



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR

JULY AUGUST 2011

WELCOME. It's such a common word. It adorns floor mats outside all sorts of entryways. When we go to Appalachia, we see "welcome to Pennsylvania" "welcome to Maryland" "welcome to West Virginia." There are places where people offer "welcome" as a greeting as I enter: "Welcome to Wal-Mart!" "Good evening and welcome. Two for dinner?" "Welcome to the greatest show on earth!"

Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me."

A few weeks ago, I was invited to attend the ordination anniversary of the pastor of our local Roman Catholic congregation. The pastor is a colleague and friend of mine, and when I called to say I would be there, he asked me to vest and join him at the altar. We processed into the church and I took my place with acolytes and Eucharistic ministers. The pastor celebrated the Eucharist, and welcomed his people to the table. The Eucharistic ministers gathered around, and received the bread and wine, and brought it to the people.

Now I know the policy and theology of the Roman church: I was fully prepared (I thought) for the reality that I would not be served communion, let alone assist in its serving. To the Roman church, I am not a person who is eligible to share in the body and blood of Christ consecrated at their altar; this is clearly stated in their Missal. But I was not prepared for how excluded I felt. The people came forward and reached out for the bread and drank the wine. I felt very left out.

As deeply hurtful as this experience was, there was a gift in it. I remembered Confirmation classes, and teaching the students about what The Episcopal Church stands for. The altar is God's table, not ours. Because we are both catholic and protestant, we know the sacredness of the altar as well as the openness of Jesus to all. A little simple, but true nonetheless: the best of the Roman and the Protestant traditions. *Via media* in action.

But even Episcopalians can get comfortable in their welcome. We can easily use our observations of the custom of restricting communion to members as an opportunity for Roman Catholic bashing. "See how open we are, and how closed they are." The truth is our canons restrict communion to baptized Christians only. Each time I offer the bread and wine to non-baptized people, I am violating the canons of the church. But The Episcopal Church is involved in the debate and discussion of whether "open communion" should be the appropriate,

just canon for our time. So you will find the invitation to the altar may vary from place to place.

Even beyond the canon of open or closed communion, beyond "The Episcopal Church welcomes you," there is the larger issue of what God is doing through the Eucharist. Not only are all welcome, but all are invited to take part in the holy meal. The word used for "welcome" by Matthew is *δεχόμενος*, literally translated as "receive." More than welcome, it is to *receive* in a *welcoming* way. It is used to describe people *welcoming* God, like receiving and sharing in God's salvation and thoughts. It is receiving what is offered; an intimate kind of two-way street.

So understood in our welcome is an invitation. We are to not simply to open our doors, but to go out into the street to invite people in: in to our worship, in to our community, in to share in our food. And inherent in the invitation is the recognition of the concrete physical expressions of welcome in the name of Christ.



"And whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward." A traveler in hot dusty Palestine would appreciate a cup of cold water. What a reception! A genuine welcome. More than that, an invitation.

Yesterday our Parish Hall was the site of invitation and welcome. Families with hungry children had been invited to participate in a summer extension of the school year backpack program. In collaboration with the United Way, St. James' is the site where families will come every two weeks to receive food to supplement tight food budgets in the face of limited income and high prices. Yesterday was the first pickup for the forty-one registered families with a total of 68 children. Bags of mac'n'cheese, soup, pudding, ravioli, peanut butter and other supplemental foods were given to grateful – or tired, or angry or embarrassed – parents.

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That was the welcome part. Then came the next step: the invitation. I watched the leaders of the program brainstorm how we could be *more* helpful: expanding our grant base to provide more nutritious food; including information about other services, like clinics or dental care; finding ways to secure fresh foods for the pickup dates. Going the next step. Pushing ourselves to give more. A cup of cold water. A bag of groceries. A friendly greeting, the assurance that someone cares. An invitation into a space of welcome, if only for a few minutes. An oasis of

sorts in the desert of financial struggle. A cup of cold water in the desert.

We are to welcome others as we would welcome Christ himself. We are to invite others as if they were Christ himself. Jesus said, "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." Welcoming. Invitation. Our calling.

