



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

REV. ELIZABETH MYERS, SUPPLY PRIEST

APRIL 2014

Dear Friends,

It is with great joy that I look forward to celebrating the Holy Week and Easter services with you and I look forward to as many of you as possible joining us in as many of these services as you are able. Please know that everyone of any faith tradition or none is invited to join us as we remember and live into the events that lie at the heart of our faith.

Holy Week at St. James' begins with two services on the Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday), April 13, at 8:00 and 10:00 at which Jesus' entry into Jerusalem is remembered and a story of his final days of suffering and death is read and pondered. On Wednesday evening, April 16, at 7:30 we will have the solemn service of candlelight, readings and prayer called Tenebrae.

On Thursday evening, April 17, we remember Jesus' last meal with his disciples at a simple Agape Meal in the Great Room at 6:00. Then, at 7:30, we celebrate the Maundy Thursday Liturgy, with the Washing of the Feet and the Holy Eucharist in the church. The altar area is then stripped of all adornment and the Reserved Sacrament is moved to the chapel where a prayer vigil is kept until 11:30 on Good Friday. At this time there is a brief service at which what remains of the Reserved Sacrament is consumed. This year we are inviting those who prefer not coming to the church in the late hours of the night or early hours of the morning to sign up for a prayer vigil to take place in their homes. Sign up sheets for both of these will be available in the church or you can sign up for the time of your choice by calling the church office at 908-852-3968.

On Good Friday, April 18, there is a community Good Friday service at the Panther Valley Ecumenical Church at 12:00 noon. At 7:30 PM we will have the Good Friday Liturgy followed by the Stations of the Cross here at St. James'. On Saturday, April 19, the Altar Guild welcomes all to join them for the Holy Saturday lessons and prayers in the church at 11:30 AM.

Our celebration of Easter begins with the "Great Vigil of Easter" at 7:30 on April 19 in the church. This service is thought to have its roots in the oldest service of the Christian Church and includes the blessing of the new fire, a reflection on some of the great events of the Judaic-Christian story, the renewal of our commitment to Jesus Christ through a reaffirmation of our baptismal vows and then the celebration of the First Eucharist of Easter. It is a dramatic and deeply moving service. Easter Day services begin with a shorter and quieter service at 8:00 which is followed by an especially festive service at 10:00.

It would appear that the snow of this long, hard winter is, at long last, going to melt and that our celebration of Easter will take place as the new life of nature begins to emerge. Christianity began in the Northern Hemisphere, the word "Lent" means "Spring" and much of our hymnody ties Easter to Spring and the joy that each and both bring to so many. I spent January through March of one year ministering in South Africa where Easter happens as its people prepare for a long, cold and sometimes hard winter. I am reminded of this as I write with the TV telling me about the pain and heartache of the family and loved ones of the Malaysia Flight 370 passengers and the victims of the mud slides in Oso, Washington and I am reminded of the violence and suffering in so much of the world. This Easter feels devoid of hope for so many. But we can

help. Easter Offering envelopes will be coming to you through which you can support St. James' ministry of resurrection hope to a hurting world. White envelopes will be available in the back of the church to receive offerings for the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund and, has been the tradition in much of the church for many years, the loose offering on Good Friday will go to the work of the Church in Jerusalem.

On a more individual and personal note, many in the Episcopal Church find the sacraments of healing (anointing and the laying on of hands) and/or reconciliation of a penitent (confession) an important part of their preparation for Easter. If you would like to invite me to share either one or both of these sacraments with you please feel very free to call me at 908-269-6054.

There are among us several who will not be able to get to the church for any of our Easter services. If this is the case for you, know that we would like to bring the Easter Communion to you and have the privilege of sharing it with you. Please call the church office at 908-852-3968 and we will get back to you to schedule a time for this to happen.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ focuses our attention on the fact that it is in the very nature of God to bring resurrections out of every kind of crucifixion, to bring new dimensions of living out of every kind of dying and new beginnings out of every kind of ending. This is true for us as individuals and it is true for all people everywhere. As we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus this year let us here at St. James' be especially mindful of and rejoice in the new life into which God is leading us during this next year.

