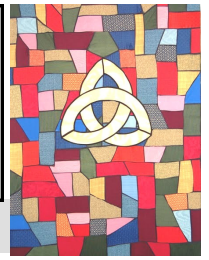




St. James' Notes



Volume 52, Issue 2

February 2015



Empowered by the Holy Spirit to be faithful disciples of Jesus, St. James' serves as a beacon of God's love and as a caring Christian family for the community, the nation and the world by seeking to restore all to unity with God and one another and by proclaiming the Good News through worship, witness, education, fellowship and service.

St. James' Episcopal Church at Mount Vernon
A parish church in the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and member of the worldwide Anglican Communion.



The Rector's Remarks at the 2015 Annual Meeting

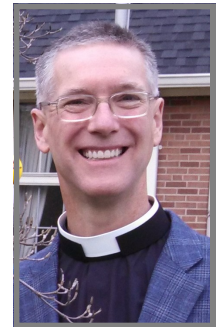
How are we called by God to follow and serve him? That's a question we should always be asking and answering. Each year the Annual Meeting gives us a chance to report on how we as a community have been answering our call during the past year.

I think that St. James' gives a good answer. As you look through the pages of the Annual Report, you see that we are active and vital, in worship and service. We pray together and for one another. Attendance at our Christmas Eve services this year was up by nearly 40% over last year. It is remarkable what our outreach is doing to touch the lives of others, whether by feeding them, clothing them, or by building a school classroom for them. We estimate that we've contributed over \$14,000, outside of our budget, to serving the needs of others. Together we are making a difference!

2014 was a challenging year financially, as income fell short of expectations. And as our Senior Warden has presented in our 2015 budget, our income challenge this year will be greater, forcing us to cut essentially all of our discretionary expenses.

I want to make sure that we keep our financial challenges in perspective. This church is abundantly blessed with a generous and supportive congregation. If we did not have a mortgage, we would be the envy of every church in Virginia. We would have resources to hire additional staff, pay the full diocesan and region assessments, and engage in new mission and building projects.

However, the central fact of our budget is our mortgage. It accounts for a third of our expenses. The recent building program was undertaken in all responsibility, at a time when the church was in great need of renovation, and conservative and



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Sundays During Lent

February 22 through March 22

5:30pm Soup & Salad Supper
6:00-7:00pm Conversation

Please join us on Sunday evenings during Lent for an early-evening supper of soup and salad, followed by a conversation about prayer led by the Rev. Charles Brock. We will explore why we pray and how we pray. All you need to bring is an open heart and an open mind.

St. James' Episcopal Church at Mount Vernon

The Diocese of Virginia

The Rt. Rev. Shannon S. Johnston
Diocesan Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Susan E. Goff
Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. Edwin F. "Ted" Gulick Jr.
Assistant Bishop

The Rev. Charles F. Brock
Rector

Staff

Jenny Kennedy
Parish Administrator

Alan Moser
Director of Music

Vestry

Cheryl Viani
Senior Warden

Mike Morgan
Junior Warden and Plant & Property

Marghe Bowker
Local & World Outreach

Mark Braden
Administration & Finance

Eric Katz
Growth & Evangelism

Sara Thompson
Publicity & Communications

Mary Jane Van den Berg
Parish Family

Francesca Wallace
Christian Education

Bill Iber
Treasurer

Marge Smith
Register

Trustees

Peg Iber
Lib Mueller
Ray Smith

Rector's Remarks (continued)

reasonable projections planned for a mortgage well within the means of the congregation. But several years and several crises later, the mortgage is a greater burden on us than anyone imagined it could be.

As new members enter the church, and as new members become established members, we can hope that their financial support will increase. We are exploring other sources of income, such as hosting a daycare program here during the week. We should discuss the possibility of a Capital Campaign to pay down the mortgage and to free up our resources for the future.

The finances of the church can feel discouraging. But the abundant life that is here is our hope and our joy. It is our faith challenge to remain focused on what God has called us here to do, to be the presence of Christ, in this place, at this time. We can and should confidently invite and welcome others into the life that we share. Not because we need their dollars, but because we have something they need... the love of God in Christ.