Yours in the welcome of Christ,

Cathy Deats +

Wardens' Words

Summer is here! How can I tell? Perhaps it's the warm humid days...or those pesky gnats that annoy me in the garden...or the many thunderstorms that have rolled through the area during the last couple weeks. As is the custom at St. James', there will only be one service at 9 am for the months of July and August. It's a great time for the "8 o'clockers" and the "10 o'clockers" to worship together and enjoy some fellowship after the service. When the weather cooperates, cold drinks and snacks will be served in front of the Mitcham House. This year, we should have the added attraction of watching the progress of the steeple repair. Hopefully, in the next few weeks, the contract will be in, signed, permits approved, and work will commence.

During the special parish meeting held a few weeks ago, I have to admit that I was a bit surprised by the level of enthusiasm for the project. Many people wanted to know how they could help and there were many suggestions for possible ways of raising funds. Yes, there were some concerns about how we'd pay for this large repair, but I didn't hear a single negative comment. The congregation understands the importance of completing this project before any further (or serious) damage is inflicted on the church structure, sanctuary or contents. For those who weren't at the meeting, perhaps the largest surprise was when a parishioner decided to loan St. James' (interest free) the funds needed to complete the project. This allowed us to breathe a sigh of relief, knowing that the funds are in hand to complete the project. We should have no problem paying off this loan in a year (or less) and the leadership of St. James' is extremely grateful for this generous offer.

Greg Malejko

A prayer that asks for God's blessing on our efforts to build a dwelling place, so that all who may come through our doors will know that God is here, and that we are God's hands and feet in this place, is on page 8.

Of all the gifts and blessings that I have been blessed with here at St. James', the fellowship in Christ and the fellowship with you, the people of Christ, I cherish the most. I so enjoy the events when we all gather together to get to know one another better and when food is involved. Well, that is our way. Coffee hour and our picnic are times when we try to slow down and take a few minutes to share our lives with one another. I would like to know if you would be interested in an occasional family style Sunday dinner here at the church. Everyone would bring a dish to share and we could sit together and have Sunday dinner. If you like the idea, you know where to reach me. Let me know.

Renovations on our steeple should be under way very soon. During our Parish meeting, a ton of ideas for fundraising were suggested. If you would like to get involved with making some of those ideas into a reality, please contact me and we can start to work on some of them.

Have a great summer everyone. Stay safe and enjoy your well-deserved vacations. Keep St. James' in your prayers and invite a friend to Church.

Barbara White



Vestry Hi-Lites from the June meeting

- Annual audit due to the Diocese in September is complete.
- Summer liturgy is a Eucharist in the Native American tradition, with preludes and postludes based on favorite hymns of parishioners.
- A discussion of how Vestry members inspire leadership is now part of each meeting.
- The Summer Backpack Program is led by Carol Novrit, Mary Ann Simmons and Colette Clark and will serve 68 children for its first pickup date.



July and August Dates to Remember

July 3 – September 4	One service at 9 AM Lemonade and iced tea served on patio, weather permitting
July 7	“Theology and a Cold Drink” meetings begin • Great Hall • 7 to 8 PM Every Thursday in July and August • see description on page----
July 9	Summer Backpack Program Begins • Parish Hall • 10 AM to Noon Car Wash • Skylands Bank • Mountain Ave., Hackettstown • 10 AM to 3 PM
July 16	Maintenance Morning • 9 AM to 12 Noon
July 22	Mini Golf Outing • Flanders Golf Zone • 6:30 PM
July 30 – August 6	Episcopal Appalachian Ministries
August 19	Community Movie Night • Great Hall • gathering 6:30 PM • show time 7 PM

September Dates to Remember

September 11	Tenth anniversary of 9/11 • two services resume • 8 and 10 AM
September 17	Tricky Tray
September 25	Homecoming (later date due to Tricky Tray) • Continental Breakfast Sunday School registration • first meeting of Youth Groups

Food Pantry

In July and August, we are collecting cereal and shelf stable milk for Trinity's food pantry. Collection containers are in the Parish Hall lobby and hallway by the entrance into the sanctuary.

