



# St. James' Notes



November 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',

We are now entering the season of gratitude and gift-giving. Our celebration of Thanksgiving is rooted in gratitude for the gifts of God's creation that nourish and sustain us. And the exchange of gifts at Christmas reminds us of the offerings made to the Christ Child, in thanksgiving for God's gift of himself to us.



This is also the season of St. James' annual stewardship campaign. This is the time when the church asks you to pledge your support for the coming year. The financial commitments that you make are essential to the continuing presence of the church, in service to its members and the community.

Giving to the church is not an obligation, nor a cost of coming to church. Rather, the church is a gift that God has given to all of us, a community that supports us and unites us. Our support of the church flows from our gratitude, in thanksgiving for the gifts that we receive by being a part of it. And as we give to the church, so we become part of what the church gives back to all.

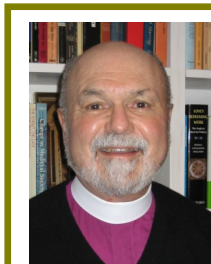
May we always give with gratitude for what we have received.

In Christ,

Charles+



**Thanksgiving Evening Prayer**  
**Wednesday, November 21, 7:30pm**  
**St. James' Episcopal Church**



## **Bishop's Visitation**

Join us for one service at 10:15 am on Sunday, December 2. The Rt. Rev. Robert Ilhoff, Assisting Bishop, will be visiting us.

# 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

Rt. Rev. Robert Wilkes Ihloff  
Assistant Bishop

The Rev. Charles F. Brock  
Rector

### Staff

Jenny Kennedy  
Parish Administrator

Alan Moser  
Director of Music

### Vestry

Ray Smith (2019)  
Senior Warden, Admin/Finance  
Plant & Property

Mary Bramley (2019)  
Jr. Warden; Growth & Evangelism

Diana Courtney (2021)  
Youth Christian Education/Activities

Ben Justesen (2020)  
Adult Christian Education

Rosemarie Richard (2020)  
Parish Events

Chris Marbaker (2019)  
Mission & Outreach

John Thompson (2021)  
Mission & Outreach

Mary Jane Van den Berg (2021)  
Parish Family

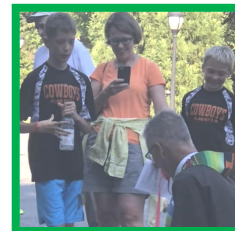
Mike Morgan  
Treasurer

Marge Smith  
Register

### Trustees

Peg Iber  
Lib Mueller  
Ray Smith

## Blessing of the Animals



## Growth & Evangelism

St. James' has always prided itself on being a welcoming church to all. When a visitor walks through the door, he or she is immediately greeted by the ushers, a member of the welcoming team, and/or Charles. During the service, they are greeted again by the entire church during the peace, and at the end of the service welcomed to join us for coffee hour. However, who's job is it to be the Welcoming Team, or ensure a visitor knows where to sit, or how to use a hymnal? Is it Charles' job, my job, the welcoming team, the Vestry person of the day, your job? The answer is simple: Yes. It is all of our jobs to be welcoming to visitors. Here are some quick tips to help you remember your role and what you can do:

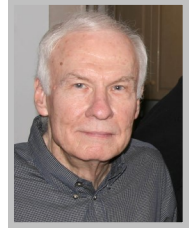
1. If you don't recognize someone, go up and say hello and introduce yourself. Just a simple "Hi, I am Mary, I am not sure if we met before" is an easy way to welcome someone to the church. They will most likely respond with their name and tell you it is their first Sunday.
2. A person's favorite word is their name. When you learn their name, say it back to them a few times. It will keep them engaged and help you remember their name.
3. Ask questions! And not just yes or no questions. Try to find out more about someone than just if they live in the neighborhood or where they work. Don't be afraid to ask them why they joined us this morning or what they are looking for in church. The answer may surprise you.
4. Lastly, the best way to welcome someone is to know the person sitting next to you. When you know the interests of those around you, not only will you connect better with them, you will be able to introduce a visitor to them and you have created a connection between those two. If someone new comes in and happens to say they have a basset hound at home, would you know which St. James' member is a huge lover of basset hounds?

Remember: People join people. There are several reasons why someone wakes up on Sunday morning and decides to step foot into church. There is one reason why they stay: the people. Sometimes just saying hi makes a difference and encourages a family to come back the next Sunday.

