

St. John's The Evangelist

The monthly newsletter of St. John's Episcopal Church, Mt. Vernon

May 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"One Year Ago." That has been my surreal mantra these last few days. One year ago, on the evening of May 2nd, I boarded a plane in Evansville and arrived in England around 10:00A.M. the next morning (London Time)? I left the cares and concerns of the day-to-day operations of the parish in the capable hands of Senior Warden Bruce Dingman, Secretary Susie Colson, Treasurer Susan Harrison, the rest of the Vestry and lay leadership. Supply priests had been procured for nearly all of the Sunday services I would miss, and several nearby priests and other pastors were ready to come to your aid in case of an emergency.

The planning of the renewal grant program was for a year-long celebration in which I would participate along with you from January to May, be off on my own renewal period from May through late August, and then we would finish out the renewal year together after my return. I was heavily involved in the planning and implementation of the events that took place from January to May and again upon my return through our last event on November 22nd; Christ the King Sunday. We celebrated special worship services during our time together, but for the most part, it felt to me like "business as usual". We were still following the **normal** cycle of the church year.

I actually had very little input in the planning of events that took place during my absence. I had done this intentionally to allow the lay leadership and all other members of the congregation to take charge of the summer's events. Prior to last summer, we had developed a rather **normal** routine of summer events. Nearly all of those events were altered or displaced by the designed events of the renewal grant program. What I am getting at is, I am experiencing a feeling of unfamiliarity as we move into May and summer. Which past summer events should be rebooted and started over and which events should be permanently dropped? Is there the possibility of starting something new? After the rather full summer of program events last year, do YOU, the congregation, want to take a break this summer and plan for events next year summer? If there is energy to continue to have one or two fellowship gatherings this summer, I need for new people to step up and plan something; an event to replace the summer cookout at Larry's farm. The summer cookout actually began as a summer progressive dinner. A couple people have expressed interest in starting up a progressive dinner again. For this to happen, we would need people to open up their homes (or backyards) to host stops. There has been talk of wanting to hold a summer event in the lot across the street. Would someone or some group be willing to plan such an event? What would it look like? I am willing to help out in planning an event. I will be a cheerleader and promoter of a mid-summer event. I just do not want to take sole responsibility for planning, coordinating, and implementing such an event. If it happens, it will be because you want it to happen. I am going to call the Country Club and plan to hold the pool party there again in early August.

The Christian Education team is planning on some form of Vacation Bible School this summer. The initial thought is to hold a four session VBS on Sunday mornings. This option is open to us because the decision was made to keep the service start time during the summer at 10:00 A.M. The VBS would function like a normal Sunday school program, but with a VBS atmosphere. The alternatives to this are to either try a one-day VBS again, like last year, or go back to a four night VBS.

Those who returned a survey to the renewal committee expressed a desire for our parish life to return to **normal**. For the first four months of this year it has felt **normal**, but as we begin May, I feel like we are standing at a crossroads sign trying to figure out in which direction to head. Any thoughts?

Your Brother in Christ, *Allen*⁺



Serving Christ In The Community For Over 160 Years



St. John's Episcopal Church, Mt. Vernon, Indiana

A member of The Southwest Deanery of The Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis; The Episcopal Church in the United States; and the Worldwide Anglican Communion

The Rt. Rev. Catherine M. Waynick, Bishop

The Rev. Allen D. Rutherford, Rector

Mr. Bruce Dingman, Senior Warden

Mrs. Barry Cox, Junior Warden

Mrs. Alex Jeffries, Vestry Clerk

Ms. Susan Harrison, Treasurer

Church Address:

602 Mulberry Street

P.O. Box 503

Mt. Vernon, Indiana 47620

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(812) 838-4881 Fax

mtvstjohns@sbcglobal.net

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. — Noon

Robin Price, Secretary

For pastoral emergencies, please call:

The Rev. Allen D. Rutherford, Rector

Cell Phone: 812-430-2443

Home: 812-838-4406

E-mail: rutherford317@sbcglobal.net

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:45—9:45 a.m. Rite 13 Group

9:00—9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday

School Classes, Adult Study & Choir

Rehearsal

10:00a.m. Holy Eucharist

Coffee & Refreshments follows the
Eucharist in the Parish Hall

**Sunday Morning Nursery Assistance
Available**

**Throughout
the summer
Holy Eucharist
remains at
10:00 A.M.**

**Coffee & Refreshments
follows the Eucharist in
the Parish Hall**

**Sunday Morning Nursery Assistance
Available beginning at 9:45 A.M.**

Weekday Schedule

Women's Bible Study, Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer, Tuesday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.



