



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

May 2012

...can't slow down the Spirit and turn back...

INTERIM RECTOR'S ARTICLE

As the month of May unfolds, our gospel readings will continue to raise Easter themes and at the same time anticipate the feast of Pentecost—the coming of the Holy Spirit. On the second Sunday of Easter, we heard John's Pentecost, the same night as the resurrection. Jesus reminded the gathered disciples that as he was sent, so is he sending them. Then he breathed on them in the same way that God breathed life and spirit into the first humans (Genesis 2), empowering them to embody the life that Jesus lived in their emerging ministry contexts. At the end of May, we will celebrate the feast of Pentecost—the Pentecost story we recognize on the liturgical calendar. This is the cool story about wind and fire that when I was younger caused me to wonder if hair caught on fire and the wind blew it out. The upshot of that story was that Jesus' friends were empowered to tell people about God's love as that love was embodied in Jesus and to encourage others not only to take the message to heart, but also to begin to live it out. Pentecost, from the perspective of both stories, involves embodying God's love for others in the same way that Jesus did.

What is significant for St. John's is that it has been a place that has responded to that Holy and life-giving Spirit. People in this congregation are volunteers. They offer themselves quite freely and serve quite willingly. My suspicion is that those who so energetically serve rarely consider that they have responded to the promptings of the Spirit; promptings that push or pull us into an always emerging, ever new adventure in God's love.

Without suggesting for a moment that St. John's voluntarism is wrong or deficient in some way, I recommend that each person take a moment, when asked to do something or feeling the urge to jump in, to test the prompting. Ask some questions. Does this action serve others? Is this a way I can join in expressing God's love? Will some little corner of the world be better as a result of my (our) effort(s)? Will my participation result in my (our) embodying God's love?make us instruments of God's love? Will others be encouraged to love as a result of my gesture, spreading the good news of God's love through our action? I'm suspecting that you can probably come up with more and better questions, but it's the pause that counts and here's why.

Because the world seems to tumble so quickly, move so fast, we have a tendency to want to turn back the clock to a simpler time. In case you haven't figured it out yet, I'm here to tell you it can't be done. All that's before us is the moment we live in and the future. Whatever was can never be recreated. God's Holy and life-giving Spirit is all about love, now and in the unfolding of life before us. I sometimes hear 'remember when' stories about St. John's. Those stories are so important because they demonstrate how God's love was embodied once upon time. However, those moments will never be duplicated. God's Spirit enters in as we take 'how God's love was embodied' in the past and seek ways to replicate that sharing of love in the contexts in which we find ourselves now. Whatever St. John's did twenty-five years ago is great history. How St. John's embodies God's love in the activities of today and tomorrow involves our listening for the promptings and urgings of the Holy Spirit as our congregation discovers the life it is yet to live.

Fr. Dave Ferner+

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Sunday School for ages 3 through 5th grade meets on Sunday mornings from 9:15am-10:15am through May 20th and will resume in August with the start of school. Child care for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is available on Sundays from 9am-11:30am and continues in the summer months. The contact person is Jane Gallagher at 362-2085 or ljgallagher@accelplus.net.

ADULT FORUM is held from 9:15-10:15am on Sunday mornings through May 20th in Whitlock Hall. Currently, Mary Angela Cooley is facilitating a discussion of Philip Gulley's latest work entitled *The Evolution of Faith: How God Is Creating a Better Christianity*. In this book Gulley proposes a fresh direction for Christianity and articulates a Christianity that, while faithful to the priorities of Jesus, can help its adherents live happily, peacefully, and productively in our complex world. Gulley is a Quaker pastor and author from Danville, IN.

Schedule of Services

Sunday Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:30am

Mid-week Eucharist on Wednesday at 12:15pm

Church Office Hours

Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 8:30am – 3:30pm

Father Dave is usually available in the church office on Wednesdays from 9:30am until 5:00pm and by appointment, as well as on Sundays. See calendar for details. 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. Fr. Dave will not be in Wednesday, May 2. Fr. Bill Wieland will be in the office from 10:30am – 3:30pm that day. For pastoral care concerns during Fr. Dave's absence, contact Fr. Bill at (765) 653-3548.