Mary Bramley

## From the Senior Warden

Here we are in the midst of our annual Stewardship Campaign. Our needs are great. In the past, it has been the generous contributions of the people of St. James' that has sustained our physical plant and programs for the past sixty years. The only difference for 2019 is that now the responsibility to keep our church and programs viable falls upon us – the people of today. Considering that St. James' is on the small size in comparison to some churches; our support, attendance and participation becomes more important. St. James' needs each one of us to be active and support our Lord's work.



Again, this year we will be packing food for **Rise Against Hunger**. The time set for this event is Saturday, November 17 from 9 am to 12 noon. All are encouraged to participate and to bring friends. The event is fun and people leave with a feeling that they have helped others.

Please remember to return your pledge cards as soon as possible. We need YOUR support!

Thanks be to God.

Ray Smith

## BBQ, Holiday Item Sale & Bake Sale



# Bulletin Board

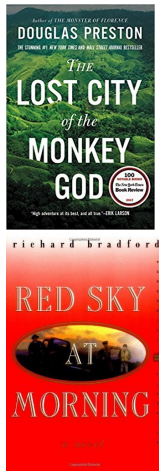
## Daylight Savings Ends November 4

Don't forget to turn your clocks back before you go to be on Saturday, November 4 so you will be on time for church the next day!



## Book Club

St. James' Book Club will meet on Thursday, November 8, and we will discuss *Lost City of Monkey God: A True Story* by Douglas Preston. The following month we meet December 13 and are reading *Red Sky at Morning* by Richard Bradford. Questions? Call Lib Mueller at (703) 360-0561. Everyone is welcome. Join us!



## Special Visitor

Daniel Johnson, our summer Postulant for Holy Orders, returned to St. James to join the order of Anglican Preachers

## Sunday School and Adult Forum Every Sunday

At 9:00am we have Adult Forum with coffee and conversation in Braxton Hall. At 10:00am we offer Sunday School for children Kindergarten through 5th grade. The children join their parents in church for the passing of the peace and communion.



## Theology on Tap

Ask a Priest! Have a question about the church, the service, or anything else that you have always wanted to ask Charles? Well, join us on November 15 from 6 to 8pm at the Mount Vernon Inn to get your questions answered. Bring a friend!



**St. James' Next** is for young adults and those with young families. We usually meet once a month. Contact Mary Bramley for details. (703) 629-9158 or [maryfbramley@gmail.com](mailto:maryfbramley@gmail.com)



**Want a Directory?** We have printed directories. They are available on the credenza by the church office or you can email Jenny and she will send you a pdf or a printed version. [Office@stjamesmv.org](mailto:Office@stjamesmv.org)



- 1 Bill Iber
- 3 Mary Whitehouse
- 4 Mike Morgan
- 10 Gavin Collins
- 10 Elizabeth Lowman
- 11 Celso Rodriguez
- 21 Kathryn Prigmore
- 24 Chris Iber



- November 15, 1975 Rick & Andy De La Cour
- November 20, 1965 Michael & Cheryl Viani
- November 22, 2003 Charles & Heidi Brock

# Choir Notes

Dear Friends,

A couple of observations, if I may:

1. When looking at something, it's sometimes as instructive to notice what's NOT there as it is to record what IS there.
2. Sometimes great lessons can be found in simple things.

At this point, you may already be asking, "What on earth is he talking about?" My answer: "hymns for children."

I was thinking about hymns that we associate with November. One of these is "I sing a song of the saints of God," (*Hymnal 1982, # 293*) which we might think of around All Saints' Day. One thing that I observed is that this hymn, written for the children of the author, is not found in the "hymns for children" section of *Hymnal 1982*. In fact, there is no such section in our hymnal. Is that because all our hymns are for all of God's children? Are simple "children's hymns" really so simple or are they just as pertinent to adults as to children? Do adults need to hear the (perhaps not so) simple messages of children's hymns? I don't know the answers, but it's interesting to contemplate.

Back to hymn 293. First published in 1929, this British text found favor in the US and was included in the Episcopal hymnals in 1940 and 1982, although it was nearly omitted from the latter. The author, Mrs. Lesbia Scott, gives lyrical examples of saints through the ages. I am not sure exactly who she had in mind, but a little web surfing suggests the following possibilities (not necessarily the only answers):

one was a doctor: St. Luke

one was a queen: St. Margaret

one was a shepherdess on the green: St. Joan of Arc

one was a soldier: St. Martin of Tours

one was a priest: St. John Chrysostom (among others)

one was slain by a fierce wild beast: St. Ignatius of Antioch

Perhaps more important is that Mrs. Scott points out that saints are still being made. We can see them all around us ("at school...at sea...at church...in trains...at tea") and "there's not any reason... why I shouldn't be one too." Who are the saints around you? Sometimes it takes a "simple" child's hymn to remind us.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Alan Moser



## Mission and Outreach

### Mission of the 4th Quarter Christmas Toys for Children

Our Annual Christmas Toys for Children collection will provide holiday gifts (toys and books) for needy area children, through UCM (United Community Ministries). Starting on November 11 tags will be available in the gallery to pick up so you can shop for a special boy or girl. We will collect new toys for children aged infant to teen. See the list of suggestions below. We hope every child will also receive a book. Purchase your gifts and books – please don't wrap – and bring back to St. James' by Sunday, December 2 or before.



