

Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

FROM THE
Re
CTOR

Summer has arrived early this year! Not only have we had a series of scorching days, but the humidity is up. Roses are blooming, vegetable seedlings are pushing through the soil, and of course, the poison ivy is flourishing. The earth is bursting with life.

Meanwhile, things around us are beginning to slow down. The school year is coming to an end. Office wear becomes more casual. We're making plans for the beach, and perhaps a vacation. And even here at church, we become a little less formal.

We often think of summer as idyllic and carefree. The song made famous by Nat King Cole in the 1960s captures it well:

*Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer
Those days of soda and pretzels and beer
Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer
You'll wish that summer could always be here*

Yet for some of us, summer is not so different from the rest of the year. The cares

of everyday life don't just magically go away. We continue to worry about making ends meet, continue to feel loneliness, continue to wonder about our futures. And for people in these situations, summer can be a difficult time. Every one else seems to be having a wonderful time, and we feel like we are missing out.

When I was a kid, I belonged to the Girls Friendly Society. Our motto was "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2). One of the great gifts of Christian community is that we are never alone. Not only is Christ with us, but our Christian brothers and sisters are with us as well.

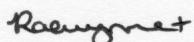
We will be here this summer, worshiping every Sunday at our usual times, enjoying coffee hour, visiting people who are home bound, and praying for one another. On



Sundays, come and worship God at 8am, before you head out for the day, or relax a little and enjoy the laid back feeling of the 9.30am service with our “Pick-a-hymns.” Look around you, and see if there is someone who you can invite to a picnic or cookout. Sit by someone you don’t know well, and ask about their summer. Visit the biblical garden and spend some time in meditation. Bring a friend!

We look forward to seeing you this summer.

Blessings,



FROM THE WARDENS

Ask and It Shall Be Given

We are taught that our God listens to our requests and prayers, and answers them in the fullness of time. We are taught that what we give to God is but a small portion of the riches He gives to us. Yet our stewardship is not only a demonstrable gift of faith. It is often a real and tangible sacrifice as well. We thank all of you who have responded with pledges to help close the budget deficit. We thank all of you who are diligently saving in anticipation of contributing in the months ahead. We thank those who, while not able to pledge an exact amount, give as they are able in the weekly collection plate. And we are mindful of those who cannot give more monetarily, yet who provide a wealth of giving in deed and dedication to our parish. With God’s grace we will meet our goal and satisfy our indebtedness.

With giving in mind we wish to remind you of our Strawberry Festival June 11th. This is our kickoff for the summer ahead. It is

always a major fund-raising event and an important demonstration of outreach to our community at large. Help is needed everywhere. Pat Westlake and her incredible crew have been busy for months and they can now use an extra boost from all of us. The Smithtown Nursery School is busy organizing events for children, Gold Elephant and Grandma’s Attic are pricing items three times a week, the bakers are baking, the jam-makers jamming, our gardeners are digging and dividing. Karen Noack is painting our signs and preparing our food. But extra hands are always needed to relieve those at the tables (people get hungry or need to just sit for a moment), to set up and clean up, to gather and dispose of garbage, to wrap and bag the treasures people purchase. All hands on deck!

Christian Education is marching forward to form a Bible Study to gather bi-monthly throughout the summer months. Please see Jack Harrington, Jack Schultheis, Raewynne or Alex to suggest topics, themes, areas of study. To fail to dig deeper into the Bible and share those insights with others is to neglect the glory of God’s word in the greatest story ever told. As Karl Barth wrote in “The Need for Christian Preaching” we are all essentially looking for the answer to one question: “Is it true?”

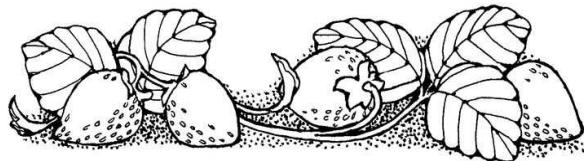
*“Is it true, this sense of unity in diversity of a stationary pole
amid changing appearances,
of a righteousness not somewhere beyond the stars
but in the events which are our present life?
...Is it true, this talking of a loving and good God.
Is it true that there is in all things a meaning, a goal, and a God.”*

Prayerfully,
Alex & Jennifer

JUNE IS FOOD PANTRY MONTH!

June is St. James' month to staff the Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry. The Pantry is located at St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church, 90 Edgewater Avenue, Smithtown, and is open Monday - Friday from 9 a.m. - Noon. Three people are needed each day to assist clients and fill grocery bags. Please sign up after church or during coffee hour. Speak to Claudette Plaschka (chinplaschka@hotmail.com / 543-4944) if you have any questions.