**Look us up on the web at www.mvstjohns.org
Also become our friend on Facebook: mtvstjohns@yahoo.com**



Junior Warden Report

Beautiful day! My blueberry and raspberry plants have come back to life! Our church continues to be alive!

We are currently working on these projects;

- ✓ **American with Disabilities Act Compliance** – We continue to work on this project and are in the process of developing quotes for the completion this concept. We will need to do some exploratory work on the northeast wall of the church to determine what might need to be done to provide an entrance there. Adam Green is our architect and he is also exploring other concepts.
- ✓ **Concrete Steps at front of church** – Possible Replacement, if we chose not to comply with ADA.
- ✓ **Concrete Steps coming out of sacristy door** – Possible replacement, if we chose not to comply with ADA.
- ✓ **Wall Rack for Brochures** – As you can see this has been hung in the parish hall and looks great, We still have some holes in the wall that require spackling and paint.
- ✓ **Lighting** – We are waiting on Adam Hayward with Vincent Lighting Systems to come back to us with his thoughts. Brian Schmett with Amerlight and Dana Taylor are assisting with this project. .
- ✓ **Roof Washing** – Believe we have completed the washing of the roof.
- ✓ **Gutter Cleaning** – we have cleaned the gutters!
- ✓ **Roof Repairs** – we are going to need to replace the roof above the altar. The leaks have returned and upon inspection of this area (That has many angles) we will need to replace the roofing with new flashing.
- ✓ **North Wall** – we have recruited the folks from TMI to repair the hole in the church wall on the north side of the building. They will also be helping with the roof repairs.
- ✓ **South Garden Work** – we are looking at replacing the bushes on the south wall with knock out rose, crape myrtles and green velvet boxwoods!

We have spent additional time since assuming this position looking closely at our church home. There are several areas that we should consider;

- ☞ Sanding and re-painting the front porch
- ☞ Cleaning the front porch canopy
- ☞ Removing the Chimney from the north wall

If there are items you notice should be addressed please call at your convenience and we will do our best.
812-483-4319.

Barry Cox
Junior Warden

Treasurer's Notes

We have made it through some of the busiest time in our church year! Holy Week came very early this year. Ashes to Go was definitely cold. Fr. Allen's Lenten soup supper series was well attended even with the Spring Break impact. Our Lenten Outreach project was a big success as was the annual giving to the Precious Posies. Now, we have also successfully completed our annual Pork Chop Lunch / Relay for Life fundraiser as well. This is the time of the church year we can begin to "take a few breaths". Like me, I'm sure many of you have projects at home you are looking forward to turning your attention to.

The Church Windows folks have made quite a few changes in the software that helps us manage the business side of running the church. You should see some beneficial changes in the next quarterly pledge & non-pledge giving reports that will go out in June.

The market value of our stock portfolio improved this month which is always nice to see. Our estimated annual income from those long term holdings was also up this month over last.

The Vestry approved acquiring new vestments for our Lay Readers. The order has been placed and very soon the Lay Readers will have a new & improved look!

Thanks be to God for all the blessings of this small but mighty parish. Those of you who weren't able to help with the Pork Chop lunch this year, missed a great time. I hope you'll all have the opportunity next time to enjoy the amazing fellowship of this true church family.

Happy 100th Birthday, Alice Morris, on May 27th, 2016. We are so indebted to you and Bob for all the things you helped make possible through this church. May we ALWAYS strive to continue to do our very best with that legacy to further His Kingdom.

Susan Harrison, Treasurer

**On May 27th
Alice Morris
turns 100 Years Old**

**Sunday, May 29th
A reception will be held at St. John's
following the morning service to mark
the occasion.**

These plans are tentative and subject to change depending on her health on that day.

Christian Education & Formation

Wrapping Up Luke

The Sunday adult Bible study group will be completing the study of the Gospel of Luke on Sunday, May 15th, Pentecost Sunday. A study of the Gospel of John will begin in mid-September.

Youth practicing for Recognition Sunday

The youth will be spending the Sundays leading up to Recognition Sunday practicing music and various parts for their children's worship service to close out the Sunday School year.

Last Sunday for Choir

The last Sunday that the choir will rehearse and lead the congregation in music will be May 22nd as well. Thank you to all of our choir members for their inspiring efforts to lead the congregation in worship music and for their unique offertory anthems and hymns.

