



ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 2017

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

This Month in Stewardship Discipleship

*"Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of
our Savior Jesus Christ. . . ."*

I am often struck finding a connection between my role as warden and the Sunday readings in church. From the above Collect for the Third Sunday after Epiphany and the readings, I identify with asking people to join in ministry. I imagine that Jesus did not subscribe to call-forwarding or for that matter call-waiting, as our modern telephone systems offer. In the Gospel for that Sunday we see that Jesus walks along and collects apostles by waving. They drop everything and follow. That is the call.

We are entering a time in our stewardship year when we reach out to our members to join in ministry. This is discipleship. Barbara Olesen, the Vestry, and I are engaged in the process of ensuring that our ministries continue. We are not Jesus. We do not wave. We ask. That is the call.

In the weeks that follow you may be the recipient of a call to discipleship. I do not mean a literal phone contact, but one from our parish leadership issuing an invitation, a call, to join an aspect of our ministries. You may remember from our pledge materials that we offer a variety of ministries from which to apply your

time and talent. Answering an invitation is an opportunity to deepen your spiritual connection with others in our parish family. There is joy in working for our church, whether it is serving on the Vestry, gardening, attending to the Altar or serving during worship. We are fun!

So when the call comes, please give it prayerful reflection. Remember that many hands make light work and joyful waving. That is the call.

Thank you for reading,
Paul Bartkus
Sr. Warden



Welcome Rev. Bob Solon!

The Parish of St. James' welcomes Rev. Bob Solon back to be the celebrant during the month of February while Rev. Guy Fouts is away.

Many of you will remember him serving with us during the Easter season two years ago.

We are very happy to have him with us....please introduce yourself to him!



Ash Wednesday Service

March 1

Watch for Details

Dwell in the Word with St. James

Listening to God through Scripture, One Another, Our
Neighbors, and Ourselves

From the Resource Guide provided at the 143rd Annual
Convention-Diocese of Newark, 2017:

*“Dwelling in the Word is a way of listening to scripture
that opens the imagination. It helps us listen to the Spirit
of God. In Dwelling, we are learning together how to
listen and discern what God is saying....Dwelling will
shape us, our congregations, and how we engage our
neighbors.”*

*“Dwelling reminds us that WE are sources of discerning
what God wants to do among us. And most importantly
that God was an active agent in the time of the text, and
is an active agent now.”*

In the coming weeks and months, our parish will be
exposed to a passage, which we invite you to reflect
upon privately, with fellow parishioners during coffee
hour, and any time you are moved. We have set up a
space in Snyder Hall to chat about it or just leave a
thought on paper for us to share in next month's Journal.

This month's passage

Joshua 3: 1-7 (New International Version)

1 Early in the morning Joshua and all the Israelites set
out from Shittim and went to the Jordan, where they
camped before crossing over. 2 After three days the
officers went throughout the camp, 3 giving orders to the
people: “When you see the ark of the covenant of the
LORD your God, and the Levitical priests carrying it,
you are to move out from your positions and follow
it. 4 Then you will know which way to go, since you
have never been this way before. But keep a distance of
about two thousand cubits between you and the ark; do
not go near it.” 5 Joshua told the people, “Consecrate
yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing
things among you.”

6 Joshua said to the priests, “Take up the ark of the
covenant and pass on ahead of the people.” So they took it
up and went ahead of them. 7 And the LORD said to
Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the eyes of all
Israel, so they may know that I am with you as I was with
Moses.

Reflection Questions:

As you hear the reading, where does your imagination
stop? Are there words, phrases, ideas that grasp you? How
do you think the Spirit of God might be nudging you?

Jewels Quelly

Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is grateful to the members of
the congregation who assisted with the Greening
and "Ungreening" of the church this
Christmas. And a special thanks to those
individuals who generously remembered loved
one and helped offset the cost of the wreaths and
poinsettias that decorated our worship space.

Meg Critchley

St. James' Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 12

One Service—9 AM

Meeting to follow service

A continental breakfast will be served.

Watch for more details.

March Edition
Journal Deadline
February 26th

Fundraising Report

Shop With Scrip—Next order is due Sunday, February 12th.

Legacy Books—Unfortunately we are no longer collecting books. The program works best when we have a collection bin on site, but that is not an option right now. All books collected so far will be donated to Trinity Church who is participating in the program. Thanks to those who donated!

Gertrude Hawk—Our Spring Candy Sale begins on February 5th. If you are able to get friends, family and coworkers to look at the catalog, it would be appreciated. There are items for everyone in this brochure!

Amazon Smile—Thanks to those who signed up to donate a portion of eligible purchases to St. James'. Donation checks are deposited directly to our account on a quarterly basis. Stay tuned for the amount!

Sign up at smile.amazon.com.



Rummage Sale—The Townwide Rummage Sale will most likely be held in late April. Please save items for our sale and bring to the church anytime after April 1st. We do not take books or electronics! Watch for more details.

Thanks for helping to raise funds for the mission and ministry of St. James'!



Confirmation Class

Sunday March 5th—Sunday April 9th

During Lent and Easter

Led by Rev. Guy Fouts



Yarn Twisters

Happy New Year to all! I hope that all of our knitted items found good homes at Christmas time and that there are some

happy SCI mariners wearing them and staying toasty warm as they navigate the oceans to bring us so many items that make our day to day life more comfortable. Again, my thanks to the ladies at Heath Village, Phyllis Bartkus, Louise Olshan and welcome back to Wendie Germain for continuing to support this mission and to Jerry Sheard for delivering boxes to SCI. My personal stash is growing weekly, so I feel very confident that in the fall we will once again have several boxes to package up and deliver.

