



# ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2016

REV. ARTHUR "GUY" FOUTS, PRIEST-IN-RESIDENCE

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## This Month in Stewardship

**Money - - Money - - Money.**

"For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains." 1 Timothy 6:10

This fall our lectionary readings have often been about money and wealth. I remember mis-hearing the above verse from Timothy as, "Money is the root of all evil." Hearing the underlying message of scripture often takes a mature ear. It is not money that is the problem, but rather how we view it. Do I seek money to live or live to seek money? Money has a very personal meaning for each of us. It might be an interesting exercise to fill in the blank for the following sentence:

Money is \_\_\_\_\_.

For some money means power, or freedom, or safety, or status, or control, or worth, or comfort, or happiness. For some it represents a pass-through of God's grace for use in fulfilling his purpose.

There was an old stewardship exercise that challenged us to look over our checkbook registers to see where we spend our money. The point was that the activities for which our checks were most frequently written would indicate what we either valued, or what was most key to our lives. Nowadays, it would be more relevant to examine our credit or debit card statements to gain that information.

Are your entries most often for necessities (food, shelter, etc.), charitable ministries, or something else? In Luke's account of the rich man and poor Lazarus, the rich man was condemned, not because he was rich and not because he enjoyed his riches, but because he ignored the plight of Lazarus, who was of such low station and misery that only the dogs of the street licked his sores. It was the rich man's apparent lack of compassion and generosity that damned him.

**MONEY:** Momentarily-Owned-Not-Eternally-Yours.

As we approach the time of year in which we ask you to consider your pledge of time, talent and treasure, please take some time to prayerfully reflect on your relationship with money, what it means to you and what its greater purpose might be. Christian communities believe that everything we have is temporary. We are called to be good stewards and provide a use for our treasure that serves God's higher purpose. Please consider how St. James' will fit into God's plan for you.

Paul Bartkus

**Journal Deadline**

**November Edition:**

**October 29th**

## UTO

We meet her in both the gospels of Mark and Luke....she is the poor widow who casts her 2 mites into the temple treasury while the rich man is observed by Jesus tossing his gift into the treasury. We have this brief look into the everyday lives of people during Jesus' time to illustrate that God desires voluntary and cheerful giving rather than false piety. The widow with her 2 mites was desperately poor...probably with no income at all. But she gave sacrificially from her heart whereas the rich man gave presumably a smaller percentage of his total income to show off and appear religious.

But this story is an anachronism because there was no coin called a mite in Palestine during the first century. The smallest denomination was a bronze coin known as a lepton. The mite was common at the time of the creation of the King James Bible. Because in society at that time it was a social obligation to give a silver coin at church collections, the impact of this incident is even more powerful.

It can be surmised that the tradition of the mite box grew from an awareness of the obligation to set aside even the smallest amounts for the Church's ministries. First referenced in 2 Kings and encouraged by Pope Innocent III in the 12th century, the mite box is a metal box to save coins for charitable purposes. It promotes the spirit of contributions based on the intent to help others, not for the monetary amount.

The Episcopal Church has its own version of the mite box.....AKA United Thank Offering. This supports programs that address compelling human needs with special focus on the alleviation of poverty domestic and international within Anglican provinces and dioceses. Looking to make significant impact with new

and innovative ideas, each diocese within the Church may apply for a grant from UTO to fund a special project as part of diocesan planned assistance to all ministries. In 2015 the Episcopal Diocese of Newark received a grant to hold overnight retreats that are supportive of young adults working within the Church.

St James' will participate in this year's UTO campaign beginning October 16, 2016. Cardboard "mite boxes" will be available in the back of the Church. UTO ingathering will begin January 15, 2017. Our donation will be presented by our representatives at the Diocesan Convention January 27-28, 2017.

Meg Critchley

### Vestry Highlights

- † David Lacouture will be our speaker for Stewardship Sunday, October 30th.
- † The Parish Hall will be rededicated on November 20th.
- † Visit to Sunday School by Sister Barbara Jean from St. John Baptist on October 23rd.
- † Jayne Mutascio has agreed to head up the Communications Committee.
- † It is expected that the Budget prepared by the Finance Committee will be completed around the middle of November



## Maintenance Morning

Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>

9 AM – 12 PM

Come out to help us maintain the church property and grounds! No job too big or small, something for everyone to do. Enjoy fellowship, coffee, and bagels as well! Come for an hour or all three!



## Calling All Gardeners....

...and anyone who might want to spend an hour or more to help maintain our St. James' gardens. Helping hands will be welcomed on Maintenance morning, October 8, anytime from 9-12:00. We need to cut back our perennial plants and do some weeding.

Hope to see you next Saturday!

Phyllis Bartkus

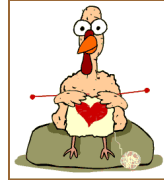
## **BUNCO Night at St James' in the Parish Hall**

***Family game night*** will be held on Saturday evening, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, starting at 5:30. Jayne Mutascio will once again lead us in a fun night of this game of chance along with prizes!

BYO Pizza, with Salad, Dessert and soft drinks provided. Look for sign up sheet or come last minute if you can make it!!!



## Yarn Twisters



Many thanks to our knitters and crocheters both at St. James' and also at Heath Village – because of these talented ladies, our items are growing by leaps and bounds, ensuring that we will have several boxes to take to SCI this Fall to ensure that the Mariners have their ditty bags full of warm hats and scarves. I will be contacting Jerry Sheard in the near future to see if he can transport all the goodies to SCI in Newark. Thank you to everyone who is contributing to this much needed mission!

With the darker and cooler nights approaching, it is the perfect time to begin thinking about next year's donations – never too early to begin !