Contact Information Updates

Please update your Parish Directory with the following:

Jim and Susie Smith

Marquette Manor, Apt. #3413, 8140 Township Line Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46260 (765) 366-2292 (Jim's cell)

Don Blair – Ben Hur Home

1375 S. Grant Ave., Crawfordsville, IN 47933

VESTRY and SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Vestry met on April 25 with most of the discussion centering on St. John's financial situation and our quest to search for a full-time priest. Although, thanks to the generosity of many of you we are in good financial shape for 2012, we do not have the financial support to ask the Diocese to help us find a full-time priest. For both 2013 and 2014 the Vestry projects a \$20,000 short fall. As the Vestry continues discussion with the Rev. Canon Debra Kissinger, Canon for Transition Ministries, we are prayerfully considering our options. We will keep parishioners informed as there are developments and we ask you to continue to hold St. John's in your prayers.
- *The Vestry of St. John's*

DEADLINE for submission of Newsletter articles for June is Monday, May 21st. Please email articles to the church at stjohnscville@gmail.com or contact the church office at 362-2331.

NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT are appreciated for the following people:

- **Bonnie Chamberlain** – Kindred Transitional Care, **Room 101**, 5226 E. 82nd St., Indianapolis, IN 46250 (**NOTE ROOM CHANGE**)
- **Chas Cooksey** – 6582 N. County Rd. 490W, Greencastle, IN 46135
- **Ginny Dawson** – 106 Marshall St.
- **Linda & Claude Johnson** – 215 Vermont St.
- **Ann Lebedeff** – 1613 E. Union St.
- **Peg Millbern** – 1597 Martha's Court
- **Barb & Jim Taylor** – 335 Schenck Rd.
- **Dave & Jerilyn Yerkes** – 615 W. Pike St.
- **Nancy Yount** – PO Box 417, Darlington, IN 47940

Thank you, *Barb Easterling & Adrienne Ashbaugh*
Pastoral Care Committee

A FEW HOUSEKEEPING ITEMS...

If you are having a meeting at the church, please remember to turn off the lights before you leave to help us save electricity. Also, most of the doors in the church are fire doors so it is very important that all doors be closed, not propped open. If there were to be a fire, the doors are designed to help contain the damage. Thank you for your assistance!

Centering Prayer

Did you know that every Wednesday morning at 7:30am a group gathers in Whitlock Hall for prayer and fellowship? To quote Mary Angela Cooley, "You don't need to be a spiritual athlete to join us."

As a group we seek to experience the presence of God and we have chosen the discipline of silent prayer as a means to bring us into God's presence. After centering prayer, we enjoy a brief time of fellowship and sharing and then move into *Lectio Divina*, a prayerful, contemplative reading of a short passage of scripture.

This brief description probably raises more questions than it answers, but that's good. We invite you to talk to one of us or just show up any Wednesday morning for a fuller explanation. All are welcome! No experience necessary!

- Adrienne Ashbaugh, Mary Angela Cooley, Nancy Coyle, Larry Frye, Kitty Haffner, and Barbara Penney

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year course of study for all who want to learn more about their faith. The word "ministry" as used here does not refer to ordained ministry. Rather, it refers to how we go about being Christian in our daily lives.

Our main shared activity each week in EfM is Theological Reflection. Theological Reflection is a process by which we examine, sometimes challenge, sometimes reinforce, and hopefully expand what we think and believe. It leads to fresh insights about scripture and helps us to discover ways of applying our faith to daily life.

Each EfM meeting also includes a discussion of the reading assignments for the week. In the first year, students explore the Old Testament; in the second year, the New Testament; in the third year, church history; and in the fourth year, the history of theology. During the discussion, we learn from each other as we share our insights and reactions to the various readings.

For the last year, we three (Meribeth, Barbara, and Dylan) have been challenged and inspired by our participation in the EfM group at St. John's Lafayette. We would like to invite you – St. John's members and friends as well as anyone in the wider community who might be interested – to join the Lafayette program next year. If there is enough interest (a minimum of seven students), we could even start EfM here at St. John's Crawfordsville!

Please talk to one of us if you have questions or want to find out more.

- Meribeth Kussmaul, Barbara Penney, and Dylan Thomas

What's the Big Deal about General Convention?

It is the triennial legislative gathering of The Episcopal Church to be held this year in Indianapolis July 2-12. In addition to being a time devoted to legislative matters such as study, discussion, and voting, General Convention is also like a big family reunion with about 3,500 participants. As the host diocese, we have a responsibility to offer holy hospitality. It is a time to help show/tell others who we are and what we do, and to extend invitations to others to come and join us. It is up to us to think about how we can use this attention and energy to help grow our parish.

WE KNOW HOW MANY EPISCOPALIANS IT TAKES

to make Indy look good for General Convention - thousands! There are over 2,800 shifts to fill and we want to show The Episcopal Church that the Diocese of Indianapolis is up to the challenge! To sign up for your shifts go to the following website:

<https://2012gcec.theregistrationsystem.com/en/949>

Kim Smith is the contact person at the Diocese and she may be reached at smith@indyio.org or 800-669-5786 or 317-926-5454.