Winter is not over yet, so keep on knitting during these chilly days and nights. We had some lovely fabric donated that will make great ditty bags, so if you can sew a straight line and thread a shoelace around the top, that's all it takes.

All patterns and information can be found on the SCI website at 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 or call me at 908-684-3566.

Thank you and warm wishes for the Holiday Season!

Linda Miller

The Tree of Giving

Thank you for joining in the ministry of the Tree of Giving this year.

It seems so long ago. We started before Advent by connecting with local schools to identify possible children to serve. The parents were contacted and gifts were decided. Lists of presents were constructed with attention to clothing sizes and favorite colors, as well as toys, games and books. Tags were printed with each gift for each child and then were attached to candy canes with instructions. The Lacouture family joined in to help with organizing and wrapping the pre-purchased presents.



When the first Sunday in Advent arrived, so did the tree. It was ready for the congregation to browse among the candy canes and find a present to purchase, wrap and return. There were presents for seven children, ranging in age from 2 to 13 years in three families. Fifty-six presents included Legos set of trucks, ambulances, and planes, Play-doh and kinetic sand, Spiderman and Frozen games, Thomas the Train blocks, trucks, puzzles and books. Clothing ranged from PJ's to Jeggins to sweaters, shirts and jeans, with the usual sets of hats, scarves and gloves.

As you removed the canes, they were replaced by paper angels decorated by the Sunday school kids. The angles "waited" for the presents to arrive the last Sunday in Advent and before the school's winter recess. And they did!

The gifts were delivered to the schools the Monday before the winter recess. The parents were very appreciative of your help in making a joyous Christmas for their children. One mom said that she prays every day for a miracle and that getting the presents for her children this year was a miracle.

Thank you again, St. James' for joining in this ministry and for helping a mother and her children realize a miracle.

Paul and Phyllis Bartkus

Dave and Kathy Lacouture



Sunday School
Packing
Holiday
Food Baskets!



St. James' Christmas

2016

St. James' held three services on Christmas Eve and another Eucharistic service on Christmas Day and our church looked lovely. The week prior, many hands helped decorate the sanctuary, under the careful direction of Meg Critchley. The poinsettias were symmetrically arranged on the altar, and wreaths and garland were hung



throughout the rest of the church.

We had out-of-town visitors attend services and commented how beautiful St. James' looked.

Phyllis Bartkus



A Gift of Warmth

Peg Faust, along with help from Nancy Miller, continued the program "A Gift of Warmth" this year for those in need. Funded by anonymous donors who also fund the Summer Back Pack program, they were able to give out coats, socks, gloves and hats to keep people warm!



Peg told me that they gave out 230 coats to folks in a lot of areas that they did not necessarily have contact with, such as area schools and the corrections system. They would shop at Kohl's often using store racks to bring their purchases to the cash register!

Many thanks to Peg and Nancy who have reached out to men, women and children to make their winter a little less cold. Special thanks go to the donors who enabled them to do this. They are all truly angels!

Barbara Olesen



ST JAMES' CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE FELLOWSHIP DINNER

SATURDAY MARCH 18th 5:30 TO 7:30 PM

IN SNYDER HALL

\$10. PER ADULT; KIDS UNDER 12 FREE

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE

CARROTS AND IRISH SODA BREAD

DESSERT & SOFT DRINKS PROVIDED / BYOB

FRIENDS AND FAMILY WELCOME

GREEN DESSERT CONTEST:

IRISH MUSIC, CRAFTS FOR THE KIDS, FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL

Need a ride? Questions? Call Kathy or Dave Lacouture at 908-850-9214 or email to lockwood88@comcast.net

PLEASE RESPOND BY RETURNING THE BELOW BY 3/15

Your name _____

of Adults @ \$10. Per person _____

of Children _____

Yes, I will enter the green dessert contest

Yes, I will make Irish Soda Bread

St James' Fifth Annual Epiphany Boar's Head Dinner

For the fifth consecutive year, St. James' held it's very popular Epiphany Boar's Head Dinner on Saturday January 14th in the newly dedicated Snyder Hall.

The threat of inclement weather did not stop 40 folks from attending this traditional mid-winter evening of fellowship and fun.

Carol McKinney superbly played the traditional Epiphany hymns on the piano while everyone sang along. Dave Lacouture led the prayers.

The dinner featured amazing home-made salads, sides and dessert from the kitchens of the attendees. The dishes were so delicious that next year, arrangements will be made to share recipes.

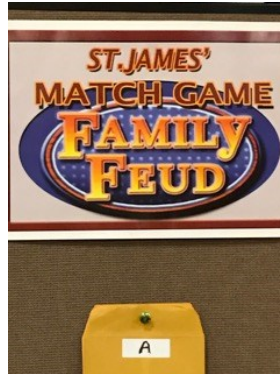
Of course, there was the main course roasted that day by Piggy's Deli in Mansfield and delivered steaming hot with three types of sauces.

A big thank you goes to Peter Quelly who ensured the pig was displayed so nicely as well as prepared for serving and cleanedup afterward.

The Boar's Head Dinner would not be complete without an after-dinner game. For that, Pete and Gerri Huryk joined us from Maryland to host "The Epiphany Match Game." Three Wise Men (Barbara Olesen, Drew Lacouture and Dan Miller) lead their respective teams in mind-bending Epiphany trivia posed by esteemed game-host Pete. Emmy and Luke, Pete and Gerri's grandchildren, served as assistants.

A big thanks goes out to the Special Events Committee (Kathy Lacouture, Claudia Scala and Phyllis and Paul Bartkus) for planning the dinner and making the preparations.

Thanks to everyone who attended for making the evening so much fun and carrying on the tradition.



David Lacouture



CALENDAR

ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

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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

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