

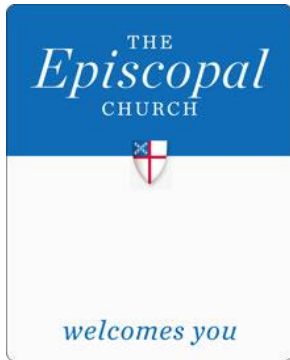


ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

THE REV. DR. CATHY L. DEATS, RECTOR

APRIL 2012

"The Episcopal Church Welcomes You"



This invitation is seen on the familiar blue and white signs on city streets and country roads, directing people to an open and welcoming church. St. James' has these signs directing people to us on High Street and Route 46.

When it became time to order one for the House of the Good Shepherd's St. Margaret's Chapel, I went to the website where one orders such things only to find out that the business of printing the enameled metal signs had been transferred to another company. Their website declared that The Episcopal Church had redesigned the signs, previously available in two styles ("traditional" and "contemporary"), now declaring only one design the "official" design. I must admit that I don't care for the new design; it separates "The Episcopal Church" from "welcomes you," in a way I find unpleasing to the eye as well as the theology. But time marches on, many things change that we don't like or agree with, and as my grandmother used to say, "I'm not gonna die in that ditch!"

The sign may have changed, but the meaning is the same: The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.

It means that you are welcome to share in our worship, fellowship and community life. It means that you are welcome even if you do not believe the same things about God or the Republican Party that the person who sits beside you in church believes. It means you are welcome wherever you are on your spiritual journey: seeker, doubter, one with a deep spiritual life or one with a curiosity but not much head knowledge about things "religious."

But as we stop and look deeply into the meaning of welcome, as with many important things, there is much more beneath the surface. It is in this place beneath the glossy blue and white invitation that we often encounter the challenge of the gospel.

Last weekend your Vestry gathered at the Kirkridge retreat center just over the river in Pennsylvania. We go each year to this place apart to focus on the mission and ministry of St. James' and how best to lead this community to proclaim the gospel in our corporate life. In the "getting to know each other" phase, we learned that most of us arrived in Hackettstown and at St. James' as the result of a *relationship*. A spouse lived here and so we settled here, or a Roman Catholic married a Methodist so The Episcopal Church seemed like a good compromise. We talked about who would feel welcome among us Episcopalians (even though most of us were not born that way). The answer is: Anyone who is looking for a healthy community in which to serve God.

But the church is not just any community group. We are not the Rotary, AA or the Friends of the Library, as outstanding as those groups may be. We are bound together by our baptismal promises to love and serve our Lord Jesus Christ, each other, and the world in ways that are not always fun and comfortable. As Episcopalians, our welcome is to include *all* -- anyone who needs assistance to hear or see or move; anyone who needs us to speak their language or make our language understandable to them; anyone who disagrees with my political opinion; *anyone*. The call of the gospel is not a romantic notion; it is a hard road, a road full of sacrifice but also full of joy. We sacrifice so all can participate; we sacrifice so our children will learn welcome; we sacrifice so our community of the future can answer the call of God in their time and place.

The best image of the resurrection for us is not daffodils, chicks and bunnies. It is not eggs, although some great Sunday School lessons have come out of that. It may not even be the empty tomb for us living in 2012. For me, the resurrection is found in the glory of the footsteps of the women who approached Jesus' tomb. God knows they had walked that road many times; there was no expectation of anything being any different from the

Continued Page (2)

other bodies they had anointed. But they went and saw, in the midst of their daily chores, the risen Lord. Such an awesome thing could not be kept to themselves – they had to go and tell.

