



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

July/August 2013

FROM THE



RECTOR

Last week, I saw the first pinpricks of light in my garden this season. Lightning bugs are one of the signs of summer I most enjoy (we didn't have them

in Australia). Grills are being fired up, pools getting plenty of use, kayaks on the harbor, air conditioners turned on, and sun screen is an everyday essential. Many of our workplaces offer reduced summer hours, and overall the pace of life seems slower.

Summer in the church always feels a little different. Most of us dress a little more casually; some people head off on vacation, while others join us as they travel to our area. We switch to Eucharistic Prayer C, which focuses on the gifts of creation; we pick hymns randomly from the choices of parishioners. And like in the world at large, things are a little slower and more relaxed. But we're still here!

Recently, I saw something online that likened our lives as Christians as being more like football players than body builders. Body builders do most of their work alone – it's largely about self discipline and practice. Apart from someone showing you how to use the equipment, you really don't need

anyone else around. But football is something quite different. A quarterback isn't much use without a team.

Sometimes, it's easy to get the idea that we can go it alone as Christians, that we just need a little self discipline in prayer and we're good. So in summer we take a bit of a break from church, and expect to be ready to be back in the fall.

But really, it's more like being football players. We are a team; we belong together. When one of us is missing, we all suffer. In other words, Christianity is not just about the relationship each of us has with God; it's also about our relationships with each other.

And summer is a great time to build those relationships. Why don't you invite someone from church over for a swim, or have a picnic somewhere? Maybe you could go for brunch after church, or gather a group to spend an hour working on our gardens. Perhaps you could plan a meal together before one of the summer studies, or arrange a playdate for your kids.

As Christians, God has made us his children, and we are brothers and sisters in Christ. So this summer, enjoy some family time with your faith family!

Blessings,

THE WARDEN'S COLUMN

Summer time & the living is easy....

*Then followed that beautiful
season...summer...
Filled was the air with a dreamy and
magical light;
and the landscape lay as if new created in
all the freshness of childhood.*

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

“Church” certainly does not cease in the summer. The body of Christ is in constant motion, and ministry. In fact, in many ways summer is the “advent” of our church activity year. Summer is a time of rejuvenation and preparation. During the course of this summer Bible study will continue. We will be offering a 4 session study. If you have never attended a Bible study, this is your perfect opportunity. Repairs to the church roof will be completed as well as the exterior painting. For anyone who is handy there are several other buildings and ground projects that we can use your help with. The Sunday school teachers will retreat and prepare for another school year. The stewardship committee will meet to plan the fall pledge drive activities. We will also begin preparations for numerous fall events like the Harvest Festival or a fall parish BBQ. We will celebrate our patronal festival, the Feast of St. James, on July 28. And of course we will continue to meet on Sundays to celebrate the Eucharist, as well as our doors being open to celebrate the sacraments of baptism, marriage, and Christian burial at various times this summer.

So, this summer, consider how you might serve the Church while “the living is easy.” And remember service to the Church includes prayer for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

*Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on
the grass on a summer day listening to the
murmur of water, or watching the clouds
float across the sky, is hardly a waste of
time.*

John Lubbock

Peace,
Chris

VOICES OF GODLY PLAY

From Miss Carol's Class

We love God. We love learning about Him.
We ask questions and want to know about
Him. Here are some of the questions we
asked this year:

Who invented God?
Is Jesus God?
How can Jesus be God?
Is Jesus here now?
Can He hear me when I talk to Him? All the
time? Does he hear me right now?
Why did He have to die? Did he want to
die?
Where did dead people go before Jesus
died?
Was He happy that He died?
Why did they put nails in Jesus?
Did it hurt Him?
Why did people want to kill Jesus?
Did Jesus have to listen to God, His Father?
Why did one of the men on the cross say,
“Remember me”?
Did the man on the third cross go to heaven?
Did Adam and Eve go to heaven?
What does heaven look like? Is there snow
if you want there to be snow?
Who is the Holy Spirit?

What do we want to do next year in Godly Play?

We really love acolyting, so we want to teach the other kids how to do it too. We want to spend more time with the desert box. We want to read more of the Bible and learn more prayers. We want to have more gold boxes with parables, but we still want to do the ones we have. The Good Shepherd is our favorite. The lambs drink the water and they feel so much better. We want to help setting up the things in the classroom. Sing more, we want to sing in the class more and in church too, and do more crafts. I like when we light the Christ candle and I like snuffing it out. We like the story of St. George, especially with the dragon. We should do that again. And another scavenger hunt in the church.

