

A word from the Vicar

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Everliving God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. (For the Mission of the Church, BCP p. 816)

On Sunday we gathered for the 156th annual meeting of St. James Church. We were able to review the budget, hear various reports and nominate representatives for both the Bishop's Committee and Diocesan Convention. This is important work, which helps us to focus on the year ahead.

The work of the church however, is measured by generations! In the above collect, we acknowledge that it is God's will that *everyone* will come to know God's forgiveness and love. It is through *our* witness that this comes to pass. So, the second half of the annual meeting was devoted to addressing how best to ensure that St. James Church would be part of that work for generations to come.

We have launched an ambitious Capital Campaign entitled, "Ministry Today, Multiplied for Tomorrow." The purpose of the campaign is two-fold. First, we have identified a number of projects that will improve and enhance the infrastructure of the church, stabilizing it for years to come. The goal of that portion is a three-year pledge drive for \$190,000.

Second, we have established a legacy program in order to support full time clergy to lead the congregation in mission. The goal of that program is \$2,000,000. There is much information already available both online and in print, and there will be more details forthcoming on both parts of this campaign.

This is an exciting time in the life of St. James. The only thing you are being asked to do right now is to pray. Pray for St. James; pray for the leadership and pray for guidance about how God is calling you to participate.

Blessings,



Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day this year and the service will be held at 7 PM in the church. What a tremendous reminder of the love of God that undergirds all our relationships and makes forgiveness and reconciliation possible. Make plans to attend.

Christmas Pageant



The Senior Warden

As I drove home today after our Annual Meeting and Capital Campaign Kick-off, I couldn't help but equate the way I was feeling other than being a cheerleader for St. James Episcopal Church! I am still pumped and excited about the reports presented to us at the annual meeting regarding all the good works we are doing at St. James. I am equally enthusiastic about the packet regarding the Capital Campaign. The Chair of the Capital Campaign Committee, Terry Kerr did an excellent job in his presentation and explanation of the contents of the packet. We have much to think and pray about as we move forward into the future for our church. Don't we owe it to our forefathers who established St. James to "pay it forward" for future generations?

With God's help we can march forward to show others, who may not presently be a part of the St. James family, the meaning of "Serving Courageously, Living Faithfully"!! Thank you for allowing me to be a part of such a giving congregation.

Love,

Noni



NEW TO ST. JAMES?

Whether you've just started coming to St. James, or have been coming on and off for a while, you may have questions about things we do and why we do them. This section of the newsletter is designed to help you out with some of these questions.

What's this coffee hour thing?

Coffee hour is a time set aside after church where we get together just to have a bite and a cup of coffee and meet new people and get together with old friends. If you haven't been to coffee hour before, come and see what's up. We almost always have

great tasting snacks and coffee or juice. It's a time to chat or keep up with fellow parishioners. The kids have a great time too.

Coffee hour is put on by volunteers that offer to bring the snacks and set up the table. The church furnishes plates, silverware, napkins, coffee and cups. If you are interested in hosting a coffee hour, all you have to do is sign up. There is a calendar for this on the open bar between the church hall and the kitchen. Pick a date and write your name in. Most hosts ask one or two friends to help them out so they don't have to do as much. Anyone will help you with the coffee (it takes a couple of

times to learn how to do that) and you can bring as much or as little as you would like. Sometimes we just have some cookies and cheese curls, and sometimes people make more of a lunch. But there is no right or wrong way to do this.

It's just a fun time and you can catch up with what else is going on at church.

If you would be interested in hosting a coffee hour, but would like a little help, just ask Lynn Gagnon, Barb Ives, Noni Stanford or Martha and we'll be glad to get you started.

NEWS to share



In 2017, the Soup Kitchen served 6098 meals. Although the number is down slightly from the 6325 meals served the previous year, attendance actually remained constant with over 100 served each week. A new policy for 2017 in which the Soup Kitchen is closed on the Tuesday closest to a major holiday accounts for the slight decline.

The Food Cupboard twice-a-month food bag distribution continued to grow in 2017 with 1632 bags of food given out (211 more than the prior year). With the potential for acquiring more government food a real possibility, the Food Cupboard now requires recipients to fill out a simple declaration of need, mandated by Second Harvest. No proof of income is required. Forms are kept on file and will be updated annually.

The Soup Kitchen and Food Cupboard have been blessed by God's abundance. Many have given of their time, talent and treasure to carry God's blessing into the Titusville area. With a budget of approximately \$20,000, the ministry of feeding people is funded entirely by donations and grants. Each year we give thanks for God's bountiful blessings, pressed down and overflowing.



Submitted by

Eda Scales



From “A New Dictionary for Episcopalians” The Rev. John N. Wall, Jr.