And that is the key to our welcome – to not wait until someone finds us, but to go and tell what we have found.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Yours in the risen Christ,

Cathy

From the Wardens

Each year at our Vestry retreat we take an intense look at St. James' and the mission and ministries of our community and this year was no different. During one of our first sessions we look at what we do in church and in the community. Our list grows with each passing year and it is quite impressive; we have a real presence in this community. St. James' is truly doing the work of God. Of course our goal is to do even more, and in order to do that we must understand that we need growth. Last year we returned from the retreat and roped off one side of the church in an effort to impress upon everyone that we have plenty of room for more of God's children. Since last year I see many new faces in our midst and am encouraged and excited by the limitless possibilities we have before us.

Over the last couple of months I have attended meetings in Newark involving a newly organized Mission Strategy committee. It is a committee appointed by the Bishop in an effort to reach out to all the churches in our Diocese and help them discern how God is calling them to do ministry in their communities. Growing congregations and growth in ministry are obviously directly linked. What I have heard several times is "we are not looking for Episcopalians, we are looking for people" and I believe that people are looking for us. People that are looking for a faith community for the first time, or experiencing a difficult time, young families with a need to "do something about

God" and people that are not being satisfied in their current community, all these people are looking for us.

Our Vestry goals and the goals of the Mission Strategy committee are very similar: to bring more to God's people in mission and ministry through whatever means are available. Our communications committee is doing an amazing job of putting St. James' out there. We are in the newspapers, on YouTube, and Facebook. We participate in community events like the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Memorial Day Parade, we offer a Blessing of the Animals during the Hackettstown Day celebration and our fundraisers get us lots of attention. We have to advertise, we need to communicate more with the community through newspaper articles, signs, banners and through one on one conversation with others.

We must let people know that "it's ok" that in our community you are allowed to have a different view, or a family structure that is not the "norm". We need to let people know that when we say "All are Welcome" we mean ALL!

Invite a friend to church

Barbara

Junior Warden

I have had the privilege to participate in three St. James' vestry retreats. Each vestry retreat was a rejuvenating opportunity to list our church's many accomplishments/activities set a solid course for the future.

This year, the Vestry retreat was particularly rewarding for me, since, after a short break from the Vestry, I was able to gain perspective into how the struggles, challenges and yes "anxieties" discussed at retreats three and four three years ago had become significant additions to our ministry.

Examples of these challenges included the completion of the Parish Hall and kitchen, how to improve our web site and overall publicity and how best to expand our local outreach efforts. Today, these past Vestry agenda topics are no longer merely "plans" but are in fact "real". The Parish Hall is built, we have an amazing web site and excellent public communications team and the backpack program has served many local needy families.

This year, St. James', is once again facing exciting new challenges. These include ensuring the long-term affordability and sustainability of payments on the Parish Hall's mortgage and finding ways to continue to grow the

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church and ensure we are assertively reaching out to welcome ALL those interested in finding a place to worship.

Just like it had done in the past, the Vestry discussed these topics and developed a general plan to move forward. And like in the past, the Vestry will soon invite your input and participation so that together these plans can be developed and made even stronger.

In the end, I returned from this year's retreat convinced that through perseverance, hard work and prayer, we will again transform our challenges into actual strategies to serve God's mission. Hey, we've done it before....and we can do it again.

Dave Lacouture

Fundraising

A big thank you to all the helpers at our St. Patrick's Day Dinner, it was a huge success. Volunteers were busy all day preparing the food, decorating the parish hall, serving and cleaning up! Approximately 70 people attended the dinner and we had many compliments on the delicious meal.

Our Gertrude Hawk candy sale recently ended and we raised \$241.00. Thank you to all that purchased candy and to Ellen Infante for once again organizing our yearly candy sale.

The Steeple Concert is scheduled for April 29th. Please see Rod if you are interested in helping out with this major fundraising event, there are many opportunities to get involved!

We will be having a Spring Rummage Sale on Saturday, May 5th. You can bring donated items to the church at any time and leave them in the basement. We will need help on both Friday and Saturday- watch for sign-up sheets.

The 4th Annual Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 21st at the Farmstead Golf & Country Club. Please pass the word to friends and co-workers. If you're not a golfer, consider joining us for dinner at the end of the day. We are also looking for hole sponsors. Please see Dan Miller if you have questions or would like to help out with this event.