In Christ,

Betsy+

The Rev. Elizabeth W. Myers

Vestry Hi-Lites

- ✦ Based on clear needs in the community, the Vestry voted, in principle, to permit Alcoholics Anonymous to use the Great Hall. Days, times and details are not confirmed but will be announced.
- ✦ The Vestry created two "Special Committees" with focused, short-term assignments- Mortgage Committee and Administrative Support Committee. The Vestry will recruit skilled volunteers from the church membership to assist on these committees in developing plans and strategies to support the existing needs and its future.
- ✦ Vestry will be working with a Transition Consultant provided by the Diocese. Initial meeting will be scheduled soon.
- ✦ Major Maintenance and Repairs are needed this spring .. These include the rotted sill plate of the church on the Moore Street side, (one bid secured) the Mitcham House steps and porch and painting the back of church above Great Hall roof.
- ✦ Shelia Shuford will return to the Altar on Easter Sunday
- ✦ Betsy will assist in assessing and consulting with parents regarding Youth Ministry needs.

2014 Holy Week Services at St. James' Church

Please know that everyone is invited to receive the Bread and Wine of the Eucharist at all of our services here at St. James'.

Sunday, April 13 - Sunday of the Passion - 8:00 and 10:00 AM

On this Sunday, sometimes called Palm Sunday, we remember the entrance of Jesus into the city of Jerusalem and commemorate his passion and death.

Wednesday in Holy Week, April 16 - Tenebrae - 7:30 PM

A quiet service of readings, prayers and diminishing candlelight.

Maundy Thursday, April 17 - Agape Love Feast (6 PM) followed by Holy Eucharist and Foot Washing (7:30 PM)

We remember the meal the disciples shared with Jesus on his last night with them with a simple supper. After supper, we proceed to the church where we wash the feet of one another as Jesus did for his disciples and as he commanded his disciples to do for one another and celebrate the Eucharist which was instituted at that same meal. As the service ends the altar area is stripped of all adornment.

Maundy Thursday Vigil (in the Chapel or in our homes) - April 17 / 18 - 9 PM until Friday noon

During this time many of us take a turn praying for an hour in the presence of the sacrament of the body of Christ in our chapel or in our homes if that is preferable for us. There is a sign up sheet for each of the two vigils. Those coming to take their turn in the chapel are asked to enter via the Moore Street chapel door.

Good Friday, April 18- Community Ecumenical Service - 12:00 noon at the Panther Valley Ecumenical Church

We come together as a community to hear, to reflect upon and to respond to the story of the last hours of the life of Jesus.

Good Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Liturgy and Stations of the Cross - 7:30 PM

We pray the Good Friday Liturgy and follow it with a liturgy of the Stations of the Cross.

Holy Saturday, April 19 - Chapel Service - 11:30 AM

Simple prayers and reflection on the day Christ spent in the place of the dead.

Easter Eve, April 19 - The Great Vigil of Easter - 7:30 PM

Believed by many to have its roots in the earliest service of the Church and certainly one of its most dramatic, the Great Vigil of Easter celebrates the new light of Christ, rehearses some of the great events in the life of the people of God, invites us to again commit our lives to Jesus Christ through the reaffirmation of our baptismal vows and celebrates the First Eucharist of Easter with the ringing of bells (bring one you have) and the return of Alleluias.

Easter Day, April 20 - Holy Eucharist 8 AM and 10 AM

We celebrate The Feast of the Resurrection with a festive Holy Eucharist accompanied by great rejoicing. Organ, bell choir, senior and children's choir lead the celebration.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

The Lord is risen indeed; Alleluia!





St. James' Golf Outing

The 6th Annual St. James' Golf Outing is scheduled for Monday, May 19 at Farmstead Golf Club in

Lafayette, NJ. This event has grown each year since its humble beginnings at Minebrook in Hackettstown, and is always a fun day for all, and is now the 2nd biggest fundraiser for St. James' behind the Tricky Tray.