A year ago at this meeting, there was only one person prepared to stand for Vestry. Today we welcomed four new Vestry members. That speaks to the growing life and confidence of this church. I want to thank the Vestry for its service this past year, and a special thanks to Ray Smith for his two years as Sr. Warden. I'm excited about our incoming Vestry, and I look forward to what we will accomplish together in the coming year.

Thank you for the privilege of serving Christ together with you in this place. May God bless us all for the work he has called us to do... to love and serve one another in his name.

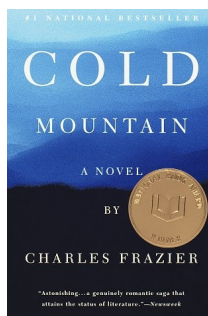
Charles+

2014 Annual Report available at www.stjamesmv.org

Bulletin Board

Book Club– Join us!

Everyone is invited to join Book Club. We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 12:30pm in Braxton Hall. Our February book is *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier and our March Book is *The Shoemaker's Wife* by Adrianna Trigiani.



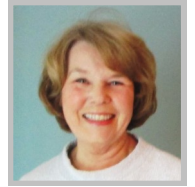
We Recycle!

Thank you to our team of recyclers for doing a great job. Additional volunteers are welcome. It just takes one hour every 6 weeks to collect the recycling at the church. Contact the church office or Marghe Bowker if you interested.

February 7	Marge Bowker
February 14	Eric Katz
February 21	Janet Fallin
February 28	David Batcheller
March 7	Mike Morgan

From the Senior Warden

The Annual Meeting on January 18 was a great kick-off for the New Year and the new Vestry. We looked back on 2014, and we looked ahead to 2015. Although the review of the budgets was somewhat sobering, we had good participation and some excellent suggestions from the members of the parish. We said thank you to Ray Smith, Ben Justesen, and Dean Sherick, who have completed their terms on the Vestry. They will be missed, not only for service, but for their fellowship. We elected the new Vestry members: Mike Morgan, Mark Braden, Erick Katz, and Francesca Wallace. Following the meeting, we enjoyed a great pot luck luncheon—good food and a good time. Thank you to Ellen Cleary, Marge Katz, and Mary Jan Van den Berg for organizing the luncheon and to everyone who brought all the wonderful food.

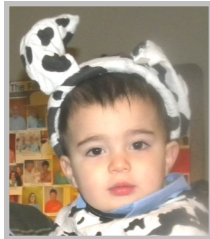


The new Vestry met briefly to elect its officers. As you can surmise from this article, I have been elected as your new Senior Warden. Mike Morgan is the Junior Warden, Bill Iber is the Treasurer, and Marge Smith is the Register. On a personal note, I want to thank Ray Smith, the former Senior Warden, for his service. It was a privilege for me to serve as Junior Warden with Ray. His quiet, effective leadership set the tone for the Vestry meetings and the work of the Vestry. I look forward to the year ahead and am excited to be working together with the new and current members of the Vestry and with and for Father Charles to continue serving the needs of the parish.

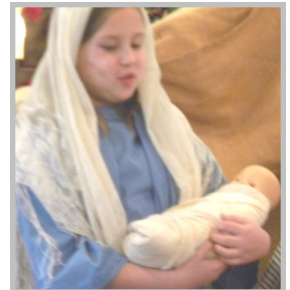
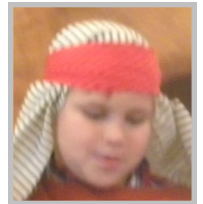
Cheryl Viani



Bishop Goff visited St. James' in December.



Our Christmas Pageant was memorable!



Thank You!

St. James' has received many notes of thanks from the various organization we serve. For example Rising Hope Mission Church sent us a nice note thanking us for all the home-cooked meals we provide twice a month. They said, "It means a lot that you came along side us to help the lost, lonely and forgotten."

UCM sent us a thank you for sponsoring the Holiday Gift Room and report that they were able to make the "holidays bright and joyful to more than 1,000 kids and 588 families!"

We received a nice handwritten note from Erin, a Ronald McDonald House Volunteer. She thanked us for the pop tabs that we send. She says, "By "pulling for the house" you help families find a home-away-from-home while facing a critical illness of their child."

