

THE GOOD NEWS

July 2021

St. Ignatius of Antioch
Episcopal Church
Walking in love as Christ taught us



A LETTER FROM FR. BRIAN

Dear Ignatians ~

Wishing you and our nation God's continued blessings as we observe our nation's 245th birthday. The following is an essay delivered by Red Skelton on his TV show on January 19, 1969. May God continue to bless America, and may God bless each of us to be and to do our best as Americans. ~ Fr. Brian



When I was a small boy in Vincennes, Indiana, I heard, one of the most outstanding speeches I ever heard in my life. I think it compares with the Sermon on the Mount and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

We had just finished reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and Mr. Lasswell, the Principal of Vincennes High School, called us all together, and said, "Boys and girls, I have been listening to you recite the Pledge of Allegiance all semester, and it seems that it has become monotonous to you. Or, could it be, you do not understand the meaning of its words? If I may, I would like to recite the pledge, and give you a definition for each word:

I – Me; an individual; a committee of one.

Pledge – Dedicate all of my worldly good to give without self-pity.

Allegiance – My love and my devotion.

To the Flag – Our standard. "Old Glory"; a symbol of courage. And wherever she waves, there is respect, because your loyalty has given her a dignity that shouts "Freedom is everybody's job."

Of the United – That means we have all come together.

States – Individual communities that have united into 48 great states; 48 individual communities with pride and dignity and purpose; all divided by imaginary boundaries, yet united to a common cause, and that's love of country – *of America*.

And to the Republic – A Republic: a sovereign state in which power is invested into the representatives chosen by the people to govern; and the government is the people; and it's from the people to the leaders, not from the leaders to the people.

For which it stands: One Nation – Meaning "so blessed by God."

Indivisible – Incapable of being divided.

With Liberty – Which is freedom; the right of power for one to live his own life without fears, threats, or any sort of retaliation.

And Justice – The principle and qualities of dealing fairly with others.

For All – That means, boys and girls, it's as much your country as it is mine.

Now since I was a small boy, two states have been added to our country, and two words have been added to the Pledge of Allegiance:

Under God – And wouldn't it be a pity if someone said, "That is a prayer" – and that this would then be eliminated from our schools?

~Fr. Brian

Re-Gather

As we re-gather, your presence is important to us, the members of your Parish Family. Please join us as you are able for:

Prayer: In addition to Sunday morning Eucharist at 8 & 10 (in-person and zoom) and 1st Sunday Vespers at 6pm:

If YOU are unavailable for Sunday worship this summer, I invite you to join us for an informal "Patio Eucharist" Wednesdays at 6pm (through August 25th).

Fellowship: As we "celebrate" 1st Sunday Fellowship after both Eucharists, we also look to re-gather our men's group:

Before Covid, the men of St. Ignatius gathered for newsy breakfasts on 1st Saturdays. In an attempt to re-start these monthly get-togethers, we offer two options:

Breakfast on 1st Fridays at the Vegas at 9, or Lunch on 1st Saturdays at the Bristol 45 Diner at 11:30.

If YOU are interested in either option, please let me know in advance (for reservation purposes).

Formation: If you find yourself more apt to "reach out" for your phone these days than to "reach up" to God in prayer:

I invite you to a discussion group on prayer: Sunday mornings, July 11th - August 29th, from 9 - 9:40.

If YOU are interested, let me know (for planning purposes).

Outreach Missions of the Month:

- Our June, we collected dozens of baby items for *Informed Choices* (with centers in Grayslake and Crystal Lake).
- In July, we will assist *Lake County Haven's* efforts to assist homeless women and children, also assisting them to secure permanent housing, education opportunities, and job skills.
- And in August we will partner with the *Hillcrest Elementary School Booster Club* in hosting a "good as new" books, games and greeting car sale.