We really like having a peaceful class where we can learn about God.

- Carol Bluni

SUMMER READING

Summer is traditionally a time for light reading. So why not try one of the novels by Christina Wible, an Episcopal deacon from New Jersey: *In Between Goodbyes*, *In Season*, and *The Shepherd's Image*, which include romance, faith, Broadway, and horses (not all in one book, though!).

- Raewynne

ANNOUNCING A THREE-WEEK SUMMER BIBLE STUDY “*God, Us, and the ‘Good Life’: Following Jesus in the Day to Day*”

In early June, Raewynne began a preaching series on Galatians, focusing on what it looks like in daily life to be a follower of Jesus. Her first sermon identified five cultural assumptions about Christianity and explored the inaccuracies of these popular understandings. To unpack this a little more, the Christian Formation and Education Committee is hosting a four-part series based on Galatians and the five points in Raewynne’s sermon. As one parishioner has said, “There’s too much arguing about what we believe and who ‘gets it right’ and not enough excitement about how we are called to live our lives.” Join us! 7:15 - 8:30 p.m. in Mills Hall on the following dates: Wednesday, July 17, Tuesday, July 23 Wednesday, July 31 and Tuesday, August 13.

- Kathy Sides

SUMMER KAYAKING

Looking for someone to kayak with this summer? Join members of the farm share on Wednesday evenings for a one hour paddle in Stony Brook Harbor. Meet at the church (behind the office) at 5:30 p.m. or at Cordwood Beach (if you have a Smithtown parking sticker) at 5:50 p.m., beginning July 10. BYO kayak and paddle, and make sure you have a life vest and emergency whistle. Any questions? Email the Rector at stjamesrector@optonline.net.

ST. JAMES FEAST DAY

Sunday, July 28

Following the 9:30 a.m. service

Come celebrate St. James with a potluck picnic! Bring a lawn chair or blanket for seating, a dish to share and join in the fellowship, good food, and fun.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL RESULTS

The chart below shows the financial results of the efforts of all those who worked on the recent Festival. Figures include all revenues deposited and expenses paid through June 25, 2013. Thanks to Art and Joan Strassle for serving as Festival Treasurers again this year!

Table	Revenue	Expenses	Net Profit
Grandma's			
Attic	\$1281.85	—	\$1281.85
Grandpa's			
Attic	\$683.00	—	\$683.00
Baked Goods	\$455.25	—	\$455.25
Lunch	\$468.35	\$123.83	\$344.52
Plants	\$531.00	—	\$531.00
Strawberries	\$769.50	\$406.35	\$363.15
Jams	<u>\$1665.00</u>	<u>\$285.16</u>	<u>\$1379.84</u>
	\$5853.95	\$815.34	\$5038.61

LUNCH BUNCH

All parishioners are invited to share fellowship and good food with the Lunch Bunch when they meet on Tuesday, July 23, 12:30 p.m. at Zar Restaurant on Lake Avenue in St. James. Contact Fjeril Deal at 724-3720 to make your reservation.

OUTREACH

July is St. James' month to staff the **Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry**, which is located at St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church on Edgewater Avenue in Smithtown. The sign-up sheet is at coffee hour in Mills Hall. Three people are needed each weekday from 9 a.m. to noon. The work includes packing up bags of food, stocking shelves, and distributing food to clients. Speak to Claudette Plaschka (543-4944) for more information. The Pantry is always in need of replenishment. Donations of juice, pork and beans, peanut butter, jelly, macaroni and cheese, tuna and ravioli are needed at this time. Donations can be left in the card in the hallway of the Christian Education building. If you see the cart is getting full, please take a turn delivering the food to the Pantry during the week, between 9 a.m. and Noon.

Build a Backpack for Habitat. School supply lists for the build-a-backpack program for Habitat kids are available on the counter at the back of the church. Supplies, backpacks, or completed backpacks are all welcome. See the article from the June issue of *Open Doors* for more information. Donations are due in by Wednesday, July 10.

Protestant Campus Ministry students at Stony Brook University will still be collecting toiletries in the fall to benefit women transitioning from domestic violence and pregnant teens at a home for unwed mothers. You can continue to place those small bottles from your vacation trip this summer in the basket in the narthex.

Many thanks to all who helped at the Strawberry Festival and Yard Sale! A portion of the proceeds will be used for the outreach budget.

