



November

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Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray you, as you will, and always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen. (A Prayer of Self-Dedication, BCP p. 832)

There are times as we go about our daily lives that we give no real thought as to how our faith shapes and informs what we do. The truth of the matter is that because of the vows taken at our baptism, it behooves us to do so. The prayer above is an excellent start. It asks God to so overwhelm us with God's presence that we cannot help but be mindful of God as we live our lives; that we live them in faithfulness and thanksgiving for all that we have been given. It goes on to ask God to use us, not only in ways that magnify God's graciousness but also in ways that serve all of God's people.

November is a good month for us to be mindful in this way. On Sunday we will give thanks for all the saints who have gone on before us. It also reminds us that we are to be about the business of making more saints—bringing others to the knowledge of God's overwhelming love for us. On Tuesday we will exercise our obligation to vote, taking care to be mindful of those seeking to be our elected leaders and the ways in which they respond to the myriad of issues facing our country. Later in the month we pause to give thanks for all that we enjoy and the many blessings we have been given. In between times, we go about the mundane tasks of our lives. But how much more joyful and urgent and life-giving are those tasks when they are done with intention and dedication to God!

St. James has been mightily blessed. In turn, we are to be a blessing to a world in sore need of it.

Faithfully,



Notes from the Bishop's Warden

The most difficult part of writing an article for me is how to begin. What can one say in the opening that will draw interest in continuing to read the written word. I was taught this idea of keeping the reader interested in one of my college writing classes many years ago. For this article, I will be writing about blessings and contentment in my life.

Recently my sister Nancy and I visited with our mom's brother, John (Bud) Andres and his wife Vivian who live in the Smoky Mountains in TN. We spent many hours talking about the history of our family. My uncle has an extensive library filled with books, family albums and memorabilia from his career in the aerospace industry. Oh and yes plenty of plaques from golf outings he either participated in or caddied for someone. He wanted Nancy and me to go through a family album he had created over the years. He said we could take any pictures we wanted of our family. We did take a few. The album included a section of the history of the courtship between my aunt and uncle. We shared many happy memories as well as some not so happy memories that all families face through the years. In addition to brightening the days for my aunt and uncle during our visit, it re-emphasized the fact that history plays such an important role in shaping our lives. However, individuals are responsible for the contentment of their own existence as we learn from life's lessons.

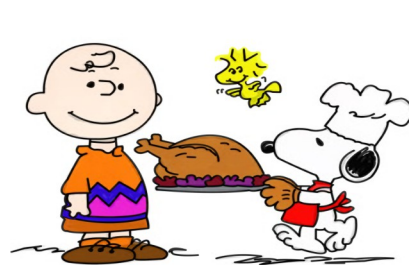
May we all continue to count our blessings as we draw nearer to the season of Advent.

Love,

Nanci



Happy Thanksgiving!



Submitted by: Eda Scales

The Soup Kitchen will hold its annual Thanksgiving dinner on Tuesday, November 13 at noon. With Thanksgiving for God's abundance and our many blessings we will serve a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings. As always, the meal is free and open to the public. Soup kitchen will be closed November 20 so our volunteers can have a well needed break. Other churches and organizations will be providing food for Thanksgiving during our off week. Due to the schedule change, the Food Cupboard Bag Days will be held on November 6 and 27. Anyone who has not already filled out paperwork for a food bag, may sign up on Soup Kitchen Tuesdays.

Extra volunteers are needed Monday morning November 12 to help prepare for the Thanksgiving dinner. Volunteers are also needed to pack food bags after church on November 4 and 25.

Second Harvest will hold its annual holiday food drive on Wednesday November 14. The Soup Kitchen and Food Cupboard benefit greatly from free and discounted food available from Second Harvest. The Soup Kitchen has been asked to help with the food drive and volunteers are needed to help receive the food and monetary donations from 11:30-2:30 at the Family Video parking lot in Titusville. Please let Eda or Noni know if you are available to help during any part of our allotted time.

Soup Kitchen Dates and Stats

- Tuesday, November 6th & 27th
- Monday, November 12th
- Tuesday, November 13th
- Wednesday, November 14th
- Tuesday, November 20th

- Bag Days
- Thanksgiving Dinner Prep Day 9AM - ??
- NOON Thanksgiving Dinner
- Second Harvest Food Drive
- 11:30- 2:30 at Family Video
- Soup Kitchen **CLOSED**



October meals served: 523
 Food Bags Given Out: 92 Plus 46 extra bags of meat



BLESSING of the ANIMALS

October 7, 2018



Everyone
loves
their
pets.

