

THE
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
welcomes you



St. John's Spirit

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We are committed to God, to our church, and to each other as a family in Christ, providing and cherishing spiritual growth and living our faith in the community.

Part of our Christian journey, no matter our age or circumstances, is to discern who God is to us and where and how God is calling us to be in the world. St. John's has been fortunate to raise up from among the congregation people who have felt a call to ordained ministry. One of these is Sam Vaught. Periodically Sam will provide an update on his journey. I encourage you to read his letters, keep him in your prayers, and discern along with Sam how God is calling you. —Rev. Jan



Dear Saint John's Family,

Sept. 21, 2016

It is hard to believe that a month ago today was my last Sunday in Crawfordsville. Many days I feel as if I have lived in New Haven for months, but when I stop and think hard I am amazed that more than a week has gone by.

Five of us make up Saint Hilda's House this year, ages 22-25. We are still in the process of getting to know each other, but in general we are getting along well. We have begun drafting a Rule of Life that will guide our common life together over the next nine months. It is a spiritual discipline unfamiliar to most of us, and proves to be an opportunity for growth.

We begin our days here at Christ Church with Morning Prayer (always Rite I!) before spreading out across the city to our worksites. I work for IRIS: Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services. It is a busy, crowded, joyful place that provides case management and other services to our newest Americans. Most of our current clients originate in Syria and the Congo, and there isn't a day spent in the office without hearing at least six languages. I work primarily for the co-sponsorship program, which pairs refugee families with churches and other community groups around the state. Each congregation pools its financial and social resources to secure housing, work, and social services for a family, and acts as their partner and advocate as they assimilate to life in the USA. The program takes the existing talent from within the congregation: teachers who can navigate school registration, doctors and nurses who can help the family access health care, legal professionals, those who can get the family plugged into job opportunities, financial

teams, all directed towards assisting one family make as smooth a transition as possible to their new life and ultimately achieve self-sufficiency (preferably within 3-6 months!). I often picture the people at St. John's and your community involvement when working with co-sponsor groups. We absolutely have the capabilities for such a ministry in our parish.

Christ Church is embedded in the Anglo-Catholic tradition, and I have enjoyed learning how to worship in a new way. I lead Evening Prayer on Thursdays, and serve as the acolyte for the Low Mass that follows. Sunday mornings are marked by lots of incense and chanting! One of our main responsibilities as "Hildans" (what we're called) is to prepare the church for a Compline service every Sunday night. The lights are turned completely off, we light hundreds of candles around the space, and the choir sings the entirety of Compline with no participation from the assembled congregation. The service draws around 100 people weekly, often those who get no church elsewhere, and is a low-risk environment for them to explore church often for the first time, sitting in the dark and absorbing the beauty of God in song, candlelight, and incense. It is especially popular with Yale students—more than half of the attendees are under 30!

I will keep you updated as my experience here continues to unfold. Please know that you are all in my prayers, and I ask that you pray for me and my housemates as we explore further how God is calling us in this place. *In Christ, Sam*

**The church
has left
the building.**



Outreach: This ministry takes St. John's beyond the walls of our building and into the world. Each Sunday our dismissal tells us to "go in peace to love and serve the Lord" as a reminder that we are called to do more than sit in the pews (wonderful as that is!).

St. John's serves our community in many ways. How Outreach functions has changed over the years. Change is not always wrong but it should be purposeful and with an understanding of what is gained and what is lost with the change. Outreach should reflect the cares and concerns of the parish while also seeking to be something that the parish rallies around as a parish community. Part of what Outreach does, at its best, is to create and to strengthen the community of saints who call St. John's their parish home.

In this sense, Outreach both looks inward: to find those persons who have a willingness to serve others, and outward: to find where the needs of the community are and to discern ways we can help meet those needs.