We also received notes of appreciation from the Jackson-Field Homes and The Boys Home of Virginia. These notes of gratitude are all posted in the gallery and we hope you take the time to read them.



Outreach

On our **MLK Day of Service**, 2015, St. James' collected 2 FULL carloads of food to restock the food pantry of United Community Ministries UCM. Our parishioners brought food all morning, but outsiders from Alexandria and DC also showed up to volunteer and drop off food for the hungry. Two young women asked, "Where is the nearest grocery?" and returned with two huge bags full of food.

What's next for the generous people of Christ at St. James? Next MLK Day we might organize teams to distribute leaflets to our Neighbors' doors.



Did You Know?

- If every person and /or family brought one food item to church every Sunday, we would fill the *Little Red Wagon* to overflowing. This food helps supply the pantry at *Rising Hope Mission Church*. The pantry helps feed the homeless and those in need in the Route One area.
- Hot meals are served twice a month to Rising Hope Mission Church—by members of St. James'. Marge Katz has a team of cooks who generously prepare and deliver these meals. Want to help? See Marge.
- The triangle shaped glass box in the entrance Gallery supports *Nets for Life*. Ten dollars buys one net.
- The tabs from aluminum cans (not just soda cans) support *Ronald McDonald House*. Ten pounds of tabs (our last collection amount) cover a family costs for about two nights.
- Coffee Hour, our fellowship time after the 10:15am service, depends on each of us for the goodies. The sign-up sheet is in Braxton Hall.
- Shrove Tuesday is February 17. Come and join us for our annual *Pancake Supper and Talent Show*.
- Our weekend at *Shrine Mont Camp* is scheduled for June 12-14. Everyone is invited to come to this Diocesan Center nestled in the Shenandoah Mountains.
- There is a ministry for each of us. For example the Altar Guild is not just for little old ladies. Talk to Peg Iber or Cheryl Viani for details. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the Daughters of the King both have ministries of prayer, service and study. Talk to Dean Sherick and Ann Chadwick for details. If you would like to be an Acolyte, Lector (reader) or Chaliceist talk to Father Charles. Maybe your ministry is serving others, cooking, gardening, teaching, or singing- there is a ministry for you!

Prayers

PRAYER LIST

We pray for strength, guidance and healing for: Stephanie, Molly, Gavin, Shawn, Peggy, Rhu, Muriel, Muriel Sue, Esther, Nora, Jenny, Roger, Olivia, Christopher, Christine, John, Jacqui, Richard, Shirley, Amber, Mary, Jeff, Lee, Virginia, Peggy, Ruth, Anne, Leo, Rick, Elizabeth, Dorothea, Bryan, Gina, Porter, Roger, Tad, Claude, Barbara, Klaus, Chris, Kim

We pray for the safety and protection of the men and women serving in our Armed Forces, especially those who serve in harm's way in Afghanistan & Iraq: Captain Paul Lowman, and all those injured or wounded.

February Birthdays



- 1 Jordan Iber
- 4 Richard Butler
- 8 Sam Brock
- 8 Rachel McDonald
- 17 Bob Whitehouse
- 19 Nancy Taylor
- 20 Jeremy Iber

At the Annual Council of the Diocese of Virginia, the Rev. Charles Brock was appointed to be the Dean of Region VI, the local gathering of Episcopal Churches. In this role, Charles will represent the activities, accomplishments and concerns of the churches of the region at regular meetings with our Bishops. Please keep Charles and all our churches in your prayers.

Minutes from the Annual Meeting

January 18, 2015

Father Charles Brock called the Annual Meeting of the Parish to order at 11:30 a.m. He led the parish in the opening prayers.

The minutes for the 2014 Parish Meeting were presented. Bob Fitz moved that the minutes be approved as written. Bob Blair seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Bill Iber, Treasurer, presented the Year-End Financial Report for 2014. Bill discussed the actual receipts and expenditures and answered questions concerning his report.

Ray Smith, Senior Warden, presented the Budget for 2015. Ray said that forming this budget was a real challenge for the Vestry as our pledges are decreased and this resulted in major cuts in spending for the coming year. He stated that we do have a balanced budget as required by our By-Laws. He encouraged anyone who had not pledged for 2015 to consider doing so. Increased pledges for the coming year would be welcomed as well. Pledge cards are available for those wanting them.