What
a
Wonderful

day
when
you
can
bring
them
to
Church
and
ask
Gods
blessing
and
protection
over
them!



BISHOP'S VISIT & CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Submitted by: Lynn Gagnon

Bishop Sean Rowe visited St. James Church on Sunday, October 14, 2018. If you missed this weekend, you missed a very exciting and encouraging service. We welcomed new members as they renewed their baptismal vows and joined the Episcopal Church.

Presented to the Bishop for confirmation were Bonnie and Richard Pichora, Andrew Scott, Seth Propheter, Jim Butler, and Richard Carr. Presented to the Bishop to be received as members of the Episcopal Church were Gayle Buser and Carol Amann.

As we move forward working on our strategic plan to grow St. James, this was a very encouraging sign. Hopefully we will have many more people for 2019.

During a reception put on by St. James Hospitality Committee, Bishop Sean addressed the congregation, applauding the work done and the sacrificial giving necessary for the success of the capital campaign. Afterwards, the Bishop's Committee met with Bishop Sean to further discuss our capital fund drive and the work we have done on the church to date. He let us know he really feels there is a lot going on at St. James to be excited about.

As the Bishop always says, "It's a great day in the kingdom."

Thank you Carol Amann
for a beautiful
celebration cake!



Congratulations
to all Confirmants

Richard & Bonnie Pichora

Richard Carr

Seth Propheeter

Andrew Scott

Gayle Buser

Carol Amann

Jim Butler



Posted:
October 27, 2018

BISHOP ROWE'S STATEMENT ON TREE OF LIFE SHOOTING

By:
Diocese of
Northwestern
Pennsylvania

Dear People of God in the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania:

On hearing the news that a number of people had been murdered during Saturday morning services at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh by a gunman shouting anti-Semitic statements, my friend Elizabeth Drescher took to Twitter, where she offered these verses from Psalm 55:

My heart is in anguish within me,
the terrors of death have fallen upon me.
Fear and trembling come upon me,
and horror overwhelms me.

The words of the psalmist—indeed, any words—are inadequate to express my deep grief and condolences to the Jewish community of Pittsburgh and to Jewish people across the country, who are reeling from this hate-filled attack on peaceful people at prayer. There is no place in our churches, our communities, or our country for anti-Semitism.

The verses speak not only to this latest mass shooting, but also to the reality of our daily lives in a time of increasing ideological and partisan violence. Earlier this week, a gunman shot two black shoppers at a Kroger’s near Louisville, but did not shoot a white man, to whom he said, “Whites don’t shoot whites.” News of this outrage competed for airtime with another, as pipe bombs were mailed to prominent critics of President Trump.

My friends in Christ, we are in the grip of a spiritual sickness. This illness manifests itself in our debased civil discourse, which is rife with charge and counter-charge but lacks individuals willing to take responsibility for the violence their rhetoric spawns. It makes itself known both in the massacres of innocent people and the cowardice of a Congress unwilling even to consider legislation that would keep weapons such as the AR-15 used in today’s shooting out of the hands of hate-filled ideologues. And while the sickness demeans and endangers every one of us, it presents a particular threat to religious, racial, ethnic and sexual minorities whose lives are held cheap by those whom reckless politicians and pundits incite.

In circumstances such as these the church has a mission: to comfort the afflicted, to sow seeds of peace, and to advocate for justice. In prayerful humility, let us be about it.

Faithfully,

+ Sean

There is no place in our churches, our communities or our country for anti-Semitism.

Living Lives of Discernment

*Written by:
The Rev. Canon Martha*

Posted: [October 27, 2018](#) **By:** [Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania](#)

There were many times in my life that I fervently hoped that God would communicate with me by sliding a 3×5 card under my bedroom door. On the card would be God's explicit directions for me on what to do next. I suppose today it'd be more appropriate to wait for a text message. Either way, that was my first idea of what discernment was all about. Okay God, now what? Tell me.

However, discernment is more nuanced than that. Discernment is about finding a way forward when God has placed something on your heart, but it also can be a way of life. There are many definitions of discernment. At its most basic, it is a process of discovering God's activity, movement, and direction in our lives.

