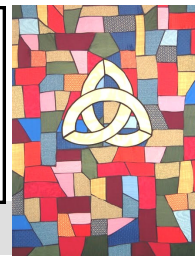




St. James' Notes

Volume 53, Issue 11

November 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' Episcopal Church is a church. That scarcely needs saying, does it? But what is a church?

A specific church, like St. James', is part of the Church Universal, a vital member of the body which has Christ at its head. At the same time each church is complete in itself, a fully realized instance of the Church, a place where Christ is made manifest and known in his entirety. Our church of St. James' is partial and whole at one and the same time, both local and universal.

In practice, our local church is our specific, unique community where we live out and live into our faith. The people who sit in the pews next to us, we are called to love; the people who live in the community that surrounds us, we are called to serve. We form the church of St. James' in order to be the presence of Christ, here and now, together.

How we relate to our church, and how we support it, reflects our faith. Some people think of church as a pay-as-you-go institution, giving to the church in proportion to what they feel they receive. Some people only give to the church on the Sundays that they attend, almost as if paying for admission.

Others support the church, because they feel it belongs to them and they belong to it. This sort of giving recognizes that the church serves many on behalf of all, and our gifts support our shared ministry to others.

Ultimately our giving shows the self-giving presence of Christ in our lives. Our giving is an act of faith that aligns our lives with Jesus, not in order to receive but in order to express the gift that we have already received.

How is your faith expressed in your giving? How does your giving reflect your faith? The journey of faith leads us towards greater participation in the Universal Church, realized through our deepening engagement in our own church home.

In Christ,

Charles+



Thanksgiving Eve



Thanksgiving
Evening Prayer
Wednesday
November 24, 7:30pm

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

Mike Morgan
Senior Warden

Ray Smith
Junior Warden

Mark Braden
Publicity & Communications

Mary Bramley
Local & World Outreach

Dave Lowe
Plant & Property

Peggy Rudesheim
Growth & Evangelism

Francesca Wallace
Parish Family

Bill Iber
Treasurer

Marge Smith
Register

Trustees

Peg Iber
Lib Mueller
Ray Smith

Dear St. James' Friends,

It seems that November is always a month of exciting (to me, at least) music in the church year. In November, we bring the church year to a close, almost always in a rousing crescendo, and then turn to the beginnings brought to us by Advent and a new year. This year is no different in our music at St. James'.

On Sunday, November 6, we will remember our departed friends and loved ones as well as celebrate a new life in the body of Christ as we share in a litany of remembrance and Holy Baptism. The choir will begin the litany with a short prayer, and the names of the departed will be spoken followed by a congregational response. The choir will conclude the litany with a prayer. The morning's anthem, "A Singer's Prayer," contemplates the joys of the chorister's life as he or she approaches the end of life. The words are from Beverly Easterling, a contemporary author and composer from Alexandria, Louisiana, set to a tune by Robert Powell, a long-serving Episcopal musician whose service music we sing often.

On Sunday, November 13, the offertory anthem will be "My Lord, What a Morning". This spiritual reflects many scriptures, but on that day it is aligned with the gospel reading. As you hear its words, think about the various meanings that may be included. For example, is the word "morning" or "mourning"? Either might have fit in the context of the American slave experience, and both may have been intended. Dr. Eileen Guenther, past president of the American Guild of Organists and professor of church music at Wesley Seminary in Washington, has recently published a study of slave life and spirituals, *In Their Own Words*, that describes many different sorts of songs among the catchall term "Spiritual." Watch for more from her in another article.

Christ the King Sunday, November 20, is the final acclaiming day of the church year. The choir will sing "Give Laud unto the Lord," arranged by Sir Ernest Bullock (1890-1979), who was director of the Royal College of Music in London.

We look forward to starting Advent with "Savior of the Nations, come." We will sing an arrangement of this familiar Advent text by Dr. Georgiann Toole, a music educator (and friend) at Shepherd University in West Virginia.

