



# St. James' Notes



Volume 53, Issue 5

May 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',

St. James' is a beautiful church, appealing from the street and attractive on the inside. Less visibly, but more significantly, St. James' is an accessible church. To be accessible means to be without obstacles, and we work hard to do that well.



Our building is almost perfectly accessible, with smooth flat access from the parking lot all the way to the pew. In the church, we make communion accessible by bringing it to you wherever you are able to receive it: at the altar rail, at the steps to the altar, or in your pew.

Accessibility is a value that guides many of our choices. A common concern of visitors is that using the Book of Common Prayer distracts them from what is actually happening during worship. We are trying to make our worship service more accessible by printing all of the responses in the service bulletin. This makes it possible to fully participate in worship by watching, listening, and praying, while knowing that the next time there is a response, it is already at your fingertips.

The church has a vibrant life of fellowship and service, and it is the responsibility of all to make these programs and activities accessible. Clear signs and frequent announcements only go so far for those who are not already connected and involved. We all make our church life accessible by personally inviting others to participate, and supporting them as they join in.

God has made himself accessible to us through the person of Jesus Christ. We follow in Jesus' footsteps by offering access to all who want to know him. What else can you do to make the church accessible?

In Christ,  
*Charles*

## St. James' By the Numbers

We just submitted our 2015 Parochial Report to the Diocese of Virginia and thought we would share some interesting facts.

In 2015 we had 98 Sunday Services and 55 other Services. Our average Sunday attendance in 2015 was 70 people. We currently count 106 Active Baptized Members of St. James'. In 2014 we had an average of 71 in attendance on Sundays and 106 active baptized members. Let's grow our numbers — spread the news of the good things happening at St. James'!

# 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

## From the Junior Warden

A Happy May Day from your Junior Warden!

After our participation in a **highly successful** Church Spring Clean-up Day on April 23, followed by an **extremely prosperous** Yale Sale on April 30, you may be asking yourself, "Is that it for spring projects at St. James'? Isn't there anything else that I can do to improve the appearance of our Church and our surrounding community?"

**Why yes, there is!**

On Saturday morning, May 7, St. James' and the Ghanaian Resurrection Methodist Church will participate in our Adopt-A-Highway clean-up along the Church's assigned portion of the Mount Vernon Memorial Parkway. We will meet at the Church at 9:00am to receive our orange reflective vests, orange trash bags and a safety briefing before walking out to the Parkway to begin the trash pick-up. Consider volunteering an hour of your time on the morning of Saturday May 7 to show our collective pride as we work alongside with our Ghanaian Methodist parishioners to improve the appearance of our community. Look for the sign-up poster in the Gallery.

In order to **celebrate** all of the outstanding work that we do in our church, and our surrounding community area, everyone is invited to the Church Picnic on Sunday, June 5, after the 10:15am service. Who doesn't enjoy attending an outside picnic before the beginning of summer when the temperature is warm, but not hot? The Church will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs and sodas. You just bring a delicious picnic style side dish. While the good weather plan will be to set up tables and chairs outside, the inclement weather plan will have us eating inside in Braxton Hall. So rain or shine: we picnic! Please sign up on the poster in the gallery to tell us what delicious side dish you are planning on bringing to share.

Blessings to all!

Eric Katz



## Bulletin Board

### Altar Flowers at St. James'

Thank you to everyone who so generously gives to the St. James' flower fund so we can have beautiful flowers on the Altar each Sunday.

If you would like to give flowers in thanksgiving or in memory of a loved one, please see the sign-up poster in the gallery. Mark your name next to the date you would like. Take a form that you can fill out and return to the church office at least one week before your flower date so we can announce your gift in the Sunday bulletin. Any donation amount is welcome. Usually \$75 is sufficient to completely cover the cost of both arrangements on the Sunday altar. You are certainly free to take the flowers home with you after the worship service. Thank you!



### Book Club

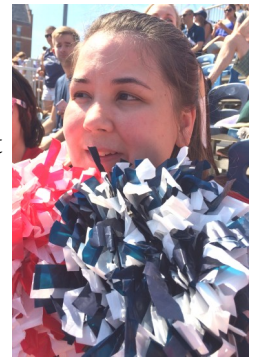
St. James' Book Club will not meet in May. We will meet on Thursday, June 9, at noon at Lib Mueller's house for a pot luck lunch and a planning session for the books we will read starting in September 2016. We welcome new members!

# Mission and Outreach

## Calling all Cheerleaders!

Come out and support our own Chelsey Mikesell (Marc & Kelly Rajottes' daughter) as she participates in the Special Olympics—gymnastics, on Saturday, May 21, at 4:00pm. We plan to carpool; so meet at St. James' at 3:00pm. The event is at 10400 Premier Court in Burke, Virginia., and ends around 6:30pm. Please sign up on the poster in the gallery.

Special Olympics needs volunteers that day. Sign up to volunteer with Mary Bramley ([703 629-9158](tel:7036299158)) or [maryfbramley@gmail.com](mailto:maryfbramley@gmail.com). Volunteers will be asked to judge, do score display, input scores, help with awards setup, and be buddies with the athletes and coaches. Training will be done on site and volunteers need to arrive by 3:00pm.



