



# The MESSENGER

## ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

JUNE 2018

### BISHOP'S COMMITTEE MEETING

JUNE 12th at 6:30 PM

Mutual Ministry Review will be on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

### THANKS

Thank you to Cory Fincher for refinishing the drying rack for the wine and water cruets and the cover to the basin to return consecrated water to the earth, called sacrarium (or piscina)

Thanks to all that stayed to help clean up the property on Pentecost Sunday. A scout troop from Lewisville came to help thanks to Joyce Lawson. They earned credit for a badge.

### VICTORY LANE CAMP

It will be on Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 5–8 PM. Two more volunteers are needed. Let Pat Carter know if you can help.



### BOOK STUDY

#### **Searching for Sunday (loving, leaving, and finding the church) by Rachael Held Evans**

A two part book study begins on Tuesday, June 19th and continues Tuesday, June 26th, at 4:30 pm at St. James and will conclude with a light supper at approximately 5:30 pm each day. Parts I (Baptism), II (Confession), and III (Holy Orders) will be discussed June 19th. You may purchase the book on Amazon, at Barnes & Noble or even listen for free with an Audible trial, by looking on the Amazon website.

(from Amazon) Like millions of her millennial peers, Rachel didn't want to go to church anymore. The hypocrisy, the politics, the gargantuan building budgets, the scandals—church culture seemed so far removed from Jesus. Yet, despite her cynicism and misgivings, something kept drawing her back... Rachel Held Evans is a *New York Times* best-selling author whose books include *Faith Unraveled* (2010), *A Year of Biblical Womanhood* (2012), and *Searching for Sunday* (2015). Hailing from Dayton, Tennessee—home of the famous Scopes Monkey Trial of 1925—she writes about faith, doubt and life in the Bible Belt. Rachel has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *Christianity Today*, *Slate*, *The Huffington Post*, *The CNN Belief Blog*, and on NPR, *The BBC*, *The Today Show*, and *The View*. She served on President Obama's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships, and keeps a busy schedule speaking at churches, conferences, and colleges and universities around the country.

She is very active on social media, Facebook and Twitter, which is where I was first introduced to her.

I hope you can all attend!

Cindy Shamy

## **WE NEED USHERS and READERS**

If you have ever thought about being an usher or reader, now is the time. With summer upon us there are many of these opportunities available due to vacations. Please let Pam Sloneker or Pat Carter know if you can help out.

## **NEW FORM OF MORNING PRAYER 6/24**

Pat Carter will be saying Morning Prayer from "A New Zealand Prayer Book" on June 24<sup>th</sup>. While we have held the NZ Night Prayer (Compline) Service in the past, this will be the first time for Morning Worship. The Carters traveled in New Zealand in January and bought their own copy of the prayer book at St. Paul's Cathedral in Dunedin, NZ. Pat loves the earthy, spirit filled language of the Maori people in this service. Hope to see you there!

## **STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL-LAST CHANCE**

Christ Church Cathedral Women's annual Strawberry Festival is Thursday, June 14. Let me know if you can help this year.

Deacon Barry Cramer



## **CONDOLENCES**

Our condolences go out to the family of Tom Bland, son of Mary Lou Bland who predeceased him. Tom was the father of Elaine Farley's grandson, Chris Bland and brother to past member, Kathy.

## **WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to the Chapman family as they attended the wedding of Justin and Denelle Chapman over Memorial Day weekend.



## WORDS FROM WHITNEY

With a little more than half of the active members voting, the parishioners of St. James Episcopal Church in New Castle, Indiana, have made their voices heard in the parish's first Favorite Hymns Election. During this transitional time while the parish has been inviting guest musicians to accompany St. James services, I thought it would be fun to invite parishioners to vote for some of their favorite hymns, to be used in upcoming services.

Following the official closing of the ballot box on Pentecost Sunday, May 20, a total of seventeen ballots had been cast, representing twenty-two St. James members. (A few ballots represented entire households). Altogether, we voted for an impressive one hundred and seventy nine different hymns. Three-fourths of them came from *Hymnal 1982*. The second most-favorite hymnal was *Lift Every Voice in Sing*, representing about twenty percent of hymns selected. *Wonder, Love and Praise* came in third. Several votes went to selections found elsewhere.

These are the top ten favorites, ranked by number of votes. There was no clear Number One favorite, because the top-four vote getters tied. The four hymns also came from all three hymnals:

Hymn	Number of Ballots
• "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"	6
• "How Great Thou Art"	6
• "I, The Lord of Sea and Sky"	6
• "Just As I Am"	6
• "Lift High The Cross"	5
• "Alleluia, Sing to Jesus"	4
• "Amazing Grace"	4
• "Hail Thee Festival Day"	4
• "Let There Be Peace On Earth"	4
• "Immortal, Invisible"	3

Here are reflections about a few of the favorite vote getters, according to a little volume by Frank Colquhoun called *A Hymn Companion*: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" was written by Edwin Hatch, a professor and scholar in Quebec, Canada, as well as at Oxford University. Because the Greek and Hebrew words for spirit are the same as the words for breath, the theme of the hymn is considered "life anew." Charlotte Elliott, the daughter and sister of English vicars, wrote "Just As I Am" following a crisis of faith she had after becoming a semi-invalid in her thirties. Evidently John Newton, the author of "Amazing Grace," lived a "godless life," whatever that means, prior to his conversion to Christ. Some scholars consider "Amazing Grace" to be a kind of spiritual autobiography for Newton.

A database containing all of the St. James favorites has been compiled. In coming months, many of the hymns chosen will be selected for services of Holy Eucharist and Morning Prayer, especially when appropriate to various seasons of the church year. Keep listening for your favorites, and thanks to all parishioners and visitors who took time to vote!

*Fr. Whitney*