



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

June 2014

THE WARDENS' COLUMN

Strawberry Festival

In just two weeks we will be hosting our annual Strawberry Festival. Please keep in touch with our coordinator, Pat Westlake, and your chair for the table you have signed up for. There is a lot of work to be done in the next two weeks and many hands make the work load so much lighter. If you have any items for any of the tables please bring them in to the Christian Education Building so that organizing and pricing can proceed. With any June luck we will have a glorious day! And please post the festival flyers in any location you can think of to draw a nice crowd from our community. Surely we are all ready to celebrate the warm weather and welcome the lazy, hazy days ahead.

Summer Bible Study

Wylie Hunt and Matthew Trump have come up with a refreshing idea for continuing the Summer Bible Study Program. While the summer season typically symbolizes a less driven and leisurely period after the seeming endless winter and often disappointing spring, it also can seem a bit frantic with friends and family to visit, children to organize, and plans to make for outdoor activities. What we are imagining with the Summer Bible Study is a more relaxed atmosphere of camaraderie and thoughtfulness. While remaining engaged in scripture we thought that an intimate walk with Jesus would refresh and nurture our spiritual

journey. Please see Wylie's article here in Open Doors.

Prayer Retreat

In early April this year our Rector led us in a three hour prayer retreat following the Eucharist and coffee hour. It was a time for learning more deeply about prayer, about our individual journeys toward a greater satisfaction and understanding of prayer in our daily lives, and about our fellow parishioners' reflections on finding time and place for personal and meaningful prayer. This was a hugely rewarding experience, a true "vacation" from the immediacy of the demands on our time and psyches. We would like to take the time again this summer for another Prayer Retreat. This is not a huge commitment of time, just part of a summer's afternoon. The rewards are so beneficial and self-perpetuating that once you experience them you will just want to keep moving forward in faith, often in silence, and in an ongoing and revealing dialogue with God. Please let us know when you might like to join this retreat, which month or week suits your schedule and your needs. This might just be the "vacation" you have been looking for this summer.

With God's grace,
Debbie & Alex

**STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
SATURDAY, JUNE 7
9:30 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

The big day is almost upon us, and we know you are all praying for good weather. In addition, here are several ways in which you can contribute to making the Festival a big success:

Bake Sale Help Wanted! We are once again soliciting donations of your delicious home-made goodies to make our Bake Sale table a huge success. Please support this fundraiser by donating an item (or two or three!) for sale. We are looking for any type of cookies, brownies, bars, breads, muffins, cakes, and cupcakes. Sugar-free and gluten-free items are always welcome. Please label your items clearly, especially noting if nuts are an ingredient, and wrap your treats in disposable packaging with clear plastic wrap. Please bring your donations to the Festival early in the morning, so we can set up a beautiful table to attract customers. Contact Wylie Hunt (wyliehunt@gmail.com or 631-258-6848), or Colette Tarantino (lcol0208@aim.com or 631-456-2886), or just let us know in church if you'll be baking!

Strawberries for Sale. The hulling of the strawberries has been scheduled for Friday, June 6 at 7 p.m. in the Mills Hall kitchen.

Grandma's Attic. Pricing sessions for the yard sale treasures have been scheduled as follows: Friday, May 30 at 1 p.m.
Monday, June 1 at 1 p.m.
Wednesday, June 4 at 1 p.m.
Friday, June 6 at 6 p.m.

If you are unable to make those sessions, and would like to come at another time (during office hours) please feel free to do so. Many hands make light work!

**THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
CREW**

Fair Coordinator - Pat Westlake (584-5560)
Grandma's Attic - Debbie LaMano, chair (774-4271)
Grandpa's Garage - Bob Moleti, chair (675-0385)
Baked Goods - Wylie Hunt, chair (258-6848)
Strawberries - Lil Moleti, chair (675-0385)
Plants - Peter Plaschka, chair (543-4944)
Garden decor - Alex Rich, chair (365-9488)
Jams - Laurie Mannix, chair (928-8322)
Crafts - Pat Kregler, chair (863-1113)
Lunch - Art Gureck, head buyer (751-2614)
Karen & Donald Noack, head cooks (981-3989)
Set-up/Clean-up - Chris Mauro, chair (689-1419)

Be sure to watch the Sunday bulletin for up to date announcements. Please contact them if you can offer your help either before the Festival, or on the day of the Festival.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY/BOOK CLUB

Do you like to read? Please join us on five Wednesday evenings this summer at St. James to discuss a new book entitled, Encounters With Jesus, Unexpected Answers to Life's Biggest Questions, by Timothy Keller. The book may be purchased on Amazon and at Barnes and Noble. It is also available in a Kindle edition.