Summer Backpack Program is underway! Coordinators Carol Novrit & MaryAnn Simmons need your help to: (1) Greet families and distribute bags in the lobby of the Parish Hall on Saturdays, 10 AM to noon, July 9, 23, Aug 6 and 20. (2) Bring peanut butter & jelly to church as many Sundays as possible in July and August. (3) Stay after church on Sundays preceding.

See Carol or MaryAnn, or e-mail them to sign up to be a greeter: Carol Novrit cnovrit@xpb.dhs.state.nj.us or MaryAnn Simmons maryann.simmons3@verizon.net

Car Wash to Benefit Episcopal Appalachian Ministries

The car wash is rescheduled from a rainy June Saturday to Saturday, July 9. We need your help from 10 AM to 3 PM at the Skylands Bank on Mountain Ave in Hackettstown. Come help us wash cars, and/or bring your car for washing. Tell your friends and neighbors, too, to support our work at Grace House on the Mountain. Contact Barbara White to let her know you can help in the washing! barbarawhite_7@msn.com

EAM Team: Barbara White, Cathy Deats, Christina Okoye, Sylvia Okoye, Katie Lacouture
There's room for one more! Speak to Cathy.



Maintenance Morning is on Saturday July 16 from 9 AM to 12 Noon. Come by the church and join in the effort to keep our plant beautiful and running smoothly! Jobs for all skill levels, from minor repair to indoor painting and weeding! Free coffee, great fellowship, satisfaction of a job well done!

Community Movie Night

Come to the cool Great Hall for a movie, TBA, on August 19. All ages are welcome. Popcorn and beverages will be provided along with awesome fellowship. 6:30 for gathering and show time at 7 PM.

Mini Golf Outing

The Golf Outing it is not, but just as much fun! Families, singles, young and young at heart, all are invited to join us on Friday, July 22 at the Flanders Golf Zone on Route 206 in Flanders at 6:30 PM. Games are \$8 for adults, \$6 for children under 10, and \$7 for seniors (over 65). If we have a large group, the cost will be \$6.50 per game for everyone, and includes a picnic area. For those who would like a different but related activity, there is a driving range (\$6 for 45 balls, \$10 for 95) and batting cages (\$3 for 15 pitches, \$10 for 60 (both softball speed and baseball speed available).

After the game, we will go to Frank's Pizza (across the street) where we can share pizzas for about \$5 a person. Sign up at church, in the Great Hall or Narthex (entryway of church), or call the office 908.852.3968 or email stjames214@comcast.net to reserve your spaces.

For Weekly Announcements and what's currently happening at St. James', visit our Webpage:
stjameshackettstown.org

Theology and a Cold Drink

Have you ever wondered how Scripture, worship, and the Book of Common Prayer influence our daily life? Have you ever wondered if being a member of the Episcopal Church influences how you think about daily life and modern day issues such as: global warming, rapture and the end times, genetic engineering, war, abortion, and many others? Have you ever considered the fact that theology and religious denominational backgrounds influence the public discourse and the discussion related to these issues? Is it possible that many of these issues have deep theological roots and implications?

Come have a cold drink and join us in a safe, honest and open dialogue about how theology influences our daily life.

Every Thursday night during the months of July and August, between 7 and 8 pm, we will get together in the Great Hall to talk about modern life, theology and have a cold drink.

July 7: The Rapture; scriptural prophecy or convenient myth?

July 14: Global Warming; a theological issue.

July 21: Immigration; theological roots.

July 28: Death penalty; is it a viable option in Christian community?

August 4: Abortion; thou shall not kill vs. a woman's right to choose.

August 10: Stem cell research and genetic engineering; is it God's or man's will?

August 18: to be determined (Open for suggestions)

August 25: to be determined (Open for suggestions)

If you have any suggestion about subjects, or questions about the sessions, please contact Rod Perez-Vega at rod.prec@verizon.net.