For golfers, the entry fee is \$125, which includes lunch, golf, dinner, prizes and games on the course. For non-golfers, a wonderful buffet dinner is available for \$30.

The Golf Outing Committee (Dan Miller, Phyllis & Paul Bartkus, Meg & Bill Critchley, Pete Gartelmann, and Barbara White) is looking for a few volunteers to help on the day of the event with registration, raffle tickets, and 50/50 sales. Please contact one of us if you are interested in helping out or have any questions.

As in past years, one of the big boosts to the Golf Outing has been through sponsorship on one of the holes. For parish members, the price of a sponsorship is \$50. For corporate or merchant sponsors, the price is \$100. A sign recognizing the sponsorship and a notation in the Outing program are included with the sponsorship.

To register for the event, or to donate a sponsorship, forms have been placed in the back of church, in the Great Hall, and included here in the Journal. You can also contact one of the Committee members if it is easier.

Dan Miller
Golf Outing Committee Chair

Journal Deadline

May EDITION:

April 27th

Youth Ministry

St. James' is looking from someone who is interested in leading the Youth Ministry in our Parish. There is a Community Youth Group in Hackettstown involving 4 different churches and we need someone to be the coordinator for St. James'. The Community Youth Group participates in different activities and events during the year. Please see David Lacouture if you are interested!



Food Pantry Collection

Notice the blue tub in the hallway between the church and the Great Hall? We are still taking donations for the Trinity Food Bank. Please consider dropping a few items in there from time to time to help out those less fortunate. Kathy Lacouture will make sure they get delivered. Thanks for your generosity!

Fundraising Report

The St. James' FRC meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6PM in the Mitcham House. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 9th at 6 PM followed by the start of Tricky Tray planning at 6:45.

Scrip Pro - Next orders are due on April 13th. Start thinking about using gift cards for Mothers Day, Fathers Day, graduations and weddings. They are perfect for any occasion!

Our St. Patrick's Day Dinner was held on Sunday, March 16th. We are happy to report that we made \$285! Thanks to all who participated and donated Irish soda bread.

We are planning a rummage sale on April 26 during the townwide sale. Please see any member of the FRC if you have items to donate.

Gertrude Hawk- Orders have been placed and will be available on Palm Sunday. Please see Ellen Infante with any questions.

The Golf Outing is being held on Monday, May 19th. See article in the Journal for more details!

Watch for details on the annual Car Wash which supports EAM Ministries.

Finally, Tricky Tray planning will begin with the next meeting. Please start thinking about our event which is being held on September 27th by making a donation of time, treasure or talent for our biggest fundraiser of the year. Also, get those sale coupons to any member of the FRC. We love Kohl's 30% off as we can get some great values to make nice baskets!

Thanks for your support in our fundraising efforts!

St. James' FRC
Barbara White, Ellen Infante,
Ann Dutton, Barbara Olesen



ShopRite and Weis Market Gift Cards Available

You can help with fund raising to support our church's mission and ministries by shopping with gift cards from either ShopRite or Weis Markets. We sell the cards at their face value and the supermarkets donate five percent to us. Paul Bartkus takes orders for any combination of \$25, \$50, or \$100 cards each month on the last weekend of the month and hands them out on the first weekend, when we have our family breakfast. You can also mix orders between the two supermarkets!



Yarn Twisters

The first get together of the Yarn Twisters for 2014 has taken place on **Thursday, April 3rd at the Mitcham House at 6:30 p.m.** If you would like to join us for future get togethers, please 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

A Thank You from the Bell Choir

A very sincere thank you to the youth who participated in the 30 hour famine in February. One of their activities was to polish the bells. The following Sunday I was dazzled by how shiny the bells looked. We laughed about needing sunglasses to look at the bells.

All the members of the Bell Choir want to thank the young people who worked this into their schedule and a special thank you to Drew Lacouture who led the group in this activity.