In Encounters With Jesus, New York Times best selling author and renowned pastor, Timothy Keller shows how people were challenged when they met Jesus personally – and how we can be changed today through our own encounter with Him.

Jesus touched the life of every person he met in the Gospels, through powerful experiences and words that led them to unexpected and transforming answers to their big questions. These conversations can still address our questions and doubts today. Originally published as an eSeries, Encounters With Jesus focuses on several meetings – including with a skeptical student, a religious insider, an outcast, even Jesus mother – and shows how the central events in Jesus’ life provide ways for us to encounter him again. The book seems particularly appropriate for us to read at this time, having recently experienced the 40 days of Lent, the solemnity of Holy Week, and the joyful celebration of the Easter season.

Timothy Keller was born and raised in Pennsylvania, and educated at Bucknell University, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and Westminster Theological Seminary. He was first a pastor in Hopewell, Virginia. In 1989 he started Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan with his wife, Kathy, and their three sons. Today, Redeemer has more than five thousand regular attendees at five services, a host of daughter churches, and is planting churches in large cities throughout the world. He is the author of Counterfeit Gods, The Prodigal God, and the New York Times best seller The Reason for God.

Our Summer Bible Study/Book Club will meet at 7:00 p.m. in the lobby of the Christian Education building on the following Wednesday evenings: June 25, July 9, July 23, August 6, and August 20. Light refreshments will be served. Please consider joining us for fellowship, refreshments, informal discussion in a casual setting, and, as always, prayer. For further

information, please speak to Wylie Hunt or Alexandra Rich.

- Wylie Hunt

STEWARDSHIP

*“Everything is amazing
and no one is happy.”*

Comedian Louis C.K.

In a January 29, 2014 article from themotleyfool.com, “*50 Reasons We’re Living Through the Greatest Period in World History*” economics and finance columnist Morgan Housel compares statistical samples from the past to make a persuasive case that the average American’s life has never been better than right now. Here are a few that relate to personal finance:

#5. The average American now retires at age 62. One hundred years ago, the average American died at age 51. Enjoy your golden years – your ancestors didn’t get any of them.

#12. According to the Federal Reserve, the number of lifetime years spent in leisure – retirement plus time off during your working years – rose from 11 years in 1870 to 35 years by 1990. Given the rise in life expectancy, it’s probably close to 40 years today. Which is amazing: the average American spends nearly half his life in leisure. If you had told this to the average American 100 years ago, that person would have considered you wealthy beyond imagination.

#32. Incomes have grown so much faster than food prices that the average American

household now spends less than half as much of its income on food as it did in the 1950s. Relative to wages, the price of food has declined more than 90% since the 19th century, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

#42. Adjusted for inflation, the average monthly Social Security benefit for retirees has increased from \$378 in 1940 to \$1,277 by 2010. What used to be a safety net is now a proper pension.

#43. If you think Americans aren't prepared for retirement today, you should have seen what it was like a century ago. In 1900, 65% of men over age 65 were still in the labor force. By 2010, that figure was down to 22%. The entire concept of retirement is unique to the past few decades. Half a century ago, most Americans worked until they died.

#49. You need an annual income of \$34,000 a year to be in the richest 1% of the world, according to World Bank economist Branko Milanovic's 2010 book, The Haves and Have-Nots. To be in the top half of the globe you need to earn just \$1,225 a year. For the top 20%, it's \$5,000 per year. Enter the top 10% with \$12,000 a year. America's poorest are some of the world's richest.

This non-statistical observation from Housel is perhaps the most profound:

#26. Google Maps is free. If you think about this for a few moments, it's really astounding. It's probably the single most useful piece of software ever invented, and it's free for anyone to use.

#50. Only 4% of humans get to live in America. Odds are you're one of them. We've got it made. Be thankful.

