



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

April 2016

FROM THE



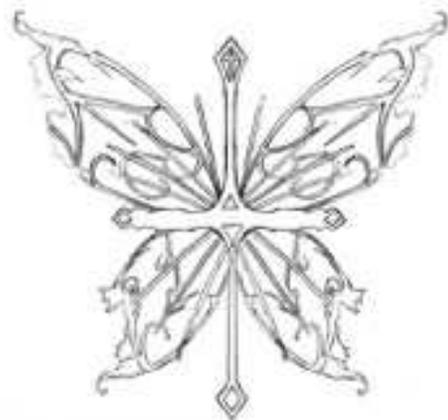
Yesterday I received a call from a friend to come to Stony Brook Hospital, where her teenage daughter had died unexpectedly after collapsing at school. I spent the afternoon and evening with them, doing whatever needed to be done – hugging, praying, getting coffee, talking with the kids, anointing, and sitting with the body while they went to meet with the doctors.

It's at times like these that we see visibly the strength that our faith, and our faith community, offers. This family are not active in a church, but we have reached out to them. A number of parish families know them through their kids' schools. A prayer shawl is being sent, we have offered meals, and of course, they are being held in prayer.

Sometimes we don't quite know what it means to be people of the resurrection. This is what it is: having a hope of life beyond death that allows us to be with

people in the darkest times of their lives, being willing to reach out to those outside our own community and offer Christ's love in action, and sustaining them in prayer.

Blessings,



THE WARDEN'S COLUMN

Eastertide!

This is a time to look back, into the present, and forward.

Looking Backward. The forty days of Lent are now past. The Celtic Service at St. John's in Huntington was wonderful. Meeting new priests, parishioners, and children; praying in a different community of fellow believers; dining with new acquaintances; feeling true hospitality; listening to new words bringing us into God's gift of grace. This was an exceptional experience open to all, just grasp it. The Chrism Mass at the Cathedral was deeply moving. Imagine nearly 100 priests gathered to renew their vows! The power was tangible. Witnessing the blessing of the oils kissed with our Bishop's breath – spellbinding. Holy Week with all the introspection, the celebration of the Last Supper, the suffering and despair of Good Friday, the light entering the Easter Vigil and the mighty Resurrection. What a journey.

Looking to the Present. Eastertide, these fifty days of knowing and experiencing the meaning of Jesus' resurrection. His visitations to his disciples, the encounter on the road to Emmaus, Thomas' doubt and belief, Christ's request for some food to eat (He got broiled fish!). And so much more to come. Spring is here. Polly and Mike are back in their front row seats. Our snow birds are returning. Another new soul is born and another is baptized. A devoted member is laid to rest.

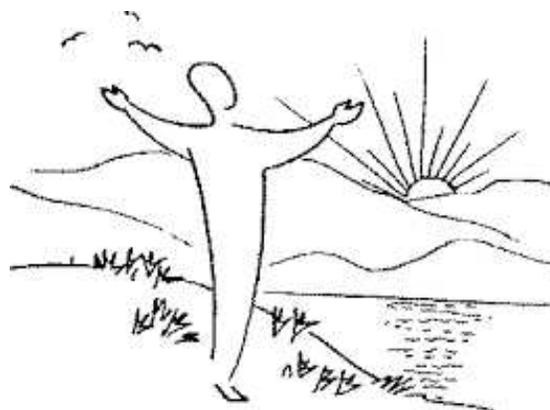
Looking Forward. Ascension Day and Pentecost and Trinity Sunday await. A five year plan for the preservation of our structures is under way. Our "Super Committee" is working overtime on

fundraising ideas. The Strawberry Festival is moving into high gear. Plans for the Harvest Festival are being formulated. Stewardship is busily at work. Christian Formation and Education is strategizing, expanding, learning and seeking. It not only seems busy, it is a busy time for everyone. And many hands make light the work.

Yet in the noise of life we need to remember what our "real" mission is. We need to "see" differently, especially as we view the horizon and join to meet the challenges ahead.