I hope you will share in the musical excitement of this month's endings and beginnings.

Soli Deo gloria, *Alan*



Birthdays and Anniversaries



Happy Anniversary

- 1 Bill Iber
- 3 Mary Whitehouse
- 4 Mike Morgan
- 10 Gavin Collins
- 10 Elizabeth Lowman
- 11 Celso Rodriguez
- 21 Kathryn Prigmore
- 22 Don Mansfield
- 24 Chris Iber
- 25 Eric Katz

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

We Want to Include You

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary listed here, please let us know so that we can include you.

You may email to office@stjamesmv.org or call (703) 780-3081. Thanks!



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 8 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 4, 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: infant supplies, diaper bags, toddler toys, clothing, snowsuits, blocks, stuffed animals, cloth or board books.

For Children: action figures, dolls, riding toys, educational toys, puzzles, games, art & craft kits, kitchen toys, soccer balls, basketballs, picture books or chapter story books.

For Teenagers: cosmetics, watches, mp3 players, headphones, accessories, gift cards from Target, TJ Maxx, Five Below, Old Navy, Best Buy, young adult books or non-fiction books.

Hot Lunches for Rising Hope

St. James' volunteers prepare and deliver hot lunches twice each month to 70 people at Rising Hope Mission Church. These folks are the areas poorest along our Route 1 corridor. Each lunch is so appreciated by those being fed. If you would like to help, please call Peggy Rudesheim at (703) 781-0474. The "cookers" are divided into teams so you only need to cook once a month. Thanks!



About Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church

Rising Hope Mission Church serves the poorest in our neighborhood. In an average year it reaches nearly 8,000 individuals, supplies 2,000 families with food, and serves 18,000 hot lunches to the hungry. In addition to worship, Rising Hope offers Bible study, mentoring, and substance abuse counseling. Rising Hope connects the spiritual with the practical through job fairs, interview preparation, budgeting and financial classes, HIV testing, jail visitation, emergency housing referrals, summer Bible camp and more. Nearly 2/3 of Rising Hope's members are, or have been, homeless; many of its successful "graduates" return to volunteer. Rising Hope depends upon fits and grants from volunteers and non-profit organizations for its funding — it does not receive any Federal financial support.



Rising Hope is a worthy and successful way for St. James' parishioners to follow Jesus' teaching. Please help us continue the hot lunch and food donation programs throughout the year.

Bulletin Board

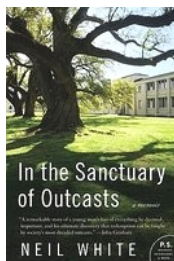
Calling for Jars

Please return all canning jars to St. James'. We will wash and sterilize them and then use them for next year's making of jams, jellies, chutney and soup mix. We get new tops so just the bottoms. Thanks!



Book Club ~ November 10

St. James' Book Club will meet on the second Thursday of each month at 1:00pm in the church library. The book this month is **In the Sanctuary of Outcasts** by Neil White. For December we read **The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry** by Gabrielle Zevin. Join us!



Veterans Day

We invite all veterans and active military to wear their military uniforms and medals to church on Sunday November 13 in celebration of Veteran's Day.



DOK Lunch Meeting November 13

All Daughters of the King Members and those interested in joining are invited to a lunch meeting on Sunday, November 13. We will meet in the conference room after the 10:15am church service. All women and girls are welcome.



Spring 2017 Yard Sale - save those items!

April 29 is the date for the next St. James' Yard Sale and Second Hand Rose Boutique. Please set aside those items you think would sell. Collection times will be announced as we get closer to the date. (No adult clothing.) Questions? Contact Marghe Bowker, Mary Bramley, Laurie doCarmo, or Cheryl Viani.

