



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

February 2011

F R O M T H E



Next Sunday evening, I will be leaving on a pilgrimage. I will be joining Bishop Provenzano and his wife, and a number of other clergy and

spouses from our diocese to travel to the Holy Land. I have never been to the Holy Land before, and look forward to seeing the places where so much of our faith is grounded, from the stories of Abraham through to Jesus himself.

We will spend three days based in Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee in northern Israel, visiting such holy places as Nazareth, Cana, and Capernaum before traveling south along the Jordan River, past the place where John is traditionally thought to have baptized, until we reach Jerusalem. There we will walk the Via Dolorosa, visit the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, the Mount of Olives, and Gethsemane. We'll also make a side trip to Bethlehem (security permitting), Qumran, Ein Gedi and Masada.

This is a time of pilgrimage. It will be marked not with the usual tourist things, but with time spent revisiting the scriptures as they describe the places we visit, listening to the people around us in a troubled part of the

world, praying, and reflecting. I plan to post regularly (when I have internet access) on my diocesan blog, at <http://www.dioceselongisland.org/god-talk/>. I ask for your prayers during this time of pilgrimage.

Blessings,



ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Meeting on Sunday was a wonderful celebration. We gathered around tables, as the early Christians did, prayed, sang, listened, watched, shared bread and wine, had brunch, and dealt with the annual meeting. You can see the slide show of the last year in the life of our parish at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEBicFTgpqA>. Peter Plaschka took photos during the meeting, which you can view at http://www.kodakgallery.com/gallery/sharing/memberLandingPage.jsp?sourceId=533754321803&cm_mmc=eMail--Share--Photos--Sharee

Copies of the Annual Report are available from the church office.

I am very thankful for the service of Karen Noack, Karen Douglas, and Donna Wachter, who have served so faithfully as vestry members, and in the case of Donna, as Treasurer as well. And special thanks to Pat Westlake who has done so much as Warden these past six years. We will miss her in this role, but no doubt she will continue to be busy with the food pantry and parish archives!

- Raewynne

NEW VESTRY MEMBERS ELECTED

At the Annual Parish Meeting on February 6 the following members were elected to the Vestry:

Debbie LaMano (Warden)
Duncan Marshall
Lillian Moleti (to finish Debbie's Vestry term)
Katy Sacher
Matthew Trump

At its last meeting, the Vestry appointed David Luo as Treasurer.

We thank the following members who have completed their Vestry terms for all their hard work::

Pat Westlake (Warden)
Karen Douglass
Karen Noack
Donna Wachter (Treasurer)

Please keep all the members of the Vestry in your prayers as they work to lead St. James in the future months.

LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT

Ash Wednesday arrives on March 9th. During Lent there will be a service of Holy Eucharist on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

OUTREACH

Be sure to read about Outreach in the Annual Report to see what this parish did to reach out to others in 2010.

March is St. James' month to serve at the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry.

Please sign up at coffee Hour in Mills Hall. It is best to have 3 people each day from 9am-noon. If you have never helped at the Pantry before, sign up with someone who has. The Pantry currently needs donations of juice. Please check the basket in the hallway of the Christian Education Building and take a turn transporting the food to the Pantry.

Fresh cut daffodils are being sold to benefit the American Cancer Society by the Women of St. James. An order may be placed on February 13 or 20 for a bunch of daffodils for \$10. If you choose the Gift of Hope for a \$25.00 donation, the ACS will deliver a vase filled with your bunch of daffodils to a hospitalized cancer patient. You may order your daffodils by signing up on the sheets provided at coffee hour or by calling Fjeril Deal (724-3720) or Sue Krall (862-6563). Please pay when you order or by the last order date, which is February 20. Make checks payable to the American Cancer Society. Daffodils will be delivered at coffee hour on March 13.

Pick-a-Star gifts were delivered to five UCP houses after church on December 19 to the absolute delight of 32 recipients! Raewynne and lots of parishioners including teens went along to share the fun. Thanks go to Kurt Rettig (the best Santa), Stephanie Coleman (the best organizer), and to all the St. James parishioners who lovingly bought and wrapped each gift. Thank you also to those who bought and delivered Christmas gifts to our home-bound parishioners. These folks enjoy your visits, as well as your gifts.

Adopt-a-Family gifts were delivered to

Episcopal Community Services in early December to make a Merry Christmas for two special families with children. Thank you to all parishioners who generously provided these gifts, to Donna Guinaw and Claudette Plaschka for organizing this effort, and to Jack Schultheis and Cathi Hart for delivering all our packages.

Christmas carolers provided holiday joy for our homebound parishioners and those in local nursing homes. Thanks to all who came out to sing and to Lil and Bob Moleti for inviting everyone to share a delicious supper in their home.

Hand-knit Hats for Haiti continue to be available in the back of the church or at coffee hour for \$20. We thank Wooly Wednesday's talented knitters for providing this outreach to help Haiti rebuild.