## Refugees Resettlement Day Report

On Saturday, April 9, Andrew & Rosemarie Richard and Mary Bramley attended the Refugee Resettlement Day, put on by the Diocese, and held at Christ Church in Old Town. The goal of the workshop was for churches in the Diocese of Virginia to learn what other churches are doing, to learn the different level of support a church can offer to the refugee crisis, and where to go to be able to start supporting. There are 60 million displaced people in the world, 20 million are refugees, and half of that number is children. A person being granted refugee status and being allowed into the US is more rigorously checked than a student visa, travel visa, or business visa. The Episcopal Church supports the refugee crisis through its Episcopal Migration Ministries, which is federally funded to offer support to refugees. Of 70,000 that came into the US last year, the EMM supported 6.9%. At the Annual Council meeting held on March 5th, Resolution 2 was passed to "Commends and recommends growing our ministry effort of Episcopal Migration Ministries to encourage Syrian and other refugee resettlement services, urging appointment of a diocesan liaison to help grow the program through prayer, advocacy and resettlement within the Diocese of Virginia, and financially supporting or partnering with the Episcopal Church in Jordan (part of Diocese of Jerusalem) for resettlements within the Diocese."



St. James' has hosted refugees twice before, once in 1976, helping with the resettlement of a Vietnamese Family, and again in 1987 with two men from Poland. Currently, Andrew and Rosemarie are talking with other churches in the area who support refugees, either through hosting, advocacy, and/or donations to see how St. James could potentially get involved. If you would like to know more about Refugee Resettlement and how you can get involved, please reach out to Andrew and Rosemarie.

## Bring Canned Food

Every week when you are shopping for groceries, think of the hungry and pick up some canned or non-perishable foods to bring to church as a part of your Sunday offering. You can put your food offering in the **Red Wagon** and it will be blessed along with all of our offerings during our Sunday service. The food will be delivered each week to Rising Hope Mission Church to support their ministry to the homeless and hungry along the Route 1 corridor. They are currently in dire need of canned meats, pasta, rice, dry beans, canned tomato products, canned vegetables, cereal, powdered drink mix (lemonade or ice tea), coffee, tea, peanut butter, jelly, salad dressing (Italian or Ranch), dish soap and pot scrubbers.



## Second Quarter Mission

We are collecting back packs, college ruled loose-leaf paper, composition books, and monetary donations for the UCM Back To School Program. Please look for those larger-sized backpacks for our middle and high school students. Gender-neutral colors are preferred for all grade levels. Supplies and donations are greatly needed to make sure students in the area get off to a great start next school year! Collections will be taken in the hallway outside of church. If making a donation for the Second Quarter, please note that in the memo portion of your check. Donations can be mailed to the church office or dropped in the offering plate.





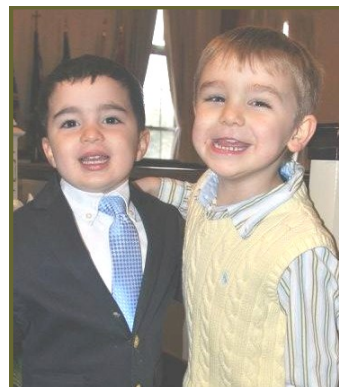
# Shrine Mont Weekend Away

Mark your calendars for Friday, July 8 to Sunday, July 10

We are excited to once again be heading back to the mountains, and can't wait to share some fellowship and worship while enjoying everything Shrine Mont has to offer. Please take some time to browse the Shrine Mont website ([www.shrinemont.com](http://www.shrinemont.com)) and see just how magical it is. If you have any questions, ask Sean or Francesca Wallace, we will be at church on Sunday - or you can reach us at [sw@wavetechservices.com](mailto:sw@wavetechservices.com) or [cescarusk@yahoo.com](mailto:cescarusk@yahoo.com). You can sign up on the poster in the gallery.



# Easter at St. James'



# Choir Notes

Dear Friends,

“*Sumer is icumen in*”

This is the start of a 13<sup>th</sup> century part song or round that we studied in music history. I'm fascinated by it not because of its history (it's one of the oldest known songs in six part harmony, written down somewhere around 1290 – but I digress) – but because I just like the sound of the words. They mean, “summer has come.” Now that's not quite yet the case here in Northern Virginia, but there are some signs that it will soon be true. One of those signs is that we are already planning for the end of the choir's year on June 5, and the other is that it is time for my annual invitation to you to suggest hymns for inclusion in the service sometime this summer.



I have already started planning hymns for the weeks between Pentecost and Labor Day. This is a great time to be able to sing your favorite hymns – whether from the Episcopal tradition or perhaps another. I solicit and welcome your input for hymns that you would like to sing at some time during the summer. I will be placing blue request forms in the gallery by May 1. Please return them to me or to my box in the church office before Memorial Day. I will try to incorporate each requested hymn in my recommendations to the Rector – including trying to track down hymn settings that might not be in the *Hymnal 1982* - but you may have to hum a few notes to get me on the right track. Thank you to those of you who have made suggestions in prior years; I think we have been able to accommodate all the suggestions, except for one that we deferred until the fall. I'm looking forward to your input!