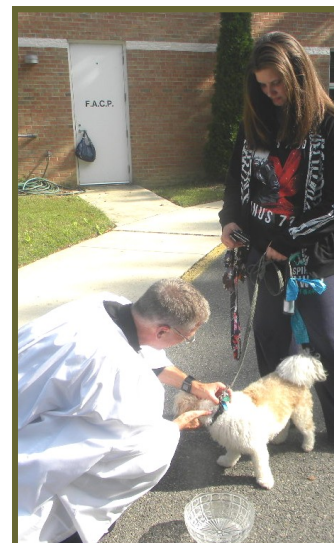
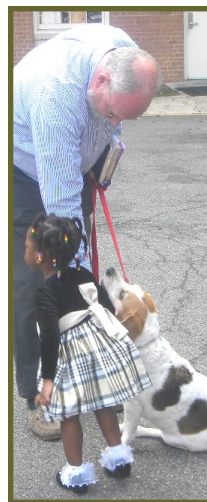


Advent Quiet Morning, Saturday December 3, 9:30am to 1:00pm

As we enter the all-too-busy season of Advent, step away from all the activity for a morning of quiet and refreshment at St. James'. We will spend our time together in quiet reflection, drawing upon the contemplative traditions of the Church to open our selves to God's presence. There will be contemplative prayer, spiritual conversation, and quiet time. Soup and bread will be served for lunch. Please sign up in the Gallery, or let the church office know you plan to attend: office@StJamesMV.org



Blessing of the Animals

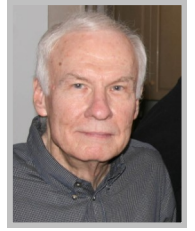


Sunday October 2—we blessed the animals. Thank you to Sara and John Thompson for these pics!

A Note from Your Junior Warden

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

As you read this newsletter, you probably are aware that we are in the midst of our annual stewardship campaign. In the stewardship envelope that you received, there was a letter and a pledge card. I hope you read the letter, prayed and thought about its message, and took the message to heart. We are requesting that the pledge card be filled out and returned on or before November 13 so that we can begin the 2017 church budget process. If you did not receive your pledge mailing, please contact me at church or by phone (703) 780-9294.



Every year when we do the budget, our available funds are very limited and we are only able to cover the basic necessities required to keep St. James' operational. Things such as some needed maintenance items, new programs and extra debt reduction have to be postponed or completely set aside because of the lack of funds.

As you ponder what your 2017 pledge to St. James' will be, you might give thought to this quote by Winston Churchill: *"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."*

Ray Smith

Junior Warden/Stewardship Chair

Update Report from the Treasurer

Here is another report from your Treasurer on the status of our finances to date for 2016. Although our revenues are close to our budget expectation, our expenses have significantly exceeded our budget due to necessary maintenance to the church roof and other areas of the building. Also consider that our Nave heating plant and the Braxton Hall air conditioning/heating system are reaching old age.



In order to pay our bills, we have had to borrow against our "restricted" accounts, which include all funds held for a designated purpose. As we approach the end of our financial year, it is important that we make every reasonable effort to enter the New Year with all borrowed funds restored. Your efforts to maintain your pledges for 2016, and your generous donations if you have not pledged, can help this happen.

Please keep in mind our situation as you consider your stewardship pledge for 2017. If we have to carry the loan from restricted accounts over to the New Year, it will place us in an even more difficult financial position for 2017. As you may realize we have been operating on a near "bare bones" budget for the last several years and may have to continue such funding levels for 2017 if our Stewardship Campaign does not realize, the revenues our parish operations require. Heat, light, air conditioning, water, staff salaries, maintenance, etc. are just a few of our everyday expenses.