EFHN SPELLS OUTREACH !

Diocesan outreach depends on your participation! From shelters to day care, from prison ministries to day camps for the elderly, from community emergencies to parish crises, the **Episcopal Fund for Human Need** is the diocesan source of funding. Outreach programs by both Episcopal churches and ecumenical agencies are faced with increasing demands on your gifts to meet a wide range of human needs. Please support this outreach by supporting EFHN on Pentecost Sunday, May 27th. Thank you for sharing what God has given!

LOST & FOUND

There is now a box in the office for lost items. Currently, we have the following:

- ❖ XL red sweatshirt
- ❖ Women's sunglasses (mocha frame with silver accents)
- ❖ Glasses with metal frame
- ❖ Painted tile with "Luke" on it
- ❖ *Vestry Resource Guide*
- ❖ Black carrying case for notepad
- ❖ Bag of books (*Empire Falls*, *Shepherd's Abiding*, *You've Earned it*, *Don't Lose it*, *Washington Goes to War*, *Saint Maybe*)
- ❖ Miscellaneous umbrellas (near coatrack, not in office)

Please claim your items as soon as possible. Items not claimed will be donated to charity. Thanks.

A big thank you to those of you who volunteered during the **Women's Lenten Breakfast** held at St. John's on March 31! We received a handwritten note from the organizer of the breakfast thanking us for our hospitality (see bulletin board).

LOOKING AHEAD....

Waycross Summer Camp activities begin with the Family Adventure Week in early June and continue through the Labor Day Weekend Family Camp. Visit www.waycrosscenter.org/camp or call (800) 786-2267 for more information.

The Church Federation Centennial Gala will be held June 7th at the Indiana Roof Ballroom. Tickets may be purchased for \$100 or contributions may be made to one of the Church Federation's ministries which include Caring Churches Network, Faith and Fathers, Prayer Vigil, and Mentor Training Program. See the bulletin board for additional information or contact Sarah Lane or Leigh Fredrickson at the Church Federation office at 926-5371. You may wish to visit The Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis website at indyfaith.org to read of other Centennial events.

Financial Update

Income in the month of March exceeded expenses by \$4,486, which was primarily a result of pledged income coming in \$4,711 above the revised Budget. Year to date income has exceeded expense by \$1,492 resulting in a \$1,560 increase in Total Fund balances YTD, with an Operating Fund balance of \$11,743 at the end of March (i.e. checking account and cash on hand). March was a good month with significant increases in pledged income, and as a result the 2012 Budget has been revised to reflect increases in Tithes and Offerings of \$18,815, thereby reducing the projected budget deficit to (\$11,069) for the full year.

Ed Fain, Financial Chairperson

St. John's Revenue & Expense

	2011 Budget	2011 Actual	2012 Budget	2012 YTD Mar
Revenues				
Tithes and Offerings	\$ 104,277	\$ 114,963	\$ 119,834	\$ 29,888
Interest and Other Income	\$ 4,230	\$ 2,607	\$ 2,800	\$ 203
Total Revenues	\$ 108,507	\$ 117,570	\$ 122,634	\$ 30,091
Expenses				
Clergy & Staff Compensation	\$ 86,515	\$ 85,125	\$ 79,074	\$ 16,621
Office, Building, & Utilities	\$ 23,073	\$ 24,743	\$ 29,856	\$ 6,262
Adult & Youth Education	\$ 200	\$ 609	\$ 200	\$ -
Fellowship, Worship, & Music	\$ 700	\$ 1,319	\$ 1,800	\$ 711
Total Outreach	\$ 22,750	\$ 21,165	\$ 22,773	\$ 5,005
Total Expenses	\$ 133,238	\$ 132,961	\$ 133,703	\$ 28,599
Operating Income/(Loss)	\$ (24,731)	\$ (15,391)	\$ (11,069)	\$ 1,492