Bob Blair thanked the 2014 Vestry for their hard work and their service to the parish and asked those in attendance to give the Vestry a round of applause.

Ray recognized the nominees for Vestry: Mark Braden, Eric Katz, Mike Morgan and Francesca Wallace. He thanked them for their willingness to serve. The nominees were elected by a unanimous vote.

Ray thanked Ellen Cleary, Marge Katz and Mary Jane Van den Berg for organizing the Pot-Luck luncheon today. He recognized and presented gifts to the outgoing Vestry members: Jane Fitz, Ben Justesen and Dean Sherick.

Cheryl Viani, Junior Warden, presented Ray with a gift from the Vestry and thanked him for his leadership and dedicated service. Ray said that it had been a good two years as Senior Warden due to the support he received from the Rector, the Vestry, and the congregation. He especially enjoyed working with Charles over the past two years.

Fr. Charles spoke about how are we called to serve God. He said that the reports from the members of the Vestry show that we are a vital congregation, involved in worship and service.

Fr. Charles closed the meeting with prayer at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Marge Smith, Register

Daughters of the King Rededication

The annual rededication of the Daughters of the King will be held during the 10:15am worship service on Sunday, February 1. Contact Ann Chadwick (twcassociates@msn.com 703-780-4054) for information. This is a good time to become a member of this service organization. All women and girls are welcome.



Treasurer's Report to the Parish*

The following preliminary figures for the Year 2014 were reported to the Parish at the Annual Meeting:

Budget Receipts for 2014:	\$ 310,461.61	
Actual 2014 Receipts:	\$ 287,921.93	(92.7%)
Difference:	-\$ 22,539.68	

Budget Expenses for 2014:	\$ 310,461.61	
Actual 2014 Expenses:	\$ 293,748.83	(94.6%)
Difference:	+\$ 16,712.78	

Actual Net Difference 2014: -\$5,826.90 (-1.9%)

Net Cash Flow from Funds in 2014: -\$ 16.2 K #

Bank Funds held as of 12/31/2014: \$ 39,572.94

Mortgage Principle on 12/31/2014: \$ 1.194 M

NOTES: * Figures are preliminary as 2014 books have not been closed.

Negative Cash Flow caused loan of \$ 5.8 K from Restricted Funds.

Schedule of Ministry ~ February 1 to March 1

	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22	March 1
	Epiphany 4	Epiphany 5	Last Epiphany	Lent 1	Lent 2
	Scout Sunday				
Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Richard Jones	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
Vestry Person of the Day	Cheryl Viani	Marghe Bowker	Sara Thompson	MJ VandenBerg	Francesca Wallace
Welcoming Team	Jane Wosoogh	Ellen Cleary	Andy De La Cour	Mike Morgan	Laurie doCarmo
Ushers	Ray Smith	Mark Braden	Wayne Johnson	Bob Blair	Doug Cleary
	Marge Smith	McKayala Braden	Peg Iber	Mary Blair	Ellen Cleary
	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM	8:00 AM
Chalice	Paul Vivian	David Batcheller	Vicky Vivian	Stan Dawson	Paul Vivian
Lector	Stan Dawson	Janet Fallin	David Batcheller	Vicky Vivian	Stan Dawson
Psalm	Paul Vivian	David Batcheller	Vicky Vivian	Stan Dawson	Paul Vivian
Prayers	Cheryl Viani	Marghe Bowker			
	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Sunday School	Francesca Wallace	Andrew Richard	Eric Katz	Mark Braden	Francesca Wallace
	Mary Lowe	Rosemarie Richard	Marge Katz	McKayala Braden	Mary Lowe
	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM	10:15 AM
Chalice	Bob Fitz	Marghe Bowker	Mary Blair	Pat Rowell	Bill Iber
Lesson 1	Hank Morgan	Mark Braden	Bob Blair	Mary Blair	Marghe Bowker
Psalm	Pat Rowell	Bill Iber	Sara Thompson	Sung	Sung
Lesson 2	Cheryl Nostrand	Amber Prigmore	James Eustis	Mike Morgan	McKayala Braden
Prayers	Ben Justesen	Ann Chadwick	Mary Lowe	Nancy Sherick	Sean Wallace
Sacraments	Cub Scouts	Ben Wosoogh	Eric Katz	Celso Rodriguez	MJ VandenBerg
		Barbara Riley	Marge Katz	Antonia Rodriguez	Lib Mueller
Acolyte	Pat Rowell	Sara Thompson	Ben Justesen	Pat Rowell	Sara Thompson
Organist	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
Counter	Marge Smith	Jane Wosoogh	Wayne Johnson	Nancy Sherick	Nancy Sherick
Altar Guild	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Iber Team

