



St. James' Notes



May 2017



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',

The Easter message is very simple... Jesus is Risen!

Jesus is Risen! God has shown that nothing can separate us from his love, not even death itself.

Jesus is Risen! In our darkest times of trouble, we remember that life and love will have the victory.

Jesus is Risen! And by his rising, all is changed, nothing is as it was before. The world, and our lives, are shot through with God's grace.

Jesus is Risen! God has made it possible for us to live in love and peace, filled with joy and confidence that God is with us.

Alleluia!
Charles+



Palm Sunday and Easter at St. James'



Choir Notes

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

Layton Porter
Seminarian

Staff

Jenny Kennedy
Parish Administrator

Alan Moser
Director of Music

Vestry

Ray Smith
Senior Warden
Admin & Finance

Mary Bramley
Junior Warden

Mark Braden
Christian Education

Ben Justesen
Plant & Property

Rosemarie Richard
Mission & Outreach

Peggy Rudesheim
Publicity, Growth, & Evangelism

Mike Morgan
Parish Family
Treasurer

Marge Smith
Register

Trustees

Peg Iber
Lib Mueller
Ray Smith

Dear St. James' friends,

Easter Day has past, but Eastertide is a continuing celebration of the glory of that day. Looking back, I want to thank the choir for their unflinching devotion to the music of the church and to supporting worship at St. James'. Without them, our Easter celebration would be wintry and drab, rather than joyful with flowers and colors bursting forth. Thank you, too, to Kevin Diana, for his support in chanting the Passion Gospel on Good Friday. His narration of the story helped it spring to life once more. Two more thank yous: first to John Thompson for his assistance in introducing our Eastertide responsorial psalms, and second, to Mary Bramley for sharing her talents in offering Maurice Ravel's *Kaddish* as we remember victims of holocausts and genocides.



We will continue to remember our heritage by singing responsorial psalms which combine many elements of our tradition – the Jewish form of verse and response along with Anglican chant-like melodies for those verses. I am particularly looking forward to our Rogation Day observance on May 21, when the choir will share a Cherokee language version of *Amazing Grace*, with instrumental support from Ann Smith and Bob Blair. Of course, you can expect Easter's joyful "Alleluias" to continue to sound in hymns throughout the season.

I wish you a joy-filled Eastertide! See you in church!

Soli Deo

gloria, Alan



Shrine Mont Retreat

Encountering God's Creation

St. James' Weekend Away at Shrine Mont is Friday, June 30, to Sunday, July 2. The theme of our retreat this year is Encountering God's Creation. Please come to have your mind and spirit opened to God's presence. Bring your whole family.



Create a Plant on Creation Day!

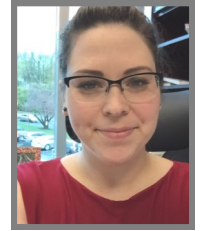
Bring a tube – make a plant. We have a special activity for children and families on Sunday, May 22 after the 10:15am Creation Day Worship Service. Please bring a paper towel or toilet paper tube and a packet of seeds. Soil and directions will be provided. You can bring your starter seedling home, care for it, plant it and enjoy!



A Note from Your Junior Warden

Dear Friends,

What a joyous Easter at St. James! As we celebrate the risen Lord, we also welcome spring. Some of us kicked off the start of spring by bringing in our gently loved items for our annual Yard Sale on April 29. Spring brings us flowers, warm weather, baby animals, but there is more to this time of the year than just downsizing and baby bunnies! I know I look forward to spring as a time to get out and meet new people. That is why I am so looking forward to the many May activities St. James' has planned. **Game night is back!** On May 5, spend your Friday night playing games, you can bring your favorite game, and bring your own snacks. I know I am bringing Bananagrams – come and play with me (see back page). Then, for those of you looking for a night at the theater, we are heading to see **Evita on May 12**, our own Kevin Diana is music director (see bottom of page 5). Finally, the event I might be most looking forward to is a **Meet & Greet on May 21** at Ray and Marge Smith's house (see back page). These events allow me to meet my church family, outside of church, and get to know the ones I haven't had a chance to greet in Braxton Hall during coffee hour. And don't forget, we have some great events coming up in June too. Mark your calendars now! Our **End of the Year Picnic is June 11**. Be on the lookout for more information. Lastly, our **Annual Church Retreat to Shrine Mont is June 30-July 2**. It is a great weekend of friends, faith, and renewal (see page 2). I hope to see you there and at our other wonderful events!



