St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

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April 2012 Newsletter

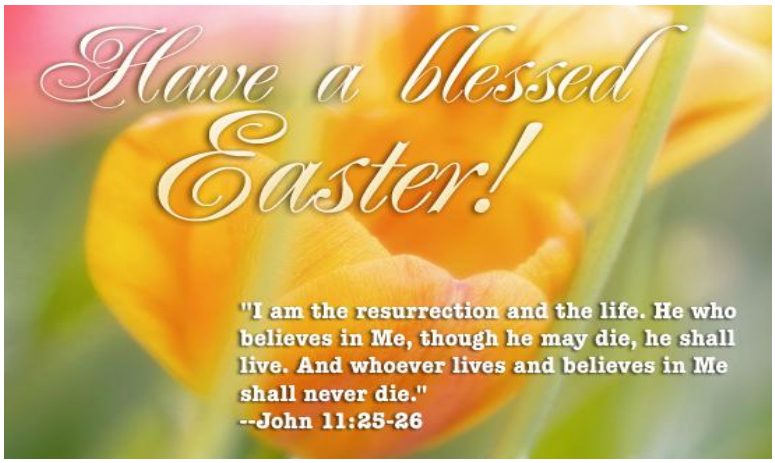
April starts with the Passion of Jesus and the Liturgy of the Palms. We begin this most Holy Week remembering the triumph of the entry into Jerusalem knowing all the while that Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be with us all too soon. It is only after we pass through darkest despair that we can come to Easter Sunday – the first Resurrection and assurance that no matter what happens to us, God prevails over all that besets us.

Without Maundy Thursday, there is no commandment to love one another **as He has loved us** – there is no example of service of the most basic despite what society says is "proper." Jesus tells his disciples and we are reminded that the world knows who we are through the love we have for one another.

Without Good Friday, there is no Easter Sunday. The old adage: "No pain, no gain" might seem trite when associated with Good Friday, but it helps to remind us that the ultimate pain of death suffered by Jesus on the cross on that Friday is, indeed, "good." Jesus was willing to lay down his life for his friends to show, in the most dramatic fashion possible, love in service to others. Love for us, God's creation, that enables us to live in the sure and certain hope of our own resurrection and reuniting with God.

Join us this week (and every week, but especially this week!). Walk with Jesus as he walks with us.

Thursday, April 5 @ 6:30 p.m. – Agape Meal (Hamilton Hall)
Friday, April 6 @ 5:30 p.m. – Good Friday services
Sunday, April 8 @ 10:15 a.m. – Easter Day – Holy Eucharist, Rite II
followed by celebratory reception and Easter Egg Hunt for the children



From the Search Committee:

Your Search Committee has been diligently working the last two months since our commissioning and charge from the Vestry.

We have been meeting on a regular basis with the assistance of our Search Coach, Tanya Beck. Tanya works with organizations in transitions to analyze their strengths and areas of improvement in leadership. She is a graduate of DePauw and Ball State Universities. As the second women ordained in the Episcopal Church, she has served as a transitional priest at 18 churches and cathedrals during important times of growth. She is working with the Search Committee to plan and design congregational meetings and focus groups, help us gather and interpret data, and develop questions and a design for the interview process.

As the rosary on the following page illustrates, we have moved into the congregational self-discernment phase of the process. Tanya has guided us through discussions and discernment analyzing our strengths and areas of needed improvement. She has also been preparing us to engage the members of St. Andrew's in this process of discernment.

We have set aside two Sunday sessions following the 10:15 service to facilitate small discussion groups and engage you in this discernment. On <u>April 15 and April 22</u>, members of the search committee will facilitate discussions about our future rector. More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. It is important that each member set aside at least one of these dates to participate in the discussion.

The Search Committee desires and is committed to engaging the congregation in multiple methods so that each member has an opportunity to share their thoughts and inspirations for our future rector.

