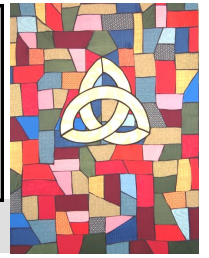




St. James' Notes



Volume 53, Issue 3

March 2016



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',

When this newsletter arrives, we will be in the middle of our Lenten journey. But in just a few weeks this journey will culminate in Holy Week, and then in the joy of Easter and resurrection.

For me, this Lent has been about experiencing God's love, and reflecting on how I am responding to that love. God has brought me into being, he has made me who and what I am, he has given me gifts and challenges to shape me. God is so much in everything, that it is all too easy to forget to see him at work in all things.

Jesus shows us the love that God has for us, and so we are called to new lives shaped by that love. How do we live as a beloved people? There is one response to such a love, and that response is love itself. Love for God, love for all the children of God, love for God's creation. Such a love challenges us to look for God in all things. We don't have to find God, we just have to recognize him already in front of us!

The season of Lent asks us to be intentional about how we are living and expressing who we are. Do our attitudes and actions show that we truly know how we are loved?

Easter comes, and with it the exuberant celebration of life in the presence of God. In the coming weeks of Lent, let us prepare our hearts and our lives to enter even more wholly into the joy of being loved by God.

In Christ,
Charles



Children are invited to an Easter Egg Hunt after the 10:15am Worship Service on Easter Sunday, March 27. Bring your own basket!



Mission and Outreach

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

Mike Morgan
Senior Warden

Eric Katz
Junior Warden /Christian Education

Mark Braden
Publicity & Communications

Mary Bramley
Local & World Outreach

Dave Lowe
Plant & Property

Peggy Rudesheim
Growth & Evangelism

Ray Smith
Administration & Finance

Francesca Wallace
Parish Family

Bill Iber
Treasurer

Marge Smith
Register

Trustees

Peg Iber

Lib Mueller

Ray Smith

Fill the Wagon

Thank you all for your continued support of filling the red wagon with food each Sunday. The food is bought to Rising Hope Mission Church on Route 1 and our donations are making a difference to area families in need.



Outreach Committee

Please contact Mary Bramley at maryfbramley@gmail.com if you would like to join the Outreach Committee. We meet to discuss activities and programs to support as we reach out to our community both near and far in fulfilling our mission to serve. Mary would be happy to chat with you after Worship about getting involved. Mary also wants to know the many and varied ways St. James' members volunteer in our community, so keep track of your volunteer hours and let Mary know.

Parish Family

I am excited to be heading up the Parish Family program this year. We are a small parish, but mighty in our love of fellowship. Please take a few minutes after a service to come chat and have a cup of coffee with us! If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, the sign up sheet is in Braxton Hall. St. James has many events throughout the year, including two Parish Picnics, a BBQ sale, Pancake Supper, Craft Fair, night out at the baseball game, Little Theater and more! We are always looking to add new events, so if you have something in mind, please don't hesitate to contact me!



We are looking forward to having a youth Sunday in the near future. Stay tuned for more information. I look forward to seeing you all on Sundays!

Francesca Wallace cscarusk@yahoo.com or (703) 282-1458

Bulletin Board

Book Club– Join us!

We meet the second Thursday of each month at 1:00pm in the church library. There are snacks, good conversation and great reads. Mark your calendars and get your books for the months ahead.

March 10

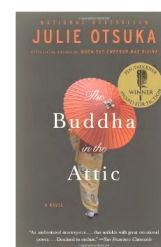
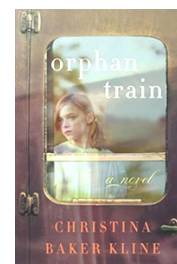
April 14

May 12

Orphan Train by Christina Baker Kline

Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka

TBA



Christian Education

The St. James' Christian Education program remains strong each Sunday with regular attendance of four or more children. Activities include children reciting the Lord's Prayer and completing age appropriate activities that tell them about the Gospel message for that week. Led by a group of five different volunteer teaching teams, our children participate in these activities while their parents attend the service. The Children rejoin their parents in the Sanctuary during The Peace.



Although the Sunday School program is mostly about learning about Jesus through the study of the Gospels, it is not without fun activities! On March 27, Easter Sunday, the children will attend the 10:15am service with their parents as there will not be Sunday School that day. After the conclusion of the service, all of the children are invited to participate in AN EASTER EGG HUNT ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS!

