



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

June 2011

F R O M T H E



The Rector is on vacation. She will return for the Strawberry Festival.

WORDS FROM THE WARDENS

There seems to be a great divide between selfless and selfish. As Christians, we regard selflessness as an attribute to be aspired to; and a selfish person is generally held in low esteem. You may have a spouse, children, or a family. Hopefully, these are loving relationships to which you selflessly dedicate your time. Then there is work, and maintenance of your home, not to mention church, clubs and organizations with which you may volunteer. With so many responsibilities, it is often very easy to lose yourself in the selfless dedication to these people or activities. And when we do, we can feel alone in the midst of all this activity.

As Christians, we are never alone. We live in a community of faith. And as our Bishop reminded us during his recent visit, "the light of Christ resides in us." It is important to let that light shine, to be aware of that

light, and to feed it. This takes time on our part to be with God. Time to pray, worship, and, yes, recreate. These are the personal times when we can commune with God and discern His will for us and our lives. It is important to take that time and make that space. It may seem selfish when so many responsibilities are calling for our attention. That great divide between selfless and selfish becomes a very fine line when we put Christ at the center of our lives. The selfish need to nurture that light within us and the selfless call to be the body of Christ doing his work in the world become one in Christ.

Peace and blessings,
Chris and Debbie

CONFIRMED AND RECEIVED

On Wednesday, May 18th at the occasion of the Visitation of Bishop Provenzano, we were pleased to present the following parishioners:

For Confirmation: Dara Linthwaite and
Matthew Trump

For Reception: Carol Bluni and Dennis
Guinaw

We offer them our prayers, blessings, and congratulations.

**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
& YARD SALE
JUNE 11, 2011**

We are busy with the final preparations for our annual Strawberry Festival and Yard Sale. There are still many opportunities for you to get involved:

Yard sale - donations are being accepted through Friday, June 10 at 1 p.m. Please leave them in the designated area in the lobby of the Christian Ed. building. All items must be clean and in working order . No books, videos, or clothing, please. You are invited to assist in the pricing for the Grandma's Attic items: June 1, 1 - 4p.m.; June 6, 3 - 5 p.m.; June 8, 1 - 4 p.m.; and June 10, 5 p.m. - done. Contact Debbie LaMano (584-3545 or lamanoscorner@optonline.net) for further information. Contact Jeff Smith (265-0299 or jeff777smith@yahoo.com) for information on Grandpa's Attic.

Strawberry Treats & Sales - Help is needed in hulling strawberries the week before the Festival, and in staffing the table. Contact Pat Pawelko (327-5863 or pjp2cor517@optimum.net) or Edna Rousseau (584-7853 or edna.rousseau@chsl.org).

Baked Goods - If baking is one of your talents, please consider making home-baked cookies, bars, breads, muffins, etc. These items can be brought early on the day of the Festival. Contact Karen Douglass (928-6633 or kdouglass@optonline.net) or Wylie Hunt (751-5618 or wyliehunt@gmail.com).

Plant table - If you are a gardener, you might have extra perennials or small shrubs to donate. Please pot them up and identify them with name and planting info. Plants can be brought early the morning of the Festival. Contact Peter Plaschka (543-4944

or pplaschka@hotmail.com.

Set up/Break down - If you have a strong back, and some free time either early Saturday morning or later in the afternoon, your help is needed to set up tables, tote our sales items outside, and take down tables, etc. at the end of the day. Contact Lil Moleti (675-0385 or boblil2@optonline.net) to offer your assistance.

**BREAD FOR THE WORLD
OFFERING OF LETTERS**

On Sunday, June 12, our parish again will be participating in Bread for the World's Offering of Letters, as it has done since 1987. As a Covenant Church in Bread for the World, we have sent over 3,000 letters to Congress advocating for the poverty stricken and hungry in our own country and throughout the world.

Last year, our focus was on domestic U.S. aid: increasing income for low-wage workers through such key tax credit programs as the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit – programs that can make a big difference for low-income workers and their families. We also asked that Congress consider expanding EITC, to be increased for families with more than three children; and keeping in place recent improvements to the Child Tax Credit past their 2010 expiration. Additional funding should be allocated toward Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites, which provide financial education and free tax preparation to low-income people.

The 2001 Offering of Letters is concentrating more on U.S. aid to other countries: we are asking that Congress reform the way the United States delivers foreign assistance to help struggling people

in poor countries. And we need to make sure every taxpayer dollar is spent wisely – more efficient U.S. foreign aid programs will ensure that our tax dollars are used effectively, and that the aid we give is what local people in poor countries really need. These reforms will help foster economic growth and opportunity and contribute to our own national security as well.

This year's BFW campaign will continue through Sunday, June 26th, to ensure that all parishioners are given the opportunity to sign a letter. At the Sunday school brunch on June 12th, children will have the opportunity to express their own concerns, by writing their own letters.

*- Sandra Grigoletto
Bread for the World Representative*

A SPECIAL THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO EASTER

As you might recall, booklets of Lenten Biblical passages and reflections had been left in the narthex for the use of parishioners. Raewynne suggested that we take a copy and include it in our daily routines. I picked up a copy and laid it on the kitchen table after church. Without actually planning to do so, I read the next day's Biblical passage out loud to Joan at the dinner table. The next day, she asked if I was not going to read the appropriate daily passage. Soon, even if we got in late in the evening, she would remind me to read the day's passage. We also began to look at the reflection section accompanying each reading and talked about a particular work, question, or idea. We read many Biblical parables on the journey to Easter.

