



# ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2017

Rev. Robert "Bob" Solon—Supply Priest



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## This Month in Stewardship

### FREE Gifts!

Our gifts are free. Stewardship is a year-round activity of discipleship. What does that mean? Put simply, everything that we do with everything we have reflects our stewardship of the gifts which God has provided to us for our time on this earth. We are given these heavenly gifts without a rental fee or charge. We may be inspired to give thanks when we stop to consider the enormity of this. Everything. The elements identified by scientists were spewed forth from the explosion of stars in the heavens of the universe. We are literally made of stardust and so is everything that we can perceive. But wait, there's more.

Talents are our gifts and everyone is gifted. Not only do we benefit from the warmth and energy of our sun, which is an essential gift needed for our life, but also from the cells in our brains, bones, and muscles. These microscopic elements of life are expressed in our individuality and the gifts of our personalities and talents. We all have a gift. Some of us are good talkers while others are good listeners. Some of us have an eye for symmetry and visual composition, while others are gifted with ability to craft that which is pleasing to the eye. Some of us enjoy the glory of music as it caresses our ears, and others are blessed with the ability to create those tones. And so on, you get the point. For as many "things" as you can think

of, there is a complementary talent associated with them. And these talents are expressed as actions.

Heavenly Gifts are capital and need to be spent. Yes, each talent that we have within us needs an expression. Think about this. The muscles of an athlete pre-exist the expression of athleticism. In order to fully express that talent, an athlete trains and practices to strengthen those muscles. In the same way a musician practices the sequence of fine motor skills needed to produce musical sounds. Also a gardener plants and weeds and prunes to achieve a pleasing or bountiful garden. When we give nourishment to someone who is food insecure, we express the hospitality that is spoken of in the Bible. When we trim a bush or tree around our church property, we express our respect for the succession of stewardship of this property which extends from the past into the future. When we knit scarves and hats for seafarers, we express our desire that they should be comforted, not only physically, but with the knowledge that someone reached out to them. When we set the Lord's Table, we are preparing a meal commemorating the Last Supper. Our church community offers us opportunities to exercise our talents and spend them. As humans we are drawn to be in connection with others. We are not solitary creatures. Without practice, talent that is not expressed will atrophy and wither. It will be wasted. Stewardship is not wasteful.

The goal of stewardship is . . . . . Our

stewardship goal is to look in our hearts, to discern our gifts, and then to find ways of spending them at St. James'. You don't have to think about just what you are good at now, but you may consider what you would like to be better at. Our parish family is enriched by the expression of the diversity of the talents of its members. We have many opportunities for you to sprinkle a little of your stardust. Come and join me as I expand the expression of my skillset through the practice of stewardship.

Thanks for reading,  
Paul

**Fundraising Report**

**Shop With Scrip**—Next order is due Sunday, November 12th. This will be the next to the last order before Christmas. Please think about your holiday shopping! Order forms are in the back of the church and in Snyder Hall. **After the end of the year we may discontinue the way we currently place orders. See article on page 4 for more information.**

**Amazon Smile**—We continue to earn money from Amazon through the Amazon Smile program which donates a portion of eligible purchases to St. James'. If you use Amazon, especially for holiday shopping, please sign up and tell family and friends to help support us. Sign up at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

**Rummage Sale**—Thanks to Peg Faust for donating the proceeds from the Rummage Sale at her home. Tell her what an angel she is!  
Thanks for helping to raise funds for the mission and ministry of St. James'!

**Family Breakfast**



I believe we at St. James' look forward to and enjoy family breakfast Sundays, (usually the first Sun. of each month). However, the responsibility for these times of fellowship on given Sundays has become the responsibility of the

Quelly family. Recently some folks have come forward to set up for the breakfast, setting out warming pans, filling the teapot, setting out salt/pepper shakers, putting out tablecloths.

Last Sunday, help was provided in the kitchen, cracking eggs, setting out cups, juices, slicing coffee cakes. Others have helped with the clean-up.

There is a sign-up list in the Snyder Hall where you can select a way you might help. We want this wonderful fellowship tradition at St. James' to continue. If you have any questions, please ask the Quelly's, a vestry member, or myself.

Thank you for reading,  
Phyllis Bartkus

November Edition  
  
Journal Deadline  
  
October 29th

## Congratulations Kevin Honigsberg!

Meg and Bill Critchley are proud to announce that their son, Kevin Honigsberg, has recently graduated from the US Coast Guard basic training in Cape May.

Kevin was baptized and made his first communion at St James'. He was confirmed by Bishop Beckwith in 2009.