Outreach Summary

June brought us to our 10th St. Ignatius sponsored Mission of the Month. We purchased needed items with the donated envelope monies. The purchased items along with the donated baby items totaled 89 heartwarming gifts, that will be distributed to the mothers of new born babies in the next few months. Executive Director Sarah Vanderlit personally accepted the donation and expressed her sincere gratitude for all the beautiful and thoughtful gifts. She was especially touched by the handmade blankets, hats and bibs that were donated to Informed Choices. She is hoping to partner with God's Will in the near future and thanked us for being a beacon of light to those in need.



JULY MISSION OF THE MONTH LAKE COUNTY HAVEN

Please join us in collecting items listed below for our July Mission of the Month. The Lake County Haven provides shelter to homeless women and children in addition to assisting them with securing permanent housing, education opportunities and job skills.

- Paper towels/Toilet Paper
- Non-abrasive cleaning sponges

- Wax paper/Foil
- Powder (only) dishwasher detergent
- Mops with full sized heads
- Women's razors and shaving cream
- Umbrellas
- Small electric bedside alarm clocks
- New women's slippers and robes
- New pillowcases
- New twin-sized blankets
- New twin-sized comforters/bedspreads
- Gift cards: Walmart, Target, Aldi, Jewel, Menards

Cash or check donations can be placed in a Mission of the Month envelope located on the table. Please make checks payable to St. Ignatius and indicate Mission of the Month on the check memo line. The collection will run through Sunday July 25th.

WE NEED YOUR BOOKS, GAMES AND GREETING CARDS!



August 11th through August 14th from 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. St. Ignatius and Hillcrest Elementary School Booster Club will be partnering to host a "good as new" books, games and greeting card sale. Half the proceeds will go to Hillcrest teachers to fund classroom items not covered in their budget. Thanks to all who have donated in June. A large box for your donation is located in the church social hall. Please bring donations to church on Sundays or to the church office Monday-Thursday 9am-12 noon, or call Jenn at the office if you or someone you know needs to arrange a pick up 847-395-0652.

We will be collecting the following items through August 7th :

- Gently used or never used **books** for all ages
- Gently used or never used **board and boxed games**
- Never used blank or messaged **greeting cards**

-Outreach Committee

Emergency Grants for Online Worship

We were all thrown into uncharted waters with the Covid pandemic. We at St. Ignatius, along with congregations world-wide, needed to quickly and to the best of our ability reach out to our people through technology we hadn't previously utilized.

Initially, when we were closed, I learned to zoom Sunday and Wednesday services from my home. When we were re-opened to limited capacity, I zoomed from Church. And now that we are fully re-open we continue to zoom for the sake of those who for whatever reasons are unable to join us in-person.

Pulled into the world of technology by Covid, moving forward, the use of technology will be an additional tool churches will be able to utilize in sharing the Word of God.

Having hobbled our way through 15 months of zooming with my laptop – sometimes “for better” and sometimes “for worse” – Roger recently presented to the Vestry a plan to upgrade our system to allow quality live streaming costing in the neighborhood of \$7,000.

At the same time, the Diocese announced that it was offering Grants to congregations for “Covid Recovery.” At Roger's suggestion and with my blessing, he applied to the Diocese for a Grant and we received a \$5,000 check toward the project.

Over the next while some up-dated equipment will be installed. I'm not sure to what extent we in church will be aware of the difference. Future zoomers will.

During Covid, we have had zoomers join us on Sundays from as far as northern Wisconsin and southern Florida – and points between including Indiana and Georgia.

The initial need presented by Covid is passed, but technology is with us, and the future is before us. Technology is now one more tool to utilize in our

mission to “proclaim the Good News of God in Christ” (Baptismal Covenant, BCP-305).

May we, future vestries, and future clergy find creative and still unimagined ways for St. Ignatius to utilize technology in our mission to “restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ” (Catechism, BCP-855).

Here follows an e-article from the Diocese regarding success stories in two congregations utilizing their Grants in discovering and entering God's “new normal” for them:

In 2020, both Bishop and Trustees and Bishop Lee made pools of emergency funding available to congregations adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic.