St. John's Outreach Committee held its quarterly meeting on September 21 with Chair Bud Arnold presiding. As Arnold noted, when one looks over the dozens of community organizations that St. John's parish members are active in (See *St. John's Spirit Newsletters* for July and August, 2016 for a complete listing of organizations), it's clear that our service outreach is deep and far reaching. And, at the same time, this listing of so many organizations shows that our current Outreach ministry is so diverse that we may have lost the ability to come together as a community of the whole.

We see this diversification in our 21st century life as a parish, where St. John's members have participated in many, many Outreach efforts with help being given as far away as Haiti, China, Mexico and Canada. Within the country, St. John's has helped especially with projects in South

Dakota, Virginia, Utah, and just now in New Haven, Connecticut. We also regularly reach other places through specific programs of need and through our CROP Walk donations.

Closer to home within the Diocese, St. John's has helped the Julian Center and the Damien House in several ways. Many a time St. John's people have journeyed to the Cathedral to help with their Strawberry Festival, the proceeds of which benefit the Diocese as a whole. St. John's also has decades-long ties with Waycross and St. John's members use, enjoy, and help sustain the camp and conference center in various ways.

St. John's parishioners have always put our own community first when it comes to Outreach service and the sharing of our faith. This focus has become even more intentional in the years since the economic downturn of 2008-09. Our flagship service projects Summer Lunch Program, FISH food donations, and the Reindeer Project address this focus directly. In recent years we've made major monetary and volunteer-effort gifts to Food Finders, Habitat for Humanity, and the School Backpack program, all directly addressing poverty issues in our community. From the beginning, Outreach has been a staunch supporter of the Free Clinic, the Women's Crisis Shelter, and many other causes which address need in our community.

It is important to remember too that St. John's owns the building where the Youth Service Bureau is housed, and rents it to this vital community organization for \$1 a year. We also host our Mardi Gras/Shove Tues community pancake supper, have hosted several Treasure and Trivia sales, and, on an on-going basis, offer up Whitlock Hall to community organizations. Currently Whitlock Hall is a regular hub of community activity.

As a faithful Episcopal Church, we believe a tithing portion of our budget should be prayerfully directed to help those in need. The above highlights how diverse our Outreach efforts are and also how we have moved away from projects that involve the majority of the members of our Parish. Perhaps it is time to discern where and how God is calling us into the world while raising up community efforts that bring members of St. John's closer together. The Committee invites your participation, your leadership, and your ideas. We thank you for being in touch.

-Helen Hudson and Rev. Jan

The **Friends of Sugar Creek** is a local non-profit environmental organization founded in 1987 by Dean Ford. Its mission is to protect, restore, and promote appreciation of Sugar Creek and its watershed. We sponsor two creek clean-ups each year, organize a family friendly float trip, and host lectures on creek-related issues. We also sponsor a regular column, "Currents", in the Journal Review. Jim Suren was one of the original



board members and served on the board for twenty years or thereabouts. I've served for around ten years. And now we have other board members who are St. Johners: Alan and Brookie White, who host our monthly meetings at the Mill, and Ed and Sue Fain. If folks want to know more, they can contact Marc or any of the other Board Members.

-Marc Hudson



Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, December 7th** when we will participate in a Food Finders distribution. It will be held at the 4-H building and start at 11am.

Food Finders has been a consistent and important part of our

Outreach efforts for the last several years. Here are some comments about the August distribution from Karon Smith:

On August 30 at least 41 volunteers from First Christian Church, St. John's Episcopal Church and the community came together at First Christian Church to distribute 3,785 pounds of food from Food Finders Mobile Pantry. Food not distributed was donated to FISH. There were at least 25-30 volunteers from First Christian, many of whom had never participated in a distribution before. Deb Vaught brought nine eager fourth and fifth graders from the Hoover after school program. They were very willing workers. Thanks, Deb, for exposing these children to community service.

There were 89 households receiving food representing 146 children, 150 adults, and 36 seniors for a total of 332 being served by Food Finders. Not a great turnout, but a good one considering the extreme heat of the day and the threat of thunderstorms in the area. These volunteers are to be commended for coming out and staying to help with tear down and clean up. The distribution and cleanup was completed in less than one and one half hours. Without the use of the shopping carts from County Market and Dallas McDonald to pick up the carts and return them, the distribution would have taken much longer. Thanks to County Market and Dallas for their contributions.