RITE 13 to J2A

Our youth group program is broken up into 2, two-year segments. The first segment is entitled, Rite 13 and the second segment is called Journey to Adulthood (or J2A). The current youth group will be finishing Rite 13 this spring and beginning J2A next fall.

Journey in Faith

Monday, May 16th

Common Riding Festivals of the Scottish Borders



The evening starts with a soup supper at 6:00pm. Come and see the photos and videos and learn of another culture's historical traditions.

Church Camp Applications



The 2016 Waycross Summer Church Camp schedule and registration applications are posted exclusively on-line.

www.waycrosscenter.org

If you do not have access to a computer contact the church office to get a copy downloaded for you. If you would like to hear testimony about Waycross Camp talk to veteran campers, Patrick, William, and Olivia Gerton. Financial aid is available from both the diocese and St. John's, so please don't let money be a deterrent. The camp is open to youth ages 8 to 16.

Congratulations to Austin Colson and Patrick Gerton for volunteering their summer to be camp counselors at Waycross this year. We are proud of you both for this wonderful ministry.

Children's at Worship

SUNDAY, MAY 22ND EXPLAINED

Trinity Sunday

The first Sunday after Pentecost in the Church year is Trinity Sunday. The Collect prayer and lectionary readings have been selected to point to the three persons of the Triune God; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The liturgical color goes back to white, after being red for Pentecost Sunday, and before it goes green for the long season of Pentecost; or Ordinary Time. May 22nd is Trinity Sunday.



Bishop Cate's Last Parochial Visit to St. John's

May 22nd will be Bishop Catherine Waynick's last visit and opportunity to worship with the congregation of St. John's, Mt. Vernon. Father Allen has already received a call from the bishop's secretary, Sally Cassidy, to set up the final details for her visit. Sally has passed on to the bishop that the children will be playing a big role in this service. However, Cate will be our preacher for the last time at St. John's. Please come and offer your well wishes to Cate on that day.



Special Offertory Collection for Bishop's Visit

Whenever the bishop makes a parochial visit to a parish, the congregation is encouraged to take up a special collection for the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. The bishop, just like any parish priest, receives requests for aid to those in need. We will, once again, have envelopes available on the Sunday of her visit. However, the Christian education committee discussed giving a special parting gift to Cate. After careful thought, it was decided that instead of a personal gift to her, we would be taking up an offering to a ministry important to her; Lunches and Lessons to support St. Andre's School in Mithon, Haiti. This is a school that was built with funds from the Diocese of Indianapolis, and we made Lunches and Lessons our Lenten project a few years ago. Please come prepared to give generously for both offerings. The children will be taking up both collections that day. To learn more about the program visit <http://lunchesandlessons.org/>

 **Lunches and Lessons**

Children's Worship Service and 2016 Recognition Sunday

Sunday, May 22nd will also be our annual Recognition Sunday. The youth and children of the church will fulfill key roles during the service. There will be special music performed by the kids to supplement the choir's hymn singing that day. The children have created the menu for a shared meal, most of it actually healthy. And of course, we will have recognitions for the Sunday School kids and graduates. Weather permitting, we encourage members to stick around to watch or participate in games in the lot across the street to celebrate. Please mark this date on your calendar and join us for a special day of worship. Please dress casual and bring a lawn chair to enjoy the games across the street.



Reaching Out To Others

Outreach Distribution Schedule for May

Family Matters, \$500.

Young Life, \$500.

Posey Rehabilitation Center, \$250.

Kiwanis Sponsorship, \$1,000.

Many Outreach THANK YOUs

Thank You to everyone who helped out with our 14th annual Relay For Life Pork Chop Lunch Fundraiser on April 28th & 29th. We sold approximately 460 lunches.

Thank You to everyone who purchased and donated items for our annual Precious Poseys Baby Shower.



**United Thank Offering Sundays
May 1st and 8th**

MAY FOOD PANTRY ITEM

Peanut Butter

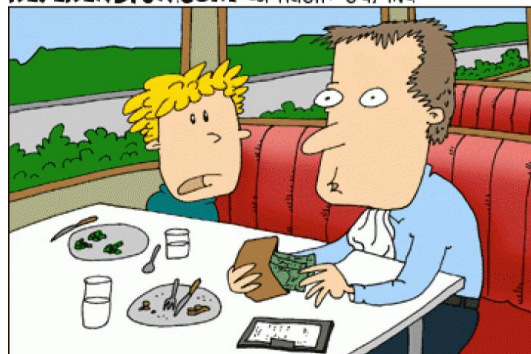
Place these items
in the round bin in
the Parish Hall.