We have started planning for this year's Tricky Tray. It will be held on September 29, 2012 at the Budd Lake Firehouse. Watch the Sunday bulletin for

upcoming Tricky Tray meetings. You don't need to wait until September to start getting your baskets ready! Keep an eye out for clearance sales at the end of every season. If you aren't sure about how to put a basket together, you can donate items and our basket elves will take over from there!

Thank you for supporting all our fundraising events!

Barbara

BELL CHOIR "NOTES"

The St. James' Multi-Generational Bell Choir will be participating in the 10:00 worship service on April 1, Palm Sunday. Because the piece reflects Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the choir will be playing near the beginning of the service before the mood of the service changes. Three different Palm Sunday hymns are included in this medley. See if you can recognize the tunes and feel free to hum along if you know the tunes. The Bell Choir is also planning on participating in the Maundy Thursday service at 7:30 PM.

I recently distributed one of the pieces the choir will be ringing at the Tower Concert, *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*. After working on it for a few minutes, the choir members started singing along. I think that preparing this piece will be a lot of fun!

Now that Memorial Day is on the horizon (at least in terms of preparing music), we will be working on the logistics of having the Bell Choir participate in the Hackettstown Memorial Day Parade. Hopefully we can make this work.

A big THANK YOU to the youth who participated in the 30-Hour Famine. As part of their activities, some of the youth polished up the bells. When I opened the bell cases for the first time the following day, I was truly startled to see how bright and shiny they were. Thank you to all who helped in this project. Your efforts are very much appreciated.

Many thanks to all the members of the Bell Choir for their continued dedicated service.

Our prayers go to Roberta and Jim Brandt, members of the Bell Choir from September 2010 through February 2011.

Louise Olshan

VESTRY RETREAT
MARCH 23-24
KIRKBRIDGE RETREAT CENTER,
BANGOR, PA

A time of fellowship, learning to work with each other, looking back over the past year and forward to the next!

These are some accomplishments of the past year, in no particular order. You will also see them displayed in the sanctuary and in the Great Hall. Did we forget something? There are blank pages for you to add to our accomplishments!

What wonderful things God has brought forth from this faithful community!

Family Breakfast
Mission Strategy
Diocesan Involvement
Education for Ministry (EFM)
North Porch
Planned Giving
Oasis Forum
Steeple Concert
Solar Screening
Columbarium
Lenten Forums
End of Life Issues
Blood Bank
Celebrating Graduates
Easter Food Collection
Counters Group Growth
Care Packages
Sunday School Growth
Journal
Golf Outing
Giving Tree
Blessing of new drivers and parents
Blessing of the Animals
Seminarian
Wish List
Deputies to Convention
Youth Group
Painting of Shed
Bad Girls of the Bible
Accessible Seating in Church
Lay Pastoral Ministry
Seamen's Church Institute

United Thank Offering
Spanish as a Second Language
Deaf Ministry
Prayer Ministry
Backpack Summer Program
Backpack Program
Junior Acolytes
Steeple Renovation
Confirmation Class
Facebook Page
Communication Committee
Fundraising Committee
Bell Choir Concerts
Souper Bowl of Caring
Bowling
Miniature Golf
Tricky Tray
Episcopal Appalachian Ministries (EAM)
Murder Mystery
Cathy's 10 Year Celebration
Videos posted
Yarn Twisters
Finance Committee
Special Dinner Celebrations
Greeters
More room for greeting in Church
Altar Guild
Choir and Children's Choir



Yarn Twisters



The Yarn Twisters had a very good session on Saturday, March 3rd – in attendance were : Phyllis Bartkus, Dawn Modugno, Pam Laura, Wendie Germaine, Carol Novrit, Barbara Pixley, Beverly Obado and myself. Everyone was busily working on their projects.