Thank you to everyone who participated in our “Survey Monkey”. The Vestry began to review the responses at its September meeting and will continue reviewing those responses in October. We have already taken action in some areas and more will come.

Request for more Bible Study: We have added a Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons at 4p. This group is starting by considering the readings for the upcoming Sundays using the materials provided by The Episcopal Church. We welcome everyone. We will generally meet in Whitlock Hall unless there is a conflict, in which case we will meet in the Library downstairs.

There was a request for a Bible Study on Sunday mornings during the same time as our Adult Forum. Please see Rev. Jan if you are interested in this option.

Increase social media presence: Thanks to Lynette Ziuchkovski for stepping up to help enhance our Facebook presence. We have had a weekly (or almost weekly) post for several months now. Lynette will help us increase our invitations when we have special events (e.g. “Music at the Mill” and the upcoming “Blessing of the Animals”).

With respect to our webpage, we called a group together earlier this year to look at our webpage and consider updates. We made several tweaks. We continue to update it (e.g. flickr feed of photos from “Music at the Mill”), posting of sermons, etc. However, no one was willing to take on the responsibility of creating and maintaining a more robust webpage. If you are willing to do that, please contact Rev. Jan and Will Turner. If you have other ideas for what you would like us to be doing re social media, please see Rev. Jan.

Sermons available: Our sermons have been posted on our webpage for quite some time (www.stjohnscville.org). There is a “sermon” button on the left-hand side of the home page that

you can click and it will give you the links to the sermons. If this isn't workable for you, please contact Rev. Jan who will send you an email copy or will print a copy for you. Thanks to Will Turner for posting the sermons on our webpage.

Prayers included in the bulletin (vs. reference in the bulletin): Our Book of Common Prayer does not require that we use the forms printed in the BCP (i.e. Forms I-VI). When the prayers are printed in the bulletin that means the prayers are not from the BCP. When we are using one of the forms in the BCP, the reference in the bulletin is like this:

Prayers of the People, Form I BCP 383

Many people said they liked the prayers printed in the bulletin rather than the Forms. Some others said they liked the Forms. One concern was when we printed the prayers in the bulletin, there was dismay that we did not always read the names on our Prayer List aloud.

Reading the names on the Prayer List aloud as part of the Prayers of the People is not done in many Episcopal congregations. However, it has been the practice to do so at St. John's. Therefore, when we print the prayers in the bulletin in the future, we will make sure to ask the person reading the prayers to include the names on the Parish Prayer List printed in the bulletin.

Holding services in Whitlock Hall: The overwhelming majority of those responding liked having periodic services in Whitlock. There are significant issues, though, with acoustics. It is not always easy to hear those responding during the discussion. Unfortunately, other than taking the microphone from person to person, there isn't anything we can do about the acoustics.

It is likely that we will schedule 2-3 worship services in Whitlock during the summer but not a given right now. In 2015, we convened a Task Force to consider alternative services and holding services in Whitlock was one of the recommendations that might help us attract younger people. At the same time, one of the comments expressed in this year's survey was that the informality of the service in Whitlock might be off-putting. We need to do more discernment about how and if services in Whitlock might be helpful to our desire to grow our community.

The 8a service will remain "as usual" for those who do not care for services in Whitlock.

Singing the Creed: A significant number responded positively. We also need to acknowledge those who do not like this option. At this time, it is likely that we will sing the Creed from time-to-time but not every Sunday. For example, we have tentatively planned to sing the Creed during the summer and when we have Morning Prayer but not at other times. We will continue to evaluate whether this option appeals to most of the congregation and if so when it makes the most sense to say vs. sing.