Rod Perez-Vega

Note: This Thursday evening program takes the place of chapel for July and August.

Summer Acolytes

Calling all young people who just want to try it out once! We are inviting anyone age 7 and over to carry our light wooden cross in procession on one of our Sundays in July and August. Children will arrive at church at 8:40 AM (service begins at 9 AM) and receive instruction and have a chance to practice. The acolyte carries the cross to lead the procession, puts it in the holder at the altar, and returns to his or her seat. At the final hymn, the acolyte returns to the altar, and carries the cross to lead the procession out. Please sign up with Cathy, cathydeats@comcast.net or call 908.500.3463.



Tricky Tray Thoughts for the Summer

As we approach the summer, the Fund Raising Committee would like you to keep a few things in the back of your mind.

This year, our Tricky Tray will be on Saturday, September 17, 2011, a month earlier than last year. This means we will not have that much time in September to get ready; as we are coming back to a normal schedule...you know, the kids go back to school, all vacations are over, and we resume our normal schedule of two services at church, and so on.

We will be presenting a few new ways for you to help create baskets. Members of the committee will pick a few main items, like a bird feeder or a roasting pan or gift certificate at Barnes and Noble. We are hoping that you will help us by taking an item and adding to it to create a basket. We will make up the baskets if you prefer. The important thing to remember is that we need a few items to go with the item picked.

If you take the bird feeder, you might pick up a book of identifying various birds or binoculars and bird seed. These are some ideas for the first item. We have found that everyone has their own way of picking the items for a basket, and no matter what it is, it will always appeal to the person putting in their tickets in the bags at Tricky Tray, hoping to get that item, whether it is for themselves, a grand child who is learning about different birds, or a friend.

There is just one more thing that I would like you to consider. We would like your ideas for a Wish List of prizes.

We usually have a 32" color TV, GPS and Gas Card. With all of the new technology out there...we were wondering what you would like to see out there. I-PAD, Zoom, Kindle were some items discussed. What do you think should be out there? The FRC Wish Lists will be on clipboards in the Parish Hall for coffee hour and at the back of church awaiting your entries. Your input is so important to us. Please help us.

Have a great summer....but keep us in mind.

If you should have any questions, you will be able to contact or see the following at church: Barbara White, Barbara Olesen, Anne Dutton and Ellen Infante.

Ellen Infante

The FRC

September Journal articles due

Sunday, September 4

Phyllis Heistand, Editor

Cathy Deats, News for St. James'

All the writers, reporters and photographers

David Heistand, proofreader and printer

Marge Ames and Heath Village team

Email pdheistand@comcast.net

Choir Notes

Ah, summer!! Quieter services, new liturgy, heat, fans, casual clothes, lemonade on the porch. Choir is over and everyone is relaxing

Musicians Recognition

On June 26, we celebrated all our musicians by recognizing them at the 10 am service. These dedicated people, young and older, give extra time for rehearsals so our worship can be enhanced by their musical offerings. Please thank them when you see them over the summer!

Senior choir: Wendie Germain, Helen Wise, David Bernauer, plus Jim Brandt and Penn Pixley who participate when they can.

Youth Choir: all the Sunday School young people who attend rehearsals that are during Sunday School. Special recognition goes to those who participated in the special services during Advent, at Christmas, and at Easter: Emilia Quelly, Amelia & Lillian Vitalos, Emma, Daniel and Dylan Howlin, Mylene and Olivia Clark, Hayden Smith, Danny Duda, Ava Hoehn, TJ Niculcea and Taylor Bedell.

Louise recognized the Bell Choir members on June 25 as well. I also want to say "thank you" to them all. It is not common for Episcopal churches to have a Bell Choir, so we are very lucky!

Of course, without Louise Olshan, we wouldn't have an organist for services, someone to accompany the choir, or to lead the Bell choir! Unlike the singers and ringers, Louise plays through most of the summer, too, so please do let her know how much you appreciate everything she does to enhance the music here at St James. I know I appreciate all her dedication and musicianship!!

