



Open Doors

The Newsletter of St. James Episcopal Church

October 2009

FROM THE



Sometimes we forget that the first Christians didn't have a bible like we have. They had the Old Testament – though without printing presses it

had to be hand copied, so they probably only had sections that people had copied onto scrolls. They had the stories of Jesus, passed on by word of mouth. And then they had letters, mostly written by Paul, which were read aloud to the whole community, and then passed from town to town so that more people could hear the apostles' wisdom.

This week in bible study we read the whole of the letter to the Colossians aloud. It's the closest we can get to those first Christians' experience. Reading it this way gives you a sense of the whole letter. An inland town, away from the shipping routes and the gossip that went with them, Colossae was fairly isolated; you can imagine their excitement when they received a letter from the great man, Paul. It even included personal greetings to individuals whom Paul had met, along with a prayer for the Colossians and lots of practical advice. This was something to be treasured and memorized, a precious gift for the church.

Sometimes we forget what a gift the bible is. God's love shines through it to us, in the

stories, advice, prayers, and wisdom. So I encourage you to read it, whether you want to follow along our study of Colossians (the weekly portions will be printed in the bulletin and "This week at St. James") or use "Forward Day by Day". And join us in memorizing this verse from Colossians"

"For in Christ the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority." *Colossians 2:9-10*

- Raewynne

ADVANCE NOTICE!

Christmas services this year will be:

Christmas Eve:

5:30 p.m. Family Service with nativity pageant

9:00 p.m. "Silent Night at St. James" Traditional candlelit Christmas Eve Eucharist with music for the season, followed by drinks at the Rectory

Christmas Day:

10:00 a.m. Christmas Eucharist

PEOPLE IN THE PEWS

St. James parishioners are an interesting group of people. Through this column, Open Doors will profile a member each month as an avenue for helping us get to know each other a little better. Our first parishioner is Chris Mauro.

Tell us about yourself.

I was born and grew up in Whitestone, N.Y. I'm an Italian American, and very proud of that ancestry. I'm married 19 years to Kathy, and we have two children, Emily and Thomas. I'm a partner in an engineering and manufacturing company located in Bohemia.

First attended St. James: 1995.

Roles played in the parish: Sunday School teacher, CFE/Stewardship/Search committees, Vestry member, Bible study.

What do you like most about St. James?
The people of St. James have a real commitment to Jesus, which is apparent in the way they treat each other and serve the community.

Last book read: The Girl with the White Flag.

Hymn you'd take to a desert island:
“Amazing Grace”.

Tell us some of your favorites:

Color - red

Movie - “The Godfather”

Song - “More” (Sisters of Mercy); “You Know My Name” (Chris Cornell/James Bond theme from “Casino Royale”).

Season - summer

The way to spend Saturday morning - Run, watch cartoons with kids, garden.

Education and interests: B.A. - Mechanical Engineering; art, opera, astrophysics, cooking, handyman.

If you were to start another career, what might it be? Teacher.

A verse from Scripture that is especially meaningful to you? Peter's denial of Jesus, Matthew 26:34-35, 69-75.

**HARVEST FESTIVAL
OCTOBER 17, 2009
9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Auction

It is Harvest Festival time again, and we are looking for items to be donated for the Auction. We are looking for furniture, antiques, art work, and sporting equipment. We are not having a yard sale, so PLEASE save those items for the Strawberry Festival. These items should be of very good quality and absolutely clean. If anything needs to be picked up, please call me and I can arrange for a pick up. If you have any questions regarding whether something would qualify to be in the auction, please do not hesitate to call me at 584-3545.

- Debbie LaMano

Bake Table

In order to have our usual wonderful selection of St. James goodies, we need parishioners to bake/make/package at least one or two items. Please support our Festival by your donations to the Bake Table. St. James has a reputation for wonderful bakers...let's keep that reputation flowing!

Hear ye, hear ye....Be it known that there will be a Bake-Off Contest for both children and adults this year. Have your entry at the Bake Table by 11 a.m. There will be a qualified team of professional judges to judge and award prizes to the winners. The remainder of the baked items will be sold at the Bake Table.

*Children's categories:

Cookies

Bar cookies

*Adult's categories:

Cakes

Pies

Other desserts

We look forward to your participation!

- *Ann Tebbutt (751-7408)*

Volunteers needed for the Book Nook

Once again this year, the Book Nook will be open on two days: Friday, October 16th and Saturday, October 17th from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on both days. Volunteers are needed to keep the books in good order and to assist customers during those times. If you are able to help for a few hours on either day, please contact Stephanie Coleman (689-0663) or ssc6263@aol.com or Donna Austin (499-6050).

