



# St. James' Notes



February 2018



*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.



**Dear People of St. James',**

Sometimes on a Sunday morning after church I'll see Alan Moser, and more often than not, one of us will say to the other, "That was good church this morning!" Well, I look back on 2017 and I say to you, "That was good church last year!"

The reports in the Annual Report testify to it. We are living the life of the Church, we are doing the work of Jesus. In Fellowship, Worship, Outreach. St. James' is doing the work of Jesus in all these important areas.

I think that we are poised in 2018 to do more than we expect.

When we began to plan our "60 for 60" Fundraising Campaign last year, there was apprehension that we were setting our goals too high, that not only might we miss our goal but also negatively impact our annual stewardship. But what did we do? We exceeded our 60 for 60 goal by several thousand, and then we knocked the Annual Stewardship out of the park by \$15,000!

We can do more than we expect. And so I ask all of us to think, what more can we do? I'll give a couple of examples.

We have an opportunity this year to refinance our mortgage. And there is the possibility that by refinancing for a longer term, we'll be able to start making extra payments to reduce the principal, and so pay off the loan sooner. Imagine what more we could do by freeing up those resources for ministry!

In 2017 a group of us attended a church growth workshop called Invite Welcome Connect. Now we have the opportunity to apply those learnings. I'm especially excited by the activities of the St. James' Next Group, made up of our younger families and members, to help support connections and relationships among the next generation of St. James' leaders. What more can we do to support the newest members of St. James'?

Stop Hunger Now was again a great success, and the inclusion of Epiphany Lutheran added new energy. We packed 10,000 meals... perhaps next year we can pack 15,000. On the other hand, our Martin Luther King food drive had less participation this year than last... it's time to think of what new thing we should do!

We may be small in size, but we are large in heart and spirit, and in the difference we make in people's lives. In 2018 we will continue to do more than we expect.

As I conclude, I want to remember the special gift that Muriel Freeman left us, a book of limericks for as many members of the church as she was able to write. And, with apologies to Muriel, I offer a limerick of my own.

*There was a church of St. James'  
Where all knew everyone's names  
Now people rejoice  
We've made our good choice  
And together we live in Christ's reign.*

Charles+



P.S. Please be sure to download a copy of the 2017 Annual Report from the church website: [www.StJamesMV.org](http://www.StJamesMV.org)

# Bulletin Board

## 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

Ray Smith  
Mary Bramley  
Diana Courtney  
Ben Justesen  
Rosemarie Richard  
Peggy Rudesheim  
John Thompson  
Mary Jane Van den Berg

Mike Morgan  
Treasurer

Marge Smith  
Register

### Trustees

Peg Iber  
Lib Mueller  
Ray Smith



## Book Club Meets Next on February 8

The Book Club meets the 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:00pm in the church library. Our book is **In the Garden of Beasts** by E. Larson. Next month we read **The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Society** by M. A. Shaffer and we meet March 8. Hope to see you there!

## Spring 2017 Yard Sale - save those items!

Start cleaning your closets and setting aside those items for the Annual St. James' Yard Sale. Sale date is April 28 (rain date is May 5). Collection times will be announced as the date gets closer. (No adult clothing.) Items that sell well: baby items, toys, house wares, house décor, jewelry, tools, wood furniture and collectibles. Questions? Contact Marghe Bowker.



## Save the Date!

Our Shrine Mont Weekend Away is July 6 to July 8. This is a wonderful time away for everyone. Please plan to attend.

## Martin Luther King Day, 2018

The MLK food drive was a success. Thank you to all the volunteers and folks who donated food to UCM that will distribute to those in our area who are the most needy. We were able to collect 325 pounds of food!



## Daughters of the King

The annual rededication of the Daughters of the King will be held during the 10:15am worship service on Sunday, February 11. Contact Peg Iber (703) 569-5845 for information. This is a good time to become a member of this service organization. All women and girls are welcome.

## Seeing the Face of God in Each Other Workshop ~ February 16-17

Please join others in our region for a workshop on diversity in the church. The workshop will begin on Friday evening, February 16, and continue on Saturday February 17. Meals will be provided. The location is St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 6744 South Kings Highway, Alexandria 22306.



## Sunday Suppers in Lent

Join us on Sunday evenings during Lent for a simple supper of soup and salad, followed by a short program, and concluding with Compline. Supper will be served at 5pm, and the program will begin at 5:30. We will aim to finish each evening by 6:30pm. Childcare will be available if requested in advance.

**Sunday, February 18** "When in our music God is glorified"

The Episcopal Church has a rich tradition of hymn-singing. Our Music Director Alan Moser will lead a discussion of the many types of song used in our worship.

**Sunday, February 25** "An Introduction to the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry"

Michael Curry has brought a new and dynamic energy to the role of Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. Let's learn something more about this man, and hear what he has to say to us.

**Sunday, March 4** "The Jesus Movement"

Michael Curry is focused on our enthusiastic participation the Jesus movement. What does this mean for us?

