudson	Barbara Penney Marc Hudson	Paul Moehling/ Mike Lohorn Peggy Lohorn	Larry & Nancy Bennett			
Feb. 12th 8:00am	Dylan Thomas	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Teresa Anderson		Jerilyn Yerkes Terry Lawrence	Ellen Ball Vern Easterling	Jerry & Cindy Smith
Feb. 12th 10:30am	Susan Albrecht	Randy & Elaine Pickering	Steve Charles/ Kristen Albrecht CJ Charles	Mark & Meribeth Kusmaul			
Feb. 19th 8:00am	Judy Wynne	Vern Easterling	Peter Swanson		CJ Charles Cyndy Fields	Cindy Smith Susan Albrecht	Angela Cooley
Feb. 19th 10:30am	Mark Kusmaul	Meribeth Kusmaul Dan Booher	Mike Lohorn/ Logan Long Ben Green	Ellen Ball & Tom Twarek			
Feb. 26th 8:00am	Dylan Thomas	Barbara Penney	Cyndy Fields		Carole Meyer Jo Tussey	Ed Fain John Culley	LENT
Feb. 26th 10:30am	Nancy Bennett	Adrienne Ashbaugh Elaine Pickering	Randy Pickering/ Paul Moehling Joe Green	Chris & Raquel Johnson			

If you are unable to serve as scheduled, please find a substitute and contact the church office as soon as possible so we can keep the schedule up-to-date. Thank you!

FEBRUARY 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:30am Centering Prayer <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 12:15pm Eucharist	2 7am Men’s Bible Study <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 7pm Choir Practice	3	4
5 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Adult Forum & Sunday School	6 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 9am-noon	7 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm	8 7:30am Centering Prayer <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 12:15pm Eucharist 7pm Exec. Committee	9 7am Men’s Bible Study <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 7pm Choir Practice	10	11
12 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Adult Forum & Sunday School	13 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 9am-noon	14 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm	15 7:30am Centering Prayer <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 12:15pm Eucharist 7pm Vestry Meeting	16 7am Men’s Bible Study <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 7pm Choir Practice	17	18
19 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Adult Forum & Sunday School	20 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 9am-noon	21 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm	22 ASH WEDNESDAY 7:30am Centering Prayer <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 12:15pm Eucharist 6:30pm Eucharist	23 7am Men’s Bible Study <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 7pm Choir Practice	24	25
26 FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Adult Forum & Sunday School	27 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 9am-noon	28 <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm	29 7:30am Centering Prayer <i>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm 12:15pm Eucharist			

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