2016 Mt. Vernon River Days Festival

Why in the world would we be mentioning the River Days Festival in May? We were recently informed (warned) by the Festival Committee that because this year is the 200th Anniversary Celebration of the community, they want a full presence of booths along Water Street for all three days of the festival. Organizations not planning to have their booth open on Sunday, will be given an inferior spot (along Mulberry Street). To keep our usual, profitable spot at the festival, we will be open on Sunday. What we will be selling on that day has yet to be determined.

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Thanks to Shirley Ostrander 01-15-2004
HOW COME THE WAITRESS GETS 15% AND GOD
ONLY GETS 10%?

Reaching Out To Others

14th Annual Relay for Life Pork Chop Lunches

Serving Christ through...



We take up a wide space on Auto Zone's parking lot, but they love having us back each year.



The lunch assembly line crew hard at work.



The packing and counting crew members.



Chops and buns getting ready to move down the line.



All the ingredients of our lunch.



Bob makes sure the numbers add up.

Serving Christ through... Our Church & Community

"Survey Says?"

THANK YOU to everyone who filled out and returned the survey asking for feedback on the 2016 congregational renewal and anniversary celebration program. Your responses are helping the committee finalize the report to sent to Christian Theological Seminary and the Lilly Foundation. The Grant committee of St. John's should have all the final reports completed and sent to CTS by the end of May.

Notice Anything?

Notice anything different about Father Allen in this photo. You are RIGHT! He's not wearing his braces anymore!



Sunday, April 3rd

Mt. Vernon High School Baccalaureate Service

**Sunday, May 22nd
6:00 P.M.**

Sponsored by the
Mt. Vernon Ministerial
Association and the
Mt. Vernon High School
Fellowship of Christian
Athletes.



Mt. Vernon High School Graduation Day Friday, May 27th



**Monday
May 30th**

*Pray for all our military personnel and
remember all those who have given their lives
throughout our history to defend our freedom.*

Church Office Closed to observe the Holiday

Serving Christ through... **The Anglican Communion** **Important News—relegated to the back pages.**

Some of you may recall that back in January The Episcopal Church made front page, headline news around the world when the Archbishops and Primates of the Anglican Communion requested that Presiding Bishop Michael Curry not participate in their meeting, and sought to suspend The Episcopal Church from the Communion for a period of three years. What you DID NOT hear or read about was the successful meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council in April in which our three Episcopal delegates fully participated. Below is excerpts from a letter send by our delegates to that ACC meeting.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ in The Episcopal Church:

The 16th meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council concluded today at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Lusaka, Zambia, and tonight and tomorrow, we are saying farewell to our fellow ACC members from across the Anglican Communion and making our way home.

ACC16 was filled with joy, grace and love as close to seventy Anglican sisters and brothers in Christ, laypeople, priests and bishops, came together in prayer, Bible study, and worship. Our time together over the last thirteen days has visibly demonstrated, once again, our unity in diversity as the provinces of the Anglican Communion. Meeting fellow Anglicans from around the world in discussions, around the altar, in tea breaks, and at meals, we learned from each other what intentional discipleship across our differences means as the Body of Christ in the world today. We are thankful to God and to The Episcopal Church for this privilege of representing our church on the Anglican Consultative Council.

Because this ACC meeting was held in the shadow of the January Primates Gathering and Meeting that sought to restrict our participation as members from The Episcopal Church, we want to assure you that we participated fully in this meeting and that we were warmly welcomed and included by other ACC members. Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby did report to the ACC on the Primates Gathering and Meeting [see here <http://www.anglicannews.org/news/2016/04/archbishop-welby-briefs-acc-members-on-the-primates-gathering-and-meeting.aspx>] on the first day of the meeting. Beyond that report, ACC members seemed to have little energy for answering the primates' call for consequences, for discussing disagreements over human sexuality, or for taking up the call of Anglican Communion Secretary-General Josiah Idowu-Fearon to pursue the Anglican Covenant. Yesterday, in fact, a resolution that sought to pursue further consequences against The Episcopal Church was withdrawn just before it was scheduled for debate.