Still to come: Attracting younger people and young families: This concern is one that needs serious and deep reflection and discernment. What can and what does St. John's offer to anyone, but especially to younger people and young families that can make a difference in their choosing to worship with us and to be part of our faith tradition, both inside and outside the walls? If you have any suggestions for ways in which we might reach out to the unchurched please speak to a Vestry member. If you have any suggestions for ways in which we can be the Sunday morning choice for those who have so many competing demands upon their time, please speak up!

St. John's is your church – and it is your mission and hopefully your joy- to spread the Word of God and to be the welcoming hand and voice. This is not an issue that is the charge

Give thanks for these members of our Parish who speak to us from their hearts about what it means to them to Live Generously. Our “in-gathering” of pledges will be on Sunday, November 6th. If you have questions, please talk to Harry Siamas, Chair-Gratitude Ministry.



Reminder: We have 5 candidates for the next Bishop of the Diocese of Indianapolis (Rev. Canon Bruce Gray was added as a petition nominee recently). Please review the information on the nominees and speak with your Delegates to Diocesan Convention who will be casting votes on our behalf for our next Bishop: <http://hoosierbishopxi.org/index.php/slate/>

Our Delegates are: Jim & Kathy Gary and Jim Suren. Diocesan Convention is October 27-29 in Indianapolis. Our opportunity to meet the nominees will be at the “Walk Abouts”. I hope you will plan to go to one of the following sessions:

1. October 14th @ 6p-St. Christopher’s, Carmel
2. **October 15th @ 9:30a –St Andrew’s, Greencastle**
3. October 15th @ 3p- St. Paul’s, Evansville
4. October 16th @ 2p-St. Paul’s, Columbus



The Planned Giving Team will offer an evening of information about “Living Well Until You Die” on **Monday, November 14th at 7p in Whitlock Hall**. Please mark your calendars now—more information about the evening will be coming in the November newsletter.

If you have questions about how you might remember St. John’s in your estate planning, please contact one of the Team: Sam Hildebrand, Harry Siamas, Ed Fain, Rees Olander or John Culley.



For October, we celebrate our ministry of Parish Life. You might not think of Parish Life as a ministry but it is. Parish Life is the group responsible for our common social events and gatherings, such as the recent “Music at the Mill” and the upcoming Pot-Luck/Pitch-In dinner to be held on **October 21st**.

We are the body of Christ and sharing social time together is one way we get to know each other and form bonds that can be life-long and so important, especially in times of stress or grief. If you would like to help lead this ministry group, please see Rev. Jan.

“Tying off” our BHAGs. In 2013, we met and came up with 3 “Big, Huge, Audacious Goals”: The three questions for discernment and action were: (1) What should our involvement be with

the apartment building next door; (2) What should our relationship with Wabash College be; and (3) What should our focus with Outreach be?

The building next door has been sold, so our hopes that it might be sold to The Episcopal Retirement Homes was not able to be realized. However, as we walk past the building, please say “hello” to anyone sitting outside- let them know that we consider them to be children of God.

With respect to our relationship with the College, Rev. Jan regularly attends Tuesday morning chapel, Bob and Sheila Evans host an international student and many others attend or participate in a variety of College-related events. Last year following an emergency situation, Rev. Jan was part of the pastoral response that included walking the campus and talking with people about how they were reacting to the emergency. If you have ideas about other ways we can let people at Wabash know about St. John’s, please speak to Rev. Jan.

With respect to Outreach, we are engaging in discernment about what Outreach means to St. John’s and whether we have any shifts in focus that will help us be more effective and also include more members of St. John’s. (See Outreach article above).

Reminder! Our Policies, Vestry Minutes, information about Sacraments and other important information can be found on our website: www.stjohnscville.org or on our bulletin boards.

Sermons are posted on our website, too.



Rev. Jan is available by cell phone (765-225-8554) or email (janet.oller@gmail.com). Office hours are by appointment. Check the calendar posted on the office door for the most current schedule. She generally does not read or respond to emails or voice messages on her days off or her Sabbath.