St. John's Fund Balances

Fund	12/31/2011	1/31/2012	2/29/2012	3/31/2012
Church Operating	\$ 18,433	\$ 11,135	\$ 7,402	\$ 11,743
Building	\$ 3,522	\$ 7,779	\$ 7,780	\$ 7,780
Rector's Discretionary	\$ 362	\$ 1,040	\$ 1,040	\$ 1,040
Youth Pilgrimage	\$ 9,190	\$ 8,347	\$ 8,347	\$ 8,347
Columbarium	\$ 645	\$ 1,169	\$ 1,169	\$ 1,156
Memorial	\$ 1,991	\$ 3,874	\$ 3,924	\$ 3,974
Family	\$ 36,703	\$ 37,111	\$ 37,111	\$ 37,111
Outreach	\$ 13,380	\$ 14,286	\$ 14,381	\$ 14,475
Endowment	\$ 9,692	\$ 10,020	\$ 10,020	\$ 10,020
Restricted	\$ 219	\$ 219	\$ 50	\$ 50
Total	\$ 94,137	\$ 94,980	\$ 91,224	\$ 95,697

SUNDAY SERVERS: May 2012

Date/ Time	Lector	Lay Eucharistic Minister(s)	Crucifer/ Acolyte(s)	Greeters	Altar Guild	Offering Tally	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour Host
May 6th 8:00am	Barbara Penney	Barbara Penney	Kitty Haffner					
May 6th 10:30am	Dylan Thomas	Larry Baumgardner Barbara Penney	Randy Pickering/ Elaine Pickering & Kristen Albrecht	Larry Baumgardner & Mary Angela Cooley	Carole Meyer Jo Tussey	John Roberts & Vern Easterling	Marikay Stultz	OPEN
May 13th 8:00am	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Adrienne Ashbaugh	Diane Ault					
May 13th 10:30am	Mark Kusssmaul	Meribeth Kusssmaul Marc Hudson	Chris Redmaster/ Randy Pickering & Chas Cooksey	John & Kim Roberts	Betty Culley Meegan Reidy	Barb Easterling & Brookie White	Sheila & Bob Evans	OPEN
May 20th 8:00am	Vern Easterling	Vern Easterling	Peter Swanson					
May 20th 10:30am	Will Turner	John & Betty Culley	Paul Moehling/ Elaine Pickering & Cyndy Fields	Chris & Raquel Johnson	Sheila Evans Jane Gallagher	Nancy Bennett Judy Wynne	Ellen Ball & Tom Twarek	OPEN
May 27th 8:00am	Jim Suren	Jim Suren	Teresa Anderson					
May 27th 10:30am	Nancy Bennett	Randy & Elaine Pickering	Steve Charles/ CJ Charles & Larry Baumgardner	Meegan Reidy & Carole Meyer	Jerilyn Yerkes Terry Lawrence	Barbara Penney & Ed Fain	Meegan Reidy	OPEN

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!

Meals on Wheels **May 3:** Susie & Sam Hildebrand **May 10:** John Gibbs & Bud Murray **May 17:** Susie & Sam Hildebrand
May 24: Carole Meyer & Terry Lawrence **May 31:** John Gibbs & Bud Murray

MAY 2012 at St. John's Episcopal Church, Crawfordsville

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CHURCH OFFICE HOURS <i>Tues, Wed & Thurs</i> 8:30am – 3:30pm		1	2 7:30am Centering Prayer <u>FR. DAVE OUT OF OFFICE</u> 12:15pm Eucharist	3 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir Practice	4	5
6 Fifth Sunday of EASTER 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Adult Forum & Sunday School	7	8 7pm Exec. Committee	9 7:30am Centering Prayer <u>FR. DAVE 9:30am – 5pm</u> 12:15pm Eucharist	10 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir Practice	11	12
13 Sixth Sunday of EASTER 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Adult Forum & Sunday School	14	15	16 7:30am Centering Prayer <u>FR. DAVE in at 11:30am</u> 12:15pm Eucharist 7pm Vestry	17 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir Practice	18	19
20 Seventh Sunday of Easter 8am & 10:30am Eucharist 9:15am Last Adult Forum & Sunday School until fall	21 <u>DEADLINE FOR JUNE NEWSLETTER ARTICLES</u>	22	23 7:30am Centering Prayer <u>FR. DAVE 9:30am – 5pm</u> 12:15pm Eucharist	24 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir Practice	25	26
27 PENTECOST 8am & 10:30am Eucharist <i>EFHN Offering</i> <u>NO</u> Adult Forum or Sunday School	28 MEMORIAL DAY	29	30 7:30am Centering Prayer <u>FR. DAVE 9:30am – 5pm</u> 12:15pm Eucharist	31 7am Men's Bible Study 7pm Choir Practice	<i>To schedule an apt. with Fr. Dave contact him by phone at (317) 736-7889 (home) or (317) 690-2799 (cell) or by email at drferner47@gmail.com</i>	<i>For pastoral care concerns while Fr. Dave is out of town, please contact Fr. Bill Wieland at (765) 653-3548.</i>

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