Peace and Grace, Dennis Knuth, Search Committee Chair

Compilation of Responses (total of 6 received)

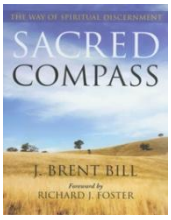
1. What one thing do you value, cherish or love most about St. Andrew's?
    - Coffee hour
    - Worship and music
    - St. Andrew's family
    - Congregation
    - Music
    - Music
2. Where/how do you see God in that one thing?
    - Non-Food Pantry (2)
    - So much love, commitment, offering of time for music, Non-Food Pantry, concessions, mutual support and so many other things
    - God's love in action – the sincerity in the eyes of others in the parish
    - Coming together in a worshipping community is the core of my church life
    - People are friendly
3. What is ONE dream for St. Andrew's and why?
    - I wish there were more kids during Kid's Walk-out
    - To see us grow to an average Sunday attendance of at least 75-80
    - To expand and have an active DePauw College Group – to serve the students
    - An active youth group with enough kids to be active and activities interesting enough to draw and keep new members eager to participate
    - Increase a little in size – more people to complete all our ministry
    - More parishioners, especially college students and young families

4. What is ONE thing you would like changed about St. Andrew's as it is now?
    - More acceptance of broader view of humanity, especially gays and women in the clergy
    - A few more members
    - Increase membership and attendance; resume Women's Spirituality Group
    - Financial independence from the Diocese
    - I would like to see the same level of energy, service and devotion given to worship; education for all ages, and other parish events as is given to concessions work. The fellowship and resources which the congregation which the concessions provide is important but it seem to overshadow all other aspect of parish life.
    - Not really (nothing)

Attention Ladies! Would you like to meet with other women in our diocese, have a refreshing lunch, and learn about the General Convention, the Triennial Meeting, and the John P. Craine House? This opportunity is happening at St. Paul's, Indianapolis, on Saturday, 14 April 2012. A flyer about this exciting event can be found posted in Hamilton Hall.

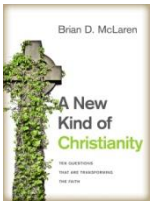
First Sundays @ 5 p.m. – Conversation and snacks

Join us on the first Sunday of the month in Hamilton Hall



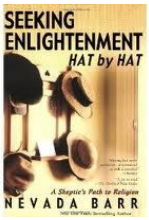
April 1- Sacred Compass The Way of Spiritual Discernment by J. Brent Bill

"*Sacred Compass* offers a fresh and deeper way of living a God-directed life. J. Brent Bill draws on the quiet beauty of the Quaker path to show how spiritual discernment is more about sensing God's gracious presence than it is about making the right decisions. As you use this book to chart your own spiritual course, you will find yourself led to unexpected places, comforted by the knowledge that God uses all of our experiences to bring us close. Sacred Compass is the perfect companion for those seeking to follow God in the way of Jesus in the midst of the realities of 21st century life. Brent Bill graciously and passionately opens the pathway of the spiritual practice of discernment for the novice and deepens the possibilities for the well experienced. This book will serve as a revelation for many and well could be the start of a revolution for a new generation Christians." -- Doug Pagitt, Pastor of Solomon's Porch and Author of *A Christianity Worth Believing*



May 6 – A New Kind of Christianity by Brian D. McLaren

We are in the midst of a paradigm shift in the church. Not since the Reformation five centuries ago have so many Christians come together to ask whether the church is in sync with their deepest beliefs and commitments. These believers range from evangelicals to mainline Protestants to Catholics, and the person who best represents them is author and pastor Brian McLaren. In this much anticipated book, McLaren examines ten questions facing today's church—questions about how to articulate the faith itself, the nature of its authority, who God is, whether we have to understand Jesus through only an ancient Greco-Roman lens, what exactly the good news is that the gospel proclaims, how we understand the church and all its varieties, why we are so preoccupied with sex, how we should think of the future and people from other faiths, and the most intimidating question of all: what do we do next? Here you will find a provocative and enticing introduction to the Christian faith of tomorrow. – amazon.com



June 3 – Nevada Barr Seeking Enlightenment Hat by Hat

There is something about having survived a serious bout of clinical depression that causes a person to look inward in an effort to find meaning. For popular mystery writer Nevada Barr, author of the Anna Pigeon series, depression set off a chain of events that led her to embrace religion and spirituality. In these short essays, she charts the course of her spiritual evolution, how she sought to understand the many aspects of spiritual life, from forgiveness ("a sigh of relief on which the memory of evil is breathed out ") to pain ("it is a duty to relieve our own pain") to commitment ("not a contract with the world but with the self"). Barr's account of her transformation from nonbeliever to committed churchgoer--but one who maintains a healthy sense of doubt even as she prays and attends Bible studies--is moving but never saccharine. Her conclusion that one can believe in God (or any other higher being) and still live a life based on logic should appeal to other skeptics. Managing to be inspirational as well as practical, Barr finds in spirituality a way to get beyond self-centeredness: "It was a number of years of crashing and burning in the personal arena before I made the discovery that I was not God." *Mary Frances Wilkens.*

St. Andrew's cookbook – time to refresh!