	Lector	LEM	Crucifer	Acolyte	Greeters	Altar Guild	Counters	Flowers	LEVs	Coffee Host
October 2										
8a	A Ashbaugh	A Ashbaugh		K Haffner						
10:30	R Olander	J Burd & R Pickering	S Charles	CJ Charles	Ball-Twarek	C Meyer & J Tussey	A White & J Roberts	Olander	D Booher & H Hudson	
October 9 Morning Prayer led by D Booher										
8a	Mark Kussmaul									
10:30a Children Sing	Betty Culley				Bennett	B Culley & M Reidy	E Fain & W Olander	Gary	D Booher & H Hudson	
October 16										
8a	R Pickering	R Pickering		P Swanson						
10:30a	J Lamberton	Meribeth Kussmaul & M Hudson	W Turner	B Turner	J Tussey & B Easterling	S Evans & J Gallagher	N Bennett & T Twarek	Reidy	S Fain & K Gary	
October 23										
8a	S Charles	S Charles		T Titus						
10:30a	J Gary	K Roberts & R Pickering	J Burd		Gary	J Yerkes & T Lawrence	S Albrecht & J Gary	Bennett	S Fain & K Gary	
October 30										
8a	P Swanson	P Swanson		C Fields						
10:30a	C Short	J & B Culley	Sam Hildebrand	P Lohorn	Snook	CJ Charles & C Fields	A White & J Roberts	Culley	Pickerings	Snook

Meals on Wheels: Not in October

*If you are not able to serve as noted, please arrange for a substitute **and** let the office know ASAP. Thank you!*

~ October 2016 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15a-Formation 2p-EFM	3 Oller away 11:30-League of Women Voters (WH) 5p-YSB/Casa training (WH)	4 Oller away 9:25-Tuttle Chapel 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	5 Oller away 7:30a-Centering Prayer 12-3 Garden Club (WH) 4p -Bible Study (WH)	6 Oller away 7p-Choir 8:30-5p YSB (WH) 6p-Girl Scouts (WH)	7 Rector's Sabbath	8 Oller Day Off 1-5p Hitch (WH)
9 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15a-Formation 2p-EFM Oller away	10 Columbus Day-Office Closed	11 9:15-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	12 7:30a-Centering Prayer 12-Clergy Lunch/Creekside 4p-Bible Study (Library) 8:30-5p YSB (WH)	13 7p-Choir 6p-Girl Scouts (SSchool) 6p-YSB (WH) Rector's Sabbath	14 Oller Day Off	15 8:30a-Divorce Recovery Workshop (Library) 9:30a:Bishop Walk-About @ St. Andrew's, Greencastle
16 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15a-Formation 2p-EFM	17 Rector's Sabbath	18 7:15a YSB/WH 9:15-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (Choir) 7:30p-Oller/Pastoral Call	19 7:30a-Centering Prayer 4p-Bible Study (WH) 7p-Vestry	20 7p-Choir 6p-Girl Scouts (Sunday School rooms) 6p-Friends of Sugar Creek (WH)[M. Hudson] Oller: COM/Waycross	21 Oller: COM/Waycross 5p-Parish Potluck (WH)	22 Oller: COM/Waycross
23 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15a-Formation 2p-EFM	24 United Nations Day Rector's Sabbath	25 9:15-Tuttle Chapel 9:45a-Clergy Sermon Prep 7p-Comm Chorus (WH)	26 7:30a-Centering Prayer 11-2 YSB (WH) 4p-Bible Study (WH) 9:30-3p Oller: Lafayette	27 7p-Choir 6p-Girl Scouts (SSchool) 6p-YSB (WH) Diocesan Convention	28 Diocesan Convention	29 Diocesan Convention
30 8 & 10:30a-HE 9:15a-Formation 2p-EFM	31 Oller: Day Off	Notes: Rev. Jan is available by cell phone: 765-225-8554 and email: janet.oller@gmail.com. Office hours are by appointment. Generally, Rev. Jan does not read or respond to emails or voice messages on her Sabbath or day off.				