If you cannot serve during the day, there are opportunities to shop for the Pantry, or to stock shelves evenings and weekends. Speak to Pat Westlake if you can help out in this way (pkings20@optonline.net / 584-6628).



STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

& YARD SALE

Saturday, June 11, 2016

9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Rain date: Sunday, June 12, 12 - 4 p.m.

This is a big fundraiser for St. James, and also an opportunity to deepen relationships with fellow parishioners. Your help is needed both before the event and on the day of the festival. Here are several opportunities for you to get involved in making this successful:

Crafts Table: If you are creative, consider making an item or two for sale. Whatever your craft, your creations will be welcome. Donations can be given to Co-Chairs Pat

Kregler (584-0037 /patkreg@verizon.net) or Linda Misa (862-6421 /sassi0927@aol.com) or brought to the office before June 9th.

Gold Elephant Treasures: Donate your new or lightly used china, crystal, linens, gift items and "antiques". Donations of these higher-end items can be left in the lobby of the Christian Ed. building by June 10th. Co-Chairs: Joan Mercep (724-4457/ mercep8285@verizon.net) and Thea Welch (675-2851/ theadora13@aol.com).

Grandma's Attic: Donations of dishes, glassware, household items, etc. are needed. Items should be clean and in good condition. They can be brought to the lobby of the C.E. building by June 10th. If you would like to help with pricing, come to any of these sessions: June 2, 7, and 9 at 6 p.m., or come in weekdays between 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Co-Chairs: Debbie LaMano (774-4271/ dlamano67@gmail.com) and Jennifer Lawrence (jenlawrence@msn.com / 862-7374).

Grandpa's Garage: Do you have unused tools, sports equipment, furniture, garden tools, and working electronic equipment that you no longer want? Donations can be brought to the lobby of the C.E. building by June 10th. Help will be needed with sorting and pricing on June 6, 8, and 10 at 1 p.m. Chair: Bob Moleti (boblii2@optonline.net / 675-0385).

Jam Table: You can help make jam Thursday afternoons at 1 p.m. in the Mills Hall kitchen. Donations of sugar or 8 oz. canning jars are greatly appreciated. Co-Chairs: Louise Harders (louern@aol.com / 585-7511) and Laurie Mannix (928-8322 / stjamesc@optonline.net).

Jewelry Table: If you have jewelry you no longer wear, give it to Lil Moleti or bring it to the office by June 8th. Untarnished,

untangled, clean jewelry saves time and effort of our volunteers. Help is needed for sorting and pricing on June 1, 3, 6, 8, and 10 at 1 p.m. Chair: Lil Moleti (675-0385 / boblil2@optonline.net).

Plant Table: If you are dividing perennials, or thinning out newly planted seedlings, please pot them up, label them, and bring them to the table on the day of the Festival. Garden decor and plant pots are also welcome. Co-Chairs: Tony DeVito (724-1233) and Ruth Ward (rward151@aol.com / 909-3456).

Strawberries for Sale/Strawberry Treats: Help will be needed to hull the berries on Friday, June 10 at 5 p.m. in Mills Hall, and to staff the table on the day of the Festival to sell berries and serve the berries and ice cream. Chair: Kelly Lally (584-3205 /breezin323@aol.com).

Set-up and Clean-up: As always, help will be needed on the day of the Festival to set up tables and tents and tote “stuff” in the early morning, and to break down and clean up at the end of the day. If you have a couple of hours to donate, you can be of enormous help here. Chair: Chris Mauro (689-1419 / chris.mauro@cmsheattransfer.com).

Et cetera: If you can't make it later in the day, volunteers are needed to purchase and tie balloons to poles at 9 a.m. the day of the Festival, and to make coffee and provide bagels and donuts early on the morning of the Festival for those who come early to set up. Contact Pat Westlake (584-5560 or pkings20@optonline.net).

If you only have a few hours available, you can help at the pricing sessions before the Festival, or assist at any of the above tables on the day of the Festival.



Attention all bakers!!!! Start your ovens!!!! We need your delectable baked goods!!!!

Our Strawberry Festival is right around the corner. We are gearing up and planning our yummy table. Please consider making the time to bake a batch (or two or three!) of your favorite recipe(s) to help us run another successful bake sale.