The project bin is filling up quite nicely, so am hoping that we can personally deliver our completed goodies this year to SCI and help Paige Sato, Program Director, with some packing.

New patterns are available on the *Christmas at Sea* website ... www.seamenschurch.org - check them out! Even a new sock pattern, although I have to admit it looks like a very long “recipe” to me!! If you can stitch two or three straight lines on a sewing machine, we also need “ditty bags” to be made up – these are very simple and instructions are available.

On Sunday, March 18th, Chaplain Marge Lindstrom was with us at the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services. Chaplain Lindstrom did share with me after the 8 a.m. service that when she first began her ministry with SCI, a young cadet was so sad because it was the Holidays and he was away from his family and how thrilled he was when he received his package from SCI containing all the goodies. That same cadet is still on the seas and now a Captain and always makes sure that his new cadets (and those retiring) receive a package from SCI. It can be the highlight of their whole trip and gives a purpose to what we do with all that pretty yarn.

Because of so many events happening at the Church and with my own vacation, there will be no dates set for Yarn Twister sessions in April.

Following are the dates for May – Thursday, May 3rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Mitcham House and Saturday, May 19th at 9:30 a.m. (either in the Mitcham House or Great Hall).

Anyone interested in joining the group is welcome to contact me at 908-684-3566 or email me at frlbailey1@comcast.net.

The following items can be collected during the year. 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

Thank you,

Linda Miller

Holy Week at St. James'



Sunday, April 1 Palm Sunday

8:00 am and 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

Wednesday, April 4 Tenebrae

7:30 pm – service of light and darkness

Thursday, April 5 Maundy Thursday

6:00 pm – Passover agape supper

7:30 pm – Holy Eucharist

Friday, April 6 Good Friday

12 noon – Community Ecumenical Worship

Good Friday 7:30 pm – Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 7 Easter Eve

7:30 pm – The Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, April 8 Easter Day

8:00 am and 10:00 am – Holy Eucharist

MAUNDY THURSDAY AGAPE FEAST



In the early days of Christian community, the brothers and sisters gathered around a meal to remember Jesus and remind each other that they were the body of Christ. This year on Thursday, April 5 at 6 PM, we invite you to join us for a simple quiet meal in the Great Hall. This meal will be a sharing of a soup and bread supper, and the stories of our faith. Following the meal is the Holy Eucharist in the church sanctuary at 7:30 PM. We would appreciate a call to plan the meal, but it is not required. 908.852.3968

¿Habla Español?

SPANISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Come learn the basics to have a conversation with our Hispanic brothers and sisters. Growing out of a desire of the Summer Backpack Program Volunteers to be more welcoming to our families, these classes are open to you and all the community. This is an intensive basic course, 90 minutes twice per week for four weeks, and includes instruction and practice. Registration is on a first-come basis, so please be sure to sign up, using the registration form below or on the St. James' website. Program volunteers do not pay the fee; book cost is \$20 and includes an audio CD. There are always provisions in our programs for those who cannot afford fees; please speak to the Rector in confidence

cathydeats@comcast.net

YOU ARE INVITED!



**All Saints' Outreach Annual
North Porch Baby Shower
Thursday, April 19, 2012**

6:30 PM ~ All Saints' Parish Hall

**All are invited to this evening of
food, wine and fun in support of
The North Porch Women and Baby
Centers.**

North Porch Centers provide emergency baby supplies to needy mothers in our area.