On April 15, the three of us had the opportunity to meet informally with Archbishop Justin, Caroline his wife and members of his staff at Lambeth Palace. Our conversation was easy, open and honest, and we came away from the conversation with the conviction that while the Archbishop does not agree with the actions of our General Convention regarding marriage equality, he is firmly committed to our unity as the Anglican Communion and the autonomy of Anglican provinces. He expressed fervent hope that The Episcopal Church will continue to be committed to and involved in the life of the Anglican Communion. We are grateful to Archbishop Justin for taking the time to meet with us, for his candor, and for assuring us of his respect for us and for the Episcopal Church.

This was the first ACC meeting that both Archbishop Justin or Secretary General of the Anglican Communion Josiah Idowu-Fearon had attended—as both are relatively new in their posts. We found the process and program of the meeting, especially the opening days, to have been largely made up of reports by the staff of the Anglican Communion Office. We would have preferred more interactive time with our fellow ACC members as experienced at previous ACC meetings.

We leave Lusaka with enormous gratitude for the Anglican Consultative Council, for our fellow ACC members from around the world, and for the generosity of our hosts here in Zambia. In our time together as sister and brothers in Christ we have once again witnessed the breadth and diversity of our global family of churches known as the Anglican Communion. We thank God for the many and different ways that Anglicans around the world are participating in God's mission of restoration and reconciliation and for our unity as disciples of Jesus. As members of ACC we are firmly committed to the Episcopal Church's full participation in the Anglican Communion.

Thank you for your prayers and your support while we have represented The Episcopal Church at ACC16. Please join us in continuing to pray for all the members of ACC as they travel home to share our unity as Anglicans participating in the mission of God.

Faithfully

Rosalie Simmonds Ballentine, Ian T. Douglas, Gay Clark Jennings
Episcopal Church members of the 16th Anglican Consultative Council, Lusaka, Zambia

Events & Celebrations

Serving Christ through...

May 2016

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

May 2016

- 01 — First UTO Ingathering Sunday
- 02 — St. John's, MVMA Food Pantry day
- 03 — Indiana Primary Election Day
- 05 — **Ascension Day**
- 08 — Mother's Day
- 08 — Second UTO Ingathering Sunday
- 15 — **Pentecost Sunday**
- 16 — St. John's, MVMA Food Pantry day
- 16 — Journey in Faith, Adult Inquirer's Class, 6:00 p.m.
- 17 — Mt. Vernon Ministerial Association meeting, 3:00 p.m. at St. John's
- 19 — Vestry Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 21 — Bishop Cate meeting with Vestry, 6:00p.m. in parish hall
- 22 — **Trinity Sunday**; Bishop Cate's last visit to St. John's; Children's Worship Service; Recognition Sunday.
- 22 — Ministerial Association Baccalaureate Service, 6:00p.m. Mt. Vernon High School
- 27 — Mt. Vernon High School Graduation
- 30 — Memorial Day Holiday: **Church Office Closed!**

**Indiana Primary
Election Day
Tuesday, May 3rd**



May Birthdays:

- 16 — Shirley Dunne
- 19 — Ron Stover
- 21 — Kathryn Taylor
- 27 — Alice Morris



May Anniversaries:

- 21 — Don & Breeze Sobek

Did we list it wrong?; Is it missing?; let us know.

THE DAGWOOD SANDWICH

There are a lot of variations of the Dagwood Sandwich. It's basically throw everything you have in the refrigerator between two or three slices of bread.



INGREDIENTS

- 3 Slices bread
- 2 Slices cheddar cheese
- 2 Slices Swiss cheese
- 4 to 6 Leaves of crisp green lettuce
- 2 Slices of large tomatoes
- 8 Slices of ham, thin slices
- 8 Slices of cooked turkey, thin slices
- 1 Slice of a medium onion
- 4 to 6 Slices of cucumber, thin slices (or pickles)
- Condiments: Mustard, Horseradish, Relish, Mayonnaise