Mary Bramley

P. S. Like us on Facebook!

Search St. James Mount Vernon or go to <https://www.facebook.com/StJamesMV/>

Give us a like and a share!

Mission and Outreach

We have two wonderful missions this second quarter of the year and hope you will be able to support the children in our area.

The first mission is **School Supplies** for kids through United Community Ministries, UCM. Yes, we usually collect in the summer – but we thought we would get an early start. UCM will identify the school children that need help with supplies and we provide the supplies. Please bring in new backpacks, pencils, paper, folders, note books, glue sticks, markers, etc. and place them in the collection basket provided in the gallery. We will be collecting through June.



We are also happy to support a new mission: **Alice's Kids**. Alice's Kids is a local charity that has served children in Fairfax County for over five years. This charity is designed to financially help children. They filter requests from teachers, county social workers and school counselors, for students to afford prom tickets, get music lessons, purchase gym uniforms or even pay for summer camp. These are the little things that make a child's journey more enriching and



Alice's Kids does good work right here in Fairfax County. You can learn more about Alice's Kids from their website at www.aliceskids.org. We encourage you to make a financial donation by writing a check to St. James' and putting Alice's Kids in the memo line. We will collect all the donations and write one generous check to Alice's Kids in June. Thank you.

A Thank You Note to St. James'

This is a letter of appreciation to St. James' Episcopal Church and the entire congregation from the AA Group which meets in Braxton Hall every Wednesday and Saturday night.

Our AA Group is called the Woodlawn Group and we have been meeting at St. James' for over 50 years. It is truly an understatement to say that countless men and women afflicted with the terrible disease of alcoholism have been blessed with the life-saving gift of sobriety through the help of meetings such as the Woodlawn Group.

I speak for all the members of the Woodlawn Group that we are profoundly grateful to St. James' in making it possible for us to hold our meetings in Braxton Hall for all these years so that we can continue to offer comfort, understanding and freedom from this terrible addiction through the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

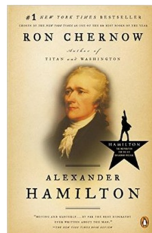
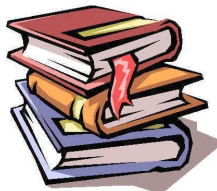
God continue to bless St. James'.

Linda Guffey , Secretary, Alcoholics Anonymous Woodlawn Group



Book Club

St. James' Book Club will have its last session of the season on May 18 (please note date change.) We will meet for a potluck salad lunch at the home of Cheryl and Mike Viani at noon. We will discuss and compile our reading list for our next "book year." Please join us. If interested, call Lib Mueller at (703) 360-0561. Our summer book is *Alexander Hamilton* by Ron Chernow. We will resume meeting monthly on the 2nd Thursday in September.



Happy Birthday

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

Happy Anniversary

- May 12, 2012 Andrew & Rosemarie Richard
- May 16, 1981 Mike & Cheryl Nostrand

Emergency Preparedness Class

St. James' is hosting an Emergency Preparedness Class on Saturday, June 10, from 10am to 12pm Braxton Hall. Deputy Sheriff Lee Walters (retired Kern County, CA, Sheriff's Office) will specifically discuss what to do in case of serious injury and blood loss. Deputy Sheriff Walters has extensive background in on-scene emergency care and the class will focus on the right type of first aid kit to have on hand, how to quickly and safely remove someone from a location if needed, bandaging wounds, stopping blood loss using elevate, direct pressure and the use of pressure dressings, cardiac and stroke signs. No CPR or first aid card will be issued and the class is not affiliated with or sponsored by any national or regional center. The entire community is invited and the class is free.



A Word of the Month: SPIRIT

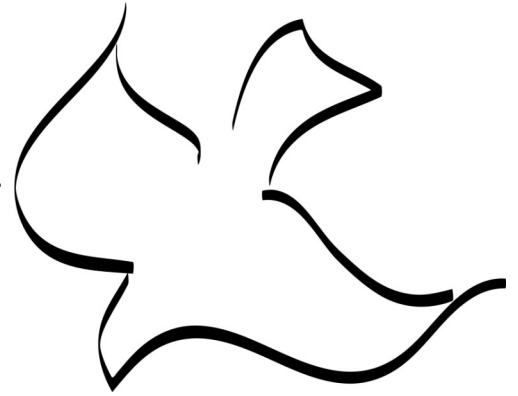
The word **spirit** can be defined as:

- ... vigorous sense of membership in a group
- ... to encourage; urge on or stir up, as to action
- ... temper or disposition
- ... an attitude or principle that inspires, animates, or pervades thought, feeling or action

As Christians, we are called by Christ to gather together for worship and fellowship. This gathering makes us part of a group we call church. As members of church, we must assume the responsibility of creating and maintaining an **open, positive, gracious and loving spirit** within our group.