Whether you are a parent of a young child, a grandparent of a young child, or just a child at heart, plan to join us after the 10:15am Easter Service for an EXCITING Easter Egg Hunt on the Church Grounds (weather permitting).

THANKS! *Eric Katz*

News from the Diocese

- Annual Council in January was snowed out. The new date is Saturday, March 5.
- A group will meet on Saturday, April 16, to discuss anti-racism work in our Region. Please speak to Father Charles if you would like to get involved.



Thank you for Assisting in Worship During Holy Week

	March 24, 7:30pm	March 25, 7:30pm
	Maundy Thursday	Good Friday
Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
Vestry Person	Ray Smith	Mike Morgan
Welcoming Team	Ray Smith	Ray Smith
Ushers	Eric & Marge Katz	Ray & Marge Smith
Chalice	Bill Iber	
Lesson 1	Cheryl Nostrand	James Eustis
Lesson 2	Bob Fitz	Pat Rowell
Prayers	Sara Thompson	
Sacraments	Morgan Family	
Acolyte	Ben Justesen	
Organist	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
Counter	Marge Smith	Marge Smith
Altar Guild	Iber Team	Iber Team

Spring Yard Sale Fundraiser April 30



Donations Needed!

We are planning to hold another Yard Sale this year on Saturday, April 30. So start setting aside items that you would like to donate to the church for the sale. Please bring your unwanted treasures to church and put them

in the large boxes located in the Gallery and Braxton Hall. We will once again have a Second Hand Rose booth, but this time we will expand the offerings to gently worn clothes in good condition, as well as jewelry, scarves, belts and purses. The sale will also include household goods (just like last time). Children's toys, clothing and baby items are especially needed. Please bring your donations in as early as possible so we can price them ahead of time. We will have tax deduction forms available.

The Yard Sale needs lots of volunteers to be successful. You can help before the sale in sorting, storing, cleaning and pricing; and at the sale itself. If you can help or have questions please contact:

Marghe Bowker (703) 799-1567
Cheryl Viani (703) 360-8799
Laurie doCarmo (703) 780-8054

Prayers

PRAYER LIST

We pray for strength, guidance and healing for: Meghan, Muriel, Muriel Sue, Esther, Nora, Jenny, Roger, Wayne, Mary, Jeff, George, Barbara, Andy, Ward, Susanne, Glendora, Eloise (the Fitz's granddaughter), Sara, Helen

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 and all those injured or wounded.

Birthdays

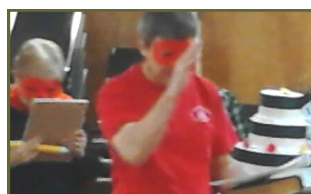


- 1 Andrew Richard
- 2 Suzanne King
- 2 Douglas Smith
- 6 Barbara Riley
- 8 Penny Norman
- 13 McKayla Braden
- 15 Anne Stinson
- 21 Anne Brenton
- 23 Amber Tyler
- 24 Sara Thompson

Happy Anniversary to:

March 6, 1965 Ray & Marge Smith
March 14, 1952 George & Mary Ann Holthaus
March 17, 1961 Eliot & Barbara Tucker

Talent Night 2016



Snow!



Choir Notes

Dear Friends,

Jenny knows that it often (most of the time, really) is hard to drag my newsletter article out of me. Writing has always been like that – 99% of my time spent pondering or awaiting an inspiration, and then a few moments of actually putting pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard. It only takes a spark. Wait a second, that's it! The choir and their music have done it again! You may remember it from the choir's epic Shrove Tuesday Talent Show performance of hymns for occupations. "The Gossips' Hymn" – you know the one:

It only takes a spark
To get a fire going ...

You spread ... to ev'ryone
You want to pass it on

The whole performance really made me think, though, not of any one profession or any one hymn, but of the great traditions we share with Christianity in the hymns we sing. (And singing the Psalms unites us even more fully with the worshipping world.)

I am further reminded of our commonality of worship when I visit other churches and speak with musician friends in other places. It struck me anew the other night when I was at a choral rehearsal in Middleburg – I noticed the hymn board postings for the next Sunday's service and recognized several hymns that were the same as we would be using. It struck me again last night when I learned that another church choir would be singing the same arrangement of the same anthem we will sing on March 6th. That happened the last Sunday in January, but for three churches that I knew. Is it because our hymnody and anthems are prescribed, you ask? I suggest that it is not – these observations are across denominations, in big and small congregations, and in varying liturgical traditions. What I believe it illustrates is the power and importance of music to share among ourselves and the world our worship and devotion to God. So when the choir sings *Deep River* that first Sunday in March, perhaps you can imagine the Christians in other rooms across the world in that day, and in that time as well as times before and times to come, who will share in worship.