East: Traditionally, a church is built so that the altar is on the east side of the building, because Jesus promised that the Son of Man would come in glory on clouds from the east. On occasion the altar end of the church is called the east end even if it is not geographically east. The baptismal front or the baptistry is traditionally in the westward end, to emphasize the claim that in baptism one moves out of darkness into light, but modern architecture usually places the font to the front and right of the sanctuary, across from the pulpit.

Elevation: Act of lifting the bread and wine at appropriate times during the Eucharist. In some places, the tradition is to elevate the bread and the wine

in turn at the repetition of the words “he took” in the Eucharistic Prayer. In other, the bread and wine are elevated in turn after the words of institution, accompanied by a bow or a genuflection. Yet another place for elevation, this time of both elements together, is at the conclusion of the canon at the words “Through Jesus Christ our Lord” or their equivalent. Finally, the bread may be elevated at the “Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us” (BCP, 337, 364), and both bread and wine may be elevated when the celebrant says, “The Gifts of God for the People of God” (BCP, 338, 364).

Ember Days: Four groups of three days, specifically the Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, after the First Sunday in Lent, Pentecost, Holy Cross Day

(September 14), and St. Lucy’s Day (December 13), which were set aside long ago as special days for fasting. They seem to have been created to take over pagan festivals connected with the annual cycle of the seasons and harvests. They are on such age that although we no longer have St. Lucy’s Day on our calendar, we still have the Ember Days associated with her feast day. Now, the “Ember Days are hardly noticed except by seminarians and their bishops, because seminarians are required to write their bishops Ember Day letters at each of the ember seasons. These seasons are popular occasions for ordinations.

Your Faith, Your Life (Exploring all things Episcopal)

Beginning on Thursday, February 22 at 5:30 pm we will have an opportunity to learn and ask questions about what it means to be an Episcopalian. This Lenten study will cover topics such as scripture, our creedal beliefs, church structure, history and sacraments—all with an eye toward how we live our faith in the world.

The series is open to those who have been part of the church for a long time, as well as those new to the Episcopal Church who may want to be confirmed or received by Bishop Sean during his visitation on October 14. Our capacity to engage questions has always been a hallmark of the Episcopal tradition. So don’t be shy about bringing your questions to the table. Everyone will benefit!

Liturgical Participants' Schedule

	ALTAR GUILD	ACOLYTES	LECTOR	EM	USHERS	COFFEE
Feb 4	Dona Clendenin	Robin Conrad Aaron Scott Kylee Propheter	Barb Davidson	Dona Clendenin	Barry and Lisa Kellogg	Friends of St. James
Feb 11	Dona Clendenin	Noni Stanford Andrew Scott Paisley Crawford	Jan Carr	Randy Galmish	Mark Conrad Dave Gagnon	
Feb 18	Patty Butler	Noni Stanford Ava Hartshorne Alexander Hartshorne	Terry Kerr	Eda Scales	Jan Carr Nancy Brown	
Feb 25	Patty Butler	Andrew Scott Briana Ives Virginia Ives	Carol Courtwright	AJ Scott	Clyde and Carol Courtwright	

COUNTERS

Feb 4 Dave Gagnon- Richard Orner
Feb 11: Lynn Gagnon- Terry Kerr
Feb 21: Noni Stanford- Lori Powell
Feb 28: Barb Ives- Richard Orner

Ash Wednesday

Ash Wednesday falls on Valentines Day this year and the service will be held at 7 PM in the church. What a tremendous reminder of the love of God that undergirds all our relationships and makes forgiveness and reconciliation possible. Make plans to attend.

December CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 5:30pm Christian Formation for Adults	2	3
4 10:30am H.E. 5 th Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 Christian Formation for Younger Children	5 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	6 Noon – Soup Kitchen 3:30pm Christian Formation for Youth 7:00pm- AA	7 7:00pm Choir Practice	8 5:30pm Christian Formation for Adults	9	1
11 10:30am H.E. 6 th Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 Christian Formation for Younger Children	12 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	13 Noon – Soup Kitchen 3:30pm Christian Formation for Youth 7:00pm – AA	14 Ash Wednesday 7:00pm	15 5:30pm Christian Formation for Adults	16	17
18 10:30am H.E. 7 th Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 Christian Formation for Younger Children	19 President’s Day Office Closed Girl Scouts 6:00pm	20 Noon – Soup Kitchen 3:30pm Christian Formation for Youth 7:00pm – AA	21 7:00pm Choir Practice	22 5:30pm Christian Formation for Adults	23	24
25 10:30am H.E. 8 th Sunday After Epiphany 10:30 Christian Formation for Younger Children	26 Girl Scouts 6:00pm	27 Noon- Soup Kitchen 3:30pm Christian Formation for Youth 7:00pm – AA	28 7:00pm Choir Practice			

We’re on the Web!

See us at:

www.stjamestusville.org