Admission: Bring one or more of the following much needed items:

Stage 1 Baby Food

Disposable Diapers

Baby and Mother Toiletries

Target Gift Cards

"Be Sure To Invite Your Friends To Join Us"

All Saints' Church Is Handicapped Accessible

RSVP's ARE NEEDED

In Order To Supply Enough Food and

Beverages

To RSVP Contact

Debbie Breen

JerseyIris@aol.com

973-478-0737



St. James' Episcopal Church Hackettstown



PUBLISHER TRAINING

Learn the basics of this publishing program and be part of a team to publish and produce the Journal! This hands-on training will be offered for two evenings: Mondays, April 9 and 16, from 7 PM to 9 PM in the Great Hall. Please sign up with the church office at stjames214@comcast.net

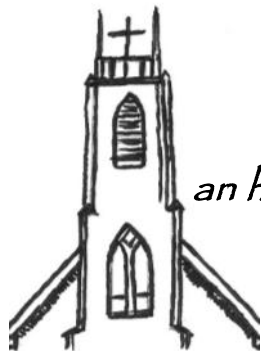
For Weekly Announcements and what's happening at St. James' visit our webpage:

stjameshackettstown.org
Check out the new calendar!
Sign up for email news!



You are invited to

Winds of Change



a concert celebrating the triumph of the tower over time
an historical retrospective of our town, the nation and the world in
music and story

Sunday, April 29, 2012 - 4:00 PM

Trinity United Methodist Church

SPANISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE
INTENSIVE BASIC COURSE - 8 CLASSES
MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS
APRIL 30 - MAY 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23
7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM

NAME: _____ ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: _____

FEES: PLEASE CHECK IF BACKPACK VOLUNTEER _____ CLASS FEE - ST. JAMES' MEMBER: \$20 _____

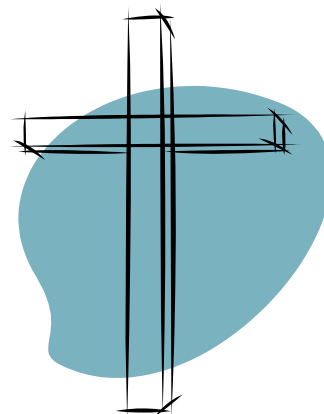
CLASS FEE - NON-MEMBER: \$50 _____ BOOK FEE: \$20 _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

make checks payable to "St. James' Episcopal Church - SSL"

Life at St. James'







**Feeding
Giving
Caring
Building
community**



In Christ's Name

APRIL 2012

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>1</p>  <p>8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:00 AM LENTEN BREAKFAST 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST</p> | <p>2</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Office Closed 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM NO EFM TONIGHT</p> | <p>4</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE</p> | <p>5</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 2:00 PM HOLY EUCHARIST AT HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD 6:00 PM AGAPE SUPPER 7:30 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP 9:00 PM VIGIL BEGINS</p> | <p>6</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 12:00 AM VIGIL CONTINUES UNTIL NOON 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 12:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE 7:30 PM STATIONS OF THE CROSS</p> | <p>7</p>  <p>12:00 PM HOLY SATURDAY PRAYER 7:30 PM GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER</p> |
| <p>8</p>  <p>EASTER DAY 8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST</p> | <p>9</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM PUBLISHER TRAINING</p> | <p>10</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EM)</p> | <p>11</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>12</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:30 PM REAL ESTATE CONSULT</p> | <p>13</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>14</p> |
| <p>15</p> <p>8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST AND HOLY BAPTISM</p> | <p>16</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:00 PM PUBLISHER TRAINING</p> | <p>17</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EM)</p> | <p>18</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>19</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM VESTRY MEETING</p> | <p>20</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>21</p> |
| <p>22</p> <p>8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 10:00 AM Youth Group</p> | <p>23</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>24</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EM)</p> | <p>25</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>26</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>27</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>28</p> <p>9:00 AM TOWER CONCERT REHEARSAL</p> |
| <p>29</p>  <p>8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 4:00 PM WINDS OF CHANGE CONCERT</p> | <p>30</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>1</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 7:00 PM EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EM)</p> | <p>2</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>3</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>4</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9 AM TO 1 PM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center</p> | <p>5</p> |

ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

APRIL 2012

St. James' Staff & Vestry

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
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| Organist: | Louise Olshan |
| Sexton: | Pauline Volkert |

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HACKETTSTOWN NJ 07836