Prayer shawls are most appreciated at this time of year to keep our ill parishioners warm. If you would like to be part of this ministry, contact Wylie Hunt at 751-5618.

Protestant Campus Ministry is looking for a treasurer to begin this spring. If you enjoy numbers, working with people from different denominations, and would like to benefit college students, maybe this is a ministry for you. The Board usually meets the second or third Tuesday of the month during the academic year at 12:30pm at the Setauket United Methodist Church. The current treasurer is retiring, but would be available for training or advice. Contact Herta Wulff at 751-7078 for more information.

Episcopal Relief and Development has been very challenged lately by worldwide disasters, such as flooding in Australia, mudslides in Brazil, and the continuing work to be done in Haiti, the Gulf Coast, and Tennessee. They strive "to heal a hurting world." If you would like to help, checks

may be sent to:

Episcopal Relief and Development
P.O. Box 7058
Merriefield, VA 22116-7058

The Church Periodical Club, part of the LI Diocese of Episcopal Church Women, distributes donations of can labels, fronts of greeting cards, and canceled stamps to charities who can use them for educational purposes or receive money for them for people in need. You may send labels from Campbell's products, Franco-American, Prego, V-8, Swanson Food Service Broths, Peppercorn Farm soups, and fronts of all occasion cards (not just Christmas) to the address below. For questions about the card project, call 1-800-492-3562.

St. Jude's Ranch for Children
100 St. Jude's Street
P.O. Box 985
Boulder City, Nevada 89005-0985

Canceled stamps are sorted by Infirmary Sisters for sale to a wholesale philatelist and the money is used for mission work in Malawi, South Central Africa. Send stamps to:

St. Mary's Convent, Community of St. Mary,
Eastern Province
3 Cloister Way
Greenwich, New York 12834

An Outreach meeting will be held this spring to determine how to allocate the \$2,000 in the 2011 budget for outreach. All are invited. Watch the Sunday bulletin for the date of the meeting.

- Sue Krall

FOOD PANTRY

March is St. James' month to staff the Food Pantry. We need three people to sign up at the Pantry each day during the month. A calendar for sign-ups is located in Mills Hall during coffee hour on Sunday. Anyone can help out! Contact Claudette Plaschka (543-4944) if you have any questions.

- Claudette Plaschka

Following the service, all are welcome to the Bible study group that meets in the Webster room.

SKI TRIP

Our parish ski trip is scheduled for Saturday, March 5 at Mohawk Mountain in northwest Connecticut. The cost ranges from \$69 to \$90 per person, including lift ticket, equipment rental, and lesson (cost will go down a little if we have a large enough group). This is a fun day, and the mountain caters to all ages of skiers and snowboarders from age 4 up, and all skill levels. More information about the mountain is at www.mohawkmtn.com.

Please email the Rector (stjamesrector@optonline.net) or leave a message for her at the office by February 23 if you are interested in going, including the number of people, what ages, snowboard or ski, and whether you want to include lessons and rentals in your package.

PEOPLE IN THE PEWS

We are resuming our monthly column with this edition. Each month a different parishioner will be asked to share some information with us. We hope you will participate when we call on you. This month we feature Art Strassle.

Tell us about yourself: I am married to Joan for 36 years. We raised three sons and a daughter; now have eight grandchildren in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Minnesota. We recently moved into a Nesconset condominium after 35 years in a colonial in Nesconset. Now retired, my career was as an educator in the Elwood School District – teacher, coach, department chairperson, assistant principal and principal.

When did you first attend St. James?

We started in 1975 and have experienced a number and variety of Rectors over that length of time.

Roles played in the parish: Usher, co-treasurer with Joan for the Strawberry and Harvest Festivals, Vestry, and member of the Finance Committee.

What do you like the most about St. James? The community of people; the beautiful, historic church building; its “smallness” so that all can be involved and contribute; its varied rites and ceremonies throughout the church calendar.

Last book read: I just reread Leo Tolstoy’s War and Peace, and got a lot more out of it than as a college assignment of long ago.

Hymn you’d like to take to a desert island or anywhere: Amazing Grace.

Tell us some of your favorites:

***Color** - Green

***Movie** - “The King’s Speech”

***Song/music** - 50’s/60s rock; the Beatles; Classical for meditation or resting.

***Season** - summer and fall

***Sports team** - New York Jets

***Pastimes** - reading; family; grandchildren; being outdoors; travel.

***The way to spend Saturday morning** - newspaper, hearty breakfast, walk in the sunshine.

Education and interests: Bachelor’s and Master of Arts from SUNY Albany; administrative certifications from Hofstra University; I’d like to visit all fifty states, would like to see the Jets play in their second Super Bowl (none since 1969); seeing all our grandchildren happy and successful.

If you were to start a new career, what would it be? The one that I dreamed of as a kid – being a sports broadcaster.