Calling all those who like to cook, like to share recipes or have that wonderful "Aunt Esther's Hot Chicken Salad" recipe that everyone raves about. Our "current" cookbook is 19 years old (yes, 19 years since we last put one together). Please, won't you share with us your favorite recipes? And, if there's one in our "current" cookbook that you use a lot or especially like, please let Maureen Carkeek know so we can make sure to include those "oldies but goodies" in the next one. Maureen will be collecting your recipes from now through the end of May – and then we hope to print and publish during June for distribution during July.

Summer Enrichment Program

One of St. Andrew's long-time interests has been the Summer Enrichment Program for Putnam County's underprivileged boys and girls in elementary school. They are recommended by their teachers and, in cooperation with their families, are included in the group as resources allow. Last year the Program could take sixty-five children.

Divided into small groups with two teen-agers as leaders, the youngsters have a really good time. They meet weekdays at Gobin Church to play, to eat, to learn, and to enjoy each other. Gayle Hansen and a staff of adults, backed by a supportive committee on which St. Andrew's is represented, organize activities. They have included swim lesions, nature study, field trips, fishing, exploring new foods, handwork, reading, games, and practicing social skills, among others. If you have time, energy, and ideas to add to the activities, do call Gayle or e-mail SEP@cinergymetro.net. The stories the teachers tell after each year's Program are a combination of comic and touching because the children are so spontaneous and so thankful.

At this point in the planning, the committee is working to find the money to determine this year's attendance. You may already have received a letter. Each child's participation costs $350 or $70 per week for the five weeks. Checks made out to "Summer Enrichment Program" can be mailed to Gobin Church, P. O. Box 66, Greencastle, IN 46135. St. Andrew's people have a lot of opportunities to contribute to the community. The Summer Enrichment Program is one that can make a permanent difference in the life of a child.

Edith Welliver
653-5717

The PLASTIC basket that is now circulating at offertory time in each Sunday's service is for our Non-Food Pantry, which can always use donations all items are appreciated. **The WICKER** offering basket is still for colleting cans and cash for the county's Emergency Food Pantry. Checks for either group will be directed to the purpose noted on the memo line.

Save the dates:

April 1st @ 10:15 a.m. – Sunday of the Passion/Palm Sunday
April 5th @ 5:30 p.m. – Maundy Thursday: Agape Meal/Stripping of the Altar
April 6th @ 5: 30 – Good Friday Service
April 8th @ 10:15 a.m. – Sunday of the Resurrection followed by Easter Egg Hunt and Reception
April 15th @ 10:15 a.m. – Rite II with Communion
@ 3 p.m. – Ordination of John Rumple, St. Mark's Plainfield
April 16th-18th – Clergy Conference at Waycross (mandatory for clergy)
April 22nd @ 10:15 a.m. – Rite II with Communion
April 23rd @ 6:15 p.m. – Vestry/Advent House
April 24th @ 12:30 p.m. – Standing Committee/Diocesan Offices, Indianapolis
April 29th @ 10:15 a.m. – Rite II with Communion

A bit farther out but please put on your calendars!
May 20th @ 10:15 a.m. – Youth Sunday/Rite II with Communion

SERVING ST. ANDREW'S

We need Readers, please sign up

	April 1	April 8	April 15	April 22	April 29
Lector Intercessor	Mike Maynard Junelle Dreyer	Junelle Dreyer Harriet Moore			
Holy Eucharist 10:15 a.m.	Bob Haymaker Alice Moore	Maria Maynard Joe Heithaus	Junelle Dreyer Terry Noble	Maria Maynard Bob Haymaker	Alice Moore Gwen Morris
Ushers	Ken Dreyer	Dave Murray	Dawna & Larry Wilson	Dennis Knuth	Thom Morris
Acolytes	Alice Moore Logan Beck	Alec Davis Rebecca Moore	Ruth Heithaus Emma Tobin	Paul Heithaus Logan Beck	Alice Moore Rebecca Moore
Coffee Hour	Cindy and John Hennette	Junelle and Ken Dreyer	Gwen and Thom Morris	Jenny and Joe Heithaus	Deb and Mark Smith
Nursery	Lily Spencer				
Sacristans	Cathryn Ensley and Sue Murray				

If you have an idea or a request about something that should be in an upcoming newsletter, please let Maria Maynard know. We want to publicize upcoming events and things of special interest in addition to keeping you up to date on the intentional interim period.