DIRECTIONS

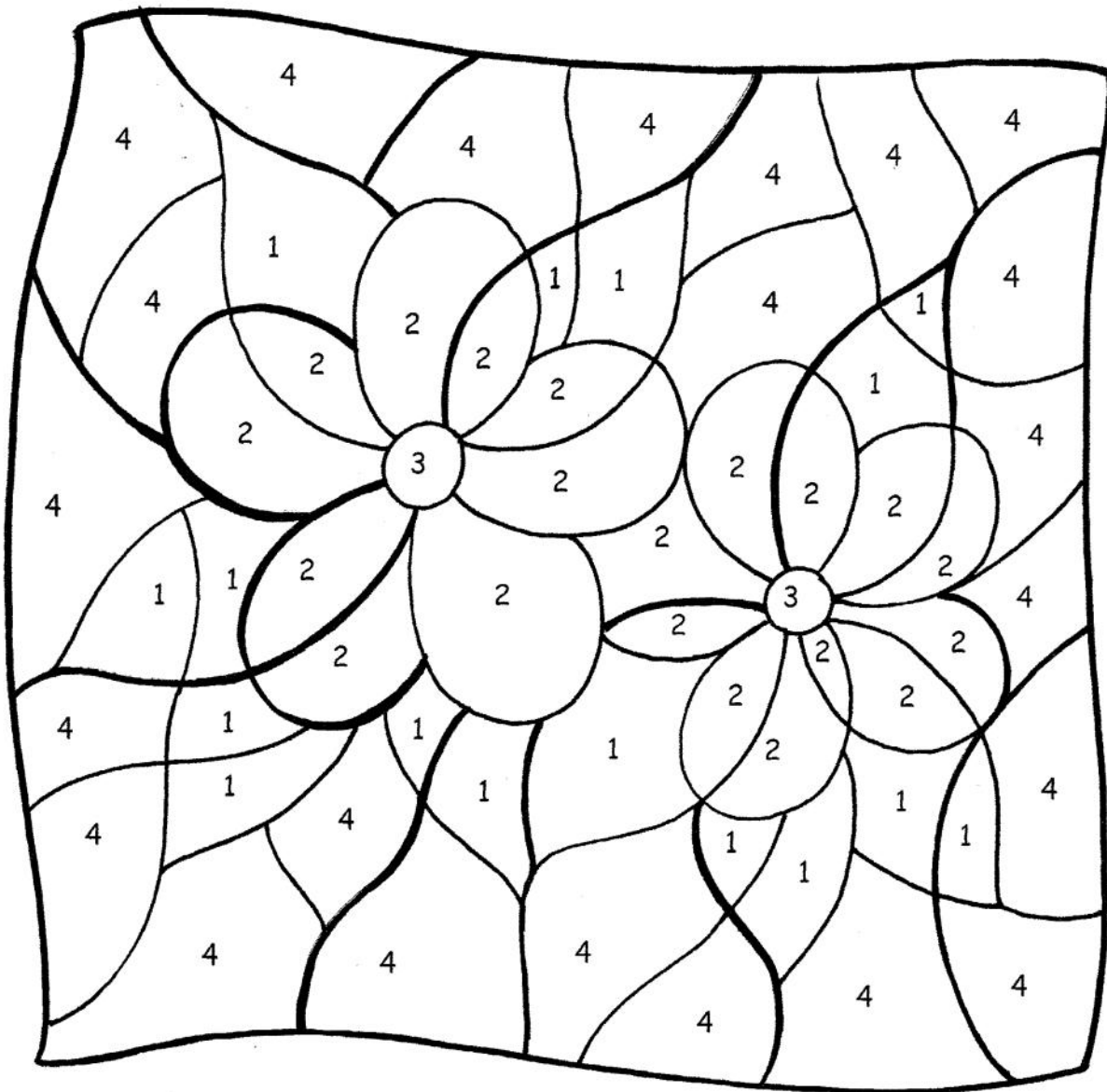
Lay out the three bread slices. On the first slice spread mayonnaise, layer of cucumber slices, cheddar cheese, 1/2 of the lettuce, 1 tomato slice, ham and top with mustard. Add the second piece of bread on top. Spread horseradish and relish. Layer onion, second tomato slice, Swiss cheese, second half of lettuce and turkey. Add third slice of bread. Enjoy!

Our Kids Connected To God

New Life

Easter is a time that we celebrate new life.
Farmers plant seeds for crops and gardeners plant seeds
for vegetables and flowers.

*Jesus said, "Unless a seed falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a seed."
John 12:24*



Color the picture to discover what seeds can become.

1 = Green

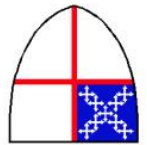
2 = Blue

3 = Pink

4 = Brown

5 = Yellow

St. John's Episcopal Church
P.O. Box 503
602 Mulberry Street
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620



HAPPY
Mother's
DAY



Sunday
May 8th, 2016

*Lord, protect and
guide mothers
everywhere
as they nurture
their children.
Help them teach
and love their
children as You
love and teach us,
through Jesus
Christ our Lord.
Amen.*