The offerings need not be involved or complicated. Often, old-fashioned simple family recipes are favorites! Pinterest has thousands of inspirational ideas and recipes for your browsing pleasure. Baking to support our parish would be a fun activity to do with children or grandchildren. Making a batch of cookies or cupcakes together with a young one might be a wonderful opportunity to teach about giving and sharing a tangible expression of love.

All donations are gratefully received! Breads (both yeast and quick breads), muffins, cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, shortcakes, and cupcakes are the norm, but be creative! Think outside the box! We have had donations of pretzels, crackers, spiced nuts, and even dog biscuits in the past. Sugar-free and gluten-free goods are appreciated by many. Baked goods packaged attractively and beautifully always sell quickly. Often our bakers include the recipe for the item. Please carefully label your donations, especially if nuts are

included, and bring them to the Festival early in the morning of June 11th. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call us!

*Wylie Hunt (631) 258-6848
wyliehunt@gmail.com*

*Colette Tarantino (6310 751-7932
llcol10208@aim.com*

OUTREACH

We pray for the men and women working on the world's waterways every week and we support them by knitting and crocheting scarves and hats for them; here is a little information about the **Seamen's Church Institute**.

Our world relies on the health and sustainability of the maritime workforce. Mariners' safety and happiness concerns everyone, no matter where they live. What we do, the way we live our lives, affects mariners around the world.

- ~ Securing a safe workplace with fair and equal standards for everyone - the same ones we expect for ourselves and the ones we love - **shows a connection to justice**;
- ~ Supplying continuing education opportunities for eager, curious minds confirms **a connection to the pursuit of wisdom**;
- ~ Providing support for young sons and daughters away from home for months at a time as they work on vessels demonstrates our **connection as members of a worldwide human family to care for one another**.

This year at SCI they are pursuing some big dreams to help recognize and appreciate the world's connection with the maritime world.

- ~ **With expansion of their river chaplaincy** of trained crisis responders including part time staff chaplains and

three non-stipendiary chaplains, SCI is poised to serve the **nation's merchant mariners anywhere along the 2,200+ miles of inland waterways**.

~ SCI is completing upgrades to its Center for Maritime Education campus in Houston, TX. The **new generation of simulators** will provide innovative educational opportunities for the next generation of professional mariners.

~ Madelyn Cousins

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WALK-ON BUILD DAYS

Habitat for Humanity has announced a set of "walk-on" days at several build sites in Suffolk Country during June. If you have any of these dates free (and are NOT working at the Food Pantry or preparing for the Strawberry Festival), you can contact them at www.habitatsuffolk.volunteerhub.com to sign up. All the tasks are listed on each individual day once you log in.

Friday, June 3, Tuesday, June 7, Wednesday, June 8, Thursday June 9, or Friday, June 10.

You may contact me if you have any questions.

~ Ken LeCluse

DO CHURCHGOERS LIVE LONGER?

An article in the Tuesday, May 24 issue of *Newsday* reported on a new study, released this month in a journal published by the American Medical Association that says that those who attend church services more often actually have a better chance of staying alive in the long run.

The 20-year study focused on a group of

more than 76,000 female nurses, most of whom were Catholic and Protestant. At the end of 20 years, more than 13,000 of them had died. The women who went to religious services more than once a week were 33% less likely to be in the group who died compared with those who never attended services. The effect diminished as the study participants decreased their service attendance. Those who attended services once a week saw their odds of dying go down 26%. For those who attended less than weekly, the odds of dying decreased 13%.

The effect of religious attendance, they found, was stronger than any other form of participation in a social group, like a book club or a volunteer organization. “Service attendance is increasing social support. Through social norms, it’s also decreasing the likelihood of smoking. Perhaps through some of the messages of hope, it’s decreasing depressive symptoms. Perhaps self-discipline, a sense of meaning or purpose in life – it’s not just one pathway.”

To read the entire article, check the bulletin board at the rear of the church.

OFFICE ANGELS NEEDED

Laurie Mannix will be taking a vacation the week of June 20th. Help is needed to cover the office a few hours each day that week. If you have some time available, please contact Laurie in the office during the week.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADS!

Michael Bonvento received his doctorate in Biomedical Engineering from Stony Brook University on May 20.

Abigail Coleman graduated on May 15 from SUNY New Paltz, Magna Cum Laude with a B.A. in Communication Disorders, and a minor in Deaf Studies. She plans to be a Speech Pathologist, so will be starting a Master’s program this fall at St. John’s University.