Louise Olshan
Bell Choir Director



Bell Choir Notes

The choir is currently preparing music for the 10 AM service on Palm Sunday, April 13 and for the 7:30 PM service on Good Friday, April 18. The music for Palm Sunday is a beautiful and haunting arrangement of *Were You There?*

On March 16 the Bell Choir honored the memory of Helen Wise with a plaque containing Helen's well-worn gloves and the many pins awarded to her for service in the Bell Choir on Choir Recognition Sundays. Also included in the frame are the name tag from her music folder and the memorial card from the funeral home. The plaque could be seen at the Coffee Hour that Sunday. If you did not get a chance to see it, please take a few minutes and walk to the balcony where it is hanging on the bell tower wall. The members of the Bell Choir were so thrilled that not only Helen's daughter, Jen Howlin, attended the service, but her son, Alex, and daughter, Heather, traveled from Long Island to be present.

A really amazing thing happened on March 16 as the Bell Choir was ringing. All of a sudden I heard someone humming along while the choir was playing *The Old Rugged Cross*. That was exciting for many reasons. First, the piece we were ringing was recognized. Second, the person was listening closely enough to hum along. Since the ringers are so intent on their responsibilities and can really only hear the bells they are ringing and those nearby, they were not aware of the humming. When I told them at rehearsal later, they were all so pleased. Thank you to the St. James' "hummer" for making our day!

We will soon be planning music for May and June. New ringers are always welcome. Let me know if you would like to join us for the next few months. It is a great way to try out Bell Choir.

Louise Olshan
Bell Choir Director

Music Notes



Why Should I Sing in the Choir?

A short article in the January/February of the AARP Bulletin stated that a study done in Finland showed "an improved quality of life among older choir members". Another study done at Georgetown University stated that "older adults who sang in a chorus had fewer falls, fewer doctor visits and less loneliness than those in a control group". Singers are using their minds and bodies and creating something beautiful and helping keep their brains active at the same time. So, what could this mean for younger adults? An earlier start to engaging the area of the brain that can handle the multi-tasking that is singing can probably strengthen the brain sooner!

Almost anyone who has been in a choir knows that the choir is like a family – members support each other, often socialize outside of rehearsals, share in each other's joys and sorrows, and of course, share the bond of making music.

Our choir here at St. James' is much like that and you are missing out on all that! We'd love to have you join our choir family – it's not too late to sing with us for Easter, for example!

Youth Choir

Our Youth Choir is part of our Sunday School program. The children will be singing at the 10am Easter service and have just started rehearsing their song, "Christ Is Risen From the Grave".

Lift your hearts up to the Lord.....with music!

Pam Laura



St. James' Episcopal Church Hackettstown

A Remembrance of Helen Wise

One of Helen's favorite hymns was *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. For me Helen was a bright and beautiful gift in my life. The day after her funeral I attended the worship service on the ship I was on and the first hymn was *All Things Bright and Beautiful*. The tune was not the one used at St. James', but rather the one used in Great Britain and the one Helen often referred to. She would sing "her" tune for us at choir. Having missed her service at St. James', singing this hymn at the ship's worship service made me feel connected to Helen in a special way.

Helen joined the singing choir in 2004 shortly after moving to the area. Her church was so very important to her, not just because she was the daughter of a vicar, but because her faith was true and strong. She would arrive at the rehearsal anxious to get started and to sing to the Lord.

Shortly after joining the singing choir, Helen joined the Bell Choir. She moved from one bell to two bells and even three on occasion. She was a dedicated ringer, rarely missing a ringing event. This past fall she asked me to include her in the music I was preparing because she so much wanted to return to the Bell Choir, even if she had to climb to the balcony. Unfortunately she was unable to return to the choir.

Helen loved her family and she shared family news with us, things like births, graduations, trips to Long Island to see her daughter and her son and his wife and later "the twins" and her trip to England in October 2012. All of us in the choir awaited the births of her grandchildren with great anticipation and we were frequently treated to pictures of the babies. She shared with us the beautiful blankets she knitted for them. Her face glowed when she spoke of her three children, her son-in-law, her daughter-in-law and her five grandchildren. What joy they all brought to her.