*Your vision will become clear
only when you can look into your own heart.
Who looks outside, dreams; who looks
inside, awakes.*
- Carl Jung -

Here's to the awaking within us all,
Alex



EASTER SEASON LITURGY

For the next five weeks, we will once again be using the liturgy from “Enriching our Worship,” a liturgical resource created and authorized by the Episcopal Church.

In 1789, the fledgling Episcopal Church, meeting in Philadelphia, adopted the first American Book of Common Prayer. Explaining its departure in certain respects from the BCP of the Church of England, its preface observes that “It is a most invaluable part of that blessed “liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, that in his worship different forms and usages may without offense be allowed, provided the substance of the Faith be kept entire...therefore, by common consent and authority, may be altered, abridged, enlarged, amended, or otherwise disposed of, as may seem most convenient for the edification of the people, according to the various exigency of times and occasions.”

Since that historic decision, our Church has continued to seek an authorized language of Common Prayer capable of expressing what we believe about God, as well as reflecting on our own corporate and individual relationship to the Godhead. Major revisions were made to the Book of Common Prayer in 1789, 1892, 1928, and 1979; minor revisions were made in 1793, 1822, 1832, 1838, 1845, 1871, 1896, 1914, 1920, 1935, 1949, 1961, and 1966.

The decision to provide contemporary language rites in the 1979 Book of Common Prayer was a reaffirmation of the principles stated in that original American preface. “Enriching our Worship” was the next step in liturgical revision; however, rather than reprinting the whole prayer book, it was decided to make the texts available digitally for use in parishes.

The focus of liturgical revision is to continually develop a language of prayer for all God’s people, based in the Reformation principle of the sixteenth century (which led to the first Book of Common Prayer in English, published in 1549) of praying in the everyday language of the people. These newest liturgies employ evocative language which leads worshipers deeper into the mystery of God drawing on often neglected riches of scripture and the Christian tradition.

We will be using these liturgies throughout the Easter season. I invite you to listen carefully and pray deeply, trusting that God will indeed be revealed to you in them. If you have specific questions about them, please ask!

- Raewynne

STEWARDSHIP

At our last meeting, the committee did a brief study of “The Parable of the Dishonest Manager” (Luke 16:1-13). In the parable we are told that “the master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness.” It’s a statement in which the committee struggled to find the will of God. This somewhat familiar parable ends with a well known proverb that “you can’t serve God and wealth.”

In the course of our study of the parable we reached a few conclusions. First, that we, like the dishonest manager, are not stewards of our own estate but rather of what God has entrusted to us. Secondly, that we need to be creative in how we share the good news of the Gospel and advance the mission of the Church. An finally, that our wealth and gifts are not for our own benefit but rather for the “righteous” work that God has set before us.

At our recent Annual Meeting, the Vestry informed us of a deficit budget for this year. In the coming weeks you will be receiving a mailing that better explains the situation, and more importantly, tells each of us what we can do to help. In the advent of that letter, we ask that you pray and reflect on the conclusions above that the committee discerned during its Bible study.

Peace and Blessing,
Amy Jeffrey & Chris Mauro
Co-chairs, Stewardship



SAVE THE DATE!
STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016

Saturday, June 11 has been set as the date for our annual Strawberry Festival. The Festival will run from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. A rain date of Sunday, June 12 (11 - 4) has been selected this year.

This is a major fundraiser and fellowship activity for our church. The scope of the fair has been expanded to include the following tables and activities:

Baked Goods Table
Grandma's Attic
Grandpa's Garage
Gold Elephant Treasures
Jam Table
Jewelry Table
Lunch

Plant Table
Strawberry Treats
Activities for Children

Please plan to join us in preparing and participating. Contact Pat Westlake for information and to volunteer at 631-584-6628 or pkings20@optonline.net.

- Pat Westlake

GOT PLANTS ?

If you are planting seeds this spring, when the time comes to thin the plants out, please consider potting some up to sell at the Strawberry Festival.

OUTREACH

Good Friday Collection - Thank you all for the \$176.00 collected on Good Friday to support the Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society.