We will bring the gifts and books over to UCM to use in their Holiday Gift Room where parents get to pick a gift for their own child and wrap it themselves. With our help UCM will provide gifts to over 1000 needy children in our area!

You may also make a monetary donation and appropriate gifts will be purchased for use in UCM's Holiday Gift Room. Write your check to St. James' and put "XMAS for children" in the memo line. Thank you!

### Suggested Gift Items

**For Infants and Toddlers:** diaper bags, toddler toys, clothing, blocks, stuffed animals, cloth or board books.

**For Children:** action figures, dolls, puzzles, games, soccer balls, basketballs, picture books or chapter story books.

**For Teenagers:** headphones, accessories, gift cards, young adult books or non-fiction books.

# Schedule of Ministry ~ November 4 to December 2

	November 4	November 11	November 18	November 21	December 2
	All Saints' Sunday	Proper 27	Proper 28	Brotherhood Rededication	Advent 1
<b>Celebrant</b>	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Dr. Anne Ritchie	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rev. Charles Brock	The Rt. Rev. Robert Ihloff
<b>Vestry Person</b>	MaryJane VandenBerg	Rosemary Richard	Ben Justesen	Rosemarie Richard	Ray Smith
<b>Welcoming Team</b>	Mary Bramley	Ellen Cleary	Lib Mueller	Mike Morgan	Lib Mueller
<b>Ushers</b>	Ray Smith Marge Smith	Peg Iber Chad Duffield	Wayne Johnson Ellen Cleary	Ray Smith Mike Morgan	Ray Smith Marge Smith
	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	8:00am	
<b>Chalice</b>	Stan Dawson	David Batcheller	Stan Dawson	David Batcheller	<b>One Service at 10:15 Today</b>
<b>Lesson 1</b>	David Batcheller	Agens Chapman	Andy Wormser	Tim Myers	
<b>Lesson 2</b>	Janet Fallin	Janet Fallin	Tim Myers	Andy Wormser	
<b>Prayers</b>	Stan Dawson	David Batcheller	Stan Dawson	David Batcheller	
	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am		10:00am
<b>Sunday School</b>	No Sunday School	Heid Brock	Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard	No Sunday School	Diana Courtney
	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am	10:15am
<b>Chalice</b>	Mary Bramley	Bob Fitz	Peg Iber	Bill Iber	TBD
<b>Lesson 1</b>	Ben Justesen	Peg Iber	Ryan Duffield	Stan Dawson	Mckayla Braden
<b>Psalm</b>	James Eustis	Cheryl Nostrand	Marghe Bowker	Ben Justesen	Suzanne Synnestvedt
<b>Lesson 2</b>	Nancy Sherick	Mike Morgan	James Eustis	David Batcheller	Mark Braden
<b>Prayers</b>	Bill Iber	Suzanne Synnestvedt	Ali Duffield	Bob Blair	Ben Justesen
<b>Sacraments</b>	Duffield Family	Ellen Cleary Laurie doCarmo	Diana Courtney	Mike Morgan Ray Smith	Diana Courtney Heidi Brock
<b>Acolyte</b>	Ally Duffield	Chris Marbaker	Ryan Duffield	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

# November 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 October 9:30am Reformation Sunday - One Service at Epiphany Lutheran 4pm Trunk or Treat	29	30	31 	1 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry	2	3
4 November Proper 26 All Saints' Sunday 	5	6	7	8 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry 1pm Book Club	9	10
11 November Proper 27	12	13 7:15p Vestry	14	15	16	17
18 November Proper 28	19	20	21 7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. James'	22 Thanksgiving 	23	24
25 November Proper 29 Christ the King	26	27	28	29	30	December 1

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](http://www.stjamesmv.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

PERMIT NO. 14  
MOUNT VERNON, VA

# Rise

**AGAINST HUNGER**  
food • community • sustainability



Saturday  
November 17  
9am to 11am



Join us at St. James' to package 10,000 meals in 2 hours for the Rise Against Hunger Program. Invite your friends and family – we need many hands.