A verse from Scripture that is especially meaningful to you: the Old Testament story of David and Goliath: always have faith and never give up; it is not always the strongest who are right or win any type of endeavor in life.

CRAFT GROUP SEEKS MATERIAL

The Craft Group is seeking kiddy-print calico (cotton) and flannel material (about 1 yard pieces) to make bibs for babies and toddlers. Material can be dropped off at the church office, or given to Linda Misa or Pat Kregler.

- Pat Kregler

**CHRISTIAN FORMATION
& EDUCATION**

Bible study of the Gospel according to Matthew continues through the first week of March, when we will break for Lent. The Tuesday morning group meets at 10 a.m. in the Webster room. The Tuesday evening group meets 7:15 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in rotating locations (announced in *This Week at St. James*), and the Wednesday evening group usually meets at the home of Wylie Hunt and Matt Trump. All are welcome, and no experience necessary!

Watch next month's *Open Doors* for more information on this year's Lenten Program, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays during Lent (excluding Ash Wednesday): March 16, March 23, March 30, April 6 and April 13.

- *Kathy Sides*

CHORAL CONCERT

Singers of Long Island will be performing at Smithtown High School East on Wednesday, February 16th at 7:30 p.m. The concert features settings of Shakespeare's text in varying styles, as well as additional works. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Proceeds will benefit scholarships for Smithtown Central School District Music Students. Rex and Cindy Holden, former organist and choir director at St. James Church, are members of this professional group. To hear excerpts of their work, you can Google "Singers of Long Island."

- *Joan Bengtson*

LUNCH BUNCH

The February get-together of the Lunch Bunch is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22, 12:30 p.m. at Lotus East Restaurant, 416 North Country Road, St. James. All are welcome to attend. Contact Fjeril Deal (724-3724) to sign up.

- *Fjeril Deal*

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Wylie Hunt is a grandmother! Ida Rose Louison-Belsky was born to Wylie's daughter, Laura, and her husband on January 31st. We have seen some preliminary photos, and she is a cutie. Congratulations to the happy family and to Wylie and Matt.

Correction: The funeral service for Ronald Peters was held on January 15th at St. James.

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES SALE
FEBRUARY 19TH**

Come to Mills Hall on Saturday, February 19th, where an Antiques and Collectibles Sale will be held from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. There will be an eclectic group of vendors with many interesting items for sale. Contact Cathi Hart at 689-9467 for more information.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- 1 Bible study 10 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 2 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 3 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 4 Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 6 **Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.**
Annual Parish Meeting
- 7 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Rector National Church trip
(through 2/10)
Bible study 10 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 11 Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 13 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday School
- 14 Rector Israel trip (through
2/22)
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Bible study 10 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 16 Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 17 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 18 Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Antiques & Collectibles
show and sale 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 20 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday School
- 21 **Presidents' Day** - office
closed
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Bible study 10 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.

- 23 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
Knitting group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 24 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.
- 26 Toastmasters' grp. 9:30 a.m.
- 27 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday School
- 28 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction grp. 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kerrick Wille
Peter Cahill
Sandy Grigoletto
Joan Quinn
Annabelle Wille
Colette Tarantino
George Krall
Joan Mercep
Kelly Lally
Lorelei Glogg
Jeff Smith
Maggie Lawrence
James Schultheis
George Donohue
Kevin White
Eric Rettig
Luke Cerrito
Leah Tarantino
Becky Linthwaite

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Tom & Theresa Donohue

**ST. JAMES CHURCH
2011 EVENTS CALENDAR
(subject to change)**

March

- Food Pantry month
- 5 - Ski trip (see Raewynne for info)
- 8 - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 9 - Ash Wednesday
services at 12 Noon & 7:30 p.m.

April

- 3 - Pretzel Sunday
- 17 - Palm Sunday
- 21 - Maundy Thursday Soup & Middle
Eastern food supper at 6:30 p.m.
followed by Holy Eucharist
- 22 - Good Friday
services at 12 Noon & 7 p.m.
Blood Drive 2 - 8 p.m.
- 23 - Easter Vigil service 7 p.m.
- 24 - Easter Day

May

- 11 - Bishop Provenzano's meeting with
the Vestry
- 18 - Bishop Provenzano's Visitation
Holy Eucharist 7 p.m.

June

- 11 - Strawberry Festival
- 12 - Sunday school closing day

July

- 24 - Feast of St. James

August

- 27 - Pig Roast

September

- 11 - Sunday school opening day

October

- Food Pantry month
- 1 - Harvest Festival
- Blessing of the Animals
- 22 - Confirmation

November

- 1 - All Saints' Day Party & Pot Luck
Supper
- 23 - Interfaith Thanksgiving Service
- 24 - Thanksgiving Day Holy Eucharist

December

- 24 - Christmas Eve
5:30 p.m. Family service
9:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist
- 25 - Christmas Day
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

January 2012

- 8 - Epiphany Brunch