Good Friday Blood Drive - Thank you to Edna for continuing to organize the annual St. James Episcopal Blood Drive and to everyone who donated the much needed 26 pints of blood collected.

Protestant Campus Ministry - PCM exists within the academic community to nurture faith, spirituality, and social responsibility and to provide a pastoral presence for students, staff, and faculty.

Collaborations with national campus organizations continue - the Healthy Campus Initiative, ecumenical and interfaith campus ministries and others are all helping

to advance the mission to campus and community. PCM Student Leaders and their teams are preparing to participate in the “Stop Hunger Now” April 9 mission with the Port Jefferson Council of Churches.

Spring 2016 events continue: Sundays are Prayer and Praise/Lunch/Missions/Sunday School, Tuesdays are Hour of Prayers/Chaplains Tea/Bible Study, Wednesdays are CPM meetings/Student Chaplaincy Training and Thursdays are Hour of Prayers/Bible Studies.

PCM students at Stony Brook University will again collect toiletries to benefit women transitioning from domestic violence. You can continue to place items in the basket in the narthex.

If you would like to support PCM, checks can be sent to Protestant Campus Ministry, c/o Karin Lynch, 17 Robin Hood Lane, East Setauket NY 11733.

Thank you for all your continued prayers for the campus community.

Episcopal Relief and Development - Program Focus: Agriculture – Fighting Hunger with New Agricultural Techniques.

Too many people around the world lack sufficient food and adequate nutrition. This is hardly news. But it’s also not inevitable. Episcopal Relief and Development fights hunger and poverty in some of the world’s poorest communities by promoting sustainability and self-sufficiency. As they introduce new agricultural techniques to farmers, they help them increase their yield so they can move from scarce to plenty.

In many countries, agriculture is a centerpiece of local economies. The vast majority of people living in rural communities own or work for small family

farms, and they rely on food production to feed their families. Yet, throughout the world, hunger remains a dismaying fact. Almost one billion people are affected by chronic hunger and poverty.

Episcopal Relief and Development and its partners work with small-scale farmers around the globe to ensure that food is available, accessible, and affordable. Along with church partners and local organizations, our goal is to empower communities to improve food production by providing training, tools, and resources – so they can feed themselves and their families and generate income.

Update: Syrian Refugees - Many people wonder: How do we respond in faith to overt suffering in our midst, especially if the proportions of the crisis are vast? The Syrian crisis raises such questions.

Hundreds of thousands have died and millions of people have fled Syria since the start of the conflict more than four years ago. 7.6 million Syrians have been internally displaced within the country. In the face of unrelenting fear and violence, more than 11 million people have been forced to flee their homes. In Syria, more than four out of five people live in poverty.

Episcopal Relief and Development is continuing to respond to the crisis by working with local organizations and Anglican and ecumenical agencies at each stage of people’s journey to safety. They have renewed their support of displaced persons within Syria through the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, which has been actively responding to the crisis since the conflict began.

They are also supporting Islamic Relief’s efforts on the island of Lesbos, Greece, to provide necessary services to people enroute

to mainland Europe. Elsewhere, the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe is responding through local ministries in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland.

Nagulan Nesiah, a senior program officer for ER&D, has said that it's important for the church to remain a place of refuge for people fleeing disaster-related and human-made crises worldwide.

Episcopal Relief and Development is a reliable way to donate to victims around the world. Checks can be sent to: Episcopal Relief and Development, Box 7058, Merriemfield VA 22116-7058.

- Madelyn Cousins

THANK YOU!

Thank you to members of the Altar Guild, Choir, LEMs, Lectors, coffee hour hosts, Parish Life Committee and all who helped out during Holy Week and Easter services, and the Memorial Service last week.

LUNCH BUNCH APRIL GET-TOGETHER

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Tuesday, April 26, 12:30 p.m. at Olde Street Pub, 92 East Main Street, Smithtown. All parishioners and friends are welcome. Contact Fjeril Deal at 724-3720 to make your reservation.