In 2015 Kevin graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's degree in Hospitality Management. After working in his field for two years, Kevin told his parents, "This isn't enough for me. I want to be a part of something bigger than myself."

After five days of leave, Kevin will travel to Key West FL to assume his post as helmsman in the medium endurance cutter *Thetis*.

The US Coast Guard was established in 1790 at the request of Alexander Hamilton, making it the oldest continuous seagoing service. Although the original purpose was to collect custom duties at US seaports, the Coast Guard is responsible for maritime law enforcement with jurisdiction in domestic and international waters, environmental protection, marine safety, search and rescue, as well as migrant and drug interdiction. One of the nation's five armed services, the Coast Guard has been involved in every war from 1790 to Iraq war and the War in Afghanistan including landing troops on D Day and Pacific islands during WWII.

The *Thetis* will be leaving Coast Guard Station Key West around October 12th for a ten week deployment around the Caribbean.



## Congratulations Amanda and Gene!

Amanda Wallace and Gene Seiter were married Sunday, September 10th at St. James' by the Rev. Rod Perez-Vega. The couple honeymooned in Spain. Much happiness to you from your St. James' Family!



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## Peg Faust's Rummage Sale

Recently Peg Faust held a Rummage Sale at her home and donated the proceeds to St. James'. She wishes to thank Alissa Armstrong, Christa, Justin, Peg, Kelly, Dave and Eric of the Faust family and Barbara and David. A special thank you to Peg Faust for doing this for St. James'!

## 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 15, 2017. Cardboard "mite boxes" will be available in the back of the Church. UTO ingathering will begin January 14, 2017. Our donation will be presented by our representatives at the Diocesan Convention January 26-27, 2018.

Meg Critchley



Over the past several years, we have offered a gift card program which offers us a percentage of the face value of the gift cards as a means of fundraising. Thanks to all who have purchased gift cards. It's not easy to get into the swing of using gift cards on a regular basis for items you normally purchase. It is perhaps time to change the way we order these cards.

Our program runs out of Shop With Scrip. We currently order "physical" cards to hand out each month to those who order. There is an \$8.50 Fed Ex fee as these cards are as good as cash and must be delivered securely. It takes about \$800 in orders each month to cover the cost of shipping and make a small profit. With this in mind, we are considering placing orders online and delivered online.

One option is to have families place their own orders and we get a prompt to approve the order. You can just write us a check. We can also have the coordinator of the program, Barbara Olesen, place the order online with instant approval.

There is an option to reload your cards online using the same process. You would just need to keep your card in order to use it over and over again.



## Upcoming Events



## District 1 Meeting

St. James' hosted the Diocese of Newark District 1 Dinner Meeting on Thursday, September 14th at 7 PM in Snyder Hall. Thank you so much for all of the time and energy that went into the District 1 Dinner Meeting. Wow!!! It turned out to be 23 people and that was unexpected! From Evening Prayer to food prep, set up, to clean-up, you all helped to make one of the nicest dinner meetings I had attended in my short time as our rep. Thank you so much....great job St James'!!!

Kathy Erwood-Lacouture

Ed. Note: Thank you Kathy for being our district representative and keeping St. James' in the loop with news and information within the district! Kathy will not be able to attend the next district meeting on November 30th, so we are looking for a non-Vestry member to fill in. Please contact Kathy or one of the Wardens if you can do this.

## 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.

- 10/8 Blessing of the Animals 8 & 10 AM
- SWS Gift Card orders due
- 10/14 Maintenance Morning
- 10/15 Healing Service
- UTO Boxes available
- 10/15 Special Events Meeting 7 PM
- 10/19 Finance Meeting 7 PM
- 10/21 Bunco 5:30—7:30 PM
- 10/22 Gertrude Hawk Candy sales begin
- 10/26 Vestry Meeting 7 PM
- 10/29 Stewardship Sunday
- All Saints Envelopes due back
- November Journal Articles due
- Sunday School Halloween Parade
- 11/5 Family Breakfast
- All Saints Sunday
- Thanksgiving Bags are available
- Veterans Day Envelopes due back
- 11/12 Veterans Day Sunday
- SWS Gift Card orders due
- 11/15 Special Events meeting 7 PM
- 11/16 Finance Committee meeting 7 PM
- 11/18 Stewardship Dinner 5:30—8:30 PM
- 11/19 Stewardship Ingathering
- Thanksgiving Bags due back
- Gertrude Hawk Candy orders due
- 11/24 Gertrude Hawk orders due back
- 11/26 Tree of Giving is up
- Hymn Sing 7 PM at Gethsemane
- 11/30 Vestry Meeting 7 PM

## Prayer Ministry

St. James' has an active prayer ministry in which "pray-ers" lift up prayer requests in their own personal devotions. They are open to receiving pray request and thanksgiving from anyone; the "pray-ers" hold your requests in confidence. Please for requests to Barbara Olesen at Olesen@comcast.net; you may also wish to join us as a "pray-er"; please speak with Barbara.