Back to that spark – maybe it's not just the spark for a newsletter article. Maybe it's a hint of the new fires to be kindled at the first service of Easter late this month. Maybe it's a harbinger of sharing our faith with the world outside our parish doors.

Cantate Domino. Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.

Soli Deo gloria,

Alan Moser



Schedule of Ministry ~ March 6 to April 3

	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27	April 3
	Lent 4	Lent 5	Palm Sunday	Easter	Easter 2
Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
Vestry Person	Dave Lowe	Peggy Rudesheim	Mike Morgan	Eric Katz	Francesca Wallace
Welcoming Team	Mike Morgan	Eric Katz	Marge Katz	All Team Members	Lib Mueller
Ushers	Eric Katz Barbara Riley	Wayne Johnson Ellen Cleary	Mike Morgan Ben Wosoogh	Ray Smith Marge Smith Peg Iber Barbara Riley	Mark Braden McKayla Braden
	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am
Chalice	Paul Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson	Vicky Vivian
Lector	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Paul Vivian	Janet Fallin	David Batcheller
Psalm	Paul Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson	Vivian Vivian
Prayers	Dave Lowe	Peggy Rudesheim	Mike Morgan	Eric Katz	Francesca Wallace
	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Sunday School	Francesca Wallace Mary Lowe	Mark Braden McKayla Braden	Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard	no Sunday School	Francesca Wallace Mary Lowe
	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am
Chalice	Mike Morgan	Mary Blair	Peg Iber	Mike Morgan Marghe Bowker	Mary Bramley
Lesson 1	Sean Wallace	Bob Blair	Bill Iber	Suzanne Synnestvedt	Nancy Sherick
Lesson 2	Nancy Sherick	Mark Braden	Hank Morgan	Gordon Grant	Hank Morgan
Prayers	Ben Justesen	McKayla Braden	Marghe Bowker	Mary Lowe	Francesca Wallace
Sacraments	Ellen Cleary MJ VandenBerg	Peg Iber Lib Mueller	Anne Patrick Laurie doCarmo	Blair Family	Ellen Cleary Nancy Sherick
Acolyte	Sara Thompson	Ben Justesen	Pat Rowell	Sara Thompson	Zoe Wallace
Nursery Volunteer	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
Organist	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
Counter	Nancy Sherick	Wayne Johnson	Jane Wosoogh	Marge Smith	Nancy Sherick
Altar Guild	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Iber Team

For Holy Week Schedule see page 3.

March 2016

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 I 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 February Lent 3 5:30p Lenten Program with Soup & Salad	29	1 March 6:30p Cub Scouts	2 6:30p Cub Scouts	3 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	4	5
6 March Lent 4 5:30p Lenten Program with Soup & Salad 6:30p Cub Scouts	7 6:30p Cub Scouts	8 7:15p Vestry Meeting	9 6:30p Cub Scouts	10 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry 1:00pm Book Club	11 6:30p Cub Scouts Arrow of Light Ceremony	12 8am Brotherhood Breakfast
13 March Lent 5 5:30p Lenten Program with Soup & Salad 6:30p Cub Scouts	14 6:30p Cub Scouts	15 2pm Christine Whitehouse Funeral Service	16	17	18	19
20 March Palm Sunday 6:30p Cub Scouts	21 6:30p Cub Scouts	22 6:30p Cub Scouts	23	24 Maundy Thursday 7:30pm Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar	25 Good Friday 12pm Stations of the Cross 7:30pm Proper Liturgy for Good Friday	26
27 March Easter Day	28 6:30p Cub Scouts	29 6:30p Cub Scouts	30	31 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	1 April	2

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
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 Alexandria, VA 22309-3332
 703-780-3081 www.stjamesmv.org



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Holy Week at St. James'

Palm Sunday

March 20 8:00am and 10:15am
 Holy Eucharist with Liturgy of the Palms

Maundy Thursday

March 24 7:30pm
 Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing and Striping of the Altar

Good Friday

March 25
 12:00pm Stations of the Cross (outside, weather permitting)
 7:30pm Proper Liturgy for Good Friday

Easter Sunday

March 27 8:00am and 10:15am
 Celebration of the Resurrection
 Easter Egg Hunt and Reception following 10:15am service

H O L Y



W E E K