

The Baptizer

The Newsletter for St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church
1505 East Wooster Street, Bowling Green, OH 43402

February, 2018

this issue

Cover Story, p. 1
Financial Report, p. 2
St. John's News, p.3



Lent will be upon us in two weeks. The world will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Ash Wednesday, 14 February, while the church will be celebrating the first day of Lent! St. John's Ash Wednesday service will be at 1:00pm. The Rev. Jeff Bunke will be the Celebrant.

As we each find our own ways to mark the season of Lent, we follow in the footsteps of centuries of Christians who have spent time preparing to celebrate the resurrection of Christ. How did the Church's understanding of the forty days of Lent change between the Council of Nicaea in the 4th century and the Second Vatican Council? Church historian Norman Tanner SJ* gives a short history of this time of joy and preparation.

The earliest mention of Lent in the history of the Church comes from the council of Nicaea in 325 AD. The council of Nicaea is best known for the profession of faith – the 'Nicene Creed' – which is still recited in most parishes every Sunday immediately after the sermon. However, the council also issued twenty canons of a practical nature, dealing with various aspects of church life, and the fifth of these canons speaks of Lent.

The word used for Lent in this fifth canon is *tessarakonta* (in the original Greek), which means 'forty'. For the first time in recorded history, we have mention of this period of preparation for Easter as lasting forty days. Much earlier, Christians had introduced Easter Sunday to celebrate Christ's resurrection. Soon afterwards, a period of two or three days (cont. on page 2)

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2-3

Winter Convocation
Kalahari Conference Center
Sandusky

February 4

Potluck

February 6 & 8

Interfaith Opiate Forum

February 14

Ash Wednesday Service, 1pm

February 20

Vestry Meeting, 7pm

February 21

1st Lenten Luncheon

March 17

Stephen Ministry

November, 2017 Financial Report

	December, 2017	YTD
Income:	\$ 5,016.31	\$51,231.03
Expenses:	\$ 4,896.13	\$58,017.27
Net Income	\$120.18	\$(6,786.24)

If you have any questions about this financial report, please call
St. John's office at (419) 353-0881.

Jon Klever
Parish Treasurer

The following email came to me from St. Tim's for any interested person who attends St. John's.

Greetings!

We're about to begin Confirmation prep sessions at St. Tim's, using Michelle Heyne's, In Your Holy Spirit, to guide our process. If you have any folks

- New to the parish/denomination
- Recently returned to active parish life following a hiatus
- Of "an age" when confirmation seems appropriate (we aim at 15-16), or
- Previously confirmed by a bishop of the Roman Catholic, Orthodox or Lutheran communion

and you'd like to take advantage of this prep series, please "send 'em on over!" Unfortunately, when this bright idea struck, it's only a few days before the first session.... I've tentatively scheduled these sessions

- Jan 28, 2:30 – 5 p.m.
- Feb 4, 2:30 – 5 p.m.
- Feb 11, 2:30 – 5 p.m.
- Feb 25, 2:30 – 5 p.m.
- Mar 4, 2:30 – 5 p.m.
- Mar 18, 12:30 – 2 p.m.

**the last 45 minutes of each session are reserved for "optional enrichment" – often 30 min. videos & discussion, etc.*

Bishop Mark Hollingsworth will be at St. Tim's on Palm Sunday to preside over confirmation, etc. While we would gladly welcome your candidates to be presented for confirmation on that day, if you have a visitation "somewhere" in the range of this late winter/spring/early summer, this might be a way to collaborate. If you're interested/want more information, give me a call, email, or tackle me at Clericus on Thursday (noon at Trinity, Findlay).

Shalom,

The Rev. Jeff L. Bunke, Rector
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
871 East Boundary Street
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419.874.5704 (office)

preparation, specially commemorating Christ's passion and death – the 'Holy Week' part of Lent today – had been adopted by various Christian communities. But the first mention of a preparatory period lasting the forty days comes from this fifth canon of Nicaea.

The length of time was adopted in imitation of the forty days that Jesus spent in the desert at the beginning of his public ministry:

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights and afterwards he was famished. (Matthew 4:1-2)

* Norman Tanner SJ teaches Church History at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. ***Pontifical Gregorian University***

There is much more history, but this is a good stopping point.

Pat's Ramblings...

Is anyone interested in attending a Stephen Ministry Introductory Workshop? The Stephen Ministers are deemed The After People who provide ongoing care to those who need it. A few examples: after the phone call you hoped you would never get, after the doctor says, "I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do." It is Christ caring for people through people. The workshop is Saturday, 17 March 2018, at the Epworth United Methodist Church, 4855 W. Central Avenue in Toledo, Ohio. Workshop is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Three subjects will be covered: Ministering to those experiencing grief, An introduction to Stephen Ministry and How to care in a distinctively Christian way. The cost is \$15.00 or \$50.00 for four or more members. Let the senior warden know if you want to attend. There is a small amount of money in the budget for Christian Education. It will be put on the vestry meeting agenda in February.