Working for His Kingdom, Bill Iber

More from Blessing of the Animals



Schedule of Ministry ~ November 6 to December 4

| | November 6 | November 13 | November 20 | November 27 | December 4 |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Celebrant | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock | The Rev. Charles Brock |
| Vestry Person | Mike Morgan | Peggy Rudesheim | David Lowe | Mike Morgan | Mike Morgan |
| Welcoming Team | Lib Mueller | Ellen Cleary | Laurie doCarmo | Mike Morgan | Jane Wosoogh |
| Ushers | Marc Rajotte Kelly Rajotte | Peg Iber Ben Wosoogh | Wayne Johnson Ellen Cleary | Mark Braden McKayla Braden | Bob Blair Mary Blair |
| | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am | 8:00am |
| Chalice | David Batcheller | Vicky Vivian | Agnes Chapman | Layton Porter | Stan Dawson |
| Lector | Vicky Vivian | David Batcheller | Paul Vivian | Agnes Chapman | Nebiyou Tesfaye |
| Psalm | Layton Porter | Vicky Vivian | Agnes Chapman | David Batcheller | Stan Dawson |
| Prayers | Mike Morgan | Peggy Rudesheim | David Lowe | Mike Morgan | Mike Morgan |
| | 10:00am | 10:00am | 10:00am | 10:00am | 10:00am |
| Sunday School | Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard | Heidi Brock Diana Courtney | Francesca Wallace Mary Lowe | No Sunday School | Andrew Richard Rosemarie Richard |
| | 10:15am | 10:15am | 10:15am | 10:15am | 10:15am |
| Chalice | Mary Blair | Pat Rowell | Mike Morgan | Peg Iber | Amber Tussing |
| Lesson 1 | Pat Rowell | Sean Wallace | Marghe Bowker | Mark Braden | Bob Fitz |
| Psalm | Layton Porter | Sara Thompson | Mary Blair | Ben Justesen | Nancy Sherick |
| Lesson 2 | Bob Blair | Suzanne Synnestvedt | John Thompson | Bill Iber | Mary Lowe |
| Prayers | Francesca Wallace | Layton Porter | James Eustis | McKayala Braden | Mike Morgan |
| Sacraments | Barbara Riley Ben Wosoogh | Mark Braden McKayla Braden | Ellen Cleary Laurie doCarmo | Anne Patrick Ben Wosoogh | Wallace Family |
| Acolyte | Amber Tussing | Layton Porter | Zoe Wallace | Sara Thompson | Pat Rowell |
| Organist | Alan Moser | Alan Moser | Alan Moser | Alan Moser | Alan Moser |
| Counter | Nancy Sherick | Jane Wosoogh | Wayne Johnson | Marge Smith | Nancy Sherick |
| Altar Guild | Iber Team | Iber Team | Iber Team | Iber Team | Viani Team |

Thanksgiving Eve Service ~ November 23, 7:30pm

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Officiant | The Rev. Charles Brock | Prayers | Layton Porter |
| Proclamation | Bob Fitz | Vestry Person of the Day | Ray Smith |
| First Reading | David Batcheller | Ushers/Welcoming | Ray & Marge Smith |
| Gospel Reading | Janet Fallin | Counter | Marge Smith |

November 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 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 October Proper 26 | 31  | 1 November | 2 | 3 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry | 4 | 5 <i>Turn back your clocks one hour tonight as daylight savings time ends tomorrow.</i> |
| 6 November Proper 27 Daylight Savings Time ends—turn back your clocks | 7 | 8 7:15p Vestry | 9 | 10 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry 12:30p Book Club | 11  | 12 |
| 13 November Proper 28 Daughters of the King Lunch Meeting | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Stop Hunger Now 10am to Noon |
| 20 November Proper 29 | 21 | 22 | 23 7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service | 24  | 25 | 26 |
| 27 November Advent 1 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 December 10:30a Rising Hope Lunch Ministry | 2 | 3 Advent Quiet Morning 9:30am to 1:00pm |

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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MOUNT VERNON, VA



Come help us
STOP HUNGER NOW
Saturday, November 19
10am to Noon

Bring your friends and neighbors to help pack over 10,000 meals to feed hungry families throughout the world. On Saturday, November 19, we are looking for at least 50 volunteers and to raise \$3,000.

Sign up to volunteer and donate at St. James' Episcopal Church or on the St. James' website, www.StJamesMV.org