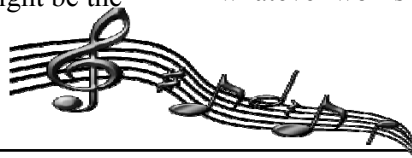
Pam Laura

Summer Liturgy and Music

This summer, our liturgy will be based on Native American worship. Cathy will have more on that elsewhere in this Journal. We will be focusing our music on songs about creation or songs from the Native American tradition. Some of the service music will be accompanied by drums in addition to the organ or piano. I will also be weaving in, where appropriate, some of the hymns from the Favorite Hymn list that you all compiled! Some are not appropriate for this time of year but I will use them over the course of the next year.

Louise will also be incorporating settings of some of your favorite hymns as her postlude and preludes during the summer. So don't miss a Sunday! It might be the one when your favorite hymn is featured!!

Pam Laura



Favorites! Favorites! Favorites!

Many, many thanks to all who submitted favorite hymns for inclusion in the summer worship services. I was overwhelmed with the response. In fact, I received more suggestions than I can use for preludes and postludes. So Cathy is selecting some to be sung by the congregation as the offering is being taken. Once those are selected, I will select the preludes and postludes. I will try to have my selections available for everyone to read so that you will know when your favorite(s) will be part of a service. Thank you again to all who took the time to submit favorites.

Louise Olshan

Bell Choir "Notes"

What a joy it is to work with the St. James' Multi-Generational Bell Choir! They are faithful about attending rehearsals and such fun to work with. I love hearing comments from them like, "This piece is really nice". They are not only willing to participate in services at St. James' but are willing to go "on the road". This academic year, in addition to the yearly Advent trips to the Annual Christmas through the Arts program at the Port Morris United Methodist Church and the Service of Lessons and Carols at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Montclair, the bells went to The House of the Good Shepherd on June 26.

June 26 also found the Bell Choir playing at the 10:00 service and being recognized for their service to St. James'.

Members through the year were David Bernauer, Meredith Firmin, Katie Lacouture, Pam Laura, Dawn Modugno, Brian Nolan, Chika Okoye, Sam Olshan and Helen Wise.

Jim Brandt participated from September through February and Roberta Brandt was with us from October through February when travel plans took them away. Julia Quelly was with us for September and October when work responsibilities began to interfere with rehearsals. Scott Carson joined us after Christmas and Kristen Carson joined us after Easter.

At Christmas, Tina and Sylvia Okoye helped out as did Steven Bernauer and Lori Kay Mattison. Thank you to each of you for your willingness to assist when you are needed.

You can see that I am flexible about your commitment to the bell choir and will willingly accommodate your schedule. Please consider joining the Bell Choir in the fall for the year or for part of the year – whatever works for you.

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The Boethling Scholarship

My parents, Carl and Frances Boethling, established the Bernauer Scholarship in their church in memory of my first husband. When my father died, my mother continued the scholarship. When my mother died in 2008, my sons, Steven and David Bernauer, and I decided that we would offer a scholarship at St. James' in memory of my mother. She attended many services at St. James' and always talked about how welcomed she felt.

As Cathy and I discussed who would be the recipient of the Boethling Scholarship for 2011, it was clear that there were three high school graduates who deserved to be recognized for their work at St. James'. What a great problem to have! So my husband and I decided to contribute additional funds so that all three could be honored. Each of the recipients this year has been active in the life of St. James' and each one serves in different capacities.

Katie Lacouture has been an active member of the Multi-Generational Bell Choir for three years. She has participated in the Episcopal Appalachian Ministry several times and is active with the Youth Group. She also is a Nursery Care provider and is always around for Maintenance Morning.



Katie LaCouture, Matt Malejko, Joe Ayres

Matt Malejko was honored this year for serving as an acolyte for 10 years. Matt also participates in Youth Group and has been part of the Episcopal Appalachian Ministry team in years past.

Joe Ayers was a member of the Multi-Generational Bell Choir for several years and is active in the Youth Group. He willingly offered his truck to drive the St. James' float in this year's Memorial Day Parade in Hackettstown.