All patterns and information can be found on the SCI website at [www.seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea](http://www.seamenschurch.org/christmas-at-sea) . This also gives an idea of what colors can and cannot be used, no tassels or fringes. If you would like to knit/ crochet for SCI and need more information, please contact me at [frlbailey1@comcast.net](mailto:frlbailey1@comcast.net) or call me at 908-684-3566.

Thank you,

Linda Miller

## Ministry Scheduler Pro Now

### Available as a Mobile App!

If you are an usher, counter, Altar Guild member, or serve on the altar, you can now download Ministry Scheduler Pro to your mobile device. Now you can check your schedule anywhere you go!

## Fundraising Report

Our **Shop With Scrip** Gift Card Program continues throughout the year with orders being due the 2nd Sunday of each month. The next order date is Sunday, October 9th. Please think about us for gift card needs for personal use, special occasions and purchases from garden centers for Fall cleanup and plantings. And the Holidays are coming up soon-these make great gifts!

The **Rummage Sale** brought us \$692....thank you to all who helped make this a success!

Our **Christmas Candy** fundraiser with Gertrude Hawk is beginning on October 23rd. Each person that orders will be entered into a drawing to win a chocolate gift basket donated by Gertrude Hawk!

Please consider including donations from **Amazon.com** to St. James' when making purchases online. Log onto [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select St. James,' Hackettstown, as the organization that receives a percentage of eligible purchases. More to follow about this program during October.

Finally, we will have some jewelry from **Bead for Life**, an organization whose mission statement is: *"Creating sustainable opportunities for women to lift their families out of poverty by connecting people worldwide in a circle of exchange that enriches everyone."* These pieces will be on display during October and November and make unique gifts while helping to support women in poverty!

Thanks for your support in our fundraising efforts!

St. James' Fundraising Committee



Recently, Bishop John Shelby Spong suffered a massive stroke. Doctors believe he has a good chance of recovering cognition and mobility. He was admitted to The Atlantic Rehabilitation Institute, 95 Mount Kemble Ave, Morristown, NJ 07960.

Cards to Bishop Spong are welcome as are prayers for his recovery and his family.



**St. James' Episcopal Church Hackettstown**

## SHOP-RITE & WEIS GIFT CARDS

Order forms for gift cards will be distributed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. The order forms must be returned by the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month and the gift cards will be distributed after the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM services on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. See Paul Bartkus if you have any questions.



## The Lacouture's Trip Journal

Kathy and Dave drove 16 hours straight to St. Louis on Aug 18th while Katie and her friend followed behind in a separate car. Destination was Washington University in St. Louis which some call the Harvard of the West.

Kate is attending the Brown School of Social Work which consistently ranks in the top five social work schools in the country. The building architecture and grounds are simply stunning (more like Oxford or Cambridge). Nearby University City (not on campus, an actual section of the City where Katie lives) is amazing and boasts what has been rated the top 10 most intriguing and fun main streets in the county. So true!

On the way back Dave and Kathy visited the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.



Kate, new grad student at the Brown School of Social Work



Kate and Kathy in one the court yards at Washington University



Drew: The happiest guy in Maryland starting his sophomore year at Salisbury University.



Dave and Kathy visiting the Gateway Arch in St Louis



Jim Morrison's (of the Doors) Cub Scout Uniform at the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, OH



## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Celebration of the **Feast of St. Francis** on **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9**, outside in front of the church at **11:30AM**.

**St. James' Episcopal Church 214 Washington St, corner of Moore St., Hackettstown**

### BRING YOUR PETS AND OTHER FRIENDS!

Join us to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis by bringing pets of any and all varieties at 11:30 to meet us outside the church for blessings!

All are welcome!

We ask that all pets be leashed or in containers of some sort. Children without pets or whose pets can't travel are invited to bring their favorite stuffed animals for a blessing.

## 2016 Church of the Messiah

### Community Concert

Saturday, October 22nd - 3 PM

Featuring local performers and  
choirs

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

[stjameshackettstown.org](http://stjameshackettstown.org)

Check out the new calendar!

Sign up for email news!

## DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

### OCTOBER 6TH



Music at  
St. Luke's  
PRESENTS

## HALF ANNIE

Half Annie is comprised of 3 women  
guitarists & singers who play music that  
spans the past 60 years; exquisite 3 part  
harmony highlights their music.



Judy Piserchia, Dot Maver, and Ginny Stapinski

@HalfAnnie

This benefit concert will support  
Haven of Hope for Kids  
For more information visit, [hohtk.com](http://hohtk.com)

Haven of Hope  
For Kids

**Saturday October 8<sup>TH</sup> 2016**  
**Show - 7PM • Tickets - \$15, \$10 for seniors**

**346 High St. • Hope, NJ • 908-818-9661**

# CALENDAR

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## St. James' Staff & Vestry

Priest-in-Residence	Rev. Arthur "Guy" Fouts
Rector Emeritus:	The Rev. Clarence Sickles
Parish Administrator:	Julie Mills
Organist	Dmitry Nikolaev
Sexton:	Pauline Volkert

### Vestry

Senior Warden:	Paul Bartkus
Junior Warden:	Barbara Olesen

Peter Quelly	Bill Critchley	Janice Cipriani
Nancy Miller	Chris Krauss	Claudia Scala
Pam Laura	Sam Wood	

Vestry Clerk:	Claudia Scala
Treasurer:	Janice Cipriani
Bookkeeper:	Claudia Scala

### Barbara Olesen, Editor

All Journal submissions  
should be sent to:

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& [olesen@comcast.net](mailto:olesen@comcast.net)

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