- Fjeril Deal



ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL BABY ITEM COLLECTION

Would you like to honor or remember someone on Mother's Day? If you make a donation (either monetary or new baby items) by May 1, we will pass them on to St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway and send a card to your nominated addressee in time for Mother's Day. See the pink sheets in the back of the church to make your donation. Baby items may be left in the box in the hallway of the Christian Ed. building by May 1. Flyers will be in Sunday bulletins in the next few weeks.

SUFFOLK EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

The Suffolk chapter of the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women invite all those interested to their spring meeting on Saturday, April 16 at St. John's Church in Huntington.

The meeting will open with Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m. celebrated by the Rev. Duncan Burns, Rector. Program features include presentations on the Seamen's Church Institute and St. John's Episcopal Hospital Women's Auxiliary and ECW.

Please bring a new baby item or completed items for SCI, a sandwich, and a friend. For further information, call Joan Derle (631-499-8234) or Angela Becker (631-589-

4506). The church is on the corner of Rte. 25A (Main Street) and Prospect Street in Huntington.

NEWS FROM CAMP DE WOLFE

Service Saturdays - Spring is here, and Camp DeWolfe invites you to their beautiful spot in Wading River to enjoy the fresh air and help out your Diocesan Camp. Serving through this volunteer ministry includes landscaping, painting and beach clean-up projects that will prepare the Camp for its summer ministry. All are welcome, registration is free, and lunch is provided. Sessions run from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the following Saturdays: April 23, May 7, 14, and 21. Register by calling 631-929-4325, or through their website: office@campdewolfe.org.

Annual Camp Open Day - Looking for a summer camp for your children? Be sure not to miss the Annual Camp Open Day on Sunday, May 15, at 12 p.m. Camp tours, parent presentations, activities, games, beach time and a BBQ are included. Summer camp offers both sleepaway and day camp options. Regular registration closes April 30; scholarships are still available. Contact the camp at office@campdewolfe.org or call 631-929-4325.



FARM FRESH PRODUCE

Once again, we have the opportunity to participate in a farm share (CSA) of fresh produce through the summer and fall. The pick up site will be here at St. James.

CSA is like a subscription or a vegetable-of-the-week club. You pay in full for your share before the distributions begin in early June, and in return for your commitment to the farm they provide you with just picked organic produce at a good value. More information can be obtained at the Garden of Eve website:

<http://www.GardenofEveFarm.com/csa.htm>.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Nancy Lawrence, step-mother of **Bruce Lawrence**, passed away on April 1. Our prayers and sympathy go out to Bruce, Jennifer and family.

A memorial service and celebration of the lives of **Carol and Dan Maybee** was held at St. James on April 2. Their ashes were interred in the cremains circle of the cemetery. Dan died in 2011, and Carol died in November 2015. They had been living in St. Augustine, Florida.

APRIL CALENDAR

- 1 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 2 Memorial Service 2 p.m.
- 3 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
Confirmation class 11:30 a.m.
- 4 Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
Stewardship Committee 7:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 6 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
- 7 Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Mills Hall rental 2 - 4 p.m.
- 10 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
Confirmation class 11:30 a.m.
- 11 Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 12 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Deanery Retreat (Rector)
Knitter's group 11:30 a.m.
- 14 Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
- 15 Food Addiction Group 7:30 p.m.
- 16 Nursery School Special Persons
Day 9 a.m. - Noon
- 17 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
Confirmation class 11:30 a.m.
- 18 Finance Committee 4:30 p.m.
Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
Smithtown Book Club 7 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
- 21 Senior Women's Exercise group
7 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 a.m.
- 22 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Children's Formation classes
Confirmation class 11:30 a.m.
- 25 Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
Lunch Bunch at Olde Street Pub
12:30 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Knitters' group 7:30 p.m.
Challenger Teen Group 6:30 p.m.
- 28 Senior Women's Exercise
group 7 p.m.
- 29 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Mills Hall rental 3 - 6 p.m.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

John McDonald
Kenneth Grigoletto
Fjeril Deal
Heidi Glogg
Bryan Petschauer
Jesse Dean
Lindsay Noack
Thomas LaMano III
Richard Tracy
Arlyne Gureck
Joseph LaMano
Mike Neyssen

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Frank & Amy Giardina