Just a reminder that the Winter Convocation is 2-3 February 2018 at Kalahari Water Park and Conference Center in Sandusky. Yours truly and Pam Bechtel will attend.

An Interfaith Forum on Opioid Addiction organized by the Wood County Opiate Task Force is an educational event for Wood County Clergy and their staff. The forum is planned for Tuesday, 6 February 2018, 1-5pm, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 315 S. College Drive here in Bowling Green, and Thursday, 8 February 2018 at Lutheran Church of the Master, 28744 Simmons Rd., Perrysburg, 1-5pm. The Interfaith Forum on Opioid Addiction has four parts: education, discussion, Project DAWN (Narcan/naloxone) Training, and the documentary "Chasing Hope." Several breaks are scheduled. Jeffrey Bischoff, a pastor and social worker, will lead the education piece. Topics include opioid addiction, referral and assessment for treatment, treatment options, recovery, relapse, support groups, and

youth prevention education in Wood County. Discussion will kick off with two speakers: Nate Kehlmeier, who is in recovery, and Tom Clemons, Executive Director of the Wood County ADAMHS Board. A list of ways faith communities can help with the opioid crisis will be distributed and discussed. The Project DAWN Training will provide each participant with the life-saving, opioid-overdose reversal medication Narcan(naloxone). Please RSVP so the trainer can bring enough Project DAWN kits. Contact Kim Newlove at 419-699-4460 or kimnewlove@me.com to RSVP, for the Project DAWN Training, ask questions or to reserve table space.

Termed "A Balm in Bowling Green," making BG a healthier, relationally healing city through faith, The Bowling Green Ministerial Association and The Churches of the Bowling Green Community are sponsoring its 2018 Lenten Lunch Series on Wednesdays, 21 February through 28 March. Lunch will be served at Trinity United Methodist Church, 200 N. Summit Street from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Each week there will be:

- A well prepared light lunch from various BG churches
- A different speaker and conversation
- A time for inspiration and prayers
- A space to connect with other churches in our common life

Annual Meeting

St. John's Annual Meeting was held following the Sunday service on 21 January. Vestry members were elected and installed and reports were given. The vestry members are Michael and Dorothy Grassley co-serving, Carol Heckman, Ann Stubbs and Kristie Foell. Vestry officers will be chosen at the 20 February meeting.

News from the Vestry

St. John's held its regular monthly vestry meeting January 16, 2018

The meeting opened with prayer. The following was discussed:

Building & Grounds:

The building is in good shape. The new front door is being resized and rebuilt.

Financial:

The energy cost is up.

Senior Warden:

St. John's Bridges met on Thursday, but no students showed up. We will try to get the new out. Ash Wednesday service will be at 1:00pm.

Other Business:

Refreshments for the Bishop's reception were discussed. The Stephen's ministry is going to be in Toledo on Saturday, March 17. The 2018 budget was reviewed.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Next Vestry meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 at 7pm.

Remember that all parishioners are welcome to attend vestry meetings.



If your birthday has not appeared in this column, please let the office know at 419-353-0881. We want to make sure we don't miss anyone!

Please take a moment this month to pray for those members of our community who celebrate a birthday.

Even better, send a card, give a phone call, or share your good wishes in some more personal way. Everyone loves feeling special on their birthday!



The Mission of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church

Our mission is to serve Christ by nurturing and educating people in the faith, providing a spiritual home for our community and Bowling Green State University students through prayer, worship, and theological programs. To do so, we are committed to motivate parish members and students to reach out in active service to our community and the world

Please join us for worship and fellowship!

Our Sunday morning worship service is at 10:00 a.m.

Vestry Members

Carol Heckman

Michael and Dorothy Grassley

Ann Stubbs

Kristie Foell

Offices to the Vestry

Clerk - Pam Bechtel

Treasurer - Jon Klever

St. John's Episcopal Church
1505 E. Wooster Street
Bowling Green, OH 43402

February, 2018 - Server Schedule

Date	Officiant Celebrant	Chalice Bearer & Crucifer	Acolyte	Usher	Reader	Coffee Hour
Feb- 4	Rev. Tim Rothfuss	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Pat Patton	Pam Bechtel	Potluck
Feb-11	Rev. Tim Rothfuss	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Robert Ormsbee	Rosemary Brown	Carol Heckman
Feb-18	Rev. Tim Rothfuss	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Pat Patton	Pat Patton	Pat Patton
Feb-25	Pat Patton	Jon Klever	Pam Bechtel	Robert Ormsbee	Charnell Peters	Dorothy Grassley