We're looking forward to doing so again next year. We recommend that you try the

same, as an individual, a couple, or in your family setting. We think you might enjoy the reading, sharing, and dialogue.

- Art and Joan Strassle

OUTREACH

Episcopal Relief and Development has put out a call for us all to help victims of U.S.A. disasters. The need is so great. If you didn't donate during Lent, consider sending a check now with "U.S.A. Disasters" on the memo line to:

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

Episcopal Charities of Long Island is still accepting our donations. They plan to return 25% back to our church for local outreach. Checks, with "St. James, St. James" in the memo line, may be sent to:

Episcopal Charities of Long Island
36 Cathedral Avenue
P.O. Box 510
Garden City, NY 11530

A Community Garden to raise fresh food for the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry is planned at St. James. Ground has already been broken in the area beyond the playground. You are welcome to add plants, but be sure to label them. And don't forget to stop by and check to see if they need water during the summer! The 25% that Episcopal Charities sends back to St. James will be used to help cover some of the costs of the garden.

Bread for the World letters will be signed at church during June. See Sandy Grigoletto's article.

- Sue Krall

CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER

Caring for the Caregiver is coming to St. Thomas of Canterbury. This is a support group specifically for the caregiver. The program will be kicked off with a Caregivers Fair at St. Thomas on July 9th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be keynote speakers as well as service providers from around the Island. To register, call the parish office Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 265-4520, or after hours call Diane Dunkhase at 269-9259 or email djdunkhase@verizon.net. Support group meetings, Caring Circles, will begin on Wednesday, July 12 at 7:30 p.m. in St. Thomas' parish hall. Following meetings will be held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. All caregivers are welcome.

PROTESTANT CAMPUS MINISTRY

PCM would like to make up care packages for students entering Stony Brook University in late August. If you can contribute any of the following, please see me: gift certificates or coupons (e.g., pizza) to local stores in the SBU area, Starbucks or other gift cards, directory of fun things to do, train schedules, packages of Ramen Noodles, potato chips, or other snack foods or candy. Also, students are collecting backpacks or duffle bags for a Midnight Run to NYC when they give out sandwiches, toiletries, and clothing to the homeless. Please contact me if you can donate backpacks or duffle bags. Thanks for helping students help others!

-Sue Krall

SUMMER HYMNS

"Pick-a-Hymn" begins at services on June 25th. This is your chance to sing your favorite hymns during the summer months. Be sure to fill out the forms in the bulletin when you attend services each week.

JUNE GRADUATES

St. James has four high school graduates this June:

Catie Douglass is heading for warmer weather to attend Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. She will be studying Marine Science while hanging out at the campus beach.

Alexandra Euler will be attending SUNY New Paltz in the fall. She plans to study Education and Environmental Science.

Lauren Tarantino will be attending UCONN, where she will continue to play field hockey. She is majoring in Secondary Education, and would like to be a math teacher. She has received the following awards for field hockey: 3 County Awards, 3 Long Island Awards, 1 State, 2 Semi-finals in States, All Division, All Conference, All State, and the Nancy Cole Award.

Ryan White - no information received.

We congratulate them and wish them much happiness and success as they follow their dreams for the future.

LUNCH BUNCH

The June meeting of the Lunch Bunch will take place on Tuesday, June 28, 12:30 p.m. at The Bench, in Stony Brook, on Route 25A across from the railroad station. All members of the parish are welcome. Contact Fjeril Deal at 724-3720 to sign up.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

We welcome into the parish family, James Christian Allen, son of Lorelei Glogg and James Allen, who was born on May 6. New Grandma, Jerilyn Glogg is thrilled at the new addition to the family, and Uncle Jeremiah was excited to have little James born on his birthday. Congratulations to all!

We've missed Joe and Carolyn Elek, and Rowan Westhoff, who have completed their move to their new home in Connecticut this spring. We wish them much happiness as they begin this phase of their life together in a new state.

Correction: the email address for Art Strassle in the new parish directory is incorrect. The correct address is: astrassle1@optonline.net.

FOR SALE

Four-poster queen size bed, medium oak finish - in great condition, with optional canopy. Will help set up. Call Lil Moleti at 675-0385 if you are interested.

JUNE CALENDAR

- 1 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Grandma's Attic pricing 1-4 p.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 2 Choir rehearsal 7:30 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 4 Toastmasters' group 9:30 a.m.
- 5 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
with Sunday school
Cemetery Committee meeting
11:15 a.m.
- 6 Grandma's Attic pricing 3-5 p.m.
Yoga 3:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Bible study 7:30 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 8 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Grandma's Attic pricing 1-4 p.m.
Jam making 3:30 p.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 10 Grandma's Attic pricing 5 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 11 **STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- 12 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School closing brunch
- 13 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Deanery meeting 10:00 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 15 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 16 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 17 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 19 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
- 20 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.

- 21 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 22 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 24 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 25 Toastmasters' group 9:30 a.m.
Aleca Cobb funeral 1 p.m.
- 26 **Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.**
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
Holocaust speaker 11:00 a.m.
- 27 Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:00 a.m.
Lunch Bunch 12:30 p.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 29 Knitters' group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Stephanie Coleman
Dara Linthwaite
Jake Pryor
Eric Mercep
Lindsay Petschauer
Alex Rich
Chris Mauro
Dennis Guinaw
Jaime DeFilippis
Peter Plaschka
Lauren Tarantino
Joe Elek
Ruth LeCluse
Claudette Plaschka
Catie Douglass
Bill Bowden

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Linda Misa
Kurt & Diane Rettig
Ron & June Davies
Charlie & Marge Kreussling
Ken & Ruth LeCluse
Art & Arlyne Gureck