Additionally, help is needed to move books from the Christian Ed. building to Mills Hall on Tuesday, October 13th, beginning at 6:00 p.m. There will be NO STAIRS to climb with books, as all the books have been sorted and housed on the upper floor of the Christian Ed. building. We will be using hand trucks to get the books up and down the ramps of both buildings. However, we do need some strong backs to help retrieve and set up tables, so if you can give us a couple of hours, guys, it would be very much appreciated!

On Tuesday, October 13th, Wednesday, October 14th, and Thursday, October 15th from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. we will need volunteers to arrange the books on tables and get the hall in good shape for the beginning of the sale on Friday morning. Please let either Stephanie or Donna know if you can help us out with any of these tasks. As we all know, the Book Nook is pretty labor intensive to set up, but is always a great financial success, and we have more books than ever this year. Please join in and help to make this year the most successful one yet.

- *Stephanie Coleman*

Bottle Table

The Bottle Table requests your help. We are in need of full bottles or jars. You can purchase and donate any item, such as shampoo, jam, soda, etc. , or fill a jar or bottle with candy, tea bags, crayons, pens, pencils or anything you can think of. Please bring them to the church office prior to the Festival so then can be properly numbered. Our success depends on your donations. Thank you.

- *Joan & Les Bengtson (656-5850)*

Craft Table

We are looking for donations of new, handcrafted items such as knit, crocheted, or quilted items, wooden items, hand painted items, etc. Please bring them in by Thursday October 14.

If you have a couple of free hours on the Saturday of the Festival, your help in staffing the Craft Table would be appreciated. Contact Pat Kregler at 863-1113 or patkreg@verizon.net.

- *Pat Kregler*

Jewelry Table

Your no longer worn jewelry can help raise funds and please someone else at the same time! Donations may be brought to the church office or given to Polly Neyssen (751-8451) by Wednesday, October 14th.

Raffles

As the Harvest Festival approaches, it is time for Raffles! Books are being printed and mailed out to all parishioners. If you can purchase them yourself, and/or sell them to friends and neighbors, we will be on our way to a GREAT fundraiser! There are extra books available, so if you need more, please do not hesitate to contact us. The GRAND prize for the \$5.00 raffle is a two night stay at the Henry Farm Inn. We also have \$1.00 raffles or 6 raffle for \$5.00, with prizes ranging from themed baskets to local merchant gift certificates. Please help us to make this year our most successful yet.

- Debbie LaMano

Set-up & Clean-up

We are in need of people to come early on Saturday morning to help set up the tables and canopies outside, and bring out all the sale items. If you are not a "morning person" you may prefer to come at the end of the Festival to help clean up and put away instead. Please contact me at 689-1419 or chris.mauro@cmsheattransfer.com if you can help at either time.

- Chris Mauro

OUTREACH

Habitat for Humanity - Photos of our August 29th work day on the Westhampton Beach house were displayed in Mills Hall during the Ministry Fair. You could see that everyone worked hard and felt good doing it! Thanks to Ken LeCluse for making the beautiful display.

Smithtown Emergency Food Pantry - In honor of our new Bishop Larry, parishioners donated 33 bags, 1 carton, and 175 other items to be delivered to our local pantry. Thanks to all who made this effort. Raewynne and Laurie created a beautiful card which parishioners signed for the Bishop. The need continues to be great at the pantry, so we hope everyone continues to pick up extra canned goods for the pantry when they shop.

Family Service League of Long Island - Parishioners are asked to clip diaper coupons and purchase diapers to donate to the League during the month of October. Diapers are a big expense for families on a limited budget. Sandy Grigoletto will see that FSL receives your donations. She is asking the Smithtown Cooperative Nursery School if they would like to join us in this effort.

Protestant Campus Ministry at Stony Brook is holding a reception to meet and greet their new Chaplain, the Rev. Brenda Ford, on Tuesday, October 6 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. in Stony Brook Union, room 249. All are invited. PCM is looking for donations of 20 NIV Life Application Bibles and also for volunteers who might like to invite a student to Thanksgiving dinner. Let me know if you can help with either.

Bread for the World will hold their annual potluck dinner on Sunday, October 18 at the First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown. All are invited. Please bring some food to share.

Ron Tebbutt will deliver a check that evening for \$250 from St. James' outreach budget.

- Sue Krall

A SUCCESSFUL PIG ROAST

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who helped make the Pig Roast such a success! We couldn't have done it without you! .

Many, many thanks to the salad makers: Maria Bataller, Anita Sequino, Eileen Hull, and Louise Harders. We had such fun!!