If we use that definition as our starting point, we already see that discernment is not simply a decision. It is not one course of action over another. Rather, it is an ongoing process that occurs on many levels, sometimes simultaneously. A

hallmark of good discernment is movement from confusion to clarity.

Due to the ongoing nature of it, discernment is open to the work of the Holy Spirit, to testing and to change. In order to be open to the Holy Spirit, we must notice what God is already doing in our lives and in the lives of those around us. When we step back from the daily rush from one appointment to the next, from one project to the next, from one place to the next, and take time to reflect, what do we see? What do we hear? Having done this we also must take the time to be in conversation with others, to test if what we have heard or seen is congruent with their sense of it. Finally we must also be willing to recognize that discernments can change. As elusive as the whole process is, in the end, discernment is sturdy. It will stand up to testing and to the passage of time.

It is also important to recognize that discern-

ment involves more than prayer and holy conversation. Discernment is also revealed through our life circumstances. God does not call us into something new to the detriment of relationships that have been important to us. That is not to say that being called to something new will not be without pain or disruption. It may well be. However, our life circumstances might dictate that now is not the right time or there is not the right place. In the same way, discernment is sometimes revealed through an honest look at where we have already been. How have we seen God at work in our lives in the past may shed light on what God holds for us in the future. As we intentionally engage the practice of discernment, we begin to recognize that we have developed a community of trust, a deepening of our own faith and a growing sense of God's leading. We begin to understand that we are not only seeking discernment but rather living lives of discernment. In the words of Henri Nou-

wen, discernment is "a life long commitment to 'remember God,' know who you are, and pay close attention to what the Spirit is saying today."

Do you ever think...

**Okay God,
Now what
Tell me.**

UPCOMING EVENTS & REMINDERS

CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES

November

4, 11, 18, 25	Christian Formation for Children	10:30 am
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Christian Formation for Youth	3:30 pm
4, 11, 18, 25	Christian Formation for Adults	2:00 pm

SOUP KITCHEN

Bag Days: November 6th * 27th
 Thanksgiving Dinner: November 13th
 Soup Kitchen CLOSED: November 20th

Volunteers are needed

Monday November 12th to help prepare the Thanksgiving Dinner

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Jimmy Ives 8th
- Kenny Beatty 16th
- Kim Mott 20th
- Ed Knepp 21st
- Evan Murray 28th
- Carol Courtwright 29th
- Carol Amann 29th
- Virginia Ives 30th



Mark & Robin Conrad 25th

**UPCOMING
HOME TOWN
HOLIDAY EVENTS**

Titusville Area Events

(See Event Sheets on the Parish Hall Bulletin Board or Bobbie for further information.)

November 9th & 10th—Santa’s Workshop at Cross Creek

November 15th—Open House at Scheide House 2-4pm

Titusville YMCA Turkey Burn 4:30-6:30pm

November 22nd—YWCA Turkey Trot 9:00 AM

November 22nd—2nd Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at “The Well” on the East Point

November 23rd—Light Up the Night at Scheide Park & Santa Parade @ 6:00 pm

November 29th

November 30th

December 1st

December 2nd

**Home for the Holidays
Activities
Vendor Pop Up Shop**

- Santa’s Work Shop**
- Open House**
- YMCA & YWCA Events**
- Thanksgiving Dinner**
- Light Up Night**
- Santa Parade**
- Santa Train**
- Ballets**
- Auctions**
- And**
- More**

YMCA Dining Cards are on sale: \$25/card
Available at the Titusville YMCA & Chamber of Commerce





A nun who works for a local home health care agency was out making her rounds when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it there was a station just down the street. She walked to the station to borrow a can with enough gas to start the car and drive to the station for a fill up.

The attendant regretfully told her that the only can he owned had just been loaned out, but if she would care to wait he was sure it would be back shortly.

Since the nun was on the way to see a patient she decided not to wait and walked back to her car. After looking through her car for something to carry to the station to fill with gas, she spotted a bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, she carried it to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried it back to her car.

As she was pouring the gas into the tank of her car two men walked by. One of them turned to the other and said: "Now that is what I call faith!"



**DON'T FORGET
TO TURN YOUR CLOCKS BACK
SATURDAY NIGHT!**

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We're on the Web!

www.stjamestitusville.org

MEMORIAL
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
"Serving Courageously, Living Faithfully"