### Maintenance Morning

October 14th

9 AM— Noon



Help us clean up and repair

Inside and outside.

Small and large projects.

Gardening help is needed as well!



Refreshments will  
be served!

## Bunco Night

Join us for Bunco on Saturday, October 21st from 5:30—7:30 PM in Snyder Hall. This dice game, led by Jayne Mutascio, is quick-paced and a lot of fun! BYOP (Bring Your Own Pizza). Drinks, salad and brownies will be served. Prizes might be available!



## Vestry Hi-Lites

A quorum was established at the September 28th meeting.

### Discussions:

- Financial compensation for a part-time permanent priest for 15 hrs/wk.
- Application will be submitted for Ward J. Herbert grant from the diocese for 50% of roof repairs which totaled \$10,932.
- A \$1,200 donation is being made to Episcopal Relief and Development for hurricane relief. Christ Church in Bloomfield will match our donation.
- Search Team meeting will be held on October 11th

**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!**

## Altar Flowers



Anyone who travels Schooley's Mountain road frequently has noticed that Greenway Florist, our long time supplier of our altar flowers, has been sold. But there has been no disruption of our floral arrangements. If anything they have become more beautiful.

Our flowers are now being created and delivered by Lisa, a Hackettstown resident who works out of her home. She has managed to keep the cost of our altar flowers the same as from Greenway, that is \$25 for the two....and yet the displays are fuller and more colorful than in recent memory.

Consider sponsoring altar flowers in memory of a loved one, to honor a special person or event, or to thank God for His enormous blessings. The notebook to sign up is found in the Narthex and a check with the memo line indicating "Altar Flowers" can be submitted during the regular Sunday collection.

The Altar Guild

## Items For Seamen' Church Institute



Once again Pat Taylor and the knitters from Heath Village have donated vests, hats, and scarves for the Yarn Twisters of St. James' to

be taken to the Seamen's Church Institute. We thank this talented group of women for this wonderful contribution to this ministry. The items are beautiful!

Linda Miller and Phyllis Bartkus

## Memorial Envelopes

St. James' will have envelopes out on the table in the back of the church for two upcoming Memorial events. Names of those remembered will be included in the bulletin for that week. Envelopes should be returned to the office either by mail or in the collection plate on the dates below:

- ✦ All Saints Day-those who we have lost, family and friends, can be included for the All Saints Day service on November 5th. These envelopes must be returned to the office by **10/29**.
- ✦ Veterans Day-we honor those military vets, family and friends, living or passed, from our St. James' Family on November 12th. Please have envelopes returned to the office by **11/5**.

You may also sponsor altar flowers for any service by signing up in the book in the Narthex (inside the front door of the church). Not only is this a great way to remember someone who is no longer with us, but to honor birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

## 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! Please contact Julie Mills in the office if you need help.

**Come one!  
Come all!  
to the  
Heath Village  
Silent Auction**



**Silent  
Auction**

**Heath Village Auditorium  
Fri. - Sun., Oct. 20 - 22**

**jewelry  
art work  
antiques  
craftwork**

**Fri., Oct 20  
10:00 AM - 3 PM  
auditorium**

**4 S Home Cookin' Sale!**  
SOUPS, SWEETS, SUPPERS & SAVORIES  
Prepared with love by our own residents

Proceeds to benefit the  
**Friendship Fund**



**SOUPS**



**SWEETS**



**SUPPERS**



**SAVORIES**







# ST. JAMES' JOURNAL

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## St. James' Staff & Vestry

Supply Priest	Rev. Robert Solon
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	Claudia Scala	Janice Cipriani
Nancy Miller	Chris Krauss	Kathy Erwood-Lacouture
Pam Laura	Sam Wood	Karina Hernandez

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

### Barbara Olesen, Editor

All Journal submissions  
should be sent to:

[stjames214@comcast.net](mailto:stjames214@comcast.net)  
& [olesen@comcast.net](mailto:olesen@comcast.net)

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
214 WASHINGTON STREET  
HACKETTSTOWN NJ 07840