Also, thanks to those who helped set up and decorate Mills Hall: Louise Harders, Nancy Rasmussen, Pat Westlake, Laurie Mannix and Debbie LaMano. Thank you to Lil Moleti, who collected money at the door.

Chris Mauro, Stephanie Coleman, Sue Krall, and Richard Vaudrey had the messy and tedious job of shredding the remains of the pig for use in pulled pork sandwiches at the Harvest Festival. Thank you!

Led by Chris Sequino, many helped to take down chairs and tables in record time. Thank you all!

Last, but not least, we must thank the "roasters": Harry Toop, Ernie Harders, Chris Sequino, Tony DeVito, Hank Hull, Willie Bataller, Bob Moleti and Ken LeCluse.

God's Peace,
Arlyne & Art Gureck

BREAD FOR THE WORLD

2009 Offering of Letters - This past June, members of our parish sent 239 letters to our representatives in the House of Representatives and Senate to ask them to support HR2139: "The Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act" in Congress and a similar act in the Senate.

Partly through our efforts, and several hundred thousand of other letters nationwide, 112 Representatives, including our own Tim Bishop, have co-sponsored the House bill and 10 Senators have co-sponsored a similar bill in the Senate: S1524, the "Foreign Assistance Revitalization and Accountability Act of 2009." If you remember, these bills are designed to coordinate our foreign aid policy, increase efficiency and reduce waste, and create transparency.

Bread for the World Annual Dinner: On October 18th, our local Bread for the World Steering Committee will hold its annual membership dinner at Smithtown Presbyterian Church at 5:30 p.m. This dinner will celebrate the 35th anniversary of Bread for the World by having our Congressional Representative attend and be our main speaker. Also in attendance will be Art Simon, founder of BFW, who will speak briefly and sign his latest book, The Rising of Bread for the World: an Outcry of Citizens Against Hunger.

Please join us, bring a main dish, and plan to learn more about the fight against hunger.

- Ron Tebbutt
Representative to BFW

SHAWL MINISTRY

In 1968 the shawl ministry was conceived by two women, Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, graduates of the Hartford Seminary Women's Leadership Institute. Originally developed as a class project, the shawls were knit for women with breast cancer. The concept grew, and the ministry spread, and soon shawls were being created for many needs as tangible, comforting symbols of God's love and care. Christel Hilgarth says in her *Reflection on the Shawl Ministry*: "When we give the shawl in the name of Christ (with the heart of Christ), prayer knitting transcends to become a true ministry of our Lord and Savior ... In prayer knitting we weave the fruit of the Spirit into the shawl, and the grace is given to us."

Since 2007, a small group of women from several local churches have been meeting monthly in each other's homes to knit, crochet, and quilt. The members include parishioners of Caroline Church, the Setauket Presbyterian Church, St. James Roman Catholic Church, St. James Episcopal, and Three Village Church. We all have different abilities and talents, but we share with each other, teach and encourage, and, most importantly, pray. To date we have given away over 150 blessed shawls to people all over the world.

We meet on the third Saturday of each month. Our next meeting will take place on October 17th, at the home of Wylie Hunt, 24 Knox Avenue, Stony Brook (751-5618). We gather at 8:30 a.m. for a light breakfast, and then sit down together to knit and pray and enjoy each other's fellowship. We are usually finished by 10:00 a.m. Please consider joining us. For further information, please call or email Wylie (wyliehunt@gmail.com), or look at the website at www.shawlministry.com.

May God touch our shawls with warmth, guide our community with love, and fill our world with hope. May our knitting be blessed!

- Wylie Hunt

ST. JAMES VESTRY STEWARDSHIP COMMITMENT 2009

We, the Rector, Wardens, Vestry, believe: that all we have are gifts from God. We embrace our Baptismal Covenant to be faithful stewards, and as such we will give a portion of all that we have back to God to support His work at St. James Church, our ministry to the community, the Diocese of Long Island, and indeed, the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world.

We believe:that as Christians, our gifts to God involve not only our money, but the use of our time and our talents to further the work of Jesus Christ.

We believe:that the Bible teaches us a standard of giving, the Tithe (Deuteronomy 14:22-27 and 26:12-14). This includes our pledge to the Church and all other charitable giving. Toward this goal, we will prayerfully consider increasing our pledge towards a tithe to St. James Church.

We invite: each member of St. James to join us in responsible stewardship of the gifts God has entrusted to each of us.