**Sunday, March 11** "Becoming the Beloved Community"

The Beloved Community is Michael Curry's response to the growth of racial and ethnic divisiveness in our country. What is the Beloved Community, and how are we part of it?

**Sunday, March 18** "Hallelujah! The Easter Story in Handel's Messiah"

Alan Moser returns to open our ears to hear and appreciate the less familiar parts of Handel's famous oratorio.

## Your Vestry



From left to right: Rosemarie Richard, Rev. Charles Brock, Diana Courtney, Mike Morgan, Peggy Rudesheim, John Thompson, Mary Jane Van den Berg, Ben Justesen, Marge Smith, Mary Bramley, Ray Smith

## Prayers

### February Birthdays



- 1 Jordan Iber
- 8 Sam Brock
- 8 Rachel McDonald
- 17 Bob Whitehouse
- 20 Jeremy Iber

We pray for strength, guidance and healing for: Esther, Muriel Sue, Kathey, Bob, Paula, Arlene, Melissa, Bryan and Phil.

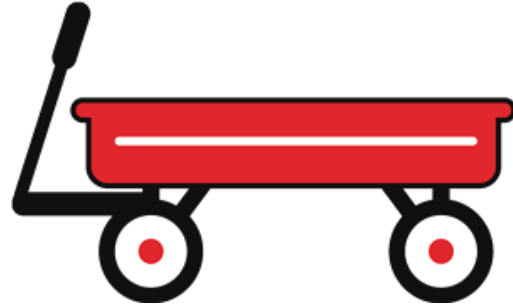


## The Red Wagon

### Rising Hope Food Pantry

Thank you for your continued support of Rising Hope Food Pantry! As always, your contributions to the Red Wagon are always greatly appreciated and greatly needed.

Food Pantry Needs: Canned meats, pasta, soup, rice, dry beans, canned tomato products, Canned vegetables, fruits, beans, cereal, powdered drink mix, coffee, tea, peanut butter, jelly, salad dressing, and dish soap  
Emergency Family Needs: Men, women and children's clothing for Clothing Closet, toothpaste, deodorant, walking shoes/boots, sneakers, gift cards for food



## Mission and Outreach

### First Quarter Mission 2018

Please join us in giving to the Episcopal Relief and Development "Gifts for Life" fund. Your donations will help needy families across the world alleviate hunger and be able to grow/their own food. Make your checks payable to St. James' Episcopal Church, noting what gift you would like to give in the memo line, and place your check in the offering plate on Sunday. Or drop it in the mail to the church office. We'll tabulate all, combine partial gifts, and announce the results of our campaign in April.



\$15 will provide nourishment for one child supporting tomorrow's minds today.

\$35 will provide a family with life's most basic necessity - clean water.

\$35 will provide care for a vulnerable mom and her baby.

\$80 will provide a family in need with a goat. A goat can provide a family with a stable source of food and earnings.

## Ash Wednesday ~ February 14, 7:30pm

Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock	Prayers	Bob Fitz
Vestry Person	Ray Smith	Sacraments	Peg Iber, Lib Mueller
Welcoming Team	Ray Smith	Acolyte	TBD
Ushers	Ray & Marge Smith	Organist	Alan Moser
Chalice	Mike Morgan	Counter	Marge Smith
Lectors	Peg Iber, Ben Justesen	Altar Guild	Iber Team

# From the Junior Warden

Dear St. James' Friends,

The season of Lent is almost upon on. It is typically a somber period and a period of self-denial, reminding me of talking with my friends at school about what we were going to give up for Lent. We would say chocolate, or candy, or there was always that one kid who said he was giving up homework.

As I got older, I thought of Lent as a time of self-reflection, giving up procrastination or taking time to complete unfinished projects. This year, while I will probably still say I am giving up processed foods, I also want to look toward my church home at St. James' and not just reflect on self, but reflect on the whole. Not just what I have done or could have done or should have done, but what we have done.

As I look at where St. James' was when I joined two years ago versus where it is now, I see the exciting activities that we have begun or are planning; St. James' is not the same church. We are still a welcoming church, full of fellowship and faith, we are also a church that is engaged in creative new activities to connect with our current members and invite new members. We have new events, such as Theology on Tap, led by Andrew Brown, that dive deeper into the meaning and symbols of Christianity. We have new groups, such as St. James' Next, that pays particular attention to the faith and needs of young families and the next generation of the St. James' congregation.

I hope to use my season of Lent to continue to energize, look for, and welcome new ideas into the church, while keeping our St. James' identity forefront. I never thought I would say this, but I am looking forward to Lent.

*Mary Bramley*



# Choir Notes

Dear St. James' Friends,

At the Breaking of the Bread, *“the Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said....some other suitable anthem....”* (underscore added) [BCP p. 364]

Listen. Did you hear it? Snap! (Silence) Now!