Congratulations to each recipient and good luck in your future studies!

Louise Olshan

BELL CHOIR "NOTES" *continued from page 5*

With a very sad heart, I wish farewell to Katie Lacouture as she begins college in the fall. My very best wishes to Katie as she starts a whole new chapter in her life. Hopefully Katie too will help out when she is home.

A very big personal thank you to each of the members of the Bell Choir for their dedication and faithfulness. I wish each of you a well-deserved relaxing summer and look forward to working with the choir again in the fall.

Louise Olshan



College Graduate Ed Modugno
EFM Graduate Ellen Infante



A new part of the journey

Two of our young people who were confirmed on May 22nd were also graduates of middle school. We would like to recognize the two new high schoolers in our midst, and wish them the best this coming September at Hackettstown High School -- Matthew DiMarzo and Drew Lacouture!

The EFM Picnic

Our Education for Ministry picnic attracted prospective students Linda DeLoreto and Carol Novrit. In between the burgers and dogs, and yummy dishes contributed by seminar participants Linda Ayres, Peg Faust, Eileen Malejko, John VanDine, graduate Ellen Infante and co-mentors Barbara Olesen and Barbara White, we shared what EFM is all about. It is a community of learners who study the Bible, Church History and Theology, a year at a time in a four-year program. There are still openings available, so **sign up before August 1!** We meet on Tuesday evenings from 7 PM to 9:30 PM, September to May. Please speak to Barbara Olesen or Cathy Deats.

Deacon's Update on Rebecca Murray's Dedication to Educating Deaf Students

Rebecca Murray and her mother Linda attended my first sign language class at St. James' over 5 years ago. Becca proved to be a natural for sign language. She not only was very capable but she really enjoyed learning. She was a member of the Hackettstown High School chorus. She taught the group how to sign some of the songs. At that time there was a dear deaf and blind member of St. James', Ed Billington. When Ed died, the Hackettstown High School chorus came to his funeral and signed music in his honor.

Rebecca attended Flagler College in Florida with a degree in deaf education and graduated with honors in 2010. She is now attending the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) which is a college within

Rochester Institute for the Deaf (RIT) and will graduate in 2012. This year, Rebecca has a 4.0 GPA. She recently completed an internship at Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf in Pittsburgh where she taught middle school math. This summer, she will be a supervisor of one of the NTID summer programs. Her career goal is to teach math to deaf students.

To quote Karl Menninger, "What a teacher is, is more important than what he teaches." What Becca is, is a person gifted in sign language and dedicated to educating deaf students." I am delighted to have been in at the start of her commitment and I look forward to more progress reports with admiration.

Sheila Shuford, Deacon

Yarn Twisters

The St. James' Yarn Twisters are making good progress with their knitted and crocheted items. I am hoping to send our first shipment in July. If any of our parishioners are handy with a sewing machine, we are also putting together "Ditty Bags". These are small bags that are given to the Mariners filled with knitted/crocheted items, toiletries, etc. It is only straight stitching and threading a cord through for the drawstring closing. I have some fabric and measurements on request. If you are interested in joining the group, please contact me at frlbailey1@comcast.net.

For more information and to follow Paige's blogs, please log onto: www.seamenschurch.org and follow the directions to the Christmas at Sea information. Paige always has something interested posted.

We are also still collecting the following items to include in the 2011 package. There is a blue plastic barrel in the Great Hall for donations:

- Unscented, Hypoallergenic Hand Lotion (2-4 oz bottles)
- Sealed Packages of Holiday Sweets
- Books or Activities like Sudoku, word searches, or playing cards
- Facial Tissue
- Microwave Popcorn
- Chewing Gum

Our next dates to meet are as follows:

Saturday, July 9 at 9:30 am

Thursday, July 21 at 6:30 pm

Saturday, August 5 at 9:30 am

Thursday, August 18 at 6:30 pm

Don't forget to take along your projects to help you relax on vacation!! Enjoy the summer.