St. Ann's, Woodstock and Good Shepherd, Macomb both received emergency grants to upgrade their worship technology. While their projects were initially intended to help reach church members during lockdowns, the investments are continuing to bear fruit even as restrictions are lifted and the congregations are gathering in-person once again.

When Dave Chwalisz, a St. Ann's member with a background in computer programming, began managing live worship from the church building, he soon realized that upgrades were needed. “You would get halfway into the service and video or sound would stop,” Chwalisz says. “One of the things we did with the grant was to get some prosumer switching equipment.”

With the new equipment, the congregation can now offer consistent, high-quality live streaming, which will continue after the pandemic.

“We have some older folks or ones who have conditions ... they'll probably never come back in-person,” Chwalisz says. “Some of them could barely make it here, or had issues come up over the pandemic and now are not able to get out of the house. Now they have an option – they can watch the service. We've also heard from people who go away for the winter or are traveling or are ex parishioners

who will look us up and watch the service. It's nice to be able to keep in touch with people that way."

Good Shepherd, Macomb used an emergency grant to purchase a new, upgraded computer and keyboard that made it possible for the congregation to post worship and music online during lockdowns. Now that the congregation is worshipping in-person again, the new equipment is used to record sermons that can be posted online. The sermon audio is also broadcast each week on the local radio station, WTND. "So it's nice; it goes on the radio, it goes on our website, it goes on Facebook," the Rev. Paula Englehorn, Good Shepherd's vicar, says.

"We are reaching more people. I like that idea," Englehorn says. "Almost everyone has come back and I don't think we lost anybody during the pandemic."

Gratitude from a Warden

Dear St. Ignatius family,

Whew! What a ride we've had. I had no idea two years ago when I agreed to embark on this vestry journey what I was in store for. Of course, that's always true when we step into a new venture, whether it's moving to a new home, starting a new job, or taking a trip. We can't see the future or know where we will end up or how our lives will change. We can only hope that that the changes will be good ones as we do our best to live up to the opportunity for growth.

Life has changed at St. Ignatius. But not so much. We still gather every Sunday, we still offer outreach to the community through God's Will and our monthly outreach program, we still have opportunities for Christian formation and most of all we still have each other.

We've been long distance family for a year and a half but now the cocoons are opening, and we are all fluttering out and gather once more. And I am grateful for that change. And I want to take a moment

to say I am grateful for each member of the St. Ignatius family. I am grateful for those who were patient as we stumbled our way through our first Zoom services. I am grateful for the encouraging words offered as we tried to stay safe but connected. I am grateful for the opportunity every Sunday to hear God's words in the company of other Christians. Also, and it must be said, I am grateful for Fr. Brian's leadership in such a strange time.

Summer is usually a quiet time at church. And that seems just about the right way to reappear in community. As we remember what it's like to be together, a gentle introduction seems like a holy way to emerge from shelter and rejoin the Son.

See you in church,

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GOD'S WILL RESALE SHOP

July Special:
50% off **GREEN** sticker items!

Raffle Tickets Available!



6th Annual Chuck Larson Memorial
Golf Fore The Hungry on Aug. 29th
Spring Valley Country Club
23913 Wilmot Rd.
9 Hole Scramble and BBQ



Any questions call the shop at 224-321-4475

Let's Celebrate!

July Birthdays

- 7/10 - Kathy Fields
- 7/10 - Jennifer McElligott
- 7/12 - Clay Neville
- 7/16 - Linda Mizwicki
- 7/18 - Tami McCollough
- 7/19 - Terry Hansen-Beno
- 7/19 - Katelynn Mizwicki

"Heavenly Father, look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life." (BCP, p830, #50)

July Wedding Anniversaries

7/26 - Ken & Carol Ward

"O God, send your blessing upon your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their lives together may witness to your love, and their home be a haven of blessing and peace." (BCP, p431)

COMEDY CORNER