As we seek new growth at St. James, we must continually be taking note of the **spirit** at St James. We want to insure that we can always offer the brightest and best of our **spirit** to newcomers, as well as to our current members! Keeping our **spirit** open and loving, will allow **The Spirit** to flow easily among us!

#spreadthespiritofstjames



A St. James' Memory



St. James Cherub Choir Christmas Eve 1978

Mrs. Freeman's Preschool Sunday Day School class of 22 students. Can you recognize anybody?

Contributed by Jane Wosoogh

A Theater Outing to see Evita!

We are planning an outing to see *Evita* at St. Mark's Capitol Hill on Friday, May 12, at 8 pm. Kevin Diana is the musical director of this production. We have a limited number of discounted tickets available for \$15 each. Once these tickets are sold, more tickets will be available at the regular price of \$20 each. See Ray or Marge Smith for tickets or for more information.

Schedule of Ministry ~ May 7 to June 4

	May 7	May 14	May 21	May 28	June 4
	Easter 4	Easter 5	Easter 6	Easter 7	Pentecost
Celebrant	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock
Vestry Person	Peggy Rudesheim	Rosemarie Richard	Mark Braden	Ray Smith	Mary Bramley
Welcoming Team	Mike Morgan	Ellen Cleary	Laurie doCarmo	Lib Mueller	Mike Morgan
Ushers	Ray Smith	Mark Braden	Ray Smith	Wayne Johnson	Peg Iber
	Mike Morgan	McKayla Braden	Marge Smith	Ellen Cleary	Barbara Riley
	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am
Chalice	TBD	David Batcheller	Stan Dawson	Agnes Chapman	Seldon Walker
Lector	David Batcheller	Janet Fallin	Agnes Chapman	Stan Dawson	David Batcheller
Psalm	Nebiyou Tesfaye	David Batcheller	Stan Dawson	Agnes Chapman	Seldon Walker
Prayers	Peggy Rudesheim	Rosemarie Richard	Mark Braden	Ray Smith	Mary Bramley
	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Sunday School	Heidi Brock Diana Courtney	Francesca Wallace Mary Lowe	Andrew & Rosemarie Richard	No Sunday School	Heidi Brock Diana Courtney
	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am
Chalice	Mike Morgan	Chris Marbaker	Mary Blair	Amber Tussing	Mike Morgan
Lesson 1	Nancy Sherrick	Mark Braden	Marghe Bowker	Peg Iber	Seldon Walker
Lesson 2	Ellen Cleary	McKayla Braden	James Eustis	Ben Justesen	Nancy Sherrick
Prayers	Mike Morgan	Bob Fitz	Bill Iber	Mike Morgan	TBD
Sacraments	Ellen Cleary Anne Patrick	Laurie DoCarmo Lib Mueller	Taylor Family	Lowe Family	Bob & Mary Blair
Acolyte	Ben Justesen	Elizabeth Lowman	Ben Justesen	Amber Tussing	Sara Thompson
Organist	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser	Alan Moser
Counter	Nancy Sherrick	Jane Wosoogh	Marge Smith	Wayne Johnson	Nancy Sherick
Altar Guild	Iber Team	Iber Team	Iber Team	Iber Team	Viani Team

May 2017

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
30 April Easter 3	1	2	3	4 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	5 7pm Game Night at St. James	6
7 May Easter 4	8	9 Vestry	10	11 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	12 Outing to see Evita	13 8am Brotherhood
14 May Easter 5	15	16	17	18 1p Book Club	19	20
21 May Creation Sunday 4pm Meet & Greet Smith Home	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 May Easter 7	29	30	31	1 June	2	3

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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PERMIT NO. 14
MOUNT VERNON, VA

Family Game Night,
Friday, May 5
7 to 10pm



Come and stay the entire time or drop in whenever you can! We will have games for all ages, including card games and board games. Please bring your favorite snacks and games to share. Drinks will be provided. This is a come-as-you-are-come-when-you-can event. Hope to see you there!

Meet & Greet
Sunday, May 21
4pm to 6pm



All are invited to attend the Spring Meet & Greet at the home of Ray & Marge Smith and get to know our fellow parishioners. For more information, directions or to RSVP, call the Smiths at (703) 80-9294. We hope everyone will be able to attend.