Ash Wednesday ~ February 18, 7:30pm

Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock
Vestry Person of Day	Mike Morgan
Welcoming Team	Ray Smith
Ushers	Ray & Marge Smith
Chalice	David Batcheller
Lectors	Bob Fitz, Gordon Grant

Prayers	Peg Iber
Sacraments	Morgan Family
Acolyte	Sara Thompson
Organist	Alan Moser
Counter	Marge Smith
Altar Guild	Viani Team

February 2015

EVERY WEEK at St. James' Episcopal Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8:00a Holy Eucharist Rite I 9:00 Adult Forum 10:00 Sunday School 10:15a Holy Eucharist Rite II 11:30a Coffee			11a Bible Study 12p Holy Eucharist with Healing 12:30p Lunch 7p Choir 8:30p AA Mtg	6pm Wounded Warrior Support Group		8:30p AA Mtg

THIS MONTH at St. James' Episcopal Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 February Epiphany 4 Scout Sunday 6:30p Cub Scouts	2 6:30p Cub Scouts	3 6:30p Cub Scouts	4	5 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	6	7
8 February Epiphany 5	9 6:30p Cub Scouts	10 6:30p Cub Scouts 7:15p Vestry	11	12 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry 12:30p Book Club	13	14 8am Brotherhood Breakfast
15 February Epiphany Last DOK Rededication	16 Presidents' Day <i>Office closed</i>	17 Shrove Tuesday 6pm Pancake Supper & Talent Show	18 Ash Wednesday Services Noon and 7:30pm	19	20	21
22 February Lent 1 5:30p Lenten Program with Soup & Salad	23	24 6:30p Cub Scouts	25	26 12:30p Book Club	27	28
1 March Lent 2 5:30p Lenten Program with Soup & Salad 6:30p Cub Scouts	2 6:30p Cub Scouts	3 6:30p Cub Scouts	4	5 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	6	7

EVERY WEEK ~ Ghana Resurrection Methodist Church (GRM)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11:30a Class Meeting 12:30p Worship Service 3p Men's Fellowship					8p Choir	12:30p Youth 1p Leaders 7:30p Bible Study & Prayer

Please always check the online calendar for the most up-to-date event information. Go to our website at www.stjamesmv.org and click on Online Calendar. If you would like to add an event to the calendar, please contact the Parish Office.



St. James' Episcopal Church
Mount Vernon, VA
5614 Old Mill Road
Alexandria, VA 22309-3332
703-780-3081 www.stjamesmv.org



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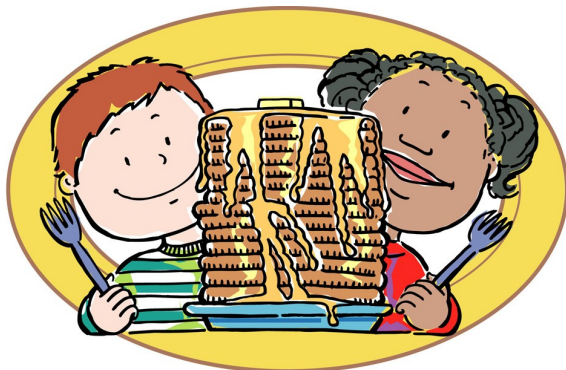
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PERMIT NO. 14
MOUNT VERNON, VA

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Pancake Supper & Talent Show February 17

Plan to come at 6:00pm for Pancake
Supper and Talent Show.
Bring your appetite and your
talents—enjoy!



Ash Wednesday
February 18
12:00pm & 7:30pm
Holy Eucharist with
Imposition of Ashes