I think most of us would agree that we generally feel that we are financially struggling. Even so, we should consider how blessed we are, and remember to give thanks to God.

In Christ,
Chris Mauro
Stewardship Chairperson

OUTREACH

The Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry currently needs donations of spaghetti sauce and juice. Donations can be left in the cart 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. The Pantry, located at St. Thomas of Canterbury in Smithtown, is open from 9 a.m. to Noon, weekdays.

St. James donated \$450 and many adorable baby items, blessed by Father Gable, to new mothers at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Far Rockaway. Thank you to all who gave in honor of or in memory of the mothers in your lives and also to Jennifer and Bruce Lawrence for driving to Far Rockaway to deliver the gifts!

Our Bread for the World Offering of Letters will be held during the month of June. We give \$250 from our Outreach budget to Bread for the World each year but our letters probably have a far greater impact. See Sandy Tyler Grigoletto's article for the details of how you can help.
* Did you know almost 1.5 people in developing countries live in extreme poverty, living on less than \$1.25 a day? This equals millions of people throughout the world.

*Did you know almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes each day?

*Did you know 14.5% of U.S. households struggle to put food on the table? More than one in five children live in these households.

*Did you know U.S. Food Aid has helped over 3 billion people in 150 countries around the world?

In 1972, a small group of Protestants and Roman Catholics got together to think about how people of faith could work to influence U.S. policies that address the causes of hunger. By the end of 1974, over 500 people had joined Bread for the World as citizen advocates for the hungry. By the end of 1974, over 500 people had joined Bread for the World as citizen advocates for the hungry. Bread for the World is a non-partisan Christian movement in the U.S. to end hunger. It is a collective Christian voice urging our congressmen and women to end hunger at home and abroad. Each year, Bread for the World encourages churches all over the U.S. to take up a nationwide Offering of Letters to congress on an issue which matters to hungry people. The Offering of Letters Campaign focuses on a different hunger issue each year, in the hopes of changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist. On May 22, 2014, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its fiscal year 2015 Agriculture Appropriations Bill. This bill includes an amendment to provide \$35 million for food-aid reform, increasing flexibility and efficiency of U.S. Food Aid, allowing assistance to reach more people, more quickly. Changes to the food-aid programs would benefit 1 million more people yearly – at no additional cost to U.S. taxpayers. God’s grace in Jesus Christ should move us to help our neighbors next door, in the next state, or in the next

continent. For more information on Bread for the World “Have Faith, End Hunger,” go to www.bread.org.

Volunteers are needed to host Camp DeWolfe’s out-of-town summer staff during their weekend off in July. Staff are off from 6 p.m. Friday to 11 a.m. Sunday on July 4-6, July 11-13, July 25-27. If you can host on one of these dates, call the Camp DeWolfe office at 631-929-4325 or email office@campdewolfe.org.

Our Strawberry Festival/Yard Sale on Saturday, June 7 is a big source of St. James’ outreach money. Please participate in any way you can: by donating, by pricing, by selling, by baking, by buying, by inviting friends and neighbors, and by enjoying the day. Come one and all!

- Sue Krall

BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS

On Sunday, June 22, our parish 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.

This year, BFW is urging Congress to protect and reform U.S. food aid in ways that increase efficiency and nutritional quality, while maintaining funding levels.

The campaign will continue through Sunday, June 29 to ensure that all parishioners are

given the opportunity to sign a letter.

- *Sandra Tyler Grigoletto*

CLASS OF 2014

Congratulations to all our graduates from the class of 2014:

College:

Matt Coleman graduated from SUNY Fredonia on May 17 with a B.A. in History with a minor in Criminal Justice. He will be joining the Navy, and has been recruited as a Diver.

Kevin White was profiled in the May issue.

High School:

Alec Douglass graduates from Mt. Sinai High School with 26 college credits. He will be attending Lehigh University with a Merit Scholarship, and will study engineering.

Jeremiah Glogg - no information received at press time.

Michael LaMano - no information received at press time.

Justin Plaschka graduates from Hauppauge High School and will be attending and swimming for the University of Notre Dame (The Fighting Irish) on a swimming scholarship. He was accepted to their Business School, but has not decided on a major. Justin received the following awards: Scholastic All American, All American Swimmer, NY State Swimming Champion and 3 time record holder, NY State Outstanding Swimmer, MVP Suffolk County.