INTRODUCING THE JOURNEY TO ADULTHOOD

The 7th through 11th grades in the St. James Sunday School will embark on a “Journey to Adulthood” which is:

Five years of spiritual formation that

- * provides a liturgical framework for the teenage experience of modern culture
- * celebrates young people’s individuality and their creative potential
- * offers training in some basic life skills needed for adult living and interaction

Based on two key concepts:

- * Manhood and Womanhood are free gifts from God
- * Adulthood must be earned

Includes in-depth exploration of:

- * Self
- * Spirituality
- * Sexuality
- * Society

Follows the imperatives of the Baptismal Covenant.

Enables young people to discover and experience the love of God.

Provides sacred space for teens to question, wonder, and work on their relationships with God and with each other.

Please join on Sunday, November 1st at the 9:30 a.m. service for a special Liturgy of Dedication as our teens start this journey.

- Chris Mauro

“ANTIQUE” & CRAFT FAIR

We are planning a craft and “antique” sale on November 7th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Mills Hall, and are looking for vendors. Table spaces (8') are being leased for \$40. If you have quality hand made items that you would like to sell, please contact the church office during the week for more information. The deadline for signing up is October 30th.

If you do not have something to sell, save the date and stop by to purchase some of these handmade items. There will be many items to choose from! Don’t forget, the holidays are just around the corner, and there will be GREAT gift items available!!

- Debbie LaMano & Laurie Mannix

LUNCH BUNCH

The October meeting of the Lunch Bunch will be held at Ciao Baby Restaurant, 204 E. Jericho Turnpike, Commack (in the Mayfair Shopping Center) on Tuesday, October 27 at 12 noon. Contact Fjeril Deal (724-3720) to sign up.

Looking ahead: the Christmas luncheon is scheduled for December 8, 12 noon, at Kitchen a Bistro in St. James. Mark your calendars, and plan to attend.

NEWS OF THE PARISH FAMILY

Frederick William Kregler was born on September 13th to Frances Kregler and Roberto Bolle, who live in Germany. The proud grandparents are Pat and Walt Kregler. Congratulations and best wishes to all!

On October 23rd UCP Suffolk will honor Mike and Polly Neyssen with their *Life Without Limits Award*, to be presented at their annual Gala. Congratulations!

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- 1 Bible study 10 a.m.
Jam making 4:30 p.m.
Yoga class 4:30 p.m.
N.A. meeting 7:30 p.m.
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 3 Nursery school brunch 10 a.m.
- 11:30 a.m., Mills Hall
- 4 Holy Eucharist Rite I 8 a.m.
Holy Eucharist Rite II 9:30 a.m.
Blessing of the Animals;
Sunday school
- 5 Buildings and Grounds 7 p.m
C.F.E. meeting 7:15 p.m.
- 6 Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 8 Bible study 10 a.m.
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 11 Holy Eucharist I 8 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II with Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
- 12 **Columbus Day** - office closed
Finance Committee 7:30 p.m.
- 13 Book Nook moving 6 p.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Book Nook organization 6 p.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 15 Bible study 10 a.m.
Jam making 4:30 p.m.
Book Nook organization 6 p.m.
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 16 **Book Nook open 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**
- 17 **HARVEST FESTIVAL 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.**
- 18 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II with Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
- 20 Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 21 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
- 22 Bible study 10 a.m.
Yoga class 4:30 p.m.
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 24 Toastmasters' group 9:30 a.m.
- 25 Holy Eucharist I 8:00 a.m.
Holy Eucharist II with Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
- 26 Vestry meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 27 Lunch Bunch 12 Noon - Ciao Baby Restaurant, Commack
Bible study 7:15 p.m.
Recovery group 7:30 p.m.
- 28 Knitters group 10:30 a.m.
- 29 Bible study 10 a.m.
Yoga class 4:30 p.m.
Choir rehearsal 8 p.m.
- 31 Nursery school Halloween party 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Art Gureck
Jean Fitzhenry
Theresa Euler
Cynthia Bennett
Jean Matheson
Anna Rung
Leslie Price
Sue Krall
Sean Glogg
Alexandra Euler
Werner Brack
Thomas LaMano,Jr.
Joanna Sides
Ian Van Praagh
Emily Mauro
Ryan Grigoletto
Kurt Rettig
Sophie Moos
Tony Mercep
Alex Moleti

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dennis & Donna Guinaw
Bill & Amelia Bowden

St. James Episcopal Church

Harvest Festival
Saturday, October
17, 2009
9:30 a.m. ~ 3 p.m.

Jewelry, gold elephant,
farmer's market, plants,
bottle table, baked
goods, raffles,
handmade crafts,
children's activities,
lunch, Book Nook,
our famous jams and
salsas

Auction Saturday
at 2 p.m.
Book Nook open
Friday 9 a.m. ~ 3:30
p.m.