And Helen brought joy to others. Even in this past year, as she struggled with her illness, whenever

I saw her she was smiling. She remained optimistic about beating her illness. This past year she taught me a lot about faith and struggling with a life-threatening disease. Visits to her were always upbeat because she was upbeat.

I now miss her smile and laughter and, of course, her wonderful accent. But I will treasure the times we were together and count her friendship as a bright and beautiful blessing in my life.

Louise Olshan



The Bell Choir assembled a plaque in memory of Helen Wise. It can be viewed in the balcony on the Bell Tower wall.

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!



Peter Huryk and David Lacouture
representing St. James' in the
St. Patrick's Day Parade
on April 16th.

Palm burning at St. James'
for use in
Ash Wednesday Services.



Congratulations Isaac Quelly!
Student of the Month at
Warren Hills.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:00 AM TWO SUNDAY LENTEN SERIES 9AM - 12:30PM HOLY EUCHARIST FOLLOWED BY BRUNCH 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 4:30 PM El Shaddai Church	31 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	1 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 2:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation	2 8:30 AM BACKPACK PROGRAM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	3 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation 7:30 PM VESTRY MEETING	4 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	5 9:00 AM MAINTENANCE MORNING
6 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 9:00 AM TWO SUNDAY LENTEN SERIES 9AM - 12:30PM HOLY EUCHARIST FOLLOWED BY BRUNCH 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 4:30 PM El Shaddai Church	7 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	8 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 2:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation	9 8:30 AM BACKPACK PROGRAM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:00 PM FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	10 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation	11 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	12 10:00 AM VITA Tax Preparation
13 PALM SUNDAY 8:00 AM PALM SUNDAY LITURGY & HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM PALM SUNDAY LITURGY & HOLY EUCHARIST 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 4:30 PM El Shaddai Church	14 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	15 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring	16 8:30 AM BACKPACK PROGRAM 7:00 PM SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE MEETING 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church 7:30 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	17 6:00 PM AGAPE FEAST 7:30 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY FOOT WASHING SERVICE & HOLY EUCHARIST 9:00 PM VIGIL BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT LADY CHAPEL & AT HOME-SEE SIGN-UP SHEET	18 12:00 PM GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL SERVICE PVEC 7:30 PM GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY & STATIONS OF THE CROSS	19 11:30 AM HOLY SATURDAY PRAYERS 7:30 PM GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER
20 EASTER SUNDAY 8:00 AM EASTER DAY FEAST of the RESURRECTION 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM EASTER DAY FEAST of the RESURRECTION 4:30 PM El Shaddai Church	21 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	22 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 2:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation	23 8:30 AM BACKPACK PROGRAM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	24 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation 7:30 PM VESTRY MEETING	25 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	26 9AM – 3PM RUMMAGE SALE
27 8:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 8:30 AM SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL 10:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST 11:30 AM JOURNAL DEADLINE! Pay Attention to deadline short time for editor due to Easter 4:00 PM EFM - EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY 4:30 PM El Shaddai Church	28 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	29 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 10:00 AM Literacy Tutoring 2:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation	30 8:30 AM BACKPACK PROGRAM 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 7:30 PM El Shaddai Church	1 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center 6:00 PM VITA Tax Preparation 7:30 PM VESTRY MEETING	2 8:30 AM Joseph Quinlan Bereavement Center	3

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St. James' Staff & Vestry

Supply Priest:	The Rev. Elizabeth Myers
Deacon:	The Rev. Sheila Shuford
Rector Emeritus:	The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Parish Administrator:	Linda Ayres
Music Director:	Pam Laura
Organist/Bell Choir Director:	Louise Olshan
Sexton:	Pauline Volkert

Vestry

Senior Warden:	David Lacouture
Junior Warden:	Carol Novrit

Paul Bartkus	Peter Quelly	Ann Edens
Peter Gartelmann	David Handville	Bill Critchley
Barbara Olesen	Chika Okoye	Ellen Infante

Vestry Clerk:	Jayne Mutascio
Treasurer:	Janice Cipriani
Asst. Treasurer:	Ricky Okoye
Bookkeeper:	Ellen Infante

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