- Sue Krall

SUFFOLK SUMMER SUMMIT

All Episcopalians in the Archdeaconry of Suffolk are invited to attend the Suffolk Summer Summit, to be held on Wednesday, July 10, 5 - 8 p.m. at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 315 Lake Shore Road, Lake Ronkonkoma. Burgers, hot dogs, and sandwiches will be provided. Please bring a beverage, side dish, salad, or dessert. Bring your own lawn chairs or blankets for seating. Sign up on the sheet at the back of the church before July 8.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Brian Noack graduated from Centereach High School in June, and will be attending Suffolk Community College in the fall. He is working in a bagel shop using the kitchen clean-up talents that he developed at St. James Church activities.

Alison Strassle married Andrew Todd on Saturday, June 29 in Bedford, New York. We wish them a lifetime of happiness together!

Rebekah Sides, who will be a senior at Wheaton College (IL) this fall, is in Guatemala City this summer. She is one of ten college students on a mission trip to an orphanage called *Casa Bernabé* (meaning "House of Comfort") through a ministry called Rainbows of Hope. At the orphanage, Bekah has been placed in Casa Lamar, a house of mainly 12-16 year old girls. She is also helping to teach band class for beginners and intermediates, who are preparing for an August concert, and is serving on the administrative/pastoral team for the group.

She writes, "A usual day looks something like this: I come to Casa Lamar about 6 a.m., take a break from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., help at the

house from 1-3 p.m., help with band classes from 3-5 p.m., and help at the house until 8 or 9 p.m. Although I am having a fantastic time, the most difficult aspect of my experiences thus far – other than the drastic change in culture – has been the language barrier. Not being fluent in Spanish limits my conversations with the girls in my house as well as my communication with the house parents...Proverbs 3:5-6 is beginning to take on an entirely new meaning for me. I never realized how much I lean on my own understanding because my understanding has never been taken away from me." Thank you for keeping Bekah in your prayers this summer. *- Kathy Sides*

SUMMER SAFETY

During the summer, many of us participate in outdoor activities that carry an element of risk. Please remember to be safe:

- wear life vests whenever kayaking/canoeing/sailing
- don't swim alone, and preferably only swim where there are lifeguards present
- wear a bike helmet when cycling – adults too. Your head is just as likely to be hurt in an accident as your kids' heads, plus adults wearing helmets is a good model for our children.
- don't skateboard on roads

Please stay safe – we don't want to lose you!

- Raewynne

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

During the months of July and August the office will be closed on Fridays. Office hours will be held Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

JULY CALENDAR

- 1 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 2 **Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.**
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 4 **Independence Day**
- 5 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 7 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
LEM training session 11:15 a.m.
- 8 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 9 **Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.**
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 12 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 14 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 15 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 16 **Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.**
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 18 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 21 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 22 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 23 **Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.**
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 26 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 28 **The Feast of St. James**
Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 29 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 30 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 31 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Abby Coleman
Nancy Caponegro
Johnny Sommer
Pat Kregler
Ken LeCluse
Gabriel Ryan
Ariel Rung
Raewynne Whiteley
Barbara Bastin
Joan Bengtson
Tyler Moleti
Jasmine Green
Eowyn Jeffrey

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Les & Joan Bengtson
Steve & Dara Linthwaite
Donald & Karen Noack
Donald & Lisa Scott
Robert & Cynthia Bennett

AUGUST CALENDAR

- 1 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 2 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 4 **Morning Prayer 8:00 a.m.**
Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
- 5 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 6 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Knitters' group 7:30 p.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 9 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 11 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 12 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 15 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 18 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 19 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 20 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 23 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 25 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 26 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
- 30 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Danielle Dineen
Sarah LeCluse
David Westlake
Justin Plaschka
Kevin Dineen
Donna Guinaw
Lucas White
Ralph Martinsen
Robert Bennett
Debbie LaMano

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Jack Schultheis & Cathi Hart
Bob & Lil Moleti
Matt Trump & Wylie Hunt
Kris & Rachel Ryan
Tony & Mary Jane DeVito
Claude & Fjeril Deal
George & Sue Krall
Joe & Lisa Moleti
Ken & Lani Wille
Tony & Barbara Bastin
John & Nancy Caponegro
Walt & Pat Kregler
Mike & Polly Neysen

HAVE A BED OR SOFA TO DONATE?

Long Island Council of Churches has been receiving many requests in Riverhead for beds, sofas, and sofa-beds. They do not have room to store these in their small building in Riverhead, but they have a wish-list to match those who have spare furniture with those who need it. If you have beds or sofas or other furniture that you would be willing to donate, please email liccriverhead@optonline.net or call their Riverhead office at 727-2210.