Let's talk, “Now.” I don't mean now as in time, I mean the hymn 333, “Now,” first published in 1969. I hope you have taken the opportunity to consider the words of this hymn we are using as the fraction anthem during Epiphany. Note that Jaroslav Vajda, the author, omits both rhyme, punctuation, and verb from each phrase. He opens each with “now” and goes on to list “awesome and exciting things one should expect in worship, culminating in a eucharist and benediction.” You may have noticed the

doxology at the end of the text comes in reverse order from that we normally hear. Pastor Vajda explains, “the reverse order of the doxology/benediction not only expressed the order in which I pictured the Trinity coming to us in worship, but also the order in which the Incarnation took place: the visitation of the Virgin Mary by the Holy Spirit, the Son's epiphany as the incarnate Word, followed by the universal blessing that is bestowed upon all in whom this same process occurs.”

So after hearing the author's words, and considering the words of his poetry, I share this picture of my understanding of “Now.”

Soli Deo gloria,

*Alan Moser*

*Now the Spirit's visitation*

*Now the Son's epiphany*

*Now the Father's blessing*



# Schedule of Ministry ~ February 4 to March 4

	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25	March 4
	5 Epiphany	Last Epiphany	Lent 1	Lent 2	Lent 3
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Rosemary Beales	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
<b>Vestry Person</b>	Ben Justesen	Rosemarie Richard	Peggy Rudesheim	Ray Smith	Mary Bramley
<b>Welcoming Team</b>	Jane Wosoogh	Ellen Cleary	Laurie doCarmo	Mike Morgan	Liz Mueller
<b>Ushers</b>	Mark Braden McKayla Braden	Marge Smith Mary Blair	Wayne Johnson Barbara Riley	Peg Iber Chad Duffield	Mike Morgan Fred Rudesheim
	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am
<b>Chalice</b>	Paul Vivian	Vicky Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson
<b>Lector</b>	Stan Dawson	Janet Fallin	Paul Vivian	Vicky Vivian	David Batcheller
<b>Psalm</b>	Paul Vivian	Vicky Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson
<b>Prayers</b>	Ben Justesen	Rosemarie Richard	Peggy Rudesheim	Ray Smith	Mary Bramley
	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
<b>Sunday School</b>	Andrew Brown Ally Brown	Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard	No Sunday School	Heidi Brock Diana Courtney	Mark Braden McKayla Braden
	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am
<b>Chalice</b>	Bob Fitz	Peg Iber	Chris Marbaker	Amber Tussing	Marghe Bowker
<b>Lesson 1</b>	Suzanna Synnestvedt	McKayla Braden	Mary Lowe	Ryan Duffield	Mary Lowe
<b>Psalm</b>	Scouts	Cheryl Nostrand	James Eustis	Mark Braden	Nancy Sherick
<b>Lesson 2</b>	John Thompson	Peggy Rudesheim	Aiden Kohler	Mike Morgan	Peg Iber
<b>Prayers</b>	Nancy Sherick	Mary Bramley	John Thompson	Cheryl Nostrand	Suzanne Synnestvedt
<b>Sacraments</b>	Ellen Cleary Laurie doCarmo	Ellen Cleary Lib Mueller	Anne Patrick Laurie doCarmo	Lowe Family	Taylor Family
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ryan Duffield	Aiden Kohler	Chris Marbaker	Ben Justesen	Amber Tussing
<b>Organist</b>	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
<b>Counter</b>	Nancy Sherick	Jane Wosoogh	Wayne Johnson	Marge Smith	Nancy Sherick
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Iber Team	Iber Team	Iber Team	Iber Team	Viani Team

*See page 4 for Ash Wednesday Schedule.*

# February 2018

## 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 6:30p Choir 8:30p AA Mtg			8:30p AA Mtg

## THIS MONTH at St. James' Episcopal Church

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 January 4 Epiphany	29	30	31	1 February	2	3
4 February 5 Epiphany  Scout Sunday	5	6	7	8 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry  1pm Book Club	9	10 8am Brotherhood Breakfast
11 February Last Epiphany  DOK Rededication	12	13 6pm Pancake Supper & Talent Show	14 Ash Wednesday  7:30 Service	15 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	16  Seeing the Face of God in Others Workshop (see page 2)	17
18 February Lent 1  5pm Sunday Supper (see page 3)	19 President's Day	20	21	22	23	24
25 February Lent 2  5pm Sunday Supper (see page 3)	26	27	28	1 March 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	2	3

Please always check the online calendar for the most up-to-date event information. Go to our website at [www.stjamesmv.org](http://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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**Pancake  
Supper & Talent  
Show**

**Tuesday, February 13**

Plan to come at 6:00pm  
for Pancake Supper and  
Talent Show.

Bring your appetite and your  
talents—enjoy!

**Ash Wednesday**  
**February 14**  
**12:00pm & 7:30pm**

Holy Eucharist with  
Imposition of Ashes