Soli Deo gloria,

*Alan Moser*



## Creation Sunday

April 17 we celebrated Creation Sunday with a special worship service and welcomed our youth to read and participate in the service. It was so nice to see those young faces leading us.



# Prayers

## May Birthdays

- 1 Kristi Thomas
- 8 Margaret Katz
- 11 Amy Smith
- 12 Hank Morgan
- 15 Barbara Tucker
- 23 Dean Sherick
- 23 Ruth Walsh
- 24 Brett Riley
- 29 Mary Blair



Happy Anniversary to:  
Andrew & Rosemarie Richard  
May 12, 2012

## PRAYER LIST

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.

We pray for strength, guidance and healing for: Meghan, Muriel, Muriel Sue, Esther, Nora, Roger, Mary, Jeff, George, Andy, Ward, Susanne, Glendora, Sara, Helen, Erron, Bob, Brittany and Baby Luke, Evelyn, Tad, Ben, Chelsey, Jane K., Joan, Jamie, Pete & Larry, Nora & Argery

# Schedule of Ministry ~ May 1 to June 5

	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22	May 29	June 5
	Easter 6	Easter 7	Pentecost	Trinity	Pentecost 2	Pentecost 3
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
<b>Vestry Person</b>	Peggy Rudesheim	Ray Smith	Mike Morgan	Eric Katz	Francesca Wallace	Mark Braden
<b>Welcoming Team</b>	Ellen Cleary	Lib Mueller	Laurie doCarmo	Marge Katz	Peggy Rudesheim	Eric Katz
<b>Ushers</b>	Bob Blair	Eric Katz	Mark Braden	Peg Iber	Wayne Johnson	Ray Smith
	Mary Blair	Marge Katz	McKayla Braden	Barbara Riley	Ellen Cleary	Marge Smith
	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am	8:00 am
<b>Chalice</b>	Stan Dawson	Nebiyou Tesfaye	Vicky Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson
<b>Lector</b>	Paul Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson	Janet Fallin	Vicky Vivian
<b>Psalm</b>	Stan Dawson	Nebiyou Tesfaye	Vicky Vivian	David Batcheller	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson
<b>Prayers</b>	Peggy Rudesheim	Ray Smith	Mike Morgan	Eric Katz	Francesca Wallace	Mark Braden
	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am	10:00 am
<b>Sunday School</b>	Francesca Wallace Mary Lowe	Eric Katz Marge Katz	Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard	Mark Braden McKayla Braden	Heidi Brock Stan Dawson	Francesca Wallace Mary Lowe
	10:15 am	10:15 am	10:15 am	10:15 am	10:15 am	10:15 am
<b>Chalice</b>	Pat Rowell	Mary Blair	Bill Iber	Marghe Bowker	Mike Morgan	Peg Iber
<b>Lesson 1</b>	Nancy Sherrick	James Eustis	McKayla Braden	Mike Morgan	Francesca Wallace	John Thompson
<b>Psalm</b>	Sung	Sung	Sung	Sung	Pat Rowell	Mark Braden
<b>Lesson 2</b>	Hank Morgan	Bob Blair	Cheryl Nostrand	Mary Lowe	Suzanne Synnestvedt	Sean Wallace
<b>Prayers</b>	Gordon Grant	Bob Fitz	Peg Iber	Bill Iber	Sara Thompson	Marghe Bowker
<b>Sacraments</b>	Anne Patrick Barbara Riley	Laurie doCarmo Peg Iber	Eric Katz Marge Katz	Lib Mueller Ellen Cleary	Rodriguez Family	Wallace Family
<b>Acolyte</b>	Pat Rowell	Sara Thompson	Ben Justesen	Amber Tussing	Pat Rowell	Sara Thompson
<b>Nursery Volunteer</b>	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed	Volunteer Needed
<b>Organist</b>	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
<b>Counter</b>	Nancy Sherick	Jane Wosoogh	Marge Smith	Marge Smith	Wayne Johnson	Nancy Sherick
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Viani Team	Iber Team

# May 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 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
1 May Easter 6  6:30p Cub Scouts	2	3  6:30p Cub Scouts	4  6:30p Cub Scouts	5  10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	6	7 9am Highway Clean Up
8 May Easter 7  6:30p Cub Scouts	9  6:30p Cub Scouts	10  7:15p Vestry Meeting	11  6:30p Cub Scouts	12  10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	13	14 8am Brotherhood Breakfast MVCA Picnic
15 May Pentecost  6:30p Cub Scouts	16	17	18	19  1:00pm Book Club	20	21 Cheer at the Special Olympics
22 May Trinity Sunday	23  6:30p Cub Scouts	24	25	26	27	28
29 May Pentecost 2	30	31  6:30p Cub Scouts	1 June  6:30p Cub Scouts	2	3	4

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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## **Easter Egg Hunt at St. James'!**