Alexandra Euler officially graduated from New Paltz with a B.S. in Education and Earth Science in December 2015, but returned on May 15 for the ceremonies. She will be going for her Master’s in September at Stony Brook University.

Sean Glogg is graduating on June 24 from West Babylon High School. He plans to continue with Electronics classes at Wilson Tech.

Justine Guinaw is graduating from Kings Park High School on June 23. She has been accepted at Siena College in Loudonville, NY, with a Presidential Scholarship. She plans on majoring in Accounting, with a minor in Finance and/or Entrepreneurship. She is also looking forward to joining the Equestrian Team.

Lucas White is graduating from Ward Melville High School, and will be attending NYU School of Engineering in the fall. He plans to major in Integrated Media/Computer Science.

We congratulate our grads on their accomplishments so far, and wish them success in their future studies and beyond.

MEMORIAL DAY ALTAR FLOWERS

On Sunday, May 30, one of the bouquets from the altar was given to Matt Coleman (serving in the Navy), who was home for the weekend, and the other was taken to the American Airpower Museum, by Justine Guinaw., a museum volunteer. The Vets were so appreciative and touched by the gesture. The bouquet was seen by over a thousand people this weekend. Here is Justine's report:

In light of recent events, the American Airpower Museum would like to extend its sincerest appreciation for the altar bouquet provided on Memorial Day in honor of our fallen pilot, Bill Gordon. Mr. Gordon had maintained a critical part in all our lives and we are truly grateful for your support at this time. This Memorial Day weekend multiple visitors expressed their grief in his passing to which notions of thoughtfulness have afforded significant impact, like a small boy who confronted me to express his anguish in regards to the accident, (these gestures) have provided a sense of security in the acknowledgment of his memory.

- Justine Guinaw

NEEDED

We need four-drawer filing cabinets for storing our archived files.

TABLE DONATIONS

We would like to buy another ten lightweight tables to replace the last of our wooden ones. Donations of \$60 to cover the cost would be appreciated. Thank you to those who have already donated!

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Margo Goodman is a member of the cast of “Harper Regan,” a play by 2015 Tony Award winner (“The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”) Simon Stephens. The play runs from May 4 - June 4 at the T. Schreiber Studio, 151 W. 26th Street in New York City.

LONG ISLAND BLOOD SERVICES BLOOD DRIVE

On Friday, June 10, Stony Brook University Medical Center will sponsor a blood drive from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. in the 3rd floor Galleria. Free SBUMC parking validation to donors.

Your donation will help save up to three lives. Those eligible must be between the ages of 16 (with parental permission) and 75, and have a minimum weight of 110 lbs. Bring ID with signature or photo. Eat well and drink fluids beforehand. No tattoos within the last 12 months. For questions concerning medical eligibility, call 1-800-688-0900.

JUNE CALENDAR

- 1 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
Jewelry pricing 1 p.m.
- 2 Jam making 1 p.m.
Grandma's Attic & Gold Elephant pricing 6 p.m.
Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Gold Elephant pricing 11 a.m.
Jewelry pricing 1 p.m.
Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
- 5 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.

- 6 Grandpa's Garage pricing 1 p.m.
 Jewelry pricing 1 p.m.
 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
 7 Morning Prayer 9 a.m.
 Piano lessons 4 p.m.
 Grandma's Attic & Gold Elephant
 pricing 6 p.m.
 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
 8 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
 Grandpa's Garage pricing 1 p.m.
 Jewelry pricing 1 p.m.
 9 Jam making 1 p.m.
 Grandma's Attic & Gold Elephant
 pricing 6 p.m.
 10 Grandpa's Garage pricing 1 p.m.
 Jewelry pricing 1 p.m.
 Strawberry hulling 5 p.m.
 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
11 STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 12 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
 13 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
 14 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
 Piano lessons 4 p.m.
 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
 15 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
 No. Suffolk Garden Club 1 p.m.
 Challenger Teen group 6 p.m.
 16 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
 17 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
 18 Nursery School Open House &
 Garage Sale
 19 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
 20 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
 21 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
 Piano Recital
 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
 22 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
 23 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 24 Food Addiction group 7:30 p.m.
 26 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
 Holy Eucharist II 9:30 a.m.
 27 Deanery meeting 2 p.m.
 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 Food addiction group 7:30 p.m.
 28 Holy Eucharist 9 a.m.
 Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
 29 Knitters' group 11:30 a.m.
 30 Sr. Women's Exercise grp. 7 p.m.
 N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

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