Linda Miller

Meet Michelle Perez-Vega

Michelle was born in Morristown, NJ and grew up in Warren Township. She claims she was a Brownie dropout! Michelle attended Watchung Hills Regional High School and received two B.A.'s from the University of North Carolina in Charlotte—one in History and one in English. She worked in writing/publishing and Public Relations.

Michelle is married to Rod Perez-Vega, our seminarian. They round out the family with beloved dog, Emmet!

Michelle loves to collect Hallmark Collectible Ornaments. She is passionate about reading, especially anything historical.



Michelle has joined St. James' along with Rod when he was called to serve here. They live in Washington, NJ.

A very interesting fact about Michelle – she was a freelance rock and roll journalist for more than 15 years and interviewed groups including Bon Jovi, VanHalen, KISS, Iron Maiden, Rob Zombie and Guns N' Roses, just to name a few. All of you rock fans out there; ask her about it!

Roving Reporter Barbara Olesen

What Do You Get When You Take 23 People from St. James' to the Oakwood Lanes?

A really good time! Four teams rocked the alleys, including several young children who bowled with bumpers and did a great job! High scorer: who else but organizer Scott Carson with a 228. Jim Simmons scored a 167 and Trever Carson a 165. Best sport? Certainly not the Rector -- we think it was a tie between Mylene Clark, Olivia Clark and Nickolas DeLoreto! Scott Carson is thinking about having another bowling evening sometime in October.



The Parish Picnic

On Sunday, June 19, morning dawned clear and bright - perfect weather for a picnic. In the sermon, we visited "the roundabout" (or traffic circle as we call it in Jersey). In prayer, we thanked God for the creation in the middle of the creation. The rockin' musicians, Dave and David (Heistand and Olesen), had our spirits soaring. The burgers (including newbie "jalapeno burger" -- yum!) were hot and fresh from DJ's grill (provided by the Olesens and transported by Barbara White). The myriad foods contributed show how talented our folks are (or, how they like to feed people).

The Rev. Dr. Cathy L Deats

Photos above: Bowling - Dawn, Ed and Amy Modugno; Carol and Kristen Carson, Trever Carsen, Rod Perez-Vega, Justin Simmons, Jim and MaryAnn Simmons; Mylene and Olivia Clark.

Right: Picnic - Rod Perez-Vega celebrates candidacy; Dylan and Emma Howlin; MaryAnn Simmons and Dave Heistand;



We're all connected!
Tossing a ball of yarn around the congregation during Cathy's homily

Most Gracious God,

The heavens cannot contain you, yet you are pleased to dwell in our midst. Accept our desire to build for you a dwelling place to the honor of your name and for the benefit of your people.

We journeyed to this place so long ago to build our future on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. We depend fully on your guidance, inspiration, and grace in continuing to build a church that will be a symbol of your presence and a witness to your love from generation to generation.

Bless our efforts, O Lord! Through them, may all who come through our doors know that you are here, and that we are your hands and feet in this place. Give us what we need to know you and to make you known.

We offer this prayer to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Inside St. James' July August Journal

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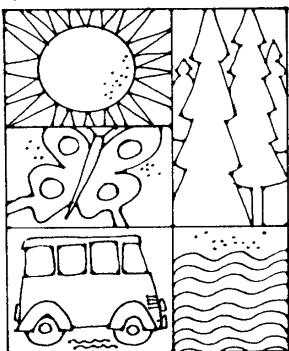
St James' Staff & Vestry

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Cathy L. Deats
Deacon: The Rev. Sheila Shuford
Seminarian Rod Perez-Vega
Rector Emeritus: The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Senior Warden: Greg Malejko
Junior Warden: Barbara White
Treasurer: Penn Pixley
Parish Administrator: Frances Keefe
Music Director: Pam Laura
Organist: Louise Olshan
Sexton: Pauline Volkert

Vestry:

David Bernauer Ron Cipriani
Dave Handville DJ Hoffman
David Jenkins Dan Miller
Peter Quelly Roy Smith III
Paula Van Clef

VACATION



MAY OUR SPIRITS
BE OPENED TO THE
GOODNESS OF YOUR
C·R·E·A·T·I·O·N