We congratulate them on their accomplishments this far, and wish them much happiness and success in their future endeavors.

A NOTE OF THANKS

The Kreussling family is eternally grateful to the parish of St. James for its love and support during the very difficult and painful period following the passing of Margaret. She was our strength and is sorely missed. Thank you and God bless you all.

UPCOMING CONCERT

On Sunday, June 1, St. James' organist, Istvan Dioszegi will play the harpsichord in a concert which is part of the Stony Brook Community Chamber Music Program. The concert, which is free, will take place at the Stony Brook University Recital Hall at Staller Center at 2 p.m. The group will play a Benedetto Marcello Sonata written for recorder and continuo.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Katherine Elizabeth Allen (Katie) was born on May 16th at 11:48 p.m. She is the daughter of Lorelei Glogg Allen and Jimmy Allen. Grandma Jerilyn Glogg tells us she was 6 lbs., 1 oz., 19½" long, has light brown hair with a tinge of red, sky blue eyes, a button nose, and is a delightful, five star baby. She joins her big brother, James and the rest of the Glogg-Allen household. We can't wait to see her in church!

Ron Davies, as one of the coaches of the Suffolk Community College baseball team, expresses his gratitude for the Suffolk CC Team finishing first, this past spring, in the Northeast, and in winning the top four playoff tournament, to earn the right to represent the Northeast in the College World Series Baseball Tournament against the

seven other regions of this country. It was held in Tyler, Texas commencing Saturday, May 24. It was also announced that the league referees awarded SCC the sportsmanship award, which is a very high honor. Congratulations!

Leah Tarantino became engaged to Matt Roseto recently. Matt, who is in the Marines, has recently been deployed to Guantanamo, Cuba. A fall 2015 wedding is currently being planned. Best wishes to Leah and Matt for a lifetime of love and happiness.

LUNCH BUNCH

On Tuesday, June 24, at 12:30 p.m. all parishioners are invited to join the Lunch Bunch at Ancient Ginger Restaurant, 556 Route 25A, across from Hitherbrook Nursery in St. James. Contact Fjeril Deal at 724-3720 to make your reservation.

JUNE CALENDAR

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. with
Children's Formation classes
Choir rehearsal 11:15 a.m. 2 Grandma's Attic pricing 1 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 3 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:15 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m. 4 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
Grandma's Attic pricing 1 p.m.
Grandpa's Garage pricing 2 p.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m. 5 Jam making session 1 p.m. 6 Grandma's Attic pricing 6 p.m.
Strawberry Hulling 7:00 p.m. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 7 Strawberry Festival 9:30 a.m.-
3 p.m. (rain or shine). 8 Pentecost
Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. with
Children's Formation classes
Choir rehearsal 11:15 a.m. 9 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 10 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:15 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m. 11 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m. 12 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m. 13 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 15 Father's Day
Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. with
Children's Formation classes 16 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 17 Morning Prayer 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:15 a.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m. 18 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m. 20 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 22 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. 23 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 24 Holy Eucharist 9:30 a.m.
Bible study 10:15 a.m.
Lunch Bunch 12:30 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m. 25 Knitters' group 11:15 a.m.
Yoga class 3:30 p.m.
Bible Study/Book Club 7:00 p.m. 26 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m. 27 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. 28 Mills Hall rental 12 - 3 p.m. 29 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m. 30 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m. |
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JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Stephanie Coleman
Lindsay Petschauer
Alex Rich
Chris Mauro
Skyler Baez
Dennis Guinaw
Jamie DeFilippis
Peter Plaschka
Lauren Tarantino
Ruth LeCluse
Claudette Plaschka
Catie Douglass



Strawberry Festival and Yard Sale

Saturday, June 7, 2014

9:30 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Rain or shine

**Fresh strawberries for sale,
Strawberry treats,
Homemade jams,
Baked goods, plants, garden
decorations
Yard sale treasures
Lunch available**

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Ken & Linda Misa
Ron & June Davies
Bill & Gabi Reisenauer
Ken & Ruth LeCluse
Art & Arlyne Gureck
Bruce & Jennifer Lawrence



**St. James Episcopal Church
490 North Country Road
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584-5560**